



CBS NEWS POLL
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RACE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION: HILLARY CLINTON STILL IN FRONT

October 12-16, 2007

Hillary Clinton continues to be the frontrunner for the Democratic nomination for President, and many voters say they'll consider supporting her in November 2008 if she becomes the Democratic nominee.

Still, there are obstacles. Many voters think a Hillary Clinton presidency will divide the country rather than unite it. And when Al Gore is added to the list of Democratic candidates, he trails Clinton by only five points.

THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY RACE

Clinton continues to be the frontrunner in a hypothetical three-way contest against Senator Barack Obama and former Senator John Edwards. Now, 51% of Democratic primary voters choose Clinton as the nominee - the highest number since CBS News starting asking the question in the spring. 23% back Obama, while 13% support Edwards.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR THE NOMINATION

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Now	9/07	8/07
Clinton	51%	44%	45%
Obama	23	26	25
Edwards	13	17	14

A majority of Clinton supporters are solidly in her corner - 64% say they strongly favor her. 26% say they like her with reservations and another one in 10 dislike the other candidates. As for Obama backers, 47% favor him strongly, while 43% support him with reservations.

STRENGTH OF SUPPORT

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Clinton Supporters	Obama Supporters
Strongly favor	64%	47%
Like with reservations	26	43
Dislike other candidates	10	9

Moreover, if Clinton eventually becomes the Democratic nominee, more than seven in 10 Democrats say they will consider voting for her for president. Only 6% say they would not vote for her.

Among voters overall, 45% would consider supporting her, but 36% say they will definitely not vote for Clinton. Another 19% say it's too early to say. 43% of Independents would consider backing Clinton in

the general election, while three in four Republicans say they would definitely not vote for Clinton for president.

IF CLINTON WON THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION, WOULD YOU...?

(Among registered voters)

	All Voters	Rep	Dem	Ind
Definitely vote for her	24%	1%	50%	18%
Consider voting for her	21	10	27	25
Definitely not vote for her	36	74	6	29
Too early to say	19	15	17	27

Of those who say they will definitely not vote for Clinton (most of whom are Republican), more than eight in 10 say their minds are made up.

68% of Democratic primary voters say Hillary Clinton is spending more time explaining her positions; fewer than one in five say she has been attacking her opponents. As for the other Democratic candidates, 47% say they are explaining their positions, but a third says they are mostly attacking Clinton.

EXPLAINING OR ATTACKING IN THE 2008 CAMPAIGN?

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Hillary Clinton	Other Democrats
Explaining	68%	47%
Attacking	18	34

HILLARY CLINTON: STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

Clinton has been described by some as a polarizing figure. While she is running strong nationally in the Democratic contest, 46% of voters nationwide say if Clinton eventually becomes president, her presidency would divide Americans; 40% say she would bring them together.

WILL CLINTON UNITE OR DIVIDE THE COUNTRY AS PRESIDENT?

(Among registered voters)

	All Voters	Rep	Dem	Ind
Bring Americans together	40%	15%	65%	40%
Divide Americans	46	76	22	40

There are partisan differences here. Most Democrats -65% - say the New York Senator will unite the country if she becomes president, but one in five Democrats say she will divide it. 76% of Republicans think a Clinton presidency would divide Americans, while Independents are evenly divided. Also, among voters who say a Clinton presidency would divide the country, nearly seven in 10 say they would definitely not vote for her in the general election.

One reason for Clinton's large support among Democratic primary voters may be due to how those voters think she will handle the war in Iraq. 87% of Democratic primary voters want large numbers of U.S. troops

removed from Iraq within two years. Although all three of the leading Democratic presidential candidates have advocated removing most troops from Iraq by the end of their first term, more Democratic primary voters think Clinton will accomplish this (64%) than say this about either Obama (54%) or Edwards (44%).

