

AEI Election Watch 2006

October 11, 2006

Bush's Ratings

		Approve	Disapprove
CNN/ORC	Oct. 6-8	39	56
Gallup/USAT	Oct. 6-8	37	59
ABC/WP	Oct. 5-8	39	60
CBS/NYT	Oct. 5-8	34	60
Newsweek	Oct. 5-6	33	59
Time/SRBI	Oct. 3-4	36	57
AP/Ipsos	Oct. 2-4	38	59
PSRA/Pew	Sep. 21-Oct. 4	37	53
NBC/WSJ	Sep. 30-Oct. 2	39	56
Fox/OD	Sep. 26-27	42	54
Diag-Hotline	Sep. 24-26	42	56
LAT/Bloom	Sep. 16-19	45	52

Congress's Ratings

		Approve	Disapprove
CNN/ORC	Oct. 6-8	28	63
Gallup/USAT	Oct. 6-8	24	68
ABC/WP	Oct. 5-8	32	66
CBS/NYT	Oct. 5-8	27	64
Time/SRBI	Oct. 3-4	31	57
AP/Ipsos	Oct. 2-4	27	69
Diag.-Hotline	Sep. 24-26	28	65
LAT/Bloom	Sep. 16-19	30	57
Fox/OD	Sep. 12-13	29	53
NBC/WSJ (RV)	Sep. 8-11	20	65

Final October approval rating for the president and number of House seats won/lost by the president's party

Gallup/CNN/USA Today

	Approve	Number of seats
Oct. 2002	67	+8
Oct. 1998	65	+5
Oct. 1994	48	-52
Oct. 1990	48	-9
Oct. 1986	62	-5
Oct. 1982	42	-26

Final October approval rating for Congress and number of House seats won/lost by the president's party

Gallup/CNN/USA Today

	Approve	Number of seats
Oct. 2002	50	+8
Oct. 1998	44	+5
Oct. 1994	23	-52
Oct. 1990	24	-9
Apr. 1986	42	-5
Jun. 1982	29	-26

Bush Approval--Yearly Averages

Gallup/CNN/USA Today

	Approve
2006 to date	38
2005	46
2004	50
2003	60
2002	71
2001	68

Congressional Approval--Yearly Averages

Gallup/CNN/USA Today

	Approve
2006 to date	26
2005	36
2004	42
2003	47
2002	54
2001	56

Job that the Parties are Doing in Congress

ABC/WP

	Approve	
	Republicans	Democrats
Oct. 5-8	35	48

Job that Leaders are Doing in Congress

PSRA/Pew

	Approve	
	Rep Leaders	Dem Leaders
Sep. 21-Oct. 4	33	35

Voters' Interest (1-10 Scale where 1 is not interested and 10 is most interested)

NBC/WSJ (RV)

	Say 10, most interested		
	All	Rep	Dem
Sep. 30-Oct. 2	46	43	51
Sep. 8-11	47	46	51
Jul. 21-24	51	46	47
Jun. 9-12	47	45	51
Oct. 1994	54	63	53

More enthusiastic about voting than usual

Gallup/USA Today (RV)

	Rep	Dem
Oct. 6-8	39	48
Sep. 7-10	40	47
Jun. 23-25	43	56
Jan. 6-8	47	48

Do you think most Democratic members of Congress deserve re-election? Most Republican members of Congress?

CNN/ORC (RV)

	Re-elect Democrats	Re-elect Republicans
Oct. 6-8	50	36

Do you agree that the government would work better if all new people were elected this year?

CBS News/NYT (RV)

	Agree	Disagree
Oct. 5-8	37	55
Sep. 15-17	38	56

Do you think most members of Congress deserve to be re-elected?

Gallup/USA Today (RV)

	Yes	No
Oct. 6-8, 2006	39	50
Sep. 2002	57	29
Oct. 1998	58	27
Oct. 1994	37	49

Approve or disapprove of your representative?

ABC/Post (RV)

	Approve	Disapprove
Oct. 5-8, 2006	60	33
Sep. 5-7, 2006	60	31
Sep. 2002	64	27
Oct. 1998	68	20
Sep. 1998	70	21
Oct. 1994	49	43
Sep. 1994	53	35
Oct. 1990	64	29

Re-elect your representative?

