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## Democrats Stem Republican Tide

### Congressional Party Control Preference, Trending Republican Since August, Stabilizes As Democrats Try to Recapture Traditional Mid-Term Elections Advantage of Party Out of Power in the White House

*Between and October 15 and 17, and October 25 and 27, 2002, Ipsos-Reid US Public Affairs interviewed a representative sample of 2,000 adults nationwide, including 1,523 registered voters and 969 likely voters. The margin of error for the combined surveys is  $\pm 2.2\%$  for all adults,  $\pm 2.6\%$  for registered voters and  $\pm 3.2\%$  for likely voters.*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**, (October 28, 2002) — Democrats, who had built a small but statistically significant lead among likely voters in August, and then saw it disappear, are dead-even with Republicans in the most recent Ipsos-Reid/*Cook Political Report* Poll.

**And if the election for Congress were held today, would you want to see the Republicans or Democrats win control of Congress?**

	Latest Results		Recent Trend Among		
	October 15-27		Likely Voters Only		
	Registered voters	Likely voters	October 1-17	September 16-22	August 2-18
Republicans	42%	45%	46%	46%	42%
Democrats	45%	44%	43%	44%	47%
Neither	9%	8%	7%	8%	8%
Don't know	4%	3%	4%	2%	3%

- In the most recent survey, for the interviews conducted over the weekend, October 25-27, Democrats enjoy a 46%-40% lead among registered voters and a statistically insignificant 45%-43% lead among likely voters.

- ❑ By comparison, for the interviews conducted October 15-17, the parties were tied, 44%-44% among registered voters and Republicans led 47%-43% among likely voters—the largest Republican lead among likely voters at any time this fall.
- ❑ Democrats had originally claimed a small lead among likely voters in August, but in every poll since then, they scored a little worse among likely voters than in the poll before—until this past weekend. In the results this past weekend, Democrats reclaimed a lot of that lost ground, moving into a nominal (but not a statistically significant) lead.
- ❑ If the new trend identified this past weekend holds up through interviews conducted by Ipsos-Reid on Tuesday through Thursday this week, Democrats may find themselves with the minimum kind of lead among likely voters that the party out of power in the White House traditionally enjoys in a midterm election. That may not be enough to give Democrats control of the House of Representatives after Election Day, but it may be the best that Democrats can hope for.

### **Editors Note: Stay Tuned**

Ipsos-Reid/*Cook Political Report* Poll results will be released November 1, based on polls conducted Oct 25-27 and Oct 29-31, and on November 4, based on polls conducted Oct 29-31 and Nov 1-3.

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### **About Ipsos-Reid US Public Affairs**

*The survey was conducted by Ipsos-Reid US Public Affairs, the Washington, D.C.-based division of Ipsos, which is the world's fourth largest polling and market research organization, based in Paris. Ipsos-Reid US Public Affairs is a non-partisan, objective public affairs research organization made up of Democratic and Republican campaign and political polling veterans. It was established in Washington in August 2001, and it is led by Thomas Riehle, who has more than 15 years of experience as a political pollster in Washington. The Ipsos-Reid/Cook Political Report poll and the Ipsos-Reid Consumer Attitudes and Spending by Household (CASH) Index poll are conducted the first and third week of every month, as part of Ipsos-Reid US Public Affairs weekly omnibus polling service.*

*The political survey is designed in conjunction with Charlie Cook of the Cook Political Report. Founded in 1984, The Cook Political Report is an independent, non-partisan newsletter that analyzes elections for the U.S. House, Senate, governor and President as well as domestic American political trends. The New York Times has called the publication, "a newsletter that both parties consider authoritative" while the dean of the Washington political press corps, the Washington Post's David Broder has called Charlie Cook, its editor and publisher, "perhaps the best political handicapper in the nation." Cook also writes two weekly columns that appear in National Journal magazine and CongressDaily/AM and on nationaljournal.com, and serves as a political analyst for Cable News Network's show "Inside Politics." Researched and written by a staff of five based in Washington, D.C., the Cook Political Report's subscribers are primarily the lobbyists and managers for the political action committees of the nation's major corporations, trade associations and labor unions as well as by news organizations, foreign governments and others with an*

*interest in detailed, impartial information and analysis of Congressional, gubernatorial and presidential elections.*