

WAR IN IRAQ: GOING BADLY AND GETTING WORSE
December 8-10, 2006

Americans have never been as pessimistic about the war in Iraq as they are today. They see things as going badly, and a majority doubts that the U.S. can win. Americans believe that the situation in Iraq is getting worse, and that Iraq will never become a stable democracy. More than six in 10 say the war was a mistake.

Less than a quarter approves of how the President is handling Iraq (the lowest number ever), and most think the President needs to make major changes to the country's Iraq policy. Americans are ready to accept much of the Iraq Study Group's report, but they are divided as to whether the President will seriously consider the recommendations made by the bipartisan panel.

CHANGE THE COURSE

Americans believe, in overwhelming numbers, that the U.S. needs to either change its strategy and tactics in Iraq, or start ending its involvement there. 43% say the U.S. should keep fighting, but with changed tactics. Half, 50%, say the U.S. should instead take steps to end its involvement altogether. Only 4% say the U.S. should keep fighting as it is doing now.

WHAT SHOULD U.S. DO IN IRAQ NOW...?

Keep fighting w/same tactics	4%
Keep fighting but CHANGE tactics	43
Start ending involvement	50

The Iraq Study Group described the situation in Iraq as "grave and deteriorating," and Americans agree. 71% - the largest percentage ever - believe the war is going badly. 39% believe the war is going very badly - also the highest number ever. A majority of Republicans, Democrats, and Independents agree that the war is going badly.

HOW IS THE WAR GOING?

	Now	10/2006	12/2005
Well	25%	30%	46%
Badly	71	67	52

85% now characterize the situation in Iraq as a civil war. Half of all Americans believe the situation in Iraq is getting worse, while fewer than one in 10 Americans think it is getting better. 38% of Americans believe the situation in Iraq is staying the same.

IS THE SITUATION IN IRAQ...?

Getting better	8%
Getting worse	52
Staying the same	38

Looking ahead, Americans no longer believe that the United States is at least somewhat likely to succeed in Iraq. For the first time, a majority of Americans (53%) believes success in Iraq is not likely.

WILL THE U.S. SUCCEED IN IRAQ?

	Now	10/2006
Very likely	9%	10%
Somewhat likely	34	42
Not very/not at all likely	53	45

When asked who is currently winning the war in Iraq, only 15% - fewer than ever before - say the U.S. is. 18% say the insurgents are winning, but most Americans - 63% - think neither side is winning. At the start of this year, 36% of Americans believed the U.S. was winning the war.

WHO IS WINNING THE WAR IN IRAQ?

	Now	10/2006	7/2006	1/2006
The U.S.	15%	20%	27%	36%
Iraqi resistance	18	17	13	9
Neither side	63	59	58	48

Expectations for a stay in Iraq that lasts longer than five more years dropped a bit following the Democratic wins in last month's Congressional elections. Today, 19% think troops will be in Iraq longer than five years from now. In October, before the elections, 27% said so.

Looking back, most Americans believe that the U.S. should have stayed out of Iraq in the first place. Only 39% of Americans believe the United States did the right thing in taking military action against Iraq, matching the lowest number in the CBS News Poll. As recently as a year ago the country was evenly divided.

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

	Now	11/2006	5/2006	12/2005
Right thing	39%	40%	39%	48%
Should have stayed out	55	56	56	48

A record one out of three Americans now believes that the war in Iraq is the country's most important problem, far outstripping the economy and jobs (9%) and immigration and terrorism, each with 4%. Iraq has dominated the list throughout the year, though never by this large a margin. The last time as many people were concerned about any single issue was in late summer 2003, when more than a third named the economy as the country's most urgent problem.

MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM

	Now	10/2006
War in Iraq	35%	27%
Economy and Jobs	9	12
Immigration	4	4
Terrorism	4	12

Just 24% of Americans think the country is headed in the right direction, while 70% think it is off on the wrong track. Americans have been pessimistic about the direction of the country for many months.

