

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**EARLY APRIL 2003 IRAQ POLL**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**April 8-9, 2003**  
**Total N=809**

**ASK APRIL 8, 2003 ONLY [N=395]:**

Q.1 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
April 8, 2003	50	41	9=100
January, 2003	44	50	6=100
September, 2002 <sup>1</sup>	41	55	4=100
Late August, 2002	47	44	9=100
May, 2002	44	44	12=100
March, 2002	50	40	10=100
Late September, 2001	57	34	9=100
Early September, 2001	41	53	6=100
June, 2001	43	52	5=100
March, 2001	47	45	8=100
February, 2001	46	43	11=100
January, 2001	55	41	4=100
September, 2000	51	41	8=100
June, 2000	47	45	8=100
April, 2000	48	43	9=100
August, 1999	56	39	5=100
January, 1999	53	41	6=100
November, 1998	46	44	10=100
Early September, 1998	54	42	4=100
Late August, 1998	55	41	4=100
Early August, 1998	50	44	6=100
February, 1998	59	37	4=100
January, 1998	46	50	4=100
September, 1997	45	49	6=100
August, 1997	49	46	5=100
January, 1997	38	58	4=100
July, 1996	29	67	4=100
March, 1996	28	70	2=100
October, 1995	23	73	4=100
June, 1995	25	73	2=100
April, 1995	23	74	3=100
July, 1994	24	73	3=100
March, 1994	24	71	5=100
October, 1993	22	73	5=100
September, 1993	20	75	4=100
May, 1993	22	71	7=100
January, 1993	39	50	11=100
January, 1992	28	68	4=100
November, 1991	34	61	5=100
<i>Late February, 1991 (Gallup)</i>	66	31	3=100
August, 1990	47	48	5=100
May, 1990	41	54	5=100
January, 1989	45	50	5=100
September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5=100
May, 1988	41	54	5=100
January, 1988	39	55	6=100

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<sup>1</sup> The September 2002 trend is from the Global Attitudes Report, fielded August 19 to September 8, 2002 and released December 4, 2002.

**ASK APRIL 9, 2003 ONLY [N=414]:**

Q.1a Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
April 9, 2003	74	20	6=100
April 2-7, 2003	69	25	6=100
March 28-April 1, 2003	71	23	6=100
March 25-27, 2003	70	24	6=100
March 23-24, 2003	68	25	7=100
March 20-22, 2003	67	26	7=100
March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100
February, 2003	54	36	10=100
January, 2003	58	32	10=100
December, 2002	61	28	11=100
Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
June, 2002	70	20	10=100
April, 2002	69	18	13=100
February, 2002	78	13	9=100
January, 2002	80	11	9=100
Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
August, 2001	50	32	18=100
June, 2001	50	33	17=100
April, 2001	56	27	17=100
February, 2001	53	21	26=100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is dealing with the war in Iraq?

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
April 8-9, 2003	71	23	6=100
--April 9, 2003	76	18	6=100
--April 8, 2003	65	28	7=100
April 2-7, 2003	73	21	6=100
March 28-April 1, 2003	69	26	5=100
March 25-27, 2003	73	23	4=100
March 23-24, 2003	72	22	6=100
March 20-22, 2003	70	23	7=100
February, 2003 <sup>2</sup>	56	37	7=100
January, 2003	56	36	8=100
Early October, 2002	56	34	10=100
Mid-September, 2001	85	6	9=100
<b>Gallup:</b> Late January, 1991 <sup>3</sup>	84	11	5=100

<sup>2</sup> In February, 2003 and earlier the question was worded "...handling the situation with Iraq." In Mid-September, 2001 the question was worded "...dealing with the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington."

<sup>3</sup> Gallup trend was worded "...George Bush is handling the situation in the Persian Gulf region."

Q.3 Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq?

**IF 1 'RIGHT DECISION' IN Q.3 ASK:**

Q.3a Which comes closer to your view [ROTATE]: You support going to war because you think it was the best thing for the U.S. to do; OR you are not sure if going to war was the best thing to do, but you support Bush's decision because he is president?

----- April -----				April ----- March 2003 -----					Late Jan
<u>8-9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>2-7</u>	<u>28-4/1</u>	<u>25-27</u>	<u>23-24</u>	<u>20-22</u>	<u>1991</u>
74	76	70	Right decision	72	69	74	74	71	77
54	55	52	Support because best thing for U.S. to do	53	48	51	49	52	--
16	17	13	Support because Bush is president	16	18	20	22	15	--
4	4	5	Don't know/Refused	3	3	3	3	4	--
19	18	22	Wrong decision	20	25	21	21	22	15
<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>
100	100	100		100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.4 How well is the U.S. military effort in Iraq going? [READ]

----- April -----				April ----- March 2003 -----					----- 2001 -----		
<u>8-9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>2-7</u>	<u>28-4/1</u>	<u>25-27</u>	<u>23-24</u>	<u>20-22</u>	Early Nov <sup>1</sup>	Oct 15-21	Oct 10-14
60	61	59	Very well	55	39	39	45	65	30	38	45
32	32	32	Fairly well	37	46	46	41	25	45	45	35
3	3	4	Not too well	3	8	8	6	2	12	9	6
3	3	3	Not at all well	2	2	2	2	1	4	2	4
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>
100	100	100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.5 Do you think the U.S. and its allies have won the war in Iraq, or is it too early to tell?

