

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**JUNE 2006 NEWS INTEREST/BELIEVABILITY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**June 14 - 19, 2006**  
**N=1,501**

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>
June, 2006	36	54	10=100	Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100
April, 2006	33	56	11=100	Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100
Early April, 2006	35	55	10=100	June, 2003	62	27	11=100
March, 2006	33	57	10=100	May, 2003	65	27	8=100
February, 2006	40	52	8=100	<i>April 10-16, 2003</i>	72	22	6=100
January, 2006	38	54	8=100	<i>April 9, 2003</i>	74	20	6=100
<b>2005</b>				<i>April 2-7, 2003</i>	69	25	6=100
December, 2005	38	54	8=100	<i>March 28-April 1, 2003</i>	71	23	6=100
Early November, 2005	36	55	9=100	<i>March 25-27, 2003</i>	70	24	6=100
Late October, 2005	40	52	8=100	<i>March 20-24, 2003</i>	67	26	7=100
Early October, 2005	38	56	6=100	March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100
September 8-11, 2005	40	52	8=100	February, 2003	54	36	10=100
September 6-7, 2005	40	52	8=100	January, 2003	58	32	10=100
July, 2005	44	48	8=100	<b>2002</b>			
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	December, 2002	61	28	11=100
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	August, 2002	67	21	12=100
<b>2004</b>				Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
August, 2004	46	45	9=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
July, 2004	46	46	8=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
June, 2004	48	43	9=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100
May, 2004	44	48	8=100	January, 2002	80	11	9=100
Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100	<b>2001</b>			
Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100	Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100	Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7=100	Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
February, 2004	48	44	8=100	Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10=100	Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100	August, 2001	50	32	18=100
<b>2003</b>				July, 2001	51	32	17=100
December, 2003	57	34	9=100	June, 2001	50	33	17=100
November, 2003	50	40	10=100	May, 2001	53	32	15=100
October, 2003	50	42	8=100	April, 2001	56	27	17=100
September, 2003	55	36	9=100	March, 2001	55	25	20=100
Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100	February, 2001	53	21	26=100
Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100				

More specifically...

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

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The economy	33	57	10=100
March, 2006	34	57	9=100
February, 2006	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	35	57	8=100
March, 2006	30	65	5=100
February, 2006	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

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
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
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

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=749]:**

c.F1	Terrorist threats	47	41	12=100
	March, 2006	42	49	9=100
	February, 2006	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
d.F1	The environment	32	51	17=100
	February, 2006	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

<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."

<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>
	June, 2002	50	38	12=100
	Early September, 2001	42	42	16=100
	<b>Bush, Sr:</b> May, 1990	44	45	11=100
e.F1	The nation's immigration policy	32	52	16=100
	April, 2006 <sup>3</sup>	25	62	13=100
	February, 2006	23	57	20=100
	Late October, 2005	24	54	22=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=752]:**

f.F2	The nation's foreign policy	37	51	12=100
	Late October, 2005	36	51	13=100
	July, 2005	36	49	15=100
	Mid-May, 2005	38	46	16=100
	February, 2005	43	46	11=100
	January, 2005	48	43	9=100
	Mid-October, 2004	37	49	14=100
	Early September, 2004	47	42	11=100
	August, 2004	42	49	9=100
	July, 2004	40	48	12=100
	Mid-January, 2004	53	36	11=100
	March, 2003	53	36	11=100
	Early April, 2002	69	20	11=100
	<i>Gallup:</i> October, 2001	81	14	5=100
	Early September, 2001	46	34	20=100
	August, 2001 <sup>4</sup>	45	32	23=100
	<b>Clinton:</b> September, 1997	54	34	12=100
	<b>Bush, Sr:</b> May, 1990	58	30	12=100
g.F2	Energy policy	26	56	18=100
	February, 2006	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

**QUESTIONS 3-4 HELD FOR RELEASE**

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<sup>3</sup> In April 2006 the item was asked as a stand-alone question and not part of a list of items.

