

## Allowing younger workers to invest a portion of their Social Security taxes in private retirement accounts

	----- December 2004 -----			----- February 2005 -----			<i>Change in Favor</i>
	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Total</b>	54	30	16=100	46	38	16=100	-8
<b>Sex</b>							
Male	58	31	11	51	35	14	-7
Female	50	30	20	42	41	17	-8
<b>Race</b>							
White	54	30	16	46	38	16	-8
Non-white	52	32	16	46	40	14	-6
Black	50	37	13	36	49	15	-14
Hispanic*	66	23	11	48	34	18	-18
<b>Race and Sex</b>							
White Men	59	31	10	50	35	15	-9
White Women	50	29	21	42	40	18	-8
<b>Age</b>							
Under 30	64	24	12	66	19	15	+2
30-49	56	27	17	49	35	16	-7
50-64	51	36	13	41	44	15	-11
65+	40	40	20	25	58	17	-15
<b>Sex and Age</b>							
Men under 50	61	27	12	57	28	15	-4
Women under 50	56	25	19	52	33	15	-4
Men 50+	53	39	8	41	47	12	-12
Women 50+	40	37	23	29	52	19	-11
<b>Education</b>							
College Grad.	58	30	12	50	38	12	-8
Some College	58	27	15	51	34	15	-7
H.S. Grad.	49	32	19	44	40	16	-5
< H.S. Grad.	50	32	18	35	39	26	-15
<b>Family Income</b>							
\$75,000+	60	29	11	56	33	11	-4
\$50,000-\$74,999	60	28	12	51	31	18	-9
\$30,000-\$49,999	56	28	16	47	39	14	-9
\$20,000-\$29,999	52	31	17	46	41	13	-6
<\$20,000	47	34	19	38	46	16	-9

\* The designation Hispanic is unrelated to the white-black categorization.

Question: Generally, do you favor or oppose this proposal?

*Continued on next page...*

	----- December 2004 -----			----- February 2005 -----			<i>Change in Favor</i>
	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	
<b>Total</b>	54	30	16=100	46	38	16=100	-8
<b>Region</b>							
East	55	32	13	44	42	14	-11
Midwest	53	30	17	42	41	17	-11
South	55	30	15	49	34	17	-6
West	52	30	18	48	37	15	-4
<b>Religious Affiliation</b>							
Total White Protestant	55	29	16	50	34	16	-5
- Evangelical	57	28	15	55	29	16	-2
- Non-Evangelical	53	30	17	44	39	17	-9
White Catholic	54	31	15	43	42	15	-11
Secular	46	35	19	47	42	11	+1
<b>Party ID</b>							
Republican	71	14	15	68	16	16	-3
Democrat	43	43	14	29	57	14	-14
Independent	50	34	16	45	40	15	-5
<b>Party and Ideology</b>							
Conservative Republican	73	14	13	70	14	16	-3
Moderate/Liberal Rep.	68	16	16	67	22	11	-1
Conservative/Mod. Dem.	46	41	13	29	59	12	-17
Liberal Democrat	42	48	11	34	55	11	-8
<b>Use of Force in Iraq</b>							
Right Decision	67	19	14	66	19	15	-1
Wrong Decision	40	45	15	29	58	13	-11
<b>Marital Status</b>							
Married	56	28	16	48	36	16	-8
Unmarried	51	33	16	44	40	16	-7
<b>Presidential Approval</b>							
Approve	67	18	15	65	19	16	-2
Disapprove	41	44	15	30	58	12	-11
<b>Retired</b>							
Yes	--	--	--	30	55	15	--
No	--	--	--	49	35	16	--
<b>Parental Status</b>							
Parent	59	25	16	54	31	15	-5
Non-Parent	51	33	16	42	42	16	-9
<b>Labor Union</b>							
Union Household	44	41	15	42	44	14	-2
Non-Union Household	55	29	16	47	37	16	-8

## Presidential Job Approval and Job Handling Social Security

	<i>Presidential Job Approval</i>			<i>Presidential Job Handling of Social Security</i>			(N) %
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
<b>Total</b>	46	47	7=100	29	55	16=100	(1502)
<b>Sex</b>							
Male	52	42	6	33	50	17	(708)
Female	40	53	7	25	59	16	(794)
<b>Race</b>							
White	52	42	6	32	51	17	(1237)
Non-white	22	70	8	15	72	13	(250)
Black	13	83	4	11	82	7	(156)
Hispanic*	43	51	6	28	60	12	(91)
<b>Race and Sex</b>							
White Men	56	38	6	36	46	18	(591)
White Women	47	46	7	30	55	15	(646)
<b>Age</b>							
Under 30	46	47	7	26	51	23	(212)
30-49	48	45	7	32	51	17	(553)
50-64	43	53	4	29	59	12	(422)
65+	44	48	8	26	62	12	(302)
<b>Sex and Age</b>							
Men under 50	51	41	8	32	49	19	(392)
Women under 50	42	51	7	28	53	19	(373)
Men 50+	52	45	3	35	52	13	(311)
Women 50+	38	55	7	22	67	11	(413)
<b>Education</b>							
College Grad.	48	48	4	34	50	16	(505)
Some College	50	44	6	31	52	17	(377)
H.S. Grad.	46	46	8	27	56	17	(491)
< H.S. Grad.	32	59	9	18	69	13	(126)
<b>Family Income</b>							
\$75,000+	54	42	4	37	49	14	(356)
\$50,000-\$74,999	54	42	4	36	48	16	(246)
\$30,000-\$49,999	43	50	7	26	56	18	(303)
\$20,000-\$29,999	46	45	9	27	53	20	(150)
<\$20,000	26	64	10	17	69	14	(237)

