

**Chinese Americans and their Perceptions:
The United States,
China, Taiwan and Hong Kong**



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I. Methodology and Sample Characteristics

Survey Methodology

This is a national telephone survey of adult (18 and over) Chinese Americans conducted by Zogby International. The target sample is 350+ interviews with approximately 90 questions asked. Samples are randomly drawn from an Asian surname list matched against telephone cd's of a national listed sample further culled by input from Committee of 100 staff on Chinese surnames.

Zogby International surveys employ sampling strategies in which selection probabilities are proportional to population size within area codes and exchanges. As many as six calls are made to reach a sampled phone number. Cooperation rates are calculated using one of the American Association for Public Opinion Research's approved methodologies¹ and are comparable to other professional public-opinion surveys conducted using similar sampling strategies.² Weighting by *education*, and *gender* is used to adjust for non-response. Cross-validation analyses indicate that response patterns are consistent with another recent, major national survey of Chinese Americans³.

General Public – Zogby International conducted interviews of 1,202 adults at random nationwide. All calls were made from Zogby International headquarters in Utica, N.Y., from 12/8/04 through 12/11/04. The margin of error is +/- 2.9 percentage points. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, and gender to more accurately reflect the population surveyed. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

Chinese Americans – Zogby International conducted interviews of 354 Chinese Americans chosen at random nationwide from a surname list. All calls were made from Zogby International headquarters in Utica, N.Y., from 4/22/05 thru 4/28/05. The margin of error is +/- 5.3 percentage points. Slight weights added to gender and education level to better reflect the population. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

¹ See COOP4 (p.38) in *Standard Definitions: Final Dispositions of Case Codes and Outcome Rates of Surveys*. The American Association for Public Opinion Research, (2000).

² *Cooperation Tracking Study: April 2003 Update*, Jane M. Sheppard and Shelly Haas. The Council for Marketing & Opinion Research (CMOR). Cincinnati, Ohio (2003).

³ MULTILINGUAL POLL OF CHINESE AND TAIWANESE AMERICANS ON TAIWAN-CHINA RELATIONS, TAIWAN'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, U.S. POLICY TOWARDS CHINA AND TAIWAN AND U.S. POLITICS Conducted by Bendixen & Associates March 2004.

Sample Characteristics	General Public	Chinese Americans
	Percent*	Percent*
Sample size	100	100
18-29	20	28
30-49	40	43
50-64	23	22
65+	17	8
18-24	12	25
25-34	18	9
35-54	39	46
55-69	19	14
70+	12	5
Did not answer age	--	9
Democrat	35	26
Republican	35	19
Independent/Minor party	21	28
Libertarian	2	1
Not sure of party	8	26
Voted Bush	44	27
Voted Kerry	39	37
Voted Nader	0	2
Voted someone else	2	2
Voted no one	9	24
Not sure of vote	6	8

Sample Characteristics (continued)	General Public	Chinese Americans
	Percent*	Percent*
White	77	n.a.
Hispanic	8	n.a.
African American	11	n.a.
Asian/Pacific	1	100
Other/mixed	3	--
Did not answer race	--	--
Roman Catholic	28	4
Protestant	50	27
Jewish	3	--
Muslim	0	0
Buddhist	1	19
Other (religion)	18	50
Did not answer religion	--	4
Friend/family adopted Chinese baby	23	--
Friend/family did not adopt Chinese baby	77	--
Male	48	50
Female	52	50

* Numbers have been rounded to the nearest percent and might not total 100.

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Chinese American Attitudes Toward China

Background

The Committee of 100 is a national, nonpartisan organization composed of prominent American citizens of Chinese descent. Members collectively pool their strengths and experiences to address important issues concerning the Chinese American community, promote the advancement of Asian Americans, as well as foster better U.S.-Greater China relations.

This Executive Summary presents the key findings of the third of a three-phase study to assess the attitudes of the general US population (General Public) as well as Chinese Americans towards Greater China and U.S.-China relations. (Opinion Leaders, Congressional Staffers, and Business Leaders, subsets of the General Public, were other segments polled, but not included in comparisons for this Executive Summary.) The objectives of this study are to provide primary quantitative and qualitative research that can be shared, discussed and used to better understand U.S.-China relations and formulate recommendations on how to improve these relationships.

The study is being conducted in collaboration with the world-renown polling firm Zogby International, noted for the excellence of its methodology, experience, database and insights.

Methodology

General Public – Zogby International conducted interviews of 1,202 adults at random nationwide. All calls were made from Zogby International headquarters in Utica, N.Y., from 12/8/04 through 12/11/04. The margin of error is +/- 2.9 percentage points. Slight weights were added to region, party, age, race, religion, and gender to more accurately reflect the population surveyed. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

Chinese Americans – Zogby International conducted interviews of 354 Chinese Americans chosen at random nationwide from a surname list. All calls were made from Zogby International headquarters in Utica, N.Y., from 4/22/05 thru 4/28/05. The margin of error is +/- 5.3 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

Key Findings by Subject

With notable exceptions, Chinese Americans views of China and US-China relations by and large correspond to those of the General Public. On the other hand, there is a discernible disparity of views between Chinese Americans born in the US and those born in Greater China.

American and Chinese American Attitudes Towards China and US-China Relations

- **Impression of China:** Chinese Americans are substantially more likely to view China favorably (75%) than the General Public (59%), which already holds a favorable impression —and, for General Public, significantly more positively than ten years ago (59% in 2004 vs. 46% in 1994).
 - **10 Year Comparison:** A 70% majority of Chinese Americans believe that the relationship between the US and China has improved, when compared with 10 years ago, substantially more than 57% of the General Public who hold this view.
 - **Future Relations:** Chinese Americans closely parallel the overall outlook of the U.S. public regarding the direction of relations with China: While nearly half (52%) perceive Sino-American relations as improving, 10% view them as worsening. Correspondingly, 45% of the General Public expects the US – China relationship to continue to improve, while only 12% foresee a decline in relations.
- **How to improve US-China relations?** General Public calls for increased negotiations, communications, diplomacy, and dialogue between the two countries; Chinese Americans advocate better more communication, increased understanding, more balanced, free trade, and a resolution to the Taiwan issue.
- **Areas of Concern in China:** Human rights issues remain a top concern of Americans, the number one concern for the General Public (46%) while only 20% of Chinese Americans rate human rights as a top concern, along with another 17% listing environmental degradation as a top concern. However, the second and third top areas of concern in China for the General Public, loss of US jobs (21%) and China's military modernization (20%) for Chinese Americans were far less of a concern (9% and 7%, respectively).
- **Human Rights Conditions:** While a bare majority of the General Public (52%) holds that the human rights situation in China has improved over the last decade, over two-thirds (68%) of Chinese Americans hold this view.
- **Linking Human Rights to Trade:** Chinese Americans are split evenly (47%) over whether China's access to U.S. markets should be linked to its human rights record compared to 69% of General Public who feel that the two should be linked.
- **Military Threat:** 43% of Chinese Americans describe China's emergence as a military power as constituting either a serious (10%) or potential (33%) threat as compared to 66% of the General Public who described China as either a serious (15%) or potential (51%) threat.
- **War on Terrorism:** China is viewed as a dependable ally in the War on Terrorism by a 56% majority of Chinese Americans as opposed to only 27% of General Public respondents of which a majority (56%) say that China is not a dependable ally.

American Attitudes Toward China in the Global Economy

- **Economic Threat or Partner:** Chinese Americans are split on whether China is an economic partner (41%), and less likely to perceive China as a threat (41%), than are members of the General Public (serious or potential threat 60%, partner 25%).

