

Suffolk University/USA TODAY Marginals Aug 8, 2012

START

Hello, my name is _____ and I am conducting a survey for Suffolk University/USA TODAY and I would like to get your opinions on some political questions and issues of the day. Would you like to spend seven minutes to help us out?

N=		800	100%
Continue	1	800	100%

GEND

Record Gender

N=		800	100%
Male	1	387	48%
Female	2	413	52%

S2. How likely are you to vote in the general election for President--very likely, somewhat likely, 50-50 or not likely?

N=		800	100%
Very likely	1	0	0%
Somewhat likely	2	0	0%
50/50	3	412	52%
Not likely	4	353	44%
Undecided	5	35	4%

S3. Are you currently registered as a Democrat, Republican, Unenrolled/Independent, something else - or are you not registered to vote as of today?

(IF REFUSED: Are you registered to vote?)

N=		800	100%
Democrat	1	242	30%
Republican	2	109	14%
Unenrolled/Independent	3	133	17%
Other	4	46	6%
Not reg	5	246	31%
Reg refused Party	6	24	3%
Refused	7	0	0%

S4. Are you a U.S. citizen?

N=		800	100%
Yes	1	800	100%
No/Refused	2	0	0%

Q5. What is your age category?

N=		800	100%
18-24 Yrs	1	104	13%
25-34 Yrs	2	147	18%
35-49 Yrs	3	214	27%
50-64 Yrs	4	200	25%
Over 65 years	5	125	16%
Refused (DO NOT READ)	7	10	1%

REG

Region

N=		800	100%
Northeast	1	166	21%
South	2	299	37%
Midwest	3	161	20%
West	4	174	22%

Q7. For statistical purposes only, can you please tell me what your ethnic background / ancestry is?

N=		800	100%
White/Caucasian	1	452	57%
Black/African-American	2	110	14%
American Indian/Alaska Native	3	14	2%
Asian	4	25	3%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	5	8	1%
Hispanic/Latino	6	129	16%
Other/Combo (DO NOT READ)	7	34	4%
Refused (DO NOT READ)	8	28	4%

Q8. Are you employed full-time, part-time, retired, unemployed, or a full-time student?

N=		800	100%
Full-time	1	299	37%
Part-time	2	57	7%
Retired	3	181	23%
Unemployed	4	154	19%
Permanently disabled	5	43	5%
Student	6	57	7%
Other	7	2	0%
(DO NOT READ) Refused	8	7	1%

PRE9

This survey studies the opinions of the large group of adults in the U.S. who are unlikely to vote either because they are unregistered or who are registered but less likely to vote than others. This will be the only poll conducted this year examining your opinions which represent the 80 million adults who may not cast ballots this November. So before we start, thank you for participating!

N=		800	100%
Continue	1	800	100%

Q9. Do you feel the country is headed in the right direction or is on the wrong track?

N=		800	100%
Right direction	1	272	34%
Wrong track	2	416	52%
Undecided (DO NOT READ)	3	112	14%

Q10. What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today?

READ LIST

N=		800	100%
Unemployment	01	159	20%
Economy in general	02	217	27%
Healthcare	03	72	9%
Political gridlock in Washington	04	63	8%
Federal budget	05	46	6%
Lack of money	06	58	7%
National security	07	20	3%
Education	08	66	8%
Taxes	09	24	3%
President/Obama	12	5	1%
Other	10	19	2%
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	11	50	6%

Q11A. What is the first word or phrase that comes to mind when you hear the name: Barack Obama?

ONE WORD OR PHRASE

N=		800	100%
"President".....	01	164	21%
"Good President/Doing a good job".....	02	119	15%
"Disappointed/Not doing a good job".....	03	48	6%
"Liar/Empty promises".....	04	41	5%
"Should not be President/Bad leader".....	05	26	3%
"Change".....	06	22	3%
"Don't like him".....	07	58	7%
"He's trying".....	08	33	4%
"Good man".....	09	26	3%
"Obamacare/Healthcare".....	10	10	1%
"Like him".....	11	29	4%
"Ok/Alright".....	12	19	2%
"National Debt".....	13	7	1%
Other	97	57	7%
Don't know	98	134	17%
Refused	99	6	1%

Q11B. What is the first word or phrase that comes to mind when you hear the name: Mitt Romney?

