

**CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL**  
**The Economy, Gas Prices, and Hurricane Katrina**  
**September 9-13, 2005**

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

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				Sep05a 9/6-7/05 %
	Total %	*** Party ID ***			
		Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	
Approve	41	80	14	40	42
Disapprove	53	15	84	52	52
DK/NA	6	5	2	8	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?

					Jul05b
Right direction	31	61	11	29	37
Wrong track	63	32	84	65	57
DK/NA	6	7	5	6	6

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

					Sep05a 9/6-7/05
Economy / jobs	14	11	19	12	13
War in Iraq	13	8	18	12	18
Hurricane Katrina	10	8	11	10	18
Gas/Heating Oil Crisis	9	12	5	11	7
Terrorism (general)	6	12	2	7	5
The President/G.W. Bush	5	1	7	5	4
Attn. to Domestic affairs	3	1	5	4	3
Moral Values/Family Values	2	5	2	3	2
Poverty / Homelessness	2	1	3	3	3
Immigration	2	3	1	1	1
Education	2	1	3	2	2
Health Care	2	2	2	4	1
Defense / Military	2	2	1	3	2
Politicians/Government	2	4	1	1	1
Other	21	23	15	17	13
DK/NA	6	6	5	5	7

q4 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling foreign policy?

					Jul05b
Approve	38	74	16	34	42
Disapprove	52	18	72	55	48
DK/NA	10	8	12	11	10

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

					Aug05b 8/29-31/05
Approve	35	68	13	34	37
Disapprove	59	26	81	60	56
DK/NA	6	6	6	6	7

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

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				
	*** Party ID ***				Sep05a
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	9/6-7/05
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	36	73	12	32	35
Disapprove	59	23	83	62	60
DK/NA	5	4	5	6	5

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

Approve	50	83	29	46	51
Disapprove	43	10	62	47	40
DK/NA	7	7	9	7	9

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

Approve	44	74	22	44	38
Disapprove	50	22	73	49	58
DK/NA	6	4	5	7	4

q9 What about the people affected by Hurricane Katrina? Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is responding to the needs of people affected by Hurricane Katrina?

Approve	44	74	22	45
Disapprove	48	18	70	47
DK/NA	8	8	8	8

q10 Do you think George W. Bush has the same priorities for the country as you have, or not?

					Jun05a
Has	36	75	14	31	35
Does not have	61	22	84	66	61
DK/NA	3	3	2	3	4

q11 Do you think George W. Bush has strong qualities of leadership, or not?

					Sep05a
					9/6-7/05
Has	53	86	29	52	48
Does not have	45	13	69	46	49
DK/NA	2	1	2	2	3

q12 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

Approve	34	42	29	33	33
Disapprove	54	50	57	54	50
DK/NA	12	8	14	13	17

q13 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling the response to Hurricane Katrina?

\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*

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

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Approve	46	57	36	48
Disapprove	40	31	49	37
DK/NA	14	12	15	15

q14 Do you think Congress has the same priorities for the country as you have, or not?

					Jun05a
Has	29	34	25	28	19
Does not have	63	57	67	64	58
DK/NA	8	9	8	8	8

q15 Do you think it is better for the country to have a President who comes from the same political party that controls Congress, or do you think it is better to have a President from one political party and the Congress controlled by another?

					Jan04a*
Better when same party	32	50	24	27	33
Better when different part	41	27	49	44	44
Don't know/No answer	27	23	27	29	23

\*Trend is among registered voters.

q16 How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?

					Jul05b
Very good	4	8	2	3	7
Fairly good	45	67	31	44	50
Fairly bad	33	19	40	36	31
Very bad	17	5	27	16	11
DK/NA	1	1	0	1	1

q17 Do you think the economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

					Jun05a
Better	13	25	5	12	18
Worse	47	24	65	45	36
Same	38	49	29	40	45
DK/NA	2	2	1	3	1

q18 How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right -- just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

					Jul04c
Just about always	3	4	4	2	4
Most of the time	26	38	17	26	36
Only some of the time	63	54	71	63	56
Never (vol.)	6	3	7	8	3
DK/NA	2	1	1	1	1

q23 Do you have confidence in George W. Bush's ability to make the right decisions about the war in Iraq or are you uneasy about his approach?

\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*

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

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Confident	35	71	11	31
Uneasy	63	27	86	66
DK/NA	2	2	3	3

q24 Do you have confidence in George W. Bush's ability to make the right decisions about dealing with the problems people affected by Hurricane Katrina are facing or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confident	46	82	20	45
Uneasy	51	17	76	51
DK/NA	3	1	4	4

q25 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?

