



CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
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THE RACE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION
April 25-29, 2008

Recent public appearances by Sen. Barack Obama's former pastor, Rev. Jeremiah Wright, and Obama's denunciation of his statements could impact the Democratic contest. In interviews conducted just before and during the revived controversy, Obama maintains a strong position among Democratic Party voters but there are suggestions of problems. Democrats are still paying attention to the campaign, and say it doesn't need to end even if its length has a negative impact on the eventual nominee.

Obama now leads Sen. Hillary Clinton by eight points among Democratic primary voters nationwide (those who have already participated in a Democratic primary held this year, or still plan to). But more people are now undecided about who should get the nomination than four weeks ago.

CHOICE FOR DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION

(Among Democratic primary voters)

Table with 6 columns: Candidate, Now, 4/3/2008, 3/19/2008, 2/2008, 1/2008. Rows: Obama, Clinton, Undecided/DK.

The race is closer among registered voters who identify themselves as Democrats (Clinton 44%, Obama 43%), regardless of whether they have voted or plan to vote in a Democratic primary or not. Four weeks ago, Obama had a slim lead over Clinton among this group (Obama 45%, Clinton 42%).

Although Democratic primary voters continue to think Obama will be the nominee, fewer expect him to get the nod than a month ago, before Clinton's victory in the Pennsylvania primary.

WHO DO YOU EXPECT TO WIN DEM NOMINATION?

(Among Democratic primary voters)

Table with 4 columns: Candidate, Now, 4/3/2008, 3/19/2008. Rows: Obama, Clinton.

Obama continues to have an advantage over Clinton on electability but that gap has narrowed. Today, 48% of Democratic primary voters think Obama has the best chance of defeating McCain in November, down 8 points in a month.

BEST CHANCE OF BEATING MCCAIN IN NOVEMBER?

(Among Democratic primary voters)

Table with 3 columns: Candidate, Now, 4/3/2008. Rows: Obama, Clinton.

Registered voters overall are more divided on which Democrat would be more likely to win in November - 44% name Obama, 39% Clinton.

Nationwide, Clinton is getting the support of blue collar whites - a group that Obama has had difficulty winning over in recent primaries. Obama is more likely to get the support of whites in higher income brackets.

**BLUE COLLAR WHITES: CHOICE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION**

(Among Democratic primary voters)

Obama	23%
Clinton	61

Obama wins the support of men in the Democratic primary race nationwide, while Clinton gets the support of women. Democrats under age 45 back Obama, while Clinton has an edge among older voters.

**WILL THE PARTY UNITE?**

Each candidate's supporters say they strongly favor their choice, and some of these solid supporters may not be happy if their candidate doesn't get the nomination.

In fact, 50% of Clinton's supporters say they would be dissatisfied if Obama was the eventual nominee. Fewer Obama backers would be unhappy if Clinton got the nod; 35% of them say they would be dissatisfied.

**SATISFACTION WITH THE EVENTUAL NOMINEE**

<u>IF CLINTON IS THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE</u>		<u>IF OBAMA IS THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE</u>	
	Obama Voters		Clinton Voters
Satisfied	64%	Satisfied	49%
Dissatisfied	35	Dissatisfied	50

There's been much discussion about a Democratic "Dream Ticket," of having both Obama and Clinton run together. More than half of each candidate's supporters would be open to the idea of having the other as a running mate.

<b>SHOULD CLINTON PICK OBAMA AS VP?</b>			<b>SHOULD OBAMA PICK CLINTON AS VP?</b>		
	Obama Voters	Clinton Voters		Obama Voters	Clinton Voters
All			All		
Yes	65%	79%	59%	53%	67%
No	30	19	37	45	28

Looking ahead to November, 35% of Clinton's voters now say they would vote for McCain in the fall if Obama is the Democratic nominee. 23% of Obama's supporters say they would crossover if Clinton heads the ticket.

**GENERAL ELECTION MATCH-UP**

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	<u>Voters</u>		<u>Voters</u>
Obama		Clinton	
Clinton	69%	Obama	57%
McCain	23	McCain	35
Won't vote	4	Won't vote	3

Whatever they say today, the opinions these partisans express in the heat of a nominating campaign may not necessarily reflect what voters will do in November - six months from now.

