



1101 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 463-7300

Interview dates: February 7-9, 2005
Interviews: 1,000 adults, 849 registered voters
Margin of error: ± 3.1 for all adults, ± 3.4 for registered voters

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

NOTE: all results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.

POLITICAL STUDY

1. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?

ALL ADULTS						
	2/7 - 9/05	1/3 - 5/05	12/6 - 8/04	11/3 - 5/04	10/4 - 6/04	9/7 - 9/04
Right direction.....	38	44	43	46	40	44
Wrong track.....	58	51	52	51	56	52
Not sure.....	4	5	5	3	4	4
	8/3 - 5/04	7/5 - 7/04	6/7 - 9/04	5/3 - 5/04	4/5 - 7/04	3/1 - 3/04
	39	41	40	38	38	35
	59	56	56	58	57	60
	2	3	4	4	5	5
	3 rd Quarter JAS 04	2 nd Quarter AMJ 04	1 st Quarter JFM 04	4 th Quarter OND 03	3 rd Quarter JAS 03	1 Year Ago 2/2 - 4/04*
	42	39	44	43	41	44
	55	57	52	51	53	52
	3	4	4	6	6	4

* Half of sample was asked this question at start of interview, half after questions about the economy. There was no significant difference in the results.

ECONOMIC STUDY

8. Rate the current state of the economy in your local area using a scale from 1 to 7, where 7 means a very strong economy today and 1 means a very weak economy.

	<u>2/7 - 9/05</u>	<u>1/3 - 5/05</u>	<u>12/6 - 8/04</u>	<u>11/3 - 5/04</u>	<u>10/4 - 6/04</u>	<u>9/7 - 9/04</u>
7, very strong economy	7	5	7	9	6	8
6	10	12	13	14	11	13
5	31	34	32	29	33	32
4	22	21	19	20	22	19
3	17	17	15	12	15	16
2	6	5	5	8	5	5
1, very weak economy	7	6	8	7	8	7
Not sure	-	-	1	1	-	-
Total 6-7	17	17	21	23	17	21
Total 1-3	30	28	28	27	28	28
Mean	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.3
	<u>8/2 - 4/04</u>	<u>7/5 - 7/04</u>	<u>6/7 - 9/04</u>	<u>5/3 - 5/04</u>	<u>4/5 - 7/04</u>	<u>3/1 - 3/04</u>
7, very strong economy	7	6	6	7	5	6
6	13	14	11	10	11	11
5	32	33	32	29	28	29
4	20	20	23	23	24	21
3	15	15	15	15	17	16
2	5	5	7	6	6	8
1, very weak economy	7	6	6	9	8	9
Not sure	1	1	-	1	1	-
Total 6-7	19	20	17	16	16	17
Total 1-3	27	26	27	31	30	33
Mean	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.1
	<u>3rd Quarter JAS 04</u>	<u>2nd Quarter AMJ 04</u>	<u>1st Quarter JFM 04</u>	<u>4th Quarter OND 03</u>	<u>3rd Quarter JAS 03</u>	1 Year Ago 2/2 - 4/04
7, very strong economy	7	6	6	5	4	5
6	13	11	10	9	8	9
5	31	30	30	30	27	32
4	20	24	22	23	24	21
3	16	15	16	17	19	17
2	5	6	7	7	8	7
1, very weak economy	7	8	8	8	9	9
Not sure	1	-	1	1	1	-
Total 6-7	20	17	16	14	12	14
Total 1-3	27	29	31	32	35	33
Mean	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.1

9. Looking ahead six months from now, do you expect the economy in your local area to be much stronger, somewhat stronger, about the same, somewhat weaker, or much weaker than it is now?

