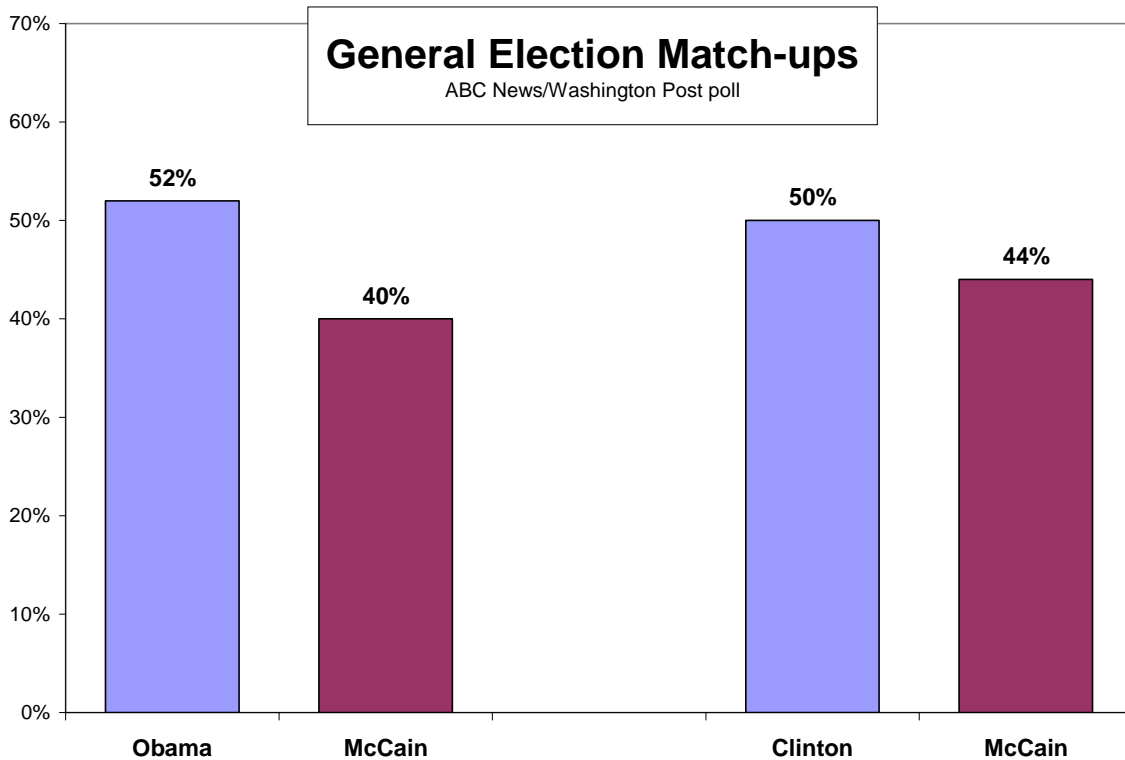


Obama and Clinton Lead McCain; Change vs. Experience is the Roadmap

A surge of Democratic allegiance is boosting Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton alike in match-ups against John McCain, with change vs. experience as the roadmap for voter preferences in the 2008 general election.

Obama's advantage over McCain is the bigger one in this ABC News/Washington Post poll, a 12-point lead compared to Clinton's 6-point edge. McCain's endorsement by George W. Bush may not help: The president's back at his career low approval rating, matching Harry Truman in long-term unpopularity.

The results of this poll overall offer a roadmap to likely themes in the general election. Foremost are competing desires for the future: Americans divide evenly on "new ideas and new direction" vs. "strength and experience" in a candidate. Against McCain, Obama wins 80 percent of new direction voters; Clinton, 65 percent. Voters more focused on experience instead go to McCain, by 2-1 over Clinton and by 3-1 over Obama.



