

The New York Times

POLL



August 15-21, 2012

Florida
Total N = 1,488
Registered N = 1,338
Likely voters N = 1,241

Ohio
Total N = 1,495
Registered N = 1,373
Likely voters N = 1,253

Wisconsin
Total N = 1,425
Registered N = 1,296
Likely voters N = 1,190

All results are among likely voters unless otherwise noted.

How much attention have you been paying to the election campaign for President - a lot, some, only a little, or none at all? (Among registered voters)

		A lot	Some	Only a little	None	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	54	25	14	7	
	8/15-21/12	58	24	13	4	-
OH	7/24-30/12	50	32	12	7	
	8/15-21/12	52	31	13	4	-
WI	7/31-8/6/12	48	31	15	7	
	8/15-21/12	53	29	13	4	-

Most people do not vote in every election. How likely is it that you will vote in the Presidential election in November - would you say you will definitely vote, probably vote, possibly not vote, or definitely not vote? (Among registered voters)

		Definitely	Probably	Possibly	Definitely	
		vote	vote	not vote	Not vote	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	85	9	4	1	-
	8/15-21/12	90	7	1	1	-
OH	7/24-30/12	87	7	4	1	1
	8/15-21/12	88	9	2	1	-
WI	7/31-8/6/12	88	8	2	2	1
	8/15-21/12	86	9	4	1	-

1. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Barack Obama the Democrat and Mitt Romney the Republican, for whom would you vote? (Candidate names ROTATED) (If undecided, ASK:) As of today, do you lean more toward Obama or Romney? (Candidate names ROTATED) RESULTS INCLUDE LEANERS

		Obama	Romney	Someone else (vol.)	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	51	45	1	4
	8/15-21/12	49	46	1	5
OH	7/24-30/12	50	44	1	4
	8/15-21/12	50	44	2	4
WI	7/31-8/6/12	51	45	_	4
	8/15-21/12	49	47	1	3

la.(If candidate chosen in Q1, ASK:) Is your mind made up, or do you think you might change your mind before the election?

			Mind made up	Might change mind	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	All voters	89	10	-
		Obama voters	89	11	-
		Romney voters	90	10	-
	8/15-21/12	All voters	89	9	1
		Obama voters	89	10	1
		Romney voters	90	9	1
OH	7/24-30/12	All voters	87	12	1
		Obama voters	86	13	1
		Romney voters	89	10	1
	8/15-21/12	All voters	89	11	1
		Obama voters	89	11	1
		Romney voters	88	12	1
WI	7/31-8/6/12	All voters	90	9	1
		Obama voters	90	10	-
		Romney voters	89	8	2
	8/15-21/12	All voters	90	9	1
		Obama voters	89	10	1
		Romney voters	91	8	1

QUESTIONS 2 AND 3 ROTATED

2. Is your opinion of Mitt Romney favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

		Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	41	42	14	3
	8/15-21/12	45	42	11	2
OH	7/24-30/12	40	43	15	3
	8/15-21/12	39	45	12	3
WI	7/31-8/6/12	41	43	14	2
	8/15-21/12	44	43	11	2

3. Is your opinion of Barack Obama favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

		Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	DK/NA
${ t FL}$	7/24-30/12	50	46	2	2
	8/15-21/12	50	45	3	2
ОН	7/24-30/12	51	45	2	2
	8/15-21/12	51	45	2	3
WI	7/31-8/6/12	53	44	2	2
	8/15-21/12	51	45	2	2

FLORIDA:

4. Turning to this year's general election for United States Senator from Florida, if the election for United States Senator were being held today, and the candidates were Connie Mack the Republican and Bill Nelson the Democrat, for whom would you vote? As of today, do you lean more toward Mack or Nelson? (Candidate names ROTATED) RESULTS INCLUDE LEANERS

		Mack	Nelson	Someone else (vol.)	DK/NA
${ t FL}$	7/24-30/12	40	47	1	12
	8/15-21/12	50	41	-	9

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Rick Scott is handling his job as Governor?

		Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	36	52	13
	8/15-21/12	41	47	13

OHIO:

4. Turning to this year's general election for United States Senator from Ohio, if the election for United States Senator were being held today and the candidates were Sherrod Brown the Democrat and Josh Mandel the Republican, for whom would you vote?(If undecided, ASK:) As of today, do you lean more toward Brown or Mandel? (Candidate names ROTATED) RESULTS INCLUDE LEANERS

		Brown	Mandel	Someone else (vol.)	DK/NA
OH	7/24-30/12	51	39	1	9
	8/15-21/12	48	41	1	10

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Kasich is handling his job as Governor?

		Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
OH	7/24-30/12	47	38	15
	8/15-21/12	45	40	16

WISCONSIN:

4. Turning to this year's general election for United States Senator from Wisconsin. If the election for United States Senator were being held today and the candidates were Tommy Thompson the Republican and Tammy Baldwin the Democrat, for whom would you vote? (If undecided, ASK:) As of today, do you lean more toward Thompson or Baldwin? (Candidate names rotated) RESULTS INCLUDE LEANERS

		Baldwin	Thompson	Someone else	(vol.)	DK/NA
WI	7/31-8/6/12	47	47	1		5
	8/15-21/12	44	50	1		4

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Scott Walker is handling his job as Governor?

		Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
WI	7/31-8/6/12	52	44	4
	8/15-21/12	53	43	4

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

		Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	48	48	4
	8/15-21/12	47	48	5
OH	7/24-30/12	48	48	3
	8/15-21/12	49	48	2
WI	7/31-8/6/12	51	46	3
	8/15-21/12	46	49	4

7. Compared to past presidential elections, how would you describe your level of enthusiasm about voting in this year's presidential election -- are you more enthusiastic than usual, less enthusiastic, or about the same as usual?

		More	Less	Same	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	32	19	49	1
	8/15-21/12	42	16	42	-
OH	7/24-30/12	32	21	47	_
	8/15-21/12	33	22	44	1
WI	7/31-8/6/12	32	15	52	1
	8/15-21/12	36	14	50	-

QUESTIONS 8 AND 9 ROTATED

8. Is your opinion of Joe Biden favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

		Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	37	44	18	2
OH	8/15-21/12	40	40	19	1
WI	8/15-21/12	35	42	22	2

9. Is your opinion of Paul Ryan favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

		Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	DK/NA
${ t FL}$	8/15-21/12	35	29	36	1
OH	8/15-21/12	32	27	40	1
WI	8/15-21/12	44	35	20	1

QUESTIONS 10 AND 11 ROTATED

10. Does Barack Obama's choice of Joe Biden for Vice President make you more likely to vote for Obama for President, less likely, or doesn't it make a difference?

		More likely	Less likely	No difference	DK/NA
${f FL}$	8/15-21/12	14	16	69	1
OH	8/15-21/12	10	11	78	1
WI	8/15-21/12	10	15	74	1

11. Does Mitt Romney's choice of Paul Ryan for Vice President make you more likely to vote for Romney for President, less likely, or doesn't it make a difference?

		More likely	Less likely	No difference	DK/NA
${f FL}$	8/15-21/12	20	19	58	2
OH	8/15-21/12	21	20	56	2
WI	8/15-21/12	31	22	45	2

QUESTIONS 12 AND 13 ROTATED

12. Do you think Joe Biden is or is not qualified to serve as president if it becomes necessary, or don't you know enough about Joe Biden to say?

			Not	Don't know	
		Qualified	qualified	enough	DK/NA
${ t FL}$	8/15-21/12	41	36	21	2
OH	8/15-21/12	43	34	22	1
WI	8/15-21/12	41	33	24	2

13. Do you think Paul Ryan is or is not qualified to serve as president if it becomes necessary, or don't you know enough about Paul Ryan to say?

		Qualified	Not qualified	Don't know enough	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	37	23	39	1
OH	8/15-21/12	32	22	45	1
WI	8/15-21/12	44	29	26	1

WISCONSIN:

13a. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Paul Ryan is handling his job as a U.S. Congressman from Wisconsin?

		Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
WI	8/15-21/12	52	33	15

QUESTIONS 14 THROUGH 20 ROTATED

In deciding how you will vote for President this year, please tell me how important each of the following issues will be. Will [ISSUE below] be extremely important, very important, only somewhat important or not at all important to your vote for President?

