

## Washington Post- ABC News Poll August 2005

***This Washington Post-ABC News poll was conducted by telephone August 25-28, 2005 among 1,006 randomly selected adults nationwide. Margin of sampling error for overall results is plus or minus three percentage points. Fieldwork by TNS of Horsham, PA.***

\*= less than 0.5 percent

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	-----Approve-----			-----Disapprove-----			No opin.
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
8/28/05	45	27	18	53	12	41	2
6/26/05	48	27	21	51	11	40	1
6/5/05	48	27	21	52	14	38	1
4/24/05	47	25	22	50	13	38	3
3/13/05	50	31	19	48	11	37	3
1/31/05	50	34	15	45	11	34	5
1/16/05	52	33	19	46	11	35	2
12/19/04	48	27	21	49	12	38	2
10/20/04	50	30	20	46	11	35	4
10/17/04 LV	54	35	19	45	9	36	2
10/16/04 LV	54	35	19	44	10	34	2
10/15/04 LV	54	35	19	44	10	34	2
10/3/04 LV	53	36	17	46	11	34	1
9/26/04	50	33	18	45	13	32	5
9/8/04	52	35	17	43	11	32	5
8/29/04	50	31	19	47	13	34	3
8/1/04	47	28	18	49	13	36	5
7/25/04	50	32	19	47	13	34	3
7/11/04	48	31	17	50	11	39	2
6/20/04	47	30	17	51	13	39	1
5/23/04	47	31	17	50	14	36	3
4/18/04	51	33	18	47	13	34	1
3/7/04	50	32	18	48	12	36	2
2/11/04	50	30	21	47	14	34	2
1/18/04	58	35	24	40	9	30	2
12/21/03	59	39	21	38	15	23	3
12/14/03	57	37	20	39	10	29	5
12/7/03	53	32	21	40	13	27	7
11/16/03	57	34	23	39	11	28	4
10/29/03	56	30	26	42	13	29	2
10/13/03	53	33	20	43	13	29	4
9/30/03	54	34	20	44	15	29	2
9/13/03	58	35	23	40	14	27	2
9/7/03	56	34	22	41	13	28	4
8/11/03	59	37	22	37	14	23	4
7/10/03	59	35	24	38	13	25	3
6/22/03	68	45	23	29	11	18	4
4/30/03	71	50	22	26	17	9	3
4/16/03	74	52	22	23	9	14	3
4/9/03	77	58	19	20	6	14	4
4/3/03	71	54	16	25	7	19	4
3/23/03	68	NA	NA	27	NA	NA	4
3/20/03	67	NA	NA	28	NA	NA	5
3/2/03	62	38	23	35	13	22	4
2/23/03	60	NA	NA	34	NA	NA	6

2/9/03	64	42	21	34	14	20	3
2/1/03	62	41	21	34	13	22	4
1/28/03	62	43	19	36	13	23	2
1/27/03	59	39	21	37	15	22	4
1/20/03	59	36	23	38	16	22	2
12/15/02	66	37	28	32	12	20	2
11/4/02	LV 67	45	23	31	12	20	1
11/3/02	LV 67	45	22	32	12	20	1
11/2/02	LV 67	47	20	32	9	23	1
10/27/02	67	39	28	29	13	16	4
9/26/02	67	42	25	30	12	18	3
9/8/02	71	42	28	27	12	15	3
7/28/02	69	39	31	28	14	14	3
7/15/02	72	42	31	25	12	13	2
6/17/02	74	42	32	22	9	13	4
6/9/02	77	41	36	20	9	11	3
5/19/02	76	48	28	22	8	13	3
4/21/02	78	47	31	20	9	10	2
3/28/02	79	49	30	18	8	10	3
3/10/02	82	52	30	16	9	7	2
1/27/02	83	56	27	14	7	7	3
12/19/01	86	64	22	12	6	6	2
11/27/01	89	69	21	9	4	5	1
11/6/01	89	65	24	9	5	4	2
10/9/01	92	76	16	6	3	3	1
9/27/01	90	70	20	6	3	3	4
9/13/01	86	63	23	12	5	6	2
9/9/01	55	26	29	41	20	22	3
8/12/01	61	28	33	31	14	17	8
7/30/01	59	28	30	38	17	22	3
6/3/01	55	27	28	40	18	22	6
4/22/01	63	33	30	32	16	16	5
3/25/01	58	NA	NA	33	NA	NA	8
2/25/01	55	NA	NA	23	NA	NA	22

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bush is handling (ITEM)?

