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- Bush approval has plummeted over last 10 days, coinciding with revelation of Dubai Ports World deal
- Democratic margin in generic congressional race climbs to 13 points in polls conducted after break of ports controversy
- Overwhelming public opposition to ports deal shows little sign of weakening
- Iran looms as security threat, but public confidence in Bush's ability to handle the situation is low

AN ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC POLLING — MARCH 8, 2006

by
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This election year began with relative calm in the country's political environment, as President Bush maintained a steady position after recovering from significant losses in October and November of last year. With consumer confidence weak but steady, clear majorities expressing pessimism about the country's direction, and doubts about our country's continuing role in Iraq driving public attitudes, the playing field clearly benefited the Democrats. But Democrats had failed to translate these favorable conditions into a stronger position among voters. As expressed by Karl Rove, Ken Mehlman, and other leading strategists in their party, Republicans sought to exploit this weakness by attacking the Democrats as weak on security and unable to offer real leadership in a post-9/11 world.

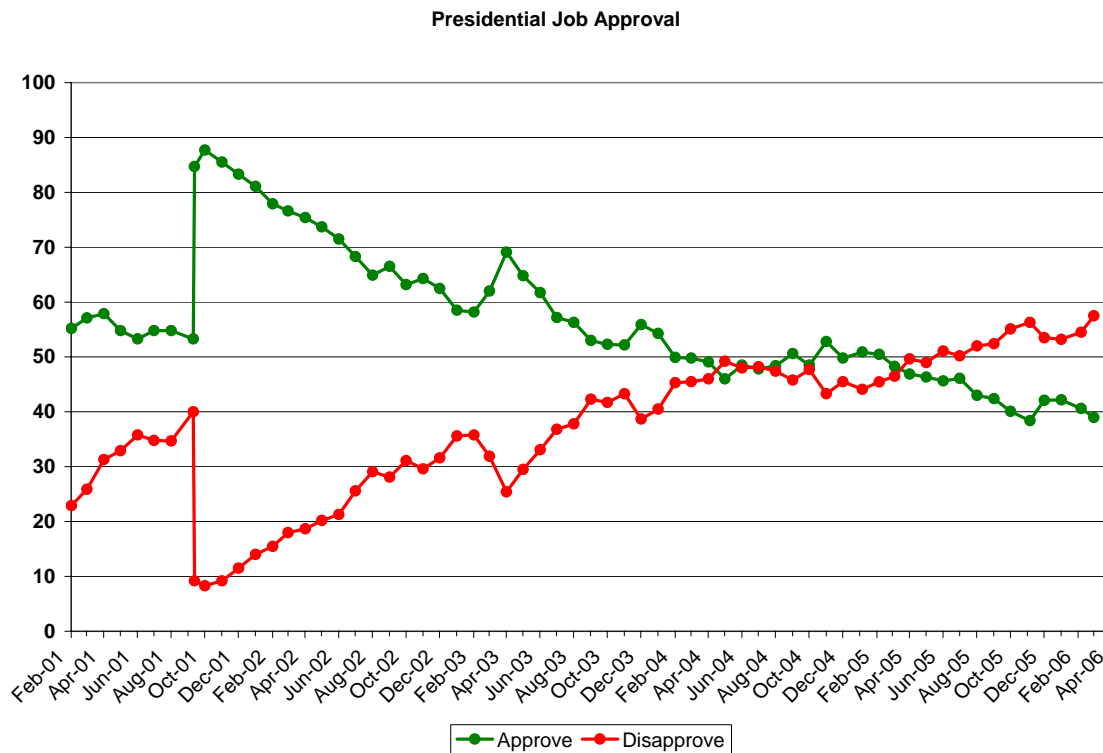
However, the emergence of the Dubai Ports World deal to assume control of major U.S. ports has upset the delicate balance that held for the first two months of this year. The public has reacted to the deal, and the Bush administration's support of it, in very clear and negative terms. The Bush administration clearly hopes to swing public opinion by emphasizing that security at the ports will still be controlled by the U.S. Coast Guard and Homeland Security officials, and suggesting that opposition to the deal is based on Arab bias and reflexive isolationism rather than real security concerns. But polls released this week suggest that the public is unlikely to be swayed by these arguments. This controversy has had a clear impact on attitudes toward Bush, particularly on his handling of security concerns — his most important political strength up to this point, and the basis for his party's electoral strategy in the mid-term elections.

It is important to note that the Dubai Ports World controversy is not the sole cause of the significantly lower numbers for Bush and Republicans in the latest polls. It has combined with growing frustration with the increasing violence in Iraq, a lack of progress on health care and other domestic priorities, a stagnant economy and jobs market, and ongoing corruption scandals

in Washington to spark a significant shift, particularly among Republicans and Republican-leaning Independents. This once again raises the electoral stakes for 2006 and increases the possibility that this will be a major change election. But the imperative for Democrats remains the same — separating themselves from the mess in Washington and communicating to voters how the country as a whole and their individual lives will be different under a Democratic Congress.

Political Marks Dropping for Republicans

President Bush’s job approval has now dropped below 40 percent for just the second time in his administration, and disapproval has risen to an all-time high of 58 percent.



Approval for Bush’s handling of most domestic issues has been below 40 percent for several months now, and approval for his handling of the economy (38 percent average across five polls), budget deficits (24 percent), health care (38 percent), prescription drugs for the elderly (32 percent), gas prices (20 percent), and other issues remains very low, but is not significantly lower than in previous surveys.

The real drop for Bush has come on two key security measures — the war in Iraq and terrorism. The three most recent surveys (conducted since the latest round of sectarian violence began in Iraq) show 35 percent approve of Bush’s handling of Iraq while 62 percent now

disapprove; among Independents, just 30 percent approve while 64 percent disapprove. The same three surveys put Bush's approval in the war on terrorism at a negative for the first time — 46 percent approve while 50 percent disapprove.

On the congressional front, Democrats have maintained a consistent advantage of 9-10 points in public polls conducted over most of the last six months. But four new polls conducted since the ports controversy became public put the Democratic margin at an average of 13 points. Nonetheless, these numbers must be taken in context. While frustration with Congress is clearly high right now — congressional job approval is at 30 percent in the *Hotline* poll and 28 percent in the CBS/*New York Times* release — the Zogby survey finds that 78 percent believe the Republicans have done a good job running Congress over the past 11 years, and 63 percent rate the legislation they have pursued as 'moderate.'

Ports, Iran Emerge as New Security Threats

Public doubts about the situation in Iraq have grown in recent weeks, likely in response to the rapid escalation of sectarian violence that has left hundreds of Iraqis dead. Clear majorities in the CBS/*New York Times* poll now say that they oppose the war, that the U.S. should never have invaded in the first place, that U.S. gains have not been worth 'the loss of American life and other costs of attacking Iraq,' and that our efforts to bring stability to Iraq are 'going badly.' Perhaps the most startling finding in any of the surveys released in the last few weeks is in the FOX release, which finds that more than 8-in-10 voters now believe it is either 'very likely' (49 percent) or 'somewhat likely' (32 percent) that Iraq will end up in civil war.

The Dubai Ports World controversy just adds fuel to the slow burning fire of Iraq. Three surveys — CBS/*New York Times*, FOX News, and ABC/*Washington Post* — each offered an objective explanation of the issue to respondents and found approximately 70 percent of Americans opposing the deal. The ABC/*Post* poll was the only one to measure intensity and found 53 percent strongly opposed, compared to just 8 percent who strongly support the deal. Opposition to the deal is strongest among Democrats, but significant majorities of every subgroup oppose the deal; this represents a rare and surprisingly passionate rebuke of Bush from his partisan and ideological base. The reason is clear in the FOX poll — 77 percent of Americans (including 68 percent of Republicans) are concerned that having a UAE-owned company manage port operations will jeopardize our country's security

The FOX and ABC/*Post* polls explored this issue in greater detail, simulating much of the debate that is currently taking place and finding little public appetite for the Bush administration's arguments:

- From the outset, 63 percent know that the U.S. would remain in charge of security at the ports, but 70 percent say that information either makes no difference or makes them even less likely to support the deal.

- By a margin of nearly 2-to-1, Americans do not believe the UAE is a strong ally in the war on terror (49 to 27 percent). When given brief arguments from both sides on this question, 58 percent say it is just too risky while just 24 percent say the UAE has proven itself as an ally whose support is needed in the war on terror.
- When asked directly if opposition to the port deal is based on bias toward Arabs, 70 percent of Americans acknowledge their belief that bias likely does play a role. But such an acknowledgement doesn't seem to have any influence on their opposition.

Despite these numbers, there is some data on the political realities of this debate that should serve as a caution to Democrats. Both polls find that while Americans' own concerns about the deal are based on security, a plurality sees political opposition based more on grandstanding and electoral advantage than real concerns about security. And despite all of the public and political opposition, a majority in the FOX poll believes that a year from now, Dubai Ports World will be operating ports in the U.S.

Another security issue receiving increased scrutiny from the media and public is Iran and its aggressive moves toward establishing nuclear capability. There is a clear public desire to pursue diplomatic and economic means, rather than military force, to resolve this threat. And the impact of Iraq on President Bush's standing is most clear in the AP/Ipsos survey (conducted before the ports controversy) that reveals slightly greater confidence in the United Nations (47 percent) than in the Bush administration (45 percent) to handle the situation in Iran and finds more than 2-in-3 Americans (69 percent) expressing concern that the U.S. will be too quick to use military force in Iran. But 2-in-3 (67 percent) are also concerned that the U.S. will not do enough to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons. And if Iran does develop nuclear weapons, Americans clearly fear the worst:

- 81 percent say Iran would provide a nuclear weapon to terrorists to use against Israel
- 80 percent say Iran would provide a nuclear weapon to terrorists to use against the U.S.
- 77 percent say the Iranian government would use nuclear weapons directly against Israel
- 59 percent say the Iranian government would use nuclear weapons directly against the U.S.

While the experience with Iraq has certainly impacted public attitudes on Iran and Americans' determination to consider military action only as a last resort, the parallels between the current Iran situation and the developing Iraq situation in 2002 — including public calls for diplomatic and economic means over military means, public willingness to consider military means if facing the threat of weapons of mass destruction, a fragile international coalition with competing priorities, and a politically vulnerable GOP looking to refocus voters on core security concerns — are a stark reminder that things can still change dramatically between now and November.

