

2006 New Mexico Voter Experiences Survey

1. How interested were you in the US House race in your district between Heather Wilson and Patricia Madrid?

Very interested	84.2
Somewhat interested	13.5
Not too interested	1.7
Not at all interested	0.6

2. How many days in the past week did you watch news on TV?

None	7.5
One day	5.1
Two days	5.8
Three days	6.4
Four Days	7.0
Five days	10.7
Six days	4.1
Every day	52.8
Don't know/Not sure	0.6

3. How many days in the past week did you read a daily newspaper?

None	20.1
One day	11.0
Two days	13.1
Three days	7.2
Four Days	3.3
Five days	3.3
Six days	3.9
Every day	37.9

4. How would you describe your own political philosophy?

Strongly liberal	10.1
Liberal	17.3
Moderate leaning liberal	16.1
Moderate	12.8
Moderate leaning conservative	15.6
Conservative	15.9
Strongly conservative	9.2
Don't know/Not sure	3.0

5. We are interested in whether you strongly approve, approve, disapprove, or strongly disapprove of how the following have handled their jobs.

5a. President George W. Bush

Strongly approve	7.1
Approve	26.3
Disapprove	12.8
Strongly Disapprove	51.2
Don't know/Not sure	2.6

5b. Representative Heather Wilson

Strongly approve	17.2
Approve	31.4
Disapprove	25.6
Strongly Disapprove	23.2
Don't know/Not sure	2.6

5c. Secretary of State Rebecca Vigil-Giron

Strongly approve	6.3
Approve	39.7
Disapprove	19.0
Strongly Disapprove	9.1
Don't know/Not sure	25.9

5d. Your county election official

Strongly approve	4.8
Approve	38.9
Disapprove	14.8
Strongly Disapprove	12.4
Don't know/Not sure	29.1

5e. The US Congress

Strongly approve	0.9
Approve	24.3
Disapprove	40.4
Strongly Disapprove	29.6
Don't know/Not sure	4.8

6. Did you happen to vote in the 2006 general election?	
Yes, I did vote	96.8
No, I didn't vote	3.2
7. [Voters only:] Is this the first time you have ever voted?	
Yes	1.1
No	98.9
8. [Voters only:] Did you vote early, by absentee or on Election Day?	
Early	30.5
Absentee	27.7
On Election Day	41.8
9. [Early & Election Day voters only:] Did you vote using a bubble paper ballot or a voter-assisted terminal?	
Bubble paper ballot	97.5
Voter-assisted terminal	2.5
10. [Voters only:] How confusing did you find your ballot?	
Very confusing	1.1
Somewhat confusing	13.6
Not too confusing	20.6
Not at all confusing	64.7
11. Did someone contact you and encourage you to vote early absentee or on Election Day?	
No	40.1
Absentee	5.0
Early	8.5
Election Day	16.1
Absentee & Election Day	2.0
Absentee & Early	3.7
Early & Election Day	8.5
Early, Absentee and Election Day	16.1
12. [Voters only:] How would you rate your voting experience in this election compared to prior voting experiences?	
Much more positive	5.8
Somewhat more positive	15.6

About the same	49.0
Somewhat more negative	17.8
Much more negative	10.7
Don't know/Not Sure	1.1

13. [Voters only:] How confident are you that YOUR VOTE in the November 2006 election will be counted as you intended?

Very confident	38.6
Somewhat confident	43.9
Not too confident	11.5
Not at all confident	3.8
Don't know/Not sure	2.2

14. How confident are you that the bubble paper ballot used to record votes will provide an accurate reflection of ALL THE VOTES?

Very confident	20.4
Somewhat confident	46.0
Not too confident	18.4
Not at all confident	7.2

15. [Voters only:] How would you rate your overall voting experience?

