

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL

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**Franklin & Marshall
College Poll**

**SURVEY OF PENNSYLVANIANS
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

**Prepared by:
Center for Opinion Research
Floyd Institute for Public Policy
Franklin & Marshall College**

**BERWOOD A. YOST
DIRECTOR, FLOYD INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR OPINION RESEARCH
HEAD METHODOLOGIST, FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE POLL**

**G. TERRY MADONNA
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR POLITICS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
DIRECTOR, FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE POLL**

**BRAD A. NANKERVILLE
PROJECT MANAGER, CENTER FOR OPINION RESEARCH
PROJECT MANAGER, FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE POLL**

**KAY K. HUEBNER
PROGRAMMER, CENTER FOR OPINION RESEARCH**

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Methodology

The survey findings presented in this release are based on the results of interviews conducted October 21-26, 2008. The interviews were conducted at the Center for Opinion Research at Franklin and Marshall College under the direction of the poll’s Director Dr. G. Terry Madonna, Head Methodologist Berwood Yost, and Project Manager Brad Nankerville. The data included in this release represent the responses of 790 adult residents of Pennsylvania who are currently registered to vote. Telephone numbers for the survey were generated using random digit dialing, and respondents were randomly selected from within each household.

The sample error for registered adults is +/- 3.5 percent. The sample error for likely voters is +/- 4.2 percent. In addition to sampling error, this poll is also subject to other sources of non-sampling error. Generally speaking, two sources of error concern researchers most. Non-response bias is created when selected participants either choose not to participate in the survey or are unavailable for interviewing. Response errors are the product of the question and answer process. Surveys that rely on self-reported behaviors and attitudes are susceptible to biases related to the way respondents process and respond to survey questions.

The Franklin and Marshall College Poll is produced in conjunction with the Philadelphia Daily News, WGAL-TV, Pittsburgh Tribune Review, WTAE-TV, WPVI-TV6/ABC, and Times-Shamrock Newspapers. It may be used in whole or in part provided any use is attributed to Franklin & Marshall College.