ONE WORD OR PHRASE			
N=		800	100%
"Poor choice".....	01	53	7%
"Not good/bad".....	02	89	11%
"Religion/Mormon".....	03	44	6%
"Untrustworthy".....	04	37	5%
"Running for President/Candidate".....	05	82	10%
"Wealthy".....	06	44	6%
"Greedy".....	07	17	2%
"Liar".....	08	19	2%
"Nothing".....	09	62	8%
"Politician/Politics".....	10	15	2%
"Possibilities".....	11	10	1%
"Idiot/Fool".....	12	13	2%
"Businessman".....	13	11	1%
"Good/Good man".....	14	11	1%
"Crook/Thief".....	15	15	2%
"Don't like".....	16	10	1%
Other	97	40	5%
Don't know	98	213	27%
Refused	99	15	2%

{NOT REGISTERED, LESS LIKELY}

Q12A. If you were registered to vote and the General Election for United States President were held today and the candidates were Democrat Barack Obama, Republican Mitt Romney, or a third party candidate, for whom would you vote or towards whom would you LEAN at this time?

N=		246	100%
Obama-Democrat	1	106	43%
Romney-Republican	2	35	14%
Third party	3	56	23%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	4	38	15%
(DO NOT READ) Refused	5	11	4%

{REGISTERED, LESS LIKELY}

Q12B. If the General Election for United States President were held today and the candidates were Democrat Barack Obama, Republican Mitt Romney or a third party candidate, for whom would you vote or towards whom would you LEAN at this time?

N=		554	100%
Obama-Democrat	1	239	43%
Romney-Republican	2	110	20%
Third party	3	102	18%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	4	85	15%
(DO NOT READ) Refused	5	18	3%

Q13. Can you tell me the name of the Vice President of the United States?

N=		800	100%
"Joe Biden".....	01	314	39%
"Dick Cheney".....	02	6	1%
Other	97	2	0%
Don't know	98	458	57%
Refused	99	20	3%

PRE14

Great, I am going to read you a list of agencies and individuals in national politics. For each, please tell me if your opinion of them is generally favorable or generally unfavorable. If you are undecided or if you have never heard of someone, just tell me that. First take Barack Obama.

N=		800	100%
Continue	1	800	100%

Q14. Is your opinion of Barack Obama generally favorable or generally unfavorable?

N=		800	100%
Favorable	1	441	55%
Unfavorable	2	296	37%
Heard of/Undecided	3	59	7%
Never heard	4	4	1%

Q15. Is your opinion of Mitt Romney generally favorable or generally unfavorable?

N=		800	100%
Favorable	1	200	25%
Unfavorable	2	404	51%
Heard of/Undecided	3	176	22%
Never heard	4	20	3%

Q16. Is your opinion of the U.S. Congress generally favorable or generally unfavorable?

N=		800	100%
Favorable	1	223	28%
Unfavorable	2	408	51%
Heard of/Undecided	3	161	20%
Never heard	4	8	1%

Q17. Is your opinion of the U.S. Supreme Court generally favorable or generally unfavorable?

N=		800	100%
Favorable	1	392	49%
Unfavorable	2	239	30%
Heard of/Undecided	3	157	20%
Never heard	4	12	2%

Q18. You indicated that you are not registered to vote. In your own words, what is the reason that you are not registered to vote?

