

# Los Angeles Times / Bloomberg

---

## President Bush's Popularity Slides

As George W. Bush begins his fifth year as president, his support from the American people has declined dramatically. He began his second term by saying that he had the political capital to press on with his agenda, but nowhere today is that political capital evident. The president and, more specifically, the Bush administration has been engulfed in one problem after another – the war in Iraq and the alleged misinformation about Saddam Hussein having weapons of mass destruction, the slow reaction to Hurricane Katrina, the indictment of Scooter Libby (Vice President Dick Cheney's chief of staff) for lying to a grand jury about outing a covert CIA agent, the warrantless eavesdropping of Americans within the U.S. and the disastrous beginning of the new Medicare prescription drug benefit. With all these adverse events, the public is showing much dissatisfaction with Bush.

In leading up to the president's State of the Union address next week, the latest L.A. Times/Bloomberg poll shows that Bush has a lot to be worried about. Besides the president's job rating dropping, the public thinks the country would be better off if it moved in a new direction, rather than continue with Bush's policies. In addition, the right direction and wrong track question, a marker that most politicians and political consultants use to rate the health of an administration, is very bad.

The president also doesn't fare much better when Americans were asked to rate Bush on a myriad of other issues -- his handling of the war in Iraq, economy, health care and ethics in government. The only one that Bush receives a more ambiguous response to is his handling of the war on terrorism. This issue has always been a strong one for the president and helped him get reelected. Last January, for example, a Times poll showed that the president had a 54% job approval rating on handling the war on terrorism. But in the current poll, Americans are at best evenly split.

Just as protecting the country from terrorism was the lynchpin to his winning a second term, so was America's perception of his being a strong leader and having honesty and integrity. In his 2000 campaign the president promised that he would restore honesty and integrity to the White House. But in the current poll, the share of respondents giving the president high marks for these personal attributes have slipped markedly. In November 2003, a Times poll found that 56% of respondents thought the president was honest, while another 61% thought he was a strong leader. Today, the nation is divided over whether he is honest and trustworthy and just about half think he is a strong leader. And most don't believe the president fulfilled his promise to restore honesty and integrity to the White House.

Although most of the poll's data is not good news for the president, one ray of hope is how Americans view the way the president is making the country safe from terrorism. They agree with the president's argument that the provisions of the Patriot Act that will expire next month should be re-authorized. Also, interestingly, in the name of making the country safe, the public would not mind if some of their civil liberties were taken away. They are, however, somewhat divided on whether Bush's electronic surveillance on American citizens without a warrant is acceptable or not.

Another issue that is hurting the president is the war in Iraq. Half of Americans don't believe the president when he says the U.S. military is making a lot of headway in Iraq, while many feel that going to war with Iraq was not worth it. Yet, there is some optimism that things will get better over the year. Even though some Democrats in Congress have rattled the cage and said the U.S. military should get out of Iraq immediately, there isn't a swell of support for this immediate withdrawal.

## **View of the Country**

Three out of five Americans think the country is seriously off on the wrong track (up 13 points from last year at this time), while a third believe the country is going in the right direction. The only demographic groups that believe the country is going in the right direction are Republicans and the most affluent -- each at 52%.

A third each of survey respondents mentioned health care and the war in Iraq as a top priority for Congress and the president to address, followed by Social Security (20%) and terrorism (17%). More than two out of five Democrats mentioned healthcare and 39% cited the Iraq war, while a little more than a fifth of Republicans mentioned health care and 30% cited the Iraq war. Thirty-two percent of Republicans mentioned terrorism, while just 9% of Democrats mentioned this issue.

## **Bush Ratings**

Twice as many Americans think the country needs to move in a new direction, rather than proceed with Bush's policies (62% vs. 31%). Two thirds of independents and seven in 10 moderates want to move the country in a new direction. All demographic groups except the very core groups for Bush -- Republicans and conservatives -- want to move the country away from Bush's policies and toward a new direction.

*Overall job rating:* A majority of Americans (54%) disapprove of the way the president is handling his job, while 43% approve. This includes 39% who strongly disapprove. This is a big drop from the beginning of last year, when a January L.A. Times Poll had Bush's job rating at 50% approve (47% disapprove). Throughout much of 2005, most national polls have shown Bush's popularity declining dramatically. The poll results are very close to the average of other national polls released in the last two weeks.

A gender gap is seen in many of the questions relating to Bush. However, last year 54% of men approved of Bush's performance, while 50% of women disapproved. This poll shows the men moving toward the negative column -- they are now divided on whether they approve of the president's job performance, or not. Women disapproved of him last year and are more disapproving of him this year (from 50% to 60%).

Now, almost 6 out of 10 respondents who consider themselves independents disapproved of the way Bush is handling his job and 39% approved. Last year, they were split with 49% approving and 46% disapproving. Moderates are another example of a group moving to the negative column -- more than 6 out of 10 disapproved, compared to more than a third who approved. Last year they were split (47%-46%). Moderate Republicans are 12 points more negative than last year (from 21% to 33%). Conservative Republicans are still solidified behind the president -- 85% approval vs. 14% disapproval. The youngest and oldest respondents are more disapproving of the president on this issue than the other age groups.

Interestingly, whites last year gave Bush positive marks for his job performance, but in this current poll, more than half are now disapproving. Minorities last year and in this poll disapprove of the president's handling of his job. Among blacks, it is even more negative -- 72% disapprove. All income groups give the president a negative rating, except for those respondents with household incomes of more than \$100,000. They are split in their opinion (52% to 48%). Americans living in the Southern region of the country are the only ones that give Bush a positive rating.

