

Washington Post-ABC News Poll April 2005

This Washington Post-ABC News poll was conducted by telephone April 21-24, 2005 among 1,007 randomly selected adults nationwide.

Questions 32 and 37-44a were also asked of an oversample of 75 additional Catholics. The 'Catholics only' results in this section are thus based on a total of 284 interviews.

Margin of sampling error for overall results is plus or minus three percentage points, and plus or minus 6 percentage points for Catholics. 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	
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 All	50	30	20	46	11	35	4
LV	50	33	17	48	10	38	2
RV	50	30	20	46	11	35	3
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 All	50	33	18	45	13	32	5
LV	53	38	15	46	10	35	1
RV	52	35	17	46	13	32	5
9/8/04 All	52	35	17	43	11	32	5
RV	52	38	14	45	11	33	3
8/29/04 All	50	31	19	47	13	34	3
RV	52	33	19	47	13	35	1
8/1/04 All	47	28	18	49	13	36	5
RV	48	29	19	51	13	38	2
7/25/04 All	50	32	19	47	13	34	3
RV	51	33	18	47	13	34	2
7/11/04	48	31	17	50	11	39	2
6/20/04 All	47	30	17	51	13	39	1
RV	48	32	15	51	12	40	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	All 67	39	28	29	13	16	4
	LV 68	47	21	30	14	16	3
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)?

4/24/05 - Summary Table

	Approve	Disapprove	No op.
a. Social Security	31	64	5
b. The situation in Iraq	42	56	2
c. The economy	40	57	3
d. The US campaign against terrorism	56	41	3
e. Energy policy	35	54	10

Trend where available:

a. Social Security

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
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

b. The situation in Iraq

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
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

c. The economy

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
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
10/27/02 LV	53	44	3
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

d. The US campaign against terrorism

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
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 All	74	23	4
10/27/02 LV	78	20	2
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

e. No trend.

3. 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	No op.
4/24/05	12	22	32	15	11	6	1
3/13/05	17	23	27	16	10	5	2

4. Would you support or oppose a plan in which people who chose to could invest some of their Social Security contributions in the stock market?

	Support	Oppose	No opin.
4/24/05	45	51	4
3/13/05	56	41	3
12/19/04	53	44	3
7/15/02	52	45	3
4/22/01	53	46	2
3/25/01	52	45	3
10/30/00 LV	58	35	8
9/6/00 RV	59	37	4
5/10/00	64	31	5

5. (IF SUPPORT) What if that plan also reduced the rate of growth in guaranteed Social Security benefits for future retirees - in that case would you support or oppose it?

	Support	Oppose	No opin.
4/24/05	56	41	1

4/5 NET.

	NET	Support	Oppose	No op.	Oppose	No opin.
4/24/05	45	25	19	1	51	4

6. Who do you trust to do a better job handling Social Security, (Bush) or (the Democrats in Congress)?

	Bush	Dems	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opin.
4/24/05	32	50	2	11	3
3/13/05	37	49	2	11	2
1/16/05	37	50	2	8	3
4/30/03	43	50	1	3	3
9/9/01	41	50	1	4	4
7/30/01	42	51	1	5	2
6/3/01	38	52	1	5	3

7. On another subject, 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?

	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	No op.
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 LV	48	36	12	50	7	43	2
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"							

8. Do you think the United States (has gotten bogged down in Iraq), or do you think the United States (is making good progress in Iraq)?

	Has gotten bogged down	Is making good progress	No opinion
4/24/05	58	39	3
3/13/05	54	43	4
10/3/04 LV	58	38	4
9/26/04 LV	59	37	4
RV	60	36	4
9/8/04 RV	54	40	6
5/23/04	65	33	2
5/6/04	60	35	5
4/18/04	59	41	0

9. How confident are you that Iraq will have a stable, democratic government a year from now - very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident or not confident at all?

	-----Confident-----			-----Not confident-----			No opin.
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	At all	
4/24/05	39	8	31	60	29	31	1

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

	Yes	No	No op.
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

15. Do you think Bush does or does not share your values?

	Yes	No	No op.
4/24/05	47	51	2
1/16/05	54	45	1
5/23/04	49	50	1

17. On another subject, do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?

	Favor	Oppose	No opinion
4/24/05	65	29	6
1/20/03	64	31	5
5/5/02	65	26	9
4/24/01	63	28	9
6/18/00	63	27	10
1/16/00	64	27	9
2/9/99*	71	22	7
8/16/98	69	27	4
8/5/96	77	19	4
1/4/95	74	19	7
9/7/94*	80	16	4
4/26/92**	75	19	6
9/11/88*	79	16	5
1/13/86	70	22	8
11/18/85*	75	17	8
12/18/82	76	19	6
1/30/82	69	19	12
5/20/81	73	20	8
2/2/81*	66	25	9

*Gallup: "Are you in favor of the death penalty for a person convicted of murder?"

