



Tales from the Trail

Follow Tales from the Trail

Follow

RSS

Email

Like 221

» Analysis & Opinion Home

Romney's problems with minority voters extend to Asians, study shows

By Patricia Zengerle

SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

Email

Print

Share

Tweet

Like 89

2012 ELECTION | 2012 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN | 2012 PRESIDENTIAL RACE | ASIAN-AMERICANS | BARACK OBAMA | DEMOCRATS | DEMOGRAPHICS | MITT ROMNEY | POLLS | REPUBLICANS | U.S. POLITICS



Republican Mitt Romney's problems appealing to minority voters extends beyond blacks and Hispanics, with Asian-Americans also heavily favoring Democratic President Barack Obama's re-election on Nov. 6.

Among likely voters who are Asian American, 43 percent back Obama, compared with 24 percent for Romney. But there are still many out there to be won over, because a third – 32 percent – of those who are judged likely to cast ballots on Nov. 6 have not yet made up their minds, according to the National Asian American Survey, which organizers said was the largest such study of Asian American and Pacific Islanders' public opinion ever done in the United States.

Many, however, have yet to be won over, because a third – 32 percent – of those who are judged likely to cast ballots on Nov. 6 have not yet made up their minds, the study found.

Romney could have a tougher time attracting them. Obama's approval ratings are higher with the group – at 59 percent versus the national average of about 50 percent. Romney's are lower, at 30 percent versus 45 percent.

Recent surveys of the total U.S. voter population show the number of undecided voters has dwindled to the single digits, with just six weeks remaining before the election. Ninety-two percent of likely voters in a Reuters/Ipsos poll on Monday had made up their minds, with 49 percent for Obama and 43 percent for Romney.

AUTHOR PROFILE



Patricia Zengerle

Patricia Zengerle is covering the 2012 campaign at Reuters. She was most recently a White House Correspondent and had previously been an editor in Washington, D.C., an editor in London, and a correspondent in Miami, Pittsburgh and New York. You can follow her on Twitter @ReutersZengerle

TAG CLOUD

2008 elections 2010 election 2010 elections 2012 election 2012 presidential campaign 2012 presidential race Afghanistan Barack Obama Bill Clinton campaign China climate change Congress Democrats economy elections Front Row Washington George W. Bush Harry Reid healthcare healthcare reform Hillary Clinton House of Representatives Joe Biden John Boehner John McCain Michelle Obama Mitt Romney Nancy Pelosi Newt Gingrich Obama politics President Barack Obama Republican Republicans Rick Perry Rick Santorum Robert Gibbs Sarah Palin Senate Tea Party U.S. economy U.S. politics Washington Extra White House

MORE POLITICS NEWS

Some conservatives reconsider funding

The study found that Japanese and Filipino Americans are the Asian-Americans most likely to vote – at 64 percent and 52 percent, respectively. Hmong and Cambodian Americans are least likely, at 26 percent each.

There are other differences among ethnic groups. Indian Americans (68 percent) show the strongest support for Obama, while Filipinos (38 percent) are Romney's strongest supporters.

Most Asian-Americans – five out of six – do not live in the battleground states where the presidential election is most likely to be decided, which makes their influence greatest in state-wide and local elections. But they could make a difference in two important swing states – Virginia and Nevada – where they account for about 7 percent and 8 percent of the population, respectively.

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders account for about 5 percent of the total U.S. population, compared with the 13 percent who are black and 17 percent who are Hispanic. Some surveys have shown the first African-American president with 100 percent support among black voters, and 70 percent – or higher – among Hispanics.

The report was based on data collected from 3,034 telephone interviews of adults in the United States who identify themselves as Asian American and 342 interviews with Pacific Islanders. Interviews were conducted from July 31 through Sept. 19.

Photo credit: REUTERS/Andrew Burton

[Akin in Missouri Senate race](#)
[Obama: U.S. will "do what we must" to curb Iran nuclear bid](#)
[Supreme Court upholds West Virginia redistricting](#)
[Romney pulls his punches at Bill Clinton event](#)
[House ethics panel unanimous in dropping Waters probe](#)

[« Previous Post](#)

POST YOUR COMMENT

[Submit Comment](#)

We welcome comments that advance the story through relevant opinion, anecdotes, links and data. If you see a comment that you believe is irrelevant or inappropriate, you can flag it to our editors by using the report abuse links. Views expressed in the comments do not represent those of Reuters. For more information on our comment policy, see <http://blogs.reuters.com/fulldisclosure/2010/09/27/toward-a-more-thoughtful-conversation-on-stories/>



JoAnne Allen

EDITION: U.S.

[Back to top](#)

Reuters.com

[Business](#) | [Markets](#) | [World](#) | [Politics](#) | [Technology](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Money](#) | [Pictures](#) | [Videos](#) | [Site Index](#)

Legal

[Bankruptcy Law](#) | [California Legal](#) | [New York Legal](#) | [Securities Law](#)

Support & Contact

[Support](#) | [Corrections](#)

Account Information

[Register](#) | [Sign In](#)

Connect with Reuters

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [RSS](#) | [Podcast](#) | [Newsletters](#) | [Mobile](#)

About

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [AdChoices](#) | [Copyright](#)

Thomson Reuters is the world's leading source of intelligent information for businesses and professionals.

[Thomsonreuters.com](#)

[About Thomson Reuters](#)

[Investor Relations](#)

[Careers](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Our Flagship financial information platform incorporating Reuters Insider

An ultra-low latency infrastructure for electronic trading and data distribution

A connected approach to governance, risk and compliance

Our next generation legal research platform

Our global tax workstation

Thomson Reuters is the world's largest international multimedia news agency, providing investing news, world news, business news, technology news, headline news, small business news, news alerts, personal finance, stock market, and mutual funds information available on Reuters.com, video, mobile, and interactive television platforms. Thomson Reuters journalists are subject to an Editorial Handbook which requires fair presentation and disclosure of relevant interests.

NYSE and AMEX quotes delayed by at least 20 minutes. Nasdaq delayed by at least 15 minutes. For a complete list of exchanges and delays, please click here.