*Handling situation in Iraq:* Nearly three-fifths of Americans disapprove of the way Bush is handling the situation in Iraq, while 41% approve. This includes 45% who strongly disapprove. More younger respondents (18-29) disapprove of the president's job performance on this issue than the other age groups. Two thirds of minorities disapprove of the president handling this situation (including a full 54% who strongly disapprove), compared to 53% of whites who also disapprove of the president's performance. There is also a gender gap on this issue. Men are divided (50%-49%), while nearly two-thirds of women disapprove. Only the president's core base is giving him some positive feedback on this issue. Roughly four out of five Republicans and two thirds of conservatives approve of Bush's handling the war in Iraq.

*Handling the war on terrorism:* Throughout the poll this one issue has shown to be one of the president's biggest strengths. He plays to this issue time and time again. He positions himself as a president that will do anything to make the country safe from terrorism. And this was the only issue that the poll tested where he did not received a negative rating. However, Americans are divided as to whether they approve or disapprove of the president's job performance on this issue (48%-49%). Last year, 54% of Americans approved, while 43% disapproved. A third strongly approve, while just more than a third strongly disapprove. Once again, there is a gender gap, with 58% of men approving and 57% of women disapproving. Independents and moderates disapprove of the president's job performance on this issue. Whites are more approving (51%) than minorities (58% disapproving).

*Handling the economy:* Nearly three in five disapprove of the way Bush is handling the economy, while 37% approve. This includes 40% who strongly disapprove. Most demographic groups disapprove of the president's performance on this issue, but once again his core is loyal to him – 75% of Republicans, 59% of conservatives and 53% of the most affluent – give him a positive rating. Last year 49% of respondents overall approved, while 46% disapproved.

*Handling the cost and availability of health care:* A huge 64% of Americans disapprove of the way the president is handling the issue of health care (including 47% who strongly disapprove). Only 27% approve. Again, all demographic groups, except for Republicans, disapprove of his handling this issue. Seven in 10 minorities disapprove, as do 72% of respondents whose household income is less than \$40,000, 62% of the elderly, 66% of women and 75% of moderates. Even conservatives who usually stand behind the president, barely approve of his handling this issue (46%-44%), although within the poll's margin of error.

*Handling ethics in government:* Respondents are somewhat divided as to whether they approve of Bush's handling of ethics in government (43% approve to 47% disapprove). A third strongly disapprove (while 21% strongly approve). There is a gender gap on this issue, where men approve (47%) and women disapprove (52%) of the president's job performance. Whereas younger respondents have been critical of the president on the other issues tested in the poll, they give him a more positive rating (48%). At least half each of independents and moderates disapprove of the president's handling of ethics in government.

*Attributes for the president:* Americans are evenly split on whether Bush is honest and trustworthy. This is a 10 point drop when respondents were asked the same question in a November 2003 Times poll. More than half each of independents and moderates don't think he has those qualities. Roughly half of the men in the survey believe in Bush's honesty, while nearly half of women don't. Almost three-fifths of respondents who are 18-29 years old don't think Bush is honest and trustworthy, while 48% of the elderly do. And three out of five of all adults do not think Bush fulfilled his promise to restore honesty and integrity to the Oval Office. Once again only Republicans (66%) and conservatives (55%) are loyal to the president and think he kept his promise.

The public, however, still believes he is a strong leader, although people's attitude about this attribute has dropped 11 points since the Times Poll asked the question in November 2003. And the gender gap still persists – men think he is a strong leader, while women don't.

Other issues for the president: Another item that is helping to keep attitudes about the president negative is the feeling that the country's economy is worse off since he took office five years ago. Nearly half say the country is worse off, while 22% say better off and another 28% say it has remained the same. Interestingly, almost a quarter who say the country's economy is better off since Bush took office, wants the country to head in a new direction, rather than following Bush's policies; half of those who said the economy is about the same also don't want to follow Bush's policies, but want to find a new path. And not surprisingly, 90% who said the country's economy is worse off wants the country to move in another direction.

But once again as the polling data suggests, the public still trusts Bush to keep the country safe from terrorism. More than half of the public believes Bush's policies on terrorism and national security have made the country more secure over the past five years, 21% think it has made the country less secure and 25% think there is no difference. Democrats are divided as to whether Bush's policies made the country more or less secure.

*Bush vs. Democrats in Congress:* The only issue that Bush defeats Democrats on is who would be best at protecting the nation against terrorism. When asked who could do a better job of handling taxes – 43% thought the Democrats in Congress would be better, compared to 34% for the president; handling the federal budget deficit – 47% said the Democrats and 30% sided with Bush; handling health care issues – 53% mentioned the Democrats and 25% supported Bush; better job of protecting the nation against terrorism – 45% thought Bush would be better, while 32% thought that about the Democrats.

## **The National Economy**

Driven by a lack of trust in the country's fiscal leadership, economic optimism is slipping among all but the country's most financially advantaged. In addition, there is evidence that the rising cost of household energy could slow the economy. Most Americans, even about half of those in households making more than \$100,000 a year, said that they will have to cut back on other purchases if prices of heating fuel, electricity and gasoline continue to rise.

Americans were generally more fiscally optimistic than pessimistic - more than half said the economy is doing well. However the survey also found evidence that their confidence is slipping. The healthy twenty-one point gap between those who said that the economy was doing well compared to badly one year ago (60% to 39%) has narrowed to eleven points in the current poll (55% to 44%.) Similarly, the solid six out of 10 in this survey who said that they feel secure about their own personal financial situation represents a ten point drop from the even more solid seven in 10 who said the same thing one year ago.

In general, the country's economic optimism is sliding in tandem with its trust in the current administration's handling of the country's fiscal health. About three out of five handed George W. Bush a negative job approval rating on his handling of the economy. Nearly half (47%) said that the national fiscal outlook is in worse shape now than before Bush took office, specifically because of the president's economic policies. In a further repudiation of Bush's economic moves, respondents picked "The Democrats in Congress" over Bush by nine points when asked who they'd trust to do a better job of handling taxes, and by 17 points when it came to handling the federal budget deficit.