					Sep05a 9/6-7/05
A lot	25	51	9	22	25
Some	30	36	21	34	30
Not much	24	8	37	23	23
Not at all	20	3	32	20	20
DK/NA	1	2	1	1	2

q26 How much do you think George W. Bush cares about the needs and problems of blacks -- a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

A lot	24	51	7	22	25
Some	30	36	24	32	26
Not much	21	5	32	22	25
Not at all	20	5	32	20	21
Don't know/No answer	5	3	5	4	4

q27 How much do you think George W. Bush cares about the needs and problems of poor people --a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

A lot	23	50	6	19
Some	26	34	18	30
Not much	25	11	36	25
Not at all	25	4	40	25
Don't know/No answer	1	1	0	1

q28 From what you've seen or heard, was George W. Bush's response to Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath too quick, too slow, or was the timing about right?

Too quick	1	1	2	0	1
Too slow	64	36	83	65	65
About right	32	61	10	32	32
DK/NA	3	2	5	3	2

q29 From what you've seen or heard, how much do you think George W. Bush cares about the needs and problems of people left homeless by Hurricane Katrina a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*

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

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
A lot	37	71	10	39
Some	31	20	38	32
Not much	19	9	30	17
Not at all	10	0	17	10
DK/NA	3	0	5	2

q30 Do you think the Bush Administration has a clear plan for finding housing and jobs for people left homeless by Hurricane Katrina or don't they have a plan yet?

Have a clear plan	21	39	11	18
Haven't developed one yet	68	46	81	70
DK/NA	11	15	8	12

q31 From what you've seen or heard, was the response of federal agencies like FEMA, the federal emergency management agency, to Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath too quick, too slow, or was the timing about right?

Too quick	1	1	2	1
Too slow	70	60	79	70
About right	23	34	13	24
DK/NA	6	5	6	5

q32 What about now? Do you think that NOW federal agencies like FEMA are doing all they can reasonably be expected to do to help the situation, or could they be doing more?

					Sep05a 9/6-7/05
All that could be expected	53	68	42	55	60
Could be doing more	40	28	50	40	36
DK/NA	7	4	8	5	4

q33 How do you think the federal government's response in the days immediately after the hurricane has affected the United States' image in the rest of the world? Has it made the U.S. image in the rest of the world better, made it worse, or has it had no effect on the U.S. image in the rest of the world?

Better	6	11	4	5	7
Worse	58	37	73	57	59
No effect	27	42	13	30	27
Don't know/No answer	9	10	10	8	6

q34 As a result of Hurricane Katrina, do you think federal taxes will go up, go down, or stay the same?

Go up	73	62	81	74
Go down	1	0	3	0
Stay the same	22	34	14	21
DK/NA	4	4	2	5

q35 As a result of Hurricane Katrina, do you think the economy will get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	*** Party ID ***			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Better	10	15	6	9
Worse	56	37	68	58
Same	32	46	23	29
DK/NA	2	2	3	4

q36 Has the government's response to Hurricane Katrina made you more confident in the government's ability to respond to a terrorist attack or natural disaster, less confident in the government's ability to respond to a terrorist attack or natural disaster, or hasn't it affected your opinion?

More confident	8	12	4	8
Less confident	56	31	73	57
No effect	33	53	18	34
DK/NA	3	4	5	1

q37 Would you be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes to help with the recovery from Hurricane Katrina?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
Willing	56	47	63	55
Not willing	37	46	30	37
DK/NA	7	7	7	8

q38 Would you be willing or not willing to pay \$200 a year more in taxes?

	AMONG THOSE WHO SAID "WILLING" IN Q37			
Willing	73	76	70	73
Not willing	24	21	25	25
DK/NA	3	3	5	2

q39 Would you be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes to provide job training and housing for people affected by Hurricane Katrina?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
Willing	62	54	70	60
Not Willing	32	40	23	36
DK/NA	6	6	7	4

q40 Would you be willing or not willing to pay \$200 a year more in taxes?

	AMONG THOSE WHO SAID "WILLING" IN Q39			
Willing	73	77	69	76
Not willing	23	19	25	23
DK/NA	4	4	6	1

q48 Would you be willing or not willing to pay more for gasoline to help with the recovery from Hurricane Katrina?

