2010 National Post-Election Study

Prepared for C-SPAN

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Methodology

The following results are taken from the 2010 Penn Schoen Berland National Post-Election poll.

The study was conducted online from November 6-8, 2010 among 1200 Americans who voted in the 2010 mid-term election.

The margin of error for the study is +/- 2.83% at the 95% confidence level and larger for subgroups. Certain questions were split sampled to reduce respondent fatigue.

Penn Schoen Berland (PSB), a member of Young & Rubicam Brands and of the WPP Group, is a global research-based consultancy that specializes in messaging and communications strategy for blue-chip political, corporate and entertainment clients.

C-SPAN

1. In the past year, have you watched C-SPAN, which provides public access to the political process through the television broadcasting of debates and hearings in Congress, events at the White House, and other similar public affairs programming?

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Yes – I have watched C-SPAN in the past year	34	39	30	38	33	32	42	33	32	33	46	43	39	33	37	29	40	37	38	27
No – I have not watched C-SPAN in the past year	57	57	57	53	61	58	54	56	59	59	47	57	54	55	54	65	47	54	55	66
C-SPAN is not available to me	9	4	13	9	7	11	4	11	9	9	8	0	7	12	9	6	13	9	6	7

2. **Of the 34% who have watched C-SPAN:** In the past year, have you watched C-SPAN coverage of the U.S. House of Representatives?

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Yes	69	70	67	82	54	67	63	79	66	66	72	82	61	83	78	48	60	70	70	76
No	31	30	33	18	46	33	37	21	34	34	28	18	39	17	22	52	40	30	30	24

3. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change…

(% Support this change)		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Encourage Congress to use everyday language when talking about legislation	84	85	82	74	86	92	68	83	88	84	75	86	86	79	90	78	83	86	92	74
Publish the language of bills online so that I can read them	83	89	78	77	84	87	74	84	85	84	78	79	77	85	86	84	70	86	89	87
Alert me when Congress vote on major tax increases or spending cuts	80	83	78	75	84	81	77	78	83	82	79	67	73	85	80	82	80	81	77	84
Alert me when Congress is addressing issues of particular interest to me	80	81	79	80	79	80	70	88	79	81	71	89	89	78	70	89	75	87	77	83
Allow TV cameras to show the entire chamber	76	79	74	72	77	79	70	72	80	78	74	67	66	84	74	79	72	77	84	79
Have actual policy debates where members from both sides of the House speak	76	78	73	75	75	77	67	79	77	76	78	74	79	72	79	71	78	75	76	75
Let me see the vote tally as legislation is being voted on	73	76	70	65	83	71	51	76	78	75	73	67	73	71	70	78	64	71	79	77
Promote schedule of debates so I know what's coming up	72	73	71	70	72	75	71	76	71	71	60	93	79	72	69	70	71	72	76	71
Alert me when Members of Congress from my state or district are speaking	65	66	65	65	67	63	55	64	69	68	59	52	63	69	63	67	63	66	68	66
Schedule key House debates in prime time	52	55	50	45	58	54	42	53	56	57	46	13	44	52	57	56	47	58	52	53

4. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change:

Encourage Congress to use everyday language when talking about legislation

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Support this change	84	85	82	74	86	92	68	83	88	84	75	86	86	79	90	78	83	86	92	74
Oppose this change	4	2	6	9	2	1	12	5	1	4	17	0	6	3	4	4	6	5	1	5
No opinion	12	12	12	17	13	7	19	12	11	12	8	14	9	17	6	18	12	9	7	21

5. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change:

Publish the language of bills online so that I can read them

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Support this change	83	89	78	77	84	87	74	84	85	84	78	79	77	85	86	84	70	86	89	87
Oppose this change	4	3	5	7	4	1	11	2	3	3	14	7	8	3	2	3	9	1	2	4
No opinion	13	8	17	16	12	12	15	13	12	13	8	14	15	13	12	13	21	13	9	9

6. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change:

Alert me when Congress vote on major tax increases or spending cuts

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Support this change	80	83	78	75	84	81	77	78	83	82	79	67	73	85	80	82	80	81	77	84
Oppose this change	4	4	4	6	2	3	6	4	3	4	4	0	4	3	5	2	7	2	4	3
No opinion	16	13	18	19	13	16	16	18	14	15	16	33	22	12	14	16	13	17	19	13

7. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change:

Alert me when Congress is addressing issues of particular interest to me

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Support this change	80	81	79	80	79	80	70	88	79	81	71	89	89	78	70	89	75	87	77	83
Oppose this change	4	2	6	5	3	3	9	3	3	4	0	0	2	2	7	3	4	4	5	3
No opinion	16	18	15	15	17	18	21	9	18	15	29	11	10	20	23	8	22	9	18	15

8. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change:

Allow TV cameras to show the entire chamber

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Support this change	76	79	74	72	77	79	70	72	80	78	74	67	66	84	74	79	72	77	84	79
Oppose this change	4	3	5	9	1	3	7	3	4	3	9	11	6	0	4	7	7	3	2	2
No opinion	20	19	21	19	22	18	24	25	16	20	17	22	27	16	22	14	20	21	14	18

9. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change:

Have actual policy debates where members from both sides of the House speak

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Support this change	76	78	73	75	75	77	67	79	77	76	78	74	79	72	79	71	78	75	76	75
Oppose this change	5	4	6	9	4	2	15	5	2	4	11	8	1	6	6	6	7	8	1	4
No opinion	19	17	21	16	21	21	18	17	21	20	11	17	19	22	15	24	15	17	23	21

10. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change:

Let me see the vote tally as legislation is being voted on

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Support this change	73	76	70	65	83	71	51	76	78	75	73	67	73	71	70	78	64	71	79	77
Oppose this change	7	6	8	11	6	5	28	3	3	6	9	13	7	9	7	7	6	7	9	8
No opinion	20	17	21	24	12	24	21	21	19	19	18	19	20	20	23	15	30	21	12	15

11. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change:

Promote schedule of debates so I know what's coming up

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Support this change	72	73	71	70	72	75	71	76	71	71	60	93	79	72	69	70	71	72	76	71
Oppose this change	4	5	2	7	2	2	10	4	1	3	6	7	0	5	6	3	1	5	3	3
No opinion	24	21	27	24	26	24	19	20	28	26	34	0	21	23	25	27	28	23	21	26

12. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change:

Alert me when Members of Congress from my state or district are speaking

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Support this change	65	66	65	65	67	63	55	64	69	68	59	52	63	69	63	67	63	66	68	66
Oppose this change	4	4	4	8	3	1	16	2	2	3	0	18	3	5	4	4	6	5	1	5
No opinion	30	30	31	27	29	36	30	34	29	29	41	31	33	26	32	29	31	28	31	29

13. The following are possible institutional changes Congress could make to be more approachable to everyday people. Please tell me whether you support this change, oppose this change, or have no opinion on the change:

Schedule key House debates in prime time

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Support this change	52	55	50	45	58	54	42	53	56	57	46	13	44	52	57	56	47	58	52	53
Oppose this change	11	12	11	16	7	10	20	8	10	8	16	37	14	11	14	6	13	5	15	12
No opinion	36	33	40	39	35	36	38	38	35	35	38	50	43	38	29	38	40	37	33	34

Demographics

14. What is your gender?

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Male	47	100	0	31	51	61	36	35	56	49	37	41	47	42	50	48	47	43	49	50
Female	53	0	100	69	49	39	64	65	44	51	63	59	53	58	50	52	53	57	51	50

15. Would you consider yourself a strong Democrat, a weak Democrat, a weak Republican, a strong Republican, or would you describe yourself as an Independent, not committed to either party?

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Strong Democrat	21	13	29	63	0	0	26	27	17	17	65	19	22	24	19	22	26	24	17	20
Weak Democrat	13	10	15	37	0	0	17	17	9	11	20	23	15	13	11	13	15	11	13	13
Weak Republican	13	14	12	0	37	0	12	12	14	14	3	12	12	11	14	15	8	13	15	16
Strong Republican	22	23	21	0	63	0	23	20	22	25	0	18	21	19	26	21	20	23	20	23
Independent	28	37	21	0	0	91	22	21	34	31	11	27	26	29	29	28	28	26	31	27
Other	3	3	2	0	0	9	1	3	3	3	2	0	4	5	1	2	3	4	3	2

16. Which of the following best describes your ethnic or racial background or heritage?

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
White	**81**	84	78	66	90	87	67	73	89	100	0	0	84	89	74	79	84	77	84	81
Black	**9**	7	11	22	1	4	11	14	6	0	100	0	6	7	17	3	9	11	9	6
Hispanic	**7**	6	8	9	6	6	15	10	3	0	0	100	6	2	8	11	5	9	4	9
Asian	**1**	1	1	2	2	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	0	1	2	3
Middle Eastern	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Native American	**1**	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	1	1	1
Other	**1**	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0

17. Which of the following categories best describes your age?

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
18-24	**5**	4	6	6	5	4	29	0	0	4	8	10	6	5	4	4	7	5	5	3
25-34	**12**	9	14	16	12	8	71	0	0	10	12	27	12	10	10	16	11	12	10	13
35-49	**26**	19	32	34	24	20	0	100	0	23	40	36	28	26	27	23	22	29	24	30
50-64	**34**	30	38	37	35	30	0	0	60	36	32	19	35	36	31	35	32	30	40	35
65 and over	**23**	38	10	8	25	37	0	0	40	26	8	8	19	22	27	22	29	24	21	19

18. In what state do you currently reside?

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Northeast	**21**	21	21	23	20	20	23	23	20	22	14	18	100	0	0	0	19	18	22	22
Midwest	**25**	22	27	27	21	27	23	25	26	27	21	8	0	100	0	0	29	27	24	22
South	**31**	33	29	27	36	30	27	32	32	28	57	36	0	0	100	0	26	31	34	33
West	**23**	24	23	23	23	22	27	20	23	22	8	38	0	0	0	100	26	24	21	23

19.   Into which of the following categories does your total family income fall?

(%) Voters		Gender		Party			Age			Race			Region				Income			
		M	F	D	R	I	<35	35-49	50+	Wht	Blk	Hsp	NE	MW	S	W	<30k	30-50k	51-75k	>75k
Less than $15,000	7	6	7	9	4	6	7	8	6	6	15	6	7	7	5	7	32	0	0	0
$15,000 to $30,000	14	15	13	15	13	14	14	9	16	16	6	7	12	17	11	16	68	0	0	0
$30,001 to $50,000	25	23	27	26	25	24	26	27	24	24	31	33	21	27	25	26	0	100	0	0
$50,001 to $75,000	23	24	22	21	24	25	20	21	25	24	22	14	24	22	25	21	0	0	100	0
$75,001 to $100,000	15	16	13	15	15	14	15	16	14	14	14	20	14	15	17	13	0	0	0	53
$100,001 to $150,000	10	10	10	9	11	9	8	12	9	10	6	10	11	7	11	10	0	0	0	35
$150,001 to $200,000	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	4	3	1	1	3	0	0	0	7
More than $200,000	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	4
Don't Know	4	3	4	2	4	4	6	2	3	3	6	4	6	3	3	2	0	0	0	0