The slippage so far is confined mostly to the lower regions of the economic pyramid, as well as being much more prevalent among women than men, and stronger in the East and West than in the Midwest or South.

There has been virtually no loss of economic optimism among those whose family earnings exceed \$60,000 a year, a group which represents a bit more than the upper third of American households, according to the 2005 Current Population Survey. Among that group, nearly seven in 10 characterized the economy as doing well and about five out of six said their own personal financial situation is secure. Those proportions are little changed from one year ago. It is another story for those whose household incomes are

lower – optimism about the national economy has dropped about ten points among those groups. Those with the lowest incomes are faring the worst – a 55% majority of adults in households earning less than \$40K characterized the economy as doing badly in the most recent poll, a switch from a year ago when just over half of that group said it was doing well. Similarly, only 37% of the under \$40K group said their own personal financial situation felt secure, a dramatic 17 point drop from the 54% who felt financially sound one year ago.

Women are not only less optimistic about the national economy, but also more likely to feel financially insecure, compared to men, and the difference is increasing. A year ago, more women felt secure than shaky by 30 points, nearly twice as large as the 58% to 41% gap found in this survey. That gap narrowed among men, too, going from about three times as many who felt secure as shaky a year ago to less than twice as many, at 64% vs. 35%. Similarly, while the proportion of men who view the national economy as sound has not changed over the last year – 62% then and now said the economy is doing well – optimism has slipped by ten points among women. One year ago nearly six in 10 women said it was doing well, but now that proportion is 47%, compared to 51% who say it is doing badly.

Southerners and those from the Midwest are more likely than the rest of the country to feel confident in the economy and their own finances, while those in the east are least likely. The proportion of Midwesterners and Southerners who say the economy is doing well in this survey is little changed from a year ago, as well as their outlook on their own personal financial situation. However, the proportion of those in eastern and western portions of the country who feel financially shaky has nearly doubled in each case. More than half (53%) of those living in the east of the country said the economy is doing badly, a complete turnaround from the 56% who said it was doing well one year ago. In the west, the proportion of those who are optimistic about the economy has dropped 13 points - from 69% to 56% - since last January.

In spite of a series of recent reports showing housing prices leveling off, most Americans nationwide still view their homes as a solid investment. Nearly nine out of 10 homeowners said that, in the next half year, they thought the price of housing would stay the same (54%) or increase (34%), compared to the just over one in 10 who thought that prices might go down. Homeowner's optimism about the persistence of the housing price bubble persists even in the face of their pessimism about the economy. About three out of four of homeowners who predicted a downturn in the economy over the next six months said that they figured housing prices would stay the same (57%) or increase (21%) over that period. Renters, however, are another matter. Nearly half of those who rent, many of whom may feel priced out of the housing market, predicted that the cost of housing will continue to rise. Only one in six renters said it will decrease, and about a third figured it would stay the same. Renters tend to be younger, have shakier personal finances, and to be more pessimistic about the state of the national economy in general.

## **Civil Liberties and Ethics**

President Bush has been urging Congress to reauthorize parts of the Patriot Act that have expired. He argues that America cannot let down its guard in fighting and rooting out terrorism. The American people agree. Nearly three out of five would like Congress to reauthorize the provisions that have expired (temporarily extended to early February), while a third say those provisions should be allowed to expire because they may violate civil liberties. Democrats are somewhat split (45% reauthorize, 44% let provisions expire), while independents and moderates agree that Congress should pass the Act's expiring provisions. One of the only group that want Congress to let parts of the Patriot Act expire is liberals.

Along with the public wanting parts of the Patriot Act reauthorized, 51% are willing to give up some of their civil liberties in the name of keeping the country safe from terrorism. Democrats, liberals and the youngest respondents are not willing to give up some of their civil liberties to help fight against terrorism. Also, a small majority say they would mind if their phone calls were being monitored by the U.S. government as part of the fight against terrorism, but a large minority – 46% would not mind. Fifty-two percent of registered voters would mind if their calls were being monitored, as well as Democrats,

independents, liberals, moderates, men and women, the younger respondents (younger than 45), minorities and all income groups except those households earning more than \$100K. Whites are split on this.

*Surveillance without a warrant:* Americans are somewhat divided as to whether it is acceptable or not for Bush to authorize electronic surveillance to monitor phone calls and emails within the United States without first getting a court warrant to do so (49% acceptable vs. 45% unacceptable). But there are some warning signs for Bush -- nearly three-fifths would like Congress to hold hearings to investigate the legality of the president's authorization without a warrant. More than a third would not like Congress to hold hearings. But if a congressional investigation finds that the president broke the law when he authorized the use of electronic surveillance to tap Americans without a court warrant, 52% believe that is not an impeachable offense, while 39% do believe it is an impeachable offense.

*Ethics:* The subject matter, ethics, has taken front and center in the last few months with Republican lobbyist Abramoff pleading guilty to conspiracy, fraud and tax evasion which fueled the ongoing investigation of alleged pay to play by members of Congress. Congress as an institution has taken a big hit with the American public. Almost two out of three respondents rated Congress on personal ethics and honesty as not so good (41%) or poor (23%). Those surveyed felt completely opposite about their own representative in Congress -- 63% rate their member of Congress either good or excellent when it comes to their personal ethics and honesty. Democrats are trying to make this an issue and accuse the Republicans of having little ethical standards. However, at this point, it doesn't seem to be resonating with the public. More than two thirds said that neither party has higher standards than the other. Fourteen percent said that Republicans have a higher standard than Democrats and 13% said Democrats had a higher standard over Republicans. The job approval rating of Democrats and Republicans in Congress are not very good and both parties received about the same low level of support. But with the swirl of bad press surrounding Republicans and the ethics problems of some of their members of Congress, more voters would like to see Democrats win in their congressional district than Republicans (by 9 percentage points).

