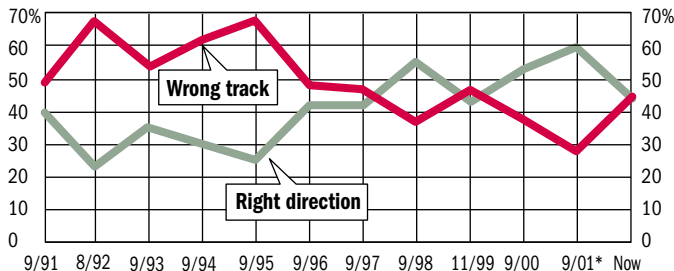


State of the Nation

■ Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction or are they seriously on the wrong track?



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

	Approve	Disapprove
His job as president?	68%	27
The threat of terrorism?	74%	22
Foreign affairs?	61%	31
The economy?	56%	38
Fraud by large corporations?	55%	32
The federal budget?	48%	37

■ Which party do you think can do a better job of handling ...

	Dems.	Reps.	Both/ Neither know	Don't know
The country's major problems?	38%	34	17	11
Social Security?	47%	30	13	10
The nation's economy?	44%	38	11	7
The budget deficit?	43%	37	12	8
National security and war on terrorism?	26%	48	15	11

The Economy

■ The nation's economy these days is doing ...

	Now	9/01*
Well	54%	71%
Badly	45	25
Don't know	1	4

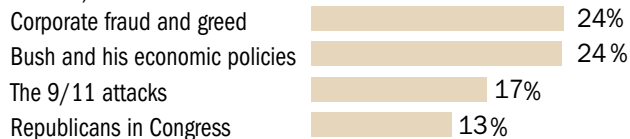
How the Poll Was Conducted

The Times Poll contacted 1,372 Americans nationwide, including 1,163 registered voters, by telephone Aug. 22-25. 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 and for registered voters 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.

■ Those who said the economy is doing badly were asked: "Who or what should get the blame for the country's economic problems?" (Accepted up to two replies; top four responses shown.)



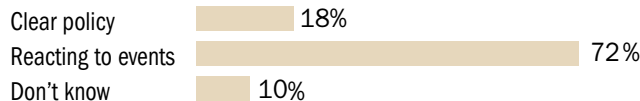
■ Do you think we are in an economic recession or not?

	Now	2/02	9/01*
No recession	36%	15%	41%
Recession (Total)	59	81	51
Mild recession	25	29	23
Moderate recession	23	34	19
Serious recession	11	18	9
Don't know	5	4	8

■ How would you describe the state of your own personal finances these days?

	Now	2/02	9/01*
Secure	65%	77%	76%
Shaky	34	22	22
Don't know	1	1	2

■ Do you think President Bush and his administration have formulated a clear policy for dealing with the country's economic problems or do you think they are reacting to events as they happen?



*The 9/01 poll was conducted Sept. 13-14, 2001.

Note: Numbers may not total 100% where more than one response was accepted or some answer categories are not shown.