

CBS NEWS POLL
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PRESIDENT BUSH, THE PORTS, AND IRAQ
February 22-26, 2006

The Bush Administration faces a public overwhelmingly opposed to the agreement to give a Dubai-owned firm operational control over six American ports, and more pessimistic about the situation in Iraq than ever before. This, along with reminders of the massive impact of Hurricane Katrina and negative assessments of how the government and the President have handled it for six months, has brought the President's approval ratings down to new lows.

George W. Bush now receives the lowest marks of his Presidency, even on fighting terrorism, a measure that has long been his strongest suit. Half of Americans now disapprove of how he is handling that effort, while 43% approve.

BUSH'S HANDLING OF WAR ON TERROR

	Now	1/2006	10/2005	2/2005
Approve	43%	52%	47%	61%
Disapprove	50	43	46	33

A large majority of Republicans still approves of the President's handling of terrorism, although their approval, like that of all adults, has dropped nine points in the last month, to 78% now. Most Democrats and Independents disapprove.

Bush's overall job rating has tumbled, too, to an all-time low in this poll. It is now 34%, down from 42% last month. 59% disapprove. The previous low of 35% came last October, one month after Hurricane Katrina, shortly after the withdrawal of Harriet Miers from a Supreme Court nomination and just after U.S. deaths in Iraq reached the 2,000 mark. Not since November 2004 has a majority approved of the President's overall performance.

PRES. BUSH JOB APPROVALS

	Now	1/2006	10/2005	11/2004
Overall	34%	42%	35%	51%
Iraq	30%	37%	32%	40%
Economy	32%	39%	34%	42%
Energy	27%	--	--	--

Ratings for the President's handling of the Iraq war have also plummeted, to their all-time low of 30%. And approval of his handling of the economy is also down. So are evaluations of the

national economy. Half say it is in good shape today; last month 57% described it that way.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMY IS...

	Now	1/2006
Good	50%	57%
Bad	48	42

Just 27% of Americans approve of how President Bush is handling the overall energy situation. 60% disapprove. Those evaluations are lower than those recorded near the start of his Administration. And on the assessment of his handling of the response to Hurricane Katrina, only 32% approve.

THE PORTS DEAL

Just 21% say that the U.S. should let a United Arab Emirates country operate six American ports - 70% say this should not be allowed.

SHOULD U.A.E. COMPANY OPERATE U.S. PORTS?

Yes	21%
No	70

The opposition to the ports deal crosses party lines - 58% of Republicans oppose it, as do more than seven in ten Democrats and Independents. The question text included Bush administration positions - that the U.S. would continue to control security at the ports, that a foreign company from Britain now runs the ports, and that the U.A.E. is an ally of the U.S.

THE IRAQ WAR

Americans' perceptions of the U.S. effort in Iraq are at an all-time low. By two to one, Americans think U.S. efforts to bring stability and order to Iraq are going badly - the worst assessment they have made of progress in Iraq.

Now, just 36% say things are going well for the U.S. in Iraq. The only other times fewer than 40% were positive were in spring 2004, right after the photographs of abuse of prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison were published. In January, after the Iraqi election, 45% of Americans said things were going well.

HOW ARE THINGS GOING IN IRAQ?

	Now	1/2006	5/2004	5/2003
Well	36%	45%	37%	72%
Badly	62	54	60	24

Republicans are still positive about what's happening in Iraq. Two-thirds of Republicans say the rebuilding effort is going well there. But that, too, has slipped a bit since January, when three-quarters thought so.

This negative assessment of how things are going has affected evaluations of the war overall. Now, just 29%, the lowest since the spring of 2004, say the results of the war in Iraq have been worth the cost. However, more, 41%, say that removing Saddam Hussein from power was worth the costs.

IS IRAQ WORTH THE COST?

	Yes	No
The results of the war	29%	63
Removing Saddam Hussein	41%	53

There has also been a decline on the question of overall U.S. involvement in Iraq. Only 41% now say that the U.S. did the right thing taking military action against Iraq. Last month, after the Iraqi election, 47% agreed. This matches the low levels of support found last October, at the time of the previous lowest overall approval rating for the President. The last time a majority approved of military action in Iraq was just before the 2004 election.

