

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
APRIL 2003 IRAQ POLL
FINAL TOPLINE
April 10-16, 2003 N=924
April 11-16, 2003 N=819

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 10-16, 2003	72	22	6=100
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 N.1 - N.4 APRIL 11-16, 2003 ONLY [N=819]:

N.1 What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today? [RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER OF MENTION]

	Feb 2003	March 2002	May 2001	Feb 2001	Aug 1999	June 1999	May 1998	Nov 1997	July 1996	June 1995	Mar 1994	Dec 1993	June 1993	Jan 1992	May 1990	Feb 1989	April 1987
28 Economy (general)	21	8	7	7	2	3	4	4	4	5	4	6	17	43	5	4	7
14 War/Iraq/Saddam Hussein	34	10 [▲]	–	–	–	–	–	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
10 Unemployment/Lack of jobs	6	4	5	6	3	4	6	6	7	10	12	15	19	22	7	9	13
9 Terrorism	16	24	1	*	*	*	*	*	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
4 Education	1	4	8	11	8	7	9	5	6	6	5	5	5	2	4	4	*
4 Morality/Ethics/Family values	5	8	6	12	13	11	10	9	13	12	10	6	7	3	5	2	3
3 Dissatisfaction with govt/politics	5	4	2	5	6	5	10	4	8	6	5	2	5	2	2	1	*
3 Poverty/Hunger/Starvation	1	2	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	2	3	3	1	3	4	6
3 Health care/costs	2	2	6	7	9	3	4	5	4	7	14	14	11	3	3	1	*
2 Deficit/National debt/ Balanced budget	--	1	1	1	3	1	6	5	7	9	5	6	13	4	11	19	12
2 Defense issues/Military spending/ National & homeland security	2	5	1	1	2	*	1	*	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1 Immigration	--	1	1	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
1 Taxes	--	1	3	3	3	2	4	3	3	3	3	2	4	1	3	2	*
1 Peace in the world/Peace	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1 Drugs/Alcohol	2	4	4	6	6	5	7	7	8	5	10	8	5	4	37	23	6
1 Crime/Gangs/Justice system	1	4	4	8	12	11	13	12	19	22	31	25	7	3	7	8	3
1 Homelessness	--	1	1	2	2	4	2	3	2	4	3	5	5	6	8	10	*
1 Issues related to elderly	--	1	2	2	1	3	3	1	2	*	1	1	2	1	2	2	*
1 Race relations/Racism	--	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	2	1	2	*	*
1 Inflation/Difference between wages/costs	1	1	1	3	1	*	2	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	3
1 Social Security	--	--	3	1	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
11 Other																	
1 None	1	1	*	2	*	1	*	1	*	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
9 Don't know/No answer	4	8	8	7	11	11	12	7	6	3	4	6	2	3	1	3	3
41 ECONOMIC (NET)	29	16	40	26	15	8	16	18	18	28	26	33	53	76	26	28	35
29 DEFENSE/TERRORISM/ INTERNATIONAL (NET)	54	39	3	5	7	11	5	10	1	9	2	–	–	–	–	–	–

▲ War in Afghanistan in March 2002

N.2 Looking ahead, would you like to see George W. Bush re-elected president in 2004 or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?

		----- GALLUP -----			
		----- Total -----		---Registered Voters ---	
Total	RVs	Mar 29-30	Mar 14-15	Mar 29-30	Mar 14-15
		2003 ¹	2003	2003	2003
46	48	51	45	51	45
35	34	36	42	36	42
19	18	13	13	13	13
100	100	100	100	100	100
(N=622)					

¹ Gallup trend worded "If George W. Bush runs for re-election in 2004, in general are you more likely to vote for Bush or for the Democratic Party's candidate for president?"

N.3 Right now, which is more important for President Bush to focus on ... the economy or the situation in Iraq?

		Jan 2003 ²	Early Oct 2002	Late Aug 2002
36	The economy	38	36	39
42	The situation in Iraq	43	45	34
1	Neither (VOL.)	*	*	2
19	Both (VOL.)	17	17	22
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100	100

N.4 How closely have you been following news about the war in Iraq – very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

	Very Closely	Fairly Closely	Not too Closely	Not at all Closely	DK/Ref
April 11-16, 2003	47	40	10	2	1=100
April 2-7, 2003	54	34	9	2	1=100
March 23-24, 2003	58	33	6	2	1=100
March 20-22, 2003	58	33	7	1	1=100
March, 2003 ³	62	27	6	4	1=100
February, 2003	62	25	8	4	1=100
January, 2003	55	29	10	4	2=100
December, 2002	51	32	10	6	1=100
Late October, 2002	53	33	8	5	1=100
Early October, 2002	60	28	6	5	1=100
Early September, 2002 ⁴	48	29	15	6	2=100
Early January, 1991	59	31	7	2	1=100