Excellent	25.1
Good	56.8
Fair	14.3
Poor	3.8

15a. If you rated your experience fair or poor, why? [Valid Percent, n=77]

Paper ballot	33.8
Long Wait	28.6
Poll worker problems	9.1
Distrust with system	10.4
Ballot too long	3.9
Campaign	3.9
Ballot print to small	3.9
Campaigning outside polling station	1.3
County election officials	2.6
Confusing Ballot	2.6

16. [Early and Election Day Voters:] How helpful were the poll workers at your voting location?

Very helpful	60.7
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Somewhat helpful	26.2
Not too helpful	5.7
Not at all helpful	2.9
Don't know/Not sure	4.5

17. [Early and Election Day Voters:] Was your polling station or vote center easy to find?

Yes	91.7
No	6.2
Don't know/Not sure	2.1

18. [Voters only:] Overall, how confusing did you find your voting experience?

Very confusing	0.9
Somewhat confusing	13.5
Not too confusing	25.9
Not at all confusing	59.2
Don't know/Not sure	.5

19. [Early & Election Day Voters:] What type of voter identification did you have to show?

I didn't have to show any ID	35.3	
		% within ID Shown
Driver's License	21.9	33.8
Voter Registration Card	37.8	58.4
Other form of ID	2.2	3.4
Driver's license & Other form of ID	.3	.5
Driver's license & Registration card	2.5	3.9

20. Do you think voter identification rules prevent some voters from casting their ballot at the polls?

Yes	25.5
No	51.2
Don't know/Not sure	23.3

21. Do you think that voter identification rules help prevent voter fraud?

Yes	69.9
No	16.7
Don't know/Not sure	13.4

22. How confident are you that the current election process in your state produces election outcomes that reflect the will of the people?

Very confident	14.5
Somewhat confident	56.6
Not too confident	19.4
Not at all confident	7.8
Don't know/Not sure	1.7

23. How confident are you that the current election process in the United States produces election outcomes that reflect the will of the people?

Very confident	8.0
Somewhat confident	48.8
Not too confident	29.2
Not at all confident	12.5
Don't know/Not sure	2.5

24. Have you ever had any problems while voting?

No	79.8
Yes	20.2

25. Some people argue that voter identification rules prevent some voters from going to the polls, while others argue that voter identification rules help prevent voting fraud. Which is more important?

Ensuring that everyone who eligible has the right to vote	42.8
Protecting the voting system against fraud	52.2
Don't know/Not sure	5.0

26. Below are some statements – please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each statement, or if you have no opinion.

26a. The bubble paper ballot method provides for a paper receipt that can validate the election results.

Strongly agree	32.5
Somewhat agree	34.7
Neither agree nor disagree	12.1
Somewhat disagree	6.6
Strongly disagree	4.4
Don't know/Not sure	9.7

26b. I enjoyed voting with the method I used.

Strongly agree	18.5
Somewhat agree	18.7
Neither agree nor disagree	28.0
Somewhat disagree	13.9
Strongly disagree	20.9

26c. Photo identification should be required of each voter to prevent voter fraud.

Strongly agree	48.0.
Somewhat agree	23.5
Neither agree nor disagree	10.9
Somewhat disagree	7.6
Strongly disagree	7.8
Don't know/Not sure	2.2

26d. Proof of citizenship should be required of each voter to prevent voter fraud.

Strongly agree	44.8
Somewhat agree	20.4
Neither agree nor disagree	9.9
Somewhat disagree	9.5
Strongly disagree	15.4

26e. It took too long to vote with the ballot method I used.

Strongly agree	15.3
Somewhat agree	20.1
Neither agree nor disagree	19.4.
Somewhat disagree	16.9
Strongly disagree	28.3

26f. Public officials don't care much what people like me think

Strongly agree	18.1
Somewhat agree	28.9
Neither agree nor disagree	18.1
Somewhat disagree	23.6
Strongly disagree	11.3

26g. I consider myself well qualified to participate in politics.

