



UWSC



Badger Poll™ #10, Release #3
University of Wisconsin Survey Center
University of Wisconsin Madison
September 5, 2003

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VIEWES OF BUSH AS THE RE-ELECTION RACE GETS UNDERWAY
by G. Donald Ferree, Jr.

When asked to characterize their feelings toward Bush as a person and in terms of his policies, half (50%) of all residents say they BOTH like him as a person and support his policies. Just shy of one in five say they like him but oppose his policies (18%) and a similar proportion (19%) dislikes him personally AND opposes his policies. Only a handful (5%) feel negatively about the man but positive about his policies.

Most demographic differences are small (for instance men are only eight points more likely than women to say they both like Bush and support his policies). Partisanship, however, is the exception. Republicans overwhelmingly (88%) both like Bush and support his policies. Independents look broadly like the sample as a whole. Among Democrats, one third both dislike Bush and oppose him, another third LIKE him but oppose his policies and only one in six feels positively on both counts.

One may also combine the categories of this question to examine who likes or dislikes Bush, regardless of their position on the issues, and who supports or opposes his policies, regardless of how they feel about Bush as an individual.

Overall, two thirds (68%) like Bush personally and only one in four (25%) say they dislike him. Except for partisanship, there is little strong pattern by demographics. Just over half of all Democrats, six in ten Independents, and over nine in ten Republicans say they like Bush personally. This does not determine their attitudes to specific policies, of course, but it does mean that the typical resident thinks about Bush, beginning with a rather positive personal lens.

Bush does relatively well (56% support, 39% oppose) when it comes to his policies. Still this is clearly not as positive a factor for him as is the more personal dimension. Almost as many Republicans support Bush as like him. The difference among Independents is about seven points (62% like him, 55% support his policies). The distinction is strongest among Democrats, only one in five of whom support Bush's policies while half like him personally.

This question does not get at specific policies of course. Both those who support him and those who oppose him "in general" may well have different policies in mind. (And those who oppose him, even if they are thinking of the same area, may disagree with one another), but all things being equal, the higher these numbers the better off a politician seeking reelection is.

A series of other questions looked at policy areas from different perspectives. To begin with, the Wisconsin public is quite torn about the general impact of Bush's policies on the country. Overall, one in three (35%) say they are helping the country; one in three (35%) say they are hurting it; and one in four (26%) say they are not making much difference.

Men are somewhat more positive as a group than are women. Those under forty-five (and especially under thirty) are more positive than those over forty-five (especially the forty-five to fifty-nine year group). As might be expected, partisanship is important. Both Republicans and Democrats see the impact onesidedly, albeit the former think his policies are helping rather than hurting, the latter that they are hurting rather than helping. Independents tend to split.

When the focus is shifted from the country as a whole to "people like you", the balance remains close, but fewer people think Bush's policies are making a difference one way or the the other. Specifically one in five (20%) say Bush's policies are helping them, one in four (25%) say their are hurting, and half (53%) say they are not making much difference.

Demographic differences tend to be muted, although Republicans and Democrats clearly differ (with Independents in the middle), each is more likely to say the policies make little or no difference to them and their families than was the case when the question was the policies' impact on the country. In any event, these questions seem neither a source of real strength nor weakness as Bush begins his re-election effort.

Cross-Time Trends on Views of Bush

	9/03	5/03	4/03	3/03	2/03	1/03	9/02	6/02	3/02
Views of Bush & policies									
LIKE PERSON/SUPPORT	50%					46%		64%	59%
LIKE PERSON/OPPOSE	18					23		9	13
DISLIKE PERSON/SUPPORT	5					5		7	8
DISLIKE PERSON/OPPOSE	19					16		12	11
SUPP. POLICIES ONLY (V)	1					3		2	2
OPP. POLICIES ONLY (V)	2					2		1	1
LIKE PERSON ONLY (V)	*					2		2	1
DISLIKE PERSON ONLY (V)	*					*		*	*
DON'T KNOW	3					2		3	3
REFUSED	1					2		1	2
Policies' impact on USA									
HELP	35%		50%					54%	52%
HURT	35		20					11	16
NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE	26		23					30	27
DON'T KNOW	3		6					5	4
REFUSED	1		1					*	2
Impact on people like you									
HELP	20%		27%					26%	28%
HURT	25		20					15	16
NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE	53		51					58	53
DON'T KNOW	2		2					1	3
REFUSED	*		--					*	1

Each of these questions has been asked before on Badger Polls™, although not always on the same surveys. The most recent asking (January 2003) had a generally similar overall pattern, although both of the "consistent" (like/support, dislike/oppose) categories are very modestly up and the general support for Bush's positions is if anything a bit higher now. On the other hand, the readings in 2002 were somewhat more positive on both dimensions, and the doubly positive group hovered around six in ten rather than the current half. But these differences are relatively modest.