ASK ALL:

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

	Approve	Disapprove	DK/Ref.
April 10-16, 2003	77	17	6=100
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 ⁵	56	37	7=100
January, 2003	56	36	8=100
Early October, 2002	56	34	10=100
Mid-September, 2001	85	6	9=100
Gallup: Late January, 1991 ⁶	84	11	5=100

² In January 2003 and earlier, the question was worded "... the economy or the war on terrorism?"

³ From October 2002 to March 2003, the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq."

⁴ In Early September 2002 the story was listed as "...U.S. will invade Iraq." In Early January 1991 the story was listed as "Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf."

⁵ 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."

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

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

		--- April ---		----- March 2003 -----				---- 2001 ----		
		8-9	2-7	28-4/1	25-27	23-24	20-22	Early Nov ⁷	Oct 15-21	Oct 10-14
61	Very well	60	55	39	39	45	65	30	38	45
32	Fairly well	32	37	46	46	41	25	45	45	35
3	Not too well	3	3	8	8	6	2	12	9	6
1	Not at all well	3	2	2	2	2	1	4	2	4
3	Don't know/Refused	2	3	5	5	6	7	9	6	10
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 ---	
		8-9	4-7
41	Have won	28	24
57	Too early to tell	69	74
2	Don't know/Refused	3	2
100		100	100

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?

		April
49	Necessary to kill or capture	51
45	Enough to remove him from power	42
6	Don't know/Refused	7
100		100

NO Q.6 - Q.9

ASK APRIL 11 - 16, 2003 ONLY [N=819]:

N.5 In general, how would you rate the job that coalition military forces have done in policing Iraq in order to reduce crime and bring civil order to the country? [READ]

19	Excellent
42	Good
24	Only fair
8	Poor
7	Don't know/Refused
100	

⁷ In 2001 the question was worded "How well is the MILITARY effort to destroy the terrorist groups going?"

ASK ALL:

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				
	April 10-16, 2003	22	45	31	2=100
	April 8-9, 2003	19	39	39	3=100
d.	The cost of the war in Iraq will be difficult for us to afford				
	April 10-16, 2003	33	38	27	2=100
	April 8-9, 2003	34	32	32	2=100

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?

		<u>April 8-9</u>
64	Favor	62
19	United States and its allies	18
39	United Nations	38
3	Both (VOL.)	2
2	Neither (VOL.)	2
1	Don't know/Refused	2
31	Oppose	31
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>7</u>
<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>

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]

		<u>April 9</u>	<u>Time-CNN Feb 2003</u>
2	Very easy	5	5
16	Somewhat easy	20	16
58	Somewhat difficult, or	57	48
21	Very difficult	16	28
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

ASK N.6 - N.7 APRIL 11 - 16, 2003 ONLY [N=819]:

N.6 I'd like your views of some people and organizations. As I read from a list, please tell me which category best describes your overall opinion of who or what I name. First, would you describe your opinion of [INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS a THRU c. FOLLOWED BY ITEMS d. THRU h.] as very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]

	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Never Heard Of	Can't Rate
a. The federal government in Washington						
April 11-16, 2003	14	59	17	5	0	5=100
December, 2002	11	53	20	7	*	9=100
Mid-November, 2001	17	65	12	3	0	3=100
Late October, 2000 (RVs)	7	47	30	10	*	6=100
October, 1997	4	34	41	18	0	3=100
b. The Republican Party						
April 11-16, 2003	14	49	21	10	*	6=100
December, 2002	18	41	22	11	*	8=100
July, 2001	11	37	27	15	*	10=100
January, 2001	13	43	22	13	*	9=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	11	42	28	12	0	7=100
August, 1999	8	45	31	12	*	4=100
February, 1999	7	37	36	15	0	5=100
January, 1999	10	34	27	23	0	6=100
Early December, 1998	11	35	27	20	*	7=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	9	43	28	14	0	6=100
Early September, 1998	9	47	26	11	*	7=100
March, 1998	10	40	31	12	*	7=100
August, 1997	9	38	36	11	*	6=100
June, 1997	8	43	31	11	1	6=100
January, 1997	8	44	33	10	*	5=100
October, 1995	10	42	28	16	*	4=100
December, 1994	21	46	19	8	*	6=100
July, 1994	12	51	25	8	*	4=100
May, 1993	12	42	25	10	0	11=100
July, 1992	9	37	31	17	*	6=100
c. The Democratic Party						
April 11-16, 2003	13	44	25	11	*	7=100
December, 2002	15	39	27	10	*	9=100
July, 2001	18	40	24	10	*	8=100
January, 2001	18	42	21	9	1	9=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	16	44	23	12	*	5=100
August, 1999	14	45	28	9	*	4=100
February, 1999	11	47	26	11	0	5=100
January, 1999	14	41	26	12	0	7=100
Early December, 1998	18	41	24	10	0	7=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	11	45	29	9	*	6=100
Early September, 1998	13	47	25	8	*	7=100
March, 1998	15	43	26	10	*	6=100
August, 1997	11	41	32	10	0	6=100
June, 1997	10	51	25	8	*	6=100
January, 1997	13	47	28	7	*	5=100
October, 1995	9	40	37	11	0	3=100
December, 1994	13	37	31	13	*	6=100
July, 1994	13	49	27	7	*	4=100
May, 1993	14	43	25	9	0	9=100
July, 1992	17	44	24	9	*	6=100

