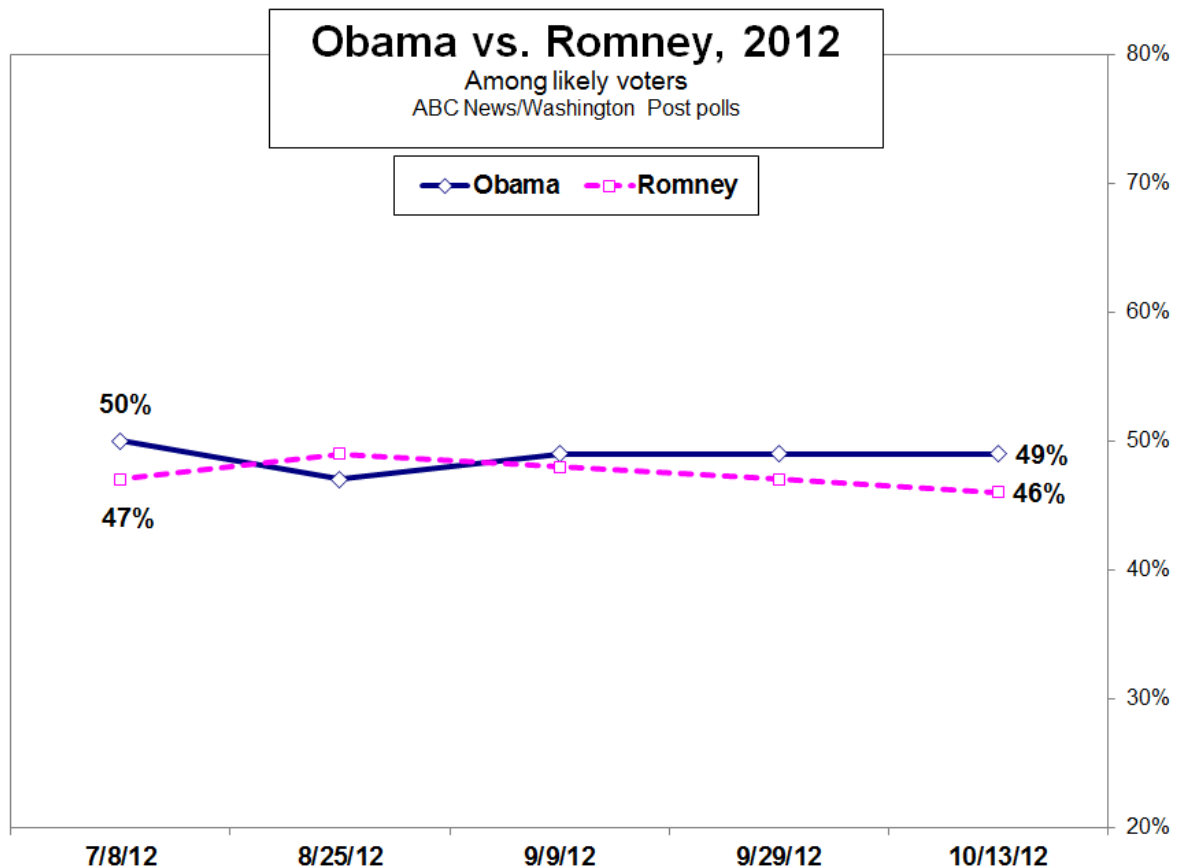


Enthusiasm Rises for Romney; Obama Has a ‘Right-Track’ Retort

Rising enthusiasm and declining anxiety mark an energy boost among Mitt Romney’s supporters since he prevailed in the first presidential debate. But a persistent sense he’d favor the wealthy, combined with easing discontent with the nation’s direction, provide a retort for Barack Obama, raising the stakes for their second showdown this week.

Romney now numerically leads Obama in strong enthusiasm and trails him in anxiety among potential voters, both firsts this season. At the same time, the number of registered voters in the latest ABC News/Washington Post poll who say the country is headed seriously off on the wrong track has eased to its lowest in nearly three years, 56 percent – a level incumbents can survive.

Following the best jobs report in 44 months, 52 percent say Obama deserves at least some credit for lower joblessness. And gains have been felt locally: Thirty-two percent now call it “very difficult” to find jobs in their area, down from 49 percent in July 2011.

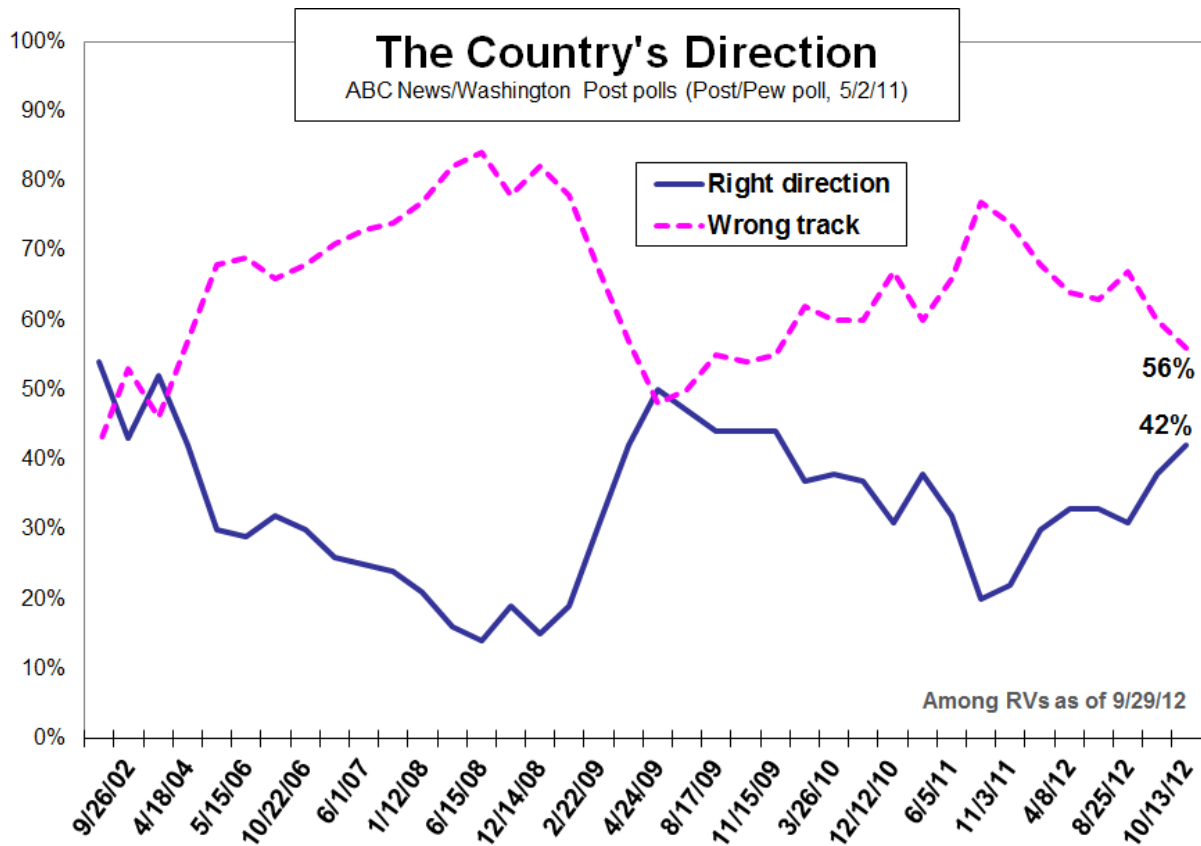


These competing pulls make for a continued close race, with preferences narrowly divided and essentially unchanged. Likely voters split by 49-46 percent between Obama and Romney if the election were today, compared with 49-47 percent in the last ABC/Post poll, just before the first debate. The three-point difference between the candidates is within the survey's margin of error.