\* The designation Hispanic is unrelated to the white-black categorization.

Question: Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?  
Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling Social Security?

*Continued on next page...*

	<i>Presidential Job Approval</i>			<i>Presidential Job Handling of Social Security</i>			(N) %
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
<b>Total</b>	46	47	7=100	29	55	16=100	(1502)
<b>Region</b>							
East	39	54	7	25	58	17	(284)
Midwest	41	52	7	28	58	14	(386)
South	53	42	5	33	50	17	(539)
West	46	46	8	28	54	18	(293)
<b>Religious Affiliation</b>							
Total White Protestant	61	32	7	39	45	16	(676)
- Evangelical	69	26	5	46	40	14	(369)
- Non-Evangelical	52	39	9	31	50	19	(307)
White Catholic	46	50	4	29	55	16	(288)
Secular	31	59	10	21	59	20	(146)
<b>Party ID</b>							
Republican	86	10	4	60	20	20	(476)
Democrat	13	81	6	8	82	10	(482)
Independent	41	51	8	22	60	18	(440)
<b>Party and Ideology</b>							
Conservative Republican	93	6	1	68	16	16	(303)
Moderate/Liberal Rep.	78	17	5	48	29	23	(156)
Conservative/Mod. Dem.	16	76	8	9	82	9	(294)
Liberal Democrat	9	89	2	8	82	10	(158)
<b>Use of Force in Iraq</b>							
Right Decision	79	15	6	50	28	22	(721)
Wrong Decision	14	81	5	9	82	9	(697)
<b>Marital Status</b>							
Married	53	42	5	36	48	16	(849)
Unmarried	37	54	9	21	62	17	(643)
<b>Presidential Approval</b>							
Approve	100	0	0	55	24	21	(712)
Disapprove	0	100	0	6	86	8	(698)
<b>Retired</b>							
Yes	46	46	8	26	62	12	(305)
No	46	48	6	30	53	17	(1197)
<b>Parental Status</b>							
Parent	52	43	5	32	49	19	(488)
Non-Parent	42	50	8	27	58	15	(1009)
<b>Labor Union</b>							
Union Household	38	56	6	20	67	13	(218)
Non-Union Household	47	46	7	31	52	17	(1268)

## Attitudes about Social Security by Age, Party and Income

	<u>Total</u> %	<u>Age (4-way)</u>				<u>Age (2-way)</u>		<u>Party Identification</u>			<u>Income</u>		
		18- <u>29</u> %	30- <u>49</u> %	50- <u>64</u> %	65+ <u>65+</u> %	Under <u>55</u> %	55+ <u>55+</u> %	<u>Rep</u> %	<u>Dem</u> %	<u>Ind</u> %	Under <u>\$30k</u> %	\$30- <u>\$75k</u> %	\$75k or <u>more</u> %
<b><i>Bush handling Social Security</i></b>													
Approve	29	26	32	29	26	29	28	60	8	22	21	30	37
Disapprove	55	51	51	59	62	53	59	20	82	60	63	53	49
Don't know	<u>16</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>Follow news about Soc. Sec.*</i></b>													
Very closely	32	14	28	41	49	25	48	30	39	27	29	33	36
Fairly closely	37	34	40	36	32	38	34	41	35	38	33	37	40
Not too closely	18	28	18	14	12	21	11	18	14	21	19	18	16
Not at all closely	13	24	14	8	6	16	6	11	12	14	18	12	8
Don't know	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>Heard about private account proposal</i></b>													
A lot	43	20	37	60	64	34	65	48	42	43	35	43	53
A little	25	32	42	31	26	39	26	35	35	35	32	37	38
Nothing at all	21	47	21	9	8	27	8	16	23	22	33	20	9
Don't know	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>View of private account proposal</i></b>													
Favor	46	66	49	41	25	52	33	68	29	45	41	48	56
Strongly	25	26	27	25	15	26	22	41	13	22	19	25	30
Could change mind	21	38	21	14	8	25	10	26	15	23	21	22	25
Oppose	38	19	35	44	58	31	53	16	57	40	44	36	33
Strongly	26	11	21	35	44	20	41	8	44	26	32	23	23
Could change mind	12	8	14	9	13	12	12	8	13	14	11	13	10
Don't know	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>Soc. Sec. will run short of money?</i></b>													
Agree	67	74	74	65	49	73	55	75	59	70	58	72	78
Disagree	26	23	20	28	38	22	35	19	33	25	33	23	18
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>When are Soc. Sec. changes needed?</i></b>													
Right away	41	44	48	37	29	46	31	43	44	38	45	42	41
Next few years	32	36	31	32	28	32	31	35	25	37	28	34	34
Next decade	16	14	14	19	18	15	18	17	16	16	12	16	21
Further in future	9	5	5	10	19	5	16	4	13	7	13	6	3
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Number of cases	1,502	212	553	422	302	931	558	476	482	440	387	549	356

