

Upcoming presidential primaries and caucuses

A Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg poll asked questions focusing on Democratic and Republican candidates as well as the Iraq war and other issues relevant to the 2008 elections. The results:

Democrats

Q: If the January Democratic (primary/caucus) for president were being held today, for whom would you vote?

Candidate	Iowa	New Hampshire	South Carolina
Delaware Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr.	2%	3%	3%
N.Y. Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton	28	35	45
Conn. Sen. Christopher J. Dodd	1	-	1
Former N.C. Sen. John Edwards	23	16	7
Former Alaska Sen. Mike Gravel	-	-	2
Ohio Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich	2	3	1
Illinois Sen. Barack Obama	19	16	27
New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson	10	8	1
Someone else/don't know	15	19	13

Q: How certain are you on voting for that candidate?*

	Clinton	Edwards	Obama	Clinton	Edwards	Obama	Clinton	Edwards	Obama
Certain	54%	41%	30%	51%	42%	37%	58%	54%	49%
Might vote for someone else	46	59	69	41	52	59	42	46	49
Don't know	-	-	1	8	6	4	-	-	2

Q: Regardless of your choice for president, who do you think would...?*

	Clinton	Edwards	Obama	Clinton	Edwards	Obama	Clinton	Edwards	Obama
Have new ideas	19%	11	35	17%	12	35	27%	10	34
Be more likeable	20%	31	28	20%	26	29	38%	18	27
Have the right experience	49%	15	7	47%	10	8	59%	6	9
Be best at fighting terrorism	31%	15	12	35%	9	12	39%	7	20
Be best at ending the Iraq war	33%	8	15	32%	9	15	36%	12	20
Understand people like yourself	29%	26	22	27%	18	21	42%	12	25
Have the best chance of beating the Republican candidate in Nov.	38%	23	14	45%	15	15	48%	11	18

*Among the top three candidates

Republicans

Q: If the January Republican (primary/caucus) for president were being held today, for whom would you vote?

Candidate	Iowa	New Hampshire	South Carolina
Kansas Sen. Sam Brownback	2%	2%	1%
Former N.Y. Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani	16	23	23
Former Ark. Gov. Mike Huckabee	8	6	6
California Rep. Duncan Hunter	1	-	1
Arizona Sen. John McCain	7	12	15
Texas Rep. Ron Paul	2	5	2
Former Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney	28	28	9
Colorado Rep. Tom Tancredo	3	-	1
Former Tenn. Sen. Fred Thompson	16	11	26
Don't know	17	13	16

Q: How certain are you on voting for that candidate?***

	Giuliani	McCain	Romney	Thompson	Giuliani	McCain	Romney	Thompson	Giuliani	McCain	Romney	Thompson
Certain	36%	15%	16%	38%	45%	40%	38%	41%	30%	19%	50%	46%
Might vote for someone else	64	85	82	59	41	53	54	51	70	80	47	51
Don't know	-	-	2	3	14	7	8	8	-	1	3	3

Q: Regardless of your choice for president, who do you think would...?***

	Giuliani	McCain	Romney	Thompson	Giuliani	McCain	Romney	Thompson	Giuliani	McCain	Romney	Thompson
Be the strongest leader	21%	10	23	16	31%	13	25	9	29%	16	8	18
Best handle abortion/gay rights	14%	3	20	10	25%	4	23	9	15%	10	11	17
Best fight terrorism	25%	19	8	9	34%	22	13	9	32%	26	4	13
Keep taxes low	10%	4	25	13	20%	6	29	8	14%	9	13	16
Best handle the Iraq war	21%	24	13	9	23%	30	11	8	19%	35	5	15
Have a chance to beat the Democratic candidate in Nov.	20%	6	28	17	33%	7	28	10	31%	9	12	21

***Among the top four candidates

Note: Numbers may not total 100% where some answer categories are not shown. "-" indicates a value less than 0.5%.

How the poll was conducted: The Times Poll contacted 3,713 adults in three state samples - Iowa, New Hampshire, and South Carolina. Included in Iowa were 1079 registered voters (margin of sampling error +/-3), 462 Democratic caucus voters (+/-5) and 350 Republican caucus voters (+/-5). New Hampshire: 1,312 registered (+/-3), 618 Democratic primary voters (+/-4), and 412 Republican primary voters (+/-5). South Carolina: 820 registered (+/-3), 313 Democratic primary voters (+/-5) and 430 Republican primary voters (+/-5). All interviews were conducted by telephone September 6-10. Telephone numbers were chosen randomly from a list of all exchanges in the nation, allowing listed and unlisted numbers to be contacted. Multiple attempts were made to contact each number. Adults in each state were weighted slightly to conform with their respective census proportions by sex, ethnicity, age, and education. For certain other subgroups, margins of sampling error may be somewhat higher. Poll results may also be affected by factors such as question wording and the order in which questions are presented. Telephone interviews in New Hampshire were supervised by Interviewing Services of America, Van Nuys.

Source: Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg poll. Graphics reporting by FARNAZ CALAFI