



## Profile of the South Carolina Primary Voters

Based on questionnaires filled out by voters across the state as they exited the polls. Full South Carolina primary results

### The Democrats

[Home](#)

#### Total

#### Results

Percent of Vote  
Delegate Count

	Obama	Clinton	Edwards
100% All voters	55	27	18

#### Candidates

Profiles, recent articles and multimedia

#### Sex

	Obama	Clinton	Edwards
39% Male	54	23	23
61% Female	54	30	16

#### The Primary Season

[State Profiles](#)  
[Democratic Calendar](#)  
[Republican Calendar](#)

#### Age

	Obama	Clinton	Edwards
14% 18-29 years old	67	23	10
26% 30-44	62	23	15
34% 45-59	55	26	19
26% 60 and older	38	35	27

#### Schedules

Candidates on the trail

[Coming Events](#)  
[Past Events](#)

#### Education

	Obama	Clinton	Edwards
63% No college degree	53	28	18
37% College graduate	53	26	22

#### Finances

Donations and expenditures

[Search for Donors](#)

#### Income

	Obama	Clinton	Edwards
53% Less than \$50,000	57	28	15
21% \$50,000-\$75,000	53	24	22
11% \$75,000-\$100,000	50	24	26
15% More than \$100,000	46	30	24

#### ISSUES

Where the candidates stand

#### Race

	Obama	Clinton	Edwards
43% White	24	36	40
55% Black	78	19	2

#### Political philosophy

	Obama	Clinton	Edwards
20% Very liberal	59	31	10
24% Somewhat liberal	51	31	18
42% Moderate	52	23	24
10% Somewhat conservative	48	28	24
5% Very conservative	52	32	15

#### Decided whom to support

	Obama	Clinton	Edwards
11% Today	55	23	22
10% Within three days of primary	48	19	32
11% In the last week	53	18	28
22% In the last month	61	19	20
46% Before that	51	36	13

**Issues vs. personality: What matters more**

		Obama	Clinton	Edwards
59%	Candidate's positions on the issue	56	24	20
39%	Candidate's leadership/personal qualities	50	32	17

**Issue that matters most**

		Obama	Clinton	Edwards
52%	Economy	52	29	19
19%	War in Iraq	58	23	19
25%	Healthcare	56	26	18

**Candidate quality that matters most**

		Obama	Clinton	Edwards
54%	Can bring about needed change	75	15	10
24%	Cares about people like me	40	17	43
14%	Has the right experience	7	84	9
6%	Has the best chance to win in November	40	36	24

**Is the country ready to elect a black president?**

		Obama	Clinton	Edwards
77%	Ready	63	21	16
22%	Not ready	23	48	29

**Is the country ready to elect a woman president?**

		Obama	Clinton	Edwards
75%	Ready	50	33	17
23%	Not ready	67	8	25

**What should U.S. do in Iraq**

		Obama	Clinton	Edwards
46%	Withdraw troops as soon as possible	56	27	18
48%	Set a timetable to withdraw troops gradually	53	28	19
5%	Keep troops in Iraq as long as possible	37	22	41

**Who is most likely to unite the country if elected**

		Obama	Clinton	Edwards
26%	Clinton	10	85	5
18%	Edwards	9	12	79
55%	Obama	88	6	6

**Did either of these candidates attack the other unfairly**

		Obama	Clinton	Edwards
19%	Only Clinton did	88	6	6
6%	Only Obama did	38	46	15
51%	Both did	42	31	27
21%	Neither did	54	32	14

The South Carolina exit poll was based on questionnaires completed by voters on Saturday as they left primary election locations throughout the state. The poll was conducted by Edison Media Research of Somerville, N.J., and Mitofsky International of New York City for the National Election Pool which consists of ABC News, The Associated Press, CBS News, CNN, Fox News, and NBC News. The results are based on 1,905 Democratic primary voters at 35 randomly selected polling places, interviewed as they were exiting each site. In theory, in 19 cases out of 20, the results from such polls should differ by no more than plus or minus four percentage points from what would have been obtained by seeking to interview all voters who participated in South Carolina's Democratic primary. Results based on smaller sub-groups, such as views of backers of a particular candidate, have a larger potential sampling error. In addition to sampling error, the practical difficulties of conducting any survey of voter opinion on election day, such as the reluctance of some voters to take time to fill out the questionnaire, may introduce other sources of error into the poll. Michael R. Kagay of Princeton, N.J., assisted The Times in its polling analysis.

