

The Gallup Poll

# Opinion Shifts To Nixon on Tenure

By George Gallup

PRINCETON, N.J.—Public opinion has shifted slightly in favor of President Nixon on the issue of resignation, with 49 per cent against his resigning compared to 42 per cent in favor. An early-January survey showed opinion evenly divided, 46 to 46 per cent.

On the question of impeachment, the current vote is 51 to 38 per cent opposed. These findings, based on a survey conducted the week-end following Mr. Nixon's State of the Union message Jan. 30, closely match those recorded in an early-January survey. That poll showed a 53 to 37 per cent division of opinion.

Here is the first question asked:

*Do you think President Nixon should resign from the presidency, or not?*

	Early Feb.	Early Jan.
Yes, should	42%	46%
No, should not	49	46
No opinion	9	8

Following is the question asked to determine attitudes on impeachment:

*Do you think President Nixon should be impeached and compelled to leave the presidency, or not?*

	Yes	No	No Opinion
Feb. 1-4	38%	51%	11%
Jan. 4-7	37	53	10
Nov. 30-Dec. 3	35	54	11
Nov. 2-5	37	54	9
Oct. 19-22	33	52	15
Aug. 3-6	26	61	13
July 6-9	24	62	14
June 22-25	19	69	12

This is the question asked to measure attitudes on Mr. Nixon's involvement in Watergate:

*Here are four statements concerning President Nixon's connection with the Watergate affair. Will you tell me which one comes closest to your own point of view? (A) Nixon planned the Watergate bugging from the beginning. (B) Nixon did not plan the bugging but knew about it before it took place. (C) Nixon found out about the bugging after it occurred, but tried to cover it up. (D) Nixon had no knowledge of the bugging and spoke up as soon as he learned about it.*

Here is the trend:

	Plan'd About	Knew Up	Cover	No knowl- ledge	No Opin.
Feb. 1-4, '74	9%	28%	34%	17%	12%
'73	10	32	34	14	9
Nov. 2-5, Sept. 7-10	11	28	33	18	10
Aug. 17-20	9	24	40	23	4
Aug. 3-6	8	29	37	15	11
July 6-9	9	30	34	15	12
June 22-25	8	27	36	17	12
June 1-4	8	28	31	19	14

The findings reported today are based on a national survey of 1,591 adults, 18 and older, interviewed in person in more than 300 scientifically selected localities during the period Feb. 1-4.

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