----- April -----				April 4-7	
<u>8-9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>2003</u>	
28	29	27	Have won	24	
69	69	69	Too early to tell	74	
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>	
100	100	100		100	

**ASK APRIL 9, 2003 ONLY [N=414]:**

Q.5a Do you think it is necessary to kill or capture Saddam Hussein in order to win the war, or do you think removing him and his party from power is enough to consider the war a success?

51	Necessary to kill or capture
42	Enough to remove him from power
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

**ASK ALL:**

Q.6 Do you think President Bush should have waited to get more of our major allies to join us before taking military action in Iraq, or do you think he was right to use military force when he did?

28	Should have waited
65	Right to use force when he did
2	Should not have done it at all (VOL.)
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

<sup>4</sup> In 2001 the question was worded "How well is the MILITARY effort to destroy the terrorist groups going?"

Q.7 In general, how would you rate the job that coalition military forces have done in [ALWAYS ASK ITEM “A” FIRST, THEN ROTATE OTHER ITEMS; READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES]? And how would you rate the job coalition military forces have done in [NEXT ITEM]?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't Know Refused</u>
a. Defeating Iraqi forces	58	32	7	1	2=100
b. Avoiding civilian casualties	39	34	17	6	4=100
c. Avoiding the destruction of Iraq utilities, water supplies and non-military communications centers	35	41	14	3	7=100
d. Avoiding “friendly fire” incidents where coalition forces accidentally attack one another	22	38	25	10	5=100
e. Providing aid to the Iraqi people	37	37	14	5	7=100

Q.8 Do you think the war in Iraq will help the war on terrorism, or will it hurt the war on terrorism?

	<u>Early Oct 2002<sup>5</sup></u>
63 Help	52
22 Hurt	34
15 Don't know/Refused	14
100	100

Q.9 Do you think that the war in Iraq will make a peace settlement between Israelis and the Palestinians easier to achieve, more difficult to achieve, or will it have no effect on the peace process?

28 Easier to achieve
19 More difficult
40 No effect
13 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100

Q.10 Thinking about the end of the war with Iraq, how worried are you that [INSERT ITEM; ROTATE] – a great deal, a fair amount, or not much? ... How worried are you that [INSERT NEXT ITEM, REPEAT RESPONSE CATEGORIES FOR EACH ITEM]?

	<u>A Great Deal</u>	<u>A Fair Amount</u>	<u>Not Much</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a. There will be an ongoing campaign of guerrilla warfare against U.S. forces after the war comes to an end	19	39	39	3=100
b. The war will cause more hatred of the U.S. in the Middle East	28	29	40	3=100
c. The war will cause a major rift between the U.S. and its allies	15	29	52	4=100
d. The cost of the war in Iraq will be difficult for us to afford	34	32	32	2=100

<sup>5</sup> In Early October 2002 the question was worded “If the U.S. uses military force in Iraq, do you think this will help the war on terrorism, or will it hurt the war on terrorism?”

Q.11 Would you favor or oppose the United Nations playing a significant role in establishing a stable government in Iraq after the war?

**IF FAVOR UN ROLE – “1” IN Q.11, ASK:**

Q.12 Who should have the most say in establishing a stable government in Iraq... the United States and its military allies or the United Nations?

62	Favor
18	United States and its allies
38	United Nations
2	Both (VOL.)
2	Neither (VOL.)
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
31	Oppose
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

**ASK APRIL 9, 2003 ONLY [N=414]:**

Q.SG How easy do you think it will be for the U.S. and its allies to install a stable democratic government in Iraq? Will it be [READ OPTIONS]

		<i>Time-CNN</i>
		<u>Feb 2003</u>
5	Very easy	5
20	Somewhat easy	16
57	Somewhat difficult, or	48
16	Very difficult	28
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<u>3</u>
100		100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.13 Finally, do you think that using military force to remove dictators of countries that may threaten the United States, but have not attacked us, is [READ OPTIONS]

15	Usually the right thing to do,
51	Sometimes the right thing to do,
20	Rarely the right thing to do, OR
10	Never the right thing to do?
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)
100	