

CBS NEWS POLL *The New York Times*

CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
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THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION

February 20-24, 2008

Riding a wave of 11 straight primary and caucus victories, Barack Obama now holds a sizeable edge over Hillary Clinton on qualities such as electability in November, caring about people, inspiring the nation, and ability to work across the aisle. This momentum is reflected, too, in the national lead Obama has now opened up in preference for the nomination.

While both candidates have made much of their policy differences on the key issues of Iraq and Health Care, voters see only minor differences between the two.

Many more Democratic primary voters think Obama, not Clinton, is best able to beat Senator John McCain, the likely Republican nominee.

59% think Obama has the best chance while just 28% think Clinton does. Even a fifth of Clinton's supporters, 18%, thinks Obama has the best chance against McCain, although two thirds of her voters think she does.

WHO HAS BEST CHANCE OF BEATING MCCAIN?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	All	Clinton Voters	Obama Voters
Obama	59%	18%	90%
Clinton	28	63	5

CARING, INSPIRATION AND COOPERATION

Obama is now much more likely than Clinton to be seen as caring a lot about people like them, among Democratic primary voters nationwide (both those who've cast ballots in their states already and those yet to do so.)

63% say Obama cares a lot, up dramatically in the last few weeks. Today less than half, 46%, see Clinton as caring a lot.

HOW MUCH DOES... CARE ABOUT YOU?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	<u>Obama</u>		<u>Clinton</u>	
	Now	1/08	Now	1/08
A lot	63%	49%	46%	38%
Some	28	42	35	46
Not much/None	7	8	18	15

Obama's increase on this comes from a boost among women, who say he cares about them: 61% now say he cares a lot, up from 52% who said so before Super Tuesday. (CBS News Exit Polls have also shown that in recent wins in Wisconsin, Maryland and Virginia, Obama has been cutting into Clinton's support among women.)

Both candidates inspire most Democratic Primary voters - though Obama inspires more voters than Clinton.

DOES...MAKE YOU FEEL INSPIRED ABOUT THE FUTURE?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Obama	Clinton
Yes	69%	54%
No	26	43

Democratic primary voters are overwhelmingly looking for a President who could work with Republicans to get things done - 77% want this.

And Barack Obama is seen as the candidate more likely to make the compromises needed in the right amounts. Voters are comparatively more likely to think Hillary Clinton would not compromise often enough to get things done.

WHO WOULD COMPROMISE WITH REPUBLICANS TO GET THINGS DONE?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Obama would...	Clinton would...
Compromise right amount	67%	55%
Not compromise often enough	15	30
Compromise too often	11	8

Both candidates are seen by a majority as having made themselves clear about what they'd do as President, but Clinton has an edge in this regard.

HAS...MADE IT CLEAR WHAT THEY WOULD DO AS PRESIDENT?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Obama	Clinton
Yes, made it clear	57%	65%
No, not clear yet	41	32

Though both are seen as able to bring change, Obama has now opened up a ten-point advantage on this measure, as Clinton has declined on it. Before Super Tuesday, the two were thought to be equally likely to bring change.

CAN... BRING CHANGE TO WASHINGTON?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Obama		Clinton	
	Now	2/3/08	Now	2/3/08
Yes, bring change	70%	66%	60%	66%
No, could not	24	26	32	26

ISSUES AND IDEOLOGY

The Democratic candidates have each tried to define their differences on Iraq and health care (Obama particularly emphasizing Iraq and Clinton, differences on Health Care proposals) - but Democratic primary voters don't see much difference at all. Most only see minor differences. This may help explain why other personal qualities are having such an impact.

DO YOU SEE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OBAMA, CLINTON STANCES?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Major	Minor	None
Differences on IRAQ are...	26%	68%	1
Differences on HEALTH CARE are...	37	57	1

Democratic primary voters see both candidates as more liberal than moderate, and majorities think either candidate would raise taxes on people making more than \$250,000 per year. That doesn't appear to bother Democratic primary voters, though; both candidates are viewed very favorably and most of those voters do not earn that level of income.

