



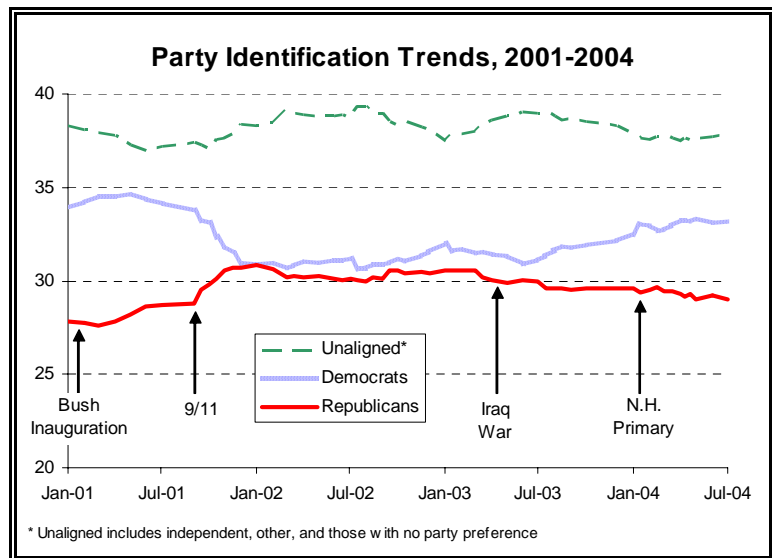
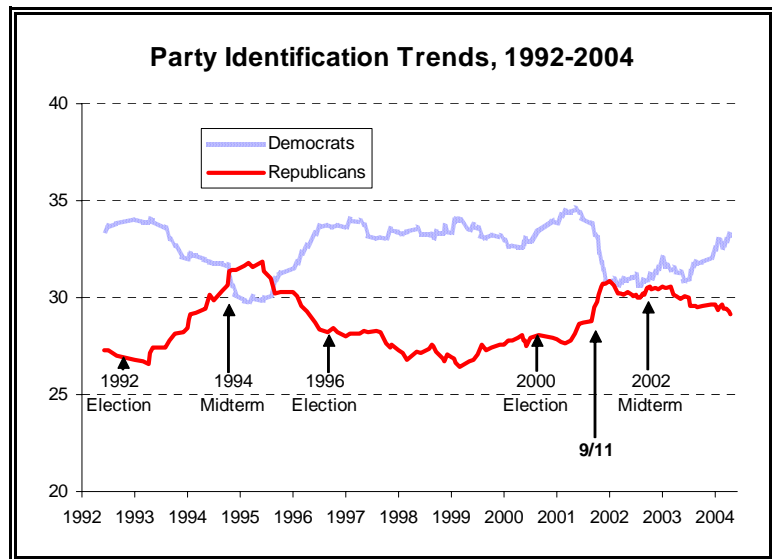
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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DEMOCRATS GAIN EDGE IN PARTY IDENTIFICATION

The Democratic Party has achieved a small gain in party affiliation and holds a 33%-29% edge over the GOP in Pew surveys conducted in 2004. This represents a modest shift from the two year period following the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, when the Republican Party had drawn virtually even with the Democrats.

The current balance in party identification is similar to 2000, when the Democratic Party held a 33%-28% advantage. The Democrats continued to lead during the first few months of the Bush administration. But the Sept. 11 attacks brought about a significant shift in party identification. The Republicans pulled into a virtual tie with the Democrats in the last few months of 2001, and yearly averages for 2002 and 2003 showed partisan parity continuing.



The same pattern is evident when independents who lean toward a party are included with partisans. In 2004 Pew surveys, Democrats hold a 47%-41% lead among partisans and party leaners; 12% decline to lean to one of the major parties. In 2002, Republicans and Democrats were at parity with leaners included (43%-43%), with 14% undecided. The current balance closely resembles 1999, when Democrats led 48%-40%, including leaners, with 12% undecided.

