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For The People & The Press

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## Nonvoters: Who They Are, What They Think

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# Nonvoters: Who They Are, What They Think

In the final days before Tuesday's election, most of the focus will be on those likely to cast votes. But a sizable minority of adults choose not to vote or are unable to vote. By their absence, they also will affect the outcome. Nonvoters are numerous; in 2008, they constituted about 43% of the voting age population.

Nonvoters favor Barack Obama over Mitt Romney by a wide margin (59% to 24%). While most nonvoters (64%) have a favorable view of Obama, just half as many (32%) view Romney favorably.

By contrast, likely voters are evenly divided in [Pew Research's most recent national survey](#) (47% Obama, 47% Romney). Nearly identical percentages of likely voters view Obama and Romney favorably (51% Obama, 52% Romney).

A plurality of nonvoters are independents (44%); 29% identify as Democrats and just 17% as Republicans. Likely voters include about the same percentages of Democrats (35%) as Republicans (34%); 27% of likely voters are independents.

About half of nonvoters (52%) either identify as Democrats or lean Democratic; only 27% identify as Republicans or lean Republican. Likely voters' leaned party identification is evenly divided: 47% identify with the Republican Party or lean toward the GOP, while the same percentage identify as Democrats or lean Democratic.

However, just a quarter of nonvoters describe their political views as liberal; that is little different from the percentage of liberals among likely voters (20%). But nonvoters are far

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## Nonvoters Would Back Obama

	All adults	Likely voters	Non-voters
<i>Presidential choice</i>	%	%	%
Obama/Lean Obama	51	47	59
Romney/Lean Romney	39	47	24
Other candidate	4	3	4
Undecided	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Obama favorability</i>			
Favorable	56	51	64
Unfavorable	40	47	28
<i>Romney favorability</i>			
Favorable	45	52	32
Unfavorable	49	45	55
<i>Party ID</i>			
Republican	28	34	17
Democrat	33	35	29
Independent	33	27	44
<i>Ideology</i>			
Conservative	38	44	28
Moderate	35	34	38
Liberal	22	20	25
N	2008	1495	513

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PEW RESEARCH CENTER Oct. 24-28, 2012. Figures may add to 100% because of rounding. Nonvoters include all unregistered adults as well as registered voters who do not meet the criteria for likely voters used in Pew Research Center polls.

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less likely than voters to describe their political views as conservative (28% vs. 44% of likely voters).

As might be expected, nonvoters express very little interest in politics or the election. A third of nonvoters say they are registered to vote. But they are far less likely than voters to give a lot of thought to the election and follow public affairs.

### Demographic Differences Between Voters, Nonvoters

Nonvoters are younger, less educated and less affluent than are likely voters. More than a third (36%) of nonvoters are younger than 30, compared with just 13% of likely voters.

Just 13% of nonvoters are college graduates and about the same percentage (14%) have family incomes of \$75,000 or more. Among likely voters, 38% are college graduates and a third (33%) have family incomes of \$75,000 or more.

While most voters are married, most nonvoters are not. Nearly two-thirds (64%) of nonvoters are unmarried, compared with 40% of likely voters.

Nonvoters also are much more likely than voters to be Hispanic: 21% of nonvoters are Hispanic, which is three times the percentage of Hispanics among likely voters (7%). About six-in-ten (59%) nonvoters are white non-Hispanics. By contrast, white non-Hispanics make up about three quarters (74%) of likely voters.

### Nonvoters: Younger, More Hispanic, Less Educated

	All adults %	Likely voters %	Non-voters %
Men	49	46	52
Women	51	54	48
White, non-Hispanic	68	74	59
Black, non-Hispanic	11	12	10
Hispanic	12	7	21
18-29	21	13	36
30-49	33	31	35
50-64	29	33	20
65+	16	21	8
Married	50	59	36
Not married	49	40	64
College grad+	29	38	13
Some college	30	29	31
High school or less	40	32	55
<i>Family income</i>			
\$75,000 or more	26	33	14
\$30,000-\$74,999	32	36	25
Under \$30,000	32	20	52
<i>Religious affiliation</i>			
Protestant	50	54	41
Catholic	21	20	22
Other religion	8	7	9
Unaffiliated	20	16	27

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Oct. 24-28, 2012.

## Nonvoters and Voters on the Issues

Nonvoters express more liberal opinions than voters on a wide range of domestic and foreign policy issues. But the differences are far less pronounced on social issues, such as gay marriage and abortion.