Key Findings

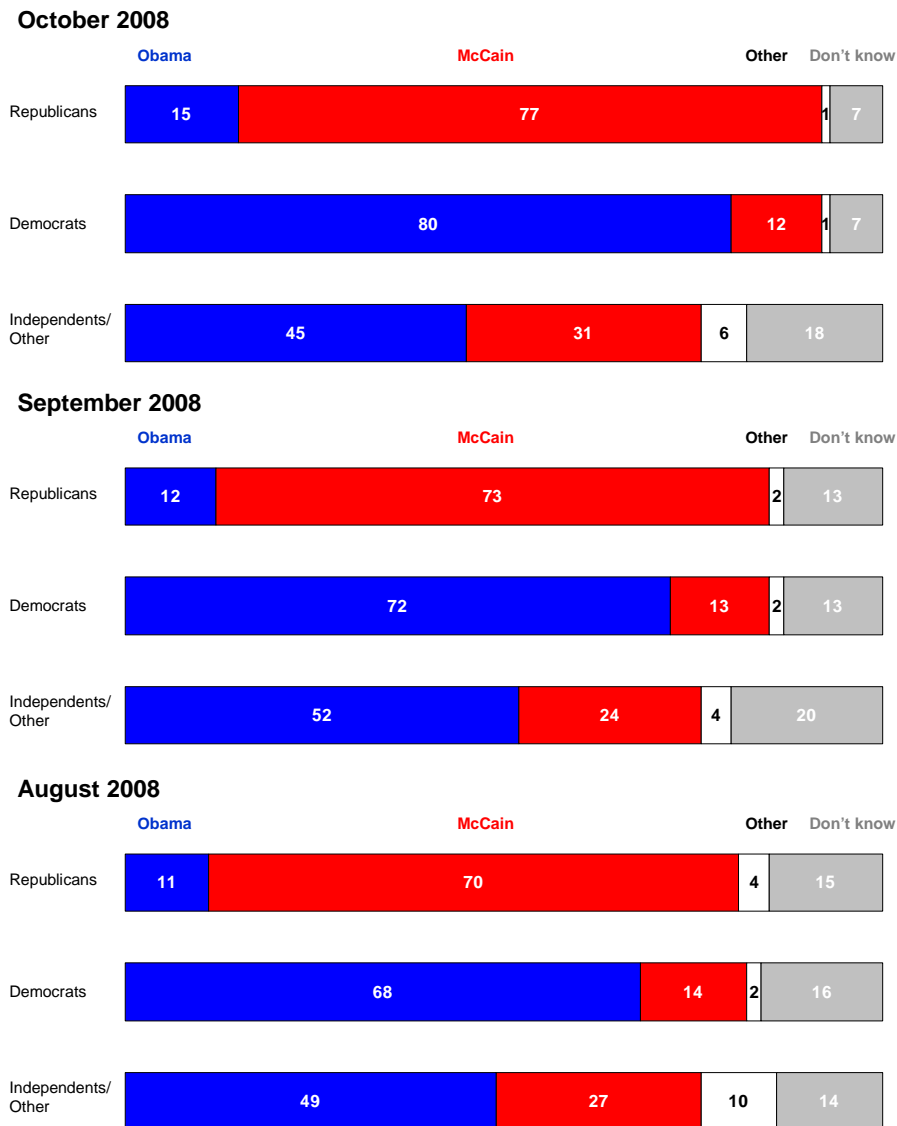
The Presidential Election

The October 2008 Franklin and Marshall College Poll of registered Pennsylvania adults finds Democrat Barack Obama leading Republican John McCain by twelve points, 51% to 39%, nearly double the advantage he held among registered adults in September. Obama's advantage is thirteen points among likely voters in Pennsylvania, 53% to 40%. Obama holds a sizable lead among younger residents, non-whites, college graduates, women, and residents of Philadelphia and Allegheny County. His advantage among these groups has mostly increased since September. McCain has an advantage among Protestants, fundamentalist Christians, and residents of Southwestern Pennsylvania (see Table A-1).

White working class voters narrowly favor McCain over Obama 49% to 43%, and his advantage among these voters has remained consistent since September when he was ahead 44% to 42%. McCain's advantage among white men (47% to 43%) has shrunk since September (51% to 30%) while Obama has maintained his margin among white women (49% to 39% now compared to 49% to 36% in September).

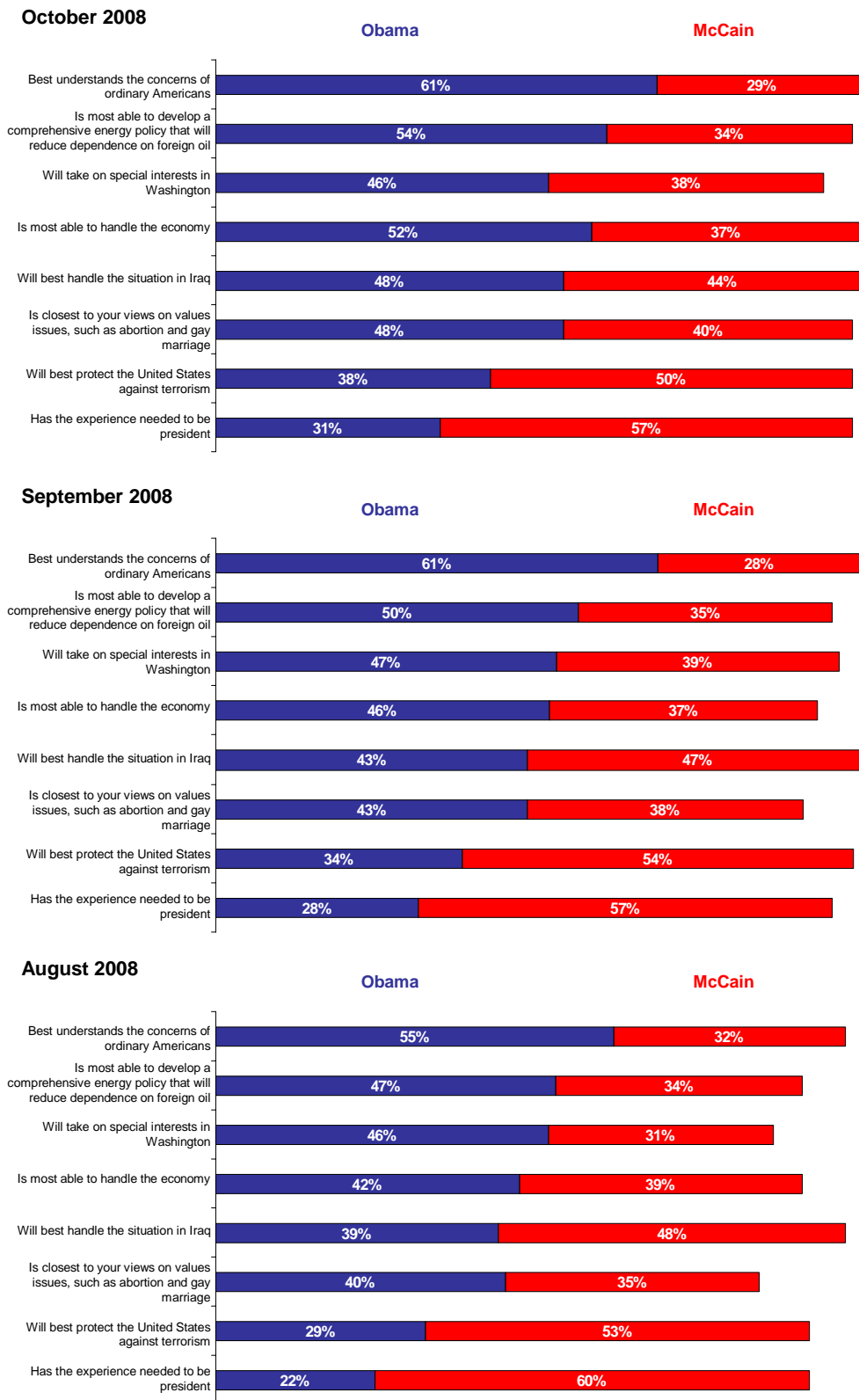
Candidate preference among partisans has strengthened since our September and August surveys; both candidates have about equal support among members of their own party. Obama has an advantage among Independent voters (see Figure 1). Obama's favorable ratings have increased since September from 49% favorable to 53% favorable. McCain's favorable ratings have dipped slightly from 48% to 45%.

