



## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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### **2008 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL ACTIVITY SUMMARIZED: RECEIPTS NEARLY DOUBLE 2004 TOTAL**

WASHINGTON — Financial activity of 2008 presidential candidates and national party convention committees increased 80% in receipts over the 2004 presidential election, totaling more than \$1.8 billion. The Republican presidential nominee, Sen. John McCain (AZ), received \$84.1 million in public funds to conduct his general election campaign and raised an additional \$46.4 million for legal and accounting expenses. The Democratic presidential nominee, then-Sen. Barack Obama (IL), raised a total of \$745.7 million in private funds for his primary nomination and general election campaign. It was the first time in the history of presidential public financing that a major party nominee declined to accept public funds for the general election.

The two parties received \$16.8 million each from the treasury for their nominating conventions, while host committees raised a total of \$124.3 million in support of their activities. A table attached to this release summarizes these three categories of activity for the last four presidential campaigns.

Individuals, parties and other groups spent \$168.8 million independently advocating the election or defeat of presidential candidates during the 2008 campaign. In the three previous cycles, similar spending totaled \$192.4 million, \$14.7 million, and \$1.4 million, respectively. There is no limit on the amount that may be spent on these activities given that the spending is independent of the candidates.

In 2008, the Democratic National Committee (DNC) spent \$1.1 million on independent expenditures, while the Republican National Committee (RNC) spent \$53.5 million. The national parties also spent a combined \$25.3 million in

coordination with the 2008 presidential campaigns during the general election period. Each party was permitted to spend up to \$19.15 million on this activity. In the three previous elections, parties spent \$32.1 million, \$27.2 million, and \$18.7 million, respectively, on coordinated expenditures.

Membership organizations reported spending \$18.1 million in communications to their members advocating the election or defeat of a presidential candidate—an almost \$6 million increase over what they reported during the 2004 presidential election.

In 2008, groups reported spending \$27.8 million on electioneering communications that referenced a political candidate—a decrease of \$13 million from the 2004 election. An electioneering communication is a broadcast, cable or satellite communication that refers to a clearly identified federal candidate and is distributed prior to an election. Additional tables attached to this release provide details about the sources of receipts for presidential pre-nomination campaigns and information about how the money was spent.

This was only the second cycle in which both major party nominees declined public matching funds during the primaries. The \$21.7 million paid in those funds to other primary candidates was the lowest since the first presidential election conducted under the public funding program in 1976. The Obama campaign's total receipts of \$745.7 million for the 2008 election are equivalent to more than half of the \$1.49 billion provided in public funds to all presidential candidates, parties, and conventions since the inception of the public funding program.

President Obama's campaign transferred more than \$41 million to Democratic Party committees at both the national and state levels, with \$8.5 million going to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. The committee ended 2008 with \$18.3 million in cash on hand and \$1.9 in outstanding debt. Sen. McCain's presidential primary campaign transferred more than \$18.6 million to state and local party committees.

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*The Federal Election Commission (FEC) is an independent regulatory agency that administers and enforces federal campaign finance laws. The FEC has jurisdiction over the financing of campaigns for the U.S. House, the U.S. Senate, the U.S. Presidency and the U.S. Vice Presidency. Established in 1975, the FEC is composed of six Commissioners who are nominated by the President and confirmed by the U.S. Senate.*

**Presidential Campaign Receipts**  
(in millions of dollars)

	2008	2004	2000	1996	
<b>Primary Campaigns</b>					
McCain	\$219.6	Bush Kerry	\$269.6 \$234.6	Bush Gore	\$95.5 \$48.1
All Others	\$580.7	All Others	\$169.7	All Others	\$208.0
<b>General Election Campaigns</b>					
Major Party Grant**	\$84.1	Major Party Grants	\$149.2	Major Party Grants	\$135.2
McCain Legal/Accounting	\$46.4	Bush Legal/Accounting	\$12.2	Bush Legal/Accounting	\$9.0
** Only McCain accepted the Grant		Kerry Legal/Accounting	\$8.9	Gore Legal/Accounting	\$11.5
Obama (Primary and General)	\$745.7			Reform Grant	\$12.6
Perot Grant					\$29.0
<b>Conventions</b>					
Major Party Grants	\$33.6	Major Party Grants	\$29.8	Major Party Grants	\$27.0
Denver Host (Dem)	\$61.9	Boston Host (Dem)	\$56.8	Los Angeles Host (Dem)	\$29.3
Minneapolis Host (Rep)	\$62.4	NY Host (Rep)	\$85.7	Philadelphia Host (Rep)	\$70.8
				Reform Grant	\$2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,834.4</b>		<b>\$1,016.5</b>		<b>\$649.5</b>
Independent Expenditures For	\$68.1		\$85.7		\$12.7
Independent Expenditures Against	\$100.7		\$106.7		\$2.0
Communication Costs For	\$16.0		\$11.9		\$10.9
Communication Costs Against	\$2.1		\$0.4		\$0.6
Electioneering Communications	\$27.8		\$40.8		\$42.5
				Dole	\$44.9
				All Others	\$160.9
				Clinton Legal/Accounting	\$4.2
				Dole Legal/Accounting	\$3.5
				San Diego Host (Rep)	\$24.2
				Chicago Host (Dem)	\$20.4
					\$477.9