PSRA/Pew (RV)

	Would like to see my rep. re-elected	Would not
Sep. 21-Oct. 4, 2006	50	27
Sep. 6-10, 2006	53	27
Early Oct. 2002	58	19
Late Oct. 1998	64	19
Early Oct. 1998	58	20
Early Sep. 1998	63	20
Early Oct. 1994	49	29

Re-elect current representative or give someone new a chance?

NBC/WSJ (RV)

	Re-elect current rep.	Give someone new a chance
Sep. 30-Oct. 2, 2006	38	45
Sep. 8-11, 2006	41	43
Oct. 2002	42	39
Sep. 2002	41	42
Oct. 1998	48	37
Oct. 1994	39	49
Sep. 1994	30	53
Oct. 1990	39	48

Generic Ballot Questions

Which party's candidate would you vote for in your district?

Gallup/USA Today

	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Dem</i>
Oct. 6-8 (RV)	35	58
Sep. 15-17 (RV)	42	51
Sep. 7-10 (RV)	41	53
Aug. 18-20 (RV)	45	47
Aug. 7-10 (RV)	41	50
Jul. 28-30 (RV)	40	51
Jul. 6-9 (RV)	41	51
Jun. 23-25 (RV)	38	54
Jun. 9-11 (RV)	39	51
Jun. 1-4 (RV)	42	51
Historical Trend		
Oct. 2002 (RV)	41	50
Oct. 1998 (RV)	44	47
Oct. 1994 (RV)	45	49
Oct. 1990 (RV)	45	55
Oct. 1986 (National adults)	35	44
Sep. 1986 (RV)	40	54
Oct. 1982 (LV)	42	52

Would you vote for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?

Fox/OD (RV)

	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Dem</i>
Sep. 26-27 (LV)	38	49
Sep. 12-13 (LV)	38	41
Aug. 29-30	32	48
Jul. 11-12	34	42
Jun. 13-14	33	46
May 2-3	38	41

Would you vote for the Democratic candidate or Republican candidate in your congressional district?

ABC/Post (RV)

	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Dem</i>
Oct. 5-8	41	54
Sep. 5-7	42	50
Aug. 3-6	39	52
Jun. 22-25	39	52

Would you vote for the Democratic party's candidate or the Republican party's candidate?

CNN/ORC (RV)

	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Dem</i>
Oct. 6-8	38	54
Sep. 29-Oct. 2	40	53
Sep. 22-24	41	54
Aug. 30-Sep. 2	40	56
Aug. 18-20	43	52

Would you prefer Congress to be controlled by Republicans or Democrats?

NBC/WSJ (RV)

	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Dem</i>
Sep. 30-Oct. 2	39	48
Sep. 8-11	39	48
Jul. 21-24	38	48
Jun. 9-12	38	49
Apr. 21-24	39	45
Mar. 10-13	37	50
Jan. 26-29	38	47

Do you think it would be better for the country if Republicans or Democrats controlled Congress?

Fox/OD (RV)

	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Dem</i>
Sep. 12-13 (LV)	34	41
Jun. 27-28	33	39
May 16-18	29	46
Feb. 28-Mar. 1	31	45
Feb. 7-8	34	42
Jan. 10-11	33	44

Would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?

PSRA/Newsweek (RV)

	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Dem</i>
Oct. 5-6	38	51
Aug. 24-25	38	50
Aug. 10-11	39	51
May 11-12	39	50
Mar. 16-17	39	50

House Races to Watch

Rothenberg (39)
September 29, 2006

Pure Toss-Up (13)
CT 2 (Simmons, R)
FL 22 (Shaw, R)
KY 4 (Davis, R)
NC 11 (Taylor, R)
NM 1 (Wilson, R)
OH 1 (Chabot, R)
OH 15 (Pryce, R)
PA 6 (Gerlach, R)
PA 7 (Weldon, R)
PA 10 (Sherwood, R)
VA 2 (Drake, R)
FL 16 Open (Foley, R)*
OH 18 Open (Ney, R)

