## SNAPSHOT

## WILL THEY COME?

In the 2000 and 2004 elections, the word in advance of election day was that "young people" were going to come out in record numbers.

The total number of voters grew between the two elections from 104,000,000 to $122,000,000$. However, the percentage of those between the ages of $18-29$, as a percentage of the total electorate, did not grow. There was, however, growth in the percentage of the vote that was provided by those 45 years of age and older.

Furthermore, the percentage of those 18-19 years of age who voted in 2000 and $2004(17 \%)$ was substantially less than their percentage of the adult population ( $22 \%$ ), while those 30 years of age and older contributed to the electorate in numbers greater than their share of the adult population.

Whether or not they come out in increased numbers could be particularly important to the Obama campaign.

In the August 2008 NBC/WSJ survey Obama led McCain by $60 \%-34 \%$ among 18-29 year olds. In 2004, John Kerry captured this age group by $54 \%$ $45 \%$, and in 2000 George Bush and Al Gore, split the vote, $48 \%-40 \%$.

The participation of African Americans in 2000 (10\%) and 2004 (11\%), was closer to their share of the adult population (12\%) than among those in the 18-29 year age range. However, given that African Americans are supporting Obama $88 \%-4 \%$ (NBC/WSJ) as compared to $88 \%-11 \%$ in 2004 and $90 \%$ to $11 \%$ in 2000, it is another potentially rich target for the Obama campaign.

## SEE TABLE 1

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$$

## ARE THEY INTERESTED IN THE ELECTION?

In August, 18-29 year olds were less interested in the election (51\%) (9 or 10, on scale of 10) than they were in August 2004 (58\%). However, by September interest had grown to $64 \%$, slightly ahead of where it was in 2004.

Among African Americans, $93 \%$ showed a high interest in the current election, as compared to $80 \%$ who expressed that view in 2004.

## LOOKING AT THE LAST 4 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AND THE STATUS OF THE STATES TODAY

Looking at the last 4 Presidential elections, here is a summary of the results in terms of Democrat vs Republican.

There are 135 electoral votes in the States won by the Republicans in each of the last 4 elections.

- Virginia in play

There are 64 electoral votes in States won by the Republicans in each of the last 3 elections.

- Colorado, Florida in play

There are 75 electoral votes in States won twice by the Democrats and twice by Republicans in the last 4 elections.

- Nevada, Ohio in play

There are 16 electoral votes in the States won by Democrats 3 of the last 4 elections.

- New Hampshire, New Mexico in play

There are 248 electoral votes in the States won by Democrats in each of the last 4 elections.

- Minnesota, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Michigan in play

SEE TABLE 3

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## THE POTENTIAL

There is considerable potential in the States that are in play to increase the size and composition of the electorate.

As an example, consider the state of Ohio. There are:

- 2,057,000 unregistered persons of adult age
- 354,000 unregistered 18-24 year olds
- $\quad 607,000$ students on university/college campuses
- 270,000 unregistered African Americans

A second example, Michigan:

- $1,499,000$ unregistered persons of adult age
- 283,000 unregistered 18-24 year olds
- $\quad 621,000$ students on university/college campuses
- 270,000 unregistered African Americans


## SEE TABLE 4

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$$

A big part of the battle to increase the size and composition of the electorate will be over by October 7th. That is the date by which 10 of the 13 States will close the voter registration rolls for this election. In 2 of the States, the rolls close on October 15, and in the 13th, on October 25.

SEE TABLE 5

*     *         *             *                 * 


## WILL THEY COME?

Scattered announcements as to the size of increases in the electorate suggest that voter registration is growing in many of the target States.

Washington Watch bets that young people of both primary political faiths will come out in record numbers, with Democrats having an advantage. WW also bets that African Americans will also turn out in record numbers.

*     *         *             *                 * 


## THE MATCH RACE

The advantage in national polls that McCain has enjoyed since the Republican convention appears to have come to an end. In national surveys (not including tracking surveys) taken among likely voters from 9/11-16 Obama has a lead of about 4 points.

## SATISFACTION WITH AMERICA'S GOVERNANCE IS IN THE TANK

Satisfaction with American's governance is now at $26 \%$, down from $59 \%$ in early 2002. The last time satisfaction was this low was in mid-1972. This number is likely driven by the President's job approval rating of $31 \%$, and the $18 \%$ job approval rating of the Congress. [Gallup 9/8-11/08]

*     *         *             *                 * 


## WHO WON THE BATTLE OF THE "MENTIONS"?

The Dow Jones Insight-2008 Presidential Election Media Pulse reflects mentions of the candidates in both mainstream and social media sources. Sources include more than 6,000 newspapers, wires, magazines, radio, and TV transcripts, and more than 13,000 current-awareness news Web sites. Social media sources include 2 million of the most influential blogs and more than 60,000 message boards.

