

THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE: MIDSUMMER
July 7 - 14, 2008

Democrat Barack Obama now holds a six-point edge over his Republican rival John McCain, leading 45% to 39%. But more voters now than last month are undecided, and more than one in four who express a candidate choice could still change their minds.

Both candidates have weaknesses: Voters are more likely now than a month ago to view Obama and McCain as pandering, and see both as shifting on issues in order to get elected.

Obama now leads McCain 45% to 39% -- no different than the lead Obama held in early June, as he was securing the delegate support necessary for the nomination. And this month, 12% of voters are undecided as to who they will vote for, double the 6% who said this in June.

IF THE ELECTION WERE TODAY, WOULD YOU VOTE FOR...?

(Among registered voters)

	Now	6/2008
Obama	45%	48%
McCain	39	42
Undecided	12	6
Won't vote	2	3

The race is even more fluid than those numbers suggest. Although most voters who support McCain or Obama say their minds are made up, one in four Obama voters and three in 10 McCain voters say it is too early and they could still change their minds.

IS YOUR MIND MADE UP?

(Among registered voters with a choice)

	All	Obama Voters	McCain Voters	7/2004
Mind made up	72%	73%	70%	79%
Too early to say	28	26	29	20

There is more room for movement in this race than at this point during the 2004 campaign. In July 2004, with an incumbent running for re-election, only 6% were undecided. And just 20% of those who had a candidate choice said it was too early for them to say whether their mind was made up.

There is a large enthusiasm gap: Obama's voters are more than three times as likely as McCain's voters to be enthusiastic about their candidate. Half of Obama's supporters say they feel enthusiastic about him; just 16% of McCain's supporters do. Although 68% of McCain

voters are satisfied, 15% of those now voting for him are angry or dissatisfied. Sizable percentages of those dissatisfied voters are conservatives or evangelical.

FEEL ABOUT CANDIDATE AS NOMINEE?

(Among registered voters)

	Obama Voters	McCain Voters
Enthusiastic	50%	16%
Satisfied	42	68
Dissatisfied	6	14
Angry	1	1

Voters who supported Hillary Clinton in the Democratic primaries are decidedly less enthusiastic about the Democratic nominee. Just 29% of Clinton supporters who now say they will vote for Obama feel enthusiastic about him. 58% are satisfied, and 12% are dissatisfied or angry. But 75% think it is extremely or very important that Obama wins the election.

Obama still has a way to go to win support from other Clinton voters. About one in five of those who say they voted for Clinton in the primaries now say they will support John McCain in November.

Half of all voters are satisfied with the choice of candidates, but 47% would like other choices. That is not much different from previous years; just about half typically want more choices when this question is asked in polls. However, 60% of McCain's voters want more choices, more than double the percentage of Obama's (29%) who do.

WANT MORE CHOICES?

(Among registered voters)

	All	Obama Voters	McCain Voters
Satisfied	50%	69%	38%
Want more choices	47	29	60

Overall, seven in 10 Obama voters think it is extremely or very important their candidate wins the presidency, far higher than the 53% of McCain's voters who feel that way about him winning.

IMPORTANT YOUR CANDIDATE WINS IN NOVEMBER?

(Among registered voters)

	Obama Voters	McCain Voters
Extremely important	37%	24%
Very important	32	29
Somewhat important	22	34
Not that important	8	11

Over half of voters are paying a lot of attention to the campaign -- more than were doing so at this point in 2004. Obama's supporters are

more likely to be paying a lot of attention (59%) than are McCain's (51%). 59% of black voters are paying a lot attention, compared to 52% of white voters.

ATTENTION TO CAMPAIGN
(Among registered voters)

	Now	7/2004
A lot	53%	47%
Some	37	36
Not much/no attention	10	16

Obama is the clear frontrunner in many voters' minds: over half of voters overall (and one in 5 McCain supporters) expect Obama to win in November.

WHO IS VOTING FOR WHOM?

Although both candidates are reaching out to groups of voters from the other party, their support falls along clear partisan lines. 83% of Republicans back McCain, and 76% of Democrats back Obama.

Obama leads among liberals, and has a smaller lead among moderates. He leads among black voters by a very large margin, and has a sizable margin among Hispanics. Obama also leads among voters under age 65. Women are also backing him. Obama wins handily in the East and West, and leads in the Midwest.

Six in ten voters who backed Hillary Clinton in the Democratic primaries choose Obama against McCain. Women who backed Clinton express similar vote preferences.