Figure 1. Presidential Preference in Pennsylvania by Party Registration



Perceptions about the candidates' skills and abilities tend to provide an advantage for Barack Obama in Pennsylvania. First, far more respondents believe Obama best understands the concerns of ordinary Americans and he is perceived as better able to handle the economy. More voters believe McCain has the experience needed to be president, although his advantage on this attribute has decreased in the past month (see Figure 2).

Figure 2. Perceptions of Presidential Candidates in Pennsylvania



Question: Which candidate, (rotated) Barack Obama or John McCain, do you think is best DESCRIBED by each of the following statements?

Half of registered adults believe that John McCain will mostly continue the economic (51%) and foreign policies (62%) put into place by President Bush, although more Democrats and Independents than Republicans believe this is true (Table 1). Respondents who believe McCain will follow Bush policies are more likely to plan to vote for Obama. About the same proportion of voters would be concerned were Obama elected President (51%) as are concerned were McCain elected President (52%). Similar proportions of Independent voters are concerned about McCain and Obama. Among those who would be concerned about McCain, three in ten believe his policies would be too similar to President Bush's policies and two in ten voters say his vice presidential choice concerns them. Obama's lack of experience continues as the major concern voters have about him.

Table 1. Perceptions of Presidential Candidates in Pennsylvania by Party

	Republican	Democrat	Independent/ Other			
McCain Economic Policy						
Like Bush's	26%	69%	52%			
Much different than Bush's	67%	23%	35%			
Don't know	7%	8%	13%			
McCain Foreign Policy						
Like Bush's	51%	73%	56%			
Much different than Bush's	40%	20%	39%			
Don't know	8%	7%	5%			
Concerned if McCain Elected President						
Yes	23%	73%	57%			
No	76%	25%	40%			
Concerned if Obama Elected President						
Yes	80%	28%	55%			
No	19%	69%	40%			
	Republican		Democrat		Independent/ Other	
Why Concerned about McCain Obama	McCain	Obama	McCain	Obama	McCain	Obama
Views on policy issues	47%	42%	48%	30%	35%	29%
Too similar to Bush, would be no real change	19%	0%	31%	1%	38%	0%
Wishy-washy, wouldn't follow through w/promises	6%	7%	2%	10%	3%	6%
Physical attributes, including age, health, race	19%	2%	16%	6%	9%	0%
Personality, morality, untrustworthy	12%	29%	11%	9%	12%	12%
Political party, ideology	5%	17%	4%	5%	0%	18%
Lack of experience, knowledge, ability	4%	35%	6%	38%	12%	38%
VP running mate	11%	1%	23%	2%	15%	0%
Don't know enough about him	0%	5%	1%	3%	0%	9%
Everything	1%	4%	1%	2%	0%	0%
Assassination attempts	0%	2%	0%	7%	0%	6%
Religious background, affiliation	0%	2%	0%	5%	0%	0%
Terrorist links, how his name sounds	0%	3%	0%	3%	0%	0%
Other	10%	5%	4%	10%	3%	6%
Don't know	3%	1%	3%	3%	0%	6%

Attitudinal variables are also associated with vote choice. Four in five (81%) registered adults in the state believe the country is “off on the wrong track,” and two in five (44%) say they are worse off financially this year than last. Obama is currently leading among both of these groups (see Table 2). The economy (47%) is most often mentioned as the issue that will influence presidential vote choice in the fall, and Obama leads McCain among registered adults who are concerned primarily with this issue.

