

CBS NEWS POLL

**Pessimism about the Economy, the Country's Direction and the President
October 3-5, 2005**

q1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President?

| | ** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ** | | | | |
|------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | *** Party ID *** | | | | |
| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Sep05b |
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Approve | 37 | 79 | 14 | 29 | 41 |
| Disapprove | 58 | 13 | 84 | 64 | 53 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 6 |

q2 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 | 26 | 57 | 8 | 20 | 31 |
| Wrong track | 69 | 35 | 89 | 74 | 63 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 6 |

q3 What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| War in Iraq | 18 | 10 | 23 | 19 | 13 |
| Economy/jobs | 16 | 13 | 14 | 19 | 14 |
| Gas/Heating Oil Crisis | 5 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 9 |
| The President/G.W. Bush | 5 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 5 |
| Terrorism (general) | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| Moral Values/Family Values | 3 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Poverty / Homelessness | 3 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| Education | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Attn. to domestic affairs | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| Immigration | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| Environment | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Health Care | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Defense / Military | 2 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Misc. Government Issues | 2 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Budget Deficit /Nat'l Debt | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Taxes/IRS | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Hurricane Katrina | 2 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| Other | 17 | 23 | 17 | 14 | 18 |
| DK/NA | 7 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 |

Q4 BLANK

q5 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

| | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Approve | 32 | 70 | 12 | 26 | 35 |
| Disapprove | 61 | 23 | 82 | 66 | 59 |
| DK/NA | 7 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 6 |

q6 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation with Iraq?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Sep05b |
|------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Approve | 32 | 69 | 11 | 26 | 36 |
| Disapprove | 64 | 25 | 87 | 69 | 59 |
| DK/NA | 4 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 5 |

q7 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the campaign against terrorism?

| | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Approve | 46 | 83 | 27 | 38 | 50 |
| Disapprove | 46 | 11 | 65 | 52 | 43 |
| DK/NA | 8 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 7 |

q8 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the response to Hurricane Katrina?

** HALF SAMPLE A **

| | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Approve | 45 | 77 | 32 | 38 | 44 |
| Disapprove | 52 | 22 | 66 | 56 | 50 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 6 |

q9 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the response to the hurricanes that hit the Gulf Coast?

** HALF SAMPLE B **

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Approve | 46 | 81 | 23 | 39 |
| Disapprove | 49 | 15 | 73 | 52 |
| Approve of one/disapprove | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| DK/NA | 2 | 3 | 0 | 7 |

q10 How much do you think George W. Bush cares about the needs and problems of people like yourself -- a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

| | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| A lot | 24 | 58 | 5 | 17 | 25 |
| Some | 28 | 26 | 27 | 30 | 30 |
| Not much | 28 | 11 | 38 | 30 | 24 |
| Not at all | 19 | 3 | 29 | 21 | 20 |
| DK/NA | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |

q11 Do you think George W. Bush has the same priorities for the country as you have, or not?

| | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Has | 32 | 69 | 11 | 25 | 36 |
| Does not have | 65 | 27 | 87 | 71 | 61 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 3 |

q12 How much confidence do you have in George W. Bush's ability to handle a crisis -- a lot, some, a little, or none at all?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Sep05a |
|-------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| A lot | 27 | 66 | 5 | 22 | 32 |
| Some | 25 | 21 | 26 | 27 | 19 |
| A little | 24 | 9 | 30 | 29 | 25 |
| None at all | 23 | 4 | 39 | 22 | 23 |
| DK/NA | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

q13 Do you think George W. Bush has strong qualities of leadership, or not?

| | | | | | Sep05b |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Has | 45 | 84 | 22 | 40 | 53 |
| Does not have | 52 | 14 | 77 | 56 | 45 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 |

Q15 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q16 How much confidence do you have in George W. Bush's ability to appoint qualified people to jobs in his Administration -- a lot, some, a little, or none at all?

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|
| A lot | 22 | 50 | 6 | 17 |
| Some | 30 | 37 | 27 | 28 |
| A little | 27 | 9 | 38 | 29 |
| None at all | 20 | 4 | 28 | 24 |
| DK/NA | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |

Q17 BLANK

q18 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 | 4 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 4 |
| Fairly good | 39 | 61 | 25 | 37 | 45 |
| Fairly bad | 37 | 21 | 44 | 42 | 33 |
| Very bad | 18 | 7 | 28 | 17 | 17 |
| DK/NA | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

q19 Do you think the economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Sep05b |
|--------|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Better | 10 | 23 | 2 | 9 | 13 |
| Worse | 54 | 27 | 68 | 60 | 47 |
| Same | 34 | 47 | 29 | 30 | 38 |
| DK/NA | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 |

q20 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

| | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Approve | 31 | 39 | 28 | 29 | 34 |
| Disapprove | 57 | 49 | 62 | 57 | 54 |
| DK/NA | 12 | 12 | 10 | 14 | 22 |

q21 Is your opinion of the Democrats in Congress favorable or not favorable?

