

Results of SurveyUSA Election Poll #19612

Geography: Minnesota
Data Collected: 09/06/2012 - 09/09/2012
Release Date: 09/10/2012
Counts (Frequencies)

In Minnesota, 8 Weeks Till Votes Are Counted, Obama 10 Points Atop Romney; Marriage Amendment Narrowly Favored; Klobuchar Sails: 8 weeks until votes are counted, Barack Obama leads Mitt Romney 50% to 40% in the battle for Minnesota's 10 electoral votes, incumbent DFL candidate Amy Klobuchar is materially ahead in her campaign for re-election to the U.S. Senate, and an amendment to define marriage is narrowly favored to pass, according to a SurveyUSA poll conducted for KSTP-TV in the Twin Cities. In this, SurveyUSA's first poll of Minnesota since the Republican and Democratic conventions, Obama's lead over Romney has grown from 6 points 6 weeks ago to 10 points today. The 10-point advantage comes largely from women, among whom Obama today leads by 17 points. Romney leads in Southern MN, but Obama leads elsewhere in the state. Obama holds slightly more of the Democratic base than Romney holds of the Republican base, and Independents break ever-so-slightly for Obama. (Among Independents, there has been a 7-point swing to Obama compared to SurveyUSA's poll 6 weeks ago.) The real tailwind comes from moderates, who break 2:1 for Obama. Romney trails among the rich and the poor, among the educated and the less educated. There is erosion in Romney's support among middle-income and upper-income voters, compared to 6 weeks ago. Today's release is also SurveyUSA's first poll in Minnesota since Paul Ryan was named Romney's running mate. 30% of likely voters say Ryan makes them more likely to vote for Romney, but 34% say Ryan makes them more likely to vote for Obama. 35% shrug when asked about Ryan. An amendment to define marriage in Minnesota as between one man and one woman is today favored to pass 50% to 43%, though all ballot measures are difficult to predict. Today, SurveyUSA finds: Republicans favor the amendment 4:1. Democrats oppose the measure 2:1. Independents split. The less educated you are, the more likely you are to support the amendment. The lower your income, the more likely you are to support the amendment. An odd coalition takes shape, age-wise: voters younger than 35 and older than 64 support the measure. Voters age 35 to 64 split. SurveyUSA has polled on the marriage amendment before, going back to 2011. This is the first poll that used the actual language that will appear on the ballot, instead of a summary of the ballot language; previous SurveyUSA polls are not apples-to-apples comparable with this one. In the election for U.S. Senator from Minnesota, incumbent DFL candidate Amy Klobuchar remains the overwhelming favorite, leading Republican Kurt Bills 55% to 34%. 6 weeks ago, Klobuchar led by 24 points, today by 21. **Cell-phone and home-phone respondents included in this research:** SurveyUSA interviewed 700 adults 09/06/12 through 09/09/12. Of them, 627 were registered to vote. Of the registered, 551 were determined by SurveyUSA to be likely to vote in the 11/06/12 election. This research was conducted using blended sample, mixed mode. Respondents reachable on a home telephone (77% of likely voters) were interviewed on their home telephone in the recorded voice of a professional announcer. Respondents not reachable on a home telephone (23% of likely voters) were shown a questionnaire on their smartphone, tablet or other electronic device. Obama leads by 4 points among voters interviewed on their home phone. Obama leads by 25 points among voters not reachable on a home telephone. When the two groups are proportionally combined, Obama leads by the 10 points reported here. In 2008, Obama carried Minnesota by 10 points over John McCain.

1 If the election for President were today, would you vote for ... (choices rotated) Republican Mitt Romney? Democrat Barack Obama? Or one of the other candidates?

