

**CBS NEWS POLL**  
**THE PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST**  
**August 15-18, 2004**

q1 How much attention have you been able to pay to the 2004 Presidential campaign -- a lot, some, not much, or no attention so far?

	REGISTERED VOTERS				Jul04d
	Total	***** Party ID *****			
	%	Rep	Dem	Ind	%
A lot	48	51	49	42	48
Some	41	37	39	48	37
Not much	8	9	9	8	11
No attention so far	3	3	3	2	3
DK/NA	0	0	0	0	0

q2 Is your opinion of John Kerry favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John Kerry yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	38	8	71	35	39
Unfavorable	34	68	5	28	33
Undecided	18	15	15	25	20
Haven't heard enough	9	9	7	12	7
Refused	1	0	2	0	1

q3 Is your opinion of George W. Bush favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about George W. Bush yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	43	88	8	34	40
Unfavorable	44	6	80	44	43
Undecided	11	6	9	19	14
Haven't heard enough	2	0	1	3	2
Refused	0	0	2	0	1

q4 How likely is it that you will vote in the 2004 election for President this November -- would you say you will definitely vote, probably vote, probably not vote, or definitely not vote in the election for President?

Definitely vote	89	92	92	83
Probably vote	9	7	6	15
Probably not vote	1	1	1	0
Definitely not vote	1	0	0	1
DK/NA	0	0	1	1

q5 If the 2004 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were John Kerry for President and John Edwards for Vice-President, the Democrats, and George W. Bush for President and Dick Cheney for Vice-President, the Republicans, would you vote for John Kerry and John Edwards or George W. Bush and Dick Cheney?

John Kerry	47	4	86	50	49
George W. Bush	44	89	7	38	43
Other (Vol.)	0	0	0	1	0
Won't vote (Vol.)	0	0	0	1	0
Depends (Vol.)	2	2	1	2	2
DK/NA	7	5	6	8	6

q7 Is your mind made up or is it still too early to say for sure?

	REGISTERED VOTERS			
	Total	Kerry Voters	Bush Voters	Jul04d
	%	%	%	%
Mind made up	77	84	85	76
Too early to say for sure	14	15	15	17
DK/NA	1	1	1	0
Didn't choose a candidate	8	0	0	7

q8 How would you describe your support for George W. Bush for President in 2004 -- would you say you are enthusiastically supporting him, supporting him but have reservations about him, or are you supporting him only because he is the Republican party nominee?

	BUSH SUPPORTERS			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Enthusiastic	59	68	42	40
With reservations	36	28	41	55
Party nominee	3	3	12	3
DK/NA	2	1	5	2

q9 Will your vote for president in November be mainly FOR George W. Bush, or AGAINST John Kerry?

For Bush	80	87	71	64
Against Kerry	15	11	13	26
DK/NA	5	2	16	10

q10 How would you describe your support for John Kerry for President in 2004 -- would you say you are enthusiastically supporting him, supporting him but have reservations about him, or are you supporting him only because he is the Democratic party nominee?

	KERRY SUPPORTERS			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Enthusiastic	44	38	50	33
With reservations	37	62	30	46
Party nominee	16	0	16	17
DK/NA	4	0	4	4

q11 Will your vote for president in November be mainly FOR John Kerry, or AGAINST George W. Bush?

For Kerry	49	56	55	36
Against Bush	46	31	41	57
DK/NA	5	13	4	7

q12\* If the 2004 Presidential election were being held today, and the candidates were John Kerry for President and John Edwards for Vice-President, the Democrats; George W. Bush for President and Dick Cheney for Vice-President, the Republicans, and Ralph Nader for President and Peter Camejo for Vice-President, would you vote for John Kerry and John Edwards; George W. Bush and Dick Cheney; or Ralph Nader and Peter Camejo?