McCain leads among white voters, as have all Republican nominees since 1964. Both white women and white men support McCain. McCain has the support of most conservatives, but Obama gets the votes of two in 10 of them, slightly more than the 15% of conservative votes Democratic candidate John Kerry received in the 2004 election. The most religious voters also support McCain. He receives support from "working class white voters" -- white voters without a college education whose income is under \$50,000 -- and leads in the South.

It's close among independents, and many of their votes are up for grabs - nearly one in 5 of them are undecided. In addition, 33% of independent voters with a candidate choice today say they could change their minds. It's also close among those aged 65 and over. While Obama has a slight edge among men, the race is close among them as well.

DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS: WOULD YOU VOTE FOR...?

(Among registered voters)

	Obama	McCain	Undecided
All	45%	39	12
Men	44%	41	9
Women	46%	37	14
Democrats	76%	10	11
Republicans	9%	83	6
Independents	38%	35	19
Whites	37%	46	12
Blacks	89%	2	8
Hispanics	62%	23	11
White men	36%	47	10
White women	37%	44	14
Liberal	75%	12	9
Moderate	46%	38	13
Conservative	22%	61	10
Clinton supporters	61%	20	15
Women Clinton supporters	61%	17	19
Age 18-29	48%	36	11
30-44	45%	36	12
45-64	46%	40	11
65 and over	40%	42	15
Working class whites	33%	45	16
Attend religious Services weekly	34%	52	10
Northeast	52%	33	11
Midwest	45%	37	12
South	38%	44	13
West	49%	38	10

EVERYBODY PANDERS, EVERYBODY FLIP-FLOPS

Throughout the Democratic primary campaign, Obama had the edge over his then-rival Hillary Clinton on believability, but 51% now say he mostly says what people want to hear. But McCain has the same problem. 49% of voters say the man who cultivated a reputation as a "straight talker" mostly says what he thinks people want to hear.

DO THE CANDIDATES SAY WHAT THEY BELIEVE?

(Among registered voters)

	Obama		McCain	
	Now	5/2008	Now	5/2008
Says what believes	43%	53%	46%	51%
Says what voters want to hear	51	43	49	41

56% of voters think Obama has changed his stands on issues in order to get elected, while 51% think that of McCain. And even though most say that hasn't affected their opinion of these candidates, about four in 10 say it has made them think worse of them.

HAVE THE CANDIDATES CHANGED THEIR ISSUE POSITIONS TO GET ELECTED?

(Among registered voters)

	Obama	McCain
Yes	56%	51%
No	32	34

HOW HAS THAT AFFECTED YOUR OPINION OF THE CANDIDATES?

(Among voters who say candidates have changed positions)

	Obama	McCain
Better	5%	5%
Worse	41	37
No effect	53	57

Nearly nine in 10 voters think presidential candidates often change their positions on important issues in order to get elected, including more than a third who say candidates do this "very often."

Obama initially said he would accept public financing for his campaign but now has opted out of the federal matching system. More voters approve of that decision than disapprove, but almost half had not heard enough about the matter to offer an opinion.

OBAMA'S DECISION TO OPT OUT OF PUBLIC FINANCING

(Among registered voters)

Approve	33%
Disapprove	18
Haven't heard enough	45

In theory, voters are divided in their opinions on using public financing to help pay for political campaigns: 43% are for it, while 46% are against it.

CANDIDATE QUALITIES: Caring and Bringing Change

Obama has a significant advantage over McCain on bringing about change in the way things are done in Washington - something that has been the focus of the Obama campaign from the start. Obama is seen by nearly twice as many voters than McCain as caring a lot about the needs and problems of Americans.

CHARACTERISTICS: CARES, CHANGE

(Among registered voters)

	Obama	McCain
Would bring real change	58%	28%
Cares <u>a lot</u> about your problems	37%	21%

Voters see a big difference in economic favoritism: 54% think the policies in a McCain administration would favor rich Americans over poor, while 30% say Obama's policies would favor the poor over the rich.

WILL THE CANDIDATES' POLICIES...

	Obama	McCain
Favor rich over poor	18%	54%
Favor poor over rich	30	3
Treat both equally	45	38

Commander in Chief, Patriotism, and America's Image

McCain continues to hold an advantage over Obama on being an effective commander in chief. 46% think McCain would "very likely" be an effective commander in chief if elected president; just 24% say this about Obama.

WOULD... BE AN EFFECTIVE COMMANDER IN CHIEF?

