# **Ipsos Public Affairs**

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Interview dates: October 23-27, 2008 Interviews: 1,138 adults; 831 likely voters Margin of error: ±2.9 for all adults; ±3.4 for likely voters

0/40

# Ipsos/McClatchy Poll PROJECT #81-4621-23

NOTE: all results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted October 23-27. For the survey, a nationally representative, randomly selected sample of exactly 1,138 adults aged 18 and older across the United States was interviewed by Ipsos. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within ± 2.9 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population in the U.S. been polled. Likely voters are defined as individuals currently registered to vote, who voted in the 2004 Presidential election, are a 7-10 on a 10-point likelihood to vote scale, and are interested in following news about the campaign 'a great deal' or 'quite a bit.' Individuals who did not vote in the 2004 Presidential election qualify as likely voters if they are registered to vote, are an 8-10 on a 10-point likelihood to vote scale, and are interested in following news about the campaign 'a great deal' or 'quite a bit.' Those individuals who have already cast their vote through early voting or an absentee ballot automatically qualify as likely voters. We interviewed 831 likely voters. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within ± 3.4 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population in the U.S. been polled. The margin of error will be larger within regions and for other sub-groupings of the survey population. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error. These data were weighted to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the actual U.S. population according to U.S. Census figures. Interviewed in English or Spanish.

#### PERCENTAGES ARE REPORTED ON LIKELY VOTERS ONLY, UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

\*NOTE - Results from earlier than 10/16-20/08 are reported for REGISTERED VOTERS, rather than LIKELY VOTERS

1a-b. (IF ALREADY VOTED, ASK:) For whom did you vote for President? (IF NOT ALREADY VOTED, ASK:) If the election for president were held today and the candidates were (READ ANSWER LIST), for whom would you vote? (IF NO CANDIDATE PROVIDED, ASK:) Do you lean more toward...

40/40

	<u>10/23-</u> <u>27/08</u>	<u>10/16-</u> <u>20/08</u>	<u>10/9-</u> <u>13/08</u>	<u>10/2-</u> <u>6/08</u>	<u>9/26-</u> 29/08	<u>9/18-</u> 22/08	<u>9/11-</u> <u>15/08</u>	<u>9/5-</u> <u>9/08</u>
Barack Obama for president and Joe Biden for vice president, the Democrats	48	50	48	47	46	44	45	45
John McCain for president and Sarah Palin for vice president, the Republicans Ralph Nader for president and Matt	42	42	39	40	42	43	45	46
Gonzalez for vice president, the Independents	1	1	2	3	2	2	2	2
Bob Barr for president and Wayne Allyn Root for vice president, the Libertarians	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	1
None / Don't know	8	7	10	9	9	9	7	6

## (Q1c. ASKED ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO DID INITIALLY PROVIDE A CANDIDATE.)

1d. In November, will you definitely vote for that candidate, probably vote for that candidate, or do you think you could change your mind before the election in November?

OBAMA / BIDEN (Base: 379)	<u>10/23-</u> <u>27/08</u>	<u>10/16-</u> <u>20/08</u>	<u>10/9-</u> 13/08	<u>10/2-</u> <u>6/08</u>	<u>9/26-</u> 29/08	<u>9/18-</u> 22/08	<u>9/11-</u> 15/08	9/5-9/08
Definitely will vote for candidate	93	92	85	79	77	80	80	80
Probably will vote for candidate	5	6	8	13	13	11	13	12
Could change mind	2	2	5	8	8	7	7	8
DK/NS	-	0	2	0	1	2	-	0
McCAIN / PALIN (Base: 351)	<u>10/23-</u> 27/08	<u>10/16-</u> 20/08	<u>10/9-</u> 13/08	<u>10/2-</u> 6/08	<u>9/26-</u> 29/08	<u>9/18-</u> 22/08	<u>9/11-</u> 15/08	9/5-9/08
351) Definitely will vote for candidate								<u>9/5-9/08</u> 77
351) Definitely will vote for	27/08	20/08	13/08	6/08	29/08	22/08	<u>15/08</u>	
351) Definitely will vote for candidate Probably will vote for	<b>27/08</b> 91	<b>20/08</b> 81	13/08 82	<b>6/08</b> 76	<b>29/08</b> 74	<b>22/08</b> 72	15/08 71	77

2a. If the election for president were held today and the candidates were (**READ ANSWER LIST**), for whom would you vote? [**IF "NEITHER/NO OPINION/DK/REF" TO QU. 2a, ASK Qu. 2b**] 2b. Do you lean more toward ...

