

RATING OUR VICE PRESIDENTS

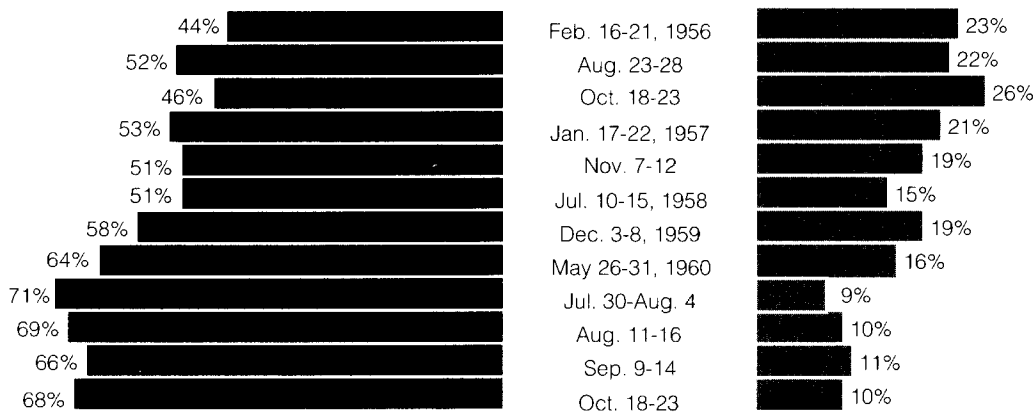
The paucity of ratings of vice presidents—contrasted with the wealth of data on presidents—makes comparisons of them difficult. Pulling together what data are available, the following five pages offer a basis for analyzing our vice presidents.

Question: Here's an interesting experiment. You notice that the ten boxes on the card go from the highest position of plus five—or something you like very much—all the way to the lowest position of minus five—or something you dislike very much. Please tell me how far up the scale or how far down the scale you would rate ...

■ Favorable
(+2+3+4+5)

■ Unfavorable
(-2-3-4-5)

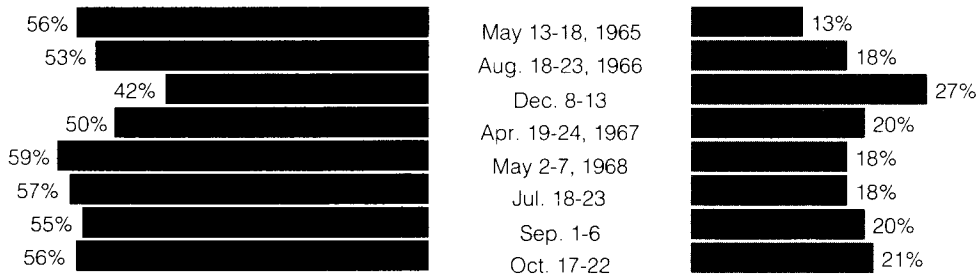
Richard Nixon as Vice President (Jan. 20, 1953-Jan. 20, 1961)



Lyndon Johnson (Jan. 20, 1961-Nov. 22, 1963)

