

POS NATIONAL SURVEY

September 6-8, 2008
Project: #08937

N=800 Likely Voters
Margin of Error = $\pm 3.5\%$

C. Thinking ahead to the November election for President, U.S. Congress and other state and local offices... How likely would you say you are to vote in these elections? Would you say you are...

95% VERY LIKELY
5% SOMEWHAT LIKELY

D. And, thinking again about the November election for President, U.S. Congress and other state and local offices... please tell me how interested you are in the election. On a scale of one to ten, with one meaning NOT AT ALL interested and ten meaning VERY interested, how interested would you say you are in this election?

67% **10**
75% **9-10**
88% **8-10**

67% 10
9% 9
13% 8
5% 7
2% 6
3% 5
* 4
1% 3
* 2
1% 1
* DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

9.1 MEAN
10.0 MEDIAN

1. Now, generally speaking, would you say that things in the country are going in the right direction, or have they pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

20% RIGHT DIRECTION

75% WRONG TRACK

4% DON'T KNOW

1% REFUSED

Now, thinking more about national politics...

(ASKED OF SAMPLE A ONLY)

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the job that George W. Bush is doing as President?

14% STRONGLY APPROVE

21% SOMEWHAT APPROVE

10% SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE

52% STRONG DISAPPROVE

2% DON'T KNOW

2% REFUSED

35% TOTAL APPROVE

62% TOTAL DISAPPROVE

(ASKED OF SAMPLE B ONLY)

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the job that the United States Congress is doing?

2% STRONGLY APPROVE

19% SOMEWHAT APPROVE

31% SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE

40% STRONG DISAPPROVE

7% DON'T KNOW

1% REFUSED

21% TOTAL APPROVE

70% TOTAL DISAPPROVE

4. Now, I'm going to read you two statements about the role of government, and please tell me which one comes closer to your point of view...

55% Government should do more to solve problems and help meet the needs of people.

..or...

40% Government is doing too many things better left to businesses and individuals.

4% DON'T KNOW

1% REFUSED

Now, I would like to read you some names of different people and organizations active in politics. For each one, please tell me, first whether you've heard of the person or organization; then, if so, please tell me whether you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of that person or organization. If I name someone or something you don't know too much about, just tell me and we'll go on to the next one.

	TOTAL FAV	TOTAL UNFAV	VERY FAV	SMWT FAV	SMWT UNFV	VERY UNFV	NO OPIN	NVR HRD	REF.
5. John McCain	56%	38%	31%	26%	15%	23%	4%	*	*
6. Sarah Palin	51%	30%	31%	19%	13%	17%	15%	5%	*
7. Barack Obama	54%	40%	35%	19%	12%	28%	5%	*	1%
8. Joe Biden	48%	27%	26%	22%	11%	16%	18%	7%	—
9. The Republican Party	46%	48%	17%	29%	16%	32%	5%	*	*
10. The Democratic Party	53%	41%	29%	24%	16%	24%	5%	*	1%

Turning to some issues...

11. Which TWO of the following issues do you believe should be the top priorities for the President and the Congress to address? Would you say...

<i>1ST</i>	<i>Comb.</i>	
34%	49%	THE ECONOMY AND JOBS
10%	24%	THE WAR IN IRAQ
13%	21%	TERRORISM AND NATIONAL SECURITY
7%	20%	HEALTH CARE
7%	19%	GAS AND ENERGY PRICES
9%	18%	TAXES AND SPENDING
4%	12%	ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION
4%	10%	SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE
3%	8%	GLOBAL WARMING AND THE ENVIRONMENT
9%	9%	ALL OF THE ABOVE
--	*	NONE OF THE ABOVE
*	1%	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

12. If the election for PRESIDENT and VICE-PRESIDENT were being held today, for whom would you vote between:

John McCain and Sarah Palin, Republicans
 Barack Obama and Joe Biden, Democrats
 ... *and* ...
 Bob Barr and Wayne Root, Libertarians
 Ralph Nader and Matt Gonzalez, Green

