

PIPA-Knowledge Networks

US Foreign Policy Performance Ratings and Priority Rankings

Trend Line Questionnaire

Performance Ratings

Q. Overall, how well do you think the US government is managing its foreign policy-- that is, dealing with international problems and handling relations with other countries around the world? Please answer on a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being very poorly and 10 being very well.

	Negative (0-4)	Neutral (5)	Positive (6-10)	DK/ Refused	Net Pos-Neg	Mean
Mar 2003	30	16	54	1	+25	5.71
Feb 2003	33	18	48	2	+15	5.33
Jan 2003	31	22	45	2	+14	5.33
Nov 2002	26	18	54	2	+29	5.77

Q. How well do you think the US government is dealing with the following international problems and issues? Please answer on a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being very poorly and 10 being very well.

	Negative (0-4)	Neutral (5)	Positive (6-10)	DK/ Refused	Net Pos-Neg	Mean
The situation with Iraq						
Mar 2003	22	8	68	2	+48	6.77
Feb 2003	35	13	48	4	+13	5.38
Jan 2003	31	22	45	2	+14	5.22
Nov 2002	25	20	52	4	+27	5.78
The Israel-Palestinian conflict						
Mar 2003	35	20	39	7	+5	5.04
Feb 2003	38	23	33	6	-4	4.81
Jan 2003	37	23	34	6	-4	4.72
Nov 2002	34	27	34	5	0	4.96
Homeland security from terrorism						
Mar 2003	17	14	67	3	+50	6.63
Feb 2003	24	17	56	3	+32	6.01
Jan 2003	27	14	57	2	+30	5.91
Nov 2002	25	14	59	3	+34	5.99

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International terrorism						
Mar 2003	20	15	63	2	+42	6.32
Feb 2003	27	17	53	3	+25	5.74
Jan 2003	28	17	52	3	+24	5.68
Nov 2002	25	15	57	4	+33	5.92
The situation with North Korea						
Mar 2003	39	19	37	5	-2	4.86
Feb 2003	42	21	33	4	-9	4.65
Jan 2003	35	24	36	5	+1	4.91
Nov 2002	34	24	34	8	0	4.90
The spread of nuclear weapons						
Mar 2003	28	19	49	5	+21	5.71
Feb 2003	34	18	43	5	+9	5.21
Jan 2003	32	18	46	4	+15	5.33
Nov 2002	30	18	47	5	+17	5.44
Global warming						
Mar 2003	39	16	36	9	-3	4.70
Jan 2003	47	19	26	8	-21	4.08
Nov 2002	48	20	27	6	-21	4.30
International trade						
Mar 2003	22	20	50	8	+28	5.78
Jan 2003	27	21	44	8	+18	5.29
Nov 2002	27	22	44	7	+17	5.37
The world AIDS epidemic						
Mar 2003	29	18	46	7	+18	5.36
Feb 2003	40	22	34	5	-6	4.74
Jan 2003	39	25	32	5	-7	4.63
Nov 2002	41	20	33	6	-8	4.71
Tensions between India and Pakistan						
Mar 2003	28	26	33	13	+5	5.11
Jan 2003	38	24	28	10	-10	4.56
Nov 2002	36	24	30	10	-6	4.78
International drug trafficking						
Mar 2003	33	19	40	8	+7	5.05
Jan 2003	43	23	29	5	-15	4.34
Nov 2002	47	20	29	4	-18	4.31
Promoting and defending human rights in other countries						
Mar 2003	23	18	52	7	+28	5.88
Jan 2003	35	23	37	6	-2	5.05
Nov 2002	34	20	41	5	+7	5.13

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Making the UN more effective						
Mar 2003	41	20	32	8	-9	4.50
Feb 2003	39	23	34	5	-5	4.76
Jan 2003	38	22	33	7	-5	4.73
Nov 2002	29	26	39	7	+10	5.18
Promoting democracy in poor countries						
Mar 2003	24	19	51	6	+27	5.82
Jan 2003	30	22	42	7	+11	5.20
Nov 2002	28	23	43	6	+15	5.36
World hunger						
Mar 2003	30	15	49	6	+19	5.57
Jan 2003	37	22	37	5	0	4.80
Nov 2002	37	21	37	5	+2	5.01
Making sure international trade benefits American workers						
Mar 2003	37	18	38	7	+1	4.88
Jan 2003	42	21	31	6	-11	4.40
Nov 2002	39	22	32	6	-7	4.58
Promoting economic development in poor countries						
Mar 2003	29	18	46	7	+16	5.45
Jan 2003	36	23	36	6	0	4.79
Nov 2002	35	25	34	6	-1	4.93

Q. How well do you think the US government is handling relations with the following countries?
Please answer on a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being very poorly and 10 being very well.