THE IRAQ STUDY GROUP: WHAT TO DO NOW

The American public agrees with some of the key recommendations made last week by the Iraq Study Group - even though many Americans say they haven't heard much about the report itself.

Among those who have heard or read about the recommendations made by the Iraq Study Group, 48% agree with most of their recommendations, while 19% disagree with the commission's proposals. Another 26% have no opinion.

DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS BY IRAQ STUDY GROUP

(Among Those Who Have Heard or Read about the Report)

Agree	48%
Disagree	19
Don't know	26

A majority of Democrats agree with this bipartisan group's recommendations, as do pluralities of Independents and Republicans.

46% have heard or read at least some about the group's recommendations, but a majority - 54% - has read little about them, including 28% who have heard or read nothing at all. More Americans were paying attention to the scandal involving former Congressman Mark Foley in October as well as the testing of a nuclear device by North Korea.

But despite their admission that they have not paid much attention, Americans seem willing to support many of the specific recommendations.

Engage other Mideast countries - even Iran and Syria: One suggestion from the Iraq Study Group was for the U.S. to engage other countries in the Middle East, including Iran and Syria. 51% of Americans agree the U.S. should request the support of Iran and Syria to help stabilize Iraq, while 40% disagree. Democrats support this idea, but Republicans are narrowly opposed.

SHOULD THE U.S. REQUEST THE SUPPORT OF IRAN AND SYRIA?

Yes	51%
No	40

Phase out combat troops and train Iraqis: The Iraq Study Group also suggested that the U.S. change its mission in Iraq by starting to phase out U.S. combat troops and have the remaining U.S. troops primarily train Iraqi soldiers. Americans definitely favor changing tactics. But relatively few think there has been much progress made in training Iraqi troops. Just 6% say a lot of progress has been made in doing this, fewer than thought so as recently as the summer. An additional 30% think some progress has been made.

The bipartisan panel did not directly call for setting a withdrawal schedule for U.S. troops, but they did indicate the possibility that combat troops could be withdrawn from Iraq by the first quarter of 2008. Many Americans are eager for a timetable. 57% think the U.S. should set a timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq. Majorities have consistently supported this.

SHOULD U.S. SET TIMETABLE FOR WITHDRAWING U.S. TROOPS FROM IRAQ?

Yes	57%
No	40

59% of Americans want to see some draw-down in troops, including 25% who want to remove all troops from Iraq and another 34% who want to decrease the number. Another 36% would either keep the same amount as now or put more in. These sentiments are not much changed from last month. In the 2006 Congressional elections, most voters who wanted troops withdrawn backed Democratic House candidates.

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

	Now	10/2006	3/2006
Increased	18%	16%	10%
Kept same	18	27	25
Decreased	34	26	30
All removed	25	24	29

Set milestones for the Iraqis: The Iraq Study Group proposed setting milestones for the Iraqi government in their efforts to bring stability and order to Iraq. If the Iraqi government doesn't meet these goals, they would risk losing political, military or economic aid from the U.S. A majority of Americans agree with this recommendation: 72% think it's a good idea to set milestones for the Iraqi government, while 21% think it is a bad idea.

ARE MILESTONES FOR IRAQI GOVT. A GOOD IDEA?

Yes	72%
No	21

The Iraq Study Group emphasized that the Iraqi government needs to play a large role in defeating insurgent groups, and a majority of Americans see themselves as having a responsibility to help the new Iraqi government now: 57% think the U.S. has a responsibility to make sure the Iraqi government is stable before the U.S. removes its troops. 38% say the U.S. does NOT have this responsibility.

**U.S. RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE IRAQI GOVT. STABILITY
BEFORE LEAVING?**

	All	Reps	Dems	Inds
Yes	57%	77%	45%	53%
No	38	19	49	41

Republicans and Independents are more likely than Democrats to think this is a U.S. responsibility.

The responses here contradict Americans' desire to leave Iraq soon. The public is increasingly skeptical about the abilities of the Iraqi government; most believe it is not strong enough to withstand pressures from the insurgents if the U.S. withdrew its troops.