Notably, Obama's support among likely voters has ranged, tightly, between 47 and 49 percent in four ABC/Post polls since late August; Romney's has been between 46 and 49 percent in that same time. Neither has broken free, nor exceeded the 50 percent line. If that holds, it becomes a get-out-the-vote election – an area in which Obama currently has an advantage, but Romney's proving more effective than was John McCain in 2008.

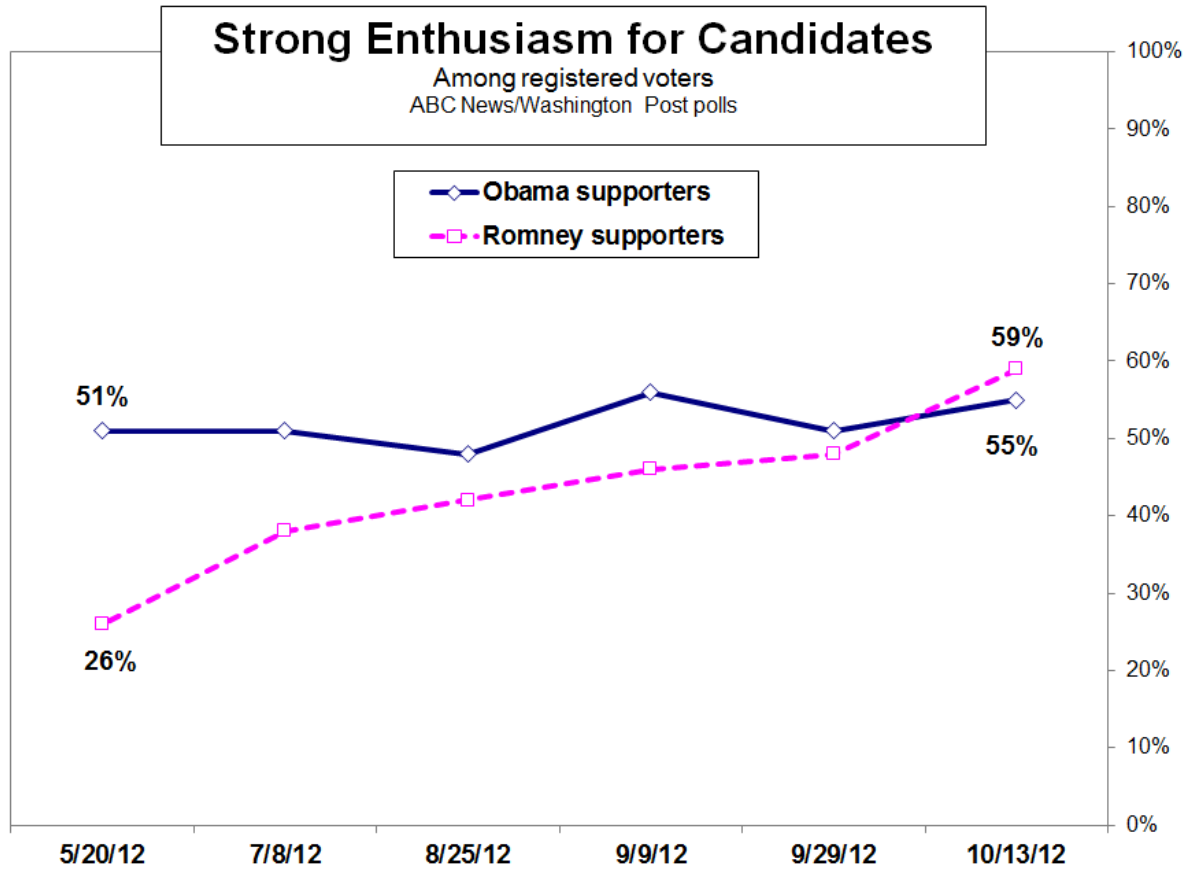
The poll finds likely voters in nine battleground states (Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia and Wisconsin) dividing by 51-46 percent, Obama-Romney (not a significant difference). In the states rated as strong for Obama it's 56-39 percent; in those seen as strong for Romney, he leads by an almost identical 55-39 percent.

DIRECTION AND BUZZ – The public's basic mood is hardly bright; well fewer than half of registered voters, 42 percent, say the country is headed in the right direction. But that's up by 13 percentage points since late August, and compares to just 8 percent at this point in 2008.



Indeed the “right direction” number is no worse now than it was at about this time in 2004, when George W. Bush overcame majority discontent to win a second term. Similarly, Obama’s job approval rating, 50 percent among all adults, matches Bush’s then.

But the better buzz for Romney, especially since his debate performance, also is significant. Strong enthusiasm among his supporters has soared from 26 percent five months ago to 59 percent now, including an 11-point gain in just the past two weeks. And while Obama’s strong enthusiasm is eight points lower than at this point in 2008, strong enthusiasm for Romney – potentially an indicator of voter turnout – is a vast 30 points better than McCain’s four years ago.

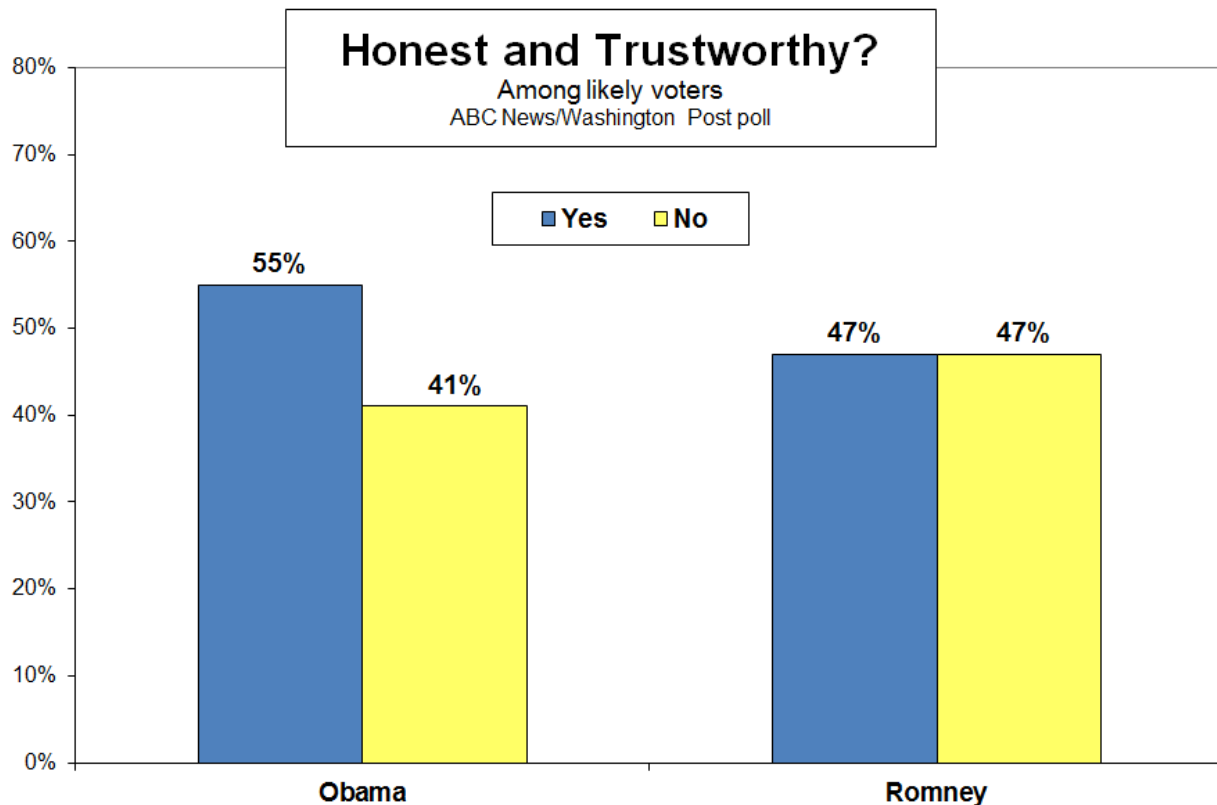


Anxiety – another indicator of comfort with the candidates – tells a similar story in this poll, produced for ABC by Langer Research Associates. The number of Romney supporters who feel anxious about how he’d perform as president has eased by 9 points since late August, to 53 percent. Anxiety among Obama’s supporters about how he’d handle a second term has followed a different path – 53 percent six weeks ago, 58 percent now. Anxiety about Obama is now numerically greater than it is about Romney, again a first this season.