U.S. MILITARY ACTION AGAINST IRAQ

	Now	1/2006	10/2005	10/2004
Right thing	41%	47%	41%	53%
Should have stayed out	54	50	55	42

ASSESSING THE PRESIDENT

For the first time in this poll, most Americans - 51% - say George W. Bush does not care much about people like themselves. Last fall, 47% thought he did not care. Today just 17% say Bush cares a lot about people like them, and another 30% think he cares some.

DOES BUSH CARE ABOUT PEOPLE LIKE YOU?

	Now	10/2005	1/2002
A lot	17%	24%	34%
Some	30	28	42
Not much/none	51	47	23

And even aside from his low job performance rating, few Americans today - just 29% - offer a positive view of George W. Bush. 53% have an unfavorable view of him, his highest unfavorable rating among all Americans since he took office.

VIEWS OF GEORGE W. BUSH

	Now	10/2005	2/2004	11/2002	3/2001
Favorable	29%	33%	44%	55%	42%
Unfavorable	53	51	36	25	19
Can't say/ Haven't heard enough	17	15	19	20	38

FOREIGN POLICY CONCERNS

When Americans are asked about the most important problems facing the country today, four in ten mention a foreign concern - the war, terrorism, defense, or another international issue. And in the last few weeks, international issues in the news included more than the ports controversy and the war in Iraq.

Most Americans believe that the nuclear threat from Iran can still be contained with diplomacy. One in five Americans now thinks the threat from Iran requires military action now.

THREAT FROM IRAN...

Requires military action now	20%
Can be contained with diplomacy	55
Not a threat at this time	19

But Americans are divided about U.S. intervention, generally, in countries that are unfriendly to the U.S. They divide evenly on whether the U.S. government should work secretly inside unfriendly countries to try and overthrow those governments. In the year after 9/11, 70% thought the C.I.A. should be taking such actions.

SHOULD U.S. SECRETLY TRY TO OVERTHROW UNFRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS?

Yes	44%
No	44

Americans reject violent Muslim reaction to the publication of cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad in a Danish newspaper - which included protests around the world. Only 9% say that is justified. However, Americans are divided on whether or not the Danish newspaper should have published those cartoons in the first place. On both questions, more than a third said they didn't know enough to judge.

DANISH CARTOON CONTROVERSY

	Justified	Not justified	Don't Know
Publishing cartoons	32%	27	41
Violent Muslim reaction	9%	56	35

Favorable assessments of Islam, the religion, are slightly lower now than they were in the months after the attacks of September 11, 2001. The public is also less certain than it was then that Islam is no more violent a religion than others are.

OPINION OF ISLAM

	Now	2/2002
Favorable	23%	30%
Not Favorable	36	33

COMPARED WITH OTHER RELIGIONS, ISLAM ENCOURAGES VIOLENCE...

	Now	3/2002 (GALLUP)
More	39%	35%
Same	35	49
Less	8	12

THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND THE HUNTING ACCIDENT

One surprising bright spot for the Administration is that Americans appear ready to move on after the hunting accident involving Vice-President Dick Cheney: most say it was understandable that the accident could have occurred.

An overwhelming majority - 76% - says the accident was understandable. Hunters (those who have gone hunting in the last year) feel much the same. One in five Americans says there was no excuse for the accident.

VIEWS OF CHENEY'S HUNTING ACCIDENT...

Understandable it could happen	76%
No excuse for it to happen	20

The coverage of the hunting accident may have made the public's generally negative view of Vice-President Cheney a bit more so. Today 46% hold a negative view of Mr. Cheney, and just 18% hold a favorable one, down from 23% in January.

VIEWS OF DICK CHENEY

	Now	1/2006	1/2005	1/2002
Favorable	18%	23%	28%	39
Unfavorable	46	41	33	11
Can't say/ Haven't heard enough	35	35	38	49

One-third of Americans believe Cheney has a stronger role as Vice-President in this White House than most other VPs have had in past Administrations. Democrats are just as likely as Republicans to feel this way. 42% of Americans say Cheney's influence is the same as that of his predecessors. This view is mostly unchanged from four years ago.