**Oppose added

18. Do you think same-sex couples should be (allowed legally to marry), should be (allowed legally to form civil unions, but not to marry), or should not be allowed to obtain legal recognition of their relationships?

	Allowed to marry	Allowed to form civil unions	Not allowed legal recognition	No op.
4/24/05	27	29	40	4

19. (Would you support amending the U.S. Constitution to make it against the law for homosexual couples to get married anywhere in the U.S.), or (should each state make its own laws on homosexual marriage)?

	---Support amendment--			-----State laws-----			No op.
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	No op.
4/24/05	39	NA	NA	56	NA	NA	5
8/29/04 RV	44	39	5	51	16	35	5

Compare to:

(Would you support amending the U.S. Constitution to make it illegal for homosexual couples to get married anywhere in the U.S.), or (should each state make its own laws on homosexual marriage)?

	---Support amendment--			-----State laws-----			No op.
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	No op.
3/7/04*	44	39	5	53	18	35	3
2/22/04	46	38	8	45	15	31	9
1/18/04	38	NA	NA	58	NA	NA	3

*Half sample test, against law/make illegal

21. Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases or illegal in all cases?

	-----Legal-----			-----Illegal-----			
	NET	All cases	Most cases	NET	Most cases	All cases	No opin.
4/24/05	56	20	36	42	27	14	3
12/19/04	55	21	34	42	25	17	3
5/23/04	54	23	31	44	23	20	2
1/20/03	57	23	34	42	25	17	2
8/12/01	49	22	27	48	28	20	3
6/24/01	52	22	31	43	23	20	4
1/15/01	59	21	38	39	25	14	1
9/6/00 RV	55	20	35	42	25	16	3
7/23/00	53	20	33	43	26	17	4
9/2/99	56	20	37	42	26	15	2
3/14/99	55	21	34	42	27	15	3
7/12/98	54	19	35	42	29	13	4
8/5/96	56	22	34	41	27	14	3
6/30/96	58	24	34	40	25	14	2
10/1/95	60	26	35	37	25	12	3
9/21/95	60	24	36	36	25	11	4
7/17/95	59	27	32	40	26	14	1

20. Do you support or oppose embryonic stem cell research?

	Support	Oppose	No opin.
4/24/05	63	28	9

11. On another subject, would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good or poor?

	----Excellent/Good----			-----Not so good/Poor-----			No op.
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	
4/24/05	37	2	35	63	44	20	*
9/26/04 RV	46	3	43	53	38	15	1
8/29/04 RV	45	3	41	55	37	18	*
7/25/04	46	4	42	53	39	14	*
6/20/04	45	4	41	55	38	17	*
4/18/04	43	4	39	57	39	18	*
3/7/04	39	2	37	60	38	22	1
1/18/04	42	3	39	58	42	16	0
12/21/03	42	4	39	57	41	16	1
10/29/03	33	1	32	67	45	23	*
9/13/03	30	2	27	70	45	25	*
8/11/03	32	2	30	68	43	25	*
4/30/03	35	1	34	64	46	19	*
2/9/03	28	1	27	72	49	23	*
1/20/03	25	1	25	74	48	26	1
12/15/02	35	1	33	65	44	21	1
11/4/02 LV	28	1	27	72	55	17	1
11/3/02 LV	27	1	26	72	56	17	1
11/2/02 LV	29	1	28	71	54	17	*
9/26/02	31	2	28	69	50	19	*
7/15/02	39	3	36	61	44	17	1
2/21/02	30	1	29	69	51	18	*
1/27/02	31	1	29	69	50	19	*
9/20/01	38	3	35	60	47	14	2
9/9/01	33	1	32	66	47	19	*
7/30/01	50	3	46	50	39	12	*
4/22/01	50	3	47	50	40	9	*
1/15/01	70	10	59	29	24	6	1
10/27/00 LV	86	24	61	14	11	3	*
10/26/00 LV	86	24	61	14	11	3	*
6/11/00	74	17	57	26	19	6	*
2/27/00	80	25	55	20	14	5	*
10/31/99	74	18	56	26	18	7	1
9/2/99	76	19	57	23	16	6	1
3/14/99	80	22	58	19	15	4	1
11/1/98	73	12	61	26	21	5	1
11/1/98 LV	78	13	65	22	19	3	*
10/13/97	61	12	49	39	27	11	*

12. 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.
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.

13. Who do you blame for the recent rise in oil and gasoline prices - (other oil-producing countries), (U.S. oil companies), or (the Bush administration)?

	Other oil-producing countries	U.S. oil companies	Bush admin.	None (vol.)	Other (vol.)	All equal (vol.)	No op.
4/24/05	26	23	31	5	4	8	4
3/20/05	23	19	34	7	4	11	3
5/23/04	28	26	27	3	2	10	3
10/15/00*	36	22	24	1	2	5	9

*Clinton administration.

