
THE OHIO POLL*

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OHIO REGISTERED VOTERS DIVIDED ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM IRAQ; POLL REVEALS SHARP DIVIDE BETWEEN DEMOCRATS, REPUBLICANS

Cincinnati, OH--The latest Ohio Poll finds Ohio registered voters divided over how the U.S. should proceed in Iraq. The Poll also reveals sharp partisan divisions over the Iraq issue.

These findings are based on the latest Ohio Poll, conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. The Ohio Poll is sponsored by the University of Cincinnati. The Poll was conducted from October 19 through October 31, 2007.

The U.S. military effort in Iraq is likely to be one of the key issues candidates for president focus on in 2008. The latest Ohio Poll asked registered voters about their perceptions on a series of questions related to the military effort in Iraq, including the current state of the U.S. military effort, the initial decision to use military force, future U.S. action and the consequences of troop withdrawal. The Ohio Poll finds Ohio Democrats and Republicans sharply divided on these questions.

THE U.S. MILITARY EFFORT IN IRAQ

Registered voters were asked their perception of the current U.S. military effort in Iraq. Forty-six percent say the U.S. military effort in Iraq is going well (either "very well" or "fairly well"), while 53 percent say the U.S. military effort is not going well ("not too well" or "not at all well") and one percent don't know.

Democrats (75%) are far more likely than Republicans (30%) to say the U.S. military effort in Iraq is not going well.

When asked about the original decision to use military force against Iraq, 47 percent of registered voters say the U.S. made the right decision, while 51 percent say the U.S. made the wrong decision and three percent don't know.

Republicans (77%) are far more likely than Democrats (21%) to say the U.S. made the right decision in using military force against Iraq.

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FUTURE U.S. ACTION REGARDING IRAQ

Registered voters were also asked whether the U.S. should 1) keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized or 2) bring troops home as soon as possible.

Fifty percent of Ohio registered voters say the U.S. should “bring troops home as soon as possible,” while 48 percent say the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq “until the situation has stabilized” and two percent don’t know.

Republicans (76%) are far more likely than Democrats (22%) to say the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized.

In addition, men (60%) are far more likely than women (38%) to say the U.S. should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized.

Registered voters were then asked a series of questions about the potential consequences of a U.S. withdrawal from Iraq before civil order is fully restored:

- Fifty-four percent of Ohio registered voters say U.S. withdrawal from Iraq would make a full-scale civil war in Iraq more likely;
- Fifty-four percent say U.S. withdrawal from Iraq would make parts of Iraq becoming bases of operation for international terrorists more likely;
- Fifty-four percent say U.S. withdrawal from Iraq would make Iran taking control of parts of Iraq more likely;
- Twenty-three percent say U.S. withdrawal from Iraq would make stability in Iraq more likely; and
- Twenty-two percent say U.S. withdrawal from Iraq would make stability in the Middle East more likely.

When asked about each of these potential consequences of U.S. withdrawal from Iraq, Democrats are more likely than Republicans to see U.S. withdrawal as not making much difference as to whether any of these consequences occur.

Ohio Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the most recent Ohio Poll conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati from October 19 through October 31, 2007.

A random sample of 713 registered voters from throughout the state was interviewed by telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to plus or minus 3.7 percent.

In addition to sampling error, there are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects that can introduce error or bias.

Results reported for subgroups have the potential for somewhat larger variation than those for the entire population.

Reported percentages may not total to 100% due to rounding.

