

**THE REPUBLICAN RACE: MCCAIN SURGES NATIONALLY**  
January 9-12, 2008

- o Surging out of New Hampshire, John McCain now leads the national Republican race over Mike Huckabee, 33% to 18%.
  - o McCain leads among conservatives as well as moderates.
  - o McCain is now seen as most electable in November.
  - o Four in ten Republican primary voters say Iowa and New Hampshire's results have affected their decisions at least somewhat.
  - o Support for former national front-runner Rudy Giuliani has fallen by more than half in this poll.
- o McCain may be helped by Republican voters prioritizing experience, and foreign policy experience in particular.
- o There are many indications this race is far from settled: 72% could still change their minds and fewer than half, 43%, "strongly" support their candidates.
- o Most Republican primary voters are, however, satisfied with their nomination choices - something most had not been before.

**THE NATIONAL RACE**

After his New Hampshire win, McCain is now the top choice for the Presidential nod among all Republican primary voters, surging to 33%, well ahead of former Governor Mike Huckabee, at 18%.

- o *Former Mayor Rudy Giuliani has lost the national lead that he enjoyed for most of last year, and has seen his national support drop by more than half.*

**REPUBLICAN CHOICE FOR THE NOMINATION**

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

	Now	12/07	10/07
McCain	33%	7%	18%
Huckabee	18	21	4
Giuliani	10	22	29
Romney	8	16	12
Thompson	8	7	21

McCain leads among conservatives as well as moderates.

- o *Many observers wondered whether conservatives in the party (who make up the majority of primary voters) would embrace McCain, but in this poll he now leads among self-described conservatives with 31% to Huckabee's 17%. Among moderates, McCain leads by a similar margin.*
- o *Four in ten (41%) Republican primary voters call the Iowa and New Hampshire results important in their own decisions - though few, just 6%, call them "very" important.*

There is very little commitment in the Republican race.

- o *Only 27% of those backing a candidate say their mind is made up about it - a whopping 72% say things could still change, almost identical to sentiments expressed in December.*

**MIND MADE UP ABOUT WHOM TO SUPPORT?**

(Among Republican Primary Voters with a Choice)

Yes	27%
Too early	72

And Republicans are not strongly behind their candidates, no matter whom they choose: fewer than half, 43%, strongly favor their choice.

- o *About four in ten McCain voters "strongly" back him.*
- o *In December, a majority strongly backed their pick.*

**STRENGTH OF CANDIDATE SUPPORT**

(Among Republican Primary Voters with a Choice)

	Now	12/07	10/07
Strongly favor	43%	52%	40%
Have reservations	42	37	50
Dislike others	13	6	7

On another measure of commitment, Republicans also seem tepid: they like their preferred candidates only "somewhat" better than the others.

**DO YOU LIKE YOUR CANDIDATE..**

(Among Republican Primary Voters with a Choice)

A lot better than others	20%
Somewhat better	45
Only a little better	35

However, Republicans are now satisfied with their candidates for the nomination.

- o *This is the highest level of satisfaction about their 2008 choices that Republican voters have voiced in this poll.*

**SATISFIED WITH REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES?**

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

	Now	10/07	7/07
Yes	59%	48%	36%
No, want more choices	39	49	60

**VIEWS ON THE CANDIDATES**

McCain's win in New Hampshire has bolstered the view that he is best able to win in the November general election.

- o Giuliani held a wide margin on this last month; no longer.

**WHO IS MOST ELECTABLE IN NOVEMBER?**

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

	Now	12/07
McCain	41%	7%
Huckabee	14	13
Giuliani	12	43
Romney	9	18
Thompson	3	3
Don't know	18	13

McCain is now seen by six in ten primary voters as sharing Republican values: 62% say he does.

- o *Huckabee is rated highly on this measure; Giuliani and Romney rate lower.*

**DOES... SHARE REPUBLICANS' VALUES?**

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

	Yes	No
McCain	62%	24
Giuliani	48%	39
Huckabee	63%	13
Romney	48%	24

In an election where so many candidates talk about change, many Republicans want it too: 50% want the nominee to change President Bush's policies, more than want to continue them.

**SHOULD THE REPUBLICAN NOMINEE...**

Change Bush's policies	50%
Continue Bush's policies	39

- o *Among voters who want change, no single Republican candidate stands apart as most likely to bring it.*

Favorable views of McCain have soared as well: he is now viewed positively by a wide 4-to-1 margin.

- o Mitt Romney has slipped in perceptions of Republicans nationally.
- o Mike Huckabee is seen favorably, but many still don't know him.

**VIEWS OF THE CANDIDATES**

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

	Now	12/07	10/07
McCain: Favorable	57%	37%	37%
Not favorable	13	32	22
Undecided/DK	29	30	41
Huckabee: Favorable	47%	30%	12%
Not favorable	12	10	9
Undecided/DK	40	60	79
Romney: Favorable	23%	36%	28%
Not favorable	27	16	16
Undecided/DK	51	48	56
Giuliani: Favorable	40%	41%	48%
Not favorable	24	28	20
Undecided/DK	36	30	32

**WHAT REPUBLICANS ARE LOOKING FOR**

Republican primary voters are split on what's most important for the next President: 40% cite leadership and personal qualities and 48% say it is agreement on issues.

