



CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
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THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION CONTESTS
May 18-23, 2007

The current front-runners for their party's Presidential nomination - Senator Hillary Clinton and former Mayor Rudy Giuliani - remain in the lead nationally, but this poll finds them each facing some challenges: negative perceptions of Giuliani have risen among GOP primary voters, while Clinton's leading opponent, Senator Barack Obama, has gained more support from the critical group of African-American voters.

Democratic primary voters continue to express satisfaction with the candidates currently seeking the Democratic nomination, while most Republican voters remain unsatisfied.

SATISFIED WITH YOUR PARTY'S PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDERS?

Table with 2 main columns: Republican Primary Voters and Democratic Primary Voters. Rows include 'Satisfied' and 'Want more choices' with data for 'Now' and '4/2007'.

This is a reversal from previous elections, when Democrats tended to be less satisfied than Republicans with their candidate options.

The Democrats are doing well at satisfying the whole electorate as well as their primary voters: looking to November 2008, 49% of voters now say they plan to vote for the Democratic candidate for President, while 33% say they will vote for the Republican.

THE REPUBLICANS

In a three-way nomination choice between former Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Senator John McCain and former Governor Mitt Romney, Republican primary voters' support for Giuliani has slipped since last month.

The benefactors: Romney, and "none of the above." Romney is up since last month and the number saying they don't want any of those three has risen. That could be another indication of Republican dissatisfaction with the current frontrunners.

IF THESE WERE THE CANDIDATES, WHO WOULD YOU WANT AS REP NOMINEE?

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

| | Now | 4/2007 |
|-------------------|-----|--------|
| Giuliani | 36% | 47% |
| McCain | 22 | 25 |
| Romney | 15 | 10 |
| Someone else/none | 21 | 13 |

Giuliani remains the choice of moderate voters. Conservatives split their preferences about evenly between the three, but are more likely than moderates to want none of these three.

Republican primary voters' familiarity with Mitt Romney has risen, and the result has been positive for him. He is viewed favorably by those who have an opinion.

Meanwhile John McCain and Rudy Giuliani's negative ratings have each risen. McCain's favorable and unfavorable ratings are nearly even now, a dramatic change from last month. Giuliani also still gets positive reviews, but his negative ratings are up from last month.

OPINION OF ...

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

| | <u>McCain</u> | | <u>Giuliani</u> | | <u>Romney</u> | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------|-----------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| | Now | 4/2007 | Now | 4/2007 | Now | 4/2007 |
| Favorable | 33% | 39% | 53% | 60% | 28% | 20% |
| Not favorable | 31 | 20 | 18 | 10 | 11 | 9 |
| Undecided/Haven't heard enough | 35 | 41 | 28 | 30 | 60 | 71 |

Abortion and the GOP Nomination

Most Republican primary voters (six in ten) would allow abortions in at least some form - either under stricter limits or made generally available - and Giuliani is the front-runner among these voters. Around four in ten say abortion should not be permitted: Giuliani still leads, but by a much smaller gap, and these voters are more likely to want someone else to enter the race.

ABORTION AND GOP NOMINATION CHOICE

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

| | <u>Abortion should be...</u> | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| | Permitted (59%) | NOT Permitted (38%) |
| Giuliani | 40% | 29% |
| McCain | 22 | 22 |
| Romney | 15 | 18 |
| Someone else/none | 19 | 26 |

Perhaps Giuliani's positions and background have become better known. In this poll, Giuliani is less likely to be seen as sharing Republican values. In March, more than half of Republican primary voters said he did; now only 44% do.

DOES GIULIANI SHARE VALUES OF MOST REPUBLICANS?

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

| | Now | 3/2007 |
|------------|-----|--------|
| Yes | 44% | 54% |
| No | 34 | 26 |
| Don't know | 22 | 20 |

Giuliani is most likely to be seen as a moderate. This is not much changed from February, but more now call him a liberal. Conservative Republican primary voters mostly see Giuliani as a moderate, but a quarter of them call him a liberal.

IS GIULIANI A...

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

| | Now | 2/2007 |
|--------------|-----|--------|
| Conservative | 16% | 19% |
| Moderate | 52 | 49 |
| Liberal | 24 | 18 |
| Don't know | 8 | 14 |

THE DEMOCRATS

In a three-way contest for the Democratic nomination, 46% of primary voters choose Senator Hillary Clinton over Senator Barack Obama (24%) and former Senator John Edwards (14%). Her overall lead is larger than it has been for the last two months. Obama's level of support is similar to what it was in April, while support for Edwards has dropped some.

