# Newsweek Poll Post-2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ Presidential Debate Princeton Survey Research Associates International 

Final Topline Results (10/10/08)

$\mathrm{N}=1.035$ registered voters, screened from 1,212 adults, $18+$
Margins of error: plus or minus 3.4 for all adults
plus or minus 3.7 for registered voters
Interviewing dates: 10/08-09/08

Notes: Data are weighted so that sample demographics match Census Current Population Survey parameters for gender, age, education, race, region, and population density.

Results based on smaller subgroups are subject to larger margins of sampling error. Sample size and margins of error for these subgroups are included in a separate methodology statement.

An asterisk (*) indicates a value less than 1\%.
$1 \mathrm{a} / \mathrm{b}$. If the presidential election were being held TODAY, would you be more likely to vote for... the Democratic ticket of Barack Obama and Joe Biden ; or the Republican ticket of John McCain and Sarah Palin (choices rotated)? [IF OTHER/UNDECIDED, RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED] As of TODAY, do you LEAN more toward Obama and Biden, the Democrats; or McCain and Palin, the Republicans?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

|  | Obama/Biden | $\frac{\text { Total }}{\text { McCain/Palin }}$ | Other candidate | Undecided |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current Total | 52 | 41 | 1 | 6 | $=100$ |
| Republicans | 7 | 89 | * | 4 | $=100$ |
| Democrats | 91 | 5 | 1 | 3 | $=100$ |
| Independents | 43 | 45 | 2 | 10 | $=100$ |
| Whites | 46 | 47 | 1 | 6 | $=100$ |
| Non-Whites | 75 | 20 | 1 | 4 | $=100$ |
| Men | 54 | 40 | 1 | 5 | $=100$ |
| Women | 50 | 41 | 1 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 18-34 | 52 | 42 | 1 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 35-44 | 54 | 42 | * | 4 | $=100$ |
| 45-64 | 54 | 38 | 1 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 65+ | 49 | 43 | 1 | 7 | $=100$ |
| Hillary Clinton Supporters | 88 | 7 | 2 | 3 | $=100$ |
| White Evangelicals | 28 | 64 | 1 | 7 | $=100$ |
| White Catholics | 48 | 47 | 1 | 4 | $=100$ |
| Other Whites | 56 | 35 | 1 | 8 | $=100$ |
| Trends |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/10-11/08 | 46 | 46 | * | 8 | $=100$ |
| 7/9-10/08 ${ }^{1}$ | 44 | 41 | 2 | 13 | $=100$ |
| 6/18-19/08 | 51 | 36 | 2 | 11 | $=100$ |
| 5/21-22/08 | 46 | 46 | 1 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 4/24-25/08 | 47 | 44 | 2 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 4/16-17/08 | 48 | 44 | 2 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 3/5-6/08 | 46 | 45 | 1 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 6/20-21/07 | 51 | 41 | 2 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 5/2-3/07 | 52 | 39 | 2 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 2/28-3/1/07 | 45 | 43 | 2 | 10 | $=100$ |
| 1/24-25/07 | 48 | 42 | 1 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 1/17-18/07 | 46 | 44 | 1 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 12/6-7/06 | 43 | 45 | 1 | 11 | $=100$ |

[^0]2. Do you support... (Q1a CHOICE: Obama and Biden /McCain and Palin) STRONGLY or only moderately? BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

| Current Total |  | 9/10-11/08 | 07/9-10/08 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Obama Voters |  |  |  |
| 38 | Strong | 31 | 27 |
| 14 | Not Strong | 15 | 17 |
|  | McCain Voters |  |  |
| 27 | Strong | 33 | 16 |
| 14 | Not Strong | 13 | 25 |
| $\underline{7}$ | Undecided/Other | 8 | 15 |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 |

Candidate Preference/Strength of Support

|  | Strong | Not strong |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| Obama/Biden | 74 | 26 | $=100$ |
| McCain/Palin | 67 | 33 | $=100$ |

