



PRESS RELEASE

Reuters/Ipsos Poll: 2020 Democratic Primary Tracker

Biden surpasses Sanders in the lead for the Democratic nomination for president after winning 10 Super Tuesday states

Washington, DC, March 5, 2020 — A post-Super Tuesday Reuters/Ipsos Democratic primary tracker special edition examines the impact of the election results on the Democratic primary race. The survey, conducted between March 4-5, 2020, before Senator Elizabeth Warren exited the race, shows that support for former Vice President Joe Biden has increased significantly following the drop outs and endorsements from moderate former candidates Senator Amy Klobuchar, former South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg, and former New York Mayor Mike Bloomberg. About 2 in 5 Democratic registered voters (45%) say they would support Biden in the Democratic primary, compared to 32% who say they would support Sanders. Among independents and Democratic registered voters, 40% say they would support Biden, compared to 30% who would support Sanders.

The electorate is split on who they would pick as their alternate choice if their first choice dropped out. Sanders is the top alternate choice (30%), followed by Warren (29%) and Biden (25%) among Democratic registered voters. Those who support Warren for the nomination are equally likely to say they would support Biden (46%) or Sanders (47%) as their alternate choice.

When looking at the candidates on the issues, Biden is seen by Democratic registered voters as the candidate most likely to beat President Trump in the general election (54%), compared to just 25% who say Sanders would be a better opponent against Trump. Electability is the most important issue for 46% of Democratic registered voters, followed by healthcare which is the key issue for 14% of Democratic registered voters. Sanders is seen as having stronger policies on healthcare (41%) than Biden (33%).

About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between March 4 and March 5, 2020 on behalf of Thomson Reuters. For this survey, a sample of 1,115 Americans age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii were interviewed online in English. The sample includes 955 registered voters, 474 Democratic registered voters, 365 Republican registered voters, and 78 independent registered voters. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll is accurate to within ± 3.3 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, had all Americans been polled. The credibility interval will be wider among subsets of the population. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error. The poll also has a credibility interval ± 3.6 percentage points for registered voters, ± 5.1 percentage points for Democratic registered voters, ± 5.8 percentage points for Republican registered voters, and ± 12.7 percentage points for independent registered voters.

For full results, please refer to the following annotated questionnaire.



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		All Respondents	All Registered Voters	Democratic Registered Voters	Republican Registered Voters	Independent Registered Voters
P1. Are you currently registered to vote, or not? (Select one)	Yes	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	No	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Don't know / Refused	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Total	1115	955	474	365	78
Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an independent or none of these?	Democrat	47%	50%	100%	0%	0%
	Republican	36%	38%	0%	100%	0%
	Independent	10%	8%	0%	0%	100%
	None/DK	8%	4%	0%	0%	0%
	Total	1115	955	474	365	78
P7. In November 2020, the next presidential election will be held. Using a 1-to-10 scale... how likely are you to vote in the next presidential election? (Select one)	10- Completely certain you will vote	64%	75%	79%	77%	62%
	9	6%	7%	7%	6%	12%
	8	5%	5%	5%	6%	4%
	7	4%	4%	2%	5%	4%
	6	3%	3%	3%	3%	0%
	5	5%	2%	2%	1%	4%
	4	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%
	3	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	2	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	1- Completely certain you will NOT vote	7%	1%	1%	0%	5%
	Don't know	3%	1%	0%	1%	6%
	Total	1115	955	474	365	78



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		All Respondents	All Registered Voters	Democratic Registered Voters	Republican Registered Voters	Independent Registered Voters
TM1634Y19. If the 2020 Democratic presidential primary election were held today, and you had to choose from the list of candidates below, for whom would you vote? - NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	34%	40%	45%	-	19%
	Elizabeth Warren	9%	10%	11%	-	9%
	Bernie Sanders	30%	30%	32%	-	20%
	Tulsi Gabbard	1%	1%	1%	-	4%
	Other	5%	5%	4%	-	5%
	Don't know	15%	11%	7%	-	22%
	I can't/won't vote in the Democratic primary	6%	4%	0%	-	22%
	Total	716	590	474	0	78
TM1703Y19. How certain are you that you will vote for [INSERT RESPONSE FROM TM1634Y19] in the Democratic presidential primary?- NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Completely certain	53%	58%	60%	-	48%
	Mostly certain	33%	31%	32%	-	27%
	Not very certain	11%	9%	6%	-	19%
	Not at all certain	3%	2%	2%	-	6%
	Total	539	480	426	0	41
TM1657Y19. If your first choice dropped out of the race or you had to choose someone to vote for, who would you vote for in the upcoming presidential primary election? - NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	24%	24%	25%	-	21%
	Elizabeth Warren	25%	27%	29%	-	17%
	Bernie Sanders	26%	28%	30%	-	17%
	Other	25%	21%	16%	-	45%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61



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		All Respondents	TM1634Y19. If the 2020 Democratic presidential primary election were held today, and you had to choose from the list of candidates below, for whom would you vote? - NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS					
			Joe Biden	Elizabeth Warren	Bernie Sanders	Tulsi Gabbard	Other	Don't know
TM1657Y19. If your first choice dropped out of the race or you had to choose someone to vote for, who would you vote for in the upcoming presidential primary election? - NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	24%	-	46%	51%	19%	23%	13%
	Elizabeth Warren	25%	30%	-	38%	20%	9%	6%
	Bernie Sanders	26%	50%	47%	-	39%	18%	11%
	Other	25%	20%	7%	11%	22%	51%	70%
	Total	669	251	67	211	10	27	103
		All Respondents	All Registered Voters	Democratic Registered Voters	Republican Registered Voters	Independent Registered Voters		
If the 2020 Democratic presidential primary election were held today, and you had to choose from the candidates below, for whom would you vote?	Bernie Sanders	48%	45%	45%	-	48%		
	Joe Biden	52%	55%	55%	-	52%		
	Total	669	568	474	0	61		



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		All Respondents	All Registered Voters	Democratic Registered Voters	Republican Registered Voters	Independent Registered Voters
If the 2020 Democratic presidential primary election were held today, which of the following candidate traits would be the MOST important factor for you in deciding who to vote for?	Strong on immigration	3%	2%	2%	-	3%
	Strong on healthcare	13%	14%	14%	-	18%
	Strong on the environment	6%	6%	6%	-	8%
	Strong on the economy and job creation	9%	10%	9%	-	16%
	Can beat President Trump in the general election	40%	42%	46%	-	21%
	Strong progressive	6%	6%	6%	-	7%
	Can unify the Democratic Party	9%	10%	10%	-	10%
	Someone new and different	4%	4%	4%	-	4%
	Don't know	10%	5%	3%	-	14%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61
TM1662Y19 - For each of the following, please select the candidate from the list below you think is the best on that particular issue...Immigration. -NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	29%	33%	36%	-	21%
	Bernie Sanders	27%	27%	28%	-	13%
	Elizabeth Warren	8%	9%	9%	-	17%
	Some other candidate	7%	7%	5%	-	15%
	Don't know	29%	24%	21%	-	34%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61



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		All Respondents	All Registered Voters	Democratic Registered Voters	Republican Registered Voters	Independent Registered Voters
TM1662Y19 - For each of the following, please select the candidate from the list below you think is the best on that particular issue...Healthcare. -NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	27%	30%	33%	-	16%
	Bernie Sanders	38%	39%	41%	-	28%
	Elizabeth Warren	12%	13%	11%	-	21%
	Some other candidate	6%	6%	4%	-	16%
	Don't know	17%	13%	10%	-	18%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61
TM1662Y19 - For each of the following, please select the candidate from the list below you think is the best on that particular issue..The environment. -NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	25%	29%	32%	-	17%
	Bernie Sanders	33%	34%	36%	-	22%
	Elizabeth Warren	14%	14%	14%	-	20%
	Some other candidate	8%	8%	6%	-	16%
	Don't know	21%	16%	13%	-	25%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61
TM1662Y19 - For each of the following, please select the candidate from the list below you think is the best on that particular issue...The economy and jobs. -NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	36%	41%	44%	-	22%
	Bernie Sanders	25%	24%	26%	-	19%
	Elizabeth Warren	12%	14%	14%	-	18%
	Some other candidate	6%	6%	4%	-	17%
	Don't know	21%	15%	12%	-	23%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61



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		All Respondents	All Registered Voters	Democratic Registered Voters	Republican Registered Voters	Independent Registered Voters
TM1662Y19 - For each of the following, please select the candidate from the list below you think is the best on that particular issue...Most likely to beat President Trump. -NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	45%	50%	54%	-	37%
	Bernie Sanders	25%	24%	25%	-	22%
	Elizabeth Warren	5%	5%	4%	-	8%
	Some other candidate	5%	5%	4%	-	6%
	Don't know	20%	16%	13%	-	27%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61
TM1662Y19 - For each of the following, please select the candidate from the list below you think is the best on that particular issue...Strong progressive. -NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	19%	22%	24%	-	15%
	Bernie Sanders	40%	42%	44%	-	26%
	Elizabeth Warren	14%	15%	14%	-	26%
	Some other candidate	5%	5%	4%	-	5%
	Don't know	23%	16%	14%	-	29%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61
TM1662Y19 - For each of the following, please select the candidate from the list below you think is the best on that particular issue...Can unify the Democratic Party. -NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	41%	47%	52%	-	25%
	Bernie Sanders	20%	20%	21%	-	13%
	Elizabeth Warren	8%	7%	8%	-	11%
	Some other candidate	5%	5%	4%	-	11%
	Don't know	25%	21%	15%	-	41%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61



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		All Respondents	All Registered Voters	Democratic Registered Voters	Republican Registered Voters	Independent Registered Voters
TM1662Y19 - For each of the following, please select the candidate from the list below you think is the best on that particular issue...A new and different voice. -NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	16%	18%	21%	-	6%
	Bernie Sanders	30%	29%	29%	-	22%
	Elizabeth Warren	19%	21%	22%	-	27%
	Some other candidate	15%	16%	15%	-	26%
	Don't know	19%	15%	14%	-	19%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61
TM1662Y19 - For each of the following, please select the candidate from the list below you think is the best on that particular issue...National security. -NOT ASKED OF REPUBLICANS	Joe Biden	43%	49%	54%	-	24%
	Bernie Sanders	19%	18%	19%	-	19%
	Elizabeth Warren	6%	6%	5%	-	12%
	Some other candidate	7%	6%	4%	-	12%
	Don't know	26%	21%	18%	-	33%
	Total	669	568	474	0	61



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