



Program on International Policy Attitudes

A joint Program of the Center on Policy Attitudes and the Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland, School of Public Affairs, University of Maryland

PIPA-Knowledge Networks Poll: Americans on the Conflict With Iraq

Questionnaire

Dates of Survey: Sept 26-30, 2002
Sample Size: 709 Respondents

Margin of Error: +/- 3.7%

Q1. Here are five foreign policy problems that the US is facing these days. Thinking about the long term, please select the one that you feel is the most important. *[order randomized; question repeated with remaining problems until all rated.]*

	First Response	Mean Rating
The situation in Iraq	34%	2.3
The Israeli-Palestinian conflict	17	2.8
The India-Pakistan conflict	2	4.2
Osama bin Laden's terrorist group al Q'aeda	43	2.1
The situation in Afghanistan	4	3.7
(No answer)	1	-

Q2. How urgent do you think it is to resolve the problem of Iraq?

Very urgent.....	47%
Somewhat urgent.....	39
Not too urgent	10
Not at all urgent.....	3
(No answer)	1

Q3. As you may know, Congress is considering a resolution to authorize the President to use military force against Iraq. Do you think that: *[order randomized]*

Congress should not, at this time, give the President authority to use force against Iraq..... 23%

Congress should give the President authority to use military force against Iraq if the UN Security Council votes to authorize such action. 43

Congress should give the President authority

to use military force in all ways he determines appropriate, including for the US to invade Iraq on its own. 33

(No answer) 1

Q4. Suppose it does prove possible to disarm Iraq of any weapons of mass destruction it may have, should the US still invade Iraq in an attempt to overthrow Saddam Hussein’s government, or should it not?

Should still invade 43%

Should not invade 56

(No answer) 2

Q5. Do you think that Saddam Hussein does or does not have the capability to use chemical or biological weapons against targets in the US?

Does have capability 79%

Does not have capability 19

(No answer) 2

Q6. Suppose the government found out that Iraq has the capability to release chemical or biological weapons against American cities. How do you think the US should respond? [order rotated]

The US should attack Iraq even if there is a risk that it will use these weapons against American cities, because if we do not act Iraq will develop an even greater capability to threaten the US in the future. 56%

The US should not attack Iraq because this would make it almost certain that Iraq would use these weapons against American cities. Instead, the US should deter the Iraqi government from using these weapons by warning that if it does it will be destroyed. 42

(No answer) 2

Q7. Currently there is a debate in Congress about whether to grant the President’s request to let him decide whether the US should go to war with Iraq. Do you think: [order rotated]

Congress should give the President the power to decide whether the US should go to war with Iraq. 38%

Congress should retain the right to vote

on whether the US should go to war with Iraq. 60

(No answer).....2

Q8. If your member of Congress voted against granting the President the authority to decide whether to go to war with Iraq, would that make you:

More inclined to vote for him or her20%
 Less inclined to vote to vote for him or her..... 27
 Would not affect your vote either way 52
 (No answer) 1

Q9. With which statement do you most agree: *[order rotated]*

If Iraq allows the UN to conduct unrestricted inspections, the US should agree to not invade Iraq to remove Saddam Hussein as long as Iraq continues to cooperate, because we should only go to war as a last resort.68%

The US should invade Iraq to remove Saddam Hussein, whether he cooperates with UN inspectors or not, because the UN inspectors might not find all his weapons. 30

(No answer)2

Q10. If the United Nations does conduct inspections, do you think these would -- or would not -- be effective in eliminating the threat of Iraq using weapons of mass destruction against the United States?

Yes, would42%
 No, would not 58
 (No answer) 1

[If answered "No, would not" in previous question:]
 Q10a. Which is closer to your position: *[order rotated]*

The UN should first try to disarm Iraq peacefully and see if that proves to be effective or not.62%

Since the UN inspectors will not be effective the US should proceed with invading Iraq now. 36

(No answer) 1

Q10a/b Combined:

Yes, would be effective42%
 No, would not, but should try first 36
 No, would not, invade now 21
 (No answer)2

Q11. Please select whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: the US should only invade Iraq with UN approval and the support of its allies.

Agree..... 64%
 Disagree..... 35
 (No answer)..... 1

Demographics (from respondent profile)

Q. Gender

Male 51%
 Female 49

Q. Party Affiliation (collapsed with leaners)

Republican 33%
 Democrat..... 46
 Independent/Other 21

Q. Age (calculated from birth date)

18-29 12%
 30-44 29
 45-59 29
 60+ 31

Q. Education level (collapsed categories)

Less than High School 9%
 High School Graduate 37
 Some College 30
 College Graduate 24

Q. Region

Northeast 21%
 Midwest..... 23
 South 34
 West..... 22

Q. Race/Ethnicity

White, non-Hispanic 79%
 Black..... 6
 Hispanic 9
 Other 6