Almost half of Americans - including most Republicans - accept Cheney's explanation of why there was a delay in reporting the accident. But just as many - including most Democrats (who also hold negative overall views of the Vice President) aren't satisfied with that explanation.

CHENEY'S EXPLANATION FOR DELAY IN REPORTING THE ACCIDENT WAS...

	All	Reps	Dems	Inds
Satisfactory	46%	67%	30%	45%
Unsatisfactory	46	26	65	43

Back in October 1969, CBS News asked if Senator Ted Kennedy had given a satisfactory explanation for not reporting his car accident at Chappaquidick right away. Then, only 33% were satisfied.

Two-thirds of Americans clearly want to move on: they say the media has spent too much time covering the story now.

MEDIA COVERAGE OF CHENEY HUNTING ACCIDENT

Too much time	66%
Right amount of time	22
Too little time	9

WIRETAPPING

The public remains divided as to whether or not it approves of the President authorizing wiretaps on some phone calls in the U.S. without getting court warrants in order to reduce the threat of terrorism. 51% now approve of the practice, similar to results last month.

APPROVE OF BUSH AUTHORIZING WIRETAPS TO FIGHT TERRORISM?

	Now	1/2006
Approve	51%	53%
Disapprove	47	46

83% of Republicans, as opposed to 33% of Democrats and 42% of Independents, approve of the President authorizing wiretaps to fight terrorism without a warrant.

When the specific reason for the wiretapping - to reduce the threat of terrorism - is omitted from the question, the number of Americans who approve of this action drops by 5 points.

APPROVE OF BUSH AUTHORIZING WIRETAPS?

	Now	1/2006
Approve	46%	46%
Disapprove	50	50

Americans are somewhat skeptical of the Bush Administration's claim that the president currently has the legal authority to conduct such wiretaps. Slightly more than half of all Americans believe the President does not have this legal authority, while 43% believe he does.

**DOES THE PRESIDENT HAVE THE LEGAL AUTHORITY TO AUTHORIZE
WIRETAPS WITHOUT A WARRANT TO FIGHT TERRORISM?**

Yes	43%
No	51

Whether or not someone believes the President has the legal authority to conduct wiretaps without court warrants seems to be related to whether or not they approve of the wiretapping generally. 68% of Americans who approve of the President authorizing wiretaps without a court warrant in order to fight terrorism also believe he has the legal authority to do so. Conversely, only 7% of those who disapprove of the practice think he has the authority to conduct such wiretaps.

63% of Republicans - as opposed to 28% of Democrats and 43% of Independents - believe that the President has this authority in order to fight terrorism.

Changing the law would have limited impact on those Americans who both do not think the President has this legal authority and do not approve of the practice. 60% of those say they would still oppose the President authorizing wiretaps without a court warrant even if the law were changed to allow him to do so.

Nearly half of all Americans - 47% - said they had not much or no confidence in the ability of government agencies to correctly tell whose phone calls and emails should be monitored and whose should not, up 6 points from last month. Half the public does have confidence.

**CONFIDENCE GOVERNMENT CAN CORRECTLY TELL
WHOSE CALLS SHOULD BE MONITORED?**

	Now	1/2006
Great deal	11%	10%
Fair amount	40	48
Not much/none	47	41

Fewer Americans are personally concerned that their own phone calls and emails will be monitored. 7 in 10 are not very or not at all concerned.

CONCERNED THE GOV'T MIGHT MONITOR YOUR OWN CALLS OR EMAILS?

	Now	1/2006
Very	14%	22%
Somewhat	17	13
Not very/not at all	70	64

Blacks are considerably more concerned than whites in this regard. 47% of blacks, compared to 27% of whites, say they are at least somewhat concerned.

But while most are not worried specifically about their own telephone calls and emails being monitored, many Americans

continue to voice more broad concerns about losing some of their civil liberties. A third of all Americans say they are very concerned - and another third say they are at least somewhat concerned - that they might lose some of their civil liberties as a result of the measures enacted by the Bush Administration to fight terrorism. These numbers are virtually unchanged since last month.