Table 2. Presidential Preference in Pennsylvania by Selected Attitudinal Items

	McCain	Obama	Other	DK
Direction of Country				
Right direction	78%	15%	1%	7%
Wrong track	31%	58%	2%	9%
Personal Finances Compared to Previous Year				
Better	56%	38%	0%	6%
Worse	24%	64%	1%	11%
About the same	48%	42%	2%	8%
Most Important Issue in Presidential Election				
Moral and family values	83%	15%	0%	1%
Foreign policy	56%	41%	3%	0%
Taxes	70%	25%	0%	5%
Energy policy	51%	41%	5%	3%
The economy	24%	63%	2%	11%
The Iraq War	36%	59%	0%	5%
Healthcare	19%	65%	2%	13%
Something else	43%	50%	0%	7%

Table A-1. Presidential Vote Choice by Selected Demographics (All Voters)

	McCain/Palin	Obama/Biden	Other	DK
Gender				
Male	43%	48%	2%	7%
Female	35%	53%	1%	10%
Age*				
18-34	31%	61%	1%	7%
35-54	41%	50%	1%	8%
55 and over	41%	46%	2%	11%
Education				
High School or Less	37%	48%	2%	13%
Some College	40%	50%	2%	8%
College Degree	38%	54%	1%	7%
Household Income*				
Less than \$35,000	31%	57%	3%	9%
\$35-75,000	47%	45%	1%	7%
Over \$75,000	36%	55%	2%	7%
Race*				
White	42%	46%	2%	10%
Non-white	7%	91%	0%	2%
Marital Status*				
Married	45%	47%	1%	8%
Not currently married	33%	52%	3%	13%
Single, never married	26%	63%	2%	9%
Religious Affiliation*				
Catholic	39%	49%	2%	10%
Protestant	46%	42%	1%	10%
Other/Unaffiliated	27%	66%	1%	7%
Born Again Christian or Fundamentalist*				
Yes	56%	34%	1%	9%
No	33%	56%	2%	9%
Household Union Member				
Yes	34%	59%	0%	7%
No	40%	49%	2%	9%
Military Veteran				
Yes	46%	46%	0%	8%
No	37%	52%	2%	9%
Region*				
Philadelphia	19%	75%	0%	6%
Northeast	33%	52%	3%	13%
Allegheny	36%	50%	5%	9%
Southwest	50%	42%	2%	7%
Northwest	40%	47%	2%	12%
Central	44%	46%	1%	9%
Southeast	37%	58%	1%	4%
Party Registration*				
Republican	77%	15%	1%	7%
Democrat	12%	80%	1%	7%
Independent/Other	31%	45%	6%	18%

* Significant differences (p<.05)

Table A-2. Presidential Vote Choice by Selected Demographics (Likely Voters)

	McCain/Palin	Obama/Biden	Other	DK
Gender				
Male	46%	47%	1%	6%
Female	36%	58%	0%	5%
Age				
18-34	37%	59%	0%	4%
35-54	42%	54%	1%	3%
55 and over	41%	51%	1%	7%
Education				
High School or Less	44%	46%	1%	9%
Some College	41%	53%	1%	6%
College Degree	38%	58%	1%	4%
Household Income				
Less than \$35,000	36%	59%	1%	4%
\$35-75,000	46%	50%	1%	3%
Over \$75,000	38%	55%	1%	6%
Race*				
White	44%	50%	1%	6%
Non-white	11%	87%	0%	2%
Marital Status*				
Married	45%	51%	0%	4%
Not currently married	29%	57%	1%	13%
Single, never married	36%	57%	3%	4%
Religious Affiliation*				
Catholic	41%	52%	1%	7%
Protestant	50%	45%	0%	5%
Other/Unaffiliated	28%	66%	1%	5%
Born Again Christian or Fundamentalist*				
Yes	65%	32%	0%	2%
No	34%	58%	1%	6%
Household Union Member				
Yes	36%	60%	0%	4%
No	42%	52%	1%	6%
Military Veteran				
Yes	46%	45%	0%	9%
No	40%	54%	1%	5%
Region*				
Philadelphia	20%	76%	0%	4%
Northeast	38%	55%	1%	6%
Allegheny	39%	47%	4%	10%
Southwest	50%	46%	0%	4%
Northwest	41%	52%	0%	7%
Central	46%	47%	0%	6%
Southeast	38%	60%	1%	1%
Party Registration*				
Republican	80%	15%	1%	4%
Democrat	11%	85%	0%	4%
Independent/Other	37%	49%	0%	14%

* Significant differences (p<.05)

Marginal Frequency Report

REG. Some people are registered to vote, and many others are not. Are you CURRENTLY REGISTERED to vote at your present address?