**AS PRESIDENT, HOW WOULD THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES
HANDLE IRAQ?**

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Clinton	Obama	Edwards
Remove most troops from Iraq	64%	54%	44%
Keep most troops in Iraq	27	28	32

Among the voters that Clinton may have trouble wooing in the general election, however, are those who believe it is at least somewhat important that a candidate shares their religious beliefs - and that group comprises one out of every two voters. 46% of those voters say they will definitely not vote for her in the general election - 10 points higher than voters overall.

Even though Clinton is a practicing Methodist, three out of four registered voters do not think she has strong religious beliefs. Fewer than one in five thinks she does, a smaller number than say that about either Barack Obama or John Edwards. Even among Democratic primary voters, only one in four thinks she has strong religious beliefs.

DOES...HAVE STRONG RELIGIOUS BELIEFS?

	All		Democratic	
	Voters		Primary Voters	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Clinton	16%	74	26%	63
Obama	28%	51	32%	49
Edwards	36%	45	40%	45

But while most Democratic primary voters do not think Clinton has strong religious beliefs, 54% think she has more honesty and integrity than most people in public life. These voters feel similarly about Obama (56%) and Edwards (50%).

More generally, seven in 10 Democratic primary voters have a positive opinion of Hillary Clinton, while voters overall remain divided. 43% of registered voters have a favorable opinion of her; while 41% view her unfavorably, with only 16% yet to make up their minds. In contrast, nearly four in 10 voters have yet to make up their minds about Barack Obama and John Edwards. Of those who have, most view Obama favorably, while opinion of Edwards is split.

OPINION OF THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

(Among registered voters)

	All Voters	Democratic Primary Voters
Clinton: Favorable	43%	72%
Not favorable	41	15
Undecided/DK	16	12
Obama: Favorable	38%	56%
Not favorable	24	13
Undecided/DK	37	30
Edwards: Favorable	30%	44%
Not favorable	30	14
Undecided/DK	39	41

AL GORE AND THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

Although he has not declared his candidacy, this poll indicates that were he to enter the race, Al Gore could be a serious contender. Near the end of this questionnaire, his name was added to a short list of candidates vying for the nomination. He came in second among Democratic primary voters at 32% - just five points behind Hillary Clinton. Barack Obama trailed behind them in third place with 16% percent.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR THE NOMINATION

(Among Democratic primary voters)

Clinton	37%
Gore	32
Obama	16
Edwards	7

Gore took support from all the major candidates.

In the first horserace question, which did not explicitly offer Gore as a choice, 2% of Democratic Primary voters volunteered Gore's name.

46% of registered voters view Al Gore favorably, his highest rating since October, 2000.

OPINION OF AL GORE

(Among registered voters)

	Now	6/2007	1/2007	10/2000
Favorable	46%	34%	31%	46%
Not favorable	29	40	49	35
Undecided/DK	24	25	20	17

But even without Gore in the race, most Democratic primary voters remain satisfied when it comes to the choices available to them for their party's nomination. They remain far more satisfied than their Republican counterparts.

SATISFIED WITH YOUR PARTY'S PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDERS?

	Republican		Democratic	
	Primary Voters		Primary Voters	
	Now	8/2007	Now	8/2007
Satisfied	48%	46%	63%	67%
Want more choices	49	49	35	28

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1282 adults nationwide, including 1143 registered voters, interviewed by telephone October 12-16, 2007. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample, and the sample of registered voters, could be plus or minus three percentage points. 456 interviews were conducted with Democratic primary voters. The margin of error for this subgroup is plus or minus five percentage points.

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q1-18 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q19 Are you generally satisfied with the candidates now running for the Democratic nomination for President, or do you wish there were more choices?

	* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *	Sep07a
	%	%
Satisfied	63	67
More choices	35	28
Don't know/No answer	2	5

q20 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q21 Are you generally satisfied with the candidates now running for the Republican nomination for President, or do you wish there were more choices?

	* REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS *	Sep07a
	%	%
Satisfied	48	46
More choices	49	49
Don't know/No answer	3	5

q22-q26 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q27 Is your opinion of Hillary Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Hillary Clinton yet to have an opinion?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				Dem.	
	*** Party ID ***				Primary	
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Voters	Sep07a
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	43	11	72	43	72	36
Not favorable	41	75	12	38	15	40
Undecided	15	13	13	18	12	21
Haven't heard enough	1	1	1	1	0	2
Refused	0	0	2	0	1	1

q28 Is your opinion of John Edwards favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John Edwards yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	30	16	44	30	44	30
Not favorable	30	51	12	28	14	29
Undecided	28	20	32	32	32	29
Haven't heard enough	11	13	10	10	9	11
Refused	1	0	2	0	1	1
#Not Released						

q29 Is your opinion of Barack Obama favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Barack Obama yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	38	18	54	40	56	35
Not favorable	24	43	13	18	13	21
Undecided	26	27	22	31	21	29
Haven't heard enough	11	12	11	11	9	14
Refused	1	0	0	0	1	1

q30 Suppose the race for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in 2008 comes down to a choice among Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and John Edwards. Who would you most like to see nominated -- Clinton, Obama, Edwards, or would you rather see someone else nominated?

IF SOMEONE ELSE, ASK: Who would you like to see nominated?

	* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *	Sep07b
	%	%
Clinton	51	43
Obama	23	22
Edwards	13	16
Richardson	0	0
Dodd	0	0
Biden	0	0
Kucinich	0	1
Gravel	0	0
Gore	2	0
Someone else/None	5	6
Undecided (Vol.)	3	7
DK/NA	3	5

q31 Would you describe your support for (Candidate's Name) as strongly favoring (Candidate's Name), or do you like HIM/HER but with reservations, or do you support HIM/HER because you dislike the other candidates?

	* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *	
	Total	Clinton supporters
	%	%
Strongly favor	56	64
Like but with reservations	32	26
Dislike other candidates	11	10
Don't know/No answer	1	0

q32-33 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q34 Do you think of Hillary Clinton as having strong religious beliefs, or don't you think of Hillary Clinton that way?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				Dem.
	*** Party ID ***				Primary
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Voters
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	16	8	26	13	26
No	74	86	62	75	63
DK/NA	10	6	12	12	11

q35 Do you think of Barack Obama as having strong religious beliefs, or don't you think of Barack Obama that way?

Yes	28	26	30	28	32
No	51	50	50	52	49
DK/NA	21	24	20	20	19

q36 Do you think of John Edwards as having strong religious beliefs, or don't you think of John Edwards that way?

Yes	36	33	42	34	40
No	45	44	44	47	45
DK/NA	19	23	14	19	15

q37 If Hillary Clinton eventually becomes President, do you think her presidency would bring different groups of Americans together, or do you think it would divide them?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Bring together	40	15	65	40
Divide	46	76	22	40
DK/NA	14	9	13	20

q38 What do you think Hillary Clinton has been spending more time doing in her campaign-- explaining what she would do as president or attacking the other Democratic candidates?

* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *

	%
Explaining	68
Attacking	18
Attacking Bush (Vol.)	0
Neither (Vol.)	1
Don't know/No answer	13

q39 What do you think the Democratic Presidential candidates OTHER than Hillary Clinton have been spending more time doing --explaining what they would do as president or attacking Hillary Clinton?

Explaining	47
Attacking	34
Attacking Bush (Vol.)	1
Some are, some aren't (Vol.)	5
Neither (Vol.)	1
Don't know/No answer	12

q40 Do you think Hillary Clinton has more honesty and integrity than most people in public life?
 IF NO, ASK: Do you think Hillary Clinton has less honesty and integrity than most people in public life or about the same honesty and integrity as most people in public life?

		Jan07c
	%	%
Yes, has more	54	52
Less	6	5
Same	30	28
Don't know/No answer	10	15

q41 Do you think Barack Obama has more honesty and integrity than most people in public life?
 IF NO, ASK: Do you think Barack Obama has less honesty and integrity than most people in public life or about the same honesty and integrity as most people in public life?