(Among registered voters)

	Obama	McCain
Very likely	24%	46%
Somewhat likely	38	36
Not likely	36	16

In addition, McCain is viewed as the more patriotic candidate. 73% of voters describe him as "very patriotic", compared to 37% who view Obama that way. Obama has improved on this measure, however. In April just 29% considered him "very patriotic."

ARE THE CANDIDATES PATRIOTIC?

(Among registered voters)

	Obama	McCain
Very	37%	73%
Somewhat	39	21
Not	18	4

But Obama has the advantage when it comes to the perception of which candidate will improve America's image. 48% of voters say that if Obama is elected president it will improve America's image in the world. Only one in five say that about McCain.

IMPACT ON AMERICA'S IMAGE IN THE WORLD IF ... IS ELECTED

(Among registered voters)

	Obama	McCain
Better	48%	18%
Worse	14	18
No effect	32	59

Voters generally think this has been a positive campaign with majorities saying both candidates have been spending more time explaining their positions rather than attacking their opponent.

MCCAIN AND PRESIDENT BUSH: TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT?

The Obama campaign has been trying to paint a McCain presidency as a third Bush term and that message may be resonating with some voters. Most think McCain will continue President Bush's policies on the economy as well as in Iraq. The President consistently has received low approval ratings on both these issues.

WILL MCCAIN CONTINUE PRESIDENT BUSH'S POLICIES?

(Among registered voters)

	Economic Policies	Iraq Policies
Yes	61%	78%
No	32	17

But McCain's supporters have a different view of McCain's ties to President Bush's policies - at least on the economy. More than half of them do not think the Arizona Senator will continue Bush's policies on the economy if he becomes president. A majority of Obama supporters think he will. On Iraq, both McCain and Obama backers think McCain will continue Bush's policies.

John McCain, if elected, would be the oldest president ever inaugurated to a first term. In this poll, 48% of voters think McCain's age (72 when inaugurated) helps him have the experience and wisdom to be a good president, but 36% say his age might make it too difficult for him to do the work the presidency requires.

MCCAIN'S AGE ...

(Among registered voters)

Gives him experience and wisdom	48%
Makes job of president too difficult	36

Interestingly, the youngest voters, those under age 30, are the group most likely to say McCain's age is a plus for him. A majority of those aged 65 and over agree. Other age groups are more closely divided on the issue.

OVERALL RATINGS OF THE CANDIDATES

Favorable ratings of both Obama and McCain are down slightly from last month with McCain's now at the lowest they have been since the fall of 2007.

OPINIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

(Among registered voters)

	-- Barack Obama --			-- John McCain --		
	Now	6/2008	9/2007	Now	6/2008	10/2007
Favorable	39%	41%	35%	31%	34%	27%
Unfavorable	31	31	21	32	37	28
Undecided/ Haven't heard	28	27	43	37	29	44

Few voters know enough about either Michelle Obama or Cindy McCain to have an opinion, but views of both women are more positive than negative. In fact, opinions of Michelle Obama have improved some since April.

OPINIONS OF THE CANDIDATES' SPOUSES

(Among registered voters)

	-- Michelle Obama --		-- Cindy McCain --	
	Now	4/2008	Now	4/2008
Favorable	29%	22%	18%	17%
Unfavorable	16	19	8	7
Undecided/ Haven't heard	54	58	72	75

THE CLINTONS

Hillary Clinton has received a bump in her favorable rating since her departure from the presidential race. At 46%, her favorable rating is the highest since January 2001 - just as former President Bill Clinton was preparing to leave office. Bill Clinton's overall ratings, however, are down slightly from April.

OPINIONS OF THE CLINTONS

(Among registered voters)

	-- Hillary Clinton --		-- Bill Clinton --	
	Now	6/2008	Now	4/2008
Favorable	46%	41%	46%	50%
Unfavorable	38	39	42	36
Undecided/ Haven't heard	16	20	10	13

Bill Clinton came under fire for some controversial remarks he made during the primaries. 69% of African-Americans now have a favorable

opinion of the former president but that is down from 78% a year ago.

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1796 adults nationwide interviewed by telephone July 7-14, 2008. Oversamples of African Americans and Hispanics were interviewed, for a total of 297 interviews with African Americans and 246 interviews with Hispanics.

Respondents could be interviewed in either English or Spanish, and the poll included a sample of cell phones. The results then weighted in proportion to the racial composition of the adult population in the U.S. Census.