- o *McCain leads with both camps.*

**WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT IN A PRESIDENT?**

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

Agree on issues	40%
Leadership and personal qualities	48

Experience matters for Republicans: by 59% to 28%, they prioritize it over fresh ideas.

When considering experience, many Republican voters are looking for foreign policy experience, in particular.

- o *Asked what kind of experience a President should bring to the job, Republicans volunteer "foreign policy" more than other answers.*

The economy is now the top issue Republican primary voters see facing the country, ahead of Iraq and immigration.

- o *The economy was cited by just 9% in December.*

### NATION'S MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

	Now	12/07
The economy/jobs	22%	9%
Iraq	15	15
Immigration	12	8

On the matter of the war, the Iraq troop surge (of which McCain has been a vocal supporter) is seen as working by a large majority (71%) of Republican primary voters. However, war attitudes have little impact on presidential preference.

Republican primary voters have long backed the Iraq war and the troop surge, in particular.

### ATTENTION AND ENTHUSIASM: THE 2008 CAMPAIGN

Most registered voters are paying attention to the presidential campaign.

*80% of registered voters are paying at least some attention to the 2008 presidential campaign, including 37% who are paying a lot of attention.*

#### ATTENTION TO THE CAMPAIGN

(Among registered voters)

	Total	Dem. primary voters	Rep. primary voters
A lot	37%	44%	40%
Some	43	40	46
Not much/none	19	15	14

44% of registered voters are more enthusiastic about voting in the 2008 Presidential election than usual, but Democrats are far more enthusiastic than Republicans.

*Nearly 6 in 10 Democratic primary voters say they are more enthusiastic than usual this year, as opposed to about a third of Republican primary voters.*

#### ENTHUSIASM ABOUT VOTING IN THE 2008 ELECTION

(Among registered voters)

	Total	Dem. primary voters	Rep. primary voters
More than usual	44%	58%	32%
Less than usual	14	8	19
Same	41	33	49

Looking ahead to November, half of all registered voters say they would vote for a generic Democratic candidate - only three in 10 say they now would vote Republican.

**WHICH PARTY'S CANDIDATE WILL YOU VOTE FOR IN NOVEMBER?**

(Among registered voters)

	Now	12/2007	10/2007
Republican candidate	32%	31%	33%
Democratic candidate	50	48	48
Depends (vol.)	8	10	9

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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.

**CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL**  
**The Republican Race: McCain Surges Nationally**  
**January 9-12, 2008**

q1-q2 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q3 What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

	Republican primary voters	Dec07a
	%	%
Economy & Jobs	22	9
War in Iraq	15	15
Immigration	12	8
Terrorism (general)	7	6
Poverty / Homelessness	3	4
Health Care	3	5
Misc. Economic Issues	3	0
Gas/Heating Oil Crisis	3	1
Miscellaneous Social Issue	3	1
Social Security	2	1
Defense / Military	2	2
Misc. Moral Values	2	4
Religious Values	2	3
Moral Values/Family Values	2	1
Homeland Security/Safety	2	1
Other	10	36
DK/NA	3	3

q4-q7 RELEASED SEPARATELY

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 *****				
	Total Voters	Democratic primary voters	Republican primary voters	Dec07a
	%	%	%	%
A lot	37	44	40	33
Some	43	40	46	43
Not much	16	14	12	19
None at all	3	1	2	5
DK/NA	1	0	0	0

q9 If the November 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?

**** REGISTERED VOTERS ****				
**** Party ID ****				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Republican	32	77	3	25
Democratic	50	7	88	42
Other (vol.)	1	1	0	2
Won't vote (vol.)	0	0	0	0
Depends (vol.)	8	6	6	14
DK/NA	9	9	3	17

q10 Compared to past Presidential elections, how would you describe your level of enthusiasm about voting in the 2008 Presidential election this year -- are you more enthusiastic than usual, less enthusiastic, or about the same as usual?

\*\*\*\*\* REGISTERED VOTERS \*\*\*\*\*

	Total Voters %	Democratic primary voters %	Republican primary voters %	Dec07a %
More enthusiastic	44	58	32	35
Less enthusiastic	14	8	19	22
Same	41	33	49	43
Dk/NA	1	1	0	0

q11-q19 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q20 Who would you like to see the Republican party nominate as its presidential candidate in 2008 -- John McCain, Rudy Giuliani, Mitt Romney, Fred Thompson, Mike Huckabee, Duncan Hunter, or Ron Paul?

Republican primary voters

	%	
Giuliani	10	22
Huckabee	18	21
Hunter	1	3
McCain	33	7
Paul	5	4
Romney	8	16
Thompson	8	7
Someone else /None	2	2
Undecided (Vol.)	13	14
DK/NA	2	3

q21 Is your mind made up or is it still too early to say for sure?

