



CBS NEWS POLL
 For release: Saturday, November 1, 2008
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EARLY VOTERS CHOOSE BARACK OBAMA

October 28-31, 2008

With just three more days before the country picks its next president, the Obama-Biden ticket has increased its lead slightly among ALL likely voters. The Democratic ticket now leads by 13 points - 54% to 41%.

CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT

(Among all likely voters including leaners)

	Now	10/30/08
Obama-Biden	54%	52%
McCain-Palin	41	41
Undecided	4	5

As both candidates continue to battle it out over the final days as to who can better handle a troubled economy, Barack Obama seems to be winning the argument. Far more voters think his policies will make the economy better if he were elected president, while they think John McCain is just as likely as Obama to raise their taxes.

IF HE WERE ELECTED PRESIDENT, WILL OBAMA/McCAIN...?

(Among registered voters)

	Barack Obama		John McCain	
	Now	10/30	Now	10/30
Make the economy better?	51%	54%	29%	32%
Raise your taxes?	47%	50%	48%	46%

EARLY VOTERS

About one in five voters says they have already cast their vote early - either in person or through the mail - and those voters prefer Barack Obama by an even greater margin than voters overall. Obama leads among voters who have already cast their ballot by nineteen points.

CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT

(Among early voters)

Obama-Biden	57%
McCain-Palin	38

Concerns about problems on Election Day may have spurred some of these voters to cast their ballots early. About four in 10 early voters are at least somewhat concerned that they will encounter problems that might prevent their vote from being counted accurately - showing a little more concern than voters overall. Most, however, are not concerned.

CONCERN THAT YOUR OWN VOTE WON'T BE COUNTED

(Among registered voters)

	Total	Early Voters
Very concerned	11%	13%
Somewhat concerned	23	29
Not very/at all concerned	66	57

WHO ARE THE EARLY VOTERS?

Nearly half of these voters are Democrats and six in 10 are women, and they are slightly more likely to be African American than likely voters overall.

They do not differ much from likely voters overall in other respects: they are similar in terms of ideology, age, income, and level of education.

Only about one in 10 are first time voters this year, about the same as likely voters overall. Of those voters who did vote before, more chose Kerry over Bush in 2004.

WHO ARE THE EARLY VOTERS?

(Among likely voters)

	Early Voters	All likely Voters
Obama-Biden	57%	54%
McCain-Palin	38	41
Men	40%	46%
Women	60	54
Democrat	49%	41%
Republican	30	28
Independent	21	31
Liberal	22%	24%
Moderate	42	42
Conservative	31	30
2008 Primary vote:		
Voted for Obama	20%	19%
Voted for Clinton	22	15
Republican primary voter	21	20
Didn't vote in primary	32	42
2004 vote:		
Bush	40%	40%
Kerry	45	40

WHO ARE THE EARLY VOTERS?

(Among likely voters)

	Early Voters	All likely Voters
First time voter in 08?		
Yes	9%	8%
No	91	89
Race:		
White	80%	82%
Black	16	11
Other	4	6
Age:		
18-29	19%	18%
30-44	27	27
45-64	33	36
65+	21	19
Income:		
Under 50K	33%	36%
50K - 100K	42	39
Over 100K	18	18
Education:		
College grad	33%	32%
Not college grad	67	68

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1120 adults nationwide, including 989 registered voters, interviewed by telephone October 28-31, 2008. Phone numbers were dialed from RDD samples of both standard land-lines and cell phones. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample and the sample of registered voters could be plus or minus three percentage points. The error for subgroups is higher.

CBS News/New York Times Poll
Early Voters Choose Barack Obama
October 28-31, 2008

>q5< If the 2008 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were Barack Obama for President and Joe Biden for Vice President, the Democrats, and John McCain for President and Sarah Palin for Vice President, the Republicans, would you vote for Barack Obama and Joe Biden or John McCain and Sarah Palin?

- <1> Obama/Biden
- <2> McCain/Palin
- <3> Other (Vol.)
- <4> Won't vote (Vol.)
- <5> Depends (Vol.)
- <6> Refused [

>q6< Well as of today, do you lean more toward Barack Obama and Joe Biden or more toward John McCain and Sarah Palin?

- <1> Obama
- <2> McCain
- <3> Won't vote (Vol.)
- <9> DK/NA

>q52< If Barack Obama is elected president do you think his policies would make the economy better, make the economy worse or wouldn't his policies have any effect on the economy?

- <1> Better
- <2> Worse
- <3> No effect
- <9> DK/NA

>q57< If he were elected President, do you think Barack Obama would raise taxes on people like yourself, or wouldn't he do that?

- <1> Would
- <2> Would not
- <9> DK/NA

>q61< If John McCain is elected president do you think his policies would make the economy better, make the economy worse or wouldn't his policies have any effect on the economy?

- <1> Better
- <2> Worse
- <3> No effect
- <9> DK/NA

>q66< If he were elected President, do you think John McCain would raise taxes on people like yourself, or wouldn't he do that?

- <1> Would
- <2> Would not
- <9> DK/NA

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	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents:	1120	
Total Registered Voters:	989	919
Republicans – Reg. voters	301	254
Democrats – Reg. Voters	363	375
Independents – Reg. Voters	325	291
Effective Likely Voters		747