IF U.S. LEFT IRAQ, COULD IRAQI GOVT. HOLD OFF INSURGENTS?

Yes	14%
No	77

In 1973 the Gallup Poll asked whether, if the U.S. left Vietnam, a government there could withstand Communist political pressures. 54% of Americans said no, it could not.

As for the future of Iraq, six in ten Americans think that Iraq will never become a stable democracy, up 7 points from the summer and the highest ever in the CBS News Poll. 36% believe Iraq will eventually have a stable democratic government, although only 3% believe this will happen within the next two years.

WILL IRAQ BECOME A STABLE DEMOCRACY?

	Now	7/2006
Yes, in the next year or two	3%	4%
Yes, but will take longer	33	41
No, never	60	53

THE PRESIDENT AND THE ISG REPORT

Americans are ready for policy changes in Iraq. 57% say the President should make MAJOR changes in the U.S. policy in Iraq. 29% think only minor changes are needed, while just 8% believe Bush needs to make no changes in U.S. policy.

PRES. BUSH SHOULD MAKE ... CHANGES TO U.S. POLICY IN IRAQ

Major	57%
Minor	29
No	8

But fewer than half - 46% - of Americans think President Bush will seriously consider the recommendations made by the Iraq Study Group; 43% think he will not. Republicans think the President will seriously consider the panel's proposals, while Democrats disagree.

WILL PRES. BUSH SERIOUSLY CONSIDER ISG'S RECOMMENDATIONS?

Yes	46%
No	43

As for whether the President is likely to enact most of the group's recommendations, just 3% expect he will enact all of them. Half thinks he will enact some of the recommendations, but 39% say he will enact few or none.

WILL PRES. BUSH ENACT ISG RECOMMENDATIONS?

Most	3%
Some	50
Not many	29
None	10

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH

The public's overwhelming negativity about the war in Iraq extends to the President's handling of it -- which, at a mere 21%, is the lowest it has ever been. Three quarters disapprove.

BUSH'S JOB HANDLING IRAQ

	Now	11/14/2006
Approve	21%	29%
Disapprove	75	67

Most of that drop has occurred among the President's base - Republicans and conservatives. Last month, 70% of Republicans approved of how the President was handling the war; now, just 47% do. Few Democrats and Independents approve. Conservative support for President Bush's handling of Iraq has also fallen, from 60% in November to 34% now.

APPROVE OF BUSH'S JOB HANDLING IRAQ

	Now	11/14/2006
Republicans	47%	70%
Democrats	5%	3%
Independents	17%	23%
Conservatives	34%	60%

And seven in 10 Americans are now uneasy about the President's decision making for Iraq. Just 28% have confidence in his ability to make the right decisions about the war, while more than twice as many, 70%, are uneasy. Just 57% of Republicans express confidence in the

President on this issue. Confidence has decreased since September 2005.

PRESIDENT'S ABILITY TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT IRAQ

	Now	9/2005
Confident	28%	35%
Uneasy	70	63

Americans continue to be skeptical of the President's description of the situation in Iraq. 67% think President Bush makes things in Iraq sound better than they are, while only 22% think he describes things accurately. These views are similar to what they were in the spring.

When it comes to handling the war, by two to one Americans have more confidence in the Democrats in Congress than in the President. 53% think the Democrats in Congress will make the right decisions about the war in Iraq, while just 27% think the President will do so.

WILL MAKE RIGHT DECISIONS ABOUT WAR

Democrats in Congress	53%
President Bush	27

The President's overall job approval rating has fallen slightly. 31% of Americans approve of the job he is doing overall, matching the President's previous low of last May. 34% approved last month, the same percentage as before the election.

BUSH'S JOB APPROVAL RATING

	Now	11/14/2006
Approve	31%	34%
Disapprove	63	61

36% of Americans approve of the job the President is doing handling the economy. In addition, 41% approve of his handling of terrorism. Both ratings are similar to what they were in October.

