



Interviews with 1,019 adult Americans conducted by telephone by Opinion Research Corporation on December 15-17, 2006. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points and for results based on half-samples is plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

FOR RELEASE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT 4 PM

(Note: this document also includes Bush approval ratings which were released at 1 pm on Monday)

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

	<u>Dec.</u> <u>15-17</u>	<u>Dec.</u> <u>5-7</u>	<u>Nov.</u> <u>17-19</u>	<u>Nov.</u> <u>3-5</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>27-29</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>20-22</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>13-15</u>	<u>Oct</u> <u>6-8</u>
Approve	36%	37%	38%	35%	37%	39%	36%	39%
Disapprove	62%	57%	59%	61%	58%	58%	61%	56%
No opinion	2%	6%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	5%

	<u>Sept. 29-</u> <u>Oct. 2</u>	<u>Sept.</u> <u>22-24</u>	<u>Aug. 30-</u> <u>Sept. 2</u>	<u>August</u> <u>18-20</u>	<u>August</u> <u>2-3</u>	<u>June</u> <u>14-15</u>	<u>May</u> <u>16-17</u>	<u>May</u> <u>5-7</u>	<u>April</u> <u>21-23</u>
Approve	39%	42%	41%	42%	40%	37%	36%	34%	32%
Disapprove	59%	55%	55%	57%	59%	53%	57%	58%	60%
No opinion	2%	3%	4%	1%	2%	10%	7%	8%	8%

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	<u>Ap-</u> <u>prove</u>	<u>Disap-</u> <u>prove</u>		<u>Ap-</u> <u>prove</u>	<u>Disap-</u> <u>prove</u>		<u>Ap-</u> <u>prove</u>	<u>Disap-</u> <u>prove</u>
<u>2006</u>								
Mar 10-12	36%	60%	Jul 19-21	49%	47%	Oct 31-Nov 3	63%	29%
Feb 28-Mar 1	38%	60%	Jun 21-23	48%	49%	Oct 21-22	67%	28%
Feb 9-12	39%	56%	May 7-9	46%	51%	Oct 3-6	67%	28%
Jan 20-22	43%	54%	Apr 16-18	52%	45%	Sep 20-22	66%	30%
Jan 6-8	43%	54%	Mar 26-28	53%	44%	Sep 13-16	70%	26%
			Mar 5-7	49%	48%	Sep 2-4	66%	29%
<u>2005</u>			Feb 16-17	51%	46%	Jul 29-31	71%	23%
Dec 16-18	41%	56%	Jan 29-Feb 1	49%	48%	Jul 26-28	69%	26%
Dec 9-11	42%	55%	Jan 9-11	59%	38%	Jul 5-8	76%	18%
Nov 11-13	37%	60%	Jan 2-5	60%	35%	Jun 28-30	76%	19%
Oct 28-30	41%	56%				Jun 21-23	73%	21%
Oct 21-23	42%	55%	<u>2003</u>			Jun 7-8	74%	18%
Sep 16-18	40%	58%	Dec 15-16	63%	34%	May 28-29	77%	17%
Sep 8-11	46%	51%	Dec 5-7	55%	43%	Apr 29-May 1	77%	20%
Aug 28-30	45%	52%	Nov 14-16	50%	47%	Apr 5-7	76%	19%
Aug 5-7	45%	51%	Oct 24-26	53%	42%	Mar 22-24	79%	17%
Jul 22-24	49%	48%	Oct 10-12	56%	40%	Mar 8-9	80%	14%
Jun 24-26	45%	53%	Sep 19-21	50%	47%	Mar 1-3	81%	14%
Jun 16-19	47%	51%	Aug 25-26	59%	37%	Feb 8-10	82%	14%
May 20-22	46%	50%	Jul 25-27	58%	38%	Jan 25-27	84%	13%
Apr 29-May 1	48%	49%	Jun 27-29	61%	36%	Jan 11-14	83%	15%
Apr 1-2	48%	48%	Jun 9-10	62%	34%			
Mar 18-20	52%	44%	May 30-Jun 1	64%	32%	<u>2001</u>		
Feb 25-27	52%	45%	Apr 22-23	70%	26%	Dec 14-16	86%	11%
Jan 14-16	51%	46%	Apr 5-6	70%	27%	Nov 26-27	87%	8%
Jan 7-9	52%	44%	Mar 29-30	71%	26%	Nov 2-4	87%	9%
			Mar 22-23	71%	25%	Oct 19-21	88%	9%
<u>2004</u>			Mar 14-15	58%	38%	Oct 5-6	87%	10%
Dec 17-19	49%	46%	Feb 24-26	57%	37%	Sep 21-22	90%	6%
Nov 19-21	55%	42%	Feb 7-9	61%	34%	Sep 14-15	86%	10%
Oct 29-31	48%	47%	Jan 31-Feb 2	61%	35%	Sep 7-10	51%	39%
Oct 22-24	51%	46%	Jan 23-25	60%	36%	Aug 24-26	55%	36%
Oct 14-16	51%	47%	Jan 10-12	58%	37%	Aug 10-12	57%	35%
Oct 9-10	47%	49%	Jan 3-5	63%	32%	Aug 3-5	55%	35%
Oct 1-3	50%	48%				Jul 10-11	57%	35%
Sep 24-26	54%	44%	<u>2002</u>			Jun 8-10	55%	35%
Sep 3-5	52%	46%	Dec 16-17	63%	33%	May 18-20	56%	36%
Aug 23-25	49%	47%	Dec 9-10	63%	32%	Apr 20-22	62%	29%
Jul 30-Aug 1	48%	49%	Nov 22-24	65%	28%	Mar 9-11	58%	29%
			Nov 8-10	68%	27%	Feb 9-11	57%	25%

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling: (RANDOM ORDER)

	<u>Dec.</u> <u>15-17</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>13-15</u>	<u>Sept. 29-</u> <u>Oct. 2</u>	<u>Aug.</u> <u>2-3</u>	<u>June</u> <u>14-15</u>	<u>May</u> <u>16-17</u>
Terrorism						
Approve	42%	50%	48%	N/A	49%	47%
Disapprove	55%	47%	50%	N/A	42%	45%
No opinion	3%	3%	1%	N/A	9%	7%
The economy						
Approve	41%	40%	37%	38%	36%	34%
Disapprove	57%	58%	62%	59%	56%	61%
No opinion	2%	2%	1%	3%	7%	5%
The situation in Iraq						
Approve	28%	34%	32%	36%	39%	34%
Disapprove	70%	64%	66%	62%	54%	62%
No opinion	2%	2%	2%	2%	8%	7%

(CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS ON FOLLOWING PAGES)

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

The situation in Iraq

	Approve	Dis-approve	No opinion		Approve	Dis-approve	No opinion
2006				2004			
2006 Feb 28-Mar 1	35	64	2	2004 May 7-9 ^	41	58	1
2006 Feb 6-9	38	59	3	2004 May 2-4	42	55	3
2006 Jan 20-22	39	58	3	2004 Apr 16-18	48	49	3
2005				2004 Mar 26-28	51	47	2
2005 Dec 16-18	37	61	2	2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	46	53	1
2005 Dec 9-11	39	59	2	2004 Jan 2-5	61	36	3
2005 Nov 11-13	35	63	2	2003			
2005 Sep 16-18	32	67	1	2003 Dec 5-7	50	47	3
2005 Sep 8-11	40	58	2	2003 Nov 3-5	45	54	1
2005 Aug 28-30	40	59	1	2003 Oct 6-8	47	50	3
2005 Jun 24-26	40	58	2	2003 Sep 8-10	51	47	2
2005 May 20-22 ^	40	56	4	2003 Aug 25-26	57	41	2
2005 Apr 29-May 1	42	55	3	2003 Jul 25-27	60	38	2
2005 Apr 1-2	43	54	3	2003 Jul 18-20	57	39	4
2005 Feb 25-27	45	53	2	2003 Jul 7-9	58	39	3
2005 Feb 4-6	50	48	2	2003 Jun 12-15	63	34	3
2005 Jan 7-9	42	56	2	2003 Apr 14-16	76	21	3
2004				2003 Mar 29-30	71	27	2
2004 Nov 7-10	47	51	2	2003 Mar 24-25	71	26	3
2004 Oct 14-16	46	52	2	2003 Mar 14-15	56	41	3
2004 Sep 24-26	48	49	3	2003 Jan 31-Feb 2	54	42	4
2004 Aug 9-11	45	52	3	2003 Jan 3-5	55	40	5
2004 Jun 21-23 ^	42	56	2	2002			
2004 Jun 3-6	41	57	2	2002 Dec 9-10	55	39	6
				2002 Oct 21-22	52	40	8