Yes, has more	56	52
Less	4	1
Same	18	13
DK/NA	22	34

q42 Do you think John Edwards has more honesty and integrity than most people in public life?

IF NO, ASK: Do you think John Edwards has less honesty and integrity than most people in public life or about the same honesty and integrity as most people in public life?

* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *

	%
Yes, has more	50
Less	8
Same	23
DK/NA	19

q43 If Hillary Clinton is elected President in 2008, do you think she would remove large numbers of U.S. troops from Iraq during her first term as President, or keep large numbers of troops in Iraq during her first term as President?

Remove	64
Keep	27
DK/NA	9

q44 If Barack Obama is elected President in 2008, do you think he would remove large numbers of U.S. troops from Iraq during his first term as President, or keep large numbers of troops in Iraq during his first term as President?

Remove	54
Keep	28
DK/NA	18

q45 If John Edwards is elected President in 2008, do you think he would remove large numbers of U.S. troops from Iraq during his first term as President, or keep large numbers of troops in Iraq during his first term as President?

Remove	44
Keep	32
DK/NA	24

q46-58 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q59 If Hillary Clinton is the Democratic Party's nominee for president in 2008, would you definitely vote for her in the general election in 2008, would you consider voting for her, would you definitely not vote for her, or is it too early to say?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

	Total	*** Party ID ***			Jul07a
	%	Rep	Dem	Ind	%
		%	%	%	
Definitely vote for her	24	1	50	18	24
Consider voting for her	21	10	27	25	21
Definitely would not vote	36	74	6	29	35
Too early to say	19	15	17	27	20
Don't know/no answer	0	0	0	1	0

q60 Is your mind made up or is it possible you could change your mind and vote for Hillary Clinton in November 2008 if she is the Democratic Party's nominee?

THOSE WHO SAID "DEFINITELY WOULD NOT VOTE" IN Q59

Mind made up	87	87	76	87
Could change	10	8	24	10
Depends (vol.)	4	5	0	2
DK/NA	0	0	0	1

q61-63 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q64 Thinking about your vote for president next year, how important is it that a candidate shares your religious beliefs--is it very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				Jun07c
	*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Very important	20	29	16	15	15
Somewhat important	30	35	27	30	23
Not very important	24	20	29	22	23
Not at all important	25	16	28	32	38
DK/NA	1	0	1	1	1

q65-q76 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q77 From what you know about the U.S. involvement in Iraq, how much longer would you be willing to have large numbers of U.S. troops remain in Iraq -- less than a year, one to two years, two to five years or longer than five years?

	* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *		Sep07b
	%		%
Less than a year	56	66	
One to two years	31	23	
Two to five years	6	4	
Longer than five years	1	2	
As long as it takes (vol.)	1	1	
Should leave now (vol.)	2	2	
DK/NA	3	2	

q78-83 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q84 Is your opinion of Al Gore favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Al Gore yet to have an opinion?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **				Dem. Primary Voters	Jun07c
	*** Party ID ***					
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind		
	%	%	%	%	%	
Favorable	46	22	69	46	72	34
Not favorable	29	56	8	23	8	40
Undecided	16	15	13	20	12	22
Haven't heard enough	8	6	9	9	7	3
Refused	1	1	1	2	1	1

q85 Suppose Al Gore decided to run for President. If the race for the Democratic party's nomination in 2008 comes down to a choice among Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, Al Gore, and Barack Obama, who would you like to see nominated -- Clinton, Edwards, Gore, Obama, or someone else?

* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *

	%
Clinton	37
Edwards	7
Gore	32
Obama	16
Someone else/None	3
Undecided (Vol.)	3
DK/NA	2

	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED
Total Respondents	1282	
Total Republicans	406	375 (29%)
Total Democrats	426	425 (33%)
Total Independents	450	481 (38%)
Registered Voters	1143	1059
Democratic primary voters	456	440
Republican Primary Voters	372	319