

**OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY  
MOCK CONVENTION 2008 POLL**

**Questions 1-14. We would like to get your feelings toward some of our political parties and figures in the news these days. Please “grade” the party/person using the following scale:**

1. Democratic Party
  - a. 57% feel favorable
  - b. 26% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 15% feel unfavorable
  - d. 1% don't recognize the party
2. Green Party
  - a. 20% feel favorable
  - b. 54% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 10% feel unfavorable
  - d. 14% don't recognize the party
3. Independent Party
  - a. 20% feel favorable
  - b. 60% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 8% feel unfavorable
  - d. 9% don't recognize the party
4. Libertarian Party
  - a. 10% feel favorable
  - b. 53% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 15% feel unfavorable
  - d. 19% don't recognize the party
5. Republican Party
  - a. 26% feel favorable
  - b. 28% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 43% feel unfavorable
  - d. 2% don't recognize the party
6. Joe Biden
  - a. 7% feel favorable
  - b. 25% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 8% feel unfavorable
  - d. 53% don't recognize the name
7. Hillary Clinton
  - a. 31% feel favorable
  - b. 28% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 37% feel unfavorable
  - d. 2% don't recognize the name

8. Christopher Dodd
  - a. 3% feel favorable
  - b. 35% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 9% feel unfavorable
  - d. 45% don't recognize the name
9. John Edwards
  - a. 28% feel favorable
  - b. 42% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 18% feel unfavorable
  - d. 9% don't recognize the name
10. Al Gore
  - a. 41% feel favorable
  - b. 31% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 22% feel unfavorable
  - d. 3% don't recognize the name
11. Mike Gravel
  - a. 2% feel favorable
  - b. 24% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 11% feel unfavorable
  - d. 55% don't recognize the name
12. Dennis Kucinich
  - a. 12% feel favorable
  - b. 34% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 14% feel unfavorable
  - d. 34% don't recognize the name
13. Barack Obama
  - a. 54% feel favorable
  - b. 28% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 11% feel unfavorable
  - d. 5% don't recognize the name
14. Bill Richardson
  - a. 6% feel favorable
  - b. 32% feel neither favorable nor unfavorable
  - c. 9% feel unfavorable
  - d. 46% don't recognize the name

**Questions 15-21. For the following issues, which party do you think would do a better job or would there not be much difference between them?**

15. Handling the economy
  - a. 45% feel Democrats do better
  - b. 23% feel Republicans do better
  - c. 13% feel no difference
  - d. 17% don't know
16. Handling foreign affairs
  - a. 49% feel Democrats do better
  - b. 18% feel Republicans do better
  - c. 12% feel no difference
  - d. 19% don't know
17. Handling violence in the Middle East
  - a. 43% feel Democrats do better

- b. 18% feel Republicans do better
  - c. 17% feel no difference
  - d. 21% don't know
18. Handling health care issues
- a. 53% feel Democrats do better
  - b. 16% feel Republicans do better
  - c. 10% feel no difference
  - d. 18% don't know
19. Handling educational reform issues
- a. 49% feel Democrats do better
  - b. 15% feel Republicans do better
  - c. 13% feel no difference
  - d. 21% don't know
20. Handling immigration
- a. 34% feel Democrats do better
  - b. 21% feel Republicans do better
  - c. 17% feel no difference
  - d. 25% don't know
21. Handling Social Security issues
- a. 37% feel Democrats do better
  - b. 17% feel Republicans do better
  - c. 18% feel no difference
  - d. 25% don't know
22. Handling terrorism
- a. 32% feel Democrats do better
  - b. 23% feel Republicans do better
  - c. 20% feel no difference
  - d. 22% don't know

**Question 23. We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. Here is a 3-point scale on which political views are arranged from extremely liberal to extremely conservative.**

Self-ranking:

- e. 45% say liberal or somewhat liberal
- f. 27% say middle of the road
- g. 18% say conservative or somewhat conservative
- h. 8% haven't thought enough about it to rate themselves

**Question 24. When growing up, how often did you talk about politics, government, or current events with your parents or guardians? Would you say you talked with them**

- a. 31% say often
- b. 51% say sometimes
- c. 18% say never

**Question 25. Currently, how often do you talk about politics, government, or current events with your family, friends, or other acquaintances? Would you say you talk with them**

- a. 31% say often
- b. 57% say sometimes
- c. 11% say never

**Questions 26-40. Below is a list of issues that many people believe are important to the United States. For each one, please indicate whether you are**

