

IRAQ: THREE YEARS AND COUNTING

March 9-12, 2006

President Bush, beginning a series of speeches to shore up support for the war in Iraq, faces a public that believes things are going badly for the U.S. there, is increasingly doubtful of eventual success, and is overwhelmingly convinced that Iraq is now in a civil war. Two-thirds of Americans think the President paints too rosy a picture of events there. It has been nearly three years since the beginning of what was expected to be a shorter engagement, and despite their wishes for troop reductions, most think Americans will continue to be in Iraq at least two more years, and 27% say the war will last another five or more years.

Americans cite Iraq as the most important problem facing the U.S. For many, there is a personal connection. 54% have a close friend or relative who has served in Iraq. Half don't think the government is giving troops the resources needed to succeed. The war continues to impact views of the President, whose approval ratings remain at or near all-time lows.

LOOKING AHEAD: SUCCESS IN IRAQ?

Optimism about eventual U.S. success in Iraq is down to its lowest levels so far, with only half expecting eventual success. Just 15% say the U.S. is very likely to succeed in Iraq, down from 21% in January, while another 36% say success is somewhat likely, down from 42% in January. 47% say it is either not very or not at all likely that the U.S. will achieve success - the pessimism has risen sharply from 35% just two months ago.

WILL THE U.S. SUCCEED IN IRAQ?

	Now	1/2006	7/2005
Very likely	15%	21%	21%
Somewhat likely	36	42	43
Not very/not at all likely	47	35	35

Prospects for Iraq's democracy look bleak to a majority of Americans. 54% now thinks Iraq will never become a stable democracy. Just 5% think Iraq will be a stable democracy within a year or two and 38% say it will take longer. This stands in stark contrast to the optimism of two years ago. Then, and again after the Iraqi elections in the winter of 2005, most Americans had hopes for democracy in Iraq.

WILL IRAQ BECOME A STABLE DEMOCRACY?

	Now	1/2006	2/2005	12/2003
Yes, in the next year or two	5%	6%	9%	7%
Yes, but will take longer	38	52	55	59
No, never	54	39	34	31

Any payoff in the war against terrorism from a democratic success in Iraq is unclear to most Americans. 64% say it will make no difference to U.S. safety from terrorism if Iraq does indeed become a stable democracy. Just 28% say that would make the U.S. safer. However, majorities do say a stable democracy is important to both the economic and security interests of the U.S.

IF IRAQ DOES BECOME STABLE DEMOCRACY, U.S. WILL BE...

More safe from terrorism	28%
Less safe	5
Won't make any difference	64

And only 36% think the U.S. effort in Iraq will lead to greater stability in the broader Middle East. 21% say it will bring less stability; 36% say it will make no difference. These feelings are not much different than they were in the fall of 2003.

IRAQ TODAY

More than seven in 10 Americans - majorities of both Democrats and Republicans - say a civil war is currently going on in Iraq among different groups of Iraqis, and another 13% think civil war is likely to break out in the near future.

IS THERE A CIVIL WAR GOING ON IN IRAQ NOW?

Yes	71%
No, but will happen in the future	13
No, won't happen	10

Overall, 57% of Americans say things are going badly for the U.S. in Iraq, while only 40% say things are going well. While this is a slight improvement from two weeks ago, when CBS News polled immediately after an important Shiite mosque in Samarra was bombed and sectarian violence began, for much of the past year a majority has said things are going badly in Iraq.

Just over a year ago, in the weeks after elections to select a National Assembly in Iraq, views were more positive: 53% said things were going well for the U.S. After the capture of Saddam Hussein in December 2003, 65% thought things were going well.

HOW ARE THINGS IN IRAQ GOING FOR U.S.?

	Now	2/2006	2/2005	12/2003
Well	40%	36%	53%	65%
Badly	57	62	47	33

Today, Americans are likely to say most Iraqis are resentful of the U.S. Only 32% say most of the Iraqi people are grateful to the U.S. for getting rid of Saddam Hussein - the lowest number to date - while 46% think most Iraqis are resentful of the U.S. for being in Iraq. More Americans thought the Iraqi people were grateful to the U.S. after Saddam Hussein's capture in December 2003, and after the fall of Baghdad in April of that year.