N=		246	100%
"Not a priority".....	01	21	9%
"Vote doesn't count/matter".....	02	30	12%
"Not interested in politics".....	03	25	10%
"No time/Busy".....	04	63	26%
"Don't like to vote".....	05	12	5%
"No good candidates".....	06	23	9%
"Health reasons".....	07	7	3%
"Just don't want to".....	08	25	10%
"Religious beliefs".....	09	5	2%
"Just turned 18/Will register".....	10	4	2%
"Nothing gets done/Process broken".....	11	9	4%
Other	97	8	3%
Don't know	98	17	7%
Refused	99	2	1%

Q19. You indicated that you are registered to vote but <S2 > to vote in the 2012 election. In your own words, what is the reason that you are registered but just <S2 > to vote in the 2012 election?

N=		554	100%
"Don't like either candidate".....	01	66	12%
"Don't vote in every election".....	02	52	9%
"Right to vote/not to vote".....	03	71	13%
"Don't care enough/No opinion".....	04	45	8%
"May vote/Now thinking about it".....	05	79	14%
"Vote doesn't count/matter".....	06	64	12%
"Health reasons".....	07	12	2%
"Don't want to".....	08	41	7%
Other	97	22	4%
Don't know	98	95	17%
Refused	99	9	2%

Q20. In the 2008 Presidential Election did you vote for Barack Obama, John McCain - or did you not vote?

N=		554	100%
Obama	1	244	44%
McCain	2	110	20%
Other	3	15	3%
Did not vote	4	177	32%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided/Refused	5	8	1%

Q21. What was the last election you voted in - 2004 Bush vs. Kerry, 2000 Bush vs. Gore, 1996 Clinton vs. Dole vs. Perot, 1992 Clinton vs. Bush vs. Perot, or 1988 Bush vs. Dukakis?

N=		177	100%
2004 Bush/Kerry	1	31	18%
2000 Bush/Gore	2	15	8%
1996 Clinton/Dole/Perot	3	12	7%
1992 Clinton/Bush/Perot	4	10	6%
1988 Bush/Dukakis	5	3	2%
(DO NOT READ) Did not vote	6	87	49%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided/Refused	7	19	11%

Q21A. Who did you vote for?

READ 1 AND 2

N=		31	100%
Bush	1	16	52%
Kerry	2	8	26%
Don't remember/Refused	3	7	23%

Q21B. Who did you vote for?

READ 1 AND 2

N=		15	100%
Bush	1	7	47%
Gore	2	8	53%
Don't remember/Refused	3	0	0%

Q21C. Who did you vote for?

READ 1,2, AND 3

N=		12	100%
Clinton	1	9	75%
Dole	2	0	0%
Perot	3	3	25%
Don't remember/Refused	4	0	0%

Q21D. Who did you vote for?

READ 1,2, AND 3

N=		10	100%
Clinton	1	7	70%
Bush	2	2	20%
Perot	3	0	0%
Don't remember/Refused	4	1	10%

Q21E. Who did you vote for?

READ 1 AND 2

N=		3	100%
Bush	1	3	100%
Dukakis	2	0	0%
Don't remember/Refused	3	0	0%

Q22. What would it take to get you to vote this November?

N=		800	100%
"Different/better candidates".....	01	89	11%
"Will vote/Possibly vote".....	02	90	11%
"Nothing".....	03	153	19%
"If someone could fix problems in country".....	04	65	8%
"I'd vote for change".....	05	54	7%
"If I had time".....	06	39	5%
"If I was better informed".....	07	70	9%
"If they give you stuff/Get paid".....	08	12	2%
Other	97	52	7%
Don't know	98	173	22%
Refused	99	13	2%

Q23. Do the two major parties - Democrat & Republican - do a good job of representing Americans' political views, or do you think a third party or multiple parties is necessary?

N=		800	100%
Two parties-Democrat and Republican are good ...	1 (1/139)	259	32%
enough			
A Third party is necessary	2	205	26%
Multiple parties are necessary	3	214	27%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	4	122	15%

Q24. Is there anyone you can think of who you would be certain to go to the polls to vote for if that person would decide to run for President?

