

**CBS NEWS POLL**  
**The President, The War, And The Battle For The White House 2004**  
**February 12-15, 2004**

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	Jan04a
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	50	89	21	46	50
Disapprove	42	9	71	43	45
DK/NA	8	2	8	11	5

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	41	73	19	37	42%
Wrong track	51	20	75	55	53
DK/NA	8	7	6	8	5

q3 Which ONE issue would you most like to hear the candidates for president discuss during the 2004 presidential campaign?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				
Economy and jobs	20	23	35	32	26
War/Iraq/Foreign policy	12	14	13	10	14
Health Care	8	6	7	11	8
Education	6	5	8	5	11
Defense / Military	3	4	3	3	3
Abortion	2	5	0	0	2
Illegal Immigration/Immigr.	2	1	2	2	2
Medicare/ Medicaid	2	3	3	1	3
Social Security	2	1	2	3	2
Budget Deficit/Nat'l Debt	2	3	1	3	2
Taxes/IRS	2	3	1	1	3
Terrorism (general)	2	3	2	1	2
Other	27	18	15	12	12
DK/NA	10	11	8	16	10

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

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				
Approve	46	76	21	45	47
Disapprove	45	17	69	46	45
DK/NA	9	7	10	9	8

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

Approve	44	77	18	40	44
Disapprove	50	18	76	53	51
DK/NA	6	5	6	7	5

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	Jan04a
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	49	85	21	46	48
Disapprove	45	12	70	48	46
DK/NA	6	3	9	6	6

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

Approve	64	92	46	59	68
Disapprove	27	6	42	31	28
DK/NA	9	2	12	10	4

q8 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	3	7	2	2	3
Fairly good	50	71	33	49	51
Fairly bad	30	16	36	34	34
Very bad	16	4	28	14	11
DK/NA	1	2	1	1	1

q9 Do you think the economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

Better	33	53	20	30	34
Worse	27	16	40	25	26
Same	39	29	40	45	39
DK/NA	1	2	0	0	1

q10 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?

Favorable	44	81	13	41	41
Unfavorable	36	5	65	36	38
Undecided	14	12	14	16	16
Haven't heard enough	5	2	6	6	4
DK/NA	1	0	2	1	1

q13 How much attention have you been able to pay to the 2004 Presidential campaign -- a lot, some, not much, or no attention so far?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				
A lot	37	37	40	35	22
Some	41	41	40	42	43
Not much	17	18	16	16	25
No attention so far	5	4	5	6	9
DK/NA	0	0	0	1	1

q14 If the 2004 Presidential election were being held today, do you think you would probably vote for George W. Bush or probably vote for the Democratic candidate?

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George W. Bush	42	81	10	38	43
Democratic candidate	47	8	83	48	45
Can't say until chosen (Vol.)	6	6	4	7	7
None, won't vote (Vol.)	0	1	0	0	1
DK/NA	5	4	3	7	4

q15 Is your mind made up or is it still too early to say for sure?

	VOTERS WHO MADE A CHOICE IN Q14				Jan04a
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	
Mind made up	70	72	75	63	63
Too early to say for sure	30	26	24	37	36
DK/NA	0	2	1	0	1

q16 Are you more likely to vote in a Democratic presidential primary or caucus, or a Republican primary or caucus or aren't you likely to vote in a primary or caucus at all?  
IF ALREADY VOTED, ASK: Did you vote in a Democratic or Republican primary or caucus?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **			
Democratic primary	38	6	75	33
Republican primary	29	73	3	14
Not likely to vote	27	17	18	44
Already voted in Dem prim.	1	0	1	1
Already voted in Rep prim.	0	0	0	0
DK/NA	5	4	3	8

q17 Who would you like to see the Democratic party nominate as its presidential candidate in 2004 -- Howard Dean, John Edwards, Dennis Kucinich, Al Sharpton, John Kerry, or someone else?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS			Jan04a
	Total	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	
Dean	8	8	8	24
Edwards	7	6	10	5
Kerry	53	59	46	7
Kucinich	1	0	1	1
Sharpton	4	2	5	3
Other	12	7	17	45
DK/NA	15	17	13	15

q18 Is your mind made up or is it still too early to say for sure?

	PRIMARY VOTERS WHO MADE A CHOICE IN Q17			
Mind made up	49	52	43	24
Too early to say for sure	50	47	55	74
DK/NA	1	1	2	2

q19 What is the MAIN reason you would like to see the Democratic party nominate [CANDIDATE CHOICE]?