14. Health care

		Extremely	Very	Somewhat	Not at all	
		important	important	important	important	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	56	33	8	2	-
OH	8/15-21/12	52	35	11	2	_
WI	8/15-21/12	50	36	11	2	1

15. Taxes

		Extremely	Very	Somewhat	Not at all	
		important	important	important	important	DK/NA
${ t FL}$	8/15-21/12	39	42	16	3	_
OH	8/15-21/12	34	43	19	4	1
WI	8/15-21/12	33	36	25	6	1

16. The economy

		Extremely	Very	Somewhat	Not at all	
		important	important	important	important	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	60	31	7	2	-
ОН	8/15-21/12	59	31	8	1	-
WI	8/15-21/12	54	36	8	2	_

17. The budget deficit

		Extremely	Very	Somewhat	Not at all	
		important	important	important	important	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	47	30	17	5	1
OH	8/15-21/12	41	34	20	4	_
WI	8/15-21/12	43	30	20	6	1

18. Foreign policy

		Extremely	Very	Somewhat	Not at all	
		important	important	important	important	DK/NA
${ t FL}$	8/15-21/12	31	40	24	5	1
OH	8/15-21/12	25	39	29	5	1
WI	8/15-21/12	24	37	32	6	1

19. The housing market and foreclosures

		Extremely	Very	Somewhat	Not at all	
		important	important	important	important	DK/NA
${ t FL}$	8/15-21/12	22	33	32	12	1
OH	8/15-21/12	16	34	37	12	_
WI	8/15-21/12	17	28	41	13	1

20. Medicare, which is the government program which pays for health care for seniors $\frac{1}{2}$

		Extremely	Very	Somewhat	Not at all	
		important	important	important	important	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	50	31	16	3	-
OH	8/15-21/12	45	37	16	2	_
WI	8/15-21/12	42	35	20	3	

QUESTIONS 21 THROUGH 22 ROTATED

21. Would you say that Barack Obama cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Does	Does not	DK/NA
7/24-30/12	55	42	3
8/15-21/12	57	40	3
7/24-30/12	55	43	2
8/15-21/12	59	39	3
7/31-8/6/12	57	40	3
8/15-21/12	58	40	3
	8/15-21/12 7/24-30/12 8/15-21/12 7/31-8/6/12	7/24-30/12 55 8/15-21/12 57 7/24-30/12 55 8/15-21/12 59 7/31-8/6/12 57	7/24-30/12 55 42 8/15-21/12 57 40 7/24-30/12 55 43 8/15-21/12 59 39 7/31-8/6/12 57 40

22. Would you say that Mitt Romney cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

		Does	Does not	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	42	49	9
	8/15-21/12	44	48	8
OH	7/24-30/12	38	55	7
	8/15-21/12	41	53	6
WI	7/31-8/6/12	41	51	8
	8/15-21/12	44	48	8

QUESTIONS 23 THROUGH 29 ROTATED

Regardless of how you intend to vote, who do you think would do a better job on [ISSUE BELOW] -- Barack Obama or Mitt Romney? (Candidate names rotated)

23. Health care

		Obama	Romney	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	50	42	8
	8/15-21/12	51	43	6
OH	7/24-30/12	48	42	9
	8/15-21/12	51	43	6
WI	7/31-8/6/12	49	43	8
	8/15-21/12	50	44	6

24. Taxes

		Obama	Romney	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	48	44	8
OH	8/15-21/12	51	41	8
WI	8/15-21/12	46	47	8

25. The economy

		Obama	Romney	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	45	47	9
	8/15-21/12	45	48	7
OH	7/24-30/12	46	45	8
	8/15-21/12	47	47	6
WI	7/31-8/6/12	47	46	7
	8/15-21/12	43	49	8

26. The budget deficit

		Obama	Romney	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	37	53	9
OH	8/15-21/12	40	50	9
WI	8/15-21/12	37	54	9

27. Foreign policy

		Obama	Romney	DK/NA
${ t FL}$	8/15-21/12	50	42	8
OH	8/15-21/12	50	40	10
WI	8/15-21/12	49	41	10

28. The housing market and foreclosures

		Obama	Romney	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	42	45	13
OH	8/15-21/12	46	42	12
WI	8/15-21/12	42	44	14

29. Medicare

		Obama	Romney	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	50	42	8
OH	8/15-21/12	51	41	7
WI	8/15-21/12	51	42	7

30. Which comes closer to your view? Government should do more to solve national problems. OR Government is doing too many things better left to businesses and individuals.