Terrorism

	Approve	Dis-approve	No opinion		Approve	Dis-approve	No opinion
2006				2004			
2006 Feb 28-Mar 1	47	49	3	2004 Aug 9-11	57	40	3
2006 Feb 6-9	54	43	3	2004 Jun 21-23 ^	54	44	2
2006 Jan 20-22	52	44	3	2004 Jun 3-6	56	43	1
2005				2004 May 7-9 ^	54	43	3
2005 Dec 9-11	52	46	2	2004 May 2-4	52	45	3
2005 Nov 11-13	48	49	3	2004 Apr 16-18	60	39	1
2005 Sep 8-11	52	45	3	2004 Mar 26-28	58	39	3
2005 Aug 28-30	53	44	3	2003			
2005 Jun 24-26	55	41	4	2003 Dec 5-7	65	33	2
2005 May 20-22 ^	55	40	5	2003 Sep 8-10	64	34	2
2005 Apr 1-2	57	40	3	2003 Aug 25-26	66	31	3
2005 Feb 25-27	60	37	3	2003 Jan 31-Feb 2	71	26	3
2005 Feb 7-10	55	42	3	2002			
2005 Jan 7-9	58	39	3	2002 May 20-22 ^	83	13	4
2004				2002 Apr 5-7 ^	83	13	4
2004 Nov 7-10	60	37	3	2002 Mar 20-22 †	86	12	2
2004 Oct 14-16	57	41	2	2001			
2004 Sep 24-26	62	36	2	2001 Nov 2-4 †	86	12	2

^ Asked of a half sample

† WORDING: U.S. military action abroad to fight terrorism.

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The economy

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis-approve</u>	<u>No opinion</u>		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis-approve</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<u>2006</u>				<u>2003</u>			
2006 Feb 28-Mar 1	40	57	3	2003 Aug 25-26	45	52	3
2006 Feb 6-9	40	56	4	2003 Jul 25-27	46	51	3
2006 Jan 20-22	39	56	5	2003 Jul 18-20	45	51	4
<u>2005</u>				2003 Jul 7-9	48	50	2
2005 Dec 16-18	41	56	3	2003 Jun 12-15	48	48	4
2005 Dec 9-11	40	58	2	2003 May 5-7	53	44	3
2005 Nov 11-13	37	61	2	2003 Apr 14-16	49	45	6
2005 Sep 16-18	35	63	2	2003 Mar 29-30	49	47	4
2005 Sep 8-11	39	58	3	2003 Mar 24-25	52	42	6
2005 Aug 28-30	38	60	2	2003 Mar 14-15	44	52	4
2005 Jun 24-26	41	55	4	2003 Feb 3-6	44	52	4
2005 May 20-22 ^	40	58	2	2003 Jan 31-Feb 2	47	48	5
2005 Apr 29-May 1	43	53	4	2003 Jan 23-25	46	49	5
2005 Apr 1-2	41	55	4	2003 Jan 10-12	48	47	5
2005 Feb 25-27	48	49	3	2003 Jan 3-5	49	47	4
2005 Feb 4-6	50	47	3	<u>2002</u>			
2005 Jan 7-9	50	48	2	2002 Dec 9-10	49	47	4
<u>2004</u>				2002 Nov 8-10	55	39	6
2004 Nov 7-10	47	51	2	2002 Oct 21-22	49	44	7
2004 Oct 14-16	46	51	3	2002 Jul 26-28	52	43	5
2004 Sep 24-26	49	48	3	2002 Jul 5-8	58	36	6
2004 Aug 9-11	46	51	3	2002 Jun 28-30	63	33	4
2004 Jun 21-23 ^	47	50	3	2002 May 20-22	61	29	10
2004 Jun 3-6	41	58	1	2002 Apr 5-7 ^	60	33	7
2004 May 7-9 ^	41	56	3	2002 Mar 22-24	65	29	6
2004 May 2-4	41	56	3	2002 Mar 1-3	64	31	5
2004 Apr 16-18	46	52	2	2002 Feb 4-6	66	30	4
2004 Mar 26-28	42	55	3	2002 Jan 25-27	64	30	6
2004 Feb 9-12	45	52	3	<u>2001</u>			
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	43	54	3	2001 Nov 2-4 ^	71	24	5
2004 Jan 2-5	54	43	3	2001 Oct 5-6	72	23	5
<u>2003</u>				2001 Jul 10-11	54	36	10
2003 Dec 5-7	48	49	3	2001 May 18-20	51	41	8
2003 Nov 3-5	47	50	3	2001 Apr 20-22 ^	55	38	7
2003 Oct 6-8	42	55	3	2001 Mar 9-11	55	32	13
2003 Sep 8-10	45	53	2	2001 Feb 1-4	53	27	20