22. Do you think a political leader should or should not rely on his or her religious beliefs in making policy decisions?

	Should	Should not	Depends (vol.)	No opin.
4/24/05	40	55	4	2

Compare to:

Do you think a president should or should not rely on his religious beliefs in making policy decisions?

	Should	Should not	Depends (vol.)	No opin.
12/21/03	40	54	5	1

26. Would you rather see religion have GREATER influence in politics and public life than it does now, LESS influence, or about THE SAME influence as it does now?

	Greater	Less	Same	No opin.
4/24/05	27	35	36	1

23. Do you think that people and groups that hold values similar to yours are gaining influence in American life in general these days, or do you think that they are losing influence?

	Gaining	Losing	Neither (vol.)	No opin.
4/24/05	33	58	6	2
8/16/98	35	55	6	4

24. Which political party, the (Democrats) or the (Republicans), do you think better represents your own personal values?

	Dems	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opin.
4/24/05	47	38	2	10	2
3/14/99	47	39	3	8	3

25. Generally speaking, which political party, the (Democrats) or the (Republicans), do you think is more:

4/24/05 - Summary Table

	Dems	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opin.
a. tolerant of different kinds of people and different points of view	63	24	4	5	4
b. sympathetic to religion and religious people	34	48	6	6	7

Trend:

a. tolerant of different kinds of people and different points of view

	Dems	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opin.
4/24/05	63	24	4	5	4
9/17/00*	62	22	4	4	8

*Post/Harvard/Kaiser

b. sympathetic to religion and religious people

	Dems	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opin.
4/24/05	34	48	6	6	7
9/17/00*	41	36	6	5	11

*Post/Harvard/Kaiser

27. Do you think religious conservatives have too (much) influence, too (little) influence or about the right amount of influence over the Republican Party?

	Too much	Too little	About the right amount	No opin.
4/24/05	40	17	37	6

28. Do you think liberals have too (much) influence, too (little) influence or about the right amount of influence over the Democratic Party?

	Too much	Too little	About the right amount	No opin.
4/24/05	35	21	38	5

29. On another subject, do you approve or disapprove of the way Tom Delay is handling his job as majority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives?

	Approve	Disapprove	No opin.
4/24/05	35	38	27

30. How closely have you been following the ethics charges that have been made against Delay - very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely or not closely at all?

	-----Closely-----			-----Not closely-----			No opin.
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	At all	
4/24/05	36	8	28	63	29	35	1

31. Do you think Delay should (step down) as majority leader, or (remain in his job)?

	Step down	Remain in job	No opin.
4/24/05	41	32	28

33. Overall, do you think the federal judges in this country are (too liberal), (too conservative) or about right?

	Too liberal	Too conservative	About right	No opin.
4/24/05	26	18	52	4

35. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that (ITEM) in the Senate are handling the confirmation process for federal court judges nominated by Bush?

4/24/05 - Summary Table

	Approve	Disapprove	No opin.
a. Republicans	43	42	15
b. Democrats	42	43	15

34. The Senate has confirmed 35 federal appeals court judges nominated by Bush, while Senate Democrats have blocked 10 others. Do you think the Senate Democrats are right or wrong to block these nominations? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	-----Right-----			-----Wrong-----			Right in some cases, wrong in others (vol.)	No op.
	NET	Strg.	Smwt.	NET	Smwt.	Strg.		
4/24/05	48	22	26	36	19	17	3	13

36. Would you support or oppose changing Senate rules to make it easier for the Republicans to confirm Bush's judicial nominees?

	Support	Oppose	No opin.
4/24/05	26	66	8

32. How important is religion in your everyday life: The most important thing in your life; extremely important, but not the most important thing, very important, somewhat important, or not important at all?

		Most	Extr.	Very	Smwt.	Not at all	No opin.
4/24/05	All	21	20	26	22	10	*
4/24/05	Cath.	16	26	33	23	3	0
8/16/98		19	20	29	23	8	*

37. On another subject, overall would you say you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Catholic Church?

		Favorable	Unfavorable	No opinion
4/24/05	All	56	36	8
	Cath.	81	17	1
2/22/04	All	54	33	13
	Cath.	87	10	3
10/13/03	All	48	44	8
	Cath.	80	17	3
12/15/02	All	40	52	8
	Cath.	69	30	2
6/17/02	All	45	47	9
	Cath.	69	28	3
6/9/02	All	47	45	7
	Cath.	70	28	2
3/28/02	All	55	34	11
	Cath.	73	24	3
2/20/02	All	63	27	11
	Cath.	88	9	4
8/30/99*	All	68	19	13

*Wash Post/Kaiser/Harvard, asked "very/somewhat" follow

38. Do you approve or disapprove of the selection of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now known as Pope Benedict the 16th, as the next pope?