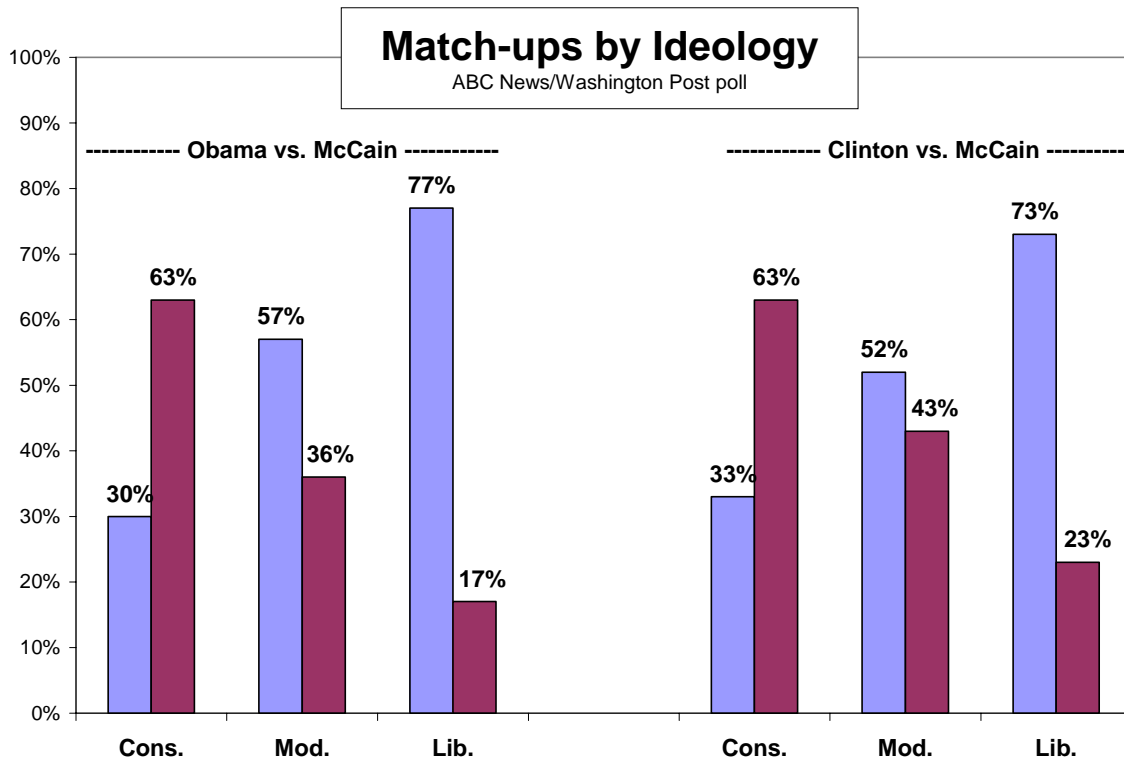
There's huge polarization in these choices: Seventy percent of Republicans call strength and experience more important; 60 percent of Democrats care more about a new direction. Independents – the quintessential swing voters – tilt to “new direction” by 47-38 percent. Those are the voters the candidates will try hardest to move their way.

Voter attention is high: Eighty-four percent of Americans are following the race very or somewhat closely, compared with 75 percent four years ago and 61 percent eight years ago. The increase has come especially among young adults – up 13 points compared with 2004 – and political moderates, up 15 points.

McCain – A steady hand in an uncertain world is the newly minted Republican nominee's clear pitch; tested against Democratic delegate-leader Obama, McCain holds huge leads on knowledge of world affairs and as better able to deal with terrorism. Obama offers a very different profile, with his biggest lead on the issue of health care and on attributes such as personality and temperament, empathy and a vision for the future.

But McCain is losing three in 10 conservatives to either Obama or Clinton, far more than he likely could stand to see slip away. Democratic presidential candidates since 1988 have won 15 to 20 percent of conservatives, not 30 percent.

That poses a potentially difficult straddle for McCain – reassuring conservatives on his right without alienating moderates and independents in the center. Currently many more Americans call Obama “about right” ideologically, 56 percent, than McCain, 41 percent.



BUSH – Today’s endorsement by Bush may not do wonders for McCain: The president has a 32 percent job approval rating, matching his career low, outdone among postwar presidents only by Truman, Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter.

While 65 percent of Republicans approve, that’s a new low for Bush within his own party. His approval drops to 9 percent among Democrats and 32 percent among independents.

Bush’s support has been as steady as it is low, between 32 and 36 percent in more than a dozen ABC/Post polls since December 2006. He hasn’t seen majority approval in 38 months, matching Truman’s record from 1949-1952.

The Korean War was much to blame for Truman’s problem; the Iraq war for Bush’s. Despite reduced violence in Iraq, 63 percent of Americans continue to say that given its costs vs. benefits the war was not worth fighting. And fewer than half, 43 percent, are persuaded the United States is making significant progress restoring civil order there.

These views, too, pose a challenge to McCain, as a supporter of the war in Iraq. While views on the war are highly polarized politically, among independents only a third say it was worth fighting, and just 40 percent see significant progress on civil order.

Currently McCain’s supported by more than seven in 10 Americans who say the war’s worth fighting – but among those who say it was not worth fighting, 66 percent prefer Clinton, and 70 percent prefer Obama.

PARTY – An important element for Obama and Clinton alike is a surge in Democratic partisanship: Forty percent of Americans now identify themselves as Democrats, the most since an ABC/Post poll in early 1997, and before that in August 1992, in advance of George H.W. Bush’s defeat by Bill Clinton.

Economic discontent, dissatisfaction with the war in Iraq and enthusiasm about the Democratic race all are factors; voter turnout has been up in most Democratic primaries this year, flat in most Republican contests. In all, 29 million adults have voted in Democratic caucuses and primaries, vs. 17 million on the Republican side.

The open question is whether Democrats can sustain this surge in allegiance beyond their attention-grabbing primaries, or whether their new adherents revert to a more neutral stance as independents. (It’s independents who are down in this poll, with Republican self-identification roughly steady, at 28 percent.)

In a McCain-Obama match-up, each wins about 80 percent of his own party’s adherents – better for Obama, given the current preponderance of Democrats. Defectors are about equal in share: 14 percent of Democrats for McCain, 16 percent of Republicans for Obama.

Clinton loses as many Democrats as Obama, but draws fewer Republicans, 9 percent; McCain wins 87 percent of Republicans against her, vs. his 80 percent vs. Obama. Independents – again, the key swing group – favor Obama by 10 points, Clinton by 7.