\* Based on responses to Q5b and Q5e.

## Attitudes about Social Security by Age, Party and Income

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Age (4-way)</u>				<u>Age (2-way)</u>		<u>Party Identification</u>			<u>Income</u>		
		18- <u>29</u>	30- <u>49</u>	50- <u>64</u>	65+ <u>65+</u>	Under <u>55</u>	<u>55+</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	Under <u>\$30k</u>	\$30- <u>\$75k</u>	\$75k or <u>more</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
<b><i>Collect SS taxes on all wages rather than just first \$90,000</i></b>													
Favor	60	58	62	62	58	60	62	61	61	60	60	65	63
Oppose	33	39	33	32	25	35	26	33	31	35	32	31	33
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>Limit benefits for wealthy retirees</i></b>													
Favor	58	50	63	61	51	59	55	54	63	61	54	62	62
Oppose	36	46	33	35	32	37	34	42	30	35	38	33	35
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>Increase payroll taxes for all workers</i></b>													
Favor	38	43	33	37	47	36	44	35	44	36	43	38	38
Oppose	56	54	62	57	41	60	46	60	51	58	50	58	59
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>Reduce rate of benefit growth for cost of living</i></b>													
Favor	30	39	30	26	27	32	26	34	28	29	32	31	30
Oppose	64	57	65	69	64	63	67	60	68	66	62	64	68
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>Raise retirement age</i></b>													
Favor	25	23	22	23	40	23	33	33	20	25	24	24	32
Oppose	72	75	77	75	53	76	62	65	78	72	73	75	67
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>If private accounts are introduced, would you personally...</i></b>													
Invest in stocks or mutual funds	45	60	55	36	14	55	21	59	33	45	32	51	59
Stay within the current system	49	36	40	57	77	40	70	34	62	50	60	44	39
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b><i>Discuss Soc. Sec. with friends and family</i></b>													
Frequently	24	14	21	31	29	20	31	21	28	22	24	24	22
Occasionally	37	31	41	40	33	38	36	38	40	34	34	38	42
hardly ever	28	38	28	19	27	30	23	31	22	32	29	27	31
Never	11	17	10	10	10	12	10	10	10	12	13	11	5
Don't know	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Number of cases	1,502	212	553	422	302	931	558	476	482	440	387	549	356

## Attitudes about Social Security by Age, Party and Income

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Age (4-way)</u>				<u>Age (2-way)</u>		<u>Party Identification</u>			<u>Income</u>		
		18- <u>29</u>	30- <u>49</u>	50- <u>64</u>	65+ <u>    </u>	Under <u>55</u>	55+ <u>    </u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	Under <u>\$30k</u>	\$30- <u>\$75k</u>	\$75k or <u>more</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
<b>Mostly trust or mostly distrust what _____ has to say about Social Security</b>													
<b>George W. Bush</b>													
Mostly trust	42	39	46	40	38	43	40	82	14	34	29	46	50
Mostly distrust	52	54	48	56	55	52	54	12	83	61	63	49	45
Neither/DK	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b>The AARP</b>													
Mostly trust	53	43	55	60	52	52	56	46	63	52	48	57	60
Mostly distrust	23	19	22	24	24	22	24	31	15	23	22	20	24
Neither/DK	<u>24</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>16</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b>Republican leaders in Congress</b>													
Mostly trust	35	42	33	31	34	35	34	68	12	27	30	37	38
Mostly distrust	53	50	54	58	48	54	52	20	78	61	56	54	52
Neither/DK	<u>12</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b>Democratic leaders in Congress</b>													
Mostly trust	41	50	41	36	39	43	37	17	71	38	47	43	38
Mostly distrust	46	41	48	53	38	46	46	73	18	48	37	47	54
Neither/DK	<u>13</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b>Alan Greenspan *</b>													
Mostly trust	49	36	54	55	46	48	52	65	38	47	22	56	69
Mostly distrust	20	22	20	18	23	20	20	13	24	24	28	19	14
Neither/DK	<u>31</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>17</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Number of cases	1,502	212	553	422	302	931	558	476	482	440	387	549	356
Greenspan cases *	977	140	383	280	164	640	327	307	317	286	233	361	245

\* Asked February 18-21 only.