

OBAMA AND EDWARDS SURPASS CLINTON IN HEAD-TO-HEAD MATCH-UPS WITH TOP REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES

Clinton Strong on Key Issues Despite Slip in Head-to-Head Match-ups

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2008 Presidential Vote: Current and Potential Field of Candidates

Across the political spectrum, the majority (59%) of respondents report being satisfied with the current field of potential candidates for president. Of those who said they wanted more choices, 53% couldn't think of anyone off the top of their minds.

When asked who else they would like to see run for the nomination, among those who offered a name, the top picks were Republican Fred Thompson (6%), Democrat Al Gore (4%), Republican Newt Gingrich (4%), and Republican Colin Powell (3%).

2008 Presidential Vote Match-Ups

When asked to think about the next election for president in 2008, if the election were held today, 47% selected the generic Democratic candidate, while only 28% selected the generic Republican candidate.

With a generic Democratic candidate beating a generic Republican by nearly 20 points, in two of the match-ups between the top candidates for 2008, we see a comparable margin for the Democrat.

Of the nine match-ups, only a single one produces a GOP triumph: Rudy Giuliani vs. Hillary Clinton. Moreover, in 6 of the Democrats' 7 "wins," their margin of victory is at, or nearly at, double digits. While Edwards and Obama beat all of the Republican candidates, Clinton leads only Romney, tying McCain, and trailing Mayor Giuliani by 4%. However, Clinton does appear to enjoy a higher standing amongst African-Americans than Obama. While Clinton consistently scored in the 80% range over Republican candidates, Obama garnered support in the 70% range.

Table 1: Margin of Victory among Top Presidential Candidates
(% Among National Sample of Registered Voters and Oversample of African-American Registered Voters)

	Hillary Clinton		John Edwards		Barack Obama	
	Nat'l	Afr-Amer	Nat'l	Afr-Amer	Nat'l	Afr-Amer
Rudy Giuliani	4%	73%	6%	61%	9%	66%
John McCain	0%	74%	11%	62%	11%	71%
Mitt Romney	15%	79%	26%	70%	29%	75%

Issues

With regard to key issues facing the country, Hillary Clinton beats all other 2008 front-runners on the economy, healthcare, and the environment. On the issue of the War in Iraq and terrorism, voters are split between Clinton, Giuliani and McCain.

Table 2: Candidates' Handling of Key Issues
 (% Among National Sample of Registered Voters and
 Oversample of African-American Registered Voters)

	Hillary Clinton		John Edwards		Barack Obama		Rudy Giuliani		John McCain		Mitt Romney	
	Nat'l	Afr-Amer	Nat'l	Afr-Amer	Nat'l	Afr-Amer	Nat'l	Afr-Amer	Nat'l	Afr-Amer	Nat'l	Afr-Amer
The economy	30%	54%	10%	6%	8%	17%	16%	4%	10%	4%	7%	0%
The War in Iraq	19%	35%	8%	6%	13%	29%	17%	3%	20%	4%	3%	0%
Terrorism	21%	33%	7%	7%	9%	25%	25%	9%	19%	5%	2%	0%
Corruption in government	16%	43%	9%	8%	17%	24%	18%	3%	12%	3%	6%	1%
The environment	28%	45%	13%	8%	14%	21%	6%	2%	8%	2%	4%	0%
Healthcare	40%	59%	8%	3%	10%	20%	10%	2%	6%	1%	5%	1%

To obtain complete poll results please see www.diageohotlinepoll.com.

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Methodology: The Diageo/Hotline Poll was conducted by telephone from March 29 through April 1, 2007, among a random, nationally representative sample of 800 registered voters (margin of error +/- 3.5%), age 18 and older.

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