

## Bush reaches new approval low in poll

by UPI

WASHINGTON - The majority of U.S. residents are unhappy with U.S. President George Bush, Congress, the war in Iraq and the economy, a USA Today/Gallup Poll said Tuesday.

In a telephone poll of 1,014 adults, the president's approval rating overall fell to a low of just 29 percent and 55 percent said Congress should be acting to get troops out of Iraq, the newspaper said.

Bush's support is also slipping among Republicans, as most recently 68 percent approve of him, down from an average 92 percent in his first term, 82 percent earlier in his second.

However, White House spokesman Tony Fratto dismissed the findings.

"We really don't pay much attention to polls," he told the newspaper. "I know they're fun, self-generating news hooks but we don't make policy decisions based on which way the wind is blowing."

Some 60 percent of respondents said the economy is worse than it was five years ago, and the same number predict conditions are getting worse.

The poll had a 3 percent margin of error.

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