

# Results of SurveyUSA Election Poll #12966



Sponsors:

WCSC-TV (Charleston), WSPA-TV (Greenville)

Geography: South Carolina

Data Collected: 11/09/2007 - 11/11/2007

Release Date: 11/13/2007

## South Carolina: Both Presidential Primaries Volatile, Two Months to the Vote

**GOP Primary -- 5 in Double Digits, 4 within Striking Distance of Giuliani, Who Remains the One To Beat:** In a Republican Primary for President of the United States held in South Carolina today, 11/13/07, two months to the vote, New Yorker Rudolph Giuliani finishes 1st at 26%, with 4 other Republicans bunched in his rear-view mirror. Mitt Romney is in 2nd place at 20%, just ahead of Fred Thompson who finishes 3rd at 18%. John McCain is 4th at 14%. Mike Huckabee is 5th at 12%. SC Republican primary voters are divided on what issue the next president should focus on ahead of all others. Those who name "Terrorism" consolidate behind Giuliani, then Huckabee. Those who name "Immigration" as the most important issue, back Romney and Thompson. Republicans are 12 times more likely than Democrats to name "Terrorism" as the issue the next president should focus on first. Romney leads Upstate, Giuliani leads in the Midlands and in the Low Country.

**Democratic Primary -- Clinton Slugs it Out with Obama:** In a Democratic Primary for President of the United States held in South Carolina today, 11/13/07, two months to the vote, Hillary Clinton leads with 47%, 14 points atop Barack Obama, at 33%. Clinton leads by 33 points among women. Obama leads by 19 point among men. **A 52-point Gender Gap.** Among white South Carolina Democratic Primary voters, Obama runs 3rd, behind John Edwards, who gets 17% of white votes and 10% overall. Obama gets 15% of white votes, 40 points behind Clinton, who gets 55% of white votes. Obama leads 5:4 among black voters, but that is not enough of a lead to catapult Obama past Clinton -- not today, anyway. In SurveyUSA's turnout model, 49% of likely Democratic voters are black, 48% are white. Clinton leads by 22 points Upstate, by 15 points in the Midlands, and by 5 points in the Low Country. Obama leads among voters under age 50. Democrats say Iraq is the most important issue for the next President to focus on, followed by the Economy, followed by Health Care. On all 3 issues, Clinton leads by at least 16 points.

**Filtering:** 2,200 South Carolina adults were interviewed 11/09/07 through 11/11/07. Of them 1,895 were registered to vote. Of the 1,895, a total of 1,483 were identified by SurveyUSA as likely to vote in the South Carolina Presidential Primary. Of them, 201 were disqualified by SurveyUSA because they could not commit to voting "no matter what date the primary is held," and of the remaining 1,282 likely voters, 257 were disqualified by SurveyUSA because they said they had not decided yet which Primary they were going to vote in. The net yield is 577 likely Republican Primary voters and 447 likely Democratic Primary voters. All of these are voters who say they are certain to vote no matter what day the primary is held, and are certain today which one of the two primaries they will vote in. **Caveat:** Measuring African American turnout in South Carolina is a challenge in any election, but uniquely so in a Primary where an African American is a candidate for President. It is unknowable at this hour how many infrequent black voters, if any, Obama may turnout in a Primary, and, separately, how many infrequent young voters an Obama candidacy may attract in a Primary. These survey results should be evaluated with these caveats in mind.

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**1** If the Republican Primary for President of the United States were today, would you vote for ...(names rotated) Rudy Giuliani? Mike Huckabee? John McCain? Mitt Romney? Fred Thompson? Or some other Republican?

577 Likely Republican Primary Voter	All	Gender		Race		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Age				<50 / 50+	
		Male	Female	White	Black	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Conser	Moder	Liberal	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4.2%																	
Giuliani	26%	25%	28%	26%	19%	27%	29%	22%	25%	31%	44%	18%	35%	22%	24%	31%	23%
Huckabee	12%	11%	13%	12%	10%	12%	0%	18%	15%	6%	0%	9%	13%	13%	10%	12%	12%
McCain	14%	14%	15%	14%	17%	15%	9%	8%	12%	19%	9%	20%	15%	13%	11%	17%	12%
Romney	20%	17%	24%	20%	24%	20%	30%	18%	21%	19%	31%	16%	9%	25%	31%	11%	28%
Thompson	18%	21%	14%	18%	5%	19%	9%	11%	19%	19%	0%	23%	19%	16%	16%	20%	16%
Other	6%	8%	3%	5%	14%	4%	10%	19%	5%	5%	17%	9%	4%	8%	3%	6%	6%
Undecided	4%	4%	3%	3%	12%	3%	12%	4%	3%	2%	0%	4%	3%	3%	4%	4%	3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Republican Pri	100%	55%	45%	94%	4%	87%	2%	8%	68%	20%	2%	13%	32%	28%	27%	45%	55%

**1** If the Republican Primary for President of the United States were today, would you vote for ...(names rotated) Rudy Giuliani? Mike Huckabee? John McCain? Mitt Romney? Fred Thompson? Or some other Republican?

