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Interview date: September 25, 2008 Late Afternoon & Evening  
 Interviews: 671  
 338 Democrats; 271 Republicans  
 Sampling margin of error for a 50% statistic with 95% confidence is: ±3.8 for all adults; ±5.4 for Democrats; ±6.0 for Republicans

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS-KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS POLL  
 PRE-DEBATE OVERNIGHT SURVEY  
 CONDUCTED BY KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS  
 SEPTEMBER 26, 2008

**NOTE: all results shown are weighted and are percentages unless otherwise labeled. Results represent all adults unless otherwise indicated. Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.**

**Q1.** The first debate between John McCain and Barack Obama is scheduled to take place tomorrow night. Some have said it should be postponed so lawmakers can deal with the financial crisis, while others say it should take place as scheduled so the public can learn where the candidates stand on how to solve the financial crisis. Do you believe it should be postponed or take place as scheduled?

	Rep	Indep	Dem	Total
Postponed	42	3	9	22
Take place as scheduled	37	45	82	60
Not sure	21	52	10	18

**Q2.** President Bush put forward a proposal for a \$700 billion federal bailout of troubled financial institutions. Do you support or oppose this plan?

	Rep	Indep	Dem	Total
Strongly support it	10	0	3	6
Somewhat support it	28	7	25	24
Somewhat oppose it	26	12	27	25
Strongly oppose it	17	37	19	20
Not sure	19	44	27	25

**Q3.** Do you approve or disapprove of how President Bush is handling the financial crisis?

	Rep	Indep	Dem	Total
Strongly approve	11	0	2	6
Somewhat approve	31	15	8	17
Neither approve/disapprove	28	35	25	27
Somewhat disapprove	15	12	24	20
Strongly disapprove	15	39	41	30

**Q4.** Who do you trust more to handle the financial crisis?

	Rep	Indep	Dem	Total
Barack Obama	6	24	58	34
John McCain	70	16	11	35
Not sure	24	60	31	31

**Q5.** Do you think the bailout is necessary to prevent the economy from falling into a deep recession, or not?

	Rep	Indep	Dem	Total
Necessary	65	16	56	57
Not necessary	35	84	44	43

**Q6.** How confident are you that the bailout plan would solve the financial crisis?

	Rep	Indep	Dem	Total
Very confident	5	0	3	3
Somewhat confident	41	14	28	32
Not too confident	35	17	48	40
Not at all confident	20	69	22	25

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**DEMOGRAPHICS**

**AGE**

18-29	22
30-44	27
45-59	28
60+	23

**GENDER**

Male	49
Female	51

**EDUCATION**

Less than high school	13
High school	32
Some college	28
Bachelors degree or higher	27

**RACE / ETHNICITY**

White, Non-Hispanic	69
Black, Non-Hispanic	11
Other, Non-Hispanic	3
Hispanic	13
2+ Races, Non-Hispanic	3

**CENSUS REGION**

Northeast	18
Midwest	22
South	37
West	23

**MARITAL STATUS**

Married	49
Single (never married)	7
Divorced	13
Widowed	2
Separated	23
Living with Partner	7

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## METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted using the web-enabled KnowledgePanel<sup>SM</sup>, a probability-based Panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. Initially, participants are chosen scientifically by a random selection of telephone numbers. Persons in selected households are then invited by telephone to participate in the web-enabled KnowledgePanel<sup>SM</sup>. For those who agree to participate, but do not already have Internet access, Knowledge Networks provides at no cost an Internet appliance and Internet service connection. People who already have computers and Internet service are permitted to participate using their own equipment. Panelists then receive unique log-in information for accessing surveys online, and then are sent emails three to four times a month inviting them to participate in research. More technical information is available at <http://www.knowledgenetworks.com/ganp/reviewer-info.html>.

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## ABOUT KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS

Knowledge Networks delivers quality and service to guide leaders in business, government, and academia – uniquely bringing scientifically valid research to the online space through its probability-based, online KnowledgePanel<sup>SM</sup>. The company delivers unique study design, science, analysis, and panel maintenance, along with a commitment to close collaboration at every stage of the research process. Knowledge Networks leverages its expertise in brands, media, advertising, and public policy issues to provide insights that speak directly to clients' most important concerns. For more information about Knowledge Networks, visit [www.knowledgenetworks.com](http://www.knowledgenetworks.com).