	<u>2/7 -</u> <u>9/05</u>	<u>1/3 -</u> <u>5/05</u>	<u>12/6 -</u> <u>8/04</u>	<u>11/3 -</u> <u>5/04</u>	<u>10/4 -</u> <u>6/04</u>	<u>9/7 -</u> <u>9/04</u>
Much stronger.....	6	6	7	10	6	6
Somewhat stronger	21	24	24	24	27	29
About the same	57	58	54	49	55	53
Somewhat weaker	10	9	9	11	8	8
Much weaker	5	2	5	6	2	3
Not sure.....	1	1	1	-	2	1
Total Stronger	27	30	31	33	34	35
Total Weaker	15	11	14	17	10	11
	<u>8/2 -</u> <u>4/04</u>	<u>7/5 -</u> <u>7/04</u>	<u>6/7 -</u> <u>9/04</u>	<u>5/3 -</u> <u>5/04</u>	<u>4/5 -</u> <u>7/04</u>	<u>3/1 -</u> <u>3/04</u>
Much stronger.....	6	7	7	8	7	7
Somewhat stronger	28	27	26	21	23	28
About the same	56	52	53	56	56	54
Somewhat weaker	6	9	9	9	10	7
Much weaker	3	3	4	5	3	3
Not sure.....	1	2	1	1	1	1
Total Stronger	34	34	33	29	30	35
Total Weaker	9	12	12	14	13	11
	<u>3rd</u> <u>Quarter</u> <u>JAS 04</u>	<u>2nd</u> <u>Quarter</u> <u>AMJ 04</u>	<u>1st</u> <u>Quarter</u> <u>JFM 04</u>	<u>4th</u> <u>Quarter</u> <u>OND 03</u>	<u>3rd</u> <u>Quarter</u> <u>JAS 03</u>	1 Year Ago <u>2/2 -</u> <u>4/04</u>
Much stronger.....	7	7	7	7	6	6
Somewhat stronger	28	24	29	29	27	28
About the same	54	55	53	50	51	54
Somewhat weaker	7	9	7	9	10	7
Much weaker	3	4	3	4	5	4
Not sure.....	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Stronger	34	31	36	36	33	34
Total Weaker	11	13	10	12	15	11

10. Rate your current financial situation, using a scale from 1 to 7, where 7 means your personal financial situation is very strong today and 1 means it is very weak.

	<u>2/7 - 9/05</u>	<u>1/3 - 5/05</u>	<u>12/6 - 8/04</u>	<u>11/3 - 5/04</u>	<u>10/4 - 6/04</u>	<u>9/7 - 9/04</u>
7, very strong	11	9	12	13	12	13
6	13	16	16	14	15	14
5	30	28	29	28	29	29
4	18	20	18	17	19	19
3	11	13	9	11	11	10
2	7	6	5	4	4	4
1, very weak	9	6	10	12	10	10
Not sure	1	2	1	1	-	1
Total 6-7	24	25	28	27	27	27
Total 1-3	27	25	24	27	25	24
<i>Mean</i>	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.5
	<u>8/2 - 4/04</u>	<u>7/5 - 7/04</u>	<u>6/7 - 9/04</u>	<u>5/3 - 5/04</u>	<u>4/5 - 7/04</u>	<u>3/1 - 3/04</u>
7, very strong	11	8	10	10	10	13
6	17	15	15	15	13	14
5	29	29	28	29	28	25
4	18	16	18	19	21	20
3	10	14	13	11	12	13
2	4	6	6	5	6	5
1, very weak	10	11	9	9	8	9
Not sure	1	1	1	2	2	1
Total 6-7	29	23	25	26	24	27
Total 1-3	23	30	28	25	26	27
<i>Mean</i>	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
	<u>3rd Quarter JAS 04</u>	<u>2nd Quarter AMJ 04</u>	<u>1st Quarter JFM 04</u>	<u>4th Quarter OND 03</u>	<u>3rd Quarter JAS 03</u>	1 Year Ago 2/2 - 4/04
7, very strong	11	10	11	10	10	10
6	16	14	14	15	15	14
5	29	28	28	30	28	28
4	17	19	20	18	20	21
3	11	12	11	11	11	10
2	5	6	6	5	5	7
1, very weak	10	9	9	10	9	9
Not sure	1	2	1	1	2	1
Total 6-7	26	25	25	25	25	24
Total 1-3	26	26	26	26	25	26
<i>Mean</i>	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4

11. Looking ahead six months from now, do you expect your personal financial situation to be much stronger, somewhat stronger, about the same, somewhat weaker, or much weaker than it is now?

	2/7 - 9/05	1/3 - 5/05	12/6 - 8/04	11/3 - 5/04	10/4 - 6/04	9/7 - 9/04
Much stronger.....	10	11	14	11	10	11
Somewhat stronger	27	26	24	26	31	30
About the same	54	53	52	51	52	52
Somewhat weaker	7	7	7	8	4	4
Much weaker	2	2	2	3	2	2
Not sure	-	1	1	1	1	1
Total Stronger	37	37	38	37	41	41
Total Weaker	10	9	9	11	6	7

