



CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
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CLINTON MAINTAINS LEAD IN THE DEMOCRATIC RACE
January 9-12, 2008

There have been two different winners in two different Democratic nominating events, but nationally Democratic primary voters' preferences remain unchanged from December: Senator Hillary Clinton leads Senator Barack Obama by a double digit margin. John Edwards is in a distant third place.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Now	12/2007
Clinton	42%	44%
Obama	27	27
Edwards	11	11

Clinton's win in New Hampshire was due in part to strong support from women. Men there chose Obama. Nationally, Clinton not only has a sizable lead among women, but she also leads among men.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION: BY GENDER

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Men	Women
Clinton	40%	43%
Obama	29	27
Edwards	15	9

Obama has gained ground among voters under age 45 and black voters.

Obama is now the clear choice of black voters, leading Clinton 49% to 34%. In a CBS News Poll conducted last August, the two candidates ran about even among blacks. Obama leads Clinton among both black men and black women.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION: BY RACE

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Whites	Blacks
Clinton	42%	34%
Obama	24	49
Edwards	13	6

Although Clinton now outruns Obama among voters under age 45 by eight points, her lead is shrinking. In December, she led among this group by 20 points. She leads Obama by 20 points among voters age 45 and older, and has increased her lead since last month.

DEMOCRATIC CHOICE FOR NOMINATION: BY AGE

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	18-44	45+
Clinton	39%	44%
Obama	31	24
Edwards	11	12

Partisanship plays a factor in the race, too. Those who identify themselves as Democrats favor Clinton by a wide margin, while independents who intend to vote in a Democratic primary are more closely divided.

48% of Democratic primary voters expect that Clinton will eventually win the nomination; 33% think Obama will.

THERE IS STILL FLUIDITY

On one measure, Clinton's voters appear more enthusiastic than Obama's: 44% of her voters say they like their candidate a great deal better than any other candidate, compared to 38% of Obama's voters.

COMPARED TO OTHER CANDIDATES, LIKE YOURS:

(Among Democratic primary voters with a choice)

	All	Clinton Voters	Obama Voters
A great deal better	40%	44%	38%
Somewhat better	45	41	50
A little better	13	14	10

On other measures, there are few differences, and there is still room for movement.

Two thirds of Democratic primary voters overall strongly favor their candidate. Clinton's and Obama's supporters are as likely to say their support is strong.

STRENGTH OF SUPPORT

(Among Democratic primary voters with a choice)

	All	Clinton Voters	Obama Voters
Strongly favor	65%	69%	69%
Like with reservations	29	28	21
Dislike other candidates	5	2	8

57% of Democratic primary voters say their minds are made up, but 43% say it's too soon to say for sure.

Again, neither of the top two candidates enjoys firm support - 39% of Clinton's voters say their minds could change, as do 43% of Obama's.

MIND MADE UP?

(Among Democratic primary voters with a choice)

	All	Clinton Voters	Obama Voters
Mind made up	57%	61%	57%
Too early to say	43	39	43

Four in 10 Democratic primary voters have recommended their candidate to others; Clinton and Obama voters are not different on this.

ELECTING A BLACK, ELECTING A WOMAN

Clinton's and Obama's candidacies represent milestones in presidential politics, and while few voters say they themselves would not vote for a woman or a black for president, more voters are skeptical about most of the people they know, and about whether the country is ready for either. Black voters in particular are especially likely to think the country is not ready to elect a black president.

More than nine in 10 Democratic primary voters would personally vote for a black, but fewer (71%) think most of the people they know would do so. More whites (71%) than blacks (58%) think most people they know would vote for a black candidate.

VOTE FOR A BLACK CANDIDATE?

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Voters themselves	Most people they know
Yes	94%	71%
No	4	20

Many Democratic primary voters perceive real obstacles to electing a black president. Just 54% think the country is ready for that.

White voters (58%) are more likely than black voters (48%) to think the country is ready to elect a black president.

COUNTRY READY TO ELECT BLACK PRESIDENT?

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	All	Whites	Blacks
Yes	54%	58%	48%
No	32	26	43

Views of registered voters overall are similar: more say they would vote for a black candidate than think most people they know would, and just over half think the country is ready to elect one.

As for a woman candidate, more Democratic primary voters say they would vote for a woman candidate than think most people they know would do so.

