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Interview dates: August 27-29, 2004
Interviews: 1,000 adults, 821 registered voters
Margin of error: ± 3.1 for all adults, ± 3.4 for registered voters

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS POLL
CONDUCTED BY IPSOS-PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

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***Three Years On, Memories of September 11 Remain Vivid;
Majorities Feel Unthreatened by Terrorism***

The Associated Press Poll is conducted by Ipsos-Public Affairs. Between August 27-29, 2004, the AP-Ipsos poll interviewed a representative sample of 1,000 adults nationwide. The margin of error is ± 3.1 for all adults. Margin of error for subgroups may be higher.

September 11 Remembered As Defining Moment

Washington, D.C., September 9, 2004 — The events of September 11, 2001 are seared into the collective memory of Americans; nearly all those polled (98%) remember the moment they first learned of the attacks. Overall, seven in ten (70%) say this is one of their most vivid memories. People in the Northeastern U.S. (78% most vivid memory) are the most likely to say that.

Q. Thinking about the terrorist attacks on the United States that took place on September 11, 2001... Do you remember exactly where you were or what you were doing when you first learned of the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington, DC, or not?

Yes	98
No.....	2
Not sure.....	-

(ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY THAT THEY REMEMBER EXACTLY WHERE THEY WERE OR WHAT THEY WERE DOING ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001.)

Q. How vivid would you say your memory is of the moment when you first learned of the attacks? Would you say it is...

	Yes, <u>Remember</u>	All Respon- <u>dents</u>
One of your most vivid memories.....	72	70
A somewhat vivid memory	26	25
Not a vivid memory at all.....	2	2
Not sure	-	-
Do Not Remember/DK	NA	3

Attacks Provoked Anger, Not Insecurity, Among Americans

Although responses are likely tempered by the passage of time, most (80%) Americans report that they felt deeply “angry” when they heard about the attacks. Other concerns are less deeply felt; half say it “never occurred” to them to feel ashamed or that the U.S. brought the attacks on itself. Seven in ten Americans either feel deeply (39%) or say it crossed their mind (30%) that the U.S. could have prevented the 9/11 attacks.

To some extent, perspectives on the attacks vary by individuals’ age. People in their thirties most often report concern about the impact of 9/11 on their own life, job and future (51%). Those under 30 are more apt to say they felt the attacks could have been prevented (51%), while seniors over 65 tend to say they deeply “felt ashamed that something like this could happen in our country” (46%).

Q. I'm going to read some ways that some people felt when they first heard about the terrorist attacks and I'd like you to tell me whether the statement represents your very deepest feeling, a feeling that was somewhat deep, whether the statement crossed your mind, or whether it never occurred to you.

THIS TABLE IS RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY VERY OR SOMEWHAT DEEP FEELING

	<u>Very Deepest Feeling</u>	<u>Somewhat Deep Feeling</u>	<u>Crossed Your Mind</u>	<u>Never Occurred To You</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	<u>Total Deep Feeling</u>
Felt angry that anyone should do such a terrible deed.....	59	21	12	8	-	80
Were worried about how this might affect your own life, job, and future...	19	21	31	29	-	40
Felt that the attack could have been prevented	19	20	30	31	-	39
Wondered if anybody could really be safe in this country these days	17	21	37	25	-	38
Felt ashamed that this could happen in our country.....	20	16	17	47	-	36
Felt that in many ways the United States had brought it on itself	11	14	22	53	-	25

There also appears to be some variation in response by race. Relatively more whites (82%) than non-whites (72%) say they deeply felt angry. Non-whites more often report deep feelings of shock and disbelief, including feeling unsafe (50% vs. 35% of whites), shame that it happened

(48%, vs. 33% of whites) and a feeling that it could have been prevented (52%, vs. 36% of whites).

Regionally, residents of the Northeast are more likely than others to say they felt worry about the impact of 9/11 on their future life and job (45%; vs. 32% in the West), a view consistent with the generally greater feelings of vulnerability to another attack felt by Northeasterners.

Apportioning Blame

Certainly, most Americans say the terrorists themselves are directly responsible (92% a lot of the blame), but majorities also place at least some blame on government agencies (70% CIA, 64% FBI) as well as airline security (69%). However, U.S. agencies and airlines tend to receive “some” rather than “a lot” of the blame. The public is divided on the culpability of Congress, as well as that of both former President Bill Clinton and current President George W. Bush.

Q. How much of the blame, if any, do you think each of the following deserves for the September 11 terrorist attacks – a lot of the blame, some, only a little, or none of the blame? How about...

THIS TABLE IS RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY A LOT OR SOME OR SOME OF THE BLAME

	<u>A Lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Only A Little</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	Total A Lot/ Some	Total A Little/ None
The terrorists themselves	92	6	1	1	-	98	2
The CIA	26	44	15	13	2	70	28
Airline security	25	44	16	14	1	69	31
The FBI	20	44	18	16	2	64	34
The U.S. Congress	13	39	21	26	1	52	47
President George W. Bush....	22	29	17	31	1	51	48
Former President Bill Clinton	14	35	19	31	1	49	50

However, the finger pointing over 9/11 is influenced by party loyalties. Among registered voters, 61% of Republicans (and 43% of Democrats) place at least some of the blame on President Clinton. Three-quarters (78%) of Democrats, but only 26% of Republicans, say President Bush carries at least some blame. Undecided and persuadable voters blame Clinton and Bush equally.

Six In Ten Not Concerned About Being Victim Of Terrorism

By and large, a majority (62%) of Americans are not very concerned that they will be affected by a terrorist attack. Of the four in ten who are concerned about an attack, relatively few (10%) say this concern has “a great deal” of effect on how they live. Most others, while concerned, are more diffident.

Q. How concerned are you about the chance that you or your family might be the victim of a terrorist attack?

A great deal	7
Somewhat.....	31
Not too much	34
Not at all	28
Not sure	-

(ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY THAT THEY ARE A GREAT DEAL OR SOMEWHAT CONCERNED ABOUT THE CHANCE THEY OR THEIR FAMILY MIGHT BE A VICTIM OF A TERRORIST ATTACK.)

Q. How much does this concern affect how you live your life?

	<u>Great Deal/ Somewhat Concerned</u>	<u>All Respon- dents</u>
A great deal	10	4
Somewhat	38	14
Not too much	33	13
Not at all	19	7
Not sure.....	-	-
Not Concerned/DK	NA	62

As A Threat, Terrorism On A Par With Burglary, Unemployment

Similarly, four in ten (41%) worry at least occasionally about becoming a victim of terrorism; six in ten (58%) rarely or never worry. Fear of terrorism is approximately on par with losing a job or other having one's home burglarized. Contracting cancer, being unable to pay the bills, and getting hurt in a car accident evoke more worry, but still no more than 55% worry more than occasionally about these kinds of events.

Q. How often do you worry about the following things – frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never? How about...

THIS TABLE IS RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY THEY WORRY FREQUENTLY OR OCCASIONALLY

	<u>Fre- quently</u>	<u>Occa- sionally</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Never</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	<u>Total Worried</u>	<u>Total Not Worried</u>
Getting hurt in a car accident.....	14	41	30	15	-	55	45
Not being able to pay your bills	24	26	28	22	-	50	50
Getting cancer	15	32	34	19	-	47	53
You or someone in your family losing a job.....	18	27	28	27	-	44	55
Becoming a victim of terrorism	14	27	33	25	1	41	58
Having your home burglarized	11	28	38	23	-	39	61
Becoming a victim of a disaster like a hurricane, tornado, or earthquake	8	21	39	32	-	29	71

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