IRAQ AND VIETNAM

Today, 62% of Americans call it "a mistake" that the U.S. sent its troops into Iraq, considering the developments that have occurred since the war began.

WAS SENDING TROOPS TO FIGHT IN IRAQ A MISTAKE?

Yes	62%
No	34

These sentiments are slightly higher than any recorded in Gallup Polls in the early 1970's about the Vietnam War. During the Vietnam War, the percentage that felt sending troops there was a mistake rose as the war went on. 24% called Vietnam a mistake in a 1965 Gallup Poll, 41% called it a mistake by 1967; 61% said so in 1971 and 60% thought so in 1973.

VIETNAM ERA GALLUP POLLS:

WAS SENDING TROOPS TO FIGHT IN VIETNAM A MISTAKE?

	1/1973	5/1971	4/1968	4/1967	8/1965
Yes	60%	61%	48%	37%	24%
No	29	28	40	50	60

Americans express a negative reaction to international involvement in general. They believe that the U.S. should stay out of other countries' affairs and not try to change a dictatorship to a democracy when it can. Today's sentiments are much like those expressed just months after the Iraq war started, and not very different from those measured in 1991.

SHOULD THE U.S.:

	Now	2/2005	7/2003	10/1991
Change dictatorships to democracies	18%	27%	19%	21%
Stay out of other countries' affairs	66	59	61	59
It depends (vol.)	11	10	14	16

Democrats overwhelmingly believe the U.S. should generally stay out. Republicans are more closely divided on the matter but they, too, are more likely to say stay out. Most conservatives say the U.S. should generally stay out, as do most liberals.

Asked directly whether they agree that the U.S. "should mind its own business internationally," 52% of Americans say they agree with that statement. This is even higher than when Gallup asked this in 1978, a few years after the fall of Saigon. Then 47% of Americans agreed. When the Gallup Poll asked this in 1972, during the Vietnam War, only 36% agreed, and in 1964, just 20% did.

SHOULD THE U.S. MIND ITS OWN BUSINESS INTERNATIONALLY?

	Now	6/1978	5/1972*	9/1964*
Agree	52%	47%	36%	20%
Disagree	42	45	54	70

*GALLUP POLL

LOOKING AHEAD: EXPECTATIONS FOR THE NEW CONGRESS

Americans are optimistic about the new Democratic-controlled Congress, but at the same time they are skeptical about how much it will be able to accomplish, and whether the President and Democrats will work together. However, most think the Democrats will try to bring U.S. troops home from Iraq, something many support.

65% say they are optimistic about the next two years, with the Democrats in control of Congress. Not surprisingly, Republicans are pessimistic. Independents, many of whom voted Democratic in the November elections, are optimistic.

FEELINGS ABOUT NEW CONGRESS

Optimistic	65%
Pessimistic	28

But there is significant doubt about how much the Democratic Congress will be able to do given Republican control of the White House. 51% think the President and the Democrats will not be able to work together.

And fewer than half - 47% - think the new Congress will be able to accomplish more in the next two years than usual, while 34% expect it to accomplish less. In October, a majority of Americans viewed the current Congress as accomplishing less than usual.

THINK CONGRESS WILL ACCOMPLISH ... THAN USUAL?

More	47%
Less	34
Same (vol.)	9

One thing most Americans do expect from the new Congress is that they will try to bring U.S. troops home from Iraq, something more than half would like to see. 79% think the Democrats in Congress will try to decrease or remove all troops from that country.

EXPECT DEMOCRATS TO ... U.S. TROOPS IN IRAQ

Increase	6%
Keep same	9
Decrease	42
Remove all	37

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 922 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone December 8-10, 2006. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The error for subgroups is higher.