	8/2 - 4/04	7/5 - 7/04	6/7 - 9/04	5/3 - 5/04	4/5 - 7/04	3/1 - 3/04
Much stronger.....	12	10	11	12	13	10
Somewhat stronger	28	27	29	25	29	29
About the same	53	54	52	53	49	54
Somewhat weaker	4	6	5	7	6	4
Much weaker	2	2	2	2	2	2
Not sure	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Stronger	40	36	40	37	42	39
Total Weaker	6	9	7	9	9	6

	3 rd Quarter JAS 04	2 nd Quarter AMJ 04	1 st Quarter JFM 04	4 th Quarter OND 03	3 rd Quarter JAS 03	1 Year Ago 2/2 - 4/04
Much stronger.....	11	12	11	12	11	12
Somewhat stronger	28	27	27	28	27	26
About the same	54	52	54	52	53	53
Somewhat weaker	5	6	5	5	6	6
Much weaker	2	2	2	2	2	2
Not sure	-	1	1	1	1	1
Total Stronger	39	40	38	40	38	38
Total Weaker	7	8	7	8	8	9

Now I'd like you to think about how your personal financial situation has changed in the past six months.

12. Compared to 6 months ago, are you NOW more or less comfortable making a major purchase, like a home or car?

	2/7 - 9/05	1/3 - 5/05	12/6 - 8/04	11/3 - 5/04	10/4 - 6/04	9/7 - 9/04
More comfortable.....	36	36	37	32	35	40
Less comfortable	48	44	44	47	48	44
No change (VOL).....	15	19	18	20	16	15
Not sure	1	1	1	1	1	1
	8/2 - 4/04	7/5 - 7/04	6/7 - 9/04	5/3 - 5/04	4/5 - 7/04	3/1 - 3/04
More comfortable.....	41	40	38	38	38	40
Less comfortable	42	44	46	43	44	41
No change (VOL).....	16	14	15	18	17	17
Not sure	1	2	1	1	1	2
	3 rd Quarter JAS 04	2 nd Quarter AMJ 04	1 st Quarter JFM 04	4 th Quarter OND 03	3 rd Quarter JAS 03	1 Year Ago 2/2 - 4/04
More comfortable.....	40	38	38	35	35	36
Less comfortable	44	45	42	43	44	44
No change (VOL).....	15	16	18	21	20	19
Not sure	1	1	2	1	1	1

13. Compared to 6 months ago, are you NOW more or less comfortable making other household purchases?

	2/7 - 9/05	1/3 - 5/05	12/6 - 8/04	11/3 - 5/04	10/4 - 6/04	9/7 - 9/04
More comfortable.....	42	42	43	38	41	46
Less comfortable	44	37	39	42	42	38
No change (VOL).....	13	20	18	20	17	15
Not sure	1	1	-	-	-	1
	8/2 - 4/04	7/5 - 7/04	6/7 - 9/04	5/3 - 5/04	4/5 - 7/04	3/1 - 3/04
More comfortable.....	49	47	43	43	44	45
Less comfortable	36	39	41	39	40	37
No change (VOL).....	14	13	16	17	16	17
Not sure	1	1	-	1	-	1
	3 rd Quarter JAS 04	2 nd Quarter AMJ 04	1 st Quarter JFM 04	4 th Quarter OND 03	3 rd Quarter JAS 03	1 Year Ago 2/2 - 4/04
More comfortable.....	47	43	44	42	41	42
Less comfortable	38	40	37	38	39	39
No change (VOL).....	14	16	18	19	19	18
Not sure	1	1	1	1	1	1

14. Compared to 6 months ago, are you NOW more or less confident about job security for yourself, your family and other people you know personally?

	2/7 - <u>9/05</u>	1/3 - <u>5/05</u>	12/6 - <u>8/04</u>	11/3 - <u>5/04</u>	10/4 - <u>6/04</u>	9/7 - <u>9/04</u>
More confident.....	42	41	43	43	40	48
Less confident.....	47	42	42	43	44	40
No change (VOL).....	10	15	14	13	15	11
Not sure.....	1	2	1	1	1	1
	8/2 - <u>4/04</u>	7/5 - <u>7/04</u>	6/7 - <u>9/04</u>	5/3 - <u>5/04</u>	4/5 - <u>7/04</u>	3/1 - <u>3/04</u>
More confident.....	48	44	45	43	41	45
Less confident.....	41	42	42	42	45	40
No change (VOL).....	10	13	12	14	13	13
Not sure.....	1	1	1	1	1	2
	3 rd Quarter <u>JAS 04</u>	2 nd Quarter <u>AMJ 04</u>	1 st Quarter <u>JFM 04</u>	4 th Quarter <u>OND 03</u>	3 rd Quarter <u>JAS 03</u>	1 Year Ago 2/2 - <u>4/04</u>
More confident.....	46	43	45	40	38	43
Less confident.....	42	43	40	42	45	42
No change (VOL).....	11	13	13	16	15	13
Not sure.....	1	1	2	2	2	2

15. Compared to 6 months ago, are you NOW more or less confident of your ability to invest in the future, including your ability to save money for your retirement or your children's education?

