

**THE ST. NORBERT COLLEGE/WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO  
WISCONSIN SURVEY – Fall 2010**

**National Issues**

Senate Race

Generic House Race

Most Important Problem

Direction of the Country

Presidential Approval Ratings

Congressional Approval Ratings

State of the Economy

Which Party Would Handle ..... Better

**Survey Information:**

Random Selection, Landline Telephone Survey

Number of Adult Wisconsin Registered Likely Voters: 402

Interview Period: 10/12/10 – 10/15/10

Margin of Error: +/- 5% at the 95% confidence level.

- *NOTE: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.*

## Senate Race

If the election were held today, would you be more likely to vote for Democrat Russ Feingold or Republican Ron Johnson? (Candidate names were rotated)

<b>Ron Johnson</b> .....	<b>49%</b>
<b>Russ Feingold</b> .....	<b>47%</b>
Other Party (Volunteered).....	<1%
Not Sure .....	4%
Refused .....	<1%

OF THOSE “NOT SURE” in the previous question:

As of today, do you lean more toward Feingold or Johnson? (candidate names were rotated)

<b>Russ Feingold</b> .....	<b>15%</b>
<b>Ron Johnson</b> .....	<b>9%</b>
Other .....	0%
Don't Know .....	74%
Refused .....	3%

ALL RESPONDENTS:

How likely are you to change your vote for senator before the November election?

Very Likely .....	1%
Somewhat Likely .....	7%
Somewhat Unlikely .....	9%
Very Unlikely.....	81%
Not Sure .....	2%
Refused .....	0%

**House of Representatives**

Regarding the race for the U.S. House of Representatives in your Congressional District, will you be voting for the Republican candidate, the Democratic candidate, or an independent/third party candidate for your district?

Republican	48%
Democrat	36%
Independent/Third Party	3%
Not Sure	12%
Refused	1%

## Most Important Problem Facing the Country

What is the most important problem facing the country today? (Open-ended)

- 1. Economy and Jobs .....56%
- 2. Budget, Deficit, Debt .....17%
- 3. Politics and Elections .....6%
- 4. Health Care .....5%
- 5. Foreign Policy .....4%
  
- Education .....3%
- Poverty .....3%
- Immigration and Borders .....2%
- Abortion .....1%

Other (each is less than 1% of responses)

Social Security, Fear, Climate Change, Alternative Fuel Programs, Lack of Family Values, Lack of cooperation

	Sp '03	Fall '04*	Fall '05	Fall '06	Sp '07	Fall '07	Sp '08*	Fall '08*	Fall '10
War - Iraq/Afghanistan***	53%	21%	28%	29%	42%	25%	23%	6%	3%
Terrorism	8%	15%	7%	10%	3%	7%	7%	4%	<1%
Economy	17%	23%	11%	9%	8%	16%	32%	61%	56%
Health Care	2%	16%	9%	9%	12%	11%	12%	7%	5%
Morality	1%	3%	8%	5%	4%	5%	2%	6%	1%
Government Budget & Taxes	4%	4%	7%	6%	3%	3%	4%	4%	17%
Gas Prices	0%	1%	5%	2%	4%	5%	2%	2%	0%
Politics	7%	7%	5%	6%	2%	6%	8%	3%	6%
Poverty & Soc Security	1%	2%	6%	1%	2%	2%	1%	0%**	4%
Education	1%	<1%	2%	2%	3%	2%	0%	1%	3%
Crime	0%	0%	2%	5%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%
Environment	<1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	2%	0%	1%	<1%

\* Question was Issue Important to Vote Choice

\*\* Worry about retirement accounts and hard times for all are included in the Economy category

\*\*\* Afghanistan was not part of this category until Fall '10

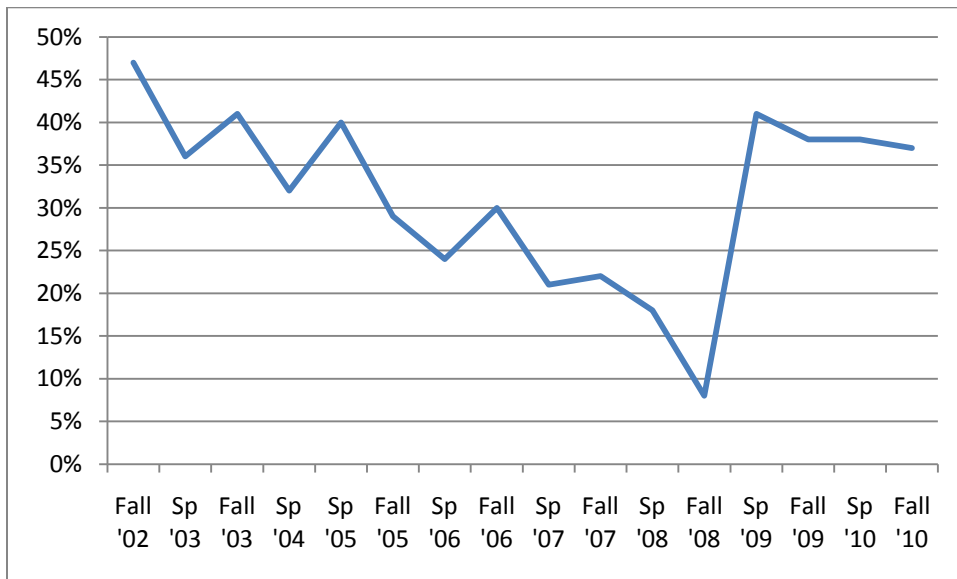
## Direction of the Country

Generally speaking, would you say that things in the country are going in the right direction, or are they going in the wrong direction?

Right Direction.....37%  
 Wrong Direction .....55%  
 Not Sure .....7%  
 Refused .....1%

### Percentage “Right Direction”

Fall '02	47%
Sp '03	36%
Fall '03	41%
Sp '04	32%
Sp '05	40%
Fall '05	29%
Sp '06	24%
Fall '06	30%
Sp '07	21%
Fall '07	22%
Sp '08	18%
Fall '08	8%
Sp '09	41%
Fall '09	38%
Sp '10	38%
Fall '10	37%



## **Presidential Approval Rating**

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

Approve.....42%  
Disapprove .....52%  
Not Sure .....6%  
Refused .....0%

### **Approval Rating**

Sp '09	60%
Fall '09	50%
Sp '10	44%
Fall '10	42%

## **Congressional Approval Rating**

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

Approve.....18%  
Disapprove .....74%  
Not Sure .....8%  
Refused .....<1%

### **Approval Rating**

Spring '07	37%
Fall '07	26%
Spring '08	27%
Fall '08	16%
Spring '09	39%
Spring '10	14%
Fall '10	18%

## Assessment of the Economy

Compared to a year ago, do you think the national economy has gotten better, stayed the same, or gotten worse?

Better	.....	35%
Same	.....	25%
Worse	.....	39%
Not Sure	.....	1%
Refused	.....	0%

	Better	Same	Worse
Fall '04	32%	28%	40%
Fall '06	27%	32%	38%
Fall '08	1%	5%	93%
Sp '10	42%	23%	34%
Fall '10	35%	25%	39%

## Which Party Would Do Better Handling.....

For the following issues, please tell me which party, Democrats or Republicans, would do a better job handling the issues.

	Democrats	Republicans	Both – No Difference (vol)	Neither (vol.)	Not Sure	Refu sed/ NA
a. The Economy	37%	49%	1%	9%	4%	<1%
b. Health care/ prescription drugs	42%	38%	2%	12%	5%	<1%
c. The Budget Deficit	30%	51%	2%	11%	6%	<1%
d. Education	47%	34%	4%	8%	7%	<1%
e. Immigration	30%	43%	3%	12%	12%	<1%
f. Issues important to people like you	39%	46%	2%	7%	6%	1%
g. Ethical issues of its own members	30%	27%	7%	23%	12%	1%