One further measure highlights these shifts as the campaigns enter the critical voter-turnout stage of the race: While 57 percent of registered voters expect Obama to win re-election, that’s declined from 63 percent before the first debate, including an 11-point drop among Republicans.

FUNDAMENTALS – Other fundamentals – many of them more challenging for Romney – remain in place. He’s still very broadly seen as likely to favor the wealthy and as not having offered enough details about his policies. He’s even with – but not ahead of – Obama in trust to fix the economy, and in the expectation it’ll improve under his leadership.

Romney’s weaker than Obama in ratings of honesty and trustworthiness, and continues to trail in economic empathy and personal likeability alike, the latter by a 2-1 margin. Romney’s about even with Obama on two other attributes, strong leadership and – fundamental to their campaign arguments – having a better sense of the right size and role of government.



The improving trend on the “right direction/wrong track” question is important for Obama. Among likely voters who say the country is headed in the right direction – again, a group that’s grown this fall – 92 percent favor him. Among those who say the country’s pretty seriously off on the wrong track, by contrast, 80 percent back Romney.

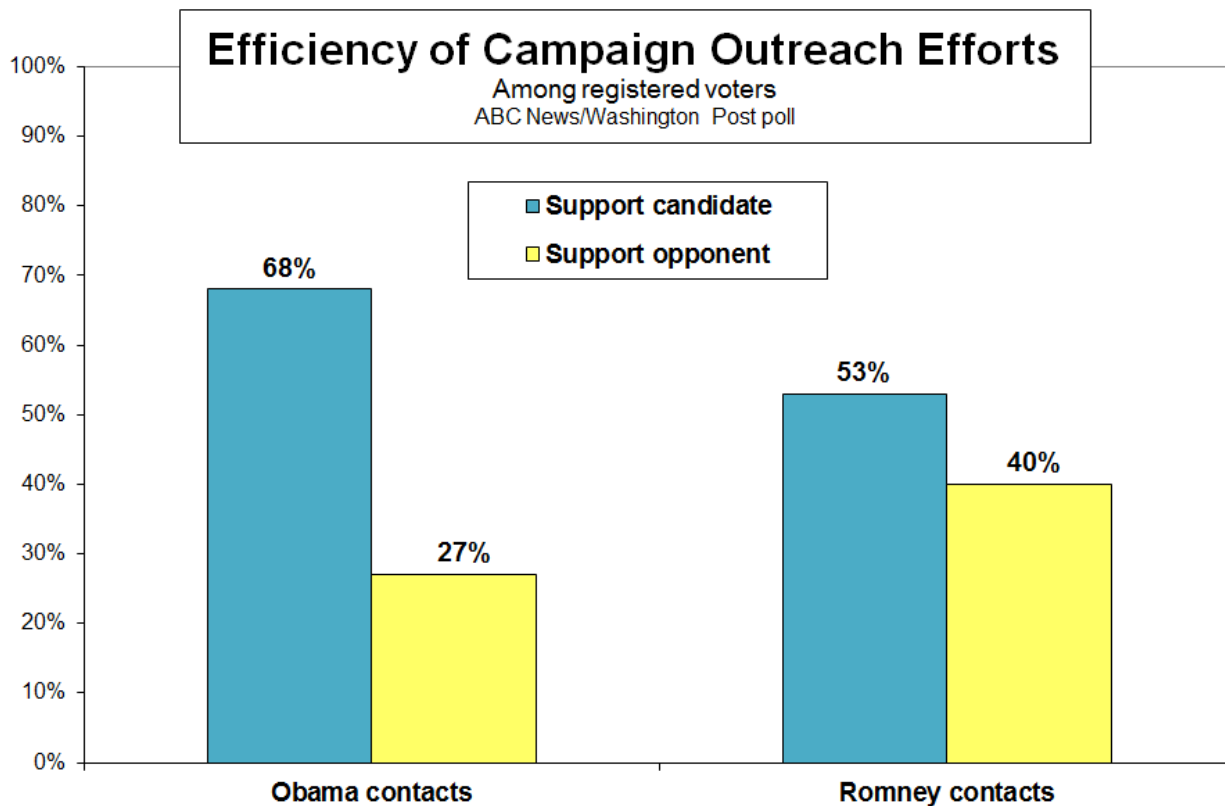
Similarly, among likely voters who say plenty of jobs are available in their area, Obama leads Romney by 72-23 percent; among those who say jobs are somewhat difficult to find, it’s a close 52-45 percent split. But among those who say finding jobs is very difficult, Romney leads, 69-26 percent.

Certainly there's a political component to views on jobs and the country's direction, both of which can be filtered by partisan predispositions, particularly in the late stages of an election. Since late August "right direction" sentiment has jumped by 16 points among Democratic registered voters, to 74 percent, and by 13 points among independents, to a much-lower 37 percent. It's hardly budged – now at a dismal 7 percent – among Republicans.

GOTV – Attention to the race is on the rise; nearly nine in 10 registered voters are following the contest closely – up 8 points since early September – and for the first time this season more than half, 54 percent, are following it "very" closely.

The campaigns themselves are playing a strong role in voter reach-out: Twenty-five percent of registered voters say they've been contacted by Obama's campaign, 21 percent by Romney's. That puts Romney closer to Obama in get-out-the-vote contacts than McCain was in 2008.

However, Obama's effort looks to be better targeted: Among registered voters who've been contacted by his campaign, 68 percent support him. Among those who've heard from the Romney campaign, fewer, 53 percent, are Romney supporters.



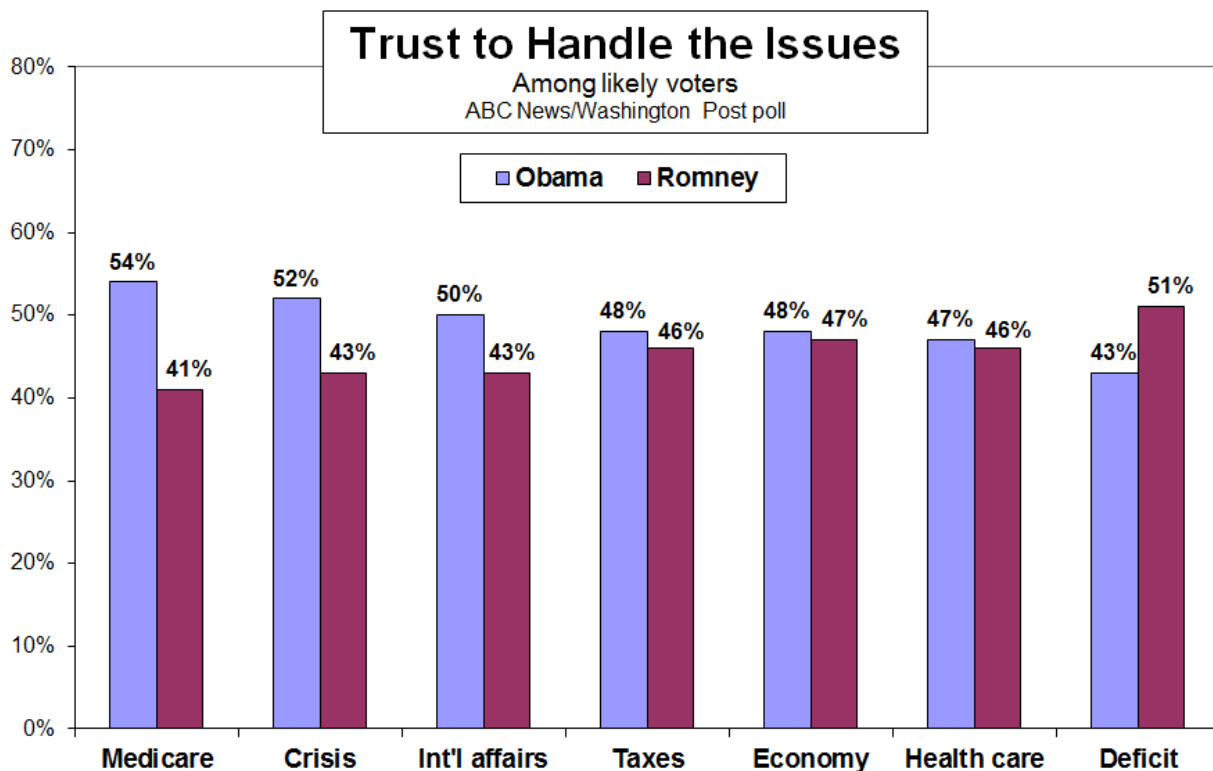
It matters, for this reason: Just 67 percent of likely voters say they plan to vote on Election Day; 32 percent instead say they'll vote early (including 2 percent who've already voted). Among those who plan to vote early, Obama holds the advantage, 54-43 percent, underscoring the

