

B.E.T/CBS News Poll
African Americans and the 2004 Vote
July 6-15, 2004

q17 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 **		
	Total	Men	Women
	%	%	%
A lot	37	44	31
Some	40	40	40
Not much	19	13	23
No attention so far	5	3	7
DK/NA	0	0	0

q18 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	83	85	82
Probably vote	12	10	13
Probably not vote	4	4	3
Definitely not vote	1	1	2
DK/NA	0	0	0

q19 If the 2004 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were John Kerry, the Democrat, and George W. Bush, the Republican, would you vote for John Kerry or George W. Bush? [CANDIDATES NAMES AND ANSWER CODES WILL ROTATE]

John Kerry	79	82	77
George W. Bush	10	9	10
Other (Vol.)	1	2	0
Won't vote (Vol.)	1	0	1
Depends (Vol.)	2	1	3
DK/NA	7	6	8

q20 Which of these comes closest to your feelings about John Kerry as the Democratic Party's nominee for President? -- 1. Angry, 2. Dissatisfied, but not angry, 3. Satisfied, but not enthusiastic, or 4. Enthusiastic.

Angry	1	1	1
Dissatisfied, but not angry	10	12	7
Satisfied, not enthusiastic	58	54	61
Enthusiastic	27	30	24
DK/NA	5	3	7

q21 Which of these comes closest to your feelings about George W. Bush's administration? -- 1. Angry, 2. Dissatisfied, but not angry, 3. Satisfied, but not enthusiastic, or 4. Enthusiastic.

Angry	37	38	36
Dissatisfied, but not angry	46	49	44
Satisfied, not enthusiastic	11	7	14
Enthusiastic	3	4	2
DK/NA	2	1	3

q22 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **		
	Total	Men	Women
	%	%	%
Approve	11	10	12
Disapprove	85	87	83
DK/NA	4	3	5

q23 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	6	5	6
Wrong track	92	92	92
DK/NA	2	3	2

q24 Which ONE issue would you most like to hear the candidates for president discuss during the 2004 presidential campaign?

Economy and Jobs	29	34	26
War in Iraq	21	21	21
Health Care	11	8	14
Education	6	3	8
Medicare, Medicaid	3	2	3
Defense / Military	2	2	1
Terrorism (general)	2	3	0
Poverty / Homelessness	2	2	2
Social Security	1	2	1
Drug coverage/Prescription	1	1	1
Foreign Policy	1	2	1
Attention to Domestic affairs	1	1	1
Religious Values	1	0	1
Taxes/IRS	1	2	1
Gas/Heating Oil Crisis	1	1	1
Gay/Same-Sex Marriage	1	1	1
Security/Safety	1	2	1
Other	5	5	4
DK/NA	10	8	12

q25 From what you have seen or heard, do you think either candidate is talking about that issue? IF YES: Which candidate?

Yes, Kerry is	26	23	28
Yes, Bush is	9	9	10
Yes, both are	14	18	11
No	46	47	45
DK/NA	5	3	6

q26 Do you think John Kerry has the same priorities for the country as you have, or not?

Has	64	70	59
Does not have	19	20	19
DK/NA	17	10	22

q27 Do you think John Kerry is likely or not likely to tell you the truth?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

	Total	Men	Women
	%	%	%
Yes	63	73	55
No	21	18	24
DK/NA	16	9	21

q28 Would you be more likely to describe John Kerry as highly intelligent, or of only average intelligence?

Highly intelligent	56	58	54
Average intelligence	37	38	35
Below average (vol.)	0	1	0
DK/NA	7	3	11

q29 If John Kerry is elected President in November, do you think opportunities for black people in the U.S. will get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

Get better	47	52	43
Get worse	3	4	2
Stay same	45	40	49
DK/NA	5	4	6

q30 Do you think George W. Bush has the same priorities for the country as you have, or not?

Has	9	11	8
Does not have	84	84	84
DK/NA	7	5	8

q31 Do you think George W. Bush is likely or not likely to tell you the truth?

Yes	12	13	11
No	79	81	78
DK/NA	9	6	11

q32 Would you be more likely to describe George W. Bush as highly intelligent, or of only average intelligence?

Highly intelligent	21	20	22
Average intelligence	67	71	63
Below average (vol.)	6	5	7
DK/NA	6	4	8

q33 Regardless of how you intend to vote, which candidate do you think would appoint more African-Americans to his Cabinet or other high-level positions, John Kerry or George W. Bush?

