The Ohio News Organization

— a cooperative formed this year by the state's eight largest daily newspapers including The Plain Dealer — commissioned a poll of the presidential race. The Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati, which also runs the respected Ohio Poll, surveyed 886 likely Ohio voters Oct. 18-22. The poll's error margin is plus or minus 3.3 percentage points. Pollster changed the order of the candidates' names during interviews.

For The Ohio Newspaper Poll methodology, click here Suppose the election for president was being held today and the candidates were . . . John McCain and Sarah Palin, the Republicans . . . Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats . . . Bob Barr, the Libertarian Party candidate . . . Cynthia McKinney, the Green Party candidate . . . and Ralph Nader, the Independent. Which would you vote for?

	McCain & Palin	Obama & Biden	Barr	McKinney	Nader	Other	Don't know
Ohio likely voters	46%	49%	1%	0%	2%	0%	3%
Age 18-29*	38%	62%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Age 30-45	41%	54%	2%	0%	3%	0%	0%
Age 46-64	48%	48%	0%	0%	1%	0%	2%
Age 65 and over	49%	45%	1%	0%	1%	0%	4%
Race African-American*	7%	93%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Race white	50%	45%	1%	0%	1%	0%	3%
Sex male	47%	48%	1%	0%	1%	0%	2%
Sex female	45%	50%	0%	0%	2%	0%	3%
Education less than high school*	26%	64%	0%	0%	0%	4%	7%
Education high school graduate	45%	49%	1%	0%	2%	0%	3%
Education some college	47%	49%	0%	0%	1%	0%	2%
Education college graduate	47%	49%	0%	0%	2%	0%	2%
Income less than \$20,000*	31%	61%	0%	0%	3%	0%	5%
Income \$20,000-\$39,999	39%	56%	1%	0%	2%	0%	1%
Income \$40,000- \$59,999	45%	51 %	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Income \$60,000 and over	47%	49%	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%
Party Democrat	8%	86%	1%	1%	2%	0%	3%
Party Independent*	28%	54%	2%	0%	5%	0%	10%
Party Republican	88%	10%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%
Friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	48%	46%	1%	0%	2%	0%	2%
No friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	44%	52%	1%	0%	1%	0%	3%
Region Northeast Ohio	38%	56%	0%	0%	3%	0%	3%
Region Northwest Ohio	45%	49%	1%	0%	1%	0%	4%
Region Central Ohio	52%	46%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Region Southeast Ohio*	51%	43%	4%	0%	1%	0%	1%
Region Southwest Ohio	53 %	41%	1%	1%	1%	0%	3%

^{*}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.

Ohio Newspaper Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the most recent Ohio Newspaper Poll conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati between Oct. 18 and Oct. 22, 2008. A random sample of 886 likely voters from throughout the state was interviewed by telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to plus or minus 3.3 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.

To avoid biasing the sample in favor of voters who can be reached through more than one telephone number, each case is weighted inversely to its probability of being included in the sample. In addition, the data are weighted to correct for sampling biases due to size of household (i.e., number of voters living in the household). The data have also been weighted to correct for potential sampling biases on sex of the respondent and region of residence, using voting data published by the U.S. Census and the Ohio Secretary of State. Finally, we do not use self-identified partisanship in our weighting methodology. Overall, this Poll found a similar distribution of self-identified Democrats (47%) and Republicans (44%) in the likely voter pool; the remaining eight percent identified themselves as Independent.

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For The Ohio Newspaper Poll methodology, click here Do you think you will DEFINITELY VOTE for your preference for president and vice president or do you think you might change your mind between now and Election Day?

	Definitely vote	Might change mind	Don't know
Ohio likely voters	89%	11%	0%
Age 18-29	85%	15%	0%
Age 30-45	84%	16%	0%
Age 46-64	89%	11%	0%
Age 65 and over	95%	5%	0%
Race African-American	95%	5%	0%
Race white	89%	11%	0%
Sex male	87%	12%	0%
Sex female	90%	10%	0%
Education less than high school*	95%	5%	0%
Education high school graduate	88%	12%	0%
Education some college	88%	12%	0%
Education college graduate	90%	10%	0%
Income less than \$20,000*	89%	9%	1%
Income \$20,000-\$39,999	88%	12%	0%
Income \$40,000- \$59,999	89%	11%	0%
Income \$60,000 and over	90%	10%	0%
Party Democrat	89%	11%	0%
Party Independent*	78%	22%	0%
Party Republican	90%	10%	0%
Region Northeast Ohio	87%	13%	0%
Region Northwest Ohio	92%	8%	0%
Region Central Ohio	93%	7%	0%
Region Southeast Ohio*	80%	20%	0%
Region Southwest Ohio	90%	10%	0%
Friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	87%	13%	0%
No friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	90%	10%	0%
McCain voter	92%	8%	0%
Obama voter	89%	10%	0%
Other	28%	72%	0%

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For The Ohio Newspaper Poll methodology, click here Regardless of whom you support, which one of the presidential candidates — John McCain or Barack Obama — do you think would do the best job of dealing with the situation in Iraq?