CONCERNED ABOUT LOSING CIVIL LIBERTIES BECAUSE OF BUSH ADMINISTRATION'S ANTI-TERROR MEASURES?

	Now	1/2006
Very	33%	34%
Somewhat	31	30
Not very/not at all	34	35

Republicans are less likely to be concerned than Democrats or Independents.

ASSESSING THE ADMINISTRATION

In general, while most - 67% - think that people in the Bush Administration generally do not take responsibility when things go wrong, the Bush Administration fares much better than most politicians do on this measure. A separate sample of respondents was asked if "most people in government," generally, took responsibility, and only 8% said yes.

DO...TAKE RESPONSIBILITY WHEN THINGS GO WRONG?

	Yes	No
People in Bush Administration	27%	67
People in government	8%	86

However, amid the recent controversies -- whether the Cheney hunting accident was reported in a timely fashion, the announcement of the ports deal, and the recent debate over wiretapping, most Americans believe the Administration is generally too secretive about information that the public needs to know.

IS THE ADMINISTRATION TOO SECRETIVE?

Yes	58%
No	36

ASSESSING CONGRESS

The public continues to hold a dim view of Congress, with just 28% approving and 61% disapproving of the way Congress is handling its job.

JOB APPROVAL OF CONGRESS

	Now	1/2006	2/2005
Approve	28%	29%	41%
Disapprove	61	61	44

One year ago the public was more evenly split, with 41% approving and 44% disapproving. While Congressional approval hovered in the low to mid 30s for most of last year, it dropped to 29% last month, and is currently the lowest job approval rating for Congress in almost a decade.

In both February 2002 (a few months after 9/11) and 1998 (at the start of President Clinton's Lewinsky scandal), 50% of Americans approved of how Congress was handling its job. Today's job approval numbers are closer to those seen at the beginning of 1994, when in January 30% of Americans approved and 58% disapproved of how Congress was handling its job. That year, the Democrats lost their majority in the House of Representatives.

This poll was conducted among a nationwide random sample of 1018 adults, interviewed by telephone February 22-26, 2006. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points.

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February 22-26, 2006

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

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				
	*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jan06b
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	34	72	9	29	42
Disapprove	59	22	86	61	51
DK/NA	7	6	5	10	7

q2 What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

War in Iraq	24	25	28	18	22
Economy / Jobs	13	11	15	12	14
Terrorism (general)	9	14	5	8	9
Health Care	5	4	6	4	4
The President/G.W. Bush	5	2	8	4	4
Defense / Military	4	3	4	4	3
Poverty / Homelessness	3	1	3	3	3
Foreign Policy	3	1	2	4	2
Gas/Heating Oil Crisis	2	1	4	1	4
Moral Values/Family Values	2	7	0	2	3
Education	2	2	2	1	3
Misc. Foreign Affairs	2	0	1	3	-
Foreign aid/Attn. to Domestic	2	0	2	4	1
Politicians/Government	2	2	1	2	2
Budget Deficit /Nat'l Debt	2	2	2	2	1
Other	14	18	12	22	20
DK/NA	6	7	5	6	5

q3 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

Approve	32	68	11	26	39
Disapprove	60	25	84	62	54
DK/NA	8	7	5	12	7

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

Approve	30	61	10	25	37
Disapprove	65	34	86	69	59
DK/NA	5	5	4	6	4

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

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jan06b
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	43	78	20	39	52
Disapprove	50	17	72	53	43
DK/NA	7	5	8	8	5

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

					Aug01c
Approve	27	53	14	20	43
Disapprove	60	33	75	66	42
DK/NA	13	14	11	14	15

q7 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

					Jan06b
Approve	28	31	32	22	29
Disapprove	61	59	55	68	61
DK/NA	11	10	13	10	10

q8 How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?

Very good	5	13	1	3	6
Fairly good	45	62	33	45	51
Fairly bad	33	17	39	38	29
Very bad	15	6	24	12	13
DK/NA	2	2	3	2	1

q9 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?

