October 27, 2008

Rasmussen Reports Daily Presidential Tracking Poll

Monday, October 27, 2008

The Rasmussen Reports daily Presidential Tracking Poll for Monday shows Barack Obama attracting 51% of the vote while John McCain earns 46%. Obama's five-point advantage is down from an eight-point lead yesterday but up a point from the lead he held a week ago. With today's results, Obama has been ahead by four-to-eight points every single day for 32 straight days (see trends). During that 32-day stretch, Obama's voter support has stayed between 50% and 52% every day while McCain has stayed in the 44% to 46% range.

Obama now wins 11% of Republican votes while McCain gets 10% of Democrats. The candidates are essentially even among unaffiliated voters. Obama leads by ten among women overall, but McCain has a five-point advantage among white women. McCain leads by a single point among men.

Obama is viewed favorably by 55% of voters nationwide, McCain by 51% (see trends).

In <u>Wisconsin</u>, Obama holds a seven-percentage point lead. At noon Eastern today, new results will be posted for <u>Arizona</u>. At 3:00 p.m. Eastern, Rasmussen Reports will provide new numbers for <u>California</u>.

At 6:00 p.m. Eastern, the latest numbers from <u>Colorado</u>, <u>Florida</u>, <u>Missouri</u>, <u>North Carolina</u>, <u>Ohio</u>, and <u>Virginia</u> will be released. <u>Electoral College projections</u> now show Obama leading 260-163. When "leaners" are included, Obama leads 286-174. A total of 270 Electoral Votes are needed to win the White House. Recent statewide Presidential polls have been released for <u>Arizona</u>, <u>California</u>, <u>Colorado</u>, <u>Delaware</u>, <u>Florida</u>, <u>Georgia</u>, <u>Hawaii</u>, <u>Illinois</u>, <u>Iowa</u>, <u>Kansas</u>, <u>Kentucky</u>, <u>Kansas</u>, <u>Louisiana</u>, <u>Maine</u>, <u>Maryland</u>, <u>Massachusetts</u>, <u>Michigan</u>, <u>Minnesota</u>, <u>Mississippi</u>, <u>Missouri</u>, <u>Montana</u>, <u>Nebraska</u>, <u>Nevada</u>, <u>New Hampshire</u>, <u>New Mexico</u>, <u>North Carolina</u>, <u>Ohio</u>, <u>Oregon</u>, <u>Pennsylvania</u>, <u>South Carolina</u>, <u>Tennessee</u>, <u>Texas</u>, <u>Virginia</u>, <u>Washington</u>, <u>West Virginia</u> and <u>Wisconsin</u>. <u>Demographic crosstabs for all state polling are available for <u>Premium Members</u>. <u>Learn More</u>.</u>

Rasmussen Markets data shows Obama with an 87.8 % chance of winning in November (see market expectations for key states). Looking to the Senate, new polling data shows Democrat Jeanne Shaheen continuing to lead incumbent Republican John Sununu in New Hampshire. Democrats are also well positioned to pick up Senate seats in Virginia, New Mexico, and Colorado. In Minnesota and North Carolina, Democratic challengers have a narrow advantage. If the Democrats were to win all six of those seats, it would give them a total of 57.

As Harry Reid and his team seek to reach the magic number of 60 Senate seats, they can find additional prospects in Alaska, Oregon, Georgia, and Mississippi. Even Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky is not as secure as he would like to be in what is proving to be a very difficult cycle for Republicans at all levels. Regardless of whether or not they reach 60 Senate seats, the Democrats will enjoy working control of that legislative body when it convenes in January.

Take a moment to predict whether or not the Democrats will have 60 Senate seats following this election. You might also enjoy Larry Sabato's assessment of <u>House</u> and <u>Senate</u> races.

Daily tracking results are collected via telephone surveys of 1,000 likely voters per night and reported on a three-day rolling average basis. The margin of sampling error—for the full sample of 3,000 Likely Voters--is +/- 2 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence. Results are also compiled on a full-week basis and crosstabs for the <u>full-week results</u> are available for <u>Premium Members</u>. Like all polling firms, Rasmussen Reports weights its data to reflect the population at large (<u>see methodology</u>). Among other targets, Rasmussen Reports weights data by political party affiliation using a dynamic weighting process. During the final two months of Election 2008, party weighting targets are updated each Sunday (see <u>additional information</u>). For polling data released during the week of October 26 to November 1, 2008, the partisan weighting targets used by Rasmussen Reports will be 40.0% Democratic, 32.8% Republican, and 27.2% unaffiliated.