Where there has been a clearer shift (compared to March and June 2002 and April 2003) is on the help/hurt dimension. Earlier surveys also showed about seven in ten feeling the President's policies were making a difference. But whereas now there is an even split on balance, the earlier results were more positive (between five to one and five to two for helping rather than hurting). The differences are smaller on the personal dimension. There, an slight tendency to say that any difference is in the positive direction has been replaced by an even slighter tendency to say the opposite on balance.

As a re-election campaign begins, one key dimension is whether potential voters think an incumbent has done a good enough job that he deserves to be re-elected. If people feel this way, it can be very difficult for a challenger to make his or her case, since they must first convince people to pay attention to their messages, and then that they present an opportunity BETTER than (or at least not worse than) the incumbent. As of now, just over four in ten (43%) say they would like to see President Bush re-elected. A few more (50%) say they would "rather see someone else in the White House".

Men narrowly give an edge to Bush, women more clearly are open to an alternative. Bush does better among those thirty to forty-four or sixty and older than among those forty-five to fifty-nine or (especially) under thirty. As would be expected, Republicans onesidedly want a second term, Democrats hope for an alternative. Independents split five to four in the direction of "someone else". In May, the only other time this particular question was put, results were better for Bush. On that survey, by a 53%-42% margin, the public said they wanted Bush re-elected.

Several points should be made. First, as the difference between May and August itself indicates, these views can easily change. Second, the whole point of campaigns are to raise questions about one side while arguing that the other is "safe" or at least better, so this basic predisposition can shift. Third, being OPEN to an alternative is not the same as preferring ANY alternative. Especially with a wide field of potential rivals, it is quite possible that many people would be interested in one or more, but not the others. So this question speaks not to predicted electoral outcomes, but to how level the playing field starts out being.

This survey also asked about a number of specific areas of job performance, tapping the possibility that the various overall measures might blend quite different more specific evaluations. Specifically, using the same scale as the overall presidential rating question, respondents were asked about seven more particular areas.

When it comes to handling foreign policy, four in ten rate Bush as excellent (12%) or good (29%), compared to just under six in ten rating him fair (34%) or poor (24%). Partisan differences are strong, with seven in eight Democrats calling him no better than fair, and three in four Republicans at least good. At an individual level, while just about half give him identical ratings overall and for foreign policy, twice as many (31% compared to 14%) graded him higher

(e.g. good, compared to fair or poor; or fair compared to poor) overall than on foreign affairs.

"Problems here at home" are an area where Bush is seen as having relatively more difficulty. Only about one in three call his performance here either excellent (4%) or good (31%) versus fair (36%) or poor (28%). Seven in ten Republicans call it at least "good"; seven in eight Democrats no better than "fair".

The more specific "handling the economy" is even more clearly a potential problem area. Overall only one in four call Bush's handling of that either excellent (3%) or good (23%), compared with three in four thinking fair (38%) or poor (35%) hits the mark more precisely. As before, the partisan gap is clear, but whereas more than nine in ten Democrats grade Bush no higher than "fair", the proportion of Republicans calling him "good" or better is just under six in ten. Comparing specific ratings, roughly half (50% and 46% respectively) give Bush the same overall and specific grade here, But four in ten say his domestic performance is worse (or gets a lower grade) than he does overall, and the comparable figure when it comes to the economy relative to overall job performance is just under half (48%).

If the specific area of the economy is a weak point, that related to "dealing with terrorism" is a strong one. Overall, six in ten call Bush's performance there either excellent (17%) or good (42%), compared to four in ten who opt for fair (23%) or poor (16%). More than eight in ten Republicans give him at least good, six in ten Democrats no better than fair. But this tends to be a relatively upbeat perception across the board, that is for most groups, this rating is higher than for other areas. Looking at the direct comparisons, just over half (55%) gave Bush the same grade overall and for combatting terrorism. One in six (16%) rated him LOWER on this specific dimension, but one in four (26%) felt he deserved a higher rating for dealing with terrorism than for his overall job handling.