Respondents to the Ohio Poll were asked:

- “Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq?”
- “And, how well would you say the U.S. military effort in Iraq is going . . . very well, fairly well, not too well or not at all well?”
- “Do you think the United States should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the United States should bring its troops home as soon as possible?”
- “Suppose the U.S. withdraws from Iraq before civil order is fully restored. Do you think U.S. withdrawal would make each item I read more likely, make it less likely, or U.S. withdrawal will not make much difference in whether this happens?”
 - A full-scale civil war in Iraq
 - Parts of Iraq becoming bases of operation for international terrorists
 - Iran taking control of parts of Iraq
 - Stability in Iraq
 - Stability in the Middle East

**“(H)ow well would you say the U.S. military effort in Iraq is going . . . very well, fairly well, not too well or not at all well?”
(Registered Voters)**

	<u>October 2007</u>
Very well	12%
Fairly well	34
Not too well	32
Not at all well	21
Don't know	1
(N=)	(710)

**“Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq?”
(Registered Voters)**

	<u>October 2007</u>
Right decision	47%
Wrong decision	51
Don't know	3
(N=)	(702)

**“Do you think the United States should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the United States should bring its troops home as soon as possible?”
(Registered Voters)**

	<u>October 2007</u>
Until the situation has stabilized	48%
Bring troops home as soon as possible	50
Don't know	2
(N=)	(707)

**“Suppose the U.S. withdraws from Iraq before civil order is fully restored.
Do you think U.S. withdrawal would make each item I read more likely,
make it less likely, or U.S. withdrawal will not make
much difference in whether this happens?”
(Registered Voters)**

	<u>More Likely</u>	<u>Less Likely</u>	<u>Not Make Much Difference</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
A full-scale civil war in Iraq	54%	8%	36%	2%
Parts of Iraq becoming bases of operation for international terrorists	54	7	37	1
Iran taking control of parts of Iraq	54	10	33	3
Stability in Iraq	23	41	35	1
Stability in the Middle East	22	30	46	2

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Question 23: Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force against Iraq?

		RIGHT DECISION	WRONG DECISION	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Registered Voters		47%	51%	3%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29	49%	51%	
	30 to 45	52%	48%	
	46 to 64	50%	47%	3%
	65 and over	34%	59%	7%
Race	African-American*	8%	89%	2%
	White	51%	46%	3%
Sex	Male	53%	45%	2%
	Female	41%	56%	3%
Education	Less than high school*	48%	51%	1%
	High school graduate	45%	50%	4%
	Some college	50%	49%	1%
	College graduate	46%	52%	2%
Religious Preference	Protestant	47%	50%	3%
	Catholic	49%	47%	4%
	White Evangelical Protestant	59%	37%	4%
Union Membership	Union household	49%	50%	1%
	Non-union household	45%	52%	3%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	44%	52%	3%
	Northwest Ohio	54%	43%	3%
	Central Ohio	47%	52%	1%
	Southeast Ohio*	32%	66%	2%
	Southwest Ohio	49%	49%	2%
Iraq Troop Withdrawal	When Situation Has Stabilized	73%	24%	3%
	Troops Home as Soon as Possible	22%	76%	2%
Ideology	Liberal	24%	74%	2%
	Moderate	42%	57%	2%
	Conservative	66%	29%	5%
Party Identification	Democrat	21%	76%	3%
	Independent*	45%	53%	1%
	Republican	77%	21%	2%

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*Note: Number of respondents is 75 or less. Additional caution should be taken when interpreting the findings of this subgroup because of the potential for larger variation.

Ohio Poll #110

Question 24: And, how well would you say the U.S. MILITARY EFFORT IN IRAQ is going . . . very well, fairly well, not too well, or not at all well?