Mentions August 24-29
Mentions August 31-September 5
Mentions 8/24-29 and 8/31-9/5
$\frac{\text { Obama }}{54,624} \quad \frac{\text { McCain }}{36,771}$
34,802 45,448
89,426 82,219

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VOTING PERCENTAGE BY AGE GROUPS AND RACE

TABLE 1

|  |  | 18-29 | 30-44 | 45-59 | 60 + | Total | AA | Latino |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Estimated Population 2007 |  | 49,880,501 | 62,274,649 | 62,048,251 | 52,363,282 | 226,566,683 | 27,373,042 | 30,084,842 |
| Estimated Population 2007 |  | 22\% | 25.50\% | 27.40\% | 23\% |  | 12\% | 13.30\% |
| Exit Polls 2000 |  | 17\% | 33\% | 28\% | 22\% |  | 10\% | 7\% |
| Exit Polls 2004 |  | 17\% | 29\% | 30\% | 24\% |  | 11\% | 8\% |
| WSJ/NBC Survey 8/21/08 | Obama | 60\% | 45\% | 44\% | 39\% | 45\% | 88\% | 59\% |
|  | McCain | 34\% | 43\% | 40\% | 45\% | 42\% | 4\% | 32\% |
| 2004 Exit Poll | Kerry | 54\% | 46\% | 48\% | 46\% | 48\% | 88\% | 53\% |
|  | Bush | 45\% | 53\% | 51\% | 54\% | 51\% | 11\% | 44\% |
| 2000 Exit Poll | Gore | 48\% | 48\% | 48\% | 51\% | 48\% | 90\% | 62\% |
|  | Bush | 46\% | 49\% | 49\% | 47\% | 48\% | 9\% | 35\% |

High Interest in the Election
(9 and 10 on a 10 pt . scale)
TABLE 2 NBC/WSJ

|  | Aug-08 | Aug-04 | Sep-08 | Sep-04 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | $73 \%$ | $73 \%$ | $79 \%$ | $78 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{1 8 - 2 9}$ | $51 \%$ | $58 \%$ | $64 \%$ | $61 \%$ |
| $30-44$ | $72 \%$ | $67 \%$ | $79 \%$ | $74 \%$ |
| $45-59$ | $79 \%$ | $79 \%$ | $84 \%$ | $82 \%$ |
| $60+$ | $81 \%$ | $83 \%$ | $83 \%$ | $84 \%$ |
| African American | $86 \%$ | n/a | $93 \%$ | $80 \%$ |

Real Clear Politics
NP = No Current Polling
M = McCain
TABLE 3
$0=0 \mathrm{bama}$

| State | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Electoral } \\ & \text { Vote } \end{aligned}$ | 1992 | 1996 | 2000 | 2004 | Recap | Total | 9/10/08 | 9/16/08 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Idaho | 4 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | NP - Solid M | NP - Solid M |
| North Dakota | 3 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | NP - Lean M | NP - Lean M |
| South Dakota | 3 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | NP - Solid M | NP - Solid M |
| Wyoming | 3 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | NP - Solid M | NP - Solid M |
| Utah | 5 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | NP - Solid M | NP - Solid M |
| Alaska | 3 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | NP - Solid M | NP - Solid M |
| Nebraska | 5 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | NP - Solid M | NP - Solid M |
| Kansas | 6 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | M + 16 | M + 16 |
| Oklahoma | 7 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | NP - Solid M | NP - Solid M |
| Indiana | 11 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | M + 4.7 | M + 4.7 |
| Texas | 34 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | M + 10.8 | $\mathrm{M}+10.8$ |
| Virginia | 13 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | M + 0.7 | TIE |
| North Carolina | 15 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | M+7.6 | $M+11.7$ |
| Alabama | 9 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | M + 21.6 | M + 24.0 |
| South Carolina | 8 | R | R | R | R | 4R |  | NP - Solid M | NP - Solid M |
| Mississippi | 6 | R | R | R | R | 4R | 135 | M + 11.7 | M + 14.7 |
| Montana | 3 | D | R | R | R | 3R |  | $\mathrm{M}+9.0$ | $\mathrm{M}+9.0$ |
| Arizona | 10 | R | D | R | R | 3R |  | M + 11.7 | M + 11.7 |
| Colorado | 9 | D | R | R | R | 3R |  | O+1.0 | O+0.6 |
| Florida | 27 | R | D | R | R | 3R |  | M + 3.0 | $\mathrm{M}+6.3$ |
| Georgia | 15 | D | R | R | R | 3R | 64 | M+6.3 | M + 13.4 |
| West Virginia | 5 | D | D | R | R | 2D/R |  | NP - Solid M | NP - Solid M |
| Nevada | 5 | D | D | R | R | 2D/R |  | M + 1.0 | $\mathrm{M}+1.0$ |
| Kentucky | 8 | D | D | R | R | 2D/R |  | M + 16.0 | $M+16.0$ |
| Missouri | 11 | D | D | R | R | 2D/R |  | M + 7.0 | $\mathrm{M}+6.6$ |
| Ohio | 20 | D | D | R | R | 2D/R |  | M+1.3 | $\mathrm{M}+2.4$ |
| Arkansas | 6 | D | D | R | R | 2D/R |  | M + 16.3 | M + 16.3 |
| Tennessee | 11 | D | D | R | R | 2D/R |  | $\frac{M+18.7}{M}$ | M + 18.7 |
| Louisiana | 9 | D | D | R | R | 2D/R | 75 | M + 16.3 | M + 16.3 |
| New Hampshire | 4 | D | D | R | D | 3D |  | O+0.3 | $0+3.3$ |
| New Mexico | 5 | D | D | D | R | 3D |  | $0+4.3$ | $0+2.3$ |
| lowa | 7 | D | D | D | R | 3D | 16 | $0+9.0$ | $0+9.7$ |
| Maine | 4 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | 0 + 15.0 | 0 + 14.8 |
| Vermont | 3 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | NP - Solid O | NP - Solid O |
| Oregon | 7 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | O+7.0 | O + 6.7 |
| Hawaii | 4 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | NP - Solid O | NP - Solid O |
| Washington | 11 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | O+9.7 | O + 4.7 |
| Minnesota | 10 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | O+7.0 | O + 1.0* |
| Rhode Island | 4 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | NP - Solid O | NP - Solid O |
| Massachusetts | 12 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | 0+12.6 | 0 + 12.6 |
| Wisconsin | 10 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | 0+5.3 | 0 + 5.3 |
| California | 55 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | 0+15.3 | $0+15.3$ |
| Connecticut | 7 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | 0+18.6 | $0+18.6$ |
| Pennsylvania | 21 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | O+4.7 | $0+1.6$ |
| New Jersey | 15 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | 0+8.7 | $0+5.8$ |
| Michigan | 17 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | $0+2.8$ | $0+2.0$ |
| Illinois | 21 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | 0+21.7 | $0+21.7$ |
| New York | 31 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | 0+16.0 | 0 + 15.0 |
| Delaware | 3 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | NP - Solid O | NP - Solid O |
| Maryland | 10 | D | D | D | D | 4D |  | NP - Solid O | NP - Solid O |
| District of Columbia | 3 | D | D | D | D | 4D | 248 | NP - Solid O | NP - Solid O |