Toss-Up, Tilt Republican (8)
CT 4 (Shays, R)
CT 5 (Johnson, R)
PA 8 (Fitzpatrick, R)
FL 13 Open (Harris, R)
IL 6 Open (Hyde, R)
MN 6 Open (Kennedy, R)
NY 24 Open (Boehlert, R)
WI 8 Open (Green, R)

Toss-Up, Tilt Democratic (6)
IN 2 (Chocola, R)
IN 8 (Hostettler, R)
IN 9 (Sodrel, R)
CO 7 Open (Beauprez, R)
IA 1 Open (Nussle, R)
TX 22 Open (DeLay, R)

Leans Republican (8)
AZ 5 (Hayworth, R)
CO 4 (Musgrave, R)
KY 3 (Northup, R)
NV 3 (Porter, R)
NY 20 (Sweeney, R)
NY 29 (Kuhl, R)
TX 23 (Bonilla, R)
WA 8 (Reichert, R)

Leans Democratic (4)
GA 8 (Westmoreland, R)
GA 12 (Barrow, D)
IA 3 (Boswell, D)
IL 8 (Bean, D)

Note: * means pending additional news

Cook Political Report (46)
October 4, 2006

Toss-Up (18)
CT 2 (Simmons, R)
CT 4 (Shays, R)
FL 22 (Shaw, R)
IN 2 (Chocola, R)
IN 8 (Hostettler, R)
IN 9 (Sodrel, R)
KY 4 (Davis, R)
NC 11 (Taylor, R)
NM 1 (Wilson, R)
OH 1 (Chabot, R)
OH 15 (Pryce, R)
PA 6 (Gerlach, R)
VA 2 (Drake, R)
CO 7 Open (Beauprez, R)
IA 1 Open (Nussle, R)
IL 6 Open (Hyde, R)
NY 24 Open (Boehlert, R)
OH 18 Open (Ney, R)

Leans Republican (16)
AZ 5 (Hayworth, R)
CT 5 (Johnson, R)
KY 3 (Northup, R)
NH 2 (Bass, R)
NJ 7 (Ferguson, R)
NV 3 (Porter, R)
NY 20 (Sweeney, R)
NY 29 (Kuhl, R)
PA 7 (Weldon, R)
PA 8 (Fitzpatrick, R)
PA 10 (Sherwood, R)
TX 23 (Bonilla, R)
WA 8 (Reichert, R)
FL 13 Open (Harris, R)
MN 6 Open (Kennedy, R)
WI 8 Open (Green, R)

Leans Democratic (12)
GA 8 (Marshall, D)
GA 12 (Barrow, D)
IA 3 (Boswell, D)
IL 8 (Bean, D)
LA 3 (Melancon, D)
SC 5 (Spratt, D)
TX 17 (Edwards, D)
WV 1 (Mollohan, D)
AZ 8 Open (Kolbe, R)
FL 16 Open (Foley, R)
TX 22 Open (DeLay, R)
VT-AL Open (Sanders, I)

CQPolitics.com (47)
October 3, 2006

Toss-Up (12)
AZ 8 Open (Kolbe, R)
CT 4 (Shays, R)
IN 8 (Hostettler, R)
IN 9 (Sodrel, R)
PA 6 (Gerlach, R)
CO 7 Open (Beauprez, R)
IA 1 Open (Nussle, R)
IL 6 Open (Hyde, R)
MN 6 Open (Kennedy, R)
NY 24 Open (Boehlert, R)
OH 6 Open (Strickland, D)
OH 18 Open (Ney, R)

Leans Republican (23)
AZ 1 (Renzi, R)
AZ 5 (Hayworth, R)
CA 11 (Pombo, R)
CO 4 (Musgrave, R)
CT 2 (Simmons, R)
CT 5 (Johnson, R)
FL 22 (Shaw, R)
IN 2 (Chocola, R)
KY 4 (Davis, R)
NC 11 (Taylor, R)
NM 1 (Wilson, R)
NY 20 (Sweeney, R)
NY 26 (Reynolds, R)
OH 1 (Chabot, R)
OH 15 (Pryce, R)
PA 7 (Weldon, R)
PA 8 (Fitzpatrick, R)
PA 10 (Sherwood, R)
VA 2 (Drake, R)
WA 8 (Reichert, R)
WY-AL (Cubin, R)
NV 2 Open (Gibbons, R)
WI 8 Open (Green, R)