		Approve	Disapprove	No opin.
4/24/05	All	60	19	21
4/24/05	Cath.	81	13	6

39. (ASKED OF CATHOLICS) How would you describe your feelings about the selection of Ratzinger as pope: very enthusiastic, somewhat enthusiastic, not too enthusiastic, or not enthusiastic at all?

	----Enthusiastic----			----Not enthusiastic----			No
	NET	Very	Smwt.	NET	Not too	At all	op.
4/24/05	73	27	46	24	15	9	3

40. (ASKED OF CATHOLICS) Do you think Pope Benedict should (maintain the traditional policies of the Church), or should he (change Church policies to reflect the attitudes and lifestyles of Catholics today)?

	Maintain policies	Change policies	No opinion
4/24/05	50	48	1
3/13/05*	41	57	1
10/13/03	33	64	3

*3/13/05 and prior: "the next pope"

41. (ASKED OF CATHOLICS) What do you think Pope Benedict WILL do - (maintain the traditional policies of the Church), or (change Church policies to reflect the attitudes and lifestyles of Catholics today)?

	Maintain policies	Change policies	No opinion
4/24/05	80	14	7

42. (ASKED OF CATHOLICS) For each item I name, please tell me how high a priority it should be for Pope Benedict - the highest priority, a high priority but not the highest, or a lower priority than that.

4/24/05 - Summary Table

	Highest	High, not highest	Lower	None (vol.)	No op.
a. Preserving the church's traditions	41	44	14	1	1
b. Responding to the concerns of women in the church	22	54	19	4	1
c. Responding to the concerns of young Catholics	43	52	5	0	*
d. Making it attractive for people to serve as priests	30	41	23	3	3
e. Improving the Catholic Church's relations with other religions	31	54	12	2	1
f. Encouraging human rights	61	34	4	0	*
g. Addressing the issue of sexual abuse by priests	71	24	4	*	*

43. (ASKED OF CATHOLICS) In general, do you think the Roman Catholic Church is in touch with the views of Catholics in America today, or is it out of touch?

		In touch	Out of touch	No opinion
4/24/05	Cath.	44	52	4
10/13/03	Cath.	34	62	3
10/1/95	All	25	58	17
	Cath.	38	58	5
	Non-Cath.	21	56	23

44. (ASKED OF CATHOLICS) Would you want your son to become a priest, or not? (IF NO SON) If you had one.

	Yes	No	No opin.
4/24/05	53	41	6

44a. (ASKED OF CATHOLICS) Would you support or oppose the Catholic church denying communion to Catholic politicians who are in favor of legal abortion?

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
4/24/05 Cath.	27	70	4
5/23/04 All	22	68	11
5/23/04 Cath.	22	72	6

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

911. What, if anything, is your religion?

	Protestant	Catholic	Christian (Non-Protestant)	Other Non- Christian	None	No op.
4/24/05	47	21	12	4	14	1

911b. (IF CHRISTIAN) Would you consider yourself a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

	Yes	No	No opin.
4/24/05	42	56	2

911e. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services - at least once a week, a few times a month, or less often than that?

	Once/week	Few times a month	Less often than that	Never (vol.)	No op.
4/24/05	39	17	39	5	1

914. Are you:

	Married/living with spouse	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	Never married
4/24/05	54	3	12	7	24

915. Do you have any children under age 18 living at home, or not?

	Yes	No	No opin.
4/24/05	35	65	0

45. Are you yourself employed outside the home, or not?

	Yes	No	No opin.
4/24/05	64	36	0

46. (IF MARRIED) And, is your spouse employed outside the home, or not?

	Yes	No	No opin.
4/24/05	67	33	0

901. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as:

	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Other	No op.
4/24/05	35	28	32	5	*

908a. Would you say your views on most political matters are liberal, moderate, or conservative?

	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Don't think in those terms (vol.)	No op.
4/24/05	20	47	30	1	1

INCOME. Which of the following CATEGORIES best describes your total annual household income before taxes, from all sources?

	-----Less than \$50k-----				-----More than \$50k-----			
	NET	<20k	20-35k	35-50k	NET	50-75k	75-100k	100k+
4/24/05	55	15	21	19	45	18	12	15

Q909. What was the last grade of school you completed?

8th grade or less	1
Some high school	6
Graduated high school	41
Some college	23
Graduated College	20
Post-graduate	10

Q910. What is your age?

18-29	22
30-39	17
40-49	22
50-64	24
65+	16

Q918. Are you of Hispanic origin or background?
 IF YES: Are you White Hispanic or Black Hispanic?
 IF NO: Are you white, black, or some other race?

White	77
Black	11
Hispanic	7
Asian	1
Other Race	5

Q921. RESPONDENT'S SEX

Male	48
Female	52

