

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**FEBRUARY 2006 NEWS INTEREST INDEX**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**February 1-5, 2006**  
**N = 1,502**

Q.1 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>App- rove</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>		<u>App- rove</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
February, 2006	40	52	8=100	May, 2003	65	27	8=100
January, 2006	38	54	8=100	<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	72	22	6=100
<b>2005</b>				<i>April 9, 2003</i>	74	20	6=100
December, 2005	38	54	8=100	<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	69	25	6=100
Early November, 2005	36	55	9=100	<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	71	23	6=100
Late October, 2005	40	52	8=100	<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	70	24	6=100
Early October, 2005	38	56	6=100	<i>March 20-24, 2003</i>	67	26	7=100
September 8-11, 2005	40	52	8=100	March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100
September 6-7, 2005	40	52	8=100	February, 2003	54	36	10=100
July, 2005	44	48	8=100	January, 2003	58	32	10=100
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	<b>2002</b>			
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	December, 2002	61	28	11=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
<b>2004</b>				August, 2002	67	21	12=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
August, 2004	46	45	9=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
July, 2004	46	46	8=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
June, 2004	48	43	9=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
May, 2004	44	48	8=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100
Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100	January, 2002	80	11	9=100
Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100	<b>2001</b>			
Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100	Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7=100	Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
February, 2004	48	44	8=100	Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10=100	Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100	Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
<b>2003</b>				August, 2001	50	32	18=100
December, 2003	57	34	9=100	July, 2001	51	32	17=100
November, 2003	50	40	10=100	June, 2001	50	33	17=100
October, 2003	50	42	8=100	May, 2001	53	32	15=100
September, 2003	55	36	9=100	April, 2001	56	27	17=100
Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100	March, 2001	55	25	20=100
Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100	February, 2001	53	21	26=100
Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100				
Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100				
June, 2003	62	27	11=100				

More specifically...

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The economy	38	55	7=100
December, 2005	38	55	7=100
Late October, 2005	36	56	8=100
Early September, 2005	33	60	7=100
July, 2005	38	53	9=100
Mid-May, 2005	35	57	8=100
February, 2005	43	50	7=100
January, 2005	45	50	5=100
Mid-October, 2004	38	55	7=100
Early September, 2004	44	49	7=100
August, 2004	42	52	6=100
July, 2004	42	52	6=100
June, 2004	43	50	7=100
Early April, 2004	39	53	8=100
Mid-January, 2004	47	47	6=100
September, 2003	43	48	9=100
February, 2003	43	48	9=100
January, 2003	47	45	8=100
Early October, 2002	49	40	11=100
June, 2002	53	36	11=100
January, 2002	60	28	12=100
Early September, 2001	47	44	9=100
February, 2001	50	22	28=100
b. The situation in Iraq	38	57	5=100
December, 2005	36	58	6=100
Late October, 2005	37	57	6=100
Early September, 2005	34	58	8=100
July, 2005	35	57	8=100
Mid-May, 2005	37	56	7=100
February, 2005	40	53	7=100
January, 2005	45	50	5=100
Mid-October, 2004	37	56	7=100
Early September, 2004	47	45	8=100
August, 2004	43	52	5=100
July, 2004	42	53	5=100
June, 2004	42	51	7=100
Late April, 2004	44	48	8=100
Early April, 2004	40	53	7=100
Mid-January, 2004	59	37	4=100
September, 2003	52	40	8=100
April 10-16, 2003 <sup>1</sup>	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

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<sup>1</sup> From March to April 2003 the item was worded: "... dealing with the war in Iraq?" The 1991 Gallup trend was worded "...George Bush is handling the situation in the Persian Gulf region."

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
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	56	37	7=100
January, 2003	56	36	8=100
Early October, 2002	56	34	10=100
c. The nation's immigration policy	23	57	20=100
Late October, 2005	24	54	22=100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=757]:**