		Government should	doing too many	
		do more	things	DK/NA
${f FL}$	8/15-21/12	37	56	7
OH	8/15-21/12	39	54	7
WI	8/15-21/12	37	56	8

31. In order to reduce the federal budget deficit, do you support or oppose raising income taxes on households making more than \$250,000 per year?

		Support	Oppose	DK/NA
FL	7/24-30/12	58	37	6
	8/15-21/12	60	34	5
OH	7/24-30/12	60	37	3
	8/15-21/12	65	31	4
WI	7/31-8/6/12	66	30	4
	8/15-21/12	65	30	5

32. From what you've heard or read, do you approve or disapprove of the health care law that was enacted in 2010? IF APPROVE, ASK: Do you strongly approve or somewhat approve? IF DISAPPROVE, ASK: Do you somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove?

		Strongly	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strongly	
		approve	approve	disapprove	disapprove	DK/NA
${ t FL}$	8/15-21/12	26	16	8	40	10
OH	8/15-21/12	25	19	8	38	10
WI	8/15-21/12	27	17	9	37	9

33. From what you've heard or read, do you think the 2010 health care law will mostly help you personally, will mostly hurt you personally, or don't you think it will have much of an effect on you personally?

		Mostly help	Mostly hurt	No effect	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	22	35	37	6
OH	8/15-21/12	21	37	36	5
WI	8/15-21/12	22	35	39	5

34. Overall, do you think the benefits from Medicare are worth the cost of the program for taxpayers, or are they not worth the cost?

		Worth the cost	Not worth cost	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	76	15	9
OH	8/15-21/12	75	16	10
WI	8/15-21/12	74	17	9

35. Which of these two descriptions comes closer to your view of what Medicare should look like for people who are now under 55 who would be eligible for Medicare coverage in about ten years? Medicare should continue as it is today, with the government providing seniors with health insurance, OR, Medicare should be changed to a system in which the government would provide seniors with a fixed amount of money toward purchasing private health insurance or Medicare insurance. (Answer choices rotated)

		Medicare should	Medicare should	
		continue as it is	be changed	DK/NA
${ t FL}$	8/15-21/12	62	28	10
OH	8/15-21/12	64	27	9
WI	8/15-21/12	59	32	9

36. To reduce the federal budget deficit, would you support major reductions, minor reductions, or no reductions to spending on Medicare?

		Major reductions	Minor reductions	No reductions	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	11	48	35	6
OH	8/15-21/12	10	48	36	6
WI	8/15-21/12	11	47	34	7

37. Turning to another subject. Do you think changes in your state's voting and registration rules might make it harder for you to vote this year, easier for you to vote this year, or don't you think changes in your state's voting and registration rules will make a difference?

		Harder	Easier	No difference	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	11	7	77	5
OH	8/15-21/12	12	5	78	5
WI	8/15-21/12	11	4	82	3

38. As you may know, there have been efforts in some states to require voters to show a photo identification card to vote. Some people say this is needed to prevent people from voting who are not eligible to vote. Other people say such efforts are designed to suppress voting by low-income people and minorities. What do you think -- do you support or oppose efforts to require voters to show a photo identification card to vote?

		Support	Oppose	DK/NA
FL	8/15-21/12	78	20	2
OH	8/15-21/12	75	23	2
WI	8/15-21/12	66	32	2

FLORIDA:

38a. As you may know, there has been an effort by the state of Florida to remove people from the state's voter rolls who may not be U.S. citizens and, therefore, are not eligible to vote. Which comes closer to your view about this effort? 1. This is being done mostly to prevent people from voting who are not eligible to do so, or 2. This is being done mostly to suppress voting by certain demographic groups who are eligible to vote.

To prevent ineligible To suppress voting by people from voting certain demographic groups DK/NA FL 8/15-21/12 65 28 7

Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?

					Independent/ Unaffiliated/	
					Unallillated/	
		Republican	Democrat	Other party	No party	DK/NA
8/15-21/12	FL	28	34	32	4	2
	OH	26	35	34	4	2
	WI	28	32	33	5	1

IF REPUBLICAN: Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or not a strong Republican?

		Strong	Republican	Not	strong	DK/NA
8/15-21/12	FL		73		25	2
	OH		63		35	2
	WI		71		27	2

IF DEMOCRAT: Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or not a strong Democrat?