IF THESE WERE THE CANDIDATES, WHO WOULD YOU WANT AS DEM NOMINEE?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

| | Now | 4/2007 | 3/2007 |
|---------|-----|--------|--------|
| Clinton | 46% | 39% | 36% |
| Obama | 24 | 24 | 28 |
| Edwards | 14 | 21 | 18 |

Clinton gets similar levels of support from both men and women. She does better among Democratic identifiers than with Independents who say they will vote in the Democratic primary. Obama now runs about even with Clinton among African American voters - 43% would like to see him get the Democratic nomination, while 41% pick Clinton. Among African-American Democratic primary voters in the combined March and April polls, only one-third said they were backing Obama.

IF THESE WERE THE CANDIDATES, WHO WOULD YOU WANT AS DEM NOMINEE?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

| | <u>African Americans</u> | |
|---------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| | Now | Before (March-April) |
| Clinton | 41% | 44% |
| Obama | 43 | 33 |
| Edwards | 6 | 9 |

Majorities of Democratic primary voters are confident that both Clinton and Obama could win the general election in November 2008, although more like Clinton's chances. 72% say Clinton could win, and 58% say Obama could. Back in January, just 49% of Democratic voters said Obama could win the presidential election.

COULD ... WIN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN 2008?

(% who say "Yes")

| | <u>Democratic Primary Voters</u> | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| | Now | 1/2007 |
| Clinton | 72% | 63% |
| Obama | 58% | 49% |

78% of African Americans who plan to vote in the Democratic primary believe Clinton could win the general election if she were the nominee; 60% say that about Obama. Among whites, 68% think Clinton could win the presidency, while fewer - 53% - say Obama could.

Among American voters overall, more than half think either Democratic candidate can win.

All three of these contenders are viewed positively by Democratic primary voters. Clinton is the most known of these candidates and viewed the most positively - 62% offer a favorable opinion of her. (She also receives the highest unfavorable rating.)

44% of Democratic primary voters have a favorable impression of Obama, but just as many say they are undecided or haven't heard enough about him. Few - 10% - view him unfavorably. Edwards receives similar ratings to Obama: 45% have a favorable opinion of him.

OPINIONS OF MAJOR DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Hillary Rodham Clinton | |
| Favorable | 62% |
| Not favorable | 14 |
| Undecided/Haven't heard enough | 23 |
| Barack Obama | |
| Favorable | 44% |
| Not favorable | 10 |
| Undecided/ Haven't heard enough | 46 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| John Edwards | |
| Favorable | 45% |
| Not favorable | 12 |
| Undecided/ Haven't heard enough | 43 |

53% of black voters who plan to vote in the Democratic primary have a favorable opinion of Obama, but more than four in 10 are still undecided or don't know enough about him. Clinton is viewed favorably by 68% of African American voters; only a few (21%) are not able to offer an opinion of her. Black voters who view Obama favorably pick him over Clinton by 35 points.

AFRICAN-AMERICANS: OPINIONS OF CLINTON AND OBAMA

(Among African-American Democratic Primary Voters)

| | Clinton | Obama |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------|
| Favorable | 68% | 53% |
| Not favorable | 11 | 1 |
| Undecided/Haven't heard enough | 21 | 45 |

Among American voters overall, opinions of Clinton are divided: 38% are favorable toward her, and 42% are unfavorable. Views of Edwards are also split. Meanwhile, Obama is more likely to be viewed favorably.

Voters are paying at least some attention to the presidential campaign - nearly seven in 10 say they are. Self-identified Republicans and Democrats are equally as likely to be paying attention.

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1125 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone May 18-23, 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 African Americans was also conducted for this poll, for a total of 192 interviews among this group. The results were then weighted in proportion to the racial composition of the adult population in the U.S. Census. The margin of error for African Americans is plus or minus 7 percentage points.