Just as blacks are more likely to be concerned about people voting for a candidate of their race, women are less sure than men that other people would vote for a woman.

VOTE FOR A WOMAN CANDIDATE?

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Voters themselves	Most people they know
Yes	93%	66%
No	5	28

But more Democratic primary voters think the country is ready for a woman president than think the country is ready to elect a black.

65% think the country is ready to elect a woman president. Women are slightly less likely than men to think this.

COUNTRY READY TO ELECT WOMAN PRESIDENT?

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	All	Men	Women
Yes	65%	69%	62%
No	29	25	32

The percentages of registered voters who feel most people they know would vote for a woman (56%), or who thinks the country is ready for a woman president (54%), are slightly lower.

MORE DEMOCRATS WANT FRESH IDEAS OVER RIGHT EXPERIENCE

The 2008 Democratic campaign has focused on the theme of experience versus change, and when Democratic primary voters are asked directly, they increasingly prefer fresh ideas over experience.

WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT IN A CANDIDATE?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Now	12/2007	8/07
Right experience	35%	42%	40%
Fresh ideas	52	45	44

This preference has an impact on vote choice. Democrats who want fresh ideas are backing Obama, while Clinton captures the overwhelming support of those who say they value the right experience.

WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT IN A CANDIDATE?

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Fresh Ideas	Right Experience
Clinton	25%	64%
Obama	39	16

When Democratic primary voters were asked specifically what kind of change they want the next president to bring, many volunteered issue-oriented responses.

A better economy and more jobs topped the list, followed by a change in the situation in Iraq and health care. Other answers include more help for the middle class and changing America's standing in the world.

WHAT KIND OF CHANGE DO YOU WANT THE NEXT PRESIDENT TO BRING?

(Among Democratic primary voters)

Better economy/more jobs	22%
Situation in Iraq	17
Health care	7
More help for middle class/common man	5

In addition, Democratic primary voters were asked what kind of experience they want the next president to bring to the job.

Foreign policy experience was the top response (12%), followed by leadership (9%). Experience in politics in general (7%), legislative experience (6%) and military experience (5%) were also mentioned.

CLINTON AND OBAMA ARE BOTH CHANGE AGENTS, BUT CLINTON HAS EXPERIENCE

Both leading Democratic candidates are viewed as people who could bring real change to Washington, but Clinton continues to have the advantage over Obama on preparedness for the job of president.

CANDIDATE QUALITIES

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Clinton	Obama
Could bring change	66%	66%
Could not	26	26
Prepared to be president	79%	40%
Needs more time	17	53

Obama's numbers on this measure have changed little since December.

Democratic primary voters are split as to which is more important in their vote, a candidate's position on the issues or their leadership and personal qualities.

Clinton captures the support of those who say issues are more important, while she and Obama more closely divide the vote of those who value candidate qualities.

WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT IN YOUR VOTE?

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

		Clinton	Obama
Issues	47%	42%	21
Qualities	47	40%	35

In New Hampshire, Democratic voters said issues (58%) were more important than qualities (39%) and Clinton won those "issues" voters -- which helped her win there.

Clinton continues to be seen as the Democratic candidate with the best chance of winning the presidency in 2008, but the gap between her and Obama has narrowed dramatically.

47% of Democratic primary voters say Clinton has the best chance of winning in November 2008, while 35% pick Obama. Clinton had a 49-point advantage on this question back in December.

BEST CHANCE OF WINNING IN NOVEMBER 2008

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Now	12/2007
Clinton	47%	63%
Obama	35	14
Edwards	6	10

Seven in 10 Clinton and Obama backers each say their candidate has the best chance of winning a general election.

In New Hampshire, Obama had the advantage on electability, with 44% picking him as the candidate most likely to beat the Republican in a general election. 35% there chose Clinton.

CARING, UNITING AND LEADING THE COUNTRY: RACE AND GENDER DIFFERENCES

Nearly all Democratic primary voters think both Clinton and Obama care about their needs and problems, including half who say each cares about them "a lot."

African American voters are more likely to say Obama cares about their needs "a lot" than say that about Clinton: 62% think Obama cares about them "a lot;" compared to 43% for Clinton.

There are some gender differences too. Men are more likely to say Obama cares "a lot" about their needs and problems than think that about Clinton. Among women, Clinton has an edge.