**The Republicans****Total**

		McCain	Huckabee	Thompson	Romney	Paul
100%	All voters	33	30	16	15	4

**Sex**

		McCain	Huckabee	Thompson	Romney	Paul
51%	Male	32	28	18	15	5
49%	Female	34	33	13	14	2

**Age**

**McCain Huckabee Thompson Romney Paul**

10%	18-29 years old	28	35	15	12	7
23%	30-44	23	37	21	12	3
32%	45-59	32	29	16	16	5
35%	60 and older	42	27	12	16	2

**Education****McCain Huckabee Thompson Romney Paul**

50%	No college degree	32	34	16	12	4
50%	College graduate	34	28	15	18	3

**Income****McCain Huckabee Thompson Romney Paul**

28%	Less than \$50,000	33	36	11	11	6
28%	\$50,000-\$75,000	32	30	19	13	3
17%	\$75,000-\$100,000	33	31	14	18	2
18%	\$100,000-\$150,000	33	29	18	16	2
5%	\$150,000-\$200,000	31	20	20	25	1
5%	More than \$200,000	38	19	13	24	0

**Family's financial situation****McCain Huckabee Thompson Romney Paul**

23%	Getting ahead financially	29	32	19	15	2
66%	Holding steady	35	30	15	15	3
11%	Falling behind	29	37	12	13	7

**Political philosophy****McCain Huckabee Thompson Romney Paul**

2%	Very liberal	--	--	--	--	--
5%	Somewhat liberal	49	16	15	11	8
24%	Moderate	51	21	8	11	5
34%	Somewhat conservative	32	30	15	17	3
34%	Very conservative	19	41	22	16	2

**Decided whom to support****McCain Huckabee Thompson Romney Paul**

18%	Today	30	33	15	17	2
16%	Within three days of primary	35	29	22	11	2
13%	In the last week	37	26	18	14	3
26%	In the last month	32	39	12	12	3
26%	Before that	33	25	15	18	6

**Issues vs. personality: What matters more****McCain Huckabee Thompson Romney Paul**

51%	Candidate's positions on the issue	24	34	22	11	6
46%	Candidate's leadership/personal qualities	44	27	8	18	1

**Issue that matters most****McCain Huckabee Thompson Romney Paul**

26%	Immigration	24	33	21	16	4
16%	War in Iraq	52	24	11	7	3
40%	Economy	32	32	12	17	5
15%	Terrorism	33	30	21	13	1

**Candidate quality that matters most****McCain Huckabee Thompson Romney Paul**

26%	Says what he believes	34	31	21	7	6
43%	Shares my values	14	48	20	12	4
23%	Has the right experience	67	2	4	23	1
6%	Has the best chance to win in November	42	15	6	33	--

**Believes abortion should be****McCain Huckabee Thompson Romney Paul**

9%	Legal in all cases	45	20	14	15	3
19%	Legal in most cases	50	11	9	20	6
43%	Illegal in most cases	31	32	17	15	3

28%	Illegal in all cases	21	47	18	9	3
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### Feeling about the Bush administration

		McCain	Huckabee	Thompson	Romney	Paul
17%	Enthusiastic	34	28	18	18	1
52%	Satisfied, but not enthusiastic	30	35	17	14	2
25%	Dissatisfied, but not angry	38	29	13	14	6
5%	Angry	44	15	6	12	22

### On taxes, higher priority should be

		McCain	Huckabee	Thompson	Romney	Paul
48%	Cutting taxes	28	33	19	14	3
49%	Reducing the budget deficit	39	29	13	15	3

### Most illegal immigrants working in the U.S. should be

		McCain	Huckabee	Thompson	Romney	Paul
28%	Offered a chance to apply for citizenship	44	31	8	12	2
19%	Allowed to stay as temporary workers	37	23	17	17	3
52%	Deported to the country they came from	26	34	19	15	4

### Matters that candidate shares religious beliefs

		McCain	Huckabee	Thompson	Romney	Paul
38%	A great deal	29	50	12	7	1
32%	Somewhat	28	29	21	16	4
16%	Not much	45	12	15	21	5
14%	Not at all	44	8	12	26	6

### Would describe self as

		McCain	Huckabee	Thompson	Romney	Paul
60%	Born-again or evangelical Christian	27	43	15	11	2
40%	Not born-again or evangelical	43	14	16	20	4
55%	White born-again or evangelical Christian	27	43	15	11	2

### Independents

		McCain	Huckabee	Thompson	Romney	Paul
18%	Not affiliated with either party	42	25	11	12	9

### Military experience

		McCain	Huckabee	Thompson	Romney	Paul
25%	Served in the United States military	36	29	14	17	3

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