577 Likely Republican Primary Voter	All	Region			Top Issue For Next President							
		Upstate	Midland	Low Co	Econo	Environ	Health	Iraq	Terroris	Social	Educati	Immigra
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4.2%												
Giuliani	26%	20%	28%	33%	30%	15%	28%	25%	33%	20%	41%	19%
Huckabee	12%	14%	10%	11%	9%	9%	4%	9%	19%	4%	0%	14%
McCain	14%	14%	16%	13%	17%	12%	20%	23%	10%	19%	30%	9%
Romney	20%	26%	14%	19%	20%	18%	21%	22%	17%	24%	13%	25%
Thompson	18%	17%	20%	16%	17%	37%	20%	15%	15%	15%	12%	24%
Other	6%	4%	9%	5%	3%	9%	5%	6%	2%	10%	0%	8%
Undecided	4%	4%	2%	4%	4%	0%	3%	1%	4%	8%	4%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Republican Pri	100%	38%	32%	31%	18%	1%	10%	10%	25%	5%	3%	24%

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**2** If the Democratic Primary for President of the United States were today, would you vote for...(names rotated) Hillary Clinton? John Edwards? Barack Obama? Or some other Democrat?

448 Likely Democratic Primary Voter	All	Gender		Race		Party Affiliation			Ideology			Age				<50 / 50+	
		Male	Female	White	Black	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Conser	Moder	Liberal	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4.7%																	
Clinton	47%	28%	58%	55%	39%	37%	47%	44%	42%	50%	50%	36%	42%	49%	59%	40%	53%
Edwards	10%	10%	9%	17%	3%	7%	10%	12%	17%	9%	11%	3%	6%	13%	16%	5%	14%
Obama	33%	47%	25%	15%	52%	45%	34%	28%	38%	33%	26%	45%	46%	26%	17%	46%	22%
Other	5%	9%	3%	9%	1%	8%	4%	14%	3%	4%	11%	5%	3%	9%	4%	3%	7%
Undecided	5%	5%	5%	4%	6%	3%	5%	2%	0%	4%	3%	11%	4%	3%	3%	7%	3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Democratic Pri	100%	38%	62%	48%	49%	4%	83%	11%	10%	42%	24%	17%	30%	30%	22%	48%	52%

**2** If the Democratic Primary for President of the United States were today, would you vote for...(names rotated) Hillary Clinton? John Edwards? Barack Obama? Or some other Democrat?

448 Likely Democratic Primary Voter	All	Region			Top Issue For Next President								
		Upstate	Midland	Low Co	Econo	Environ	Health	Iraq	Terroris	Social	Educati	Immigra	
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4.7%													
Clinton	47%	52%	47%	43%	54%	28%	49%	49%	43%	57%	42%	39%	
Edwards	10%	9%	10%	11%	9%	8%	11%	12%	9%	9%	5%	10%	
Obama	33%	30%	32%	38%	33%	52%	33%	30%	41%	28%	39%	25%	
Other	5%	10%	4%	3%	4%	12%	6%	5%	8%	5%	0%	7%	
Undecided	5%	1%	7%	5%	0%	0%	1%	3%	0%	1%	13%	20%	
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Composition of Likely Democratic Pri	100%	28%	36%	36%	22%	5%	20%	24%	2%	9%	9%	6%	

**Statement of Methodology:** The following statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls: How this poll was conducted: This SurveyUSA poll was conducted by telephone in the voice of a professional announcer. Respondent households were selected at random, using Random Digit Dialed (RDD) sample provided by Survey Sampling, of Fairfield CT. All respondents heard the questions asked identically. Within the report, you will find: the geography that was surveyed; the date(s) interviews were conducted and the news organization(s) that paid for the research. The number of respondents who answered each question and the margin of sampling error for each question are provided. Where necessary, responses were weighted according to age, gender, ethnic origin, geographical area and number of adults and number of voice telephone lines in the household, so that the sample would reflect the actual demographic proportions in the population, using most recent U.S. Census estimates. In theory, with the stated sample size, one can say with 95% certainty that the results would not vary by more than the stated margin of sampling error, in one direction or the other, had the entire universe of respondents been interviewed with complete accuracy. There are other possible sources of error in all surveys that may be more serious than theoretical calculations of sampling error. These include refusals to be interviewed, question wording and question order, weighting by demographic control data and the manner in which respondents are filtered (such as, determining who is a likely voter). It is difficult to quantify the errors that may result from these factors. Fieldwork for this survey was done by SurveyUSA of Verona, NJ.