
THE OHIO POLL*

FOR RELEASE

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By: Eric W. Rademacher, PhD
Kimberly Downing, PhD
Institute for Policy Research
(513) 556-3304

OBAMA 48, ROMNEY 46
BROWN 49, MANDEL 44

Cincinnati, OH--President Barack Obama and former Governor Mitt Romney continue to run a close race for Ohio's prized 18 electoral votes. In the race for U.S. Senate, likely voters currently give incumbent Senator Sherrod Brown a 49 to 44 edge over Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel.

These findings are based on the latest Ohio Poll, conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. The Ohio Poll is sponsored by the University of Cincinnati. The Poll was conducted with Ohio likely voters from October 25 to October 30, 2012.

RACE FOR PRESIDENT REMAINS UP FOR GRABS . . .

The latest Ohio Poll suggests the race between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney may be headed for a photo finish in Ohio.

Forty-eight percent of likely voters plan to vote for Obama, 46 percent plan to vote for Romney, two percent plan to vote for Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson, and two percent say they will select another candidate on the ballot. An additional two percent are undecided as to how they will vote for president.

The race for president is within the survey's margin of error.

After taking up residence in Ohio for much of the past two months, both presidential campaigns must be wondering what else they can do to gain a decisive edge among Ohio's voters. This election will now likely boil down to the campaign with the best statewide "ground game." In less than one week, we will know which campaign's tireless efforts generated more excitement, and more votes, through the mail, early voting and at the polls on Election Day.

. . . U.S. SENATE RACE ALSO CLOSE

Ohio's hard-fought U.S. Senate race is also close with less than a week remaining until Election Day.

Forty-nine percent of likely voters say they will vote for Sherrod Brown, 44 percent say they will vote for Josh Mandel and four percent say they will vote for Independent Scott Rupert. An additional three percent are undecided as to how they will vote for U.S. Senate.

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Ohio Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the most recent Ohio Poll conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati between October 25 and October 30, 2012.

A random sample of 1,182 likely voters from throughout the state were interviewed by landline telephone and cellular telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to plus or minus 2.9 percent.

In addition to sampling error, there are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects that can introduce error or bias.

Reported percentages may not total to 100% due to rounding.

Results reported for subgroups have potential for somewhat larger variation than those for the entire population.

Respondents to the Ohio Poll were asked:

- “Suppose the election for president was being held today and the candidates were . . . Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, the Republicans . . . Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats . . . Stewart Alexander, the Socialist Party candidate . . . Richard Duncan, the Independent . . . Virgil Goode, the Constitution Party candidate . . . Gary Johnson, the Libertarian Party candidate . . . and Jill Stein, the Green Party candidate. Which would you vote for?”
- “Suppose the election for U.S. Senate was being held today and the candidates were . . . Josh Mandel, the Republican . . . Sherrod Brown, the Democrat . . . and Scott Rupert, the Independent. Which would you vote for?”

2012 Presidential Race
(Likely Voters; Percentages Rounded)

	August <u>16-21</u>	September <u>13-18*</u>	October <u>18-23*</u>	October 25-30 <u>(Latest)</u>
Barack Obama	49%	51%	49%	48%
Mitt Romney	46	46	49	46
Gary Johnson	--	--	--	2
Other (individual candidates receiving less than one percent)	--	--	--	2
Other	2	1	1	--
Don't know	2	2	1	2
(N=)	(808)	(825)	(976)	(1141)

**Ohio Newspaper Poll*

-- Not Asked

2012 U.S. Senate Race
(Likely Voters; Percentages Rounded)

	August <u>16-21</u>	September <u>13-18*</u>	October <u>18-23*</u>	October 25-30 <u>(Latest)</u>
Sherrod Brown	48%	52%	51%	49%
Josh Mandel	47	45	47	44
Scott Rupert	--	--	--	4
Other candidate	1	1	1	--
Don't know	5	3	2	3
(N=)	(802)	(809)	(957)	(1107)

**Ohio Newspaper Poll*

-- Not Asked

2012 Presidential Election

		ROMNEY AND RYAN	OBAMA AND BIDEN	JOHNSON	OTHER	DON'T KNOW	Count
Ohio Likely Voters		46%	48%	2%	2%	2%	1141
Age of Respondent	18 to 29	32%	57%	7%		4%	174
	30 to 45	48%	42%	3%	4%	2%	281
	46 to 64	45%	50%	1%	3%	2%	458
	65 and over	55%	44%		1%	1%	228
Race	African - American	7%	91%		3%		122
	White	51%	43%	3%	2%	2%	984
Sex	Male	50%	41%	3%	3%	2%	529
	Female	42%	54%	1%	2%	2%	612
Party Identification	Democrat	5%	93%	1%	1%	1%	487
	Independent	32%	46%	4%	7%	11%	124
	Republican	92%	5%	2%	1%	1%	480
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	38%	55%	2%	2%	3%	458
	Northwest Ohio	49%	40%	4%	4%	2%	139
	Central Ohio	42%	56%	1%		1%	187
	Southeast Ohio*	56%	40%		2%	1%	72
	Southwest Ohio	56%	37%	3%	3%	2%	285

Ohio Poll #129, October 2012
 Institute for Policy Research
 University of Cincinnati

*Note: Number of respondents is 75 or less. Additional caution should be taken when interpreting the findings of this subgroup because of the potential for larger variation.

2012 Senate Election

		MANDEL	BROWN	RUPERT	DON'T KNOW	Count
Ohio Likely Voters		44%	49%	4%	3%	1107
Age of Respondent	18 to 29	35%	55%	2%	8%	160
	30 to 45	48%	44%	5%	3%	269
	46 to 64	43%	50%	4%	3%	452
	65 and over	50%	46%	2%	2%	226
Race	African - American	9%	85%	4%	3%	117
	White	49%	44%	4%	3%	954
Sex	Male	49%	44%	3%	3%	514
	Female	40%	53%	4%	4%	593
Party Identification	Democrat	6%	88%	3%	3%	481
	Independent	33%	41%	14%	12%	119
	Republican	88%	10%	1%	1%	460
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	36%	57%	3%	4%	441
	Northwest Ohio	54%	39%	2%	5%	137
	Central Ohio	40%	52%	2%	6%	175
	Southeast Ohio*	56%	40%	4%		70
	Southwest Ohio	52%	41%	5%	2%	283

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