	PRIMARY VOTERS WHO MADE A CHOICE IN Q17	
Economy / Jobs / Taxes	12	9
Can Win November Election	9	8
Ideology (General)	9	0
Style / Mannerism / Leader	6	3
Agree Issues / Positions	6	10
Better Than Others	6	6
Honesty/Integrity/Moral	5	4
Foreign Policy	4	3
Military background/Veterans	4	6
Experience/Background/	4	4

Most anti-Bush / Criticize	3	2
Good Person/Like Him	3	4
Party Leadership	3	5
Iraq War	3	2
Represents Middle Class	2	4
Other	19	20
DK/NA	9	12

q20 Which is more important in your candidate choice: You think he can defeat George W. Bush in November OR he agrees with you on the major issues?

## DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS

	Total	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%
He can defeat Bush in Nov.	34	39	27
He agrees with you on issues	55	51	63
DK/NA	11	10	10

q21 Thinking back over the past few months, was there ever a time that you supported Howard Dean for the Democratic nomination?

## NON-DEAN VOTERS

Yes	19	20	20
No	76	74	77
DK/NA	5	6	3

q22 No matter how you vote in the Democratic primaries, how would you feel if John Kerry wins the nomination -- very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

Very satisfied	36	43	27
Somewhat satisfied	45	41	50
Somewhat dissatisfied	8	6	9
Very dissatisfied	3	2	6
DK/NA	8	8	8

q23 Do you think of John Kerry more as a liberal, a moderate, or a conservative?

Liberal	29	25	30
Moderate	35	32	44
Conservative	19	24	9
DK/NA	17	19	17

q24 Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The candidate who can win in Iowa and New Hampshire usually deserves to win the party's nomination?

Agree	16	19	12
Disagree	73	71	75
DK/NA	11	10	13

q30 If the 2004 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were Howard Dean, the Democrat, and George W. Bush, the Republican, would you vote for Howard Dean or George W. Bush?

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

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Dean	37	5	67	38

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Bush	54	91	23	49
Won't vote (vol.)	2	0	3	3
Depends (vol.)	1	0	1	1
DK/NA	6	4	6	9

q31 If the 2004 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were John Edwards, the Democrat, and George W. Bush, the Republican, would you vote for John Edwards or George W. Bush?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Edwards	41	7	72	42
Bush	50	87	19	45
Won't vote (vol.)	1	0	1	3
Depends (vol.)	3	3	2	3
DK/NA	5	3	6	7

q32 If the 2004 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were John Kerry, the Democrat, and George W. Bush, the Republican, would you vote for John Kerry or George W. Bush?

Kerry	48	12	84	48
Bush	43	83	12	38
Won't vote (vol.)	1	0	1	1
Depends (vol.)	3	3	1	4
DK/NA	5	2	2	9

q33 How important is it to you for a president to have served in the military -- is it very important, somewhat important, or not important at all?

					Feb 1992
Very important	19	13	22	20	16
Somewhat	36	42	32	34	36
Not important	45	45	46	45	47
DK/NA	0	0	0	1	1

q34 In this year's Presidential election, which will be more important in how you vote: The candidates' position on the issues or the candidates' personal character and values?

Issues	66	60	73	64
Character and values	28	34	22	28
DK/NA	6	6	5	8

q35 Do you have confidence in George W. Bush's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***			
Confidence	52	88	25	49
Uneasy	45	12	73	47
DK/NA	3	0	2	4

q36 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?

Confidence	45	77	19	42
Uneasy	52	22	79	53
DK/NA	3	1	2	5

q37 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

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in public life or about the same honesty and integrity as most people in public life?

Yes, has more	50	79	31	45
Less	14	3	26	12
Same	25	12	32	30
DK/NA	11	6	11	13



q38 George W. Bush recently said that he considers himself a "war President." Do you think George w. Bush is a war President because world events have caused him to be one, or because the choices he makes have caused him to be one?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
World events caused him to	40	68	19	38
Choices he makes	51	26	73	51
Both (Vol.)	3	2	1	5
DK/NA	6	4	7	6

q39 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?

					Jan04a
A lot	27	54	6	24	23
Some	35	38	30	36	36
Not much	20	5	31	22	21
None at all	18	2	32	17	19
DK/NA	0	1	1	1	1

q40 Do you think George W. Bush has the same priorities for the country as you have, or not?

Has	44	74	21	40	41
Does not have	50	22	74	52	54
DK/NA	6	4	5	8	5

q41 Do you think George W. Bush's presidency has brought different groups of Americans together, or do you think it has divided them?

Brought together	37	57	20	37	43
Divided them	46	27	66	44	44
Don't know/No answer	16	16	14	19	13

q42 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?

Worth it	41	71	17	39	43
Not worth it	50	21	74	52	51
DK/NA	9	8	9	9	6

q43 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.?

