



CBS NEWS POLL
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NATIONALLY, THE RACE BETWEEN CLINTON AND OBAMA TIGHTENS
 January 30 - February 2, 2008

It's now neck and neck nationally between the two Democratic presidential candidates. 41% of Democratic primary voters would like to see Senator Hillary Clinton receive the party's nomination, and 41% choose Senator Barack Obama. 14% are undecided. Less than a month ago, Clinton had a wide 15-point lead. Obama's gain has been the result of increased support from men, particularly white men, and African Americans.

-- Regardless of vote choice, more still think Clinton rather than Obama will be the party's eventual nominee.

-- Most voters see just minor difference between Obama's and Clinton's positions on the issues. But more think she would do a better job managing the economy, which is now the top concern of these Democratic primary voters.

-- Few voters say that Bill Clinton's involvement in his wife's campaign will affect their vote, and voters are divided as to whether he has helped or hurt her campaign.

The race may not be as tight when Democratic voters go to the polls next week on Super Tuesday. Among registered voters who say they will vote or have already voted in a Democratic primary in states holding contests Tuesday, Clinton leads Obama by 49% to 31%. Of course, the two largest states voting that day, New York and California, are places where Clinton has been leading.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION
 (Among Democratic primary voters)

	Now	1/2008	Super Tuesday states
Clinton	41%	42%	49%
Obama	41	27	31
Undecided/DK	14	16	16

The events of the past two weeks have brought a new intensity to politics: 39% of all registered voters are paying a lot of attention to the campaign - higher than in any previous primary election season at this point in time. Among Democratic primary voters, 45% are paying a lot of attention.

This poll was conducted after John Edwards' withdrawal from the Democratic race, and in the wake of a good week for Senator Obama, who received the endorsements of Ted and Caroline Kennedy and won the South Carolina primary.

The tightening of the Democratic race is due in part to a change among men who intend to vote in a Democratic primary. Clinton still leads among women, but Obama now leads among all men. Since last month, Obama's support among men has increased by 17 points, while Clinton's has decreased by 6 points. Obama has also gained 11 points among women, while Clinton's support has increased by 2 points.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION: BY GENDER

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Men		Women	
	Now	1/08	Now	1/08
Clinton	34%	40%	45%	43%
Obama	46	29	38	27

Obama now receives the nod from two thirds of African American Democratic primary voters, up from 49% last month. While Clinton leads among whites, that lead has shrunk from 18 points to 8. 36% of whites favor Obama; that is higher than the percentage of the white vote he received in either South Carolina or Florida, and matches his percentage in New Hampshire. More whites than blacks say they are undecided.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION: BY RACE

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Whites		Blacks	
	Now	1/08	Now	1/08
Clinton	44%	42%	23%	34%
Obama	36	24	67	49

Clinton retains her strong standing among white women; 49% of them support her, compared to 32% for Obama. Last month, 44% of white women supported Clinton, and 25% chose Obama.

But among white men who intend to vote in a Democratic primary the race is much tighter - 40% for Obama, and 39% for Clinton. This is very different from the vote preferences of white men last month; then, 38% supported Clinton, 23% supported Obama, and 13% chose Edwards. Obama's gain may be partly the result of Edwards' withdrawal from the race; 39% of all white men say that at one time they supported John Edwards.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION: WHITE MEN

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Now	1/08
Clinton	39%	38%
Obama	40	23
Edwards	--	13

Obama has a 2 point edge among voters under age 30, while Clinton leads by 10 points among those age 65 and older. Clinton retains her lead among women regardless of age, although her lead among women age 45 or older is much larger than it is among younger women.

Partisanship continues to play a role in candidate preference. Among those who identify themselves as Democrats, 44% support Clinton and 41% support Obama. Among those who call themselves independents (but still intend to vote in a Democratic primary), 41% choose Obama and just 28% support Clinton.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION: PARTISANSHIP

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Democrats	Independents
Clinton	44%	28%
Obama	41	41
Undecided/DK	13	22

14% of Democratic primary voters say they are undecided or don't know who they support. That figure rises to 22% among Democratic primary voters age 65 and over, and 22% among independents. 16% of whites are also undecided. Many undecided voters say they supported John Edwards at some point.

