

CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL

Iraq and the Economy: More Problems for the President  
September 28 - October 1, 2003

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

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				Sep03a
	Total	*** Party ID ***			
	Rep	Dem	Ind		
	%	%	%	%	
Approve	51	88	25	43	52
Disapprove	42	8	69	45	39
DK/NA	7	4	6	12	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?

					Apr03b
	Right direction	Wrong track	DK/NA		
Right direction	37	66	18	29	56
Wrong track	56	28	76	61	36
DK/NA	7	6	6	10	8

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

					Aug03a
	Economy and jobs	War/War in Iraq	Terrorism (general)	Education	
Economy and jobs	32	27	35	34	39
War/War in Iraq	9	6	13	8	12
Terrorism (general)	8	10	7	8	10
Education	4	3	5	3	3
Health Care	3	3	5	3	2
Foreign Policy	3	2	4	3	2
Family Values	3	6	1	4	2
Poverty/Homelessness	2	0	5	2	3
Defense/Military	2	2	1	4	2
Foreign aid	2	0	1	5	1
The President/G.W. Bush	2	0	3	2	1
Budget Deficit /National Debt	2	2	2	2	2
Other	23	28	12	15	17
DK/NA	8	11	6	7	4

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

					Sep03a
	Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA		
Approve	44	75	23	38	47
Disapprove	45	19	65	48	44
DK/NA	11	6	12	14	9

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

Approve	47	80	23	40	46
Disapprove	48	18	71	52	47
DK/NA	5	2	6	8	7

q6 How about the economy? Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

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

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Sep03a
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	37	70	17	28	41
Disapprove	56	22	79	63	52
DK/NA	7	8	4	9	7

q7 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May03a
Approve	37	45	36	32	35
Disapprove	47	43	48	51	48
DK/NA	16	12	16	17	17

q8 Which comes closer to your opinion on what the United States policy should be after the war with Iraq? .. The United States should not attack another country unless that country has attacked the United States first. OR The United States should be able to attack any country it thinks might attack the United States.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jul03a
U.S. should not attack	55	40	67	56	58
U.S. should attack	35	49	24	32	33
DK/NA	10	11	9	12	9

q9 How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Aug03b
Very good	4	8	1	2	2
Fairly good	39	57	26	34	42
Fairly bad	37	27	42	42	36
Very bad	19	7	29	20	18
DK/NA	1	1	2	2	2

q10 Do you think the economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
Getting better	24	41	9	22	25
Getting worse	29	10	46	29	31
Staying about same	46	48	44	48	43
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1

q11 Should the United States try to change a dictatorship to a democracy where it can, OR should the United States stay out of other countries' affairs?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jul03a
Change	21	29	16	20	19
Stay out	61	50	70	62	61
Depends (vol.)	10	12	9	9	14
DK/NA	8	9	5	9	6

q12 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?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

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

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Aug03b
	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	43	80	18	35	46
Not favorable	34	7	58	35	32
Undecided	13	7	14	19	16
Haven't heard enough yet	8	6	7	10	4
Refused	2	0	3	1	2

q41 If George W. Bush runs for re-election in 2004, do you think you will probably vote for George W. Bush or probably vote for the Democratic candidate?

\*\*\* REGISTERED VOTERS \*\*\*

George W. Bush	44	86	12	34
Democratic candidate	44	7	83	42
Can't say until chosen (vol.)	7	5	4	14
None, won't vote (vol.)	1	0	0	1
DK/NA	4	3	1	9

q42 Regardless of how you intend to vote for President in 2004, who do you expect to finally win the 2004 presidential election --- the democratic candidate or George W. Bush?

Democratic candidate	35	9	57	40
George W. Bush	50	78	30	40
Depends (vol.)	4	3	2	8
DK/NA	11	10	11	11

q44 Compared to when George W. Bush took office, do you think the nation's economy is better today, worse today, or about the same as it was when George W. Bush took office?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

Better today	12	20	4	13	12
Worse today	59	41	76	59	53
About the same	26	34	20	25	32
DK/NA	3	5	0	3	3

q45 Compared to when George W. Bush took office, is your family financially better off today, is it worse off financially or is it about the same as it was before George W. Bush became president?