Mind made up	27	23
Too early to say for sure	72	76
DK/NA	1	1

q22 Would you describe your support for (Selected Candidate) as strongly favoring (Selected Candidate), or do you like him but with reservations, or do you support him because you dislike the other candidates?

Strongly favor	43	52
Like but with reservations	42	37
Dislike other candidates	13	6
Don't know/No answer	2	5

q23 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	20
No, have not recommended	79
They're already voting for	0
To some, not others/ depen	1



q24 Would you say you like (Selected Candidate) a great deal better than any other Republican candidate for President, somewhat better than any other candidate, or only a little better than any other candidate?

Republican primary voters	
	%
A great deal	20
Somewhat	45
Only a little	35
Same/there's no difference	0

q25 Regardless of how you intend to vote, who do you expect to finally win the Republican nomination for President in 2008 -- John McCain, Rudy Giuliani, Mitt Romney, Fred Thompson, Mike Huckabee, or someone else?

		Apr07a*
		%
McCain	39	22
Giuliani	11	49
Romney	7	4
Thompson	2	NA
Huckabee	12	NA
Someone else	3	19
DK/NA	26	15

\*Trend only listed McCain, Giuliani, and Huckabee

q26 Is your opinion of Rudy Giuliani favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Rudy Giuliani yet to have an opinion?

		Dec07a
		%
Favorable	40	41
Not favorable	24	28
Undecided	23	19
Haven't heard enough	13	11
Refused	0	1

q27 Is your opinion of Mike Huckabee favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Mike Huckabee yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	47	30
Not favorable	12	10
Undecided	16	18
Haven't heard enough	24	42
Refused	1	0

q28 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	57	37
Not favorable	13	32
Undecided	20	22
Haven't heard enough	9	8
Refused	0	1

q29 Is your opinion of Mitt Romney favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Mitt Romney yet to have an opinion?

	Republican primary voters	Dec07a
	%	%
Favorable	23	36
Not favorable	27	16
Undecided	19	20
Haven't heard enough	32	28
Refused	0	0

q31-q43 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q44 Do you think John McCain shares the values of most Republicans, or not?

Yes	62	47*
No	24	29
Don't know/No answer	14	24

\*wording change: "...or doesn't he share those values?"

q45 BLANK

q46 Do you think Mitt Romney shares the values of most Republicans, or not?

Yes	48	52*
No	24	17
Don't know/No answer	28	31

\*wording change: "...or doesn't he share those values?"

q47 BLANK

q48 Do you think Rudy Giuliani shares the values of most Republicans, or not?

Yes	48	52*
No	39	36
Don't know/No answer	13	12

\*wording change: "...or doesn't he share those values?"

q49 BLANK

q50 Do you think Mike Huckabee shares the values of most Republicans, or not?

Yes	63	49
No	13	15
Don't know/No answer	24	36

\*wording change: "...or doesn't he share those values?"

q51-q52 BLANK

q53 Are you generally satisfied with the candidates now running for the Republican nomination for President, or do you wish there were more choices?

		Oct07a
		%
Satisfied	59	48
More choices	39	49
DK/NA	2	3

q54 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 -- Rudy Giuliani, Mike Huckabee, Duncan Hunter, John McCain, Mitt Romney, Ron Paul, or Fred Thompson?

	Republican primary voters	Dec07a
	%	%
Giuliani	12	43
Huckabee	14	13
McCain	41	7
Romney	9	18
Paul	2	2
Thompson	3	3
Someone else /None (Vol.)	1	1
DK/NA	18	13

q55 Would you rather see the next Republican presidential nominee generally continue George W. Bush's policies, or mostly change to different policies?  
 IF CHANGE, ASK: Regardless of how you intend to vote, which candidate do you think would be most likely to change from George W. Bush's policies: Rudy Giuliani, Mike Huckabee, John McCain, or Mitt Romney?

Continue Bush's policies	39
Change, Giuliani	10
Change, Huckabee	11
Change, McCain	12
Change, Romney	9
Change, don't know who	8
DK/NA	11

q56-q64 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q65 In deciding which candidate to support, how important have the results of the Iowa caucuses and New Hampshire primary been -- very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

	***** REGISTERED VOTERS *****		
	Total Voters	Democratic primary voters	Republican primary voters
	%	%	%
Very important	13	19	6
Somewhat important	34	36	35
Not too important	22	19	26
Not important at all	29	24	34
DK/NA	2	2	0

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?

Republican primary voters

	%
Foreign policy experience	13
Been in politics/public sector	10
Leadership	8
Business/corporate experience	8
Military experience	8
Being a Senator/in Congress	5
Ability to work with others	4
Domestic policy experience	3
Other	20
DK/NA	21

q67 BLANK

q68 RELEASED SEPARATELY

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?

Issues	40
Qualities	48
DK/NA	12

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1178	
Total Registered Voters	995	
Democratic Primary Voters	508	438
Republican Primary Voters	283	270