

IRAQ WAR

Americans, Britons Continue to Oppose Iraq War

Less than a third of respondents in the two countries are confident that a withdrawal of all U.S. forces will be achieved by the end of 2011.

[LONDON – Jun. 10, 2010] – A large proportion of people in the United States and Britain continue to voice opposition to the conflict in Iraq and less than one third express confidence that the timetable for the end of the conflict will be met, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of representative national samples of 2,003 British adults and 1,007 American adults, three-in-five Britons (61%, -7) and more than half of Americans (55%, -3) say they currently oppose the war in Iraq.

Two-in-five Americans (44%, -4) believe the U.S. government made a mistake in launching military action against Iraq in 2003. This view is shared by 57 per cent of Britons (-5).

On both of these indicators, there is a fluctuation towards support for the war and the notion that it was the right decision.

The Future

A security agreement signed between the United States and Iraq calls for the withdrawal of all U.S. forces from Iraq by the end of 2011. Only 28 per cent of Americans (-3)—and 30 per cent of Britons (+9)—are "very confident" or "moderately confident" that the timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops will be met.

KEY FINDINGS

- **61% of Britons and 55% of Americans oppose the war in Iraq**
- **30% of Britons and 28% of Americans are confident that U.S. troops will withdraw from Iraq by the end of 2011**
- **56% of Britons and 70% of Americans think removing Saddam Hussein from power was the right thing to do**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

From May 25 to May 26, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,007 randomly selected American adults who are Springboard America panelists. From June 4 to June 7, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 2,003 randomly selected British adults who are Springboard UK panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/-2.2% in Britain and +/-3.1% in the U.S. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Great Britain and the United States. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

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In this survey, fewer Americans believe that the timetable established by the Obama Administration will be met, while significantly more Britons expect the withdrawal to happen by the end of 2011.

The public is almost evenly divided on whether the war will be seen as a defeat for the U.S. and its allies (19% in Britain, 17% in the U.S.) or as a victory (17% in Britain, 18% in the U.S.). The vast majority of respondents are undecided, or think the verdict of history will be ambiguous.

Tony Blair

As was the case back in February, a majority of respondents in Britain (56%) and the United States (70%) continue to side with former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who claimed earlier this year that removing Saddam Hussein from power was the right thing to do, even if his regime did not possess weapons of mass destruction.

The results of the previous two-country survey on the Iraq War can be found here:

http://www.visioncritical.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/2010.02.08_IraqWar.pdf

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Iraq War

Now, we'd like to ask you some questions about the war in Iraq. Which of the following statements best describes how you felt about the war in Iraq when it first began, in March 2003?

	GREAT BRITAIN 	UNITED STATES 
I strongly supported the war in Iraq	11%	24%
I moderately supported the war in Iraq	26%	22%
I moderately opposed the war in Iraq	21%	17%
I strongly opposed the war in Iraq	32%	31%
Not sure	10%	7%
Supported the war – Net	37%	46%
Opposed the war – Net	53%	47%

Iraq War

And at this moment, do you support or oppose the war in Iraq?



	GREAT BRITAIN 	UNITED STATES 
Strongly support	8%	14%
Moderately support	21%	24%
Moderately oppose	24%	21%
Strongly oppose	37%	34%
Not sure	9%	7%
Support – Net	29%	38%
Oppose – Net	61%	55%

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Iraq War		
Do you think the U.S. government made the right decision, or made a mistake, in launching military action against Iraq in 2003?		
	GREAT BRITAIN 	UNITED STATES 
Made the right decision	24%	36%
Made a mistake	57%	44%
Not sure	19%	20%

Iraq War		
A security agreement signed between the United States and Iraq calls for the withdrawal of all U.S. forces from Iraq by the end of 2011. Thinking about this, how confident are you that this timetable will be met?		
	GREAT BRITAIN 	UNITED STATES 
Very confident	5%	7%
Moderately confident	25%	21%
Not too confident	40%	42%
Not confident at all	19%	22%
Not sure	11%	7%

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Iraq War		
In 20 years, how do you expect the world to look back on the war in Iraq?		
	GREAT BRITAIN 	UNITED STATES 
As a defeat for the U.S. and its allies	19%	17%
As a victory for the U.S. and its allies	17%	18%
Neither	49%	47%
Not sure	15%	18%

Iraq War		
Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair has said that removing Saddam Hussein from power was the right thing to do, even if his regime did not possess weapons of mass destruction. Do you agree or disagree with Blair's statement?		
	GREAT BRITAIN 	UNITED STATES 
Strongly agree	22%	45%
Moderately agree	34%	26%
Moderately disagree	14%	8%
Strongly disagree	19%	7%
Not sure	11%	14%
Agree – Net	56%	70%
Disagree – Net	34%	16%

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Angus Reid Public Opinion is a practice of Vision Critical—a global research and technology company specializing in custom online panels, private communities, and innovative online methods. Vision Critical is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Public Opinion team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995

Vision Critical is now one of the largest market research enterprises in the world. In addition to its five offices in Canada—located in Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Toronto, and Montreal—the firm also has offices in San Francisco, Chicago, New York, London, Paris and Sydney. Its team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research, and currently serves over 200 international clients.

Angus Reid Public Opinion polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum (www.angusreidforum.com), Springboard America (www.springboardamerica.com) and Springboard UK (www.springboarduk.com) online panels, which are carefully recruited to ensure representation across all demographic and psychographic segments of these populations. Panel members pass through rigorous screening and a double opt-in process ensuring highly motivated and responsive members. These premier online survey platforms present respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses. Each survey is actively sampled and weighted to model that characteristics of the universe required and employs the latest in quality control techniques to ensure data validity.

Since 2006, Angus Reid has covered eight provincial elections in Canada—more than any other pollster in the country—and the results have accurately predicted the outcome of each of these democratic processes.

Angus Reid, the only public opinion firm to exclusively use online methods to follow the views of the electorate during the 2008 federal campaign, offered the most accurate prediction of the results of Canada's 40th election. More information on our electoral record can be found at:
<http://www.visioncritical.com/record-of-accuracy>

More information on the way Angus Reid conducts public opinion research can be found at
<http://www.visioncritical.com/what-we-do/practices/angus-reid-public-opinion/>

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**For more information, please contact
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

Copies of this poll are available on our website:
<http://www.visioncritical.com/category/global-opinions-and-trends>

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