

Illinois Republican Presidential Primary

Illinois: McCain 34% Romney 26%, Thursday, January 31, 2008

In Illinois, as in many other Super Tuesday states, John McCain enjoys a modest lead over Mitt Romney. The latest Rasmussen Reports telephone survey finds McCain earning 34% of the vote while Romney is eight points behind at 26%. The survey was conducted on Monday and Tuesday, finishing just before results from Florida’s Presidential Primary were known. Mike Huckabee finished a distant third at 16%.

Since the poll was completed, Rudy Giuliani has withdrawn from the race and endorsed McCain. America’s Mayor had picked up 9% of the Illinois vote in the poll. The results in Illinois are broadly similar to those in California, site of a Republican debate on Wednesday night.

McCain is viewed favorably by 77% of Illinois Primary Voters while Romney earns positive reviews from 71%. The men earn generally equal ratings from those who supported Giuliani in the poll.

Just 54% of voters in the state are confident they will stick with their current choice when Election Day finally arrives. Fifteen percent (15%) say there’s a good chance they could change their mind. That figure, of course, went even higher with the withdrawal of Giuliani.

Forty-one percent (41%) consider the top voting issue to be the economy. Eighteen percent (18%) say it’s National Security while 14% name Immigration as their top priority.

Survey of 504 Likely GOP Primary Voters, January 29, 2008

Illinois GOP Primary

John McCain	34%
Mitt Romney	26%
Mike Huckabee	16%
Ron Paul	10%