

CBS News/New York Times Upshot Battleground Tracker (Wave 4)



Sample 86,323 Likely Voters
Conducted October 16-23, 2014
Margin of Error $\pm 0.5\%$

1. Which of the following words would you use to describe yourself? Check all that apply.*

Liberal	22%
Moderate	26%
Conservative	39%
Progressive	18%
Libertarian	8%
Socialist	5%
Independent	37%
Pro-life	25%
Pro-choice	30%
Feminist	12%
None of the above	4%

2. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	100%
No	0%
Don't know	0%

3. Over the next three months, do you think the Stock Market is more likely to go up or to go down? Please make your best guess.

Probably go up	23%
Stay about where it is now	40%
Probably go down	37%

*Questions marked with an asterisk are only asked for respondents who had not answered in previous waves. Earlier responses were used where available.

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4. From what you've seen or heard, how would you describe the tone of the 2014 midterm election campaigns in your state? Would you say that most of what the candidates and their advertisements are saying is ...

Mostly positive	7%
Mostly negative	43%
Both positive and negative	41%
Not sure	8%

5. Have the candidates running for election in your state this year been talking about issues you care about?

Yes	51%
No	36%
Not sure	13%

6. Some people seem to follow what's going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there's an election going on or not. Others aren't that interested. Would you say you follow what's going on in government and public affairs ... ?*

Most of the time	60%
Some of the time	27%
Only now and then	9%
Hardly at all	3%
Don't know	1%

7. How enthusiastic are you about voting in the elections for Congress in November?

Very enthusiastic	41%
Somewhat enthusiastic	30%
Only a little	20%
Not at all	9%

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8. Have you discussed the upcoming your state elections with your friends or family?

Often	29%
A few times	43%
Hardly at all	20%
Never	8%

9. Are you registered to vote as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or something else?

Asked of respondents in states with party registration

Republican	33%
Democrat	42%
Other party	4%
No party	19%
Not sure	2%

10. How likely is it that you will vote in the election this November?

Definitely will vote	85%
Probably will vote	15%
Maybe will vote	0%
Probably will not vote	0%
Definitely will not vote	0%
Don't know	0%

11. How do you plan to vote in the elections to be held on November 4?

Asked of respondents who are definitely or probably going to vote

In person on election day	58%
In person before election day (early voting)	17%
Vote by mail (absentee)	23%
Not sure	2%

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12. Have you already cast your vote/returned your ballot?

Asked of respondents who are plan to vote early in-person or by mail

Yes	25%
No	74%
Not sure	0%

13. As you know, President Obama will not be on the ballot in this year's Congressional midterms. Will you consider your vote in the 2014 Congressional elections to be...

A vote in support of President Obama and his policies	22%
A vote against President Obama and his policies	45%
President Obama and his policies not be a factor in my vote	33%

14. In deciding how to vote for U.S. Senate, how important is it to you which party controls a majority of seats in the Senate after the election?

Asked of respondents in states with a 2014 Senate election

Very important	68%
Somewhat important	23%
Not important	9%

15. After the election on November 4, which party do you think is most likely to have a majority of seats in the U.S. Senate?

Democrats	30%
Republicans	42%
Not sure	28%

16. In deciding how to vote for U.S. House of Representatives, how important is it to you which party controls a majority of seats in the House of Representatives after the election?

Very important	66%
Somewhat important	25%
Not important	9%

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17. After the election on November 4, which party do you think is most likely to have a majority of seats in the House of Representatives?

Democrats	18%
Republicans	58%
Not sure	24%

18. Overall, do you think the economy is getting better or worse?

Getting better	25%
About the same	36%
Getting worse	36%
Not sure	3%

19. How about the economy in your state? Do you think the economy in your state is getting better or worse?

Getting better	26%
About the same	41%
Getting worse	29%
Not sure	4%

20. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

Strongly Approve	15%
Somewhat Approve	24%
Somewhat Disapprove	12%
Strongly Disapprove	45%
Not Sure	3%

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21. In general, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?

Very liberal	9%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	31%
Conservative	26%
Very Conservative	12%
Not sure	5%

22. How do you feel about the Tea Party movement?

Support the Tea Party movement	26%
Oppose the Tea Party movement	38%
Neither support or oppose	36%

23. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?

Democrat	35%
Republican	29%
Independent	33%
Not sure	3%

24. Do you think global warming is causing the current droughts and weather patterns, or are these mostly random events?*

Caused by global warming	42%
Mostly random events	42%
Not sure	16%

25. So far, how would you describe the general public's reaction to Ebola?*

People are overreacting	34%
People are generally behaving appropriately	37%
People don't seem concerned enough	21%
Not sure	8%

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26. As you may have read, a group of Islamic militants referred to as ISIS, has taken control of parts of Iraq and Syria. Do you favor or oppose U.S. airstrikes against ISIS?*

Favor	72%
Oppose	11%
Not sure	17%

27. Do you generally favor or oppose affirmative action programs for women and racial minorities?*

Favor	39%
Oppose	38%
Not sure	23%

28. Do you think the US economic system favors the wealthy or is fair to most Americans?*

Favors the wealthy	61%
Is fair to most Americans	29%
Not sure	10%

29. Which of the following things do you think should be done to reduce the federal budget deficit?*

Cut spending	53%
Raise taxes	9%
Both cut spending and raise taxes	26%
None of the above	5%
Not sure	8%

30. Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are living in the U.S.?*

They should be allowed to stay in the U.S. and apply for citizenship.	39%
They should be allowed to stay in the U.S., but not become citizens.	10%
They should be required to leave the U.S.	51%