<sup>4</sup> In August 2001 roughly half of the U.S. sample was asked about Bush's handling of international policy, while the other half was asked about the handling of the nation's foreign policy. Results did not differ between question wordings.

**ASK ALL:**

Now a different kind of question...

Q.5 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month, tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE. OBSERVE FORM SPLITS] [IF NECESSARY “Did you follow [ITEM] 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
a. News about the current situation in Iraq	37	43	13	6	1=100
May, 2006	42	35	15	7	1=100
April, 2006	43	36	13	7	1=100
March, 2006	43	38	12	6	1=100
February, 2006	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>5</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>6</sup>	62	27	6	4	1=100
February, 2003	62	25	8	4	1=100

<sup>5</sup> From March 20 to April 16, 2003 the story was listed as “News about the war in Iraq.”

<sup>6</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.5 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
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 1 ONLY [N=749]:**

b.F1	The high price of gasoline these days	58	26	10	5	1=100
	May, 2006	69	21	6	3	1=100
	April, 2006	65	22	8	4	1=100
	December, 2005	61	27	7	4	1=100
	Early November, 2005	61	27	9	2	1=100
	Late October, 2005	67	23	7	3	*=100
	Early October, 2005	65	25	6	3	1=100
	Early September, 2005	71	19	7	3	*=100
	Mid-May, 2005	58	27	9	5	1=100
	Mid-March, 2005	50	32	13	5	*=100
	Mid-October, 2004	64	22	8	5	1=100
	August, 2004	52	29	10	8	1=100
	July, 2004	56	25	11	7	1=100
	June, 2004	58	26	9	6	1=100
	April, 2004	46	30	15	8	1=100
	Early April, 2004	58	23	10	8	1=100
	Mid-March, 2004	47	27	14	10	2=100
	September, 2003	45	27	15	11	1=100
	March, 2003	52	27	11	9	1=100
	February, 2003	53	25	12	9	1=100
	June, 2001	56	31	7	5	1=100
	May, 2001	61	26	6	6	1=100
	Early October, 2000	56	25	12	6	1=100
	June, 2000 <sup>7</sup>	61	25	9	5	*=100
	March, 2000	58	28	10	4	*=100
	October, 1990	62	26	8	4	*=100
	September, 1990	56	28	11	5	*=100
	August, 1990	57	27	10	5	1=100
c.F1	News about candidates and election campaigns in your state and district	18	30	29	21	2=100
	April, 2006	18	28	30	23	1=100
	Early November, 2002 (RVs)	27	46	18	9	*=100
	Late October, 2002 (RVs)	28	34	24	13	1=100
	Early October, 2002 (RVs)	21	46	22	10	1=100
	Early September, 2002	17	29	29	24	1=100
	Late October, 1998 (RVs)	26	45	20	9	*=100
	Early October, 1998 (RVs)	21	43	24	11	1=100
	Early September, 1998	17	32	28	23	*=100
	Early August, 1998	13	30	28	28	1=100
	June, 1998	9	27	33	30	1=100

<sup>7</sup>

In August 1990 through June 2000 the story was listed as "Recent increases in the price of gasoline."

**Q.5 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
	April, 1998 <sup>8</sup>	16	33	24	27	*=100
	November, 1994	18	42	25	15	*=100
	Late October, 1994	14	38	31	16	1=100
	Early October, 1994	23	34	23	19	1=100
	September, 1994	19	34	29	18	*=100
	November, 1990 <sup>9</sup>	38	34	17	11	*=100
	October, 1990	18	32	28	22	*=100
d.F1	The issue of immigration	36	41	15	7	1=100
	May, 2006	44	33	13	9	1=100
	April, 2006	39	34	16	10	1=100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=752]:**

e.F2	Iran's nuclear research program	21	32	22	22	3=100
	April, 2006	26	30	23	20	1=100
	March, 2006	24	31	22	22	1=100
f.F2	Reports about the financial links between lobbyists and members of Congress	14	27	24	33	2=100
	March, 2006	16	20	30	32	2=100
	February, 2006	20	24	25	30	1=100
	January, 2006 <i>Abramoff</i> <sup>10</sup>	18	20	26	34	2=100
g.F2	Soccer's World Cup championship being held in Germany	8	15	19	57	1=100
	June, 2002 <i>Held in Japan and South Korea</i>	10	16	23	50	1=100

