



SATISFACTION WITH POLITICAL LEADERSHIP IN WASHINGTON LEADS TO STRONG MAJORITY SUPPORT FOR RE-ELECTING BUSH PRESIDENT IF THE ELECTION WERE TODAY;

POSITIVE FEELINGS FOR PRESIDENT BUSH AND JOB PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF PRESIDENT BUSH, BUSH ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS ARE STRONG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Thomas Riehle, President Ipsos-Reid U.S. Public Affairs

Telephone 202.463.7300

thomas.riehle@ipsos-reid.com

Between November 30 to December 2, 2001, Ipsos-Reid interviewed a representative sample of 1000 U.S. adults nationwide by telephone. The margin of error is +/- 3.1%.

SATISFACTION WITH POLITICAL LEADERSHIP IN WASHINGTON LEADS TO STRONG MAJORITY SUPPORT FOR RE-ELECTING BUSH PRESIDENT IF THE ELECTION WERE TODAY

A strong majority (56%) of adults say they would definitely vote to reelect George W. Bush as President if the election were today, while 24% would consider voting for someone else and only 16% would definitely vote for someone else.

"The divisions that marked the American electorate in the 2000 Presidential contest, the closest in American history, have largely disappeared in the wave of good feeling washing over the electorate," reports Thomas Riehle, President of Ipsos-Reid US Public Affairs.

- There is no gender gap--54% of women and 57% of men would vote to reelect Bush
- There is little class difference—54% of the highest income Americans and 54% of the lowest income Americans would vote to reelect Bush. In fact, Americans with less than a four-year college degree (a Democratic-leaning demographic group) are more likely than those with a college degree or more to support Bush's reelection.
- There is no age difference—59% of those age 55 and older, and 54% of those age 18-34 agree they would vote to reelect Bush.
- The wide racial gap of 2000 is narrowing—59% of whites and 40% of non-whites would support Bush's reelection without question.
- Overall, 84% of Republicans, 46% of Independents and 25% of Democrats say they would definitely vote to reelect Bush if the election were today.

The West is out of step with the rest of the country, with 46% of Western Americans favoring reelection and 22% saying they would definitely vote for someone else (30% of Westerners would consider voting for someone else).

Also, the marriage gap does persist, with 62% of married people but only 48% of unmarried people definitely ready to reelect Bush.



If the election were held today, would you ...

Definitely vote to reelect George W Bush as President.....	56
Consider voting for someone else	24
Definitely vote for someone else as President.....	16
Not sure	4

		HOUSEHOLD INCOME			GENDER	
	<u>All</u> %	<u><\$25K</u> %	<u>\$25K - \$50K</u> %	<u>> \$50K</u> %	<u>Men</u> %	<u>Women</u> %
Reelect Bush	56	54	59	54	57	54
Consider voting for someone else	24	20	25	27	26	23
Definitely vote for someone else	16	21	13	17	14	19
Not sure	4	4	3	1	3	4

		POLITICAL AFFILIATION			RACE	
	<u>All</u> %	<u>Republicans</u> %	<u>Democrats</u> %	<u>Independ</u> %	<u>White</u> %	<u>Other</u> %
Reelect Bush	56	84	25	46	59	40
Consider voting for someone else	24	13	36	33	24	28
Definitely vote for someone else	16	2	36	6	14	27
Not sure	4	1	3	14	3	6

POSITIVE FEELINGS FOR PRESIDENT BUSH AND JOB PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF PRESIDENT BUSH, BUSH ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS ARE STRONG

Americans express overwhelmingly warm positive feelings about Bush, with 53% rating their feelings a 6 or 7 on a 1-to-7 scale where 7 is the warmest, most positive feelings. Only 14% rate their feelings a 1 or 2.

Rate your feelings toward President Bush using a scale from 1 to 7, where 7 means you have strong warm, positive feelings and 1 means you have strong cold, negative feelings.

7, positive feelings	37
6.....	16
5.....	17
4.....	10
3.....	6
2.....	6
1, negative feelings.....	8
Not sure	1
<i>Mean</i>	5.2

Americans strongly endorse Bush's job performance, with 86% saying they approve and only 12% disapproving.



Approval of Bush's job performance extends to his administration, including positive job ratings for Attorney General John Ashcroft (76% approve and 15% disapprove) and Homeland Security Office director Tom Ridge (66% approve, 15% disapprove, 20% not sure). Even Congress continues to get positive job ratings (73% approve, 24% disapprove).

Do you approve or disapprove of the job ... **(READ ITEM)? (IF RESPONDENT SAYS "APPROVE" OR "DISAPPROVE", ASK:) Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or only somewhat? (IF RESPONDENT IS NOT SURE OR REFUSES, ASK:) Well, do you lean more toward approval or disapproval?**

	<u>Strongly Approve</u> %	<u>Somewhat Approve</u> %	<u>Lean Toward Approval</u> %	<u>Lean Toward Disapproval</u> %	<u>Somewhat Disapprove</u> %	<u>Strongly Disapprove</u> %	<u>Not Sure</u> %
George W Bush is doing as President	61	25	-	-	5	7	2
Congress is doing	25	46	2	1	14	9	4
John Ashcroft is doing as Attorney General	42	31	3	1	5	9	9
Tom Ridge is doing as head of the Homeland Security Office	22	37	6	2	8	4	20

"This remains a period for small adjustments, not for change in Washington," Riehle reports. "While only 19% totally endorse everything going on in Washington today, saying they would like to continue government policies in the same general direction they are going now, only 20% want to change the direction of Washington policy. Most (55%) would keep most policies the same but change some."

And if the election were today, would you want to see the Republican Party or the Democratic Party win control of Congress?

Republican Party	48
Democratic Party	39
Not sure	13

Thinking about the policies of the government in Washington D.C., in general, do you think we should ...

Continue government policies in Washington D.C. in the same general direction they are going now....	19
Keep most policies the same but change some policies	55
Change the general direction of government policies in Washington D.C.	20
Not sure	5

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