



**Ipsos/McClatchy Poll  
PROJECT #81-4621-23**

**NOTE: all results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.**

*These are some of the findings of an Ipsos online poll conducted December 12-15, 2008. For this survey, a sample of 405 Illinois adults from Ipsos' U.S. online panel was interviewed online. Weighting then was employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the Illinois adult population according to Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online polls because they are based on samples drawn from opt-in online panels, not on random samples that mirror the population within a statistical probability ratio. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.*

**ILLINOIS PULSE STUDY**

**PERCENTAGES ARE REPORTED ON TOTAL ADULTS UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE**

1. Generally speaking, would you say things in the State of Illinois are heading in the right track, or are they off on the wrong track?

	December, 2008	March, 2008
Right track	12	19
Wrong track	88	81

2. Overall, do you approve, disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way Rod R. Blagojevich is handling his job as Governor?

	December, 2008	March, 2008
Strongly Approve	1	4
Somewhat Approve	3	9
Have mixed feelings	11	31
Somewhat Disapprove	8	15
Strongly Disapprove	77	41
Top 2 Box – Approve	3	13
Bottom 2 Box - Disapprove	85	56

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Rod R. Blagojevich is handling each of the following areas?

**EXPANDING PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION**

	December, 2008	March, 2008
Strongly Approve	5	8
Somewhat Approve	20	35
Somewhat Disapprove	26	36
Strongly Disapprove	49	21
Top 2 Box – Approve	25	43
Bottom 2 Box - Disapprove	75	57

**MAKING HEALTH CARE  
MORE ACCESSIBLE**

	December, 2008	March, 2008
Strongly Approve	7	12
Somewhat Approve	27	30
Somewhat Disapprove	22	27
Strongly Disapprove	44	31
Top 2 Box – Approve	34	42
Bottom 2 Box - Disapprove	66	58

**FIGHTING  
CORRUPTION**

	December, 2008	March, 2008
Strongly Approve	3	6
Somewhat Approve	5	20
Somewhat Disapprove	8	28
Strongly Disapprove	84	47
Top 2 Box – Approve	8	26
Bottom 2 Box - Disapprove	92	74

**IMPROVING THE  
TRANSPORTATION  
SYSTEM**

	December, 2008	March, 2008
Strongly Approve	7	14
Somewhat Approve	27	31
Somewhat Disapprove	21	26
Strongly Disapprove	45	29
Top 2 Box – Approve	25	45
Bottom 2 Box - Disapprove	75	55

<b>REDUCING THE STATE DEBT</b>	December, 2008	March, 2008
Strongly Approve	3	8
Somewhat Approve	11	14
Somewhat Disapprove	21	35
Strongly Disapprove	65	44
Top 2 Box – Approve	14	21
Bottom 2 Box - Disapprove	86	79

<b>REDUCING THE TAX BURDEN</b>	December, 2008	March, 2008
Strongly Approve	3	8
Somewhat Approve	12	17
Somewhat Disapprove	27	33
Strongly Disapprove	57	41
Top 2 Box – Approve	16	26
Bottom 2 Box - Disapprove	84	74

<b>MAKING ILLINOIS COMPETITIVE FOR JOBS AND BUSINESS</b>	December, 2008	March, 2008
Strongly Approve	4	10
Somewhat Approve	15	26
Somewhat Disapprove	25	30
Strongly Disapprove	56	34
Top 2 Box – Approve	20	36
Bottom 2 Box - Disapprove	80	64

<b>FACILITATING GOOD GOVERNMENT</b>	December, 2008	March, 2008
Strongly Approve	4	7
Somewhat Approve	5	24
Somewhat Disapprove	13	30
Strongly Disapprove	78	39
Top 2 Box – Approve	9	31
Bottom 2 Box - Disapprove	91	69

<b>MAKING HIGHER EDUCATION MORE ACCESSIBLE</b>	December, 2008	March, 2008
Strongly Approve	5	9
Somewhat Approve	23	30
Somewhat Disapprove	25	30
Strongly Disapprove	47	31
Top 2 Box – Approve	28	39
Bottom 2 Box – Disapprove	72	61

4a. Which one of the following topics do you find the most worrying for the state of Illinois? And in second place?

<b>MOST WORRYING</b>	December, 2008	March, 2008
Corruption and political scandals	46	12
Unemployment and jobs	21	14
Health care	7	11
Taxes	7	27
Crime and violence	7	10
Road, highways, and bridges	3	5
Education	3	5
Political reform	2	5
Maintaining social programs	1	5
Immigration	1	4
Public transportation	1	2

<b>MOST &amp; 2<sup>ND</sup> MOST WORRYING</b>	December, 2008	March, 2008
Corruption and political scandals	59	32
Unemployment and jobs	46	31
Taxes	22	37
Crime and violence	15	20
Health care	14	21
Political reform	13	11
Education	10	10
Road, highways, and bridges	7	14
Immigration	5	8
Maintaining social programs	5	8
Public transportation	4	7

**[REMAINING QUESTIONS WERE ASKED IN DECEMBER ONLY.]**

6. On Tuesday, December 9th, Governor Blagojevich was arrested and accused of putting President-elect Obama's former United States Senate seat up for sale. Before now, were you aware that this occurred?

Yes	78
No	22

7. Do you think Governor Blagojevich should step down as Governor of Illinois or not?

Should step down	95
Should not	5

8. Assuming Governor Blagojevich does not step down as the Governor of Illinois, do you think the Illinois state legislature should impeach him?

Yes	92
No	8

9. Governor Blagojevich had the authority to name a replacement for Barack Obama's open senate seat. Now that the Governor has been arrested, which of the following do you think is the best way to choose a replacement for Barack Obama's open senate seat?

Illinois should have a special election	44
Transfer the authority to Lt. Governor Pat Quinn	35
The state legislature should choose someone	19
The governor should still be able to choose the replacement	2

10. Do you think the problem of corruption in Illinois politics is limited to Governor Blagojevich or is it greater than just him?

Limited to Governor Blagojevich	5
It is greater than just him	95

11. Which of the following steps do you think Illinois should take to address the problem of corruption in state and local government?

More rigorous prosecution	72
More rigorous oversight	56
Change the constitution	14
It's alright as is / no additional steps should be taken	3
None of these	5