- Despite this, the majority of both groups consider economic trade with China as beneficial to the US, with Chinese Americans at 83%, and the General Public at 73%.
- Moreover, 85% of Chinese Americans view products from China as benefiting Americans due to their low cost—more than 20 points higher than the 63% of the General Public that shares this viewpoint.
- **Trade Imbalance:** A majority of Chinese Americans (53%) generally parallel the General Public (57%) on the issue of whether the Chinese government helps cause the trade imbalance with the United States, differing by only four points in overall levels of agreement.
- **Job Loss to China:** On the question of U.S. job losses, Chinese Americans do not substantially deviate from the General Public in their perception of job loss to job market competitors. In fact, a plurality of Chinese Americans identified China as the top source of job loss, followed by India, then Mexico with combined severe and moderate job loss to China (83%) at a level comparable to the General Public (85%).
- **Union Gap:** Surprisingly, as far as the General Public is concerned, there is no union gap, with very minor differences in attitudes regarding severity of job loss among union vs. non-union households.
- **China as a Communist State:** 68% of Chinese Americans believe that China is no longer a communist country, in light of the state’s economic reforms. This attitude is particularly strong among Chinese Americans born in China, of whom 86% of respondents hold this opinion (compared to 63% of Business Leaders and 47% Congressional Staff who agree that China is no longer a communist country).
- **Environmental Degradation:** Both samples concur that China’s growth has negative consequences for the global environment, 56% of the General Public and 48% of Chinese Americans. However, nearly as many (46%) Chinese Americans disagree with this.
- **Sino-US Business Impact:** Half (47%) of Chinese Americans strongly agree that increased Sino-American business contact improves the image of Chinese Americans. An additional 35% somewhat agree with this viewpoint, while only one-in-seven (14%) disagree.

Hong Kong, Cross Strait Relations, and Other Findings

- **Post Handover Hong Kong:** Chinese Americans are split very evenly on the status of post-handover Hong Kong. Roughly equal percentages view Hong Kong as being better off (26%), worse off (30%) or the same as under British rule (27%). Similarly, 30% of the General Public perceives Hong Kong as worse off since its handover from Britain to China in 1997 with only 22% see Hong Kong as better off.
 - Taiwan-born respondents are more inclined than others to view post-handover Hong Kong as worse off (41%)—roughly the same percentage as among U.S.-born Chinese Americans (40%).
 - Meanwhile, those born in China, have a markedly different outlook, with 40% perceiving Hong Kong as being better off, and just 17% seeing it worse off.

- **US Involvement in Cross Strait Affairs:** A 53% majority of Chinese-Americans oppose greater U.S. involvement in cross-strait relations; 47% of the General Public is against a greater US role.
 - U.S.-born Chinese Americans are slightly more in favor (50%) of increased U.S. involvement than opposed (46%) whereas Taiwan-born Chinese Americans are overwhelmingly in favor (64% while 34% are opposed).
 - However, Chinese Americans born in China, oppose a larger role for the U.S. by a wider 69% to 28% margin.
- **One China Policy:** While the General Public indicated overwhelming support for self-determination on Taiwan (77%), a plurality of Chinese Americans (48%) would prefer a continuation of the One China Policy. An additional 11% would actively discourage Taiwan from further moves toward independence.
 - Taiwan-born Chinese Americans are more likely to favor allowing Taiwan to determine its own course, with 46% choosing this option versus 34% who favor continuing the One China policy, in contrast with the General Public which is much more likely (77%) to favor letting Taiwan determine its own fate.
 - Among those Chinese American respondents born in China, more than one-in-five (22%) would favor Taiwan's people deciding their own course.
- **US Military Support of Taiwan:** Of the 77% of General Public and 38% of Chinese Americans who advocate letting Taiwan decide its own fate, a minority of both General Public (32%) and Chinese Americans (45%) support US military involvement if a Taiwanese declaration of independence leads to hostilities between China and Taiwan.
- **Admirable Qualities:** The General Public cites work ethic, family values, history, and commitment to education as the most admirable attributes of Chinese people and their culture similar to the qualities Chinese Americans listed: hard-working, family-oriented, and education-focused.
- **Chinese Immigration to USA:** Chinese Americans have markedly different outlook on Chinese immigration than the General Public: Chinese Americans view Chinese immigration as a more positive (48%) than negative (5%) development in contrast with General Public (29% positive, 17% negative), with 41% and 49% of both groups viewing Chinese immigration in neutral terms, respectively.
- **Visits to China:** While only one-in-ten (10%) members of the General Public have ever visited Greater China, 83% of Chinese Americans have done so, with 70% having done so in the past five years, and another 22% taking 5 or more trips in the past 10 years.

Key Findings of Questions Exclusively Asked of the Chinese American Segment:

- **Negative Portrayal of Chinese Americans in Media:** While a slight majority (51%) of Chinese Americans perceives their portrayal in U.S. media as negative, this is with considerably low intensity. More than twice as many respondents (35%) only somewhat agree with this proposition than strongly agree (16%) with it.

- **Impact of China’s Image on Chinese Americans:** Two-thirds (66%) of respondents say that a negative perception of China held by Americans has an adverse impact on Chinese Americans. 61% of Chinese Americans born in the U.S agree as compared to roughly seven-in-ten among those born outside the U.S.
- **Chinese American Image:** Over two-thirds (70%) of Chinese Americans agree that fashion, movies, and culture from China and Hong Kong improve the image of Chinese Americans while a nearly a quarter of respondents (24%) disagree on this point.
- **Sino-US Business Impact on Chinese Americans:** Just under half (47%) of Chinese Americans strongly agree that increased Sino-American business contact improves the image of Chinese Americans. An additional 35% somewhat agree with this viewpoint, while just one-in-seven (14%) disagree.
- **Chinese American Under-Representation on US Corporate Boards:** While only 44% of Business Leaders (polled in Phase II) feel that Asian Americans are not given adequate access to the corporate boardroom, Chinese Americans overwhelmingly believe (79%) **that Asian Americans are underrepresented in corporate headquarters.**
- **Fields for gains:** 46% of respondents indicate that they would like to see Chinese Americans make greater gains in government and public service, followed by 14% in the field or profession of science and technology and 14% in the corporate sector.
- **Discrimination:** Half (52%) of respondents indicate that they have been subjected to discrimination based on their Chinese ancestry. Nearly as many (45%), however, indicate they have not.
 - Younger respondents are more likely to have perceived discrimination (59%) than are respondents over the age of 30 (~50%).
- **Racial Slurs:** Chinese Americans split evenly on the question of whether they have been subjected to insults based on their ethnic identity—47% say they have been called names or made fun of, while 51% say they have not.
 - Younger respondents more readily recall these insults with 69% indicating they had been made fun of; among seniors, the percentage drops to 47%.
- **Chinese Curriculum:** An overwhelming majority—84%—of Chinese Americans agrees that schools should include teaching materials related to China and the Chinese while only 12% disagree.
- **Chinese American Role Models:** Top Chinese American role models listed by Chinese American respondents are: Yao Ming: 9%; Connie Chung: 8%; Michael Chang: 8%; Elaine Chao: 6%; Bruce Lee: 6%; Jet Li: 5%; Jackie Chan: 4%; Yo Yo Ma: 3%; with I.M. Pei, Gary Locke, Jerry Yang, Lisa Ling, Amy Tan, and Michelle Kwan all at 2%. Other role models included: David Ho; Lucy Liu; Iris Chang; T.Y. Lin; Charles Wang, John Fugh; Henry Lee; Li Zhengdao; Robert Matsui; Katie Tong; and Rep. David Wu.