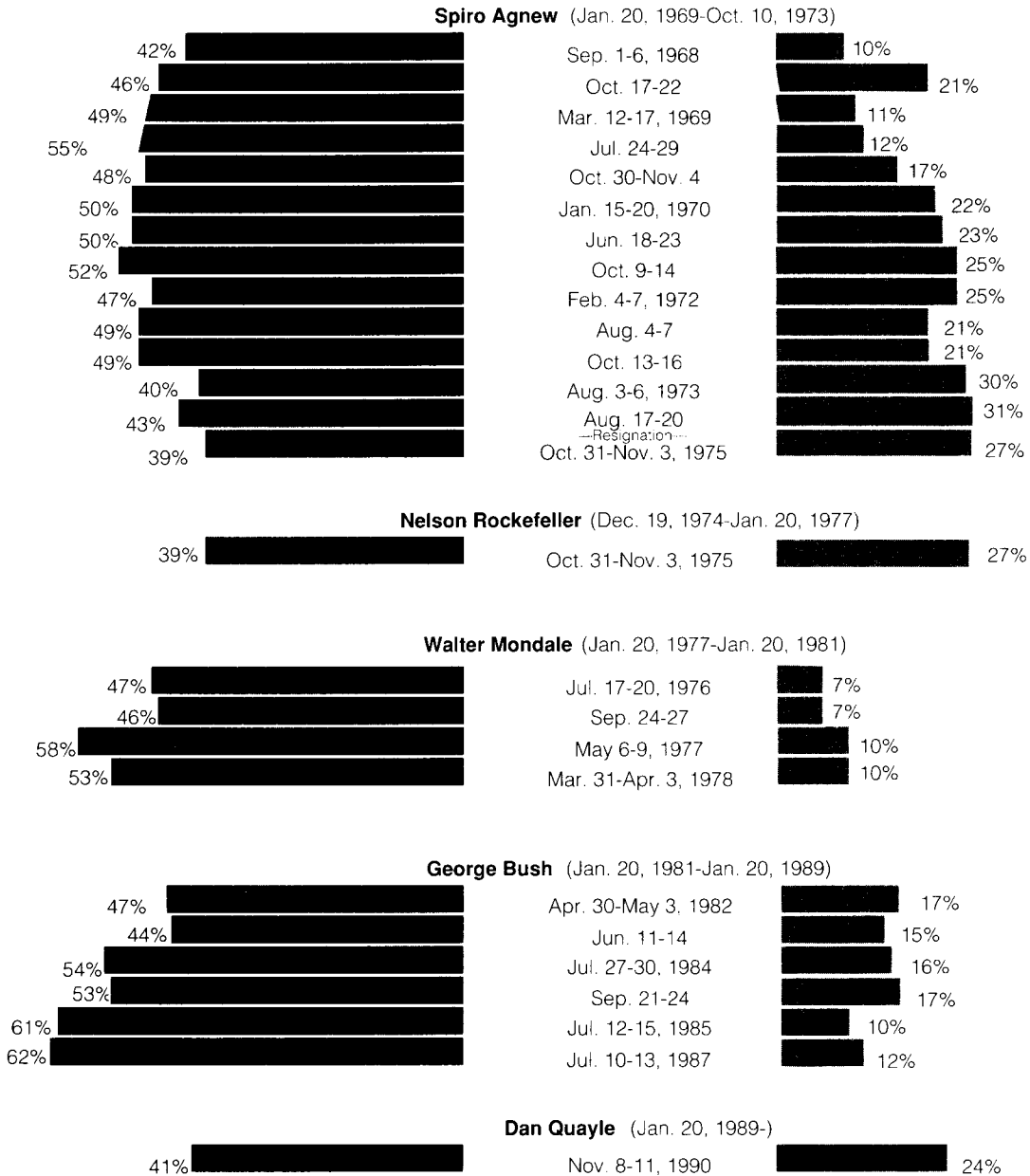


Hubert Humphrey (Jan. 20, 1965-Jan. 20, 1969)



Source: Surveys by the Gallup Organization.

Two vice presidents turned president—Nixon and Bush—garnered some of the highest ratings, particularly toward the end of their respective terms as vice president.

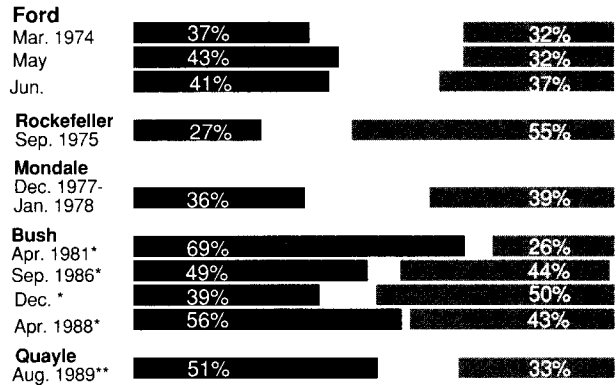
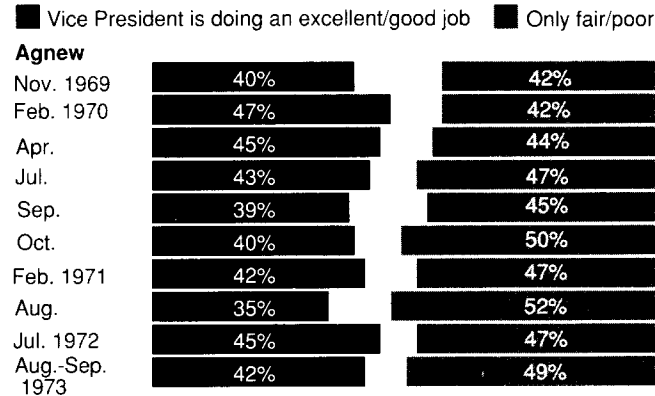


Source: Surveys by the Gallup Organization.

Quayle and His Predecessors

Well into the third year of his term as vice president, Dan Quayle curries less public favor than his predecessor did during a roughly comparable time period.

