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Interview dates: September 16-18, 2005 Interviews: 1,000 adults, 836 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.

#### **REGISTERED VOTERS/ PARTY AFFILIATION**

1. Are you currently registered to vote at this address, or not?

	ALL
	<b>A</b> DULTS
Yes	77
No	22
Refused/not sure	1

2a. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?\*

(IF "DEMOCRAT" TO Q.2a, Q.2b ASKED. IF "REPUBLICAN" TO Q.2a, Q.2c ASKED. IF "INDEPENDENT" or "NONE OF THESE" TO Q.2a, Q.2d ASKED. RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

- 2b. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Democratic Party?
- 2c. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Republican Party?
- 2d. Do your beliefs tend to lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

	REGISTERED
	<b>V</b> OTERS
Strongly Republican	21
Moderately Republican	20
Definitely Independent/neither	9
Moderately Democrat	30
Strongly Democrat	
Refused/not sure	1
Total Republican	41
Total Democrat	49

<sup>\*</sup> Half the respondents were asked party identification in this location, the other half were asked at the end of the survey with the other demographic questions. Results for the respondents who were asked the question early were 42% Republican, 49% Democrat. For the respondents asked later in the survey, the results were 40% Republican, 50% Democrat.

# (ASKED OF HALF THE RESPONDENTS.)

I'm going to read you a list of **eight** issues and I'm going to read the list twice. Please tell me which ONE should be the highest priority for President Bush and the U.S. Congress in the next few months?

) <u>5</u>
)
4

(ASKED OF HALF THE RESPONDENTS.)

1b. I'm going to read you a list of *nine* issues and I'm going to read the list twice. Please tell me which ONE should be the highest priority for President Bush and the U.S. Congress in the next few months?

Recovery from Hurricane Katrina	29
The situation in Iraq	19
The economy and jobs	16
Energy and gas prices	14
Terrorism	6
Health care	5
Social Security	4
Education	3
Taxes	1
(NOT READ) Other	2
Not sure	1

2. Overall, do you approve, disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President? (IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE, ASK:) Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)? (IF HAVE MIXED FEELINGS OR NOT SURE, ASK:) If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approve or disapprove?

			ALL A	DULTS		
_	9/16-	9/6-	8/1-	7/11-	6/6-	5/2-
	<u> 18/05</u>	<u>8/05</u>	<u>3/05</u>	<u>13/05</u>	<u>8/05</u>	4/05
Strongly approve	23	20	23	21	22	24
Somewhat approve	9	11	10	12	11	11
Lean toward approval	8	8	9	10	10	11
Still have mixed feelings	2	1	2	1	1	2
Lean toward disapproval	13	14	13	15	13	13
Somewhat disapprove	6	5	5	6	7	7
Strongly disapprove	38	40	38	35	35	32
Not sure	1	1	-	-	1	-
Total Approve	40	39	42	42	43	47
Total Disapprove	57	59	55	56	55	51
Mean Rating <sup>1</sup>	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.8

	ALL ADULTS				REGISTERED VOTERS *		
	4/4- <u>6/05</u>	3/7 - <u>9/05</u>	2/7 - <u>9/05</u>	1/3 - <u>5/05</u>	12/6 - <u>8/04</u>	11/3 - <u>5/04</u>	
Strongly approve	21	25	24	27	31	33	
Somewhat approve	11	12	11	12	10	12	
Lean toward approval	12	10	10	10	11	6	
Still have mixed feelings	1	2	1	1	2	1	
Lean toward disapproval	15	13	15	13	14	9	
Somewhat disapprove	6	6	7	7	4	5	
Strongly disapprove	34	31	32	30	28	34	
Not sure	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Total Approve Total Disapprove	44 54	48 50	45 54	49 49	51 47	51 48	
Mean Rating <sup>1</sup>	3.7	3.9	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.1	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Mean rating is calculated by assigning each response except "not sure" a value from 1 to 7, with "strongly approve" receiving a value of 7, and "strongly disapprove" a value of 1.

\* All results prior to 2005 reflect results among registered voters only.

3. And when it comes to **(READ ISSUE)** do you approve or disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way George W. Bush is handling that issue?

(**IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE, ASK:**) Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)? (**IF HAVE MIXED FEELINGS OR NOT SURE, ASK:**) If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approve or disapprove?

