Ipsos Poll Conducted for Reuters

Daily Election Tracking: 11.05.12

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted for Thomson Reuters from Nov. 1.-5, 2012. For the survey, a sample of 5,643 American registered voters and 4,725 Likely Voters (all age 18 and over) was interviewed online. On October 29th, Ipsos began boosting sample in four swing states, which accounts for the increase in our overall sample size. The data collected in these states are included in our national sample, although weighted appropriately to reflect the population of each state relative to the national population. The precision of the Reuters/Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.0 percentage points for Registered Voters and 3.4 for Likely Voters. Likely voter model adjusted to include all respondents who have voted, as of 10.15.12. For more information about credibility intervals, please see the appendix.

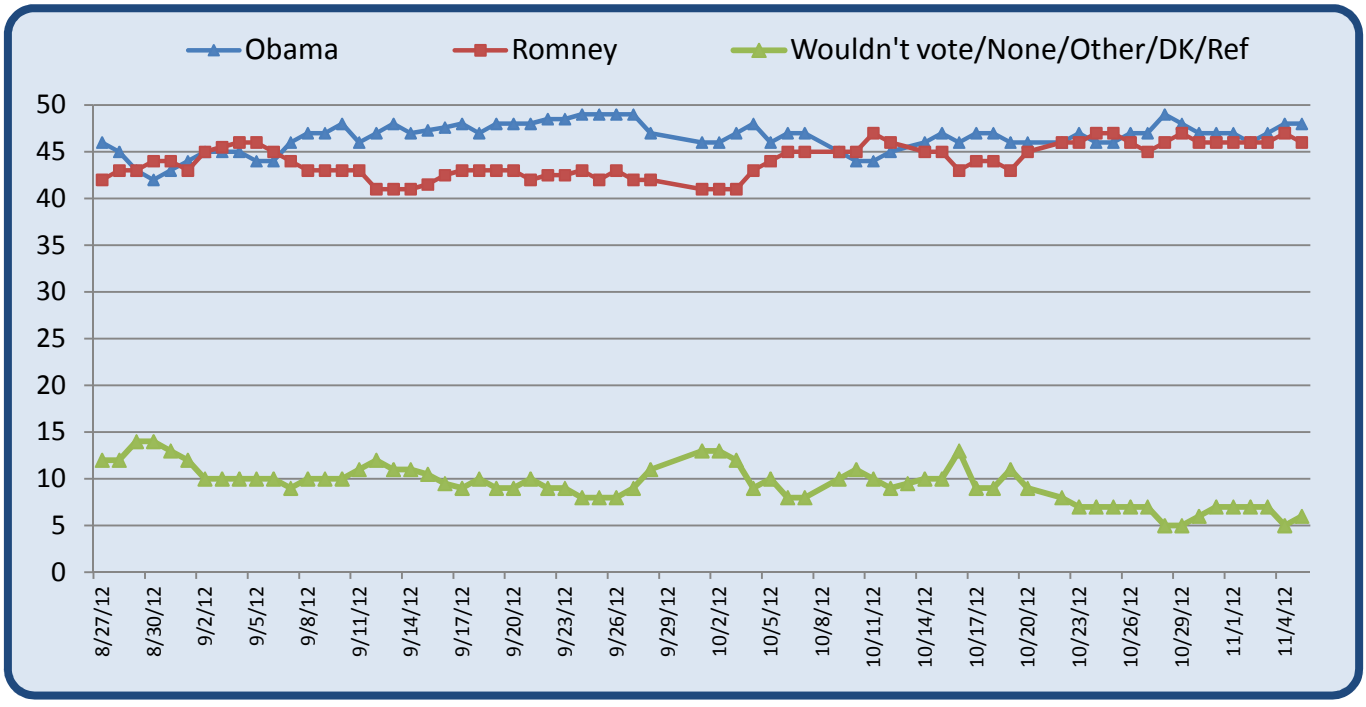
The data were weighted to the U.S. current population data by gender, age, education, and ethnicity. Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Figures marked by an asterisk (*) indicate a percentage value of greater than zero but less than one half of one per cent. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding.

