THE POLITICO-GW
BATTLEGROUND POLL
A national survey of 1,000 Registered “Likely” Voters
Do you feel things in the country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten off on the wrong track?

- Right direction: 38%
- Unsure: 6%
- Wrong track: 56%
Do you feel things in the country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten off on the wrong track?
If the election for Congress were being held today, and you had to make a choice, would you be voting for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate, in your Congressional district?

- Republican: 44%
- Undecided: 10%
- Democratic: 46%
If the election for Congress were being held today, and you had to make a choice, would you be voting for, the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate, in your Congressional district?
Now I would like to read you the names of several individuals. For each one, please tell me whether you have heard of that person and if so, whether you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just say so.

**Barack Obama**

- **8/8/2012**
  - Favorable: 50%
  - Unfavorable: 47%
  - No opinion: 3%

- **9/20/2012**
  - Favorable: 53%
  - Unfavorable: 46%
  - No opinion: 1%

- **9/27/2012**
  - Favorable: 50%
  - Unfavorable: 47%
  - No opinion: 3%
Now I would like to read you the names of several individuals. For each one, please tell me whether you have heard of that person and if so, whether you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just say so.

**Mitt Romney**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Favorable (%)</th>
<th>Unfavorable (%)</th>
<th>No opinion (%)</th>
<th>Never heard of (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/8/2012</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/20/2012</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/27/2012</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How would you rate the job Barack Obama has been doing as President? Do you approve or disapprove of the job he is doing?

Approve: 49%
Unsure: 2%
Disapprove: 49%
How would you rate the job Barack Obama has been doing as President? Do you approve or disapprove of the job he is doing?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Approve</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
<th>Disapprove</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/9/10</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/21/10</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/20/10</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/12/11</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/1/11</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/9/11</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/22/12</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/3/12</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/8/12</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/20/12</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/27/12</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you think you will vote to re-elect Barack Obama, will you consider voting for someone else, or do you think you will vote to replace him?

- Will vote to re-elect Obama: 46%
- Will consider someone else: 9%
- Will vote to replace Obama: 42%

Q6
If the Presidential election were held today and you had to make a choice, for whom would you vote…Mitt Romney, the Republican, or Barack Obama, the Democrat?

- Obama: 49%
- Romney: 47%
- Undecided: 4%
If the Presidential election were held today and you had to make a choice, for whom would you vote…Mitt Romney, the Republican, or Barack Obama, the Democrat?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Romney</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Obama</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/9/2011</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/22/2012</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/3/2012</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/8/2012</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/20/2012</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/27/2012</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Romney**: Red
- **Undecided**: Grey
- **Obama**: Blue
ISSUE HANDLING
I am going to read you two issues. For each one, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of the job that President Obama is doing on this issue.

The economy

- 59% in 9/1/2011
- 62% in 11/9/2011
- 51% in 2/22/2012
- 53% in 5/3/2012
- 54% in 8/8/2012
- 51% in 9/20/2012
- 52% in 9/27/2012

- 39% in 9/1/2011
- 47% in 11/9/2011
- 53% in 2/22/2012
- 54% in 5/3/2012
- 48% in 8/8/2012
- 48% in 9/20/2012
- 46% in 9/27/2012
I am going to read you two issues. For each one, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of the job that President Obama is doing on this issue.

**The federal budget and spending**

- **Approve**
  - 61% (9/20/2012)
  - 62% (9/1/2011)
  - 64% (5/12/2011)

- **Disapprove**
  - 37% (9/27/2012)
  - 34% (11/9/2011)
  - 33% (2/22/2012)

- **Unsure**
  - 2% (9/20/2012)
  - 4% (9/1/2011)
  - 3% (5/12/2011)
Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people have said are important to them. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue – Mitt Romney or Barack Obama.*

**The economy**

* Asked of Half Sample in 5/3/12 and 8/8/12 Surveys
Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people have said are important to them. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue – Mitt Romney or Barack Obama.*

**Foreign Policy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Romney</th>
<th>Obama</th>
<th>Both</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/3/2012</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/8/2012</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/20/2012</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/27/2012</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Asked of Half Sample in 5/3/12 and 8/8/12 Surveys
Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people have said are important to them. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue – Mitt Romney or Barack Obama.

The federal budget and spending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Romney</th>
<th>Obama</th>
<th>Both</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/20/2012</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/27/2012</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people have said are important to them. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue – Mitt Romney or Barack Obama.*

**Taxes**

- 5/3/2012: 47% Romney, 51% Obama
- 8/8/2012: 47% Romney, 47% Obama
- 9/20/2012: 50% Romney, 46% Obama
- 9/27/2012: 49% Romney, 46% Obama

*Asked of Half Sample in 5/3/12 and 8/8/12 Surveys*
Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people have said are important to them. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue – Mitt Romney or Barack Obama.*

Medicare**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Romney</th>
<th>Obama</th>
<th>Both</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/3/2012</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/8/2012</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/20/2012</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/27/2012</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Asked of Half Sample in 5/3/12 and 8/8/12 Surveys
** Listed as “Social Security and Medicare” in 5/3/12 and 8/8/12 Surveys
Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people have said are important to them. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue — Mitt Romney or Barack Obama.*

**Standing up for the middle class**

- **5/3/2012**: Romney 58%, Obama 35%
- **8/8/2012**: Romney 54%, Obama 40%
- **9/20/2012**: Romney 57%, Obama 38%
- **9/27/2012**: Romney 54%, Obama 41%

*Asked of Half Sample in 5/3/12 and 8/8/12 Surveys*
Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people have said are important to them. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue – Mitt Romney or Barack Obama.*

**Jobs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Romney</th>
<th>Obama</th>
<th>Both</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/3/2012</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/8/2012</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/20/2012</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/27/2012</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Asked of Half Sample in 5/3/12 and 8/8/12 Surveys
Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people have said are important to them. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue – Mitt Romney or Barack Obama.

- **Health care**
  - Romney: 43%
  - Obama: 51%
  - Both: 1%
  - Unsure: 3%

- **Sharing your values**
  - Romney: 45%
  - Obama: 48%
  - Both: 1%
  - Unsure: 4%

- **Being a strong leader**
  - Romney: 43%
  - Obama: 50%
  - Both: 2%
  - Unsure: 3%

- **Can get things done**
  - Romney: 47%
  - Obama: 45%
  - Both: 1%
  - Unsure: 5%
Do you consider yourself to be: Upper class, Middle class, Low income?

- **Upper class**: 5% (4%)
- **Middle class**: 76% (74%)
- **Low income**: 17% (21%)
- **Working class**: 2% (1%)
- **Unemployed**: 6%

9/20/2012  9/27/2012