39% DEFINITELY MCCAIN/PALIN
 7% PROBABLY MCCAIN/PALIN

 1% LEAN MCCAIN/PALIN
 4% HARD UNDECIDED
 2% LEAN OBAMA/BIDEN

 7% PROBABLY OBAMA/BIDEN
 35% DEFINITELY OBAMA/BIDEN

 1% BARR/ROOT
 * LEAN BARR/ROOT

 2% NADER/GONZALEZ
 * LEAN NADER/GONZALEZ

 -- SOMEONE ELSE
 2% REFUSED

46% MCCAIN/PALIN
43% OBAMA/BIDEN
1% BARR/ROOT
2% NADER/GONZALES
6% LEAN/UNDECIDED

(ASKED Q13 ONLY IN NEW JERSEY, SOUTH DAKOTA, VIRGINIA, ALASKA, LOUISIANA, NEW MEXICO, COLORADO, MINNESOTA, MISSISSIPPI, NEW HAMPSHIRE, OREGON, MAINE, NORTH CAROLINA, KENTUCKY, NEBRASKA, OKLAHOMA, ALABAMA, GEORGIA, IDAHO, KANSAS, SOUTH CAROLINA, TENNESSEE, TEXAS)

13. And, if the election for US SENATE in your state were being held today, for whom would you vote ...

the Republican candidate

.... OR

the Democratic candidate

for US Senate from this state?

32% DEFINITELY REPUBLICAN

10% PROBABLY REPUBLICAN

2% LEAN REPUBLICAN

12% HARD UNDECIDED/NOT SURE

2% LEAN DEMOCRATIC

10% PROBABLY DEMOCRATIC

31% DEFINITELY DEMOCRATIC

2% REFUSED

42% TOTAL REPUBLICAN

41% TOTAL DEMOCRATIC

16% TOTAL LEAN/UNDECIDED

14. And, if the election for US CONGRESS were being held today, for whom would you vote ...

the Republican candidate

.... OR

the Democratic candidate

for Congress from this district?

25% DEFINITELY REPUBLICAN

12% PROBABLY REPUBLICAN

3% LEAN REPUBLICAN

10% HARD UNDECIDED/NOT SURE

2% LEAN DEMOCRATIC

11% PROBABLY DEMOCRATIC

35% DEFINITELY DEMOCRATIC

2% REFUSED

37% TOTAL REPUBLICAN

45% TOTAL DEMOCRATIC

15% TOTAL LEAN/UNDECIDED

(ASKED Q15-Q16 OF SAMPLE A ONLY)

15. Has what you have you seen, read, or heard recently about John McCain and his campaign for president given you a more favorable impression of him or a less favorable impression of him?

27% MUCH MORE FAVORABLE
29% SOMEWHAT MORE FAVORABLE
14% SOMEWHAT LESS FAVORABLE
20% MUCH LESS FAVORABLE

8% NO DIFFERENCE
1% DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
1% REFUSED

56% TOTAL MORE FAVORABLE
34% TOTAL LESS FAVORABLE

16. Has what you have you seen, read, or heard recently about Barack Obama and his campaign for president given you a more favorable impression of him or a less favorable impression of him?

25% MUCH MORE FAVORABLE
20% SOMEWHAT MORE FAVORABLE
21% SOMEWHAT LESS FAVORABLE
24% MUCH LESS FAVORABLE

9% NO DIFFERENCE
1% DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
1% REFUSED

45% TOTAL MORE FAVORABLE
45% TOTAL LESS FAVORABLE

17. Does John McCain's choice of Sarah Palin as his vice presidential running mate make you more likely to vote for John McCain for president, less likely to vote for him, or does it not make a difference to you either way?

23% MUCH MORE LIKELY
11% SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY
6% SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY
20% MUCH LESS LIKELY

40% NO DIFFERENCE
* DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
* REFUSED

34% TOTAL MORE LIKELY
26% TOTAL LESS LIKELY

18. Does Barack Obama's choice of Joe Biden as his vice presidential running mate make you more likely to vote for Barack Obama for president, less likely to vote for him, or does it not make a difference to you either way?

16% MUCH MORE LIKELY
9% SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY
7% SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY
9% MUCH LESS LIKELY

58% NO DIFFERENCE
* DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
* REFUSED

25% TOTAL MORE LIKELY
16% TOTAL LESS LIKELY

(ASKED Q19-Q20 OF SAMPLE B ONLY)

19. And, thinking about John McCain's campaign for President over the last couple of weeks or so... Do you think that John McCain has been...

- 54% Gaining ground
 - 14% Losing ground
 - ...or...
 - 28% Has his campaign stayed about the same?