Handling the relief effort for victims of Hurricane Katrina	Strongly Ap- prove	Some- what Ap- prove	Lean Toward Ap- proval	Still Have Mixed Feelings	Lean Toward Disap- proval	Some- what Disap- prove	Strongly Disap- prove	Not Sure	Total Ap- prove	Total Disap- prove	Mean- Rating <sup>1</sup>
	ALL ADULTS										
9/16-18/05	24	11	11	2	13	7	31	1	46	51	3.9
9/6-8/05	27	12	7	1	10	7	35	1	46	52	3.8
Handling gas prices											
ALL ADULTS											
9/16-18/05	12	9	8	2	14	9	44	2	30	67	3.0
9/6-8/05	12	9	6	2	11	8	51	1	27	70	2.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Mean rating is calculated by assigning each response except "not sure" a value from 1 to 7, with "strongly approve" receiving a value of 7, and "strongly disapprove" a value of 1.

4. Which comes closest to your view? .

	9/16- <u>18/05</u>	9/6- <u>8/05</u>
The federal government should have been better prepared to cope with the effects of a disaster of the magnitude caused by Hurricane Katrina	70	69
The federal government was as prepared as it reasonably could have been to cope with a disaster of the magnitude caused by Hurricane Katrina	28	30
Not sure	2	1

### (ASKED OF HALF THE RESPONDENTS.)

5a. How confident are you in the federal government's ability to handle a major disaster in the future?

Not sure  Total Confident	54	<u>-</u> 56	-
Not at all confident		17	
Not too confident	25	27	
Somewhat confident		37	
Very confident	19	19	
	<u> 18/05</u>	8/05	
	9/16-	9/6-	

### (ASKED OF HALF THE RESPONDENTS.)

5b. How confident are you in the federal government's ability to handle the aftermath of a major terrorist attack in the future?

Total Confident Total Not Confident	58 42
Not at all confident  Not sure	
Not too confident	25
Somewhat confident	42
Very confident	16

6. How confident are you in your state and local government's ability to handle a major disaster in the future?

Somewhat confident  Not too confident	64 34
Somewhat confident  Not too confident	2
Somewhat confident	11
	23
	47
Very confident	17

7. Have any victims of the hurricane disaster been relocated, at least temporarily, to your own city or community?

Yes	55
No	38
Not sure	7

# (ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY IN Q.7 THAT DISASTER VICTIMS HAVE BEEN RELOCATED TO THEIR COMMUNITY.)

8. Thinking about the situation of those hurricane victims that have been relocated to your area, how concerned are you about each of the following?

#### RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY VERY OR SOMEWHAT CONCERNED

The cost to your local government of providing social services like education.	Very Con- <u>cerned</u>	Some- what Con- <u>cerned</u>	Not too Con- cerned	Not At All Con- cerned	Not <u>Sure</u>	Total Con- <u>cerned</u>	Total Not Con- <u>cerned</u>
welfare and housing to hurricane victims living in your area	16	27	29	27	1	44	56
The living conditions at refugee shelters in your area	15	24	24	31	6	39	55
The risk that shelters for hurricane victims will bring increased crime to your area	11	17	31	40	1	28	72
The possibility that relocated hurricane victims will take jobs away from local residents	10	14	31	45	-	24	76

9.	How do you think the slow government response to Hurricane Katrina will affect race relations in the United
	States in the long term? Would you say it will

Improve race relations	21
Harm race relations	35
Have no effect on race relations	39
Not sure	5

# NOTE: Q.10a AND Q.10b ASKED OF ONE HALF OF RESPONDENTS AND Q.11a AND Q.11b ASKED OF THE OTHER HALF OF RESPONDENTS.

# (Q.10a AND Q10.b ASKED OF HALF THE RESPONDENTS.)

10a. As you may know, the U.S. Congress is expected to appropriate up to 200 billion dollars to help the affected areas recover from Hurricane Katrina. What best describes how you feel about federal spending on the recovery from Hurricane Katrina?

We are spending too much	24
We are spending the right amount	52
We should spend more	15
Not sure	9

10b. How confident are you that the money appropriated for recovery from Katrina is being spent wisely?

Total Confident	
Not sure	11
Not at all confident	18
Not too confident	31
Somewhat confident	42
Very confident	8

# (Q.11a AND Q.11b ASKED OF HALF THE RESPONDENTS.)

As you may know, the U.S. Congress has appropriated 260 billion dollars to fight the war and help rebuild Iraq. What best describes how you feel about federal spending on the rebuilding of Iraq?