Trends
9/10-11/08

| Obama/Biden | 67 | 33 | $=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| McCain/Palin | 71 | 29 | $=100$ |

McCain/Pali
$71 \quad 29=100$

7/9-10/08 ${ }^{2}$

| Obama | 61 | 39 | $=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| McCain | 39 | 61 | $=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| 10/14-15/04 | 66 | 34 | $=100$ |
| Kerry/Edwards | 77 | 23 | $=100$ |
| Bush/Cheney |  |  |  |

3. If you could vote separately for VICE PRESIDENT, would you be more likely to vote for... Joe Biden, the Democrat; or Sarah Palin, the Republican (choices rotated)?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

|  | $\frac{\text { Biden }}{53}$ | $\frac{\text { Palin }}{41}$ | $\frac{\text { Neither/Other }}{3}$ | $\frac{\text { DK }}{3}$ | $=100$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| CURRENT Total |  | 46 | 3 | 8 | $=100$ |
| TRENDS | 43 | $\frac{\text { Edwards }}{55}$ | $\frac{\text { Cheney }}{36}$ | $\frac{\text { Neither/Other }}{3}$ | DK |
| $9 / 10-11 / 08$ |  | 6 | $=100$ |  |  |

[^1]4a. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in the United States at this time?

|  | $\underline{\text { Satisfied }}$ | Dissatisfied | DK |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current Total | 10 | 86 | 4 | $=100$ |
| Trends ${ }^{3}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 6/18-19/08 | 14 | 80 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 2/6-7/08 | 24 | 69 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 8/1-2/07 | 24 | 69 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 7/11-12/07 | 27 | 68 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 7/2-3/07 | 24 | 67 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 6/18-19/07 | 26 | 68 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 5/2-3/07 Bush veto of Iraq funding bill | 25 | 71 | 4 | $=100$ |
| 3/28-29/07 | 28 | 66 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 3/14-15/07 | 28 | 64 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 1/24-25/07 | 30 | 61 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 1/17-18/07 | 30 | 62 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 12/6-7/06 | 31 | 59 | 10 | $=100$ |
| 11/9-10/06 | 29 | 63 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 10/26-27/06 | 31 | 61 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 10/5-6/06 Foley scandal | 25 | 67 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 8/10-11/06 | 26 | 67 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 5/11-12/06 NSA wiretapping | 23 | 71 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 3/16-17/06 | 30 | 64 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 11/10-11/05 | 26 | 68 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 9/8-9/05 Hurricane Katrina | 28 | 66 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 8/2-4/05 | 36 | 54 | 10 | $=100$ |
| 12/2-3/04 | 46 | 46 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 10/21-22/04 | 40 | 56 | 4 | $=100$ |
| 7/8-9/04 | 40 | 54 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 5/13-14/04 Prisoner abuse scandal | 30 | 62 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 4/8-9/04 | 36 | 59 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 1/8-9/04 | 46 | 47 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 12/18-19/03 Saddam's capture | 46 | 47 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 10/9-10/03 | 40 | 54 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 4/03 Iraq War begins | 50 | 41 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 7/02 | 46 | 46 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 9/01 Terrorist attacks | 57 | 34 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 6/01 | 43 | 52 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 1/01 | 55 | 41 | 4 | $=100$ |
| 6/00 | 47 | 45 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 8/99 | 56 | 39 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 9/98 | 54 | 42 | 4 | $=100$ |
| 1/97 | 38 | 58 | 4 | $=100$ |
| 3/96 | 28 | 70 | 2 | $=100$ |
| 6/95 | 25 | 73 | 2 | $=100$ |
| 8/94 | 24 | 71 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 6/92 Recession | 14 | 84 | 2 | $=100$ |
| 3/91 Gulf War Victory | 66 | 31 | 3 | $=100$ |
| 9/90 | 37 | 58 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 9/88 | 56 | 40 | 4 | $=100$ |
| 11/85 | 51 | 46 | 3 | $=100$ |

