

Bloomberg News National Poll

SELZER & COMPANY

1,002 U.S. adults ages 18 and over,

Including 734 likely voters in the Nov. 2012 election

Margin of error: ± 3.1 percentage points on general population questions,
and ± 3.6 percentage points on likely voter questions

Study #2050

June 15-18, 2012

Weighted by age and race

Methodology

June 20 (Bloomberg) -- The Bloomberg National Poll, conducted Jun 15-18 for Bloomberg News by Selzer & Co. of Des Moines, IA, is based on interviews with 1,002 U.S. adults ages 18 or older. Among these 1,002 respondents, 734 qualified as likely voters.

Interviewers contacted households with randomly selected landline and cell phone telephone numbers. Percentages based on the full sample may have a maximum margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points. Percentages based on likely voters may have a maximum margin of error of plus or minus 3.6 percentage points.

Responses were weighted by age and race to reflect the general population based on recent census data. Results based on smaller samples of respondents—such as by gender or age—have a larger margin of error. Republishing the copyrighted Bloomberg National Poll without credit to Bloomberg News is prohibited.

Poll Questions

In general, do you think things in the nation are headed in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong track?

Right direction	Wrong track	Not sure
31	62	7

Which of the following do you see as the most important issue facing the country right now? (**Read list. Rotate.**)

- 4 Immigration
- 13 Health care
- 18 The federal deficit
- 3 Terrorism
- 4 Taxes
- 3 Gay marriage
- 4 Gas prices
- 45 Unemployment and jobs
- 2 Other (VOL) (specify:)
- 1 None of these (VOL)
- 3 Not sure

Now, I'm going to mention some people and groups in the news recently. [Previous wording: Now, I'd like to mention some major economic and political figures and groups.] For each, please tell me if your feelings are very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable. If you don't know enough to answer, just say so. (Record "don't know" as "not sure." Rotate list.)

	Net Favorable	Net Unfavorable	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure
Barack Obama , President of the United States	55	42	25	30	17	25	3
The Republican Party	41	50	13	28	26	24	9
The Democratic Party	50	43	17	33	25	18	7
Mitt Romney , Republican candidate for president and former governor of Massachusetts	39	48	13	26	25	23	13
Ben Bernanke , chairman of the Federal Reserve	29	30	5	24	18	12	41
George W. Bush , former president of the United States	44	51	14	30	24	27	5
Bill Clinton , former president of the United States	69	25	27	42	16	9	6
Donald Trump , businessman and television personality	33	55	8	25	26	29	12

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?

(Follow with:) Do you approve or disapprove of the job he is doing: (After "as president," rotate all.)

	Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
As president	53	44	3
With the economy	43	53	4
With the budget deficit	32	60	8
With creating jobs	46	48	6
With the relationship with Iran	41	41	18
With terrorism	65	27	8
With policies on trade with China	32	40	28

If the 2012 general election for President, Congress and other state officials were held today, would you definitely vote, probably vote, might or might not vote, or probably not vote?

Definitely vote	Probably vote	Might or might not vote	Probably not vote	Refused/ Not sure
72	12	5	10	1

In thinking about the upcoming election in November, would you describe yourself as very enthusiastic, fairly enthusiastic, just somewhat enthusiastic, or not enthusiastic? (Asked of likely Nov. 2012 voters only; n=734. MoE: ± 3.6 percentage points.)

- 39 Very enthusiastic
- 22 Fairly enthusiastic
- 25 Just somewhat enthusiastic
- 14 Not enthusiastic
- Not sure

If the elections for the U.S. House of Representatives were being held today, which party's candidate would you vote for in your congressional district: The [DEMOCRATIC] candidate or the [REPUBLICAN] candidate? **(If not sure, ask:)** Which way are you leaning—toward the [REPUBLICAN] candidate or the [DEMOCRATIC] candidate? **(Rotate which party is asked first.)** *(Asked of likely Nov. 2012 voters only; n=734. MoE: ± 3.6 percentage points.)*

Democratic candidate	Lean Democratic candidate	Republican candidate	Lean Republican candidate	Other (VOL)*	Not sure
45	3	38	3	3	8