	Vote preference			
	McCain	Obama	McCain	Clinton
Democrats	14%	79	16%	78
Independents	39	49	43	50
Republicans	80	16	87	9

IDEOLOGY – While McCain, as noted, has trouble with conservatives, Obama boasts a vast 60-point lead among liberals, Clinton, 50 points. Among moderates Obama leads by 21 points, Clinton by a narrower 9 points.

Leads among moderates are crucial to the Democrats, since conservatives substantially outnumber liberals, by 30 percent to 19 percent in this poll.

	Vote preference			
	McCain	Obama	McCain	Clinton
Liberals	17%	77	23%	73
Moderates	36	57	43	52
Conservatives	63	30	63	33

Another measure on ideology underscores McCain’s challenges. As noted, testing just the two delegate leaders, 56 percent say Obama's views on issues are “just about right” on the ideological spectrum, while many fewer, 41 percent, say the same about McCain. Democrats are more apt to approve of Obama ideologically (77 percent) than Republicans of McCain (61 percent).

Among swing independents, a majority rates Obama's views as about right, but only 36 percent say that about McCain. Instead 40 percent of independents say McCain's views are too conservative, more than the 29 percent who call Obama too liberal.

Moreover, a third of all conservatives, and 46 percent of "very" conservative adults, say McCain's too liberal. He needs to move right and center at once.

MORE GROUPS – Obama and Clinton alike lead McCain among women, by roughly equal margins (19 and 16 points, respectively). But a McCain-Obama race is closer among men (44-47 percent) than a McCain-Clinton race (51-44 percent).

Perhaps surprisingly, McCain does less well among white voters against Obama, 47-45 percent, than against Clinton, 52-42 percent; the main difference is white men. And while 94 percent of African-Americans favor Obama against McCain, Clinton’s share of black voters slips to 85 percent.

Religious belief also informs vote choices. Evangelical white Protestants, a core Republican group, favor McCain over Obama by 70-23 percent, and over Clinton by 68-29 percent. Americans who profess no religion, by contrast, back Obama by about an equal margin, 65-20 percent, and Clinton by 61-31.

While Obama and Clinton, as noted, lead among independents, McCain leads among another traditional swing voter group, white Catholics, by 53-40 percent vs. Obama and by 58-39 percent vs. Clinton. Since 1988 the candidate who's won white Catholics also has won the popular vote, except in 2000.

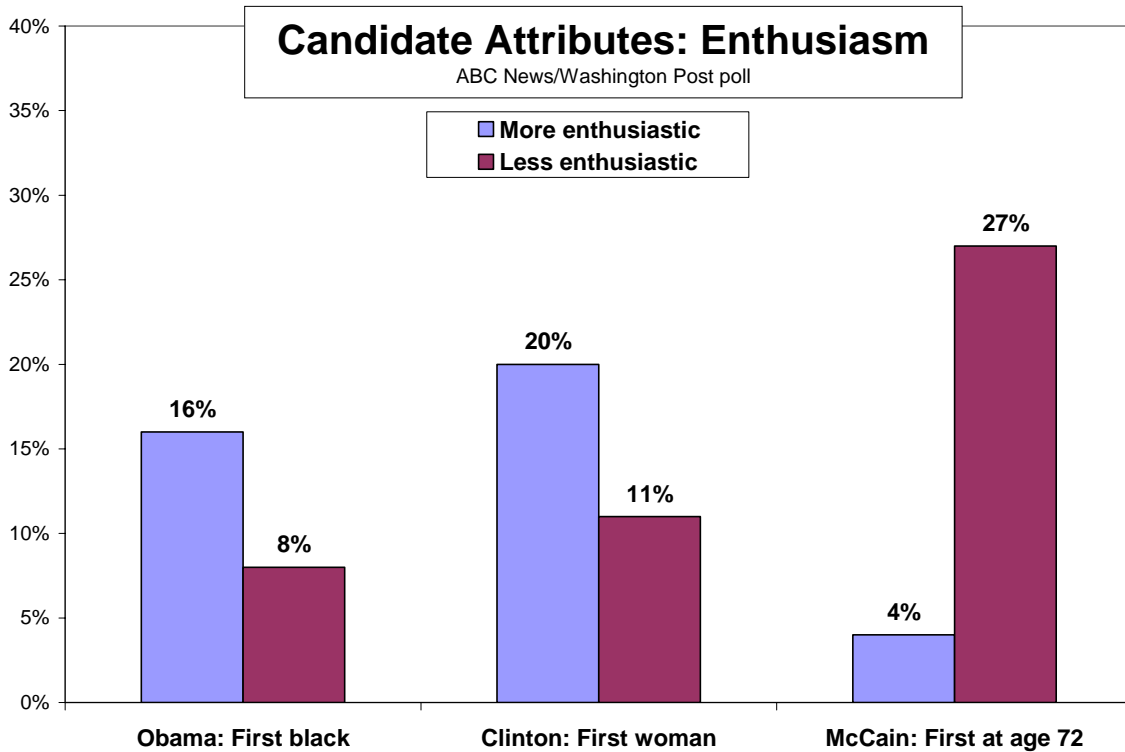
	Vote preference			
	McCain	Obama	McCain	Clinton
Men	44%	47	51%	44
Women	37	56	39	55
Whites	47	45	52	42
Blacks	3	94	7	85
White:				
Men	52	39	59	35
Women	42	50	46	49
Married:				
Men	49	41	59	36
Women	44	49	52	42
Unmarried:				
Men	37	55	41	53
Women	28	66	24	71
White Protestants:				
Evangelical	70	23	68	29
Non-evangelical	45	49	52	42
No religion	20	65	31	61

SECURITY and RACE – Another element, albeit not related to vote preference, is security. Fifty-nine percent of Americans express concern that someone might try to harm Obama, who'd be the first African-American candidate for president, if he's nominated. That's far more than the number who worry about McCain's security, 27 percent.