**Presidential Pre-Nomination Campaign Receipts Through December 31, 2008**

	Federal Matching Funds	Contributions From Individuals Minus Refunds	Contributions from Cmte's Minus Refunds	Contributions and Loans from the Candidate Minus	Other Loans Minus Repayments	Transfers from Other Authorized Committees	Other Receipts	Total
<b>Democrats</b>								
<b>Biden</b>	\$2,027,072	\$7,767,364	\$210,745	\$0	\$0	\$1,900,000	\$12,624	\$11,917,805
<b>Clinton</b>	\$0	\$196,842,746	\$1,439,279	\$13,175,000	\$0	\$10,029,145	\$2,373,055	\$223,859,225
<b>Dodd*</b>	\$1,447,568	\$8,889,713	\$750,698	\$0	-\$144,757	\$4,739,005	\$55,535	\$15,737,763
<b>Edwards</b>	\$12,882,864	\$35,126,205	\$0	\$0	\$1,409,203	\$0	\$161,739	\$48,158,668
<b>Gravel**</b>	\$100,000	\$448,053	\$502	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$551,555
<b>Kucinich</b>	\$1,070,521	\$4,375,584	\$14,200	\$10,347	\$0	\$0	\$9,209	\$5,479,860
<b>Obama***</b>	\$0	\$657,117,793	\$480	\$0	\$0	\$86,950,000	\$1,668,000	\$745,736,273
<b>Richardson</b>	\$0	\$22,053,014	\$278,829	\$2,300	\$0	\$0	\$65,608	\$22,399,751
<b>Republicans</b>								
<b>Brownback</b>	\$0	\$3,530,942	\$49,435	\$25	\$0	\$575,000	\$87,069	\$4,242,471
<b>Gilmore</b>	\$0	\$349,736	\$8,000	\$0	\$30,404	\$0	\$4	\$388,145
<b>Giuliani</b>	\$0	\$55,008,874	\$397,259	\$800,000	\$0	\$2,038,269	\$412,489	\$58,656,891
<b>Huckabee</b>	\$0	\$15,991,901	\$54,423	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,663	\$16,059,987
<b>Hunter</b>	\$453,527	\$2,343,898	\$41,273	\$0	\$0	\$36,000	\$0	\$2,874,699
<b>McCain</b>	\$0	\$190,411,677	\$1,301,134	\$0	\$0	\$22,825,545	\$5,052,695	\$219,591,051
<b>Paul</b>	\$0	\$34,336,199	\$18,302	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$180,402	\$34,534,903
<b>Romney</b>	\$0	\$59,786,640	\$350,802	\$44,663,736	\$0	\$20,160	\$335,214	\$105,156,552
<b>Tancredo**</b>	\$2,145,126	\$3,979,701	\$6,525	\$125	-\$49,420	\$100,000	\$36,168	\$6,218,225
<b>T. Thompson</b>	\$0	\$967,322	\$10,174	\$234,760	\$0	\$0	\$998	\$1,213,254
<b>F. Thompson</b>	\$0	\$23,202,419	\$176,555	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$69,506	\$23,448,481
<b>Other</b>								
<b>Nader</b>	\$881,494	\$3,102,020	\$0	\$45,236	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,028,750
<b>Total Democrats</b>	\$17,528,025	\$932,620,472	\$2,694,733	\$13,190,647	\$1,264,446	\$103,618,150	\$4,345,769	\$1,073,840,899
<b>Total Republicans</b>	\$2,598,653	\$389,909,310	\$2,413,883	\$45,698,646	-\$19,016	\$25,594,974	\$6,188,208	\$472,384,657
<b>Grand Total</b>	\$21,008,172	\$1,325,631,802	\$5,108,616	\$58,934,529	\$1,245,430	\$129,213,124	\$10,533,977	\$1,550,254,306

\*Dodd received \$1,961,742 in matching funds; however his committee reported the receipt of \$1,447,568.