Kerry	66	67	65
Bush	16	18	14
Neither (vol.)	3	1	4
Both equally (vol.)	2	3	2
DK/NA	13	11	15

q34 Regardless of how you intend to vote, which candidate do you think has more soul -- John Kerry or George W. Bush?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **		
	Total	Men	Women
	%	%	%
John Kerry	64	68	61
George W. Bush	11	9	12
Both equally (vol.)	2	3	1
Neither (vol.)	12	12	11
DK/NA	11	8	15

q35 In election years, do you think the Democratic Party generally takes black voters for granted, or does the Democratic party generally try to reach out to black voters?

Takes for granted	35	38	32
Reaches out	60	58	62
DK/NA	5	4	6

q36 In election years, do you think the Republican Party generally ignores black voters, or does the Republican Party generally try to reach out to black voters?

Ignores	64	65	63
Reaches out	32	33	31
DK/NA	4	2	6

q37 Do you think that a black candidate will receive the Democratic party's nomination for President within the next ten years?

Yes	40	37	42
No	53	57	50
DK/NA	7	6	8

q38 Do you think that a black candidate will receive the Republican party's nomination for President within the next ten years?

Yes	18	14	20
No	78	83	74
DK/NA	4	3	6

q39 Who do you feel is the most important national leader in the black community today?

Jesse Jackson	21	25	18
Colin Powell	13	15	11
Al Sharpton	4	5	3
Kweisi Mfume	3	3	2
Louis Farrakhan	2	3	1
Condoleezza Rice	2	1	2
Oprah Winfrey	1	0	1
Bill Cosby	1	1	1
T.D. Jakes	1	1	1
Any other politician	2	4	1
No one	3	3	2
Other	4	4	6
DK/NA	43	33	51

q40 Which of these issues would be the most important in getting you to vote in November? 1. Education; 2. Jobs and the economy; 3. Crime; 4. Illegal drugs; 5. The war in Iraq, 6. Health care, or something else? IF SOMETHING ELSE, ASK: What issue will be most important?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **		
	Total	Men	Women
	%	%	%
Education	19	20	18
Jobs and the economy	46	52	41
Crime	1	1	2
Drugs	2	1	2
War in Iraq	14	14	13
Health care	14	10	17
Something else (SPECIFY)	3	2	3
None of the above (vol.)	1	0	1
DK/NA	0	0	3

q41 Now I would like to ask you some questions about various issues facing the country today. Which one of the following do you think would do the most to provide African Americans with more jobs? 1. More government programs, such as job training and employment programs, to prepare people for work, or 2. Using tax breaks or tax penalties to encourage businesses to hire more workers?

More government programs	57	54	58
Tax breaks for businesses	36	36	35
Both (vol.)	3	3	2
Neither (vol.)	3	5	2
Something else (vol.)	1	1	1
DK/NA	0	1	2

q42 Which ONE of the following would do the most to make sure African American children receive a good education? 1. Vouchers for children to attend private or religious schools; or 2. More government money going directly to public schools; or 3. Changing the school district boundaries so that wealthy and poorer schools are combined?

Vouchers	10	8	12
More government money	40	36	44
Changing district boundaries	44	50	40
All (vol.)	2	3	1
None (vol.)	1	1	1
Something else (vol.)	0	1	0
DK/NA	3	1	2

q43 Which ONE of the following do you think would be the best way to help more African Americans go to college? 1. More financial assistance from the federal government to help pay for college, or 2. More spaces in college set aside specifically for African American students, or 3. Better college preparation in elementary and high school?

More financial assistance	25	24	27
More spaces for students	4	3	4
Better college preparation	65	68	63
All (vol.)	4	4	4
None (vol.)	0	1	0
Something else (vol.)	0	0	1
DK/NA	2	0	1

q44 Which ONE of the following would do the most to solve the problem of crime and violence among youths in the black community? 1. Longer jail sentences for youths who break the law, or 2. Holding parents legally responsible for their children's actions, or 3. More community programs and activities for youths?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **		
	Total	Men	Women
	%	%	%
Longer/harsher jail sentences	6	4	8
Holding parents responsible	18	20	17
More community programs	70	70	70
All (vol.)	3	3	3
None (vol.)	1	0	1
Something else (vol.)	1	1	1
DK/NA	1	2	0

q45 Which ONE do you think would do the most to help get illegal drugs out of the black community? 1. More law enforcement crackdowns on drug dealers, or 2. More anti-drug education programs, or 3. More drug treatment programs to get users off drugs?