particular importance of early turnout to his campaign. In ABC/Post polling in 2008, he won early voters even more widely, by 58-40 percent.

While turnout increasingly is the critical element, there also may yet be minds to change: Eighteen percent of likely voters remain persuadable, defined as those who are both anxious about their candidate and interested in more information about the contest. That's eased from 23 percent in late August.

But the persuadability window is closing; while attention to the race is up, the number of likely voters who are interested in gathering more information about the candidates has fallen from 39 percent just before the conventions to 26 percent now. And using another gauge, likely voters' self-assessments, just 9 percent now see a chance they may change their minds before they vote.

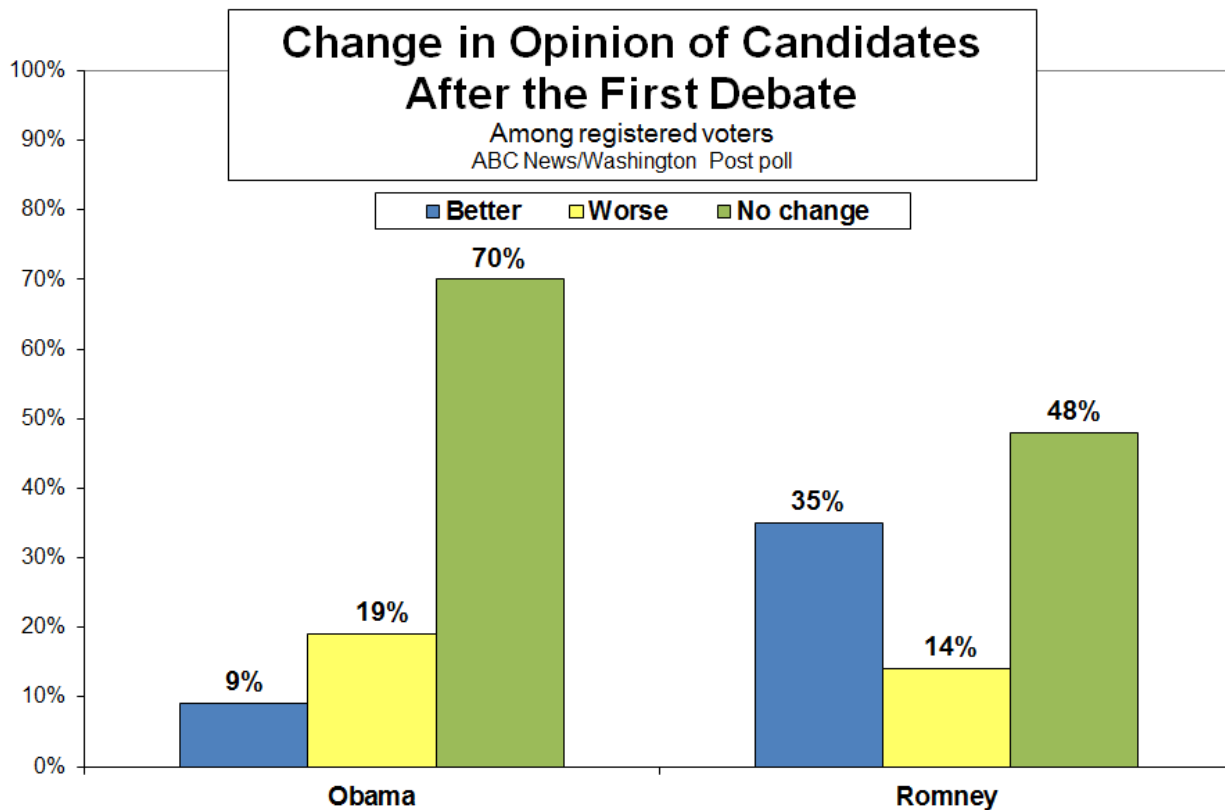
ISSUES and ATTRIBUTES – A challenge for Romney is that he's yet to break out on any issue, especially his key opportunity, the economy. Likely voters divide essentially evenly, 48-47 percent, on which candidate they trust more to handle the economy, Obama or Romney. Also, a tepid 51 percent of likely voters express confidence the economy will improve under Romney, vs. a similar 48 percent who are confident it'll get better under Obama.



On other issues, Romney does best among likely voters, 51-43 percent vs. Obama, in trust to handle the deficit. But Obama's opened a lead, +13 points, in trust to handle Medicare, leads by a slight 9 points in trust to handle a major crisis and 7 points on international affairs. The two run

evenly in trust to handle health care – traditionally a better issue for Democrats – but also in trust to handle taxes, customarily better for the Republican candidate.

Romney’s opportunity is reflected in the overwhelming judgment, by 69-18 percent among registered voters, that he won the first debate; 35 percent say they came away with a better opinion of him overall – a much better impact than Obama realized in 2008. The outcome of the first debate was a surprise; in a pre-debate ABC/Post poll, 56 percent expected an Obama win.



That said, Romney has more to do. Perhaps most critical is to address the continued perception, expressed by 57 percent of likely voters, that he would do more as president to favor the wealthy than the middle class. Sixty-eight percent, in contrast, think Obama has favored the middle class.

Sixty-three percent also still say Romney hasn’t done enough to explain his positions, 9 points more than say the same about Obama.

GROUPS – Some of these underlying measures matter more than current vote preferences, since the election actually isn’t today, and turnout is still up in the air. That said, among likely voter groups, recent patterns in vote choices continue. Men divide very closely while Obama, as is customary for a Democrat, does numerically better among women. Singles favor Obama, while those who are married are more apt to go for Romney.

Obama trails by 11 points among whites, but comes back with a vast 73-18 percent lead among nonwhites. Romney’s Mormon religion looks to be no impediment among evangelical white Protestants, a core Republican group in which he leads by 81-17 percent. (Obama did better in this group against McCain.) The contest has tightened among white Catholics, a swing group in some elections, albeit with Romney maintaining a numerical (not statistically significant) edge. (McCain won this group by 5). And independents, frequently another swing voter group, divide by a closer 48-42 percent, Romney-Obama.

Underscoring Obama’s GOTV worklist, he’s again got broad support among young likely voters, as well as among those with incomes under \$50,000 a year – both groups whose turnout is less reliable.

LIGHTER LOOK – This survey also takes a lighter look at some serious underlying attributes, measuring which candidate registered voters would rather have as captain of a ship in a storm (suggesting skill under duress), babysit their child (caring and responsibility), work as their employee (reliability) and which they think would be more apt to go bungee jumping (fun for some, risk-taking to others).

