

CBS NEWS POLL
REMOVING SADDAM HUSSEIN
September 22-23, 2002

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

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				
	Total	**** Party ID ****			Sep02a
	%	Rep	Dem	Ind	%
Approve	66	89	48	63	63
Disapprove	27	9	46	24	28
DK/NA	7	2	6	13	9

q2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling foreign policy?

Approve	58	79	39	58	54
Disapprove	34	17	55	31	36
DK/NA	8	4	6	11	11

q3 How about the economy? Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

Approve	49	72	32	45	47
Disapprove	41	19	60	41	42
DK/NA	10	9	8	14	11

q4 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the campaign against terrorism?

Approve	71	87	57	69	68
Disapprove	22	8	35	24	27
DK/NA	7	5	8	7	5

q5 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

					Jul02b
Approve	48	49	58	36	49
Disapprove	36	37	31	41	38
DK/NA	16	14	11	23	13

q6 Which of these should be the higher priority for the nation right now -- the economy and jobs, or terrorism and national security?

Economy	33	21	39	39
Terrorism	55	66	53	48
Both (Vol.)	9	10	7	10
Neither (Vol.)	0	0	0	0
DK/NA	3	3	1	3

q7 How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?

*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***					
	**** Party ID ****				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Sep02a
	%	%	%	%	%
Very good	3	6	2	2	3
Fairly good	48	55	43	46	47
Fairly bad	37	31	37	41	36
Very bad	10	6	16	8	14
DK/NA	2	2	2	3	1

q8 In general, do you feel the United Nations is doing a good job or a poor job in trying to solve the problems it has to face?

						Nov01b
Good	40	35	47	39		63
Poor	50	55	47	47		27
DK/NA	10	10	6	14		10

q9 How much influence does the United States have in the United Nations today -- too much, too little, or the right amount?

						May 1985
Too much	13	6	18	13		12
Too little	38	46	31	37		42
Right amount	39	37	42	37		33
DK/NA	10	11	9	13		13

q10 Do you think the United States should or should not take the leading role among all other countries in the world in trying to solve international conflicts?

*** HALF SAMPLE A ***					
Yes	45	50	47	39	
No	49	47	50	50	
DK/NA	6	3	3	11	

q11 Which of the following statements comes closer to your point of view - 1. The United States should take the lead in solving international crises and conflicts, OR 2. The United States should let other countries and the United Nations take the lead in solving international crises and conflicts?

*** HALF SAMPLE B ***					
U.S. should take lead	46	56	43	39	
U.S. should NOT take lead	48	37	55	53	
Depends/Some of both (Vol.)	2	2	1	4	
DK/NA	4	5	1	4	

q13 These days, if someone disagrees with the president's decisions on military issues, do you think it's okay to criticize him publicly, or should people not publicly criticize the president on military issues?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				Dec01a
	Total	**** Party ID ****			
	Rep	Dem	Ind		
	%	%	%	%	
Okay to criticize	60	54	60	65	58
Not okay	37	42	38	31	39
DK/NA	3	4	2	4	3

q14 These days, if someone disagrees with the president's proposals on economic or other domestic issues, do you think it's okay to criticize him publicly, or should people not publicly criticize the president on economic or domestic issues?

Okay to criticize	70	64	73	73	73
Not okay	26	33	24	22	22
DK/NA	4	3	3	5	5

q15 Which comes closer to your opinion? 1. The United States should not attack another country unless that country has attacked the United States first, or 2. The United States should be able to attack any country it thinks might attack the United States?

	*** HALF SAMPLE C ***				Sep02a
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
U.S. should not attack	44	25	60	42	47
U.S. should attack	43	61	32	40	41
It depends (Vol.)	5	5	3	7	5
DK/NA	8	9	5	11	7

q16 Which comes closer to your opinion? 1. The United States should not attack Iraq unless Iraq has attacked the United States first, or 2. The United States should be able to attack Iraq if it thinks Iraq might attack the United States?

	*** HALF SAMPLE D ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
U.S. should not attack Iraq	32	28	37	32	26
U.S. should attack Iraq	58	64	57	53	61
It depends (Vol.)	3	3	3	3	4
DK/NA	7	5	3	12	9

q17 How much have you heard or read about the possibility of the United States taking new military action against Iraq -- a lot, some, or not much so far?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
A lot	56	55	58	54	43
Some	30	32	31	27	34
Not much so far	14	11	10	19	23
None (Vol.)	0	0	0	0	NA
DK/NA	0	2	1	0	0

q18 So far, do you think the Bush administration has clearly explained the United States position with regard to possibly attacking Iraq, or haven't they done that yet?