d.F1	Terrorist threats	53	40	7=100
	December, 2005	49	44	7=100
	Late October, 2005	52	40	8=100
	Early September, 2005	49	41	10=100
	July, 2005	49	40	11=100
	Mid-May, 2005	57	35	8=100
	February, 2005	59	34	7=100
	January, 2005	62	33	5=100
	Mid-October, 2004	49	40	11=100
	Early September, 2004	62	32	6=100
	August, 2004	58	37	5=100
	July, 2004	54	40	6=100
	June, 2004	56	35	9=100
	Late April, 2004	55	36	9=100
	Early April, 2004	53	38	9=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : December, 2003	65	33	2=100
	September, 2003	64	28	8=100
	February, 2003	67	25	8=100
	January, 2003	69	23	8=100
	Early October, 2002	71	22	7=100
	June, 2002	74	18	8=100
	Mid-September, 2001 <sup>2</sup>	85	6	9=100
	<b>Clinton</b> : Early September, 1998	72	20	8=100
e.F1	Tax policy	37	52	11=100
	December, 2005	36	51	13=100
	February, 2003	42	44	14=100
	June, 2002	45	39	16=100
	<i>FOX News</i> : January, 2002 ( <i>RVs</i> )	58	28	14=100
	<i>FOX News</i> : June, 2001 ( <i>RVs</i> )	59	29	12=100
	<i>FOX News</i> : March, 2001 ( <i>RVs</i> )	54	31	15=100
f.F1	The environment	39	47	14=100
	Mid-May, 2005	42	43	15=100
	February, 2005	42	43	15=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2003	53	37	10=100
	June, 2002	50	38	12=100
	Early September, 2001	42	42	16=100
	<b>Bush, Sr</b> : May, 1990	44	45	11=100

<sup>2</sup> 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." In Early September 1998 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling current threats from international terrorist groups?"

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
g.F1	Energy policy	30	55	15=100
	Mid-May, 2005	31	49	20=100
	Early April, 2004	29	48	23=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : August, 2003	47	44	9=100
	June, 2002	41	39	20=100
	<i>CBS News</i> : August, 2001	43	42	15=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=745]:**

h.F2	The federal budget deficit	27	60	13=100
	February, 2005	41	46	13=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : December, 2003	32	60	8=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : August, 2003	39	55	6=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2003 <sup>3</sup>	43	47	10=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : March, 2002	51	37	12=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : April, 2001	52	37	11=100
	<b>Clinton</b> : July, 1994	31	58	11=100
	<b>Bush, Sr</b> : May, 1990	22	64	14=100
i.F2	Health care policy	28	57	15=100
	February, 2005	36	51	13=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : November, 2004	37	57	6=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2004	43	49	8=100
	September, 2003	33	46	21=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2003	41	44	15=100
	June, 2002	37	46	17=100
	<b>Clinton</b> : July, 1994	39	54	7=100
	<b>Bush, Sr</b> : May, 1990	30	59	11=100
j.F2	Education	43	45	12=100
	February, 2005	44	42	14=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : August, 2004	47	47	6=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2004	56	35	9=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2003	57	30	13=100
	June, 2002	56	31	13=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : March, 2001	65	22	13=100
	<b>Bush, Sr</b> : May, 1990	45	45	10=100
k.F2	The jobs situation	38	52	10=100
	Early October, 2002	47	38	15=100
	June, 2002	50	37	13=100
	<b>Clinton</b> : July, 1994	40	52	8=100

**NO QUESTIONS 3 OR 4  
QUESTION 5 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

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<sup>3</sup> Between April 2001 and January 2003 the Gallup item was worded "the federal budget."

Q.6 Now I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month. As I read each item, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE. OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]

		Very Closely	Fairly Closely	Not too Closely	Not at all Closely	DK/ Ref
<b>ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=757]:</b>						
a.F1	News about the current situation in Iraq	39	42	12	6	1=100
	January, 2006	40	40	12	7	1=100
	December, 2005	45	38	11	5	1=100
	Early November, 2005	41	40	13	6	*=100
	Early October, 2005	43	36	15	6	*=100
	Early September, 2005	32	40	20	7	1=100
	July, 2005	43	37	13	6	1=100
	June, 2005	41	39	12	7	1=100
	Mid-May, 2005	42	42	11	5	*=100
	Mid-March, 2005	40	39	14	5	2=100
	February, 2005	38	45	13	4	*=100
	January, 2005	48	37	11	4	*=100
	December, 2004	34	44	15	6	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	42	38	11	8	1=100
	Early September, 2004	47	37	9	6	1=100
	August, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
	July, 2004	43	40	11	6	*=100
	June, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
	April, 2004	54	33	8	5	*=100
	Mid-March, 2004	47	36	12	4	1=100
	Early February, 2004	47	38	10	4	1=100
	Mid-January, 2004	48	39	9	4	*=100
	December, 2003	44	38	11	6	1=100
	November, 2003	52	33	9	5	1=100
	October, 2003	38	40	14	7	1=100
	September, 2003	50	33	10	6	1=100
	Mid-August, 2003	45	39	10	5	1=100
	Early July, 2003	37	41	13	8	1=100
	June, 2003	46	35	13	6	*=100
	May, 2003	63	29	6	2	*=100
	April 11-16, 2003 <sup>4</sup>	47	40	10	2	1=100
	April 2-7, 2003	54	34	9	2	1=100
	March 20-24, 2003	57	33	7	2	1=100
	March 13-16, 2003 <sup>5</sup>	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	48	29	15	6	2=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=745]:**

b.F2	American reporters in Iraq who have been injured or captured	35	40	16	8	1=100
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<sup>4</sup> From March 20 to April 16, 2003 the story was listed as "News about the war in Iraq."

