



GfK Custom Research
North America



THE AP-GfK POLL

Conducted by GfK Roper Public Affairs & Media

Interview dates: September 5-10, 2008

Interviews: 1,217 adults; 812 likely voters

Margin of error: +/- 2.8 for all adults; +/- 3.4 for likely voters

NOTE: All results show percentages unless otherwise labeled. Results shown represent all Likely Voters, with total respondents shown for specific questions. Please refer to the exact sample size number at the bottom of each table.

All results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.

- A1. In the election for President in November, if the candidates are [READ ANSWER LIST], for whom will you vote? [ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMIZE ANSWER LIST.]
- A2. [IF "NEITHER/DK/REF" TO A1, ASK A2] Do you lean more toward ... [READ ANSWER LIST. RANDOMIZE ANSWER LIST.]

	Likely Voters
TOTAL Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats	44
Initial – Obama and Biden, the Democrats	40
Lean – Obama and Biden, the Democrats	4
TOTAL John McCain and Sarah Palin, the Republicans	48
Initial – McCain and Palin, the Republicans	45
Lean – McCain and Palin, the Republicans	2
TOTAL Bob Barr and Wayne Allyn Root, the Libertarians	1
Initial – Barr and Root, the Libertarians	1
Lean – Barr and Root, the Libertarians	*
TOTAL Ralph Nader and Matt Gonzales, the Independents	1
Initial – Nader and Gonzales, the Independents	1
Lean – Nader and Gonzales, the Independents	--
(DO NOT READ) Neither / Other candidate	3
Don't know	3
Refused	1

Based on:

N=812

- A4. [IF NADER OR BARR IN A1 OR A2, ASK:] [INSERT DEPENDING UPON ANSWER TO A1 OR A2:] If [Ralph Nader/ Bob Barr] wasn't on the ballot, and your only choice was between (READ ANSWER LIST), for whom would you vote? (ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE.)

	Likely Voters
Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats	19
John McCain and Sarah Palin, the Republicans	33
Don't know	24
Refused	25

Based on: N=13

- A1. In the election for President in November, if the candidates are [READ ANSWER LIST], for whom will you vote? [ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMIZE ANSWER LIST.]
- A2. [IF "NEITHER/DK/REF" TO A1, ASK A2] Do you lean more toward ... [READ ANSWER LIST. RANDOMIZE ANSWER LIST.]
- A4. [IF NADER OR BARR IN A1 OR A2, ASK:] [INSERT DEPENDING UPON ANSWER TO A1 OR A2:] If [Ralph Nader/Bob Barr] wasn't on the ballot, and your only choice was between (READ ANSWER LIST), for whom would you vote? (ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE.)

	Likely Voters
TOTAL Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats	44
Initial – Obama and Biden, the Democrats	40
Lean – Obama and Biden, the Democrats	4
If Barr or Nader not on ballot – Obama and Biden, the Democrats	*
TOTAL John McCain and Sarah Palin, the Republicans	48
Initial – McCain and Palin, the Republicans	45
Lean – McCain and Palin, the Republicans	2
If Barr or Nader not on ballot – McCain and Palin, the Republicans	*
(DO NOT READ) Neither / Other candidate	3
Don't know	3
Refused	1

Based on: N=812

A3. [IF CODE 1-4 TO A1, ASK A3.] In November, will you definitely vote for [INSERT CANDIDATES FROM A1], probably vote for them, or do you think you could change your mind before the election in November? [ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE. IF UNSURE, ENCOURAGE BEST GUESS.]