Demographic Questions

- **Birthplace of Respondents:** 26% of Chinese American respondents were born in the USA; 42% were born in China; 20% were born in Taiwan, 6% were born in Hong Kong with the rest coming from other countries.
- **Chinese Language:** 92% of respondents are able to speak at least one Chinese dialect with 51% of these Mandarin speakers, 29% Cantonese speakers, 7% Shanghainese speakers, along with a number of other dialects.
 - Cantonese is more widespread among younger Chinese Americans (46% of those under the age of 30 reported speaking this dialect) while among middle-aged respondents, Mandarin was the overwhelming dialect of choice.
- **Relatives in Greater China:** Nearly three-quarters (72%) of Chinese Americans have relatives in Greater China with whom they have regular contact and only 27% do not. U.S.-born Chinese Americans are the exception, with just one-third (33%) saying they have relatives in Greater China with whom they have contact; for those born in Greater China, the percentage exceeds 85%.

III. Narrative Analysis

2. How would you describe your impression of China? Is it very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

**Table 1. Impressions of China
(General Public and Chinese Americans)**

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Very favorable	9	28
Somewhat favorable	50	46
Favorable	59	75
Somewhat unfavorable	26	17
Very unfavorable	9	6
Unfavorable	35	23
Not sure	6	3

- Chinese Americans are substantially more likely to view China favorably than the General Public, which already holds a favorable impression.
- While overall levels of favorability are similar across all age groups, older Chinese Americans seem more intensely favorable on this question.
- Democratic Chinese Americans are more favorable toward China than are Republicans, by a 78% to 66% margin.
- Income levels among Chinese Americans seem to have no impact on response.

3. When you think of China, what is the first thing that comes to mind?

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

Huge population (48)

Communism/dictatorship (40)

Economic growth (34)

My country/birthplace/motherland/homeland (24)

Big country/big cities/big market (14)

Food (13)

Culture (12)

Improving (12)

Developing (8)

Great Wall (8)

Aggressive (8)

History (7)

Strong/strengthening country (7)

Communism/dictatorship (5)
 Family (5)
 Change (5)
 Great country (4)
 Industrial growth (4)
 Chinese people (4)
 Old country (4)
 Cheap labor/child labor (3)
 Not sure (7)

301 – 302. How do you view the leadership of China... of Taiwan?

Table 2. Perception of China and Taiwan’s Leadership

	China	Taiwan
Very favorable	12	14
Somewhat favorable	41	25
Favorable	53	39
Somewhat unfavorable	25	19
Very unfavorable	14	28
Unfavorable	39	47
Not familiar	9	14

- Chinese Americans hold a more favorable view of China’s leadership than they do Taiwan’s. While a majority (53%) of Chinese Americans holds a favorable view of China, a plurality (47%) has an *unfavorable* view of Taiwan.
- Age has substantial impact, with the eldest respondents (those over the age of 65) having the most favorable outlooks on both China and Taiwan. Taiwan fares the worst with Chinese Americans between the ages of 30 and 64, with ~29% holding favorable opinions of the island’s leadership.
- Significantly, 59% of Chinese Americans born in Taiwan hold an unfavorable view of Taiwan’s leadership. This is a higher level of disapproval the same group holds for China’s leadership (51%). American-born respondents, meanwhile, have a much more favorable outlook on Taiwan’s leadership (63% favorable) than they do China’s (36% favorable). This is a much more dramatic difference than the somewhat more favorable impression of Taiwan’s leadership among Republicans versus Democrats.

7. *In recent years, China has allowed free-market ventures by its people. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree that China is no longer a true communist country?*

Strongly agree	38%		
Somewhat agree	30	Agree	68%
Somewhat disagree	15		
Strongly disagree	13	Disagree	28
Not sure	4		

- Nearly seven in ten (68%) Chinese Americans believe that China is no longer a communist country, in light of the state’s economic reforms.
- This attitude is particularly strong among Chinese Americans born in China, where 86% of respondents hold this opinion.

8. *Do you believe that China’s economic growth will lead to China becoming a stronger US ally or a stronger competitor to the US or both?*

Stronger U.S. ally	23%
Stronger competitor to the U.S.	21
Both	55
Not sure	1

101. *What's the best way for China to improve its image and reputation among the American public?*

- *Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)
- More political/economic freedom/become democracy/shake off communism (77)
 - Improve human rights situation (55)
 - Improve relations on mutual level/more contact (31)
 - Become more open (20)
 - Advertise/public relations/media relations/lobbying (16)
 - Americans need to understand Chinese (14)
 - All free speech/press (13)
 - Freedom of religion (4)
 - Reduce military threat toward Taiwan (4)
 - Balance of trade (4)
 - More free trade (2)
 - Not sure (53)

13. Do you believe that China is a dependable ally or friend of the U.S. in the war on terrorism?

Table 3. China: Dependable Ally in War on Terror?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Yes	27	56
No	56	30
Not sure	17	14

- Chinese Americans are twice as likely as the General Public to view China as a dependable ally in the War on Terror—and do so at a level approaching three-in-five (56%). However, for three-in-ten (30%) China is not a dependable ally in this conflict.
- Some of the lowest levels of support for the notion of China as an ally in the War on Terror occur in the Western states, where a slight majority (53%) holds this view. All other regions hold levels above the national average.
- Much of that strength is from Chinese expatriates. Somewhat unsurprisingly, Chinese Americans born in China (75%) are much more likely than their American-born (44%) and Taiwan-born (36%) counterparts to see China as an ally.
- Political alignment does affect response, with Republicans evenly split on the issue (44% call China a dependable ally; 43% say China is not), but Democrats overwhelmingly view China as an ally, by a 53% to 26% margin.
- While the military sample is too small for statistical analysis, anecdotally, it appears that military and veteran status of Chinese Americans does not impact their response to this question.
- Gender, however, does have noticeable impact, with men (64%) much more likely than women (49%) to view China as an ally.

14. Do you believe that the relationship between the U.S. and China is better, worse, or the same, when compared to 10 years ago?

Table 4. Relationship with China: Better or Worse?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Better	57	70
Worse	13	9
Same	26	16
Not sure	5	5

Chinese Americans, much like the General Public, view Sino-American relations as having improved compared to a decade ago. Among Chinese Americans, however, the level of support for this notion is even higher than the general population, exceeding two-thirds (70%).

The highest levels of support for this notion occur in the Western states, where 73% hold this view; the lowest level of support is found in the Southern states, with 62% saying that relations are better.

Birthplace has virtually no impact on response.

A substantial gulf exists between Bush 2004 voters and Kerry 2004 voters on this question, however, with 77% of the former and 62% of the latter believing relations were better now than under Bill Clinton.

Gender does not produce a very substantial gap, though women view today's relationship in somewhat better terms than men, with 71% of women saying relations are better, versus 66% of men.

15. Do you believe that currently the relationship between the U.S. and China is improving, getting worse, or is there no change?

Table 5. Direction of US-China Relations

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Improving	45	52
Getting worse	12	10
No change	37	35
Not sure	6	3

Chinese Americans closely parallel the overall outlook of the U.S. General Public regarding the direction of relations with China. While just over half (52%) see Sino-American relations as improving, one-in-ten (10%) view them as worsening.

The greatest optimism about the direction of relations is found among Chinese Americans living in the Central/Great Lakes region, with 57% saying relations are improving. This stands in contrast to the Western U.S., where a much lower 41% hold the same view.

Outlook on the direction of the U.S.-China relationship is also tied to age group, with respondents progressively saying U.S.-Chinese relations are improving in greater numbers as age increases.

Place of birth—the U.S., China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, etc.—has no substantial impact on response to this question.

Past political behavior does, however, impact response. Kerry voters are much less optimistic about the direction of the U.S.-China relationship, with 36% of this group saying relations are improving—a substantial drop from the 55% of Bush voters who say the same.