	10/23- 27/08	<u>10/9-</u> 13/08	<u>9/26-</u> 29/08
Barack Obama for president and Joe Biden for vice president, the Democrats	50	51	48
John McCain for president and Sarah Palin for vice president, the Republicans	45	42	45
(DO NOT READ) None / No opinion / Not sure	5	7	7

# 3. Who's stronger on...?

				(NOT READ)	
	Barack Obama	John McCain	Both equally	Neither	DK/NS
Foreign policy			. ,		
10/23-27/08	42	51	1	2	4
10/16-20/08	41	51	2	4	2
10/2-6/08	39	54	0	4	3
9/18-22/08	39	53	1	3	4
9/5-9/08	36	55	2	2	4
Healthcare					
10/23-27/08	53	37	1	5	4
10/16-20/08	56	32	2	7	3
10/2-6/08	53	34	1	7	5
9/18-22/08	50	36	1	8	6
9/5-9/08	50	37	1	6	6
Jobs and the economy					
10/23-27/08	50	43	1	4	2
10/16-20/08	54	38	2	4	2
10/2-6/08	52	37	2	5	4
9/18-22/08	48	40	1	6	3
9/5-9/08	48	43	1	5	4
Leadership			_		_
10/23-27/08	48	46	3	1	2
10/16-20/08	48	46	1	2	3
10/2-6/08	47	46	3	2	2
9/18-22/08	42	50	2	3	4
9/5-9/08	42	51	3	3	2
National security	44	50	•		0
10/23-27/08	41	53	2	1	3
10/16-20/08 10/2-6/08	40 35	52 58	3 1	3 3	2 3
9/18-22/08	32	60	2	3 3	2
9/16-22/06 9/5-9/08	33	59	2	3	3
Representing change	33	39	2	3	3
10/23-27/08	59	33	1	4	3
10/16-20/08	61	28	4	5	2
10/2-6/08	58	31	2	6	3
9/18-22/08	57	32	2	6	3
9/5-9/08	53	38	2	4	2
Family values					
10/23-27/08	47	42	4	3	4
10/16-20/08	48	40	8	2	2
10/2-6/08	47	41	5	2	5
9/18-22/08	46	43	6	3	3
Taxes					
10/23-27/08	48	43	1	3	5
10/16-20/08	49	41	3	3	4
10/2-6/08	45	39	2	6	8
9/18-22/08	47	41	1	5	5

3a. Which one of these issues would you say is most important when thinking about the current Presidential election campaign?

	<u> </u>	lost Impo	rtant Issu	Mos	<u>Most Important + 2<sup>nd</sup> Most</u> Important Issues					
	10/23- 27/08	<u>10/16-</u> 20/08	<u>10/2-</u> <u>6/08</u>	<u>9/18-</u> 22/08	10/23- 27/08	10/16- 20/08	<u>10/2-</u> <u>6/08</u>	<u>9/18-</u> 22/08		
Jobs and the economy	42	43	42	36	64	68	65	59		
National security	17	14	16	16	31	31	33	35		
Leadership	9	10	11	12	17	19	18	19		
Healthcare	8	8	8	8	25	23	22	25		
Family Values	7	6	9	8	15	11	15	16		
Representing change	5	4	6	9	9	9	12	15		
Foreign policy	5	4	4	5	17	16	18	13		
Taxes	4	7	3	2	14	14	12	10		
None	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1		
DK/NS	2	2	0	2	3	3	0	2		

#### LIKELY VOTER STUDY

LV1. Are you currently registered to vote, or not? (BASED ON ALL ADULTS, NOT JUST LIKELY VOTERS)

Base: 1,138	<u>10/23-27/08</u>	<u>10/16-20/08</u>
Yes	84	83
No	16	17

LV1a. Sometimes things come up and people are not able to vote. In the 2004 election for President, did you happen to vote? (BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO HAVE NOT ALREADY VOTED IN 2008)

