Ipsos Public Affairs

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Interview dates: September 24-26, 2010
Interviews: 600 registered voters; 440 likely voters in Ohio
270 Democrats/Lean Democrats (RV); 244 Republicans/Lean Republicans (RV)
Margin of error: ± 4.0% for registered voters; ± 4.7 for likely voters
± 6.0% for Democrats (RV); ± 6.3% for Republicans (RV)

Political Polling in Ohio: Wave 2

Research undertaken for Reuters

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted September 24-26, 2010 on behalf of Reuters. For the survey, a representative, randomly selected sample of exactly 600 adults aged 18 and older across Ohio who are registered voters was interviewed by Ipsos. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within 4 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire population of registered voters in Ohio been polled. Likely voters (reported on for ballot questions only) are defined as individuals currently registered to vote, who voted in the 2008 Presidential election, are a 7-10 on a 10-point likelihood to vote scale, and are interested in following news about the campaign 'a great deal' or 'quite a bit.' Individuals who did not vote in the 2008 Presidential election qualify as likely voters if they are registered to vote, are an 8-10 on a 10-point likelihood to vote scale, and are interested in following news about the campaign 'a great deal' or 'quite a bit.' Out of our sample of 600 registered voters, 440 are likely voters. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within ±4.7 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population in the U.S. been polled.

All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error. These data were weighted to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the actual Ohio registered voter population according to U.S. Census figures. Respondents had the option to be interviewed in English or Spanish. Figures filtered on Democrats, Republicans, and Independents are based on registered voters and not likely voters. Figures marked by an asterisk (*) indicate a percentage value of greater than zero but less than one half of a per cent. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. Please note that throughout this document, figures based on Independent voters are indicative only due to very small sample size (61). ***Where trend data (italicized) is present, it is taken from the last Reuters poll carried out by Ipsos in the state, for which the fieldwork period was July 16-18, 2010.***

PARTY AFFILIATION / IDEOLOGY

1. Are you currently registered to vote, or not?

	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Yes	100	100	100	100
No	0	0	0	0

2. Sometimes things come up and people are not able to vote. In the 2008 election for President, did you happen to vote?

Yes	91
No	8
Don't know / Refused	0

3. Why not? *(Base = All who did not vote at 2008 Presidential Election (25))*

Not registered, too busy, something came up	33
Did not approve of candidates	9
Too young to vote at the time	18
Did not want to vote	17
Don't know / Refused	23

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4. On November 2nd, midterm elections will be held. Ohio voters will elect a Senator, Members of Congress, Governor, and other state-level positions. Using a 1-to-10 scale, where 10 means you are completely certain you will vote and 1 means you are completely certain you will NOT vote, how likely are you to vote in the upcoming elections? You can use any number between 1 and 10, to indicate how strongly you feel about your likelihood to vote.

	Prev. Poll	Current Poll, Sept 24-26			
	RV trend data Aug 6-8	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
1 – Completely certain will NOT vote	*2*	4	4	1	16
2	*1*	1	0	1	3
3	*3*	1	1	1	0
4	*1*	*	1	0	0
5	*7*	8	12	5	9
6	*2*	2	3	1	1
7	*7*	2	2	2	2
8	*8*	8	13	3	1
9	*6*	6	7	6	6
10 – Completely certain WILL vote	*63*	68	59	82	63
Don't know / Refused	*	*	1	*	1

5. How much interest do you have in following news about the campaigns for the midterm elections in Ohio?

	Prev. Poll	Current Poll, Sept 24-26			
	RV trend data Aug 6-8	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
A great deal	*27*	29	20	41	25
Quite a bit	*25*	27	29	28	21
Only some	*28*	28	31	22	38
Very little	*13*	12	16	9	2
No interest at all	*7*	4	4	1	14
Not sure / Refused	*	*	0	0	1
TOTAL: Great deal/Quite a bit	***53***	**57**	**49**	**69**	**46**
TOTAL: None/Very little	***19***	**16**	**20**	**10**	**16**

6. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?
IF "DEM" TO Q6, ASK Q7. IF "REPUB" TO Q6, ASK Q8. IF "INDEP"/"NONE" TO Q6, ASK Q9
7. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Democratic Party?
8. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Republican Party?
9. Do your beliefs tend to lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

SUMMARY TABLE	Likely voters	Registered voters
Strongly Democrat	22	22
Moderately Democrat	7	9
Lean Democrat	9	14
Strongly Republican	23	18
Moderately Republican	9	9
Lean Republican	12	11
Independent (No lean)	11	13
DK / Ref	4	5
Total Democrats	**45**	**44**
Total Republicans	**39**	**38**
Total Independents	**11**	**13**

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10. Generally speaking, would you say things in Ohio are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track? ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE. IF UNSURE, ENCOURAGE BEST GUESS.

	Prev. Poll	Current Poll, Sept 24-26			
	RV trend data Aug 6-8	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Right direction	30	30	49	13	16
Wrong track	63	65	46	80	77
Not sure / Refused	7	6	5	6	7

11. What do you think are the biggest problems facing Ohio now?
OPEN-ENDED: DO NOT READ OUT. INTERVIEWERS: CODE INTO CATEGORIES BELOW UNLESS RESPONSE ABSOLUTELY DOES NOT FIT. PLEASE CONSIDER THESE 'BROAD' DEFINITIONS AND TRY TO CODE RESPONSES INTO PRECODES BELOW.

	RV trend data Aug 6-8	Current poll Sept 17-19
Economy / jobs *(includes: national economy, Ohio's economy, lack of jobs, wrong jobs, not enough work, etc)*	79	78
Government / politics / politicians *(includes: named politicians, corrupt government, legislature, parties, national government, etc)*	12	12
Education	10	10
Taxes *(includes: too much tax, tax increases, disproportionate tax, etc)*	7	9
Healthcare *(includes: national and also within Ohio)*	4	8
Budget / Deficit	8	5
Crime	1	4
Housing *(includes: cost of housing, foreclosures, property insurance rates etc)*	1	1
Immigration	1	1
Environment/Pollution *(includes: global warming, damage to natural environment, littering, exhaust from cars, etc)*	1	1
Energy *(includes: oil issues/concerns, lack of energy, gas prices, price of power, etc)*	1	1
Morality *(including: abortion, homosexuality, morality generally)*	1	1
High cost of living	1	0
Transportation *(includes: lack of public transportation, traffic, car/truck problems, etc)*	3	*
Welfare / Social support	2	*
Other	4	6
Don't know / Refused	4	2

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I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections this fall…

12/13. TOTAL Ohio US Senate with leaners.

	Current Poll, Sept 24-26				
	Likely voters	Registered voters	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Rob Portman (Republican)	50	43	10	88	28
Lee Fisher (Democrat)	37	41	82	3	17
Candidate from another political party (VOL)	1	1	1	--	7
DK/Ref/Unsure (VOL)	12	15	7	9	47

12. …if the election for US Senator were held today, would you vote for Republican candidate Rob Portman or Democratic candidate Lee Fisher [REVERSE NAMES]? ASK Q13 IF 'DK/ REFUSED' AT Q12

	Prev. Poll	Current Poll, Sept 24-26				
	LV trend data Aug 6-8	Likely voters	Registered voters	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Rob Portman (Republican)	*43*	49	41	9	86	27
Lee Fisher (Democrat)	*36*	34	38	75	2	17
Candidate from another political party (VOL)	*1*	1	1	1	*	6
DK/Ref/Unsure (VOL)	*20*	16	20	15	11	50

13. *Lean question: If you had to choose, do you lean more towards?*

	Current Poll, Sept 24-26				
	Likely voters	Registered voters	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Rob Portman (Republican)	8	12	12	13	3
Lee Fisher (Democrat)	18	22	46	8	2
Candidate from another political party (VOL)	1	1	--	--	2
DK/Ref/Unsure (VOL)	73	67	42	79	93

14/15. TOTAL Ohio Governor with leaners:

	Current Poll, Sept 24-26				
	Likely voters	Registered voters	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
John Kasich (Republican)	47	41	10	84	23
Ted Strickland (Democrat)	46	48	84	9	40
Candidate from another political party (VOL)	1	1	1	1	3
DK/Ref/Unsure (VOL)	7	10	5	6	35

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14. …if the election for Governor of Ohio were today, would you vote for Republican candidate John Kasich or Democratic candidate Ted Strickland [REVERSE NAMES]? ASK Q15 IF 'DON'T KNOW / REFUSED' AT Q14

	Prev. Poll	Current Poll, Sept 24-26				
	LV trend data Aug 6-8	Likely voters	Registered voters	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
John Kasich (Republican)	48	45	40	9	82	20
Ted Strickland (Democrat)	39	44	46	82	9	37
Candidate from another political party (VOL)	*	1	1	1	1	3
DK/Ref/Unsure (VOL)	13	11	13	8	8	40

15. *Lean question: If you had to choose, do you lean more towards?*

	Current Poll, Sept 24-26				
	Likely voters	Registered voters	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
John Kasich (Republican)	25	18	14	22	21
Ted Strickland (Democrat)	22	20	33	10	20
Candidate from another political party (VOL)	2	3	--	4	7
DK/Ref/Unsure (VOL)	51	59	53	64	53

16. Overall, do you approve, disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way Ted Strickland is handling his job as Governor of Ohio? IF "APPROVE" OR "DISAPPROVE" TO Q16, ASK Q17. IF "HAVE MIXED FEELINGS /DK/REF" TO Q16, ASK Q18.
17. Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)?
18. If you had to choose, do you lean more towards approve or disapprove?

	Prev. Poll	Current Poll, Sept 24-26			
	RV trend data Aug 6-8	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Strongly approve	*7*	12	23	3	5
Somewhat approve	*14*	14	20	4	20
Lean approve	*22*	15	21	6	23
Still have mixed feelings	*4*	5	4	5	5
Lean disapprove	*22*	24	23	28	18
Somewhat disapprove	*7*	7	2	15	5
Strongly disapprove	*21*	19	7	34	14
Not sure	*3*	4	1	5	11
TOTAL: Approve	***43***	**40**	**63**	**13**	**48**
TOTAL: Disapprove	***51***	**51**	**32**	**78**	**36**

20. As you may know, Republican Senate candidate Rob Portman was a cabinet member of George W. Bush's administration from 2005-2007. Does this make you… [READ OUT. REVERSE FIRST TWO OPTIONS]

	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
More likely to vote for Portman in November	9	1	18	5
Less likely to vote for Portman in November	30	54	5	22
Or will it make no difference?	60	43	77	71

Don't know / Refused (VOL)	1	2	*	2

21. As you may know, the tax cuts passed during George W. Bush's administration lowered taxes by reducing maximum income tax rate for all Americans. These tax cuts are set to expire at the end of 2010, meaning tax rates would go back to what they were before the Bush tax laws. Congress is currently considering whether to let these tax cuts expire or extend them. Which of the following comes closest to your own view on what action Congress should take? READ OUT. ROTATE.

	Prev. Poll	Current Poll, Sept 24-26			
	Nat'l trend data Aug 19-22	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Let the tax cuts expire for all Americans	*15*	14	20	8	10
Let tax cuts expire only for people who earn more than $200,000 a year	*31*	35	43	21	37
Extend the tax cuts for all Americans	*49*	49	34	69	44
DK/REF	*5*	3	3	2	9

22. In your view, in hard economic times, should the government… [READ OUT. ROTATE]

	Prev. Poll	Current Poll, Sept 24-26			
	Nat'l trend data Sept 16-19	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Run a deficit to stimulate the econ and create jobs	*39*	44	69	16	38
Cut the deficit in order to balance the budget and save money	*57*	47	24	75	55
DK/REF	*4*	9	7	9	7

23. And finally, do you believe that the healthcare plan passed by Congress earlier this year should remain in place or should be repealed? [READ OUT. ROTATE]

	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Remain in place	43	72	11	25
Be repealed	50	22	83	57
Don't know / Refused (VOL)	7	6	6	18