Income level has no discernible impact on opinion.

Women have a more positive outlook than men, with 51% of women—versus just 43% of men—holding that U.S.-China relations are improving.

16. Why do you feel that U.S.-China relations are improving?

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

More trade (61)

More communication/interaction (30)

Not sure (9)

Common needs/interests (9)

China is more open (7)

China is stronger now/“Sleeping Giant” (5)

More positive press coverage (4)

War on Terrorism (3)

Taiwan issue (3)

Competition between the two can lead to friendship (2)

2008 Beijing Olympics (2)

Movement toward free market (2)

North Korean nuclear weapons/six-party talks (2)

17. Why do you feel that U.S.-China relations are worsening?

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

U.S. foreign policy (11)
Problems with Taiwan (10)
Getting better (3)
China becoming strong (3)
Different governments/ideologies (2)
Human rights concerns unresolved (2)

18. What do you feel is the greatest source of difficulty in U.S.-China relations?

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

Taiwan issue (64)
Cultural differences/misunderstandings (39)
Distrust between U.S., China (24)
Communism/lack of democracy (24)
Political differences (21)
Human rights (20)
Trade imbalance (19)
Economic competition (15)
American racism/elitism/arrogance/stereotyping (12)
Job losses (6)
Self-interest leads to different needs (6)
U.S. government is at fault (4)
Not sure (42)

19. What is the most important thing that the U.S. and China need to do to improve their relationship?

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

Better/more communication (79)
Increased understanding (36)
More free trade/balanced trade (29)
Resolve Taiwan situation (29)
Become democratic/abandon communism (12)
Become more open (11)
Cultural exchanges (10)
Human rights (8)
Work toward common goals of world peace (6)
U.S. government needs to show respect to China (5)
Economic cooperation (4)
China needs to show America more respect (4)
U.S. needs to understand that Taiwan is part of China (4)
U.S. mind own business (4)
Better communication (2)
Not sure (53)

20. How do you view China’s emergence as a military power—as a serious threat to the U.S., a potential threat, no threat, or is China an ally of the U.S.?

Table 6. China: Serious Military Threat or US Ally?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Serious threat	15	10
Potential threat	51	33
No threat	16	37
Ally	13	15
Not sure	6	5

Chinese Americans are significantly less likely to view China as a military threat—potential or serious—than are members of the General Public.

Chinese Americans living in the South are more likely than others to deem China a non-threat (50%) than those living elsewhere, while Easterners are less likely to view China as not constituting a threat (34%).

There is no direct relationship between overall perception of military threat posed by China and age, though there is a direct correlation among those who view China as a *serious* threat—the older the respondent, the greater the likelihood they will see China in these terms.

Those Chinese Americans born in the U.S. (66%) and Taiwan (59%) are more likely than those born in China (22%) to perceive a potential or real military threat from China.

As in previous questions, while there is little divergence among Democrats and Republicans, a sharp divide appears among Bush and Kerry voters, with 30% of Bush voters saying China poses no threat—much less than the 46% of Kerry voters who say the same.

While the portion of the sample that constitutes military and veteran households is particularly small, and therefore not valid for statistical interpretation, *anecdotally* it appears that Chinese Americans who have served in the American armed forces are more inclined to view China as a military threat than are non-military/non-veteran Chinese Americans.

Gender has noticeable impact as well. Women are much more likely to view China’s military buildup as non-threatening, with 45% saying it does not constitute a threat to America—versus just 36% of men who say the same.

201. How do you view China's emergence as a global economic power—as a serious threat to the U.S., a potential threat, no threat, or China is an economic partner of the U.S.?

Table 7. China: Economic Threat or Economic Partner?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Serious threat	24	14
Potential threat	36	27
No threat	11	14
Economic partner	25	41
Not sure	4	4

When asked about the potential or serious economic threat posed by an economically-emergent China, Chinese Americans are more likely to view China in positive terms, as an economic partner, and less likely to see China as a threat, than are members of the General Public.

Chinese Americans living in the South are more inclined to view China as an economic partner than those elsewhere; while 45% of Southerners hold this view, just 31% of Chinese Americans residing in the Central/Great Lakes hold the same viewpoint.

Age impacts viewpoint on this question as well; half (50%) of respondents under the age of 30 say China is an economic partner, while just 28% of seniors (age 65+) hold the same view.

Again, 2004 presidential vote serves as a substantial predictor of attitude on this question: while 31% of Bush-voting Chinese Americans call China an economic partner, 45% of Kerry voters say the same.

21 – 23. Please indicate whether you believe the loss of U.S. manufacturing and technical jobs to the following countries is either severe, moderate, or insignificant:

Table 8. Severity of Job Loss to Job Market Competitors

	General Public				Chinese Americans			
	Severe	Mod.	Insig.	Not sure	Severe	Mod.	Insig.	Not sure
China	52	33	12	4	42	41	14	3
India	37	38	19	7	38	40	15	8
Mexico	36	42	19	3	23	38	27	11

Chinese Americans do not radically deviate from the General Public in their perception of job loss to various job market competitors; in fact, Chinese Americans

perceive combined severe and moderate job loss to China at a level comparable to the General Public.

Place of birth does not have dramatic impact on response, although Taiwan-born Chinese Americans are more likely than other groups to perceive *severe* job loss to China (55% versus a range from 35% to 45% among others).

In this case, 2004 vote produces a less-remarkable divergence than does partisan alignment—Democrats (48%) are more likely to see a *severe* job loss to China than are Republicans (41%); Republicans, meanwhile, are much more likely than Democrats (by a 49% to 33% margin) to perceive a *moderate* loss of jobs.

Gender does impact response, however, with women more likely than men (46% versus 39%) to see *severe* job loss to China, and men more likely than women (45% versus 39%) to call such job loss *moderate*.

24 – 28. Now, I am going to read you a series of statements. For each, I would like you to tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree.

Table 9. Agree/Disagree with Statements Regarding China and Trade

	General Public			Chinese Americans		
	Agree*	Disagree*	Not sure	Agree*	Disagree*	Not sure
Products from China benefit Americans because of their low cost	63	35	3	85	14	1
Trade with China is beneficial to the U.S. economy	73	25	2	83	13	4
The human rights situation in China has significantly improved over the last decade	52	42	6	67	32	1
China’s growth is having negative consequences for the global environment	56	35	9	48	46	6
Some argue that China’s access to U.S. markets should be linked to its human rights record	69	25	6	47	48	5

(*Agree and disagree each combines strongly and somewhat.)

Chinese Americans perceive issues of trade with China in more positive terms than the General Public. While three-quarters (73%) of the General Public say that trade with China is beneficial to the U.S., 83% of Chinese Americans say the same. More noteworthy are the 85% of Chinese Americans who say products from China benefit Americans due to their low cost—more than 20 points higher than the 63% of the General Public that shares this viewpoint.

The notion that **products from China benefit Americans due to their low cost**, which is a near-universally accepted view among Chinese Americans (85% agree with this notion, and a 51% majority strongly agrees), resonates among many demographic strata. It even fails to produce dissension among respondents by birthplace.

The argument that **trade with China is beneficial to the U.S. economy** wins solid majorities of both the General Public (73%) and Chinese Americans (83%). This argument wins across all strata.

While a bare majority of the General Public (52%) holds that the **human rights situation** in China has improved over the last decade, two-thirds (67%) of Chinese Americans hold this view. One-in-three (32%) differ on this issue. Somewhat surprisingly, levels of agreement are fairly steady across a number of demographic strata, including geography, party, presidential vote, and gender. However, birthplace produces widely divergent results. U.S.- and Taiwan-born Chinese Americans are more inclined to disagree with this viewpoint (44% and 51%, respectively, disagree that the human rights situation has improved), while just 12% of China-born Chinese Americans say that the human rights situation has not improved.