100% Yes

RegPARTY. Are you currently registered as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or as something else?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
50%	50%	50%	Democrat
38%	40%	37%	Republican
10%	9%	11%	Independent
2%	1%	2%	Something else

Vote_Nov. Many people will vote in the election for president in November, however, many other people will not. What would you say are the chances you will vote in the November presidential election? Are you certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances fifty-fifty you will vote, OR don't you think that you will vote in the November election for president?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
86%	92%	90%	Certain to vote
9%	5%	5%	Will probably vote
3%	2%	3%	Chances 50-50
2%	1%	2%	Don't think will vote

Pol_Int. Some people don't pay much attention to political campaigns. How about you? Would you say that you are...in the 2008 presidential campaign?

	Very much interested	Somewhat interested	Not very interested
Oct 2008	73%	22%	5%
Sep 2008	71%	26%	3%
Aug 2008	62%	33%	5%
Feb 2008	65%	29%	6%
Jan 2008	60%	35%	5%

Gen. When it comes to presidential elections, do you always vote, do you usually vote, do you only sometimes vote, or do you rarely vote?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
79%	84%	81%	Always
13%	11%	9%	Usually
5%	3%	5%	Only sometimes
3%	3%	5%	Rarely

Vot04. Did you vote in the last presidential election in 2004 or not?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
92%	93%	91%	Yes
7%	7%	8%	No
1%	0%	1%	Don't know

IntFav. Please let me know your opinion of some people involved in politics today...Is your opinion of ___ favorable, unfavorable, undecided, or haven't heard enough about ___ to have an opinion? (rotated) (Note: Respondents in Aug 2008 and Sep 2008 who chose "favorable" or "unfavorable" were asked if their opinion was strongly or somewhat favorable/unfavorable).

	Strongly favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Strongly unfavorable	Undecided	Don't know
BARACK OBAMA						
Oct 2008	38%	15%	8%	25%	12%	3%
Sep 2008	31%	18%	9%	21%	17%	3%
Aug 2008	25%	18%	7%	22%	23%	5%
JOHN MCCAIN						
Oct 2008	24%	21%	12%	28%	12%	3%
Sep 2008	22%	26%	12%	24%	14%	2%
Aug 2008	15%	24%	13%	19%	23%	6%
SARAH PALIN						
Oct 2008	25%	14%	9%	32%	11%	10%
Sep 2008	24%	15%	7%	26%	13%	15%
JOE BIDEN						
Oct 2008	28%	21%	10%	15%	13%	13%
Sep 2008	26%	20%	9%	14%	15%	17%

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Undecided	Don't know
BARACK OBAMA				
Oct 2008	53%	33%	12%	3%
Sep 2008	49%	30%	17%	3%
Aug 2008	43%	29%	23%	5%
Feb 2008	46%	27%	21%	6%
Jan 2008	41%	27%	23%	9%
Aug 2007	37%	21%	23%	19%
Jun 2007	32%	21%	20%	27%
Feb 2007	31%	15%	20%	34%
JOHN MCCAIN				
Oct 2008	45%	40%	12%	3%
Sep 2008	48%	36%	14%	2%
Aug 2008	39%	32%	23%	6%
Feb 2008	45%	26%	21%	8%
Jan 2008	46%	23%	21%	10%
Aug 2007	31%	30%	22%	17%
Jun 2007	34%	28%	22%	16%
Feb 2007	37%	23%	23%	17%
Feb 2000	44%	15%	28%	13%

Pres08. If the November general election for president were being held today and the candidates were (*rotated*) John McCain and Sarah Palin, the Republicans, Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats, Ralph Nader and Matt Gonzalez, the Independents, and Bob Barr and Wayne Root, the Libertarians, would you vote for John McCain and Sarah Palin, Barack Obama and Joe Biden, Ralph Nader and Matt Gonzalez, Bob Barr and Wayne Root, or aren't you sure how you would vote? *

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
44%	45%	51%	Barack Obama/Joe Biden
36%	38%	39%	John McCain/Sarah Palin
4%	2%	2%	Other
16%	14%	9%	Don't know

* Vice Presidential running mates and third party candidates were not included before September 2008.

