

Results of SurveyUSA Election Poll #13345



Sponsors:

All SurveyUSA clients in Virginia

Geography: Virginia

Data Collected: 02/09/2008 - 02/10/2008

Release Date: 02/11/2008

Eve of VA GOP Primary, Huckabee Closes-In On McCain: Big movement in Virginia following Mike Huckabee's strong showing over the weekend in Louisiana, Kansas and Washington state. On the eve of the Virginia Republican Primary, it's John McCain 48%, Mike Huckabee 37%. Compared to an identical SurveyUSA tracking poll released 72 hours ago, McCain is down 9, Huckabee is up 12. McCain had led by 32, now leads by 11. Among Conservative voters, McCain had led by 21, now trails by 5. Among Pro-Life voters, McCain had led by 20 points, now trails by 6. Among voters in Southeast VA, McCain had led by 28, now trails by 12. Among voters focused on Immigration, McCain had led by 16, now trails by 17. Among voters who attend religious services regularly, McCain had led by 24, now trails by 2.

Filtering / Timing / Cautions: 1,700 VA adults were interviewed by SurveyUSA 02/09/08 and 02/10/08, exclusively for WJLA-TV Washington DC, WDBJ-TV Roanoke and WTVR-TV Richmond. In the middle of the field period for this survey, Mike Huckabee won the Louisiana primary, won the Kansas caucus, and finished a strong 2nd in the WA state caucus. Any momentum Huckabee accrued from those wins would only partially be reflected in these interviews, half of which were completed before the results of the Saturday wins were known. By contrast, interviews in the SurveyUSA poll released 72 hours ago, on Friday 02/08/08, were conducted during the post-Super-Tuesday media coverage that described McCain for the first-time as the "almost certain" party nominee. These competing, buffeting forces are at work: McCain supporters may feel he has the Republican nomination mathematically "locked," and may not be as motivated to turn-out as they would otherwise. Anti-McCain supporters may be uniquely motivated to vote in protest against McCain, and may turn-out in larger numbers than here forecast. Of the 1,700 adults interviews, 1,516 were registered to vote. Of them, 385 were determined by SurveyUSA to be likely to vote in the 02/12/08 Republican primary. The waters are choppy. The numbers reveal an ebb and flow in the Republican electorate. The data should be interpreted with caution.

1 If the Republican Primary for President of the United States were today, would you vote for ...(names rotated) Mike Huckabee? John McCain? Ron Paul? Or some other Republican?

385 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Other	Republi	Democr	Indepen
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-5.1%																
Huckabee	37%	34%	40%	32%	41%	36%	33%	38%	35%	37%	38%	40%	14%	39%	14%	35%
McCain	48%	48%	48%	33%	48%	55%	56%	43%	55%	50%	24%	28%	48%	49%	40%	48%
Paul	7%	7%	7%	20%	5%	2%	3%	10%	3%	5%	13%	30%	28%	6%	6%	12%
Other	6%	8%	3%	13%	4%	4%	5%	7%	5%	6%	4%	0%	10%	5%	7%	3%
Undecided	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	20%	1%	0%	1%	34%	3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	57%	43%	20%	39%	24%	18%	59%	41%	88%	6%	4%	2%	83%	4%	10%

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385 Likely Voters	All	Ideology			Attend Religious Services			Abortion		Change Your Mi		
		Conser	Modera	Liberal	Regular	Occasio	Almost	Pro-life	Pro-cho	Could C	Mind M	
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-5.1%												
Huckabee	37%	45%	23%	0%	43%	31%	24%	45%	20%	43%	34%	
McCain	48%	40%	68%	58%	41%	57%	61%	39%	67%	38%	52%	
Paul	7%	7%	6%	16%	6%	7%	7%	7%	5%	5%	7%	
Other	6%	8%	2%	7%	7%	3%	8%	7%	5%	6%	6%	
Undecided	2%	1%	1%	19%	4%	1%	0%	1%	2%	7%	1%	
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	63%	27%	2%	58%	22%	19%	63%	34%	23%	76%	

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385 Likely Voters	All	Top Issue For Next President								Region			
		Econo	Environ	Health	Iraq	Terroris	Social	Educati	Immigra	Shenan	Northea	Southe	Central
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-5.1%													
Huckabee	37%	30%	21%	25%	33%	31%	46%	25%	51%	37%	25%	49%	36%
McCain	48%	57%	45%	54%	56%	54%	43%	59%	34%	49%	52%	37%	53%
Paul	7%	6%	28%	10%	5%	1%	2%	11%	7%	6%	12%	7%	4%
Other	6%	6%	6%	5%	6%	9%	3%	5%	8%	6%	9%	4%	5%
Undecided	2%	1%	0%	7%	0%	5%	5%	0%	0%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	29%	2%	8%	11%	19%	4%	5%	19%	26%	23%	23%	28%

: WDBJ-TV Roanoke, WJLA-TV Washington DC, WTVR-TV Richmond

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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.