The Bush administration keeps talking about Iraq as part of the war on terrorism, but the public views the two somewhat differently. On the current survey, just under half calls Bush's handling of Iraq excellent (15%) or good (32%). Just over half assigns him a lower grade of fair (24%) or poor (27%), so he is on balance more favorably viewed on terrorism than on Iraq. But this area IS on balance seen rather more positively than foreign policy in general. Compared to his overall ratings, the largest group (56%) grades him identically overall and on Iraq. One in four (26%) gave him a higher mark overall than on Iraq; one in seven (15%) see Iraq as warranting a rosier assessment -- these proportions are almost the exact reverse of what was found when overall ratings were compared to those for dealing with terror.

Another hot spot has been North Korea, and here Bush is not seen as doing especially well. Overall, fewer than one in three say the job Bush is doing here is excellent (5%) or good (26%). Rather shy of six in ten say fair (32%) or poor (24%). Democrats are more critical than Republicans: three fourths of the former rate Bush no better than fair, with the most common grade being poor; more than half of GOP adherents rate him good or higher. This area is noteworthy because it seems less connected to the others. Only a bit more than one in three (38%) give Bush identical grades on handling North Korea and overall performance. Those who assign different grades are three times as likely (36% compared to 12%), to rate handling of North Korea lower than overall job than vice versa.

Job ratings on Specific Areas

	9/03	5/03	4/03	3/03	2/03	1/03	9/02
Foreign policy							
EXCELLENT	12%			13%		12%	20%
GOOD	29			33		32	41
FAIR	34			30		34	23
POOR	24			23		20	15
Problems here at home							
EXCELLENT	4%			6%		6%	12%
GOOD	31			33		30	40
FAIR	36			35		39	29
POOR	28			25		24	18
Dealing with the economy							
EXCELLENT	3%	4%	7%	5%	4%	4%	6%
GOOD	23	34	32	22	26	23	30
FAIR	38	30	32	39	38	38	36
POOR	35	30	28	32	31	31	25
Dealing with terrorism							
EXCELLENT	17%	29%	34%	20%	20%	18%	32%
GOOD	42	41	44	46	43	42	40
FAIR	23	23	14	25	23	26	17
POOR	16	8	7	9	13	12	11
Dealing with Iraq							
EXCELLENT	15%	30%	40%	18%	19%	11%	22%
GOOD	32	32	35	31	30	31	30
FAIR	24	22	13	26	25	28	23
POOR	27	13	10	23	24	26	20
Dealing with North Korea							
EXCELLENT	5%	10%	9%	8%	6%	7%	
GOOD	26	31	28	21	30	26	
FAIR	32	34	28	36	30	31	
POOR	24	15	19	24	23	21	
Dealing w/ foreign leaders							
EXCELLENT	8%	13%	15%	11%		10%	19%
GOOD	37	39	42	36		39	40
FAIR	36	33	25	33		35	27
POOR	15	13	15	17		9	12

Note: Don't Know and Refused omitted for space

The final specific area was "dealing with foreign leaders" more generally. Just under half called this excellent (8%) or good (37%). Barely OVER half called it fair (36%) or poor (15%). This area shows one of the clearest partisan distinctions, with three fourths of Democrats willing to go no higher than fair, and three fourths of Republicans no lower than good. Returning to the more familiar pattern, just over half (51%) of all respondents gave Bush the same marks for this area as overall. If they did differ they were half again as likely (27% compared to 18%) to say his overall performance deserved a higher

grade than this specific area.

As noted, these questions have been asked before. Foreign policy has been pretty stable for the last three surveys, but was moderately higher in September of 2002. Problems here at home has tended to be lower than foreign policy in general. It has also been relatively stable since January, but also showed a more positive assessment last September.

The economy (more commonly asked) has tended to be a weak point relative to other areas, It has also bounced around some. The present reading is roughly where it was in January, February or even March (if anything very slightly lower now). But there was a modest uptick in April and May. A similar pattern obtains for terrorism, which has usually been a relatively positively viewed area, but in absolute terms is now about where it was in early 2003, with both September 2002 and last last spring producing more positive results.