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31. What do you think should happen to the Affordable Care Act (also known as Obamacare) enacted in 2010?*

Expand it	29%
Leave it as is	8%
Repeal some of it	17%
Repeal all of it	39%
Not sure	8%

32. Do you favor or oppose raising the federal minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour (from its current level of \$7.25 per hour)?*

Favor	55%
Oppose	34%
Not sure	12%

33. Do you favor or oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally?*

Favor	48%
Oppose	39%
Not sure	13%

34. When do you believe abortion should be legal?*

Always	22%
Until the fetus can live outside the womb	9%
In the first trimester of a pregnancy	17%
Only in special cases (such as rape, incest, or when the health of the mother is at risk)	39%
Never	13%

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35. Do you think gun control laws should be made more or less strict than they are now?*

Guns should be banned completely.	8%
More strict	39%
Kept the same	24%
Less strict	14%
There should be no restrictions on gun ownership.	12%
Not sure	3%

36. How serious a problem do you think global warming is?*

Very serious	37%
Somewhat serious	22%
Not very serious	16%
Not a problem	20%
Not sure	4%

37. Which candidate did you vote for in the 2012 Presidential election?*

Barack Obama	-
Mitt Romney	-
Other candidate	-
I did not vote	-

38. Which candidate did you vote for in the 2012 U.S. Senate election in your state?*

Asked of respondents in states with a 2012 Senate election

Democratic candidate	46%
Republican candidate	39%
Independent candidate	1%
Other candidate	2%
I voted, but in a different state	2%
I did not vote	10%

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39. Which candidate did you vote for in the 2012 U.S. House of Representatives election?*

Democratic candidate	44%
Republican candidate	45%
Other candidate	2%
I did not vote	10%

40. Which candidate did you vote for in the 2010 U.S. House of Representatives election?*

Democratic candidate	43%
Republican candidate	44%
Other candidate	2%
I did not vote	11%

41. Which candidate did you vote for in the 2008 Presidential election?*

Barack Obama	46%
John McCain	43%
Other candidate	2%
I did not vote	9%

42. Which candidate did you vote for in the 2008 U.S. Senate election in your state?*

Asked of respondents in states with a 2008 Senate election

Democratic candidate	39%
Republican candidate	43%
Independent candidate	3%
Other candidate	1%
I voted, but in a different state	4%
I did not vote	9%

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43. What is your marital status?*

Married	57%
Separated	2%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	5%
Single	21%
Domestic partnership	4%

44. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?*

Yes	24%
No	76%

45. What is your present religion, if any?*

Protestant	39%
Roman Catholic	21%
Mormon	2%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	0%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	0%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	5%
Agnostic	5%
Nothing in particular	16%
Something else	7%

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46. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?*

More than once a week	10%
Once a week	20%
Once or twice a month	8%
A few times a year	14%
Seldom	22%
Never	24%
Don't know	1%

47. Would you describe yourself as a 'born-again' or evangelical Christian, or not?*

Yes	31%
No	69%

48. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?*

Full-time	37%
Part-time	11%
Temporarily laid off	1%
Unemployed	5%
Retired	27%
Permanently disabled	6%
Homemaker	7%
Student	4%
Other	2%

49. Are you enrolled in school as a full-time or part-time student?*

Full-time	8%
Part-time	4%
I am not enrolled in school	88%

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50. What type of educational institution are you currently attending?*

Asked of students

High school	8%
2-year college (community or junior college)	16%
Undergraduate at 4-year college or university	28%
Law School	1%
Business School	2%
Medical School	1%
Other graduate program at a university	10%
Trade, vocational, or professional school	5%
Other	3%
Not attending any educational institution	25%

51. How often do you connect to the internet from any location (at home, at work, on the move or anywhere else)?*

Several times a day	84%
About once a day	12%
A few times a week	3%
Less often	1%

52. Thinking about your phone service, do you have ...?*

A landline and a cell phone	59%
Cell phone only	35%
Landline only	5%
No landline or cell phone service	1%

53. Which are you most often reachable on?*

Asked of respondents with both landlines and cell phones

Cell phone	38%
Landline	35%
Equally reachable on cell phone and landline	27%

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54. Do you own or rent the place you currently live?*

Own	69%
Rent	27%
Other	4%

55. How long have you lived at your present address?*

Less than 1 month	1%
1-6 months	5%
7-11 months	3%
1-2 years	11%
3-4 years	11%
5-10 years	20%
More than 10 years	49%

56. Gender

	Weighted	Unweighted
Male	48%	52%
Female	52%	48%

57. Age

	Weighted	Unweighted
18-29	12%	4%
30-44	23%	14%
45-64	39%	46%
65+	27%	36%

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58. Highest level of education completed

	Weighted	Unweighted
High school or less	32%	13%
Some college	34%	34%
College graduate	21%	30%
Postgraduate degree	13%	23%

59. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

	Weighted	Unweighted
White	76%	87%
Black	11%	4%
Hispanic	8%	3%
Other	5%	6%

60. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income?

	Weighted	Unweighted
Less than \$40,000	30%	22%
\$40,000-\$59,999	18%	17%
\$60,000-99,999	22%	25%
\$100,000 or more	17%	22%
Prefer not to say	14%	15%

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Sponsorship	<i>CBS News/The New York Times Upshot</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	October 16-23, 2014
Target population	Likely voters, aged 18 and over, National (excluding District of Columbia).
Sampling method	A detailed description of the methodology is available on YouGov's website .
Number of respondents	86,323
Margin of error	± 0.5% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	3 questions about house vote intentions are not reported. In addition, 12 state specific questions are reported in state topline that are available on YouGov's website .