

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
MARCH 2007 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
March 21-25, 2007
N=1503

QUESTIONS 1 THROUGH 17 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

Q.18 How would you rate the job Congress has done so far in dealing with Iraq? **[READ]**

3	Excellent
19	Good
38	Only fair
35	Poor
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)
100	

Q.19 How much influence, if any, do you think Congress should have over the direction of U.S. policy in Iraq? **[READ]**

38	A lot
40	Some
9	Not much
9	None at all
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)
100	

Q.20 Do you think Democratic leaders in Congress are going too far or not far enough in challenging George W. Bush's policies in Iraq, or are they handling this about right?

23	Too far
40	Not far enough
30	About right
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

ASKED MARCH 22-25 ONLY [N=1245]:

And thinking about a specific proposal...

Q.21 The Congress is now debating future funding for the war in Iraq. Would you like to see your Congressional representative vote FOR or AGAINST a bill that calls for a withdrawal of troops from Iraq to be completed by August of 2008?

59	Vote for
33	Vote against
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

QUESTIONS 22 THROUGH 24 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

Q.25 How much, if anything, have you heard about the firing of eight federal prosecutors and questions about how Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and the White House handled the firings – a lot, a little, or nothing at all?

33 A lot
 43 A little
 22 Nothing at all
2 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
 100

Q.26 Do you think Attorney General Alberto Gonzales should resign or otherwise lose his job over the issue of the firings, or not?

		<i>Newsweek</i>
		<u>March 2007</u>
30	Yes, should	35
31	No, should not	32
<u>39</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>33</u>
100		100

QUESTIONS 27 THROUGH 44 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

Turning to the subject of Iraq ...

Q.45 Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq?

	<u>Right decision</u>	<u>Wrong decision</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
March, 2007	43	49	8=100
February, 2007	40	54	6=100
Mid-January, 2007	40	51	9=100
Early January, 2007	40	53	7=100
December, 2006	42	51	7=100
Mid-November, 2006	41	51	8=100
Late October, 2006	43	47	10=100
Early October, 2006	45	47	8=100
Early September, 2006	49	43	8=100
August, 2006	45	46	9=100
July, 2006	44	50	6=100
June, 2006	49	44	7=100
April, 2006	47	46	7=100
March, 2006	45	49	6=100
February, 2006	51	44	5=100
January, 2006	45	47	8=100
December, 2005	47	48	5=100
Late October, 2005	48	45	7=100
Early October, 2005	44	50	6=100
Mid-September, 2005	49	44	7=100
July, 2005	49	44	7=100
June, 2005	47	45	8=100
February, 2005	47	47	6=100
January, 2005	51	44	5=100
December, 2004	49	44	7=100
November, 2004 (RVs)	48	41	11=100

Q.45 CONTINUED...

	<u>Right decision</u>	<u>Wrong decision</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
Mid-October, 2004	46	42	12=100
Early October, 2004	50	39	11=100
Early September, 2004	53	39	8=100
August, 2004	53	41	6=100
July, 2004	52	43	5=100
June, 2004	55	38	7=100
May, 2004	51	42	7=100
Late April, 2004	54	37	9=100
Early April, 2004	57	35	8=100
Mid-March, 2004	55	39	6=100
Late February, 2004	60	32	8=100
Early February, 2004	56	39	5=100
Mid-January, 2004	65	30	5=100
Early January, 2004	62	28	10=100
December, 2003	67	26	7=100
October, 2003	60	33	7=100
September, 2003	63	31	6=100
August, 2003	63	30	7=100
Early July, 2003	67	24	9=100
May, 2003	74	20	6=100
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>7=100</i>
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>7=100</i>
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>8=100</i>
<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>6=100</i>
<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>5=100</i>
<i>March 23-24, 2003</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>5=100</i>
<i>March 20-22, 2003</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>7=100</i>
Late January, 1991	77	15	8=100

Q.46 How well is the U.S. military effort in Iraq going? [READ IN ORDER]

	<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Not too well</u>	<u>Not at all well</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
March, 2007	10	30	32	24	4=100
February, 2007	5	25	38	29	3=100
Mid-January, 2007	7	28	32	30	3=100
December, 2006	4	28	37	27	4=100
Mid-November, 2006	6	26	34	30	4=100
Late October, 2006	5	30	34	25	6=100
Early October, 2006	8	29	33	25	5=100
Early September, 2006	8	39	28	20	5=100
August, 2006	8	33	32	23	4=100
June, 2006	16	37	25	18	4=100
April, 2006	13	34	29	21	3=100
March, 2006	9	34	30	21	6=100
February, 2006	13	38	29	17	3=100
January, 2006	12	39	27	17	5=100
December, 2005	14	37	29	17	3=100
Early October, 2005	9	35	31	22	3=100
Mid-September, 2005	12	41	26	18	3=100