<sup>5</sup> From October 2002 to March 13-16, 2003 the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq." In Early September 2002 the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will invade Iraq."

**Q.6 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very Closely</u>	<u>Fairly Closely</u>	<u>Not too Closely</u>	<u>Not at all Closely</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
<b>ASK ALL:</b>					
c.	President Bush authorizing wiretaps on Americans suspected of having terrorist ties				
	37	33	16	13	1=100
	January, 2006				
	32	32	18	17	1=100
d.	The Hamas Party's victory in the Palestinian elections				
	18	28	22	31	1=100
e.	Reports about the financial links between lobbyists and members of Congress				
	20	24	25	30	1=100
	January, 2006 <i>Abramoff</i> <sup>6</sup>				
	18	20	26	34	2=100
f.	The major job cuts announced by the Ford Motor Company				
	25	35	23	16	1=100
	December, 2005 <i>General Motors</i>				
	22	30	26	21	1=100
	January, 1992 <i>General Motors</i>				
	35	38	18	9	*=100
g.	George W. Bush's State of the Union address				
	24	22	19	34	1=100
	February, 2003				
	36	24	15	24	1=100
	January, 1994 <i>Bill Clinton</i>				
	26	25	18	31	*=100
	February, 1992 <i>George H.W. Bush</i>				
	26	26	20	27	1=100

**QUESTIONS 7-38 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

On a different subject...

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=757]:**

Q.39F1 Would you say that United States, as a country, is addicted to oil, or not?

85	Yes
11	No
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=745]:**

Q.40F2 Do you think the U.S. can end its reliance on foreign oil sources within the next two decades, or not?

50	Yes
42	No
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**ASK ALL:**

Q.41 Right now, which ONE of the following do you think should be the more important priority for U.S. energy policy... **[READ AND ROTATE]**

	<u>Mid-Sept 2005</u>	<u>Feb 2002</u>	<u>May 2001</u>
41	Expanding exploration, mining and drilling, and the construction of new power plants [OR]		
	43	37	44
52	More energy conservation and regulation on energy use and prices		
	48	54	49
<u>7</u>	<b>(DO NOT READ)</b> Don't know/Refused		
	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>
100	100	100	100

<sup>6</sup> In January 2006 the story was listed as "Washington lobbyist Jack Abramoff admitting he bribed members of Congress."

Q.42 As I read some possible government policies to address America's energy supply, tell me whether you would favor or oppose each. First, would you favor or oppose the government [INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]? How about the government... [INSERT NEXT ITEM]

		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
a.	Promoting the increased use of nuclear power	44	49	7=100
	Mid-September, 2005	39	53	8=100
b.	Requiring better fuel efficiency for cars, trucks and SUVs	86	12	2=100
	Mid-September, 2005	86	12	2=100
c.	Spending more on subway, rail and bus systems	68	26	6=100
	Mid-September, 2005	68	27	5=100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=757]:**

d.F1	Giving tax cuts to energy companies to do more exploration for oil	44	52	4=100
	Mid-September, 2005	52	44	4=100
e.F1	Giving tax cuts to energy companies to develop wind, solar and hydrogen technology	78	18	4=100
	Mid-September, 2005	73	22	5=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=745]:**

f.F2	Increasing federal funding for research on wind, solar and hydrogen technology	82	14	4=100
g.F2	Increasing federal funding for research on ethanol	67	22	11=100

**NO QUESTIONS 43-46**

**QUESTION 47 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=757]:**

Q.48F1 I'd like your opinion about some possible international concerns for the U.S. Do you think that (INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE) is a major threat, a minor threat or not a threat to the well being of the United States? What about (INSERT ITEM)

		<u>Major Threat</u>	<u>Minor Threat</u>	<u>Not a Threat</u>	<u>(VOL) DK/Ref</u>
a.F1	China's emergence as a world power	47	34	12	7=100
	Late October, 2005	52	31	10	7=100
	May, 2001	51	30	10	9=100
	July, 1999	53	33	10	4=100
b.F1	Growing authoritarianism in Russia	22	45	16	17=100
	Late October, 2005	23	44	13	20=100
	May, 2001 <sup>7</sup>	27	46	12	15=100
	July, 1999	40	42	14	4=100
c.F1	North Korea's nuclear program	60	27	6	7=100
	Late October, 2005	66	24	4	6=100

<sup>7</sup> In May 2001 and July 1999, the item was listed as: "Political and economic instability in Russia."

