The original documents are located in Box 3, folder "Polling Data" of the Bruce S. Wagner Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Reagan Nearly as Strong as Ford

CARTER LEADS FORD, REAGAN BY WIDE MARGINS IN LATEST TESTS

By George Gallup

The Gallup Poll RELEASE SUNDAY, MAY 30, 1976

PRINCETON, N.J. -- Democratic challenger Jimmy Carter holds wide leads over both President Gerald Ford and former California Gov. Ronald Reagan in the latest nationwide test elections with the President running only a slightly stronger race than Reagan.

The results show Carter leading Ford 52 to 40 per cent and Reagan 55 to 37 per cent. The findings are based on the choices of registered voters nationwide.

TREND IN FORD-

CARTER RACE

Today's findings on the Carter-Ford race closely match those recorded at the beginning of the month when Carter led, 52 to 43 per cent. Carter took over the lead from Ford in an early April survey.

Comparison of the support given Ford and Reagan in the latest test elections brings the following to light:

* Both Ford and Reagan are suffering serious defection among the GOP rank and file, with about one-fourth of Republicans defecting to Carter in the case of each trial heat.

* Among the college-educated segment of the electorate, the vote for Ford matches that given Carter, but Reagan trails the Democratic candidate with this group.

* Young voters (18 to 29) lean 2-to-1 to Carter over Reagan, but the ratio is considerably closer in the Carter--Ford trial heat.

* Reagan trails Carter in all regions except in his native West, where the race is about even. Similarly, Ford achieves a standoff in his native Midwest, but trails in the other three major regions of the nations.

Here are the questions asked:

"Suppose the presidential election were being held today. If President Gerald Ford were the Republican candidate and Jimmy Carter were the Democratic candidate, which would you like to see win?" (The same question was asked posing Reagan as the Republican candidate.)

Here are the latest results on the Carter-Ford trial heat, based on registered voters, and the trend: CARTER vs. FORD

	Carter	Ford	Undecided
May 21-23	52%	40%	8%
April 30-May 3	52	43	5
April 9-12	49	43	8
March 26-29	45	48	7
March 19-21	47	46	7
March 10-13	47	42	11

Following are the results of the Carter-Reagan match-up:

Carter Reagan Undecided May 21-23 55% 37% 8% (NOTE: This is the first time the Gallup Poll has conducted a Carter-Reagan trial heat.)

The results reported today are based on personal interviews with 1,001 registered voters out of a total sample of 1,400 adults, 18 and older, taken in more than 300 scientifically selected localities across the nation during the period May 21-23.

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LUP POLL -- 5/30/76 The second

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COMING TOMORROW FROM THE GALLUP POLL

Sen. Hubert Humphrey vs. President Ford

and

Sen. Hubert Humphrey vs. Ronald Reagan

- * Does Sen. Humphrey have enough strength nationwide to make a run for the presidency?
- * Would Humphrey have a better chance of defeating Ford or Reagan?
- * Has Humphrey made any headway against the two Republicans as a possible presidential opponent?

Find out tomorrow in (NAME OF PAPER).



FIELD NEWSPAPER SYNDICATE RP 401 NORTH WABASH CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611 Gallup Poll RELEASE MONDAY, MAY 31, 1976

HHH TIES FORD BUT LEADS REAGAN IN LATEST TEST

By George Gallup

PRINCETON, N.J. -- Sen. Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota is in a virtual tie with President Gerald Ford in the latest nationwide test election and holds a lead over former California Gov. Ronald Reagan.

Despite his non-candidate status, Humphrey continues to figure prominently in speculation over the 1976 race for the Democratic nomination.

Humphrey wins 46 per cent to Ford's 45 per cent and leads Reagan, 52 to 42 per cent.

As reported yesterday, Democratic candidate Jimmy Carter holds wide leads over both Ford (52 to 40 per cent)

and Reagan (55 to 37 per cent). Test elections during January showed Humphrey and Ford

> to be in close contention. In February and March, the President opened up a slight lead. Sen. Humphrey, however, closed the gap in April.

In two previous Humphrey-Reagan test elections this year, neither man had been able to establish a clear lead or

win a majority of the vote.

Here are the questions asked:

"Suppose the presidential election were being held today. If President Gerald Ford were the Republican candidate and Sen. Hubert Humphrey were the Democratic candidate, which would you like to see win?" (The same question was asked posing Ronald Reagan as the Republican candidate.)

Following are the latest results of the Humphrey-Ford trial heat and the trend:

HUMPHREY vs. FORD

	Humphrey	Ford	Undecided
May 21-23	 46%	45%	9%
April 30-May 3	47	47	6
April 9-12	48	46	6
March 26-29	45	5 1	4
March 19-21	43	51	6 -
March 10-13	44	50	6

Jan.	23-26	47	47	6
Jan.	2-5	46	48	6

Here are the Humphrey-Reagan trial heat results:

	Humphrey	Reagan	Undecided
May 21-23	52%	42%	6%
Feb. 27- March 1	45 ~	48	7
Jan. 23-26	47	45	8

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The results reported today are based on personal interviews with 1,001 registered voters out of a total sample of 1,400 adults, 18 and older, taken in more than 300 scientifically selected localities across the nation during the period May 21-23.

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