Far more nonvoters than voters favor activist government. About half of nonvoters (52%) say the government should do more to solve problems, while 40% say the government is doing too many things better left to businesses and individuals. The balance of opinion is reversed among likely voters: 56% say the government is doing too much, while 39% say the government should do more to solve problems.

By 46% to 31%, more nonvoters favor keeping the 2010 health care law in place than repealing the law; 23% do not express an opinion. Voters are more evenly divided, with 49% favoring the law's repeal and 43% saying it should remain in place; just 8% do not express an opinion.

There are smaller differences in the opinions of voters and nonvoters on tax policy: 55% of nonvoters and 51% of likely voters say it would be better for the economy to maintain current tax rates on income under \$250,000 while raising taxes on income about that level. A third of nonvoters, and 42% of likely voters say it would be better to lower tax rates for all Americans by 20%, while limiting some tax deductions.

### Nonvoters More Liberal on Many Domestic, Foreign Issues

	All adults	Likely voters	Non-voters
<i>Role of government ...</i>			
Government should do more to solve problems	44	39	52
Government is doing too many things	49	56	40
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Country better off if 2010 health care law ...</i>			
Is repealed	43	49	31
Remains in place	44	43	46
Don't know	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>23</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Better option for nation's economy?</i>			
Raise taxes on income above \$250,000	52	51	55
Lower rates 20%, cut back on tax deductions	39	42	33
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100
<i>In Afghanistan, U.S. should ...</i>			
Keep troops until the situation has stabilized	35	40	26
Remove troops as soon as possible	60	56	67
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100
<i>In dispute over Iran's nuclear program, what's more important?</i>			
Take a firm stand	56	62	45
Avoid military conflict	35	31	40
Other/Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Role of government: Sept. 12-16, 2012; health care, tax policy: Oct. 24-28, 2012; Afghanistan, Iran: Oct. 4-7, 2012. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

On foreign policy, a clear majority of likely voters (56%) favor withdrawing U.S. forces from Afghanistan as soon as possible; 40% say they should remain until the situation there is stabilized. Support for an immediate withdrawal is even more widespread among nonvoters (67% favor).

Nonvoters also are less supportive of taking hard line against Iran's nuclear program: 45% say it is more important to take a firm stand against Iran, while 40% say it is more important to avoid a military conflict with Iran. Among likely voters, 62% favor taking a firm stand against Iran while just 31% say it is more important to avoid a military conflict.

On gay marriage and abortion, however, there are at most modest differences between nonvoters and likely voters. And there are no significant differences in opinions about the impact of immigrants on the country.

Identical percentages of nonvoters and likely voters favor allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally (49% each). Somewhat fewer nonvoters oppose gay marriage (36% vs. 42% of voters), while more have no opinion (15% vs. 9%).

Nonvoters have the same views on abortion as likely voters: 54% of nonvoters say abortion should be legal in all or most cases, while 39% say it should be illegal in all or most cases. Among likely voters, 55% favor legal abortion in all or most cases; 38% say it should be mostly illegal.

Like voters, nonvoters express mixed opinions about the impact of the growing population of immigrants on the U.S.: 27% say it has been a change for the better, 34% a change for the worse, while 34% say it has not made much difference.

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### Nonvoters, Voters Largely Agree on Gay Marriage, Abortion

	All adults	Likely voters	Non-voters
<i>Allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally</i>	%	%	%
Favor	49	49	49
Oppose	40	42	36
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Abortion should be...</i>			
Legal in all/most cases	55	55	54
Illegal in all/most cases	39	38	39
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Growing population of immigrants is...</i>			
Change for better	28	29	27
Change for worse	35	35	34
Hasn't made much difference	31	29	34
Other/Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Oct. 24-28, 2012. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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## About the Surveys

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted among national samples of adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Three surveys are referenced in this report: October 24-28, 2012 (2,008 adults; 1,204 interviewed on a landline telephone, 804 on a cellphone, including 433 who had no landline telephone); October 4-7, 2012 (1,511 adults; 906 interviewed on a landline telephone, 605 on a cellphone, including 291 who had no landline telephone); and September 12-16, 2012 (3,019 adults; 1,806 interviewed on a landline telephone, 1,213 on a cellphone, including 599 who had no landline telephone). Data collection was managed by Princeton Survey Research Associates International and conducted by interviewers at Princeton Data Source and Abt SRBI. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see <http://people-press.org/methodology/>

