

CBS NEWS POLL
Concern about Congress and its Actions
April 13-16, 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	Mar05C
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	44	88	19	36	43
Disapprove	51	11	76	56	48
DK/NA	5	1	5	7	9

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?

					Feb05B
Right direction	32	65	13	26	42
Wrong track	62	27	83	67	52
DK/NA	6	8	4	7	6

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

					Mar05C
War in Iraq	16	9	18	19	26
Economy/jobs	15	13	20	13	15
Social Security	6	6	7	4	6
Terrorism (general)	6	14	2	3	6
Health Care	5	4	6	5	4
Gas/Gas prices/heating oil	5	5	6	5	2
Immigration	3	6	2	2	1
Education	3	3	3	5	2
Foreign Policy	3	1	6	3	1
Budget Deficit/National Debt	3	2	2	4	4
Moral Values/Family Values	3	8	1	3	3
Poverty / Homelessness	2	2	2	3	3
Foreign aid/Attn. domestic	2	1	2	2	2
Misc. Government Issues	2	3	1	1	1
Drugs	2	1	2	1	1
The President/G.W. Bush	2	0	2	4	2
Other	17	17	12	19	15
DK/NA	5	5	6	4	6

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

Approve	34	72	11	29	36
Disapprove	57	20	83	60	53
DK/NA	9	8	6	11	11

q6 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the campaign against terrorism?

*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Feb05B
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	53	88	29	50	61
Disapprove	41	11	64	41	33
DK/NA	6	1	7	9	6

q7 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation with Iraq?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Mar05C
Approve	39	76	14	35	39
Disapprove	56	17	82	59	53
DK/NA	5	7	4	6	8

q8 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

Approve	35	48	29	30	34
Disapprove	51	39	59	51	49
DK/NA	14	13	12	19	17

q9 How about the representative in Congress from your district? Do you approve or disapprove of the way your representative is handling his or her job?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Oct98F
Approve	57	62	61	50	64
Disapprove	23	21	22	25	19
DK/NA	20	17	17	25	17

q10 Do you have confidence in George W. Bush's ability to make the right decisions about Social Security, or are you uneasy about his approach?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Feb05B
Confident	25	59	6	19	31
Uneasy	70	33	92	76	63
DK/NA	5	8	2	5	6

q18 Is your opinion of the Republicans in Congress favorable or not favorable?

Favorable	42	84	17	34
Not favorable	49	11	76	50
Refused	9	5	7	16

q19 Is your opinion of the Democrats in Congress favorable or not favorable?

Favorable	49	29	73	41
Not favorable	40	63	21	41
Refused	11	8	6	18

q25 On the whole, do you think what the Republicans in Congress have done this year has been good for the country or bad for the country?

*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Aug95a*
	%	%	%	%	%
Good	37	74	15	30	48
Bad	41	10	64	41	33
Both (vol.)	5	5	6	6	4
Neither (vol.)	3	2	3	4	4
Don't know/No answer	14	9	12	19	11

Varied wording: On the whole, do you think what the Republicans have done since they took control of Congress has been good for the country or bad for the country?

q30 How much attention do you think most members of Congress pay to the people who elect them when they decide what to do in Congress--a good deal, some, or not much?

					Dec93A
					%
Good deal	8	14	4	7	9
Some	43	52	38	41	41
Not much	43	30	51	44	45
None (vol.)	3	2	4	3	3
DK/NA	3	2	3	5	2

q31 How important do you think which party controls Congress is to you and your family? Very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important?

					Oct98G
Very important	43	45	50	34	39
Somewhat important	41	46	36	41	43
Not very important	10	6	8	16	11
Not at all important	5	3	4	7	6
DK/NA	1	0	2	2	1

q32 Think about the things Congress has done during the past year. Is there any one thing that Congress has done in the past year that stands out in your mind? IF YES, ASK: What is that?

*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				
*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Terri Schiavo case	9	8	10	9
Nothing	4	2	4	5
Iraq War- related	3	2	4	2
Social Security	1	1	1	1
Confirm judges/Appointments	1	2	2	1
Drilling in Arctic/ANWAR	1	1	1	1
Patriot Act/Privacy/Terror	1	2	1	1
Bankruptcy laws	1	2	1	1
Same sex marriage	1	1	1	1
Taxes(general)	1	1	0	0
Bickered/argued/stonewalled	1	2	0	1
Other	8	8	9	6
DK/NA	68	68	66	71

q34 Is your opinion of Tom Delay favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Tom Delay yet to have an opinion?

*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***					
*** Party ID ***					
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Reg. Voters
	%	%	%	%	Aug04A
					%
Favorable	7	17	2	4	7
Not favorable	22	12	28	23	12
Undecided	16	20	13	17	12
Haven't heard enough yet	53	49	55	54	68
Refused	2	2	2	2	1

q35 Is your opinion of Bill Frist favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Bill Frist yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	8	17	5	5
Not favorable	10	4	12	11
Undecided	17	14	14	21
Haven't heard enough yet	64	64	69	61
Refused	1	1	0	2

q36 Is your opinion of Dennis Hastert favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Dennis Hastert yet to have an opinion?

					Jan99b
Favorable	6	13	2	5	4
Not favorable	7	2	8	9	3
Undecided	11	12	9	10	13
Haven't heard enough yet	75	71	79	74	79
Refused	1	2	2	2	1

q37 Do you think the Social Security system will have the money available to provide the benefits you expect for your retirement?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				
	*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Feb05b
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	36	39	38	32	34
No	51	47	49	55	49
Already getting S.S. (Vol.)	8	8	9	8	9
DK/NA	5	6	4	5	8

q38 Some people have suggested allowing individuals to invest portions of their Social Security taxes on their own, which might allow them to make more money for their retirement, but would involve greater risk. Do you think allowing individuals to invest a portion of their Social Security taxes on their own is a good idea or a bad idea?

Good idea	45	65	31	44	43
Bad idea	49	29	65	50	51
DK/NA	6	6	4	6	6

q64 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?

Right thing	47	80	24	44	46
Stay out	48	16	71	50	50
Don't know/No answer	5	4	5	6	4

q65 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?

Very well	7	16	2	5	10
Somewhat well	41	61	26	41	43
Somewhat badly	32	18	42	31	29
Very badly	18	3	27	21	18
DK/NA	2	2	3	2	0

q71 On another topic, how much do higher prices for gasoline affect you personally -- a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

					May04B
A lot	63	58	66	64	56
Some	25	29	24	22	29
Not much	8	11	6	7	11
None	4	2	4	7	4

q72 Is the price of gasoline something a president can do a lot about, or is that beyond any president's control?

Do a lot	61	44	74	62	58
Beyond control	31	46	19	31	33
DK/NA	8	10	7	7	9

q73 Do you expect to change your vacation plans this summer because of the cost of gasoline?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				
	*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May04b
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	34	28	37	36	29
No	63	71	59	62	69
DK/NA	3	1	4	2	2

q93 Some people think of themselves as evangelical or born again Christians. Do you ever think of yourself in either of these ways?

Yes	26	42	21	20
No	73	58	78	79
DK/NA	1	0	1	1

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1149	
Total Republicans	349	316
Total Democrats	394	410
Total Independents	406	423