	Would vote for Obama/Biden	Would vote for McCain/Palin	Would vote for Nader/Gonzales	Would vote for Barr/Root
Definitely will vote for candidates	83	76	60	26
Probably will vote for candidates	12	18	--	41
Could change mind	5	6	41	33
Don't know	--	*	--	--
Refused	--	--	--	--

Based on Likely Voters (N=708)

A1/A2/A3. Barack Obama Vs. John McCain: Hierarchical Vote With "Leaners"

	Likely Voters
Strong Obama and Biden, the Democrats	33
Weak Obama and Biden, the Democrats	11
TOTAL Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats	44
Strong McCain and Palin, the Republicans	35
Weak McCain and Palin, the Republicans	13
TOTAL John McCain and Sarah Palin, the Republicans	48
Bob Barr and Wayne Allyn Root, the Libertarians	1
Ralph Nader and Matt Gonzales, the Independents	1
Undecided/other	7

Based on Likely Voters (N=812)

"Strong" = respondents who say they will vote for a candidate (A1) and will definitely vote for that candidate (A3).

"Weak" = respondents who either:

- Say they will vote for a candidate in November (A1) and will probably (but not definitely) vote for the candidate or may change their mind (A3).
- Say they are uncommitted (A1) but lean toward voting for a candidate (A2)

- A5. Do you want to see the Republicans or Democrats win control of Congress? (ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE. IF UNSURE, ENCOURAGE BEST GUESS.)

	Likely Voters
Republicans	41
Democrats	46
[VOL] Don't care	10
Don't know	2
Refused	1

Based on:

N=812

- A6. Overall, please tell me whether you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the following:

The way George W. Bush is handling his job as president

IF EACH "APPROVE," ASK: Is that strongly approve or somewhat approve?

IF "DISAPPROVE," ASK: Is that strongly disapprove or somewhat disapprove?

IF "NEITHER," ASK: If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approve or disapprove?

	Total Respondents	Likely Voters
Strongly approve	13	15
Somewhat approve	17	19
Neither/Lean approve	3	4
(VOL) Neither—don't lean	2	1
Neither—lean disapprove	3	2
Somewhat disapprove	15	12
Strongly disapprove	46	47
Don't know	1	*
Refused	*	*

Based on:

N=1,108

N=734

- A7. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?

	Total Respondents	Likely Voters
Right direction	26	26
Wrong direction	70	71
Don't know	4	2
Refused	*	*

Based on:

N=1,217

N=812

- B1. Would you describe the nation's economy these days as good, poor, or neither good nor poor?

IF "GOOD," ASK: Is that very good or somewhat good?

IF "POOR," ASK: Is that very poor or somewhat poor?

IF "NEITHER," ASK: If you had to choose, do you lean more toward good or poor?

	Likely Voters
Very good	3
Somewhat good	7
Neither – lean good	13
[VOL] Neither – Don't lean	6
Neither – lean poor	8
Somewhat poor	29
Very poor	35
Don't know	*
Refused	*

Based on:

N=812

B2. And would you describe the financial situation in your own household these days as good, poor, or neither good nor poor?

IF "GOOD," ASK: Is that very good or somewhat good?

IF "POOR," ASK: Is that very poor or somewhat poor?

IF "NEITHER," ASK: If you had to choose, do you lean more toward good or poor?

	Likely Voters
Very good	17
Somewhat good	29
Neither – lean good	15
[VOL] Neither – Don't lean	8
Neither – lean poor	11
Somewhat poor	10
Very poor	9
Don't know	*
Refused	*

Based on:

N=812

C1. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose setting a timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. (United States) troops from Iraq?

IF "FAVOR," ASK: Is that strongly or somewhat favor?

IF "OPPOSE," ASK: Is that strongly or somewhat oppose?

IF "NEITHER," ASK: If you had to choose, do you lean more toward favoring or opposing setting a timetable to withdraw from Iraq?

	Likely Voters
Strongly favor	40
Somewhat favor	15
Neither – lean favor	4
Neither – don't lean	4
Neither – lean oppose	4
Somewhat oppose	10
Strongly oppose	21
Don't know	2
Refused	1

Based on:

N=812

C2. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose increasing U.S. (United States) troop strength in Afghanistan?

IF "FAVOR," ASK: Is that strongly or somewhat favor?

IF "OPPOSE," ASK: Is that strongly or somewhat oppose?