	Among reg. voters	
	Obama	Romney
Rather have as your employee	46%	46
Rather have as the captain of a ship in a storm	48	44
Rather have babysit your child	49	36
More apt to go bungee jumping	60	21

There’s been some change: Preference on the “captain” question has tightened from +12 Obama two weeks ago to an insignificant +4 Obama now, possibly reflecting Romney’s debate performance; but “babysitter” has moved from an even split to +13 Obama, possibly because he was seen as more soothing or less confrontational in the debate.

Indeed, in another result, the number of registered voters who say Obama chiefly is attacking Romney, rather than addressing the issues, has eased by 7 points. Whether that holds after tomorrow night remains to be seen.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone Oct. 10-13, 2012, among a random national sample of 1,252 adults, including 1,063 registered voters and 923 likely voters, including landline and cell-phone-only respondents. Results have a margin of sampling error of 3.5 points for registered and likely voters alike, including design effect. The survey was produced for ABC News by Langer Research Associates of New York, N.Y., with sampling, data collection and tabulation by Abt-SRBI of New York, N.Y.

Partisan divisions in this survey, Democrats-Republicans-independents, are 33-22-37 percent among the general population, 34-25-36 percent among registered voters and 35-26-33 percent among likely voters. Partisan divisions in the 2008 exit poll were 39-32-29 percent.

Analysis by Gary Langer.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com at <http://abcnews.com/pollingunit>.

Media contacts: David Ford, (212) 456-7243, and Julie Townsend, (212) 456-4934.

Full results follow.

*= less than 0.5 percent

1. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) How closely are you following the 2012 presidential race: very closely, somewhat closely, not so closely, or not closely at all?

	---- Closely -----			---- Not closely -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwt	NET	Not so	At all	
10/13/12 LV	93	60	33	6	4	2	*
10/13/12 RV	88	54	34	11	6	5	1
9/29/12 RV	86	47	39	14	8	6	0
9/9/12 RV	80	44	36	19	11	9	*
5/20/12 RV	82	38	44	18	9	8	*
2/4/12* RV	79	37	43	20	12	8	*
1/15/12 RV	76	33	43	24	14	10	*

*2/4/12 and previous "not too closely" instead of "not so closely"
Call for full trend.

2. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) I'd like you to rate the chances that you will vote in the presidential election in November: Are you absolutely certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or less than that?

		Certain to vote	Probably vote	Chances 50/50	Less than that	Don't think	Already	No op.
						will vote (vol.)	voted (vol.)	
10/13/12	RV	85	7	4	1	1	1	1
9/29/12	RV	84	7	7	2	*	0	*
9/9/12	RV	83	7	6	4	*	NA	0
8/25/12	RV	81	8	6	3	1	NA	*
7/8/12	RV	81	9	8	2	*	NA	*

Call for full trend.

3. (IF CERTAIN TO VOTE) Do you think you'll (vote in person at your polling place on Election Day), or (vote before Election Day by early voting or mail-in ballot)?

		Vote in person	Early voting/ mail-in ballot	Already voted (vol.)	No opinion
11/2/08	RV	63	11	25	*
11/1/08	RV	63	13	23	*
10/31/08	RV	63	16	20	1
10/30/08	RV	64	17	18	1
10/29/08	RV	65	18	16	1
10/28/08	RV	65	19	15	1
10/27/08	RV	66	18	15	1
10/26/08	RV	67	18	14	1
10/25/08	RV	68	18	13	1
10/24/08	RV	69	19	11	1
10/23/08	RV	68	20	11	1
10/22/08	RV	66	20	13	1

4. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) If the presidential election were being held today and the candidates were (Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats) and (Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, the Republicans), for whom would you vote? Which candidates are you leaning toward, (Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats) or (Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, the Republicans)? (ASKED IF ALREADY VOTED) For whom did you vote?

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - among likely voters

	Obama	Romney	Other (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	49	46	1	1	2
9/29/12 LV	49	47	*	2	1
9/9/12 LV	49	48	*	1	2
8/25/12 LV	47	49	1	1	1
7/8/12* LV	50	47	*	2	2

*7/18/12: "Barack Obama, the Democrat" and "Mitt Romney, the Republican"

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - among registered voters

	Obama	Romney	Other (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Would not vote (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 RV	50	43	1	3	*	3
9/29/12 RV	49	44	1	3	1	1
9/9/12 RV	50	44	1	2	1	2
8/25/12 RV	46	47	2	3	2	1
7/8/12* RV	47	47	*	2	*	4
5/20/12 RV	49	46	*	3	1	1
4/8/12 RV	51	44	*	2	3	1
3/10/12 RV	47	49	*	1	2	2
2/4/12 RV	51	45	*	1	1	1
1/15/12 RV	46	48	*	2	2	2
12/18/11 RV	47	47	*	2	2	1
11/3/11 RV	46	47	*	3	2	1
10/2/11 RV	46	48	*	2	1	2
9/1/11 RV	45	49	*	2	2	2
7/17/11 RV	49	47	*	2	1	1
6/5/11 RV	46	49	*	2	1	2
4/17/11 RV	49	45	*	3	1	1

*7/18/12 and prior: "Barack Obama, the Democrat" and "Mitt Romney, the Republican".

5. (IF SUPPORT OBAMA OR ROMNEY) Will you definitely vote for (OBAMA/ROMNEY), or is there a chance you could change your mind and vote for (CANDIDATE NOT NAMED)? (IF CHANCE CHANGE MIND) Would you say (there's a good chance) you'll change your mind, or would you say (it's pretty unlikely)?

	Definitely vote for	- Chance change mind - NET	Good	Unlikely	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	90	9	2	7	1
10/13/12 RV	89	10	2	8	1
9/29/12 RV	86	13	3	10	1
9/9/12 RV	85	13	4	8	2
8/25/12 RV	83	15	6	9	2
7/8/12* RV	79	19	6	13	2

*7/8/12: "Will you definitely vote for (NAMED CANDIDATE), or is there a chance you could change your mind and vote for someone else?"
Call for full trend.

	Definitely vote for	- Chance change mind - NET	Good	Unlikely	No opinion
Obama:					
10/13/12 LV	89	10	1	9	1
10/13/12 RV	87	12	2	10	1

9/29/12	RV	84	15	5	10	1
9/9/12	RV	86	11	4	7	3
8/25/12	RV	84	14	6	8	2
7/8/12	RV	81	17	4	13	2

Romney:

10/13/12	LV	91	7	2	6	1
10/13/12	RV	90	8	2	6	1
9/29/12	RV	88	12	1	10	1
9/9/12	RV	85	14	5	9	*
8/25/12	RV	82	16	5	10	3
7/8/12	RV	77	21	8	13	2

6. (IF SUPPORT/VOTED OBAMA OR ROMNEY) Would you say you are very enthusiastic about supporting (Obama/Romney), somewhat enthusiastic, not so enthusiastic, or not enthusiastic at all?

		---- Enthusiastic ----			--- Not enthusiastic ----			No
		NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
10/13/12	LV	94	61	33	5	4	1	1
10/13/12	RV	93	57	36	6	5	2	1
9/29/12	RV	89	49	40	11	6	4	*
9/9/12	RV	90	51	39	9	5	5	*
8/25/12	RV	85	45	40	14	10	4	1
7/8/12	RV	88	44	44	12	8	4	*
5/20/12	RV	84	39	45	16	9	6	*

Obama:

10/13/12	LV	95	60	35	4	4	1	*
10/13/12	RV	94	55	40	5	4	1	1
9/29/12	RV	91	51	40	9	7	2	0
9/9/12	RV	93	56	38	7	3	3	0
8/25/12	RV	88	48	39	11	7	4	1
7/8/12	RV	91	51	40	8	5	3	1
5/20/12	RV	93	51	41	7	4	4	0

Romney:

10/13/12	LV	93	62	31	7	4	2	1
10/13/12	RV	92	59	33	8	5	2	1
9/29/12	RV	87	48	39	13	6	7	*
9/9/12	RV	87	46	40	13	7	6	1
8/25/12	RV	83	42	41	17	12	4	*
7/8/12	RV	85	38	47	15	11	4	*
5/20/12	RV	75	26	48	25	15	9	1

7. (IF SUPPORT/VOTED FOR OBAMA OR ROMNEY) Regardless of your support, how do you feel about how (SUPPORTED CANDIDATE) would perform as president for the next four years - very anxious, somewhat anxious, not so anxious or not anxious at all?