However, Democratic primary voters may be worried. When asked directly, 56% describe the Democratic Party as divided; 42% say it a united party.

**STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE CANDIDATES**

Overall positive perceptions of Obama have fallen a bit in the past four weeks. His unfavorable rating is up six points among Democratic primary voters and his favorable rating is down five points. Clinton's unfavorable rating with this group is also up six points.

**OPINIONS OF THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES**

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Favorable	Not favorable	Undecided/Haven't heard enough
<u>Obama</u>			
Now	57%	20	22
4/3/2008	62%	14	25
<u>Clinton</u>			
Now	56%	26	14
4/3/2008	58%	20	21

Democratic voters give each of the candidates some clear advantages. Obama has the advantage over Clinton on honesty and integrity, but more Democrats say she is "very patriotic" than say that about Obama. Democratic voters think Clinton is more influenced by special interests than Obama is. Each of them is perceived as being able to handle an international crisis.

**CANDIDATE QUALITIES**

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Obama	Clinton
Very patriotic	39%	55%
Influence of special interests		
A lot	31%	38%
Some	43	47
Honesty and Integrity		
More than people in public life	57%	39%
Less	8	17
Same	28	40
Can handle international crisis	56%	59%

**AND THE CAMPAIGN GOES ON**

More than 40 states have held nominating contests, and even without a nominee, voters are still engaged: 64% of Democratic primary voters are paying a lot of attention to the campaign.

**ATTENTION TO THE CAMPAIGN**

	All Voters	Dem. Primary Voters
A lot	55%	64%
Some	37	32
Not much/none	8	4

And they don't foresee an early end to the uncertainty: nearly seven in 10 Democratic primary voters think the Democratic nominee won't be known until the party's convention in August.

**WHEN WILL THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE BE CLEAR?**

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Now	3/2008
Before the convention	25%	22%
Not until the convention	68	67

Four in 10 Democrats think that if the race for their party's nomination continues through the summer it will hurt the eventual nominee's chances in the general election. Obama supporters are more likely than Clinton supporters to think a longer campaign will hurt rather than help the eventual nominee.

**WOULD A LONG NOMINATION FIGHT  
HELP OR HURT NOMINEE FOR GENERAL ELEC.?**

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Support for nomination:		
	All	Obama	Clinton
Help	22%	27%	20%
Hurt	43	49	30
No difference	28	18	41

Still, a majority of the Democrats who think this long campaign may ultimately hurt the eventual nominee would like to see the campaign continue until someone wins rather than have party leaders step in and choose a candidate.

Even though Democratic voters say the candidates have attacked each other unfairly throughout this campaign, most do not view this primary campaign as any more negative than in years past.

**2008 DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY CAMPAIGN VS. PAST CAMPAIGNS**

(Among Democratic primary voters)

More positive	32%
More negative	16
Same	48

And six in 10 Democratic voters think the Democratic candidates are mostly talking about the things that matter to them; three in 10 say they are not addressing those things.

**HAVE DEM CANDIDATES BEEN TALKING ABOUT WHAT MATTERS TO YOU?**

(Among Democratic primary voters)

Yes	64%
No	30

On the other hand, 63% think the Democratic campaign has focused too much on the candidates' race and gender.

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This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1065 adults nationwide, including 402 Democratic primary voters, interviewed by telephone April 25-29, 2008. Phone numbers were dialed from RDD samples of both standard land-lines and cell phones. 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. The error for the sample of Democratic primary voters is five points.

**CBS News/New York Times Poll**  
**The Race for the Democratic Nomination**  
**April 25-29, 2008**

q1-q8 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q9 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 *		
	Total	Dem. Prim.	
	Voters	Voters	Mar08c
	%	%	%
A lot	55	64	60
Some	37	32	30
Not much	6	3	6
None at all	2	1	4
DK/NA	0	0	0

q10 Who would you like to see the Democratic party nominate as its presidential candidate in 2008 -- Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama?