REGISTERED VOTERS

\*\*\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jul04d
	%	%	%	%	%
John Kerry	46	6	86	44	48
George W. Bush	45	90	8	39	43
Ralph Nader	1	0	0	4	3
Other (vol.)	0	0	0	1	0
Wouldn't vote (vol.)	1	0	1	1	0
Depends (vol.)	1	1	0	2	1
Don't know/No answer	6	3	5	9	5

\*Question was not asked in states in which Ralph Nader will definitely not be on the ballot (Georgia, Indiana and Oklahoma).

q16 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President?

TOTAL RESPONDENTS

Approve	46	85	15	41	44
Disapprove	45	11	77	44	49
DK/NA	9	4	8	15	7

q17 Do you feel things in this country are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things have pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

Right direction	39	75	11	34	36
Wrong track	55	19	84	61	59
DK/NA	6	6	5	5	5

q18 Which ONE issue would you most like to hear the candidates for president discuss during the 2004 presidential campaign?

REGISTERED VOTERS

Economy/Jobs	24	17	31	24	20
War in Iraq	20	20	24	17	23
Health care/Medicare/Medicaid	12	10	16	10	13
Education	5	3	6	7	5
Terrorism (general)	5	9	1	5	3
Defense/Military	4	7	2	2	2
Taxes/IRS	3	4	1	4	1
Abortion	2	3	1	1	2
Foreign policy	2	2	2	3	3
Budget deficit/National debt	2	2	0	3	1
Same-sex marriage	2	3	1	2	1
Other	11	8	11	15	15
DK/NA	8	12	6	7	11

q19 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling foreign policy?

	TOTAL RESPONDENTS				Jul04c
	***** Party ID *****				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	41	78	11	35	39
Disapprove	49	16	80	50	55
DK/NA	10	6	9	15	6

q20 How about the economy? Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

					Jul04d
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
Approve	37	73	8	34	39
Disapprove	54	18	90	52	54
DK/NA	9	9	2	14	7

q21 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation with Iraq?

Approve	40	75	10	37	38
Disapprove	54	19	84	56	55
DK/NA	6	6	6	7	7

q22 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the campaign against terrorism?

Approve	53	85	24	51	52
Disapprove	38	10	63	38	41
DK/NA	9	5	13	9	7

q23 How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?

Very good	5	10	0	4	3
Fairly good	47	71	28	44	52
Fairly bad	32	14	48	34	30
Very bad	15	4	23	16	13
DK/NA	1	1	1	0	2

q24 Do you think the economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

Better	25	47	7	21	28
Worse	30	12	44	33	23
Same	43	38	47	42	47
DK/NA	2	3	2	4	2

q25 In the last 4 years, has the number of jobs in your community increased, decreased, or stayed about the same?

Increased	21	40	8	15
Decreased	43	18	63	47
Stayed same	30	35	25	29
DK/NA	6	7	4	9

q27 Is your opinion of John Edwards favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John Edwards yet to have an opinion?

## REGISTERED VOTERS

\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jul04d
	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	35	12	61	30	35
Unfavorable	19	43	3	12	18
Undecided	13	11	9	19	13
Haven't heard enough	32	32	27	39	33
Refused	1	2	0	0	1

q28 Is your opinion of Dick Cheney favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Dick Cheney yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	29	61	6	20	31
Unfavorable	37	7	60	43	35
Undecided	14	14	13	16	15
Haven't heard enough	19	17	20	20	18
Refused	1	1	1	1	1

q38 Do you think the policies of the Bush Administration have made the United States safer from terrorism, less safe from terrorism, or have the policies of the Bush Administration not affected the U.S.' safety from terrorism?

					Jun04a
Safer	51	86	20	49	53
Less safe	24	3	42	25	28
No effect	19	6	31	20	15
DK/NA	6	5	7	6	4

q40 Do you think George W. Bush has the same priorities for the country as you have, or not?