The combined landline and cell phone samples are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity and region to parameters from the March 2011 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey and population density to parameters from the 2010 Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2011 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus...
<b>Oct. 24-28, 2012</b>		
General Public	2,008	2.5 percentage points
Likely voters	1,495	2.9 percentage points
Nonvoters	513	5.0 percentage points
<b>Oct. 4-7, 2012</b>		
General Public	1,511	2.9 percentage points
Likely voters	1,112	3.4 percentage points
Nonvoters	399	5.7 percentage points
<b>Sept. 12-16, 2012</b>		
General Public	3,019	2.1 percentage points
Likely voters	2,192	2.4 percentage points
Nonvoters	827	4.0 percentage points

## Likely Voter Scale

The following table shows the questions in the likely voter scale for each survey and the turnout estimate used in identifying likely voters:

<b>Oct. 24-28, 2012</b>	<b>Oct. 4-7, 2012</b>	<b>Sept. 12-16, 2012</b>
<i>9-item scale:</i>	<i>7-item scale:</i>	<i>7-item scale:</i>
Thought	Thought	Thought
Campnii	Campnii	Campnii
Precinct	Precinct	Precinct
Oftvote	Oftvote	Oftvote
Plan1/Plan3	Planto1/Planto2	Planto1/Planto2
Pvote08	Pvote08	Pvote08
Scale10	Scale10	Scale10
Where		
Folgov		
<i>Turnout estimate:</i>	<i>Turnout estimate:</i>	<i>Turnout estimate:</i>
59%	59%	57%

For full question wording of the turnout indicators, see the [Oct. 24-28 topline](#). More details about the Pew Research Center's methodology for estimating likelihood to vote are available at <http://www.people-press.org/files/2011/01/UnderstandingLikelyVoters.pdf>

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**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**LATE OCTOBER 2012 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**October 24-28, 2012**  
**N=2,008**

**NO QUESTIONS 1-4**

**ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGFINAL=1):**

Q.5 If the presidential election were being held TODAY, would you vote for **[READ AND RANDOMIZE REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC TICKETS FIRST AND RANDOMIZE JOHNSON AND STEIN LAST WHERE APPLICABLE]** for the Republican ticket of Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, for the Democratic ticket of Barack Obama and Joe Biden, for the Libertarian Party ticket headed by Gary Johnson or the Green Party ticket headed by Jill Stein<sup>1</sup>?

**ASK IF OTHER OR DK (Q.5=5,8,9):**

Q.5a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to **[READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.5]**?

**ASK ALL NON-VOTERS (REGFINAL=2):**

Q.8 If the presidential election were being held TODAY, who would you like to see win **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**?

**ASK IF OTHER OR DK (Q.8=3,9):**

Q.8a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to **[READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.8]**?

GENERAL PUBLIC	REGISTERED VOTERS	LIKELY VOTERS	
Oct 24-28 2012	Oct 24-28 2012	Oct 24-28 2012	
51	45	47	Mitt Romney, the Republican
39	47	47	Barack Obama, the Democrat
4	4	3	Other candidate (VOL.)
7	4	3	Don't know/Refused/Refused to lean (VOL.)

[N=2,008]      [N=1,678]      [N=1,495]

**NO QUESTIONS , 9-14, 17-19, 22-24, 27-29, 33-34, 37-39, 41-44, 47**

**THOUGHT, REG, NREG, STATEREG, PLANREG, CAMPNII, PRECINCT, OFTVOTE, WHERE, Q.5b-7 PLAN1, EARLY1, PLAN2, PLAN3, QUESTIONS 15-16, 20-21, 25-26, 30-32, 40, FOLGOV, QUESTIONS 48-50 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**ALL:**

And thinking about some issues...

Q.45 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally?

	-----Favor-----			-----Oppose-----			(VOL.) DK/Ref
	Total	Strongly favor	Favor	Total	Strongly oppose	Oppose	
Oct 24-28, 2012	49	22	27	40	19	21	11
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012 <sup>2</sup>	48	23	25	44	24	20	8
Jun 7-17, 2012	48	23	25	44	23	21	9
Apr 4-15, 2012	47	22	25	43	22	21	11
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	46	--	--	44	--	--	9
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	45	20	25	46	25	21	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	16	27	47	26	22	10
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	41	17	24	48	24	24	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	39	14	25	53	31	22	8

<sup>1</sup> Each respondent was asked about the candidates on the ballot in his or her state.

<sup>2</sup> In Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012, Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011, July 21-Aug 5, 2010, Aug 11-17, 2009, August 2008, August 2007, Early January 2007, Early November 2006, March 2006, July 2005, December 2004, Early February 2004, November 2003, Mid-July 2003, March 2001 and June 1996 the question was asked as part of a list of items. In Jun 7-17, 2012, Apr 4-15, 2012, August 2009, April 2009, May 2008 and June 2008, the question read "allowing gay and lesbian couples;" all other instances read "allowing gays and lesbians."