551 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4.3 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
Mitt Romney (R)	222	122	101	46	65	68	43	111	111	36	186	143	10	59	136	72	4	37	82	99	59	81	69	127	34	33	29
Barack Obama (D)	273	125	148	61	65	92	56	126	148	69	205	11	188	63	21	140	92	47	95	128	76	114	76	168	28	37	41
Other	25	16	9	5	7	8	5	12	13	6	19	4	3	15	7	10	3	8	8	8	7	8	8	9	7	6	3
Undecided	30	15	14	11	13	2	3	24	6	16	13	6	4	11	7	18	1	3	9	18	4	14	12	21	3	3	3
Total	551	278	273	124	149	171	107	274	277	127	424	164	204	148	170	239	100	96	194	253	145	217	165	324	72	78	77
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	51%	49%	23%	27%	31%	19%	50%	50%	23%	77%	30%	37%	27%	31%	44%	18%	18%	36%	47%	28%	41%	31%	59%	13%	14%	14%

2 Minnesota will also elect a United States Senator in November. If the election for United States Senator from Minnesota were today, would you vote for ... (choices rotated) Republican Kurt Bills? DFL candidate Amy Klobuchar? Or one of the other candidates?

551 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4.2 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
Kurt Bills (R)	188	111	77	47	56	50	35	103	85	33	155	129	9	43	122	48	6	29	70	87	47	73	60	114	26	25	24
Amy Klobuchar (DFL)	302	136	167	59	72	104	66	132	171	65	237	24	185	82	32	167	86	54	100	143	82	120	89	169	41	47	46
Other	20	10	9	2	6	10	2	8	12	5	15	3	6	10	4	8	3	4	9	6	7	6	5	10	3	4	3
Undecided	41	21	20	17	15	7	3	31	10	25	16	8	5	13	12	16	5	8	14	18	10	18	11	32	3	2	3
Total	551	278	273	124	149	171	107	274	277	127	424	164	204	148	170	239	100	96	194	253	145	217	165	324	72	78	77
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	51%	49%	23%	27%	31%	19%	50%	50%	23%	77%	30%	37%	27%	31%	44%	18%	18%	36%	47%	28%	41%	31%	59%	13%	14%	14%

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3 Which one issue will be most important when casting your votes for President and US Senate? Health care? Job creation? Taxes? Gas prices? War on terrorism? Education? Or something else?

551 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4.3 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
Health Care	150	60	89	23	21	59	46	45	105	16	134	37	70	38	37	68	34	33	53	60	47	60	35	80	25	25	21
Job Creation	172	103	69	43	54	46	29	97	75	54	118	47	62	50	50	85	24	26	63	80	48	57	60	107	24	17	24
Taxes	81	38	42	21	26	25	9	46	34	22	59	31	21	25	36	31	10	8	30	41	12	38	29	53	7	10	11
Gas Prices	31	20	11	8	10	9	4	18	13	11	20	16	10	5	8	15	4	11	11	9	14	11	5	14	4	8	5
War On Terrorism	8	4	4	1	2	1	3	3	4	1	7	5	3	0	4	2	2	3	1	4	4	1	2	5	1	1	0
Education	34	14	19	6	13	8	6	20	14	5	29	2	18	12	2	17	11	5	7	21	4	15	13	19	6	5	3
Something Else	57	28	29	17	19	16	5	36	21	15	42	20	16	14	28	12	13	5	18	33	10	29	14	34	3	10	9
Not Sure	20	10	10	4	4	6	5	9	11	5	15	6	4	5	5	9	2	4	10	6	6	6	6	11	2	3	4
Total	551	278	273	124	149	171	107	274	277	127	424	164	204	148	170	239	100	96	194	253	145	217	165	324	72	78	77
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	51%	49%	23%	27%	31%	19%	50%	50%	23%	77%	30%	37%	27%	31%	44%	18%	18%	36%	47%	28%	41%	31%	59%	13%	14%	14%

4 Does the selection of Paul Ryan as running mate make you ... More likely to vote for Mitt Romney? More likely to vote for Barack Obama? Or does it not make a difference one way or the other?