Question: **How would you rate the job Vice President... is doing as Vice President—excellent, pretty good, only fair, or poor? (Harris) What kind of job do you think George Bush is doing as Vice President? (NBC/WJSJ) Considering everything, how would you rate the job that Dan Quayle is doing as Vice President? (ABC/WP)**



Note: * = NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll. ** = ABC News/Washington Post poll. Question wording for Mondale: "Now let me ask you about the job the key people in President Carter's Administration have done over the last year. How would you rate the job done by Vice President Walter Mondale?" (Harris)
Source: Surveys by Louis Harris and Associates, NBC News/Wall Street Journal, and ABC News/Washington Post, latest that of August 4-8, 1989.

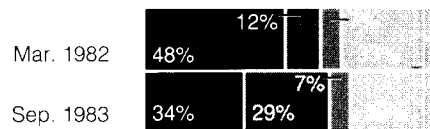
Question: **I'm going to name some people and ask what you think of them. If you haven't heard much about someone I name, just tell me. Do you have a favorable or not favorable opinion about George Bush, or don't you know enough about him to have an opinion?**

Question: **Is your opinion of Dan Quayle favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Dan Quayle yet to have an opinion?**

Opinion of George Bush as vice president

	Fav.	Not Fav.	Undec.	Dk enough
Mar 11-15, 1982	48%	12%	7%	33%
Sep 24-28, 1983	34	29	7	30
Jan. 14-21, 1984*	28	24	32	16
Jun. 23-28*	33	13	21	33
Aug. 5-9*	37	15	20	27
Nov. 2-4*	47	26	16	11
Jan. 19-23, 1986	30	16	25	29
Nov. 30	29	17	20	33
Dec. 7-8	29	15	22	34
Jan. 18-21, 1987	43	23	26	8
Feb. 28-Mar. 1	32	19	23	25
Apr. 5-8	28	31	27	13
May 5-6	36	29	28	6
May 18-21	29	25	28	18
Jul. 21-22	34	32	26	7
Oct. 18-22	44	23	27	5
Nov. 20-24*	38	27	29	6
Mar. 19-22, 1988*	34	35	23	8
May 9-12*	33	35	21	10
Jul. 5-8*	26	31	26	15
Jul. 31-Aug. 3*	27	33	29	9
Aug. 19-21*	39	25	27	8
Sep. 8-11**	40	28	25	5
Sep. 21-23**	39	31	24	4
Oct. 1-3**	39	32	25	4
Oct. 8-10**	42	32	22	3
Oct. 13**	58	30	11	1
Oct. 21-24**	47	30	19	2
Oct. 29-31**	46	33	18	2
Nov. 2-4**	46	34	18	1
Nov. 10-16	50	23	17	7

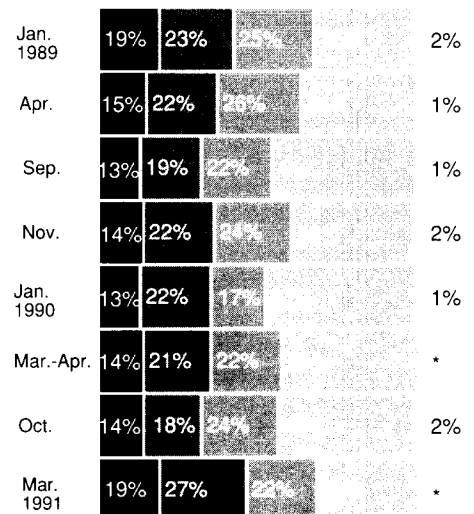
■ Favorable ■ Not favorable
■ Undecided ■ Don't know enough



George Bush and Dan Quayle at roughly comparable points in their vice presidencies