## Q.45 CONTINUED...

	-----Favor-----			-----Oppose-----			(VOL.) DK/Ref
	Total	Strongly favor	Favor	Total	Strongly oppose	Oppose	
Mid-April, 2009	35	14	21	54	31	23	11
August, 2008	39	13	26	52	30	22	9
June, 2008	40	15	25	52	31	21	8
Late May, 2008	38	15	23	49	29	20	13
November, 2007	36	12	24	54	29	25	10
August, 2007	36	13	23	55	31	24	9
Early January, 2007	37	13	24	55	33	22	8
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	30	10	20	57	31	26	13
July, 2006	35	12	23	56	31	25	9
June, 2006	33	13	20	55	32	23	12
March, 2006	39	10	29	51	28	23	10
July, 2005	36	13	23	53	31	22	11
December, 2004	32	14	18	61	38	23	7
August, 2004	29	8	21	60	35	25	11
July, 2004	32	10	22	56	33	23	12
Mid-March, 2004	32	10	22	59	35	24	9
Early February, 2004	30	9	21	63	42	21	7
November, 2003	30	10	20	62	41	21	8
October, 2003	30	9	21	58	33	25	12
Mid-July, 2003	38	10	28	53	30	23	9
March, 2001	35	8	27	57	34	23	8
June, 1996	27	6	21	65	41	24	8

## ASK ALL:

Q.46 Do you think abortion should be **[READ] [PLEASE READ CATEGORIES IN REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF THE SAMPLE]**

	Legal in all <u>cases</u>	Legal in most <u>cases</u>	Illegal in most <u>cases</u>	Illegal in all <u>cases</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref	NET <i>Legal in all/most</i>	NET <i>Illegal in all/most</i>
Oct 24-28, 2012	23	32	25	13	7	55	39
Apr 4-15, 2012	23	31	23	16	7	53	39
Nov 9-14, 2011	20	31	26	17	6	51	43
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	19	35	25	16	5	54	41
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	18	36	26	16	4	54	42
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	17	33	27	17	7	50	44
August 11-27, 2009	16	31	27	17	8	47	45
April, 2009	18	28	28	16	10	46	44
Late October, 2008	18	35	24	16	7	53	40
Mid-October, 2008	19	38	22	14	7	57	36
August, 2008	17	37	26	15	5	54	41
June, 2008	19	38	24	13	6	57	37
November, 2007	18	33	29	15	5	51	44
October, 2007	21	32	24	15	8	53	39
August, 2007	17	35	26	17	5	52	43
AP/Ipsos-Poll: February, 2006	19	32	27	16	6	51	43
ABC/WaPo: December, 2005	17	40	27	13	3	57	40
ABC/WaPo: April, 2005	20	36	27	14	3	56	41
ABC/WaPo: December, 2004	21	34	25	17	3	55	42
ABC/WaPo: May, 2004	23	31	23	20	2	54	43
ABC/WaPo: January, 2003	23	34	25	17	2	57	42
ABC/WaPo: August, 2001	22	27	28	20	3	49	48
ABC/BeliefNet: June, 2001	22	31	23	20	4	53	43
ABC/WaPo: January, 2001	21	38	25	14	1	59	39
ABC/WaPo: September, 2000 (RVs)	20	35	25	16	3	55	41
ABC/WaPo: July, 2000	20	33	26	17	4	53	43
ABC/WaPo: September, 1999	20	37	26	15	2	57	41
ABC/WaPo: March, 1999	21	34	27	15	3	55	42
ABC/WaPo: July, 1998	19	35	29	13	4	54	42

**Q.46 CONTINUED...**

	Legal in all <u>cases</u>	Legal in most <u>cases</u>	Illegal in most <u>cases</u>	Illegal in all <u>cases</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	NET <i>Legal in all/most</i>	NET <i>Illegal in all/most</i>
<i>ABC/WaPo: August, 1996</i>	22	34	27	14	3	56	41
<i>ABC/WaPo: June, 1996</i>	24	34	25	14	2	58	39
<i>ABC/WaPo: October, 1995</i>	26	35	25	12	3	61	37
<i>ABC/WaPo: September, 1995</i>	24	36	25	11	4	60	36
<i>ABC/WaPo: July, 1995</i>	27	32	26	14	1	59	40

**ASK ALL:**

Q.51 Right now, which ONE of the following do you think should be the more important priority for addressing America's energy supply? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**?