Clearly explained	51	66	40	48	27
Not done that yet	42	28	52	44	64
DK/NA	7	6	8	8	9

q19 Do you approve or disapprove of the United States taking military action against Iraq to try to remove Saddam Hussein from power?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				Sep02a
	Total	**** Party ID ****			
	Rep	Dem	Ind		
	%	%	%	%	
Approve	68	81	57	66	68
Disapprove	26	12	41	24	24
DK/NA	6	7	2	10	8

q20 Should the United States take military action against Iraq fairly soon, or should the U.S. wait and give the United Nations more time to get weapons inspectors back into Iraq?

Take military action soon	36	51	23	35	35
Give U.N. more time	57	43	71	55	56
Both (Vol.)	0	0	0	1	1
Neither (Vol.)	NA	NA	NA	NA	1
DK/NA	7	6	6	9	7

q21 Which statement do you agree with more? Iraq presents such a clear danger to American interests the United States needs to act now, even without the support of its allies, OR the U.S. needs to wait for its allies before taking any action against Iraq?

U.S. needs to act now	31	42	22	31	27
U.S. needs to wait	61	51	72	60	67
U.S. shouldn't act (Vol.)	0	0	0	0	0
DK/NA	8	7	6	9	6

q22 Should the United States follow the recommendations of the United Nations when it comes to taking military action against Iraq, or should the United States decide what to do on its own, regardless of what the United Nations recommends?

U.S. should follow U.N.	52	45	61	48
U.S. should decide on its own	37	44	31	38
DK/NA	11	11	8	14

q23 Do you think the United Nations will or will not be able to prevent Saddam Hussein from building or keeping weapons of mass destruction?

Probably will	20	17	22	22
Probably will not	70	78	65	68
DK/NA	10	5	13	10

q24 Do you expect the United States military to end up fighting against Iraq, or do you think the situation will be resolved without fighting?

End up fighting	78	82	73	81	74
Resolve without fighting	17	13	22	14	19
DK/NA	5	6	5	5	7

q25 Do you think the President should have to get the approval of Congress before taking military action against Iraq, or should he be able to make that decision himself?

*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***

	Total	**** Party ID ****			Sep02a
		Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Get approval	65	53	72	68	62
His decision	31	43	26	26	35
DK/NA	4	4	2	6	3

q26 When should Congress vote on a resolution authorizing U.S. military action against Iraq -- 1. In the next few weeks, without waiting for the United Nations to act, or 2. should Congress wait until the United Nations has acted, even if it takes longer than a few weeks?

Next few weeks	41	55	28	41
Wait for U.N.	52	39	66	50
DK/NA	7	6	6	9

q27 Overall, is Congress asking too many questions about President Bush's policy toward Iraq, or isn't Congress asking enough questions?

Too many questions	22	31	13	22
Not enough questions	44	33	57	43
About the right amount (Vol.)	16	18	13	16
It depends (Vol.)	1	1	0	1
DK/NA	17	17	17	18

q28 When it comes to dealing with Saddam Hussein, do you think George W. Bush wants the U.S. to work with the United Nations, or do you think Bush wants the U.S. to make decisions without really working with the United Nations?

Wants U.S. to work with U.N.	49	66	36	47
Doesn't want to work with U.N.	40	24	55	39
DK/NA	11	10	9	14

q30 Do you think removing Saddam Hussein from power is worth the potential loss of American life and the other costs of attacking Iraq, or not?

Worth it	57	74	44	53	54
Not worth it	33	17	44	36	35
DK/NA	10	9	12	11	11

q31 Suppose U.S. military action in Iraq would result in substantial U.S. military casualties, then would you favor or oppose the United States taking military action against Iraq?

Favor	57	69	46	55	50
Oppose	34	23	44	33	38
DK/NA	9	8	10	12	12

q32 Suppose U.S. military action in Iraq meant that the U.S. would be involved in a war there for months or even years, then would you favor or oppose the United States taking military action against Iraq?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				
	**** Party ID ****				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Sep02a
	%	%	%	%	%
Favor	51	65	37	50	49
Oppose	39	27	54	37	44
DK/NA	10	8	9	13	7

q33 If the United States takes military action against Iraq, do you think the threat of terrorism against the United States will increase, decrease, or stay about the same?

Increase	44	33	53	45
Decrease	18	27	15	14
About the same	34	36	29	38
DK/NA	4	4	3	3

q34 To the best of your knowledge, do you think Iraq currently possesses weapons of mass destruction, or doesn't it have those yet?

Yes	77	89	74	71	79
No	14	8	17	15	11
DK/NA	9	3	9	14	10

q35 Do you think Iraq is planning to use those weapons against the US, or not?