Iraq follows a pattern of its own, related to the runup to war, the actual conduct of hostilities and the aftermath. Bush did best on this in April and (to a less extent) May of 2003. There was a falloff from September 2002 to January, which was a bit lower than now, followed by a modest increase as hostilities drew closer. North Korea tends to be a weak area, but has not moved around as much as some other specific areas, notably Iraq. Finally, dealing with foreign leaders (generally) has moved little, except for a "blip" in the wake of military victory over Hussein, and is now about where it was in March on the brink of war.

Statewide Marginals and Percentages for Key Groups

What follows is the exact question wording for each of the items referred to in the release. All results shown are for the basic sample of state residents. The first column is the percentage of the entire sample giving each response. The second and third reports the percentages for men and women separately. The fourth, fifth, and sixth columns show self-described Democrats, Independents, and Republicans. Columns seven through ten group respondents by age.

Q01. INTERVIEWER: (DO NOT ASK) Enter respondent's gender

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
MALE	49%	100%	--%	39%	60%	48%	38%	54%	45%	51%	
FEMALE	51	--	100	62	40	52	62	46	55	49	

Q02. How would you rate the job George W. Bush is doing as President?
Excellent, good, fair or poor?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
EXCELLENT	14%	17%	12%	*%	10%	33%	14%	12%	12%	19%
GOOD	38	37	38	21	43	51	42	49	34	30
FAIR	28	26	30	41	27	13	28	26	31	25
POOR	19	19	19	36	19	2	15	13	23	23
TOO SOON TO TELL (VOL.)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
DON'T KNOW	1	--	1	1	*	*	--	*	--	2
REFUSED	*	1	*	--	*	1	1	--	*	1

BUSH01. Which of the following comes closest to how you feel about George W. Bush?

- * I like him as a person AND I also support most of his policies
- * I like him as a person BUT I oppose most of his policies
- * I don't like him as a person BUT I support most of his policies
- * I don't like him as a person AND I oppose most of his policies

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
LIKE PERSON/SUPPORT	50%	54%	46%	16%	46%	88%	49%	56%	44%	49%
LIKE PERSON/OPOSE	18	15	21	36	15	6	18	17	17	23
DISLIKE PERSON/SUPPORT	5	7	4	3	7	3	5	7	6	2
DISLIKE PERSON/OPOSE	19	18	20	36	23	1	17	16	22	20
SUPP. POLICIES ONLY (V)	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	*	1	1
OPP. POLICIES ONLY (V)	2	3	1	2	1	--	4	1	2	1
LIKE PERSON ONLY (V)	*	1	*	1	1	--	--	--	1	1
DISLIKE PERSON ONLY (V)	*	1	--	--	1	--	--	--	1	--
DON'T KNOW	3	1	5	4	2	2	5	2	4	3
REFUSED	1	1	2	1	2	*	1	1	2	*

BUSH01X. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM from BUSH01) Attitude to person, ignoring policies

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
LIKE BUSH	68%	69%	67%	53%	62%	94%	67%	73%	62%	72%
DISLIKE BUSH	25	26	24	40	31	3	21	23	29	23
DK/REF LIKE	7	5	9	8	7	3	11	4	9	5

BUSH01Y. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM from BUSH01) Attitude to policies, ignoring person

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
SUPPORT POLICIES	56%	62%	50%	20%	55%	91%	56%	64%	50%	52%
OPPOSE POLICIES	39	36	42	74	39	7	39	34	42	44
DK/REF POLICIES	5	3	7	6	6	2	6	2	8	4

BUSH02. Overall, do you think the Bush Administration's policies are helping the country, hurting it, or not making much difference?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
HELP	35%	41%	29%	8%	31%	67%	39%	39%	29%	35%
HURT	35	33	38	61	37	8	24	30	42	38
NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE	26	23	29	28	29	20	34	26	26	22
DON'T KNOW	3	2	5	2	3	4	3	4	2	5
REFUSED	1	1	--	--	--	1	--	1	1	--

BUSH03. And how about people like you? Are the Bush Administration's policies helping people like you, hurting them, or not making much difference?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
HELP	20%	23%	18%	4%	17%	41%	23%	26%	18%	19%
HURT	25	22	27	46	20	3	20	22	28	26
NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE	53	54	52	49	61	54	57	50	52	53
DON'T KNOW	2	*	3	1	1	2	--	2	2	1
REFUSED	*	1	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	1