	** Democratic primary voters **	
Clinton	38	43
Obama	46	46
Someone else/None (vol.)	2	3
Undecided (vol.)	11	7
DK/NA	3	1

q11 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 **			
	Total	Clinton	Obama	
	Voters	Voters	Voters	
	%	%	%	
Strongly favor	68	67	69	64
Like but with reservations	23	22	23	26
Dislike other candidates	9	11	8	9
Don't know/No answer	0	0	0	1

q12 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	34	63	14	21
Obama	51	26	79	69
Someone else (Vol.)	0	0	0	0
DK/NA	15	11	7	10

q13 Is your opinion of Hillary Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Hillary Clinton yet to have an opinion?

	** Democratic primary voters **			
	Total	Clinton	Obama	Mar08c
	%	%	%	%
Favorable	56	64	22	58
Not favorable	26	20	51	20
Undecided	13	10	17	17
Haven't heard enough	1	2	1	4
Refused	4	4	9	1

q14 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	57	14	78	62
Not favorable	20	55	4	14
Undecided	17	21	15	17
Haven't heard enough	5	10	3	8
Refused	0	0	0	0
DK/NA	1	0	0	0

q15 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q16 If the 2008 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were Barack Obama, the Democrat, and John McCain, the Republican, would you vote for Barack Obama or John McCain?

	**** REGISTERED VOTERS ****				Mar08c
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Obama	45	11	74	42	47
McCain	45	84	18	42	42
Other (Vol.)	1	2	0	2	1
Won't vote (Vol.)	3	1	3	5	3
Depends (Vol.)	1	0	1	3	2
Don't know/No answer	5	2	4	6	5

q17 If the 2008 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were Hillary Clinton, the Democrat, and John McCain, the Republican, would you vote for Hillary Clinton or John McCain?

Clinton	48	10	83	41	48
McCain	43	84	12	43	43
Other (Vol.)	1	2	0	2	1
Won't vote (Vol.)	3	1	2	7	3
Depends (Vol.)	1	0	1	3	2
Don't know/No answer	4	3	2	4	3

q18-q21 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q22 If Hillary Clinton wins the Democratic nomination, would you like to see her pick Barack Obama as her vice presidential running mate, or not?

	** Democratic primary voters **		
	Total	Clinton	Obama
		Voters	Voters
	%	%	%
Yes	65	53	79
No	30	41	19
DK/NA	5	6	2

q23 If Barack Obama wins the Democratic nomination, would you like to see him pick Hillary Clinton as his vice presidential running mate, or not?

Yes	59	67	53
No	37	28	45
DK/NA	4	5	2

q24 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?

				Mar08a
				%
Very satisfied	37	76	10	38
Somewhat satisfied	41	21	54	32
Somewhat dissatisfied	11	2	18	16
Very dissatisfied	10	1	17	13
DK/NA	1	0	1	1

q25 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?

Very satisfied	43	5	79	42
Somewhat satisfied	33	44	19	34
Somewhat dissatisfied	12	27	2	13
Very dissatisfied	11	23	0	10
DK/NA	1	1	0	1

q26 Do you think either Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama have attacked the other unfairly in their campaigns?

Yes	58	45	70	60
No	37	51	25	35
DK/NA	5	4	4	5

q27 Do you think Hillary Clinton has attacked Barack Obama unfairly, do you think Barack Obama has attacked Hillary Clinton unfairly, or have both of them attacked the other unfairly?

	* DPVs who think there have been unfair attacks *			
Only Clinton attacked	32	2	49	39
Only Obama attacked	5	17	0	2
Both attacked	63	81	50	59
DK/NA	0	0	1	0

q28 Do you think it will be clear who the Democratic nominee is before the party's national convention takes place in August, or do you think the Democratic nominee will not be decided until the convention?

	** Democratic primary voters **			
	Total	Clinton	Obama	Mar08c
	%	%	%	%
Before the convention	25	24	27	22
At the convention	68	69	67	67
DK/NA	7	7	6	11

q29 Suppose the race for the Democratic nomination continues through the summer. Some people say that this would help the eventual nominee's chances in November because the nominee would have been tested and better prepared for the general election. Other people say that this would hurt the eventual nominee's chances in November because the Democratic candidates will have made critical statements about each other that will weaken the nominee in the general election. What do you think - if the race continues through the summer will that help the Democratic nominee's chances in November, hurt the Democratic nominee's chances in November, or will it have no effect?