	McCain	Obama	Other candidate	Neither candidate	Don't know
Ohio likely voters	50%	44%	0%	3%	3%
Age 18-29	35%	60%	0%	2%	2%
Age 30-45	47%	48%	0%	3%	2%
Age 46-64	54%	43%	0%	2%	1%
Age 65 and over	51 %	39%	0%	4%	6%
Race African-American	8%	87%	0%	2%	4%
Race white	55%	40%	0%	2%	3%
Sex male	54%	42%	0%	2%	2%
Sex female	47%	46%	0%	3%	3%
Education less than high school*	35%	54%	0%	6%	4%
Education high school graduate	50%	43%	0%	2%	5%
Education some college	54%	43%	0%	2%	1%
Education college graduate	49%	46%	1%	3%	2%
Income less than \$20,000*	39%	52 %	0%	5%	4%
Income \$20,000-\$39,999	45%	49%	0%	4%	2%
Income \$40,000- \$59,999	50%	46%	0%	4%	0%
Income \$60,000 and over	53%	46%	0%	1%	1%
Party Democrat	15%	79%	0%	3%	3%
Party Independent*	35%	48%	0%	8%	9%
Party Republican	90%	7%	0%	1%	1%
Region Northeast Ohio	42%	50%	0%	3%	4%
Region Northwest Ohio	45%	48%	0%	4%	3%
Region Central Ohio	59%	38%	0%	1%	2%
Region Southeast Ohio*	62%	36%	0%	2%	0%
Region Southwest Ohio	58%	38%	0%	2%	2%
Friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	52 %	43%	0%	3%	2%
No friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	49%	46%	0%	2%	3%
McCain voter	96%	2%	0%	1%	0%
Obama voter	8%	87%	0%	3%	2%
Other*	59%	27%	8%	6%	0%
Don't know*	26%	28%	0%	8%	37%

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For The Ohio Newspaper Poll methodology, click here Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in going to war against Iraq?

	Right decision	Wrong decision	Don't know
Ohio likely voters	39%	56%	4%
Age 18-29	40%	54%	5%
Age 30-45	42%	53%	5%
Age 46-64	41%	56%	3%
Age 65 and over	34%	62%	5%
Race African-American	9%	86%	5%
Race white	42%	54%	4%
Sex male	41%	56%	3%
Sex female	38%	57%	6%
Education less than high school*	33%	53%	14%
Education high school graduate	37%	59%	4%
Education some college	43%	52%	5%
Education college graduate	39%	58%	2%
Income less than \$20,000*	23%	69%	8%
Income \$20,000-\$39,999	37%	57 %	6%
Income \$40,000- \$59,999	41%	58%	1%
Income \$60,000 and over	40%	57%	3%
Party Democrat	11%	87%	2%
Party Independent*	28%	66%	6%
Party Republican	72%	24%	4%
Region Northeast Ohio	31%	64%	4%
Region Northwest Ohio	38%	57%	5%
Region Central Ohio	46%	48%	6%
Region Southeast Ohio*	44%	54%	1%
Region Southwest Ohio	48%	49%	3%
Friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	44%	51%	5%
No friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	35%	61%	4%
McCain voter	75%	21%	4%
Obama voter	8%	88%	3%
Other*	39%	57%	4%
Don't know*	27%	64%	9%

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For The Ohio Newspaper Poll methodology, click here Which of the following statements best describes your view . . . the next president SHOULD set a specific timetable to withdraw most U.S. forces from Iraq within 16 months of his taking office, or the next president SHOULD NOT set a specific timetable and events in Iraq should dictate when most U.S. forces are withdrawn?