Cert. Are you absolutely CERTAIN you will vote FOR [fill Pres08] in the election, or are you still making up your mind?

Sep 08	Oct 08	
651	708	Subsample size
81%	88%	Certain
19%	12%	Still making up mind

Lean. As of today, do you lean more to (*rotated*) John McCain and Sarah Palin, the Republicans, Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats, Ralph Nader and Matt Gonzalez, the Independents, or Bob Barr and Wayne Root, the Libertarians?

Sep 08	Oct 08	
116	82	Subsample size
21%	34%	Barack Obama/Joe Biden
32%	23%	John McCain/Sarah Palin
1%	4%	Other
46%	38%	Don't know

IssPrim. What will be the single most important issue in your vote for president this year? (*rotated*) Foreign policy, the Iraq war, the economy, healthcare, energy policy, taxes, moral and family values, or something else?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
43%	52%	47%	The economy
9%	9%	11%	Moral and family values
10%	6%	9%	Healthcare
3%	4%	8%	Taxes
7%	7%	7%	Something else
12%	10%	6%	The Iraq War
6%	5%	6%	Foreign policy
8%	4%	3%	Energy policy
3%	3%	3%	Don't know

McC1. If John McCain is elected president, do you think he will mostly continue the ECONOMIC POLICIES put into place by President Bush or do you think he will develop ECONOMIC POLICIES that are much different than President Bush's?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
55%	49%	51%	Mostly continue the economic policies put into place by President Bush
34%	43%	41%	Develop economic policies that are much different than President Bush's
11%	8%	8%	Don't know

McC2. If John McCain is elected president, do you think he will mostly continue the FOREIGN POLICY put into place by President Bush or do you think he will develop a FOREIGN POLICY that is much different than President Bush's?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
58%	60%	62%	Mostly continue the foreign policy put into place by President Bush
30%	32%	31%	Develop a foreign policy that is much different than President Bush's
12%	8%	7%	Don't know

(Questions McC3 through Ob3y are rotated.)

McC3. Regardless of how you plan to vote in November, would you be concerned if John McCain was elected president?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
46%	50%	52%	Yes
50%	48%	46%	No
4%	3%	2%	Don't know

Mc3y. What would concern you about him?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
292	383	404	Subsample size
46%	35%	45%	Views on policy issues
39%	33%	30%	Too similar to Bush, current administration, would be no real change
0%	16%	20%	Vice Presidential running mate
14%	19%	16%	Physical attributes, including age, health, race
5%	15%	11%	Personality, morality, untrustworthy
0%	7%	6%	Lack of experience, knowledge, ability
6%	5%	4%	Political party, ideology
3%	4%	3%	Tries to please everyone, wishy-washy, wouldn't follow through with promises
2%	1%	1%	Everything
0%	0%	1%	Don't know enough about him
10%	3%	5%	Other
1%	3%	2%	Don't know

** Responses total more than 100% because multiple answers were accepted.*

Ob3. Regardless of how you plan to vote in November, would you be concerned if Barack Obama was elected president?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
51%	51%	51%	Yes
45%	45%	46%	No
4%	4%	3%	Don't know

Ob3y. What would concern you about him?

Aug08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
322	390	411	Subsample size
39%	48%	37%	Lack of experience, knowledge, ability
30%	26%	36%	Views on policy issues
7%	15%	21%	Personality, morality, untrustworthy
10%	12%	14%	Political party, ideology
12%	7%	8%	Tries to please everyone, wishy-washy, wouldn't follow through with promises
7%	6%	5%	Don't know enough about him
3%	3%	4%	Assassination attempts
6%	6%	3%	Physical attributes, including age, health, race
2%	3%	3%	Religious background, affiliation
3%	1%	3%	Everything
2%	1%	3%	Terrorist links, how his name sounds
0%	1%	1%	Vice Presidential running mate
11%	3%	7%	Other
2%	3%	2%	Don't know

* Responses total more than 100% because multiple answers were accepted.

IntD1. Which candidate, (rotated) Barack Obama or John McCain, do you think is best DESCRIBED by each of the following statements?