Democrats Gaining, But Still Much Work To Do

The decline in public confidence in President Bush and Republicans in Congress is undeniably good news for Democrats. And Democratic gains in the generic congressional race

— not just in the net advantage but the number of voters supporting a Democratic candidate — demonstrate that they have realized some electoral gains as a result of recent Republican losses. In addition, the losses suffered by President Bush on security issues have helped Democrats close the gap on which party Americans trust to handle the war on terrorism to 5 points in the FOX poll and 7 points in the ABC/*Post* survey. However, we have yet to see any conclusive evidence of Democrats elevating their overall favorability, which remains near record low levels. This is the critical next step for Democrats. As highlighted earlier, Democrats must define themselves to voters and demonstrate how they will fight not just to put an end to business as usual in Washington, but to deliver real results on the issues that matter most to those voters.

Polls included in this analysis:

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION. 2/8-12/06; 1,012 registered voters.

AMERICAN RESEARCH GROUP. 2/18-21/06; 1,100 adults.

ABC NEWS/WASHINGTON POST. Month ending Feb. 26, 2006; 1,000 adults.

ABC NEWS/WASHINGTON POST. 3/2-5/06; 1,000 adults;

ASSOCIATED PRESS/IPSOS PUBLIC AFFAIRS. 2/13-16/06; 1,000 adults.

CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES. 2/22-26/06; 1,018 adults.

CNN/GALLUP/USA TODAY. 2/18-26/06; 804 adults residents of New Orleans.

DIAGEO/HOTLINE. 2/16-19/06; 807 registered voters.

FOX NEWS/OPINION DYNAMICS. 2/28-3/1/06; 900 registered voters.

LAKE RESEARCH (D)/TARRANCE GROUP (R). 2/12-15/06; 1,000 likely voters.

LOS ANGELES TIMES/BLOOMBERG. 2/25-3/01/2006; 1273 adults.

MARIST COLLEGE/WNBC. 2/13/06 and 2/15/06; 1,132 adults.

QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY. 2/21-28/06; 1,892 registered voters.

TIME/SRBI. 2/15-16/06; 1,001 adults.

ZOGBY. 2/15-18/06; 1,039 adults.

BUSH JOB APPROVAL – POST 9/11/01				
		Approve	Disapprove	App – Disapp
Monthly Average – March	Mar-06	39.0	57.5	-18.5
ABC News/Washington Post#	3/6/2006	41	58	-17.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	3/1/2006	39	54	-15.0
CNN/Gallup/USA Today#	3/1/2006	38	60	-22.0
LA Times/Bloomberg	3/1/2006	38	58	-20.0
Monthly Average – February	Feb-06	40.6	54.5	-13.8
Quinnipiac University^	2/28/2006	36	58	-22.0
Democracy Corps#	2/27/2006	42	55	-13.0
Cook/RT Strategies#	2/26/2006	40	54	-14.0
CBS	2/26/2006	34	59	-25.0
Diageo/Hotline^	2/19/2006	45	52	-7.0
Time#	2/16/2006	40	54	-14.0
WNBC/Marist^	2/15/2006	40	57	-17.0
CNN/Gallup/USA Today#	2/12/2006	39	56	-17.0
Gallup#	2/9/2006	42	55	-13.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	2/8/2006	44	47	-3.0
AP/Ipsos#	2/8/2006	40	57	-17.0
Pew Research#	2/5/2006	40	52	-12.0
Democracy Corps#	2/2/2006	46	52	-6.0
Monthly Average – January	Jan-06	42.2	53.2	-10.9
NBC News/Wall Street Journal#	1/29/2006	39	54	-15.0
Time#	1/26/2006	41	55	-14.0
ABC News/Washington Post#	1/26/2006	42	56	-14.0
Democracy Corps#	1/25/2006	44	53	-9.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	1/25/2006	41	51	-10.0
LA Times/Bloomberg	1/25/2006	43	54	-11.0
CBS/New York Times	1/25/2006	42	51	-9.0
CNN/Gallup/USA Today#	1/22/2006	43	54	-11.0
Diageo/Hotline^	1/15/2006	46	51	-5.0
Gallup	1/12/2006	43	55	-12.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	1/11/2006	42	49	-7.0
Democracy Corps#	1/8/2006	44	50	-6.0
Pew Research	1/8/2006	38	54	-16.0
ABC News/Washington Post#	1/8/2006	46	52	-6.0
CNN/Gallup/USA Today#	1/8/2006	43	54	-11.0
CBS	1/8/2006	41	52	-11.0
AP/Ipsos#	1/5/2006	40	59	-19.0
Monthly Average – December	Dec-05	42.1	53.5	-11.3
CNN/Gallup/USA Today#	12/22/05	43	53	-10.0
CNN/Gallup/USA Today#	12/18/05	41	56	-15.0
ABC News/Washington Post#	12/18/05	47	52	-5.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	12/14/05	42	51	-9.0

Diageo/Hotline^	12/13/05	50	47	3.0
Democracy Corps#	12/12/05	44	53	-9.0
NBC News/Wall Street Journal#	12/12/05	39	55	-16.0
CNN/Gallup/USA Today#	12/11/05	42	55	-13.0
Cook/RT Strategies#	12/11/05	42	55	-13.0
Pew Research #	12/11/05	38	54	-16.0
AP/Ipsos#	12/7/05	42	57	-15.0
CBS News/New York Times#	12/6/05	40	53	-13.0
Democracy Corps#	12/4/05	41	54	-13.0
Quinnipiac University^	12/4/05	40	54	-14.0
Time#	12/1/05	41	53	-12.0
Monthly Average – November	Nov-05	38.4	56.3	-17.9
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	11/30/05	42	48	-6.0
Cook/RT Strategies#	11/20/05	41	52	-11.0
Gallup#	11/20/05	38	57	-19.0
Democracy Corps#	11/20/05	42	56	-14.0
Diageo/Hotline^	11/15/05	39	59	-20.0
CNN/Gallup/USA Today#	11/13/05	37	60	-23.0
Newsweek#	11/11/05	36	58	-22.0
Gallup#	11/10/05	40	55	-15.0
Fox News/Opinion Dynamics^	11/9/05	36	53	-17.0
AP/Ipsos#	11/9/05	37	61	-24.0
NBC News/Wall Street Journal#	11/7/05	38	57	-19.0
Pew Research #	11/6/05	36	55	-19.0
Democracy Corps#	11/6/05	42	54	-12.0
AP/Ipsos#	11/2/05	37	59	-22.0
ABC News/Washington Post#	11/2/05	39	60	-21.0
CBS News#	11/1/05	35	57	-22.0
Monthly Average – October	Oct-05	40.1	55.1	-15.1
Monthly Average – September	Sep-05	42.4	52.4	-10.0
Monthly Average – August	Aug-05	43.0	52.0	-9.0
Monthly Average – July	Jul-05	46.1	50.2	-4.1
Monthly Average – June	Jun-05	45.6	51.1	-5.4
Monthly Average – May	May-05	46.4	49.0	-2.6
Monthly Average – April	Apr-05	46.9	49.6	-2.7
Monthly Average – March	Mar-05	48.3	46.5	1.8
Monthly Average – February	Feb-05	50.5	45.5	5.0
Monthly Average – January	Jan-05	50.9	44.1	6.8
Monthly Average – December	Dec-04	49.8	45.5	4.3
Monthly Average – November	Nov-04	52.8	43.3	9.5
Monthly Average – October	Oct-04	48.5	47.7	0.8
Monthly Average – September	Sep-04	50.6	45.8	4.8
Monthly Average – August	Aug-04	48.4	47.4	1
Monthly Average – July	Jul-04	47.8	48.2	-0.4
Monthly Average – June	Jun-04	48.5	48	0.5
Monthly Average – May	May-04	46	49.2	-3.2

Monthly Average – April	Apr-04	49.1	46	3.1
Monthly Average – March	Mar-04	49.8	45.5	4.3
Monthly Average – February	Feb-04	49.9	45.3	4.6
Monthly Average – January	Jan-04	54.3	40.5	13.8
Monthly Average – December	Dec-03	55.9	38.7	17.2
Monthly Average – November	Nov-03	52.2	43.3	8.9
Monthly Average – October	Oct-03	52.3	41.7	10.6
Monthly Average – September	Sep-03	53	42.3	10.7
Monthly Average – August	Aug-03	56.3	37.8	18.5
Monthly Average – July	Jul-03	57.2	36.8	20.4
Monthly Average – June	Jun-03	61.7	33.1	28.6
Monthly Average – May	May-03	64.8	29.5	35.3
Monthly Average – April	Apr-03	69.1	25.4	43.7
Monthly Average – March	Mar-03	62	31.9	30.1
Monthly Average – February	Feb-03	58.2	35.8	22.4
Monthly Average – January	Jan-03	58.5	35.6	22.9
Monthly Average – December	Dec-02	62.5	31.6	30.9
Monthly Average – November	Nov-02	64.3	29.6	34.7
Monthly Average – October	Oct-02	63.2	31.1	32.1
Monthly Average – September	Sep-02	66.5	28.1	38.4
Monthly Average – August	Aug-02	64.9	29.1	35.8
Monthly Average – July	Jul-02	68.3	25.6	42.7
Monthly Average – June	Jun-02	71.5	21.3	50.2
Monthly Average – May	May-02	73.7	20.2	53.5
Monthly Average – April	Apr-02	75.4	18.7	56.7
Monthly Average – March	Mar-02	76.6	18	58.6
Monthly Average – February	Feb-02	77.9	15.5	62.4
Monthly Average – January	Jan-02	81.1	14	67.1
Monthly Average – Dec.	Dec-01	83.3	11.5	71.8
Monthly Average – Nov.	Nov-01	85.5	9.2	76.3
Monthly Average – Oct.	Oct-01	87.7	8.3	79.4
Monthly Average – Sept.	Sep-01	84.7	9.2	75.5
Monthly Average – Sept.	Sep-01	53.3	40	13.3
Monthly Average – August	Aug-01	54.8	34.7	20.1
Monthly Average – July	Jul-01	54.8	34.8	20
Monthly Average – June	Jun-01	53.3	35.8	17.5
Monthly Average – May	May-01	54.8	32.9	21.9
Monthly Average – April	Apr-01	57.9	31.3	26.6
Monthly Average – March	Mar-01	57.1	25.9	31.2
Monthly Average – Feb.	Feb-01	55.2	22.9	32.3