Yes	61	71	57	54	62
No	12	13	11	12	10
DK/NA	5	5	5	5	7
Doesn't have weapons	22	11	27	29	21

q36 Do you think Saddam Hussein was personally involved in the September 11th terrorist attacks, or not?

Yes	51	58	50	45
No	33	25	35	39
DK/NA	16	17	15	16

q37 Do you think members of Al Qaeda, the group believed to be responsible for the Septemb 11 attacks, are currently in Iraq?

Yes	70	79	62	71
No	14	5	21	14
DK/NA	16	16	17	15

q38 If the United States does get militarily involved in Iraq, which of the following would be more likely: a fairly quick and successful effort, or a long and costly involvement?

Quick/successful effort	45	55	35	44	41
Long and costly involvement	49	41	58	49	53
Quick but unsuccessful (vol.)	0	0	0	1	0
DK/NA	6	4	7	6	6

q39 How likely do you think it is that there will be another terrorist attack in the United States within the next few MONTHS ---- very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, not at all likely?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				
	**** Party ID ****				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Sep02a
	%	%	%	%	%
Very likely	21	22	20	20	23
Somewhat likely	46	49	43	45	46
Not very likely	26	22	28	26	23
Not at all likely	5	5	4	7	5
DK/NA	2	2	5	2	3

q40 How much confidence do you have in the ability of the U.S. government to capture or kill Osama bin Laden, who is believed to have planned the September 11th attacks on the U.S. -- would you say you're very confident he will be caught, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

Very confident	17	24	13	14	17
Somewhat confident	41	50	33	41	37
Not too confident	25	15	34	25	30
Not at all confident	12	4	14	16	13
bin Laden not alive (Vol.)	3	4	2	3	NA
DK/NA	2	3	4	1	3

q41 If Osama bin Laden is NOT captured or killed, THEN do you think the United States will have won the war in Afghanistan, or not?

Will have won	30	32	27	31	27
Will not have won	60	56	65	59	61
Mixed (vol.)	1	2	1	1	3
DK/NA	9	10	7	9	9

q42 What is your impression of how the war in Afghanistan is going for the United States right now - very well, somewhat well, somewhat badly, or very badly?

Very well	19	24	18	16	14
Somewhat well	53	56	52	50	58
Somewhat badly	20	12	26	21	16
Very badly	3	3	1	6	3
DK/NA	5	5	3	7	9

q43 Which comes closest to your opinion about United States priorities: 1. Right now, the U.S. should mainly focus its attention on finding Osama bin Laden and other members of Al Qaeda, or 2. Right now, the U.S. should mainly focus its attention on dealing with Saddam Hussein?

Focus on bin Laden & Al Qaeda	40	37	44	39
Focus on Saddam Hussein	36	38	39	32
Both (Vol.)	13	19	8	12
Neither (Vol.)	2	1	2	4
DK/NA	9	5	7	13

q44 In your opinion, which represents the greater threat to the United States right now, Al Qaeda or Iraq?

	*** HALF SAMPLE E ***			
	**** Party ID ****			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Al Qaeda	44	37	52	44
Iraq	43	44	38	46
Both (Vol.)	8	13	5	5
DK/NA	5	6	5	5

q45 In your opinion, who represents the greater threat to the United States right now, Osama bin Laden or Saddam Hussein?

	*** HALF SAMPLE F ***			
bin Laden	33	36	35	29
Saddam Hussein	46	52	45	43
Both (Vol.)	13	10	9	21
DK/NA	8	2	11	7

q46 Do you believe the United States can effectively fight wars in both Afghanistan and Iraq at the same time?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***			
Yes	60	74	52	55
No	35	21	41	40
It depends (Vol.)	1	1	1	0
DK/NA	4	4	6	5

q47 Do you think the United States should take military action against Iraq at the same time it is fighting a war in Afghanistan, or should it wait until the war in Afghanistan is finished?

Should fight at same time	47	63	33	45
Should wait	37	27	49	36
Should take no action at all	2	1	3	3
DK/NA	14	9	15	16

q48 If the 2002 election for U.S. House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate in your district?

	*** REGISTERED VOTERS ***				Sep02a
	Total	**** Party ID ****			
	Rep	Dem	Ind		
	%	%	%	%	
Republican	40	83	11	27	37
Democratic	40	6	75	35	41
Other (vol.)	1	0	0	3	1
Won't Vote (vol.)	1	0	0	3	0
Depends (vol.)	8	4	7	14	9
DK/NA	10	7	7	18	12

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	903	
Total Republicans	294	286
Total Democrats	297	305
Total Independents	312	312
Half Sample A	455	463
Half Sample B	448	440
Half Sample C	461	458
Half Sample D	442	445
Half Sample E	442	445
Half Sample F	461	458
Total Registered Voters	769	742