Leans Democratic (12)
CO 3 (Salazar, D)
GA 8 (Marshall, D)
GA 12 (Barrow, D)
IA 3 (Boswell, D)
IL 8 (Bean, D)
LA 3 (Melancon, D)
TX 17 (Edwards, D)
FL 16 Open (Foley, R)
IL 17 Open (Evans, D)
OH 13 Open (Brown, D)
TX 22 Open (DeLay, R)
VT-AL Open (Sanders, I)

Ornstein (44)
September 20, 2006

Toss-Up (14)
CT 2 (Simmons, R)
CT 4 (Shays, R)
FL 22 (Shaw, R)
KY 4 (Davis, R)
NC 11 (Taylor, R)
NM 1 (Wilson, R)
OH 1 (Chabot, R)
OH 15 (Pryce, R)
PA 6 (Gerlach, R)
VA 2 (Drake, R)
IA 1 Open (Nussle, R)
IL 6 Open (Hyde, R)
NY 24 Open (Boehlert, R)
OH 18 Open (Ney, R)

Leans Republican (15)
AZ 5 (Hayworth, R)
CT 5 (Johnson, R)
KY 3 (Northup, R)
NH 2 (Bass, R)
NJ 7 (Ferguson, R)
NV 3 (Porter, R)
NY 20 (Sweeney, R)
NY 29 (Kuhl, R)
PA 7 (Weldon, R)
PA 8 (Fitzpatrick, R)
PA 10 (Sherwood, R)
TX 23 (Bonilla, R)
WA 8 (Reichert, R)
MN 6 Open (Kennedy, R)
WI 8 Open (Green, R)

Leans Democratic (15)
GA 8 (Marshall, D)
GA 12 (Barrow, D)
IA 3 (Boswell, D)
IL 8 (Bean, D)
IN 2 (Chocola, R)
IN 8 (Hostettler, R)
IN 9 (Sodrel, R)
LA 3 (Melancon, D)
SC 5 (Spratt, D)
TX 17 (Edwards, D)
WV 1 (Mollohan, D)
AZ 8 Open (Kolbe, R)
CO 7 Open (Beauprez, R)
TX 22 Open (DeLay, R)
VT-AL Open (Sanders, I)

Senate Races to Watch

Rothenberg (8)
September 29, 2006

Toss-Up (4)
Talent (R-MO)
Menendez (D-NJ)
DeWine (R-OH)
Chafee (R-RI)

Leans Republican (2)
Allen (R-VA)
TN Open (Frist, R)

Leans Democratic (2)
Burns, (R-MT)
MD Open (Sarbanes, D)

Cook (13)
October 4, 2006

Toss-Up (8)
Talent (R-MO)
Burns (R-MT)
Menendez (D-NJ)
DeWine (R-OH)
Santorum (R-PA)
Chafee (R-RI)
Allen (R-VA)
TN Open (Frist, R)

Leans Republican (1)
Kyl (R-AZ)

Leans Democratic (4)
Stabenow (D-MI)
Cantwell (D-WA)
MD Open (Sarbanes, D)
MN Open (Dayton, D)

CQPolitics.com (12)
October 3, 2006

Toss-Up (7)
Burns (R-MT)
Talent (R-MO)
Menendez (D-NJ)
DeWine (R-OH)
Chafee (R-RI)
MN Open (Dayton, D)
TN Open (Frist, R)

Leans Republican (1)
Allen (R-VA)

Leans Democratic (4)
Nelson (D-NE)
Santorum (R-PA)
Cantwell (D-WA)
MD Open (Sarbanes, D)

Ornstein (11)
September 20, 2006

Toss-Up (4)
Talent (R-MO)
Menendez (D-NJ)
DeWine (R-OH)
Chafee (R-RI)

Leans Republican (2)
Kyl (R-AZ)
Allen (R-VA)

Leans Democratic (5)
Burns, (R-MT)
Santorum (R-PA)
Cantwell (D-WA)
MD Open (Sarbanes, D)
MN Open (Dayton, D)

Note:

Toss-Up Mean: 5.75

Leans Rep. Mean: 1.5

Leans Dem. Mean: 3.75

Total Competitive Race

Mean: 11

Gubernatorial Races to Watch

Rothenberg (13)
September 29, 2006

Toss-Up (4)
Granholtm (D-MI)
Doyle (D-WI)
Pawlenty (R-MN)
IA Open (Vilsack, D)

Leans Republican (3)
Carcieri (R-RI)
AK Open (Murkowski, R)
NV Open (Guinn, R)

Leans Democratic (6)
Ehrlich (R-MD)
Baldacci (D-ME)
Kulongoski (D-OR)
AR Open (Huckabee, R)
CO Open (Owens, R)
MA Open (Romney, R)

Cook (17)
October 4, 2006

Toss-Up (10)
Ehrlich (R-MD)
Granholtm (D-MI)
Kulongoski (D-OR)
Doyle (D-WI)
AK Open (Murkowski, R)
AR Open (Huckabee, R)
CO Open (Owens, R)
IA Open (Vilsack, D)
MA Open (Romney, R)
NV Open (Guinn, R)

Leans Republican (5)
Schwarzenegger (R-CA)
Perdue (R-GA)
Pawlenty (R-MN)
Carcieri (R-RI)
FL Open (Bush, R)

Leans Democratic (2)
Blagojevich (D-IL)
Baldacci (D-ME)

CQPolitics.com (20)
October 3, 2006

Toss-Up (8)
Ehrlich (R-MD)
Granholtm (D-MI)
Pawlenty (R-MN)
CO Open (Owens, R)
FL Open (Bush, R)
IA Open (Vilsack, D)
MA Open (Romney, R)
NV Open (Guinn, R)

Leans Republican (3)
Murkowski (R-AK)
Schwarzenegger (R-CA)
Carcieri (R-RI)

Leans Democratic (9)
Blagojevich (D-IL)
Baldacci (D-ME)
Henry (D-OK)
Kulongoski (D-OR)
Rendell (D-PA)
Doyle (D-WI)
Freudenthal (D-WY)
AR Open (Huckabee, R)
OH Open (Taft, R)

Ornstein (19)
September 20, 2006

Toss-Up (12)
Ehrlich (R-MD)
Granholtm (D-MI)
Pawlenty (R-MN)
Kulongoski (D-OR)
Doyle (D-WI)
AK Open (Murkowski, R)
AR Open (Huckabee, R)
CO Open (Owens, R)
FL Open (Bush, R)
IA Open (Vilsack, D)
MA Open (Romney, R)
NV Open (Guinn, R)

Leans Republican (4)
Riley (R-AL)
Schwarzenegger (R-CA)
Perdue (R-GA)
Carcieri (R-RI)

Leans Democratic (3)
Blagojevich (D-IL)
Baldacci (D-ME)
OH Open (Taft, R)

Note:

Toss-Up Mean: 8.5
Leans Rep. Mean: 3.75
Leans Dem. Mean: 5
Total Competitive Race
Mean: 17.25

2006 Gubernatorial Races

Current Gubernatorial Lineup: 28 Republicans, 22 Democrats
2006 Races: 22 Republicans, 14 Democrats