	2/7 - <u>9/05</u>	1/3 - <u>5/05</u>	12/6 - <u>8/04</u>	11/3 - <u>5/04</u>	10/4 - <u>6/04</u>	9/7 - <u>9/04</u>
More confident.....	43	39	45	44	42	51
Less confident.....	47	43	42	41	43	38
No change (VOL).....	9	15	11	13	13	10
Not sure.....	1	3	2	2	2	1
	8/2 - <u>4/04</u>	7/5 - <u>7/04</u>	6/7 - <u>9/04</u>	5/3 - <u>5/04</u>	4/5 - <u>7/04</u>	3/1 - <u>3/04</u>
More confident.....	50	47	45	45	46	48
Less confident.....	38	39	41	40	39	39
No change (VOL).....	11	12	12	13	12	11
Not sure.....	1	2	2	2	3	2
	3 rd Quarter <u>JAS 04</u>	2 nd Quarter <u>AMJ 04</u>	1 st Quarter <u>JFM 04</u>	4 th Quarter <u>OND 03</u>	3 rd Quarter <u>JAS 03</u>	1 Year Ago 2/2 - <u>4/04</u>
More confident.....	49	46	47	43	41	46
Less confident.....	39	40	37	40	42	40
No change (VOL).....	11	12	13	15	15	12
Not sure.....	1	2	3	2	2	2

16a. Thinking of the last 6 months, have you, someone in your family or someone else you know personally lost their job as a result of economic conditions?

	2/7 - <u>9/05</u>	1/3 - <u>5/05</u>	12/6 - <u>8/04</u>	11/3 - <u>5/04</u>	10/4 - <u>6/04</u>	9/7 - <u>9/04</u>
Yes	39	41	38	40	39	39
No.....	61	59	61	60	61	61
Not sure	-	-	1	-	-	-
	8/2 - <u>4/04</u>	7/5 - <u>7/04</u>	6/7 - <u>9/04</u>	5/3 - <u>5/04</u>	4/5 - <u>7/04</u>	3/1 - <u>3/04</u>
Yes	40	41	39	39	44	42
No.....	60	58	60	61	56	57
Not sure	-	1	1	-	-	1
	3 rd Quarter <u>JAS 04</u>	2 nd Quarter <u>AMJ 04</u>	1 st Quarter <u>JFM 04</u>	4 th Quarter <u>OND 03</u>	3 rd Quarter <u>JAS 03</u>	1 Year Ago 2/2 - <u>4/04</u>
Yes	41	41	43	44	45	42
No.....	59	59	56	56	55	57
Not sure	-	-	1	-	-	1

- 16b. Now look ahead at the next six months. How likely is it that you, someone in your family or someone else you know personally will lose their job in the next six months as a result of economic conditions?

	2/7 - 9/05	1/3 - 5/05	12/6 - 8/04	11/3 - 5/04	10/4 - 6/04	9/7 - 9/04
Extremely likely.....	6	6	7	8	6	7
Very likely	13	12	13	11	10	9
Somewhat likely.....	29	31	29	27	30	28
Not very likely	32	32	32	31	37	33
Not at all likely	19	18	18	22	16	22
Not sure	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Likely.....	19	18	20	19	16	15
Total Not Likely	51	50	50	53	52	56
	8/2 - 4/04	7/5 - 7/04	6/7 - 9/04	5/3 - 5/04	4/5 - 7/04	3/1 - 3/04
Extremely likely.....	6	6	8	8	7	6
Very likely	12	11	10	13	14	13
Somewhat likely.....	30	28	29	31	30	30
Not very likely	33	34	31	29	30	31
Not at all likely	18	20	21	18	17	19
Not sure	1	1	1	1	2	1
Total Likely.....	18	17	18	20	21	19
Total Not Likely	51	53	52	47	47	49
	3 rd Quarter JAS 04	2 nd Quarter AMJ 04	1 st Quarter JFM 04	4 th Quarter OND 03	3 rd Quarter JAS 03	1 Year Ago 2/2 - 4/04
Extremely likely.....	7	8	7	7	7	8
Very likely	11	12	12	12	14	12
Somewhat likely.....	28	30	29	30	32	28
Not very likely	34	30	32	31	29	31
Not at all likely	19	19	19	18	16	20
Not sure	1	1	1	2	2	1
Total Likely.....	17	20	19	20	21	20
Total Not Likely	53	49	50	49	46	51

DEMOGRAPHICS

NOTE: Results for demographic questions represent all adults unless otherwise indicated.