CARES "A LOT" ABOUT NEEDS OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	All	Whites	Blacks	Men	Women
Clinton	49%	51%	43%	45%	52%
Obama	48%	45%	62%	55%	44%

Both Clinton (62%) and Obama (65%) are seen as being the kind of president that would unite the country.

Even though a majority of African American voters see both candidates as being able to unite the country, more - 75% - view Obama as a uniter, while fewer - 57% - see Clinton that way.

Eight in 10 Democratic primary voters think it is likely that Clinton and Obama would each be an effective Commander-in-chief.

However, 42% of Democrats think it is "very likely" that Clinton would be an effective commander-in-chief, compared with 34% for Obama.

EFFECTIVE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Clinton	Obama
Very likely	42%	34%
Somewhat likely	38	47
Not very likely	10	7
Not at all	6	6

38% of Democratic voters in New Hampshire said Hillary Clinton was the most qualified candidate who to be commander-in-chief; 26% chose Obama.

CLINTON, OBAMA AND THE MEDIA

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.

Women are especially likely to think the news media has been tougher on Clinton than on the other candidates. 56% of women, compared to 44% of men, feel that's been the case.

COMPARED TO OTHER CANDIDATES, THE NEWS MEDIA HAS BEEN ...

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Harder on	Easier on	Same
Clinton	51%	5	40
Obama	12%	25	60

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.

African American voters (20%) are more likely than whites (11%) to say the news media has been harder on Obama than on other candidates.

PRESIDENT CLINTON AND THE CLINTON LEGACY

Bill Clinton continues to be a net positive for his wife.

Nearly four in 10 Democratic primary voters say Bill Clinton's involvement in his wife's campaign makes them more likely to support her. Only 13% say less likely. 47% say his involvement

makes no difference. The percentage that thinks his involvement is negative, while small, has risen since December.

BILL CLINTON'S INVOLVEMENT IN HILLARY'S CAMPAIGN

(Among Democratic Primary Voters)

	Now	12/2007
More likely to vote for her	39%	44%
Less likely to vote for her	13	7
No difference	47	46

While the former President may be having a positive effect on Hillary Clinton's campaign, there is some evidence in this poll of hesitation about putting another Clinton in the White House.

Since 1989, a member of the Bush or Clinton family has been President of the United States, and 43% of Democratic primary voters think this would be a bad thing for the country. However, 46% do not think it makes any difference. Registered voters overall are also more likely to think that's a bad thing rather than a good thing, but half think it makes no difference.

BUSH AND CLINTON FAMILIES AND THE PRESIDENCY

	Registered voters	Dem. Primary voters
Good thing	5%	5%
Bad thing	38	43
No difference	50	46

VOTERS: YOU CAN CRY IF YOU WANT TO

Over eight in 10 registered voters (both Democratic and Republican primary voters) say it is appropriate for a candidate to show their emotions. This topic was included in the poll because of the attention paid to Hillary Clinton's emotional response to a question asked by a woman in New Hampshire.

Majorities of both women and men think it is appropriate for a candidate to show their emotions.

IS IT APPROPRIATE FOR A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE TO SHOW THEIR EMOTIONS?

(Among registered voters)

	All	Dem. Primary Voters	Rep. Primary Voters
Yes	81%	83%	78%
No	13	14	11

VIEWS OF THE CANDIDATES

Democratic primary voters have consistently said that they are satisfied with their candidate choices. Both Clinton and Obama are viewed favorably by majorities of Democratic primary voters.

Four in 10 still don't have an opinion of John Edwards, however.

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1178 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone January 9-12, 2008. 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 185 interviews among this group and 141 African American Democratic primary voters. 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 overall is plus or minus 7 percentage points, and plus or minus 8 points for African American Democratic primary voters.

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Clinton Maintains Lead in Democratic Race
January 9-12, 2008

q1-q5 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q6 Which one is more important to you in a presidential candidate -- having the right experience, or having fresh ideas?

	** REGISTERED VOTERS **			Dec07a
	Total	Dem Primary Voters	Rep Primary Voters	
	%	%	%	%
Right experience	44	35	59	49
Fresh ideas	42	52	28	38
Both (Vol.)	11	10	10	10
Don't know/No answer	3	3	3	7

q7 What kind of change do you most want the next president to bring about -- or do you think that no change is necessary?