State	Governor/Party/First Elected	Results of Last Election	Bush's Margin over Kerry	Opponent/Party
AL	Bob Riley-R-2002	49-49	+25	Lucy Baxley-D
AK	*Frank Murkowski-R-2002	56-41	+25	Tony Knowles-D/Sarah Palin-R
AZ	Janet Napolitano-D-2002	46-45	+11	Len Munsil-R
AR	*Mike Huckabee-R-1996 ¹	53-47	+9	Mike Beebe-D/Asa Hutchinson-R
CA	Arnold Schwarzenegger-R-2003	49-32	-10	Phil Angelides-D
CO	*Bill Owens-R-1998	63-34	+05	Bill Ritter-D/Bob Beauprez-R
CT	M. Jodi Rell-R-2004 ²	--	-10	John DeStefano, Jr.-D
FL	*Jeb Bush-R-1998	56-43	+05	Jim Davis-D/Charlie Crist-R
GA	Sonny Perdue-R-2002	51-46	+17	Mark Taylor-D
HI	Linda Lingle-R-2002	52-47	-09	Randy Iwase-D
ID	*Dirk Kempthorne-R-1998	56-42	+38	Jerry Brady-D/C.L. "Butch" Otter-R
IL	Rod Blagojevich-D-2002	52-45	-11	Judy Baar Topinka-R
IA	*Tom Vilsack-D-1998	53-45	+01	Chet Culver-D/Jim Nussle-R
KS	Kathleen Sebelius-D-2002	53-45	+25	Jim Barnett- R
ME	John Baldacci-D-2002	47-41	-09	Chandler E. Woodcock-R
MD	Robert Ehrlich-R-2002	52-48	-13	Martin O'Malley-D
MA	*Mitt Romney-R-2002	50-45	-25	Deval Patrick-D/Kerry Healey-R
MI	Jennifer Granholm-D-2002	51-47	-03	Dick DeVos-R
MN	Tim Pawlenty-R-2002	44-36	-03	Mike Hatch- DFL
NE	David Heineman-R-2005 ³	--	+33	David Hahn-D
NV	*Kenny Guinn-R-1998	68-22	+02	Dina Titus-D/Jim Gibbons-R
NH	John Lynch-D-2004	51-49	-01	Jim Coburn-R
NM	Bill Richardson-D-2002	55-39	+01	John Dendahl-R
NY	*George Pataki-R-1994	49-34	-18	Eliot Spitzer-D/John Faso-R
OH	*Bob Taft-R-1998	58-38	+02	Ted Strickland-D/Ken Blackwell-R
OK	Brad Henry-D-2002	43-43	+32	Ernest Istook-R
OR	Ted Kulongoski-D-2002	49-46	-04	Ron Saxton-R
PA	Ed Rendell-D-2002	53-44	-03	Lynn Swann-R
RI	Don Carcieri-R-2002	55-45	-20	Charles Fogarty-D
SC	Mark Sanford-R-2002	53-47	+17	Tommy Moore-D
SD	Mike Rounds-R-2002	57-42	+22	Jack Billion-D
TN	Phil Bredesen-D-2002	51-48	+14	Jim Bryson-R
TX	Rick Perry-R-2000 ⁴	58-40	+23	Chris Bell-D
VT	Jim Douglas-R-2002	59-38	-20	Scudder Parker-D
WI	Jim Doyle-D-2002	45-41	-01	Mark Green-R
WY	Dave Freudenthal -D-2002	50-48	+40	Ray Hunkins-R

*Incumbent is not running for re-election

If Democrats win a majority of the governorships in 2006, it will be the first time they have held a majority of governorships since 1994.