VOTING INTENTION

Q1. If the 2012 Presidential Election were being held today and the candidates were [ROTATE] Barack Obama for president and Joe Biden for vice president, the Democrats, and Mitt Romney for president and Paul Ryan for vice president, the Republicans [END ROTATE], for whom would you vote?

	All LIKELY Voters (LV)	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Barack Obama for president and Joe Biden for vice president, the Democrats	48%	47%	90%	9%	32%
Mitt Romney for president and Paul Ryan for vice president, the Republicans	46%	43%	6%	85%	42%
Wouldn't vote	*%	1%	*%	1%	5%
None / Other	2%	3%	2%	2%	11%
Don't know / Refused	4%	5%	3%	3%	11%

Obama & Romney Vote Share Daily Data: 2012 Conventions to present (Likely Voters only)



OTHER VOTING QUESTIONS

[ASK IF OBAMA OR ROMNEY SELECTED IN Q1]
Q2. Have you definitely decided to vote for [INSERT RESPONSE FROM Q1], or is there a chance you might change your mind before you vote?

(n=5,184)	All Registered Voters (RV)	Obama Voters (RV)	Romney Voters (RV)
Definitely will vote for candidate	91%	90%	91%
Could change my mind	9%	10%	9%

Q3. Have you already voted in the upcoming November general election by going to an early voting location, or by mailing in an early voting or absentee ballot, or not?

	All Likely Voters (LV)	All Registered Voters (LV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Yes	41%	32%	34%	34%	27%
No	59%	68%	66%	66%	73%

[IF "Yes" at Q3, ASK Q4]
Q4. For whom did you vote for President?

(n=2,576 for All RVs; 1,181 for Democrats; 1,101 for Republicans; 248 for Independents)	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Barack Obama for President and Joe Biden for Vice President,	51%	93%	10%	41%
Mitt Romney for President and Paul Ryan for Vice President,	45%	4%	88%	48%
Other	4%	3%	2%	11%

[IF "No" at Q3, ASK Q5]
Q5. And do you plan to vote at an early voting location or by mailing in an early voting or absentee ballot?

(n=3,067)	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Yes – I plan to vote at an early voting location	9%	9%	8%	10%
Yes – I plan to mail in an early voting ballot	3%	5%	2%	2%
Yes – I plan to mail in an absentee ballot	1%	1%	1%	2%
No – I do not plan to vote early	87%	84%	90%	86%

PARTY ID	All Registered Voters (RV)
Strong Democrat	14%
Moderate Democrat	20%
Lean Democrat	8%
Lean Republican	9%
Moderate Republican	19%
Strong Republican	14%
Independent	11%
None of these	2%
DK	14%

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Q6. Regardless of how you will vote, if you were to wager money, who would you pick to win the presidential race?

	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Barack Obama for President and Joe Biden for Vice President,	51%	82%	25%	43%
Mitt Romney for President and Paul Ryan for Vice President,	32%	8%	59%	28%
Other	1%	1%	%	3%
Don't know	16%	10%	16%	27%

Q7. Regardless of how you will vote, if you were to wager money, who would you pick to win the presidential race in your state?

	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Barack Obama for President and Joe Biden for Vice President,	46%	69%	28%	35%
Mitt Romney for President and Paul Ryan for Vice President,	41%	23%	62%	41%
Other	1%	%	%	3%
Don't know	11%	7%	10%	20%

Q8. Has anyone called you or talked to you in person on behalf of either major presidential campaign about coming out to vote?