[^2]4 b . Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

|  | Approve | Disapprove | DK |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current Total | 25 | 67 | 8 | $=100$ |
| Trends ${ }^{4}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 4/16-17/08 | 28 | 65 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 3/5-6/08 | 30 | 61 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 2/6-7/08 | 30 | 60 | 10 | $=100$ |
| 8/1-2/07 | 29 | 63 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 7/11-12/07 | 29 | 64 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 7/2-3/07 | 26 | 65 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 6/18-19/07 | 26 | 65 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 5/2-3/07 | 28 | 64 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 3/28-29/07 | 33 | 60 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 3/14-15/07 | 30 | 60 | 10 | $=100$ |
| 2/28-3/1/07 | 31 | 61 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 1/24-25/07 | 30 | 64 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 1/17-18/07 | 31 | 62 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 12/6-7/06 | 32 | 60 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 11/9-10/06 | 31 | 63 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 11/2-3/06 | 35 | 56 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 10/26-27/06 | 37 | 53 | 10 | $=100$ |
| 10/19-20/06 | 35 | 57 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 10/5-6/06 | 33 | 59 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 8/24-25/06 | 36 | 56 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 8/10-11/06 | 38 | 55 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 5/11-12/06 | 35 | 59 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 3/16-17/06 | 36 | 58 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 11/10-11/05 | 36 | 58 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 9/29-30/05 | 40 | 53 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 9/8-9/05 | 38 | 55 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 8/2-4/05 | 42 | 51 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 3/17-18/05 | 45 | 48 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 2/3-4/05 | 50 | 42 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 12/2-3/04 | 49 | 44 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 10/27-29/04 | 46 | 47 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 10/14-15/04 | 47 | 46 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 9/30-10/2/04 | 46 | 48 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 9/9-10/04 | 48 | 44 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 9/2-3/04 | 52 | 41 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 7/29-30/04 | 45 | 49 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 7/8-9/04 | 48 | 46 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 5/13-14/04 | 42 | 52 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 4/8-9/04 | 49 | 45 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 3/18-19/04 | 48 | 44 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 2/5-6/04 | 48 | 45 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 1/22-23/04 | 50 | 44 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 1/8-9/04 | 54 | 41 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 12/18-19/03 | 54 | 38 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 11/6-7/03 | 52 | 40 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 8/21-22/03 | 53 | 36 | 11 | $=100$ |
| 5/29-30/03 | 61 | 28 | 11 | $=100$ |

[^3]
## Lowest Approval Ratings for Past Presidents

| President | \% Approve |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Clinton | $\mathbf{3 6}$ | 5/26-27/93 Newsweek |
| G.H.W. Bush | $\mathbf{2 9}$ | $7 / 31-8 / 2 / 92$ Gallup |
| Reagan | $\mathbf{3 5}$ | $1 / 28-31 / 83$ Gallup |
| Carter | $\mathbf{2 8}$ | $6 / 29-7 / 2 / 79$ Gallup |
| Ford | $\mathbf{3 7}$ | $1 / 10-13 / 75 \& 3 / 28-31 / 75$ Gallup |
| Nixon | $\mathbf{2 3}$ | $1 / 4-7 / 74$ Gallup |
| Johnson | $\mathbf{3 5}$ | $8 / 7-12 / 68$ Gallup |
| Kennedy | $\mathbf{5 6}$ | $9 / 12-17 / 63$ Gallup |
| Eisenhower | $\mathbf{4 8}$ | $3 / 27-4 / 1 / 58$ Gallup |
| Truman | $\mathbf{2 2}$ | $2 / 9-14 / 52$ Gallup |
| Roosevelt | $\mathbf{4 8}$ | $8 / 18-24 / 39$ Gallup |