COMPARING THE CANDIDATES ON IDEOLOGY, TAXES

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Obama	Clinton
Is a...		
Liberal	46%	41%
Moderate	39	39
Conservative	9	14
Raise taxes on 250K+		
Would	59%	63%
Would not	23	23

NATIONAL PREFERENCE FOR THE NOMINATION

In a complete reversal from earlier this year, Democratic primary voters nationwide now say they prefer Barack Obama as the nominee. Clinton has gone from holding a fifteen point lead over Obama in January to a sixteen point deficit now. The two were even in a CBS News Poll conducted just before Super Tuesday.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Now	2/3/08	1/2008
Obama	54%	41%	27%
Clinton	38	41	42
Undecided/DK	7	14	16

And as the race progresses, fewer Democratic primary voters are undecided about which candidate to support.

In this poll, the gender gap that has existed in this race seems to have evaporated, and Clinton has lost ground among one of her key constituencies: women. Earlier this month, men supported Obama, but women chose Clinton. Now, men solidly back Obama and the two are even among women.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION: BY GENDER

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Men		Women	
	Now	2/3/08	Now	2/3/08
Obama	67%	46%	45%	38%
Clinton	28	34	46	45

White men strongly back Obama now.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION: WHITE MEN

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Now	2/3/08	1/08
Obama	61%	40%	23%
Clinton	33	39	38

But Clinton's voters report more enthusiasm for their candidate. 78% of her supporters strongly favor her, while 61% of his say the same. More of Obama's supporters say they like their candidate but have reservations about him.

STRENGTH OF SUPPORT

(Among Democratic primary voters with a choice)

	All	Clinton Voters	Obama Voters
Strongly favor	68%	78%	61%
Like with reservations	26	18	32
Dislike other candidates	4	3	6

At this point, most Democratic primary voters expect Obama to be the nominee for their party, and by a large margin. That represents a change since earlier this month, before the voting on Super Tuesday. Even 41% of Clinton's supporters expect Obama to win the nomination.

WHOM DO YOU EXPECT TO WIN THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Now	2/3/08
Obama	68%	36%
Clinton	23	45

Slightly more Democratic primary voters would be very satisfied with Obama than Clinton as the Democratic nominee, although majorities would be happy with either one.

About half of each candidates' voters would be satisfied with the other as the nominee.

SATISFACTION WITH ... AS THE NOMINEE?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

Obama	79%
Clinton	69%

More Democratic primary voters now view Barack Obama (69%) favorably than see Hillary Clinton that way (61%). In late January, favorable views of the two were similar, with about two thirds having a positive opinion of each.

THE ROLE OF BILL CLINTON

While most Democratic primary voters have a favorable view of former President Bill Clinton, his involvement in the campaign is not helping draw voters to Hillary Clinton. Just as many say they are less inclined to vote for Senator Clinton because of the former President's involvement, as say they are more likely to do so.

This is now worse for Senator Clinton than it was before Super Tuesday, when President Clinton's impact was a net positive.

DOES BILL'S INVOLVEMENT IN HILLARY'S CAMPAIGN MAKE YOU...

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Now	2/3/08
More likely to vote for Hillary	22%	18%
Less likely	22	12
No difference	55	70

Michelle Obama, by far the lesser-known spouse, is viewed very favorably by Democratic voters who know her, by 32% to just 6% unfavorable. But most, 61%, don't know her.

THE SUPERDELEGATES

With the pledged delegate count so close, much talk has recently surrounded the Democratic party's "superdelegates" - the elected officials and party leaders who also have a say in nominating the party's standard-bearer, and who can vote however they like. Those

superdelegates could decide the outcome if no one gets enough pledged delegates to secure the nod.

The rank-and-file Democratic party voters think the superdelegates' decision criteria is clear, though: the people say the superdelegates should back whichever candidate gets the most overall elected delegates. People back this option over letting the superdelegates choose whomever they think is best able to win in November.