Key: # - Adults, * - Registered Voters, ^ - Likely Voters, ~ - Nov. 2 Voters

BUSH JOB APPROVAL – PRE 9/11/01				
		Approve	Disapprove	App – Disapp
Monthly Average – Sept.	9/01	53.3	40.0	+13.3
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	9/10/01	51	39	+12
ABC News/Wash Post#	9/9/01	55	41	+14
Democracy Corps^	9/6/01	54	40	+14
Monthly Average – August	8/01	54.8	34.7	+20.1
CBS News#	8/31/01	50	38	+12
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	8/26/01	55	36	+19
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	8/19/01	57	34	+23
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	8/12/01	57	35	+22
Bloomberg#	8/5/01	55	30	+25
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	8/5/01	55	35	+20
Monthly Average – July	7/01	54.8	34.8	+20.0
ABC News/Wash Post#	7/30/01	59	38	+21
Harris#	7/25/01	56	39	+17
Gallup#	7/22/01	56	33	+23
Time/CNN#	7/18/01	55	35	+20
Pew#	7/12/01	52	27	+25
American Research Group#	7/12/01	51	37	+14
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	7/11/01	57	35	+22
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	7/1/01	52	34	+18
Monthly Average – June	6/01	53.3	35.8	+17.5
NBC News/WSJ	6/25/01	50	35	+15
Harris#	6/18/01	50	46	+4
CBS/NYTimes#	6/18/01	53	34	+19
Pew#	6/17/01	50	33	+17
Gallup#	6/17/01	55	33	+22
Democracy Corps^	6/13/01	58	35	+23
CNN/USA Today/Gallup#	6/10/01	55	35	+20
ABC News/Wash Post#	6/3/01	55	40	+15
Bloomberg#	6/3/01	54	31	+23
Monthly Average – May	5/01	54.8	32.9	+21.9
Monthly Average – April	4/01	57.9	31.3	+26.6
Monthly Average – March	3/01	57.1	25.9	+31.2
Monthly Average – Feb.	2/01	55.2	22.9	+32.3

Key: # - Adults, * - Registered Voters, ^ - Likely Voters

Poll	COUNTRY DIRECTION				
	Direction/Satisfied	Date	Right	Wrong	Right-Wrong
Monthly Average - March 2006		Mar-06	30.0	64.0	-34.0
LA Times^	D	3/1/2006	30	64	-34
Monthly Average - February 2006		Feb-06	35.5	59.8	-24.3
Democracy Corps#	D	2/27/2006	32	62	-30
WNBC/Marist	D	2/19/2006	34	61	-27
Zogby^	D	2/15/2006	42	53	-11
Gallup	S	2/9/2006	35	62	-27
AP/Ipsos#	D	2/8/2006	35	61	-26
Democracy Corps#	D	2/2/2006	35	60	-25
Monthly Average - January 2006		Jan-06	35.0	57.9	-22.9
NBC News/Wall Street Journal#	D	1/29/2006	31	57	-26
Time^	D	1/26/2006	33	63	-30
Democracy Corps#	D	1/25/2006	31	60	-29
Cook Political Report/RT Strategies#	D	1/25/2006	38	60	-22
LA Times^	D	1/17/2006	40	48	-8
Diageo/Hotline	D	1/15/2006	33	54	-21
Zogby	D	1/12/2006	40	53	-13
Gallup	S	1/12/2006	36	61	-25
Democracy Corps#	D	1/8/2006	37	55	-18
Pew Research Center#	S	1/8/2006	34	61	-27
AP/Ipsos#	D	1/5/2006	32	65	-33
Monthly Average - December 2005		Dec-05	33.8	61.3	-27.5
Democracy Corps#	D	12/12/05	34	60	-26
Cook Political Report/RT Strategies#	D	12/11/05	36	61	-25
AP/Ipsos#	D	12/7/05	33	64	-31
Democracy Corps#	D	12/4/05	32	60	-28
Monthly Average - November 2005		Nov-05	30.4	64.6	-34.1
Monthly Average - October 2005		Oct-05	32.8	61.3	-28.5
Monthly Average - September 2005		Sep-05	33.5	61.5	-28.0
Monthly Average - August 2005		Aug-05	36.7	57.7	-21.0
Monthly Average - July 2005		Jul-05	37.8	56.4	-18.6
Monthly Average - June 2005		Jun-05	37.1	55.9	-18.8
Monthly Average - May 2005		May-05	36.1	55.4	-19.3
Monthly Average - April 2005		Apr-05	36.9	54.6	-17.7
Monthly Average - March 2005		Mar-05	40.3	55.5	-15.3
Monthly Average - February 2005		Feb-05	41.2	51.8	-10.7
Monthly Average - January 2005		Jan-05	42.0	51.0	-9
Monthly Average - December 2004		Dec-04	42.5	49.5	-7

Monthly Average - November 2004	Nov-04	44.5	50.5	-6
Monthly Average - October 2004	Oct-04	40.9	53.6	-12.7
Monthly Average - September 2004	Sep-04	42.4	51.7	-9.3
Monthly Average - September 2004	Sep-04	42.4	51.7	-9.3
Monthly Average - August 2004	Aug-04	40.0	53.4	-13.4
Monthly Average - July 2004	Jul-04	39.1	54.3	-15.2
Monthly Average - June 2004	Jun-04	38.6	54.4	-15.8
Monthly Average - May 2004	May-04	34.6	58.6	-24
Monthly Average - April 2004	Apr-04	38.8	56.8	-18
Monthly Average - March 2004	Mar-04	39.0	54.8	-15.8
Monthly Average - February 2004	Feb-04	42.0	53.5	-11.5
Monthly Average - January 2004	Jan-04	46.9	47.2	-0.3
Monthly Average - December 2003	Dec-03	46.0	45.9	0.1
Monthly Average - November 2003	Nov-03	40.7	52.0	-11.3
Monthly Average - October 2003	Oct-03	40.3	53.4	-13.1
Monthly Average - September 2003	Sep-03	38.2	54.8	-16.6
Monthly Average - August 2003	Aug-03	40.8	52.8	-12
Monthly Average - July 2003	Jul-03	43.5	49.3	-5.8
Monthly Average - June 2003	Jun-03	47.2	46.0	1.2
Monthly Average - May 2003	May-03	51.0	42.2	8.8
Monthly Average - April 2003	Apr-03	56.5	35.0	21.5
Monthly Average - March 2003	Mar-03	46.6	46.6	0
Monthly Average - February 2003	Feb-03	40.0	52.8	-12.8
Monthly Average - January 2003	Jan-03	38.6	52.0	-13.4
Monthly Average - December 2002	Dec-02	43.4	48.2	-4.8
Monthly Average - November 2002	Nov-02	46.8	46.5	0.3
Monthly Average - October 2002	Oct-02	42.8	48.3	-5.5
Monthly Average - September 2002	Sep-02	46.2	45.3	0.8
Monthly Average - August 2002	Aug-02	46.0	47.0	-1
Monthly Average - July 2002	Jul-02	46.2	48.3	-2.2
Monthly Average - June 2002	Jun-02	49.6	39.0	10.6
Monthly Average - May 2002	May-02	52.0	40.2	11.8
Monthly Average - April 2002	Apr-02	55.5	34.3	21.3
Monthly Average - March 2002	Mar-02	56.0	36.3	19.8
Monthly Average - February 2002	Feb-02	63.0	31.5	31.5
Monthly Average - January 2002	Jan-02	63.5	28.0	35.5
Monthly Average - December 2001	Dec-01	67.7	22.7	45
Monthly Average - November 2001	Nov-01	63.7	27.3	36.3
Monthly Average - October 2001	Oct-01	67.0	29.0	38
Average - September 11-30, 2001	9/11-30/2001	59.3	32.7	26.7
Average - January 1-September 10, 2001	1/1-9/11/2001	48.1	43.2	5
Yearly Average - 2000	2000	53	37	16.5
Yearly Average - 1999	1999	52	39	12.5
Yearly Average - 1998	1998	54	38	15.4
Yearly Average - 1997	1997	46	46	0.2

GENERIC CONGRESSIONAL BALLOT				
	Date	Republicans	Democrats	D-R
Monthly Average - March	Mar-06	36.5	50.5	14.0
CNN/USA Today/Gallup RV	3/1/2006	39	53	14
FOX/Opinion Dynamics RV	3/1/2006	34	48	14
Monthly Average - February	Feb-06	39.2	48.4	9.2
Democracy Corps LV	2/27/2006	40	48	8
Diageo/Hotline RV	2/19/2006	31	46	15
CNN/USA Today/Gallup RV	2/12/2006	43	50	7
Pew RV	2/5/2006	41	50	9
Democracy Corps LV	2/2/2006	41	48	7
Monthly Average - January	Jan-06	37.0	46.7	9.7
ABC/Washington Post RV	1/26/2006	38	54	16
Democracy Corps LV	1/25/2006	41	49	8
CBS/New York Times RV	1/25/2006	34	43	9
Diageo/Hotline	1/15/2006	33	40	7
Harris	1/9/2006	34	43	9
CNN/USA Today/Gallup RV	1/8/2006	43	49	6
AP/Ipsos	1/5/2006	36	49	13
Monthly Average - December	Dec-05	37.1	46.7	9.6
ABC/Washington Post RV	12/18/2005	41	51	10
NPR LV	12/18/2005	37	45	8
Diageo/Hotline RV	12/13/2005	33	43	10
Democracy Corps LV	12/12/2005	41	49	8
CBS/New York Times RV	12/6/2005	33	42	9
Democracy Corps LV	12/4/2005	39	49	10
Time RV	12/1/2005	36	48	12
Monthly Average - November	Nov-05	37.8	48.4	10.6
Democracy Corps LV	11/20/2005	41	48	7
Diageo/Hotline RV	11/15/2005	35	41	6
Newsweek RV	11/11/2005	36	53	17
Democracy Corps LV	11/6/2005	40	48	8
ABC/Washington Post RV	11/2/2005	37	52	15
Monthly Average - October	Oct-05	39.0	46.2	7.2
CNN/USA Today/Gallup RV	10/23/2005	43	50	7
Democracy Corps LV	10/23/2005	39	48	9
Diageo/Hotline RV	10/16/2005	31	40	9
GWU Battleground LV	10/12/2005	41	47	6
Democracy Corps LV	10/10/2005	41	46	5
Monthly Average - September	Sep-05	39.8	49.3	9.5