	The next president should set a specific timetable	The next president should not set a specific timetable	Don't know
Ohio likely voters	46%	52 %	2%
Age 18-29	58%	41%	1%
Age 30-45	47%	51%	2%
Age 46-64	42 %	57%	1%
Age 65 and over	48%	47%	5%
Race African-American	77%	22%	1%
Race white	43%	55%	2 %
Sex male	39%	59%	2%
Sex female	52%	45%	3%
Education less than high school*	59%	35%	6%
Education high school graduate	48%	49%	3%
Education some college	44%	54%	2 %
Education college graduate	45%	53%	2 %
Income less than \$20,000*	62%	35%	3%
Income \$20,000-\$39,999	52 %	46%	2%
Income \$40,000- \$59,999	50%	48%	3%
Income \$60,000 and over	43%	56%	1%
Party Democrat	71%	27%	2%
Party Independent*	52 %	48%	0%
Party Republican	20%	80%	0%
Region Northeast Ohio	50%	47%	4%
Region Northwest Ohio	48%	52%	0%
Region Central Ohio	41%	58%	1%
Region Southeast Ohio*	45%	55%	0%
Region Southwest Ohio	41%	57%	3%
Friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	41%	57%	2%
No friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	50%	48%	2%
McCain voter	18%	81%	1%
Obama voter	72%	26%	2%
Other*	52%	48%	0%
Don't know*	47%	48%	5%

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For The Ohio Newspaper Poll methodology, click here Do you think the United States today is . . . SAFER because of the war with Iraq, LESS SAFE because of the war with Iraq, or that the war with Iraq made NO DIFFERENCE in the safety of the United States?

the war with rad, or that the war with rad i			The war with	
	Safer because of the war with Iraq	Less safe because of the war with Iraq	Iraq made no difference in the safety of the U.S.	Don't know
Ohio likely voters	37%	23%	38%	2%
Age 18-29	26%	34%	40%	0%
Age 30-45	36%	21%	42%	0%
Age 46-64	40%	22%	37%	1%
Age 65 and over	36%	22%	38%	5%
Race African-American	11%	39%	48%	2%
Race white	40%	21%	37%	2%
Sex male	39%	21%	40%	0%
Sex female	36%	24%	37%	3%
Education less than high school*	22%	25%	47%	6%
Education high school graduate	33%	20%	44%	2%
Education some college	41%	23%	36%	0%
Education college graduate	38%	25%	35%	2%
Income less than \$20,000*	25%	28%	44%	3%
Income \$20,000-\$39,999	36%	27%	37 %	0%
Income \$40,000- \$59,999	33%	23%	44%	0%
Income \$60,000 and over	39%	21%	40%	0%
Party Democrat	10%	41%	48%	1%
Party Independent*	21%	26%	52 %	1%
Party Republican	69%	4%	26%	2%
Region Northeast Ohio	33%	27%	38%	2%
Region Northwest Ohio	35%	20%	44%	1%
Region Central Ohio	39%	19%	41%	1%
Region Southeast Ohio*	38%	25%	36%	1%
Region Southwest Ohio	45%	18%	35%	1%
Friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	41%	21%	36%	1%
No friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	34%	24%	40%	2%
McCain voter	71%	3%	24%	2 %
Obama voter	8%	40%	51%	1%
Other*	38%	35%	26%	0%
Don't know*	24%	25%	51%	0%

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For The Ohio Newspaper Poll methodology, click here Regardless of whom you support, which one of the presidential candidates — John McCain or Barack Obama — do you think would do the best job of protecting the country from future terrorist attacks?

			Other	Neither	Don't
Ohio likely voters	McCain 52%	0bama 39%	candidate 0%	candidate 4%	know 5%
Age 18-29	41%	55%	0%	2%	2%
Age 30-45	53%	37%	0%	5%	5%
Age 46-64	54%	38%	0%	4%	4%
	50%	37%	0%	3%	10%
Age 65 and over Race African-American	13%	81%	0%	3%	3%
	56%	35%	0%		5%
Race white				4%	
Sex male	54% 50%	39%	0%		3% 8%
Sex female	50%	39%	0%	3%	
Education less than high school*	35%	52% 36%	0% 0%	4% 4%	9%
Education high school graduate	52%				7%
Education some college	55%	39%	0%	3%	3%
Education college graduate	51%	40%	1%	4%	4%
Income less than \$20,000*	34%	56%	1%	2%	8%
Income \$20,000-\$39,999	46%	43%	0%	7%	4%
Income \$40,000- \$59,999	50%	43%	0%	3%	3%
Income \$60,000 and over	55%	39%	0%	3%	3%
Party Democrat	17%	74%	0%	3%	5%
Party Independent*	33%	31%	1%	17%	18%
Party Republican	92%	5%	0%	1%	1%
Region Northeast Ohio	44%	42%	0%	5%	8%
Region Northwest Ohio	47%	45%	0%	2%	6%
Region Central Ohio	59%	34%	0%	5%	2%
Region Southeast Ohio*	61%	36%	0%	3%	0%
Region Southwest Ohio	60%	34%	0%	2%	4%
Friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	55%	36%	0%	4%	5%
No friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	49%	42%	0%	3%	5%
McCain voter	98%	1%	0%	1%	0%
Obama voter	10%	81%	0%	4%	5%
Other*	62%	10%	8%	2%	18%
Don't know*	21%	21%	0%	6%	52 %

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For The Ohio Newspaper Poll methodology, click here Do you think the United States today is . . . SAFER from terrorism than it was before Sept. 11, 2001, LESS SAFE from terrorism than it was before Sept. 11, or JUST AS SAFE from terrorism as it was before Sept. 11?

