



# MOORE INFORMATION

OPINION RESEARCH • STRATEGIC ANALYSIS

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TO: Interested Parties  
FROM: Bob Moore and Hans Kaiser  
RE: National Sentiment: Iraq

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In a recent national survey, we asked voters if they thought the United States is doing a "good job" or a "bad job" in Iraq. In order to assess blame, we also asked voters who believe the U.S. is doing a bad job, who they believe is to blame.

Voters nationwide are twice as likely to say the U.S. is doing a bad job dealing with the situation in Iraq as they are to say it is doing a good job (32% good job, 59% bad job). Even more telling is the intensity with which voters react on this issue – just 15% "strongly" believe the U.S. is doing a good job in Iraq, while fully 45% "strongly" believe the U.S. is doing a bad job.

The depth of voters' disappointment with the handling of Iraq is evidenced by the consistency in sentiment across various demographic and geographic subgroups. Both men and women and voters of all ages believe the U.S. is doing a bad job in Iraq. Further, there is majority agreement in every geographic region on this issue. The only difference, and it is a stark one, is found by partisanship – Republicans continue to believe the U.S. is doing a good job, while Democrats widely disagree, and Independents disagree as well. There is some dissent among Republican voters however. Among "hard" GOPs (voters who vote mostly or only for Republicans), the U.S. receives widely positive marks for efforts on the Iraq situation (65% good job, 27% bad job), however among "soft" GOPs (voters who vote for a few more Republicans than Democrats), this sentiment is shared by only a very narrow plurality (48% good job, 41% bad job). Among Democrats, however, the vast majority of both "hard" (voters who vote mostly or only for Democrats), and "soft" Democrats (voters who vote for a few more Democrats than Republicans), feel the U.S. is performing badly on the handling of the war.

### U.S. PERFORMANCE IN IRAQ

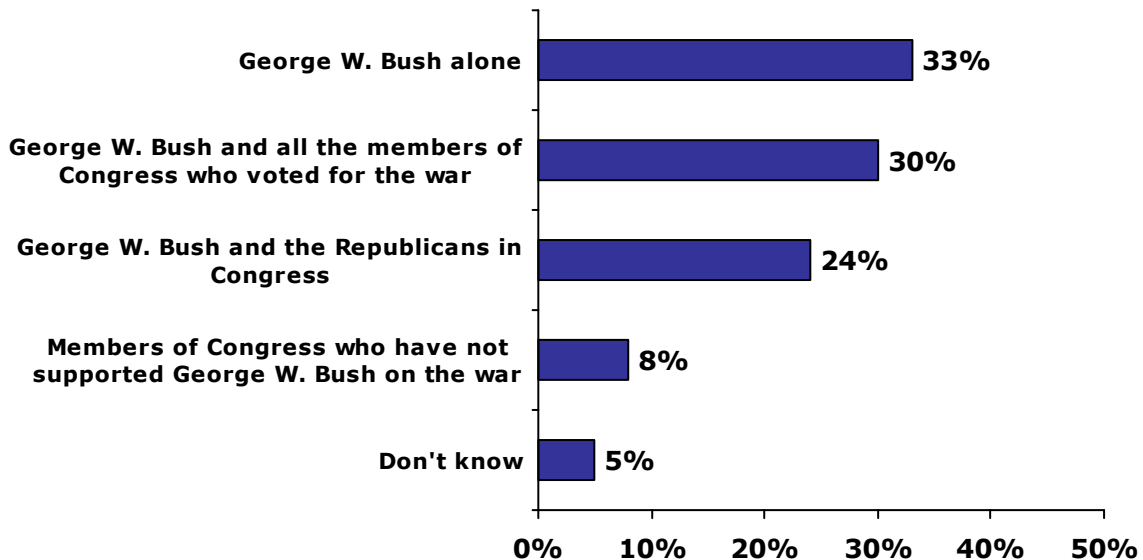
"In your opinion, has the U.S. done a good job or a bad job dealing with the situation in Iraq?" WAIT AND ASK: "Do you feel strongly about that?"

	All	"Hard" GOP	"Soft" GOP	TOTAL GOP	IND.	DEM.
Strongly good job	15%	32%	23%	29%	12%	4%
Good job	17%	33%	25%	30%	15%	6%
<b>TOTAL good job</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>11%</b>
Don't know	9%	8%	11%	9%	16%	5%
<b>TOTAL bad job</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>84%</b>
Bad job	14%	9%	19%	13%	16%	15%
Strongly bad job	45%	18%	22%	19%	41%	69%

When we asked voters who was responsible for the situation in Iraq, more than nine-in-ten attribute some level of blame to President Bush. In fact, one-in-three (33%) say Bush is *solely* responsible for the current situation and another 24% say the problems stem from a combination of both the Bush Administration and the Republicans in Congress. Another 30% spread the blame across party lines, between the Bush Administration and all members of Congress (both Democrats and Republicans) who voted for the war. Only 8% say the situation in Iraq is the fault of members of Congress who have not supported the President's approach to the war. While these results reflect only the views of the roughly six-in-ten voters who say the U.S. is doing a bad job in Iraq, it clearly shows that few people find fault with members of Congress who have not supported President Bush on the war.

### RESPONSIBLE PARTY(S) FOR SITUATION IN IRAQ

"Who do you blame most for that?" (Asked among voters who responded "bad job")



### SENTIMENT ON PARTITIONING IRAQ

Interestingly, the idea of partitioning Iraq into three distinct regions based on ethnic and religious affiliation is opposed by the American public by a nearly two-to-one margin. In fact, our survey found only 25% would support partitioning the country into three sections based on ethnic and religious affiliation, while fully 47% oppose this strategy. The

remaining 28% are unsure. The concept of a partitioned Iraq meets with plurality or majority opposition among all demographic subgroups of the voting population. Looking at levels of intensity, twice as many voters “strongly” oppose (28%) than “strongly” support (12%) partitioning Iraq.

*These data are from a telephone poll conducted among a representative sample of 800 registered voters, nationwide, by Moore Information, Inc. The potential sampling error is plus or minus 3% at the 95% confidence level. The interviews were conducted February 6-8, 2007. Party affiliation of the sample is 36% Republican, 42% Democrat, 22% non-affiliated.*

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