TABLE 4

|  | Total Unregistered |  | 18-24 Unregistered |  | AA Unregistered |  | Latinos Unregistered |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| State | Unreg. | \% Unreg. | Unreg 18-24 yrs. | $\begin{aligned} & \% \text { Unreg } \\ & 18-24 \end{aligned}$ | Unreg AA | $\begin{aligned} & \text { \% Unreg } \\ & \text { AA } \end{aligned}$ | Unreg <br> Latinos | \% Unreg <br> Latinos |
| Virginia | 1,125,302 | 27\% | 203058 | 39\% | 1,086,477 | 40\% | 69,763 | 42\% |
| Colorado | 595,332 | 21\% | 120666 | 34\% | 57,204 | 41\% | 181,653 | 43\% |
| Florida | 1,497,057 | 15\% | 235917 | 25\% | 590,801 | 35\% | 629,702 | 36\% |
| Nevada | 389,071 | 31\% | 63826 | 48\% | 59,668 | 44\% | 99,391 | 45\% |
| Ohio | 2,057,667 | 28\% | 354078 | 37\% | 269,759 | 28\% | 27,652 | 23\% |
| New Hampshire | 237,509 | 24\% | 40267 | 33\% | 3,475 | 33\% | 8,308 | 44\% |
| New Mexico | 153,031 | 22\% | 35201 | 44\% | 11,947 | 32\% | 195,852 | 35\% |
| Minnesota | 505,738 | 14\% | 125274 | 26\% | 33,616 | 22\% | 25,359 | 27\% |
| Wisconsin | 640,752 | 17\% | 135051 | 26\% | 200,729 | 26\% | 24,462 | 27\% |
| Pennsylvania | 2,194,018 | 27\% | 426837 | 42\% | 927,684 | 36\% | 124,130 | 47\% |
| Michigan | 1,499,961 | 24\% | 282753 | 35\% | 269,567 | 27\% | 97,502 | 49\% |

Total Stud

| Total <br> Students |
| ---: |
| 445896 |
| 308646 |
| 869148 |
| 111275 |
| 606656 |
| 69927 |
| 130819 |
| 367784 |
| 335635 |
| 687149 |
| 620672 |

Targeted States
Voter Registration and Early Voting
TABLE 5

| State | Registration Closing Date | Mailed Ballot Due | Early Vote Opens | Early Vote Closes |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Colorado | 6-Oct | 4-Nov | 20-Oct | 31-Oct |
| Florida | 6-Oct | 4-Nov | 20-Oct | 1-Nov |
| Michigan | 5-Oct | 4-Nov | n/a | n/a |
| Minnesota | 15-Oct | 4-Nov | 6-Oct | 4-Nov |
| Nevada | 4-Oct | 4-Nov | 18-Oct | 31-Oct |
| New Hampshire | 25-Oct | 4-Nov | n/a | n/a |
| New Mexico | 7-Oct | 4-Nov | 18-Oct | 31-Oct |
| Ohio | 5-Oct | 4-Nov | 30-Sep | 3-Nov |
| Pennsylvania | 5-Oct | 31-Oct | n/a | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |
| Virginia | 6-Oct | 4-Nov | 22-Sep | 1-Nov |
| Wisconsin | 15-Oct | 4-Nov | 6-Oct | 15-Oct |