All interviewing for this poll was conducted after John Edwards dropped out of the Democratic race. He has yet to endorse either remaining candidate. In this poll, about a third of Democratic primary voters say they supported him at some point in the campaign. But neither candidate clearly benefits from his withdrawal.

ROOM FOR CHANGE?

Clinton's support continues to be more solid than Obama's; only 35% of her voters, compared to 42% of his, say their minds could change. That was also the case last month. Most voters now say their minds are made up.

MIND MADE UP?

(Among Democratic primary voters with a choice)

	All	Clinton Voters	Obama Voters
Mind made up	62%	65%	58%
Too early to say	38	35	42

46% of Clinton's voters like their candidate a lot better than the other choice, while 38% of Obama's voters like him a great deal better.

COMPARED TO OTHER CANDIDATES, LIKE YOURS:

(Among Democratic primary voters with a choice)

	All	Clinton Voters	Obama Voters
A great deal better	42%	46%	38%
Somewhat better	34	33	35
A little better	23	20	26

As the race has narrowed nationally, so has Clinton's advantage over Obama on one of her key strengths - electability. 46% of Democratic primary voters say Clinton has the best chance of winning the general

election, while 41% say this about Obama. In December, Clinton held a 49-point advantage over Obama on this measure.

BEST CHANCE OF WINNING IN NOVEMBER 2008

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Now	1/2008	12/2007
Clinton	46%	47%	63%
Obama	41	35	14
Edwards	--	6	10

Still, Democratic primary voters expect Senator Clinton will become the party's nominee. Views on this question are similar to what they were last month.

WHO DO YOU EXPECT TO WIN THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

Clinton	45%
Obama	36

BILL CLINTON'S IMPACT AND THE KENNEDY ENDORSEMENT

Although Bill Clinton is viewed positively by a wide majority -71%- of Democratic primary voters, they are as likely to see his involvement in his wife's campaign as negative as they are to see it as a positive factor. A quarter thinks he would have too much influence on his wife's decisions if she were to become president.

While 37% think the former President's involvement in Hillary Clinton's campaign has helped her, 36% think it has hurt.

BILL CLINTON'S INVOLVEMENT IN HILLARY CLINTON'S CAMPAIGN HAS...

(Among Democratic primary voters)

Helped her	37%
Hurt her	36
Made no difference	25

Most say his involvement won't have an impact on their vote choice, but 12% say it has made them less likely to support her. 18% say it has made them more likely to do so.

BILL CLINTON'S INVOLVEMENT IN HILLARY CLINTON'S CAMPAIGN HAS MADE YOU...

(Among Democratic primary voters)

More likely to vote for her	18%
Less likely to vote for her	12
Made no difference	70

Among voters overall, views of Bill Clinton's involvement are more negative.

On balance, Senator Ted Kennedy's recent endorsement of Barack Obama has had little impact on the Democratic race. 79% say it will not affect their vote. 12% of Democratic primary voters say his endorsement will make them more likely to vote for Obama, while 9% say it will make them less likely to do so.

TED KENNEDY'S ENDORSEMENT HAS MADE YOU...

(Among Democratic primary voters)

More likely to vote for Obama	12%
Less likely to vote for Obama	9
Made no difference	79

WHAT VOTERS LIKE

The two candidates appeal to voters for very different reasons. When asked why they support their candidate, Clinton's voters mention her experience, and Obama's mention that he is a fresh face with new ideas. Her voters also volunteer her intelligence and the fact that she is married to Bill Clinton. His voters mention that he will bring change, and that they like him.

REASON SUPPORT CANDIDATE

(Among Democratic primary voters with a choice)

	Clinton Voters		Obama Voters
Experience	24%	Fresh face/new ideas	21%
Bill Clinton	17	Will bring change	10
Intelligent	8	Like him	8
Time for woman	8	Honest	7

Clinton continues to have the advantage over Obama on experience. Eight in 10 Democratic primary voters say she is prepared to be president. They remain split, however, as to whether Obama is prepared for the job.