N=		800	100%
"Ron Paul".....	01	27	3%
"John McCain".....	02	14	2%
"Hillary Clinton".....	04	58	7%
"Bill Clinton".....	05	25	3%
"Donald Trump".....	06	9	1%
"Chris Christie".....	07	4	1%
"No one/No one else".....	96	160	20%
Other	97	37	5%
Don't know	98	447	56%
Refused	99	23	3%

Q25. How would you describe your own political viewpoint - very liberal, liberal, moderate, conservative, very conservative?

N=		800	100%
Very liberal	1	64	8%
Liberal	2	154	19%
Moderate	3	273	34%
Conservative	4	154	19%
Very conservative	5	75	9%
Other	6	16	2%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know	7	64	8%

Q26. When you think about the process of registering to vote, would you say it takes too much time and is too complicated or is it easy to complete and can be done fairly quickly?

N=		800	100%
Takes too much time/too complicated	1	124	16%
Easy to complete/can be done fairly quickly	2	543	68%
Don't know enough to say	3	94	12%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	4	39	5%

Q27. For each of the following statements, please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree...

N=		800	100%
Continue	1	800	100%

Q27A. I don't pay much attention to politics because...it is so corrupt.

N=		800	100%
Strongly agree	1	217	27%
Agree	2	216	27%
Disagree	3	160	20%
Strongly disagree	4	165	21%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	5	42	5%

Q27B. I don't pay much attention to politics because...it doesn't make much difference in my life.

N=		800	100%
Strongly agree	1	149	19%
Agree	2	146	18%
Disagree	3	217	27%
Strongly disagree	4	248	31%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	5	40	5%

Q27C. I don't pay much attention to politics because...nothing ever gets done - it's a bunch of empty promises.

N=		800	100%
Strongly agree	1	248	31%
Agree	2	224	28%
Disagree	3	142	18%
Strongly disagree	4	154	19%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	5	32	4%

Q27D. I don't pay much attention to politics because...there's not a dime's worth of difference between Democrats and Republicans.

N=		800	100%
Strongly agree	1	176	22%
Agree	2	161	20%
Disagree	3	203	25%
Strongly disagree	4	220	28%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	5	40	5%

Q28. Which statement comes closer to the way you feel about voting or not voting in November

one>	"It will bother me if I don't vote because I will be letting other people elect the president" or		
two>	"It won't bother me because my vote doesn't make any difference anyway."		
N=		800	100%
Will bother me - other people electing the president	1	401	50%
Won't bother me - my vote doesn't make any difference anyway	2	327	41%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	3	56	7%
(DO NOT READ) Refused	4	16	2%

Q29. How important a role do you think the federal government plays in your life - very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important?

N=		800	100%
Very important	1	338	42%
Somewhat important	2	292	37%
Not very important	3	82	10%
Not at all important	4	55	7%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	5	22	3%
(DO NOT READ) Refused	6	11	1%

Q30. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?

N=		800	100%
Approve	1	408	51%
Disapprove	2	314	39%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	3	78	10%

Q31. Earlier you said you would vote for Barack Obama if you were voting. If you knew that your vote could help swing a close national election to Obama, would you register or definitely vote in the upcoming presidential election - or not?

N=		345	100%
Yes	1	292	85%
No	2	43	12%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	3	10	3%

Q32. Earlier you said you would vote for Mitt Romney if you were voting. If you knew that your vote could help swing a close national election to Romney, would you register or definitely vote in the upcoming presidential election - or not?

N=		145	100%
Yes	1	101	70%
No	2	29	20%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	3	15	10%

Q33. Regardless of who you personally support for President this year, who do you expect our next president will be Barack Obama or Mitt Romney?

N=		800	100%
Barack Obama	1	505	63%
Mitt Romney	2	164	21%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	3	131	16%

Q34. Do you believe citizens should be required to show a photo ID before voting?