Q.48F1 CONTINUED...		Major <u>Threat</u>	Minor <u>Threat</u>	Not a <u>Threat</u>	(VOL) <u>DK/Ref</u>
d.F1	Iran's nuclear program	65	24	5	6=100
	Late October, 2005	61	27	5	7=100
e.F1	The election of left-wing political leaders in Latin America	24	43	18	15=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=745]:**

Thinking about the world for a moment...

Q.49F2 What country in the world, if any, represents the greatest danger to the United States?

**[MULTIPLE RECORD, DO NOT READ. USE PRECODES AS APPROPRIATE. DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD ALL IN ORDER OF MENTION.]**

		Late Oct 2005	Early Sept 2001	Sept 1993	April 1993	Jan 1993	Feb 1992	March 1990
27	Iran	9	5	7	6	6	4	6
20	China	16	32	11	6	9	8	8
17	Iraq	18	16	18	14	17	12	*
11	North Korea	13	1	1	--	*	*	*
5	Other Middle East	8	9	1	6	5	8	7
5	United States	7	2	*	6	6	3	4
4	Al Qaeda/Terrorist groups mentions	2	*	--	--	--	--	--
3	Russia/Former Soviet Union	2	9	8	16	13	13	32
1	Japan	1	3	11	9	8	31	8
*	Cuba	*	2	*	1	1	1	3
2	Other	3	7	13	7	5	2	13
2	None/Not just one country	8	2	6	12	9	5	6
10	Don't know/Refused	17	20	24	17	21	13	13

**ASK ALL:**

Turning to the subject of Iraq ...

Q.50 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>Don't know/ Refused</u>
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
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



**Q.50 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Right decision</u>	<u>Wrong decision</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
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	9=100

**Q.51 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>Don't know/ Refused</u>
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
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

**Q.51 CONTINUED...**

	Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
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
April 10-16, 2003	61	32	3	1	3=100
April 8-9, 2003	60	32	3	3	2=100
April 2-7, 2003	55	37	3	2	3=100
March 25-April 1, 2003	39	46	8	2	5=100
March 23-24, 2003	45	41	6	2	6=100
March 20-22, 2003	65	25	2	1	7=100

Q.52 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>	Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
February, 2006	50	46	4=100
January, 2006	48	48	4=100
December, 2005	49	46	5=100
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 <sup>8</sup>	51	44	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

**NO QUESTIONS 53 OR 54**

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<sup>8</sup> 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?"

Q.55 Regardless of your feelings about the original decision to use military force, do you now believe that the U.S. will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in establishing a stable democratic government in Iraq?

		Jan <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>2005</u>	Late Oct <u>2005</u>	July <u>2005</u>
16	Definitely succeed	14	16	12	17
39	Probably succeed	42	41	44	43
28	Probably fail	26	28	29	25
11	Definitely fail	8	9	8	8
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100	100	100

**NO QUESTION 56**

Thinking about the issue of terrorism for a moment...

Q.57 In general, how well do you think the U.S. government is doing in reducing the threat of terrorism?  
[READ]

		Jan <u>2006</u>	July <u>2005</u>	July <u>2004</u>	Aug <u>2003</u>	(RVs) Early Nov <u>2002</u>	June <u>2002</u>	Early Nov <u>2001</u>	Oct 15-21 <u>2001</u>	Oct 10-14 <u>2001</u>
16	Very well	16	17	18	19	15	16	35	38	48
52	Fairly well	50	53	53	56	54	60	46	46	40
20	Not too well, OR	20	19	17	16	19	16	9	9	6
10	Not at all well	9	8	8	7	8	4	5	4	2
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.58 What concerns you more about the government's anti-terrorism policies? [READ AND ROTATE]

		Jan <u>2006</u>	Late Oct <u>2005</u>	July <u>2005</u>	July <u>2004</u>
33	That they have gone too far in restricting the average person's civil liberties	33	34	31	29
	--OR--				
50	That they have not gone far enough to adequately protect the country	46	48	52	49
10	Both/Neither / Approve of policies (VOL. DO NOT READ)	12	10	10	11
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>
100		100	100	100	100

Q.59 Do you think it is generally right or generally wrong for the government to monitor telephone and e-mail communications of Americans suspected of having terrorist ties without first obtaining permission from the courts?