When respondents were asked about the president's integrity -- a third believe that the president has lower ethical standards than most modern day presidents; about a fourth said he had higher standards and roughly two in five said his ethical standards were similar to most modern day presidents. In September 1997, a Times poll asked a similar question about Bill Clinton: Do you think Bill Clinton is less ethical or more ethical than most other modern day U.S. presidents or about as ethical? More than three out of 10 said he was less ethical, 9% more ethical and 56% thought he was as ethical.

*Laws for Lobbyists:* Because of the Abramoff scandal, Republicans and Democrats are jumping over each other to author finance reform bills to show the public that they want to clean house. Both parties are in the process of writing legislation to limit the extent of lobbyists' gifts. Americans believe Congress' ethical behavior is not good at best and want either tougher laws enacted (48%) or strictly enforce the existing laws (34%) dealing with lobbyist's gifts and fundraising. This includes 65% who would like to prohibit fundraisers that are arranged by lobbyists for congressional candidates because they believe it would reduce their influence over lawmakers. All demographic groups want to prohibit fundraisers by lobbyists. About a fifth disagree because they believe it would infringe on the lobbyists' constitutional rights. Under congressional ethics laws, lawmakers may travel on jets provided by corporations and lobbyists for the cost of flying on a commercial airline. The public wants none of that -- nearly three-quarters of respondents want that perquisite prohibited. This belief crosses party lines, party ideology, and all other demographic groups.

## **Iraq (and Iran)**

Americans are increasingly skeptical about the situation in Iraq, the survey showed, and a call for immediate troop withdrawal may be on the rise. A majority continued to disapprove of George W. Bush's handling of the situation in Iraq, and indicated that the situation in Iraq was not worth the costs of war. Half said they don't believe the Bush administration's claim that the U.S. is making progress toward democracy in Iraq. In addition, as many were skeptical that Iraq can maintain a democracy once the U.S.

has pulled out as believe it is possible. Still, the survey found strong support for going into Iran, if necessary to suppress that country's nuclear capabilities.

The proportion of those who think the war is not worthwhile has grown from a minority of four in 10 when the Times Poll first asked the question in November 2003, to 53% today. The issue is politically polarized and negative feelings ran more strongly among women than men. Three out of four self-described Democrats in this survey said that the war isn't worth it, a similar proportion of Republicans said it is, and about six in 10 independents sided with the Democrats. A 55% to 38% majority of women said the war isn't worth it, while men split 50% who said it isn't vs. 47% who said it is.

George W. Bush's approval rating on the subject of Iraq has been steadily negative since 2003, and is similarly polarized. About four in 10 overall approved of the job the president is doing in Iraq compared to nearly six in ten who disapproved, and the usual partisan points of view applied, while Independents again sided with Democrats on this subject by disapproving 61% to 34%. Women in particular didn't care for Bush's handling of the war - twice as many disapproved as approved, compared to men who were split 50% approve to 49% disapprove.

The survey found little hope for improvement in Iraq in the short term... Half said they don't believe President Bush when he talks about positive movement toward democracy and stability in Iraq, and the vast majority said they do not expect things there to get better over the next year. Just over a third were optimistic that the situation in Iraq will improve, while 44% said they expect it will be the same a year from now and 19% are concerned it will just get worse. Part of that expectation may come from the belief that neither side is winning this war and concern that Iraq will not remain a democracy. More than half (55%) said that neither side is winning, compared to 33% who said the U.S. is winning, and 7% who said the insurgents are. Only about a third view U.S. involvement in Iraq as a stabilizing influence on that country and they split 45% to 44% over whether Iraq will be able to maintain a democratic government after the U.S. and its allies pull out.

While four in 10 continue to support the idea of leaving troops in Iraq for "as long as it takes to secure and stabilize the country" (a proportion similar to one year ago), the number of those calling for the U.S. to bring troops home now\* has doubled to about 15% over the past year. (\*this is a volunteered response to a question asking whether troops should be left for as long as it takes, or come home within a set amount of time.) Two in 10 Democrats, compared to just 3% of Republicans, said that the troops should come home now, along with twice as many women as men (20% and 9% respectively.)

The Bush Administration's assertion that U.S. involvement in Iraq is part of the declared U.S. war on terrorism continues to attract a bare majority of agreement among the population. Fifty-one percent said it is part of the war on terrorism and 46% said it is separate. The latter view has gained ground... in a November 2003 Times poll, six in 10 said that the fighting in Iraq was a part of a bigger picture, compared to only 36% who said that it was not, at that time. Only about one in six in the current survey said terrorism around the world has decreased as a result of U.S. involvement in Iraq while almost half said that it has neither increased nor decreased, and a third said they are concerned that terrorism has risen as a result.

There is widespread agreement that the country's involvement in Iraq has hurt the U.S.'s image with the rest of the world - two thirds nationwide, including nearly half of Republicans, said that was the case. Four in ten overall said the war has badly hurt this country's image. Only 12% nationwide said that the U.S. has been enhanced in the world's eyes as a result, while 19% didn't see that it has had an effect one way or the other.

But despite growing disenchantment about the war in Iraq, the survey found some evidence that Americans may be ready to do it again, in Iran. When asked the question: "*If Iran continues to produce material that can be used to develop nuclear weapons, would you support or oppose the U.S. taking military action against Iran?*," 57% said they would support such an action, including nearly a third who said they

strongly supported it. A third were opposed (including 20% strongly opposed), and 10% weren't sure. Almost half of Democrats and Independents and 76% of Republicans supported action in Iran, along with 60% of men and 54% of women. There could well be nuances to this support, of course – responses to questions of this type can vary depending on the specifics and “military action” encompasses a wide variety of activities. Also, most Americans (63%) said, in a separate question, that they supported the U.S. working only in a coordinated effort with allies to “fight violations of international law and aggression around the world” rather than going it alone.