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
DK/NA	6	6	5	6

q10-q11 BLANK

q12 How much do you think George W. Bush cares about the needs and problems of people like yourself -- a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

					Oct05a
A lot	17	40	5	12	24
Some	30	43	22	29	28
Not much	25	9	30	33	28
Not at all	26	7	42	25	19
Don't know/No answer	2	1	1	1	1

q13 HELD FOR SEPARATE RELEASE

q14 BLANK

q15 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?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				
	*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jan06b
	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	29	65	8	23	37
Not favorable	53	16	79	55	48
Undecided	14	16	10	18	13
Haven't heard enough	3	2	2	4	1
Refused	1	1	1	0	1

q16 Is your opinion of Dick Cheney favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Dick Cheney yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	18	41	6	12	23
Not favorable	46	15	67	48	41
Undecided	20	25	17	19	17
Haven't heard enough	15	18	9	20	18
Refused	1	1	1	1	1

q17-q18 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q19 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?

					Oct05d
Worth it	29	58	9	27	31
Not worth it	63	33	82	69	64
DK/NA	8	9	9	4	5

q20 Do you think removing Saddam Hussein from power was worth the loss of American life and other costs of attacking Iraq, or not?

					Oct05a
Worth it	41	67	25	35	34
Not worth it	53	25	70	56	57
DK/NA	6	8	5	9	9

q21 Do you think most people in government are willing to take responsibility when something goes wrong, or do you think most people in government try to avoid taking responsibility for their actions?

** HALF SAMPLE A **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May94a
	%	%	%	%	%
Take responsibility	8	12	7	5	17
Avoid responsibility	86	80	87	90	73
Half & half (vol.)	3	4	1	3	5
DK/NA	3	4	5	2	5

q22 Do you think most people in the Bush Administration are willing to take responsibility when something goes wrong, or do you think most people in the Bush Administration try to avoid taking responsibility for their actions?

** HALF SAMPLE B **

Take responsibility	27	62	8	19
Avoid responsibility	67	31	89	74
Half & half (vol.)	1	2	1	1
DK/NA	5	5	2	6

q23 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?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

Should	44	64	32	41
Should not	44	26	54	47
DK/NA	12	10	14	12

q24 HELD FOR SEPARATE RELEASE

q25 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?

Yes, too secretive	58	28	79	60
No, don't think so	36	66	16	33
Not sure	6	6	5	7

q26-q29 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q30 How does Dick Cheney's role as Vice President compare to those of previous Vice Presidents? Is Cheney's role in George W. Bush's Administration more important, less important, or about the same as other Vice Presidents?

					Jan02a
More important	32	28	31	35	35
Less important	22	11	36	15	16
About the same	42	57	29	42	44
DK/NA	4	4	4	8	5

q31 BLANK

q32 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q33 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?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Should	21	31	13	21
Should not	70	58	78	71
DK/NA	9	11	9	8

q34-q49 HELD FOR SEPARATE RELEASE

q50 What is your impression of the religion called Islam? As of today, is it very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, very unfavorable, or haven't you heard enough about that to say?

					Feb02a %
Very favorable	7	4	10	7	7
Somewhat favorable	16	13	18	17	23
Somewhat unfavorable	17	15	14	22	17
Very unfavorable	19	34	12	12	16
Haven't heard enough	32	26	36	33	31
DK/NA	9	8	10	9	6

q51 Generally speaking, do you think the Islamic religion encourages violence more than other religions around the world, about the same amount, or less than other religions around the world?

More	39	53	33	34
Same amount	35	26	35	41
Less	8	6	12	4
No opinion	18	15	20	21

q52 BLANK

q53 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 -- are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

					Jan06b
Very concerned	33	13	49	32	34
Somewhat concerned	31	29	31	34	30
Not very concerned	18	27	11	19	17
Not at all concerned	16	29	9	13	18
DK/NA	2	2	0	2	1

q54 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?

** HALF SAMPLE C **					
*** Party ID ***					
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jan06b
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	51	83	33	42	53
Disapprove	47	16	63	57	46
DK/NA	2	1	4	1	1

q55 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?