- 26. Job Creation
  - a. 44% say very interested
  - b. 47% say somewhat interested
  - c. 8% say not interested at all
- 27. Wages
  - a. 50% say very interested
  - b. 42% say somewhat interested
  - c. 8% say not interested at all
- 28. Education
  - a. 80% say very interested
  - b. 17% say somewhat interested
  - c. 3% say not interested at all
- 29. Crime
  - a. 42% say very interested
  - b. 46% say somewhat interested
  - c. 10% say not interested at all
- 30. Social Security
  - a. 42% say very interested
  - b. 46% say somewhat interested
  - c. 11% say not interested at all
- 31. Environment
  - a. 65% say very interested
  - b. 24% say somewhat interested
  - c. 9% say not interested at all
- 32. Drugs
  - a. 30% say very interested
  - b. 47% say somewhat interested
  - c. 23% say not interested at all
- 33. Gun Control
  - a. 32% say very interested
  - b. 47% say somewhat interested
  - c. 20% say not interested at all
- 34. Health Care
  - a. 69% say very interested
  - b. 26% say somewhat interested
  - c. 4% say not interested at all
- 35. Gay Marriage
  - a. 41% say very interested
  - b. 30% say somewhat interested
  - c. 28% say not interested at all
- 36. Homelessness
  - a. 40% say very interested
  - b. 46% say somewhat interested
  - c. 13% say not interested at all
- 37. AIDS
  - a. 46% say very interested
  - b. 40% say somewhat interested

c. 14% say not interested at all  
38. Abortion

- a. 50% say very interested
- b. 32% say somewhat interested
- c. 17% say not interested at all

39. Foreign Policy

- a. 51% say very interested
- b. 36% say somewhat interested
- c. 12% say not interested at all

40. Homeland Security

- a. 46% say very interested
- b. 41% say somewhat interested
- c. 12% say not interested at all

**Question 41. Are you currently registered to vote? Choose one.**

- A. No 31%
- B. Yes 65%
- C. Unsure or don't remember 2%

**Question 42. Which is the *main reason* that you have not registered to vote? Is it because you...**

- a. 38% are not US citizens
- b. 18% say it's not a priority right now
- c. 6% do not have an interest in voting
- d. 17% don't really know how to register
- e. 20% other

**Question 43. How *likely* are you to vote in the general election in 2008?**

- a. 62% definitely will
- b. 21% probably will
- c. 7% are uncertain
- d. 3% probably will not
- e. 8% definitely will not

**Questions 44-56. If you were interested in trying to find out more information about some political issues or candidates, to what degree would you find the following *sources* useful? Indicate whether you find these sources**

44. Television news programs on networks such as ABC, CBS, NBC, or CNN

- a. 41% say very useful
- b. 45% say somewhat useful
- c. 9% say not useful at all
- d. 3% don't know/uncertain

45. Radio news programs

- a. 21% say very useful
- b. 51% say somewhat useful
- c. 16% say not useful at all
- d. 8% don't know/uncertain

46. Newspapers
  - a. 49% say very useful
  - b. 42% say somewhat useful
  - c. 4% say not useful at all
  - d. 3% don't know/uncertain
47. News Magazines such as *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News & World Report*, etc.
  - a. 45% say very useful
  - b. 37% say somewhat useful
  - c. 12% say not useful at all
  - d. 4% don't know/uncertain
48. Cable TV shows (i.e. Daily Show, MTV, etc.)
  - a. 20% say very useful
  - b. 36% say somewhat useful
  - c. 37% say not useful at all
  - d. 4% don't know/uncertain
49. World Wide Web or the internet (i.e. Blogs)
  - a. 42% say very useful
  - b. 37% say somewhat useful
  - c. 13% say not useful at all
  - d. 5% don't know/uncertain
50. Speakers on campus or in nearby community
  - a. 27% say very useful
  - b. 45% say somewhat useful
  - c. 18% say not useful at all
  - d. 7% don't know/uncertain
51. Talking with family members
  - a. 35% say very useful
  - b. 46% say somewhat useful
  - c. 12% say not useful at all
  - d. 4% don't know/uncertain
52. Talking with friends
  - a. 29% say very useful
  - b. 49% say somewhat useful
  - c. 14% say not useful at all
  - d. 4% don't know/uncertain
53. Written information received from political parties
  - a. 19% say very useful
  - b. 39% say somewhat useful
  - c. 30% say not useful at all
  - d. 8% don't know/uncertain
54. Written information received from political candidates
  - a. 20% say very useful
  - b. 39% say somewhat useful
  - c. 31% say not useful at all
  - d. 7% don't know/uncertain
55. Written information received from interest groups
  - a. 11% say very useful
  - b. 40% say somewhat useful
  - c. 38% say not useful at all
  - d. 8% don't know/uncertain

56. Political candidates' TV ads or televised candidate debates

- a. 24% say very useful
- b. 29% say somewhat useful
- c. 37% say not useful at all
- d. 5% don't know/uncertain

**Question 57. Do you believe that the news media does a *very good, good, fair, or poor* job reporting on the issues that are important to you?**

- a. 3% say very good
- b. 27% say good
- c. 42% say fair
- d. 20% say poor
- e. 4% don't know/uncertain

**Question 58. Below is a 3-point political party self-identification scale. Where would you place yourself on this scale, or have you know thought about this enough to rate yourself?**

- a. 47% say Democratic or Independent, Leaning Democratic
- b. 12% say Independent
- c. 24% say Republican or Independent, Leaning Republican
- d. 12% haven't thought enough about it to rate themselves

**Question 59. What is your GENDER?**

- a. 53% female
- b. 47% male

**Question 60. What is your current Class Standing?**

- a. 29% freshmen
- b. 32% sophomores
- c. 20% juniors
- d. 19% seniors