

Table 4-2 Voters' Perceptions of the Ideology of Their Representative

Percentage who see their representative as ...	1990	1994	1998	2002	2006	2010
More conservative than themselves	37	34	36	39	49	33
Similar to themselves	21	26	20	16	5	24
More liberal than themselves	42	41	43	45	46	43

Source: 1990–2002: NES survey data. 2006, 2010: CCES Survey data. Based solely on respondents who rate themselves and their newly elected Congress member on the same ideological scale. Proportion in the middle category (giving themselves and the representative the same rating) for 2006 is not comparable to the other because of differences in the ratings scales used: 1–100 in 2006, and 1–7 in other years.