

2006 Elections

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Nationalization and Personalization

Bush and Iraq Dominate

Local Personality Still Matters

Tropical Storm – 2006 GOP Losses About
Half Democratic Losses in 1966 & 1994

Minnesota Exit Polling



Vote for Senate: Nationalized Election

Split Ticket Voting: In today's election for U.S. senator, did you just vote for:

	2006 Total	Pawlenty	Hatch	Hutchinson
Klobuchar	59%	16%	76%	7%
Kennedy	39%	94%	4%	2%

Source: 2006 Minnesota Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

The Bush Factor: The Motivator

Was one reason for your vote for U.S. Senate today:

	2006 Total	Kennedy	Klobuchar
To express support for George W. Bush	18%	92%	7%
To express opposition to George W. Bush	37%	2%	96%
George W. Bush was not a factor	44%	49%	47%

Source: 2006 Minnesota Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

The Bush Drag

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

	2006 Total	2004 Total	Kennedy	Klobuchar
Strongly approve	16%	26%	91%	9%
Somewhat approve	24%	22%	74%	24%
Somewhat disapprove	14%	12%	32%	64%
Strongly disapprove	45%	39%	3%	95%

Source: 2006 Minnesota Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

One Dimensional Voting: Iraq

In your vote for U.S. senator, how important was the war in Iraq?

	2006 Total	Kennedy	Klobuchar
Extremely important	33%	28%	69%
Very important	33%	40%	57%
Somewhat important	25%	43%	54%
Not at all important	8%	63%	36%

Source: 2006 Minnesota Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

Referendum on Iraq

How do you feel about the U.S. war in Iraq?

	2006 Total	2004 Total	Kennedy	Klobuchar
Strongly approve	16%	23%	89%	10%
Somewhat approve	24%	24%	70%	27%
Somewhat disapprove	15%	19%	31%	65%
Strongly disapprove	43%	33%	5%	93%

Note: 2004 Question Text = How do you feel about the U.S. decision to go to war with Iraq?

Source: 2006 Minnesota Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

Governor Vote: Winning a Squeaker

Source: 2006 Minnesota Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

Reward for Economy

Do you think the condition of Minnesota's economy is:

	2006 Total	2004 Total	Pawlenty	Hatch	Hutchinson
Excellent	9%	6%	88%	10%	2%
Good	65%	56%	51%	42%	6%
Not so good	22%	31%	20%	72%	7%
Poor	3%	6%	*	*	*

Source: 2006 Minnesota Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

Republican Loyalty vs Hatch Defections

No matter how you voted today, do you usually think of yourself as a:

	2006 Total	Pawlenty	Hatch	Hutchinson
Democrat	41%	7%	86%	6%
Republican	36%	92%	5%	3%
Independent or something else	24%	43%	43%	11%

	2006 Total	Kennedy	Klobuchar
Democrat	41%	2%	97%
Republican	36%	85%	12%
Independent or something else	24%	29%	65%

Source: 2006 Minnesota Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

GOP Hurdle: Erosion of GOP Name Brand – National Impact

No matter how you voted today, do you usually think of yourself as a:

	2006 Total	2004 Total
Democrat	41%	38%
Republican	36%	35%
Independent or something else	24%	27%

Source: 2006 Minnesota Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

Reason for Vote: Bush Referendum

Was one reason for your vote for U.S. House today:

	2006 Total	Democrat	Republican
To express support for George W. Bush	22%	7%	93%
To express opposition to George W. Bush	36%	93%	5%
George W. Bush was not a factor	39%	42%	56%

Source: 2006 National Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

Punishing GOP for Iraq

How do you feel about the U.S. war in Iraq?

	2006 Total	2004 Total	Democrat	Republican
Strongly approve	19%	29%	12%	87%
Somewhat approve	23%	23%	23%	75%
Somewhat disapprove	16%	15%	62%	35%
Strongly disapprove	40%	31%	87%	11%

Note: 2004 Question Text = How do you feel about the U.S. decision to go to war with Iraq?

Source: 2006 National Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

Penalizing “In Party” for Going in Wrong Track

Do you think things in this country today are:

	2006 Total	2004 Total	Democrat	Republican
Generally going in the right direction	41%	49%	20%	79%
Seriously off on the wrong track	55%	46%	79%	19%

Source: 2006 National Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

National Issues Dominate

Which Mattered More to Your Vote?

	2006 Total	Democrat	Republican
Local Issues	34%	51%	47%
National Issues	60%	54%	44%

Source: 2006 National Exit Poll (Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International)

Center for the Study of Politics and Governance

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