If the general election for president were held today and the candidates were Barack Obama for the Democrats and [Mitt Romney] for the Republicans, for whom would you vote? **(Rotate list.)** *(Asked of likely Nov. 2012 voters only; n=734. MoE: ± 3.6 percentage points.)*

Obama	Romney	Would not vote (VOL)	Not sure
53	40	2	5

Would you describe your support for [BARACK OBAMA/MITT ROMNEY] as very strong, fairly strong, just somewhat strong, or not strong? *(Asked of likely Nov. 2012 voters only who support the two main candidates; n=685. MoE: ± 3.7 percentage points.)*

LV who supported either	Obama Supporters (n=369)	Romney supporters (n=316)	
44	51	35	Very strong
26	25	27	Fairly strong
22	18	26	Just somewhat strong
8	6	12	Not strong
-	-	-	Not sure

The candidates are both saying the other is out of touch with average Americans. Who do you think is more out of touch—[Mitt Romney] or [Barack Obama]? **(Rotate names.)** *(Asked of likely Nov. 2012 voters only; n=734. MoE: ± 3.6 percentage points.)*

55	Mitt Romney
36	Barack Obama
9	Not sure

Which candidate do you think would be best—[Barack Obama] or [Mitt Romney]? **(Rotate candidate names. Rotate list.)**

	Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Not Sure
In understanding your problems and struggles	55	35	10
In getting the economy going	48	43	9
In dealing with world leaders	57	36	7
In appearing regularly on your TV or computer screen for the next four years	54	34	12
As a seatmate on a long airline flight	57	31	12

President Obama announced that the U.S. would halt the deportation of some illegal immigrants if they came here before age 16, have been in the country for five years, have no criminal record, are in school or have a high school diploma or have been honorably discharged from the military. Do you agree or disagree with this new policy? (Asked of likely Nov. 2012 voters only; n=734. MoE: ± 3.6 percentage points.)

- 64 Agree
- 30 Disagree
- 6 Not sure

Which of the following would you say is the most important qualification in Mitt Romney's resume? (Read first three options. Rotate.) (Asked of likely Nov. 2012 voters only; n=734. MoE: ± 3.6 percentage points.)

- 8 His leadership of the Olympics
- 41 His experience as governor of Massachusetts
- 34 His business experience with Bain Capital
- 11 None of these (VOL)
- 6 Not sure

Do you think Mitt Romney's background as a private equity executive does or does not make him better prepared to create jobs as president? (Asked of likely Nov. 2012 voters only; n=734. MoE: ± 3.6 percentage points.)

- 45 Does make him better prepared
- 49 Does not make him better prepared
- 6 Not sure

Do you think it is a good idea or bad idea to elect a corporate CEO as president? (Asked of likely Nov. 2012 voters only; n=734. MoE: ±3.6 percentage points.)

- 44 Good idea
- 40 Bad idea
- 16 Not sure

Who do you think has laid out a better vision for a successful economic future for the U.S.—[Barack Obama] or [Mitt Romney]? (Rotate candidate names.)

- 49 Barack Obama
- 33 Mitt Romney
- 9 Neither (VOL)
- 9 Not sure

Are you better off or worse off than you were at the beginning of 2009?

Better off	Worse off	About the same (VOL)	Not sure
45	36	17	2

What is your current view of the economy in the U.S.?

Hopeful because there are signs of improvement	Fearful because things are getting worse	Cautious because nothing is really happening	Not sure
32	19	48	1

Do you expect American children will have a higher, lower, or about the same standard of living than their parents do today?

Higher	Lower	Same	Not sure
28	45	22	5

When do you expect homes in your area to return to the values they had before the recession hit in 2008—within the next two years, next three to five years, next six to 10 years, longer than 10 years from now or never?