Opinion of Dan Quayle

■ Favorable ■ Not favorable ■ Undecided
■ Have not heard enough ■ Refused

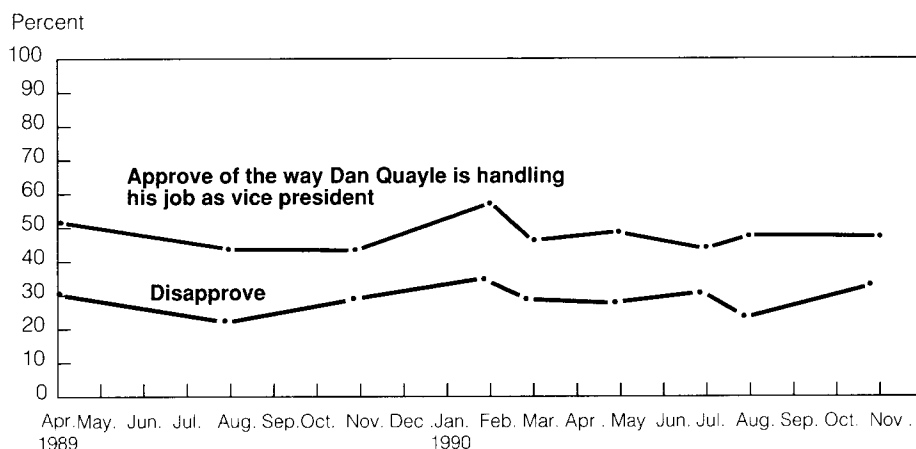


Note: In 1983-84 and 1987-88, respondents were asked about "possible presidential candidates" and "president candidates." *Sample = registered voters. ** = Likely voters. Surveys conducted August 19-21 and October 29-31 are CBS News surveys.
Source: Surveys by CBS News/New York Times.

Note: * = less 5%
Source: Surveys by CBS News/New York Times, latest that of March 4-6, 1991.

For most of his term, a plurality has approved of the way Dan Quayle is handling his job as vice president. Doubts about whether he is qualified to assume the presidency still hang over him.

Question: **Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dan Quayle is handling his job as vice president?**

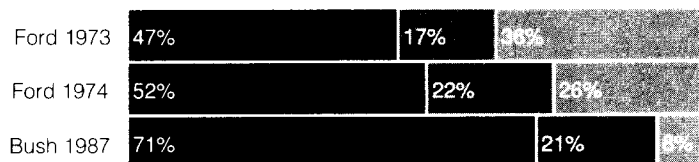


Handling of job as vice president	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
Mar.-Apr., 1989	52%	30%	18%
Aug.	43	22	34
Nov.	43	29	28
Feb. 1990	57	34	9
Mar.	46	27	27
May	48	27	25
Jul.	44	30	26
Aug.	47	23	30
Nov.	47	33	18

Source: Surveys by ABC News/Washington Post (Mar.-Aug., 1989) and the Gallup Organization, latest that of November 8-11, 1990.

Question: **If President Nixon were impeached and Congressman Ford were vice president, do you think Congressman Ford would be qualified to be president or not? If President Nixon were impeached and Gerald Ford were to become the president, do you feel Ford would be qualified to be president or not? (Harris) I'd like to read you the list of possible candidates for president in 1988. Regardless of who you support, please tell me if you think each person is basically qualified or not qualified to be President of the United States, or if, perhaps, you don't know enough about that person to say. (ABC/WP)**

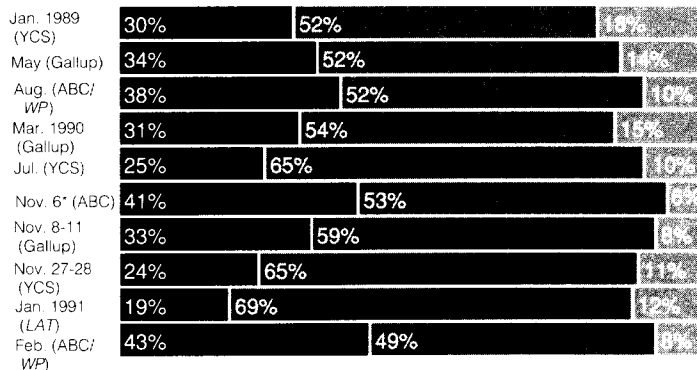
Would be qualified to be president of the United States
 Would not be qualified
 Not sure



Source: Surveys by Louis Harris and Associates (1973-74) and ABC News/Washington Post, latest that of May 28-June 1, 1987.

Question: **If something were to happen to President Bush, do you think that Dan Quayle would be qualified to take over as President of the United States, or not? (ABC/WP) In your opinion, is Vice President Dan Quayle qualified to serve as president if it becomes necessary, or not? (May 1989) Based on what you know about Vice President Dan Quayle, do you think he is qualified to serve as president if it becomes necessary, or not? (March 1990, Gallup) Do you think Vice President Dan Quayle is qualified to take over the job of president, or not? (LAT) Do you think Dan Quayle is qualified to be president if something were to happen to George Bush? (YCS/Time/CNN)**

If something were to happen to President Bush, Dan Quayle would be qualified to take over
 Would not be qualified
 Don't know