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The Presidential Nomination Contests
May 18-23, 2007

q1-q13 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q14 How much attention have you been able to pay to the 2008 presidential campaign -- a lot, some, not much, or no attention so far?

| | ** REGISTERED VOTERS ** | | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | *** Party ID *** | | | | |
| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Apr07a |
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| A lot | 22 | 20 | 22 | 24 | 25 |
| Some | 47 | 49 | 47 | 44 | 51 |
| Not much | 21 | 20 | 21 | 23 | 20 |
| None at all | 10 | 11 | 9 | 9 | 4 |
| DK/NA | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

q15 If the 2008 election for President were being held today, would you probably vote for the Republican candidate or would you probably vote for the Democratic candidate?

| | | | | | Mar07a |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Republican | 33 | 78 | 3 | 24 | 32 |
| Democratic | 49 | 7 | 89 | 42 | 51 |
| Other (vol.) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Won't vote (vol.) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Depends (vol.) | 10 | 10 | 5 | 18 | 10 |
| DK/NA | 7 | 5 | 3 | 13 | 6 |

q16 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 | Apr07a |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------|
| Satisfied | 63 | 59 |
| More choices | 35 | 36 |
| DK/NA | 2 | 5 |

q17 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 | Apr07a |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------|
| Satisfied | 38 | 35 |
| More choices | 57 | 61 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 4 |

ROTATE BETWEEN q18-q20

q18 Is your opinion of Rudy Giuliani favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Rudy Giuliani yet to have an opinion?

| | ** REGISTERED VOTERS ** | | | | Rep. | Reg. Voters Apr07a |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|---------|-----------------------|
| | Total | *** Party ID *** | | | Primary | |
| | | Rep | Dem | Ind | Voters | |
| % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Favorable | 34 | 53 | 20 | 33 | 53 | 37 |
| Not favorable | 25 | 14 | 34 | 26 | 18 | 26 |
| Undecided | 27 | 24 | 29 | 27 | 20 | 26 |
| Haven't heard enough | 13 | 8 | 16 | 13 | 8 | 11 |
| Refused | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

q19 Is your opinion of John McCain favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John McCain yet to have an opinion?

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Favorable | 23 | 32 | 17 | 23 | 33 | 28 |
| Not favorable | 30 | 24 | 32 | 32 | 31 | 29 |
| Undecided | 26 | 27 | 27 | 24 | 23 | 27 |
| Haven't heard enough | 20 | 16 | 24 | 20 | 12 | 16 |
| Refused | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

q20 Is your opinion of Mitt Romney favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Mitt Romney yet to have an opinion?

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Favorable | 14 | 27 | 4 | 12 | 28 | 10 |
| Not favorable | 16 | 8 | 20 | 20 | 11 | 16 |
| Undecided | 18 | 21 | 18 | 15 | 22 | 17 |
| Haven't heard enough | 52 | 43 | 57 | 52 | 38 | 57 |
| Refused | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

ROTATE BETWEEN q21-q24

q21 Is your opinion of Hillary Rodham Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Hillary Rodham Clinton yet to have an opinion?

| | ** REGISTERED VOTERS ** | | | | Dem. | Reg. Voters Apr07a |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|---------|-----------------------|
| | Total | *** Party ID *** | | | Primary | |
| | | Rep | Dem | Ind | Voters | |
| % | % | % | % | % | % | |
| Favorable | 38 | 10 | 65 | 32 | 62 | 37 |
| Not favorable | 42 | 80 | 11 | 42 | 14 | 46 |
| Undecided | 19 | 10 | 22 | 23 | 22 | 15 |
| Haven't heard enough | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Refused | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

q22 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 | 15 | 44 | 27 | 45 | 32 |
| Not favorable | 28 | 45 | 12 | 29 | 12 | 23 |
| Undecided | 27 | 22 | 28 | 32 | 29 | 27 |
| Haven't heard enough | 14 | 17 | 15 | 11 | 14 | 17 |
| Refused | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

q23 Is your opinion of Barack Obama favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Barack Obama yet to have an opinion?

