

**The 2006 New Mexico Election Administration & First Congressional Race Survey
Frequency Report**

By
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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
Don't know/Not sure	0.2

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
Don't know/Not sure	8.0
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
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?

		% within ID Shown
I didn't have to show any ID	35.3	
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
Strongly disagree	4.8

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 would you describe the political philosophy of the following political leaders listed below?

28a. Patricia Madrid

Strongly liberal	31.2
Liberal	29.7
Moderate leaning liberal	20.0
Moderate	10.3
Moderate leaning conservative	1.6
Conservative	1.1
Strongly conservative	0.9
Don't know/Not sure	5.2

28b. Heather Wilson

Strongly liberal	1.3
Liberal	1.6
Moderate leaning liberal	0.9
Moderate	5.8
Moderate leaning conservative	20.4
Conservative	38.5
Strongly conservative	29.8
Don't know/Not sure	1.8

28c. George W. Bush

Strongly liberal	2.0
Liberal	0.9
Moderate leaning liberal	0.9
Moderate	2.9
Moderate leaning conservative	6.3
Conservative	25.4
Strongly conservative	58.2
Don't know/Not sure	3.4

29. How much of a majority is required for the US Senate and House to override a Presidential veto?

A bare majority (50% plus one)	4.8
A two-thirds majority	80.7
A three-fourths majority	4.4
Don't know/Not sure	10.1

30. Whose responsibility is it to determine if a law is constitutional or not?

The President	0.4
The Congress	7.2
The Supreme Court	89.8
Don't know/Not sure	2.6

31. Do you happen to know what job or political office is now held by Dick Cheney?

Vice President	94.3
Secretary of State	0.4
Secretary of Defense	1.3
Attorney General	0.0
Don't know/Not sure	1.1

32. Do you know which party had the most members in the House of Representatives prior to this election?

Democrat	2.4
Republican	96.3
Don't know/Not sure	1.3

33. Which of the parties would you say is more conservative at the national level?	
The Democratic Party	5.0
The Republican Party	83.0
Neither party is more conservative	8.1
Don't know/Not sure	3.9
34. 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
Don't know/Not sure	1.5
35. Who did you vote for, or if you did not vote, who would you have voted for, in the contest for the US house?	
Patricia Madrid, Democratic candidate	51.0
Heather Wilson, Republican candidate	47.6
Other	1.4
36. 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
37. Thinking back to the presidential election of 2004, who did you vote for?	
George W. Bush, the Republican candidate	42.5
John Kerry, the Democratic candidate	53.1
Other	2.0
Didn't vote	2.4
38. Did you vote in the primary election in August?	
Yes	56.9
No	43.1

39. On a scale of 1 to 1-, where 1 means an extremely negative campaign tone and 10 means an extremely positive campaign tone, how would you rate the tone of the campaign for the US House seat in your district?	
1 (Extremely Negative)	49.0
2	15.7
3	18.1
4	7.1
5	6.2
6	1.3
7	1.1
8	0.2
9	0.0
10 (Extremely Positive)	1.3
40. Below is a list of issues. Please indicate the top THREE issues (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd) most important issues in your decision for who to vote for in the race for the US House between Patricia Madrid and Heather Wilson	
40a. First Top Issue	
Abortion	2.0
Bush's performance as President	9.0
Change power in Congress	19.9
Economy	6.1
Energy/gasoline prices	1.5
Ethics/Corruption	11.6
Health care	2.4
Immigration	2.6
Prescription drugs	0.2
Same sex marriage	0.4
Social security	1.1
Stem cell research	0.4
Taxes	2.8
War in Iraq	22.7
War on Terror	12.9
Don't know/Not sure	4.4

40b. Second Top Issue	
Abortion	2.8
Bush's performance as President	13.5
Change power in Congress	8.1
Economy	8.3
Energy/gasoline prices	3.9
Ethics/Corruption	6.3
Health care	5.5
Immigration	4.8
Prescription drugs	2.2
Same sex marriage	.9
Social security	3.5
Stem cell research	2.0
Taxes	5.2
War in Iraq	20.1
War on Terror	8.3
Don't know/Not sure	4.6

40c. Third Top Issues	
Abortion	2.2
Bush's performance as President	5.0
Change power in Congress	6.6
Economy	8.1
Energy/gasoline prices	5.5
Ethics/Corruption	12.0
Health care	8.7
Immigration	6.8
Prescription drugs	2.6
Same sex marriage	2.6
Social security	5.2
Stem cell research	3.3
Taxes	5.9
War in Iraq	12.9
War on Terror	7.2
Don't know/Not sure	5.5

41. How many total TV ads did you see in this year's race for the US House between Heather Wilson and Patricia Madrid?	
None	3.6
1-150	36.1
151-300	26.2
301-450	10.1
451-600	6.6
601-750	3.0
751-900	2.5
More than 900 ads	12.0

42. Now, we would like to know some things about the feelings you had towards the ads you saw in the US House race in your district between Republican candidate Heather Wilson and Democratic candidate Patricia Madrid.