HOW SHOULD SUPERDELEGATES DECIDE THEIR VOTE?...

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

Back candidate with most <i>elected</i> delegates from primaries/caucuses	52%
Back whomever they want	25
Back candidate with best chance in November	20

Among those who think the superdelegates should back the overall elected delegate winner, most say the superdelegates should look to the *national* totals, not their individual state winner.

SUPERDELEGATES SHOULD BACK THE WINNER OF...

(Among those saying "most elected delegates" above)

Elected delegates nationally	62%
The superdelegate's home state	36

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1266 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone February 20-24, 2008. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The poll included Democratic primary voters; 427 the margin of error could be plus or minus five points. The error for subgroups is higher.

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q1-8 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q9 Who would you like to see the Democratic party nominate as its presidential candidate in 2008 -- Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama?

	* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *	Jan08e
	%	%
Clinton	38	41
Obama	54	41
Someone else/None (vol.)	1	4
Undecided (vol.)	6	13
DK/NA	1	1

q10 Would you describe your support for (Selected Candidate) as strongly favoring (Selected Candidate), or do you like (Selected Candidate) but with reservations, or do you support (Selected Candidate) because you dislike the other candidates?

	* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *			Jan08c
	Total	Obama Voters	Clinton Voters	%
	%	%	%	%
Strongly favor	68	61	78	65
Like but with reservations	26	32	18	29
Dislike other candidates	4	6	3	5
Don't know/No answer	2	1	1	1

q11 Regardless of how you intend to vote, who do you expect to finally win the Democratic nomination for President in 2008 -- Hillary Clinton, or Barack Obama?

	* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *	Jan08e
	%	%
Clinton	23	45
Obama	68	36
Someone else (vol.)	-	6
DK/NA	9	13

q12 How would you feel if Hillary Clinton wins the Democratic nomination for president -- would you feel very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

Very satisfied	40
Somewhat satisfied	29
Somewhat dissatisfied	20
Very dissatisfied	11
DK/NA	0

q13 How would you feel if Barack Obama wins the Democratic nomination for president -- would you feel very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *

	%
Very satisfied	46
Somewhat satisfied	33
Somewhat dissatisfied	11
Very dissatisfied	8
DK/NA	2

q14 Who do you think has the best chance of beating John McCain in the general election in November -- Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama?

Clinton	28
Obama	59
Both equally (vol.)	6
Neither (vol.)	1
DK/NA	6

q15 If the next President is a Democrat, do you want him or her to compromise with Republicans in order to get more things done, or stick to the Democratic party's positions even if it means not getting as much done?

Compromise	77
Stick to positions	15
Depends (vol.)	5
Don't know/no answer	3

q16-41 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q22 How much do you think Hillary Clinton cares about the needs and problems of people like yourself--a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

		Jan08e
A lot	46	38
Some	35	46
Not much	10	10
Not at all	8	5
DK/NA	1	1

q23 Do you think Hillary Clinton has made it clear what she would do as President, or hasn't she done that yet?

Yes	65
No, not yet	32
DK/NA	3

q24 If she were elected President, do you think Hillary Clinton could bring about real change in the way things are done in Washington, or couldn't she do that?

		Jan08c
Could	60	66
Could not	32	26
DK/NA	8	8

q25 As President, do you think Hillary Clinton would or would not raise taxes on households earning more than \$250,000 a year?

* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *

	%
Would raise taxes	63
Would not raise taxes	23
DK/NA	14

q26 If elected President, do you think Hillary Clinton would try to compromise with Republicans too often, not often enough, or would she try to compromise with Republicans about the right amount?

Too often	8
Not often enough	30
Right amount	55
DK/NA	7

q27 Do you think of Hillary Clinton as more of a liberal, moderate, or a conservative?

		Jul07a
		%
Liberal	41	38
Moderate	39	42
Conservative	14	14
DK/NA	6	6

q28 Regardless of which candidate you support, does Hillary Clinton make you feel inspired about the future of the country, or not?

