



IPSOS / REUTERS POLL DATA

Prepared by Ipsos Public Affairs

Ipsos Poll Conducted for Reuters

Post-Papal Visit Topline 09.29.2015

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted September 21-28, 2015 on behalf Thomson Reuters. For the survey, a sample of 2,167 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The sample included 872 Democrats, 778 Republicans, 468 Catholics and 1699 non Catholics.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos's online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2015 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Post-hoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, region, race/ethnicity and income.

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. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 2.5 percentage points for all respondents (see link below for more info on Ipsos online polling "Credibility Intervals"). Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=2,167, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=4.0).

For more information about Ipsos online polling methodology, please go here <http://goo.gl/yJBkuf>

		Total	Democrat	Republican	Catholic	non-Catholic
Q1 - Awareness...Pope Francis' visit to the United States	No	15%	12%	11%	6%	18%
	Yes	85%	88%	89%	94%	82%
Q2 - When you think about the planet and global warming, which of the following comes closest to your personal opinion? The planet has been getting warmer because of...	Natural patterns in the earth's environment	10%	4%	20%	12%	10%
	Mostly natural patterns but some impact from human activity	20%	13%	32%	19%	20%
	Mostly human activity but some natural patterns in the earth's environment	36%	43%	30%	40%	35%
	Human activity such as burning fossil fuels	20%	30%	8%	20%	20%
	Unsure	14%	10%	10%	9%	15%



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Q3 - Would you say your opinion is favorable or unfavorable towards...Pope Francis?	Very favorable	38%	50%	29%	65%	31%
	Somewhat favorable	22%	24%	20%	17%	23%
	Lean towards favorable	22%	17%	30%	15%	24%
	Lean towards unfavorable	8%	4%	12%	2%	9%
	Somewhat unfavorable	3%	2%	4%	1%	4%
	Very unfavorable	7%	3%	5%	1%	8%
	Total favorable	60%	74%	49%	82%	54%
	Total unfavorable	10%	5%	9%	1%	12%
Q4. Would you say that you agree or disagree with Pope Francis' views on the following issue...Climate change	Agree	47%	65%	33%	57%	45%
	Disagree	16%	6%	31%	16%	16%
	Not sure	37%	29%	36%	27%	39%
Q4. Would you say that you agree or disagree with Pope Francis' views on the following issue...Economic development	Agree	44%	58%	35%	59%	41%
	Disagree	11%	5%	21%	12%	11%
	Not sure	44%	36%	45%	29%	48%
Q4. Would you say that you agree or disagree with Pope Francis' views on the following issue...Renewable energy	Agree	48%	63%	37%	60%	45%
	Disagree	10%	3%	21%	10%	11%
	Not sure	42%	33%	43%	30%	44%
Q4. Would you say that you agree or disagree with Pope Francis' views on the following issue...Income inequality	Agree	43%	62%	24%	50%	41%
	Disagree	17%	7%	34%	20%	16%
	Not sure	40%	31%	42%	30%	43%
Q4. Would you say that you agree or disagree with Pope Francis' views on the following issue...Abortion	Agree	29%	28%	36%	44%	25%
	Disagree	22%	24%	21%	24%	22%
	Not sure	49%	47%	43%	32%	53%
Q4. Would you say that you agree or disagree with Pope Francis' views on the following issue...Homosexuality	Agree	42%	52%	35%	53%	39%
	Disagree	20%	15%	30%	17%	21%
	Not sure	37%	33%	35%	29%	39%



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Q4. Would you say that you agree or disagree with Pope Francis' views on the following issue...Death penalty	Agree	27%	34%	21%	37%	24%
	Disagree	19%	15%	30%	28%	17%
	Not sure	54%	51%	49%	36%	59%
Q5. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...The United States must radically reduce its energy usage	Agree	57%	72%	43%	58%	56%
	Disagree	21%	10%	38%	21%	21%
	Not sure	23%	17%	18%	21%	23%
Q5. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...Developed nations must radically reduce their energy usage	Agree	56%	71%	47%	60%	55%
	Disagree	19%	11%	32%	18%	19%
	Not sure	25%	18%	21%	22%	26%
Q5. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...I personally am willing to use less energy and drive less in order to help preserve the environment	Agree	66%	77%	57%	71%	65%
	Disagree	17%	11%	28%	16%	17%
	Not sure	17%	12%	14%	13%	18%
Q5. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...I am not too concerned about the US' energy usage	Agree	23%	15%	36%	22%	23%
	Disagree	61%	73%	51%	65%	60%
	Not sure	16%	12%	13%	12%	17%
Q5. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...I am not too concerned about the world's energy usage	Agree	21%	14%	35%	18%	21%
	Disagree	62%	74%	50%	69%	60%
	Not sure	17%	12%	15%	13%	18%
Q5. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...Global initiatives like carbon trading and carbon credits are a step in the right direction when it comes to preserving the planet	Agree	32%	44%	23%	38%	31%
	Disagree	29%	22%	42%	27%	29%
	Not sure	39%	35%	34%	35%	40%



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Q5. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...Developed nations should pay developing nations to use fewer climate-changing fuels	Agree	29%	37%	23%	32%	29%
	Disagree	36%	29%	53%	37%	35%
	Not sure	35%	34%	24%	32%	36%
Q6. Which of the following statements comes closest to your personal opinion?	Life on Earth came about through natural processes following observable rules of biology and physics (Evolution)	28%	37%	19%	25%	28%
	Life on Earth came about through natural processes that were guided by a higher being (Intelligent design)	22%	23%	23%	28%	21%
	Life on Earth was created by a specific act (or acts) of a higher being (Creationism)	35%	26%	52%	31%	36%
	Don't know	15%	14%	6%	16%	15%
Q7. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement: homosexuality is a sin	Strongly agree	29%	21%	41%	14%	32%
	Somewhat agree	14%	12%	18%	21%	12%
	Somewhat disagree	10%	9%	14%	18%	9%
	Strongly disagree	36%	50%	18%	38%	35%
	Don't know	11%	8%	8%	9%	12%
Q8. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...The government should be doing more to reduce the gap between the rich and poor	Agree	65%	84%	41%	69%	64%
	Disagree	22%	7%	46%	21%	22%
	Not sure	14%	9%	12%	9%	14%
Q8. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...Wealth in this country should be more evenly distributed	Agree	63%	80%	39%	67%	62%
	Disagree	22%	9%	47%	22%	23%
	Not sure	14%	11%	14%	11%	15%



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		Total	Democrat	Republican	Catholic	non-Catholic
Q8. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...The wealth gap between the rich and poor is a natural outcome of a free market	Agree	42%	37%	59%	42%	42%
	Disagree	33%	41%	25%	33%	33%
	Not sure	25%	22%	16%	25%	25%
Q8. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statement...Economic growth for the United States will ultimately benefit all Americans	Agree	68%	67%	81%	71%	67%
	Disagree	16%	19%	11%	16%	16%
	Not sure	16%	14%	8%	13%	16%
Q9. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement: divorce is morally wrong	Strongly agree	10%	8%	12%	7%	10%
	Somewhat agree	18%	18%	25%	18%	18%
	Somewhat disagree	23%	19%	28%	30%	21%
	Strongly disagree	42%	51%	30%	40%	42%
	Don't know	8%	4%	6%	6%	8%
Q10. To what extent do you do you agree or disagree with the Pope's statement regarding carbon trading?	Strongly agree	25%	33%	17%	32%	24%
	Somewhat agree	35%	39%	34%	40%	34%
	Somewhat disagree	8%	6%	14%	7%	9%
	Strongly disagree	5%	1%	9%	4%	5%
	Don't know	27%	20%	26%	17%	29%

"The strategy of buying and selling "carbon credits" ... would not help reduce the emission of polluting gases worldwide. This system seems to provide a quick and easy solution under the guise of a certain commitment to the environment, but in no way does it allow for the radical change which present circumstances require. Rather, it may simply become a ploy which permits maintaining the excessive consumption of some countries and sectors."

Q11. To what extent do you do you agree or disagree with the Pope's statement regarding the environment?	Strongly agree	35%	53%	19%	39%	34%
	Somewhat agree	30%	29%	36%	36%	29%
	Somewhat disagree	11%	7%	17%	9%	11%
	Strongly disagree	7%	1%	14%	6%	8%
	Don't know	16%	10%	14%	10%	18%

"It is true that there are other factors (such as volcanic activity, variations in the earth's orbit and axis, the solar cycle), yet a number of scientific studies indicate that most global warming in recent decades is due to the great concentration of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen oxides and others) released mainly as a result of human activity."



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Q12. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Pope's statement regarding the nature of the universe?	Strongly agree	28%	35%	26%	39%	25%
	Somewhat agree	29%	31%	30%	32%	28%
	Somewhat disagree	11%	10%	15%	11%	11%
	Strongly disagree	10%	8%	13%	1%	13%
	Don't know	21%	16%	17%	17%	22%

"Evolution in nature is not inconsistent with the notion of creation, because evolution requires the creation of beings that evolve. The 'big bang,' that today is considered to be the origin of the world, does not contradict the creative intervention of God, on the contrary it requires it."

Q13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Pope's statement regarding homosexuality?	Strongly agree	50%	64%	36%	59%	48%
	Somewhat agree	23%	19%	33%	28%	22%
	Somewhat disagree	7%	6%	11%	5%	8%
	Strongly disagree	8%	4%	14%	4%	9%
	Don't know	11%	7%	6%	4%	12%

"If someone is gay and searches for the Lord and has good will, who am I to judge?"

Q14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Pope's statement regarding income inequality?	Strongly agree	29%	45%	12%	32%	28%
	Somewhat agree	29%	29%	33%	36%	27%
	Somewhat disagree	10%	7%	16%	8%	11%
	Strongly disagree	7%	2%	15%	6%	7%
	Don't know	25%	17%	24%	17%	27%

"Some people continue to defend trickle-down theories which assume that economic growth, encouraged by a free market, will inevitably succeed in bringing about greater justice and inclusiveness in the world. This opinion, which has never been confirmed by the facts, expresses a crude and naïve trust in the goodness of those wielding economic power and in the sacralized workings of the prevailing economic system."

Q15. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Pope's statement regarding divorce?	Strongly agree	45%	56%	35%	50%	44%
	Somewhat agree	31%	28%	41%	33%	31%
	Somewhat disagree	6%	5%	7%	6%	6%
	Strongly disagree	3%	1%	4%	1%	4%
	Don't know	15%	10%	13%	10%	16%

"There are cases in which separation is inevitable. Sometimes it can become even morally necessary, precisely when it comes to subtracting the weaker spouse, or small children, from more serious injuries caused by arrogance and violence, by humiliation and exploitation..."



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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., $Y|\theta \sim \text{Bin}(n, \theta)$, 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 Bayesian¹ 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 ($\pi(\theta/y) \sim \beta(y+a, n-y+b)$), 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 $\pi(\theta/y)$. 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 $y=n/2$. Using a simple approximation of the posterior by the normal distribution, the 95% credibility interval is given by, approximately:

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

For this poll, the Bayesian Credibility Interval was adjusted using standard weighting design effect $1+L=1.3$ to account for complex weighting²

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