551 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4.3 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
More Likely To Vote For Mitt Romne	165	96	69	33	47	48	37	80	85	23	142	102	8	50	106	47	5	28	59	74	41	63	50	96	25	21	23
More Likely To Vote For Barack Oba	185	92	93	47	42	56	40	89	96	53	132	8	121	50	14	97	62	35	57	90	53	72	55	116	21	19	28
Does Not Make a Difference	194	87	107	40	60	65	29	100	94	48	146	53	73	47	50	92	34	28	77	87	49	78	59	107	26	36	26
Not Sure	7	3	4	4	1	1	2	5	3	3	5	2	2	1	1	3	0	4	1	2	3	3	1	5	1	2	0
Total	551	278	273	124	149	171	107	274	277	127	424	164	204	148	170	239	100	96	194	253	145	217	165	324	72	78	77
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	51%	49%	23%	27%	31%	19%	50%	50%	23%	77%	30%	37%	27%	31%	44%	18%	18%	36%	47%	28%	41%	31%	59%	13%	14%	14%

5 Also on the ballot is a ballot measure about marriage. It asks:
Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to provide that only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in Minnesota?"

551 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4.3 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
Yes	273	141	132	62	70	81	60	132	141	55	218	126	62	69	136	98	21	61	95	110	81	110	66	150	37	44	41
No	236	119	118	48	67	80	41	115	122	56	180	31	127	68	28	119	77	27	84	124	54	89	87	143	33	29	31
Undecided	42	18	23	15	13	9	5	27	14	17	25	7	15	11	7	22	2	7	14	20	10	17	12	30	2	5	4
Total	551	278	273	124	149	171	107	274	277	127	424	164	204	148	170	239	100	96	194	253	145	217	165	324	72	78	77
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	51%	49%	23%	27%	31%	19%	50%	50%	23%	77%	30%	37%	27%	31%	44%	18%	18%	36%	47%	28%	41%	31%	59%	13%	14%	14%

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Also on the ballot is a measure about voter identification. It asks:
Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to require all voters to present valid photo identification to vote and to require the state to provide free identification to eligible voters, effective July 1, 2013?"

551 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4.1 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
Yes	339	176	163	72	102	102	63	174	165	76	262	143	79	96	143	145	25	60	126	147	89	140	93	194	50	48	47
No	173	88	86	39	30	64	40	69	104	30	143	13	109	42	20	80	65	30	54	86	47	58	61	104	19	23	27
Undecided	39	15	24	13	18	4	4	30	8	21	18	8	16	10	7	14	10	5	14	20	9	19	11	27	3	7	3
Total	551	278	273	124	149	171	107	274	277	127	424	164	204	148	170	239	100	96	194	253	145	217	165	324	72	78	77
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	51%	49%	23%	27%	31%	19%	50%	50%	23%	77%	30%	37%	27%	31%	44%	18%	18%	36%	47%	28%	41%	31%	59%	13%	14%	14%

7

If the 2012 elections for the Minnesota Legislature were held today, would you be more likely to vote for a Republican candidate? a DFL candidate? Independence Party candidate? Or some other candidate?

551 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4.3 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
Republican	209	115	94	43	62	62	42	105	103	30	179	149	6	48	135	59	3	36	70	99	52	80	68	118	31	33	26
DFL	247	108	139	51	59	84	52	110	136	56	190	6	184	49	19	127	89	43	90	110	69	98	70	147	27	31	41
Independence Party	30	18	12	8	6	11	6	14	16	8	23	3	3	24	7	17	2	5	12	12	8	12	9	16	6	4	5
Other	17	11	6	3	6	5	3	8	9	4	13	0	6	8	2	8	2	5	6	6	4	6	6	8	4	3	2
Undecided	48	26	22	19	17	8	4	36	13	29	19	6	5	19	7	27	3	6	16	26	11	21	12	36	4	6	2
Total	551	278	273	124	149	171	107	274	277	127	424	164	204	148	170	239	100	96	194	253	145	217	165	324	72	78	77
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	51%	49%	23%	27%	31%	19%	50%	50%	23%	77%	30%	37%	27%	31%	44%	18%	18%	36%	47%	28%	41%	31%	59%	13%	14%	14%

8

A couple last questions about the new Vikings stadium.
How important is it that the new Vikings stadium create jobs for Minnesotans? Very important? Somewhat important? Not very important? Or not at all important?