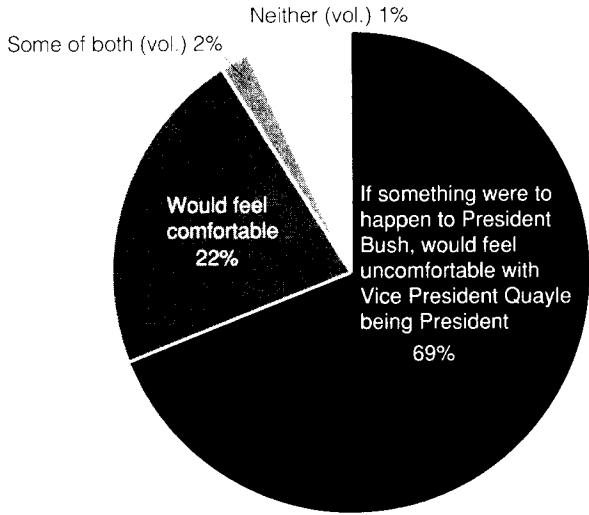
Note: * = Likely voters

Source: Surveys by ABC News/Washington Post, the Gallup Organization, the Los Angeles Times, and Yankelovich Clancy Shulman/Time/CNN, latest that of February 22-26, 1991.

President Quayle?

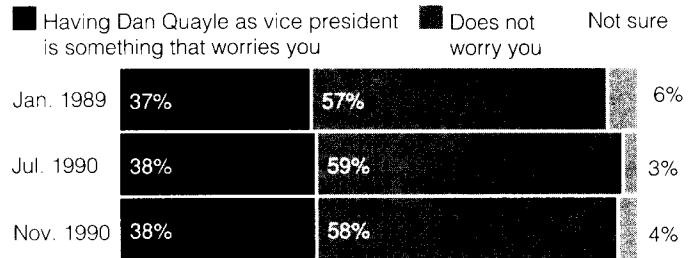
The data suggest that Dan Quayle is neither a great asset, nor a significant liability to President Bush.

Question: **If anything were to happen to President Bush, would you feel comfortable or uncomfortable with Vice President Quayle being president?**



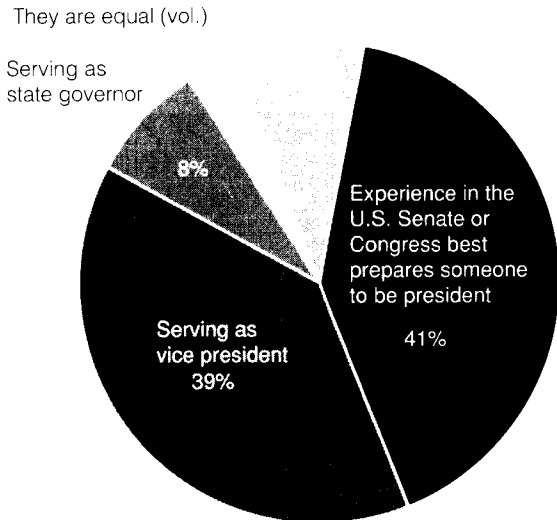
Source: Survey by Hart and Teeter Research Companies for NBC News/Wall Street Journal, September 15-18, 1990

Question: **Is having Dan Quayle as vice president something that worries you or not?**



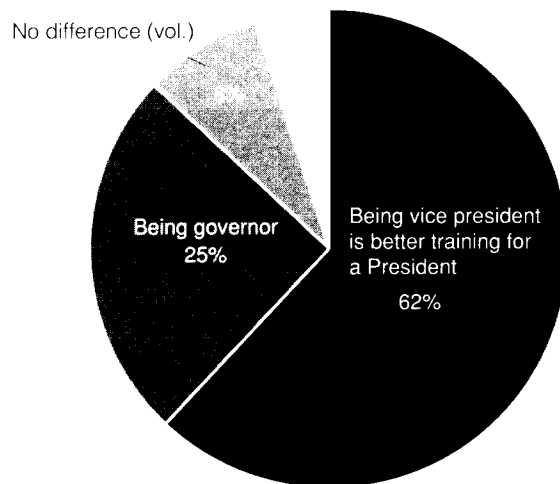
Note: In August 1989, ABC News and the *Washington Post* reported that having Dan Quayle as vice president did not worry 63% of respondents; 17% were worried "a little bit"; 13% were worried "a lot"; and 1% were worried by having Dan Quayle as vice president but did not know how much.
Source: Survey by Yankelovich Clancy Shulman for *Time* and Cable News Network, November 27-28, 1990.

Question: **Thinking about all the different responsibilities of the presidency, which one of the following types of experience do you think best prepares someone to be president?**



Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization for *Newsweek*, October 7-9, 1987.

Question: **No matter how you plan to vote in the 1988 presidential election, which do you think is better training for a president: having been the vice president or having been governor of a state?**



Source: Survey by NBC News/Wall Street Journal, September 16-19, 1988.