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## Gallup Poll

# Ford Is Given Higher Rating

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President Ford's job rating has increased over the past month, with 55 per cent now saying they approve of the way he is handling his job as President, compared with 28 per cent who disapprove and 17 per cent who do not express an opinion.

The latest survey was conducted during the period October 18-21 after Mr. Ford's appearance before a congressional subcommittee to explain his pardon of former President Nixon and after the initial leg of his recent campaign swing. The previous survey, taken one week earlier, showed 52 per cent approving.

Mr. Ford hit his low point during the period September 27-30 when 50 per cent approved of his handling of the presidency in the first measurement taken after the Nixon pardon.

The increase in his rating over the past month has come principally from Republicans. At his low point in popularity, 65 per cent of GOP voters approved; now 75 per cent of Republicans approve.

Following is the question that has been asked over the past 35 years to measure presidential popularity:

"Do you approve or disapprove of the way (name of incumbent) is handling his job as President?"

Here is the trend for President Ford:

	Approve	Dis-approve	No Opinion
Today	55%	28%	17%
Oct. 11-14	52	29	19
Sept. 27-30	50	28	22
Sept. 6-9	36	13	21
Aug. 16-19	71	3	26

On other issues, half the voters (50 per cent) say they see no difference between the two parties in their ability to keep the nation out of another major war, or have no opinion.

Also, while Mr. Ford has tried to place part of the blame for inflation on the Democratic-controlled Congress, the Republican party is near its all-time low point in terms of the party voters see as better able to keep the nation prosperous.

Fewer than one person in

five, 17 per cent, says the Republicans can do a better job in this respect, but almost half (47 per cent) look to the Democrats. One third of the public (36 per cent), however, sees no difference between the two parties on this question or expresses no opinion.

Here are the questions asked on peace and prosperity with the national results and trends:

"Which political party do you think would be more likely to keep the United States out of World War III—the Republican party or the Democratic party?"

	Republican	Democratic	Uncommitted
Today	21%	29%	50%
March 1974	24	33	43
Sept. 1972	32	28	40
Aug. 1972	37	26	37
July 1971	28	28	44
Sept. 1970	28	22	50

"Looking ahead for the next few years, which political party—the Republican or the Democratic — do you think will do the best job of keeping the country prosperous?"

	Republican	Democratic	Uncommitted
Today	17%	47%	36%
March 1974	19	49	32
Sept. 1972	38	35	27
Aug. 1972	35	38	27
July 1971	23	46	31
Sept. 1970	25	40	35

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