Half (48%) of Chinese Americans perceive that **China's growth is having negative consequences for the global environment**—but nearly as many (46%) disagree with this. This is, however, the closest that Chinese American views come to those of the General Public in this series of questions, trailing U.S. population concerns over this issue by just seven points. Concern about the impact of Chinese growth on the environment is most intense among Chinese Americans living in the Western U.S., where 27% *strongly agree* the growth is having a negative impact; it is weakest in the Central/Great Lakes region, where just 14% share this viewpoint. Birthplace impacts response as well—63% of U.S.- and 51% of Taiwan-born Chinese Americans agree that the environment is paying a price for China's growth, while 42% of those born in China share this view. Men also are more inclined toward agreement on this question, with 52% of Chinese American men agreeing versus just 44% of Chinese American women.

A majority (51%) of Chinese Americans disagrees that **China's access to U.S. markets should be linked to its human rights record**. This disagreement holds up well across a number of strata, though Chinese Americans living in the Central/Great Lakes region of the U.S. are split on the issue (47% agree and 48% disagree). Country of origin impacts response, however, with U.S.-born Chinese Americans more likely to favor a linkage between trade and human rights by a 63% to 33% margin. Taiwan-born Chinese Americans also share this outlook, with 51% favoring such a linkage versus 45% who do not. However, among those born in China, this argument is rejected heavily, with 69% disagreeing with such actions.

29. *The U.S. has a large trade deficit with China. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree that the Chinese government is responsible for this situation?*

Table 10. Chinese Government Helps Cause Trade Deficit?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Strongly agree	30	25
Somewhat agree	27	28
Agree	57	53
Somewhat disagree	18	20
Strongly disagree	15	15
Disagree	33	35
Not sure	11	12

Chinese Americans generally parallel the overall population on the issue of whether the Chinese government helps cause the trade imbalance with the United States, differing by only four points in overall levels of agreement.

Intensity and levels of agreement vary wildly based on geographic region; Chinese Americans living in the South are twice as likely as those living in the Central/Great Lakes region (30% versus 16%) to strongly agree that China’s government helps cause the trade deficit.

Birthplace substantially impacts response here, with U.S.-born Chinese Americans (59%) and those born on Taiwan (63%) much more likely than those born in China (44%) to agree that the Chinese government is culpable in the U.S. trade deficit.

Respondents’ 2004 vote also matters; while 61% of Bush supporters say China’s government helps cause the trade imbalance, only 48% of Kerry supporters hold this view.

Union membership also impacts response, with 60% of union members and 51% of non-members agreeing with the premise. Income level, however, does not demonstrably impact response.

291. *Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree that increased business contact and economic ties between the U.S. and Greater China improve the image of Chinese-Americans?*

Strongly agree	47%		
Somewhat agree	35	Agree	82%
Somewhat disagree	8		
Strongly disagree	6	Disagree	14
Not sure	4		

Nearly half (47%) of Chinese Americans strongly agree that increased Sino-American business contact improves the image of Chinese Americans. An additional one-in-three (35%) somewhat agree with this viewpoint, while just one-in-seven (14%) disagree.

Majority support for this view crosses virtually every demographic strata, though country of origin is, once again, a strong impacter, with around seven-in-ten Taiwan-born (71%) and U.S.-born (71%) Chinese Americans holding this view—lower than the 92% of China-born Chinese Americans who say the same.

32. Now, I want you to think about potential areas of concern in China. Please tell me as many as three areas you consider the most significant problems or causes for concern. (Choose up to three.)

Table 11. Areas of Concern in China (General Public and Chinese Americans)

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Human rights	46	20
Environmental degradation	19	17
Intellectual property infringement	5	11
Loss of U.S. jobs	21	9
The banking system	6	8
China’s military modernization	20	7
China out-performing the US in science and technology	9	6
Forced abortions and family planning	12	6
Treatment of Tibet	4	2
Political influence buying (with Clinton Administration)	5	--
Downing of reconnaissance plane	2	--
*Other	41	3
Not sure	17	2

***Other (General Public):** Trade, Economics, Government (154); Population, Environment, Resource Consumption (104); Military, Nuclear Proliferation, South East Asian Relations, Terrorism (96); Labor, Manufacturing, Low wages, Technology (47); Health, Hunger, Poverty, Education (33); Gender discrimination, Civil, Religious, rights (oppression/repression) (28); History Culture, Arts, Cuisine, Traditions, Religion (3); Adoptions (1)

***Other (Chinese Americans):** Government corruption (3); poverty (2) World Trade Organization (2); trade deficit; Taiwan; political freedom; do not wish to be our enemies; communism; natural resource competition; culture; government improving; healthcare.

We see a marked difference between Chinese Americans and the General Public when the question turns to areas of concern regarding China.

Particularly noteworthy is that, despite a trend among a number of questions that has found U.S.-born Chinese Americans paralleling the General Public numbers, in this

instance, there is markedly less difference among Chinese Americans born in different locales.

Also, with the exception of a higher percentage of males expressing concern over intellectual property infringement, there is very little difference between the genders.

34. Should the US take a more active role in China-Taiwan relations?

Table 12. Greater US Role in China-Taiwan Relations?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Yes	44	43
No	47	53
Not sure	9	4

Chinese-American desire for increased U.S. involvement in cross-strait affairs is outweighed by a 53% majority who oppose a greater U.S. role.

Among those Chinese Americans living in the Central/Great Lakes, response is evenly split, with 47% favoring a greater role for the U.S. and 49% opposing it. All other regions have more dramatic separations—with those living in the South opposing U.S. involvement by a 60% to 38% margin.

Birthplace unsurprisingly impacts response here, with U.S.-born Chinese Americans slightly more in favor (50% of increased U.S. involvement than opposed (46%) and Taiwan-born Chinese Americans overwhelmingly in favor (64% favor a larger U.S. role while 34% are opposed). However, the split is more dramatic in the opposite direction among those Chinese Americans born in China, who oppose a larger role for the U.S. by a 69% to 28% margin.

Men split evenly on this issue, with 48% favoring—and 48% opposing—a greater U.S. role in cross-strait relations. But among women, the margin is 62% to 35% against greater U.S. involvement.

35. Do you believe the US should maintain its “One China” policy, let people in Taiwan decide if they want to declare independence, or discourage Taiwan from moves toward independence?

Table 13. Taiwan: One China or Self Determination for Taiwan?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Maintain the "One China" policy and encourage China and Taiwan to negotiate within this framework	14	48
Let people in Taiwan decide if they want to declare independence	77	38
Discourage Taiwan from further moves towards independence	4	11
Not sure	6	3

While the General Public indicated overwhelming support for self-determination on Taiwan, a plurality of Chinese Americans (48%) would prefer a continuation of the One China Policy. An additional 11% would actively discourage Taiwan from further moves toward independence.

Interestingly, while Taiwan-born Chinese Americans are more likely to favor allowing Taiwan to determine its own course vis-à-vis independence, with 46% choosing this option versus 34% who favor continuing the One China policy, this is a marked contrast from the overall population of the U.S., which is much more likely (77%) to allow Taiwan to determine its own fate.

Despite this number, that preference among China-born Chinese Americans for maintaining the One China policy (65% hold this view) is not surprising, given overall response to questions throughout this survey. However, among those born in China, more than one-in-five (22%) would favor Taiwan’s people deciding on their status.

Both Republicans and 2004 Bush voters are more inclined toward actively discouraging a Taiwanese independence movement than are Democrats and Kerry supporters (19% of Republicans versus 10% of Democrats; 18% Bush versus 8% Kerry).

