

THE PIPA/KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS POLL

THE AMERICAN PUBLIC ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

**PIPA-Knowledge Networks Poll:
Americans on Iraq War and Finding Weapons of Mass Destruction**

Questionnaire

Dates of Survey: May 14-18, 2003
Sample Size: 1256 respondents

Margin of Error: +/- 3.5%

[FULL SAMPLE]

Q1. Please indicate your position on the question of whether, just before the war, Iraq had weapons of mass destruction. Please answer on a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 meaning you are completely certain that Iraq did NOT have weapons of mass destruction 10 meaning that you are completely certain that Iraq DID have weapons of mass destruction 5 meaning you are unsure.

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| 0..... | 5 % |
| 1..... | 2 |
| 2..... | 3 |
| 3..... | 4 |
| 4..... | 3 |
| 5..... | 20 |
| 6..... | 6 |
| 7..... | 6 |
| 8..... | 10 |
| 9..... | 7 |
| 10..... | 28 |
| (No answer)..... | 5 |
| Mean | 6.69 |
| Median..... | 7 |
| Did not (0-4)..... | 18% |
| Unsure (5)..... | 20 |
| Did (6-10)..... | 57 |
| (No answer)..... | 5 |

[TWO-THIRDS SAMPLE]

Q2. 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 |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------|
| The situation in Iraq | 17% | 2.91 |
| Osama bin Laden’s terrorist group al Q’aeda | 41 | 2.10 |
| The situation with North Korea | 21 | 2.71 |
| The Israeli-Palestinian conflict | 12 | 3.40 |
| Tension with our European allies | 8 | 3.87 |
| (No answer)..... | 1 | |

[HALF SAMPLE A]

How would you rate President Bush’s leadership in dealing with the following international problems and issues?

Q3. The situation in Iraq

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Very strong leadership (+2) | 53% |
| Somewhat strong leadership (+1) | 21 |
| Neither strong nor weak (0) | 14 |
| Somewhat weak leadership (-1) | 5 |
| Very weak leadership (-2)..... | 6 |
| (No answer)..... | 1 |

Q4. As a result of having won the war with Iraq, do you think President Bush is or is not in a stronger position to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Is in a stronger position..... | 58% |
| Is not in a stronger position..... | 32 |
| (No answer)..... | 10 |

Q5. Do you think the US made the right decision or the wrong decision in going to war against Iraq?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Right decision | 68% |
| Wrong decision | 22 |
| (No answer)..... | 10 |

[If “right decision”]

Q5a: Which comes closer to your view [order randomized]:

I support having gone to war, because I think
it was the best thing for the US to do 78%

I am not sure if going to war was the best
thing to do, but I support Bush’s decision,
because he is the president 22

(No answer)..... *

Summary:

Right decision 68%

 Best thing to do 53%

 Supporting the president 15%

Wrong decision 22

(No answer)..... 10

[HALF SAMPLE B]

Q6. Thinking back to when the US government was making the case for going to war with Iraq, according to the government, what was the most important reason for going to war with Iraq?

The evidence that Iraq had weapons
of mass destruction 60%

The evidence that Iraq was working
with the terrorist group al’ Qaeda 19

The fact that Saddam Hussein was
an oppressive dictator..... 20

(No answer)..... 2

Q7. Of the remaining options, what was the most important reason, according to the US government, for going to war with Iraq?

The evidence that Iraq had weapons
of mass destruction 24%

The evidence that Iraq was working
with the terrorist group al’ Qaeda 42

The fact that Saddam Hussein was
an oppressive dictator..... 32

(No answer)..... 2

Q8. Is it your impression that when the US government presented the evidence to justify going to war with Iraq, it was being misleading or not being misleading?

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Being misleading | 40% |
| Not being misleading | 55 |
| (No answer)..... | 5 |

[If "not being misleading"]

Q8a. How certain are you about this?

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Not very certain..... | 10% |
| Somewhat certain..... | 52 |
| Very certain..... | 38 |
| (No answer)..... | * |

[If "being misleading"]

Q8b. How certain are you about this?

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Not very certain..... | 23% |
| Somewhat certain..... | 48 |
| Very certain..... | 28 |
| (No answer)..... | * |

Summary:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Very certain not being misleading | 21% |
| Somewhat certain not being misleading | 29 |
| Not very certain not being misleading | 6 |
| Not very certain being misleading | 9 |
| Somewhat certain being misleading | 19 |
| Very certain being misleading | 11 |
| (No answer)..... | 5 |

[HALF SAMPLE A]

Q9. Is it your impression that Iraq did or did not use chemical or biological weapons in the war that just ended?

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Iraq did | 22% |
| Iraq did not..... | 69 |
| (No answer)..... | 9 |

Q10. Since the war with Iraq ended, is it your impression that the US has or has not found Iraqi weapons of mass destruction?

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| US has | 34% |
| US has not | 59 |
| (No answer)..... | 7 |

Demographics (from respondent profile - full sample)

D1. Finally, just a few questions for statistical purposes. In politics today, do you think of yourself as:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Strongly Republican..... | 15% |
| Leaning toward Republican | 16 |
| Leaning toward Democrat..... | 14 |
| Strongly Democrat | 18 |
| Independent..... | 24 |
| Other | 10 |

D2. What is your religious preference? Is it Christian, Jewish, Muslim, some other religion, or no religion?

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Christian | 74% |
| Jewish | 2 |
| Muslim | * |
| Some other religion..... | 9 |
| No religion | 12 |

[IF "CHRISTIAN"]

D3. Would that be Catholic or Protestant?

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Protestant..... | 60% |
| Catholic | 29 |
| None..... | 12 |

[IF "PROTESTANT"]

D4. Which one of these words best describes your kind of Christianity -- fundamentalist, evangelical, charismatic, pentacostal, or moderate to liberal, or something else?

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Fundamentalist, evangelical..... | 38% |
| Charismatic, pentacostal | |
| Moderate to liberal..... | 36 |
| Something else | 22 |

D5. How closely do you follow foreign affairs?

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Very closely | 8% |
| Somewhat closely | 37 |
| Not very closely | 41 |
| Not at all..... | 13 |

D6. Did you vote for a candidate for the House of Representatives or the Senate in the election in November 2002?

Yes 56%
 No..... 41
 (No answer) 3

D7. When you decide how to vote in a Presidential or Congressional election, how important is a candidate's position on foreign policy issues?

One of the most important 15%
 Somewhat important 61
 Not very important 14
 Not at all important 5
 (No answer) 5

D8. Have you ever contributed money or done volunteer work in support of a Presidential or Congressional candidate?

Yes 18%
 No..... 79

D9. Have you ever contributed money or done volunteer work to an organization concerned with an international issue?

Yes 11%
 No..... 87

D10. Gender

Male 48%
 Female..... 52

D11. Age (calculated from birth date)

18-29 22%
 30-44 31
 45-59 26
 60+ 22

D12. Education level (collapsed categories)

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Less than High School | 16% |
| High School Graduate..... | 32 |
| Some College | 28 |
| College Graduate | 24 |

D13. Region

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Northeast | 19% |
| Midwest..... | 23 |
| South | 36 |
| West | 23 |

D14. Race/Ethnicity

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| White, non-Hispanic | 73% |
| Black | 12 |
| Hispanic | 5 |
| Other | 11 |