Q.46 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
July, 2005	14	38	27	17	4=100
June, 2005	9	41	27	19	4=100
February, 2005	14	40	25	17	4=100
January, 2005	9	39	29	20	3=100
December, 2004	10	40	28	18	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	13	38	26	17	6=100
Early September, 2004	12	40	26	18	4=100
August, 2004	12	41	28	16	3=100
July, 2004	13	42	26	16	3=100
June, 2004	16	41	25	14	4=100
May, 2004	10	36	32	19	3=100
Late April, 2004	12	43	26	15	4=100
Early April, 2004	14	43	26	13	4=100
Mid-March, 2004	16	45	26	11	2=100
Early February, 2004	17	46	23	11	3=100
Mid-January, 2004	22	51	18	6	3=100
Early January, 2004	23	47	18	7	5=100
December, 2003	28	47	16	6	3=100
October, 2003	16	44	25	11	4=100
September, 2003	15	47	26	9	3=100
August, 2003	19	43	24	11	3=100
Early July, 2003	23	52	16	5	4=100
<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>April 8-9, 2003</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2=100</i>
<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>March 25-April 1, 2003</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5=100</i>
<i>March 23-24, 2003</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>6=100</i>
<i>March 20-22, 2003</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>7=100</i>

Q.47 Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible?

	Keep troops <u>in Iraq</u>	Bring troops <u>home</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
March, 2007	43	52	5=100
February, 2007	42	53	5=100
Mid-January, 2007	46	48	6=100
Early January, 2007	41	53	6=100
December, 2006	44	50	6=100
Mid-November, 2006	46	48	6=100
Late October, 2006	46	47	7=100
Early October, 2006	47	47	6=100
Early September, 2006	47	47	6=100
August, 2006	48	46	6=100
June, 2006	50	45	5=100
April, 2006	48	48	4=100
March, 2006	44	50	6=100
February, 2006	50	46	4=100
January, 2006	48	48	4=100
December, 2005	49	46	5=100

Q.47 CONTINUED...

	Keep troops <u>in Iraq</u>	Bring troops <u>home</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
Early October, 2005	47	48	5=100
Mid-September, 2005	51	45	4=100
July, 2005	52	43	5=100
June, 2005	50	46	4=100
February, 2005	55	42	3=100
January, 2005	54	41	5=100
December, 2004	56	40	4=100
Mid-October, 2004	57	36	7=100
Early September, 2004	54	40	6=100
August, 2004	54	42	4=100
July, 2004	53	43	4=100
June, 2004 ¹	51	42	5=100
May, 2004	53	42	5=100
Late April, 2004	53	40	7=100
Early April, 2004	50	44	6=100
Early January, 2004	63	32	5=100
October, 2003	58	39	3=100
September, 2003	64	32	4=100

IF “KEEP TROOPS IN IRAQ” (1 IN Q.47) ASK:

Q.48 Do you think more troops are needed in Iraq right now, or do you think there are already enough troops there to do the job?

	Mid- Feb 2007	Mid- Jan 2007	Mid- Dec 2006	Mid- Nov 2006	Mid- Aug 2006	Early April 2006	Early Oct 2005	Early July 2005	Early June 2004	Early Jan 2004	Early Oct 2003	Early Sept 2003
21 More troops needed	21	25	17	17	15	13	13	16	18	29	32	34
15 Have enough there to do the job	14	14	20	20	24	27	26	27	23	26	21	25
* Reduce number of troops (VOL.)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	*
<u>7</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
43%	42%	46%	44%	46%	48%	48%	47%	52%	51%	63%	58%	64%

IF “BRING TROOPS HOME” (2 IN Q.47) ASK:

Q.49 Should the U.S. remove all troops from Iraq immediately, or should the withdrawal of troops be gradual over the next year or two?

	Mid- Feb 2007	Mid- Jan 2007	Mid- Dec 2006	Mid- Nov 2006	Mid- Aug 2006	Mid- April 2006	Mid- Jan 2006	Mid- Dec 2005
18 Remove all troops immediately	16	16	18	16	15	18	14	17
33 Gradual withdrawal over the next year or two	35	30	32	31	30	29	32	28
<u>1</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	*	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
52%	53%	48%	50%	48%	46%	48%	48%	46%

¹ In June 2004 and earlier, the question was worded: “Do you think the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until a stable government is established there, or do you think the U.S. should bring its troops home as soon as possible?”