\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*

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

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Willing	19	18	19	19
Not willing	76	77	75	77
Don't drive (vol.)	1	2	1	1
DK/NA	4	3	5	3

q49 How much confidence do you have in the Bush Administration's ability to find housing and jobs for the people left homeless by Hurricane Katrina -- a lot, some, not much, or none at all?

A lot	18	37	7	14
Some	39	46	30	43
Not much	26	10	37	25
None at all	14	2	25	14
DK/NA	3	5	1	4

q53 In New Orleans, after the Hurricane, hundreds of thousands of people were unable to evacuate the flooded city and they lacked food, water and shelter. Who would you say was most to blame for those conditions? IF SAY GOVERNMENT, ASK: Do you mean the federal government in Washington, or the state and local government in Louisiana?

City gov't (New Orleans)	12	19	9	9
Government (all levels)	12	10	12	14
Residents of New Orleans	12	21	5	12
FEMA/Michael Brown	11	7	17	8
Federal gov't.	10	3	17	8
Mayor of New Orleans	8	12	3	9
The President/G.W. Bush	8	3	9	12
State gov't (Louisiana)	7	8	6	6
Governor of Louisiana	5	9	4	3
Mother nature /the weather	2	1	2	2
Poor preparation	1	0	0	2
Nothing	1	1	0	2
Other	2	2	3	2
DK/NA	9	4	13	11

q54 Some people have said that because the people who remained in New Orleans after the hurricane and flooding were mostly African American, help was slow to come, and that if the people who remained left in New Orleans had been mostly white, help would have come faster. Do you think the fact that those who remained in New Orleans were mostly black was a major factor, a minor factor, or not a factor in the government's response in New Orleans?

Major factor	21	5	39	14
Minor factor	16	7	22	18
Not a factor	59	86	33	66
DK/NA	4	2	6	2

q55 Some people say that the fact that some National Guard troops and material are currently in Iraq slowed down the federal government's response to the hurricane and flooding in New Orleans. Do you think that was a major factor, a minor factor, or not a factor in the government's response in New Orleans?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				Sep05a 9/6-7/05 %
	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	
Major factor	24	8	38	21	23
Minor factor	30	26	31	33	34
Not a factor	43	66	25	44	41
DK/NA	3	0	6	2	2

q56 If you had to choose, which is more important to you right now -- changing the Social Security system or rebuilding New Orleans?

Changing Social Security	26	35	21	24
Rebuilding New Orleans	63	49	72	65
DK/NA	11	16	7	11

q57 If you had to choose, which is more important to you right now -- cutting taxes or rebuilding New Orleans?

Cutting taxes	20	24	16	22
Rebuilding New Orleans	73	68	78	71
DK/NA	7	8	6	7

q61 How much do higher prices for gasoline affect you personally -- a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

					Aug05b 8/29-31/05
	A lot	57	45	65	58
Some	29	39	24	28	26
Not much	9	11	6	10	8
Not at all	5	5	5	4	4
DK/NA	0	0	0	0	0

q62 As a result of the recent increase in gas prices, have you cut back on household spending on other things?

Yes	62	49	70	63	47
No	38	50	30	37	53
DK/NA	0	1	0	0	0

q63 Do you think members of the Bush Administration have a clear plan for keeping down the price of gasoline or haven't they developed one yet?

Have a plan	12	22	4	11
Haven't developed one yet	81	66	91	81
DK/NA	7	12	5	8

q64 In the next few months, do you expect that the price of gasoline will go up, stay the same, or go down?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				Aug05b 8/29-31/05
	Total	*** Party ID ***			
	%	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	%
Go up	43	28	51	47	78
Stay the same	29	31	30	27	6
Go down	25	40	17	24	12
DK/NA	3	1	2	2	4

q65 Is the price of gasoline something a president can do a lot about, or is that beyond any president's control?

Yes	64	42	76	67	63
No	29	50	16	26	27
DK/NA	7	8	8	7	10

q66 How concerned are you about being able to pay your heating bills this winter -- a lot, some, not much or not at all?

A lot	36	24	46	34
Some	28	29	23	31
Not much	17	18	15	17
Not at all	17	26	11	16
Don't pay heating bills (Vol.)	2	1	2	2
DK/NA	0	2	3	0

q113 Do you have any close relative or friend who was directly affected by Hurricane Katrina?

Yes	23	25	20	24
No	77	75	79	76
DK/NA	0	0	1	0

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1167	
Total Republicans	303	309
Total Democrats	446	422
Total Independents	418	490