		----- Anxious -----			---- Not anxious ----			No
		NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	At all	opinion
10/13/12	LV	54	27	27	43	13	29	3
10/13/12	RV	56	26	30	41	13	27	3
9/9/12	RV	60	26	34	38	11	27	3
8/25/12	RV	57	20	37	39	12	26	4

Obama:

		----- Anxious -----			---- Not anxious ----			No
		NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	At all	opinion
10/13/12	LV	56	26	30	41	15	27	3
10/13/12	RV	58	25	33	40	15	25	2

9/9/12	RV	59	29	30	39	12	27	2
8/25/12	RV	53	23	30	44	12	32	3

Romney:

		----- Anxious -----			---- Not anxious ----			No
		NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	At all	opinion
10/13/12	LV	52	28	23	44	12	32	4
10/13/12	RV	53	28	25	42	12	30	5
9/9/12	RV	60	22	38	36	10	26	4
8/25/12	RV	62	17	44	33	12	21	5

8. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) How much more information, if any, would you like to have about the candidates and issues before the election - would you like a lot more information, some, a little, or do you have enough information as it is?

		----- More -----			--- Little/enough ---			No
		NET	A lot	Some	NET	Little	Enough	opinion
10/13/12	LV	26	13	13	73	8	65	1
10/13/12	RV	27	13	14	71	8	64	1
9/9/12	RV	32	19	13	67	6	61	1
8/25/12	RV	41	23	18	58	7	51	1

9. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Obama is handling his job as president? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

		----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
		NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/13/12	LV	50	32	18	48	9	40	2
10/13/12	RV	51	30	21	47	10	37	2
10/13/12		50	30	21	44	10	34	6
9/29/12	RV	49	25	24	49	12	37	2
9/29/12		50	26	24	46	12	34	4
9/9/12	RV	48	27	21	50	10	39	2
9/9/12		49	29	20	45	11	35	6
8/25/12	RV	47	26	21	50	13	37	3
8/25/12		50	27	23	46	13	33	4
7/8/12		47	24	24	49	15	34	4
5/20/12		47	26	21	49	13	36	3
4/8/12		50	30	20	45	10	35	6
3/10/12		46	28	18	50	11	39	4
2/4/12		50	29	22	46	11	36	3
1/15/12		48	25	23	48	11	37	4
12/18/11		49	25	24	47	13	34	4
11/3/11		44	22	22	53	15	37	3
10/2/11		42	21	21	54	14	40	4
9/1/11		43	21	22	53	16	38	3
8/9/11*		44	18	26	46	9	37	10
7/17/11		47	25	22	48	14	35	5
6/5/11		47	27	20	49	13	37	4
5/2/11**		56	29	27	38	14	24	6
4/17/11		47	27	21	50	12	37	3
3/13/11		51	27	24	45	12	33	4
1/16/11		54	30	23	43	15	28	3
12/12/10		49	24	25	47	15	32	4
10/28/10		50	27	23	45	11	34	5
10/3/10		50	26	24	47	13	34	3
9/2/10		46	24	22	52	14	38	3
7/11/10		50	28	22	47	12	35	3
6/6/10		52	30	22	45	12	33	4
4/25/10		54	31	23	44	11	33	3
3/26/10		53	34	20	43	8	35	3

2/8/10	51	29	22	46	12	33	3
1/15/10	53	30	24	44	13	32	2
12/13/09	50	31	18	46	13	33	4
11/15/09	56	32	23	42	13	29	2
10/18/09	57	33	23	40	11	29	3
9/12/09	54	35	19	43	12	31	3
8/17/09	57	35	21	40	11	29	3
7/18/09	59	38	22	37	9	28	4
6/21/09	65	36	29	31	10	22	4
4/24/09	69	42	27	26	8	18	4
3/29/09	66	40	26	29	9	20	5
2/22/09	68	43	25	25	8	17	7

*Washington Post

**Washington Post/Pew Research Center

10. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Do you approve or disapprove of the way Obama is handling the economy? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

		----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
		NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/13/12	LV	47	28	19	52	9	44	1
10/13/12	RV	47	26	21	51	10	41	2
9/29/12	RV	47	23	25	52	10	41	1
9/9/12	RV	45	24	21	53	8	45	2
8/25/12	RV	43	20	22	56	11	45	2
8/25/12		44	20	23	54	12	42	3
7/8/12		44	21	23	54	13	41	2
5/20/12		42	20	22	55	11	44	2
4/8/12		44	23	21	54	12	42	2
3/10/12		38	20	18	59	9	50	2
2/4/12		44	23	22	53	11	41	3
1/15/12		41	19	22	57	11	46	2
12/18/11		41	17	24	56	13	43	2
11/3/11		38	18	20	61	13	48	2
10/2/11		35	17	19	61	13	48	4
9/1/11		36	15	21	62	15	47	2
7/17/11		39	18	22	57	15	43	3
6/5/11		40	20	20	59	10	49	2
5/2/11*		40	18	22	55	16	39	4
4/17/11		42	23	19	57	11	46	2
3/13/11		43	22	21	55	13	41	2
1/16/11		46	22	24	51	13	38	2
12/12/10		43	21	22	54	15	39	3
10/28/10	RV	44	21	23	54	15	39	3
10/3/10		45	22	23	53	13	41	2
9/2/10		41	20	21	57	13	44	2
7/11/10		43	20	23	54	13	41	4
6/6/10		50	26	24	49	12	37	2
4/25/10		49	24	25	49	10	39	2
3/26/10		45	23	22	52	12	40	3
2/8/10		45	22	23	53	15	38	2
1/15/10		47	22	24	52	13	39	1
12/13/09		46	23	24	52	12	40	2
11/15/09		51	26	25	47	12	36	2
10/18/09		50	29	22	48	13	35	1
9/12/09		51	28	24	46	13	33	2
8/17/09		52	27	25	46	13	33	2
7/18/09		52	29	23	46	10	35	3
6/21/09		56	28	28	41	13	27	3
4/24/09		58	31	28	38	13	25	4
3/29/09		60	34	25	38	12	26	3
2/22/09		60	NA	NA	34	NA	NA	6

*Washington Post/Pew Research Center

11. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Do you think things in this country (are generally going in the right direction) or do you feel things (have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track)?

	Right direction	Wrong track	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	42	56	2
10/13/12 RV	42	56	3
9/29/12 RV	38	60	2
8/25/12 RV	29	69	2
8/25/12	31	67	3
7/8/12	33	63	4
4/8/12	33	64	3
1/15/12	30	68	2
11/3/11	22	74	3
9/1/11	20	77	3
6/5/11	32	66	2
1/16/11	38	60	3
12/12/10	31	67	2
10/28/10 RV	27	71	2
6/6/10	37	60	3
3/26/10	38	60	2
1/15/10	37	62	1
11/15/09	44	55	2
10/18/09	44	54	2
8/17/09	44	55	1
6/21/09	47	50	3
4/24/09	50	48	2
3/29/09	42	57	1
2/22/09	31	67	2
1/16/09	19	78	3
12/14/08	15	82	3
10/25/08 LV	13	85	2
10/11/08 RV	8	90	2
9/22/08 RV	14	83	3
8/22/08	19	78	2
6/15/08	14	84	2
5/11/08	16	82	2
1/12/08	21	77	2
11/1/07	24	74	2
6/1/07	25	73	2
1/19/07	26	71	3
11/4/06 RV	39	59	2
10/22/06	30	68	2
10/8/06	32	66	2
5/15/06	29	69	2
11/2/05	30	68	2
10/24/04 LV	41	55	4
4/18/04	42	57	1

Call for full trend.

12. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Regardless of who you support, which candidate do you trust to do a better job [ITEM] - (Obama) or (Romney)?

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among likely voters)*

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
a. Handling the economy	48	47	*	2	3

b. Handling international affairs	50	43	1	3	2
c. Handling taxes	48	46	*	3	3
d. Dealing with the federal budget deficit	43	51	1	2	4
e. Handling health care policy	47	46	*	4	4
f. Handling Medicare, the government health insurance program for seniors	54	41	1	3	2
g. Handling an unexpected major crisis	52	43	2	2	1

*Full sample asked items a and b; half sample asked items c-e; other half sample asked items f and g.

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among registered voters)*

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
a. Handling the economy	48	44	*	4	4
b. Handling international affairs	50	40	1	5	3
c. Handling taxes	49	44	*	5	3
d. Dealing with the federal budget deficit	44	47	*	4	5
e. Handling health care policy	49	43	1	4	3
f. Handling Medicare, the government health insurance program for seniors	53	38	1	5	3
g. Handling an unexpected major crisis	52	40	2	3	3

*Full sample asked items a and b; half sample asked items c-e; other half sample asked items f and g.

Trend:

a. Handling the economy

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	48	47	*	2	3
10/13/12 RV	48	44	*	4	4
9/29/12 RV	47	47	*	4	2
9/9/12 RV	47	45	*	3	4
8/25/12 RV	43	50	*	4	3
7/8/12 RV	45	48	1	3	3
5/20/12 RV	47	47	*	3	3
4/8/12 RV	44	48	1	4	3
2/4/12 RV	44	50	1	3	2

b. Handling international affairs

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	50	43	1	3	2
10/13/12 RV	50	40	1	5	3
9/29/12 RV	49	44	*	2	4
9/9/12 RV	51	38	*	2	9
8/25/12 RV	46	41	1	6	5
4/8/12 RV	56	37	*	3	4
2/4/12 RV	55	38	1	3	4

c. Handling taxes

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	48	46	*	3	3
10/13/12 RV	49	44	*	5	3
9/29/12 RV	49	44	*	4	2
9/9/12 RV	50	43	1	2	4

8/25/12	RV	43	48	*	5	3
7/8/12	RV	46	46	*	5	3
4/8/12	RV	48	43	1	4	4
2/4/12	RV	49	45	*	2	4

d. Dealing with the federal budget deficit

		Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12	LV	43	51	1	2	4
10/13/12	RV	44	47	*	4	5
9/29/12	RV	45	48	*	5	3
9/9/12	RV	44	47	0	7	3
8/25/12	RV	38	51	0	7	3
7/8/12	RV	43	51	1	3	2
4/8/12	RV	37	54	1	6	2
2/4/12	RV	39	52	*	4	4

e. Handling health care policy

		Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12	LV	47	46	*	4	4
10/13/12	RV	49	43	1	4	3
9/29/12	RV	48	44	*	6	2
9/9/12	RV	47	44	1	4	4
8/25/12	RV	47	45	*	6	2
7/8/12	RV	48	44	1	5	3
4/8/12	RV	49	40	*	5	6

f. Handling Medicare, the government health insurance program for seniors

		Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12	LV	54	41	1	3	2
10/13/12	RV	53	38	1	5	3
9/29/12	RV	47	43	*	6	3
9/9/12	RV	48	43	*	4	5
8/25/12	RV	42	45	1	7	5

g. Handling an unexpected major crisis

		Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12	LV	52	43	2	2	1
10/13/12	RV	52	40	2	3	3
9/29/12	RV	52	42	1	2	3

13. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Regardless of who you may support, who do you think [ITEM] - (Obama) or (Romney)?

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among likely voters)*

		Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
a.	Better understands the economic problems people in this country are having	51	42	2	4	1
b.	Seems like the more friendly and likeable person	58	32	6	2	2
c.	Has better ideas about the right size and role of the federal government	44	48	1	4	4

d. Is the stronger leader 49 47 1 1 2
 *Full sample asked items a and b; half sample asked item c; half sample asked item d

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among registered voters)*

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
a. Better understands the economic problems people in this country are having	51	40	2	5	2
b. Seems like the more friendly and likeable person	60	30	6	3	2
c. Has better ideas about the right size and role of the federal government	44	46	1	5	5
d. Is the stronger leader	49	45	1	2	3

*Full sample asked items a and b; half sample asked item c; half sample asked item d

Trend:

a. Better understands the economic problems people in this country are having

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	51	42	2	4	1
10/13/12 RV	51	40	2	5	2
9/29/12 RV	52	39	2	6	1
9/9/12 RV	50	40	3	4	3
8/25/12 RV	47	40	1	9	2
7/8/12 RV	51	40	2	5	2
5/20/12 RV	48	40	2	8	2
4/8/12 RV	49	38	2	8	2
2/4/12 RV	52	37	2	7	2

b. Seems like the more friendly and likeable person

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	58	32	6	2	2
10/13/12 RV	60	30	6	3	2
9/29/12 RV	62	29	5	3	2
9/9/12 RV	61	27	5	3	3
8/25/12 RV	61	27	6	4	2
7/8/12 RV	63	26	5	2	4
4/8/12 RV	64	28	3	2	3

c. Has better ideas about the right size and role of the federal government

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	44	48	1	4	4
10/13/12 RV	44	46	1	5	5

Compare to: Regardless of your other political views, overall which party do you think has better ideas about the right size and role of the federal government - the (Democratic Party) or the (Republican Party)?

	Democratic	Republican	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10 RV	41	45	3	8	4
6/6/10 RV	44	41	1	11	3

d. Is the stronger leader

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	49	47	1	1	2
10/13/12 RV	49	45	1	2	3
9/9/12 RV	50	42	2	2	5
7/8/12 RV	46	44	3	2	6
4/8/12 RV	48	42	1	5	5

14. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Please tell me whether the following statement applies to [ITEM], or not: He is honest and trustworthy?

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among likely voters)

	Yes	No	No opinion
a. Obama	55	41	4
b. Romney	47	47	6

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among registered voters)

	Yes	No	No opinion
a. Obama	56	40	4
b. Romney	45	47	8

Trend:

a. Obama:

	Yes	No	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	55	41	4
10/13/12 RV	56	40	4
11/3/11 RV	56	41	4
4/24/09	74	22	4
1/16/09	75	19	6
12/14/08	67	22	11

b. No trend.

15. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) If [ITEM], how confident are you, if at all, that the country will get back on track economically in the next year or two - very confident, somewhat confident, not so confident or not confident at all?

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among likely voters)

	--- Confident ---			--- Not confident ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwt	NET	Not so	At all	
a. Obama is re-elected	48	19	29	51	13	38	1
b. Romney is elected	51	20	31	49	19	29	*

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among registered voters)

	--- Confident ---			--- Not confident ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwt	NET	Not so	At all	
a. Obama is re-elected	49	19	30	50	14	37	1
b. Romney is elected	49	18	31	51	21	29	1

Trend:

a. Obama is re-elected

	--- Confident ---			--- Not confident ---			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwt	NET	Not so	At all	
10/13/12 LV	48	19	29	51	13	38	1

10/13/12 RV	49	19	30	50	14	37	1
9/29/12 RV	47	14	34	53	18	35	*
9/9/12 RV	46	19	27	53	17	36	1
8/25/12 RV	42	14	28	58	18	40	1

b. Romney is elected

	--- Confident ---			--- Not confident ---			No
	NET	Very	Smwt	NET	Not so	At all	opinion
10/13/12 LV	51	20	31	49	19	29	*
10/13/12 RV	49	18	31	51	21	29	1
9/29/12 RV	51	12	39	47	21	27	1
9/9/12 RV	49	14	35	50	19	31	1
8/25/12 RV	46	11	35	52	21	32	1

16. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Thinking now about job opportunities where you live, would you say there are plenty of jobs available in your community, or are jobs difficult to find? (IF DIFFICULT TO FIND) Are jobs very or somewhat difficult to find in your community?

	Plenty of jobs	- Difficult to find -			Lots of some jobs,	No
	available	NET	Somewhat	Very	few of others (vol.)	opinion
10/13/12 LV	25	68	37	30	2	5
10/13/12 RV	25	69	36	32	2	5
4/8/12 RV	22	71	36	35	2	4
4/8/12	24	70	35	35	2	4
7/17/11	14	82	33	49	2	2
12/13/09	12	84	NA	NA	2	2
10/4/09*	14	79			3	3
2/8/09	11	80			3	6
12/8/08	19	73			4	4
10/12/08	25	64			4	7
7/27/08	31	58			4	7
4/27/08	30	61			4	5
2/2/08	34	53	"	"	5	8

*10/09 to 2/08 Pew
Call for full trend.

17. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) As you may know, the unemployment rate has moved below 8 percent for the first time in nearly four years. How much credit, if any, do you think Obama deserves for this - a lot of credit, some, a little or none at all?

	--- A lot/Some ---			--- Little/None ---			Unemployment	No
	NET	A lot	Some	NET	Little	None	not down much (vol.)	opinion
10/13/12 LV	52	23	29	46	15	31	1	1
10/13/12 RV	52	22	30	46	17	29	1	1

18. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Do you think Obama does more to favor the (middle class) or more to favor the (wealthy)?

	Favor	Favor	Treat	No
	middle class	wealthy	equally (vol.)	opinion
10/13/12 LV	68	16	4	11
10/13/12 RV	68	17	4	11
9/29/12 RV	66	17	5	12
8/25/12 RV	62	23	6	9

19. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) As president do you think Romney would do more to favor the (middle class) or more to favor the (wealthy)?

	Favor middle class	Favor wealthy	Treat equally (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	33	57	6	4
10/13/12 RV	31	58	5	6
9/29/12 RV	35	57	3	4
8/25/12 RV	32	58	5	5

20. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Do you think Romney has or has not done enough to provide details about the policies he would pursue as president?

	Has done enough	Has not done enough	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	34	63	3
10/13/12 RV	32	63	5
9/9/12 RV	31	63	7

21. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Do you think Obama has or has not done enough to provide details about the policies he would pursue in a second term as president?

	Has done enough	Has not done enough	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	44	54	2
10/13/12 RV	43	53	3
9/9/12 RV	46	49	5

22. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) So far during this campaign, do you think [NAME] has been mainly (attacking his opponent) or mainly (addressing the issues)?

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among likely voters)

	Attacking his opponent	Addressing the issues	No opinion
a. Obama	50	44	6
b. Romney	52	43	5

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among registered voters)

	Attacking his opponent	Addressing the issues	No opinion
a. Obama	49	44	7
b. Romney	53	41	6

Trend:

a. Obama

	Attacking his opponent	Addressing the issues	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	50	44	6
10/13/12 RV	49	44	7
8/25/12 RV	56	36	8
10/11/08 RV	26	68	6
8/22/08 RV	29	64	8

b. Romney

	Attacking	Addressing	No
--	-----------	------------	----

	his opponent	the issues	opinion
10/13/12 LV	52	43	5
10/13/12 RV	53	41	6
8/25/12 RV	54	37	8

23. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) I have a question about the first presidential debate between (Obama) and (Romney). From what you've seen, heard or read about it - who, in your opinion, won the debate?

	Obama	Romney	Neither/a draw a tie (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	17	71	7	4
10/13/12 RV	18	69	7	6

Compare to:

	Obama	McCain	Neither/a draw a tie (vol.)	No opinion
9/29/08 RV	38	24	22	16

24. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) As a result of the debate do you have a better opinion of (Obama/Romney), a worse opinion of him, or didn't your opinion of (Obama/Romney) change one way or the other?

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among likely voters)

	Better	Worse	Has not changed	No opinion
a. Obama	8	19	72	1
b. Romney	37	14	47	2

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among registered voters)

	Better	Worse	Has not changed	No opinion
a. Obama	9	19	70	2
b. Romney	35	14	48	3

Compare to:

9/29/08 - Summary Table (among registered voters)

	Better	Worse	Has not changed	No opinion
a. Obama	19	7	68	7
b. McCain	14	11	68	7

25. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Have you personally been contacted by a representative of the [CANDIDATE] campaign, either by phone, in-person, or online asking you for your support, or not?

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among likely voters)

	Yes	No	No opinion
a. Obama	27	71	2
b. Romney	22	75	3

10/13/12 - Summary Table (among registered voters)

	Yes	No	No opinion
a. Obama	25	72	2
b. Romney	21	76	3

Trend:

a. Obama

	Yes	No	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	27	71	2
10/13/12 RV	25	72	2
9/29/12 RV	23	76	1
8/25/12 RV	20	79	1

b. Romney

	Yes	No	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	22	75	3
10/13/12 RV	21	76	3
9/29/12 RV	20	79	1
8/25/12 RV	13	86	*

Compare to:

Have you personally been contacted by a representative of the [CANDIDATE] campaign, either by phone or in-person, asking you for your support, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
10/22/08 Obama LV	21	78	1
10/22/08 McCain LV	14	85	1
9/26/04 Bush LV	18	82	*
9/26/04 Kerry LV	17	82	1

26. (IF CONTACTED BY OBAMA CAMPAIGN) When was the last time you were contacted, within the last week, within the last month or longer ago than that?

	Within last week	Within last month	Longer ago	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	54	37	9	*
10/13/12 RV	53	36	11	*
9/29/12 RV	53	34	10	3

25/26 NET:

	NET	Yes	Not contacted	No op.			
	Last week	Last month	Longer	Don't know			
10/13/12 LV	27	15	10	2	*	71	2
10/13/12 RV	25	13	9	3	*	72	2
9/29/12 RV	23	12	8	2	NA	76	1

27. (IF CONTACTED BY ROMNEY CAMPAIGN) When was the last time you were contacted, within the last week, within the last month or longer ago than that?

	Within last week	Within last month	Longer ago	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	57	35	7	1
10/13/12 RV	56	36	6	2
9/29/12 RV	55	34	9	1

25/27 NET:

	NET	Yes	Not contacted	No op.			
	Last week	Last month	Longer	Don't know			
10/13/12 LV	22	13	8	2	*	75	3
10/13/12 RV	21	12	8	1	*	76	3
9/29/12 RV	20	11	7	2	NA	79	1

28. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Just your best guess, who do you think will win the presidential election this year - (Obama) or (Romney)?

	Obama	Romney	Other (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	56	35	*	8
10/13/12 RV	57	33	*	10
9/29/12 RV	63	31	*	6
8/25/12 RV	56	37	*	8
7/8/12 RV	58	33	1	8

Compare to: Just your best guess, who do you think will win the presidential election this year - (Obama) or (the Republican candidate)?

	Obama	Rep. candidate	No opinion
3/10/12	54	40	6
1/15/12	46	49	5
12/18/11	46	49	5
10/2/11	37	55	8

29. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) On a ship in a storm, who would you rather have as the captain, (Obama) or (Romney)?

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	47	46	1	4	2
10/13/12 RV	48	44	1	4	3
9/29/12 RV	52	40	1	6	1
9/9/12 RV	46	43	*	7	4

30. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Who would you rather have babysit your children, (Obama) or (Romney)?

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	49	39	3	7	3
10/13/12 RV	49	36	3	9	4
9/29/12 RV	41	41	3	13	2

31. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) If you ran a company, who would you rather have as an employee, (Obama) or (Romney)?

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	47	46	2	2	2
10/13/12 RV	46	46	3	3	3

32. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Who do you think is more likely to go bungee jumping, (Obama) or (Romney)?

	Obama	Romney	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/13/12 LV	61	19	2	8	10
10/13/12 RV	60	21	2	7	10

*** END ***