HOW ARE MOST IRAQI PEOPLE FEELING RIGHT NOW?

	Now	4/2004	12/2003	4/2003
Grateful	32%	38%	48%	53%
Resentful	46	48	30	26
Both	13	9	13	14

Most Americans - 53% - say neither side is currently winning the war in Iraq. Only 29% say the U.S. is winning, down from 36% in January. Today's views are similar to those shortly after the prison abuse scandal at Abu Ghraib came to light.

WHO IS WINNING THE WAR IN IRAQ?

	Now	1/2006	5/2004
The United States	29%	36%	31%
Iraqi resistance	12	9	10
Neither side	53	48	54

41% say the U.S. has made at least some progress in the training of Iraqi troops, but this number has dropped dramatically since January when 54% said progress had been made. Today, a quarter say there has been little or no progress and another 35% are unable to gauge the amount of progress. The public is more optimistic about the progress being made in setting up a stable democratic government in Iraq. About half say there has been at least some progress made toward that.

HOW MUCH PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN ...?

	Training Iraqi Troops		Setting up stable democratic gov't
	Now	1/2006	Now
A lot	11%	16%	7%
Some	30	38	41
Not much	19	16	25
None	5	4	5
Don't know	35	26	22

U.S. TROOPS TODAY

50% of Americans think the U.S. government is not giving U.S. troops in Iraq enough resources and military equipment to succeed there. There are partisan differences on this question. 61% of Republicans say the U.S. government is providing the troops with all they need, but 62% of Democrats think the troops are not getting enough resources.

IS THE GOV'T GIVING U.S. TROOPS ENOUGH RESOURCES TO SUCCEED?

Yes	37%
No	50

Still, three in four Americans are opposed to reinstating the draft in order to provide soldiers for the Iraq conflict. They are also opposed to reinstating the draft in general.

REINSTATING THE MILITARY DRAFT...

	To provide <u>soldiers for Iraq</u>	In the <u>United States</u>
Favor	20%	25%
Oppose	76	68

Americans today, as they have for a while, would like to see troop levels in Iraq lowered, including 29% who want all troops removed now and 30% who want levels decreased.

U.S. TROOP LEVELS IN IRAQ SHOULD BE...

	Now	12/2005	9/2005
Increased	10%	11%	10%
Kept the same	25	24	26
Decreased	30	32	27
Remove all troops	29	28	32

But many are skeptical that what they'd like to happen won't actually come to pass. 27% think U.S. troops will remain in Iraq for more than five years, and another 36% think they will be there at least another two to five years from now. Americans have never thought the stay in Iraq would be a very short one, but back in the summer of 2003, when asked how long troops would need to stay, more than four in ten believed troops would be out within two years time.

HOW LONG WILL TROOPS HAVE TO STAY?

	Now	4/2004	7/2003
Less than one year	10%	8%	13%
One to two years	20	27	31
Two to five years	36	33	31
More than five years	27	25	18

However, if troops were pulled out of Iraq now, 44% think that would bring more violence, while 42% say there would be about the same amount of violence as there is now. Few think there would be less violence if U.S. troops withdraw.

VIOLENCE IN IRAQ IF TROOPS WITHDRAWN

	Now	12/2005
More violence	44%	46%
Less violence	11	12
Same amount	42	38

LOOKING BACK

Today, three years after the war began, Americans' belief that it was the right thing to do remains at 41%, the same as last month, and this measure's lowest level of the war. Most Americans continue to believe that going to war was NOT the right thing to do: 54% say so, also the same number as last month.

DID U.S. DO THE RIGHT THING GOING TO WAR WITH IRAQ?

	Now	2/06	10/05	2/05	10/04	4/04	12/03	3/03
Right thing	41%	41%	41%	46%	53%	47%	63%	69%
Should have stayed out	54	54	55	50	42	46	31	25

Support for military action was very high when the war started in the spring of 2003, and remained high through the capture of Saddam Hussein late that year. But by spring 2004, that sentiment had dipped below 50%, weighed down in part by rising U.S. casualties and the Iraqi prisoner abuse controversy. During the 2004 Presidential campaign, as President Bush repeated his case for the Iraq action, belief that war had been the right thing to do rose back to 53% -- only to dip again in 2005. It stayed in the 40% range throughout the past year.

As has been the case for nearly the entire course of the war, support today breaks heavily along partisan lines. 71% of Republicans call the war the right thing to have done, while 20% of Democrats agree. Democratic support for the war was once higher: back in December of 2003, soon after the capture of Saddam, about one-third of Democrats called the war the right thing to do.

Americans make an even more negative evaluation when asked to weigh the war's costs versus its results. Today, only one-fourth of Americans say the war has been worth the costs, including the loss of American life - the lowest measure ever found in this poll. An overwhelming seven in ten say it was not worth it -the highest number who have ever said so.

HAS THE WAR BEEN WORTH THE COSTS?

	Now	2/2006	10/2005	4/2004	12/2003
Yes	25%	29%	31%	34%	42%
No	70	63	64	57	47

Even in December 2003, when many more Americans called the war the right thing than do so today, this evaluation was more negative than positive.

Half the sample was asked whether the war was worth the costs, while another half was asked whether "removing Saddam Hussein" specifically was worth it. On this question, more - 40% - say that it was worth it. Americans have usually assigned higher worth to removing Saddam than to the more general results of the Iraq conflict. But this sentiment, too, has moved lower since the former dictator's capture in December 2003. By spring 2004, at about the one-year anniversary of the war, fewer than half thought his removal, specifically, had been worth it.

WAS REMOVING SADDAM WORTH IT?

	Now	2/06	10/05	3/04	12/03	5/03
Yes	40%	41%	34%	47%	54%	65%
No	51	53	57	43	37	28

A majority still believes some sort of action against Iraq was the right thing to do. But nearly one-quarter of Americans, 22%, would have preferred the U.S. had ousted Saddam from power, and then left Iraq right after that.

35% think the U.S. was right to both remove Saddam and to stay in Iraq to rebuild the country. Four in ten, however, would have preferred not getting involved in Iraq at all.

WHAT SHOULD THE U.S. HAVE DONE...?

Remove Saddam AND stay to rebuild Iraq	35%
Remove Saddam, then left Iraq	22
Never gotten involved in Iraq	40

REASONS FOR WAR

Americans hold a wide range of views about the reasons that the Bush Administration decided to go to war in Iraq.

Asked to volunteer in their own words what they believe the Administration's motives were, about four in ten Americans cite a reason roughly in keeping with the Administration's stated goals. This includes 21% who say it was to protect the U.S., either generally, or from terrorism or weapons of mass destruction, specifically. Another 9% name Saddam Hussein and his removal, and 7% say it was generally because of, or in retaliation for, the September 11th, 2001 attacks. 3% say it was to either free the Iraqi people or promote democracy, generally.

But nearly as many others, most of whom do not think the war in Iraq was the right thing to do and many of whom are Democrats, give more skeptical reasons. 19% say it was to protect U.S. oil interests or make money for U.S. companies, and 11% say it was President Bush's personal goal to finish something his father, George H.W. Bush, had started during the Gulf War of the early 1990's. Another 8% say the action was prodded by others in the Administration, such as Vice-President Dick Cheney or Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.

WHY DID BUSH DECIDE TO GO TO WAR?

Protect the U.S. (from terror, WMDs)	21%
To remove Saddam Hussein	9
Because of 9/11	7
Free the Iraqis/promote democracy	3
Protect U.S. oil interests/make money	19
Finish G.H.W. Bush's Gulf War	11
Others in Administration wanted to	8

Whatever their view on the U.S.' involvement in Iraq, most Americans say the war has lasted longer than they expected.

HAS THE WAR BEEN...

Longer than you expected	60%
As long as you expected	34
Shorter than you expected	4

Americans split over whether they describe themselves as proud of the U.S. action in Iraq. 46% call themselves proud. 48% are not. Most Republicans are proud; most Democrats are not. But in the eyes of most Americans,

support for the war, or lack thereof, has nothing to do with patriotism - 83% say a person can be patriotic if they don't support the war. Most conservatives, as well as most moderates and liberals, say so.