Source: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research iPoll database.
5. Please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the following people in politics. If I mention someone you have never heard of before, just tell me. What about... (INSERT-READ AND RANDOMIZE)? Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of him (her)?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

|  | Favorable | Unfavorable | Never heard of | Can't rate/DK |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. Barack Obama |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current Total | 60 | 36 | * | 4 | $=100$ |
| Trends |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/10-11/08 | 57 | 37 | 1 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 7/9-10/08 | 56 | 32 | * | 12 | $=100$ |
| 6/18-19/08 | 62 | 26 | * | 12 | $=100$ |
| 5/21-22/08 | 55 | 40 | 1 | 4 | $=100$ |
| 4/24-25/08 | 53 | 40 | 1 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 4/16-17/08 | 57 | 36 | 1 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 3/5-6/08 | 61 | 28 | 1 | 10 | $=100$ |
| 7/2-3/07 | 56 | 19 | 11 | 14 | $=100$ |
| 5/11-12/06 | 34 | 10 | 46 | 10 | $=100$ |
| b. John McCain |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current Total | 51 | 45 | 0 | 4 | $=100$ |
| Trends |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/10-11/08 | 57 | 36 | * | 7 | $=100$ |
| 7/9-10/08 | 55 | 32 | * | 13 | $=100$ |
| 6/18-19/08 | 49 | 37 | 1 | 13 | $=100$ |
| 5/21-22/08 | 54 | 40 | 1 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 4/24-25/08 | 51 | 41 | 1 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 4/16-17/08 | 52 | 42 | 1 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 3/5-6/08 | 55 | 35 | 1 | 9 | $=100$ |
| c. Joe Biden |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current Total | 59 | 31 | 3 | 7 | $=100$ |
| Trends |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/10-11/08 | 49 | 32 | 4 | 15 | $=100$ |
| 5/11-12/06 | 24 | 16 | 49 | 11 | $=100$ |
| d. Sarah Palin |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current Total | 49 | 45 | 1 | 5 | $=100$ |
| Trend |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/10-11/08 | 52 | 32 | 4 | 12 | $=100$ |

6. Which ONE of the following candidate qualities is MOST important in determining your vote for president this year... (READ AND RANDOMIZE)?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

| Total |  | $\frac{9 / 10-11 / 08}{22}$ |
| ---: | :--- | :---: |
| 25 | Can bring the changes this country needs | 28 |
| 23 | Positions on major issues | 19 |
| 18 | Leadership skills | 13 |
| 18 | Experience | 10 |
| 14 | Cares about people like you | $4^{5}$ |
| 1 | (VOL) Other/None of these | $\underline{4}$ |
| 1 | (DO NOT READ) Don't know | 100 |

7. If elected, which ticket do you think is MOST likely to bring about the changes this country needs...
(READ AND ROTATE 1-2)?
BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

| $\frac{\text { Total }}{}$ |  | $\frac{9 / 10-11 / 08}{47}$ | $\underline{6 / 18-19 / 08^{6}}$ |
| ---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Barack Obama and Joe Biden | 42 | 51 |
| 37 | John McCain and Sarah Palin | 1 | 27 |
| 1 | Both equally (VOL.) | 5 | 2 |
| 4 | Neither (VOL.) | $\underline{5}$ | 12 |
| $\underline{6}$ | (DO NOT READ) Don't know | 100 | $\underline{8}$ |
| 100 |  |  | 100 |

8. Which ONE of the following ISSUES is MOST important in determining your vote for president this year...
(READ AND RANDOMIZE)?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

| Total |  | $\underline{9 / 10-11 / 08}$ |
| ---: | :--- | :---: |
|  | The economy and jobs | 39 |
| 10 | Taxes and government spending | 14 |
| 9 | Health care | 7 |
| 8 | Terrorism and national security | 10 |
| 8 | The Iraq war | 10 |
| 8 | Energy policy and gas prices | 8 |
| 6 | Issues like abortion, guns, and same-sex marriage | 8 |
| 1 | (VOL) Other/None of these | 1 |
| $\underline{2}$ | (DO NOT READ) Don't know | $\underline{3}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 |

