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Interview dates: October 7-8, 2008  
Interviews: 389 undecided voters; 318 respondents who watched the vice-presidential debate

**Ipsos/McClatchy Post Debate Poll**

**PROJECT #81-6107-90**

**NOTE: all results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.**

*These are some of the findings of an Ipsos online poll conducted October 7-8. For this survey, a national sample of 389 undecided voters from Ipsos' U.S. online panel was interviewed online. Weighting then was employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the U.S. adult population according to Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online polls because they are based on samples drawn from opt-in online panels, not on random samples that mirror the population within a statistical probability ratio. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.*

**PERCENTAGES ARE REPORTED ON REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY**

1. Did you watch all, most, some, or none of the Presidential candidate debate on Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>?

Base: Undecided voters.

	TOTAL
All	28
Most	25
Some	21
None	26

2. Did you do any of the following? (Select all that apply)

Base: Undecided voters.

	TOTAL
Talked to friends, family, or co-workers about the debate	32
Watched post debate analysis on TV	40
Read post debate analysis in a Newspaper	8
Read post debate analysis on the Internet	9
Listened to post debate analysis on the radio	8
I did not do any of the above	36

3. If you were forced to choose after watching this debate, who are you leaning to support in the upcoming presidential election on November 4<sup>th</sup>?

**(Please select a single response.)**

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2.

	PRE-DEBATE	POST-DEBATE
Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats	45	57
John McCain and Sarah Palin, the Republicans	55	43

4. Regardless of which candidate you happen to support, who do you think did the better job in the debate?  
**(Please select a single response.)**

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2.

	TOTAL
Barack Obama	61
John McCain	39

5. How do you think each candidate did in relation to the first debate? Do you think they did much better than the first debate, somewhat better than the first debate, about as well as the first debate, somewhat worse than the first debate, or much worse than the first debate?

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2.

	Total better than the first debate	Total worse than the first debate	Much better than the first debate	Somewhat better than the first debate	About as well as the first debate	Somewhat worse than the first debate	Much worse than the first debate
Barack Obama	40	6	10	30	54	4	2
John McCain	41	12	11	30	48	9	3

6. How has your opinion of the candidates been affected by the debate? Is your opinion more favorable, less favorable or has it not changed much?

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2.

	More favorable	Less favorable	Has not changed much
Barack Obama	31	12	57
John McCain	18	25	57

7. Thinking about the following characteristics and qualities, which candidate's performance during the October 2nd debate do you think each of the following best describes?  
**(Please select a single response per statement.)**

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2.

	Barack Obama	John McCain
Expressed his opinions more clearly than his opponent	65	35
Had a good understanding of the issues	49	51
Agreed with you more on the issues you care about	55	45
Was more believable	54	46
Was more mean spirited	38	62
Was more disrespectful	38	62
Was more likable	68	32
Demonstrated they are tough enough for the job	43	57
Was more Presidential	51	49
Demonstrated they are ready to be President	49	51
Was more able to think on their feet	63	37

8. Who do you trust more to handle the responsibilities as commander-in-chief?  
**(Please select a single response.)**

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2.

	TOTAL
Barack Obama	44
John McCain	56

9. Who do you believe will do a better job in the following areas if elected?  
**(Please select a single response per statement.)**

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2.

	Barack Obama	John McCain
Defending the United States against foreign aggression	26	74
Bringing change to Washington	69	31
Getting America on the right track	58	42
Helping the middle class achieve the American dream	73	27
Eliminating the federal deficit	59	41
Working with countries to stop the spread of terrorism	39	61
Creating more jobs	63	37
Taxes	54	46
Healthcare	71	30

10. Do you think John McCain's criticisms of Barack Obama were fair, or not?  
**(Please select a single response.)**

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2.

	TOTAL
Yes, fair	59
No, not fair	41

11. Do you think Barack Obama's criticisms of John McCain were fair, or not?  
**(Please select a single response.)**

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2.

	TOTAL
Yes, fair	64
No, not fair	36

12. In your opinion, was the moderator neutral or biased?

**(Please select a single response.)**

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2.

	TOTAL
Neutral	90
Biased	10

13. Who do you think the moderator showed a bias toward (in other words, who did the moderator favor)?

**(Please select a single response.)**

Base: Those who watched all of the debate or followed at least some of the debate and selected at least one of the attributes (excluding "none of the above") at Q2 and reported the moderator was biased in Q.12. – **SMALL SAMPLE SIZE**

	TOTAL
Barack Obama	56
John McCain	44