*Analysis by Susan H. Pinkus & Jill Darling Richardson*

Results from the Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg Poll  
National Poll  
January 22-25, 2006

**Guide to Column Headings**

ALL All adults  
 RV Registered voters  
 DEM Self-described Democrats  
 IND Self-described Independents  
 REP Self-described Republicans  
 LIB Self-described liberals  
 MOD Self-described moderates  
 CON Self-described conservatives

**Note**

-All results are among adults nationwide  
 -(Vol.) indicates a voluntarily response  
 - ‘-’ indicates less than 0.5%

Q1. Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction or are they seriously off on the wrong track?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Right direction	32	34	18	31	52	20	29	45
On the wrong track	61	58	75	64	40	72	64	48
Don't know	7	8	7	5	8	8	7	7

(ORDER OF PRIORITIES IS ROTATED)

Q2. Which of the following should Congress and the President make their top priority this year: Should it be health care, or making tax cuts permanent, or Social Security, or the deficit, or the war in Iraq, or fighting terrorism, or the way political campaigns are financed, or establishing a guest worker program for foreign workers, or tighter enforcement of immigration laws? (UP TO TWO RESPONSES ACCEPTED)

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
War in Iraq	34	35	39	32	30	34	38	32
Health care	34	34	42	38	22	38	41	26
Social Security	20	20	23	19	17	17	21	21
Terrorism	17	18	9	16	32	9	11	29
Tighter enforcement of immigration laws	14	15	8	18	21	6	14	20
Deficit	12	12	10	10	15	14	11	12
Tax cuts permanent	8	8	4	7	12	4	8	10
The way political campaigns are financed	4	4	4	4	2	5	4	2
Guest worker program	2	2	2	-	3	1	3	2
All (Vol.)	7	7	8	7	4	11	5	5
Other (Vol.)	2	2	1	4	1	2	2	1
Don't know	1	1	3	-	-	3	-	1

Q3. Would you say the country is better off because of George W. Bush's policies and should proceed in the direction he set out, or do you think the country is not better off and needs to move in a new direction?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Continue policies of George W. Bush	31	33	8	25	67	12	21	56
Needs a new direction	62	60	86	67	26	83	71	38
Don't know	7	7	6	8	7	5	8	6

Q4. Would you say you favor smaller government with fewer services, or larger government with many services?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Smaller government	49	52	34	50	69	30	44	66
Larger government	38	35	51	35	23	57	43	22
Don't know	13	13	15	15	8	13	13	12

Q5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or do you (approve/disapprove) somewhat?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Approve (Net)	<u>43</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>68</u>
Approve strongly	<u>25</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>46</u>
Approve somewhat	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>
Disapprove (Net)	<u>54</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>30</u>
Disapprove somewhat	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>9</u>
Disapprove strongly	<u>39</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>21</u>
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

(ORDER OF NEXT FIVE QUESTIONS IS ROTATED)

Q6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation in Iraq? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or do you (approve/disapprove) somewhat?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Approve (Net)	<u>41</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>65</u>
Approve strongly	<u>26</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>46</u>
Approve somewhat	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>19</u>
Disapprove (Net)	<u>56</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>31</u>
Disapprove somewhat	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>8</u>
Disapprove strongly	<u>45</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>23</u>
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>

Q7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the war on terrorism? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or do you (approve/disapprove) somewhat?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Approve (Net)	<u>48</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>71</u>
Approve strongly	<u>33</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>52</u>
Approve somewhat	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>
Disapprove (Net)	<u>49</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>25</u>
Disapprove somewhat	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>7</u>
Disapprove strongly	<u>36</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>18</u>
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

Q8. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or do you (approve/disapprove) somewhat?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Approve (Net)	<u>37</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>59</u>
Approve strongly	<u>20</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>38</u>
Approve somewhat	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>21</u>
Disapprove (Net)	<u>59</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>36</u>
Disapprove somewhat	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>13</u>
Disapprove strongly	<u>40</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>23</u>
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>

Q9. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the cost and availability of health care in the United States? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or do you (approve/disapprove) somewhat?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Approve (Net)	<u>27</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>46</u>
Approve strongly	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>17</u>
Approve somewhat	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>29</u>
Disapprove (Net)	<u>64</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>44</u>
Disapprove somewhat	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>13</u>
Disapprove strongly	<u>47</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>31</u>
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>

Q10. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling ethics in government? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE) Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or do you (approve/disapprove) somewhat?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Approve (Net)	<u>43</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>59</u>
Approve strongly	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>37</u>
Approve somewhat	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>23</u>
Disapprove (Net)	<u>47</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>32</u>
Disapprove somewhat	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>
Disapprove strongly	<u>34</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>18</u>
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>

Q11\*. If the elections for Congress were being held today, which party would you like to see win in your congressional district: the Democratic Party or the Republican Party? (INCLUDES LEANERS)

	Among Registered Voters							
	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Democratic	<u>47</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>25</u>
Republican	<u>35</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>66</u>
Some other party (Vol.)	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>
Neither	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u>

\* Question 11 is the only question that is among registered voters.

