



Marquette Law School Poll Toplines-
September 13-16, 2012

(Reported total sample size may differ from 705 due to rounding of weighted data.)

S2

Gender

	N	%
Male	335	48
Female	370	52

S4

Region

	N	%
Milwaukee City	94	13
Rest of Milwaukee media market	213	30
Madison media market	122	17
Green Bay/Appleton media market	131	19
Rest of state media markets	146	21

S5

Some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you registered to vote in the precinct or ward where you now live, or aren't you?

	N	%
Yes, registered to vote	664	94
No, not registered to vote	39	6
Don't know/Refused (v)	1	0

S6

Do you plan to register to vote, or is there a chance that you may not register?

	N	%
Plan to Register	41	100

Q1

Some people seem to follow what's going on in politics 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 politics most of the time, some of the time, only now and then, or hardly at all?

	N	%
Most of the time	484	69
Some of the time	150	21
Only now and then	45	6
Hardly at all	26	4
Don't know (v)	0	0
Refused (v)	0	0

Q2

What are the chances that you will vote in the November 2012 general election for President, Congress, and other offices -- are you absolutely certain to vote, very likely to vote, are the chances 50-50, or don't you think you will vote?

	N	%
Absolutely certain	601	85
Very likely	61	9
50-50	32	5
Will not vote	10	1
Don't know (v)	1	0
Refused (v)	0	0

**To assess the impact of the economy on approval (of Obama and Walker), half the sample was asked the economic evaluation questions (Q3 and Q4) before job approval, and half were asked approval before the economy. The results reported below include all respondents regardless of which set of questions they were asked first.

Q3

Over the past year, do you feel the economy has gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?

	N	%
Gotten better	200	28
Gotten worse	233	33
Stayed the same	262	37
Don't know (v)	8	1
Refused (v)	1	0

Q4

Looking ahead, over the next year do you expect the economy to get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

	N	%
Get better	330	47
Get worse	84	12
Stay the same	191	27
Don't know (v)	96	14
Refused (v)	4	1

Q5

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

	N	%
Approve	380	54
Disapprove	277	39
Don't know (v)	44	6
Refused (v)	4	1

Q6

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Scott Walker is handling his job as Governor of Wisconsin?

	N	%
Approve	326	46
Disapprove	353	50
Don't know (v)	23	3
Refused (v)	4	1

Q7

(I'm now going to read you a list of people and organizations. Please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of them or if you haven't heard enough about him yet to have an opinion.)

Barack Obama?

	N	%
Favorable	390	55
Unfavorable	274	39
Haven't heard enough	20	3
Don't know (v)	14	2
Refused (v)	6	1

Q8

(I'm now going to read you a list of people and organizations. Please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of them or if you haven't heard enough about him yet to have an opinion.)

Mitt Romney?

	N	%
Favorable	254	36
Unfavorable	360	51
Haven't heard enough	61	9
Don't know (v)	26	4
Refused (v)	4	1

Q9

(I'm now going to read you a list of people and organizations. Please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of them or if you haven't heard enough about him yet to have an opinion.)

Scott Walker?

	N	%
Favorable	328	46
Unfavorable	349	49
Haven't heard enough	18	3
Don't know (v)	9	1
Refused (v)	2	0

Q10

(I'm now going to read you a list of people and organizations. Please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of them or if you haven't heard enough about him yet to have an opinion.)

Tammy Baldwin?

	N	%
Favorable	252	36
Unfavorable	220	31
Haven't heard enough	194	27
Don't know (v)	35	5
Refused (v)	5	1

Q11

(I'm now going to read you a list of people and organizations. Please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of them or if you haven't heard enough about him yet to have an opinion.)

Tommy Thompson?

	N	%
Favorable	272	39
Unfavorable	314	44
Haven't heard enough	93	13
Don't know (v)	23	3
Refused (v)	4	1

Q12

(I'm now going to read you a list of people and organizations. Please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of them or if you haven't heard enough about him yet to have an opinion.)

Joe Biden?

	N	%
Favorable	317	45
Unfavorable	279	40
Haven't heard enough	87	12
Don't know (v)	18	3
Refused (v)	3	0

Q13

(I'm now going to read you a list of people and organizations. Please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of them or if you haven't heard enough about him yet to have an opinion.)

Paul Ryan?

	N	%
Favorable	291	41
Unfavorable	286	41
Haven't heard enough	105	15
Don't know (v)	20	3
Refused (v)	3	0

Q14

(I'm now going to read you a list of people and organizations. Please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of them or if you haven't heard enough about him yet to have an opinion.)

The Tea Party?

