

The Gallup Poll

**GOP Voters
Still at 24%,
Record Low**

By George Gallup

PRINCETON, N.J.—The percentage of voters who classify themselves as Republicans remains at an all-time low of 24 per cent.

The latest GOP figure, based on a combination of eight surveys since September, is four points lower than during the 1972 presidential campaign period, when 28 per cent expressed allegiance to the Republican party. The party's fortunes first declined to their current low point of 24 per cent in a measurement based on surveys conducted between last May and August, during which time the Senate Watergate hearings were viewed by millions.

While the GOP has suffered losses in terms of party allegiance, the Democratic Party has not benefited from this decline. The percentage of voters who currently classify themselves as Democrats, 42 per cent, is virtually the same today as it was during the 1972 presidential campaign. The Democratic Party, therefore, has been unable to capitalize on the problems currently of greatest concern to voters, including widespread discontent over the cost of living and Watergate.

The proportion of independents has grown to a high of 34 per cent.

In politics, as of today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat or Independent?

The following is the 34-year trend:

18 and older			
	Rep.	Dem.	Ind.
Sept. '73-Jan. '74	24%	42%	34%
May-Aug. '73	24	43	33
March-May '73	26	43	31
Nov. '72-Feb. '73	27	42	31
June-Oct. '72	28	43	29
June-Sept. '71	25	44	31
Jan.-March '71	26	45	29
21 and older			
Sept.-Oct. '70	29	45	26
July-Aug. '69	29	44	27
May-June '69	28	42	30
Jan.-June '68	27	46	27
Aug.-Oct. '67	27	42	31
Jan.-Feb. '67	27	46	27
Nov.-Dec. '66	27	48	25
March-May '65	27	50	23
Jan.-Feb. '64	25	53	22
Aug.-Nov. '60	30	47	23
Aug.-Oct. '50	33	45	22
Jan. '40	38	42	20

Note: The proportion who do not classify themselves in one of the three categories—ranging from 2 to 3 per cent—has been excluded in each set of figures.