Q12. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Approve	<u>35</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>38</u>
Disapprove	<u>55</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>52</u>
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>

(ORDER OF NEXT TWO QUESTIONS IS ROTATED)

Q13. What is your impression of the Democrats in Congress?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Favorable	36	35	54	31	18	54	35	25
Unfavorable	45	47	27	41	70	32	38	62
Haven't heard enough	16	15	15	25	10	11	23	11
Don't know	3	3	4	3	2	3	4	2

Q14. What is your impression of the Republicans in Congress?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Favorable	38	41	16	38	71	20	30	60
Unfavorable	44	43	67	34	19	68	45	28
Haven't heard enough	16	14	15	25	9	9	24	11
Don't know	2	2	2	3	1	3	1	1

(ORDER OF NEXT TWO QUESTIONS IS ROTATED)

Q15. Would you describe George W. Bush as "honest and trustworthy" or not?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Yes	46	49	22	38	85	23	42	69
No	47	43	68	55	12	69	52	25
Don't know	7	8	10	7	3	8	6	6

Q16. Do you think George W. Bush is a strong leader, or not?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Yes	50	51	26	45	82	32	42	72
No	46	46	71	47	15	65	54	25
Don't know	4	3	3	8	3	3	4	3

Q17. When George W. Bush first became president in 2000, he said he would restore honesty and integrity to the White House. Do you think Bush has fulfilled his promise, or not?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Yes	32	34	12	25	66	13	23	55
No	60	58	82	70	25	76	72	37
Don't know	8	8	6	5	9	11	5	8

(ORDER OF NEXT TWO QUESTIONS IS ROTATED)

Q18. Would you say the country's economy is better off because of George W. Bush's economic policies than when he became president five years ago, or worse off, or is the country's economy about the same as it was then?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Better	22	23	9	15	45	11	17	37
Worse	47	46	71	42	20	66	50	30
Same	28	29	19	35	33	21	31	30
Don't know	3	2	1	8	2	2	2	3

Q19. Would you say George W. Bush's policies on terrorism and national security have made the country more secure over the past five years, or less secure, or have the president's policies not made a difference one way or the other?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
More secure	52	52	34	40	82	34	46	70
Less secure	21	20	33	26	5	31	26	9
No difference	25	26	31	31	11	34	25	19
Don't know	2	2	2	3	2	1	3	2

(ORDER OF NEXT FOUR QUESTIONS IS ROTATED)

Q20. Who do you trust to do a better job of handling taxes: George W. Bush or the Democrats in Congress?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
George W. Bush	34	36	10	27	73	14	24	59
Democrats	43	41	73	41	12	68	46	25
Both equally (Vol.)	3	3	1	6	3	2	3	2
Neither (Vol.)	11	10	7	15	5	9	14	9
Don't know	9	10	9	11	7	7	13	5

Q21. Who do you trust to do a better job of handling the federal budget deficit: George W. Bush or the Democrats in Congress?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
George W. Bush	30	32	9	30	62	15	23	51
Democrats	47	46	76	44	17	68	51	28
Both equally (Vol.)	2	2	1	4	3	2	2	3
Neither (Vol.)	11	11	6	14	10	9	13	12
Don't know	10	9	8	8	8	6	11	6

Q22. Who do you trust to do a better job of handling health care issues: George W. Bush or the Democrats in Congress?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
George W. Bush	25	28	6	25	54	11	18	45
Democrats	53	50	81	49	22	74	59	34
Both equally (Vol.)	2	2	1	3	3	1	2	1
Neither (Vol.)	11	11	9	11	8	9	10	10
Don't know	9	9	3	12	13	5	11	10

Q23. Who do you trust to do a better job of protecting the nation against terrorism: George W. Bush or the Democrats in Congress?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
George W. Bush	45	48	17	46	85	19	39	72
Democrats	32	29	56	27	6	54	33	16
Both equally (Vol.)	4	4	6	4	3	3	7	2
Neither (Vol.)	9	10	10	9	3	12	11	4
Don't know	10	9	11	14	3	12	10	6

Q24. Generally speaking, do you think the nation's economy these days is doing very well, or fairly well, or fairly badly, or very badly?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Well (Net)	55	57	36	60	81	41	45	76
Very well	7	9	3	3	16	3	4	14
Fairly well	48	48	33	57	65	38	41	62
Badly (Net)	44	42	62	40	18	58	54	23
Fairly badly	30	28	38	27	15	40	41	13
Very badly	14	14	24	12	3	18	13	10
Don't know	1	1	2	-	1	1	1	1

Q25. Would you describe the state of your own personal finances these days as very secure, fairly secure, fairly shaky or very shaky?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Secure (Net)	61	64	50	62	76	56	55	72
Very secure	15	16	7	16	27	6	13	23
Fairly secure	47	48	44	46	49	51	42	50
Shaky (Net)	38	35	48	38	24	44	44	27
Fairly shaky	21	20	24	26	15	26	27	14
Very shaky	16	15	23	12	9	17	17	12
Don't know	1	1	2	-	-	-	1	1

Q26. Six months from now, do you expect the nation's economy will be better than it is now, worse than it is now or about the same as it is now?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Better	16	17	10	10	28	9	12	26
Worse	20	20	32	15	7	26	24	11
About the same	59	58	52	71	61	61	60	59
Don't know	5	5	6	4	4	4	4	4

Q27. Six months from now, do you expect housing values to increase in your neighborhood, or to decrease, or do you think housing values in your neighborhood will remain about the same?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Increase	38	36	37	31	43	35	34	43
Decrease	13	13	14	17	9	16	14	10
Remain the same	48	50	47	51	48	46	52	46
Don't know	1	1	2	1	-	3	-	1

Q28. Do you personally feel more or less secure financially than you did five years ago when George W. Bush became president, or are you about as secure financially as you were before Bush became president five years ago?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
More secure	30	31	14	29	53	24	20	45
Less secure	29	29	44	27	13	37	35	17
About as secure	38	38	40	41	32	35	43	36
Don't know	3	2	2	3	2	4	2	2