Help	22	20	27	27
Hurt	43	30	49	44
No effect	28	41	18	24
DK/NA	7	9	6	5

q30 In order to keep the race from going on into the summer, do you think party leaders should step in soon and choose one of the candidates as the nominee, or do you think the race should continue until one of the candidates has enough delegates?

\* DPVs who think the race continuing hurts the eventual nominee\*

Step in now	31
Go until wins	63
DK/NA	6

q31 Compared to past presidential campaigns, do you think the Democratic nomination campaign this year has been more positive, more negative, or about the same as past campaigns?

	** Democratic primary voters **			
	Total	Clinton	Obama	Mar08c
	%	%	%	%
More positive	32	33	36	34
More negative	16	14	15	24
About the same	48	50	48	41
DK/NA	4	3	1	1

q32 In general, do you think the candidates for the Democratic party's nomination have been mostly talking about things that matter to you, or mostly talking about things that do not matter to you?

Matter	64	69	65
Don't matter	30	26	30
DK/NA	5	5	5

q33 Who do you think has the best chance of beating John McCain in the general election in November - Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama?

	* REGISTERED VOTERS *		
	Total	Dem. Prim.	
	Voters	Voters	Mar08c
	%	%	%
Clinton	39	37	28
Obama	44	48	57
Both equally (vol.)	4	5	5
Neither (vol.)	4	2	3
DK/NA	9	8	7

q34 From what you have seen or heard, do you think the 2008 campaign has focused too much on the candidates' personal attributes like race and gender, not enough, or about the right amount on the candidates' race and gender?

Too much	63	63
Not enough	4	3
About right	28	31
DK/NA	5	3

q35-q37 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q38 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?

	** Democratic primary voters **		
	Total	Clinton	Obama
	Voters	Voters	Voters
	%	%	%
Yes, more	39	45	24
Less	17	16	34
Same	40	34	38
DK/NA	4	5	4
			10

q39 Would you consider Hillary Clinton very patriotic, somewhat patriotic, or not very patriotic?

Very patriotic	55	56	38
Somewhat	38	37	49
Not very	5	5	12
DK/NA	2	2	1

q40 How much influence do you think special interests have on Hillary Clinton - a lot, some, not much or none at all?

A lot	38	41	45
Some	47	46	41
Not much	8	5	8
None at all	3	1	3
DK/NA	4	7	3

q41 Do you have confidence in Hillary Clinton's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis or are you uneasy about her approach?

	** Democratic primary voters **			
	Total	Clinton	Obama	Feb08a
	%	Voters	Voters	%
	%	%	%	%
Confidence	59	66	38	59
Uneasy	37	29	59	39
DK/NA	4	5	3	2

q42-q44 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q45 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?

				Oct07a
Yes, more	57	22	77	56
Less	8	24	2	4
Same	28	44	16	18
DK/NA	7	10	5	22

q46 Would you consider Barack Obama very patriotic, somewhat patriotic, or not very patriotic?

Very patriotic	39	18	52
Somewhat	44	44	44
Not very	15	35	4
DK/NA	2	3	0

q47 How much influence do you think special interests have on Barack Obama - a lot, some, not much or none at all?

A lot	31	35	27
Some	43	48	48
Not much	16	9	18
None at all	4	4	4
DK/NA	6	5	3

q48 Do you have confidence in Barack Obama's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis or are you uneasy about his approach?

				Feb08a
				%
Confidence	56	16	72	62
Uneasy	38	77	25	32
DK/NA	6	7	3	6

q50-q77 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q78 Would you describe the Democratic party today as united or divided?

United	42	29	38
Divided	56	69	61
DK/NA	2	3	1

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1065	
Total registered voters	956	891
Registered Voters - Republicans	285	260
Registered Voters - Democrats	366	346
Registered Voters - Independents	305	285
Democratic primary voters	402	370