\*\*Gravel and Tancredo received an additional \$115,966 and \$83,775 in matching funds, respectively, in early 2009.

\*\*\*Obama activity includes both Primary and General election funds because he used a single committee for both elections.

**Presidential Pre-Nomination Campaign Disbursements December 31, 2008**

	<b>Operating Expenditures Minus Offsets</b>	<b>Fundraising Disbursements Minus Offsets</b>	<b>Legal/Accounting Disbursements Minus Offsets</b>	<b>Other Disbursements</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Expenditures Subject to Limit</b>	<b>Latest Cash on Hand</b>	<b>Debts Owed by Campaign</b>	<b>Debts Owed to Campaign</b>
<b>Democrats</b>									
<b>Biden</b>	\$11,267,792	\$0	\$0	\$11,500	\$11,279,292	\$0	\$29,826	\$0	\$0
<b>Clinton</b>	\$215,749,845	\$0	\$0	\$75,403	\$215,825,248	\$0	\$1,574,762	\$5,943,385	\$0
<b>Dodd</b>	\$15,143,593	-\$5,540	\$0	\$11,000	\$15,149,053	\$15,149,663	\$485,547	\$557,834	\$0
<b>Edwards</b>	\$40,073,078	\$3,746,635	\$176,298	\$268	\$43,996,279	\$0	\$4,191,640	\$3,575	\$0
<b>Gravel</b>	\$498,518	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$498,518	\$551,727	\$56,040	\$146,072	\$935
<b>Kucinich</b>	\$5,480,666	-\$1,546	\$0	\$0	\$5,479,120	\$0	\$44,074	\$0	\$0
<b>Obama*</b>	\$681,357,127	\$0	\$0	\$47,930,903	\$729,288,031	\$0	\$18,272,367	\$434,954	\$0
<b>Richardson</b>	\$22,401,549	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$22,401,549	\$0	\$3,201	\$27,086	\$0
<b>Republicans</b>									
<b>Brownback</b>	\$4,210,664	\$13	\$0	\$97	\$4,210,774	\$4,210,664	-\$451	\$0	\$0
<b>Gilmore</b>	\$371,940	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$371,940	\$371,940	\$16,455	\$0	\$0
<b>Giuliani</b>	\$58,639,809	\$0	\$0	\$3,093	\$58,642,902	\$0	\$58,847	\$3,553,761	\$619
<b>Huckabee</b>	\$16,024,753	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$16,025,153	\$16,043,517	\$50,333	\$107,378	\$52,063
<b>Hunter</b>	\$2,822,800	\$0	-\$3,752	\$2,000	\$2,821,048	\$2,821,965	\$53,651	\$10,000	\$0
<b>McCain</b>	\$170,666,587	\$6,816,641	\$1,158,124	\$23,440,900	\$202,082,251	\$0	\$1,834,696	\$223,808	\$549,215
<b>Paul</b>	\$30,455,936	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,455,936	\$0	\$578,967	\$0	\$0
<b>Romney</b>	\$105,118,214	\$0	\$0	\$2,100	\$105,120,314	\$0	\$32,588	\$250,000	\$0
<b>Tancredo</b>	\$6,048,851	\$0	\$0	\$650	\$6,049,501	\$6,156,645	\$138,482	\$0	\$0
<b>T. Thompson</b>	\$1,213,254	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,213,254	\$1,213,254	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>F. Thompson</b>	\$23,236,670	\$0	\$0	\$10,600	\$23,247,270	\$0	\$201,211	\$52,593	\$0
<b>Other</b>									
<b>Nader</b>	\$3,820,411	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,820,411	\$310,769	\$143,353	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Democrats</b>	\$991,972,169	\$3,739,549	\$176,298	\$48,029,074	\$1,043,917,090	\$15,701,390	\$24,657,459	\$7,112,906	\$935
<b>Total Republicans</b>	\$418,809,477	\$6,816,653	\$1,154,372	\$23,459,840	\$450,240,342	\$30,817,985	\$2,964,779	\$4,197,539	\$601,897
<b>Grand Total</b>	\$1,414,602,057	\$10,556,202	\$1,330,670	\$71,488,914	\$1,497,977,843	\$46,830,143	\$27,765,590	\$11,310,445	\$602,832

\*Obama financial activity includes both Primary and General funds.