					Jul04d
Has	44	84	13	37	41
Does not have	51	13	82	58	55
DK/NA	5	3	5	5	4

q41 Do you have confidence in George W. Bush's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confidence	46	87	11	41	43
Uneasy	52	11	86	57	55
DK/NA	2	2	3	2	2

q42 Do you have confidence in George W. Bush's ability to make the right decisions about the nation's economy, or are you uneasy about his approach?

					Jun04a
Confidence	40	78	7	35	40
Uneasy	57	17	91	63	57
DK/NA	3	5	2	2	3

q43 Do you think George W. Bush has strong qualities of leadership, or not?

## REGISTERED VOTERS

\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jul04d
	%	%	%	%	%
Has	59	93	27	57	58
Does not have	39	6	69	41	38
DK/NA	2	1	4	2	4

q44 Do you think George W. Bush says what he really believes most of the time, or does he say what he thinks people want to hear?

Says what he believes	52	82	24	52	48
Says what people want to hear	43	15	70	44	48
DK/NA	5	3	6	4	4

q45 If George W. Bush is re-elected President in November, how much confidence do you have that he would make the right decisions when it comes to protecting the country from terrorist attack -- a lot, some, not much, or none at all?

A lot	43	78	12	38	41
Some	26	18	31	28	27
Not much	14	2	25	17	17
None at all	16	1	31	15	15
DK/NA	1	1	1	2	0

q46 How much confidence do you have in George W. Bush's ability to make the right decisions about the ongoing conflict in Iraq -- a lot, some, not much, or none at all?

					Apr04d
A lot	32	64	5	27	28
Some	24	30	17	25	30
Not much	22	4	38	24	18
None at all	21	2	37	23	24
DK/NA	1	0	3	1	0

q47 If George W. Bush is re-elected President in November, do you think your taxes will go up, go down, or stay about the same?

Go up	36	11	57	41	34
Go down	5	10	2	3	5
Stay about the same	55	75	39	51	58
DK/NA	4	4	2	5	3

q48 If George Bush is re-elected President in November, do you think your health care costs will become more affordable, less affordable, or stay about the same?

More affordable	6	10	3	6
Less affordable	39	17	58	43
Stay same	51	70	35	48
DK/NA	4	3	4	3

q49 What do you think George W. Bush has been spending more time doing in his campaign -- explaining what he would do as president or attacking John Kerry?

## REGISTERED VOTERS

\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Mar04b
	%	%	%	%	%
Explaining	44	72	22	39	41
Attacking	43	17	65	45	43
Don't know/No answer	13	11	13	16	16

q51 Do you think John Kerry has the same priorities for the country as you have, or not?

					Jul04d
Has	43	16	72	41	47
Does not have	42	73	15	39	40
DK/NA	15	11	13	20	13

q52 Do you have confidence in John Kerry's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confidence	41	9	73	41	39
Uneasy	49	83	19	47	50
DK/NA	10	8	8	12	11

q53 Do you have confidence in John Kerry's ability to make the right decisions about the nation's economy, or are you uneasy about his approach?

					Jun04a
Confidence	48	12	78	53	41
Uneasy	45	80	17	38	47
DK/NA	7	8	5	9	12

q54 Do you think John Kerry has strong qualities of leadership, or not?

					Jul04d
Has	60	31	87	60	58
Does not have	32	59	6	30	30
DK/NA	8	10	7	10	12

q55 Do you think John Kerry says what he really believes most of the time, or does he say what he thinks people want to hear?

Says what he believes	34	7	62	32	35
Says what people want to hear	57	86	30	58	57
DK/NA	9	7	8	10	8

q56 If John Kerry is elected President in November, how much confidence do you have that he would make the right decisions when it comes to protecting the country from terrorist attack -- a lot, some, not much, or none at all?

A lot	32	6	58	31	28
Some	39	36	37	44	42
Not much	15	33	2	11	17
None at all	11	23	1	11	10
DK/NA	3	2	2	3	3

q57 How much confidence do you have in John Kerry's ability to make the right decisions about the ongoing conflict in Iraq -- a lot, some, not much, or none at all?