 - 3% DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
 - * REFUSED
-

20. And, thinking about Barack Obama's campaign for President over the last couple of weeks or so... Do you think that Barack Obama has been...

- 22% Gaining ground
 - 26% Losing ground
 - ...or...
 - 50% Has his campaign stayed about the same?

 - 2% DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
 - * REFUSED
-

Next, I'd like to read you a set of attributes and statements, please tell me whether each one better describes John McCain or Barack Obama. The first/next one is...

	MCCAIN	OBAMA	BOTH	NEITHER	UND/DK	REF
Ranked by McCain-Obama						
22.	Is ready to be Commander-in-Chief					
	54%	33%	8%	2%	1%	*
23.	Is more independent of his political party (A)					
	54%	33%	3%	4%	5%	1%
26.	Is out-of-touch					
	45%	34%	3%	14%	3%	1%
24.	Will be a strong leader					
	48%	40%	9%	1%	1%	*
27.	Will work across party lines (B)					
	42%	40%	11%	2%	4%	1%
26.	Is more negative (A)					
	41%	39%	4%	10%	3%	2%
30.	Is arrogant (B)					
	36%	36%	7%	19%	2%	1%
29.	Shares my values					
	43%	47%	5%	3%	1%	*
25.	Is a risky choice					
	35%	51%	7%	5%	2%	1%
21.	Will bring change to Washington					
	33%	51%	8%	6%	2%	*

31. And, thinking about John McCain's positions on the issues, do you believe he generally takes conservative, moderate or liberal positions?

25% VERY CONSERVATIVE
29% SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE

33% MODERATE

4% SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
4% VERY LIBERAL

5% DON'T KNOW
1% REFUSED

54% TOTAL CONSERVATIVE
41% TOTAL MODERATE/LIBERAL

32. And, thinking about Barack Obama's positions on the issues, do you believe he generally takes conservative, moderate or liberal positions?

3% VERY CONSERVATIVE
3% SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE

27% MODERATE

26% SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
34% VERY LIBERAL

6% DON'T KNOW
1% REFUSED

7% TOTAL CONSERVATIVE
87% TOTAL MODERATE/LIBERAL

Next, I'm going to read you some issue positions that candidates for Congress might take, and please tell me, based on these issue positions, for which candidate you would vote... The (first/next) one is...

	REPUBLICAN	DEMOCRATIC	DK/UND	REF
33. On energy... (A)				
	The Republican candidate supports immediately expanding off-shore drilling for oil and gas exploration.			
	The Democratic candidate opposes immediately expanding off-shore drilling and believes that oil companies should first drill in areas that have already been leased rather than open up new areas for drilling.			
	59%	37%	2%	1%
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34. On energy... (B)				
	The Republican candidate supports immediately opening up restricted areas in Alaska for oil and gas exploration.			
	The Democratic candidate opposes opening up restricted areas in Alaska for oil and gas exploration.			
	55%	41%	3%	1%
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35. On illegal immigration...				
	The Republican candidate opposes any legislation offering amnesty or any pathway to citizenship for anyone who has disregarded our laws, and opposes any legislation creating government benefits for illegal immigrants.			
	The Democratic candidate supports legislation that would allow illegal immigrants to stay in this country and put them on a path to citizenship.			
	57%	36%	6%	2%
<hr/>				

	REPUBLICAN	DEMOCRATIC	DK/UND	REF
36. On Iraq...				
<p>The Republican candidate supports the withdrawal of troops, but says that in order to maintain American and Iraqi security we need to rely on the judgment of our military commanders on the ground, instead of the politicians in Washington on when to withdraw American troops.</p> <p>The Democratic candidate believes we must strengthen America's security by starting to immediately reduce our troops in Iraq in a responsible way, force the Iraqi government to use its oil money to pay for reconstruction, and work with other nations to bring stability.</p>				
	44%	51%	4%	1%
37. On Iraq...				
<p>The Republican candidate believes there has been military and political progress in Iraq, and that to withdraw now would cost more lives and create more instability in the Middle East.</p> <p>The Democratic candidate believes there should be an immediate timetable for withdrawal of US troops as the war in Iraq has cost us trillions of dollars and has made America less secure.</p>				
	47%	49%	3%	1%
38. On taxes...				
<p>The Republican candidate supports keeping the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts in place because they ended the marriage penalty and doubled the per child tax credit, and believes we must cut taxes on the middle class.</p> <p>The Democratic candidate opposes keeping the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts in place, and believes we need to focus completely on middle class tax relief and making sure government works for them.</p>				
	48%	45%	6%	1%

39. And, now that you have some more information... if the election for US CONGRESS were being held today, for whom would you vote ...

the Republican candidate

.... OR

the Democratic candidate

for Congress from this district?