We are spending too much	65
We are spending the right amount	27
We should spend more	6
Not sure	2

11b. How confident are you that the money appropriated to rebuild Iraq is being spent wisely?

Very confident	7
Somewhat confident	28
Not too confident	31
Not at all confident	33
Not sure	11
Total Confident	35
Total Not Confident	64

12.	There are many people in this country who choose to live in areas and homes that are known to be
	especially susceptible to destruction by natural disasters such as landslides, earthquakes, hurricanes, and
	flooding. In general, when these disasters strike these areas, do you think the government should give
	money to local residents to help them recover, or do you think the residents of these areas should live there
	solely at their own risk?

Government should give money	50
Residents should live at own risk	45
Not sure	5

13. Should the government prohibit people from building new homes in areas that are known to be especially susceptible to destruction by natural disasters, or should people be free to build new homes in these areas?

Prohibit building new homes	39
Free to build new homes in these	
areas	57
Not sure	4

- 14. THIS QUESTION WILL BE RELEASED IN CONJUNCTION WITH A LATER STORY.
- 15. If you had to choose, which one of the following options do you think is the best way for the government to pay for the relief effort for Hurricane Katrina?

Cut spending on Iraq	42
Delay or cancel additional tax cuts	29
Add to the federal debt and gradually pay	
it back	14
Cut spending for other domestic	
programs like education, welfare,	
transportation, and health care	11
Not sure	4

16. Over the next six months, do you expect that increases in the price of gasoline will cause financial hardship for you or your family, or not? (IF YES, ASK:) Do you expect that will be a serious hardship, or not serious?

	9/16-	9/6-	8/9-	4/18-	6/7-
	<u> 18/05</u>	<u>8/05</u>	<u>11/05</u> *	20/05*	9/04
Will Cause Financial Hardship	65	70	64	51	54
- Serious hardship	39	41	37	30	30
- Not a serious hardship	25	28	26	20	23
- Not sure how serious	1	1	1	1	1
Will Not Cause Financial Hardship	34	30	35	48	46
Not sure	1	-	1	1	-

<sup>\*</sup> These results are from studies conducted by Ipsos for the AP and AOL.

17. Do you expect that the sharp increase in the price of gas that occurred after Hurricane Katrina will be short-lived, or will it be a long-term increase?

Short-lived	41
Long-term increase	58
Not sure	1

18. Over the next six months, do you expect that increases in the price of food will cause financial hardship for you or your family, or not? (IF YES, ASK:) Do you expect that will be a serious hardship, or not serious?

Will Cause Financial Hardship	44
- Serious hardship	27
- Not a serious hardship	17
- Not sure how serious	-
Will Not Cause Financial Hardship	55
Not sure	1

19. Have you personally ever visited New Orleans, or not?

Yes	37
No	63
Not sure	-

### **DEMOGRAPHICS**

NOTE:	Results fo	r demographic	questions	represent all a	dults unless	otherwise indicated.
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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	
50-64	23
65 and over	16
Pafusad/not sura	

D2. What is the last year of school you completed?

Grade school or some high school	7
Completed high school	24
Some community college or university, but	
did not finish	21
Completed technical school or a community	
college	11
Completed a university or Bachelor's degree	23
Completed a post-graduate degree such	
as a Master's or Ph.D.	14
Refused/not sure	-

D3. Are you currently married?

Yes	56
No	43
Refused/not sure	1

D4a. Would you describe yourself as a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

Yes	43
No	55
Refused/not sure	2

D4b. 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	
Mormon	
Jewish	
Muslim	1
Other non-Christian religion	3
No religion	18
Refused/not sure	1

D5a. Are you of Hispanic ethnicity?

## (Q.D5b ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO DO NOT SAY THEY ARE HISPANIC IN Q.D5a.)

D5b. Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race?

# (RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

White	71
Black	11
Hispanic	
Asian	4
American Indian	-
Other	1
Refused	-

D6 Could you please tell me your household income from all sources in 2004?

Under \$15,000	11
\$15,000 to less than \$20,000	6
\$20,000 to less than \$25,000	7
\$25,000 to less than \$30,000	4
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	11
\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	8
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	16
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	8
\$100,000 or more	15
Refused/not sure	14

**REGION:** 

Northeast	20
Midwest	23
South	35
West	22

**METROPOLITAN STATUS:** 

Urban	34
Suburban	48
Rural	18

**GENDER:** 

Male	48
Female	52