ASK ALL:

Q.50 Some people are comparing Iraq to the war in Vietnam. Do you think Iraq will turn out to be another Vietnam, or do you think the U.S. will accomplish its goals in Iraq?

		Dec <u>2006</u>	April <u>2006</u>	Mid- Sept <u>2005</u>	June <u>2005</u>	Early Sept <u>2004</u>	June <u>2004</u>	Late April <u>2004</u>
46	Will be another Vietnam	50	41	39	35	29	29	25
37	U.S. will accomplish its goals	33	43	48	47	54	55	54
3	Too early to tell (VOL.)	5	5	5	7	4	4	6
<u>14</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>15</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.51 Do you think the U.S. should or should not set a timetable for when troops will be withdrawn from Iraq?

	Should set a <u>timetable</u>	Should not set <u>timetable</u>	(VOL) Should <u>get out now</u>	DK/ <u>Refused</u>
March, 2007	55	38	1	6=100
Mid-January, 2007	59	35	1	5=100
December, 2006	58	34	2	6=100
Mid-November, 2006	56	36	1	7=100
Late October, 2006	54	37	2	7=100
Early October, 2006	53	39	2	6=100
Early September, 2006	47	45	1	7=100
August, 2006	52	41	1	6=100
June, 2006	52	42	2	4=100
April, 2006	53	40	2	5=100
March, 2006	55	39	1	5=100
January, 2006	50	42	2	6=100
December, 2005	56	38	1	5=100
Early October, 2005	52	43	1	4=100
Mid-September, 2005	57	37	1	5=100
July, 2005	49	45	*	6=100

Q.52 How much, if anything, have you read or heard about George W. Bush's decision to send more U.S. troops to Iraq? [READ]

		Feb <u>2007²</u>	Jan <u>2007</u>
52	A lot	42	43
38	A little	47	43
9	Nothing at all	10	13
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100

²

In January and February 2007, the question was worded: "How much, if anything, have you read or heard about George W. Bush's plan that will send an additional 21,000 U.S. troops to Iraq?"

Q.53 So far, do you think the troop increase is making things better in Iraq, is making things worse, or not having any effect?

27	Is making things in Iraq better
19	Is making things in Iraq worse
44	Not having any effect
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)
100	

Q.54 Looking ahead, do you think the troop increase will make things better in the long run, will make things worse, or not have any effect in the long run?

36	Will make things in Iraq better
22	Will make things in Iraq worse
33	Not have any effect
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)
100	

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) <u>No Preference</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other Party</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<i>Lean Rep</i>	<i>Lean Dem</i>
March, 2007	25	36	33	3	*	3=100	12	16
February, 2007	25	34	34	4	*	3=100	10	18
Mid-January, 2007	24	35	34	3	*	4=100	12	18
Early-January, 2007	23	31	39	4	*	3=100	12	18
December, 2006	25	35	32	5	*	3=100	11	17
Mid-November, 2006	25	36	32	4	*	3=100	9	18
Late October, 2006	26	32	33	5	1	3=100	10	16
Early October, 2006	27	34	33	3	*	3=100	12	15
Early September, 2006	30	34	30	3	*	3=100	10	14
August, 2006	30	33	30	4	*	3=100	12	14
July, 2006	29	33	31	4	1	2=100	11	14
June, 2006	29	34	31	4	*	2=100	11	16
April, 2006	29	32	30	5	*	4=100	10	14
Early April, 2006	29	32	33	3	*	3=100	12	16
March, 2006	28	34	30	4	*	4=100	11	15
February, 2006	30	33	31	3	*	3=100	11	16
January, 2006	28	32	32	5	*	3=100	10	15

Yearly Totals

2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9=100	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8=100	10.2	14.9
2004	29.5	33.1	30.0	4.0	.4	3.0=100	11.8	13.6
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5=100	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7=100	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7=100	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6=100	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5.0	.5	2.1=100	11.7	12.5
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0=100	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9=100	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4=100	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3=100	12.3	13.8

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	No Preference/ <u>Other/DK</u>	<i>Lean Rep</i>	<i>Lean Dem</i>
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2=100	12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4=100	14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6=100	14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8=100	11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9=100	13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5=100	14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8=100	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34=100			
1987	26	35	39=100			