** HALF SAMPLE D **					
Approve	46	76	22	48	46
Disapprove	50	17	77	47	50
DK/NA	4	7	1	5	4

q56 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?

** HALF SAMPLE E **					
Has the authority	41	70	24	35	
Does not	52	22	71	57	
DK/NA	7	8	5	8	

q57 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?

** HALF SAMPLE E **					
Has the authority	43	63	28	43	
Does not	51	28	68	51	
DK/NA	6	9	4	6	

q58 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?

THOSE WHO DISAPPROVE/DK IN Q54 OR Q55 AND DO NOT THINK THE PRES. HAS THE LEGAL AUTHORITY/DK IN Q56 OR Q57					
Approve	32	56	23	33	
Disapprove	60	40	66	62	
It depends (vol.)	2	0	3	1	
DK/NA	6	4	8	4	

q59 In general, how much confidence do you have that government agencies are able to correctly tell whose phone calls and emails should be monitored and whose should not -- do you have a great deal of confidence, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	*** Party ID ***				Jan06b
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
A great deal	11	23	4	8	10
Fair amount	40	53	28	41	48
Not much	31	15	42	31	28
None at all	16	6	25	17	13
DK/NA	2	3	1	3	1

q60 How concerned are you, personally, that the government might choose to monitor your own phone calls or emails -- are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

					Jan06a
Very concerned	14	7	21	13	22
Somewhat concerned	17	9	21	18	13
Not very concerned	22	17	24	23	22
Not at all concerned	48	67	34	46	42
DK/NA	0	0	0	0	1

q61-q62 BLANK

q63 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?

No excuse	20	11	28	18
Understandable	76	87	69	76
DK/NA	4	2	3	6

q64 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?

Satisfied	46	67	30	45
Not satisfied	46	26	65	43
Don't know/No answer	8	7	5	12

q65 Do you think the media have spent too much time, too little time, or the right amount of time on the hunting incident involving Dick Cheney?

Too much time	66	80	54	67
Too little	9	6	11	9
Right amount	22	12	32	19
Don't know/No answer	3	2	3	5

q66-q71 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q72 Looking back, do you think the United States did the right thing in taking military action against Iraq, or should the U.S. have stayed out?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	*** Party ID ***				Jan06b
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Right thing	41	71	19	41	47
Stayed out	54	25	76	55	50
DK/NA	5	4	5	4	3

q73 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?

Very well	5	14	1	3	8
Somewhat well	31	51	18	28	37
Somewhat badly	32	25	33	37	30
Very badly	30	8	48	29	24
DK/NA	2	2	0	3	1

q74 BLANK

q75 Do you think Saddam Hussein was personally involved in the September 11th, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?

					Oct05a
Yes	29	36	22	29	33
No	57	46	64	57	55
DK/NA	14	18	14	14	12

q76 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q77-78 BLANK

q79 As you may know, a Danish newspaper published some cartoons depicting Muhammad, which offended Muslims around the world and led to violent protests by Muslims in many countries. Based on what you've seen or read, do you think the reaction by Muslims was justified, or not justified, or don't you know enough about it to say?

Justified	9	6	11	10
Not justified	56	59	52	58
DK/NA	35	35	37	32

q80 As you may know, a Danish newspaper published some cartoons depicting Muhammad, which offended Muslims around the world and led to violent protests by Muslims in many countries. Based on what you've seen or read, do you think the Danish newspaper was justified in publishing the cartoons, or not justified, or don't you know enough about it to say?

Justified	32	35	26	36
Not justified	27	23	35	21
DK/NA	41	42	39	43

q82-q91 BLANK

q92 Within the past twelve months, have you, yourself gone hunting?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Yes, have hunted	12	17	7	13
No have not hunted	88	83	93	87

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1018	
Total Republicans	272	289
Total Democrats	409	381
Total Independents	337	348
Half Sample A (q21)	517	504
Half Sample B (q22)	501	514
Half Sample C (q54)	517	504
Half Sample D (q55)	501	514
Half Sample E (q56)	515	533
Half Sample F (q57)	503	485