IF "NEITHER," ASK: If you had to choose, do you lean more favoring or opposing increasing troop strength in Afghanistan?

	Likely Voters
Strongly favor	28
Somewhat favor	20
Neither – lean favor	3
Neither – don't lean	5
Neither – lean oppose	8
Somewhat oppose	12
Strongly oppose	21
Don't know	3
Refused	*

Based on:

N=812

C3. Please tell me whether you think each of the following is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason why the U.S. has not had a terrorist attack on its soil since September 11, 2001?

[RANDOMIZE]	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason	Don't know	Refused
Terrorists have not really been trying to attack the United States	28	37	32	3	*
Vigilance on the part of the American people	48	33	18	2	*
Help from the governments of other countries	28	52	18	2	*
Actions taken by the U.S. (United States) government	64	27	8	1	*
Actions taken by state and local law enforcement	43	42	15	1	0
Because the U.S. went to war in Afghanistan	46	31	22	1	1
Because the U.S. went to war in Iraq	38	27	34	1	0

Based on Likely Voters: N=516

- D1. I'm going to read you the names of several individuals. For each one, please tell me whether you think that person cares a lot about people like you, cares somewhat about people like you, doesn't care much about people like you, or doesn't care at all about people like you. If you don't know enough about the person, just let me know. First...

[RANDOMIZE]	A lot	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all	Don't know enough	Don't know	Refused
John McCain	36	34	12	16	2	*	*
Barack Obama	40	27	13	15	4	1	*
Sarah Palin	37	19	9	15	18	1	*
Joe Biden	26	27	13	15	19	1	*

Based on Likely Voters: N=812

- D2. If you had to choose, which would you prefer in a presidential candidate? [READ EACH ITEM]

[ROTATE]	Likely Voters
Someone with solid experience (or)	29
Someone whose values and views you support (or)	67
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	3
[DO NOT READ] Refused	*

Based on:

N=812

- D3. I'm going to read you the names of the same individuals. For each one, please tell me how much you think each one shares your own values and principles – a lot, somewhat, not too much, or not at all. If you don't know enough about the person, just let me know. First...

[RANDOMIZE]	A lot	Somewhat	Not too much	Not at all	Don't know enough	Don't know	Refused
John McCain	32	35	14	15	4	*	*
Barack Obama	34	24	15	22	5	*	*
Sarah Palin	37	18	9	16	19	1	*
Joe Biden	20	27	10	18	25	*	*

Based on Likely Voters: N=812

- D4. Here again is the same list of individuals. This time, for each one, please tell me how much you think each one shares your own positions on current issues - a lot, somewhat, not too much, or not at all. If you don't know enough about the person, just let me know. First...

[RANDOMIZE]	A lot	Somewhat	Not too much	Not at all	Don't know enough	Don't know	Refused
John McCain	33	34	11	17	4	*	*
Barack Obama	37	23	15	22	4	*	*
Sarah Palin	37	17	10	16	20	*	*
Joe Biden	23	26	10	19	21	*	*

Based on Likely Voters: N=812

- E1. In your opinion, please tell me whether you think each of the following candidates does or does not have the right type of experience to successfully serve as President of the United States. If you don't know enough about the person, just let me know. First...

[RANDOMIZE]	Does have right type	Does not have right type	Don't know enough	Don't know	Refused
John McCain	80	15	5	*	*
Barack Obama	46	47	7	1	*
Sarah Palin	41	36	23	1	*
Joe Biden	58	20	21	1	*

Based on Likely Voters: N=812

- E2. If John McCain is elected President, do you think he will... [READ EACH ITEM]
[ROTATE]

	Likely Voters
Continue the policies of George W. Bush (or)	46
Take the country in a new direction (or)	50
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	4
[DO NOT READ] Refused	0

Based on: N=812

- F1. Considering what you know about Sarah Palin and her family, do you think she made the right decision or the wrong decision to accept John McCain's offer to be his running mate?

