



CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
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THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION PROCESS

July 9-17, 2007

There are six months to go before the first contests of a presidential nominating process that has more states holding their events earlier than ever. Most voters are not convinced that these moves will make the system any better, and half of American voters think states like Iowa and New Hampshire have too much influence in choosing nominees for President.

51% of voters say New Hampshire and Iowa have too much influence on who wins the Democratic and Republican presidential nominations. Three in 10 think they have the right amount of influence. Hardly any think New Hampshire and Iowa do not have enough influence.

INFLUENCE OF IOWA AND NEW HAMPSHIRE ON PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES

(Among Registered Voters)

	All	Rep. Primary Voters	Dem. Primary Voters
Too much influence	51%	49%	52%
Not enough influence	5	3	8
About the right amount	31	37	30

Perhaps because they have seen more presidential races in their lifetimes, older voters are more likely than younger voters to say New Hampshire and Iowa have too much influence. More than half of voters over age 30 say those states have too much influence on the nominating process, while just 35% of voters age 18-29 agree. Opinions on this question are similar among both Republican and Democratic primary voters.

The change in the scheduling of primaries, as many states moved up their primaries and caucuses, gets mixed reviews. 18% of voters say this is better because it gives primary voters in more states a say in who gets nominated but more - 29% - think it is worse because there is less time for voters to get to know the candidates. Most voters say the move by these states will not make a difference either way. Views are similar among voters in states who have elected to move up their presidential contests.

MOVING UP OF STATE PRIMARIES AND CAUCUSES

(Among Registered Voters)

	All	Rep. Primary Voters	Dem. Primary Voters
Better	18%	19%	21%
Worse	29	29	28
No difference	51	49	48

Voters prefer a national primary day to the current system where states hold their primaries on different days, an opinion they have held for nearly 20 years. 72% think it would be better if all states held their primaries on the same day, while one in five prefer the current system.

NATIONAL PRIMARY DAY VS. CURRENT SYSTEM

(Among Registered Voters)

	Now	5/2000	3/1996	11/1988
National primary	72%	75%	71%	70%
Current system	20	20	20	22

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1554 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone July 9-17, 2007. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The error for subgroups is higher. An oversample of women was also conducted for this poll, for a total of 1068 interviews among this group, by selecting them with higher probability than men in households with both men and women. The weights of men and women in mixed-gender households were adjusted to compensate for their different probabilities of selection. The final weighted distribution of men and women in the sample is in proportion to the composition of the adult population in the U.S. Census.

CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
The Presidential Nominating Process
July 17-29, 2007

q45 Some people favor the system of presidential primary elections as it is now - where different groups of states hold their primaries on different days. Other people say it would be better if ALL states held their primaries on the SAME day. Which would you prefer - different primary days, or one single national primary day?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				
	*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May00b
	%	%	%	%	%
Different primaries	20	24	16	21	20
Single national primary day	72	67	77	71	75
DK/NA	8	9	7	8	5

q46 Thinking about the presidential nomination process, do you think voters in states like New Hampshire and Iowa have too much influence on who wins the Democratic and Republican nominations for president, not enough influence, or about the right amount of influence on who wins the Democratic and Republican nominations for president?

Too much influence	51	54	51	48
Not enough influence	5	3	7	6
About the right amount	31	32	32	30
DK/NA	13	11	10	16

q47 Many states have scheduled their presidential primaries and caucuses earlier in the year than in previous elections. Do you think this is better because this gives primary voters in more states a say in who the nominee is, or is it worse because there is less time for primary voters to get to know the candidates, or doesn't it make a difference either way?

Better	18	16	20	16
Worse	29	29	28	29
No difference	51	51	49	52
DK/NA	2	4	3	3

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>	
Total Respondents	1554		
Registered Voters	1398		
Total Republicans	474	439	(28%)
Total Democrats	560	535	(34%)
Total Independents	520	580	(38%)