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

Zogby – 2/18/06

Overall, do you think the U.S. is headed in the right direction or are things off on the wrong track?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Right direction	42%	18%	70%	37%
Wrong track	53	76	25	60

Hotline – 2/19/06

I'd like to get your opinion about the way that things are going in the country today. Do you feel things in this country are generally going in the right direction, or do you think things are seriously off on the wrong track?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Right direction	29%	6%	26%	56%
Wrong track	57	84	59	27
Neither (vol.)	9	7	9	11

L.A. Times/Bloomberg – 3/1/06

Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction or are they seriously off on the wrong track?									
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
Right direction	30	14	28	58	17	26	46	34	27
Wrong track	64	83	66	37	77	68	47	60	67

Priorities

Associated Press/Ipsos Public Affairs – 2/16/06

Which do you think should be the higher priority for government spending?	
The war in Iraq	31%
Recovery from Hurricane Katrina	64

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
War in Iraq	24%	25%	28%	18%
Economy/Jobs	13	11	15	12
Terrorism (general)	9	14	5	8
Health care	5	4	6	4
The president/G.W. Bush	5	2	8	4
Defense/Military	4	3	4	4
Poverty/Homelessness	3	1	3	3
Foreign Policy	3	1	2	4
Gas/Heating oil crisis	2	1	4	1
Moral /Family values	2	7	0	2
Education	2	2	2	1
Misc. foreign affairs	2	0	1	3
Foreign aid/Attn. to domestic	2	0	2	4
Politicians/Government	2	2	1	2
Budget deficit/Natl. debt	2	2	2	2
Other	14	18	12	22

Economy / Personal finances

ABC News/Washington Post Consumer Comfort Index

Today	-12	
Last week	-13	
2006 high	-8	January 8
2005 average	-13	
2004 average	-11	
2003 average	-19	
2002 average	-11	
2001 average	+4	
2000 average	+29	Best full year
1992 average	-44	Worst full year
Record high	+38	Jan. 16, 2000
Record low	-50	Feb. 9, 1992
Average since 12/85	-9	

Associated Press/Ipsos Public Affairs – 2/16/06

Next, we are interested in how people's financial situation may have changed. Would you say that you are financially better off now than you were a year ago, or are you financially worse off now?

Better off	37%
Worse off	39
Same (vol.)	24

American Research Group – 2/21/06

How do you rate the condition of the national economy these days?

Excellent	7%
Very good	13
Good	25
Bad	30
Very bad	10
Terrible	14

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

Getting better	15%
Staying the same	35
Getting worse	48

Would you say that the national economy is in a recession, or not?

Yes	40%
No	45

A year from now, do you expect the national economy to be better than it is today, the same as it is today, or worse than it is today?

Better than today	15%
The same as today	30
Worse than today	49

How do you rate the condition of the financial situation in your household?	
Excellent	6%
Very good	25
Good	31
Bad	22
Very bad	5
Terrible	6

Do you think the financial situation in your household is getting better, staying the same, or getting worse?	
Getting better	29%
Staying the same	24
Getting worse	46

A year from now, do you expect the financial situation in your household to be better than it is today, the same as it is today, or worse than it is today?	
Better than today	25%
The same as today	38
Worse than today	33

ABC News/Washington Post – 2/26/06

Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as...?	
Excellent	5%
Good	34
Not good	36
Poor	25

Would you describe the state of your own personal finances these days as....?	
Excellent	7%
Good	50
Not good	30
Poor	13

Considering the cost of things today and your own personal finances, would you say now is an excellent time, a good time, a not so good time or a poor time to buy the things you want and need?

Excellent	3%
Good	33
Not good	41
Poor	23

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Very good	5%	13%	1%	3%
Fairly good	45	62	33	45
Fairly bad	33	17	39	38
Very bad	15	6	24	12

L.A. Times/Bloomberg – 3/1/06

Generally speaking, do you think the nation's economy these days is doing very well, or fairly well, or fairly badly, or very badly?

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
<i>Well (Net)</i>	56	38	60	81	40	53	73	62	50
Very well	7	3	8	13	2	3	13	10	5
Fairly well	49	35	52	68	38	50	60	53	46
<i>Badly (Net)</i>	42	61	37	18	59	44	26	37	47
Fairly badly	25	40	22	13	42	23	15	25	25
Very badly	17	21	15	5	17	21	11	11	22

Six months from now, do you expect the nation's economy will be better than it is now, worse than it is now or about the same as it is now?

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
Better	16	10	17	25	8	13	24	20	11
Worse	27	39	29	7	42	26	18	25	29
About the same	55	48	52	66	48	59	55	53	56

Six months from now, do you expect housing values to increase in your neighborhood, or to decrease, or do you think housing values in your neighborhood will remain about the same?

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
Increase	39	36	32	47	31	38	46	36	41
Decrease	12	16	16	5	16	10	10	12	13
Remain the same	47	47	51	46	52	50	43	50	45

ABC News/Washington Post – 3/5/06

Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good or poor?

	Excellent/Good			Not so good/Poor			No op.
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	
3/5/06	43	5	38	57	37	19	*

Would you say most Americans are better off financially than they were in 2001 when Bush became president, not as well off, or in about the same shape as then financially?

	Better off	Not as well off	The same	No opinion
3/5/06	18	44	37	1

RATINGS OF BUSH

Zogby – 2/18/06

Do you feel safer or less safe with George W. Bush as president?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Safer	51%	24%	82%	44%
Less safe	39	65	10	42

Bush Job

Associated Press/Ipsos Public Affairs – 2/16/06

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?	
Approve	39%
Disapprove	56

Zogby – 2/18/06

Overall, how would you rate President Bush's performance on the job?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Excellent	15%	4%	34%	6%
Good	25	10	39	26
Fair	23	22	20	29
Poor	37	64	8	39

Hotline – 2/19/06

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly approve	21%	2%	13%	46%
Somewhat approve	24	9	28	37
Somewhat disapprove	11	15	14	6
Strongly disapprove	41	74	41	9

(If disapprove) Was there a time in the past few months that you approved of the way Bush was handling his job as president?

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Yes, there was a time	14%	10%	18%	37%
No there was not	84	89	82	59

American Research Group – 2/21/06

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?	
Approve	38%
Disapprove	58

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	34%	72%	9%	29%
Disapprove	59	22	86	61

FOX News – 3/1

Do you approve or disapprove of the job George W. Bush is doing as president?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Approve	39%	12%	77%	35%
Disapprove	54	84	15	54

When you are deciding whether you approve or disapprove of President Bush's job performance, what do you consider more: 1. How he's doing his day-to-day job 2. How things are going in the country in general 3. Combination?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Day to Day	22%	18%	26%	24%
Country in general	46	53	40	39
Combination	26	23	27	31

L.A. Times/Bloomberg – 3/1/06

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?									
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
<i>Approve (Net)</i>	38	12	43	77	15	35	60	44	32
Approve strongly	19	1	18	51	7	11	39	21	18
Approve somewhat	18	11	25	26	7	24	21	23	14
<i>Disapprove (Net)</i>	58	86	52	19	83	61	38	52	64
Disapprove somewhat	16	16	14	6	17	17	14	14	17
Disapprove strongly	43	70	38	13	66	44	24	38	47

ABC News/Washington Post – 3/5/06

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?							
	Approve			Disapprove			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
3/5/06	41	24	17	58	14	44	1

Bush Job – Issues

Zogby – 2/18/06

I am going to read to you a list of issues. Please rate President Bush's handling of each...

The war in Iraq:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Excellent	14%	4%	28%	8%
Good	23	8	39	18
Fair	18	17	16	23
Poor	45	71	16	51
The war on terrorism:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Excellent	18%	4%	39%	7%
Good	26	14	39	29
Fair	25	27	16	36
Poor	31	54	8	30
Taxes:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Excellent	11%	2%	23%	5%
Good	25	10	43	20
Fair	26	28	22	27
Poor	36	57	9	44
Foreign policy in general:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Excellent	9%	2%	21%	3%
Good	26	11	46	20
Fair	28	29	22	34
Poor	34	56	10	36
Gas prices:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Excellent	4%	1%	9%	1%
Good	16	4	29	12
Fair	24	19	27	28
Poor	50	73	23	53

Hotline – 2/19/06

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation in Iraq?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly approve	20%	2%	15%	42%
Somewhat approve	22	8	22	37
Somewhat disapprove	12	11	18	10
Strongly disapprove	42	77	41	8

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the nation's economy?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly approve	15%	1%	9%	34%
Somewhat approve	22	7	25	39
Somewhat disapprove	15	15	17	12
Strongly disapprove	43	74	45	10

American Research Group – 2/21/06

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?	
Approve	37%
Disapprove	58

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	32%	68%	11%	26%
Disapprove	60	25	84	62

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation with Iraq?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	30%	61%	10%	25%
Disapprove	65	34	86	69

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the campaign against terrorism?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	43%	78%	20%	39%
Disapprove	50	17	72	53

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the energy situation?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	27%	53%	14%	20%
Disapprove	60	33	75	66

L.A. Times/Bloomberg – 3/1/06

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation in Iraq?									
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
<i>Approve (Net)</i>	34	10	36	72	11	28	59	40	28
Approve strongly	18	2	17	46	4	11	38	20	16
Approve somewhat	16	8	19	25	7	17	21	20	12
<i>Disapprove (Net)</i>	63	88	59	27	88	70	38	57	69
Disapprove somewhat	16	10	19	10	19	18	9	15	16
Disapprove strongly	48	77	40	18	69	52	30	42	53

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the war on terrorism?									
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
<i>Approve (Net)</i>	44	17	50	80	22	42	64	51	37
Approve strongly	28	7	29	62	11	18	49	35	21
Approve somewhat	16	10	21	19	10	24	15	16	16
<i>Disapprove (Net)</i>	54	82	46	18	76	54	35	48	59
Disapprove somewhat	13	16	13	4	16	17	7	16	11
Disapprove strongly	41	66	33	13	61	37	28	32	49

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?									
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
<i>Approve (Net)</i>	37	10	37	77	14	33	59	42	32
Approve strongly	18	2	19	41	6	12	33	20	16
Approve somewhat	19	8	18	37	8	21	26	22	16
<i>Disapprove (Net)</i>	60	88	57	22	83	64	38	54	66
Disapprove somewhat	21	26	18	13	24	29	13	20	22
Disapprove strongly	39	62	39	9	59	35	25	34	44

Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the budget deficit?									
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
<i>Approve (Net)</i>	24	4	22	57	12	16	42	24	24
Approve strongly	10	–	12	24	6	7	18	11	10

Approve somewhat	14	4	11	33	6	9	24	14	14
<i>Disapprove (Net)</i>	67	90	71	33	84	76	47	67	67
Disapprove somewhat	20	21	22	16	23	22	17	25	16
Disapprove strongly	47	69	48	16	62	54	30	42	51

Would you say the country's economy is better off because of George W. Bush's economic policies than when he became president five years ago, or worse off, or is the country's economy about the same as it was then?