BUSH06. As of now, do you think you would you like to see President Bush re-elected in 2004, or would you rather see someone else in the White House?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
LIKE BUSH RE-ELECTED	43%	50%	37%	8%	40%	84%	35%	47%	40%	45%
LIKE SOMEONE ELSE	50	45	55	86	52	12	58	50	50	49
DON'T KNOW	6	4	8	6	8	4	7	3	9	6
REFUSED	*	1	--	1	1	--	--	--	1	--

GWB04. How would you rate the job George W. Bush is doing handling foreign policy? Excellent, good, fair or poor?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
EXCELLENT	12%	17%	7%	2%	12%	25%	4%	17%	9%	14%
GOOD	29	31	27	13	29	49	24	29	33	28
FAIR	34	27	41	46	31	22	50	31	29	32
POOR	24	24	24	39	29	2	22	22	28	25
DON'T KNOW	1	1	1	*	*	2	--	2	1	*
REFUSED	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

GWB05. How would you rate the job George W. Bush is doing dealing with problems here at home? (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
EXCELLENT	4%	6%	3%	*%	1%	12%	2%	7%	2%	5%
GOOD	31	34	28	12	30	57	30	30	31	32
FAIR	36	32	40	36	44	26	46	41	33	30
POOR	28	27	28	52	25	5	22	21	33	31
DON'T KNOW	1	1	1	--	*	1	--	1	1	1
REFUSED	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

GWB06. How would you rate the job George W. Bush is doing handling the economy? (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
EXCELLENT	3%	5%	2%	*%	1%	10%	3%	5%	1%	4%
GOOD	23	26	20	5	21	47	23	21	22	26
FAIR	38	38	38	32	42	34	47	43	34	32
POOR	35	31	39	62	37	8	27	31	42	37
DON'T KNOW	1	1	1	1	--	2	--	1	1	2
REFUSED	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

GWB07. Dealing with terrorism? (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
EXCELLENT	17%	24%	10%	3%	14%	36%	13%	19%	10%	22%
GOOD	42	42	42	32	45	47	52	44	44	36
FAIR	23	21	26	34	24	13	19	24	25	22
POOR	16	12	20	28	16	2	14	12	20	16
DON'T KNOW	2	1	2	3	*	2	--	--	1	4
REFUSED	*	--	*	--	1	--	2	--	--	--

GWB08. Dealing with Iraq? (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
EXCELLENT	15%	21%	9%	3%	10%	33%	10%	20%	8%	17%
GOOD	32	32	32	19	35	44	38	34	34	25
FAIR	24	20	29	32	20	17	24	20	25	26
POOR	27	26	28	45	34	4	28	24	30	28
DON'T KNOW	2	2	2	3	1	1	--	2	2	3
REFUSED	*	--	*	--	--	1	--	--	--	1

GWB08A. Dealing with North Korea? (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
EXCELLENT	5%	8%	2%	2%	4%	9%	2%	8%	3%	7%
GOOD	26	31	22	13	26	45	32	27	24	27
FAIR	32	30	34	33	32	28	26	30	38	26
POOR	24	25	23	40	25	7	26	23	24	24
DON'T KNOW	13	6	20	12	13	11	13	12	11	17
REFUSED	*	1	--	--	--	1	--	1	--	--

GWB09. Dealing with leaders of other countries? (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
EXCELLENT	8%	12%	5%	2%	6%	17%	5%	13%	2%	10%
GOOD	37	39	36	19	39	58	45	37	41	30
FAIR	36	31	41	44	40	21	41	37	31	38
POOR	15	16	14	30	14	2	8	11	22	17
DON'T KNOW	3	2	4	6	2	3	2	3	4	5
REFUSED	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

GWBX1. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of overall rating with foreign policy

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
OVERALL HIGHER	31%	28%	33%	23%	36%	28%	46%	34%	24%	28%
BOTH SAME	54	54	54	60	48	57	45	49	61	54
FOREIGN HIGHER	14	17	11	15	16	12	8	15	13	15
ONE/BOTH DK	2	1	2	2	1	3	1	2	1	3

GWBX2. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of overall rating with domestic problems

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
OVERALL HIGHER	40%	37%	42%	33%	43%	41%	48%	40%	39%	37%
BOTH SAME	50	54	46	54	46	52	37	51	53	50
DOMESTIC HIGHER	8	8	9	12	10	5	14	8	7	9
ONE/BOTH DK	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	4

GWBX3. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of overall rating with handling economy

	GENDER			PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
	TOT	M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
OVERALL HIGHER	48%	44%	52%	43%	50%	51%	49%	53%	47%	46%
BOTH SAME	46	51	41	49	45	44	42	44	48	43
ECONOMY HIGHER	4	4	4	6	5	2	9	2	4	6
ONE/BOTH DK	2	1	3	2	1	3	1	1	1	5

GWBX4. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of overall rating with dealing with terrorism

	GENDER			PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
	TOT	M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
OVERALL HIGHER	16%	10%	22%	15%	14%	15%	16%	15%	18%	15%
BOTH SAME	55	58	53	49	57	64	55	61	53	52
TERRORISM HIGHER	26	31	22	33	28	18	27	23	28	27
ONE/BOTH DK	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	*	2	6

GWBX5. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of overall rating with dealing with Iraq

	GENDER			PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
	TOT	M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
OVERALL HIGHER	26%	24%	29%	27%	32%	17%	33%	25%	26%	28%
BOTH SAME	56	56	57	54	53	67	50	57	56	53
IRAQ HIGHER	15	18	12	17	14	13	16	15	16	14
ONE/BOTH DK	3	2	3	3	2	3	1	2	2	5

GWBX6. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of overall rating with dealing with North Korea

	GENDER			PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
	TOT	M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
OVERALL HIGHER	36%	36%	36%	27%	36%	46%	37%	38%	34%	35%
BOTH SAME	38	45	32	43	40	36	38	40	42	33
NORTH KOREA HIGHER	12	12	12	19	10	6	10	9	13	13
ONE/BOTH DK	14	8	20	12	13	12	14	13	11	19

GWBX7. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of overall rating with dealing with foreign leaders

	GENDER			PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
	TOT	M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
OVERALL HIGHER	27%	25%	28%	18%	29%	32%	32%	24%	28%	27%
BOTH SAME	51	53	50	53	45	55	38	59	53	49
LEADERS HIGHER	18	19	18	23	24	10	28	14	16	19
ONE/BOTH DK	4	3	5	6	2	3	3	3	4	6

QD05. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
DEMOCRAT	29%	23%	35%	100%	--%	--%	25%	20%	36%	33%
REPUBLICAN	30	30	30	--	--	100	23	31	26	35
INDEPENDENT	29	35	23	--	100	--	34	30	27	26
OTHER	9	12	7	--	--	--	16	16	6	4
NONE	2	1	2	--	--	--	3	2	2	1
DON'T KNOW	1	*	2	--	--	--	--	1	2	1
REFUSED	*	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--

QD11. In what year were you born? (ENTER FOUR-DIGIT YEAR) (Calculated and grouped as below)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS			
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+
18-29	12%	9%	14%	10%	14%	9%	100%	--%	--%	--%
30-44	29	32	26	21	31	30	--	100	--	--
45-59	31	29	33	39	30	27	--	--	100	--
60 and over	24	25	23	27	22	28	--	--	--	100
DK/REFUSED	4	5	4	3	4	7	--	--	--	--

* denotes less than .5%

-- denotes 0%

HOW THE POLL WAS DONE

This BADGER POLL™ was conducted by the University of Wisconsin Survey Center as part of its ongoing program of research designed to benefit the research community and the people of Wisconsin, under the direction of G. Donald Ferree, Jr., Associate Director for Public Opinion Research of the Center. The media sponsors of the survey are the (Madison) Capital Times, and the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel. The BADGER POLL™ is intended to be a "poll of record" for the state, investigating matters of concern to Wisconsinites including politics, culture, and their daily lives, adhering to the highest standards of polling methodology and rigorous independence.

A total of 511 randomly chosen state residents were interviewed for this survey by telephone between August 18 and 27, inclusive. Telephone numbers were generated by computer in proportion to the number of adults living in each area of the state. Theoretically, results from this survey have a "margin of error" of a little over +/- 4%. This means that, had we asked every eligible resident in Wisconsin, exactly these questions at the time the survey was conducted, there is only a one in twenty chance that the answers would differ by more than that in either direction from what we report here. There could be differences because of changes in question wording, events occurring in the meantime, or any of the practical difficulties involved in taking a scientific survey. Results based on subgroups are subject to a larger "margin of error".