	Likely Voters
Right decision	70
Wrong decision	23
Don't know	7
Refused	1

Based on: N=812

- F2. And in your opinion, does a political candidate's family life tell us a lot, some, not too much, or nothing at all about the kinds of decisions he or she will make in office?

	Likely Voters
A lot	33
Some	34
Not too much	18
Nothing at all	15
Don't know	0
Refused	0

Based on: N=812

- F3. Does the fact that, if elected, Barack Obama would be the first black president of the United States make you more likely to vote for him, less likely to vote for him, or does it not affect your vote either way?

	Likely Voters
More likely to vote for him	5
Less likely to vote for him	4
Does not affect my vote	90
Don't know	1
Refused	*

Based on: N=734

- F4. Does the fact that, if elected, Sarah Palin would be the first woman vice president of the United States make you more likely to vote for her and John McCain, less likely to vote for them, or does it not affect your vote either way?

	Likely Voters
More likely to vote for them	8
Less likely to vote for them	5
Does not affect my vote	86
Don't know	*
Refused	1

Based on: N=734

- F5. Regardless of what people say publicly, how many people do you think will NOT vote for Barack Obama because he is black? Do you think a lot of people won't vote for him, some people won't, just a few won't, or do you think Obama's race won't be an issue to anyone?

	Likely Voters
A lot	14
Some	44
A few	22
Not an issue	18
Don't know	2
Refused	*

Based on: N=812

- F6. Regardless of what people say publicly, how many people do you think will NOT vote for John McCain because he is 72 years old? Do you think a lot of people won't vote for him, some people won't, just a few won't, or do you think McCain's age won't be an issue to anyone?

	Likely Voters
A lot	7
Some	36
A few	28
Not an issue	28
Don't know	2
Refused	*

Based on: N=812

- F7. Regardless of what people say publicly, how many people do you think will NOT vote for John McCain and Sarah Palin because Palin is a woman? Do you think a lot of people won't vote for them, some people won't, just a few won't, or do think Palin's gender won't be an issue to anyone?

	Likely Voters
A lot	3
Some	27
A few	33
Not an issue	36
Don't know	1
Refused	*

Based on: N=812

G1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or none of these?

IF "Democrat," ASK: Do you consider yourself a strong or moderate Democrat?

IF "Republican," ASK: Do you consider yourself a strong or moderate Republican?

IF "Independent" OR "None," ASK: Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

	Likely Voters
Democrat – strong	17
Democrat – moderate	16
Republican – strong	17
Republican – moderate	14
Independent – lean Democratic	10
[VOL] Independent – don't lean	5
Independent – lean Republican	9
None – lean Democratic	4
[VOL] None – don't lean	5
None – lean Republican	4
[VOL] Other	1
Don't know	*
Refused	*

Based on: N=734

G2. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

IF "Liberal," ASK: Would you say you are strongly or somewhat liberal?

IF "Conservative," ASK: Would you say you are strongly or somewhat conservative?

IF "Moderate," ASK: Would you say you lean toward being liberal or conservative?

	Likely Voters
Liberal - strongly	11
Liberal - somewhat	9
Conservative - strongly	23
Conservative - somewhat	17
Moderate – lean liberal	15
[VOL] Moderate – don't lean	5
Moderate – lean conservative	17
Don't know	3
Refused	1

Based on: N=812

The following questions are for classification purposes only. Be assured that your responses will be aggregated with those of other participants to this survey.

DM1. [ASK VOTED IN 2004 ELECTION (S3a-1), ASK:] Earlier you mentioned that you had voted in the 2004 elections. Did you vote for George W. Bush, the Republican, John Kerry, the Democrat, or someone else?

	Likely Voters
George W. Bush	50
John Kerry	40
Other	7
Don't know	1
Refused	3

Based on: N=800

DM2. What is your marital status? Are you... [ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES.]

	Likely Voters
Married	62
Single with no steady partner	13
Single with a steady partner	6
Single and living with partner	5
Separated	1
Divorced	6
Widowed	6
Don't know	0
Refused	1

Based on: N=812

DM3. [ASK EVERYONE] What is the last grade of school you completed?

