
THE OHIO POLL*

FOR RELEASE

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MAJORITY OF VOTERS SEE U.S. AS SAFER FROM TERRORISM, BUT SPLIT OVER THE POLITICAL PARTY BEST ABLE TO PROTECT U.S.

Cincinnati, OH--The latest Ohio Poll finds a majority of Ohio likely voters see the U.S. today as safer from terrorism than before September 11, 2001. However, when asked which political party will do a better job protecting the country from terrorist attacks, voters are equally split between the Democratic and Republican parties.

These findings are based on the latest Ohio Poll, conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. The Ohio Poll is sponsored by the University of Cincinnati. The Poll was conducted from September 7 through September 17, 2006. Interviews were not conducted on September 11, 2006.

The latest Ohio Poll asked likely voters a series of questions related to their opinions about the U.S. war on terrorism, including how safe from terrorism the U.S. is today, the state of the war on terrorism and the political party better able to protect the U.S. from future terrorist attacks. As was the case regarding opinions on the war in Iraq, Democrats and Republicans have different perspectives on the U.S. war on terrorism.

THE WAR ON TERRORISM

Likely voters were asked their perception of safety from terrorism in the United States today. Fifty-four percent say the U.S. is safer from terrorism today than before September 11, 2001, 31 percent say the U.S. is just as safe as it was before September 11, 14 percent say the U.S. is less safe from terrorism than it was before September 11 and one percent don't know.

A majority of Republicans (73%) see the U.S. as being safer from terrorism today than it was before September 11, 2001; by contrast, 34 percent of Democratic likely voters say the U.S. is safer today.

Likely voters were also asked about their perceptions of the state of the war on terrorism. Sixty-four percent of likely voters say the war on terrorism is going well (either "very well" or "fairly well"), 35 percent say the war on terrorism is not going well ("not too well" or "not at all well") and one percent don't know.

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Republicans (82%) are far more likely than Democrats (45%) to say the war on terrorism is going well.

PROTECTING THE COUNTRY FROM FUTURE TERRORIST ATTACKS

When asked which party will do a better job protecting the country from future terrorist attacks, likely voters in Ohio are divided: 42 percent say the Republican Party, 42 percent say the Democratic Party and an additional 11 percent say the parties will handle protecting the country equally.

Predictably, both Republicans and Democrats are far more likely to see their own party as the party that will do a better job protecting the U.S. from terrorist attacks.

U.S. SENATE CHOICES ALSO REFLECT PARTISAN DIVIDE OVER WAR ON TERRORISM

The latest Ohio Poll also finds that likely voters who intend to vote for Democrat Sherrod Brown and those who intend to vote for Republican Mike DeWine in the race for U.S. Senate differ in views on the U.S. war on terrorism.

DeWine voters (72%) are far more likely than Brown voters (34%) to say the U.S. is safer from terrorism than it was before September 11, 2001.

DeWine voters (84%) are also far more likely than Brown voters (43%) to say the war on terrorism is going well.

A large majority of Brown voters (70%) say the Democratic Party will do a better job of protecting the country from future terrorist attacks, while a large majority of DeWine voters (74%) say the Republican Party will do a better job of protecting the country.

Ohio Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the most recent Ohio Poll conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati from September 7 through September 17, 2006. Interviews were not conducted on September 11, 2006.

A random sample of 671 likely voters from throughout the state was interviewed by telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to plus or minus 3.8 percent.

In addition to sampling error, there are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects that can introduce error or bias.

Results reported for subgroups have the potential for somewhat larger variation than those for the entire population.

Reported percentages may not total to 100% due to rounding.

Respondents to the Ohio Poll were asked:

- “Do you think the United States today is . . . safer from terrorism than it was before September 11, 2001, less safe from terrorism than it was before September 11, 2001, or just as safe from terrorism as it was before September 11, 2001?”
- “Overall, how well would you say the war on terrorism is going . . . very well, fairly well, not too well, or not at all well?”
- “Looking ahead for the next few years, which political party do you think will do a better job of protecting the country from terrorist attacks: the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?”

**“Do you think the United States today is . . . safer from terrorism than it was before September 11, 2001, less safe from terrorism than it was before September 11, 2001, or just as safe from terrorism as it was before September 11, 2001?”
(Likely Voters Overall)**

	<u>September 2006</u>
Safer from terrorism	54%
Just as safe from terrorism	31
Less safe from terrorism	14
Don't know	1
(N=)	(669)

**“Overall, how well would you say the war on terrorism is going . . . very well, fairly well, not too well, or not at all well?”
(Likely Voters Overall)**

	<u>September 2006</u>
Very well	11%
Fairly well	53
Not too well	23
Not at all well	12
Don't know	1
(N=)	(668)

**“Looking ahead for the next few years, which political party do you think will do a better job of protecting the country from terrorist attacks: the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?”
(Likely Voters Overall)**

	<u>September 2006</u>
Republican Party	42%
Democratic Party	42
Equally/About the same/Neither (Volunteered)	11
Don't know	5
(N=)	(658)

Ohio Poll #105

Do you think the United States today is . . . SAFER from terrorism than it was before September 11, 2001, LESS SAFE from terrorism than it was before September 11, 2001, or JUST AS SAFE from terrorism as it was before September 11, 2001?