[^4]9. Please tell me which presidential candidate you think would do a better job handling each of the following issues as president. What about... (INSERT-READ AND RANDOMIZE)? Do you think Barack Obama or John McCain would do a better job handling this issue?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

|  | Obama | McCain | (VOL.) <br> Equally | (VOL.) <br> Neither | DK |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. The economy and jobs Current Total | 54 | 35 | 2 | 4 | 5 | $=100$ |
| Trends |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/10-11/08 | 49 | 40 | 3 | 3 | 5 | $=100$ |
| 6/18-19/08 | 54 | 29 | 2 | 6 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 4/16-17/08 | 54 | 34 | 2 | 3 | 7 | $=100$ |
| b. The Iraq war |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current Total | 47 | 46 | 2 | 2 | 3 | $=100$ |
| Trends |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/10-11/08 | 41 | 51 | 2 | 2 | 4 | $=100$ |
| 6/18-19/08 | 46 | 40 | 1 | 4 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 4/16-17/08 | 54 | 34 | 2 | 3 | 7 | $=100$ |
| c. Energy policy and gas prices |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current Total | 53 | 36 | 2 | 4 | 5 | $=100$ |
| Trends |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/10-11/08 | 44 | 42 | 3 | 4 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 6/18-19/08 ${ }^{7}$ | 48 | 34 | 2 | 5 | 11 | $=100$ |
| d. Terrorism and national security |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Trend |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/10-11/08 | 34 | 56 | 3 | 2 | 5 | $=100$ |
| e. Health care |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current Total | 56 | 30 | 2 | 5 | 7 | $=100$ |
| Trend |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/10-11/08 | 50 | 35 | 2 | 5 | 8 | $=100$ |

[^5]9. Please tell me which presidential candidate you think would do a better job handling each of the following issues as president. What about... (INSERT-READ AND RANDOMIZE)? Do you think Barack Obama or John McCain would do a better job handling this issue?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

|  | Obama | McCain | (VOL.) <br> Equally | (VOL.) <br> Neither | $\underline{\text { DK }}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

10. Please tell me whether or not you think each of the following phrases describes JOHN MCCAIN. What about...(READ AND RANDOMIZE)? Does this describe McCain or not?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

$\underline{\text { Yes, describes No, does not DK }}$

| a. Shares your values |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current Total | 47 | 49 | 4 | $=100$ |
| TRENDS |  |  |  |  |
| 5/21-22/08 | 46 | 46 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 4/24-25/08 | 47 | 45 | 8 | $=100$ |
| 4/16-17/08 | 45 | 45 | 10 | $=100$ |
| b. Would fit in well with people in your local community |  |  |  |  |
| Current Total | 54 | 40 | 6 | $=100$ |
| TRENDS |  |  |  |  |
| 5/21-22/08 | 56 | 37 | 7 | $=100$ |
| 4/24-25/08 | 57 | 35 | 8 | $=100$ |
| d. Is honest and trustworthy |  |  |  |  |
| Current Total | 54 | 40 | 6 | $=100$ |
| Trend |  |  |  |  |
| 04/16-17/08 | 61 | 29 | 10 | $=100$ |

e. Has the right judgement and temperament to make a good president
Total
f. Will stand up for what's right, even if it's not politically popular
TOTAL
60
g. Can bring the country together Total

42
51
$7=100$
11. If John McCain is elected president, do you think he would mostly carry out the policies of George W. Bush or would mostly have different policies?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

| $\underline{\text { Total }}$ |  | $\underline{09 / 10-11 / 08}$ |
| ---: | :--- | :---: |
| 48 | Would carry out Bush's policies | 47 |
| 47 | Would have different policies | 48 |
| $\underline{5}$ | (DO NOT READ) Don't know | $\underline{5}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 |

12. Please tell me whether or not you think each of the following phrases describes BARACK OBAMA. What about...(READ AND RANDOMIZE)? Does this describe Obama or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS
a. Shares your values Current Total