Next two years	Next three to five years	Next six to 10 years	Longer than 10 years from now	Never	Not sure
10	34	27	11	11	7

I am going to mention two ways people think about the federal government’s role in creating jobs. Which one strikes you as the wisest course of action? **(Rotate answers.)**

The federal government should invest in infrastructure projects such as high-speed rail, expanding access to broadband internet, and creating new sources of alternative energy. This puts people to work now, and establishes the conditions for future growth	The federal government should cut spending and lower taxes on individuals and corporations. Individuals would keep more money and would boost the economy by spending it. Corporations will have more money to hire workers	Not sure
51	43	6

In your household, are you doing any of the following? Just answer yes or no. **(Mark all that apply. Multiple responses accepted, so total may exceed 100%.)**

Making substantial purchases you had been putting off	Going out for entertainment or dining out more often	Planning or taking vacations you had put off	Paying down any credit card debt	Putting more in savings than you had been	None of these (VOL)	Not sure
29	29	27	46	43	22	-

Are you under age 65, or are you 65 or over?

83	Under 65
16	65 and over
1	Refused/not sure

Thinking about your future, how confident are you in each of the following—very confident, fairly confident, just somewhat confident, or not confident? If this does not apply to you, just say so. **(Rotate list.)**

	Very Confident	Fairly Confident	Just Somewhat Confident	Not Confident	Does not Apply	Not sure
You will have enough money in retirement	18	22	20	33	5	2
You will not have to keep working beyond the age you want to retire	19	16	14	34	15	2
(Asked only of those <age 65, n=816) Social Security and Medicare will pay you benefits equivalent to what seniors get today	9	11	15	55	7	3

I'm going to mention some aspects of your personal situation. For each, please tell me if you are better off, worse off, or about the same as last year at this time. If the item does not apply to you, just say so. **(Rotate list.)**

	Better Off	Worse Off	About the Same	Does not Apply	Not Sure
Household income	28	22	44	5	1
Job security for workers in your household	19	22	41	17	1
Retirement savings	21	24	39	15	1
The market value of your home	14	33	29	21	3
Overall financial security	24	23	47	5	1

What is your age?

13	Under 25
9	25 to 29
10	30 to 34
18	35 to 44
20	45 to 54
14	55 to 64
16	65 and over
-	Refused/not sure

In politics as of today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent? **(If independent, ask:)** Do you lean more toward the Republicans or more toward the Democrats, or are you totally independent?

Republican	Lean Republican	Totally independent	Lean Democrat	Democrat	Other (VOL)	Refused/ Not sure
25	8	26	7	31	-	3

What is the last grade of school you completed?

27	High school graduate or less
23	Some college
31	College degree
18	Postgraduate work or degree
1	Refused/not sure

Are you currently married?

- 54 Yes
- 45 No
- 1 Refused/not sure

Do you have children under the age of 18 living at home?

- 35 Yes
- 64 No
- 1 Refused/not sure

Do you work full-time for pay?

- 54 Yes
- 44 No
- 2 Refused/not sure

Which of the following best describes your religious beliefs—Catholic, Protestant, some other kind of Christian, Jewish, Muslim, other, or none?

- 20 Catholic
- 27 Protestant
- 26 Some other kind of Christian
- 2 Jewish
- 1 Muslim
- 3 Other
- 17 None
- 4 Refused/not sure

Do you attend church services at least weekly, less often than weekly, or never? (**Asked of all.**)

- 35 At least weekly
- 35 Less often than weekly
- 28 Never
- 2 Not sure

Would you describe yourself as a "born again" or evangelical Christian, or not? (**Asked of all.**)

- 31 Yes
- 65 No
- 4 Not sure

How would you describe the place where you live?

- 32 A city with over 50,000 people
- 24 A suburb
- 42 A small city or rural area
- 2 Refused/not sure

With what racial or ethnic group do you identify most—White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, or some other group?

67	White
12	Black
11	Hispanic
4	Asian
2	Other
4	Refused/not sure

Is your total annual household income before taxes above or below \$50,000 per year?

- Below **ASK b**
- Above **ASK c**

- b. Is it above or below \$25,000 per year? **15** Below (<\$25,000)
21 Above (\$25,000-\$49,999)
- c. Is it above or below \$75,000 per year? **15** Below (\$50,000-\$74,999)
Above: Ask d
- d. Is it above or below \$100,000 per year? **14** Below (\$75,000-\$99,999)
23 Above (\$100,000 and over)
12 Refused/not sure

Sex:

- 47** Male
- 53** Female