Concern about Obama crosses demographic lines, but peaks among blacks, at 83 percent (vs. 56 percent of whites), and among Democrats overall, at 68 percent (vs. 53 percent of Republicans and independents). Again, though, it's far higher in all groups than for McCain.

At the same time, Obama's race still rates as a slight net positive for him, as does Clinton's sex for her, compared with the net negative of McCain's age. Americans by a 23-point margin are less enthusiastic about McCain given the fact that he'd be the oldest

first-term president; by an 8-point margin, they're more enthusiastic about Obama given that he'd be the first African-American president. Clinton's net positive on being the first woman president is about the same, 9 points.



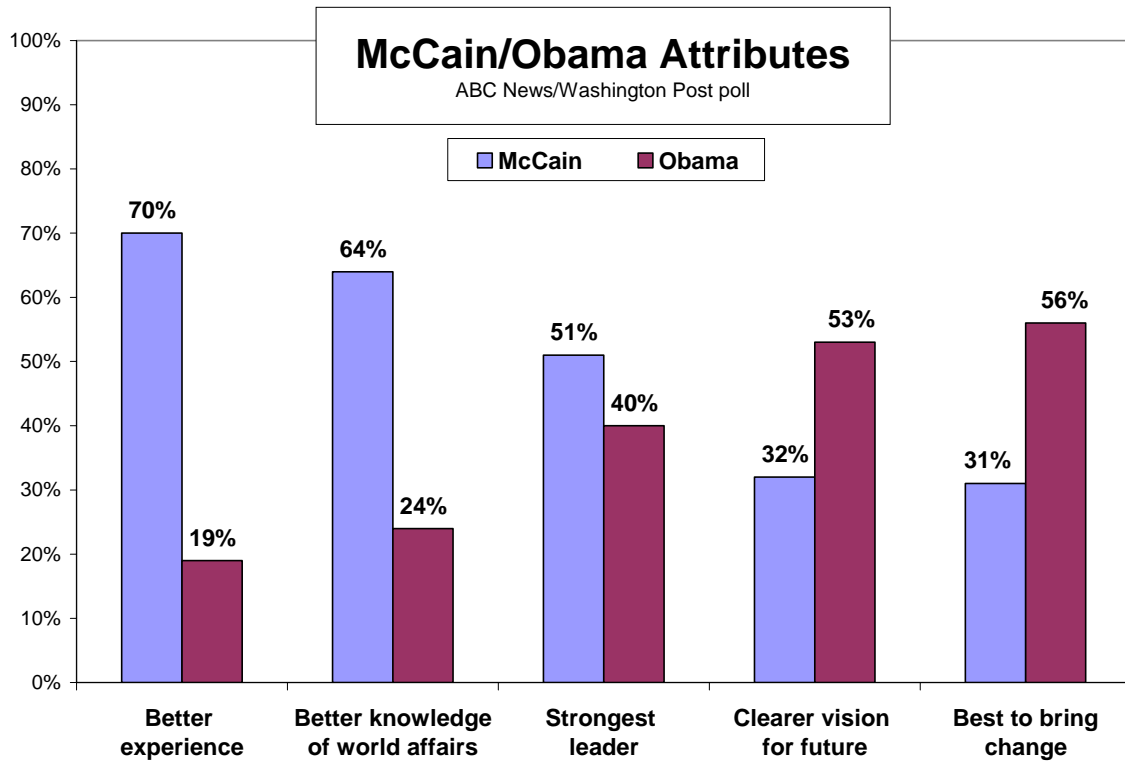
Obama's race is a net positive for Democrats by 20 points and independents by a slight 5 points, negative for Republicans by 5. Clinton's sex is a net positive for Democrats and independents, negative for Republicans. McCain's age, by contrast, is a net negative across party lines, although to varying degrees.

		Enthusiasm				More-Less
		More	Less	No difference		
Obama as first black president	All	16%	8	75	+8	
	Dem	25	5	70	+20	
	Rep	7	12	81	-5	
	Ind	13	8	77	+5	
McCain as first 72 year old president	All	4%	27	67	-23	
	Dem	3	35	61	-32	
	Rep	5	15	79	-10	
	Ind	4	29	67	-25	
Clinton as first woman president	All	20%	11	67	+9	
	Dem	33	5	62	+28	
	Rep	4	22	71	-18	
	Ind	20	8	71	+12	

ISSUES and ATTRIBUTES – This poll did additional testing of McCain and Obama, the frontrunners, on issues and personal attributes. McCain leads in trust to handle just two of six issues tested, vs. four for Obama. But that includes a large lead, 25 points, in trust to handle what can be a decisive issue in times of insecurity – terrorism.