Obama has the edge on believability - two-thirds think he says what he believes. Even though more than half says that about Clinton, four in 10 think she says what she thinks people want to hear.

CANDIDATE QUALITIES

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Clinton	Obama
Prepared to be president	82%	50%
Needs more time	16	46
Says what he/she believes	52%	65%
What people want to hear	44	31
More time explaining positions	52%	69%
More time attacking others	36	22

Democratic primary voters think Obama and Clinton are spending time explaining their issue positions, but more say Clinton has been on the attack than say that about Obama.

More than eight in 10 Democratic primary voters think both Clinton and Obama care about their needs and problems. African American voters are more likely to say Obama cares "a lot" about their needs and problems than to say that about Clinton. Among whites, similar numbers think Obama and Clinton care about them "a lot." Just a quarter of men say Clinton cares about them a lot, compared to 45% who think that about

Obama. Similar numbers of women think each candidate cares about them "a lot."

CARES ABOUT PROBLEMS OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Clinton	Obama
A lot	38%	49%
Some	46	42
Not much/not at all	15	8

Overall, both Clinton and Obama are viewed positively by Democratic primary voters nationwide.

OPINION OF THE CANDIDATES

(Among likely Democratic primary voters)

	Clinton	Obama
Favorable	65%	63%
Unfavorable	18	11
Undecided/ Don't know	17	26

Four in 10 Obama supporters have a favorable impression of Clinton and a similar number of Clinton backers feel that way about Obama. However, 34% of Obama's voters have an unfavorable view of Clinton; among Clinton's supporters, 21% have a negative view of Obama.

DEMOCRATS: THE ISSUES

The economy and jobs ranks as the number one problem facing the country among Democratic primary voters, far outdistancing the war in Iraq. Health care comes third. Just last month the economy and the war were neck and neck as the top concern for Democrats. Today, 85% of Democratic primary voters think the economy is in bad shape and another 66% think the U.S. is currently in recession.

MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM FACING THE COUNTRY

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Now	1/2008
Economy/jobs	43%	23%
War in Iraq	23	22
Health care	8	7

Most Democratic primary voters see only minor differences between the two Democratic candidates on the important issues facing the country. Obama and Clinton voters are equally as likely to say there are only minor differences when it comes to the candidates' stands on the issues.

CLINTON AND OBAMA: DIFFERENCES ON THE ISSUES

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

Major	23%
Minor	68

Nevertheless, Clinton is viewed as the candidate better able to manage the economy, while Democrats divide over which candidate - Clinton or Obama - would do the best job handling the war in Iraq.

WHO WOULD DO A BETTER JOB ... ?
(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Clinton	Obama
Managing the economy	58%	28
Handling the war in Iraq	42%	46

CLINTON, OBAMA AND THE MEDIA

Nearly half of Democratic primary voters think the media has been harder on Clinton than on the other presidential candidates. Few say the media has been easier on her.

COMPARED TO OTHER CANDIDATES, THE NEWS MEDIA HAS BEEN ...
(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Harder on	Easier on	Same
Clinton	46%	7	44
Obama	17%	21	61

While a majority of voters say the news media has treated Obama the same as other presidential candidates, more say the media has been easier on him, than say harder. 31% of Obama voters believe the media has been harder on Clinton; just 26% of Obama voters say that about their own candidate.

THE SUBTEXT OF RACE AND GENDER

More Democratic primary voters think the country is ready to elect a black president than felt that way a month ago. This change is due to a 10 point increase among white Democratic primary voters. Despite the increased support blacks now give Obama for the nomination, their views on the readiness of the country to elect an African American president have increased just 6 points, and 40% thinks the country is not ready to elect an African American.

COUNTRY READY TO ELECT BLACK PRESIDENT?
(Among Democratic primary voters)

	All		Whites		Blacks	
	Now	1/08	Now	1/08	Now	1/08
Yes	63%	54%	68%	58%	54%	48%
No	26	32	23	26	40	43

While the vast majority of Democratic primary voters, both black and white, say that a candidate's race makes no difference to them, blacks are more apt to say they prefer to vote for a candidate of their own race than whites are to say they prefer a white candidate.

PREFER TO VOTE FOR...

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	All	Whites	Blacks
White candidate	4%	2%	0%
Black candidate	3	4	12
No difference	92	93	88

All other things being equal, eight in ten Democratic primary voters say that a candidate's gender would make no difference to them. But among those who think it does make a difference, men would prefer to vote for a man, and women would prefer to vote for a woman. However, women are more likely to say they'd prefer to vote for a man than men are to say they'd prefer to vote for a woman.

PREFER TO VOTE FOR...

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	All	Men	Women
Man	10%	14%	7%
Woman	7	1	11
No difference	83	85	82

Two thirds of Democratic primary voters think the country is ready to elect a woman - with men and women equally likely to feel that way. That has changed little since January.

COUNTRY READY TO ELECT WOMAN PRESIDENT?

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	All	Men	Women
Yes	67%	67%	68%
No	23	19	25

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1232 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone January 30-February 2, 2008. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The poll included 491 Democratic primary voters; the margin of error could be plus or minus 5 points. The error for subgroups is higher.

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q2 What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS	Jan08c
	%	%
Economy /Jobs	43	28
War in Iraq	23	25
Health Care	8	8
Nat'l budget	2	3
Poverty/homelessness	2	2
Other	19	31
DK/NA	3	3

q8 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 **			Jan08c
	Total	Rep Primary	Dem Primary	
	%	Voters	Voters	%
		%	%	
A lot	36	41	45	37
Some	44	43	44	43
Not much	12	12	7	16
None at all	4	5	4	3
Don't know/No answer	0	0	0	1

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	Jan08c
Clinton	41	42
Obama	41	27
Edwards	--	11
Someone else/None (vol)	4	0
Undecided (vol)	13	13
DK/NA	1	3

q10 Is your mind made up or is it still too early to say for sure?

	Total	Clinton	Obama	Jan08c
	%	Voters	Voters	
	%	%	%	
Mind made up	62	65	58	57
Too early to say for sure	38	35	42	43

q11 What specifically is it about (Selected Candidate) that makes you want to support (him/her)?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS		
	Total	Clinton	Obama
	%	Voters	Voters
Right experience	13	24	1
New person/fresh	11	0	21
Married to Bill Clinton/Li	9	17	1
Like him/her	6	5	8
Agree on issues	6	6	6
Will bring change	6	2	10
Smart/intelligent	5	8	1
Stance on health care	5	5	5
Vision for country	4	2	5
Honesty/integrity/trustwor	4	1	7
Time for woman president	4	8	0
Leadership	4	5	5
Cares about people	3	3	3
Best candidate for job	2	4	0
Stance on Iraq War	2	0	1
Time for Black president	1	0	2
Other	12	7	21
DK/NA	3	3	3

q12 Would you say you like (Selected Candidate) a great deal better than any other Democratic candidate for President, somewhat better than any other candidate, or only a little better than any other candidate?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS	Jan08c
A great deal	42	40
Somewhat	34	45
Only a little	23	13
Same/there's no difference	0	1
DK/NA	1	1

q13 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?

Clinton	45	48
Obama	36	33
Edwards	--	3
Someone else	6	1
DK/NA	13	15

q14 Is your opinion of Hillary Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Hillary Clinton yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	65	64
Not favorable	18	19
Undecided	15	15
Haven't heard enough	2	2

q15 Is your opinion of John Edwards favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John Edwards yet to have an opinion?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS	
	%	
Favorable	46	45
Not favorable	13	13
Undecided	17	16
Haven't heard enough	21	25
Refused	3	1

q16 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	63	55
Not favorable	11	16
Undecided	17	20
Haven't heard enough	9	8
Refused	0	1

q17 When thinking about where the Democratic presidential candidates stand on the most important issues facing the country today, do you think there are major differences in where the Democratic presidential candidates stand on the issues, or only minor differences?

Major differences	23
Minor differences	68
The same (Vol.)	2
DK/NA	7

q18 Regardless of how you intend to vote in 2008, which candidate do you think is most qualified to manage the economy - Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama?