627 Registered Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
Very	344	162	182	84	99	102	58	184	160	76	268	85	148	94	88	157	69	66	135	138	87	145	98	201	44	55	44
Somewhat	163	84	79	53	38	43	30	90	73	55	108	54	47	47	60	68	24	31	52	76	49	59	47	89	30	20	24
Not Very	60	30	30	13	14	15	17	28	32	11	49	23	17	18	21	27	10	11	25	22	20	21	17	34	7	11	8
Not At All	49	29	20	12	11	17	9	23	26	8	41	14	10	20	17	18	6	9	11	28	14	16	16	27	6	8	8
Not Sure	12	7	5	4	4	2	1	8	3	7	5	3	3	0	3	1	3	1	2	8	0	7	3	9	1	0	1
Total	627	312	315	166	166	180	115	333	295	156	471	179	226	178	189	272	111	119	226	273	170	249	181	361	88	94	86
Composition of Registered Voters	100%	50%	50%	27%	26%	29%	18%	53%	47%	25%	75%	29%	36%	28%	30%	44%	18%	19%	37%	44%	28%	42%	30%	57%	14%	15%	14%

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9What percentage of the jobs created by the stadium construction project should be held by Minnesotans?

627 Registered Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
10% Or Less	26	10	15	8	5	6	6	14	12	2	24	11	11	4	8	12	4	7	7	10	9	10	2	15	3	4	4
20%	13	9	4	6	2	3	3	8	5	5	8	6	2	1	4	2	4	5	3	4	5	4	3	7	3	2	1
30%	19	12	7	4	1	4	9	6	13	3	16	7	10	2	8	8	3	5	7	7	7	7	5	9	3	3	4
40%	15	5	10	3	5	3	4	7	8	6	9	4	9	2	5	6	3	2	7	6	3	7	4	8	3	1	3
50%	69	31	37	26	16	15	12	42	26	15	54	29	26	13	25	28	11	10	21	37	13	30	22	46	7	7	10
60%	36	16	20	13	11	8	5	23	13	10	26	9	17	10	11	8	11	8	11	16	5	18	13	20	2	9	5
70%	58	34	24	14	15	17	12	29	29	18	41	15	13	22	16	29	8	5	20	32	18	21	16	30	9	16	5
80%	93	47	46	21	25	35	12	47	46	27	66	24	27	30	21	51	13	14	30	47	23	35	31	55	14	14	10
90% Or More	254	127	127	51	77	81	45	128	126	55	198	62	98	80	70	115	49	50	109	92	76	97	73	148	30	36	39
Not Sure	45	20	25	20	9	9	7	29	16	14	31	12	13	14	21	13	5	14	10	21	10	21	12	22	13	3	6
Total	627	312	315	166	166	180	115	333	295	156	471	179	226	178	189	272	111	119	226	273	170	249	181	361	88	94	86
Composition of Registered Voters	100%	50%	50%	27%	26%	29%	18%	53%	47%	25%	75%	29%	36%	28%	30%	44%	18%	19%	37%	44%	28%	42%	30%	57%	14%	15%	14%

10Do you think the State of Minnesota has enough money to fund public pensions?

627 Registered Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
Yes	118	63	55	32	25	35	26	57	61	29	89	32	60	24	30	55	27	17	43	55	28	50	36	70	12	16	20
No	262	135	127	73	78	75	36	150	112	69	193	81	73	89	84	123	36	48	97	114	71	96	82	151	34	41	37
Not Sure	247	114	132	62	63	69	52	125	121	58	189	66	92	66	75	94	48	54	86	104	71	102	63	140	41	37	29
Total	627	312	315	166	166	180	115	333	295	156	471	179	226	178	189	272	111	119	226	273	170	249	181	361	88	94	86
Composition of Registered Voters	100%	50%	50%	27%	26%	29%	18%	53%	47%	25%	75%	29%	36%	28%	30%	44%	18%	19%	37%	44%	28%	42%	30%	57%	14%	15%	14%

11Would you be willing to pay more in property taxes to fund public pensions?