8/28/05 - Summary Table\*

	Approve	Disapprove	No op.
a. The situation in Iraq	42	57	1
b. The US campaign against terrorism	56	43	2
c. The situation with gasoline prices	22	73	6
d. Social Security	40	52	7
e. The economy	44	54	3
f. The abortion issue	44	44	13
g. Immigration issues	33	57	10

\*Full sample asked a-c. Half sample asked d,e other half asked f,g.

Trend where available:

a. The situation in Iraq

	-----Approve-----			-----Disapprove-----			No opin.
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
8/28/05	42	28	14	57	11	46	1
6/26/05	43	25	18	56	12	44	1
6/5/05	41	NA	NA	58	NA	NA	1
4/24/05	42			56			2
3/13/05	39			57			4
1/16/05	40			58			2
12/19/04	42			57			1
9/26/04 RV	47			50			3
8/29/04 RV	47			51			2
7/25/04	45			53			2
6/20/04	44			55			2
5/23/04	40			58			2
4/18/04	45			54			1
3/7/04	46			53			1
2/11/04	47			52			1
1/18/04	55			42			2
12/21/03	60			39			2
12/14/03	58			38			4
11/16/03	48			48			4
10/29/03	47			51			2
10/13/03	51			47			2
9/29/03	50			47			3
9/13/03	52			46			2
9/7/03	49			47			4
8/24/03	56			37			7
8/11/03	56			41			3
7/10/03	58			41			2
6/22/03	67			30			2
4/30/03	75	"	"	22	"	"	2

Compare to: The situation with Iraq and Saddam Hussein

3/27/03	69			26			5
3/23/03	71			26			3
3/20/03	65			29			5
3/17/03	64			29			7
3/9/03	55			38			8
2/23/03	55			39			6
2/9/03	61			37			2
2/5/03	61			32			7
2/1/03	61			35			3
1/28/03	58			38			4
1/27/03	57			40			3
1/20/03	50			46			4
12/15/02	58			37			5
11/4/02 LV	56			40			4
11/3/02 LV	57			40			4
11/2/02 LV	56			41			3
10/27/02	57			38			5
9/26/02	58			39			3
9/14/02	65			31			4
8/29/02	52	"	"	36	"	"	12

b. The US campaign against terrorism

	-----Approve-----			-----Disapprove-----			No opin.
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
8/28/05	56	34	21	43	14	29	2
6/5/05	50	NA	NA	49	NA	NA	1
4/24/05	56			41			3
3/13/05	59			38			3
1/16/05	61			38			2
12/19/04	53			43			3
9/26/04 RV	59			38			3
8/29/04 RV	60			37			3
7/25/04	57			40			4
6/20/04	50			48			2
5/23/04	58			39			4
4/18/04	63			35			2
3/7/04	63			34			3
2/11/04	64			34			2
1/18/04	66			33			2
12/21/03	70			28			2
10/29/03	63			35			2
10/13/03	66			30			4
9/13/03	70			27			3
9/7/03	67			28			5
4/30/03	79			19			2
2/9/03	74			23			4
2/1/03	75			21			3
1/27/03	72			26			2
1/20/03	71			25			4
12/15/02	79			20			1
11/4/02 LV	76			22			1
11/3/02 LV	77			22			3
11/2/02 LV	78			21			2
10/27/02	74			23			4
9/26/02	70			28			2
9/8/02	74			24			2
7/28/02	81			17			2
7/15/02	83	"	"	15	"	"	2
5/19/02*	79			19			3
4/21/02*	81			18			2
3/10/02*	88			10			2
1/27/02	88			10			2
12/19/01*	89			9			2
10/15/01*	92			5			3

\*Asked very/somewhat follow-up

c. No trend.

d. Social Security

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
8/28/05	40	52	7
6/5/05	34	62	4
4/24/05	31	64	5
3/13/05	35	56	9
1/16/05	38	55	7
12/19/04	38	52	9
4/18/04	41	51	8
3/7/04	38	55	7
10/29/03	40	46	14
9/13/03	43	46	11
4/30/03	49	38	13
12/15/02	49	38	13