Q29. Thinking now about the energy costs for your household, such as heating, electricity and gasoline prices. If household energy costs continue to rise at their current rate, will you need to cut back spending in other ways to compensate for this rise, or not?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Need to cut back	76	76	84	76	65	82	78	71
Won't need to cut back	21	21	13	22	32	15	20	26
Don't pay energy bills (Vol.)	1	1	2	-	1	3	-	1
Don't know	2	2	1	2	2	-	2	2

(ORDER OF NEXT TWO QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS WITHIN TEXT ARE ROTATED)

Q30. Which do you think is more effective in stimulating the nation's economy: An economic agenda focused on returning money to taxpayers through tax cuts, or an economic agenda focused on reducing the federal deficit and paying down the national debt?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Tax cuts	40	40	31	38	56	22	36	55
Reducing deficit, paying debt	51	51	60	49	36	68	56	38
Don't know	9	9	9	13	8	10	8	7

Q31. Which do you think is more effective in stimulating the nation's economy: An economic agenda focused on returning money to taxpayers through tax cuts, or an economic agenda focused on spending on such issues as health care and education?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Tax cuts	36	37	23	33	59	19	30	57
Health care and education	56	54	70	56	35	74	64	36
Don't know	8	9	7	11	6	7	6	7

(ORDER OF STATEMENTS IS ROTATED)

Q32. As you may know, after the September 11 terrorist attacks, Congress passed the Patriot Act which gave the government greater powers to access records, perform wiretaps and use other means to locate terrorists. Congress will be voting on whether to reauthorize some provisions of the bill that will expire this year. Do you agree more with those who say Congress should reauthorize those provisions because they have been effective in preventing terrorist attacks, or do you agree more with those who say those provisions should be allowed to expire because they may violate civil liberties?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Agree with those who want to reauthorize provisions	59	63	45	55	80	33	60	76
Agree with those who want to allow to expire	33	30	44	42	14	55	34	18
Don't know	8	7	11	3	6	12	6	6

(ORDER OF STATEMENTS IS ROTATED)

Q33. Which of the following statements comes closer to your view... "Americans should be willing to give up some of their civil liberties so the government can keep the country safe from terrorism" or "Americans should not be willing to allow the government to take away their civil liberties in the name of keeping the country safe from terrorism."

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Give up civil liberties for safety	51	53	41	50	67	35	53	61
Not allow civil liberties to be taken away	40	37	51	43	24	54	40	30
Don't know	9	10	8	7	9	11	7	9

Q34. As you may know, George W. Bush authorized federal government agencies to use electronic surveillance to monitor phone calls and emails within the United States without first getting a court warrant to do so. Do you consider this an acceptable or unacceptable way for the federal government to investigate terrorism? (IF ACCEPTABLE/UNACCEPTABLE) Do you feel strongly about that or not?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Acceptable (Net)	<b>49</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>69</b>
Strongly acceptable	<b>37</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>57</b>
Somewhat acceptable	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
Unacceptable (Net)	<b>45</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>27</b>
Somewhat unacceptable	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>
Strongly unacceptable	<b>34</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>19</b>
Don't know	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>

Q35. Would you mind if you found out that your phone calls were being monitored by the U.S. government as part of the fight against terrorism?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Would mind	<b>53</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>37</b>
Wouldn't mind	<b>46</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>62</b>
Don't know	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

Q36. Do you think Congress should hold hearings to investigate the legality of George W. Bush's authorization of electronic surveillance to monitor American citizens without a court warrant, or not?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Hold hearings	<b>57</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>36</b>
Do not hold hearings	<b>38</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>57</b>
Don't know	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>

Q37. If a congressional investigation finds that George W. Bush broke the law when he authorized government agencies to use electronic surveillance to monitor American citizens without a court warrant, do you think that is an impeachable offense, or not an impeachable offense?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Impeachable offense	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>22</b>
Not an impeachable offense	<b>52</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>67</b>
Don't know	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>

(ORDER OF STATEMENTS IS ROTATED)

Q38. Which statement comes closer to your view: "The United States has a responsibility to fight violations of international law and aggression around the world even without the cooperation of its allies," or "The United States should work only in a coordinated effort with its allies to fight violations of international law and aggression around the world"?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Fight alone	27	27	15	24	44	15	21	40
Fight with allies	63	62	72	66	49	77	68	51
U.S. should not be involved at all (Vol.)	2	2	3	1	-	4	1	1
Don't know	8	9	10	9	7	4	10	8

Q39. Overall, how would you rate Congress on personal ethics and honesty: Excellent, good, not so good or poor?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Excellent/good	31	31	33	30	33	26	33	32
Not so good/poor	64	63	63	62	62	70	64	62
Don't know	5	6	4	8	5	4	3	6

Q40. How would you rate your own representative in Congress on personal ethics and honesty: Excellent, good, not so good or poor?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Excellent/good	63	63	67	53	68	60	67	62
Not so good/poor	27	27	24	35	26	29	25	31
Don't know	10	10	9	12	6	11	8	7

(ORDER OF PARTIES IS ROTATED)

Q41. Who do you think has higher standards of honesty and integrity: the Republicans in Congress or the Democrats in Congress, or do you think there is no difference between the two parties when it comes to honesty and integrity?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Republicans	14	15	5	8	33	8	7	26
Democrats	13	14	26	5	1	24	11	6
No difference	68	66	66	79	62	65	74	66
Don't know	5	5	3	8	4	3	8	2

Q42. When it comes to ethics and honesty, how does George W. Bush compare to most other modern day U.S. presidents? Would you say Bush has higher, lower or similar ethical standards as other modern day presidents?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Higher	26	28	9	21	53	12	16	47
Lower	32	31	53	28	7	50	34	18
Similar	39	38	36	46	39	36	47	34
Don't know	3	3	2	5	1	2	3	1

(ORDER OF STATEMENTS IS ROTATED)