^ Asked of half sample.

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

	<u>Dec.</u> <u>15-17</u>	<u>Nov.</u> <u>17-19</u>	<u>Nov.</u> <u>3-5</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>27-29</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>20-22</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>13-15</u>	<u>Oct</u> <u>6-8</u>
Favor	31%	33%	33%	38%	34%	34%	32%
Oppose	67%	63%	61%	59%	64%	64%	62%
No opinion	2%	4%	6%	3%	3%	2%	7%

	<u>Sept. 29-</u> <u>Oct. 2</u>	<u>Sept.</u> <u>22-24</u>	<u>Aug. 30-</u> <u>Sept. 2</u>	<u>Aug.</u> <u>18-20</u>	<u>Aug.</u> <u>2-3</u>	<u>June</u> <u>14-15</u>
Favor	38%	40%	39%	35%	36%	38%
Oppose	61%	59%	58%	61%	60%	54%
No opinion	1%	1%	2%	3%	3%	8%

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	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2006 Feb 9-12 *	40	56	4
2005 Jun 16-19	39	59	2
2005 Mar 18-20*	47	47	6
2004 Nov 19-21*	48	46	6
2003 Oct 24-26	54	43	3
2003 Apr 22-23	71	26	3
2003 Apr 10	72	22	6
2003 Apr 7-8	68	28	4
2003 Apr 5-6	70	27	3
2003 Mar 29-30	70	27	3
2003 Mar 24-25	71	27	2
2003 Mar 22-23	72	25	3

Would you favor or oppose invading Iraq with U.S. ground troops in an attempt to remove Saddam Hussein from power?

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2003 Mar 14-15*	64	33	3	2002 Dec. 19-22*	53	38	9
2003 Mar 3-5	59	37	4	2002 Dec 16-17*	58	35	7
2003 Feb 24-26	59	37	4	2002 Dec 9-10	55	39	6
2003 Feb 17-19	59	38	3	2002 Nov 22-24	58	37	5
2003 Feb 7-9	63	34	3	2002 Nov 8-10	59	35	6
2003 Jan 31-Feb 2	58	38	4	2002 Oct 21-22	54	40	6
2003 Jan 23-24	52	43	5	2002 Oct 14-17*	56	37	7
2003 Jan 10-12	56	38	6	2002 Oct 3-6	53	40	7
2003 Jan 3-5*	56	39	5	2002 Sept 20-22*	57	38	5

Would you favor or oppose sending American ground troops to the Persian Gulf in an attempt to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq?

2002 Sept 13-16	57	39	4	2002 Aug 19-21	53	41	6
2002 Sept 5-8*	58	36	6	2002 June 17-19*	61	31	8
2002 Sept 2-4	58	36	6				

Would you favor or oppose sending American troops back to the Persian Gulf in order to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq?