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
<i>Better (Net)</i>	19	7	27	33	9	14	34	27	13
Much better off	10	4	13	18	6	3	20	15	5
Somewhat better off	10	3	14	15	3	11	15	12	8
<i>Worse (Net)</i>	52	77	49	18	71	55	33	44	58
Somewhat worse off	17	19	17	14	22	18	13	15	20
Much worse off	34	57	32	4	49	37	19	29	39
Same	26	13	21	48	18	30	31	26	27

ABC News/Washington Post – 3/5/06

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bush is handling (ITEM)?

	Approve	Disapprove	No op.
a. The situation in Iraq	40	59	*
b. The US campaign against terrorism	52	46	2
c. Ethics in government	40	54	6
d. Prescription drug benefits for the elderly	32	58	10
e. The situation caused by Hurricane Katrina*	36	63	1
f. The economy	48	51	1
g. Health care	38	57	6
h. International affairs	44	54	2

Bush Favorability

Zogby – 2/18/06

Is your overall opinion of George W. Bush...

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Very favorable	21%	5%	46%	8%
Somewhat favorable	27	15	35	34
Somewhat unfavorable	15	17	9	20
Very unfavorable	35	61	9	37

Hotline – 2/19/06

George W. Bush:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly favorable	24%	3%	16%	52%
Somewhat favorable	23	9	31	32
Somewhat unfavorable	10	13	10	6
Strongly unfavorable	39	71	40	8
Heard of but can't rate (vol.)	1	1	1	1

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

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?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Favorable	29%	65%	8%	23%
Not favorable	53	16	79	55
Undecided	14	16	10	18
Haven't heard enough	3	2	2	4

Bush Traits

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

How much do you think George W. Bush cares about the needs and problems of people like yourself?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
A lot	17%	40%	5%	12%
Some	30	43	22	29
Not much	25	9	30	33
Not at all	26	7	42	25

How much do you think George W. Bush cares about the needs and problems of blacks?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
A lot	18%	43%	5%	12%
Some	30	42	23	29
Not much	26	9	33	34
Not at all	22	4	38	19

ABC News/Washington Post – 3/5/06

Please tell me whether the following statement applies to Bush or not.			
	Yes	No	No op.
a. He is a strong leader	52	48	*
b. He is honest and trustworthy	44	55	1
c. He understands the problems of people like you	37	62	1

FOREIGN POLICY/WAR ON TERRORISM

Dubai Ports World

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

As you may know, the Bush administration has agreed to let a company from the United Arab Emirates run six shipping ports in the U.S., including ports in New York and New Orleans, that are now being run by a British company. Critics of the plan say that allowing a company from an Arab country to operate U.S. shipping ports is dangerous to national security. The Bush administration says security will be protected by the U.S. and that the United Arab Emirates is a U.S. ally. Do you think the U.S. should or should not let a United Arab Emirates company operate U.S. shipping ports?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Should	21%	31%	13%	21%
Should not	70	58	78	71

FOX News – 3/1

Do you think the United Arab Emirates is a strong ally of the United States in the war against terrorism or not?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Yes	27%	23%	32%	24%
No	49	56	41	51

As you may know, there has been some public debate about a United Arab Emirates-owned company called Dubai Ports World taking over commercial management of some U.S. ports. From what you've heard and read, do you support or oppose allowing a United Arab Emirates company to manage operations at some U.S. ports?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Support	17%	9%	27%	18%
Oppose	69	81	57	66
Depends (vol.)	6	4	8	7

How concerned are you that having a United Arab Emirates-owned company manage port operations will jeopardize the security of the United States?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Very concerned	47%	54%	38%	44%
Somewhat concerned	30	29	30	29
Not very concerned	12	8	16	15
Not concerned	7	5	11	5

As far as you know, if the Arab-owned company took over management of operations at some U.S. ports, who would be in charge of security at the ports – the United States or the United Arab Emirates company?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
United States	63%	59%	67%	63%
United Arab Emirates	22	24	21	23
Both (vol.)	4	4	3	3

In fact, the U.S. Coast Guard and Customs and Border Protection officials would continue to be in charge of port security, even if a foreign-owned company managed the port operations. Does knowing this make you more likely to support allowing the United Arab Emirates-company to manage U.S. ports, more likely to oppose, or does it not make any difference to you?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
More likely to support	25%	19%	34%	25%
More likely to oppose	34	38	28	33
No difference	36	39	34	38

Critics of the port deal point out that some of the 9/11 hijackers were citizens of the United Arab Emirates and say it is too risky to allow the country to manage U.S. ports. Proponents say since 9/11, the United Arab Emirates has proven itself to be a strong U.S. ally in the war against terrorism, and it is important to maintain a good relationship with the country. Who do you agree with more?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Too risky	58%	69%	48%	54%
Proven ally	24	15	36	23
Depends (vol.)	10	9	7	15

How much of the opposition to the port deal do you think is based on bias against Arabs?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
A lot	38%	39%	38%	37%
Some	32	34	32	30
Not much	11	10	11	12
Hardly any	13	11	12	12

Do you think the political opposition to the port deal is due more to serious concerns about homeland security or, due more to political grandstanding in an election year?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Concerns	36%	40%	38%	27%
Grandstanding	42	35	48	42
Combination (vol.)	14	16	9	21

Do you think it is fairly common for U.S. ports to be operated by foreign-based companies or not?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Common	38%	31%	42%	43%
Not common	48	55	42	47

In general, do you think a Middle Eastern company should be held to a higher standard on security issues than a British company?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Yes	44%	45%	45%	41%
No	47	46	49	51

A year from now, do you think the United Arab Emirates company will or will not be managing some ports in the United States?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Will	54%	50%	56%	61%
Will not	32	36	32	21

L.A. Times/Bloomberg – 3/1/06

Now turning your attention to an issue in the news. As you may know, a Dubai state owned company in the United Arab Emirates has made a deal to buy a British company that supervises port shipping operations in some major cities in the U.S. Opponents of the deal say that the September 11th hijackers used Dubai as a transit point, and they say that the security of U.S. ports could be weakened if a Dubai company was in charge of operations there. Supporters of the deal point out that the United States Coast Guard and Customs would continue to handle port security and that Dubai is a strong ally in the U.S. war on terror. How about you? Do you support or oppose allowing the Dubai-based company to oversee shipping operations at U.S. ports, or haven't you heard enough about that yet to say?

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
<i>Support (Net)</i>	17	7	16	29	9	11	28	22	11
Support strongly	8	3	7	17	3	4	16	11	5
Support somewhat	8	4	9	12	6	7	12	11	6
<i>Oppose (Net)</i>	58	68	60	49	67	64	50	56	61
Oppose somewhat	12	10	10	14	12	11	12	9	14
Oppose strongly	47	58	50	36	55	53	38	47	47
Haven't heard enough	18	20	15	14	19	20	12	13	22

ABC News/Washington Post – 3/5/06

As you may know, a company owned by the government of a nation called the United Arab Emirates is in a merger deal that will give it management of six U.S. ports. Do you think this company should or should not be allowed to manage these ports? Do you feel that way STRONGLY or SOMEWHAT? IF UAE SHOULD NOT, Q24) Do you feel that way mainly because (you don't think any foreign company should manage a U.S. port), or mainly because (you don't think a company owned by the United Arab Emirates should manage a U.S. port)?

		Should not					
	Should	NET	No foreign company	No UAE company	No, other reasons	DK	No opin.
3/5/06	23	70	50	17	3	*	7

Do you think elected officials who have been criticizing the Dubai Ports World takeover of the management of some U.S. port operations mainly (are concerned about national security), or mainly (want to use the issue for political advantage)?

	National security	Political advantage	Both equally (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opin.
3/5/06	37	49	8	1	5

Iraq

Associated Press/Ipsos Public Affairs – 2/16/06

In view of the developments since we first sent our troops to Iraq, do you think the United States made a mistake in sending troops to Iraq, or not?

Yes, a mistake	55%
No, not	42

Do you favor or oppose the U.S. war with Iraq?

Favor	40%
Oppose	56

Who do you think is currently winning the war in Iraq – the U.S. and its allies, the insurgents in Iraq or neither side?

U.S. and its allies	31%
Insurgents in Iraq	10
Neither side	55

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

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?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Worth it	29%	58%	9%	27%
Not worth it	63	33	82	69

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

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Worth it	41%	67%	25%	35%
Not worth it	53	25	70	56

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?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Right thing	41%	71%	19%	41%
Stayed out	54	25	76	55

How would you say things are going for the U.S. in its efforts to bring stability and order to Iraq?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Very well	5%	14%	1%	3%
Somewhat well	31	51	18	28
Somewhat badly	32	25	33	37
Very badly	30	8	48	29

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

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Yes	29%	36%	22%	29%
No	57	46	64	57

FOX News – 3/1

How likely do you think it is that Iraq will end up in a civil war?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Very likely	49%	57%	38%	50%
Somewhat likely	32	29	34	32
Not very likely	9	5	16	4
Not likely	5	4	6	4
Depends	2	1	2	2

ABC News/Washington Post – 3/5/06

All in all, considering the costs to the United States versus the benefits to the United States, do you think the war with Iraq was worth fighting, or not? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?							
	Worth fighting			Not worth fighting			
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
3/5/06	42	29	14	57	11	46	1

Do you think the war with Iraq has or has not contributed to the long-term security of the United States? IF YES: Has it contributed to the long-term security of the United States a great deal, or somewhat?						
	Contributed			Has not		No opin.
	NET	Great deal	Somewhat	Has not	No opin.	
3/5/06	50	28	23	48	2	

(HALF SAMPLE) Do you think the Bush Administration does or does not have a clear plan for handling the situation in Iraq?			
	Does	Does not	No opinion
3/5/06	34	65	*

(HALF SAMPLE) Do you think the Democrats in Congress do or do not have a clear plan for handling the situation in Iraq?			
	Do	Do not	No opinion
3/5/06	24	70	6

Do you think the number of U.S. military forces in Iraq should be (increased), (decreased), or kept about the same?				
	Increased	Decreased	Kept about the same	No opinion
3/5/06	11	52	34	3

(IF DECREASED) Should all U.S. forces in Iraq be withdrawn immediately, or should they be decreased, but not all withdrawn immediately?