9/26/02	42	43	15
7/15/02	54	35	11
1/27/02	54	28	18
9/9/01	41	50	9
7/30/01	46	48	6
6/3/01	46	40	14

e. The economy

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
8/28/05	44	54	3
6/5/05	40	58	2
4/24/05	40	57	3
3/13/05	43	55	2
1/16/05	46	52	2
12/19/04	46	51	3
9/26/04 RV	47	50	4
8/29/04 RV	45	52	3
7/25/04	47	50	3
6/20/04	46	53	1
5/23/04	44	54	2
4/18/04	44	54	2
3/7/04	39	59	1
2/11/04	44	54	2
1/18/04	51	47	2
12/21/03	51	44	5
11/16/03	48	49	3
10/29/03	45	53	2
10/13/03	45	52	2
9/13/03	42	56	3
9/7/03	44	51	5
8/11/03	45	51	5
7/10/03	47	49	4
4/30/03	52	45	3
2/9/03	47	49	4
2/1/03	44	52	4
1/28/03	46	49	4
1/27/03	47	47	5
1/20/03	43	53	4
1/5/03	50	43	7
12/15/02	50	46	4
11/4/02 LV	53	45	2
11/3/02 LV	52	46	2
11/2/02 LV	55	43	2
10/27/02	51	43	6
9/26/02	51	47	3
9/8/02	57	40	4
7/28/02	57	39	4
7/15/02	58	38	3
4/21/02	64	33	3
1/27/02	62	34	4
12/19/01	67	27	6
11/6/01	72	23	5
9/9/01	48	48	4
7/30/01	52	45	3
6/3/01	53	41	6
4/22/01	55	38	7
3/25/01	50	42	8

f. The abortion issue

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
8/28/05	44	44	13
9/13/03	43	40	18

g. Immigration issues

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
8/28/05	33	57	10
1/16/05	33	54	13
1/18/04	34	56	10

2a. Which of these should be the highest priority for Bush and Congress this year: (The U.S. campaign against terrorism), (the war in Iraq), (the economy and jobs), (health care), (Social Security) or something else?

	Terr- orism	Iraq	Economy/ jobs	Health care	Social Security	Something else	Price of gas (vol.)	No op.
8/28/05	17	29	26	13	9	5	*	*
6/5/05	12	24	30	16	13	4	NA	1
4/24/05	12	22	32	15	11	6	NA	1
3/13/05	17	23	27	16	10	5	NA	2

3. Do you think Bush does or does not understand the problems of people like you?

	Yes	No	No op.
8/28/05	40	59	1
4/24/05	40	58	2
1/16/05	43	56	1
5/23/04	42	57	1
4/18/04	41	57	2
3/7/04	41	57	2
2/11/04	41	57	2
1/18/04	43	56	1
12/21/03	45	53	2
10/29/03	40	58	2
9/13/03	48	51	1
4/30/03	51	48	1
12/15/02	51	47	2
7/15/02	57	41	2
1/27/02	61	37	2
7/30/01	45	54	2
4/22/01	47	51	2
11/4/00 LV	49	46	5
10/24/00 LV	50	46	3
10/15/00 RV	46	46	7
10/9/00 RV	50	44	6
9/6/00 RV	47	49	4
8/20/00 RV	50	46	5
7/23/00 RV	44	51	5
7/23/00	44	51	5
6/11/00	48	47	5
4/2/00	48	46	6
3/11/00	47	47	6
2/27/00	43	51	6
2/6/00	43	52	5
1/16/00	46	49	6
12/15/99	47	46	7

10/31/99	54	39	7
9/2/99	50	39	11
3/14/99	52	27	21

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the U.S. Congress is doing its job?

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
8/28/05	37	59	4
6/5/05	41	54	4
10/29/03	40	52	9
4/30/03	57	37	6
9/26/02	51	43	6
7/15/02	57	36	7
2/21/02	57	39	4
1/27/02	58	35	7
12/19/01	59	34	7
9/9/01	45	48	7
7/30/01	48	48	4
4/22/01	58	33	8
10/31/99	42	53	6
9/2/99	46	47	7
6/6/99	48	46	6
3/14/99	44	49	7
2/14/99	46	50	4
12/20/98	44	51	5
12/19/98	45	50	5
12/13/98	49	46	5
11/7/98	41	55	4
11/1/98	49	47	5
10/25/98	45	44	11
10/18/98	46	45	8
9/28/98	52	44	4
8/21/98	55	39	6
7/12/98	46	44	11
5/12/98	45	45	9
4/4/98	47	45	8
1/31/98	55	35	10
1/30/98	55	35	10
1/25/98	56	37	8
1/24/98	55	38	7
1/19/98	47	49	5
10/13/97	36	57	7
8/27/97	39	54	7
7/8/97	40	53	6
4/24/97	40	53	7
3/9/97	35	60	5
8/5/96	42	52	7
6/30/96	35	58	7
5/22/96	35	60	5
3/10/96	30	64	6
1/7/96	31	65	5
11/19/95	27	68	5
10/1/95	32	65	3
7/17/95	34	63	3
3/19/95	39	56	5
1/29/95	42	52	6
10/31/94	21	72	8
10/23/94	18	78	4
9/11/94	24	70	5
6/26/94	34	61	5
3/27/94	35	62	3

