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**But On Issues, Obama Leads on Domestic (Jobs and Economy, Healthcare) McCain on External (National Security, Foreign Policy)**

**More View Obama (56%) As Change Agent Than McCain (35%)**



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**Washington, DC** – A new Ipsos/McClatchy poll of Americans indicates that with less than two months remaining in the campaign for president, John McCain and Barack Obama are in a statistical dead heat on the issue of Leadership—one of the central focal points of the race this year. Forty-Seven percent of Americans see McCain as stronger on Leadership, while 45% think Obama is stronger.

### *Where they fall on the issues...*

Issues in the campaign provide another glimpse at how divided the race is this year. John McCain leads Barack Obama by sizable margins on issues of national security (56% versus 35%) and foreign policy (55% versus 36%).

Barack Obama, in turn, leads John McCain on the issues of Jobs and the economy (50% versus 40%) and healthcare (51% versus 35%) .

On the issue of Change, Obama is viewed more as a change agent than McCain (56% versus 35%).

Q. Who's stronger on.....

	<u>BARACK OBAMA</u>	<u>JOHN MCCAIN</u>	<u>(NOT READ) BOTH EQUALLY</u>	<u>(NOT READ) NEITHER</u>	<u>DK/NS</u>
Foreign policy	36	55	2	3	5
Healthcare	51	35	1	6	7
Jobs and the economy	50	40	1	4	4
Leadership	45	47	3	3	3
National security	35	56	2	3	4
Representing change	56	35	2	4	3



## ***Some Demographics...***

Males are more likely to consider John McCain the stronger candidate when it comes to National Security (63% of males vs. 50% of females).

Lower income household (hh income of \$25,000 or less) are much more likely to think that Barack Obama is the stronger candidate when it comes to Jobs and the Economy (62% of respondents with a hh income of \$25K or less compared to 46% of those with a hh income of \$50K or more).

Americans consider John McCain stronger on National Security (56% to 35% for Barack Obama), that lead comes mainly from non-Hispanic White adults where most feel McCain is stronger on National Security (69% vs. 23% for Barack Obama). A majority of non-white adults feel Barack Obama is stronger on National Security (62% vs. 27% for John McCain).

*These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted September 5-9, 2008. For the survey, a nationally representative, randomly selected sample of exactly 1,018 adults across the United States was interviewed by Ipsos. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within  $\pm 3.1$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population in the U.S. been polled. Within this sample, Ipsos interviewed 876 respondents who self identified as registered voters. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within  $\pm 3.3$  percentage points. The margin of error will be larger within regions and for other sub-groupings of the survey population. These data were weighted to ensure the sample's regional and age/sex composition reflects that of the actual U.S. population according to data from the U.S. Census. Interviews were conducted with respondents on land-line telephones and cellular phones. Respondents had the option to be interviewed in English or Spanish.*

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