Initial Informed

25%	29%	DEFINITELY REPUBLICAN
12%	14%	PROBABLY REPUBLICAN
3%	3%	LEAN REPUBLICAN
10%	7%	HARD UNDECIDED/NOT SURE
2%	2%	LEAN DEMOCRATIC
11%	11%	PROBABLY DEMOCRATIC
35%	34%	DEFINITELY DEMOCRATIC
2%	1%	REFUSED
37%	43%	TOTAL REPUBLICAN
45%	45%	TOTAL DEMOCRATIC
15%	11%	TOTAL LEAN/UNDECIDED

Now, switching topics... I'd like to tell you some information that you might hear in a political campaign about Democrats in Congress, and please tell me whether each statement makes you more likely or less likely to vote for the Democratic candidate in your own district in November... The (first/next) one is...

TOTAL MORE	TOTAL LESS	MUCH MORE	SMWT MORE	SMWT LESS	MUCH LESS	NO DIFF	DK	REF
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Ranked by % Much Less Likely

44. On the issue of illegal immigration, Democrats in Congress supported efforts that could make it easier for illegal immigrants to obtain certain taxpayer-funded benefits like welfare, food stamps and Medicare.

19%	69%	11%	8%	18%	51%	9%	2%	2%
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41. In the first two years they were in control of Congress, Democrats voted for \$683 billion dollars in tax increases, which would raise taxes on all those who file income tax returns, reinstate the marriage penalty tax and cut the child tax credit in half.

16%	68%	8%	8%	23%	46%	11%	3%	2%
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45. Democrats in Congress support adopting a universal health care plan that could cost billions of dollars and place family medical decisions in the hands of government bureaucrats.

25%	61%	16%	10%	15%	46%	8%	4%	2%
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42. Democrats in Congress have opposed efforts to increase domestic production of energy by opposing expanding off-shore drilling for oil, voting against priority grants for new coal technologies, and voting against opening up a small portion of the Alaska wilderness to energy exploration.

30%	57%	17%	12%	18%	40%	10%	2%	1%
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40. Democrats in Congress have received millions of dollars in campaign contributions from organized labor, and voted overwhelmingly for labor's top priority – legislation that would take away a workers' right to a secret ballot when voting on whether or not to join a labor union.

17%	62%	8%	9%	24%	38%	13%	5%	2%
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43. Democrats in Congress support a guest worker program that some say is little more than amnesty for illegal immigrants. In addition, Democrats support legislation that would help let illegal immigrants stay in this country and put them on a path to citizenship.

33%	55%	15%	18%	17%	37%	9%	2%	2%
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46. And, now that you have some more information... if the election for US CONGRESS were being held today, for whom would you vote ...

the Republican candidate

.... OR

the Democratic candidate

for Congress from this district?

<i>Initial</i>	<i>Infor.</i>	<i>Final</i>	
25%	29%	35%	DEFINITELY REPUBLICAN
12%	14%	13%	PROBABLY REPUBLICAN
3%	3%	2%	LEAN REPUBLICAN
10%	7%	6%	HARD UNDECIDED/NOT SURE
2%	2%	2%	LEAN DEMOCRATIC
11%	11%	8%	PROBABLY DEMOCRATIC
35%	34%	31%	DEFINITELY DEMOCRATIC
2%	1%	2%	REFUSED
37%	43%	49%	TOTAL REPUBLICAN
45%	45%	39%	TOTAL DEMOCRATIC
15%	11%	10%	TOTAL LEAN/UNDECIDED

Now, I have just a few more questions for statistical purposes only...