N=		800	100%
Yes	1	603	75%
No	2	155	19%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	3	42	5%

Q35. Some people seem to follow what's going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there's an election going on or not. Others aren't that interested. Would you say you follow what's going on in government and public affairs MOST of the time, SOME of the time, only NOW and THEN, or HARDLY AT ALL?

N=		800	100%
Most of the time	1	238	30%
Some of the time	2	273	34%
Only now and then	3	146	18%
Hardly at all	4	115	14%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	5	23	3%
(DO NOT READ) Refused	6	5	1%

Q36. Is the recession over in the United States?

N=		800	100%
Yes	1	101	13%
No	2	625	78%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	3	74	9%

Q37. If Iran and Israel were to engage in military conflict, what do you think the United States should do?

READ LIST

N=		800	100%
Fully support Israel militarily	1	145	18%
Work with the United Nations and the European .. Union to secure peace	2	255	32%
Engage in peace talks with Israel and Iran	3	181	23%
Do nothing	4	127	16%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know/No opinion	5	92	12%

Q38. What TV news or commentary source do you trust the most?

RANDOMIZE LIST

N=		800	100%
CNN	01	180	23%
MSNBC	02	51	6%
FOX NEWS	03	155	19%
ABC	04	105	13%
NBC	05	68	9%
CBS	06	60	8%
C-SPAN	07	9	1%
Comedy Central	08	20	3%
(DO NOT READ) None	09	115	14%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided/Refused	10	37	5%

Q39. What national political reporter or analyst would you say that you trust the most?

ONE ANSWER ONLY {Open}

N=		800	100%
"Jon Stewart".....	01	55	7%
"Brian Williams".....	02	58	7%
"Anderson Cooper".....	03	55	7%
"Bill O'Reilly".....	04	50	6%
"Rachel Maddow"	05	37	5%
"Diane Sawyer".....	06	48	6%
"George Stephanopoulos".....	07	12	2%
Other	97	26	3%
None	98	221	28%
Don't know	99	238	30%

DEMO

THE FINAL QUESTIONS WILL HELP US CLASSIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH OTHERS TAKING THE SURVEY

N=		800	100%
Continue	1	800	100%
Q40. What is your annual household income?			
N=		800	100%
Under \$60,000 per year	1	372	47%
Under \$100,000 per year	2	193	24%
Under \$140,000 per year	3	91	11%
Over \$140,000 per year	4	49	6%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided/Refused	5	95	12%
Q41. Would you describe your household finances as excellent, good, fair or poor?			
N=		800	100%
Excellent	1	59	7%
Good	2	206	26%
Fair	3	323	40%
Poor	4	187	23%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	5	25	3%
Q42. What is the highest level of education you have completed?			
N=		800	100%
Did not graduate high school/no GED	1	132	17%
High school diploma or GED	2	331	41%
Associates or Bachelors degree	3	234	29%
Masters Degree or higher	4	70	9%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	5	33	4%
Q43. What is your primary source for political news and information?			
N=		800	100%
Political Blogs	1	18	2%
Newspapers and Magazines (online or in print)	2	152	19%
Social Media Websites like Twitter and Facebook	3	48	6%
Television and Cable News Networks	4	387	48%
Friends and Family	5	66	8%
Radio	6	63	8%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	7	66	8%
Q44. Are any members of your household members of the U.S. military?			
N=		800	100%
Yes	1	115	14%
No	2	647	81%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	3	38	5%
Q45. Are any members of your household members of a labor union?			
N=		800	100%
Yes	1	64	8%
No	2	695	87%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	3	41	5%
Q46. Do you personally - or jointly with a spouse - have any money invested in the stock market right now, either in an individual stock or mutual fund - yes or no?			
N=		800	100%
Yes	1	185	23%
No	2	562	70%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	3	53	7%
Q47. How important is religion in your life - very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important?			
N=		800	100%
Very important	1	355	44%
Somewhat important	2	260	33%
Not very important	3	84	11%
Not at all important	4	63	8%
(DO NOT READ) Undecided	5	9	1%
(DO NOT READ) Refused	6	29	4%