Increased	16	26	5	16	19
Decreased	45	21	68	45	45
No effect	28	36	18	30	29
DK/NA	11	17	9	9	7

q44 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?

Up	27	16	38	25	32
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Down	23	39	12	20	19
Not affected	45	42	42	49	44
DK/NA	5	3	8	6	5

q45 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?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				Dec03c
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Right thing	58	86	33	56	62
Stay out	37	13	60	36	34
Don't know/No answer	5	1	7	8	4

q46 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, ASK: Is it a major part of the war on terrorism, or a minor part of the war on terrorism?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Nov03a
Major part of war on terror	44	69	27	39	46
Minor part of war on terror	12	13	10	13	14
Separate from war on terror	40	16	58	42	35
Don't know/Not sure	4	2	5	6	5

q48 Which comes closer to your opinion? 1. Iraq was a threat to the United States that required immediate military action. 2. Iraq was a threat that could have been contained. Or 3. Iraq was not a threat to the United States at all.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Dec03c
Threat required action	39	67	18	35	44
Could have been contained	43	29	54	46	39
Not a threat	15	3	23	16	14
Don't know/No answer	3	1	5	3	3

q49 As a result of the United States' military action against Iraq, do you think the United States is more safe from terrorism, less safe from terrorism, or hasn't it made any difference?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jan04a
More safe	42	68	26	38	50
Less safe	19	8	30	20	18
No difference	36	23	42	40	29
DK/NA	3	1	2	2	3

q50 Do you think Iraq probably does or probably does not have weapons of mass destruction that the United States has not found yet?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Nov03a
Probably does	49	69	38	43	62
Probably does not	41	20	54	45	31
They have been found (vol.)	0	1	0	0	0
Don't know/No answer	10	10	8	12	7

q55 Does it matter whether the United States finds weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, or not?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Aug04a
Yes, it matters	44	36	48	46	48
No, it doesn't matter	53	62	47	52	48

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Don't know/No answer

3

2

5

2

4

q56 Before the war with Iraq, when talking about what they knew about the existence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, do you think the members of the Bush Administration were telling everything they knew, most of what they knew, hiding important elements of what they knew, or mostly lying?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***				
	**** Party ID ****				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jan04a
	%	%	%	%	%
Telling everything they knew	5	14	1	3	6
Telling most of what they	35	57	19	33	27
Hiding important elements	39	22	48	45	39
Mostly lying	16	3	26	16	21
DK/NA	5	2	6	3	7

q59 Based on what you've heard or read, do you think U.S. intelligence agencies such as the C.I.A. did an excellent job, good job, fair job, or poor job assessing the threat of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq before the war?

Excellent job	3	6	1	2
Good job	25	37	12	27
Fair job	38	39	40	35
Poor job	28	14	39	29
DK/NA	6	4	8	7

q60 Based on what you've heard or read, how do you think the Bush administration handled the intelligence they received about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq -- do you think they probably interpreted the intelligence accurately, or did they probably exaggerate the intelligence to build support for the war against Iraq?

Interpreted accurately	35	62	12	34
Exaggerated	57	32	82	57
DK/NA	8	6	6	9

q61 Thinking about the current system of presidential primaries and caucuses, do you think this method of nominating presidential candidates generally -- not just this year -- produces the best candidate for president, or not?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **			
Produces best candidates	44	50	42	40
Doesn't produce best cand.	46	41	46	50
DK/NA	10	9	12	10

q62 Would you say your own state has too much influence on the nomination process, too little influence, or about the right amount of influence on the nomination process?

Too much	7	8	6	6
Too little	29	25	31	31
Right amount	56	60	55	55
DK/NA	8	7	8	8

q63 In general, is your opinion of the Republican party favorable or not favorable?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				Jan04a
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	52	86	23	48	50
Not favorable	43	11	74	43	43
DK/NA	5	3	3	9	7

q64 In general, is your opinion of the Democratic party favorable or not favorable?

Favorable	58	26	90	58	55
Not favorable	36	70	7	33	37
DK/NA	6	4	3	9	8

q65 Some people think of themselves as evangelical or born again Christians.  
Do you ever think of yourself in either of these ways?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ***			
Yes	32	48	24	28
No	65	50	73	69
DK/NA	3	2	3	3

q66 How important is religion in your daily life? Is it extremely important, very important, somewhat important, or not at all important?

Extremely important	26	38	19	22
Very important	35	36	40	31
Somewhat important	26	20	27	30
Not at all important	12	7	12	15
DK/NA	1	0	2	2

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1221	
Total Republicans	339	337
Total Democrats	380	368
Total Independents	502	506
Total Registered Voters	1046	994
Total Democratic Primary Voters	412	387