| | ** REGISTERED VOTERS ** | | | | Dem. | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|---------|-------------|
| | Total | *** Party ID *** | | | Primary | Reg. Voters |
| | | Rep | Dem | Ind | Voters | Apr07a |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Favorable | 34 | 25 | 40 | 35 | 44 | 36 |
| Not favorable | 21 | 36 | 11 | 19 | 10 | 18 |
| Undecided | 25 | 22 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 25 |
| Haven't heard enough | 20 | 17 | 23 | 20 | 20 | 21 |
| Refused | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

q24 Suppose the race for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in 2008 comes down to a choice among Hillary Rodham 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? [CANDIDATE NAMES AND ANSWER CODES WILL ROTATE]

| | DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS | | Apr07a |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--|--------|
| | % | | % |
| Clinton | 46 | | 39 |
| Obama | 24 | | 24 |
| Edwards | 14 | | 21 |
| Someone else/None | 11 | | 6 |
| Undecided (Vol.) | 4 | | 8 |
| DK/NA | 1 | | 2 |

ROTATE BETWEEN q25 AND q26

q25 Do you think Hillary Rodham Clinton could win the presidential election if she became the Democratic Party's nominee in 2008?

| | ** REGISTERED VOTERS ** | | | | Dem. | |
|-------|-------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| | Total | *** Party ID *** | | | Primary | |
| | | Rep | Dem | Ind | Voters | Jan07c |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Yes | 57 | 39 | 73 | 57 | 72 | 52 |
| No | 36 | 53 | 22 | 35 | 23 | 40 |
| DK/NA | 7 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 8 |

q26 Do you think Barack Obama could win the presidential election if he became the Democratic Party's nominee in 2008?

| | | | | | | |
|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Yes | 53 | 50 | 56 | 52 | 58 | 45 |
| No | 34 | 38 | 33 | 31 | 29 | 30 |
| DK/NA | 13 | 12 | 11 | 17 | 13 | 25 |

q27 Do you think Rudy Giuliani shares the same values as most Republicans, or doesn't he share the same values?

| | ** REGISTERED VOTERS ** | | | | Rep. | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| | Total | *** Party ID *** | | | Primary | RPV^ |
| | | Rep | Dem | Ind | Voters | Mar07a |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Shares same values | 37 | 49 | 32 | 32 | 44 | 54 |
| Doesn't share values | 37 | 31 | 40 | 39 | 34 | 26 |
| DK/NA | 26 | 20 | 28 | 29 | 22 | 20 |

^Among Republican Primary Voters

q28 Do you think of Rudy Giuliani as more of a liberal, moderate, or a conservative?

| | ** REGISTERED VOTERS ** | | | | Rep. | RPV^ |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| | Total | *** Party ID *** | | | Primary | Feb07a |
| | % | Rep | Dem | Ind | Voters | % |
| Liberal | 24 | 24 | 24 | 25 | 24 | 18 |
| Moderate | 42 | 51 | 33 | 44 | 52 | 49 |
| Conservative | 17 | 17 | 19 | 16 | 16 | 19 |
| Don't know/No answer | 17 | 8 | 24 | 16 | 8 | 14 |

^Among Republican Primary Voters

q29 Suppose the race for the Republican Party's presidential nomination in 2008 comes down to a choice among John McCain, Rudy Giuliani, and Mitt Romney. Who would you most like to see nominated -- McCain, Giuliani, Romney, or would you rather see someone else nominated? [CANDIDATE NAMES AND ANSWER CODES WILL ROTATE]

| | REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS | | Apr07a |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--|--------|
| | % | | % |
| McCain | 22 | | 25 |
| Giuliani | 36 | | 47 |
| Romney | 15 | | 10 |
| Someone else/None | 21 | | 13 |
| Undecided (vol.) | 3 | | 3 |
| DK/NA | 3 | | 2 |

q30-q39 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q40 Which of these comes closest to your view?...Abortion should be generally available to those who want it, abortion should be available but under stricter limits that it is now, abortion should not be permitted?

| | ** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ** | | | | Mar07a |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|--------|
| | Total | *** Party ID *** | | | |
| | % | Rep | Dem | Ind | % |
| Generally available | 39 | 21 | 52 | 41 | 34 |
| Available but limits | 37 | 39 | 35 | 38 | 41 |
| Should not be permitted | 21 | 40 | 11 | 17 | 23 |
| Don't know/No answer | 3 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 2 |

| | <u>UNWEIGHTED</u> | <u>WEIGHTED</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Total Respondents | 1125 | |
| Total Republicans | 296 | 328 |
| Total Democrats | 438 | 413 |
| Total Independents | 391 | 391 |
| Registered Voters | 1001 | 965 |
| Republican Primary Voters | 269 | 275 |
| Democratic Primary Voters | 488 | 441 |

