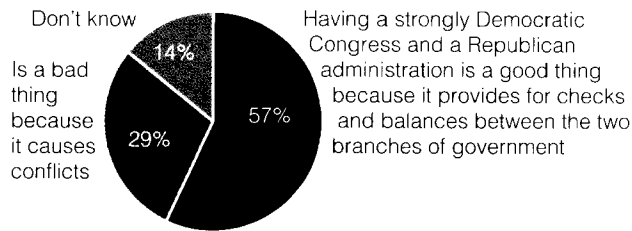


TWO CHEERS: UNITED GOVERNMENT

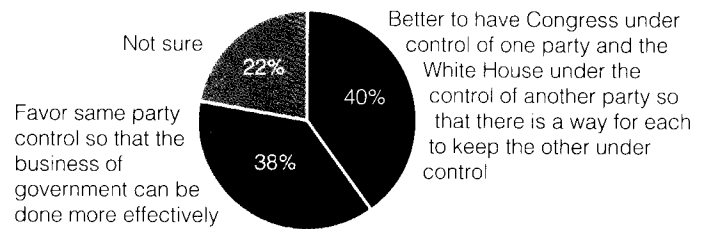
To look at attitudes about whether government works better when one party controls both the White House and Congress, we begin with data from the Carter years. Question wording clearly influences results. In April of 1977, Americans were less enthusiastic about this situation than they were about the prospect of it in January.

Question: We now have a strongly Democratic Congress and a Republican administration. Do you think this is a good thing because it provides for checks and balances between the two branches of government, or a bad thing because it causes conflicts between the two branches of government?



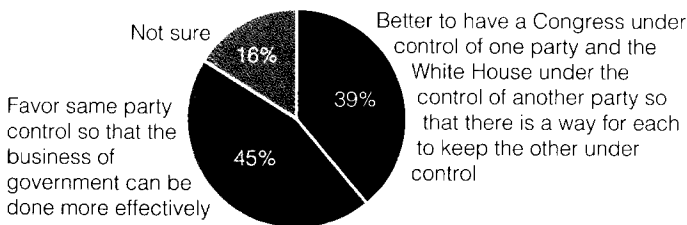
Source: Survey by the Roper Organization, January 11-25, 1975.

Question: In general do you think it is better for the country to have Congress under the control of one party and the White House under the control of another party so that there is a way for each to keep the other under control, or do you think it is better to have the Congress and the White House under the control of the same political party so that the business of the federal government can be done more effectively?



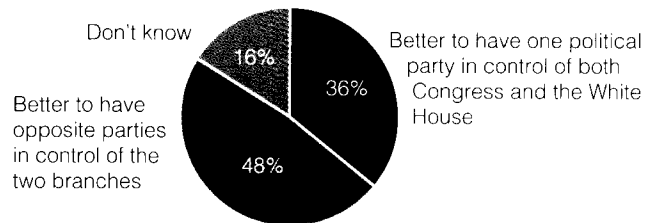
Source: Survey by Louis Harris and Associates, August 27-30, 1976.

Question: With President Carter in the White House and the Democrats in control of the Congress by 2-1 majorities, for the first time in eight years we will have the federal government entirely in the control of one party. In general, do you think it is better for the country to have a Congress under the control of one party and the White House under the control of another party so that there is a way for each to keep the other under control, or do you think it is better to have Congress and the White House under the control of the same political party so that the business of government can be done effectively?



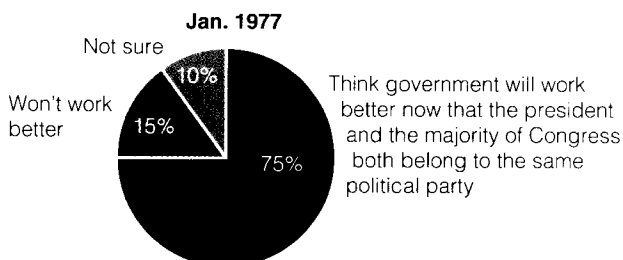
Source: Survey by Louis Harris and Associates, November 13-19, 1976.

Question: With regard to our federal government, some people think it is better to have the majority in Congress and the president in the same political party so they will work together and get more accomplished. Other people think it is better to have one party control Congress and the other party to be in the White House so there are checks and balances between the two branches of government. What do you think—that it is better to have one political party in control of both Congress and the White House, or that it is better to have opposite parties in control of the two branches?



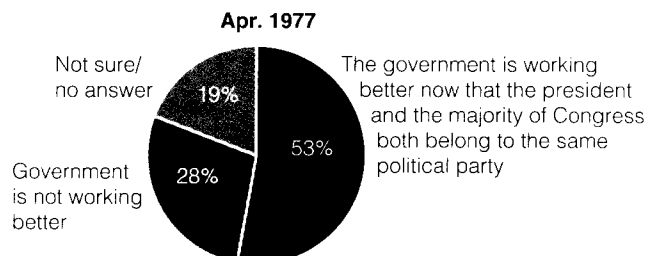
Source: Survey by the Roper Organization, February 12-26, 1977.

