

# DIAGEO | The Hotline

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New York, NY – The Diageo/*Hotline* Daily Tracker Poll finds little change in the race for the Presidency, with McCain-Palin at 46%, Obama-Biden at 44% and 8% of voters undecided. Today's results are virtually unchanged from yesterday's Poll (McCain-Palin: 45%; Obama-Biden: 45%).

*Presidential General Election, McCain-Palin vs. Obama-Biden, September 8 to 10, 2008*

McCain-Palin	Obama-Biden	Undecided
46%	44%	8%

*Favorability Ratings for Presidential Candidates and their Running Mates, September 8 to 10, 2008*

	McCain	Obama	Palin	Biden
Favorable	57%	53%	50%	45%
Unfavorable	37%	39%	30%	31%

*Ratings for the Candidates on Issues, September 8 to 10, 2008  
Who Would Do a Better Job?*

Healthcare		The Economy		National Security		Energy Policies	
McCain	Obama	McCain	Obama	McCain	Obama	McCain	Obama
36%	45%	44%	43%	58%	33%	43%	44%

As seen across previous Diageo/*Hotline* Tracker Polls, a huge plurality of voters continue to say that the top issue facing the country is the economy (40%), while the war in Iraq (8%) and terrorism (5%) are much lower on the scale of top issues facing the country.

Today's Poll finds that McCain continues to perform better than Obama on his perceived ability to handle national security, with a 25-point margin between the two candidates. And, among Independents, the vast majority (66%) say that McCain would do the best job on national security.

However, the Poll also finds that, among voters who are unhappy with the status quo in the country, the dominant position on national security is up for grabs. Among voters who say the country is off on the "wrong track," McCain's advantage is less strong: 47% of these voters say McCain would do the best job on national security, while 43% say Obama would.

To schedule an interview with Ed Reilly, contact Smriti Sateesh at (212) 850-5749 or [Smriti.Sateesh@fd.com](mailto:Smriti.Sateesh@fd.com).

**Methodology:** The Diageo/*Hotline* Daily Tracker Poll, conducted by FD, is a new daily tracking poll that is being conducted from September 2, 2008 until Election Day, November 4, 2008. The Poll is being conducted via telephone among a random, nationally representative sample of registered voters, age 18 and older. FD is reporting daily tracking numbers based on no fewer than 900 registered voters nationwide each day up to Election Day. Results will be released daily, Monday through Friday. Today's results are based on combined data from Sept 8 to Sept 10, 2008, with n=918 registered voters (margin of error +/- 3.2%).

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