Make economy better/more jobs	20	22	14
Situation in Iraq	14	17	12
Health care/reduce costs	6	7	4
More help for middle class	6	5	9
Change way things work in DC	4	4	5
Illegal immigration/reduce	4	2	7
Higher/better moral values	3	3	3
Direction of the country	3	2	3
America's standing in world	3	4	2
New foreign policy	3	4	2
New domestic policy	3	4	2
Open/honest government	2	2	3
End gridlock/more cooperation	2	3	2
More social services/gov't	2	2	1
Smaller government	2	1	2
Nothing/No change	5	2	8
Other	4	8	6
DK/NA	14	8	15

q8-q10 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q11 Who would you like to see the Democratic party nominate as its presidential candidate in 2008 -- Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, John Edwards, Mike Gravel, or Dennis Kucinich?

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS	
Biden (vol.)	2
Clinton	44
Dodd (vol.)	1
Edwards	11
Gravel	0
Kucinich	2
Obama	27
Richardson* (vol.)	2
Someone else/none	2
Undecided (Vol.)	6
DK/NA	3

*On 1/10/08 Bill Richardson dropped out of the race and his name was removed from the text of this question.

q12 Is your mind made up or is it still too early to say for sure?

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS WITH A CANDIDATE CHOICE IN Q11

	Total	Clinton	Obama	Dec07a
	%	Voters	Voters	%
		%	%	
Mind made up	57	61	57	40
Too early to say for sure	43	39	43	59
DK/NA	0	0	0	1

q13 Would you describe your support for (Selected Candidate) as strongly favoring (Selected Candidate), or do you like him/her but with reservations, or do you support him/her because you dislike the other candidates?

Strongly favor	65	69	69	53
Like but with reservations	29	28	21	39
Dislike other candidates	5	2	8	5
Don't know/No answer	1	1	2	3

q14 When you have talked with people who are planning to vote in a primary or caucus, have you ever recommended that they support (Selected Candidate), or haven't you done that?

Yes, recommended	43
No, have not recommended	55
Already voting for cand. (vol)	1
To some/depends (vol)	1

q15 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?

A great deal	40
Somewhat	45
Only a little	13
Same/there's no difference	1
DK/NA	1

q16 Regardless of how you intend to vote , who do you expect to finally win the Democratic nomination for President in 2008 -- Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, John Edwards, or someone else?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS	Apr07a
	%	%
Clinton	48	38
Obama	33	20
Edwards	3	17
Someone else	1	11
DK/NA	15	14

q17 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	Dec07a
	%	%
Favorable	64	68
Not favorable	19	14
Undecided	15	17
Haven't heard enough	2	2
Refused	0	0

q18 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	45	36
Not favorable	13	14
Undecided	16	25
Haven't heard enough	25	25
Refused	1	0

q19 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	55	54
Not favorable	16	14
Undecided	20	22
Haven't heard enough	8	10
Refused	1	0

q20-q29 RELEASED SEPARATELY; q30 BLANK

q31 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?

Prepared	79	83
Needs a few more years	17	14
DK/NA	4	3

q32 Regardless of how you intend to vote, do you think Hillary Clinton would be the kind of president who would be able to unite the country or wouldn't she be that kind of president?

Would unite the country	62
Not that kind of president	27
DK/NA	11

q33 Regardless of how you intend to vote for president in 2008, how likely do you think it is the Hillary Clinton would be an effective commander-in-chief of the nation's military-would you say it is very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not likely at all?

Very likely	42	39
Somewhat likely	38	42
Not very likely	10	11
Not at all likely	6	7
DK/NA	4	1

q34 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?

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS

	%
Could	66
Could not	26
DK/NA	8

q35 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?

		Dec07a
		%
Prepared	40	41
Needs a few more years	53	52
DK/NA	7	7

q36 Regardless of how you intend to vote, do you think Barack Obama would be the kind of president who would be able to unite the country or wouldn't he be that kind of president?

Would unite the country	65
Not that kind of president	22
DK/NA	13

q37 Regardless of how you intend to vote for president in 2008, how likely do you think it is the Barack Obama would be an effective commander-in-chief of the nation's military--would you say it is very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not likely at all?

Very likely	34
Somewhat likely	47
Not very likely	7
Not at all likely	6
DK/NA	6

q38 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?

Could	66
Could not	26
DK/NA	8

q39 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?

		Aug07a
		%
A lot	49	51
Some	40	36
Not much	6	6
Not at all	4	6
DK/NA	1	1

q40 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	Aug07a
	%	%
A lot	48	50
Some	38	34
Not much	5	4
Not at all	5	4
DK/NA	4	8

q41 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	51
Easier	5
Same	40
DK/NA	4

q45 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	12
Easier	25
Same	60
DK/NA	3

q42 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	39	44
Less likely	13	7
No difference	47	46
DK/NA	1	3

q43 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, John Edwards, Mike Gravel, Dennis Kucinich, Barack Obama, or Bill Richardson,?

Clinton	47	63
Edwards	6	10
Gravel	0	0
Obama	35	14
Richardson* (vol.)	0	1
Someone else/None	1	--
DK/NA	12	12

*On 1/10/08 Bill Richardson dropped out of the race and his name was removed from the text of this question.

q46, q48, q50, q53, q54, q55 RELEASED SEPARATELY
q47, q49, q51-q52, q56, q57 BLANK

ROTATE BETWEEN q58-q60 AND q61-q63

q58 Do you think most people you know would vote for a presidential candidate who is black, or not?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

	Total	Dem Primary Voters	Rep Primary Voters	Dec07a %
Would	65	71	63	60
Would not	21	20	23	25
Don't know/No answer	14	9	14	15

q59 Would you personally vote for a presidential candidate who is black, or not?
trend??

Would	90	94	83
Would not	6	4	11
Don't know/No answer	4	2	6

q60 Do you think America is ready to elect a black president, or not?

				Jan07c
Yes	54	54	63	54
No	31	32	28	36
Depends (vol.)	--	--	--	3
Don't know/No answer	15	14	9	7

q61 Do you think most people you know would vote for a presidential candidate who is a woman, or not?

				Dec07a %
Would	56	66	44	49
Would not	34	28	42	40
Don't know/No answer	10	6	14	12

q62 Would you personally vote for a presidential candidate who is a woman, or not?

Would	81	93	68
Would not	15	5	28
Don't know/No answer	4	2	4

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

Yes	54	65	44	54
No	39	29	49	40
Depends (vol.)	--	--	--	2
Don't know/No answer	7	6	7	4

q64 Since 1989, a member of the Bush or Clinton family has been President of the United States. How do you feel about members of these two families holding the presidency for nearly 20 years--it is a good thing for the country, because the individuals in these families have a lot of experience in government and politics, or it is a bad thing for the country, because it concentrates too much power among a small group of people, or it doesn't really make much difference, because each election is about individuals, not families?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

	Total	Dem Primary Voters	Rep Primary Voters	Apr07a %
Good thing	5	5	6	4
Bad thing	38	43	32	31
Doesn't make difference	50	46	52	61
Some good, some bad (Vol.)	4	4	3	2
Don't know/No answer	3	2	7	2

q65 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q66 These days we hear a lot of Presidential candidates talk about their experience. What kind of experience do you most want the next President to bring to the job?

Foreign policy experience	12	12	13
Leadership	10	9	8
Business/corporate experience	7	3	8
Been in politics/public serv.	7	7	10
Military experience	6	5	8
Leg. exp./a Senator/Congress	5	6	5
Ability to work with others	4	6	4
Domestic policy experience	4	4	3
Honesty/Integrity	4	4	3
Fighter for the middle class	2	5	1
An activist/fighter for people	2	1	1
Bipartisanship	2	3	1
Other	9	13	14
DK/NA	26	22	21

q67 BLANK

q68 Do you think it's appropriate for candidates for president to show their emotions, or is that not appropriate?

Appropriate	81	83	78
Not appropriate	13	14	11
DK/NA	6	3	11

q69 Which is more important in your vote for president : a candidate's positions on the issues or a candidate's leadership and personal qualities?

** REGISTERED VOTERS **

	Total	Dem Primary Voters	Rep Primary Voters
	%	%	%
Issues	43	47	40
Qualities	48	47	48
DK/NA	9	6	12

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1178	
Total Registered Voters	995	
Democratic Primary Voters	508	438
Republican Primary Voters	283	270
Total African Americans	185	
African American Dem. Primary Voters	141	