Yes	54
No	43
Sometimes (Vol.)	1
Don't know/No answer	2

q29 How much do you think Barack Obama cares about the needs and problems of people like yourself--a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

		Jan08e
		%
A lot	63	49
Some	28	42
Not much	5	5
Not at all	2	3
DK/NA	2	1

q30 Do you think Barack Obama has made it clear what he would do as President, or hasn't she done that yet?

Yes	57
No, not yet	41
DK/NA	2

q31 If he were elected President, do you think Barack Obama could bring about real change in the way things are done in Washington, or couldn't he do that?

	* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *	Jan08c
	%	%
Could	70	66
Could not	24	26
DK/NA	6	8

q32 As President, do you think Barack Obama would or would not raise taxes on households earning more than \$250,000 a year?

Would raise taxes	59
Would not raise taxes	23
DK/NA	18

q33 If elected President, do you think Barack Obama would try to compromise with Republicans too often, not often enough, or would he try to compromise with Republicans about the right amount?

Too often	11
Not often enough	15
Right amount	67
DK/NA	7

q34 Do you think of Barack Obama as more of a liberal, moderate, or a conservative?

Liberal	46
Moderate	39
Conservative	9
DK/NA	6

q35 Regardless of which candidate you support, does Barack Obama make you feel inspired about the future of the country, or not?

Yes	69
No	26
Sometimes (Vol.)	3
Don't know/No answer	2

q36 When thinking about where Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama stand on Iraq, do you think there are major differences between them, or only minor differences?

Major differences	26
Minor differences	68
No diff./The same (Vol.)	1
DK/NA	5

q37 When thinking about where Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama stand on health care, do you think there are major differences between them, or only minor differences?

Major differences	37
Minor differences	57
No diff./The same (Vol.)	1
DK/NA	5

q38 Compared to the way the news media have treated other candidates, have the news media been harder on Hillary Clinton, easier on Hillary Clinton, or have they treated her the same as other candidates?

	* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *	Jan08c
	%	%
Harder	48	46
Easier	8	7
Same	43	44
DK/NA	1	3

q39 Compared to the way the news media have treated other candidates, have the news media been harder on Barack Obama, easier on Barack Obama, or have they treated him the same as other candidates?

Harder	14	17
Easier	33	21
Same	52	61
DK/NA	1	1

q40 Is your opinion of BILL Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Bill Clinton yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	70	71
Not favorable	18	21
Undecided	11	7
Haven't heard enough	1	1
Refused	0	0

q41 Does BILL Clinton's involvement in Hillary Clinton's Presidential campaign make you more likely to support Hillary Clinton, less likely, or doesn't it make a difference to you?

More likely	22	18
Less likely	22	12
No difference	55	70
DK/NA	1	0

q5 Is your opinion of Michelle Obama favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Michelle Obama yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	32
Not favorable	6
Undecided	13
Haven't heard enough	48
Refused	1

q42-70 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q71 The 4,048 delegates to the Democratic convention include 795 superdelegates. Superdelegates, a distinction the party created in 1982, include some elected officials like governors and members of congress as well as some unelected people who have other ties to the Democratic party. Which of these comes closest to your thinking about how the superdelegates should decide who to vote for at the party's convention in August: 1. The superdelegates should vote for whichever candidate received the most votes in the primaries and caucuses OR, 2. The superdelegates should vote for whomever they want OR 3. The superdelegates should vote for the candidate they think has the best chance to win in November?

* DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS *

	%
Vote for cand. w/ most votes	52
Vote for whomever they want	25
Vote for the candidate wit	20
DK/NA	3

q72 Should they decide based on the votes the candidates have received overall, or the votes the candidates received in their state?

AMONG THOSE WHO SAID MOST ELECTED DELEGATES IN Q71

Based on overall votes	62
Votes received in their state	36
DK/NA	2

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total respondents	1266	
Total Democratic Primary Voters	427	418