

## ELECTION INFORMATION 2008

[Election Day is November 4th.](#)

### National Election Information

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### Massachusetts Election Information

## [NATIONAL ELECTION INFORMATION](#)

### [ABOUT THE CANDIDATES \\*](#)

\* Candidates having Massachusetts ballot spots

#### **John McCain**

Official campaign site of the Republican nominee

#### **Barack Obama**

Official campaign site of the Democratic nominee

#### **Bob Barr**

Official campaign site of the Libertarian nominee

#### **Cynthia McKinney**

Official campaign site of the Green Party nominee

#### **Chuck Baldwin**

Official campaign site of the Constitution Party nominee

#### **Ralph Nader**

Running as an Independent candidate

For a complete list of third party candidates, see: [Politics1.com/p2008.htm](http://Politics1.com/p2008.htm)

For neutral, factual information about each of the candidates, check out:

#### **Project Vote Smart**

"Interns and volunteers committed to one purpose: to strengthen the most essential component of democracy—access to information—even as it suffers attacks from candidates and political parties, many who are now willing to manipulate information and deceive voters."

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## [THE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS](#)

[2008 Democratic National Convention](#)

[2008 Republican National Convention](#)

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## [THE ISSUES](#)

### **Pros and Cons of Controversial Issues**

Pros and Cons of Controversial Issues: a nonpartisan, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) public charity whose mission is “Promoting education, critical thinking, and informed citizenship by presenting controversial issues in a straightforward, nonpartisan primarily pro-con format.”

### **On the Issues**

“Our mission is to provide non-partisan information for voters in the Presidential election, so that votes can be based on issues rather than on personalities and popularity. We get our information daily from newspapers, speeches, press releases, and the Internet.”

### **Public Agenda: Voter's Survival Kit**

Public Agenda is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that provides unbiased research on political issues. Their Voter’s Survival Kit “helps get you past the spin with key facts, differing points of view, and some potential tradeoffs - because every plan has both pros and cons.”

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## [THE DEBATES](#)

### **PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES**

#### **First debate**

Sept. 26 at University of Mississippi

Topic: Foreign policy and national security

Moderator: Jim Lehrer of PBS

Staging: Podiums

Format: Broken into nine 9-minute segments. The moderator will introduce a topic and allow each candidate 2 minutes to comment, then facilitate a discussion for the remaining 5 minutes.

**A transcript of this debate is available [here](#) through CNN**

#### **Second debate**

Oct. 7 at Belmont University in Nashville.

Moderator: Tom Brokaw of NBC

Staging: Town hall

Format: The moderator will call on members of the audience (and draw questions from the Internet). Each candidate will have 2 minutes to respond to each question. Following those initial answers, the moderator will invite the candidates to respond to the previous answers, for a total of 1 minute.

**A transcript of this debate is available [here](#) through CNN**

#### **Third debate**

Oct. 15 at Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y.

Topic: Domestic and economic policy

Moderator: Bob Schieffer of CBS

Staging: Seated at a table

Format: Same as first presidential debate, plus each candidate will get a 90-second closing statement.

**A transcript of this debate is available [here](#) through CNN**

### **VICE-PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE**

Oct. 2 at Washington University in St. Louis, MO.

Moderator: Gwen Ifill of PBS NewsHour

Staging: Podiums

Format: Each candidate will have 90 seconds to respond to questions, with a two-minute period for discussion between the candidates to follow.

**[Official transcript from the Commission on Presidential Debates \(PDF\)](#)**

### **The Commission on Presidential Debates**

Provides unofficial transcripts of most presidential and vice-presidential debates.

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## [FACT-CHECKING WEBSITES](#)

### **Annenberg Political Fact Check**

A project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, this site is a “nonpartisan, nonprofit, “consumer advocate” for voters that aims to reduce the level of deception and confusion in U.S.

politics.”

#### **PolitiFact.com**

“A project of the *St. Petersburg Times* and *Congressional Quarterly* to help you find the truth in the presidential campaign. Every day, reporters and researchers from the *Times* and *CQ* will analyze the candidates’ speeches, TV ads and interviews and determine whether the claims are accurate.”

#### **The Fact Checker**

Authored by *Washington Post* writer Michael Dobbs. “The purpose of this website, and an accompanying column in the Post, is to ‘truth squad’ the national political debate in the period leading up to the 2008 presidential election [and] shed as much light as possible on controversial claims and counter-claims involving important national issues, such as the war in Iraq, immigration, health care, social issues, the economy, and the records of the various presidential candidates.”

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#### **[NEWS](#)**

**[CNN Election Center](#)**

**[NPR \(National Public Radio\)](#)**

**[The New York Times](#)**

**[The Washington Post](#)**

**[Fox News](#)**

**[MSNBC](#)**

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#### **[POLLS](#)**

**[USA Today’s Poll-Tracker](#)**

See how candidates are faring in head-to-head polls from across the nation.

**[Rasmussen Reports](#)**

**[Gallup](#)**

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### **[MASSACHUSETTS ELECTION INFORMATION](#)**

**[Massachusetts Elections Division](#)**

Includes voter information (such as your voting location), registration forms, and the 2008 Massachusetts ballot questions.

**[U.S. Congress Candidates for Massachusetts](#)**

**[Candidates for Massachusetts State Senate](#)**

**[Candidates for State House of Massachusetts](#)**

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