CBS NEWS POLL
WAR IN IRAQ: GOING BADLY AND GETTING WORSE
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q1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				Nov06b
	Total	*** Party ID ***			
	%	Rep	Dem	Ind	%
Approve	31	65	7	29	34
Disapprove	63	26	88	66	61
DK/NA	6	9	5	5	5

q2 Do you feel things in this country are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things have pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

					Oct06d
Right direction	24	53	5	19	29
Wrong track	70	40	90	75	64
DK/NA	6	7	5	6	7

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

					Oct06a
War in Iraq	35	23	45	32	27
Economy / jobs	9	8	11	9	12
Terrorism (general)	4	8	1	5	12
Immigration	4	5	2	4	4
Moral Values/Family Values	3	4	1	3	1
Foreign aid/Attn to Domestic	3	1	5	3	1
Poverty / Homelessness	3	2	2	5	2
The President/G.W. Bush	3	2	4	3	4
Education	2	2	2	2	5
Health Care	2	2	3	2	3
Foreign Policy	2	1	2	2	2
Defense / Military	2	2	1	3	2
Politicians/Government	2	3	1	2	3
Religious Values	2	3	1	1	1
Other	18	28	13	18	16
DK/NA	6	6	6	6	5

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

					Oct06d
Approve	36	71	11	33	38
Disapprove	52	20	78	51	54
DK/NA	12	9	11	16	8

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

					Nov06b
Approve	21	47	5	17	29
Disapprove	75	47	95	77	67
DK/NA	4	6	0	6	4

q6 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the campaign against terrorism?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	*** Party ID ***				Oct06d
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	41	76	19	37	44
Disapprove	52	18	76	55	48
DK/NA	7	6	5	8	8

q7 Over the coming year, do you think President George W. Bush and the Democrats in Congress will or will not be able to work together?

					Nov06b
Will be able	40	47	37	38	50
Will not be able to	51	47	56	50	40
DK/NA	9	6	7	12	10

q8-q9 BLANK

q10 Are you generally optimistic or pessimistic about the next two years with the Democratic Party in control of Congress?

Optimistic	65	42	87	62
Pessimistic	28	52	11	26
DK/NA	7	6	2	12

q11 Do you think that in the next two years the new Congress will accomplish more or less than Congress usually does in a typical two-year period?

					Jan03a
More	47	26	67	44	48
Less	34	58	17	33	30
Same (vol.)	9	10	7	11	9
DK/NA	10	6	9	12	13

q12 Should the United States try to change a dictatorship to a democracy where it can, or should the United States stay out of other countries' affairs?

					Feb05b
Try to change	18	36	9	11	27
Stay out	66	48	74	74	59
Depends (vol.)	11	11	11	11	10
DK/NA	5	5	6	4	4

q13-q15 BLANK

q16 With the Democrats in control of Congress, what do you think they will try to do in Iraq -- increase the number of U.S. troops in Iraq, keep the same number of U.S. troops as there are now, decrease the number of U.S. troops in Iraq or will the Democrats try to remove all U.S. troops from Iraq?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Nov06b
	%	%	%	%	%
Increase	6	3	4	9	7
Keep the same number	9	9	5	12	12
Decrease	42	35	49	42	47
Remove all troops	37	48	34	31	25
Don't know/No answer	6	5	8	6	9

q17-q21 BLANK

q22 Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The United States should mind its own business internationally and let other countries get along as best they can.

					June 1978
Agree	52	31	65	57	47
Disagree	42	66	26	38	45
DK/NA	6	3	9	5	8

q23 Do you have confidence in George W. Bush's ability to make the right decisions about the war in Iraq or are you uneasy about his approach?

					Sep05b
Confident	28	57	9	23	35
Uneasy	70	39	88	75	63
DK/NA	2	4	3	2	2

q24 How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?

					Oct06d
Very good	8	20	1	6	9
Fairly good	50	63	41	49	50
Fairly bad	26	12	37	25	26
Very bad	13	5	17	16	13
DK/NA	3	0	4	4	2

q25 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q26 Looking back, do you think the United States did the right thing in taking military action against Iraq, or should the US have stayed out?