Women (38%) are more likely than men (29%) to favor allowing people in Taiwan to decide on their status. Meanwhile, men are more likely than women to favor maintaining the One China policy, by a 55% to 48% margin.

(Question 36 was asked only of those who say to let the Taiwanese decide if they want to declare independence.)

36. If a declaration of independence by Taiwan leads to hostilities, should the US commit military forces to defend Taiwan?

Table 14. Should US Militarily Defend Taiwan?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Yes	32	45
No	59	46
Not sure	9	9

Among those respondents who favor allowing Taiwan to pursue its own course, even if it leads to a move for independence and armed hostilities, there is a greater desire for Americans to intervene militarily to defend Taiwan if the need arises. While one-third (32%) of those members of the General Public who support Taiwan self-determination would favor such military defense, 45% of the same group of Chinese Americans who hold the same view on Taiwan seeking independence would favor military defense by the U.S.

37. Do you feel that Hong Kong is better or worse off since its handover from Britain to China in 1997?

Table 15. Hong Kong: Better or Worse Since Handover?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Better	22	26
Worse	30	30
Same	17	27
Not sure	31	17

Chinese Americans are split very evenly on the status of Hong Kong post-handover. Roughly equal percentages view Hong Kong as being better off (26%), worse off (30%) or the same as under British rule (27%).

These attitudes vary markedly based on geography: Chinese Americans living in the South are much more inclined than others to see Hong Kong as better off (35%), while those living in the Western U.S. perceive Hong Kong's situation as having worsened (31%).

As with most other questions, a clear split occurs between those Chinese Americans born either in Taiwan or the U.S., and those born in China. The Taiwan-born respondents are more inclined than others to view post-handover Hong Kong as worse off

(41%)—roughly the same percentage as among U.S.-born Chinese Americans (40%). A third of both these groups (31% U.S. and 34% Taiwan) see Hong Kong’s status as the same, and just 9% of Taiwan-born Chinese Americans see Hong Kong’s situation as having improved. Those born in China, meanwhile, have a markedly different outlook, with 40% perceiving Hong Kong as being better off, and just 17% seeing it worse off.

Partisan alignment and 2004 vote produce less dramatic results than country of origin; while 28% of Kerry backers see Hong Kong’s lot as having improved, this number drops to 20% among Bush supporters; this mirrors the party results, with 30% of Democrats and 22% of Republicans holding this view.

The split between men and women is similar: While 29% of men see China’s takeover of Hong Kong as having benefited Hong Kong, just 22% of women see the former British colony as better off.

38. *What do you believe has been the impact of the handover on those living in Hong Kong?*

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

Not much/not significant (44)

Less freedom (15)

Economic problems (8)

Better (7)

More freedom (4)

Not sure (80)

39. *Do you believe that the arrival of Chinese immigrants is a positive development, a serious threat, or neither for the U.S.?*

Table 16. Is Chinese Immigration a Welcome Development?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Positive development	29	48
Serious threat	17	5
Neither	49	41
Not sure	5	6

Chinese Americans have markedly different outlook on Chinese immigration than the General Public. While neither group view Chinese immigration in negative terms, for a majority of Chinese Americans, it is a positive development—a noticeably different result than the General Public, who view such immigration in neutral terms.

Among Chinese Americans, those who live in the Central/Great Lakes region are overwhelmingly inclined to view this immigration positively (67%); those living in the

Western states, meanwhile, split, with 48% calling it positive and 47% calling it neither a positive nor negative phenomenon. The other geographic regions are in between.

Birthplace does not produce overwhelming impact on response, though those born in China are far more likely to consider this immigration positively (62%) than those born in the U.S. or Taiwan (46% and 45%, respectively).

(Question 40 was asked only of those who feel it is a serious threat.)

40. Do you believe tighter US immigration quotas should be implemented for those seeking to come to the U.S. from Hong Kong, Taiwan, and China?

Table 17. Greater Restrictions on Chinese Immigration?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Yes	83	86
No	14	14
Not sure	3	--

While just 15 members of the sample group view immigration from Greater China in negative terms, and therefore, statistical analysis is invalid, anecdotally, this group is inclined to favor immigration quotas by an overwhelming margin.

401. It has been suggested that, despite high academic and entrepreneurial achievement, Asian Americans are significantly underrepresented in corporate boards and corporate senior management. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree that Asian Americans are underrepresented on corporate boards?

Table 18. Are Asian Americans Underrepresented in Corporate Leadership?

	Business Leaders	Chinese Americans
Strongly agree	23	53
Somewhat agree	21	27
Agree	44	79
Somewhat disagree	27	9
Strongly disagree	17	4
Disagree	44	14
Not sure	12	7

U.S. business leaders and Chinese Americans differ markedly on whether Asian Americans are being given adequate access to the corporate boardroom; while business leaders split on this question at 44% apiece in the Committee of 100's Phase II survey of Congressional staff and elite business leaders, Chinese Americans overwhelmingly believe Asian Americans are underrepresented in corporate headquarters.

Levels of support for this notion hold across various demographic strata, though there is a noticeably down-tick in intensity among respondents under the age of 30, who are ~10 points less likely than all other age groups to strongly agree with this argument.

Partisan alignment has a noticeable impact on response. While 92% of Democrats hold this view, a much lower 75% of Republicans say the same. Independents, as with most issues, tend to split the difference, with 82% in agreement. Union membership, interestingly, has virtually no impact on perception in this question.

Gender also has only minimal impact, though men are somewhat more intense, with 59% of men and 52% of women strongly agreeing.

(Asked only of those agreeing with the above)

402. Why do you think Asian Americans are underrepresented on corporate boards?

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

- Racism/discrimination (63)
- Cultural differences (44)
- Asians not oriented toward leadership (31)
- Language barrier (17)
- Not established enough (14)
- Technically-oriented (10)
- Lack political connections/network (8)
- American culture not used to Asians in charge (6)
- Too small a portion of population (2)
- Undereducated (2)
- Not social enough/closed/parochial (2)
- There has always been racial imbalance and it will never change (2)
- Asians are short in stature and appearance matters (2)
- Many Asians own their own businesses (2)
- Not sure (39)

404. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree that movies, fashion, and culture from China and Hong Kong improve the image of Chinese-Americans?

Strongly agree	31%		
Somewhat agree	39	Agree	70%
Somewhat disagree	15		
Strongly disagree	9	Disagree	24
Not sure	6		

Seven-in-ten (70%) of Chinese Americans agree that fashion, movies, and culture from China and Hong Kong improve the image of Chinese Americans.

One-quarter (24%) disagree on this point.

Agreement with this notion is strongest among Chinese Americans living in the South (40% *strongly* agree). Among those living in the Central/Great Lakes region, though, the level of intense agreement drops to 16%.

Intensity also ties into country of origin; while 35% of those born in China strongly agree, this level drops to 21% among those born in the U.S. and 16% among those born in Taiwan.

Students and retirees seem more intense on this issue than those in other career fields.

407. Do you have relatives in China, Hong Kong, Taiwan or Singapore with whom you have regular contact?

Yes	72%
No	27
Not sure	1

Three-quarters (72%) of Chinese Americans have relatives in Greater China with whom they have regular contact. One-quarter (27%) do not.

Levels of contact do not drop below seven-in-ten (69%) in any geographic region.

Somewhat unsurprisingly, U.S.-born Chinese Americans are the exception, here, with just one-third (33%) saying they have relatives in Greater China with whom they have contact; for those born in Greater China, the percentage exceeds 85%.

There is a general upwards trend in positive response when posited against income; the higher the income of the respondent, the greater the likelihood they will say that they have relatives in China with whom they have regular contact.