Question: Do you think the government will work better now that the president and the majority of Congress both belong to the same political party, or don't you think it will work better?



Source: Surveys by CBS News/New York Times, latest that of April 21-25, 1977.

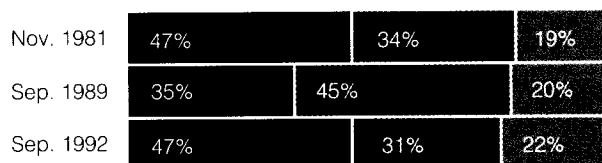
Question: Do you think the government is working better now that the president and the majority of Congress both belong to the same political party, or don't you think it is working better?



Recent surveys have shown more Americans than in the past preferring Congress and the presidency in the same hands. But question wording is key. This year, Clinton and Bush supporters endorsed united government. Perot supporters were divided.

Question: **Do you think it is better for the country to have a president who comes from the same political party that controls Congress, or do you think it is better to have a president from one political party and Congress controlled by the other?**

■ Better to have a president who comes from the same political party that controls Congress ■ Should be from a different party ■ Don't know



Source: Survey by ABC News/Washington Post, November 17-22, 1981; by CBS News/New York Times, latest that of September 9-13, 1992.

Question: **In recent years, whenever a Republican president has been in the White House, Congress has been controlled by the Democrats. Do you think it is better for the country to have a president of one party and Congress controlled by the other party, or don't you think it makes much difference?**

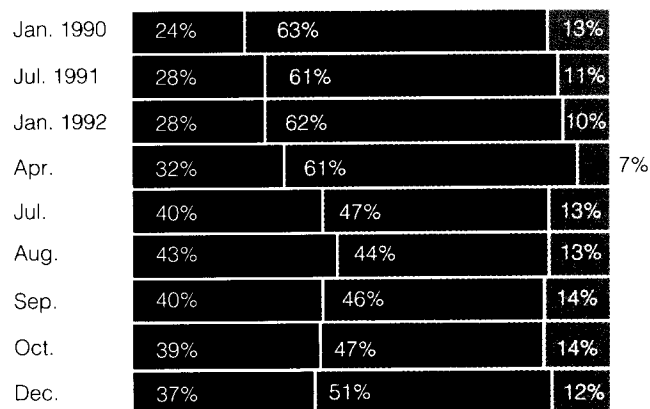
■ Better to have a president of one party and Congress controlled by another ■ Worse ■ No difference ■ Not sure



Note: Before 1992, question referred to Congress as "usually...partly or wholly controlled by the Democrats."
Source: Survey by Louis Harris and Associates, latest that of July 17-19, 1992.

Question: **In general, do you think it is better for the same political party to control both the Congress and the presidency, so they can work together more closely, or do you think it is better to have different political parties controlling the Congress and the presidency, to prevent either one from going too far?**

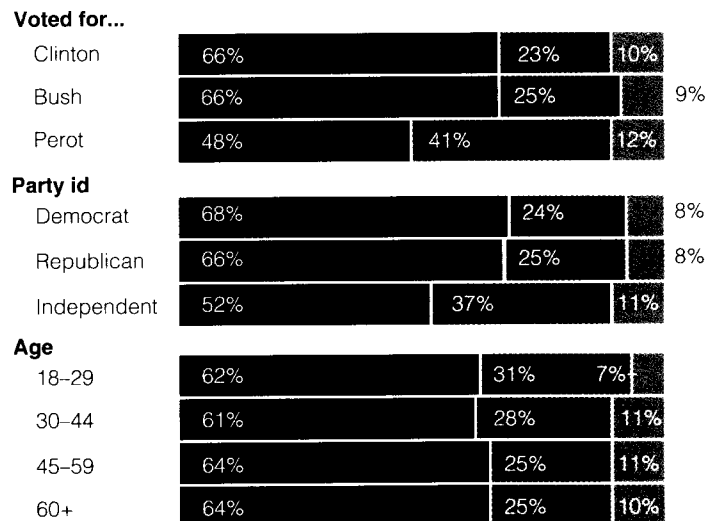
■ Better for the same political party to control both the Congress and the presidency so they can work together more closely ■ Better to have different political parties controlling Congress and presidency to prevent either one from going too far ■ Don't know



Source: Surveys by NBC News/Wall Street Journal, latest that of December 12-15, 1992.

Question: **In general, which is better for the country—president and Congress of the same political party; the president of one party, Congress of the other?**

■ Better to have a president and Congress of the same political party ■ The president of one party and a Congress of the other ■ Don't know



Source: Survey conducted November 3, 1992, by Voter Research & Surveys, a consortium of ABC News, CBS News, CNN, and NBC News.