Better off	18	35	6	13
Worse off	29	6	41	38
About the same	53	57	52	49
DK/NA	0	2	1	0

q46 How serious a problem do you think the current budget deficit is for the country --- very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

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

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Very serious	50	38	63	49
Somewhat serious	36	42	30	38
Not too serious	9	14	4	9
Not at all serious	3	5	1	2
DK/NA	2	1	2	2

q47 Do you have confidence in George W. Bush's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis or are you uneasy about his approach?

Apr03b

					%
Confidence	45	79	19	39	66
Uneasy	50	19	76	53	31
DK/NA	5	2	5	8	3

q48 Compared to when George W. Bush took office, are relations today between the United States and its European allies, better today, worse today, or about the same as they were when George W. Bush took office?

Better	9	13	6	9
Worse	55	43	65	55
About the same	31	38	26	31
DK/NA	5	6	3	5

q49 How much do you think George W. Bush cares about the needs and problems of people like you --- a lot, some, not much, or none at all?

May03a

A lot	25	52	7	19	33
Some	33	32	30	37	34
Not much	21	11	28	24	20
None at all	19	4	34	17	12
DK/NA	2	1	1	3	1

q50 How much do you think George W. Bush cares about the needs and problems of blacks --- a lot, some, not much, or none at all?

Jan03c

A lot	23	49	5	18	24
Some	36	36	32	39	42
Not much	20	5	31	22	19
None at all	14	3	26	12	9
DK/NA	7	7	6	9	6

q51 How much do you think George W. Bush cares about the needs and problems of Hispanics  
--- a lot, some, not much, or none at all?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

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

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
A lot	25	49	8	20
Some	36	37	33	38
Not much	22	6	35	24
None at all	10	3	18	9
DK/NA	7	5	6	9

q52 Do you think George W. Bush has strong qualities of leadership, or not?

					May03a %
Has	63	91	38	63	70
Does not have	35	9	58	34	26
DK/NA	2	0	4	3	4

q53 Do you think George W. Bush has the same priorities for the country as you have, or not?

					Apr03c
Has same priorities	41	77	18	30	48
Does not	56	22	77	65	46
DK/NA	3	1	5	5	6

q54/q55 Do you think George W. Bush has more honesty and integrity than most people in public life? IF NO: Do you think George W. Bush has less honesty and integrity than most people in public life, or about the same honesty and integrity as most people in public life?

More	53	84	31	47
Less	14	2	22	16
Same	30	12	42	35
DK/NA	3	1	5	2

q56 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?

					May03a
Confidence	40	77	16	31	47
Uneasy	56	21	80	65	49
DK/NA	4	2	4	4	4

q57 Do you think leaders of other countries around the world have respect for George W. Bush, or not?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

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

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	Apr03b %
Have respect	47	70	29	44	47
Do not	44	21	63	46	42
DK/NA	9	9	8	10	11

q58 Do you think the reductions in federal taxes enacted since 2001 have been good for the economy, bad for the economy or haven't they made much difference?

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	May03a %
Good for the economy	24	47	8	20	19
Bad for the economy	20	4	34	20	12
Not much difference	50	42	54	53	63
DK/NA	6	7	4	7	6

q59 Which do you think is a better way to improve the national economy --- cutting taxes or reducing the federal budget deficit?

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	May03b %
Cutting taxes	28	43	20	23	32
Reducing budget deficit	59	46	68	61	55
Neither (vol.)	2	2	1	2	2
DK/NA	11	9	11	14	11

q60 Are George W. Bush's policies more conservative than you had expected they would be, less conservative, or are they about as conservative as you expected?

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	Jun01b %
More conservative	13	7	17	15	10
Less conservative	22	14	24	26	11
About as conservative	62	77	56	56	75
DK/NA	3	2	3	3	4

q61 In general, do you think the policies of the Bush Administration favor the rich, favor the middle class, favor the poor, or do they treat all groups the same?

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	May03a %
Favor the rich	60	33	79	65	54
Favor the middle class	10	15	6	8	14
Favor the poor	1	2	0	1	3
Treat all groups the same	26	46	12	21	22
DK/NA	3	4	3	5	7

q62 Do you think the policies of the Bush Administration have increased the number of jobs in the United States, decreased the number of jobs, or have the policies of the Bush Administration not affected the number of jobs in the U.S.?