	Withdrawn immediately	Decreased but not withdrawn immediately	No opinion
3/5/06	33	67	*

(HALF SAMPLE) Do you think the United States is or is not making significant progress toward restoring civil order in Iraq?

	Is making significant progress	Is not making significant progress	No opinion
3/5/06	43	56	2

(HALF SAMPLE) Do you think the United States is or is not making significant progress in establishing a democratic government in Iraq?

	Is making significant progress	Is not making significant progress	No opinion
3/5/06	49	48	2

How likely do you think it is that conflict between Sunnis and Shiites in Iraq will lead to a civil war there - is that very likely, somewhat likely, somewhat unlikely or very unlikely?

	Likely					Unlikely				No op.
	NET	Very	Smwt	Def. Will (vol.)	Already in (vol.)	NET	Smwt	Very	Def won't (vol.)	
3/5/06	80	34	44	1	1	17	11	5	*	4

War on Terrorism

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

In general, do you think the U.S. government should or should not work secretly inside other countries to try to weaken or overthrow governments unfriendly to the United States?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Should	44%	64%	32%	41%
Should not	44	26	54	47

FOX News – 3/1

In the war against terrorism, do you think most Muslims around the world are sympathetic to the United States or the terrorists?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
U.S.	22%	24%	21%	21%
Terrorists	42	40	48	40
Depends	19	18	19	21

Iran

Associated Press/Ipsos Public Affairs – 2/16/06

What do you think the United States should do to get Iran to shut down its nuclear program – take military action against Iran now, use economic and diplomatic efforts but not take military action right now, or take no action against Iran at this time?

Take military action now	9%
Use economic/diplomatic efforts	68
Take no action at this time	18

(If no military action in Iran now) Suppose the United States does take economic and diplomatic action, but those efforts do not work. If that happens, do you think the United States should – or should not – take military action against Iran?

Yes, should	40%
No, should not	49

How confident are you in the Bush administration's ability to handle the situation in Iran?

Very confident	17%
Somewhat confident	28
Not too confident	27
Not at all confident	28

How confident are you in the United Nations' ability to handle the situation in Iran?

Very confident	8%
Somewhat confident	39
Not too confident	27
Not at all confident	24

How concerned are you that the U.S. will be too quick to use military force in an attempt to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons?

Very concerned	34%
Somewhat concerned	35
Not too concerned	20
Not concerned at all	10

How concerned are you that the U.S. will not do enough to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons?

Very concerned	26%
Somewhat concerned	41
Not too concerned	24
Not concerned at all	6

Suppose Iran does develop nuclear weapons. Just your best guess, how likely is it that... will happen – very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not at all likely?

Iran would provide a nuclear weapon to terrorists who would use it against the United States:

Very likely	50%
Somewhat likely	30
Not too likely	12
Not at all likely	6

Iran would provide a nuclear weapon to terrorists who would use it against Israel:

Very likely	49%
Somewhat likely	32
Not too likely	12
Not at all likely	4

The Iranian government would use nuclear weapons against Israel:

Very likely	41%
Somewhat likely	36
Not too likely	15
Not at all likely	4

The Iranian government would use nuclear weapons against the United States:

Very likely	30%
Somewhat likely	29
Not too likely	26
Not at all likely	12

Which comes closer to your opinion – Iran is a threat to the United States that requires military action now, Iran is a threat that can be contained with diplomacy now, or Iran is not a threat to the United States at this time?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Threat requiring action now	20%	30%	13%	20%
Threat that can be contained	55	52	58	54
Not a threat at this time	19	12	24	20

DOMESTIC ISSUES

FOX News – 3/1

Now I am going to mention various areas that receive money from the federal government. For each one, please tell me if you would be willing to pay more in taxes to keep the program going at its current level, or if you would rather see funding for that area cut.

The military:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Pay more	63%	52%	78%	59%
Cut funding	25	33	13	30
Repairs on roads and bridges:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Pay more	58%	63%	55%	52%
Cut funding	30	28	33	31
Education:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Pay more	74%	83%	67%	70%
Cut funding	19	12	26	21
Health care:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Pay more	69%	79%	59%	65%
Cut funding	21	15	29	22
Public safety, such as police forces:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Pay more	67%	70%	68%	55%
Cut funding	22	21	21	28
Hurricane relief programs:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Pay more	53%	61%	47%	49%
Cut funding	32	28	39	33
Homeland security:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Pay more	56%	47%	68%	54%
Cut funding	32	41	20	34
Social Security:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind

Pay more	67%	75%	63%	59%
Cut funding	19	16	22	24
Iraq reconstruction:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Pay more	19%	12%	25%	20%
Cut funding	70	80	59	72

L.A. Times/Bloomberg – 3/1/06

Which of the following statements comes closest to your view: "It is the government's responsibility to ensure that its citizens have health insurance and income for retirement," or "It is the employer's responsibility to ensure that their employees have health insurance and income for retirement," or "It is the responsibility of individuals to secure their own health insurance and income for retirement without the help of the government or their employer"?

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep	Lib	Mod	Cons	Men	Women
Gov't responsibility	34	44	31	13	53	40	14	32	34
Employer's responsibility	27	29	25	29	25	23	32	24	30
Individual's responsibility	29	15	31	52	13	26	47	33	25
Share responsibility (Vol)	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2

Homeland Security

FOX News – 3/1

What infrastructure in the United States do you think is most at risk of being a terrorist target?

Airports and airplanes	24%
Shopping malls	8
Bridges and tunnels	8
Trains and subways	11
Ports	28
Other	13

How safe do you believe air travel is in the United States today?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Very safe	40%	38%	45%	37%
Somewhat safe	46	47	46	43
Not very safe	6	7	5	6
Not safe	5	5	3	9

How safe do you believe U.S. borders are today?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Very safe	12%	14%	11%	9%
Somewhat safe	27	23	31	24
Not very safe	31	32	31	30
Not safe	26	26	23	33

How safe do you believe U.S. ports are today?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Very safe	14%	13%	16%	12%
Somewhat safe	37	32	43	35
Not very safe	25	29	20	24
Not safe	16	18	13	18

ABC News/Washington Post – 3/5/06

Compared to before September 11, 2001, do you think the country today is safer from terrorism or less safe from terrorism? IF SAFER: Would you say the country is much safer or somewhat safer?						
	Safer					
	NET	Much	Somewhat	Less safe	No diff. (vol.)	No opin.
3/5/06	56	22	33	35	8	1

As it conducts the war on terrorism, do you think the United States government is or is not doing enough to protect the rights of American citizens?				
	Is	Is not	Doing too much (vol.)	No opin.
3/5/06	46	51	1	2

Katrina/Disaster Preparedness

Associated Press/Ipsos Public Affairs – 2/16/06

Thinking about the efforts the federal government is making to rebuild areas damaged by Hurricane Katrina, do you think the federal government is doing too much, is doing the right amount or has not done enough?	
Too much	8%
Right amount	35
Not enough	51

Thinking about the areas in Louisiana and Mississippi hit hardest by Hurricane Katrina, to the best of your knowledge, are those areas now mostly recovered, or are they still badly damaged?

Mostly recovered	7%
Badly damaged	87

How confident are you in the federal government's ability to handle a major disaster in the future?

Very confident	15%
Somewhat confident	32
Not too confident	28
Not at all confident	24

As you may know, the U.S. Congress has spent or is expected to approve spending a total of about 100 billion dollars to help the affected areas recover from Hurricane Katrina. What best describes how you feel about federal spending on the recovery from Hurricane Katrina?

We are spending too much	20%
We are spending the right amount	46
We should spend more	28

How confident are you that the money appropriated for recovery from Katrina is being spent wisely?

Very confident	4%
Somewhat confident	29
Not too confident	37
Not at all confident	29

There are many people in this country who choose to live in areas and homes that are known to be especially susceptible to destruction by natural disasters such as landslides, earthquakes, hurricanes, and flooding. In general, when these disasters strike these areas, do you think the government should give money to local residents to help them recover, or do you think the residents of these areas should live there solely at their own risk?

Government should give money	47%
Residents should live at own risk	49

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

How much confidence do you have in the ability of the U.S. government to respond to natural disasters?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
A great deal	10%	20%	4%	9%
A fair amount	39	50	30	40
Not very much	37	23	44	40
None at all	14	7	22	11

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

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	32%	63%	13%	27%
Disapprove	64	33	84	68

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

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Have a clear plan	15%	26%	8%	12%
Doesn't have a plan	72	51	87	74

In order to pay for Hurricane recovery and rebuilding in the Gulf Coast, would it be acceptable or unacceptable to you to cut spending on the war in Iraq?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Acceptable	59%	47%	68%	59%
Unacceptable	33	46	22	35

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?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
FEMA	14%	11%	19%	13%
Federal government	13	3	22	10
The president/G.W. Bush	11	8	15	10
Government (general)	11	12	9	13
Residents of New Orleans	11	16	8	9
City government	9	13	6	10
Mayor of New Orleans	8	12	4	9
State government	5	5	5	4
Governor of Louisiana	4	8	1	4
Mother Nature	2	1	1	3
Other	3	3	2	4

From what you have heard or read, how much progress has been made so far in rebuilding New Orleans and the Gulf Coast?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
A lot	7%	10%	3%	10%
Some	34	37	34	32
Not much	32	26	38	31
None at all	6	4	9	5

Which best describes your feelings about the way things are going in the rebuilding of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast? Are you pleased, satisfied but not pleased, dissatisfied but not angry, or angry?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Pleased	5%	6%	3%	7%
Satisfied	26	39	16	26
Dissatisfied	43	38	49	41
Angry	16	5	25	16

Do you think the fact that many people forced to leave New Orleans are black is a major factor, a minor factor, or not a factor in the progress being made by the government in rebuilding New Orleans?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Major factor	28%	13%	42%	26%
Minor factor	18	14	20	18
Not a factor	49	68	32	51

Right now, do you think that federal agencies like FEMA are doing all they can reasonably be expected to do to help the people affected by Hurricane Katrina, or could they be doing more?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
All that could be expected	27%	40%	15%	29%
Could be doing more	66	51	79	64

Right now, do you think Louisiana state and local government officials are doing all they can reasonably be expected to do to help the people affected by Hurricane Katrina, or could they be doing more?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
All that could be expected	26%	23%	26%	30%
Could be doing more	60	61	62	58

Do you think the federal government should continue to provide housing for all people left homeless by Hurricane Katrina, or is this no longer the responsibility of the federal government?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Guarantee housing	67%	57%	75%	66%
Not responsibility	23	34	17	23

From what you've heard or read, do you think New Orleans is ready now to return to being a tourism and convention destination, or is it not ready for that yet?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Ready	11%	14%	10%	10%
Not ready yet	78	73	80	81
Some ready/Some not	3	3	4	3

Do you think it is a good idea for New Orleans to hold Mardi Gras celebrations now, or should they wait another year?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Hold now	46%	43%	43%	51%
Wait	46	47	48	43

Which of these do you think is most likely? 1. Most of New Orleans will be rebuilt in the next year or two. 2. Most of New Orleans will be rebuilt, but it will take longer than a year or two. 3. Most of New Orleans will probably not be rebuilt.