September 2008			October 2008			
Obama	McCain	DK	Obama	McCain	DK	
61%	28%	11%	61%	29%	11%	Best understands the concerns of ordinary Americans
50%	35%	15%	54%	34%	13%	Is most able to develop a comprehensive energy policy that will reduce dependence on foreign oil
47%	39%	14%	46%	38%	16%	Will take on special interests in Washington
46%	37%	17%	52%	37%	12%	Is most able to handle the economy
43%	38%	19%	48%	40%	12%	Is closest to your views on values issues, such as abortion and gay marriage
43%	47%	9%	48%	44%	9%	Will best handle the situation in Iraq
34%	54%	13%	38%	50%	13%	Will best protect the United States against terrorism
28%	57%	15%	31%	57%	13%	Has the experience needed to be president

RatePres. How would you rate the way that George Bush is handling his job as president?
Would you say he is doing...

	Excellent job	Good job	Only a fair job	Poor job	Don't know
Oct 2008	2%	16%	27%	54%	1%
Sep 2008	1%	15%	27%	56%	0%
Aug 2008	3%	18%	27%	51%	1%
Feb 2008	5%	17%	25%	52%	1%
Jan 2008	8%	22%	23%	47%	0%
Aug 2007	4%	19%	28%	49%	0%
Jun 2007	5%	19%	28%	48%	0%
Feb 2007	5%	22%	27%	46%	0%
Oct 2006	8%	23%	25%	43%	1%
Sep 2006	10%	26%	27%	36%	1%
Aug 2006	9%	24%	24%	43%	0%
May 2006	7%	23%	24%	45%	1%
Feb 2006	10%	26%	23%	40%	1%
Sep 2005	10%	25%	24%	42%	1%
Jun 2005	12%	31%	27%	30%	1%
Oct 2004	14%	30%	28%	28%	0%
Sep 2004	18%	31%	27%	24%	0%
Aug 2004	16%	30%	26%	28%	1%
Mar 2004	15%	34%	26%	24%	1%
Feb 2004	13%	32%	26%	28%	1%
Nov 2003	15%	32%	25%	28%	2%
Apr 2003	33%	31%	19%	15%	2%

UStrk. All in all, do you think things in the United States are generally headed in the RIGHT DIRECTION, or do you feel that things are off on the WRONG TRACK?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
18%	13%	14%	Right direction
77%	82%	81%	Wrong track
5%	4%	5%	Don't know

MIP_YF. What do you think is the MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM facing YOU and YOUR FAMILY TODAY?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
54%	64%	64%	Economy, personal finances, cost of living
7%	8%	9%	Healthcare, insurance
15%	6%	4%	Gasoline/oil prices, energy
3%	2%	4%	Taxes
2%	3%	2%	Government, politicians
2%	3%	2%	Terrorism, foreign policy
2%	2%	2%	Values, morality, religion
0%	2%	2%	Elder issues, social security
2%	1%	2%	Education, schools
0%	1%	1%	Personal illness, health problems
0%	1%	1%	Nothing
3%	1%	0%	Iraq War
7%	3%	4%	Other
4%	3%	5%	Don't know

Gov. Do you think that the problems facing you and your family can be solved with the help of the government, or are these problems beyond what you think the government can do?

Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	
69%	71%	67%	With help of government
25%	22%	26%	Beyond what government can do
6%	7%	8%	Don't know

FinToday. We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days. Would you say that YOU and YOUR FAMILY are better off, worse off, or about the same financially as you were a year ago?

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	Don't know
Oct 2008	14%	44%	42%	0%
Sep 2008	12%	40%	47%	0%
Aug 2008	16%	37%	46%	1%
Feb 2008	20%	29%	51%	0%
Jan 2008	17%	25%	57%	1%
Nov 2005*	20%	28%	51%	1%
Sep 2005*	17%	36%	47%	0%
Jun 2005*	24%	24%	52%	0%
Mar 2005*	21%	28%	51%	1%
Nov 2003*	17%	29%	53%	1%
Apr 2003*	16%	30%	54%	0%
Sep 2002	25%	26%	47%	1%
Jun 2002	29%	20%	50%	1%
Jul 1999*	31%	16%	52%	1%
Jul 1998*	31%	16%	52%	1%
Mar 1998*	31%	16%	52%	1%
Jul 1996*	21%	22%	56%	1%
Feb 1996*	21%	21%	57%	1%
Apr 1995*	26%	21%	52%	1%

* Question asked of all respondents regardless of registration status

FinFut. Now looking AHEAD, do you think that A YEAR FROM NOW, YOU and YOUR FAMILY will be better off financially than you are now, worse off, or about the same as you are now?

