

**University of Iowa Hawkeye Poll  
 Topline Results  
 Oct. 14, 2008  
 October 2008 Rolling Sample Poll of U.S. Registered Voters**

Sample: 680 registered voters nationwide. Margin of error for full sample is +/- 3.5 percent  
 235 Democrats (34.6%), 202 independents (29.7%), 243 Republicans (35.7%)

The October 2008 Hawkeye Poll National Rolling Sample is in the field from Oct. 1-Nov. 2, 2008 collecting a small sample (+/-60 registered voters) each day. Data reported in this release comes from samples collected Oct. 1-11, 2008. Reported results are weighted to match the sex, age and race of registered voters nationally. David Redlawsk and Caroline Tolbert, associate professors of political science in the University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, conducted the poll. The poll was carried out by with the cooperation and facilities of the UI Social Science Research Center, directed by Professor Kevin Leicht, UI Department of Sociology.

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**Registered Voter Screening:**

A household sample was acquired of households throughout the United States with at least one registered voter in the household. An initial attempt was made on answering the phone to reach the “youngest male now at home and registered to vote.” Alternatively, an available female registered voter was interviewed. An initial question verified registration status. Only those who said they were registered were qualified for the sample. Those who said no were dropped.

**Sample Weighting:** Results are weighted to national registered voters’ sex, age and race.

**OBAMA AS MUSLIM**

*Now, let’s turn back to the upcoming presidential election and the candidates who are running in it.*

*Q. Do you happen to know John McCain’s religion? Just tell me what you think his religion is. [OPEN ENDED; CODE TO LIST; DO NOT READ LIST]*

<b>ALL</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>I</b>	
<i>(Percentages)</i>				
51.7	54.5	47.7	53.2	Protestant [include Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Pentecostal, Jehovah's Witness, Church of Christ, Christian]
10.4	9.1	15.7	5.4	Roman Catholic
0.3	0.8	--	--	Jewish
0.2	--	0.4	--	Mormon
--	--	--	--	Orthodox Church (Greek or Russian)
8.4	14.0	5.5	4.8	Islam/Muslim
0.5	0.4	0.9	--	Other religion

-- -- -- -- No religion, not a believer, atheist, agnostic  
 37.0 35.1 35.3 41.4 Don't know

**Q. How about Barack Obama? Just tell me what you think his religion is. [OPEN ENDED; CODE TO LIST; DO NOT READ LIST]**

<b>ALL</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>I</b>	
<i>(Percentages)</i>				
55.0	43.6	66.8	54.8	Protestant [include Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Pentecostal, Jehovah's Witness, Church of Christ, Christian]
2.6	2.1	3.0	2.7	Roman Catholic
--	--	--	--	Jewish
0.3	0.8	--	--	Mormon
--	--	--	--	Orthodox Church (Greek or Russian)
8.4	14.0	5.5	4.8	Islam/Muslim
0.3	0.4	--	0.5	Other religion
--	--	--	--	No religion, not a believer, atheist, agnostic
33.4	39.1	24.7	37.1	Don't know

**BELIEF ABOUT OBAMA’S RELIGION BY EDUCATION**

*What is the last grade or class that you completed in school?*

	High School Grad or less (21.6%)	Some College (33.7%)	College Graduate (24.3%)	Post Grad (20.4%)
Muslim	10.2	11.8	8.5	2.2
Any Christian Denomination	42.9	54.6	57.6	73.4
Don't Know	46.9	33.6	33.3	20.9

**BELIEF ABOUT OBAMA’S RELIGION BY EVANGELICAL/BORN AGAIN CHRISTIAN**

*Would you describe yourself as a "born again" or evangelical Christian, or not?*

	Evangelical or Born Again (31.6%)	Non Evangelical (68.4%)
Muslim	13.7	6.6
Any Christian Denomination	51.7	59.9
Don't Know	33.3	32.2

**BELIEF ABOUT OBAMA’S RELIGION BY ATTENTION TO THE CAMPAIGN**

*How closely have you followed news about the candidates who are running for president?*

	Very Closely (51.3%)	Fairly Closely (40.3%)	Not Too Closely ( 8.4%)
Muslim	8.0	9.9	7.0
Any Christian Denomination	62.2	52.6	43.9
Don’t Know	29.2	32.2	49.1

**CAMPAIGN INTEREST AND AWARENESS**

*How many days in the past week did you:*

	0 Days	1-6 Days	7 Days
Watch national TV news on a channel like CNN, Fox, ABC, NBC or CBS	10.4	34.3	55.3
Read a daily newspaper	28.4	31.1	40.5
Use the Internet to get news	29.1	32.1	38.8

*I’m going to ask about some stories in the news. Please tell me how much you have heard about each. Tell me whether you have heard at lot, a little, or nothing at all about...*

	A Lot	A Little	Nothing
The Financial Crisis	95.8	3.8	0.5
Sara Palin, as VP Candidate	83.2	15.3	1.5
Polls about McCain versus Obama	78.4	19.8	1.8
Iraq	72.4	23.5	4.1
Hurricane Ike	59.7	33.5	6.9
Joe Biden, as VP Candidate	53.2	40.7	6.1
The Russia/Georgia Conflict	42.5	48.6	8.9

*(Note – the following was added on October 8 – N=304)*

William (Bill) Ayers	34.3	27.4	38.3
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**LIKELY WINNER**

*Regardless of who you support, who do you think is most likely to win the presidential election?*

	OCT 1-5 (n=291)				OCT 6-11 (n=389)			
	ALL	R	D	I	ALL	R	D	I
MCCAIN	26.7	49.0	5.3	25.6	15.3	24.6	3.5	19.4
OBAMA	55.5	38.5	81.9	47.6	63.7	44.9	85.8	58.3
DON'T KNOW	17.8	12.5	12.8	26.8	21.0	30.4	10.6	22.3