TRENDS
5/21-22/08 50
4/24-25/08
4/16-17/08
b. Would fit in well with people in your local community Current Total

TRENDS
5/21-22/08
4/24-25/08
d. Is honest and trustworthy

Current Total
Trend
04/16-17/08
e. Has the right judgement and temperament to make a good president
TOTAL
f. Will stand up for what's right, even if it's not politically popular
TOTAL
g. Can bring the country together Total

Yes, describes No, does not DK
59
37
$4=100$
$42 \quad 8=100$
$42 \quad 7=100$
$398=100$
51
53

63

57
56

62

61

66
28
$6=100$

36
$7=100$

32
$6=100$
13. From what you know about Barack Obama, do you think he has enough experience in politics and government to be a good president, or not?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

|  | $\frac{\text { Yes }}{53}$ | $\frac{\text { No }}{43}$ | $\frac{\text { DK }}{4}$ | $=100$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CURRENT TOTAL |  |  |  |  |
| TRENDS | 47 | 46 | 7 | $=100$ |
| $9 / 10-11 / 08$ | 44 | 49 | 7 | $=100$ |
| $5 / 21-22 / 08$ | 45 | 47 | 8 | $=100$ |
| $4 / 24-25 / 08$ | 39 | 35 | 26 | $=100$ |

14. Do you think Sarah Palin is qualified to step in as president if she had to?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

|  | $\frac{\text { Yes }}{39}$ | $\frac{\text { No }}{55}$ | $\frac{\text { DK }}{6}$ | $=100$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CURRENT TOTAL |  |  |  |  |
| TRENDS | 45 | 46 | 9 | $=100$ |
| 09/10-11/08 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 19 | $=100$ |
| TRENDS | 51 | 30 | 28 | $=100$ |
| $7 / 8-9 / 04-$ Edwards | 60 | 12 | 22 | $=100$ |
| $8 / 10-12 / 00-$ Lieberman | 60 | 18 | 17 | $=100$ |
| $7 / 27-28 / 00 ~-~ C h e n e y ~$ | 64 | 19 | 19 | $=100$ |
| $7 / 24-26 / 92$ - Gore | 67 | 21 | $=100$ |  |

15. Please tell me whether or not you think each of the following phrases describes SARAH PALIN. What about...(READ AND RANDOMIZE)? Does this describe Palin, or not?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

$$
\underline{\text { Yes, describes } \quad \text { No, does not } \text { DK }}
$$

a. Shares your values
Total

48
47
$5=100$
b. Would fit in well with people in your local community Total

60
36
$4=100$
d. Is honest and trustworthy

Total
56
35
$9=100$
e. Is well informed

Total
41
53
$6=100$
f. Makes you more likely to vote for McCain TOTAL

64
$2=100$
16. In general, do you think the national news media's coverage of Sarah Palin has been fair overall, too critical, or not critical enough?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

Total
30 Fair overall
41 Too critical
24 Not critical enough
5 Don't know
100
17. Now, thinking about the tone of the campaigns run by the major party candidates this year, which - if any - do you think has been TOO NEGATIVE OR NASTY...(READ)

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

| Current Total | $\frac{\text { McCain-Palin }}{39}$ | $\frac{\text { Obama-Biden }}{10}$ | $\frac{\text { Both }}{31}$ | $\frac{\text { Neither }}{17}$ | $\frac{\mathrm{DK}}{3}$ | $=100$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2004 Trends | Bush-Cheney | Kerry-Edwards | Both | Neither | DK |  |
| 10/21-22/04 | 23 | 24 | 36 | 13 | 4 | $=100$ |
| 9/9-10/04 | 25 | 21 | 33 | 15 | 6 | $=100$ |
| 2000 Trends | Bush-Cheney | Gore-Lieberman | Both | Neither | DK |  |
| 9/7-8/00 | 25 | 18 | 17 | 29 | 11 | $=100$ |
| 8/24-25/00 | 22 | 18 | 13 | 37 | 10 | $=100$ |