	Negative (0-4)	Neutral (5)	Positive (6-10)	DK/ Refused	Net Pos-Neg	Mean
Russia						
Mar 2003	26	18	48	8	+21	5.71
Feb 2003	23	22	45	10	+22	5.68
Jan 2003	18	22	50	10	+31	5.89
Nov 2002	17	19	55	9	+39	6.01
China						
Mar 2003	26	22	44	8	+18	5.52
Feb 2003	29	21	39	11	+11	5.30
Jan 2003	25	26	39	11	+14	5.39
Nov 2002	25	23	43	10	+18	5.43

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	Negative (0-4)	Neutral (5)	Positive (6-10)	DK/ Refused	Net Pos-Neg	Mean
Our European allies						
Mar 2003	27	18	48	6	+21	5.61
Feb 2003	25	20	46	10	+21	5.60
Jan 2003	18	20	54	8	+36	6.03
Nov 2002	16	17	59	8	+42	6.32
Saudi Arabia						
Mar 2003	20	21	50	8	+30	5.80
Feb 2003	30	20	40	11	+10	5.28
Jan 2003	30	22	37	10	+7	5.09
Nov 2002	31	21	39	9	+8	5.13
Israel						
Mar 2003	21	16	55	8	+33	6.00
Feb 2003	23	19	48	10	+25	5.91
Jan 2003	22	18	50	10	+28	5.80
Nov 2002	21	18	53	8	+31	5.95

Q. Thinking now about the rest of the world, on average, how do you think people in other countries would rate how well the US is managing its foreign policy? Please answer on a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being very poorly and 10 being very well.

	Negative (0-4)	Neutral (5)	Positive (6-10)	DK/ Refused	Net Pos-Neg	Mean
Mar 2003	52	19	25	4	-26	4.10
Feb 2003	55	19	23	4	-31	3.93
Jan 2003	50	20	25	4	-25	4.03
Nov 2002	45	20	30	4	-15	4.34

Q. Thinking now about our European allies, on average, how do you think people in those countries would rate how well the US is managing its foreign policy? Please answer on a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being very poorly and 10 being very well.

	Negative (0-4)	Neutral (5)	Positive (6-10)	DK/ Refused	Net Pos-Neg	Mean
Mar 2003	48	20	27	5	-21	4.31
Feb 2003	47	20	28	5	-20	4.29
Jan 2003	43	20	32	5	-12	4.49
Nov 2002	32	20	43	6	+11	5.17

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Priority Rankings

Q. Here are five foreign policy problems that the US is facing these days. Thinking about the long term, please select the one that you feel is the most important. *[order randomized; question repeated with remaining problems until all rated.]*

	First Response (%)	Mean Rating (1=highest, 5=lowest)
The situation in Iraq		
Mar 2003	52	1.88
Feb 2003	37	2.09
Jan 2003	40	2.11
Dec 2002	34	2.18
Nov 2002	29	2.19
Sept 2002	34	2.29
The Israeli-Palestinian conflict		
Mar 2003	7	3.77
Feb 2003	6	3.96
Jan 2003	12	3.59
Dec 2002	12	3.48
Nov 2002	12	3.29
Sept 2002	17	2.85
The situation with North Korea		
Mar 2003	15	2.87
Feb 2003	15	2.87
Jan 2003	15	2.98
Dec 2002	10	3.65
Nov 2002	4	4.10
Osama bin Laden's terrorist group al Q'aeda		
Mar 2003	20	2.48
Feb 2003	34	2.23
Jan 2003	31	2.32
Dec 2002	40	2.09
Nov 2002	50	1.89
Sept 2002	43	2.11
The situation in Afghanistan		
Jan 2003	2	3.99
Dec 2002	2	3.79
Nov 2002	4	3.70
Sept 2002	4	3.67

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	First Response (%)	Mean Rating (1=highest possible)
Tensions with our European Allies		
Mar 2003	6	3.99
Feb 2003	8	3.83
The India-Pakistan conflict		
Sept 2002	2	4.18

Source: PIPA-Knowledge Networks Polls

<i>Poll Cited</i>	<i>Field Dates</i>	<i>Respondents</i>
Mar 2003	Mar 22-25	795
Feb 2003	Feb 12-18	1361
Jan 2003	Jan. 21-26	1063
Dec 2002	Dec 19 - Jan 1	1146
Nov 2002	Nov 19 - Dec 1	1106
Sept 2002	Sept 26-30	709