But in assessing the payoffs from the war so far, Americans say one goal - making the U.S. safer from terrorism - has still not been realized. Just 30% say the U.S. is safer from that threat today thanks to the Iraq action, and 23% say it has made the U.S. less safe. 44% say it has made no difference.

HAS THE ACTION AGAINST IRAQ MADE THE U.S...?

	Now	12/2005	3/2004	1/2004
Safer from terrorism	30%	35%	36%	50%
No difference	44	41	38	29
Less safe	23	22	22	18

One reason for this may be that only 35% of Americans see the Iraq action as a major part of the broader war on terror. Another 11% see it as a major part, while nearly half - 49% - see it as not connected at all. Back in the Spring of 2003, most Americans thought it was a major part.

IS IRAQ PART OF WAR ON TERROR?

	Now	12/2005	11/2004	5/2003
Yes, major part	35%	41%	34%	51%
Yes, minor part	11	12	9	14
No, separate	49	43	51	32

Fewer than half of Americans say they are following the trial of Saddam Hussein, including just 8% who are following it very closely.

RATING THE PRESIDENT: THE IMPACT OF IRAQ

The American people continue to give President Bush low marks for the way he is handling his job as president. President Bush's current job approval is 34% -- an all-time low for the Bush Presidency that is unchanged from last month.

PRES. BUSH'S JOB APPROVAL

	Now	2/06	1/06	3/05	4/04	4/03
Approve	34%	34%	42%	43%	46%	73%
Disapprove	57	59	51	48	47	21

More than seven in ten Republicans still approve, virtually the same number as two weeks ago, after views of the President were damaged by the now-aborted Dubai Ports deal. Only 6% of Democrats and 28% of Independents approve, also not changed from then. Opinions about the war in Iraq are also related to approval -- 64% of Americans who think things are going well in Iraq approve of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president, while only 13% of Americans who think things are going badly approve.

President Bush's approval ratings for handling the war in Iraq have closely followed the highs and lows of his overall approval rating since the war began. In April 2003 - just after the fall of Baghdad - 79% of Americans approved of the way the President was handling the war in Iraq, and 73%

approved of how he was handling his job overall. In April of 2004 - right after the revelations of the abuse of Iraqi prisoners at the Abu Ghraib prison - both of these numbers fell below 50%. They rose slightly before the election, only to drop again through 2005. Currently 31% of Americans approve of the way the President is handling the war in Iraq, and 34% approve of the way he is handling his job overall.

PRES. BUSH'S JOB APPROVAL					
	Now	2/2006	1/2006	4/2004	4/2003
Overall	34%	34%	42%	46%	73%
Iraq	31%	30%	37%	41%	79%
Foreign Policy	30%	--	39%	40%	--

The President's approval rating for foreign policy has followed this trend as well. Today 30% of Americans approve of the way President Bush is handling foreign policy - down 9 points since January, the last time this question was asked.

Only 31% believe that the Bush Administration has clearly explained what the U.S.'s goals are in Iraq, while twice that number believes the Administration hasn't done that yet.

Most Americans are skeptical of the President's description of the situation in Iraq. 66% think President Bush makes things in Iraq sound better than they are - the highest number to date. 23% think he describes things accurately.

PRESIDENT BUSH DESCRIBES THINGS IN IRAQ..			
	Now	1/2006	1/2005
Better than they are	66%	58%	55%
Worse than they are	6	5	6
Accurately	23	31	35

Views on how the media explains the situation in Iraq are more mixed. 35% say when the media talks about Iraq they describe the situation accurately, but almost as many - 31% - say they make things sound worse in Iraq than they really are. A quarter of Americans say the media makes things in Iraq sound better than they area.

THE MEDIA DESCRIBES THINGS IN IRAQ..	
Better than they are	24%
Worse than they are	31
Accurately	35

Iraq remains the dominant problem facing the country. While fewer name it now than last month, it is still ahead of the economy and jobs and terrorism.

U.S.' MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM

	Now	2/2006
War in Iraq	20%	24%
Economy/Jobs	13	13
Terrorism	6	9

Americans view the Democratic Party as more likely to make the right decisions about Iraq, and by a larger margin than in earlier polls. 41% say the Democratic Party is more likely to make the right decisions about Iraq; 35% choose the Republicans.