White Catholics Still Split

The Democrats’ modest gains in 2004, like the GOP’s increases in the previous two-plus years, have come across the demographic spectrum. But some of the changes, while small, are notable. In the aftermath of Sept. 11, the Republicans made some inroads among women: in the yearly average for 2002, the Democrats held a six-point lead among women (35%-29%), half of what it had been in 2000 (38%-26%). In 2004 surveys, Democrats hold a nine-point lead among women (37%-28%). {See chart next page}

Among religious groups, Democrats have made slight inroads among white mainline Protestants: Republicans lead 32%-29% among this group, down slightly from the 2002 average (35%-27%). But Republicans continue to hold a commanding advantage among white evangelical Protestants (48%-22%). White Catholics continue to be evenly divided along partisan lines (32% Democrat/31% Republican), as they were in 2002. Four years ago, Democrats held a narrow 34%-29% lead among this important bloc.

In historical terms, the Democratic Party held a sizable lead over the Republicans in party identification for most of the 20th century, following the 1932 election of President Franklin Roosevelt. But the Republicans cut into the Democrats lead in the 1980s and the two parties nearly drew even by the time former President Ronald Reagan left office in 1989. The Democrats held a small lead in party affiliation in the late 1990s, only to lose that edge in the period following the attacks. (For a more detailed discussion of historical trends in party affiliation, see “Evenly Divided and Increasingly Polarized: The 2004 Political Landscape,” Nov. 5 2003, on the website of the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, www.people-press.org.)

Party Identification: Yearly Averages			
	Repub- <u>lican</u>	Demo- <u>crat</u>	Ind./- <u>Oth/DK</u>
1987	29	34	37=100
1989	33	33	34=100
1990	31	33	36=100
1991	31	32	37=100
1992	28	33	39=100
1993	27	34	39=100
1994	30	32	38=100
1995	32	30	38=100
1996	29	33	38=100
1997	28	33	39=100
1998	28	33	39=100
1999	27	33	40=100
2000	28	33	39=100
2001	29	34	37=100
Pre 9/11	28	35	37=100
Post 9/11	31	32	37=100
2002	30	31	39=100
2003	30	31	39=100
2004*	29	33	38=100

* 2004 figures from Jan-July.
No Pew data available from 1988.

Party Identification Trend, By Demographic Groups

	2000		2002		2004		Minimum N
	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total	28	33	30	31	29	33	19,118
Men	30	28	32	27	31	29	8,995
Women	26	38	29	35	28	37	10,123
White	32	29	35	27	34	29	15,613
Black	6	65	6	63	6	65	2,038
Hispanic	21	42	22	36	20	40	1,284
Conservative	49	23	50	22	51	22	7,086
Moderate	21	39	24	35	22	36	7,478
Liberal	9	52	9	47	9	50	3,595
18-29	25	30	27	27	25	29	3,320
30-49	29	32	32	30	31	32	7,226
50-64	28	35	30	33	28	34	4,724
65+	30	40	32	38	32	41	3,612
< HS Grad	19	39	20	36	20	41	1,518
HS Grad	26	34	29	32	28	34	6,560
Some College	31	32	34	30	32	31	4,329
Coll. Grad+	34	30	36	29	33	32	6,617
Wh. Catholic	29	34	32	30	31	32	3,128
Wh. Protestant	39	27	42	24	40	26	7,936
Evangelical	43	26	47	23	48	22	4,033
Mainline	34	29	35	27	32	29	3,903
Jewish	16	52	18	51	18	55	346
No Religion	16	28	16	27	15	31	1,785
< \$20k	19	43	20	39	18	43	2,876
\$20-\$30	26	37	26	35	24	37	2,158
\$30-\$50	29	34	31	32	30	34	4,061
\$50-\$75	34	31	35	29	35	29	2,954
\$75k +	37	27	39	27	39	28	4,429