Indeed a substantial number of Democrats, 41 percent, rate McCain as better qualified on terrorism, as do 52 percent of independents and 86 percent of Republicans.

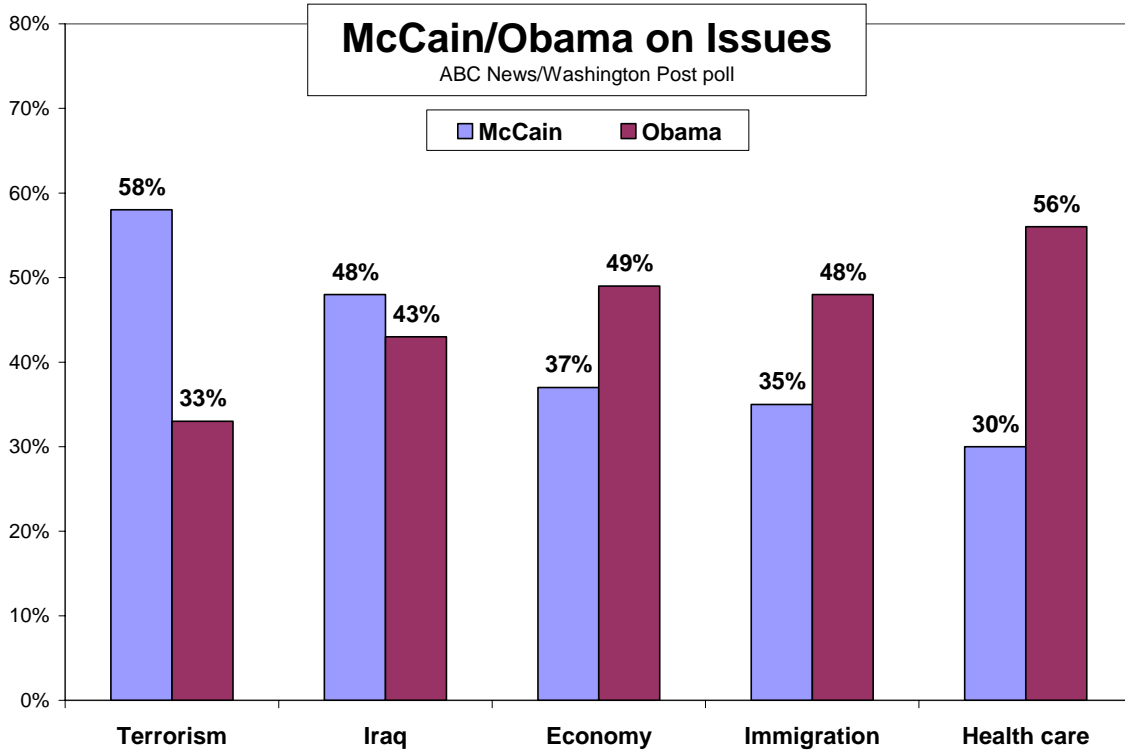
McCain has a scant 5-point edge on Iraq; Obama, a 26-point lead on health care, and smaller but significant advantages on the economy – the top issue this year – immigration and ethics in government.



The differences on attributes are sharper still. McCain leads Obama by 51 points, 70-19 percent, on experience; by 40 points in knowledge of world affairs; and by a closer 11 points on strong leadership. Notably, he prevails on experience even among liberals (55 percent say he beats Obama on this score) and by a plurality of Democrats, 48 percent.

Obama counters those three with advantages in five other areas, including more than 20-point leads on personality and temperament, empathy, bringing needed change and a vision for the future. He's got a smaller 12-point lead on personal and ethical standards.

Only 47 percent of conservatives, and 52 percent of Republicans, pick McCain as better suited in terms of his personality and temperament; McCain also gets lukewarm support from conservatives, 51 percent, as better to “bring needed change.”



HURDLE – Another way of examining these is in basic acceptability – not which candidate’s rated better, but who clears the hurdle. Here both face challenges. Fewer than half of Americans, 49 percent, say Obama has the kind of experience it takes to serve effectively as president – a clear problem for him. But fewer still, 41 percent, say McCain would do enough to bring needed change to Washington, a real shortcoming of his own.

Doubt runs highest, for both, among seniors – just 34 percent think McCain will bring needed change, and only 32 percent say Obama’s experienced enough.

Six in 10 Republicans think McCain would bring change, but far fewer independents (39 percent) and Democrats (28 percent) agree. Similarly, half of conservatives say he’d bring needed change, but only 41 percent of moderates and a third of liberals agree.

Adults under 30 are twice as apt as seniors to say Obama has enough experience. By 2-1 Democrats say he’s got the experience, while by roughly the same margin Republicans say not. Independents split, 46-48 percent.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone Feb. 28-March 2, 2008, among a random national sample of 1,126 adults, including an oversample of African-Americans for a total of 215 black respondents (weighted back to their correct share of the national population). The results have a 3-point error margin. Sampling, data collection and tabulation by TNS of Horsham, Pa.