		VERY WELL	FAIRLY WELL	NOT TOO WELL	NOT AT ALL WELL	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Registered Voters		12%	34%	32%	21%	1%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29	10%	31%	29%	29%	1%
	30 to 45	14%	35%	31%	20%	1%
	46 to 64	11%	32%	36%	20%	1%
	65 and over	13%	37%	31%	16%	2%
Race	African-American*	2%	12%	35%	51%	
	White	13%	37%	32%	17%	1%
Sex	Male	13%	35%	29%	23%	0%
	Female	11%	33%	35%	19%	2%
Education	Less than high school*	18%	36%	10%	33%	3%
	High school graduate	12%	38%	30%	20%	1%
	Some college	11%	30%	38%	20%	1%
	College graduate	11%	34%	34%	20%	1%
Religious Preference	Protestant	13%	36%	33%	18%	1%
	Catholic	13%	35%	33%	18%	1%
	White Evangelical Protestant	21%	48%	28%	3%	0%
Union Membership	Union household	13%	37%	26%	22%	2%
	Non-union household	11%	33%	35%	21%	1%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	10%	33%	35%	21%	1%
	Northwest Ohio	16%	35%	34%	13%	2%
	Central Ohio	14%	27%	31%	27%	1%
	Southeast Ohio*	5%	35%	30%	27%	3%
	Southwest Ohio	13%	39%	29%	19%	0%
Iraq Troop Withdrawal	When Situation Has Stabilized	18%	46%	28%	7%	1%
	Troops Home as Soon as Possible	6%	22%	36%	35%	1%
Ideology	Liberal	10%	15%	33%	40%	1%
	Moderate	6%	31%	40%	22%	1%
	Conservative	20%	48%	22%	10%	0%
Party Identification	Democrat	7%	17%	39%	36%	1%
	Independent*	14%	39%	31%	16%	1%
	Republican	17%	51%	26%	4%	2%

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Question 25: Do you think the United States should keep military troops in Iraq until the situation has stabilized, or do you think the United States should bring its troops home as soon as possible?

		UNTIL THE SITUATION HAS STABILIZED	BRING TROOPS HOME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Registered Voters		48%	50%	2%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29	38%	62%	
	30 to 45	49%	49%	2%
	46 to 64	55%	44%	1%
	65 and over	45%	50%	5%
Race	African-American*	11%	89%	
	White	53%	45%	2%
Sex	Male	60%	38%	2%
	Female	38%	60%	2%
Education	Less than high school*	32%	67%	1%
	High school graduate	44%	54%	1%
	Some college	51%	47%	3%
	College graduate	53%	45%	2%
Religious Preference	Protestant	50%	48%	2%
	Catholic	49%	50%	2%
	White Evangelical Protestant	61%	36%	3%
Union Membership	Union household	47%	52%	0%
	Non-union household	48%	50%	2%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	46%	52%	2%
	Northwest Ohio	58%	42%	0%
	Central Ohio	46%	53%	1%
	Southeast Ohio*	41%	54%	4%
	Southwest Ohio	51%	47%	2%
Ideology	Liberal	24%	73%	3%
	Moderate	41%	58%	1%
	Conservative	74%	24%	2%
Party Identification	Democrat	22%	76%	2%
	Independent*	58%	42%	
	Republican	76%	22%	2%

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Ohio Poll #110

Question 26a: Suppose the US WITHDRAWS FROM IRAQ BEFORE CIVIL ORDER IS FULLY RESTORED. Do you think US withdrawal would make each item I read more likely, make it less likely, or US withdrawal will not make much difference in whether this happens? What about a full-scale civil war in Iraq . . . do you think US withdrawal would make that more likely, less likely, or not make much difference in whether this happens?

		More Likely	Less Likely	Not Make Much Difference	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Registered Voters		54%	8%	36%	2%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29	52%	13%	34%	1%
	30 to 45	54%	8%	37%	1%
	46 to 64	60%	5%	34%	1%
	65 and over	49%	10%	37%	3%
Race	African-American*	39%	9%	52%	
	White	55%	8%	35%	2%
Sex	Male	58%	9%	32%	1%
	Female	51%	7%	39%	2%
Education	Less than high school*	61%	9%	29%	1%
	High school graduate	50%	9%	38%	2%
	Some college	53%	11%	34%	2%
	College graduate	58%	5%	36%	1%
Religious Preference	Protestant	56%	9%	32%	3%
	Catholic	61%	8%	30%	0%
	White Evangelical Protestant	64%	8%	24%	5%
Union Membership	Union household	52%	6%	42%	
	Non-union household	54%	9%	35%	2%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	49%	10%	40%	1%
	Northwest Ohio	60%	7%	25%	7%
	Central Ohio	60%	3%	36%	
	Southeast Ohio*	45%	10%	41%	4%
	Southwest Ohio	58%	7%	33%	1%
Iraq Troop Withdrawal	When Situation Has Stabilized	76%	5%	17%	2%
	Troops Home as Soon as Possible	32%	11%	54%	2%
Ideology	Liberal	34%	16%	47%	2%
	Moderate	53%	6%	40%	1%
	Conservative	69%	6%	23%	2%
Party Identification	Democrat	40%	10%	49%	1%
	Independent*	54%	10%	30%	5%
	Republican	72%	5%	22%	1%