	N	%
Favorable	183	26
Unfavorable	338	48
Haven't heard enough	129	18
Don't know (v)	51	7
Refused (v)	3	0

Q15 (ALL REGISTERED VOTERS)

If the election for the U.S. Senate were held today, would you vote for (the Democrat Tammy Baldwin) or for (the Republican Tommy Thompson)?

	N	%
Baldwin	347	49
Thompson	286	41
Undecided (v)	45	6
Don't know (v)	10	1
Refused (v)	17	2

Q15 (LIKELY VOTERS)

If the election for the U.S. Senate were held today, would you vote for (the Democrat Tammy Baldwin) or for (the Republican Tommy Thompson)?

	N	%
Baldwin	304	50
Thompson	246	41
Undecided (v)	30	5
Don't know (v)	7	1
Refused (v)	15	2

Q16 (ALL REGISTERED VOTERS)

If the election for President were held today, would you vote for (the Democrats Barack Obama and Joe Biden) or for (the Republicans Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan)?

	N	%
Obama-Biden	380	54
Romney-Ryan	272	39
Undecided (v)	34	5
Someone else (v)	1	0
Don't know (v)	7	1
Refused (v)	11	2

Q16 (LIKELY VOTERS)

If the election for President were held today, would you vote for (the Democrats Barack Obama and Joe Biden) or for (the Republicans Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan)?

	N	%
Obama-Biden	323	54
Romney-Ryan	243	40
Undecided (v)	23	4
Someone else (v)	1	0
Don't know (v)	4	1
Refused (v)	7	1

Q17

In general, which of the following statements do you agree with more?

	N	%
Higher taxes, more services	329	47
Lower taxes, fewer services	309	44
Don't know (v)	52	7
Refused (v)	15	2

Q18

Do you approve or disapprove of the health care legislation passed by Barack Obama and Congress in 2010?

	N	%
Approve	344	49
Disapprove	299	42
Don't know (v)	59	8
Refused (v)	3	0

Q19

Which comes closest to your view about the tax cuts passed in 2001 and 2003? The tax cuts should be continued for everyone. The tax cuts should only continue for household earning less than \$250,000 a year. Or, the tax cuts should expire for everyone.

	N	%
Continue for all	209	30
Continue for those earning less than \$250,000	330	47
Expire for all	107	15
Don't know (v)	54	8
Refused (v)	5	1

Q20

Would you be willing or not willing to cut defense spending in order to reduce the federal budget deficit?

	N	%
Willing	366	52
Not willing	294	42
Don't know (v)	44	6
Refused (v)	1	0

Q21

Would you be willing or not willing to cut spending on Medicare in order to reduce the federal budget deficit?

	N	%
Willing	192	27
Not willing	475	67
Don't know (v)	35	5
Refused (v)	4	1

Q22

Would you be willing or not willing to end most tax deductions, such as for child care and home mortgage deductions, in order to reduce the federal budget deficit?

	N	%
Willing	235	33
Not willing	413	59
Don't know (v)	54	8
Refused (v)	3	0

Q23

Please tell me whether the following statement describes Barack Obama, or not...he is someone who cares about people like me.

	N	%
Describes	451	64
Does not describe	230	33
Don't know (v)	20	3
Refused (v)	4	1

Q24

Please tell me whether the following statement describes Barack Obama, or not...he is a strong leader.

	N	%
Describes	425	60
Does not describe	265	38
Don't know (v)	10	1
Refused (v)	5	1

Q25

Please tell me whether the following statement describes Mitt Romney, or not... he is someone who cares about people like me.

	N	%
Describes	276	39
Does not describe	376	53
Don't know (v)	50	7
Refused (v)	2	0

Q26

Please tell me whether the following statement describes Mitt Romney, or not... he is a strong leader.

	N	%
Describes	323	46
Does not describe	310	44
Don't know (v)	69	10
Refused (v)	4	1

Q27

As you may know, Republican presidential candidate mitt Romney has selected Wisconsin Congressman Paul Ryan as his vice presidential running mate. How would you rate Romney's choice of Ryan for vice president? Would you rate this choice as excellent, pretty good, only fair, or poor?

	N	%
Excellent	220	31
Pretty good	174	25
Only fair	109	15
Poor	175	25
Don't know (v)	24	3
Refused (v)	3	0

Q28

Which of these two descriptions comes closer to your view of what Medicare should look like in the future? Option A: Medicare should continue as it is today, with the government guaranteeing seniors health insurance and making sure that everyone gets the same defined set of benefits.

Option B: Medicare should be changes to a system in which the government would guarantee each senior a fixed amount of money to put toward health insurance. Seniors would purchase that coverage either from traditional Medicare or from a list of private health plans.