N.6 CONTINUED...

		<u>Very Favorable</u>	<u>Mostly Favorable</u>	<u>Mostly Unfavorable</u>	<u>Very Unfavorable</u>	<u>Never Heard Of</u>	<u>Can't Rate</u>
d.	George W. Bush						
	April 11-16, 2003	37	35	14	11	0	3=100
	December, 2002	35	33	16	11	0	5=100
	July, 2001	22	39	21	14	*	4=100
	January, 2001	24	36	21	12	0	7=100
	May, 2000	18	40	19	12	1	10=100
	March, 1999 ⁸	21	40	14	7	4	14=100
	November, 1997	13	41	12	6	9	19=100
e.	Dick Cheney						
	April 11-16, 2003	21	39	15	12	3	10=100
	December, 2002	20	39	16	10	5	10=100
	July, 2001	19	39	20	6	6	10=100
	January, 2001	20	42	13	5	2	18=100
	December, 1994	10	32	14	5	21	18=100
	March, 1991 ⁹	33	35	4	2	10	16=100
	May, 1990	3	17	8	3	44	25=100
f.	Colin Powell						
	April 11-16, 2003	42	43	7	2	1	5=100
	December, 2002	42	40	5	3	4	6=100
	July, 2001	39	42	6	3	4	6=100
	January, 2001	45	35	6	3	4	7=100
	October, 1995	21	55	11	3	2	8=100
	August, 1995	26	36	12	5	7	14=100
	February, 1995	31	36	8	3	12	10=100
	December, 1994	31	38	7	2	11	11=100
	July, 1994	33	41	6	2	10	8=100
	June, 1992	30	35	11	4	10	10=100
	March, 1991	51	28	2	1	7	11=100
g.	Tony Blair						
	April 11-16, 2003	32	36	7	3	10	12=100
h.	Donald Rumsfeld						
	April 11-16, 2003	24	37	13	6	9	11=100

⁸ In March 1999 and November 1997 the category was listed: "Texas Governor George W. Bush."

⁹ In March 1991 and May 1990, the category was listed: "Richard Cheney."

N.7 Can you please tell me the names of any candidates planning to run for the Democratic nomination for president in 2004? ... Can you think of any others? [**ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES, INCLUDING MULTIPLE “OTHERS” IN ADDITION TO PRECODES: IF RESPONDENT MENTIONS A NAME BUT VOLUNTEERS THAT THE PERSON IS NOT PLANNING TO RUN, DO NOT CODE NAME]**]

		Jan <u>2003</u>	Aug <u>1995</u> ¹⁰	Oct <u>1991</u>	May <u>1991</u>
68	Could not name any candidates	65	44	73	76
32	Could name a candidate	35	56	27	24
11	John Kerry	10			
8	Joe Lieberman	14			
5	Dick Gephardt	12			
5	Al Gore	3			
4	John Edwards	10			
4	Al Sharpton	3			
3	Hillary Clinton	3			
3	Howard Dean	1			
2	Bob Graham	1			
1	Tom Daschle	5			
1	Gary Hart	*			
1	Jesse Jackson	*			
*	Dennis Kucinich	-			
*	Carol Moseley Braun	-			
*	Joe Biden	-			
3	Other	4			

¹⁰ In August 1995 the question was worded, "...candidates running for the Republican nomination for President in 1996?" In 1991 the question asked about possible Democratic candidates.