

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: Iowa Poll of 1,513 Adults

This survey of 1,513 adults was conducted on October 15th through October 17th, 2012. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in the state of Iowa were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the state. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region was represented in proportion to its population. To increase coverage, this landline sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers. The two samples were then combined and balanced to reflect the 2010 census results for age, gender, income, race, and region. Results for adults are statistically significant within ± 2.5 percentage points. There are 1,392 registered voters. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 2.6 percentage points. Registered voters were balanced to reflect the difference in registration between Democrats and Republicans as reported by state election officials. There are 673 registered voters interviewed pre-debate and 719 registered voters interviewed post-debate. The results for these subsets are statistically significant within ± 3.8 and ± 3.7 percentage points, respectively. There are 1,137 likely voters defined by a probability turnout model. This model determines the likelihood respondents will vote in the 2012 presidential election based upon their chance of vote, interest in the election, and past election participation. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 2.9 percentage points. There are 550 likely voters interviewed pre-debate and 588 likely voters interviewed post-debate. The results for these subsets are statistically significant within ± 4.2 and ± 4.0 percentage points, respectively. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.