Q43. As you may know, there are existing laws limiting fundraising, money and gifts by lobbyists to members of Congress and other federal public officials. Which of the following comes closest to your view: "The existing laws dealing with lobbyists' gifts and fundraising are adequate but should be more strictly enforced," or "The existing laws dealing with lobbyists' gifts and fundraising are not strong enough and tougher ones need to be passed," or "The existing laws dealing with lobbyists' gifts and fundraising are adequate and no change is needed"?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Laws should be strictly enforced	34	34	32	32	35	33	37	31
Tougher new laws	48	48	50	46	51	45	50	50
No change is needed	11	11	11	11	9	15	8	12
Don't know	7	7	7	11	5	7	5	7

(ORDER OF STATEMENTS IS ROTATED)

Q44. Which of the following comes closer to your view: "If lobbyists were prohibited from arranging fundraisers for congressional candidates, it would mostly be a good thing, because it would reduce their influence over lawmakers" or "If lobbyists were prohibited from arranging fundraisers for congressional candidates, it would mostly be a bad thing, because it would infringe on the lobbyist's constitutional rights."

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Good thing-reduce influence	65	68	65	62	71	66	63	69
Bad thing-infringe on rights	19	17	19	21	15	16	21	18
Don't know	16	15	16	17	14	18	16	13

Q45. As you may know, under current congressional ethics laws, lawmakers may travel on jets provided by corporations and lobbyists for the cost of flying on a commercial airline. Should this practice be continued, or should lawmakers be prohibited from accepting such flights?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Continue	21	21	18	25	26	16	19	26
Prohibited	72	73	75	68	68	78	76	69
Don't know	7	6	7	7	6	6	5	5

Q46. All in all, do you think the situation in Iraq was worth going to war over, or not?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Yes	42	45	19	39	74	22	35	62
No	53	50	75	59	22	74	60	33
Don't know	5	5	6	2	4	4	5	5

Q47. Do you believe George W. Bush when he says that the U.S. military is making a lot of progress in making Iraq a safe, democratic country, or do you not believe him?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Believe him	45	48	21	48	76	20	41	66
Do not believe him	50	47	74	50	19	75	56	29
Don't know	5	5	5	2	5	5	3	5

Q48. Over the next year, do you expect the situation In Iraq will get better, get worse or remain about the same?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Better	34	36	24	27	55	24	26	51
Worse	19	18	26	19	9	26	22	11
Same	44	44	48	52	34	48	49	37
Don't know	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	1

Q49. Do you think the war in Iraq has stabilized the situation in Iraq, or do you think it has destabilized that country, or do you think it has not had an effect on the country's stability one way or the other?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Stabilized	36	40	19	44	57	21	27	55
Destabilized	34	33	46	29	20	55	34	22
No effect	24	21	28	25	17	18	31	19
Don't know	6	6	7	2	6	6	8	4

Q50. So far, do you think the U.S. is winning the war in Iraq, or do you think the anti-U.S. insurgents in Iraq are winning the war, or is neither side winning the war in Iraq?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
U.S. winning	33	35	17	31	56	19	26	52
Insurgents winning	7	6	9	8	5	9	9	4
Neither side winning	55	54	69	57	36	66	61	41
Don't know	5	5	5	4	3	6	4	3

Q51. Do you think the United States should maintain a significant number of troops in Iraq for as long as it takes to secure and stabilize the country, or do you think that the troops should come home in a set amount of time no matter what happens in Iraq? (IF SET AMOUNT OF TIME) How much longer should the U.S. maintain troops in Iraq?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Set amount of time (Net)	<u>56</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>40</u>
Get out now (Vol.)	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>8</u>
Less than a year	<u>22</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>13</u>
1-2 years	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
Longer than 2 years	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>
As long as it takes (Net)	<u>40</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>55</u>
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>

Q52. Do you think it is likely or unlikely that Iraq will be able to maintain a democratic government after the U.S. and its allies leave?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Likely	<u>45</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>53</u>
Unlikely	<u>44</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>36</u>
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>

Q53. Do you think of the war with Iraq as part of the war against terrorism, or as separate from the war against terrorism?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Part of the war	<u>51</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>71</u>
Separate from the war	<u>46</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>26</u>
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Q54. Do you think the image of the United States has been helped or hurt around the world by its involvement in Iraq, or has the United States' image not been affected one way or the other? (IF HELPED OR HURT) Has the United States' image been (helped/hurt) a lot or only somewhat?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Helped (Net)	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>16</u>
Helped a lot	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>
Helped somewhat	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>
Hurt (Net)	<u>65</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>55</u>
Hurt somewhat	<u>27</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>26</u>
Hurt a lot	<u>38</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>29</u>
No effect	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>26</u>
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

Q55. Do you think terrorism around the world has increased or decreased because of the situation in Iraq, or has terrorism around the world remained about the same?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Increased	32	31	45	30	16	42	36	21
Decreased	17	19	10	18	27	10	14	23
Remained the same	47	46	41	49	53	45	47	51
Don't know	4	4	4	3	4	3	3	5

Q56. If Iran continues to produce material that can be used to develop nuclear weapons, would you support or oppose the U.S. taking military action against Iran?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>
Support	57	57	49	49	76	40	55	71
Oppose	33	33	42	40	16	52	34	20
Don't know	10	10	9	11	8	8	11	9

## HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

The Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg Poll contacted 1,555 adults nationwide by telephone January 22 through 25, 2006. Telephone numbers were chosen from a list of all exchanges in the nation, and random digit dialing techniques allowed listed and unlisted numbers to be contacted. Multiple attempts were made to contact each number. Adults were weighted slightly to conform with their respective census figures for sex, race, age, education and region. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For certain subgroups, the error margin may be somewhat higher. Poll results may also be affected by factors such as question wording and the order in which questions are presented.