Oct 24-28 <u>2012</u>		Mar 7-11 <u>2012</u>	Feb 22-Mar 1 <u>2011</u>
47	Developing alternative sources, such as wind, solar and hydrogen technology	52	63
39	Expanding exploration and production of oil, coal and natural gas	39	29
9	Both should be given equal priority (VOL.)	5	6
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	2

**NO QUESTIONS 52-54****ASK ALL:**

Q.55 Which of the following do you think would be better for the nation's economy? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

Oct 24-28 <u>2012</u>	
52	Option [ONE/TWO] - Keeping current tax rates on income under \$250,000 while raising taxes on income over \$250,000
39	Option [TWO/ONE] – Lowering tax rates for all Americans by 20% while cutting back on tax deductions people can take
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**NO QUESTIONS 56-57****ASK ALL:**

Q.58 All in all, do you think the country would be better off if the 2010 health care law **[READ OPTIONS; RANDOMIZE]**?

Oct 24-28 <u>2012</u>	
43	Is repealed
44	Remains in place
13	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**ASK ALL:**

Q.59 Thinking about changes in our society over the last 50 years, all in all, do you think **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE a-b]** has been a change for the better, a change for the worse, or hasn't this made much difference? How about... **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**? **[READ IF NECESSARY: Has this been a change for the better, a change for the worse, or hasn't this made much difference?]**<sup>3</sup>

	Change for <u>the better</u>	Change for <u>the worse</u>	Hasn't made much <u>difference</u>	(VOL.) Mixed <u>changes</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. A growing population of immigrants					
Oct 24-28, 2012	28	35	31	2	5
Sep 1-15, 2011 ( <i>Pew SDT</i> )	27	37	29	3	4
b. More people of different races marrying each other					
Oct 24-28, 2012	36	6	52	1	5
Sep 1-15, 2011 ( <i>Pew SDT</i> )	43	11	44	1	2

**ATTEND, QUESTIONS 60-61 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

**ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):**

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

**BASED ON LIKELY VOTERS [N=1,495]:**

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	(VOL.) No <u>preference</u>	(VOL.) Other <u>party</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
Oct 24-28, 2012	34	35	27	2	*	1	14	12
Oct 4-7, 2012	36	31	30	1	1	1	14	14
Sep 12-16, 2012	29	39	30	1	*	2	14	13

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,678]:**

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	(VOL.) No <u>preference</u>	(VOL.) Other <u>party</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
Oct 24-28, 2012	33	34	29	2	*	1	13	13
Oct 4-7, 2012	33	32	31	1	1	1	14	14
Sep 12-16, 2012	28	37	31	1	*	2	14	13
Jul 16-26, 2012	25	38	33	2	1	2	15	12
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	27	36	34	1	*	2	15	15
Jun 7-17, 2012	28	35	35	1	*	1	17	14
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	28	35	31	2	*	3	13	12
Apr 4-15, 2012	28	34	35	1	*	1	16	12
Mar 7-11, 2012	28	38	31	1	1	1	15	14
Feb 8-12, 2012	32	34	31	1	*	1	13	15
Jan 11-16, 2012	24	33	38	2	*	2	17	14
Jan 4-8, 2012	31	32	32	3	*	2	15	12

**BASED ON GENERAL PUBLIC:**

Oct 24-28, 2012	28	33	33	4	*	2	12	16
Oct 4-7, 2012	27	31	36	3	1	3	15	15
Sep 12-16, 2012	24	35	36	2	*	2	14	16
Jul 16-26, 2012	22	33	38	4	*	3	14	15

<sup>3</sup> In September 2011, question wording began with "I'm going to read a list of some changes that have taken place over the last 50 years in our society. Please tell me if you think each one has been a change for the better, a change for the worse, or hasn't made much difference."

## PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) DK/Ref	<i>Lean Rep</i>	<i>Lean Dem</i>
<b>BASED ON GENERAL PUBLIC:</b>								
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	24	33	37	3	*	3	15	17
Jun 7-17, 2012	24	33	39	2	*	2	17	17
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	24	32	36	4	*	4	13	14
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	31	39	3	*	2	15	15
Mar 7-11, 2012	24	34	36	3	1	2	16	17
Feb 8-12, 2012	26	32	36	4	1	2	13	17
Jan 11-16, 2012	22	31	42	3	*	2	17	16
Jan 4-8, 2012	26	31	35	4	*	4	14	14
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
2011	24.3	32.3	37.4	3.1	.4	2.5	15.7	15.6
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

PVOTE08-SCALE10 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED