

GIULIANI THE FRONTRUNNER?
September 4-9, 2007

Rudy Giuliani's nationwide lead in preference of registered voters who say they will vote in a Republican primary or caucus next year is under threat in the latest CBS News/New York Times Poll: he leads newly-announced candidate and former Senator Fred Thompson by only 5 percentage points.

Last month Giuliani held a 20-point lead over Thompson when Republican primary voters were asked whom they would choose if the race came down to Giuliani, Thompson, Senator John McCain and former Governor Mitt Romney. There had been a flurry of support for Thompson in July, when it became clear he was interested in announcing for president. In that poll, Giuliani led Thompson by only 8 points, but the gap widened in August. Now, in a poll conducted the week Thompson announced, the race is close again.

REPUBLICAN CHOICE FOR THE NOMINATION
(Among Republican Primary Voters)

	Now	8/07	7/07
Giuliani	27%	38%	33%
Thompson	22	18	25
McCain	18	12	15
Romney	14	13	8

McCain and Romney have also gained national support in the last two months.

Thompson leads Giuliani 26% to 21% among self-described conservatives; Giuliani leads among moderates 32% to 19%. The two are tied among men while Giuliani has a ten-point lead among women.

AMERICA'S MAYOR?

Rudy Giuliani came to national prominence as Mayor of New York City during the 9/11/2001 terrorist attacks. Most voters, and even more Republican primary voters, say he handled those attacks well, and a majority say he handled them very well. But they are less sure about his performance as Mayor beyond 9/11.

GIULIANI AS MAYOR

	Reg. Voters	Rep. Primary Voters
Handled 9/11		
Very well	52%	71%
Somewhat well	26	23
Not well	8	4
Don't know	12	2
Handled rest of job		
Very well	31%	43%
Somewhat well	29	25
Not well	9	6
Don't know	28	26

In an August 2001 New York Times poll, New York City gave then-Mayor Giuliani a 55% approval rating.

On some specifics about his Mayoral performance, voters are even more willing to say they don't know enough to judge. Most can't say whether crime went up or down during Giuliani's tenure, or whether race relations improved or worsened in his eight years as Mayor.

GIULIANI'S TENURE

	Reg. Voters	Rep. Primary Voters
CRIME:		
Increased	1%	0%
Decreased	32	42
Stayed Same	10	11
Don't Know	54	44
RACE RELATIONS:		
Improved	8%	14
Worsened	7	1
Stayed Same	12	13
Don't Know	69	69

Voters are much less willing to agree that being Mayor of a big city is the right kind of experience to be president of the U.S. than they are to say that being a Senator or Governor is. Less than half think that being in charge of a big city is the right experience, while far more say being a Senator or Governor is. On these questions there is very little difference between Republican voters and Democratic voters.

RIGHT EXPERIENCE TO BE PRESIDENT?

(Among registered voters)

	Yes	No
Mayor of a big city	48%	44
Senator	80%	15
Governor	79%	15

GIULIANI'S SUPPORTERS

Those who are supporting Giuliani cite 9/11 as the most important reason for their choice. 25% volunteer that as the reason for their vote, followed by his overall experience, references to his term as Mayor, and statements that he is the best of a weak field.

WHY SUPPORT GIULIANI?

(Among Republican primary voters who favor him for the nomination)

9/11	25%
Experience	12
Work as Mayor	9
Best of the lot	9
Strong leader	8
He's good/like him	8

However, many of those Republican primary voters who support Giuliani for the nomination admit they know little about him and his tenure as Mayor of New York City. About one in four (26%) say they don't know much about his tenure as Mayor of New York beyond what happened on 9/11. 55% can't say whether crime went up or down during his tenure, and 71% don't know whether race relations got better or worse while Giuliani was Mayor.

Nearly one in ten of those now favoring Giuliani admit they differ with their choice on the issue of abortion. But many mischaracterize his position. 41% correctly say he is a supporter of abortion rights; 31% say he opposes abortion.

CHARACTERIZING GIULIANI AND THE OTHER REPUBLICANS

Giuliani fares very well on questions of leadership and temperament. 69% of registered voters and 82% of Republican primary voters say he has strong qualities of leadership. 50% of registered voters and 66% of Republican voters say he has the right kind of temperament and personality to be a good president. And among Republican voters, a majority says he shares the values of most Republicans.

GIULIANI'S QUALITIES

	Reg. Voters	Rep. Primary Voters
Strong Leader	69%	82%
No	21	13
Right Temperament	50%	66%
No	33	19
Shares GOP Values	--	52%
No	--	31

There are weaknesses, however. Relatively few voters think he understands the problems of people outside of big cities. Just 27%

of Republican primary voters say he does. 43% think he only understands the needs and problems of those in big cities.

He is also seen as less conservative than the other Republican candidates. 51% of Republican primary voters say this. And although he received good marks on handling the terror attacks of 9/11 in New York City, Republican primary voters don't see him as doing a better job than other Republican candidates in fighting terrorism in the future.

GIULIANI VS. OTHER REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

More conservative	4%
Less conservative	51
About the same	27
Better job on terrorism	26%
Worse job on terrorism	3
About the same	61

On foreign policy, more voters in last month's CBS News poll said Hillary Clinton was very likely to make good decisions in dealing with other countries than say that about Rudy Giuliani this month.

GOOD DECISIONS IN DEALINGS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

(Among registered voters)

	Giuliani	Hillary Clinton (8/07)
Very likely	17%	32%
Somewhat likely	47	42
Not likely	26	24

THE REPUBLICAN HUNT FOR A NOMINEE

Many Republican voters are willing to sacrifice agreement on issues to get a nominee who can win. 55% say they could vote for a candidate who disagreed with them on social issues like abortion and same-sex marriage, and 60% would be willing to vote for someone less conservative than they are if they thought that candidate had a good chance of winning the election. About a third said "no" to each of those questions.

VOTE FOR CANDIDATE YOU DISAGREE WITH ON SOCIAL ISSUES?

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

Yes	55%
No	36

VOTE FOR LESS CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE IF THEY COULD WIN?

(Among Republican Primary Voters)

Yes	60%
No	29

Conservative Republican primary voters are less likely to say they would vote for someone with different position from theirs on social issues. 44% of conservative Republican primary voters would vote for a candidate they disagreed with on issues like abortion and same-sex marriage, but 45% would not. However, 59% of conservative Republican primary voters would be willing to vote for someone less conservative than they if that person had a good chance of winning.

EVALUATING THE CANDIDATES

All the major candidates for the Republican nomination are seen positively by Republican primary voters, although Giuliani and Thompson are the only ones with a net favorable rating from registered voters overall. But many voters have yet to make up their minds, especially when it comes to Romney and Thompson.

ASSESSING THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES

	Reg. Voters	Rep. Primary Voters
Giuliani: Favorable	33%	40%
Not favorable	25	14
Undecided/DK	42	46
McCain: Favorable	26%	38%
Not favorable	28	28
Undecided/DK	45	35
Romney: Favorable	11%	25%
Not favorable	19	10
Undecided/DK	71	66
Thompson: Favorable	15%	28%
Not favorable	11	5
Undecided/DK	74	67

Although most of these assessments have not changed much in the last month, favorable views of Giuliani among Republican primary voters have dropped eight points, from 48% last month to 40% now.

THE DEMOCRATIC CONTEST

The Democrats continue to lead the Republicans on a generic fall 2008 horserace question: 48% of registered voters say they would vote for the Democratic nominee if the November 2008 election were being held today, while just 32% say they would vote for the Republican. About one in five voters say they are not sure, or want to wait for the nominees to be selected.

And Hillary Clinton remains the frontrunner in a hypothetical three-way contest against Senator Barack Obama and former Senator John Edwards. There has been little change since last month.

CHOICE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION

(Among Democratic primary voters)

	Now	8/07
Clinton	44%	45%
Obama	26	25
Edwards	17	14
Someone else	6	7

Clinton and Obama are nearly even among male Democratic voters, but she leads Obama by more than two to one among women.

The three main candidates all receive overwhelmingly positive assessments from Democratic primary voters. However, when it comes to registered voters overall, opinions of Clinton and Edwards are mixed, while Obama is viewed more favorably than unfavorably.

ASSESSING THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

	Reg. Voters	Dem. Primary Voters
Clinton: Favorable	36%	63%
Not favorable	40	14
Undecided/DK	23	23
Edwards: Favorable	30%	43%
Not favorable	29	17
Undecided/DK	40	40
Obama: Favorable	35%	52%
Not favorable	21	13
Undecided/DK	43	35

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1263 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone September 4-9, 2007. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The error for subgroups is higher. An oversample of those with family members who are now serving in the U.S. armed forces or the U.S. reserves was also conducted for this poll, for a total of 349 interviews among this group. The results were then weighted in proportion to the composition of the adult population in the U.S. Census. The margin of error for military families is plus or minus 5 percentage points.

CBS NEWS/New York Times Poll
Giuliani the Frontrunner?
September 4-9, 2007

q13 How much attention have you been able to pay to the 2008 presidential campaign -- a lot, some, not much, or no attention so far?

	*** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ****				Aug07a
	Total	**** Party ID ****			
	%	Rep	Dem	Ind	%
A lot	19	18	25	15	18
Some	42	43	41	44	41
Not much	28	34	24	28	29
None at all	10	5	11	13	11
DK/NA	1	0	0	0	1

q14 Which of these comes closest to your view? 1. Abortion should be generally available to those who want it, 2. Abortion should be available but under stricter limits than it is now, or 3. Abortion should not be permitted?

					Jul07a
Generally available	34	17	45	38	41
Available but limits	39	47	33	39	34
Should not be permitted	25	35	19	21	22
Don't know/No answer	2	1	3	2	3

q15 Do you think the candidates for President should be judged on both their political record and their personal life, or should they be judged only on their political record?

					Aug07a
Both	53	64	48	49	46%
Only on political record	46	36	51	49	52
DK/NA	1	0	1	2	2

q16 If the 2008 election for President were being held today, would you probably vote for the Republican candidate or would you probably vote for the Democratic candidate?

	*** REGISTERED VOTERS ****				Jul07a
Republican	32	80	2	16	32
Democratic	48	7	87	47	47
Other (vol.)	1	0	0	2	2
Won't vote (vol.)	1	0	0	4	1
Depends (vol.)	10	7	5	19	10
DK/NA	8	6	6	12	8

q17 Do you think being Mayor of a large city is the right kind of experience for becoming president of the United States, or not?

Right experience	48	56	38	51
Not right experience	44	36	54	42
DK/NA	8	8	8	7

q18 Do you think being a U.S. Senator is the right kind of experience for becoming president of the United States, or not?

**** REGISTERED VOTERS ****

**** Party ID ****

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Right experience	80	78	80	81
Not right experience	15	17	13	14
DK/NA	5	5	7	5

q19 Do you think being a Governor is the right kind of experience for becoming president of the United States, or not?

Right experience	79	88	73	78
Not right experience	15	9	18	17
DK/NA	6	3	9	5

q20 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q21 Is your opinion of Rudy Giuliani favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Rudy Giuliani yet to have an opinion?

					Republican Primary Voters	Aug07a
					%	%
Favorable	33	43	24	31	40	34
Not favorable	25	14	32	28	14	27
Undecided	28	30	27	27	34	25
Haven't heard enough	14	13	16	13	12	13
Refused	0	0	1	1	0	1

q22 Is your opinion of John McCain favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John McCain yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	26	37	17	23	38	26
Not favorable	28	23	35	27	28	31
Undecided	29	27	29	32	23	25
Haven't heard enough	16	14	17	17	12	17
Refused	1	0	2	1	0	1

q23 Is your opinion of Mitt Romney favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Mitt Romney yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	11	20	5	8	25	14
Not favorable	19	8	30	18	10	16
Undecided	26	31	22	24	28	21
Haven't heard enough	45	41	43	50	38	48
Refused	0	0	0	0	0	1

q24 Is your opinion of Fred Thompson favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Fred Thompson yet to have an opinion?

	**** REGISTERED VOTERS ****				Republican	
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Primary	Aug07a
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Favorable	15	27	8	10	28	14
Not favorable	11	4	18	10	5	12
Undecided	18	19	16	19	19	19
Haven't heard enough	56	50	58	60	48	54
Refused	0	0	0	1	0	1

q25 Is your opinion of Hillary Rodham Clinton favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Hillary Rodham Clinton yet to have an opinion?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Democratic	
					Primary	Voters
Favorable	36	9	68	32	63	41
Not favorable	40	75	11	37	14	39
Undecided	21	15	20	28	21	19
Haven't heard enough	2	1	2	3	2	1
Refused	1	0	0	0	0	0

q26 Is your opinion of John Edwards favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John Edwards yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	30	16	43	31	43	31
Not favorable	29	49	18	20	17	30
Undecided	29	27	24	37	29	27
Haven't heard enough	11	8	14	12	11	11
Refused	1	0	1	0	0	1

q27 Is your opinion of Barack Obama (bar-AHK o-BOM-a) favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Barack Obama yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	35	20	53	32	52	36
Not favorable	21	33	10	22	13	20
Undecided	29	34	25	28	23	27
Haven't heard enough	14	13	11	17	12	17
Refused	1	0	1	1	0	0

q28 Suppose the race for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in 2008 comes down to a choice among Hillary Rodham Clinton, Barack Obama, and John Edwards. Who would you most like to see nominated -- Clinton, Obama, Edwards, or would you rather see someone else nominated?

IF SOMEONE ELSE, ASK: Who would you like to see nominated?

	DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY VOTERS	Aug07a
	%	%
Clinton	44	45
Obama	26	25
Edwards	17	14
Richardson	0	0
Dodd	0	0
Biden	0	0
Kucinich	1	1
Gore	0	0
Someone else/None	5	6
Undecided (Vol.)	4	6
DK/NA	3	3

q29 Suppose the race for the Republican Party's presidential nomination in 2008 comes down to a choice among John McCain, Rudy Giuliani, Mitt Romney and Fred Thompson. Who would you most like to see nominated -- McCain, Giuliani, Romney, Thompson, or would you rather see someone else nominated?

IF SOMEONE ELSE, ASK: Who would you like to see nominated?

	REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS	
McCain	18	12
Giuliani	27	38
Romney	14	13
Thompson	22	18
Huckabee	1	0
Tancredo	0	0
Hunter	0	0
Paul	1	0
Someone else /None	7	1
Undecided (Vol.)	6	1
DK/NA	4	17

q30 What is the main reason you would like to see the Republican party nominate Rudy Giuliani as its 2008 presidential candidate?

**** GIULIANI VOTERS ****

Handling 9/11 attacks	25
Experienced	12
Good Mayor of New York	9
Bad choices/He's the best of the group	9
Strong leader (general)	8
He's good/I like him	8
Washington outsider	3
He's moderate	3
He can win in 2008	2
Terrorism/Would do a good job	2
Smart/Intelligent	2
He's conservative	2
Honesty/integrity	2
He's a Republican/good Rep	2
Other	11
DK/NA	0

q31 How much would you say you know so far about Rudy Giuliani's positions on the issues - a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all?

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS

A lot	15
Some	56
Not much	20
Nothing	9
DK/NA	0

q32 Are there any issues important to you, personally, that you happen to DISAGREE with Rudy Giuliani about?

IF YES: What are they?

**** GIULIANI VOTERS ****

Abortion	8
Nothing	66
Other	11
DK/NA	15

q33 Compared to the other candidates running for the Republican party's nomination, do you think Rudy Giuliani would do a better job fighting terrorism, a worse job, or about the same job fighting terrorism as the other Republican candidates?

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS

	%
Better	26
Worse	3
About same	61
DK/NA	10

q34 Compared to the other candidates running for the Republican party's nomination, do you think Rudy Giuliani is more conservative on social issues like same-sex marriage and abortion; less conservative on social issues, or about as conservative on social issues as the other Republican candidates?

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS

	%
More conservative	4
Less conservative	51
About as conservative	27
DK/NA	18

q35 Generally speaking, do you think of Rudy Giuliani as being in support of abortion rights, or as being opposed to abortion rights?

	**** REGISTERED VOTERS ****				Giuliani
	**** Party ID ****				Voters
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Supports abortion rights	35	44	26	34	41
Opposed to abortion	21	21	28	14	31
DK/NA	44	35	46	52	28

q36 Do you think Rudy Giuliani has strong qualities of leadership, or not?

					Republican	Jul07a
					Primary	%
					Voters	
Yes	69	82	55	71	82	71
No	21	11	32	20	13	18
DK/NA	10	7	13	9	5	11

q37 Do you think Rudy Giuliani has the right kind of temperament and personality to be a good president, or not?

					Feb07a	
						%
Yes	50	66	32	53	66	58
No	33	17	49	31	19	23
DK/NA	17	17	19	16	15	19

q38 Do you think Rudy Giuliani shares the same values as most Republicans, or doesn't he share the same values?

					Republican	
					Primary	Voters
					Jun07c	%
Shares same values	40	55	37	27	52	49
Doesn't share values	33	29	34	36	31	31
DK/NA	27	16	29	37	17	20

q39 Do you think Rudy Giuliani understands the needs and problems of people in small towns and rural areas, or does he mainly just understand the needs and problems of people in big cities?

	*** REGISTERED VOTERS ****				Republican
	*** Party ID ***				Primary
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Voters
	%	%	%	%	%
Understands small towns	12	16	6	14	15
Understands big cities	51	41	58	53	43
Both (vol.)	12	16	11	9	12
Neither (vol.)	2	0	1	4	0
DK/NA	23	27	24	20	30

q40 Regardless of how you intend to vote, how likely do you think it is that Rudy Giuliani would make good decisions in dealing with foreign countries - would you say it is very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

Very likely	17	21	12	19	28
Somewhat likely	47	60	37	44	58
Not very likely	19	11	25	20	9
Not at all likely	7	1	13	5	1
DK/NA	10	7	13	12	4

q41 From what you have heard or read, how did Rudy Giuliani handle the attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11th 2001 - very well, somewhat well, not too well or not well at all, or don't you know enough to say?

Very well	52	71	36	49	71
Somewhat well	26	20	34	25	23
Not too well	5	2	8	4	3
Not well at all	3	1	5	4	1
Don't know enough	12	5	13	17	2
DK/NA	2	1	4	1	0

q42 From what you have heard or read, OTHER than his handling of the September 11th attacks, how did Rudy Giuliani handle his job as mayor of New York - very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all, or don't you know enough to say?

Very well	31	42	20	30	43
Somewhat well	29	28	27	32	25
Not too well	5	4	9	3	5
Not well at all	4	1	6	6	1
Don't know enough	28	24	33	27	26
DK/NA	3	1	5	2	0

q43 From what you have heard or read, when Rudy Giuliani was Mayor of New York, did the policies of his administration cause crime in New York to increase, cause it to decrease, or stay about the same, or don't you know enough to say?

Increase	1	0	2	1	0
Decrease	32	37	28	31	42
Stay same	10	11	9	9	11
Don't know enough	54	49	56	56	44
DK/NA	3	3	5	3	3

q44 From what you have heard or read, when Rudy Giuliani was Mayor of New York, did the policies of his administration cause race relations in New York to get better, cause them to get worse, or did they have no effect on race relations, or don't you know enough to say?

	*** REGISTERED VOTERS ***				Republican
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Primary Voters
	%	%	%	%	%
Better	8	14	4	7	14
Worse	7	2	12	6	1
No effect	12	15	12	9	13
Don't know enough to say	69	66	67	76	69
DK/NA	4	3	5	2	3

q45 Is it possible you would ever vote for a candidate who does not share your views on issues like abortion or same-sex marriage, or are these issues so important that you could not vote for a candidate who disagrees with you?

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS	
	%
Yes, would vote	55
No, would not vote	36
Depends (Vol.)	5
Don't know/No answer	4

q46 Would you be willing or not willing to vote for a candidate for the Republican nomination who has views that are less conservative than yours if you thought that candidate had a good chance to win the presidency in November 2008?

Willing	60
Not willing	29
DK/NA	11

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1263	
Republicans	387	382(30%)
Democrats	404	406(32%)
Independents	472	475(38%)
Democratic Primary Voters	470	466
Republican Primary Voters	356	310