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Increased	12	18	6	11
Decreased	51	24	70	55
No effect	29	42	18	28

DK/NA	8	16	6	6
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q63 Do you think the policies of the Bush Administration have made the cost of prescription drugs more expensive, less expensive, or have the policies of the Bush Administration not affected the cost of prescription drugs?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

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

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
More expensive	35	16	53	34
Less expensive	5	9	3	3
No effect	39	55	27	36
DK/NA	21	20	17	27

q64 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?

Safer	60	81	44	58
Less safe	18	6	28	19
No effect	18	12	21	19
DK/NA	4	1	7	4

q65 Do you think the policies of the Bush Administration have made the nation's schools better, worse, or have the policies of the Bush Administration not affected the nation's schools?

Better	23	39	11	19
Worse	26	8	42	26
No effect	41	42	37	43
DK/NA	10	11	10	12

q66 Do you think the policies of the Bush Administration have made your taxes go up, go down, or have the policies of the Bush Administration not affected your taxes?

Go up	29	12	43	32
Go down	19	36	9	14
No effect	47	48	45	49
DK/NA	5	4	3	5

q67 Do you think the Bush Administration has brought more honesty and integrity to the workings of the White House, less honesty and integrity, or about the same amount of honesty and integrity as other Presidents?

More	35	67	11	30
Less	18	4	33	17
Same as other presidents	43	28	51	48
DK/NA	4	1	5	5

q68 In general, is your opinion of the Republican party favorable or not favorable?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

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

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May03a
	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	51	91	19	47	53
Not favorable	43	7	77	43	40
DK/NA	6	2	4	10	7

q69 In general, is your opinion of the Democratic party favorable or not favorable?

Favorable	53	26	80	52	46
Not favorable	39	70	14	37	45
DK/NA	8	4	6	11	9

q70 Do you think the Republicans have a clear plan for the country, or don't they have a clear plan for the country?

Do have a clear plan	47	74	33	37	53
Do not have a clear plan	40	17	56	44	37
DK/NA	13	9	11	19	10

q71 Do you think the Democrats have a clear plan for the country, or don't they have a clear plan for the country?

Do have a clear plan	38	33	51	30	40
Do not have a clear plan	48	56	39	49	49
DK/NA	14	11	10	21	11

q72 Do you think removing Saddam Hussein from power was worth the loss of American life and other costs of attacking Iraq, or not?

\*\*\* HALF SAMPLE X \*\*\*

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

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Aug03a
	%	%	%	%	%
Worth it	51	69	30	54	55
Not worth it	41	23	61	39	34
DK/NA	8	8	9	7	11

q73 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?

\*\*\* HALF SAMPLE Y \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Sep03a
Worth it	41	71	21	33	43
Not worth it	53	23	73	60	47
Don't know/No answer	6	6	6	7	10

q74 Has the war in Iraq been longer than you expected, shorter than you expected, or has it been about as long as you expected?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

Longer than expected	45	37	51	46
Shorter than expected	13	19	10	10



About as expected	40	42	37	41
DK/NA	2	2	2	3

q75 Has the war in Iraq cost the United States more money than you expected, less than you expected, or has it cost about what you expected?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

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

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
More than expected	66	54	80	64
Less than expected	2	4	2	1
About what expected	26	34	14	30
DK/NA	6	8	4	5

q76 Do you think the Bush Administration has developed a clear plan for rebuilding Iraq, or hasn't it developed one yet?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Sep03a
	%	%	%	%	%
Has a clear plan	29	45	14	30	22
Does not have a clear plan	59	42	76	57	64
DK/NA	12	13	10	13	14

q77 Do you think the Bush Administration has clearly explained how long U.S. military forces will have to remain in Iraq, or haven't they done that yet?

Clearly explained	17	26	12	15
Haven't done that yet	76	67	83	76
DK/NA	7	7	5	9

q78 Do you think the Bush Administration has clearly explained what the total financial cost will be to the United States to rebuild Iraq, or haven't they done that yet?

Clearly explained	16	29	9	11
Haven't done that yet	76	63	84	81
DK/NA	8	9	7	8

q79 From what you have seen or heard about the situation in Iraq, what should the United States do -- should the U.S. increase the number of U.S. troops in Iraq, keep the same number of U.S. troops in Iraq as there are now, or decrease the number of U.S. troops in Iraq?