	Total Respondents	Likely Voters
Less than high school graduate	7	3
High school graduate	26	20
Technical/trade school	7	7
Some college	33	37
College graduate	17	19
Some graduate school	3	4
Graduate degree	8	10
Don't know	*	0
Refused	1	1

Based on: N=1,217 N=812

DM4. In what year were you born?

	Likely Voters
18-29	17
30-49	35
50-64	30
65+	18
DK/Refused	*

Based on: N=812

DM5. Which one of the following best describes where you live?

	Likely Voters
Urban area	23
Suburban area	49
Rural area	28
Don't know	1
Refused	*

Based on: N=812

DM6. Do you currently own your home, rent it, or do you have some other arrangement?

	Total Respondents	Likely Voters
Own	64	74
Rent	23	16
Other arrangement	13	9
Don't know	*	*
Refused	*	*

Based on: N=1,070 N=812

DM7. Are you the parent or guardian of one or more children under the age of 18, or not?

	Likely Voters
Yes	31
No	69
Don't know	*
Refused	*

Based on: N=812

DM8a. [ASK EVERYONE:] How many different landline telephone numbers, if any, are there in your home that I could have reached you on for this call? This includes listed or unlisted numbers. To answer this question, please don't count cell phones or landlines used ONLY for faxes or modems.

	Total Respondents	Likely Voters
No lines	19	17
One Line	73	75
Two lines	6	6
Three or more lines	2	2
Don't know	*	*
Refused	1	1

Based on: N=1,217 N=812

DM8b. [ASK EVERYONE:] And on how many different cell-phone numbers, if any, could I have reached you for this call?

	Total Respondents	Likely Voters
Zero	19	16
One	54	54
Two	19	21
Three or more	9	9
Don't know	*	*
Refused	1	1
Based on:	N=1,217	N=812

DM8c. [IF BOTH LAND AND CELLPHONE, ASK:] Generally speaking, would you say you use your landline phone most of the time, your cell phone most of the time, or would you say you use both about equally?

	Likely Voters
Landline	31
Cell phone	34
Both equally	34
Don't know	*
Refused	*
Based on:	N=610

DM9. Is the telephone number at which I have reached you listed in a published telephone directory?

	Likely Voters
Yes	60
No	36
Don't know	3
Refused	1
Based on:	N=812

DM10. [IF NUMBER IS PUBLISHED (D9-1), ASK:] Is it listed in the white pages, the yellow pages, or in both?

	Likely Voters
Yes, WHITE PAGES	88
Yes, YELLOW PAGES	1
Yes, BOTH WHITE AND YELLOW PAGES	8
NOT A LISTED NUMBER	*
Don't know	3
Refused	1

Based on:

N=532

DM11. Have I reached you at home, at a home office where you live, at an office or other workplace outside your own home, or somewhere else?

	Likely Voters
At home	78
At a home office where you live	4
At an office or other workplace outside your own home	7
[VOL] Someone else's home	2
[VOL] Home line forwarded elsewhere	*
[VOL] Cell phone or home line ported to cell	2
[VOL] SOMEWHERE ELSE (SPECIFY)	5
Don't know	*
Refused	2

Based on:

N=812

DM12. Do you use this phone number only for personal use, only for business purposes, or for BOTH business and personal use?

	Likely Voters
Personal use only	55
Business purposes only	2
Both business and personal use	42
Don't know	*
Refused	1

Based on: N=812

DM14. Do you consider yourself a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

	Likely Voters
Yes, born-again/evangelical	46
No	51
Don't know	1
Refused	3

Based on: N=810

DM15. What is your religious preference? Is it Protestant, Catholic, Mormon, Jewish, Muslim, some other religion, or don't you belong to any religious denomination?