					Nov06b
Right thing	39	74	17	35	40
Stayed out	55	22	79	55	56
Don't know/No answer	6	4	4	10	4

q27 How would you say things are going for the U.S. in its efforts to bring stability and order to Iraq? Would you say things are going very well, somewhat well, somewhat badly, or very badly?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Oct06d
	%	%	%	%	%
Very well	2	2	1	3	2
Somewhat well	23	44	11	19	28
Somewhat badly	32	37	30	31	32
Very badly	39	14	54	44	35
Don't know/No answer	4	3	4	3	3

q28 BLANK

q29 Would you say the situation in Iraq is getting better, getting worse, or is it staying about the same?

Getting better	8	17	4	5
Getting worse	52	31	67	53
Staying the same	38	50	27	39
DK/NA	2	2	2	3

q30 How much longer do you think the United States troops will have to remain in Iraq -- for less than a year, one to two years, two to five years, or will U.S. troops have to stay in Iraq for longer than five years?

Less than a year	12	9	16	9	9
One to two years	29	32	30	25	22
Two to five years	30	30	31	28	35
Longer than five years	19	21	13	22	27
Don't know/No answer	10	8	10	16	7

q31 From what you have seen or heard about the situation in Iraq, what should the United States do now--should the U.S. increase the number of U.S. troops in Iraq, keep the same number of U.S. troops in Iraq as there are now, decrease the number of U.S. troops in Iraq, or remove all its troops from Iraq?

Increase	18	32	9	15	16
Keep the same number	18	28	10	17	27
Decrease	34	20	46	33	26
Remove all troops	25	13	31	28	24
Don't know/No answer	5	7	4	7	7

q32 In view of the developments since the U.S. entered Iraq, do you think the U.S. made a mistake sending troops to fight in Iraq?

Yes	62	26	83	69
No	34	69	13	27
DK/NA	4	5	4	4

q33 Which of these do you think is most likely? 1. Iraq will become a stable democracy in the next year or two, OR 2. Iraq will become a stable democracy, but it will take longer than a year or two, OR 3. Iraq will probably never become a stable democracy.

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	*** Party ID ***				Jul06a
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Will in the next year or two	3	3	3	3	4
Will, but will take longer	33	47	25	32	41
Will never become a democracy	60	48	67	61	53
Don't know/No answer	4	2	5	4	2

q34 Regardless of whether you think taking military action in Iraq was the right thing to do -- would you say that the U.S. is very likely to succeed in Iraq, somewhat likely to succeed, not very likely to succeed, or not at all likely to succeed in Iraq?

					Oct06d
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	%
Very likely	9	17	5	6	10
Somewhat likely	34	47	26	32	42
Not very likely	31	21	35	34	26
Not at all likely	22	8	31	24	19
Don't know/No answer	4	7	3	4	3

q35 Who do you think is currently winning the war in Iraq -- the United States, or the Iraqi resistance and insurgents, or neither side?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Oct06d
The U.S.	15	27	9	12	20
Iraq resistance	18	10	25	19	17
Neither side	63	59	65	66	59
Don't know/No answer	4	4	1	3	4

q36 If U.S. troops are withdrawn from Iraq, do you think the Iraqi government is strong enough to withstand pressures from the insurgents?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Yes, can	14	12	17	14
No, cannot	77	83	72	76
DK/NA	9	5	11	10

q37 In order to help provide stability in Iraq, do you think the U.S. should request the support of neighboring countries in the middle east, such as Iran and Syria, even if the governments in those countries have been unfriendly or hostile to the U.S. in the past?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Yes	51	44	57	51
No	40	49	34	39
DK/NA	9	7	9	10

q38 From what you have heard or read, how much progress has the United States made in training Iraqi troops to take over from the U.S. -- a lot, some, not much, none at all, or don't you know enough about it yet to say?