The error due to sampling could be plus or minus three percentage points based on the entire sample. The sampling errors could be plus or minus six percentage points for the African American and Hispanic samples.

CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
The Presidential Race: Midsummer
July 7-14, 2008

q1 How much attention have you been able to pay to the 2008 presidential campaign -- a lot, some, not much, or no attention so far?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				
	Total	*** Party ID ***			May08b
	%	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	%
A lot	53	53	55	50	53
Some	37	38	36	38	39
Not much	8	8	8	9	6
None at all	2	1	1	3	2
DK/NA	0	0	0	0	0

q2 Is your opinion of Barack Obama favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Barack Obama yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	39	11	67	30	41
Not favorable	31	62	9	32	31
Undecided	24	24	20	29	22
Haven't heard enough	4	3	4	7	5
Refused	2	0	0	2	1

q3 Is your opinion of John McCain favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John McCain yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	31	63	10	28	34
Not favorable	32	8	52	29	37
Undecided	27	24	26	29	21
Haven't heard enough	10	5	11	12	8
Refused	0	0	1	2	0

q4 How likely is it that you will vote in the 2008 election for President this November - - would you say you will definitely vote, probably vote, probably not vote, or definitely not vote in the election for President?

Definitely vote	84	87	87	78
Probably vote	11	10	10	14
Probably not vote	3	0	2	5
Definitely not vote	1	1	0	3
DK/NA	1	2	1	0

q5 If the 2008 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were Barack Obama, the Democrat, and John McCain, the Republican, would you vote for Barack Obama or John McCain?

Obama	45	9	76	38	48
McCain	39	83	10	35	42
Other (Vol.)	2	1	1	4	1
Won't vote (Vol.)	2	1	2	4	3
Depends (Vol.)	3	1	4	4	2
Don't know/No answer	9	5	7	15	4

q6 Is your mind made up or is it still too early to say for sure?

	** VOTERS WHO MADE A CHOICE IN Q5 **		
	Total	Obama	McCain
		Supporters	Supporters
%	%	%	
Mind made up	72	73	70
Too early to say for sure	28	26	29
DK/NA	0	1	1

q7 Which best describes your feelings about having Barack Obama as the Democratic nominee for President: enthusiastic, or satisfied but not enthusiastic, or dissatisfied but not angry, or angry?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				
	Total	*** Party ID ***			Obama
		Rep	Dem	Ind	Supporters
%	%	%	%	%	
Enthusiastic	25	5	43	19	50
Satisfied not enthusiastic	37	27	41	40	42
Dissatisfied not angry	28	49	12	30	6
Angry	6	12	1	6	1
Don't know/No answer	4	7	3	5	1

q8 Which best describes your feelings about having John McCain as the Republican nominee for President: enthusiastic, or satisfied but not enthusiastic, or dissatisfied but not angry, or angry?

	Total	McCain			
		Rep	Dem	Ind	Supporters
Enthusiastic	7	16	3	5	16
Satisfied not enthusiastic	48	66	36	48	68
Dissatisfied not angry	32	15	42	33	14
Angry	7	2	12	7	1
Don't know/No answer	6	1	7	7	1

q9 Regardless of how you intend to vote for President in 2008, who do you expect to finally win the 2008 presidential election -- John McCain or Barack Obama?

John McCain	30	52	14	31
Barack Obama	53	26	77	47
Depends (vol.)	4	4	2	5
DK/NA	13	18	7	17

q10-15 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q16 John McCain and Barack Obama are now the two parties' candidates for the presidency in November. Are you satisfied choosing between them or do you want other choices?

Satisfied	50	45	63	38
Other choices	47	53	35	57
DK/NA	3	2	2	5

q17 Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think the Republican party or the Democratic party is more likely to make the right decisions when it comes to dealing with immigration issues?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Apr08b
	%	%	%	%	%
Republican party	32	68	8	30	38
Democratic party	40	8	70	31	42
Both (Vol.)	2	0	3	4	3
Neither (Vol.)	11	13	5	16	6
DK/NA	15	11	14	19	11

q18 Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party is more likely to ensure a strong economy?