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Will, in the next year or two	11%	14%	9%	10%
Will, but will take longer	60	61	61	58
Will probably not be rebuilt	27	23	28	29

Which of these do you think is most likely? 1. Most black people who left New Orleans will return in the next year or two. 2. Most black people who left New Orleans will return, but it will take longer than a year or two. 3. Most black people who left New Orleans will probably never return.

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Will, in the next year or two	15%	15%	15%	15%
Will, but will take longer	42	43	43	41
Never return	33	31	34	34

Which of these do you think is most likely? 1. Most white people who left New Orleans will return in the next year or two. 2. Most white people who left New Orleans will return, but it will take longer than a year or two. 3. Most white people who left New Orleans will probably never return.

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Will, in the next year or two	25%	26%	27%	24%
Will, but will take longer	45	42	45	48
Never return	20	23	20	17

Which is closer to your view: in the long run, most people who evacuated New Orleans but have not yet returned will be better off if they do return to New Orleans, or, in the long run, most people who have left New Orleans but have not yet returned will be better off staying in the new cities and towns where they are now.

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Better off returning	25%	27%	29%	20%
Better off staying in new place	57	56	54	61

Domestic Spying/Privacy Rights

Associated Press/Ipsos Public Affairs – 2/16/06

Just your best guess, how likely is it that the federal government has ever wiretapped any of your telephone conversations?

Very likely	8%
Somewhat likely	13
Not too likely	24
Not at all likely	52

As you may know, the Bush administration has been wiretapping telephone conversations between U.S. citizens living in the United States and suspected terrorists living in other countries without getting a court order allowing it to do so. How closely have you been following the news about this?

Very closely	32%
Somewhat closely	41
Not too closely	18
Not at all	8

Do you think the Bush administration was right or wrong in wiretapping these conversations without obtaining a court order?

Right	47%
Wrong	50

Based on what you have heard or read, do you think George W. Bush definitely broke the law, probably broke the law, probably did not break the law, or definitely did not break the law?

Definitely broke the law	23%
Probably broke the law	26
Probably did not break the law	24
Definitely did not break the law	23

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

From what you have heard or read, do you think the Bush administration has been too secretive about things the public should know, or don't you think so?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Yes, too secretive	58%	28%	79%	60%
No, don't think so	36	66	16	33

How concerned are you about losing some of your civil liberties as a result of the measures enacted by the Bush administration to fight terrorism?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Very concerned	33%	13%	49%	32%
Somewhat concerned	31	29	31	34
Not very concerned	18	27	11	19
Not at all concerned	16	29	9	13

After 9/11, President Bush authorized government wiretaps on some phone calls in the U.S. without getting court warrants, saying this was necessary in order to reduce the threat of terrorism. Do you approve or disapprove of the president doing this?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	51%	83%	33%	42%
Disapprove	47	16	63	57

After 9/11, George W. Bush authorized government wiretaps on some phone calls in the U.S. without getting court warrants. Do you approve or disapprove of George W. Bush doing this?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	46%	76%	22%	48%
Disapprove	50	17	77	47

Regardless of whether you approve of the president authorizing the wiretaps, do you think the president has the legal authority to authorize wiretaps without a court warrant, or doesn't he?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Has the authority	41%	70%	24%	35%
Does not	52	22	71	57

Regardless of whether you approve of the president authorizing the wiretaps, do you think the president has the legal authority to authorize wiretaps without a court warrant in order to fight terrorism, or doesn't he?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Has the authority	43%	63%	28%	43%
Does not	51	28	68	51

(Asked of those who disapproved or did not have an opinion about the president authorizing wiretaps, and those who "do not think the president has the legal authority") If the law was changed to specifically allow a president to authorize wiretaps without a court warrant, then would you approve or disapprove of George W. Bush authorizing those wiretaps?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	32%	56%	23%	33%
Disapprove	60	40	66	62

In general, how much confidence do you have that government agencies are able to correctly tell whose phone calls and e-mails should be monitored and whose should not?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
A great deal	11%	23%	4%	8%
Fair amount	40	53	28	41
Not much	31	15	42	31
None at all	16	6	25	17

How concerned are you, personally, that the government might choose to monitor your own phone calls or emails?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Very concerned	14%	7%	21%	13%
Somewhat concerned	17	9	21	18
Not very concerned	22	17	24	23
Not at all concerned	48	67	34	46

ABC News/Washington Post – 3/5/06

As you may know, starting in 2001 the FBI was given additional authority in areas like surveillance, wiretaps and obtaining records in terrorism investigations. Supporters said this was necessary to fight terrorism. Opponents said it went too far in compromising privacy rights. Do you think this additional FBI authority should or should not be continued?

	Yes, should	No, should not	No opinion
3/5/06	62	37	1

On another subject: as you may know, the National Security Agency has been investigating people suspected of involvement with terrorism by secretly listening in on telephone calls and reading e-mails between some people in the United States and other countries, without first getting court approval to do so. Would you consider this wiretapping of telephone calls and e-mails without court approval as an acceptable or unacceptable way for the federal government to investigate terrorism? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	Acceptable			Unacceptable			
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	No opin.
3/5/06	54	39	15	46	13	32	*

Energy

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

In order to cut down on energy consumption and reduce global-warming, which would you prefer – requiring car manufacturers to produce cars that are more energy efficient or imposing an increased federal tax on gasoline?

More energy efficient cars	87%
Federal tax on gasoline	8

Would you favor or oppose an increased federal tax on gasoline?	
Favor	12%
Oppose	85

What if your payroll taxes or income taxes were reduced as a result of the increased gasoline tax, then would you favor or oppose an increased federal tax on gasoline?	
Favor	28%
Oppose	63

What if the increased tax on gasoline would reduce the United States' dependence on foreign oil, then would you favor or oppose an increased federal tax on gasoline?	
Favor	55%
Oppose	37

What if the increased tax on gasoline would cut down on energy consumption and reduce global warming, then would you favor or oppose an increased federal tax on gasoline?	
Favor	59%
Oppose	34

What if the increased tax were \$2.00 a gallon, then would you favor or oppose an increased federal tax on gasoline?	
Favor	17%
Oppose	80

What if the increased tax on gasoline would help pay for the war on terrorism, then would you favor or oppose an increased federal tax on gasoline?	
Favor	24%
Oppose	71

FOX News – 3/1

Thinking now about the energy situation, please tell me if you favor or oppose the following ways to reduce the country's dependence on foreign oil and make the United States more energy independent?

Relaxing some environmental standards:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Favor	30%	25%	42%	21%
Oppose	59	65	48	66

Drilling for oil in the Gulf of Mexico:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Favor	68%	61%	79%	68%
Oppose	26	32	16	25
Building more nuclear power plants:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Favor	47%	42%	55%	47%
Oppose	43	48	37	41
Drilling for oil in a small area of the Alaskan Wildlife Refuge:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Favor	48%	34%	66%	48%
Oppose	47	60	29	47
Increasing federal tax on gasoline:				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Favor	21%	23%	17%	23%
Oppose	74	72	79	73

Abramoff Scandal/Lobbying Reform

Hotline – 2/19/06

Jack Abramoff:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly favorable	1%	*	0	2%
Somewhat favorable	3	2	3	4
Somewhat unfavorable	7	5	4	11
Strongly unfavorable	20	24	20	16
Heard of but can't rate (vol.)	10	9	7	11
Haven't heard of	52	52	63	49

Immigration

Quinnipiac University – 2/28

As you may know, immigrants to the United States can be here legally – that is, they have been legally admitted to the country and are allowed to live and work here; or they can be here illegally. Such immigrants are sometimes called 'undocumented' because they do not have papers allowing them to live and work here. Should legal immigration into the United States be kept at its present level, increased or decreased?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Present level	33%	32%	35%	32%
Increased	24	21	23	26
Decreased	39	43	38	37

How serious a problem is illegal immigration into the United States?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Very serious problem	57%	67%	51%	56%
Somewhat serious	31	27	35	29
Not too serious	9	5	10	11
Not a problem at all	2	1	2	3

Do you support or oppose making it easier for illegal immigrants to become citizens?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Support	32%	23%	40%	32%
Oppose	62	71	55	62

Do you support or oppose making it easier for illegal immigrants to become legal workers?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Support	41%	37%	44%	43%
Oppose	54	59	52	52

Do you support or oppose allowing illegal immigrants to get drivers' licenses?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Support	25%	17%	29%	26%
Oppose	72	81	67	68

Do you support or oppose requiring proof of legal residency in order to obtain government benefits?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Support	84%	88%	78%	84%
Oppose	14	10	19	14

Do you support or oppose eliminating the automatic American citizenship for illegal immigrants' children who are born in the United States?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Support	42%	47%	39%	41%
Oppose	50	45	54	53

Race and Gender

Hotline – 2/19/06

How would you rate the state of race relations in the United States these days?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Excellent	3%	2%	2%	4%
Good	34	23	32	49
Only fair	43	48	49	36
Poor	17	26	13	8

How much progress do you think there has been toward achieving Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of racial equality in America?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
A great deal	28%	17%	28%	39%
Some	54	63	52	47
Not very much	13	16	15	9
None at all	2	3	1	1

Do you think America is ready to elect a Hispanic president, or not?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Ready	27%	21%	28%	35%
Not ready	65	73	68	57

Do you think America is ready to elect an African-American president, or not?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Ready	52%	43%	53%	60%
Not ready	39	50	34	33

Do you think America is ready to elect a woman president, or not?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Ready	56%	56%	61%	53%
Not ready	37	36	33	42

CONGRESS & OTHER POLITICAL FIGURES

2006 Congressional Elections

Zogby – 2/18/06

How likely do you think it is that your Rep. will be defeated in the election this November?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Very likely	11%	16%	8%	6%
Somewhat likely	18	15	17	26
Not likely	59	58	65	52

Hotline – 2/19/06

And, in your opinion, do you think the country would be better off if the Republicans controlled Congress or if the Democrats controlled Congress?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Republicans	29%	2%	14%	66%
Democrats	38	81	21	8
Neither (vol.)	21	9	43	17

And, thinking about the next election for U.S. Congress, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you be voting for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate in your district where you live?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Republican candidate	31%	2%	16%	76%
Democratic candidate	46	88	30	8
Neither (vol.)	8	5	14	7

Thinking about the next election for U.S. Congress, do you think you will vote to re-elect your member of Congress, will you consider voting for someone else, or do you think you will vote to replace your current member of Congress?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Re-elect current member	29%	24%	24%	37%
Consider someone else	23	18	33	23
Replace current member	24	31	23	19

Which statement comes closer to your view: Most members of Congress are primarily interested in doing what is best for the country or most members of Congress are primarily interested in doing what it takes to win re-election?

