

# Rasmussen Reports

## Daily Presidential Tracking Poll

Sunday, October 12, 2008

The Rasmussen Reports daily Presidential Tracking Poll for Sunday shows Barack Obama attracting 51% of the vote while [John McCain](#) earns 45%. This is the seventeenth straight day that Obama's support has stayed in the very narrow range from 50% to 52% while McCain has been at 44% of 45% ([see trends](#)).

Obama leads by fourteen percentage points among women while McCain leads by two among men. Both men lead by an 86% to 12% margin among members of their own party while Obama holds an eight point advantage among unaffiliated voters (see other [recent demographic highlights](#)).

Scott Rasmussen provides an [overview of the race](#) to date at a time when [55% of voters believe Obama will win the election](#).

Currently, Obama has the edge in every state won by John Kerry four years ago. However, of the states won by George Bush, McCain is trailing in four and five others are considered a toss-up. **As a result, Electoral College projections now show Obama leading 255-163. When "leaners" are included, Obama leads 300-174.** A total of 270 Electoral Votes are needed to win the White House.

Recent statewide Presidential polls have been released for [Arizona](#), [California](#), [Colorado](#), [Florida](#), [Hawaii](#), [Kentucky](#), [Kansas](#), [Maine](#), [Maryland](#), [Michigan](#), [Minnesota](#), [Mississippi](#), [Missouri](#), [Montana](#), [Nebraska](#), [Nevada](#), [New Hampshire](#), [New Mexico](#), [North Carolina](#), [Ohio](#), [Oregon](#), [Pennsylvania](#), [Tennessee](#), [Texas](#), [Virginia](#), [Washington](#), and [Wisconsin](#)

[Rasmussen Markets](#) data shows **Obama is given a [77.4](#) chance of winning in November** (see market expectations for [key states](#)).

In Senate races, [Democrat Kay Hagan continues to lead incumbent Republican Senator Elizabeth Dole](#) in North Carolina. [Al Franken has taken the lead over incumbent Republican Norm Coleman](#) in Minnesota.

The [Alaska Senate](#) race is a toss-up. See recent polling on [Senate 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 [full-week results](#) are available for [Premium Members](#).

Like all polling firms, Rasmussen Reports weights its data to reflect the population at large ([see methodology](#)). 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 [additional information](#)). For polling data released during the week of October 5-11, 2008, the partisan weighting targets used by Rasmussen Reports will be 39.3% Democratic, 33.3% [Republican](#), and 27.4% unaffiliated.