| | | | | | May05b |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Favorable | 43 | 23 | 66 | 37 | 44 |
| Not favorable | 46 | 68 | 28 | 48 | 43 |
| DK/NA | 11 | 9 | 6 | 15 | 13 |

q22 Is your opinion of the Republicans in Congress favorable or not favorable?

| | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Favorable | 37 | 74 | 15 | 32 | 41 |
| Not favorable | 53 | 18 | 81 | 53 | 48 |
| DK/NA | 10 | 8 | 4 | 15 | 11 |

q23 Do you think most Democratic members of Congress have more, less, or the same amount of honesty and integrity as most other people in public life?

| | | | | |
|-------|----|----|----|----|
| More | 9 | 4 | 16 | 6 |
| Less | 28 | 37 | 16 | 34 |
| Same | 58 | 54 | 64 | 54 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 5 | 4 | 6 |

q24 Do you think most Republican members of Congress have more, less, or about the same amount of honesty and integrity as most other people in public life?

| | | | | |
|-------|----|----|----|----|
| More | 5 | 7 | 5 | 3 |
| Less | 37 | 18 | 46 | 41 |
| Same | 53 | 70 | 45 | 49 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 5 | 4 | 7 |

q25 How much have you heard or read about the Medicare prescription drug benefit, which is scheduled to begin in 2006? - a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all?

| | | | | |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|
| A lot | 15 | 12 | 15 | 16 |
| Some | 35 | 40 | 34 | 33 |
| Not much so far | 31 | 27 | 32 | 32 |
| Nothing at all | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 |
| DK/NA | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |

Q26-q34 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q35 Compared to a year ago, is your family's financial situation better today, worse today, or about the same?

| | ** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ** | | | | Apr03c |
|----------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|--------|
| | Total | *** Party ID *** | | | |
| | % | Rep | Dem | Ind | % |
| Better today | 18 | 29 | 10 | 18 | 20 |
| Worse today | 32 | 14 | 40 | 36 | 22 |
| About the same | 50 | 57 | 50 | 45 | 58 |
| DK/NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

q36 One year from now, do you think your family's financial situation will be better, worse, or about the same?

| | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| Better | 30 | 42 | 20 | 32 |
| Worse | 23 | 10 | 26 | 28 |
| About the same | 42 | 44 | 49 | 35 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 |

Q37 BLANK

q38 Is your opinion of Tom DeLay favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Tom DeLay yet to have an opinion?

| | | | | | May05b |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Favorable | 7 | 13 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Not favorable | 21 | 10 | 30 | 21 | 18 |
| Undecided | 17 | 21 | 19 | 12 | 75 |
| Haven't heard enough | 54 | 55 | 46 | 60 | 1 |
| Refused | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | |

q39 As a result of the recent increase in gas prices, have you cut down on the amount of driving you do?

| | | | | | Aug05b |
|-------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Yes | 64 | 60 | 66 | 66 | 70 |
| No | 33 | 39 | 30 | 32 | 29 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 |

q40 In the next few months, do you expect that the price of gasoline will go up, stay the same, or go down?

| | | | | | Sep05b |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Go up | 61 | 44 | 74 | 62 | 43 |
| Stay the same | 21 | 27 | 16 | 22 | 29 |
| Go down | 15 | 26 | 8 | 13 | 25 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |

q41 Which do you think should be a higher priority for government--increasing the production of petroleum, coal and natural gas, or encouraging people to conserve energy?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Aug01c |
|--------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Increase production | 37 | 45 | 41 | 28 | 19 |
| Encouraging conservation | 49 | 40 | 51 | 52 | 68 |
| Both (Vol.) | 10 | 13 | 5 | 13 | 10 |
| Neither (Vol.) | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | -- |
| DK/NA | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 |

q42 Which do you think George W. Bush thinks should be the higher priority for the government - increasing the production of petroleum, coal and natural gas, or encouraging people to conserve energy?

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Increase production | 50 | 50 | 42 | 57 |
| Encouraging conservation | 36 | 33 | 47 | 30 |
| Both (Vol.) | 6 | 10 | 4 | 5 |
| Neither (Vol.) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| DK/NA | 7 | 6 | 6 | 8 |

q43 We are interested in who you think should share the blame for the rise in gas and oil prices. Would you place a lot, some, not much, or none of the blame on ... American oil companies?

| | | | | | Aug05b |
|----------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| A lot | 44 | 41 | 39 | 50 | 41 |
| Some | 35 | 37 | 37 | 31 | 40 |
| Not much | 10 | 9 | 12 | 9 | 5 |
| None | 9 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 7 |
| DK/NA | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 7 |

q44 Would you place a lot, some, not much, or none of the blame on ... the war in Iraq?

| | | | | | Aug05b |
|----------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| A lot | 24 | 10 | 33 | 27 | 31 |
| Some | 41 | 45 | 43 | 36 | 43 |
| Not much | 16 | 22 | 11 | 17 | 11 |
| None | 17 | 22 | 11 | 18 | 13 |
| DK/NA | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

q45 Would you place a lot, some, not much, or none of the blame on ... the recent Hurricanes in the Gulf Coast region?

| | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|
| A lot | 27 | 31 | 26 | 26 |
| Some | 50 | 51 | 56 | 45 |
| Not much | 10 | 9 | 7 | 14 |
| None | 10 | 8 | 10 | 12 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 |

q46 Which comes closer to your view?...Government should do more to solve problems, OR Government is doing too many things better left to businesses and individuals?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Jul04c |
|---------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Government should do more | 38 | 25 | 47 | 38 | 43 |
| Gov't is doing too much | 56 | 71 | 49 | 52 | 50 |
| DK/NA | 6 | 4 | 4 | 10 | 7 |

q47 How much confidence do you have in the ability of the U.S. government to PROTECT its citizens from future terrorist attacks -- a great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?

| | | | | | Sep05a |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| A great deal | 16 | 28 | 10 | 12 | 19 |
| A fair amount | 47 | 53 | 49 | 42 | 40 |
| Not very much | 30 | 17 | 34 | 35 | 30 |
| None at all | 7 | 2 | 7 | 10 | 10 |
| DK/NA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

q48 How much confidence do you have in the ability of the U.S. government to respond to natural disasters - a great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?

| | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| A great deal | 16 | 30 | 8 | 14 | 19 |
| A fair amount | 47 | 51 | 45 | 45 | 32 |
| Not very much | 32 | 18 | 42 | 32 | 34 |
| None at all | 5 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 15 |
| DK/NA | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

Q49 BLANK

Q50 BLANK

q51 In order to pay for Hurricane recovery and rebuilding in the Gulf Coast, would it be acceptable or unacceptable to you to raise Federal taxes?

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|
| Acceptable | 31 | 21 | 38 | 31 |
| Unacceptable | 65 | 75 | 58 | 65 |
| DK/NA | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

q52 In order to pay for Hurricane recovery and rebuilding in the Gulf Coast, would it be acceptable or unacceptable to you to increase the federal budget deficit?

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|
| Acceptable | 35 | 36 | 32 | 36 |
| Unacceptable | 58 | 56 | 60 | 57 |
| DK/NA | 7 | 8 | 8 | 7 |

q53 In order to pay for Hurricane recovery and rebuilding in the Gulf Coast, would it be acceptable or unacceptable to you to cut spending on the war in Iraq?

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|
| Acceptable | 62 | 35 | 75 | 68 |
| Unacceptable | 33 | 62 | 20 | 25 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 3 | 5 | 7 |

q54 In order to pay for Hurricane recovery and rebuilding in the Gulf Coast, would it be acceptable or unacceptable to you to cut spending on the nation's roads and highways?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind |
|--------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| | % | % | % | % |
| Acceptable | 46 | 46 | 44 | 47 |
| Unacceptable | 52 | 51 | 55 | 51 |
| DK/NA | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 |

q55 In order to pay for Hurricane recovery and rebuilding in the Gulf Coast, would it be acceptable or unacceptable to you to postpone the upcoming Medicare prescription drug program?

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|
| Acceptable | 28 | 33 | 25 | 26 |
| Unacceptable | 61 | 53 | 68 | 61 |
| DK/NA | 11 | 14 | 7 | 13 |

q56 Which of these do you think is most likely? 1. New Orleans will become a working city again in the next year or two. 2. New Orleans will become a working city again, but it will take longer than a year or two. 3. New Orleans will probably never become a working city again.

| | | | | | Sep05a |
|-------------------------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| | | | | | % |
| Will, in the next year or two | 24 | 27 | 26 | 19 | 17 |
| Will, but will take longer | 66 | 61 | 66 | 70 | 72 |
| Never become a working city | 9 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 10 |
| DK/NA | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |

Q65-Q67 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q68 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?

| | | | | | Sep05B |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Right thing | 41 | 81 | 18 | 36 | 44 |
| Stayed out | 55 | 15 | 81 | 60 | 50 |
| DK/NA | 4 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 6 |

Q69-Q70 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

Q71 BLANK

Q72-Q73 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q75 Should the United States troops stay in Iraq as long as it takes to make sure Iraq is a stable democracy, even if it takes a long time, or should U.S. troops leave Iraq as soon as possible, even if Iraq is not completely stable?

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Stay as long as it takes | 36 | 61 | 24 | 29 | 42 |
| Leave as soon as possible | 59 | 36 | 73 | 62 | 52 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 6 |

Q76-80 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q81 Do you have any relative or close friend who was directly affected by Hurricane Katrina?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind |
|-------|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| | % | % | % | % |
| Yes | 27 | 23 | 25 | 31 |
| No | 72 | 76 | 74 | 69 |
| DK/NA | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

| | <u>UNWEIGHTED</u> | <u>WEIGHTED</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Total Respondents | 808 | |
| Total Republicans | 241 | 207 |
| Total Democrats | 255 | 273 |
| Total Independents | 312 | 328 |
| Half Sample A | 401 | 409 |
| Half Sample B | 407 | 399 |