Base: 815	<u>10/23-27/08</u>	<u>10/16-20/08</u>
Yes	85	87
No	15	12
(DO NOT READ) Not sure	0	1

LV1b. Why not? (DO NOT READ RESPONSES) (BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO DID NOT VOTE IN 2004 AND WHO HAVE NOT YET VOTED IN 2008)

Base: 67	10/23-27/08	10/16-20/08
Too young to vote at the time	29	21
Not registered, too busy, something came up	17	26
Did not live in state/district at the time	7	23
Other	29	22
(DO NOT READ) Not sure	18	8

LV2. On November 4th, the election for President will be held. Using a 1-to-10 scale, where 10 means you are completely certain you will vote and 1 means you are completely certain you will NOT vote, how likely are you to vote in the upcoming presidential election? 8. You can use any number between 1 and 10, to indicate how strongly you feel about your likelihood to vote. (ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE. IF UNSURE, ENCOURAGE BEST GUESS.) (BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO HAVE NOT ALREADY VOTED IN 2008)

Base: 815	<u>10/23-27/08</u>	<u>10/16-20/08</u>
10 (completely certain you will vote)	85	88
9	3	4
8	3	1
7	1	1
6	1	1
5	2	1
4	0	0
3	1	0
2	-	1
1 (completely certain you will NOT vote)	3	2
(DO NOT READ) Not sure	1	1

LV3. How much interest do you have in following news about the campaign for President? (READ LIST ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE. IF UNSURE, ENCOURAGE BEST GUESS.) (BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO HAVE NOT ALREADY VOTED IN 2008)

Base: 815	<u>10/23-</u> 27/08	<u>10/16-</u> 20/08
A great deal	51	49
Quite a bit	27	32
Only some	12	12
Very little	6	4
No interest at all	3	3
(DO NOT READ) Not sure	1	0

### PARTY AFFILIATION / IDEOLOGY

2a. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?

(IF "DEMOCRAT" TO Q.2a, Q.2b ASKED. IF "REPUBLICAN" TO Q.2a, Q.2c ASKED. IF "INDEPENDENT" or "NONE OF THESE" TO Q.2a, Q.2d ASKED. RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

- 2b. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Democratic Party?
- 2c. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Republican Party?
- 2d. Do your beliefs tend to lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

	<u> 10/23-</u>	<u> 10/16-</u>	<u> 10/9-</u>	<u> 10/2-</u>	<u>9/26-</u>	<u>9/18-</u>	<u>9/11-</u>	
	27/08	20/08	13/08	6/08	29/08	22/08	15/08	<u>9/5-9/08</u>
Strongly Democrat	27	29	25	24	27	22	23	25
Moderately Democrat	9	9	11	9	10	12	12	11
Lean Democrat	14	14	13	15	13	14	12	13
Strongly Republican	20	16	16	17	17	17	18	18
Moderately Republican	8	8	13	11	11	11	9	11
Lean Republican	15	13	13	14	13	13	12	14
Independent (No lean)	7	11	9	10	10	10	13	7
Total Democrats	50	52	49	48	49	48	47	49
Total Republicans	43	37	42	42	41	42	40	44
Initial Democrats	36	38	36	33	36	34	35	36
Initial Republicans	28	24	29	28	28	28	28	29

1a-b. (IF ALREADY VOTED, ASK:) For whom did you vote for President? (IF NOT ALREADY VOTED, ASK:) If the election for president were held today and the candidates were (READ ANSWER LIST), for whom would you vote? (IF NO CANDIDATE PROVIDED, ASK:) Do you lean more toward...

		_			<b>AGE RACE</b> 18- 35-						REGION NORTH- MID-			
	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	34	54	55+	HISPANIC	WHITE	BLACK	OTHER	EAST	WEST	South	WEST
Obama / Biden	48	45	50	53	48	45	63	39	97	65	53	56	40	47
McCain / Palin	42	43	41	43	44	41	31	50	1	21	37	36	50	42
Nader / Gonzalez	1	3	-	-	3	1	1	1	1	8	-	1	1	2
Barr / Root	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	2	-	-	4	0	-	3
None / Unsure	8	7	8	3	4	12	5	8	0	7	6	7	10	7