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Doing what's best	17%	18%	12%	18%
Trying to win re-election	77	75	85	76
Both (vol.)	3	4	0	4
Neither (vol.)	1	1	1	1

Which statement comes closer to your view: My representative in Congress is primarily interested in doing what is best for the country or my representative in Congress is primarily interested in doing what it takes to win re-election?

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Doing what's best	39%	36%	33%	45%
Trying to win re-election	47	51	52	42
Both (vol.)	2	2	2	3
Neither (vol.)	3	2	5	4

FOX News – 3/1

Do you think it would be better for the country if Democrats or Republicans win control of Congress in this year's election?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Democrats	45%	83%	7%	30%
Republicans	31	3	73	24
No difference/Neither	19	11	18	38

Thinking ahead to this November's elections, if the congressional election were held today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate in your district or the Republican candidate in your district?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Vote Democratic	44%	79%	11%	29%
Lean Democratic	4	6	1	4
Vote Republican	28	4	65	22
Lean Republican	6	1	11	7

ABC News/Washington Post – 3/5/06

Overall, which party, the (Democrats) or the (Republicans), do you trust to do a better job in coping with the main problems the nation faces over the next few years?

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
3/5/06	42	40	2	14	2

Which political party, the (Democrats) or the (Republicans), do you trust to do a better job (ITEM)?

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No op.
a. handling the situation in Iraq	42	42	2	11	2
b. handling the economy	49	40	2	8	2
c. handling the U.S. campaign against terrorism	39	46	3	10	2

Congress – Job Approval

Zogby – 2/18/06

Overall, do you agree or disagree that Republicans who have been in charge of Congress for 11 years now have done a good job running it?

Agree	78%
Disagree	18

Thinking in terms of ideology, has the Republican Congress pursued legislation that...?

Is too conservative	16%
Is too liberal	10
Is moderate	63

Which of the following statements do you agree with more?

Statement A. The Republican Congress is a success because it has passed much legislation during the past 11 years that has reflected Republican values and has stood up to Democrats on key issues.

Statement B. The Republican Congress is a failure because it has passed legislation that caused massive increases in federal spending and has not made meaningful progress on issues important to rank-and-file Republicans.

Statement A	61%
Statement B	29

Overall, do you think the leaders of the Democratic opposition in Congress have been very successful, somewhat successful, somewhat unsuccessful, or very unsuccessful in representing Democratic values and Democrats nationwide?

Very successful	8%
Somewhat successful	47
Somewhat unsuccessful	28
Very unsuccessful	15

What do you think the top goal of an opposition party should be?

To defeat majority legislation	6%
Highlight differences	20
Money for district projects	10
Accept lower position	58

Hotline – 2/19/06

And do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly approve	5%	3%	5%	8%
Somewhat approve	25	16	23	35
Somewhat disapprove	28	31	34	23
Strongly disapprove	33	40	32	27

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?				
	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Approve	28%	31%	32%	22%
Disapprove	61	59	55	68

ABC News/Washington Post – 3/5/06

Do you approve or disapprove of the way the U.S. Congress is doing its job?			
	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
3/5/06	36	62	3

*The Culture of Corruption
Democrats vs. Republicans*

Zogby – 2/18/06

Which party do you think is better at running Congress?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Democrats	19%	36%	6%	13%
Republicans	23	8	46	14
Neither	33	29	26	47
Both	22	24	21	20

FOX News – 3/1

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Democrats in Congress are doing?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Approve	36%	56%	19%	23%
Disapprove	48	30	66	57

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Republicans in Congress are doing?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Approve	34%	13%	65%	26%
Disapprove	53	75	25	55

Which party do you trust to do a better job protecting the country from terrorism, Democrats or Republicans?

	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Trust Democrats	33%	62%	7%	18%
Trust Republicans	38	10	80	29
Both (vol.)	10	12	3	14
Neither (vol.)	12	10	6	27

Dick Cheney

Time – 2/16/06

Do you think Vice President Cheney is an asset to the president, or do you think he is damaging to the president?

Asset	41%
Damaging	37

Would you say that Vice President Cheney has too much influence over President Bush, too little influence, or just the right amount of influence?

Too much	26%
Too little	19
Right amount	41

Is Vice President Cheney too secretive?

Yes	58%
No	33

Does Vice President Cheney have the country's best interests at heart?

Yes	46%
No	45

Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Vice President Dick Cheney has done in the Bush administration?

Approve	29%
Disapprove	41

The vice president accidentally shot someone in his party when he was quail hunting on a Texas ranch. The news was disclosed to the media almost 24 hours later. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the vice president handled the situation?

Approve	52%
Disapprove	42

Do you think Vice President Cheney was trying to hide something by waiting to disclose the accident?

Yes	39%
No	56

Has the shooting accident made you more negative about the vice president, more positive, or has it had no effect?

More positive	4%
More negative	24

Do you think the vice president should resign over the shooting accident or his handling of it?

Yes	10%
No	85

Hotline – 2/19/06

Dick Cheney:

	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly favorable	17%	2%	10%	37%
Somewhat favorable	27	16	27	37
Somewhat unfavorable	14	18	16	9
Strongly unfavorable	32	55	33	8
Heard of but can't rate (vol.)	5	2	6	5
Haven't heard of	3	3	6	2

CBS News/New York Times – 2/26

Is your opinion of Dick Cheney favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Dick Cheney yet to have an opinion?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Favorable	18%	41%	6%	12%
Not favorable	46	15	67	48
Undecided	20	25	17	19
Haven't heard enough	15	18	9	20

How does Dick Cheney's role as vice president compare to those of previous vice presidents?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
More important	32%	28%	31%	35%
Less important	22	11	36	15
About the same	42	57	29	42

From what you know about the hunting incident that involved Dick Cheney accidentally shooting a man, which statement comes closer to your opinion? 1. There is absolutely no excuse for the accident, or 2. It is understandable that this kind of an accident could have happened?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
No excuse	20%	11%	28%	18
Understandable	76	87	69	76

Dick Cheney gave an explanation of the hunting accident and why he didn't report it immediately. Are you satisfied, or not satisfied, with his explanation?

	All	Rep	Dem	Ind
Satisfied	46%	67%	30%	45%
Not satisfied	46	26	65	43

FOX News – 3/1

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Dick Cheney is doing as vice president?				
	All	Dem	Rep	Ind
Approve	35%	12%	69%	30%
Disapprove	53	77	19	60

Other Political Figures

Hotline – 2/19/06

Tom DeLay:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly favorable	4%	1%	1%	9%
Somewhat favorable	14	9	9	22
Somewhat unfavorable	14	12	11	17
Strongly unfavorable	26	37	29	15
Heard of but can't rate (vol.)	13	11	12	16
Haven't heard of	24	24	35	18

Hillary Clinton:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly favorable	24%	46%	20%	5%
Somewhat favorable	28	39	34	14
Somewhat unfavorable	11	5	8	16
Strongly unfavorable	30	3	28	60
Heard of but can't rate (vol.)	4	4	6	3
Haven't heard of	1	*	2	1

Now I'm going to read you some words or phrases that may or may not describe Hillary Clinton. For each, please tell me whether you think it applies to Hillary Clinton...

Angry:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
A great deal	18%	3%	15%	36%
Somewhat	31	27	33	36
Not very much	13	16	9	11
Not at all	34	52	38	14
Strong conviction:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
A great deal	46%	57%	47%	38%
Somewhat	31	33	29	31
Not very much	7	3	8	9
Not at all	10	1	9	20
Irrational:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
A great deal	17%	2%	8%	33%
Somewhat	23	19	21	28
Not very much	14	17	14	10
Not at all	40	57	47	23
Tough:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
A great deal	48%	58%	53%	41%
Somewhat	34	34	29	34
Not very much	5	3	5	7
Not at all	8	1	4	16
John McCain:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly favorable	20%	14%	24%	24%
Somewhat favorable	38	35	37	43
Somewhat unfavorable	11	10	8	12
Strongly unfavorable	6	7	5	5
Heard of but can't rate (vol.)	11	14	8	9
Haven't heard of	10	14	15	4

John Boehner:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly favorable	1%	1%	*	*
Somewhat favorable	5	2	4	9
Somewhat unfavorable	3	4	3	1
Strongly unfavorable	2	3	3	1
Heard of but can't rate (vol.)	9	10	10	8
Haven't heard of	72	70	78	72

Next, I would like to ask you about something that has been in the news recently. Not everyone will have heard about it. Do you happen to know who replaced Tom DeLay as the majority leader in the U.S. House of Representatives? If so, who is it?				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
John Boehner	9%	8%	6%	12%
Other	2	1	2	3
Can't say/Don't know	87	89	89	83

Barack Obama:				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly favorable	15%	27%	11%	6%
Somewhat favorable	14	12	15	15
Somewhat unfavorable	4	3	3	8
Strongly unfavorable	4	3	2	6
Heard of but can't rate (vol.)	7	4	9	10
Haven't heard of	49	44	58	49