	Likely Voters
Protestant	33
Catholic	23
Mormon	3
Jewish	1
Muslim	*
Other religion [SPECIFY]	20
Don't belong to religious denomination	17
Don't know	1
Refused	3

Based on: N=810

DM17. [IF "OTHER RELIGION" IN DM15 (DM15-6), ASK:] Do you consider yourself a Christian, or not?

	Likely Voters
Yes, a Christian	90
No, not a Christian	9
Don't know	*
Refused	1

Based on: N=133

DM18. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? Would you say more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, less often than a few times a year, or never?

	Likely Voters
More than once a week	15
Once a week	32
Once or twice a month	15
A few times a year	18
Less often than a few times a year	9
Never	9
Don't know	1
Refused	2

Based on: N=809

DM19a. [ASK EVERYONE] Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?

	Total Respondents	Likely Voters
Yes	13	7
No	86	92
Don't know	*	*
Refused	1	1

Based on: N=1,211 N=809

DM20a. [ASK EVERYONE] [IF SPANISH/HISPANIC/LATINO (D19a-1), ASK:] In addition to being Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino, what race or races do you consider yourself to be? [DO NOT READ. ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES.]

DM20b. [ASK EVERYONE] [IF NOT SPANISH/HISPANIC/LATINO (D19a-2), ASK:] What race or races do you consider yourself to be? [DO NOT READ. ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES.]

	Total Respondents	Likely Voters
White	74	81
Black, African-American, or Negro	12	11
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	1
Asian Indian	*	*
Native Hawaiian	*	*
Chinese	*	*
Guamanian or Chamorro	*	*
Filipino	*	*
Samoan	*	*
Japanese	*	*
Korean	*	*
Vietnamese	*	*
Other Asian	1	*
Other Pacific Islander	*	*
[VOL] Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino	13	7
Some other race [SPECIFY]	11	6
Don't know	2	*
Refused	1	1

Based on:

N=1,211

N=809

DM21a. Does your total household [IF SINGLE: "PERSONAL"] income fall below \$50,000 dollars, or is it \$50,000 or higher? [READ LIST]

	Likely Voters
Below \$50,000	36
\$50,000+	57
Don't know	1
Refused	6

Based on:

N=808

DM21b. And in which group does your total household [IF SINGLE: "PERSONAL"] income fall?
[READ LIST]

IF INCOME IS "BELOW \$50,000" (DM21a-1), READ]

	Likely Voters
Under \$10,000	15
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	14
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	21
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	20
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	26
Don't know	1
Refused	3

Based on: N=261

IF INCOME IS "\$50,000 OR HIGHER" (DM21a-2), READ]

	Likely Voters
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	41
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	24
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	16
\$150,000 or more	13
Don't know	2
Refused	4

Based on: N=486

DM24. INTERVIEWER RECORD:

	Total Respondents	Likely Voters
Male	48	51
Female	52	49

REGION:

	Total Respondents	Likely Voters
Northeast	19	20
Midwest	23	26
South	36	37
West	23	18

Method

The **Associated Press-GfK Poll** on was conducted September 5th - 10th, 2008, by GfK Roper Public Affairs & Media -- a division of GfK Custom Research North America. This poll is based on both landline and cell phone telephone interviews, with a nationally-representative probability sample of 1217 adults 18+, 812 of whom were classified as likely voters. Likely voters completed the entire questionnaire; the balance of the sample completed a shorter version of the questionnaire. Interviews were conducted with 941 respondents on land-line telephones and 276 on cellular phones. Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. The survey sample included the contiguous 48 states, and Alaska and Hawaii. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish.

The combined landline and cell phone data were weighted to account for probabilities of selection, as well as age, sex, education and race, using targets from the March 2007 supplement of the Current Population Survey. In addition to these factors, the weighting takes into account the patterns of land and cell phone usage by region from the 2008 Spring estimates provided by Mediamark Research Inc.

The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 2.8 percentage points, for results based on the entire sample of adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.4 percentage points for results based on the 812 likely voters and is higher and varies for results based on sub-samples.

In this document, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total significantly more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.