**ASK ALL:**

h.	The killing of the terrorist leader in Iraq named Zarqawi by U.S. forces	37	35	16	11	1=100
	Mid-August, 2003*	45	35	13	6	1=100
* In Mid-August 2003 the item was worded "The killing of Saddam Hussein's two sons by U.S. military forces."						
i.	The investigation of U.S. Marines who allegedly killed civilians in an Iraqi village	24	31	24	20	1=100

**QUESTIONS 6-49 HELD FOR RELEASE**

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<sup>8</sup> In April 1998, September 1994 and October 1990, story was listed as "Candidates and election campaigns in your state."

<sup>9</sup> In November 1990, story was listed as "Candidates and elections in your state."

<sup>10</sup> In January 2006 the story was listed as "Washington lobbyist Jack Abramoff admitting he bribed members of Congress."

**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>	<b>(VOL.) DK/ Ref</b>
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
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.51 How well is the U.S. military effort in Iraq going? **[READ IN ORDER]**

	Very <u>well</u>	Fairly <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	(VOL.) DK/ Ref
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
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.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>	(VOL.) DK/ Ref
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
Early October, 2005	47	48	5=100

Q.52 CONTINUED...	Keep troops	Bring troops	(VOL.)
	<u>in Iraq</u>	<u>home</u>	<u>DK/ Ref</u>
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>11</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

Q.53 Do you think the war in Iraq has helped the war on terrorism, or has it hurt the war on terrorism?

	(VOL)			Don't know/
	<u>Helped</u>	<u>Hurt</u>	<u>No effect</u>	<u>Refused</u>
June, 2006	44	40	6	10=100
March, 2006	38	44	8	10=100
January, 2006	44	38	8	10=100
Late October, 2005	44	44	6	6=100
Mid-September, 2005	43	43	6	8=100
July, 2005	39	47	7	7=100
February, 2005	44	41	7	8=100
Mid-October, 2004	45	40	6	9=100
Early September, 2004	46	40	6	8=100
August, 2004	45	44	4	7=100
July, 2004	43	45	5	7=100
June, 2004	43	44	4	9=100
Mid-March, 2004	50	37	5	8=100
Late February, 2004	62	28	3	7=100
Early February, 2004	55	32	7	6=100
December, 2003	59	26	6	9=100
September, 2003	54	31	7	8=100
May, 2003	65	22	6	7=100
April, 2003 <sup>12</sup>	63	22	--	15=100
Early October, 2002	52	34	--	14=100

<sup>11</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?"

<sup>12</sup> In April 2003, the question was worded: "Do you think the war in Iraq will help the war on terrorism, or will it hurt the war on terrorism?" 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.54 Do you think the U.S. should or should not set a timetable for when troops will be withdrawn from Iraq?

		April <u>2006</u>	March <u>2006</u>	Jan <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>2005</u>	Early Oct <u>2005</u>	Mid-Sept <u>2005</u>	July <u>2005</u>
52	Should set a timetable	53	55	50	56	52	57	49
42	Should not set a timetable	40	39	42	38	43	37	45
2	Should get out now (VOL.)	2	1	2	1	1	1	*
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

		March <u>2006</u>	Feb <u>2006</u>	Jan <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>2005</u>	Late Oct <u>2005</u>	July <u>2005</u>
15	Definitely succeed	10	16	14	16	12	17
40	Probably succeed	39	39	42	41	44	43
29	Probably fail	33	28	26	28	29	25
9	Definitely fail	10	11	8	9	8	8
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.56 As I read a few specific things about Iraq, tell me if you think we are making progress or losing ground in each area. First, are we making progress or losing ground in [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]? How about [NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Do you think we are making progress or losing ground in this area?]