Republican party	31	68	6	28	29
Democratic party	51	16	82	42	57
Both (Vol.)	2	1	1	3	2
Neither (Vol.)	6	6	3	10	4
DK/NA	10	9	8	17	8

q19 Is your opinion of Michelle Obama favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Michelle Obama yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	29	13	44	23	22
Not favorable	16	26	7	19	19
Undecided	17	20	17	14	12
Haven't heard enough	37	39	31	42	46
Refused	1	2	1	2	1

q20 Is your opinion of Cindy McCain favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Cindy McCain yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	18	30	11	16	17
Not favorable	8	1	15	6	7
Undecided	17	17	20	15	14
Haven't heard enough	55	51	53	61	61
Refused	2	1	1	2	1

q21-23 BLANK

q24 How much do you think Barack Obama cares about the needs and problems of people like yourself -- a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

					May08b
A lot	37	16	57	30	38
Some	37	41	32	39	36
Not much	14	23	5	16	15
Not at all	9	15	5	11	9
DK/NA	3	5	1	4	2

q25 Would you consider Barack Obama very patriotic, somewhat patriotic, or not very patriotic?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Apr08b
	%	%	%	%	%
Very patriotic	37	17	57	32	29
Somewhat	39	42	33	44	46
Not very	18	35	6	19	22
DK/NA	6	6	4	5	3

q26 Do you think Barack Obama says what he believes most of the time, or does he say what he thinks people want to hear?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May08a
Yes, says what he believes	43	19	66	35	53
No, says what people want	51	75	29	57	43
Don't know/No answer	6	6	5	8	4

q27 Regardless of how you intend to vote, how likely do you think it is that Barack Obama would be an effective commander-in-chief of the nation's military -- would you say it is very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May08b
Very likely	24	7	43	15	25
Somewhat likely	38	24	42	46	37
Not too likely	21	37	8	22	17
Not at all likely	15	30	5	13	18
Don't know/No answer	2	2	2	4	3

q28 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q29 If he were elected President, do you think Barack Obama would bring about real change in the way things are done in Washington, or wouldn't he do that?

Would	58	30	80	55
Would not	35	61	13	38
DK/NA	7	9	7	7

q30 If Barack Obama is elected president, do you think that will make the United States' image in the world better, make it worse, or will it have no effect on the United States' image in the world?

Better	48	17	73	46
Worse	14	26	4	14
No effect	32	51	16	36
DK/NA	6	6	7	4

q31-32 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q33 How much do you think John McCain cares about the needs and problems of people like yourself -- a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

A lot	21	35	11	20	22
Some	45	53	39	45	45
Not much	21	8	28	23	16
Not at all	12	3	19	10	13
DK/NA	1	1	3	2	4

q34 Would you consider John McCain very patriotic, somewhat patriotic, or not very patriotic?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **
 *** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Apr08b
	%	%	%	%	%
Very patriotic	73	86	64	73	70
Somewhat	21	12	26	21	22
Not very	4	1	5	4	5
DK/NA	2	1	5	2	3

q35 Do you think John McCain says what he believes most of the time, or does he say what he thinks people want to hear?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May08a
Yes, says what he believes	46	66	35	42	51
No, says what people want	49	29	58	54	41
Don't know/No answer	5	5	7	4	8

q36 Regardless of how you intend to vote, how likely do you think it is that John McCain would be an effective commander-in-chief of the nation's military -- would you say it is very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May08b
Very likely	46	67	30	46	39
Somewhat likely	36	30	38	37	38
Not too likely	9	0	17	7	10
Not at all likely	7	2	11	6	10
Don't know/No answer	2	1	4	4	3

q37 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q38 If he were elected President, do you think John McCain would bring about real change in the way things are done in Washington, or wouldn't he do that?

Would	28	45	18	25
Would not	65	48	76	65
DK/NA	7	7	6	10

q39 If John McCain is elected president, do you think that will make the United States' image in the world better, make it worse, or will it have no effect on the United States' image in the world?

Better	18	28	13	16
Worse	18	2	32	13
No effect	59	66	49	66
DK/NA	5	4	6	5

q40-41 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q42 If John McCain were elected President, do you think he would generally continue George W. Bush's economic policies, or not?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Continue Bush's econ policies	61	40	79	58
Not continue	32	51	17	34
DK/NA	7	9	4	8

q43 If John McCain were elected President, do you think he would generally continue George W. Bush's policies in Iraq, or not?

Continue Bush's Iraq policies	78	70	86	74
Not continue	17	25	9	21
DK/NA	5	5	5	5

q44-45 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q46 If Barack Obama is elected President, do you think the policies of his administration would favor rich over poor, favor poor over rich, or would they treat both groups the same?