	Better off	Worse off	About the same	Don't know
Oct 2008	33%	14%	40%	14%
Sep 2008	25%	18%	42%	15%
Aug 2008	28%	15%	45%	12%
Nov 2005*	29%	20%	48%	3%
Sep 2005*	27%	23%	45%	5%
Jun 2005*	32%	15%	48%	5%
Mar 2005*	31%	20%	45%	4%
Nov 2003*	33%	13%	49%	5%
Apr 2003*	27%	17%	51%	5%
Sep 2002	38%	8%	43%	11%
Jun 2002	35%	6%	49%	10%
Jul 1999*	38%	8%	50%	4%
Jul 1998*	41%	9%	45%	5%
Mar 1998*	39%	7%	50%	4%
Jul 1996*	24%	12%	54%	10%
Feb 1996*	29%	16%	49%	6%
Apr 1995*	37%	12%	44%	7%

* Question asked of all respondents regardless of registration status

IntHard. Now I'm going to ask you about various events that happen to people. I'm interested in those that happened to you at any point during the last 12 months, that is since [fill one year ago's date]. Did any of the following hardships happen to you in the last 12 months?
(rotated)

September 2008			October 2008			
Yes	No	DK	Yes	No	DK	
10%	90%	0%	15%	85%	0%	Did you lack health insurance coverage?
19%	81%	0%	21%	79%	0%	Did you experience a reduction in pay for any reason?
11%	89%	0%	14%	86%	0%	Were you unable to get needed medical care because you couldn't afford it?
12%	88%	0%	14%	86%	0%	Were you unable to purchase gasoline because you couldn't afford it?
10%	90%	0%	13%	87%	0%	Were you unemployed and looking for work for as long as a month?
11%	89%	0%	13%	87%	0%	Were you unable to purchase needed food because you couldn't afford it?
8%	92%	0%	10%	90%	1%	Did you fall behind in paying your rent or mortgage?
6%	94%	0%	8%	92%	0%	Were you let go or permanently laid off from your job?
4%	96%	0%	5%	95%	0%	Did you have any utilities, such as water, heat, or electricity, shut off because you couldn't afford the bill?
2%	98%	0%	3%	97%	0%	For financial reasons, did you have to temporarily live with others or in a shelter or on the street?
1%	99%	0%	0%	100%	0%	Were you evicted from your apartment or house?

I now have a final few questions for statistical purposes only.

CNTY. Region of state (What is the name of the county you live in?)

32% Central
12% Southeast
13% Northeast
11% Allegheny
12% Southwest
11% Northwest
9% Philadelphia

Resd. How many years have you lived at your current address?

15.1 Mean

AGE. What was your age on your last birthday?

6% 18-24
19% 25-34
17% 35-44
22% 45-54
17% 55-64
20% 65 and older

EDUC. What was the last grade level of schooling you have completed?

4% Non high school graduate
29% High school graduate or GED
17% Some college
11% Two-year or tech degree
23% Four year college degree
16% Post graduate degree

MAR. What is your CURRENT marital status, are you single, married, separated, divorced, or a widower?

19% Single, Never Married
60% Married
1% Separated
10% Divorced
10% Widow or widower

PRTY1. Regardless of how you are registered, in politics, as of today, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

22% Strong Republican
9% Republican
10% Lean Republican
7% Pure Independent
12% Lean Democrat
11% Democrat
29% Strong Democrat
1% Do not know

LABR. Are you or is any member of your household a member of a LABOR UNION?

20% Yes
79% No
1% Don't know

VET. Are you a military veteran?

12% Yes
88% No

Hisp. Are you Hispanic or Latino, or not?

4% Yes
96% No

RACE. Which of the following categories best describes your racial background?

88% White
11% Non-white
1% Don't know

REL. Do you consider yourself to be Protestant, Catholic, some other religion, or not affiliated with any religion?

40%	Protestant
32%	Catholic
14%	Some other religion
14%	Not affiliated with any religion

BAC. Do you consider yourself to be a born-again Christian or fundamentalist, or not?

29%	Yes
69%	No
2%	Don't know

NumA. Including yourself, how many adults 18 years of age or OLDER CURRENTLY live in this household?

26%	One
58%	Two
12%	Three
4%	Four or more

WORK. Are you currently working FULL-time, PART-time, going to school, keeping house or something else?

55%	Full-time
9%	Part-time
3%	Going to school
6%	Keeping house
5%	Unemployed
3%	Disabled
19%	Retired

INC1. And, just for statistical purposes, we need to know if your total family income is above or below \$50,000 per year?

14%	Under \$25,000
11%	\$25-\$35,000
16%	\$35-50,000
22%	\$50-75,000
15%	\$75-100,000
17%	Over \$100,000
5%	Don't know

DONE. Sex of respondent:

58%	Female
42%	Male