2001 Nov 26-27	74	20	6	1993 June 29-30	70	27	3
2001 Feb 19-21	52	42	6	1992 Mar 30-Apr 5	55	40	5

17. Here are four different plans the U.S. could follow in dealing with the war in Iraq. Which one do you prefer -- withdraw all troops from Iraq immediately, withdraw all troops by December, 2007 -- that is, in 12 months time -- withdraw troops, but take as many years to do this as are needed to turn control over to the Iraqis, or send more troops to Iraq? (ROTATED)

	<u>Dec.</u> <u>15-17</u>	<u>June</u> <u>8-11</u>
Immediately	21%	18%
12 months' time	33%	29%
As many years as needed	32%	42%
Send more troops	11%	6%
No opinion	3%	5%

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	<u>Withdraw</u> <u>immediately</u>	<u>Withdraw in</u> <u>12 months'</u> <u>time</u>	<u>Withdraw,</u> <u>take as many</u> <u>years as</u> <u>needed</u>	<u>Send more</u> <u>troops</u>	<u>No</u> <u>opinion</u>
2006 Mar 10-12	19	35	39	4	3
2005 Nov 11-13	19	33	38	7	3

GALLUP TREND FOR COMPARISON: The Vietnam War-- Here are four different plans the U.S. could follow in dealing with the war in Vietnam. Which ONE do you prefer? Plan A: Withdraw all troops from Vietnam immediately; Plan B: Withdraw all troops by July, 1971 -- that is, in 12 months time; Plan C: Withdraw troops but take as many years to do this as are needed to turn the war over to the South Vietnamese; or Plan D: Send more troops to Vietnam and step up the fighting?

	<u>Withdraw</u> <u>immediately</u>	<u>Withdraw in</u> <u>12 months'</u> <u>time</u>	<u>Withdraw,</u> <u>take as many</u> <u>years as</u> <u>needed</u>	<u>Send more</u> <u>troops</u>	<u>No</u> <u>opinion</u>
1970 Jul 31-Aug 2	23	25	33	10	9

18. What do you think is the most likely outcome for the U.S. in Iraq -- a victory, a stalemate, or a defeat? (ROTATED)

	Dec. <u>15-17</u>
Victory	27%
Stalemate	50%
Defeat	20%
No opinion	3%

19. Do you think victory is possible for the U.S. in Iraq, or do you think a victory in Iraq is not possible?

	Dec. <u>15-17</u>
Victory is possible	48%
Victory is not possible	50%
No opinion	3%

NOTE: "Victory is possible" includes respondents who said victory is the most likely outcome in Question 18.

20. Do you think defeat is possible for the U.S. in Iraq, or do you think a defeat in Iraq is not possible?

	Dec. <u>15-17</u>
Defeat is possible	62%
Defeat is not possible	34%
No opinion	4%

NOTE: "Defeat is possible" includes respondents who said defeat is the most likely outcome in Question 18.

21. What do you think the U.S. should do concerning its strategy and tactics in Iraq? Do you think there should be a complete overhaul, major changes, minor changes or no changes at all in the strategy and tactics the U.S. is applying to the situation in Iraq?

	<u>Dec.</u> <u>15-17</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>27-29</u>
Complete overhaul	27%	25%
Major changes	46%	44%
Minor changes	18%	22%
No changes at all	6%	4%
No opinion	3%	5%

22. Do you think that changes should be made as soon as possible, or do you think the U.S. can wait several weeks before making those changes? (ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAID COMPLETE OVERHAUL, MAJOR CHANGES OR MINOR CHANGES IN Q. 21)

	<u>Dec.</u> <u>15-17</u>
Make changes as soon as possible	66%
Can wait to make changes	24%
No changes needed (from Q.21)	6%
No opinion	4%

23. As you may know, Congress has authorized 70 billion dollars for the war in Iraq. Would you favor or oppose a proposal that would spend all of that money to immediately withdraw all U.S. troops from Iraq and would prevent the U.S. from spending any additional money for future military operations in that country?

	<u>Dec.</u> <u>15-17</u>
Favor	38%
Oppose	59%
No opinion	3%