		Jan <u>2006</u>
54	Generally right	48
43	Generally wrong	47
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>5</u>
100		100

Thinking about IRAN for a moment...

Q.60 The Iranian government recently said it will resume research on nuclear technology, despite opposition from other countries. How much, if anything, have you read or heard about this... **[READ]**

32 A lot  
46 A little  
21 Nothing at all  
1 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused  
100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=757]:**

Q.61F1 Who should take the lead in dealing with Iran's nuclear program? **[READ AND ROTATE]**

30 The United States  
OR  
51 Countries in the European Union  
11 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Other  
8 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused  
100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=745]:**

Q.62F2 Who should take the lead in dealing with Iran's nuclear program? **[READ AND ROTATE]**

17 The United States  
OR  
78 The United Nations  
2 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Other  
3 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused  
100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.63 Which is your greater concern when it comes to dealing with Iran's nuclear program ... that we will take action TOO QUICKLY, or that we will wait TOO LONG?

34 Take action too quickly  
53 Wait too long  
13 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)  
100

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

*Which is your greater concern... that we will take military action against the terrorists TOO QUICKLY, or that we will wait TOO LONG to take military action?*

*Late Sept*

2001

34 *Take action too quickly*

49 *Wait too long*

17 *Don't know/Refused*

100

Q.64 If Iran were to develop nuclear weapons, do you think they would be likely to [INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE] or not? Would Iran be likely to [NEXT ITEM] or not?

		Yes, <u>Likely</u>	No, <u>Not Likely</u>	Don't know/ <u>Refused</u>
a.	Attack the U.S. or European nations	66	26	8=100
b.	Attack Israel	72	16	12=100
c.	Provide nuclear weapons to terrorist organizations	82	11	7=100

**NO QUESTIONS 65-67**

**ASK ALL:**

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

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL) No <u>Preference</u>	(VOL) Other <u>Party</u>	Don't <u>know</u>
February, 2006	30	33	31	3	*	3=100
January, 2006	28	32	32	5	*	3=100
December, 2005	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
Late November, 2005	27	34	29	5	1	4=100
Early November, 2005	28	34	31	5	*	2=100
Late October, 2005	29	33	31	5	*	2=100
Early October, 2005	26	34	34	4	*	2=100
September 8-11, 2005	31	32	33	3	*	1=100
September 6-7, 2005	27	33	33	4	*	3=100
July, 2005	31	34	29	4	*	2=100
June, 2005	30	32	32	4	*	2=100
Mid-May, 2005	30	34	29	4	*	3=100
Late March, 2005	29	32	36	2	*	1=100
Mid-March, 2005	30	34	29	4	*	3=100
February, 2005	31	32	30	4	1	2=100
January, 2005	32	33	30	4	*	1=100
December, 2004	31	34	30	3	*	2=100
<b>Yearly Totals</b>						
2005	30	33	31	4	*	2=100
2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
2003	30	31	31	5	*	3=100
2002	30	31	30	5	1	3=100
2001	29	34	29	5	*	3=100
2001 Post-Sept 11	31	32	28	5	1	3=100
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28	35	30	5	*	2=100
2000	28	33	29	6	*	4=100
1999	27	33	34	4	*	2=100
1998	28	33	32	5	*	2=100
1997	28	33	32	4	1	2=100

**PARTY CONTINUED...**

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	No Preference/ <u>Other/DK</u>
1996	29	33	33	5=100
1995	32	30	34	4=100
1994	30	32	34	4=100
1993	27	34	34	5=100
1992	28	33	35	4=100
1991	31	32	33	4=100
1990	31	33	30	6=100
			Independent/ <u>No Pref/Oth/DK</u>	
1989	<u>Rep</u> 33	<u>Dem</u> 33	34=100	
1987	26	35	39=100	

**IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY [N=538] 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>	Refused <u>to lean</u>
February, 2006	11	16	10=37%
January, 2006	10	16	14=40%
December, 2005	10	16	11=37%
Late November, 2005	9	13	17=39%
Early November, 2005	11	14	13=38%
Late October, 2005	11	15	12=38%
Early October, 2005	11	18	11=40%
September 8-11, 2005	10	18	9=37%
September 6-7, 2005	10	15	15=40%
July, 2005	9	15	11=35%
June, 2005	10	16	12=38%
Mid-May, 2005	9	13	14=36%
Late March, 2005	13	17	9=39%
December, 2004	14	12	9=35%
August, 2003	12	16	14=42%
August, 2002	12	13	13=38%
September, 2000	11	13	15=39%
Late September, 1999	14	15	16=45%
August, 1999	15	15	12=42%

**QUESTIONS 68-69 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**