D1a. In what year were you born?

D1b. Have you already had a birthday this year?

(IF RESPONDENT REFUSES Q.D1a OR Q.D1b, Q.D1c ASKED. RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

D1c. Are you:

18-34	31
35-49	28
50-64	23
65 and over	17
Refused/not sure	1

D2. Are you employed:

TOTAL EMPLOYED	63
- Full time.....	52
- Part time.....	11
Not employed	17
Retired.....	20
Refused/not sure	-

(Q.D3 ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO ARE EMPLOYED FULL OR PART-TIME IN Q.D2.)

D3. We would also like to have just a general idea of what type of occupation you have. Which one of the following best describes your current job?

Professional	14
Senior executive or manager	8
Clerical or administrative	7
Sales or services	11
A skilled trade or technical occupation.....	12
Blue-collar work or laborer.....	7
Farming or fishing	1
Other (VOL)	3
Refused/not sure	-
Not Employed Full/Part Time (Q.D2)	37

D4. What is the last year of school you completed?

Grade school or some high school	8
Completed high school	25
Some college but did not finish.....	24
Completed a two year college degree	12
Completed a four year college degree.....	19
Completed a post-graduate degree such as a Master's or Ph.D.	12
Refused/not sure	-

D5. Are you currently married:

Yes	53
No.....	47
Refused/not sure	-

D6. Including yourself and any children, how many people are currently living in your household?

1	20
2	34
3	20
4	17
5	6
6 or more	3
Refused/not sure	-

(Q.D7a-c ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY MORE THAN ONE PERSON IN HOUSEHOLD IN Q.D6.)

D7a. How many children under 6 years are currently living in your household?

D7b. How many children ages 6 to 12 are currently living in your household?

D7c. How many children ages 13 to 17 are currently living in your household?

ANY CHILDREN – NET	37
Under 6.....	19
6-12	16
13-17	15
NO CHILDREN	62
Refused/not sure	-

D8. Do you currently own stocks, bonds, or mutual funds?

Yes	50
No.....	49
Refused/not sure	1

(Q.D9 ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY THEY OWN STOCKS, BONDS OR MUTUAL FUNDS IN Q.D8.)

D9. In the past 12 months, how many times did you make changes in your investments - buying or selling stocks or stock mutual funds either within or outside an employer-sponsored 401K plan?

	<u>INVESTORS</u>
None.....	35
1 time.....	23
2 times.....	15
3 times.....	5
4 times.....	3
5 to 9 times.....	8
10 to 14 times.....	5
15 to 19 times.....	2
20 to 24 times.....	1
25 times or more	1
Refused/not sure	2
Active Investors (5 times or more).....	17

D10a. Would you describe yourself as a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

Yes	37
No.....	61
Refused/not sure	2

D10b. What is your religious preference? Is it Protestant, Catholic, Mormon, Jewish, Muslim, some other religion, or don't you belong to any religious denomination? (IF "SOME OTHER RELIGION, ASK) Is that a Christian denomination, or not? (IF YES, CODED AS "PROTESTANT".)

Protestant	49
Catholic	23
Mormon	1
Jewish	2
Muslim	-
Other non-Christian religion.....	3
No religion	21
Refused/not sure	1

D11a. Are you of Hispanic ethnicity?

(Q.D11b ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO DO NOT SAY THEY ARE HISPANIC IN Q.D11a.)

D11b. Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race?

(RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

White	81
Black.....	8
Hispanic.....	6
Asian.....	2
American Indian.....	1
Other.....	1
Refused	1

D12. Could you please tell me your household income from all sources in 2004?

Under \$15,000.....	16
\$15,000 to less than \$20,000	5
\$20,000 to less than \$25,000	6
\$25,000 to less than \$30,000	4
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	10
\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	10
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	17
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	9
\$100,000 or more	13
Refused/not sure	10

REGION:

Northeast.....	20
Midwest.....	23
South.....	35
West.....	22

METROPOLITAN STATUS:

Urban.....	34
Suburban.....	47
Rural.....	19

GENDER:

Male.....	48
Female.....	52