Favor rich over poor	18	18	14	23
Favor poor over rich	30	36	27	30
Treat both the same	45	39	54	40
DK/NA	7	7	5	7

q47 If John McCain is elected President, do you think the policies of his administration would favor rich over poor, favor poor over rich, or would they treat both groups the same?

Favor rich over poor	54	26	75	51
Favor poor over rich	3	4	1	3
Treat both the same	38	65	20	39
DK/NA	5	5	4	7

q48 Is your opinion of Hillary Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Hillary Clinton yet to have an opinion?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May08b
	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	46	17	72	39	41
Not favorable	38	70	13	42	39
Undecided	13	11	12	14	18
Haven't heard enough	3	2	2	4	2
Refused	0	0	1	1	0

q49 Is your opinion of Bill Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Bill Clinton yet to have an opinion?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Apr08b
	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	46	14	76	39	50
Not favorable	42	74	13	50	36
Undecided	9	10	9	9	11
Haven't heard enough	1	0	1	2	2
Refused	2	2	1	0	1

q52-80 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q81 Do you favor or oppose using public financing to help pay for the fall Presidential election campaign in exchange for restrictions on the amount the candidates can spend?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Favor	43	36	47	45
Oppose	46	52	42	46
Don't know/No answer	11	12	11	9

q82 In general, how often do you think candidates for president change their positions on important issues in order to get elected -- very often, somewhat often, not too often, or not at all?

Very often	36	35	31	42
Somewhat often	52	55	54	47
Not too often	9	9	11	8
Not at all	2	1	2	2
DK/NA	1	0	2	1

q83 So far, do you think John McCain has changed his position on an important issue in order to get elected, or not?

Yes	51	40	57	52
No	34	43	29	31
DK/NA	15	17	14	17

q84 How did that affect your opinion of John McCain -- did it make you think better of him, worse of him, or did it make no difference to you?

Better	5	14	1	5
Worse	37	37	41	33
No difference	57	49	57	62
DK/NA	1	0	1	0

q85 So far, do you think Barack Obama has changed his position on an important issue in order to get elected, or not?

Yes	56	65	48	60
No	32	22	41	28
DK/NA	12	13	11	12

q86 How did that affect your opinion of Barack Obama -- did it make you think better of him, worse of him, or did it make no difference to you?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Better	5	4	8	3
Worse	41	54	30	40
No difference	53	42	61	56
DK/NA	1	0	1	1

q87 What do you think Barack Obama has been spending more time doing in his campaign -- explaining what he would do as president or attacking John McCain?

Explaining	73	64	81	70
Attacking	17	25	10	19
DK/NA	10	11	9	11

q88 What do you think John McCain has been spending more time doing in his campaign -- explaining what he would do as president or attacking Barack Obama?

Explaining	63	80	54	58
Attacking	26	11	34	28
DK/NA	11	9	12	14

q89 How important is it to you personally that John McCain wins the 2008 election for president -- is it extremely important, very important, somewhat important or not that important at all?

Extremely important	24	32	8	15
Very important	29	31	20	29
Somewhat important	34	28	54	41
Not that important at all	11	9	13	14
DK/NA	2	0	5	1

q90 How important is it to you personally that Barack Obama wins the 2008 election for president -- is it extremely important, very important, somewhat important or not that important at all?

Extremely important	37	10	45	26
Very important	32	33	32	31
Somewhat important	22	28	19	31
Not that important at all	8	27	5	11
DK/NA	1	2	0	1

q91 This Fall, each party's Presidential candidate has the option of receiving public funds to pay for their campaign in exchange for limiting spending. John McCain said he would accept the public funds. Barack Obama said he would not accept the public funds because he needs to raise and spend more to campaign effectively against conservative groups who oppose his candidacy and will spend as much money as they can raise. Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's decision or haven't you heard enough about this issue to have an opinion one way or the other?

Approve	33	18	43	35
Disapprove	18	28	10	21
Haven't heard enough	45	51	45	39
DK/NA	4	3	2	5

q92 If elected, John McCain would be 72 years old when he assumes office. Do you think his being 72 years old might make it too difficult for him to do the work the presidency requires, or do you think his age helps him have the experience and wisdom to do a good job as president?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Age makes job too difficult	36	13	55	32
Age means experience	48	74	29	48
Wouldn't matter (vol.)	12	10	12	15
Don't know/No answer	4	3	4	5

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1796	
Registered Voters	1534	1462
Total Republicans	451	470
Total Democrats	745	662
Total Independents	600	664