	N	%
Option A	436	62
Option B	219	31
Don't know (v)	41	6
Refused (v)	8	1

Q29

Do you think the federal government can find ways to continue to support the current Medicare system as it is today, or that major changes will be required because the current system is too expensive to continue as it is?

	N	%
Can find ways to continue	301	43
Major changes required	369	52
Don't know (v)	32	5
Refused (v)	2	0

Q30

Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are currently working in the U.S.? They should be allowed to stay in their jobs and to eventually apply for U.S. citizenship. OR, They should be allowed to stay in their jobs only as temporary guest workers, but not to apply for U.S. citizenship. OR, They should be required to leave their jobs and leave the U.S.?

	N	%
Stay and apply for citizenship	362	51
Stay as temporary guest workers	163	23
Required to leave jobs and U.S.	144	20
Don't know (v)	29	4
Refused (v)	7	1

Q31

Which comes closest to your view? Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry? Or, Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not legally marry? Or, There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship.

	N	%
Allowed to legally marry	340	48
Civil unions	177	25
No legal recognition	148	21
Don't know (v)	27	4
Refused (v)	13	2

Q32

Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases, or illegal in all cases?

	N	%
Legal in all cases	181	26
Legal in most cases	242	34
Illegal in most cases	159	23
Illegal in all cases	94	13
Don't know (v)	21	3
Refused (v)	8	1

Q33

Would you say you and your family are better off than you were four years ago, or not?

	N	%
Better off	333	47
Not better off	343	49
Don't know (v)	24	3
Refused (v)	4	1

Q34

Would you say the country as a whole is better off than it was four years ago, or not?

	N	%
Better off	321	46
Not better off	367	52
Don't know (v)	15	2
Refused (v)	2	0

Q35

What do you think is the bigger problem in this country: unfairness in the economic system that favors the wealthy, or over-regulation of the free market that interferes with growth and prosperity?

	N	%
Unfairness	376	53
Over-regulation	272	39
Don't know (v)	48	7
Refused (v)	8	1

Q36

Who do you think is more responsible for the country's current economic problems: Barack Obama or George W. Bush?

	N	%
Obama	212	30
Bush	388	55
Both (v)	41	6
Neither (v)	35	5
Don't know (v)	22	3
Refused (v)	7	1

Q37

Thinking just about the county where you live, would you say this summer was hotter than normal, about normal, or cooler than normal?

	N	%
Hotter than normal	593	84
About normal	81	11
Cooler than normal	21	3
Don't know (v)	8	1
Refused (v)	3	0

Q38

Thinking just about the county where you live, would you say this summer your county got more rain than normal, about the normal amount of rain, or less rain than normal?

	N	%
More rain than normal	17	2
About the normal amount of rain	83	12
Less rain than normal	597	85
Don't know (v)	5	1
Refused (v)	3	0

Q39

What is your personal opinion? Do you think that the world's temperature probably has been going up over the past 100 years, or do you think this probably has not been happening?

	N	%
Has been going up	494	70
Has not been happening	170	24
Don't know (v)	37	5
Refused (v)	4	1

Q39a

How sure are you that the world's temperature has been going up over the past 100 years—extremely sure, very sure, somewhat sure, or not sure at all?

	N	%
Extremely sure	143	29
Very sure	160	32
Somewhat sure	154	31
Not sure at all	36	7
Don't know (v)	1	0
Refused (v)	0	0

Q39b

How sure are you that the world's temperature has NOT been going up over the past 100 years—extremely sure very sure, somewhat sure, or not sure at all?

	N	%
Extremely sure	37	22
Very sure	42	25
Somewhat sure	67	39
Not sure at all	22	13
Don't know (v)	1	1
Refused (v)	1	1

Q40

Assuming global warming is happening, to what extent do you believe that human activity is a contributor? Do you think human activity is contributing a lot, some, a little, or not at all to warming temperatures worldwide?

	N	%
A lot	275	39
Some	227	32
A little	113	16
Not at all	68	10
Don't know (v)	15	2
Refused (v)	8	1

Q41

Do you think scientists who report that global warming is happening and is caused by human activity make conclusions mainly on the basis of scientific evidence, or mainly on the basis of their own economic or political interests?

	N	%
Mainly on basis of scientific evidence	394	56
Mainly on basis of economic or political interests	242	34
Don't know (v)	61	9
Refused (v)	7	1

F1

Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

	N	%
Republican	180	26
Democrat	240	34
Independent	266	38
Other/No preference (v)	12	2
Don't know (v)	4	1
Refused (v)	3	0

PARTY ID WITH LEANERS

Party identification including those who lean toward one party or another

	N	%
Republican	282	40
Democrat	362	51
Neither/Just Independent (v)	56	8
Don't know/Refused (v)	5	1

F3 RECODE

What is the highest level of education you completed?