(THERE IS NO Q18)

## Questions 19-21 and 22-24 were asked in random order

19. Have you personally seen any TV ads for JOHN McCAIN in recent weeks?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS
Total
Bush in ' $04^{8}$
71 Yes, have
72
28 No, have not 26
1 Don't know
2
100
100
20. Has seeing these ads made you more likely or less likely to vote for McCain, or have they not made much difference either way?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS
Total
Bush in '04
6 More likely
8
18 Less likely
13
47 Haven't made a difference
50
29 Haven't seen ads 28

* Don't know $\underline{1}$
$100 \quad 100$

21. Based on the ads you've seen, in general, do you think the McCain ads... (INSERT-READ AND RANDOMIZE), or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO HAVE SEEN McCAIN ADS

|  | $\underline{\text { Yes }}$ | $\underline{\text { No }}$ | $\underline{\text { DK }}$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. Are too negative <br> TOTAL | 56 | 41 | 3 | $=100$ |
| TREND <br> 10/21-22/04 Bush ads | 46 | 51 | 3 | $=100$ |
| b. Are misleading or distorted <br> TOTAL | 58 | 37 | 5 | $=100$ |
| TREND <br> 10/21-22/04 Bush ads | 50 | 46 | 4 | $=100$ |
| c. Provide useful information <br> TOTAL | 34 | 63 | 3 | $=100$ |
| TREND <br> 10/21-22/04 Bush ads | 41 | 56 | 3 | $=100$ |

[^6]22. Have you personally seen any TV ads for BARACK OBAMA in recent weeks?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

| $\frac{\text { Total }}{}$ |  | $\frac{\text { Kerry in ' } 04^{9}}{73}$ |
| ---: | :--- | :---: |
| 27 | Yes, have | 71 |
| $*$ | No, have not | 27 |
| 100 |  | $\underline{2}$ |

23. Has seeing these ads made you more likely or less likely to vote for Obama, or have they not made much difference either way?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

| Total |  | Kerry in '04 |
| ---: | :--- | :---: |
| 18 | More likely | 11 |
| 9 | Less likely | 14 |
| 46 | Haven't made a difference | 46 |
| 27 | Haven't seen ads | 29 |
| ${ }^{*}$ | Don't know | $*$ |
| 100 |  | 100 |

24. Based on the ads you've seen, in general, do you think the Obama ads... (INSERT-READ AND RANDOMIZE), or not?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO HAVE SEEN OBAMA ADS

|  | Yes | $\underline{\text { No }}$ | $\underline{\text { DK }}$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. Are too negative <br> TOTAL | 29 | 68 | 3 | $=100$ |
| TREND <br> $10 / 21-22 / 04$ Kerry ads | 47 | 49 | 4 | $=100$ |
| b. Are misleading or distorted <br> TOTAL | 36 | 57 | 7 | $=100$ |
| TREND <br> $10 / 21-22 / 04$ Kerry ads | 49 | 46 | 5 | $=100$ |
| c. Provide useful information <br> TOTAL | 56 | 41 | 3 | $=100$ |
| TREND <br> 10/21-22/04 Kerry ads | 40 | 56 | 4 | $=100$ |

[^7]D2. Regardless of how you might have voted in recent elections, in politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

D2a. As of TODAY do you LEAN more toward the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

| Total |  | RVs |  |
| ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- |
|  | 27 | Republican |  |
| 38 | 40 | Democrat |  |
| 30 | 30 | Independent |  |
| 4 | 2 | No party/Not interested in politics (VOL.) |  |
| $*$ | $*$ | Other party (VOL.) |  |
| $\underline{3}$ | $10 \frac{1}{3}$ | Don't know |  |
| 100 | 100 |  |  |
| 38 | 40 | Total Republican/Lean Republican |  |
| 51 | 52 | Total Democrat/Lean Democrat |  |