	Strong Democrat	Not strong	DK/NA
8/15-21/12 FL	73	25	3
OH	73	26	1
WI	77	23	1

IF INDEPENDENT: Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican party or the Democratic party?

	Republican	Democrat	Neither (vol.)	DK/NA
8/15-21/12 FL	43	37	18	2
ОН	43	35	18	3
WI	42	37	18	4

How would you describe your views on most political matters? Generally do you think of yourself as liberal, moderate, or conservative?

		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	DK/NA
8/15-21/12	${f FL}$	21	40	36	3
	OH	22	37	39	3
	PA	25	33	37	4

Are you registered as a Republican, Democrat, some other party, or are you not affiliated with any party?

					Independent/	
					Unaffiliated/	
		Republican	Democrat	Other party	No party	DK/NA
8/15-21/12	FL	37	40	1	20	2
	OH	34	41	1	22	2

Do you consider yourself part of the Tea Party movement or not?

Did you vote for President in 2008, did something prevent you from voting, or did you choose not to vote for President in 2008?

		Voted	Didn't vote	Couldn't/Ineligible	(vol.)	DK/NA
8/15-21/12	FL	91	5	4		_
	OH	91	6	2		_
	WI	92	3	4		1

Did you vote for Barack Obama, John McCain, or someone else?

		Obama	McCain	Someone	else	DK/NA
8/15-21/12	FL	51	42	4		2
	OH	53	40	4		3
	WI	53	39	4		3

Are you currently married?

Do you have any children under the age of 18?

Are you or is any member of your household a member of a LABOR UNION?

		Yes	No	DK/NA
8/15-21/12	FL	15	85	1
	OH	25	74	1
	WI	23	77	_

What is your religious preference? Is it Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Mormon, Muslim, some other religion, or don't you belong to any religious denomination?

		Protestant	Catholic	Jewish	Mormon	Muslim	Other	None	DK/NA
8/15-21/12	FL	42	22	5	-	-	9	17	3
	OH	49	22	1	_	-	9	16	2
	WI	39	30	1	_		10	17	2

Would you consider yourself a born-again Christian or evangelical Christian, or wouldn't you consider yourself either of those?

		Yes	No	DK/NA	Not asked
8/15-21/12	FL	30	43	1	26
	OH	30	48	3	19
	WI	26	50	3	21

Are you of Latino or Hispanic origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or any other Spanish speaking background?

Do you identify yourself as white, black, Asian or some other race?

		White	Black	Asian	Other	DK/NA
8/15-21/12	FL	78	15	-	6	1
	ОН	84	12	-	3	1
	WI	91	5	1	3	1

In what year were you born?

8/15-21/12	${f FL}$	OH	WI
18-29	12	10	13
30-44	13	20	19
45-64	43	46	38
65+	28	22	26
DK/NA	4	2	4

Did you receive a high school diploma? IF RECEIVED HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA: Did you ever attend college? IF "YES": Did you graduate? IF ATTENDED COLLEGE: Was this from a 4-year college, a junior college/two year program, or a vocational/technical school? IF ATTENDED/GRADUATED FOUR YEAR COLLEGE: Did you ever attend graduate school? IF "YES": Did you receive a graduate degree?

8/15-	-21/12	2	FL	OH	WI
Less	than	HS	6	6	5
High	Schoo	ol	19	22	20
Some	Colle	ege	45	43	43
Colle	ege Gi	rad	12	13	14
Some	Grad	School	5	4	5
Post	Grad	Degree	13	12	12
DK/NA	A		-	_	-

About what do you think your total household income will be this year? Will it be...

8/15-21/	/12			FL	OH	WI
Less tha	an \$15,00	0.0		10	10	10
Between	\$15,000	and	\$30,000	16	17	14
Between	\$30,000	and	\$50,000	19	21	18
Between	\$50,000	and	\$100,000	25	26	31
Or over	\$100,000)		17	17	16
DK/NA				12	9	10

IF INCOME OVER \$100,000:

Would you say that your total household income will be under \$250,000, or \$250,000 or more?

8/15-21/12	FL OH WI	Less than \$250,000 84 84 85	\$250,000 or more 14 15 11	DK/NA 2 1 4
		Male	Female	
8/15-21/12	FL OH WI	49 48 49	51 52 51	