					Jul06a
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	%
A lot	6	13	2	5	10
Some	30	38	28	26	32
Not much	20	13	23	22	19
None at all	5	4	4	6	3
Don't know enough	37	31	40	39	35
DK/NA	2	1	3	2	1

q39 Do you think the United States should or should not set a timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Oct06d
	%	%	%	%	%
Should	57	37	71	58	54
Should not	40	61	26	38	42
DK/NA	3	2	3	4	4

q40 Which comes closest to your view - 1. The U.S. should continue fighting the war in Iraq using the same military strategy and tactics it is using now; OR 2. The U.S. should continue fighting the war in Iraq, but needs to change its strategy and tactics; OR 3. The U.S. should take steps to end its involvement in Iraq.

Continue w/same strategy	4	7	3	3
Continue w/changed strategy	43	66	26	42
End involvement in Iraq	50	23	70	52
DK/NA	3	4	1	3

q41 When George W. Bush talks about how things are going for the United States in Iraq today, do you think he is making things in Iraq sound better than they really are, making things sound worse than they really are, or is he describing the situation in Iraq accurately?

					Apr06a
Sound better	67	38	85	73	63
Sound worse	5	4	6	5	5
Describing accurately	22	51	6	15	26
DK/NA	6	7	3	7	6

q42 Do you think the United States has a responsibility to make sure that Iraq has a stable government in place before it removes its troops from Iraq, or don't you think it has this responsibility?

Yes, has responsibility	57	77	45	53
No, does not	38	19	49	41
DK/NA	5	4	6	6

q43 Would you say there is a civil war going on in Iraq among different groups of Iraqis right now, or not?

					Jun06a
Yes	85	83	90	82	82
No	9	14	4	10	12
Don't know/No answer	6	3	6	8	6

q44 When it comes to the war in Iraq, do you think George W. Bush should make major changes in U.S. policy, minor changes, or no changes in U.S. policy?

Major changes	57	36	70	61
Minor changes	29	48	21	21
No changes	8	11	6	8
Pullout all troops (vol.)	0	0	1	1
DK/NA	6	5	2	9

q45 Who do you think is more likely to make the right decisions about the war in Iraq -- George W. Bush or the Democrats in Congress?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	*** Party ID ***			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
George W. Bush	27	64	7	17
Democrats in Congress	53	18	80	51
Both (vol.)	4	4	4	5
Neither (Vol.)	7	7	3	12
DK/NA	9	7	6	17

q46 Earlier this year, Congress appointed a commission known as the Iraq Study Group that was charged with the task of assessing the situation in Iraq. How much have you heard or read so far about the recommendations made by the Iraq Study Group -- a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all?

A lot	13	15	13	10
Some	33	34	31	33
Not much	26	28	24	27
Nothing at all	28	22	31	29
DK/NA	0	1	1	1

q47 Based on what you've heard or read, do you agree or disagree with most of the recommendations made by the Iraq Study Group?

	AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE HEARD OR READ ABOUT ISG RECOMMENDATIONS			
Agree	48	38	58	46
Disagree	19	25	17	15
Agree with some/Disagree(vol.)	7	7	4	9
DK/NA	26	30	21	30

q48 The Iraq Study Group recommended setting milestones for the Iraqi government to achieve in its efforts to bring stability and order to Iraq. If Iraq does not meet these goals, the Iraqi government would risk losing some U.S. aid. Do you think setting milestones for the Iraqi government is a good idea or a bad idea right now?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
Good idea	72	78	69	69
Bad idea	21	16	23	22
DK/NA	7	6	8	9

q49 Do you expect that George W. Bush will seriously consider the recommendations made by the Iraq Study Group, or won't he seriously consider those recommendations?

Will seriously consider	46	74	29	42
Won't seriously consider	43	20	60	43
DK/NA	11	6	11	15

q50 Do you think George W. Bush will enact most of the recommendations made by the Iraq Study Group, some of the recommendations, not many, or none of the recommendations made by the Iraq Study Group?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Most	3	5	2	2
Some	50	68	39	47
Not many	29	15	42	27
None	10	3	13	12
DK/NA	8	9	4	12

UNWEIGHTED

WEIGHTED

Total Respondents	922	
Total Republicans	273	264
Total Democrats	328	340
Total Independents	321	318