**LIKELY TO MAKE
THE RIGHT DECISIONS ABOUT IRAQ?**

Democrats	41%
Republicans	35

Americans are split over the President's handling of the campaign against terrorism. Now 45% of Americans approve and 47% disapprove of the way President Bush is handling this issue.

BUSH'S HANDLING OF THE WAR ON TERROR

	Now	2/2006	1/2006
Approve	45%	43%	52%
Disapprove	47	50	43

Although still low, the President's approval rating for handling the economy has risen slightly to 35% from 32% last month. This rise coincides with a more positive view of the state of the economy in general. After dipping down to 50% last month, a slight majority of Americans (55%) once again thinks the condition of the national economy is at least somewhat good.

Americans continue to have a pessimistic outlook when assessing the direction the country is going in overall. Now 66% of all Americans think the country is on the wrong track.

DIRECTION OF THE COUNTRY

	Now	1/2006
Right Direction	28%	32%
Wrong Track	66	61

Congress fares better than it did last month. While only 1 in 3 Americans approve of the way Congress is handling its job, the number of people who disapprove is down 7 points from last month. Still, a majority of Americans - 54% - disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job.

JOB APPROVAL OF CONGRESS

	Now	2/2006
Approve	32%	28%
Disapprove	54	61

OPERATING U.S. PORTS

In the last two weeks, the Administration faced broad condemnation (from the public and from members of Congress of both parties) for an arrangement giving a United Arab Emirates company operational (but not security) control of six U.S. shipping ports. That deal was withdrawn just before interviewing for this poll began.

The argument presented by the Bush Administration that the United Arab Emirates is an ally of the United States does not seem to have convinced most Americans. Only 17% of Americans say that, in general, allowing companies from other nations to operate U.S. ports is okay if the country in question is an ally of the United States. 36% of Americans believe it depends on the country, while 42% believe it is never acceptable for a foreign company to operate a U.S. shipping port.

FOREIGN COMPANIES OPERATING U.S. SHIPPING PORTS

Okay if ally	17%
Depends on Country	36
Never okay	42

This poll was conducted among a nationwide random sample of 1136 adults, interviewed by telephone March 9-12, 2006. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The poll includes an oversample of people who have served in the military in Iraq or have an immediate family member who has served there. There were a total of 247 interviews with this group (see separate release). They were weighted to their proper proportion within the total sample.

CBS NEWS POLL
IRAQ: THREE YEARS AND COUNTING
March 9-12 2006

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

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				Feb06b
	Total	*** Party ID ***			
	%	Rep	Dem	Ind	%
Approve	34	74	6	28	34
Disapprove	57	20	82	62	59
DK/NA	9	6	12	10	7

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?

					Jan06b
Right direction	28	62	8	20	32
Wrong track	66	33	84	74	61
DK/NA	6	5	8	6	7

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

					Feb06b
War in Iraq	20	17	22	21	24
Economy / Jobs	13	10	15	14	13
Terrorism (general)	6	9	5	6	9
Health Care	5	5	5	4	5
Gas/Heating Oil Crisis	4	2	7	2	2
Foreign Policy	4	3	3	5	3
Immigration	4	6	1	6	1
The President/G.W. Bush	3	1	6	3	5
Moral Values/Family Values	3	7	1	2	2
Poverty / Homelessness	3	2	3	2	3
Budget Deficit /Nat'l Debt	3	1	3	5	2
Education	3	5	3	1	2
Defense / Military	2	2	2	2	4
Foreign aid/Attn. to Domestic	2	1	2	2	2
Environment	2	3	1	2	1
Politicians/Government	2	1	0	3	2
Other	15	18	14	17	14
DK/NA	6	7	7	3	6

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

					Jan06b
Approve	30	64	6	24	39
Disapprove	60	27	83	65	54
DK/NA	10	9	11	11	7

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

					Feb06b
Approve	35	73	9	28	32
Disapprove	57	23	82	61	60
DK/NA	8	4	9	11	8

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

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				
	Total	*** Party ID ***			Feb06b
		Rep	Dem	Ind	
%	%	%	%	%	
Approve	31	67	8	25	30
Disapprove	63	30	84	68	65
DK/NA	6	3	8	7	5