## REGISTERED VOTERS

\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Apr04d
	%	%	%	%	%
A lot	26	4	49	23	18
Some	37	25	43	42	43
Not much	20	37	4	21	23
None at all	14	30	2	10	12
DK/NA	3	4	2	4	4

q58 If John Kerry is elected President in November, do you think your taxes will go up, go down, or stay about the same?

Go up	45	68	24	42	47
Go down	6	1	10	8	6
Stay about the same	42	24	56	44	39
DK/NA	7	7	10	6	8

q59 If John Kerry is elected President in November, do you think your health care costs will become more affordable, less affordable, or stay about the same?

More affordable	22	9	37	19
Less affordable	22	32	12	22
Stay same	51	52	49	52
DK/NA	5	7	2	7

q60 What do you think John Kerry has been spending more time doing in his campaign -- explaining what he would do as president or attacking George W. Bush?

					Mar04b
Explaining	47	22	71	48	31
Attacking	42	69	20	39	53
DK/NA	11	9	9	13	16

q61 Looking back, do you think the United States did the right thing in taking military action against Iraq, or should the U.S. have stayed out?

	TOTAL RESPONDENTS				Jul04d
Right thing	49	80	22	45	45
Stay out	44	15	72	45	47
Don't know/No answer	7	5	6	10	8

q64 How likely do you think it is that there will be another terrorist attack on the United States within the next few months -- very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

Very likely	17	16	18	18	18
Somewhat likely	50	52	50	49	48
Not very likely	20	23	21	17	23
Not at all likely	8	5	8	11	5
Don't know/No answer	5	4	3	5	5

q66 Do you think of the war with Iraq as part of the war on terrorism, or do you think of it as separate from the war on terrorism? IF YES, ASK: Is it a major part of the war on terrorism, or a minor part of the war on terrorism?

	TOTAL RESPONDENTS				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun04a
	%	%	%	%	%
Major part	38	62	20	33	39
Minor part	12	15	10	11	11
Not part	44	17	66	47	44
DK/NA	6	6	4	9	6

q67 How would you say things are going for the U.S. in its efforts to bring stability and order to Iraq? Would you say things are going very well, somewhat well, somewhat badly, or very badly?

	TOTAL RESPONDENTS				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jul04d
Very well	5	9	2	4	5
Somewhat well	41	66	20	38	38
Somewhat badly	32	21	41	33	31
Very badly	19	4	31	20	23
DK/NA	3	0	6	3	3

q70 As a result of the United States' military action against Iraq, do you think the threat of terrorism against the United States has increased, decreased, or stayed about the same?

	TOTAL RESPONDENTS				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun04a
Increased	43	23	61	43	47
Decreased	16	29	6	14	13
Stayed about the same	40	48	29	42	38
DK/NA	1	0	4	1	2

q73 Do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea for the government in Washington to issue warnings to the public about possible terrorist attacks, even if they don't have specific information?

	TOTAL RESPONDENTS				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun02b
Good idea	68	81	60	65	66
Bad idea	27	16	36	27	29
Don't know/No answer	5	3	4	8	5

q74 Have the warnings made you feel mostly secure or mostly anxious?

	TOTAL RESPONDENTS				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Feb03b
Mostly secure	40	59	27	36	37
Mostly anxious	37	26	49	36	40
Both (vol.)	2	3	2	2	3
Neither (Vol.)	11	8	12	14	17
Don't know/No answer	10	4	10	12	3

q79 Have you yourself ever served in the U.S. armed forces or the U.S. reserves?

	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
	%
Yes	16
No	84
DK/NA	0

	UNWEIGHTED	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1009	
Total Republicans	328	321
Total Democrats	334	340
Total Independents	347	348
Registered Voters	835	792