		Making <u>progress</u>	Losing <u>ground</u>	(VOL) No <u>change</u>	(VOL.) DK/ Ref
<b>ASK ITEMS a THRU d OF FORM 1 ONLY [N=749]:</b>					
a.F1	Training Iraqi security forces so they can replace U.S. troops	61	28	2	9=100
	April, 2006	55	30	1	14=100
	March, 2006	56	30	1	13=100
	January, 2006	65	22	1	12=100
	December, 2005	61	27	1	11=100
b.F1	Reducing the number of civilian casualties there	29	56	3	12=100
	April, 2006	28	56	3	13=100
	March, 2006	27	56	3	14=100
	January, 2006	32	54	3	11=100
	December, 2005	35	53	3	9=100
c.F1	Preventing terrorists from using Iraq as a base for attacks against the U.S. and its allies	49	39	2	10=100
	April, 2006	44	43	3	10=100
	March, 2006	42	44	2	12=100
	January, 2006	52	33	2	13=100
	December, 2005	48	41	2	9=100

**Q.56 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Making</u>	<u>Losing</u>	<u>(VOL)</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u>
		<u>progress</u>	<u>ground</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/</u>
				<u>change</u>	<u>Ref</u>
d.F1	Establishing democracy in Iraq	55	35	2	8=100
	April, 2006	51	38	3	8=100
	March, 2006	50	38	2	10=100
	January, 2006	62	26	2	10=100
	December, 2005	58	32	2	8=100

**ASK ITEMS e THRU g OF FORM 2 ONLY [N=752]:**

e.F2	Defeating the insurgents militarily	48	36	2	14=100
	April, 2006	40	46	2	12=100
	March, 2006	36	51	1	12=100
	January, 2006	46	38	3	13=100
	December, 2005	44	41	3	12=100
f.F2	Preventing a civil war between various religious and ethnic groups	32	50	4	14=100
	April, 2006	26	59	3	12=100
	March, 2006	24	66	2	8=100
	January, 2006	34	48	4	14=100
	December, 2005	36	49	3	12=100
g.F2	Rebuilding roads, power plants and other services in Iraq	52	23	1	24=100
	April, 2006	55	26	1	18=100
	March, 2006	53	29	1	17=100
	January, 2006	59	22	1	18=100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.57 As you may know, the terrorist leader of al Qaeda in Iraq named Zarqawi was killed last week by U.S. forces. Will Zarqawi's death make the situation in Iraq better, worse, or not have much of an effect?

32 Better  
 17 Worse  
 44 Not have much of an effect  
7 Don't know/Refused  
 100

**ASKED JUNE 16-19 ONLY [N=887]:**

Q.58 This week, Congress held a debate on how to handle the situation in Iraq? How much, if anything, have you read or heard about this debate? **[READ]**

17 A lot  
 44 A little, **[OR]**  
 38 Nothing at all  
1 Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**  
 100

**ASKED JUNE 16-19 ONLY [N=887]:**

Q.59 Do you think the [INSERT RESPONSE OPTION; ROTATE] or the [NEXT OPTION] could do a better job making wise decisions about what to do in Iraq?

		Feb <u>2006</u>	Mid-Sept <u>2005</u>	July <u>2004</u>	(RVs) Late Oct <u>2002</u>	(RVs) Early Oct <u>2002</u>
28	Republican Party	38	38	38	42	46
34	Democratic Party	41	43	40	33	30
13	Both equally (VOL.)	3	5	4	6	7
11	Neither (VOL.)	8	6	6	6	4
<u>14</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

**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 Preference	(VOL) Other Party	Don't know
June, 2006	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
April, 2006	29	32	33	3	*	3=100
March, 2006	28	34	30	4	*	4=100
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
<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
				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		

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	No Preference/ <u>Other/DK</u>
1991	31	32	33	4=100
1990	31	33	30	6=100
1989	33	33	34=100	
1987	26	35	39=100	

**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>	Refused <u>to lean</u>
June, 2006	11	16	11=37%
April, 2006	12	17	10=39%
March, 2006	11	14	13=38%
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%