Strongly agree	51.6
Somewhat agree	29.5
Neither agree nor disagree	10.9
Somewhat disagree	3.1

27. Do you consider yourself a:

Strong Democrat	18.9
Democrat, not so strong	16.0
Independent, closer to Democrats	16.2
Independent, Independent	7.4
Independent, closer to Republicans	7.4
Republican, not so strong	13.6
Strong Republican	16.0
Other Party	4.3
Don't know/Not sure	.2

28. How satisfied were you with you voting experience in the 2006 fall election?

Very satisfied	38.6
Somewhat satisfied	47.5
Not too satisfied	10.9
Not at all satisfied	3.0

29. How much of the time do you trust the government in Washington to do what is right?

All of the time	1.3
Some of the time	23.1
Not much of the time	66.4
Never	7.7
Don't know/Not sure	1.5

30. Did you vote in the primary election in August?

Yes	56.9
No	43.1

31. What year were you born? (Ages calculated)

18 – 25	5.4
26 – 35	7.2
36 – 45	11.9
46 – 55	24.5

56 – 65	25.8
66 – 75	15.5
76 – 85	8.6
86 and Over	1.1

32. Are you male or female?

Male	45.4
Female	54.6

33. What is the highest grade of education you have completed?

Less than a HS degree	2.0
HS degree	9.0
Some college	23.7
Completed trade school	2.9
College degree	32.1
Masters degree	21.9
JD	1.8
MD	2.0
PhD	4.6

34. What kind of work do you do?

Work in a small business (50 employees or less)	10.7
Work in a large business (over 50 employees)	19.5
Work in education field	9.6
Work in government	8.4
Self-employed	12.9
Homemaker	4.2
Student	5.1
Retired	27.8
Other	1.8

35. Is anyone in your household active or retired military?

Yes	20.8
No	78.8
Don't know/Not sure	.4

36. Are you or anyone in your immediate family a member of a union?

Yes	19.8
No	79.3
Don't know/Not sure	.9

37. Are you a born again Christian?

Yes	20.3
No	76.0
Don't know/Not sure	3.7

38. What is your religious denomination or church affiliation?

Assembly of God	0.4
Atheist	7.5
Baptist	4.3
Buddhist	1.6
Catholic	19.3
Christian Science	0.2
Church of Christ	1.2
Congregationalist	0.4
Disciples of Christ	0.2
Episcopal	3.0
Quaker	0.2
Hindu	1.8
Jewish	2.0
Just Protestant	0.6
Latter Day Saints/Mormon	2.4
Lutheran	3.0
Methodist	4.1
Non-Denominational	5.1
Orthodox	0.4
Other	6.3
Pentecostal	0.4
Presbyterian	4.5
Protestant	1.2
UCC	0.2
Non-known	5.5
Refused	18.1

39. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

Black/African American	1.6
Native American	0.7
Hispanic/Latino	19.0
Asian	2.0
White	76.7

40. [If respondent indicated Hispanic/Latino:] would you describe your Hispanic/Latino origin as:

Mexican	24.7
Cuban	1.2
Latin American	3.7
Spanish	65.5
DK/NS	4.9

41. What is your marital status?

Married	62.8
Divorced	4.5
Never married	11.6
Widowed	4.2
Separated	16.7
Don't know/Not sure	.2

42. To the best of your knowledge, what was your total family income before taxes in 2005, including yourself and all those living in your house?

Under 10k	2.8
\$10,000-19,999	3.2
\$20,000-29,999	6.6
\$30,000-39,999	9.1
\$40,000-49,999	8.7
\$50,000-59,999	11.0
\$60,000-69,999	6.6
\$70,000-79,999	5.3
\$80,000-89,999	6.6
\$90,000-99,999	4.7
\$100,000-114,999	7.0
\$115,000-129,999	3.8
\$130,000-144,999	2.1
\$145,000-159,999	1.5
\$160,000-174,999	1.3
Over \$175,000	3.6
Refused	16.1