42a. How ANGRY did the Republican candidate's ads make you feel?	
Very	35.5
Somewhat	33.2
Not too	12.9
Not at all	18.4

42b. How ANGRY did the Democratic candidate's ads make you feel?	
Very	29.9
Somewhat	36.3
Not too	20.7
Not at all	13.1

42c. How PROUD did the Republican candidate's ads make you feel?	
Very	3.5
Somewhat	8.9
Not too	22.9
Not at all	64.7

42d. How PROUD did the Democratic candidate's ads make you feel?	
Very	5.8
Somewhat	16.0
Not too	17.8
Not at all	60.4

42e. How HOPEFUL did the Republican candidate's ads make you feel?	
Very	7.6
Somewhat	20.8
Not too	18.5
Not at all	53.0

42f. How HOPEFUL did the Democratic candidate's ads make you feel?	
Very	4.4
Somewhat	17.0
Not too	23.1
Not at all	55.5

42g. How AFRAID did the Republican candidate's ads make you feel?	
Very	9.9
Somewhat	14.9
Not too	18.0
Not at all	57.2

42h. How AFRAID did the Democratic candidate's ads make you feel?

Very	16.6
Somewhat	10.8
Not too	20.7
Not at all	51.9

43. We are interested in how you learned about the candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives. Please indicate ways you have been contacted by the candidates or heard about them (percent saying yes).

43a. Heather Wilson

Met Her personally	19.1
Attended a meeting or rally	7.6
Contacted in-person by campaign, party or interest group	20.4
Received mail from campaign, party or interest group	78.1
Received e-mail from campaign, party or interest group	18.5
From friends or family members	27.0
Visited candidate, party or interest group website	1.1
Contacted by phone by campaign, party or interest group	52.4
Read online or local newspaper	76.1

43b. Patricia Madrid

Met Patricia Madrid personally	9.6
Attended a meeting or rally	6.2
Contacted in-person by campaign, party of interest group	24.5
Received mail from campaign, party or interest group	70.1
Received e-mail from campaign, party or interest group	18.3
From friends or family members	28.5
Visited candidate, party or interest group website	9.6
Contacted by phone by campaign, party or interest group	47.8
Contacted by phone by campaign, party or interest group	75.7

44. How many days a week, on average, do you discuss politics with family or friends?

Never	3.1
Once a week	10.8
Twice a week	20.4
Three days a week	17.7
Four days a week	13.9
Five days a week	8.8
Six days a week	5.3
Every day	6.2
Don't Know/Not Sure	13.7

45. Please indicate which of the following, if any, you performed for the candidates in your House race.

45a. Heather Wilson

Attended a meeting or a rally	5.3
Fundraising	1.7
Canvassing	0.6
Tried to convince others to vote for her	17.0
Wrote letter of support to a magazine/newspaper/internet site	1.5
Advertised with sign in yard, sticker on car or wore a button	5.5
Contributed \$200 or less	4.5
Contributed \$200 or more	0.0

45b. Patricia Madrid

Attended a meeting or a rally	7.2
Fundraising	3.4
Canvassing	2.3
Tried to convince others to vote for her	21.4
Wrote letter of support to a magazine/newspaper/internet site	2.3
Advertised with sign in yard, sticker on car or wore a button	11.0
Contributed \$200 or less	5.5
Contributed \$200 or more	1.0

46. Is the home you live in owned by you or someone in your family?

Yes	90.3
No	2.4
Don't know/Not sure	0.2

47. 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

48. Are you male or female?

Male	45.4
Female	54.6

49. 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

50. 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

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

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

52. 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

53. Are you a born again Christian?

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

54. 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

55. 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

56. [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

57. 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

58. 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

Methodology: The 2006 New Mexico Election Administration Survey was based upon a random sample of registered voters in New Mexico's First Congressional District that was provided by Secretary of State Rebecca Vigil-Giron after the final registration day for the 2006 general election. Just before Election Day, we sent out letters to our sample respondents requesting their participation in our Election Administration Survey. The letter provided sample respondents with a URL (votenevmexico.unm.edu) and explained that respondents could also request a mail survey and a return self-addressed stamped envelope by contacting us via a toll free number or by calling our offices. Sample registered voters who did not respond were re-contacted three times with a postcard. The first postcard was sent November 17, the second was sent December 1, and the final postcard was sent December 19. The response rate for the sample was about 15.3% (n=471), 4 in 5 of respondents (79%) chose to answer the Internet survey while the remaining 1 in 5 respondents (21%) chose to answer the mail option. The margin of error is plus or minus 4.5%.