2/27/94	32	64	4
1/23/94	29	60	11
11/14/93	28	66	6
8/8/93	33	64	3
4/26/93	30	69	2
1/17/93	29	66	6
4/9/92	17	78	5
3/18/92	19	76	5
3/8/92	22	73	6
2/2/92	32	64	4
12/15/91	35	59	6
10/21/91	45	50	5
6/2/91	49	46	5
10/14/90	34	63	3
2/4/90	41	55	4
1/16/90	39	55	6
8/21/89	42	53	5
5/23/89	54	44	2
2/14/89	53	44	3
1/23/88*	43	53	4
6/1/87	56	40	4
6/22/85	54	37	9
5/83	33	43	24
6/81	38	40	22
6/79	19	61	20
9/78	29	49	22
6/77	34	42	24
6/75	29	54	17
8/74	48	35	17
*1/23/88 and previous: Gallup			



5. All in all, considering the costs to the United States versus the benefits to the United States, do you think the war with Iraq was worth fighting, or not? Do you feel that way STRONGLY or SOMEWHAT?

	----Worth fighting----			----Not worth fighting---			No op.
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
8/28/05	46	33	12	53	9	44	1
6/26/05	46	33	13	53	10	43	1
6/5/05	41	29	12	58	12	46	1
4/24/05	44	31	13	54	12	42	2
3/13/05	45	34	11	53	11	42	2
1/16/05	44	32	12	55	10	45	1
12/19/04	42	31	11	56	10	47	2
10/3/04 LV	49	34	15	48	11	37	3
9/26/04 RV	46	35	12	51	8	42	3
9/8/04 RV	51	38	13	45	10	34	4
8/29/04 RV	48	34	14	50	11	39	2
7/25/04	49	36	13	48	11	37	3
6/20/04	47	32	14	52	13	39	2
5/23/04	48	35	13	50	13	37	1
5/6/04	49	NA	NA	47	NA	NA	5
4/18/04	51			47			2
3/7/04	52			44			3
2/11/04	48			50			2
1/18/04	56			41			3
12/21/03	59			39			2
12/14/03	53			42			5
11/16/03	52			44			4
10/29/03	54			44			2
10/13/03	54			44			2
9/13/03	61			37			2
9/7/03	54			42			4
8/24/03	57			37			5
8/11/03	61			35			4
7/10/03	57			40			3
6/22/03	64			33			3
4/30/03	70	"	"	27	"	"	4
Gulf War:							
2/2/92*	66	NA	NA	32	NA	NA	2
7/28/91	67			30			3
6/2/91	70			26			3
3/4/91	86	"	"	13	"	"	1
*2/2/92 and previous: "the Persian Gulf war"; 3/4/91: "this war"							

6. Again thinking about the goals versus the costs of the war, so far in your opinion has there been an acceptable or unacceptable number of U.S. military casualties in Iraq?

	Acceptable	Unacceptable	No opinion
8/28/05	30	68	3
6/26/05	29	69	2
6/5/05	25	73	2
3/13/05	27	70	3
12/19/04	27	70	3
6/20/04	29	71	1
4/18/04	33	65	2
1/18/04	34	62	4
12/21/03	37	60	4
11/16/03	33	64	3
10/29/03	35	62	3
10/13/03	37	60	3
9/13/03	43	55	2
9/7/03	38	57	5
8/11/03	42	53	5
7/10/03	44	52	3
6/22/03	51	44	5
4/9/03	66	28	6
4/3/03	62	32	5
3/27/03	58	34	9

7. Do you think the war with Iraq has or has not contributed to the long-term security of the United States? IF YES: Has it contributed to the long-term security of the United States a great deal, or somewhat?

	-----Contributed-----			Has	No
	NET	Great deal	Somewhat	not	opin.
8/28/05	49	29	20	49	2
6/26/05	52	31	22	46	1
6/5/05	47	24	22	52	1
3/13/05	52	29	23	46	2
1/16/05	50	30	21	47	3
12/19/04	51	27	23	46	4
10/3/04 LV	53	32	22	42	4
9/26/04 RV	54	36	18	42	4
9/8/04 RV	57	36	22	40	3
8/29/04 RV	54	33	20	42	4
7/25/04	51	32	19	45	3
6/20/04	51	28	23	46	2
5/23/04	54	30	24	43	3
4/18/04	57	33	24	40	3
3/7/04	57	29	29	40	3
2/11/04	58	32	26	38	4
1/18/04	59	34	25	38	3
12/21/03	62	34	29	34	4
7/10/03*	62	33	29	35	3

\*"did or did not"

9. Do you think (the United States should keep its military forces in Iraq until civil order is restored there, even if that means continued U.S. military casualties); OR, do you think (the United States should withdraw its military forces from Iraq in order to avoid further U.S. military casualties, even if that means civil order is not restored there)?

