

2008 DEMOCRATIC DELEGATES: WHO ARE THEY?
July 16- August 17, 2008

- This is the first convention for 57% of delegates. This number is similar to 2004 but higher than 2000. More than four in 10 delegates in 2008 have attended a previous convention.
- The Democratic delegation continues to be a diverse group: 65% of the delegates are white, 23% are African American and 11 are Hispanic - numbers similar to the 2000 and 2004 delegations. This is similar to the racial make up of Democratic voters nationwide.
- In keeping with the Democratic Party rules that require nearly even numbers of men and women among the delegates, 51% are men and 49% are women.
- The Democratic delegates are generally older. Most delegates are age 50 and over. The average age is 54. Only 7% of the delegates are under the age of 30. Among pledged delegates, 9% are under the age of 30, compared to just 2% of superdelegates.
- Fewer than half the Democratic delegates are Protestant; slightly more than one in four are Catholic. 9% are Jewish.
- Just 14% of Democratic delegates are Evangelicals (most are black). 23% of Democratic voters say they are.
- 23% attend church every week, but 43% attend just a few times a year or never. Religious attendance is similar among Democrats nationwide.
- When it comes to ideology, 43% of delegates describe themselves as liberal (48% of Democratic voters do). Just 3% of delegates say they are conservative, compared to 16% of Democrats nationwide.
- The Democratic delegates are well-educated. About 8 in 10 delegates are college graduates, including 22% who have a Masters degree and 19% who have a Law degree. Just three in 10 Democratic voters have a college degree.
- This is a fairly wealthy delegation, too. 22% say their net worth is over \$1 million, up from 2004 when 14% said that. 21% say their net worth is between \$500,000 and \$1 million. 45% estimate their net worth under \$500,000.
- 70% of Democratic delegates earn \$75K per year or more, while just 27% of Democratic voters earn that much.
- A third of Democratic delegates (and Democratic voters) have a firearm in their household; but very few delegates -- 3% -- are members of the NRA.

- Nearly one quarter of the Democratic delegates are union members, similar to the number in 2004. But just 10% of Democratic voters belong to a labor union.
- 14% of delegates have served in the Armed Forces. Among Democratic voters, 7% have served in the military.
- 12% say they considered themselves a Republican at some point. Slightly more - 18% - of Democratic voters say they once were Republican.

OBAMA VS. CLINTON DELEGATES

There are some differences between delegates pledged to Hillary Clinton and those selected to back Barack Obama.

Obama delegates are twice as likely as Clinton delegates to be African American: 33% of Obama's pledged delegates are black, compared to 15% of pledged delegates supporting Clinton.

Obama's delegates are a bit younger: 45% of his pledged delegates are under age 50, while fewer - 36% - of Clinton's delegates are that age. About one in 10 of each candidate's pledged delegates is under age 30.

Obama and Clinton pledged delegates have similar education levels.

2008 DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION: DELEGATES VS. VOTERS

	<u>Democratic Delegates</u>	<u>Democratic Voters</u>
White	65%	72%
Black	23	23
Hispanic	11	9
Under age 30	7%	23%
Liberal	43%	48%
Moderate	50	34
Conservative	3	16
Income \$75K+	70%	27%
College graduate	81%	30%
Evangelical/Born-again	14%	23
Union member	24%	10%
Gun owner - Household	33%	33
Served in Armed Forces	14%	7
Former Republican	12%	18

OVERVIEW OF THE DEMOCRATIC DELEGATES 1968 -2008

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1968</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Women	49	50	48	50	48	48	49	49	33	40	13
Black	23	18	19	19	16	23	18	15	11	15	5
Hispanic	11	12	12	9	7	6	6	5	--	--	--
Asian	3	3	3	3	--	2	2	1	--	--	--
Under age 30	7	7	4	6	4	4	8	11	15	22	3
Median age (in years)	54	--	51	49	--	46	43	44	43	42	49
Liberal	43	41	36	43	48	43	48	46	40	--	--
Moderate	50	52	56	48	44	43	42	42	47	--	--
Conservative	3	3	5	5	5	5	4	6	8	--	--
Lawyer	17	13	9	10	14	16	17	13	16	12	28
Teacher	8	13	7	9		14	16	15	12	11	8
Union member	24	25	31	35	26	25	25	27	21	16	
Millionaire	22	14	12	8	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Average years active in Party	23	22	23	22	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Currently hold DEM office	51	53	55	58	--	39	39	52	--	--	--
First convention attended	57	57	49	61	--	65	78	87	80	83	67
Protestant	43	43	47	47	47	50	49	47	47	42	--
Catholic	26	32	30	30	30	30	29	37	34	26	--
Jewish	9	8	8	6	10	7	8	8	9	9	--
Evangelical/Born-again	14	13	12	13	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<u>Member of...</u>											
National Rifle Association	3	2	2	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gun owner	33	33	24	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Served in Armed Forces	14	14	15	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Former Republican	12	14	10	11	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

(--)= not asked in that year's delegate survey

The CBS News/New York Times Delegate Poll was conducted July 16-August 17, 2008 with a random sample of 970 Democratic delegates. The error due to sampling could be plus or minus three percentage points for results based on the entire sample. Interviews were conducted via phone; if a delegate preferred, he or she could complete the survey online. Online interviewing was conducted by CfMC, a San Francisco-based research software company.