# Newsweek Poll <br> Post-2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ Presidential Debate Princeton Survey Research Associates International 

Methodology Statement<br>(10/10/08)

This poll was conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates International from October 8-9, 2008. Telephone interviews were conducted with 1,212 adults, 18 or older. Results are weighted so that the sample demographics match Census Current Population Survey parameters for gender, age, education, race, region, and population density. The overall margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.4 percentage points for results based on 1,212 adults and plus or minus 3.7 percentage points for 1,035 registered voters. Voter registration status is self-reported. Results based on smaller subgroups are subject to larger margins of sampling error.

SAMPLE SIZE/MARGIN OF ERROR FOR REGISTERED VOTERS SUBGROUPS:
1,035 Registered voters (plus or minus 4)
280 Republicans (plus or minus 7)
402 Democrats (plus or minus 6)
325 Independents (plus or minus 7)
839 White (plus or minus 4)
175 Non-White (plus or minus 9)
491 Men (plus or minus 5)
544 Women (plus or minus 5)
$126 \quad$ 18-34 (plus or minus 10)
159 35-44 (plus or minus 9)
434 45-64 (plus or minus 6)
283 65+ (plus or minus 7)
247 White Evangelicals (plus or minus 8)
191 White Catholics (plus or minus 8)
401 Other whites (plus or minus 6)

230 Hillary Clinton supporters (plus or minus 8)

In addition to sampling error, the practical difficulties of conducting surveys can also introduce error or bias to poll results.

| Newsweek Poll: Post-2 ${ }^{\text {ND }}$ Presidential Debate Demographic Profile |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\underset{(\mathrm{n}=1212)}{\text { Total }} \begin{gathered} \% \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\frac{\text { Total RVs }}{(\mathrm{n}=1035)}$ |
| Gender |  |  |
| Men | 48 | 47 |
| Women | 52 | 53 |
| Age |  |  |
| 18-34 | 28 | 22 |
| 35-44 | 19 | 19 |
| 45-64 | 35 | 37 |
| 65+ | 18 | 19 |
| Undesignated | 0 | 3 |
| Party ID |  |  |
| Republican | 25 | 27 |
| Democrat | 38 | 40 |
| Independent | 31 | 30 |
| Other/Don't know | 6 | 3 |
| Education |  |  |
| College graduate | 29 | 33 |
| Some college | 24 | 25 |
| No college | 47 | 41 |
| Undesignated | 0 | 1 |
| Race/Ethnicity |  |  |
| White, non-Hispanic | 72 | 75 |
| Total Non-White | 26 | 23 |
| Black | 11 | 10 |
| Hispanic | 9 | 8 |
| Asian | 3 | 2 |
| Other/Mixed race | 3 | 3 |
| Undesignated | 2 | 2 |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Note: Trends before September 2008 poll based on slightly different question wording that did not include vice presidential candidates' names.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Note: July trend based on results that did not include vice presidential candidates.

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ Full trendline from 11/06 to present; earlier trends selected. Trends from 4/03, 6/00-6/01 and 6/95-8/99 from Pew Research Center; 11/85-6/92 from Gallup.

[^3]:    4 Full trendline from 1/04 to present; earlier trends selected. Approval figures for 8/25-9/5/01 from Pew Research Center.

[^4]:    ${ }^{5}$ Trend results for Other/None of these include Personal life history.
    ${ }^{6}$ Trend based on slightly different question wording that did not include vice presidential candidates' names.

[^5]:    ${ }^{7}$ June 2008 trend based on modified question wording that did not include 'gas prices'.

[^6]:    ${ }^{8}$ Bush in '04 trends asked about George W. Bush's TV ads. Interviewing dates were October 20-21, 2004.

[^7]:    ${ }^{9}$ Kerry in '04 trends asked about John Kerry's TV ads. Interviewing dates were October 20-21, 2004.

