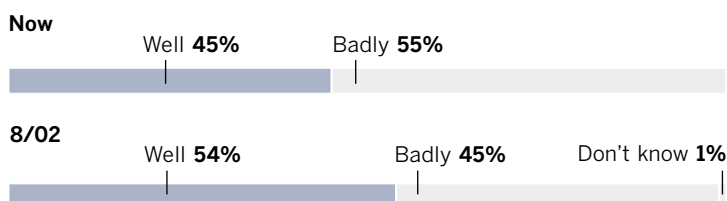


Bush popular but vulnerable

Q: Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling...

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
His job as president	63%	33%	4%
The threat of terrorism	73	23	4
Foreign affairs	59	35	6
The economy	51	43	6
Environmental issues	48	34	18

Q: The nation's economy these days is doing...



Q: Who/what should get the blame for the country's economic problems? *

	All	Democrats	Independents	Republicans
Bush and his policies	22%	34%	21%	2%
Corporate fraud/greed	21	14	23	34
9/11 attacks	13	11	13	16

* Asked of those who said the economy is doing badly. Accepted up to two replies. Top three overall responses shown.

Q: Compared to last year, would you say that this holiday season you will spend more, less or about the same on presents for friends and family?

	Now	9/01	10/94	11/91
More	15%	11%	17%	13%
Less	40	26	31	51
Same	44	59	52	35
Don't give presents (volunteered)	1	1	-	1
Don't know	-	3	-	-

Q: Which party do you think can do a better job handling...

	Democrats	Republicans	Both/Neither
The environment	50%	27%	10%
Prescription drug coverage for elderly	47	28	13
Social Security	42	35	13
The nation's economy	40	39	11
The budget deficit	38	39	12
The country's major problems	36	39	14
National security/terrorism	24	52	13

Notes: Results shown are among all U.S. adults unless otherwise indicated. " - " indicates less than 0.5%. Numbers may not total 100% where more than one response was accepted or some answer categories are not shown.

Times Poll results are also available at www.latimes.com/timespoll.

How the poll was conducted: The Times Poll contacted 1,305 Americans nationwide by telephone Dec. 12-15. Telephone numbers were chosen from a list of all exchanges in the nation. Random-digit dialing techniques were used so that listed and unlisted numbers could be contacted. The entire sample was weighted slightly to conform with census figures for sex, race, age, education and region. The margin of sampling error for the entire sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points. For certain subgroups the error margin may be somewhat higher. Poll results can also be affected by other factors such as question wording and the order in which questions are presented.

Source: L.A. Times polls