Analysis by Gary Langer.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com at <http://abcnews.com/pollingunit>

Media contact: Cathie Levine, (212) 456-4934.

Full results follow (*= less than 0.5 percent).

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
3/2/08	32	15	17	66	16	50	2
2/1/08	33	17	16	65	14	51	2
1/12/08	32	16	16	66	15	51	2
12/9/07	33	17	16	64	14	50	3
11/1/07	33	17	16	64	13	50	3
9/30/07	33	15	18	64	14	49	3
9/7/07	33	16	17	64	15	49	3
7/21/07	33	16	17	65	13	52	2
6/1/07	35	17	18	62	16	46	3
4/15/07	35	17	18	62	14	49	2
2/25/07	36	19	17	62	12	49	2
1/19/07	33	17	16	65	14	51	2
12/11/06	36	18	18	62	13	49	2
11/4/06	40	24	16	57	12	46	2
10/22/06	37	21	16	60	15	45	3
10/8/06	39	23	16	60	12	48	1
9/7/06	42	24	18	55	12	43	3
8/6/06	40	23	17	58	12	46	2
6/25/06	38	20	18	60	12	48	2
5/15/06	33	17	16	65	18	47	2
4/9/06	38	20	18	60	13	47	1
3/5/06	41	24	17	58	14	44	1
1/26/06	42	25	18	56	14	42	2
1/8/06	46	29	17	52	13	39	2
12/18/05	47	29	17	52	12	40	1
11/2/05	39	20	18	60	13	47	1
10/29/05	39	22	17	58	13	45	3
9/11/05	42	27	15	57	12	45	1
8/28/05	45	27	18	53	12	41	2
6/26/05	48	27	21	51	11	40	1
6/5/05	48	27	21	52	14	38	1
4/24/05	47	25	22	50	13	38	3
3/13/05	50	31	19	48	11	37	3
1/31/05	50	34	15	45	11	34	5
1/16/05	52	33	19	46	11	35	2
12/19/04	48	27	21	49	12	38	2
10/20/04	50	30	20	46	11	35	4
10/17/04 LV	54	35	19	45	9	36	2

10/16/04	LV	54	35	19	44	10	34	2
10/15/04	LV	54	35	19	44	10	34	2
10/3/04	LV	53	36	17	46	11	34	1
9/26/04		50	33	18	45	13	32	5
9/8/04		52	35	17	43	11	32	5
8/29/04		50	31	19	47	13	34	3
8/1/04		47	28	18	49	13	36	5
7/25/04		50	32	19	47	13	34	3
7/11/04		48	31	17	50	11	39	2
6/20/04		47	30	17	51	13	39	1
5/23/04		47	31	17	50	14	36	3
4/18/04		51	33	18	47	13	34	1
3/7/04		50	32	18	48	12	36	2
2/11/04		50	30	21	47	14	34	2
1/18/04		58	35	24	40	9	30	2
12/21/03		59	39	21	38	15	23	3
12/14/03		57	37	20	39	10	29	5
12/7/03		53	32	21	40	13	27	7
11/16/03		57	34	23	39	11	28	4
10/29/03		56	30	26	42	13	29	2
10/13/03		53	33	20	43	13	29	4
9/30/03		54	34	20	44	15	29	2
9/13/03		58	35	23	40	14	27	2
9/7/03		56	34	22	41	13	28	4
8/11/03		59	37	22	37	14	23	4
7/10/03		59	35	24	38	13	25	3
6/22/03		68	45	23	29	11	18	4
4/30/03		71	50	22	26	17	9	3
4/16/03		74	52	22	23	9	14	3
4/9/03		77	58	19	20	6	14	4
4/3/03		71	54	16	25	7	19	4
3/23/03		68	NA	NA	27	NA	NA	4
3/20/03		67	NA	NA	28	NA	NA	5
3/2/03		62	38	23	35	13	22	4
2/23/03		60	NA	NA	34	NA	NA	6
2/9/03		64	42	21	34	14	20	3
2/1/03		62	41	21	34	13	22	4
1/28/03		62	43	19	36	13	23	2
1/27/03		59	39	21	37	15	22	4
1/20/03		59	36	23	38	16	22	2
12/15/02		66	37	28	32	12	20	2
11/4/02	LV	67	45	23	31	12	20	1
11/3/02	LV	67	45	22	32	12	20	1
11/2/02	LV	67	47	20	32	9	23	1
10/27/02		67	39	28	29	13	16	4
9/26/02		67	42	25	30	12	18	3
9/8/02		71	42	28	27	12	15	3
7/28/02		69	39	31	28	14	14	3
7/15/02		72	42	31	25	12	13	2
6/17/02		74	42	32	22	9	13	4
6/9/02		77	41	36	20	9	11	3
5/19/02		76	48	28	22	8	13	3
4/21/02		78	47	31	20	9	10	2
3/28/02		79	49	30	18	8	10	3
3/10/02		82	52	30	16	9	7	2
1/27/02		83	56	27	14	7	7	3
12/19/01		86	64	22	12	6	6	2
11/27/01		89	69	21	9	4	5	1
11/6/01		89	65	24	9	5	4	2
10/9/01		92	76	16	6	3	3	1
9/27/01		90	70	20	6	3	3	4
9/13/01		86	63	23	12	5	6	2
9/9/01		55	26	29	41	20	22	3