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

Approve	45	84	18	40	43
Disapprove	47	14	70	51	50
DK/NA	8	2	12	9	7

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

Approve	32	42	28	28	28
Disapprove	54	46	59	57	61
DK/NA	14	12	13	15	11

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

	Feb06b				
Very good	4	9	0	4	5
Fairly good	51	67	39	49	45
Fairly bad	29	16	39	29	33
Very bad	14	6	19	16	15
DK/NA	2	2	3	2	2

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

	Jan06b				
Better	13	29	3	9	17
Worse	39	24	50	41	38
Same	47	47	45	48	44
Don't know/No answer	1	0	2	2	1

q11-13 BLANK

q14 Which of these comes closest to your opinion about companies from other countries operating U.S. shipping ports -- 1. It is okay if the country is an ally of the U.S.; OR 2. It is never ok, even if the country is an ally of the U.S.; OR 3. It depends on the country.

Okay if ally	17	25	16	12
Never okay	42	35	49	41
Depends on the country	36	36	32	38
DK/NA	5	4	3	9

q15 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 A **				
	*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Feb06b
	%	%	%	%	%
Worth it	25	51	8	22	29
Not worth it	70	42	90	72	63
DK/NA	5	7	2	6	8

q16 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 B **				
Worth it	40	74	12	39	41
Not worth it	51	20	77	51	53
DK/NA	9	6	11	10	6

q17 How much confidence do you have in the ability of the U.S. government to protect its citizens from future terrorist attacks -- a great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				
A great deal	17	30	9	15	21
A fair amount	43	51	36	44	48
Not very much	28	16	41	27	23
None at all	10	2	14	14	6
DK/NA	2	1	0	0	2

q18 Do you favor or oppose reinstating the military draft in the United States?

	** HALF SAMPLE C **			
Favor	25	34	16	26
Oppose	68	61	75	67
DK/NA	7	5	9	7

q19 Do you favor or oppose reinstating the military draft to provide soldiers for the Iraq conflict?

	** HALF SAMPLE D **				
Favor	20	26	12	22	Apr04d
Oppose	76	72	85	71	24
Don't know/No answer	4	2	3	7	70
					6

q20 Would you say you feel proud about what the U.S. is doing in the war with Iraq or not proud about what the U.S. is doing?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	*** Party ID ***				Sep05b
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Proud	46	75	23	44	43
Not proud	48	20	69	50	49
Don't know/No answer	6	5	8	6	8

q21-q22 BLANK

q23-24 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q25 Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party is more likely to make the right decisions about the war in Iraq?

					Jan06a
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
Republican party	35	73	8	30	36
Democratic party	41	9	75	35	39
Both (Vol.)	2	3	2	1	2
Neither (Vol.)	8	6	7	12	9
Don't know/No answer	14	9	8	22	14

q26-29 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q30 - BLANK

q31 Looking back, do you think the United States did the right thing in taking military action against Iraq, or should the US have stayed out?

					Feb06b
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
Right thing	41	71	20	37	41
Stayed out	54	25	75	56	54
Don't know/No answer	5	4	5	7	5

q32 How would you say things are going for the US 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?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
Very well	4	8	2	1	5
Somewhat well	36	62	16	34	31
Somewhat badly	28	18	34	32	32
Very badly	29	10	45	28	30
Don't know/No answer	3	2	3	5	2

q33 Regardless of whether you think taking military action in Iraq was the right thing to do--would you say that the U.S. is very likely to succeed in Iraq, somewhat likely to succeed, not very likely to succeed, or not at all likely to succeed in Iraq?