		SAFER FROM TERRORISM	LESS SAFE FROM TERRORISM	JUST AS SAFE FROM TERRORISM	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Likely Voters		54%	14%	31%	1%
Sex	Male	59%	10%	30%	1%
	Female	49%	18%	32%	1%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29*	56%	11%	25%	8%
	30 to 45	55%	10%	34%	
	46 to 64	58%	12%	29%	1%
	65 and over	42%	25%	32%	1%
Race	African-American*	34%	28%	27%	11%
	White	56%	13%	31%	0%
Education	Less than high school*	32%	11%	57%	
	High school graduate	49%	16%	32%	3%
	Some college	56%	15%	29%	
	College graduate	57%	13%	30%	0%
Union Membership	Union household	51%	13%	35%	1%
	Non-union household	54%	14%	30%	1%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	52%	12%	34%	2%
	Northwest Ohio	59%	13%	28%	
	Central Ohio	49%	16%	34%	1%
	Southeast Ohio*	52%	13%	31%	4%
	Southwest Ohio	57%	18%	25%	
Party Identification	Democrat	34%	22%	42%	3%
	Independent*	49%	15%	36%	
	Republican	73%	6%	21%	
Ideology	Liberal	26%	29%	39%	6%
	Moderate	52%	14%	34%	1%
	Conservative	69%	7%	24%	
U.S. Senate Choice	Brown	34%	23%	42%	1%
	DeWine	72%	5%	21%	2%

Ohio Poll #105, September 2006
 Institute for Policy Research
 University of Cincinnati

*Note: Number of respondents is 75 or less. Additional caution should be taken when interpreting the findings of this subgroup because of the potential for larger variation.

Ohio Poll #105

Overall, how well would you say the war on terrorism is going . . . very well, fairly well, not too well, or not at all well?

		VERY WELL	FAIRLY WELL	NOT TOO WELL	NOT AT ALL WELL	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Likely Voters		11%	53%	23%	12%	1%
Sex	Male	16%	52%	20%	12%	1%
	Female	7%	53%	26%	12%	1%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29*	10%	50%	30%	10%	
	30 to 45	10%	52%	25%	12%	1%
	46 to 64	13%	56%	20%	10%	0%
	65 and over	9%	47%	24%	17%	3%
Race	African-American*		55%	25%	21%	
	White	12%	53%	22%	11%	1%
Education	Less than high school*	11%	34%	25%	31%	
	High school graduate	10%	55%	23%	11%	1%
	Some college	13%	49%	22%	15%	1%
	College graduate	11%	54%	25%	10%	1%
Union Membership	Union household	8%	43%	31%	16%	2%
	Non-union household	12%	55%	21%	11%	1%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	9%	56%	24%	10%	2%
	Northwest Ohio	11%	55%	19%	14%	2%
	Central Ohio	8%	50%	29%	12%	1%
	Southeast Ohio*	2%	59%	29%	9%	
	Southwest Ohio	19%	46%	19%	16%	
Party Identification	Democrat	3%	42%	35%	20%	0%
	Independent*	5%	55%	22%	14%	3%
	Republican	20%	62%	13%	4%	2%
Ideology	Liberal	5%	34%	32%	27%	1%
	Moderate	5%	56%	28%	10%	1%
	Conservative	21%	58%	15%	5%	1%
U.S. Senate Choice	Brown	4%	39%	35%	21%	1%
	DeWine	17%	67%	13%	3%	1%

Ohio Poll #105, September 2006
Institute for Policy Research
University of Cincinnati*Note: Number of respondents is 75 or less. Additional caution should
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Ohio Poll #105

Looking ahead for the next few years, which political party do you think will do a better job of protecting the country from terrorist attacks: the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

		REPUBLICAN PARTY	DEMOCRATIC PARTY	EQUALLY/ ABOUT THE SAME/ NEITHER (VOL.)	DON'T KNOW
Ohio Likely Voters		42%	42%	11%	5%
Sex	Male	46%	40%	9%	5%
	Female	39%	44%	12%	5%
Age of Respondent	18 to 29*	29%	62%	4%	5%
	30 to 45	44%	40%	12%	3%
	46 to 64	46%	37%	11%	5%
	65 and over	37%	48%	11%	4%
Race	African-American*	12%	65%	16%	8%
	White	46%	39%	10%	5%
Education	Less than high school*	32%	65%		3%
	High school graduate	36%	44%	13%	6%
	Some college	44%	46%	7%	3%
	College graduate	47%	36%	13%	4%
Union Membership	Union household	32%	51%	12%	5%
	Non-union household	45%	40%	11%	4%
Geographical Region	Northeast Ohio	39%	42%	11%	7%
	Northwest Ohio	42%	47%	10%	2%
	Central Ohio	45%	41%	9%	5%
	Southeast Ohio*	32%	50%	15%	4%
	Southwest Ohio	49%	39%	10%	2%
Party Identification	Democrat	8%	81%	8%	3%
	Independent*	15%	13%	48%	24%
	Republican	79%	10%	8%	3%
Ideology	Liberal	11%	81%	7%	2%
	Moderate	31%	48%	15%	6%
	Conservative	70%	21%	6%	3%
U.S. Senate Choice	Brown	14%	70%	11%	5%
	DeWine	74%	16%	7%	3%

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