	N	%
Less than high school	37	5
High school graduate	147	21
Some college, no degree	109	15
Associate's degree	98	14
Bachelor's degree or more	307	44
Don't know/Refused (v)	7	1

F4 RECODE

Age Category

	N	%
18-29 years old	116	16
30-44 years old	129	18
45-59 years old	246	35
60 years or older	205	29
Don't know/Refused (v)	9	1

F5

Are you currently married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

	N	%
Married	411	58
Widowed	52	7
Divorced	75	11
Separated	6	1
Never Married	156	22
Don't know (v)	1	0
Refused (v)	5	1

RACE/ETHNICITY RECODE

Race/Ethnicity

	N	%
White, non-Hispanic	590	84
Black, non-Hispanic	42	6
Hispanic	30	4
Other Race	34	5
Don't know/Refused (v)	9	1

F8

Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services...more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

	N	%
More than once a week	72	10
Once a week	182	26
Once or twice a month	115	16
A few times a year	138	20
Seldom	104	15
Never	82	12
Don't know (v)	5	1
Refused (v)	7	1

F9

What is your religious preferences - are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, another religion, or no religion?

	N	%
Protestant	215	30
Roman Catholic	222	31
Jewish	5	1
Muslim/Islam	4	1
Mormon/Latter-Day Saints	7	1
Other Christian religion	101	14
Other Non-Christian religion	47	7
No Religion/Atheist/Agnostic	90	13
Don't know (v)	5	1
Refused (v)	10	1

F11

Last year, that is in 2011, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category.

	N	%
Less than \$10,00	29	4
10 to under \$20,000	49	7
20 to under \$30,000	70	10
30 to under \$40,000	70	10
40 to under \$50,000	57	8
50 to under \$75,000	103	15
75 to under \$100,000	85	12
100 to under \$150,000	88	12
\$150,000 or more	54	8
Don't know (v)	30	4
Refused (v)	71	10

F12

Overall, which of the following best describes how the recession affected your own personal financial situation?

	N	%
Major effect, and finances not recovered	192	27
Major effect, but finances recovered	239	34
No major effect	255	36
Don't know (v)	13	2
Refused (v)	7	1

F13

In general would you describe your political views as ...

	N	%
Very conservative	54	8
Conservative	216	31
Moderate	225	32
Liberal	135	19
Very liberal	47	7
Don't know (v)	17	2
Refused (v)	11	2

F14

Are you or any member of your household a member of a local or national labor union?

	N	%
Yes, respondent	89	13
Yes, another household member	71	10
No, nobody in household	538	76
Don't know (v)	1	0
Refused (v)	6	1

F15

Do you or a member of your household work for federal, state, or local government - for example, as a public school teacher, police officer, firefighter, or other government job?

	N	%
Yes	161	23
No	538	76
Don't know (v)	1	0
Refused (v)	6	1

F17

How many days in the past week did you read a daily newspaper?

	N	%
None	161	23
One day	85	12
Two days	75	11
Three days	50	7
Four days	38	5
Five days	31	4
Six days	15	2
Seven days or every day	244	35
Don't know (v)	2	0
Refused (v)	5	1

F18

How many days in the past week did you watch the local TV news at 5, 6, or 10 o'clock?

	N	%
None	118	17
One day	39	6
Two days	37	5
Three days	61	9
Four days	48	7
Five days	57	8
Six days	17	2
Seven days or every day	321	46
Don't know (v)	2	0
Refused (v)	5	1

F18b

How many days in the past week did you go online to read about national, state, or local news at news websites or political blogs?

	N	%
None	238	34
One day	41	6
Two days	54	8
Three days	64	9
Four days	29	4
Five days	58	8
Six days	10	1
Seven days or every day	203	29
Don't know (v)	4	1
Refused (v)	5	1

F18c

How many days in the past week did you go online to read about national, state, or local news through social media such as Facebook, Twitter, or e-mails?

	N	%
None	388	55
One day	31	4
Two days	28	4
Three days	33	5
Four days	20	3
Five days	23	3
Six days	8	1
Seven days or every day	168	24
Don't know (v)	1	0
Refused (v)	5	1

F19

Of all the personal telephone calls that you receive, do you get...?

	N	%
All or almost all on a cell phone	234	33
Some on a cell phone and some on a home phone	211	30
All or almost all on a home phone	250	36
Don't know (v)	4	1
Refused (v)	5	1

F20

And did I reach you by dialing (PHONE NUMBER)?

	N	%
Yes	700	99
No	5	1

F22

Is this a cell phone or not?

	N	%
Yes	215	30
No	490	70
