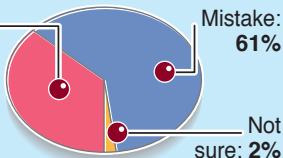


Key issues in U.S. mid-term elections



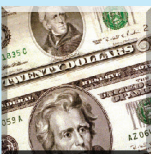
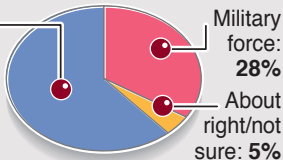
IRAQ WAR: Six in 10 voters think U.S. made a mistake going to war in Iraq and 72% want timetable for withdrawal of U.S. troops

Right decision: 37%



NATIONAL SECURITY: President Bush should put more emphasis on diplomatic and economic methods rather than using military force

More diplomatic, economic methods: 67%



ECONOMY: Many voters have felt pinch of low wage growth, slowdown in housing market, and high fuel costs. 86% of Americans want increase in federal minimum wage



HEALTH CARE: During Bush presidency, number of Americans without health insurance has grown from 40m to 46m.

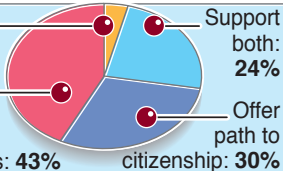
Poverty has risen from 31.1m to 37m



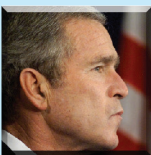
ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION: Opinions differ widely – some favour border fence to prevent entry, others support guest-workers with “path to citizenship”

Don't know: 4%

Prevent entry of illegal immigrants: 43%



SLEAZE: Democrats have sought to portray figures like disgraced lobbyist **Jack Abramoff**, jailed for conspiracy, fraud and tax evasion, and former House Majority leader **Tom DeLay**, charged with money laundering, as Republican culture of corruption. Top Republicans allegedly covered up **Mark Foley** scandal – in which congressman e-mailed teenagers seeking sex – for three years



GEORGE W. BUSH: Dissatisfaction with President Bush's leadership could turn mid-term elections into protest vote

Disapprove of way Bush is handling his job: 61%