47. First, in what year were you born?

6%	18 - 24
15%	25 - 34
24%	35 - 44
16%	45 - 54
18%	55 - 64
21%	65 AND ABOVE
*	REFUSED

48. And what was the last grade you completed in school?

*	SOME GRADE SCHOOL (1-8)
3%	SOME HIGH SCHOOL (9-11)
24%	GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)
4%	TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL (12)
22%	SOME COLLEGE (13-15)
28%	GRADUATED COLLEGE (16)
17%	GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL (16+)
1%	REFUSED
28%	HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS
26%	SOME COLLEGE
45%	COLLEGE+

49. Is your total annual household income greater or less than \$60,000 dollars?

7%	UNDER \$20,000
16%	BETWEEN \$20,000 - \$40,000
16%	BETWEEN \$40,000 - \$60,000
14%	BETWEEN \$60,000 - \$80,000
16%	BETWEEN \$80,000 - \$100,000
21%	OVER \$100,000
9%	REFUSED
39%	LESS THAN \$60K
52%	GREATER THAN \$60K

50. And in politics today, do you consider yourself...

a Republican,
a Democrat,
...or something else?

21%	STRONG REPUBLICAN
9%	NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN
8%	LEAN REPUBLICAN
19%	SOMETHING ELSE/INDEPENDENT/UNDECLARED
7%	LEAN DEMOCRAT
13%	NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT
23%	STRONG DEMOCRAT
1%	REFUSED
31%	<i>TOTAL REPUBLICAN</i>
35%	<i>TOTAL DEMOCRAT</i>
33%	<i>TOTAL LEAN/INDEPENDENT</i>

(ASKED Q51 ONLY IF Q50:3-7)

51. Thinking back to the 2008 Democratic Primary election for President, for which of the following candidates did you vote for...

37%	Barack Obama
	...or...
33%	Hillary Clinton
5%	Someone Else
23%	DID NOT VOTE
1%	REFUSED

52. And, thinking a little about your political attitudes... Do you consider yourself to be...

Conservative,
Moderate,
...OR...
Liberal

... on most issues?

18%	VERY CONSERVATIVE
20%	SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE
39%	MODERATE
12%	SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
8%	VERY LIBERAL
2%	NOT SURE
1%	REFUSED
38%	<i>TOTAL CONSERVATIVE</i>
59%	<i>TOTAL MODERATE/LIBERAL</i>

53. Are you, or is anyone in your household, a member of a labor or teacher's union, or a state or federal employee?

9%	YES - LABOR
7%	YES - TEACHER
11%	YES - STATE/FEDERAL
74%	NO
1%	REFUSED
25%	<i>TOTAL YES</i>

54. On the issue of abortion, do you consider yourself to be...

PRO-LIFE

... or ...

PRO-CHOICE

32% STRONGLY PRO-LIFE
11% SOMEWHAT PRO-LIFE
15% SOMEWHAT PRO-CHOICE
36% STRONGLY PRO-CHOICE

3% NOT SURE/NEITHER
3% REFUSED

43% TOTAL PRO-LIFE
51% TOTAL PRO-CHOICE

55. And, thinking back to the 2004 Presidential election, for which of the following candidates did you vote for President...

47% George W. Bush
42% John Kerry
...OR...
1% Ralph Nader

1% Someone Else

6% DID NOT VOTE
3% REFUSED

(ASKED Q56 IF Q55:5-6 ONLY)

56. Will this year be the first time you have ever voted in a presidential election?

46% YES
43% NO

11% REFUSED

57. What is your main racial or ethnic heritage? Is it...

77% CAUCASIAN OR WHITE
11% AFRICAN-AMERICAN OR BLACK
6% HISPANIC
1% ASIAN
2% OTHER
3% REFUSED

58. Which of the following best describes your household...

41% PROFESSIONAL OR BUSINESS CLASS
42% WORKING CLASS
...or...
11% A STRUGGLING FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD?

2% MORE THAN ONE APPLY
3% NONE APPLY
2% DK/REF

And, on a different topic...

59. How often do you shop at Walmart? Would you say...

12% SEVERAL TIMES A WEEK
18% ABOUT ONCE A WEEK
29% ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH
25% A FEW TIMES A YEAR
...or...
13% NEVER

* DON'T KNOW
1% REFUSED

60. Gender Are you employed outside of the home, are you a homemaker, or are you retired?

35%	MALE/EMPLOYED
1%	MALE/HOMEMAKER
11%	MALE/RETIRED
1%	MALE/NOT IN LABOR FORCE
28%	FEMALE/EMPLOYED
8%	FEMALE/HOMEMAKER
14%	FEMALE/RETIRED
2%	FEMALE/NOT IN LABOR FORCE
1%	MALE REFUSED
1%	FEMALE REFUSED
48%	TOTAL MALE
52%	TOTAL FEMALE