Clinton	58
Obama	28
Someone else/None	2
DK/NA	12

q19 Regardless of how you intend to vote in 2008, which candidate do you think will do the best job handling the war in Iraq - Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama?

Clinton	42
Obama	46
Someone else/None	1
DK/NA	11

q20 Regardless of how you intend to vote in 2008, which candidate do you think has the best chance of winning the general election in November -- Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama?

		Jan08c
Clinton	46	47
Obama	41	35
Edwards	--	6
Someone else/None	1	1
DK/NA	12	12

q21 From what you know so far, do you think Hillary Clinton has prepared herself well enough for the job of President and all the issues a President has to face, or do you think she needs a few more years to prepare?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS	Jan08c
	%	%
Prepared	82	79
Needs a few more years	16	17
DK/NA	2	4

q22 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?

		Dec07a
Explaining	52	69
Attacking	36	17
Don't know/No answer	12	14

q23 Do you think Hillary Clinton says what she believes most of the time, or does she say what she thinks people want to hear?

		Jul07a
Yes, says what she believe	52	61
No, says what people want	44	32
Don't know/No answer	4	7

q24 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?

		Jan08c
A lot	38	49
Some	46	40
Not much	10	6
Not at all	5	4
Don't know/No answer	1	1

q25 From what you know so far, do you think Barack Obama has prepared himself well enough for the job of President and all the issues a President has to face, or do you think he needs a few more years to prepare?

Prepared	50	40
Needs a few more years	46	53
DK/NA	4	7

q26 What do you think Barack Obama has been spending more time doing in his campaign-- explaining what he would do as president or attacking the other Democratic candidates?

Explaining	69
Attacking	22
Don't know/No answer	9

q27 Do you think Barack Obama says what he believes most of the time, or does he say what he thinks people want to hear?

		Jul07a
Yes, says what he believes	65	58
No, says what people want	31	25
Don't know/No answer	4	17

q28 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?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS	Jan08c
	%	%
A lot	49	48
Some	42	38
Not much	5	5
Not at all	3	5
DK/NA	1	4

q29-q32 BLANK

q33 Thinking back over the past few months, was there ever a time that you supported John Edwards for the Democratic nomination?

Yes	35
No	64
DK/NA	1

q34 BLANK

q35 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?

Harder	46	51
Easier	7	5
Same	44	40
DK/NA	3	4

q36 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	17	12
Easier	21	25
Same	61	60
DK/NA	1	3

q60 All other things being equal, would you rather vote for a black candidate, rather vote for a white candidate, or wouldn't a candidate's race make a difference to you?

Black candidate	4
White candidate	3
No difference	92
Don't know/No answer	1

q61 All other things being equal, would you rather vote for a man, rather vote for a woman, or wouldn't a candidate's gender make a difference to you?

Man	10
Woman	7
No difference	83
Don't know/No answer	0

q62 Do you think America is ready to elect a black president, or not?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS	Jan08c
	%	%
Yes	63	54
No	26	32
Don't know/No answer	10	14

q63 Do you think America is ready to elect a woman president, or not?

Yes	67	66
No	23	28
Don't know/No answer	10	6

q66 Is your opinion of Bill Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Bill Clinton yet to have an opinion?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **		Jul07a
	Total	Dem. Primary Voters	%
	%	%	%
Favorable	46	71	51
Not favorable	39	21	37
Undecided	12	7	10
Haven't heard enough	2	1	2
Refused	1	0	0

q67 From what you know, do you think Bill Clinton's involvement in Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign has generally helped or generally hurt her campaign, or doesn't it make much difference?

Helped	28	37
Hurt	41	36
No difference	29	25
DK/NA	2	2

q68 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?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS	Jan08c
	%	%
More likely	18	39
Less likely	12	13
No difference	70	47
DK/NA	0	1

q69 If Hillary Clinton becomes President, do you think Bill Clinton will have too much influence, too little influence, or about the right amount of influence on the decisions Hillary Clinton makes as President?

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS

	%
Too much influence	22
Too little influence	6
About the right amount	65
Don't know/No answer	7

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1232	
Registered Voters	1084	1031
Democratic Primary Voters	491	472
Republican Primary Voters	325	300