Increase	20	22	20	19	15
Keep the same	34	47	27	29	40
Decrease	39	25	45	45	36
DK/NA	7	6	8	7	9

q80 George W. Bush has asked Congress for an additional \$87 billion for the next year for military and reconstruction efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Do you think the United States should or should not spend this amount of money?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Sep03a*
Should	34	52	20	32	26
Should not	61	42	77	63	66
DK/NA	5	6	3	5	8

\*Varied wording: President Bush has asked Congress for an additional \$87 billion for the next year to rebuild Iraq. Do you think the United States should or should not spend this amount of money?

q81 Who should have the LEAD responsibility for setting up a new government in Iraq --- the United Nations or the United States?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				
	*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Sep03a
	%	%	%	%	%
United Nations	68	56	79	68	64
United States	26	38	14	26	26
Neither (vol.)	2	3	1	3	5
DK/NA	4	3	6	3	5

q82 If other countries make a major contribution to the financial costs of rebuilding Iraq, do you think they should also have a major role in making decisions about the rebuilding process, or should the United States remain in control of the rebuilding of Iraq?

					Sep03a#
Other countries have role	65	58	69	68	63
U.S. should remain in control	28	37	25	23	30
DK/NA	7	5	6	9	7

#Varied wording: If the U.S. allies make a major contribution to the financial costs of rebuilding Iraq, do you think they should also have a major role in making decisions about the rebuilding process, or should the United States remain in control of the rebuilding of Iraq?

q83 What do you think was the main reason for the United States taking military action in Iraq --- 1. Removing Saddam Hussein from power, or 2. Stopping Iraq from manufacturing weapons, or 3. Protecting the supply of oil to the United States?

Removing Saddam Hussein	46	54	42	44
Stop Iraq from manuf. weapons	17	22	13	16
Protecting the supply of oil	24	14	33	24
All (vol.)	7	7	7	6
None (vol.)	3	1	3	4
DK/NA	3	2	2	6

q84 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 PART OF WAR ON TERRORISM: Is it a major part of the war on terrorism, or a minor part of the war on terrorism?

					Sep03a
Major part of war on terror	47	69	31	45	43
Minor part of war on terror	10	9	11	10	9
Not part of war on terror	37	19	51	39	43
DK/NA	6	3	7	6	5

q85 Do you think the war in Iraq is still going on or is the war over?

Still going on	87	79	95	86
Over	10	18	4	9
Depends (vol.)	1	2	0	2
DK/NA	2	1	1	3

q86 Do you think Saddam Hussein was personally involved in the September 11th, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?

\*\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*\*

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

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May03a
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	43	51	39	40	52
No	42	32	47	45	38
DK/NA	15	17	14	15	10

q87 How concerned are you that you or someone else in your household will lose their job in the next year? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not concerned at all?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Aug03b
Very concerned	26	14	34	30	24
Somewhat concerned	18	12	23	18	18
Not too concerned	22	27	17	24	22
Not concerned at all	33	47	25	27	34
DK/NA	1	0	1	1	2

q88 These last few questions are for background only.

How important is religion in your daily life? Is it extremely important, very important, somewhat important, or not at all important?

Extremely important	26	31	26	22
Very important	36	37	37	35
Somewhat important	30	26	33	31
Not at all important	7	5	4	11
DK/NA	1	1	0	1

q89 Do you think of yourself as part of the conservative Christian political movement, also known as the religious right?

Yes	17	23	18	10
No	78	70	78	84
DK/NA	5	7	4	6

q91 Are you or any member of your household - that is any other adult living in your home or apartment --- a member of a labor union? IF YES, ASK: Is that person you or someone else?

No	83	86	82	81
Yes, self	9	7	9	12
Yes, other	8	8	9	6
DK/NA	0	0	0	1

q92 Some people think of themselves as evangelical or born again Christians. Do you ever think yourself in either of these days?

\*\* REDUCED SAMPLE \*\*

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

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Yes	32	39	32	24
No	67	59	67	74
DK/NA	1	2	1	2

**UNWEIGHTED**

**WEIGHTED**

Total Respondents	981	
Total Republicans	301	308
Total Democrats	344	340
Total Independents	336	334
Half Sample X	493	479
Half Sample Y	488	502
Reduced sample (q92)	687	703