

**Washington Post-ABC News Poll
May 2005**

This Washington Post-ABC News poll was conducted by telephone May 18-22, 2005, among 1,003 randomly selected adults nationwide. Margin of sampling error for overall results is plus or minus three percentage points. Fieldwork by TNS of Horsham, Pa.

*= less than 0.5 percent

1. How closely have you been following news about the debate in the U.S. Senate over filibuster rules involving the confirmation of federal judges - very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely or not closely at all?

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Very closely | 16% |
| Somewhat closely | 31 |
| Not too closely | 15 |
| Not closely at all | 37 |
| No opinion | 1 |

2. As you may know, the president nominates federal judges and the Senate votes whether to confirm them. A Senate rule called a filibuster allows a minority of senators to block a final vote on a judicial appointment even if a majority of senators supports the nominee.

Republicans want to eliminate the filibuster rule for judges, saying it's unfair that a minority can block a vote by the full Senate.

Democrats want to keep the filibuster rule for judges, saying the minority needs a way to block nominees that they strongly oppose.

What about you: Do you prefer to eliminate the filibuster rule, or to keep the filibuster rule for judicial nominees?

Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Eliminate (net) | 43% |
| Eliminate, strongly | 22 |
| Eliminate, somewhat | 21 |
| Keep (net) | 40 |
| Keep, somewhat | 13 |
| Keep, strongly | 27 |
| No opinion | 17 |

901. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as: (READ LIST)

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| A Democrat | 28% |
| A Republican | 38 |
| An Independent | 27 |

| | |
|------------|---|
| Other | 5 |
| No opinion | 2 |

Demographics*

q906. What is the last grade of school you completed?

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Less than high school | 13% |
| Graduated High School | 26 |
| Some College | 24 |
| Graduated College | 19 |
| Post-graduate | 9 |
| No answer | 9 |

q926. Are you...?

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Married | 49% |
| Separated | 7 |
| Divorced | 10 |
| Widowed | 7 |
| Or never married | 18 |
| No answer | 9 |

q931. At present, are you yourself employed part-time or full-time or are you retired or something else?

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Employed Part-Time | 10% |
| Employed Full-Time | 48 |
| Unemployed | 4 |
| Laid off | 1 |
| Retired | 19 |
| Full-time homemaker | 4 |
| Student | 1 |
| Unemployed due to disability | 4 |
| No answer | 9 |

q956. Are you of Hispanic origin or descent?

(IF "YES", ASK:) Are you White Hispanic or Black Hispanic?

(IF "NO ", ASK:) Are you White, Black or African-American, Asian, or some other race?

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| White | 70% |
| Black or African-American | 11 |
| Hispanic | 5 |
| Other Race | 3 |
| No answer | 11 |

q961. If you added together the yearly incomes, before taxes, of all the members of your household for the last year, 2004, would the total be...? (READ LIST)

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Under \$25,000 | 14% |
| \$25,000 but less than \$50,000 | 23 |
| \$50,000 but less than \$75,000 | 14 |
| \$75,000 but less than \$100,000 | 15 |
| \$100,000 or more | 8 |
| Don't know/No answer | 26 |

Age as a range

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| 18-24 | 13% |
| 25-34 | 19 |
| 35-44 | 22 |
| 45-54 | 18 |
| 55-64 | 13 |
| 65 and over | 15 |
| No answer | 1 |

Gender

| | |
|--------|-----|
| Male | 48% |
| Female | 52 |

* The first three items are repercentaged based only on those who answered each item. Demographic questions on this trend document show the percentage of respondents who refused to respond.