					Jan06a
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
Very likely	15	28	8	10	21
Somewhat likely	36	48	26	36	42
Not very likely	31	18	43	31	24
Not at all likely	16	4	22	19	11
Don't know/No answer	2	2	1	4	2

q34 From what you have seen or heard about the situation in Iraq, what should the United States do now--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, decrease the number of U.S. troops in Iraq, or remove all its troops from Iraq?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Dec05a
	%	%	%	%	%
Increase	10	12	6	13	11
Keep the same number	25	39	16	22	24
Decrease	30	31	31	29	32
Remove all troops	29	13	38	31	28
Don't know/No answer	6	5	9	5	5

q35 How much longer do you think the United States troops WILL HAVE TO remain in Iraq--for less than a year, one to two years, two to five years, or will U.S. troops have to stay in Iraq for longer than five years?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jan06b
Less than a year	10	7	10	13	8
One to two years	20	23	17	19	26
Two to five years	36	40	38	30	37
Longer than five years	27	21	28	30	22
Don't know/No answer	7	9	7	8	7

q36 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	Rep	Dem	Ind	Sep03b
Longer than expected	60	52	72	54	45
Shorter than expected	4	4	1	6	13
About as expected	34	41	26	36	40
Don't know/No answer	2	3	1	4	2

q37 Which comes closer to your view about the Iraq war: 1. The U.S. was right to remove Saddam Hussein AND stay in Iraq to help build a new government there; 2. The U.S. was right to remove Saddam, but then should have left Iraq soon after that, or 3. The U.S. should never have gotten involved in Iraq in the first place.

Right to remove and stay	35	64	13	31
Removed Saddam & left after	22	20	22	24
Never gotten involved	40	15	60	40
DK/NA	3	1	5	5

q38 Which of these do you think is most likely?...1. Iraq will become a stable democracy in the next year or two. 2. Iraq will become a stable democracy, but it will take longer than a year or two. 3. Iraq will probably never become a stable democracy.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jan06a
Will in the next year or two	5	9	1	6	6
Will, but will take longer	38	57	27	33	52
Will never become a democracy	54	34	68	57	39
Don't know/No answer	3	0	4	4	3

q39 If Iraq becomes a stable democracy, do you think that will make the United States more safe from terrorism, less safe from terrorism, or won't it make any difference?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	*** Party ID ***				Jan06a
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
More safe	28	48	20	20	41
Less safe	5	4	7	5	5
No difference	64	47	71	71	51
Don't know/No answer	3	1	2	4	3

q40 How important is a stable democracy in Iraq to the economic interests of the United States? Is it very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important?

*** HALF SAMPLE E ***

Very important	29	35	23	29
Somewhat important	44	49	40	45
Not very important	14	10	18	13
Not important at all	9	2	14	10
DK/NA	4	4	5	3

q41 How important is a stable democracy in Iraq to the security interests of the United States? Is it very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important?

*** HALF SAMPLE F ***

Very important	35	40	28	36
Somewhat important	40	49	36	37
Not very important	15	7	19	17
Not important at all	9	4	13	9
DK/NA	1	0	4	1

q42-43 BLANK

q44 Why do you think the Bush Administration decided to go to war against Iraq?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

Protect U.S. from terrorism	12	19	6	12	15
Protect the U.S. from WMD'	7	13	3	6	9
Protect the country	2	3	1	3	4
To get Saddam Hussein	9	18	3	8	10
Because of 9/11	7	10	4	7	8
Free Iraqi people	1	2	0	1	1
Protect our oil interests	17	8	31	12	17
U.S. companies can make money	2	0	1	4	1
Finish what his dad started	11	4	19	9	13
Cheney/Rumsfeld/Rice/Other	8	5	10	8	2
Promote democracy/peace	2	2	0	4	2
Other	8	7	9	7	7
DK/NA	14	9	13	19	11

q45 Do you think the Bush Administration has clearly explained what the U.S.'s goals are in Iraq, or haven't they done that yet?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Dec05a
	%	%	%	%	%
Clearly explained	31	60	15	23	35
Haven't done that yet	63	36	78	70	61
Don't know/No answer	6	4	7	7	4

q46 When George W. Bush talks about how things are going for the United States in Iraq today, do you think he is making things in Iraq sound better than they really are, making things sound worse than they really are, or is he describing the situation in Iraq accurately?

					Jan06b
Sound better	66	43	79	71	58
Sound worse	6	3	8	6	5
Describing accurately	23	50	7	15	31
DK/NA	5	4	6	8	6

q47 When the news media talks about how things are going for the United States in Iraq today, do you think they are making things in Iraq sound better than they really are, making things sound worse than they really are, or are they describing the situation in Iraq accurately?