8/12/01	61	28	33	31	14	17	8
7/30/01	59	28	30	38	17	22	3
6/3/01	55	27	28	40	18	22	6
4/22/01	63	33	30	32	16	16	5
3/25/01	58	NA	NA	33	NA	NA	8
2/25/01	55	NA	NA	23	NA	NA	22

2. All in all, considering the costs to the United States versus the benefits to the United States, do you think the war with Iraq was worth fighting, or not? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Worth fighting -----			--- Not worth fighting ---			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
3/2/08	34	24	11	63	12	51	2
2/1/08	34	23	11	65	11	53	1
1/12/08	35	21	13	64	13	51	2
12/9/07	37	25	12	61	11	50	2
11/1/07	35	23	12	63	12	51	2
9/30/07	38	25	14	59	12	47	3
9/7/07	36	23	13	62	11	51	2
7/21/07	36	25	12	63	10	53	1
6/1/07	37	24	12	61	12	50	2
4/15/07	33	22	11	66	12	54	1
2/25/07	34	22	12	64	13	51	2
1/10/07	40	28	12	58	11	47	2
12/11/06	36	25	11	61	12	50	2
11/4/06 RV	44	33	12	53	10	44	2
10/22/06	40	28	12	57	11	47	2
10/8/06	35	25	10	63	13	50	2
9/7/06	42	29	13	56	11	45	2
8/6/06	39	29	10	59	12	47	1
6/25/06	40	25	15	58	13	45	2
5/15/06	37	24	14	62	12	50	1
4/9/06	41	30	11	58	10	48	1
3/5/06	42	29	14	57	11	46	1
1/26/06	44	32	12	55	13	42	1
1/8/06	43	30	13	55	12	43	2
12/18/05	46	33	14	52	11	42	1
11/2/05	39	25	13	60	12	48	1
8/28/05	46	33	12	53	9	44	1
6/26/05	46	33	13	53	10	43	1
6/5/05	41	29	12	58	12	46	1
4/24/05	44	31	13	54	12	42	2
3/13/05	45	34	11	53	11	42	2
1/16/05	44	32	12	55	10	45	1
12/19/04	42	31	11	56	10	47	2
10/3/04 LV	49	34	15	48	11	37	3
9/26/04 RV	46	35	12	51	8	42	3
9/8/04 RV	51	38	13	45	10	34	4
8/29/04 RV	48	34	14	50	11	39	2
7/25/04	49	36	13	48	11	37	3
6/20/04	47	32	14	52	13	39	2
5/23/04	48	35	13	50	13	37	1
5/6/04	49	NA	NA	47	NA	NA	5
4/18/04	51	"	"	47	"	"	2
3/7/04	52			44			3
2/11/04	48			50			2
1/18/04	56			41			3
12/21/03	59			39			2
12/14/03	53			42			5
11/16/03	52			44			4
10/29/03	54			44			2

10/13/03	54	44	2
9/13/03	61	37	2
9/7/03	54	42	4
8/24/03	57	37	5
8/11/03	61	35	4
7/10/03	57	40	3
6/22/03	64	33	3
4/30/03	70	27	4
2/2/92*	66	32	2
7/28/91	67	30	3
6/2/91	70	26	3
3/4/91	86	13	1

*2/2/92 and previous: "the Persian Gulf war"; 3/4/91: "this war"

3. Do you think the United States is or is not making significant progress toward restoring civil order in Iraq?

	Is making significant progress	Is not making significant progress	No opinion
3/2/08	43	51	6
2/1/08	42	54	4
1/12/08	42	54	4
12/9/07	41	55	4
11/1/07	39	59	2
9/7/07	36	60	4
6/1/07	32	64	4
12/11/06	31	66	3
6/25/06	48	49	2
3/5/06	43	56	2
12/18/05	60	37	2
11/2/05	44	55	2
8/28/05	48	50	2
6/26/05	48	51	1
12/19/04	44	49	7
6/20/04	51	48	1

4. How closely are you following the presidential race: very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not closely at all?

	---- Closely ----			---- Not closely ----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Smwt.	NET	Not too	At all	
3/2/08	84	42	42	15	11	4	*
2/1/08	81	35	46	19	12	7	*
1/12/08	79	32	47	21	15	6	*
12/9/07	72	21	51	28	19	8	*
11/1/07	67	21	46	33	22	12	0
9/30/07	69	21	48	30	21	10	*
7/21/07	70	22	48	30	20	10	*
6/1/07	66	18	48	34	22	13	*
4/15/07	66	20	45	34	20	14	*
2/25/07	65	20	44	35	25	10	*
Early 2004:							
3/7/04	75	33	42	25	18	7	*
2/11/04	75	30	45	25	15	10	*
1/18/04	66	22	44	35	22	13	*
10/29/03	54	15	39	45	30	15	0
9/13/03	56	16	40	44	27	17	*
Early 2000:							
3/11/00	61	21	40	38	21	17	0

2/27/00	70	24	46	30	20	10	*
2/6/00	65	19	48	34	21	13	0
1/16/00	50	11	39	50	26	24	*
12/15/99	45	12	33	55	31	24	*
10/31/99	61	16	45	38	25	13	*

5 Previously released.

6. I'd like you to rate the chances that you will vote in the presidential election in November: Are you absolutely certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or less than that?

	Certain to vote	Probably vote	Chances 50/50	Less than that	Don't think will vote (vol.)	No opinion
3/2/08	78	9	7	4	2	*

7. If the 2008 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were (John McCain, the Republican) and (Hillary Clinton, the Democrat), for whom would you vote?

NET LEANED VOTE:

	McCain	Clinton	Other (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Would not vote (vol.)	No opinion
3/2/08	44	50	*	3	2	1
2/1/08	49	46	*	2	1	2
11/1/07	43	52	1	2	1	1
1/19/07	45	50	*	3	1	1

8. If the 2008 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were (John McCain, the Republican) and (Barack Obama, the Democrat), for whom would you vote?

NET LEANED VOTE:

	McCain	Obama	Other (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Would not vote (vol.)	No opinion
3/2/08	40	52	*	3	2	3
2/1/08	46	49	*	2	1	3
1/19/07	45	47	*	3	1	3

9. If nominated and elected, [ITEM]. Does that make you (more) or (less) enthusiastic about [his/her] candidacy, or wouldn't it make a difference?

Summary Table - 3/2/08

	More enthusiastic	Less enthusiastic	Wouldn't make a difference	No op.
a. Barack Obama would be the first African-American president	16	8	75	1
b. John McCain would be the first person to become president at age 72	4	27	67	1
c. Hillary Clinton would be the first female president	20	11	67	1

Trend:

a. Barack Obama would be the first African-American president

	More enthusiastic	Less enthusiastic	Wouldn't make a difference	No opinion
3/2/08	16	8	75	1
1/12/08	19	8	72	*

b. John McCain would be the first person to become president at age 72

	More enthusiastic	Less enthusiastic	Wouldn't make a difference	No opinion
3/2/08	4	27	67	1
1/12/08	3	31	64	1

c. Hillary Clinton would be the first female president

	More enthusiastic	Less enthusiastic	Wouldn't make a difference	No opinion
3/2/08	20	11	67	1
1/12/08	24	15	60	1

10. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think (ITEM) - (Obama) or (McCain)?

Summary Table* - 3/2/08

	McCain	Obama	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
a. is the stronger leader	51	40	2	1	6
b. has the better experience to be president	70	19	2	5	5
c. would do more to bring needed change to Washington	31	56	1	6	6
d. has a better personality and temperament to be president	28	57	2	5	8
e. better understands the problems of people like you	29	56	2	7	7
f. has a clearer vision for the future	32	53	5	5	4
g. has higher personal and ethical standards	31	43	10	4	11
h. has better knowledge of world affairs	64	24	4	3	5

*Half sample asked items a-d, other half sample asked items e-h.

11. Regardless of who you may support, who do you trust more to handle (ITEM) - (Obama) or (McCain)?

Summary Table* - 3/2/08

	McCain	Obama	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
a. The economy	37	49	2	6	6
b. The war in Iraq	48	43	1	4	5
c. Immigration issues	35	48	3	6	8
d. The U.S. campaign against terrorism	58	33	2	3	5
e. Health care	30	56	*	7	6
f. Ethics in government	35	48	7	5	6

*Full sample asked items a-b, half sample asked items c-d, other half sample asked items e-f.

12. Which of these is more important to you in a candidate for president:
(strength and experience) or (a new direction and new ideas)?

	Strength and experience	New direction and new ideas	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
3/2/08	45	46	7	1	1
2/1/08	51	39	7	1	1
1/12/08	47	43	9	*	1
12/9/07	54	38	6	*	1
11/1/07	49	41	8	1	1
9/30/07	52	40	7	1	1
7/21/07	50	41	6	*	2

13. Regardless of who you may support, do you think McCain would or would not do enough to bring needed change to Washington?

	Would	Would not	No opinion
3/2/08	41	52	7

14. Regardless of who you may support, do you think Barack Obama does or does not have the kind of experience it takes to serve effectively as president?

	Does	Does not	No opinion
3/2/08	49	45	6

15. Do you think (INSERT) views on most issues are too (liberal) for you, too (conservative) for you, or just about right?

Summary Table - 3/2/08

	Too liberal	Too conservative	Just about right	No opinion
a. McCain's	16	34	41	8
b. Obama's	31	6	56	7

Trend:

a. McCain

	Too liberal	Too conservative	About right	No opinion
3/2/08	16	34	41	8
2/27/00	16	19	55	11
2/24/00	20	16	49	15
2/6/00	15	22	46	16

b. No trend.

16-19 Previously released.

20. How concerned are you that someone might attempt to physically harm (ITEM) nominee for president - very concerned, somewhat concerned, not so concerned or not concerned at all?

a. McCain, if he's the Republican

----- Concerned ----- ----- Not Concerned ----- No

	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
3/2/08	27	10	17	72	28	44	2

b. Obama, if he's the Democratic

	-----	Concerned	-----	-----	Not Concerned	-----	No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
3/2/08	59	24	35	40	18	22	1

END