SAFE From terrorism than it was before Sept.	Safer from terrorism than it was before Sept. 11	Less safe from terrorism than it was before Sept. 11	Just as safe from terrorism as it was before Sept. 11	Don't know
Ohio likely voters	53%	16%	30%	1%
Age 18-29	38%	20%	41%	1%
Age 30-45	52 %	14%	32 %	1%
Age 46-64	59%	14%	26%	1%
Age 65 and over	47%	19%	32 %	2%
Race African-American	23%	31%	45%	1%
Race white	56%	15%	28%	1%
Sex male	57%	14%	29%	0%
Sex female	49%	19%	30%	2%
Education less than high school*	29%	27%	43%	1%
Education high school graduate	55%	14%	30%	1%
Education some college	54%	14%	30%	1%
Education college graduate	52 %	19%	27%	1%
Income less than \$20,000*	36%	32%	29%	2%
Income \$20,000-\$39,999	42%	17%	39%	2%
Income \$40,000- \$59,999	53%	17%	30%	0%
Income \$60,000 and over	61%	14%	24%	1%
Party Democrat	32%	28%	39%	1%
Party Independent*	32%	15%	50%	2%
Party Republican	79%	6%	14%	1%
Region Northeast Ohio	48%	17%	33%	2%
Region Northwest Ohio	51%	15%	30%	3%
Region Central Ohio	54%	16%	29%	1%
Region Southeast Ohio*	53%	22%	26%	0%
Region Southwest Ohio	59%	14%	26%	1%
Friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	54%	17%	27%	2%
No friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	51%	16%	32%	1%
McCain voter	76%	6%	16%	1%
Obama voter	33%	25%	40%	2%
Other*	34%	35%	31%	0%
Don't know*	44%	32%	23%	0%

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For The Ohio Newspaper Poll methodology, click here Which comes closest to your view about what government policy should be toward illegal immigrants currently residing in the United States? Should the government . . . deport all illegal immigrants back to their home country, allow illegal immigrants to remain in the United States in order to work but only for a limited amount of time, or allow illegal immigrants to remain in the United States and become U.S. citizens but only if they meet certain requirements over a period of time?

	Deport all ille- gal immigrants back to their home country	Allow illegal immi- grants to remain in the U.S. in order to work (for limited time)	Allow illegal im- migrants to remain and become U.S. citizens	Don't know
Ohio likely voters	27%	15%	56%	2%
Age 18-29	20%	18%	62%	0%
Age 30-45	33%	12%	55%	1%
Age 46-64	27%	16%	56%	1%
Age 65 and over	24%	16%	56%	4%
Race African-American	10%	16%	72%	3%
Race white	29%	16%	54%	2%
Sex male	27%	15%	56%	2%
Sex female	27%	15%	57%	1%
Education less than high school*	28%	3%	60%	8%
Education high school graduate	33%	15%	50%	2%
Education some college	30%	17%	52%	2%
Education college graduate	20%	14%	65%	1%
Income less than \$20,000*	29%	9%	61%	1%
Income \$20,000-\$39,999	24%	15%	59%	2%
Income \$40,000- \$59,999	23%	18%	59%	0%
Income \$60,000 and over	24 %	17%	59%	1%
Party Democrat	22%	13%	62%	3%
Party Independent*	40%	19%	41%	1%
Party Republican	29%	15%	54%	1%
Region Northeast Ohio	27%	14%	57%	2%
Region Northwest Ohio	30%	18%	51%	1%
Region Central Ohio	29%	13%	58%	0%
Region Southeast Ohio*	35%	15%	49%	0%
Region Southwest Ohio	21%	17%	60%	2%
Friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	30%	16%	53%	1%
No friends/family served in Iraq/Afghanistan	25%	14%	59%	2%
McCain voter	33%	17%	50%	1%
Obama voter	19%	12%	66%	2%
Other*	44%	22%	30%	4%
Don't know*	44%	13%	37%	6%

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