## Public Funds in Presidential Campaigns

	Primary Matching Funds	Convention	General
<b>1976</b>	\$24,789,566 15	\$4,149,630 2	\$43,640,000 2
<b>1980</b>	\$31,343,128 10	\$8,832,000 2	\$63,122,304 3
<b>1984</b>	\$36,519,405 11	\$16,160,000 2	\$80,800,000 2
<b>1988</b>	\$67,547,821 15	\$18,440,000 2	\$92,200,000 2
<b>1992</b>	\$42,862,123 12	\$22,096,000 2	\$110,480,000 2
<b>1996</b>	\$58,538,356 11	\$24,728,000 2	\$152,695,400 3
<b>2000</b>	\$62,261,374 10	\$29,546,690 3	\$147,733,452 3
<b>2004</b>	\$28,375,506 8	\$29,848,000 2	\$149,240,000 2
<b>2008</b>	\$21,728,501 8	\$33,641,520 2	\$84,103,800 1

Numbers below dollar amounts are the number of candidates/parties receiving funding.  
 The third candidate receiving general election funding in 1980 was John Anderson.  
 In 1996, Ross Perot received partial general election funding as a minor party candidate.  
 In 2000, the Reform party received partial convention funding and Patrick Buchanan received partial general election funding  
 in 2008, Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama declined public funding for the general election.

## Transfers to Party Committees from Obama for America

AK	ALASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$81,402
AL	STATE DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ALABAMA	\$2,600
AR	DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ARKANSAS	\$2,500
CA	SAN DIEGO COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY (FED. ACCT.)	\$1,666
CO	COLORADO DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$1,943,511
DC	DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	\$4,000,000
	DEMOCRATIC SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	\$4,500,000
FL	DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FLORIDA	\$5,516,847
GA	GEORGIA FEDERAL ELECTIONS COMMITTEE	\$360,199
HI	DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII	\$2,500
IA	IOWA DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$697,735
	IOWA THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC CENTR	\$50
IN	INDIANA DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL VICTORY COMMITTEE	\$1,400,291
KS	KANSAS DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE	\$1,000
LA	DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF LA	\$900
MA	MASSACHUSETTS DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE - FED FUN	\$6,850
ME	MAINE DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE	\$150,247
MI	MICHIGAN DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE	\$1,947,711
MN	MINNESOTA DEMOCRATIC-FARMER-LABOR PARTY	\$1,246,683
MO	MISSOURI DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE	\$2,035,939
MT	MONTANA DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$738,277
NC	NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY - FEDERAL	\$2,273,018
ND	NORTH DAKOTA DEMOCRATIC-NONPARTISAN LEAGUE PARTY	\$69,848
NE	NEBRASKA DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE	\$50,044
NH	NEW HAMPSHIRE DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$941,472
NJ	NEW JERSEY DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE	\$85,270
NM	DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF NEW MEXICO	\$449,189
NV	DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WASHOE COUNTY	\$675
	NEVADA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$1,557,661
OH	OHIO DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$3,020,051
OR	DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF OREGON	\$171,170
PA	PENNSYLVANIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$2,032,519
SC	DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SOUTH CAROLINA	\$154,430
SD	SOUTH DAKOTA DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$50
TX	TEXAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$15,825
VA	ALEXANDRIA DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE	\$525
	DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF VIRGINIA	\$3,118,659
VT	VERMONT DEMOCRATIC PARTY	\$25,677
WA	WASHINGTON STATE DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE	\$151,254
WI	DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WISCONSIN	\$2,405,000
WV	WV STATE DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	\$71,500
WY	WY DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE	\$2,400

**Total    \$41,233,145**

## Transfers to Party Committees from John McCain 2008 Inc.

(Primary Election Committee)

CO	COLORADO REPUBLICAN FEDERAL CAMPAIGN CMTE	\$500,000
	COLORADO REPUBLICAN FEDERAL CAMPAIGN CMTE	\$600,000
FL	REPUBLICAN PARTY OF FLORIDA	\$2,000,000
MO	MISSOURI REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE	\$1,000,000
NC	NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE CMTE	\$1,000,000
	NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE CMTE	\$1,000,000
	NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE CMTE	\$925,000
NM	REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE OF NEW MEXICO	\$1,000,000
NV	NEVADA REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE	\$500,000
OH	OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY	\$1,000,000
	OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CENTRAL & EXEC CMTE	\$2,000,000
PA	REPUBLICAN FEDERAL CMTE OF PENNSYLVANIA	\$1,000,000
	REPUBLICAN FEDERAL COMMITTEE OF PENNSYLVANIA	\$600,000
VA	REPUBLICAN PARTY OF VIRGINIA	\$1,000,000
	REPUBLICAN PARTY OF VIRGINIA	\$1,000,000
WI	REPUBLICAN PARTY OF WISCONSIN	\$1,000,000
	REPUBLICAN PARTY OF WISCONSIN	\$2,500,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,625,000</b>