¹ Assumed office in 1996 after the resignation of Governor Jim Guy Tucker

² Assumed office in 2004 after the resignation of Governor John Rowland

³ Assumed office in 2005 after the resignation of Governor Mike Johanns

⁴ Assumed office in 2000 after the resignation of President-elect George W. Bush

2006 Senate Races

Current Senate Lineup: 55 Republicans, 44 Democrats, 1 Independent

2006 Races: 15 Republicans, 18 Democrats

State	Senator/Party/First Elected	Results of Last Election	Bush's Margin over Kerry	Opponent/Party
AZ	Jon Kyl-R-1994	79-8	+11	Jim Pederson-D
CA	Dianne Feinstein-D-1992	56-37	-10	Richard Mountjoy-R
CT	Joe Lieberman-D/I-1988	63-34	-10	Ned Lamont-D/Alan Schlesinger-R
DE	Thomas Carper-D-2000	56-44	-07	Jan Ting- R
FL	Bill Nelson-D-2000	51-46	+05	Katherine Harris-R
HI	Daniel Akaka-D-1990 ⁵	73-25	-09	Cynthia Thielen-R
IN	Richard Lugar-R-1976	67-32	+21	No Opponent
ME	Olympia Snowe-R-1994	69-31	-09	Jean Hay Bright-D
MD	*Paul Sarbanes-D-1976	63-37	-13	Ben Cardin-D/Michael Steele-R
MA	Edward Kennedy-D-1962	73-13	-25	Ken Chase-R
MI	Debbie Stabenow-D-2000	49-48	-03	Michael Bouchard-R
MN	*Mark Dayton-DFL-2000	49-43	-03	Amy Klobuchar-D/Mark Kennedy-R
MS	Trent Lott-R-1988	66-32	+19	Erik Fleming-D
MO	Jim Talent-R-2002	50-49	+07	Claire McCaskill-D
MT	Conrad Burns-R-1988	51-47	+20	Jon Tester-D
NE	Ben Nelson-D-2000	51-49	+33	Pete Ricketts-R
NV	John Ensign-R-2000	55-40	+02	Jack Carter-D
NJ	Bob Menendez-D-2006 ⁶	--	-07	Tom Kean, Jr.-R
NM	Jeff Bingaman-D-1982	62-38	+01	Allen McCulloch-R
NY	Hillary Clinton-D-2000	55-43	-18	John Spencer-R
ND	Kent Conrad-D-1986	62-38	+28	Dwight Grotberg-R
OH	Mike DeWine-R-1994	60-36	+02	Sherrod Brown-D
PA	Rick Santorum-R-1994	52-46	-03	Bob Casey, Jr.-D
RI	Lincoln Chafee-R-1999 ⁷	57-41	-20	Sheldon Whitehouse-D
TN	*Bill Frist- R-1994	65-32	+14	Harold Ford, Jr.-D/Bob Corker-R
TX	Kay Bailey Hutchison-R-1993	65-32	+23	Barbara Radnofsky-D
UT	Orrin Hatch-R-1976	66-31	+46	Pete Ashdown-D
VT	*James Jeffords-I-1988	66-25	-20	Bernie Sanders-I/Richard Tarrant-R
VA	George Allen-R-2000	52-48	+09	James Webb-D
WA	Maria Cantwell-D-2000	49-49	-07	Mike McGavick-R
WV	Robert Byrd-D-1958	78-20	+13	John Raese-R
WI	Herb Kohl-D-1988	62-37	-01	Robert Gerald Lorge-R
WY	Craig Thomas-R-1994	74-22	+40	Dale Groustage-D

*Incumbent is not running for re-election

⁵ Appointed by Governor John Waihee

⁶ Appointed by Governor Jon Corzine

⁷ Appointed by Governor Lincoln Almond

AEI Election Watch 2006

October 11, 2006

Races to Watch: An Early Evening?

State	Polls Close*	District	Republican	Democrat
KY	6:00pm	03	Anne Northup	John Yarmuth
		04	Geoff Davis	Ken Lucas
IN	6:00pm	02	Chris Chocola	Joe Donnelly
		08	John Hostettler	Brad Ellsworth
		09	Mike Sodrel	Baron Hill
OH	7:30pm	01	Steve Chabot	John Cranley
		15	Deborah Pryce	Mary Jo Kilroy
		18	Joy Padgett	Zach Space
PA	8:00pm	06	Jim Gerlach	Lois Murphy
		07	Curt Weldon	Joe Sestak
		08	Mike Fitzpatrick	Patrick Murphy
		10	Don Sherwood	Chris Carney
CT	8:00pm	02	Rob Simmons	Joe Courtney
		04	Christopher Shays	Diane Farrell
		05	Nancy Johnson	Chris Murphy

*All times local.

Voting Equipment Changes since the 2000 Elections

Type of Voting Equipment	Number of Counties	
	Nov. 2000	Nov. 2006
Punch Card	566	124
Lever	434	119
Paper Ballots	365	176
Optical Scan	1,275	1,502
Electronic	320	1,050
Mixed	153	143
TOTAL	3,113	3,114

Voting Equipment Usage in November 2006

Type of Voting Equipment	Number of Counties	Percentage of Counties	Number of Registered Voters*	Percentage of Registered Voters*
Punch Card	124	3.98	5,166,247	3.03
Lever	119	3.82	17,356,729	10.18
Paper Ballots	176	5.65	653,704	0.38
Optical Scan	1,502	48.23	69,517,991	40.79
Electronic	1,050	33.72	66,573,736	39.06
Mixed	143	4.59	11,154,765	6.55
TOTAL	3,114	100.00	170,423,172	100.00

*Registered voter counts are from the November 2004 general elections.

Source: Election Data Services.

Initiatives and Referenda

In November, voters in 32 states will vote on 187 propositions, up from 162 in 2004. This includes 81 initiatives*, the third largest total since the initiative process was first used in 1902. Arizona has the most (19) followed by California (13). Here, using information from the Initiative & Referendum Institute, are some of the ones that may affect races and/or draw large numbers of voters to the polls.

- There are 6 **minimum wage** ballot measures this year: Arizona, Colorado, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, and Ohio.
- In the wake of the Supreme Court's 2005 *Kelo v. New London* decision, there will be 12 measures on ballots to ban the use of **eminent domain** for private purposes: Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oregon, and South Carolina.
- At least forty measures to increase or decrease **taxes** or restrict or lock in spending will be on the ballot this fall. Maine, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska and Oregon have TABOR-type measures. South Dakota and South Carolina will try to limit the growth of property tax assessments.
- Eight states have **gay marriage** amendments on the ballot this November: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wisconsin. In Colorado, voters will consider a measure to create "domestic partnerships."
- In South Dakota, voters will consider a referendum on the state's 2006 law to **ban abortion**.

*Includes three that were voted on this summer.

Election Precedents

- On average, the president's party has lost three Senate seats in each of the fourteen midterm elections held between 1950 and 2002. However, in the six second term midterm elections (1950, 1958, 1966, 1974, 1986, and 1998), the average loss for the president's party is six seats.
- Since 1910, the president's party has lost the Senate in second term midterm elections on three occasions (1918, 1946, 1986).
- Challengers are running anti-incumbent campaigns. However, rarely is there an anti-incumbent election that hits both parties. There have been only six elections since 1954 in which both parties lost five House incumbents vying for re-election (1956, 1964, 1976, 1978, 1990, 1992).
- Usually, elections are more one-sided. Since 1954, there have been nine elections in which one party defeated more than 15 House incumbents and the other party defeated fewer than 5 incumbents (1954, 1958, 1960, 1966, 1974, 1980, 1982, 1994, 1996).

Departure List

Total: 4 Senators; 30 House Members; 10 Governors

Senate			Governors	
Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Democrats	Republicans
2 – Retire 1 – Lost in Primary*	1 – Retire	1 – Retire	1 – Retire	4 – Retire 3 – Term Limit 1 – Lost in Primary 1 – Appointed to Cabinet

House of Representatives				
Democrats		Independents	Republicans	
10	1	19		
Seeking Other Office	Defeated in Primary	Retiring	Vacant	
15	2	11	3	

* Sen. Lieberman is running for re-election as an Independent after losing the Democratic primary

Who Might Become Chairman?

Many Republican candidates have pointed out that if the Democrats win the House of Representatives, current Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) will become the Speaker. Also of great interest is who might chair the House committees. The list below names the current ranking member or likely chairman if the Democrats win the House on each committee. In all likelihood, the Democrats would not deviate much from strict seniority in choosing chairmen.

<i>Agriculture</i>	Collin Peterson (MN)
<i>Appropriations</i>	David Obey (WI)
<i>Armed Services</i>	Ike Skelton (MO)
<i>Budget</i>	John Spratt (SC)
<i>Education and the Workforce</i>	George Miller (CA)
<i>Energy and Commerce</i>	John Dingell (MI)
<i>Financial Services</i>	Barney Frank (MA)
<i>Government Reform</i>	Henry Waxman (CA)
<i>Homeland Security</i>	Bennie Thompson (MS)
<i>House Administration</i>	Juanita Millender-McDonald (CA)
<i>International Relations</i>	Tom Lantos (CA)
<i>Judiciary</i>	John Conyers, Jr. (MI)
<i>Resources</i>	Nick Rahall, II (WV)
<i>Rules</i>	Louise McIntosh Slaughter (NY)
<i>Science</i>	Bart Gordon (TN)
<i>Small Business</i>	Nydia Velázquez (NY)
<i>Standards of Official Conduct (Ethics)</i>	Howard Berman (CA)
<i>Transportation and Infrastructure</i>	James Oberstar (MN)
<i>Veterans' Affairs</i>	Bob Filner (CA)
<i>Ways and Means</i>	Charles Rangel (NY)
<i>House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence</i>	Alcee Hastings (FL)