627 Registered Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.7 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
Yes	81	44	38	21	27	21	13	48	34	26	55	10	48	20	10	39	30	8	24	49	11	37	32	51	8	13	10
No	430	224	206	106	118	130	75	224	206	102	328	145	122	131	148	190	52	82	157	183	124	156	125	243	59	63	65
Not Sure	116	45	71	39	22	28	27	61	55	28	88	24	55	27	32	43	28	29	45	41	35	55	23	67	20	18	11
Total	627	312	315	166	166	180	115	333	295	156	471	179	226	178	189	272	111	119	226	273	170	249	181	361	88	94	86
Composition of Registered Voters	100%	50%	50%	27%	26%	29%	18%	53%	47%	25%	75%	29%	36%	28%	30%	44%	18%	19%	37%	44%	28%	42%	30%	57%	14%	15%	14%

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How much do you think you need each month to live comfortably in your retirement? \$3,000 or less? \$6,000? \$9,000? \$12,000 or more?

627 Registered Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Cell Phone / Lan		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Education			Income			Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	Cell Ph	Landlin	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	High Sc	Some	College	< \$40K	\$40K -	> \$80K	Twin Ci	S MN	W MN	NE MN
\$3,000 Or Less	187	88	100	42	42	59	43	85	102	46	141	45	79	46	52	85	33	53	75	54	81	71	25	100	20	32	34
\$6,000	283	149	134	67	81	93	42	148	135	66	216	83	99	87	88	132	50	44	96	140	58	119	101	164	40	41	37
\$9,000	73	34	39	22	23	16	11	46	27	18	55	25	22	20	24	28	13	7	25	40	9	28	32	40	14	9	10
\$12,000	31	20	11	12	8	4	7	20	11	8	23	14	10	7	10	12	5	4	12	15	10	10	10	21	5	4	1
Not Sure	53	22	31	23	12	7	11	35	18	18	35	12	17	18	15	15	10	11	17	24	13	20	13	35	8	7	4
Total	627	312	315	166	166	180	115	333	295	156	471	179	226	178	189	272	111	119	226	273	170	249	181	361	88	94	86
Composition of Registered Voters	100%	50%	50%	27%	26%	29%	18%	53%	47%	25%	75%	29%	36%	28%	30%	44%	18%	19%	37%	44%	28%	42%	30%	57%	14%	15%	14%

Statement of Methodology: About the Poll: This poll was conducted by telephone in the voice of a professional announcer. Respondent households were selected at random, using Random Digit Dialed (RDD) sample provided by Survey Sampling, of Fairfield CT. All respondents heard the questions asked identically. The pollster's report includes the geography that was surveyed; the date(s) interviews were conducted, the number of respondents who answered each question and the theoretical margin of sampling error for each question. Where necessary, respondents were weighted using the most recent US Census estimates for age, gender, ethnic origin and region, to align the sample to the population. In theory, one can say with 95% certainty that the results would not vary by more than the stated margin of sampling error, in one direction or the other, had the entire universe of respondents with home telephones been interviewed with complete accuracy. There are other possible sources of error in all surveys that may be more serious than sampling error. These include: the difficulty of interviewing respondents who do not have a home telephone; the refusal by some with home telephones to be interviewed; the order in which questions are asked; the wording of questions; the way and extent to which data are weighted; and the manner in which specialized populations, such as likely voters, are determined. It is difficult to quantify the errors that may result from these and other factors. Research methodology, questionnaire design and fieldwork for this survey were completed by SurveyUSA of Clifton, NJ. This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.