Sound better	24	8	30	31
Sound worse	31	57	14	26
Describing accurately	35	30	43	31
DK/NA	10	5	13	12

q48 Do you think of the war in 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 terror, ask:) Is that a major part of the war on terrorism, or a minor part of the war on terrorism?

					Dec05a
Major part of war on terror	35	57	22	29	41
Minor part of war on terror	11	16	6	12	12
No part	49	24	67	52	43
Don't know/No answer	5	3	5	7	4

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?

					Jan06b
More safe	30	59	13	24	39
Less safe	23	9	33	23	19
No difference	44	31	51	48	40
Don't know/No answer	3	1	3	5	2

q50 From what you have heard or read, how much progress has the United States made in training Iraqi troops to take over from the U.S.--a lot, some, not much, none at all, or don't you know enough about it yet to say?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jan06b
	%	%	%	%	%
A lot	11	22	4	8	16
Some	30	36	30	25	38
Not much	19	9	23	24	16
None at all	5	2	7	5	4
Don't know enough	35	31	36	38	26

q51 From what you have heard or read, how much progress has there been in setting up a stable democratic government in Iraq -- a lot, some, not much, none at all, or don't you know enough about it yet to say?

A lot	7	16	3	5
Some	41	53	36	36
Not much	25	15	29	30
None at all	5	0	7	6
Don't know enough	22	16	25	23

q52 Which do you think most Iraqi people are feeling right now -- grateful to the United States for getting rid of Saddam Hussein or resentful of the United States for being in Iraq right now?

					Jan04a
Grateful	32	52	21	26	40
Resentful	46	28	61	47	43
Both (Vol.)	13	13	10	16	10
Don't know/No answer	9	7	8	11	7

q53 If the U.S. withdrew its troops from Iraq now, do you think there would be more violence in Iraq than there is now, would there be less violence than there is now, or about the same amount of violence as there is now?

					Dec05a
More	44	61	31	42	46
Less	11	8	13	12	12
About the same amount	42	31	51	42	38
Don't know/No answer	3	0	5	4	4

q54 Would you say there is a civil war going on in Iraq among different groups of Iraqis right now, or not?

Yes	71	66	76	71
No	21	29	18	18
DK/NA	8	5	6	11

q55 Do you think a civil war in Iraq is likely or not likely to occur in the near future?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Likely	13	8	16	13
Not likely	10	19	4	9
Civil war now in q54	71	66	76	71
DK/NA	6	7	4	7

q56 Who do you think is currently winning the war in Iraq -- the United States, or the Iraqi resistance and insurgents, or neither side?

					Jan06a
					%
The U.S.	29	49	17	25	36
Iraqi resistance	12	5	17	12	9
Neither side	53	41	61	54	48
Don't know/No answer	6	5	5	9	7

q57 BLANK

q58 Do you think someone can be patriotic if they don't support the Iraq war?

Yes	83	83	85	82
No	12	14	9	13
DK/NA	5	3	6	5

q59 Do you think the U.S. presence in Iraq will lead to greater stability in the Middle East, less stability, or won't it have any effect on the stability of the Middle East?

					Sep03a
Greater stability	36	62	18	33	40
Less stability	21	8	29	23	19
No difference	36	27	46	34	30
DK/NA	7	3	7	10	11

q60 From what you know, do you think the U.S. government is giving U.S. troops in Iraq enough resources and military equipment to succeed, or not?

Yes	37	61	24	29
No	50	29	62	56
DK/NA	13	10	14	15

q61 How closely have you been following news about the trial of Saddam Hussein -- Very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all?

**** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ****

***** Party ID *****

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Very closely	8	7	6	10
Somewhat closely	38	41	38	37
Not too closely	36	36	39	34
Not at all	17	16	17	19
DK/NA	1	0	0	0

	<u>Unweighted</u>	<u>Weighted</u>
Total Respondents	1136	
Total Republicans	358	328
Total Democrats	366	388
Total Independents	412	420
Iraq military families	247	199
Half Sample A - q15	561	521
Half Sample B - q16	575	615
Half Sample C - q18	544	541
Half Sample D - q19	592	595
Half Sample E - q40	555	573
Half Sample F - q41	581	563