Women are also somewhat more likely to respond in the affirmative on this question, with 77% saying they have such relatives—slightly more than the 74% of men who say the same.

Marital patterns seem to be tied in with response as well. Among those Chinese Americans with a Chinese American spouse, 83% report having contact with relatives in Greater China. This falls sharply among those respondents with a non-Chinese spouse, to around 46%.

408. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree

that China and Chinese people are portrayed negatively in the U.S. media?

Strongly agree	16%		
Somewhat agree	35	Agree	51%
Somewhat disagree	27		
Strongly disagree	16	Disagree	43
Not sure	6		

While a majority of Chinese Americans perceives a negative aspect of their portrayal in U.S. media, this is with considerably low intensity. More than twice as many respondents only somewhat agree with this proposition than strongly agree with it.

The most intense levels of agreement around found in the Southern states, where one-in-four (23%) *strongly* agree; in the East, this drops to 13% (the East also has the lowest level of overall agreement, at 51%).

Birthplace has some impact on response; among those born in the U.S., this is a losing proposition, with 47% agreeing and 52% disagreeing; respondents born outside the United States produce majority agreement.

Age produces a bell-curve result: those between the ages of 30 and 64 are considerably more likely to agree (62%) with this notion than those below the age of 30 (43%) or above 64 (28%).

Political outlook, as well, produces different results. While a majority of Democrats (63%) believe that U.S. media portrays China and Chinese people negative, just half (50%) of Republicans—and just 45% of Bush supporters—agree.

Men are substantially more likely than women to hold this viewpoint as well, with 61% of men and 50% of women agreeing.

409. Some recent surveys have suggested that some in America hold a negative opinion of China. In your opinion, does negative public opinion of China adversely impact the status of Chinese Americans in the U.S.?

Yes	66%
No	30
Not sure	4

Two-thirds (66%) of respondents say that a negative perception of China held by Americans has an adverse impact on Chinese Americans.

This view climbs to 78% in the Southern states, while not exceeding 67% in any other region.

Among Chinese Americans born in the U.S., this argument gains the least traction; still, a sizeable majority (61%) agree. Among those born outside the U.S., the number hovers around seven-in-ten.

Political party has substantial impact on this question: Republicans agree at a much lower threshold (57%) than do Democrats (71%); independents track more closely with Democrats on this question (68%).

In terms of gender impact, women are much more likely than men to disagree with this premise, by a 32% to 25% margin.

41. What impression do you think that most people living in China have of the U.S.?

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

Favorable/good/positive (69)

Rich/spoiled (41)

Freedom/democracy (30)

Land of opportunity/better life (27)

Split between favorable, unfavorable (15)

Superpower (12)

Arrogant (12)

Bully (7)

Heaven/dream country (7)

Friendly (7)

Want to be like us (6)

Lazy/fat (6)

Negative (4)

Materialistic (3)

Negative opinion of President Bush/Bush is world policeman (3)

Not sure (42)

43. Can you name potential problems between the US and China that might arise in the near future?

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

Conflict over Taiwan (121)

Trade deficit (38)

China's economic growth (25)

China's military buildup (15)

Human rights (13)

Cheap labor/job loss (10)

Superpower conflict (9)

U.S. trying to control China (8)

Political differences (5)

Oil consumption/competition for natural resources (5)

Intellectual property rights (4)
North Korea/nuclear proliferation (3)
Yuan (3)
Japan (3)
Not sure (71)

44. When thinking about the Chinese people and their culture, what are some of the positive things that come to mind?

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

Hard-working/diligent (130)
Family-oriented (49)
Intelligent/value education (20)
Culture (18)
History (17)
Respectfulness (14)
Friendly (9)
Humble (8)
Food (7)
Peaceful (6)
Tradition (5)
Polite (3)
Not sure (19)

441. When thinking about the Chinese people and their culture, what are some of the negative things that come to mind?

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

Closed-minded/stubborn (29)
Selfish (28)
Submissive (25)
Secretive (9)
Money-oriented/greedy (9)
Lack of political involvement (8)
Hygiene/spitting/sanitary conditions (8)
Human rights problems (8)
Environmental concerns (7)
Unable to work as a team (7)
Lack of community involvement (6)
Uneducated (6)
Communism (6)
Clannish (6)
Government (5)
Value males more than females/sexist (5)
Cheap (4)

Gamblers (4)
 Lack of individualism (4)
 Overpopulation (3)
 Stereotypes (3)
 One-child law/forced abortions (3)
 Do not follow rules (3)
 Not sure (59)

442. *Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree that schools should add more Chinese and China-related teaching materials?*

Strongly agree	56%		
Somewhat agree	28	Agree	84%
Somewhat disagree	7		
Strongly disagree	5	Disagree	12
Not sure	4		

An overwhelming majority—84%—of Chinese Americans agree that schools should add more teaching materials related to China and the Chinese. Just one-in-eight (12%) disagree.

The desire for such materials to be included is strong, with majorities of virtually every subgroup *strongly* agreeing. The notable exceptions to this trend are the youngest respondents (under the age of 30) and Chinese Americans born in the U.S. (27% and 33%, respectively).

It is noteworthy that there is extremely high support and intensity for this among the small portion of the sample identified as educators (*strong* agreement approaches seven-in-ten).

443. *Have you ever been discriminated against because you are of Chinese descent?*

Yes	52%
No	45
Not sure	3

Half (52%) of respondents indicate that they have been subjected to discrimination based on their Chinese ancestry. Nearly as many (45%), however, indicate they have not.

The highest incidence of perceived discrimination is among those Chinese Americans living in the Western U.S. (54%); the lowest levels are among those living in the Central/Great Lakes region (43%).

Younger respondents are more likely to have perceived discrimination (59%) than are respondents over the age of 30 (~50%).

Kerry voters (62%) are much more likely to perceive discrimination than Bush voters (46%).

444. *Has anyone ever made fun of you or called you names because you are of Chinese descent?*

Yes	51%
No	47
Not sure	2

As with the previous question, Chinese Americans split evenly on the question of whether they have been subjected to insults based on their ethnic identity—47% say they have been called names or made fun of, while 51% say they have not. There is a slightly lower incidence of those saying they have been made fun of among those living in the Central/Great Lakes region (43%, versus 48%-49% elsewhere).

While a split is somewhat evident among Bush and Kerry voters—a minority of 47% of Bush voters report such insults, while a majority of 55% of Kerry voters report the same—majorities of both major parties report having been made fun of due to their ancestry (57% of Democrats and 54% of Republicans). However, among political independents, this drops to 42%.

Such insults are more readily recalled by younger respondents, with 69% indicating they had been made fun of; among seniors, the percentage drops to 47%. Men are much more likely to report such name-calling and insults than are women, by a 55% to 38% margin.

445. *Please name who you consider to be Chinese-American role models?*

Yao Ming	9%
Connie Chung	8
Michael Chang	8
Elaine Chao	6
Bruce Lee	6
Jet Li	5
Jackie Chan	4
Yo Yo Ma	3
Gary Locke	2
I.M. Pei	2
Jerry Yang	2
Lisa Ling	2
Amy Tan	2
Michelle Kwan	2

*Other	24
Not sure	28

***Other (number in parentheses denotes frequency of response):** David Ho (5); Lucy Liu (4); Iris Chang (2); T.Y. Lin (2); Charles Wang (2)

One each: John Fugh; Henry Lee; Yang Zhenning/Li Zhengdao; Robert Matsui; Katie Tong; Rep. David Wu.

Seven-foot, six-inch Houston Rockets center Yao Ming makes the biggest impression on Chinese Americans asked to identify Chinese-American role models, with one-in-nine (11%) naming him. He plays particularly well among respondents in the 30 to 49 age range, being named by 16% of this group. He also performs better among Chinese Americans born in China than other groups.

Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, who once headed the Peace Corps, places second, identified by 7.4% of Chinese Americans in positive terms. Secretary Chao, who is also the wife Senate Majority Whip Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) does perform better among Republicans than Democrats, but only marginally so (10% of Republicans and 6% of Democrats picked the Secretary).

Newscaster Connie Chung places third, netting 7.2% in the poll. Her greatest name ID comes from Chinese Americans living in the Southern states and the youngest and oldest respondents.

Tennis pro Michael Chang ranks fourth, with 7%. His highest numbers tend to come from Easterners and Republicans.

The late film legend Bruce Lee places fifth overall, with 6%. Lee performs particularly well with those under the age of 35.

446. What field or profession would you like to see Chinese-Americans make greater gains in?

Government/public service	46%
Science/technology	14
Military leadership	2
Business/corporate	14
Medicine	3
Sports	3
Arts/entertainment	2
Education/Academia	9
Other	5
Not sure	2

447. Would you say you are very optimistic, somewhat optimistic, somewhat pessimistic, or very pessimistic about opportunities for Chinese-Americans in the US?

Very optimistic	35%		
Somewhat optimistic	53	Optimistic	89%
Somewhat pessimistic	5		
Very pessimistic	0	Pessimistic	5
Not sure	6		

Optimism about opportunities for Chinese Americans is a universally-held attitude among Chinese Americans, though it is also a somewhat lukewarm attitude—a solid majority (53%) are, while optimistic, only somewhat so.

Chinese Americans born in China are more optimistic than their contemporaries born elsewhere; 39% of this group is *very* optimistic, versus just 31% of those born in the U.S.

Party ID has virtually no impact on response, but 2004 vote does: those Chinese Americans who voted for President Bush are more likely to be *very* optimistic than those who voted for Massachusetts Senator John Kerry, by a 43% to 34% margin.

Married Chinese Americans also have a more optimistic outlook, with 39% *very* optimistic about their opportunities in America—versus 25% of single respondents.

Women are more intensely optimistic than men—by a 42% to 31% margin over men, they called themselves *very* optimistic about opportunities.

45. From which sources do you get most of your news about China? (Choose all that apply.)

Internet	20%
English language Television	18
English language Newspapers	18
Chinese language newspapers	15
Chinese language television	11
News magazines	9
Radio	8
Other	1
Not sure	--

The Internet is the preferred source of information about China for Chinese Americans.

(Question 46 was asked only of Chinese Americans who get most of their news via English language television.)

46. Which television network are you most likely to watch for your news?

Table 19. Television News Regarding China

	General Public	Chinese Americans
CNN	23	22
ABC	14	19
NBC	16	15
Fox News Channel	22	13
CBS	7	6
Chinese news	N/A	6
MSNBC	3	3
Local 24-hour network	2	1
CNBC	1	1
*Other	9	9
Not sure	3	5

Please tell me if you prefer to do each of the following in Chinese, English, or equally in both.

47. Reading newspapers

Chinese	18%
English	42
Both	40
Not sure	1

Birthplace is the most significant factor in this particular question; respondents born in the U.S. opt for English-language newspapers at a rate of eight-in-nine (89%) while 9% prefer to read both English- and Chinese-language publications and just 1% prefer Chinese-language.

Among those born in China, though, the percentage preferring Chinese jumps to 21%, while just 22% prefer English-only publications. The remainder, 58%, prefer publications in both languages.

For Taiwanese-Americans, the breakdown is Chinese-language publications 16%, English-language 20%, and both languages 64%.

48. Watching television

Chinese	10%
English	54

Both 35
 Not sure 1

In terms of television viewership, a desire to watch programming both English and Chinese is strong among those born outside the U.S.—at least two-in-five China-born, Hong Kong-born, and Taiwan-born respondents prefer the option of watching television in both languages, while English is the choice of U.S.-born Chinese Americans (89%).

No other dramatic alignments occur based on other demographic strata—there is no particular allegiance among Republicans or Democrats (the former prefers English language programming by about seven points over the latter). Age produces no coherent trend, either, with both old and young preferring English at higher levels than those in the 30 to 64 age range.

49. Listening to radio stations

Chinese 9%
 English 61
 Both 24
 Not sure 6

Similar trends to television viewership occur in radio station choice.

50. Have you ever visited China, Taiwan, or Hong Kong?

Table 20. Visited Greater China?

	General Public	Chinese Americans
Yes	10	83
No	90	17

This is one of the most dramatic numbers in the poll—while just one-in-ten (10%) members of the General Public have ever visited Greater China, Chinese Americans have done so at exceedingly high levels—83% have done so.

Even among U.S.-born Chinese Americans, this fraction exceeds three-fifths (63%) of the total sample. Among those born elsewhere, the number exceeds 90%.

While political party has no substantial impact on this question, income level does: unsurprisingly, as a respondent’s income increases, so does the likelihood he or she has visited China, Taiwan, or Hong Kong.

Both genders have visited Greater China in comparable numbers.

51. *If so, for what purpose?*

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

Visiting family (164)

Vacation (67)

Business (21)

Business and pleasure (21)

Born/raised there (13)

Attend funeral (2)

Lived there (2)

Visiting (2)

One each: Religious purposes; shopping (Hong Kong); visiting friends; personal; not sure; to get married; by invitation of the government; attended college there; to see the changes.

52. *How many times have you visited China, Taiwan, or Hong Kong in the past 10 years?*

One	24%
Two	17
Three	12
Four	8
Five	8
More than Five	22
Not sure	9

A substantial portion of respondents have traveled to China within the last five years—in fact, seven-in-ten (69%) Chinese Americans have done so.

53. *Can you read or speak Chinese?*

Yes	92%
No	8

Chinese Americans overwhelmingly can speak a Chinese dialect.

54. *Which dialect of Chinese do you speak?*

Mandarin	51%
Cantonese	29
Shanghainese	7

Hokkien	2
Toisan	3
Fuzhou	1
Wenzhou	1
Other	6
Not sure	0

While Mandarin is the most widespread dialect spoken by Chinese Americans (51%) there is a considerable Cantonese-speaking population, with three-in-ten (29%) able to speak this dialect.

Interestingly, Cantonese is more widespread among younger Chinese Americans (46% of those under the age of 30 reported speaking this dialect). Among middle-aged respondents, Mandarin was the overwhelming dialect of choice.

55. *From what part of China did your family originally come?*

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

- South China (48)
- Taiwan (42)
- Canton (Guangzhou) (40)
- Shanghai (37)
- North China (26)
- Hong Kong (18)
- Beijing (16)
- East/East Coast (11)
- Southeast China (11)
- Northeast (8)
- Southwest (8)
- Central China (7)
- Fujian (17)
- Northwest (3)
- Hunan (3)
- Not sure (7)

Two each: Sichuan; Mainland China; China; Southeast China; Central China, Nanjing, Hubei.

56. *Were you born in the U.S., China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, or elsewhere?*

U.S.	26%
China	42
Hong Kong	6

Taiwan	20
Singapore	0
Elsewhere	7

57. *Who in your family was the first person to come to the US?*

***Question was open-ended:** (Number in parentheses denotes frequency of similar response.)

Self (141)
 Father (49)
 Mother (18)
 Sister (18)
 Grandfather (18)
 Both parents (17)
 Husband (16)
 Brother (15)
 All family members together (11)
 Aunt (9)
 Uncle (8)
 Great grandfather (6)
 Both grandparents (5)
 Grandmother (5)
 Wife (5)
 Great great grandfather (3)
 Not sure (3)

One each: Sister-in-law; brother-in-law; father's stepsister; relatives; sister of mother-in-law; cousin.