	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Yes, for Barack Obama	11%	20%	4%	5%
Yes, for Mitt Romney	7%	2%	14%	4%
Yes, for both Obama and Romney	19%	16%	21%	20%
No, I not contacted	63%	62%	61%	71%

Q9. To what extent, if at all, do you approve or disapprove of each candidate's response to Hurricane Sandy?
Barack Obama

(n=4,173)	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Strongly approve	48%	77%	21%	41%
Somewhat approve	23%	14%	36%	15%
Somewhat disapprove	7%	2%	12%	10%
Strongly disapprove	9%	1%	14%	15%
Don't know	13%	6%	17%	18%

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Q10. To what extent, if at all, do you approve or disapprove of each candidate's response to Hurricane Sandy?
Mitt Romney

(n=4,173)	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Strongly approve	19%	5%	35%	20%
Somewhat approve	27%	22%	33%	29%
Somewhat disapprove	12%	18%	6%	9%
Strongly disapprove	18%	31%	2%	17%
Don't know	25%	23%	24%	25%

Q11. Has Hurricane Sandy affected your plans for voting in the election?

(n=4,173)	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Yes	2%	3%	1%	2%
No - I will vote early as planned	37%	39%	37%	34%
No - I will vote on Election Day as planned	58%	56%	60%	59%
No - I don't plan to vote anyway	3%	2%	2%	5%

Q12. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree that climate change/global warming is responsible for this?

(n=4,173)	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Strongly agree	20%	31%	8%	16%
Somewhat agree	32%	43%	23%	29%
Somewhat disagree	14%	12%	15%	18%
Strongly disagree	23%	6%	43%	23%
Don't know	11%	8%	11%	15%

Q13. Which, if any, of the following do you think is mostly to blame?

(n=4,173)	All Registered Voters (RV)	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
God	4%	3%	5%	4%
Natural climate change/global warming	17%	22%	12%	17%
Man-made climate change/global warming	21%	33%	10%	20%
No one is to blame, it is just nature	54%	38%	70%	57%
Don't know	5%	5%	3%	3%

How to Calculate Bayesian Credibility Intervals

The calculation of credibility intervals assumes that Y has a binomial distribution conditioned on the parameter θ\, i.e., Y|θ~Bin(n,θ), where n is the size of our sample. In this setting, Y counts the number of "yes", or "1", observed in the sample, so that the sample mean ($\bar{y}$) is a natural estimate of the true population proportion θ. This model is often called the likelihood function, and it is a standard concept in both the Bayesian and the Classical framework. The Bayesian [1] statistics combines both the prior distribution and the likelihood function to create a posterior distribution. The posterior distribution represents our opinion about which are the plausible values for θ adjusted after observing the sample data. In reality, the posterior distribution is one's knowledge base updated using the latest survey information. For the prior and likelihood functions specified here, the posterior distribution is also a beta distribution (π(θ/y)~β(y+a,n-y+b)), but with updated hyper-parameters.

Our credibility interval for ϑ is based on this posterior distribution. As mentioned above, these intervals represent our belief about which are the most plausible values for ϑ given our updated knowledge base. There are different ways to calculate these intervals based on . Since we want only one measure of precision for all variables in the survey, analogous to what is done within the Classical framework, we will compute the largest possible credibility interval for any observed sample. The worst case occurs when we assume that a=1 and b=1 and . Using a simple approximation of the posterior by the normal distribution, the 95% credibility interval is given by, approximately:

$$\bar{y} \mp \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

For this poll, the Bayesian Credibility Interval was adjusted using standard weighting design effect 1+L=1.3 to account for complex weighting[2]

Examples of credibility intervals for different base sizes are below. Ipsos does not publish data for base sizes (sample sizes) below 100.

Sample size	Credibility intervals
2,000	2.5
1,500	2.9
1,000	3.5
750	4.1
500	5.0
350	6.0
200	7.9
100	11.2

[1] Bayesian Data Analysis, Second Edition, Andrew Gelman, John B. Carlin, Hal S. Stern, Donald B. Rubin, Chapman & Hall/CRC | ISBN: 158488388X | 2003

[2] Kish, L. (1992). Weighting for unequal Pi . Journal of Official, Statistics, 8, 2, 183200.