	Keep forces	Withdraw forces	No opinion
8/28/05	54	44	2
6/26/05	58	41	2
12/19/04	58	39	3
6/20/04	57	42	1
5/23/04	58	40	2
4/18/04	66	33	1
11/16/03	62	34	4
10/29/03	58	38	3
9/13/03	65	32	3
8/24/03	69	27	4
7/10/03	72	26	2

10. Do you think the United States is or is not making significant progress toward restoring civil order in Iraq?

	Is making significant progress	Is not making significant progress	No opinion
8/28/05	48	50	2
6/26/05	48	51	1
12/19/04	44	49	7
6/20/04	51	48	1

13. Do you think the number of U.S. military forces in Iraq should be (increased), (decreased), or kept about the same?

	Increased	Decreased	Kept about the same	No opinion
8/28/05	21	41	35	4
6/26/05	16	38	44	2
3/13/05	15	44	36	4

**ASKED OF THOSE WHO SAID FORCES SHOULD BE DECREASED IN Q13**

14. (IF DECREASED) Should all U.S. forces in Iraq be withdrawn immediately, or should they be decreased, but not all withdrawn immediately?

	Withdrawn immediately	Decreased but not withdrawn immediately	No opinion
8/28/05	33	66	1
6/26/05	34	66	1
3/13/05	27	72	1

13/14 NET:

	Increased	NET	-----Decreased----- Withdrawn immed. Not withdrawn immed.	Kept about the same	No op.	
8/28/05	21	41	13	27	35	4
6/26/05	16	38	13	25	44	2
3/13/05	15	44	12	31	37	4

15. Some people say the Bush administration should set a deadline for withdrawing U.S. military forces from Iraq in order to avoid further casualties. Others say knowing when the U.S. would pull out would only encourage the anti-government insurgents.

Do you yourself think the United States should or should not set a deadline for withdrawing U.S. forces from Iraq?

	Should set a deadline	Should not set a deadline	No opinion
8/28/05	39	59	2

**ASKED OF THOSE WHO SUPPORTED SETTING A DEADLINE IN Q15**

16. (IF SET DEADLINE, Q15) A December 31, 2006 deadline has been proposed for withdrawing U.S. military forces from Iraq. Do you think that's too (soon), too (late), or is it about right?

	Too soon	Too late	About right	No opinion
8/28/05	4	45	50	1

15/16 NET:

	-----Should set deadline-----					
	NET	Too soon	Too late	About right	Should not set deadline	No op.
8/28/05	39	2	17	19	59	2

17. All told, do you think the United States is winning or losing the war in Iraq?

	Winning	Losing	Neither/It's a tie (vol.)	No opinion
8/28/05	51	38	8	3

18. Thinking specifically about the way the Bush administration is handling the situation in Iraq, would you say you're (pleased about it, satisfied but not pleased, dissatisfied but not angry, or angry)?

	-----Positive-----			-----Negative-----			No op.
	NET	Pleased	Satisfied	NET	Dissatisfied	Angry	
8/28/05	45	14	31	53	26	27	2
6/26/05	45	15	30	55	32	23	*

34. Do you think Democrats in Congress have gone too far or not far enough in opposing:

8/28/05 - Summary Table

	Too Far	Not far enough	Right amount (vol.)	No opinion
a. the war in Iraq	37	53	4	6
b. the nomination of John Roberts to the U.S. Supreme Court	38	38	7	18
c. Bush's policies in general	37	52	6	5

43. Have recent price increases in gasoline caused any financial hardship for you or others in your household, or not? IF YES: Has that been a serious hardship, or not serious?

	-----Yes-----				
	NET	Serious	Not serious	No	No opin.
8/28/05	66	36	30	34	*
8/21/05	53	26	27	47	*
4/24/05	64	34	30	36	*
3/20/05	57	29	28	43	*
5/23/04	64	37	27	36	0
4/18/04	54	31	23	46	0
4/28/02	53	20	33	47	*
4/29/01	48	17	30	52	*
6/25/00*	44	NA	NA	56	*
5/24/00	36			64	*
4/2/00	39			61	*
3/12/00	41			59	*
2/15/00	40	"	"	60	*

\*6/25 and previous by Gallup; slightly different wordings.

44. Do you think there's anything the Bush administration reasonably can do to reduce gasoline prices, or do you think gas prices have risen because of factors beyond the administration's control?

	Can do something	Beyond their control	No opinion
8/28/05	60	36	4