

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
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MCCAIN *COULD* ADD A LOT TO THE GOP TICKET

While it is too early to say how John McCain's endorsement of George W. Bush will affect the presidential race, it is clear that a Bush-McCain *ticket* tests very strongly. Bush is currently in a statistical dead-heat with Al Gore (leading among registered voters 46%-45%). But with McCain as the vice-presidential nominee, the GOP ticket beats a hypothetical Gore-Bill Bradley pairing by nearly ten points (49%-39%), according to two separate Pew Research Center surveys conducted April 27-May 7, and May 2-May 6, 2000. Full results will be made available Thursday, May 11.

McCain has repeatedly said he would not accept the vice-presidential nod (and reiterated that in Pittsburgh today), but a Bush-McCain ticket would give Republicans a leg up with several key demographic groups. With McCain on board, women, senior citizens and those on the West coast shift their allegiances. While they prefer Gore in a head-to-head match-up, they opt for Bush when McCain is part of the package. The shift among seniors is especially striking: they choose Gore over Bush (49%-40%), but opt for Bush/McCain over Gore/Bradley 48%-37%.

Independents break narrowly for Bush under either scenario. 3However, Gore loses some Democrats with McCain on the GOP ticket: 79% of Democrats remain loyal to the vice president, vs. 90% of Republicans who would vote for Bush and McCain.

GORE-BRADLEY vs. BUSH-McCAIN TRIAL HEAT*

(Based on Registered Voters)

	<u>Gore</u>	<u>Bush</u>	<u>Undec.</u>	<u>Gore/ Bradley</u>	<u>Bush/ McCain</u>	<u>Undec.</u>	<u>Difference For Gore</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total	45	46	9=100	39	49	12=100	-6
Sex							
Male	43	50	7	36	52	12	-7
Female	48	43	9	42	46	12	-6
Race							
White	41	51	8	35	54	11	-6
Non-white	69	23	8	69	15	16	0
Black	76	16	8	75	13	12	-1
Race and Sex							
White Men	39	54	7	33	57	10	-6
White Women	43	47	10	36	51	13	-7
Age							
Under 30	48	48	4	46	47	7	-2
30-49	45	47	8	39	49	12	-6
50-64	40	51	9	40	49	11	0
65+	49	40	11	37	48	15	-12
Sex and Age							
Men under 50	43	50	7	36	51	13	-7
Women under 50	44	8	45	46	9	-3	
Men 50+	41	51	8	36	54	10	-5
Women 50+	47	41	12	40	44	16	-7
Education							
College Grad.	46	48	6	41	50	9	-5
Some College	42	48	10	38	52	10	-4
H.S. Grad & Less	46	45	9	40	45	15	-6

* Includes leaners.

Question: Suppose the 2000 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Al Gore, the Democrat and George W. Bush, the Republican. Who would you vote for?
As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to Gore, the Democrat or Bush, the Republican?

Suppose the 2000 presidential election were being held today and the *Democratic ticket* was Al Gore for President and Bill Bradley for Vice President, and the *Republican ticket* was George W. Bush for president and John McCain for Vice President. Who would you vote for?
As of today, do you lean more to the Democratic ticket of Gore and Bradley, or the Republican ticket of Bush and McCain?

Continued ...

	<u>Gore</u>	<u>Bush</u>	<u>Undec.</u>	<u>Gore/</u>	<u>Bush/</u>		<u>Difference</u>
	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Bradley</u>	<u>McCain</u>	<u>Undec.</u>	<u>For Gore</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
<i>Total</i>	45	46	9=100	39	49	12=100	-6
<i>Family Income</i>							
\$50,000+	43	50	7	35	59	6	-8
\$30,000-\$49,999	45	48	7	41	50	9	-4
\$20,000-\$29,999	53	41	6	56	36	8	+3
<\$20,000	50	42	8	47	40	13	-3
<i>Region</i>							
East	51	37	12	44	44	12	-7
Midwest	47	44	9	36	48	16	-11
South	39	54	7	40	51	9	+1
West	49	45	6	38	49	13	-11
<i>Party ID</i>							
Republican	7	87	6	8	90	2	+1
Democrat	86	10	4	79	16	5	-7
Independent	41	46	13	38	43	19	-3
<i>Labor Union</i>							
Union Household	55	37	8	45	45	10	-10
Non-Union Household	43	49	8	39	49	12	-4

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
MAY 2000 POLITICAL SURVEY
—FINAL TOPLINE—
May 2-6, 2000
N=940 Registered Voters
± 4 percentage points

Q.4 Suppose the 2000 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Al Gore, the Democrat and George W. Bush, the Republican. Who would you vote for?

IF '3' OTHER OR '9' DON'T KNOW/REFUSED in Q.4, ASK:

Q.4a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to Gore, the Democrat or Bush, the Republican?

		March	Feb	Dec	Oct	Sept	July	March	Jan	Early
		2000	2000	1999	1999 ¹	1999	1999	1999 ²	1999	Sept
45	Gore/Lean Gore	49	45	40	39	39	42	41	44	40
46	Bush/Lean Bush	43	46	55	54	54	53	54	50	53
<u>9</u>	Undecided/Other/Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
FAVORABILITY, CHINA AND TRADE
—FINAL TOPLINE—
April 27 - May 7, 2000
N=603 Registered Voters
± 5 percentage points

P.2 Suppose the 2000 presidential election were being held today and the Democratic ticket was Al Gore for President and Bill Bradley for Vice President, and the Republican ticket was George W. Bush for president and John McCain for Vice President. Who would you vote for?

IF '3' OTHER OR '9' DON'T KNOW/REFUSED IN P.2, ASK:

P.3 As of today, do you lean more to the Democratic ticket of Gore and Bradley, or the Republican ticket of Bush and McCain?

39	Gore/Bradley
49	Bush/McCain
2	Other (VOL.)
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

¹ October 1999 results taken from the Typology re-interview survey.

² In previous months, the question asked: "Suppose the 2000 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Al Gore, the Democrat and Texas Governor George W. Bush, the Republican..."