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Question 26b: What about parts of Iraq becoming bases of operation for international terrorists . . . do you think US withdrawal would make that more likely, less likely, or not make much difference in whether this happens?

		More Likely	Less Likely	Not Make Much Difference	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Registered Voters		54%	7%	37%	1%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29	55%	3%	41%	1%
	30 to 45	52%	6%	42%	
	46 to 64	59%	7%	34%	1%
	65 and over	54%	9%	30%	6%
Race	African-American*	36%	19%	45%	
	White	57%	6%	36%	1%
Sex	Male	60%	7%	32%	1%
	Female	49%	7%	42%	2%
Education	Less than high school*	65%	17%	17%	1%
	High school graduate	51%	9%	37%	3%
	Some college	57%	5%	37%	1%
	College graduate	54%	6%	40%	0%
Religious Preference	Protestant	56%	7%	36%	2%
	Catholic	57%	4%	37%	1%
	White Evangelical Protestant	70%	8%	21%	1%
Union Membership	Union household	53%	8%	37%	2%
	Non-union household	54%	7%	38%	1%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	50%	7%	42%	1%
	Northwest Ohio	65%	6%	27%	2%
	Central Ohio	54%	6%	40%	
	Southeast Ohio*	49%	20%	23%	8%
	Southwest Ohio	58%	5%	36%	1%
Iraq Troop Withdrawal	When Situation Has Stabilized	80%	3%	17%	1%
	Troops Home as Soon as Possible	30%	11%	58%	1%
Ideology	Liberal	28%	10%	61%	1%
	Moderate	49%	9%	41%	1%
	Conservative	78%	4%	18%	1%
Party Identification	Democrat	36%	9%	53%	1%
	Independent*	58%	9%	31%	2%
	Republican	75%	4%	20%	1%

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Question 26c: What about Iran taking control of parts of Iraq . . . do you think US withdrawal would make that more likely, less likely, or not make much difference in whether this happens?

		More Likely	Less Likely	Not Make Much Difference	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Registered Voters		54%	10%	33%	3%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29	44%	20%	32%	5%
	30 to 45	57%	5%	34%	4%
	46 to 64	60%	9%	30%	1%
	65 and over	48%	12%	35%	5%
Race	African-American*	19%	29%	46%	6%
	White	59%	7%	31%	3%
Sex	Male	60%	13%	24%	2%
	Female	49%	7%	40%	4%
Education	Less than high school*	42%	25%	31%	3%
	High school graduate	52%	12%	32%	5%
	Some college	57%	8%	33%	3%
	College graduate	56%	7%	34%	3%
Religious Preference	Protestant	56%	9%	32%	2%
	Catholic	60%	6%	31%	2%
	White Evangelical Protestant	69%	5%	22%	3%
Union Membership	Union household	53%	10%	36%	0%
	Non-union household	54%	10%	33%	4%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	51%	10%	38%	1%
	Northwest Ohio	63%	9%	25%	3%
	Central Ohio	56%	12%	28%	4%
	Southeast Ohio*	41%	13%	30%	17%
	Southwest Ohio	57%	8%	31%	4%
Iraq Troop Withdrawal	When Situation Has Stabilized	77%	8%	14%	1%
	Troops Home as Soon as Possible	31%	12%	52%	5%
Ideology	Liberal	42%	9%	46%	3%
	Moderate	45%	12%	39%	4%
	Conservative	75%	6%	16%	2%
Party Identification	Democrat	36%	15%	45%	3%
	Independent*	66%	5%	25%	4%
	Republican	72%	5%	21%	2%

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Question 26d: What about stability in Iraq . . . do you think US withdrawal would make that more likely, less likely, or not make much difference in whether this happens?

