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One-Third of Obama Voters Plan To Be Out Tomorrow

Monday, November 03, 2008

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Looks like there'll be a lot fewer Democrats in the office on Election Day.

Just one-out-of-five voters (20%) plans to take the day off from work or school tomorrow as [Barack Obama](#) has urged his supporters to do, but 35% of those who plan to vote for the Democrat will be among them. Obama wants them to devote that time to getting out the vote.

Ninety-four percent (94%) of likely voters for [John McCain](#) do not plan to take the day off, according to a new Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey.

Seventy-five percent (75%) of all voters don't plan to take the day off, and five percent (5%) haven't decided yet.

Twenty-three percent (23%) of men plan to be off on Election Day, compared to 17% of women. Forty-four percent (44%) of African-Americans plan to take the day off, while 81% of whites say they do not.

Even 21% of those who have already voted plan to be off tomorrow.

Nationally, Obama continues to hold a modest but steady lead in the Rasmussen Reports [daily Presidential Tracking Poll](#) and in the [Electoral College projections](#).

Final Fox News/Rasmussen polling in six key battleground states – [Colorado](#), [Florida](#), [Missouri](#), [North Carolina](#), [Ohio](#) and [Virginia](#) – will be released today.

(Want a [free daily e-mail update](#)? Sign up now. If it's in the news, it's in our polls). Fifty-three percent (53%) disagree with Obama's call for his supporters to skip work or school on Election Day to get out the vote, while 35% agree with the Democratic candidate. Twelve percent (12%) are undecided.

Thirty-eight percent (38%) of men agree with Obama's call, as do 32% of women. The older the voter, the less likely they are to support the idea of taking Election Day off for campaign work.

While 61% of African-American voters agree with Obama's action, 62% of whites disagree.

Fifty-five percent (55%) do not believe that it's a good idea to encourage people to take a day off in the current economic climate, while 30% think it's fine. Fifteen percent (15%) aren't sure. Fifty-five percent (55%) of liberals like the idea; 81% of conservatives don't.

Obama's call was outlined last week in a video on his website that quickly attracted media notice and jumped to YouTube. It urged supporters to take Election Day off from [work to help the campaign](#).

Nearly half of voters like Election Day just the way it is. While 44% say Election Day should be a national holiday, 49% disagree. Younger voters are far more supportive of this idea than older voters. While 50% of voters ages 18-29 favor such a holiday, 61% of those 65 and older are opposed.

Democrats like the idea a lot more than Republicans. Sixty-seven percent (67%) of Democratic voters support making Election Day a national holiday, but 72% of Republicans disagree. Unaffiliated voters are opposed to a holiday by a 13-point margin.

Forty-nine percent (49%) also don't think Election Day should be moved to a

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weekend to make it more convenient for people to vote, even though 40% favor the idea.

Fifty-three percent (53%) of Democrats support moving Election Day to the weekend, compared to 28% of GOP voters. Sixty-three percent (63%) of Republicans are opposed versus 36% of Democrats. A majority of unaffiliated voters (52%) also reject the idea.

Those who have voted early are fairly evenly divided on whether Election Day should be a holiday or moved to the weekend. Over half of those who plan to vote as usual on Election Day are opposed to both ideas.

See [survey questions and topline](#)s. [Crosstabs](#) are available to [Premium Members](#) only.

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The Rasmussen Reports [ElectionEdge™](#) Premium Service for Election 2008 offers the most comprehensive public opinion coverage ever provided for a Presidential election.

Scott Rasmussen, president of Rasmussen Reports, has been an independent pollster for more than a decade.

This telephone survey of 1,000 Likely Voters was conducted by Rasmussen Reports November 2, 2008. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 3 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence.

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