Legal crackdowns	35	31	38
More anti-drug programs	25	26	24
More drug treatment programs	28	33	25
All (vol.)	4	3	5
None (col.)	3	2	4
Something else (vol.)	3	3	3
DK/NA	2	2	1

q46 What do you think should be the penalty for persons convicted of murder -- 1. the death penalty, 2. or life in prison with no chance of parole, or 3. a long prison sentence with a chance of parole?

Death penalty	18	19	17
Life with no parole	44	39	49
Long sentence with parole	25	32	19
Depends (vol.)	9	7	11
DK/NA	4	3	4

q47 What do you think should happen to affirmative action programs -- 1. Should they be ended now, or 2. Should they be phased out over the next few years, or 3. Should affirmative action programs be continued for the foreseeable future?

Ended now	3	4	3
Phased out	15	14	15
Cont'd for foreseeable future	76	82	72
DK/NA	6	0	10

q48 Which comes closest to your view --- 1. Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry, or 2. Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not legally marry, or 3. There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship.

Should be allowed marry	21	24	20
Allowed to form civil unions	22	20	22
No legal recognition	53	53	54
DK/NA	4	3	4

q49 Do you think the U.S. should or should not intervene when crises occur in Africa?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

	Total	Men	Women
	%	%	%
Should	67	68	66
Should not	20	20	20
It depends (vol.)	7	9	6
DK/BA	6	3	8

q50 How much confidence do you have that your vote in November will be counted accurately -- a lot, some, not much, or no confidence your vote will be counted accurately?

A lot	41	46	37
Some	39	37	41
Not much	11	10	11
No confidence	6	4	8
Won't vote (Vol.)	0	0	0
DK/NA	3	3	3

q51 Will the voting problems reported in Florida in the 2000 presidential election make you more likely to vote in this year's presidential election, less likely to vote, or won't they make much difference in whether or not you vote?

More likely	51	50	52
Less likely	3	4	3
No difference	45	46	44
DK/NA	1	0	1

q52 Do you think black voters will be less likely than whites to have their 2004 presidential election votes counted fairly, or not?

Will be less likely	41	46	37
Will not be less likely	47	45	49
Depends on state (Vol.)	4	3	5
DK/NA	8	6	9

q53 Do you think there probably is or probably is not a deliberate attempt by some people to prevent African Americans from voting or having their votes counted properly?

Probably is	68	69	66
Probably is not	27	27	26
DK/NA	5	4	8

q54 Do you favor or oppose reinstating the military draft to provide soldiers for the Iraq conflict?

Favor	15	17	14
Oppose	82	80	83
DK/NA	3	3	3

q55 Do you think the result of the war with Iraq was worth the loss of American life and other costs of attacking Iraq, or not worth it?

Worth it	8	7	8
Not worth it	90	91	89
DK/NA	2	2	3

q56 Do you or does any member of your immediate family now serve in the U.S. armed forces or in the U.S. reserves?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **		
	Total	Men	Women
	%	%	%
No	64	63	65
Yes, self	3	4	3
Yes, other	32	32	31
Yes, self and other	1	0	1
DK/NA	0	1	0

q57 How concerned are you that in the next 12 months you or someone else in your household might be out of work and looking for a job -- very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not at all concerned?

Very concerned	50	51	49
Somewhat concerned	23	21	24
Not at all concerned	27	27	26
DK/NA	0	1	1

q58 Would you say you attend religious services every week, almost every week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, or never?

Every week	41	35	45
Almost every week	12	12	12
Once or twice a month	19	18	20
A few times a year	22	29	16
Never	6	6	6
DK/NA	0	0	1

q59 Regardless of what you think about George W. Bush now, looking back to 2000, would you say George W. Bush legitimately won the 2000 presidential election, or not?

Legitimately won	11	11	11
Did not win legitimately	85	87	83
DK/NA	4	2	6

q60 How often would you say you vote -- always, nearly always, part of the time, or seldom?

Always	63	63	63
Nearly always	20	20	21
Part of the time	9	9	9
Seldom	6	7	6
Never (vol.)	2	1	1

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	986	
Registered Voters	868	834
Men Registered Voters	304	370
Women Registered Voters	564	464