		More Likely	Less Likely	Not Make Much Difference	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Registered Voters		23%	41%	35%	1%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29	27%	24%	48%	1%
	30 to 45	17%	51%	32%	0%
	46 to 64	24%	44%	32%	
	65 and over	29%	29%	39%	3%
Race	African-American	12%	34%	54%	
	White	25%	41%	33%	1%
Sex	Male	26%	45%	29%	
	Female	20%	37%	41%	2%
Education	Less than high school	17%	21%	59%	3%
	High school graduate	26%	33%	40%	1%
	Some college	28%	40%	31%	1%
	College graduate	17%	51%	32%	0%
Religious Preference	Protestant	25%	37%	37%	1%
	Catholic	18%	51%	30%	1%
	White Evangelical Protestant	29%	42%	28%	1%
Union Membership	Union household	28%	34%	38%	
	Non-union household	22%	42%	34%	1%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	21%	39%	38%	2%
	Northwest Ohio	26%	45%	29%	1%
	Central Ohio	15%	44%	40%	1%
	Southeast Ohio	30%	40%	30%	
	Southwest Ohio	27%	41%	31%	0%
Iraq Troop Withdrawal	When Situation Has Stabilized	30%	56%	14%	1%
	Troops Home as Soon as Possible	16%	26%	56%	1%
Ideology	Liberal	21%	34%	44%	1%
	Moderate	18%	39%	41%	1%
	Conservative	32%	48%	20%	0%
Party Identification	Democrat	15%	31%	53%	1%
	Independent	39%	32%	27%	2%
	Republican	30%	54%	17%	0%

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Question 26e: What about stability in the Middle East . . . do you think US withdrawal would make that more likely, less likely, or not make much difference in whether this happens?

		More Likely	Less Likely	Not Make Much Difference	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Registered Voters		22%	30%	46%	2%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29	9%	32%	58%	1%
	30 to 45	18%	37%	45%	0%
	46 to 64	26%	31%	42%	1%
	65 and over	29%	21%	45%	5%
Race	African-American*	12%	19%	69%	1%
	White	22%	32%	43%	2%
Sex	Male	22%	37%	40%	1%
	Female	22%	25%	51%	3%
Education	Less than high school*	17%	41%	39%	3%
	High school graduate	25%	29%	44%	2%
	Some college	18%	30%	49%	3%
	College graduate	22%	31%	47%	
Religious Preference	Protestant	23%	32%	43%	2%
	Catholic	23%	34%	43%	0%
	White Evangelical Protestant	31%	31%	36%	2%
Union Membership	Union household	19%	22%	58%	1%
	Non-union household	22%	32%	44%	2%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	19%	29%	50%	1%
	Northwest Ohio	24%	43%	31%	2%
	Central Ohio	21%	32%	46%	1%
	Southeast Ohio*	40%	12%	41%	7%
	Southwest Ohio	21%	31%	47%	1%
Iraq Troop Withdrawal	When Situation Has Stabilized	29%	43%	27%	1%
	Troops Home as Soon as Possible	15%	19%	64%	2%
Ideology	Liberal	19%	27%	50%	4%
	Moderate	17%	27%	54%	1%
	Conservative	29%	39%	31%	1%
Party Identification	Democrat	16%	20%	61%	3%
	Independent*	12%	41%	46%	0%
	Republican	32%	40%	27%	0%

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