

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
APRIL 2008 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
April 23-27, 2008
N=1502

QUESTIONS 1-3 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

ROTATE Q.4-Q.4A/Q.5-Q.5A BLOCKS

Q.4 Now, suppose the 2008 presidential election were being held TODAY. If you had to choose between [READ AND ROTATE]—who would you vote for?

IF OTHER OR DK (Q.4 =3,9), ASK:

Q.4a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to [READ, ROTATE IN SAME ORDER AS Q.4]?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1323]:

		Mar	Late
		<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>
45	McCain	44	45
49	Clinton	49	50
<u>6</u>	Other/Don't know (VOL.)	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

ROTATE Q.4-Q.4A/Q.5-Q.5A BLOCKS

Q.5 Now, suppose the 2008 presidential election were being held TODAY. If you had to choose between [READ AND ROTATE]—who would you vote for?

IF OTHER OR DK (Q.5 =3,9), ASK:

Q.5a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to [READ, ROTATE IN SAME ORDER AS Q.5]?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1323]:

		Mar	Late
		<u>2008</u>	<u>2008</u>
44	McCain	43	43
50	Obama	49	50
<u>6</u>	Other/Don't know (VOL.)	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100

ASK OF DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANING RVs [(PARTY=2 OR PARTYLN=2) AND REGICERT=1] ONLY:

Thinking about the Democratic nomination...

Q.6 Which Democratic candidate would be your first choice for president? (READ AND ROTATE) [IF "Don't know" PROBE ONCE WITH: "Just as of today, would you say you LEAN toward...(READ). IF STILL DK, ENTER.]

BASED ON DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS [N=651]:

		Late		Early		WITHOUT GORE						WITH GORE			
		Mar 2008	Feb 2008	Feb 2008	Jan 2008	Dec 2007	Nov 2007	Oct 2007	Sept 2007	July 2007^	Apr 2007^	Mar 2007^	July 2007	April 2007	Mar 2007
47	Barack Obama	49	49	38	31	26	23	24	25	24	27	28	21	24	26
45	Hillary Clinton	39	40	46	46	46	45	45	42	44	39	39	40	34	35
n/a	John Edwards	n/a	n/a	n/a	13	14	12	12	14	13	21	19	18	16	*
n/a	Dennis Kucinich	n/a	n/a	n/a	4	3	1	4	2	3	1	*	2	1	*
n/a	Bill Richardson	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	1	1
n/a	Joe Biden	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	3	2	2	3	1	2	2	1	1
n/a	Chris Dodd	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	*	1	1	1	1	*	*	1	*	*
n/a	Mike Gravel	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
n/a	Al Gore^	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	--	--	--	12	14	12
*	Other (VOL.)	0	0	1	*	*	2	*	1	1	*	*	1	*	0
2	None of them (VOL.)	1	2	1	1	2	1	3	2	3	5	4	2	5	3
6	Don't know (VOL.)	9	8	12	4	3	9	7	8	6	3	5	6	2	5
*	Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

^March-July trends recalculated by substituting in Al Gore supporters' second choice.

**QUESTIONS 7-20 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED
QUESTION 21 RELEASED SEPARATELY
QUESTIONS 22-23, 25 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED
NO QUESTIONS 24, 26**

On another subject...

ASK ALL:

Q.27 Would you favor or oppose a law that banned the sale of handguns?

		April 2007	March 2000	Sept 1999	May 1999	Dec 1993
36	Favor	37	47	46	44	45
59	Oppose	55	47	50	50	51
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

ASK ALL:

Q.28 What do you think is more important – to protect the right of Americans to own guns, OR to control gun ownership?

	<u>Nov</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>April</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>Feb</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>June</u> <u>2003</u>	<u>May</u> <u>2000</u>	<u>April</u> <u>2000</u>	<u>March</u> <u>2000</u>	<u>June</u> <u>1999</u>	<u>May</u> <u>1999</u>	<u>Dec</u> <u>1993</u>
Protect rights of Americans										
37 to own guns	42	32	37	42	38	37	29	33	30	34
58 Control gun ownership	55	60	58	54	57	55	66	62	65	57
<u>5</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

QUESTIONS 29-47 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED