

# GRANITE STATE POLL

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

### McCAIN LEADS CLINTON AND OBAMA IN NH

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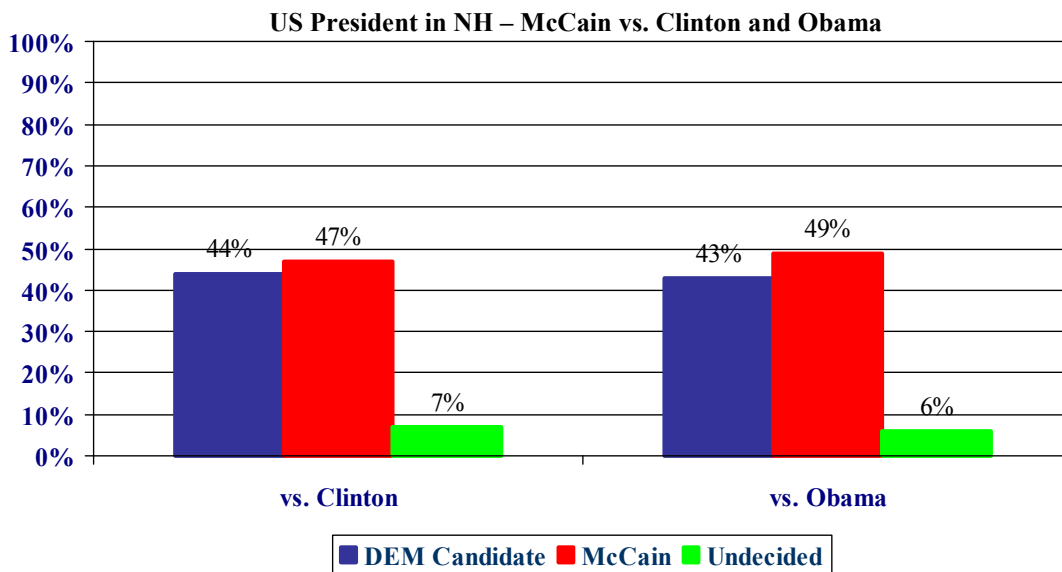
DURHAM, NH – John McCain currently leads both Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama in the race for New Hampshire’s four electoral votes. The most important issues to voters are jobs and the economy and the war in Iraq.

These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll**,\* conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred (500) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between April 25 and April 30, 2008. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-4.4 percent. Included was a subsample of 456 likely November voters (margin of sampling error, +/- 4.6%).

#### U.S. President

The top three vote getters in the 2008 New Hampshire primary remain in the race for President of the United States. And while New Hampshire has only 4 votes in the Electoral College, it will be a battleground state in the November election. Currently, Arizona Senator John McCain, the all-but-official Republican nominee leads both New York Senator Hillary Clinton and Illinois Senator Barack Obama who continue to battle for the Democratic nomination.

In the most recent Granite State Poll, 47% of likely voters say they plan to vote for McCain, 44% say they will vote for Clinton, 2% prefer some other candidate and only 7% are undecided. McCain does somewhat better against Obama with 49% of likely voters saying they plan to vote for McCain, 43% say they will vote for Obama, 1% prefer some other candidate, and 6% are undecided.



In the February, 2008 Granite State Poll, before the nomination field had been reduced, New Hampshire voters were asked if they would vote for the Republican or Democratic nominee for President in November. In that poll, 56% of likely voters said they planned to vote for the Democratic nominee, only 33% said they planned to vote for the Republican, 2% favored some other candidate, and 9% were undecided. “McCain’s current lead over both Obama and Clinton is clear evidence that candidates matter in elections and that elections are not always determined by the mood of the country,” said Andrew Smith, Director of the UNH Survey Center. “These results also show why political parties want to end their nomination processes quickly, both Obama and Clinton have been hurt in New Hampshire because of their ongoing nomination struggle.”

\* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the Granite State Poll*, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center.

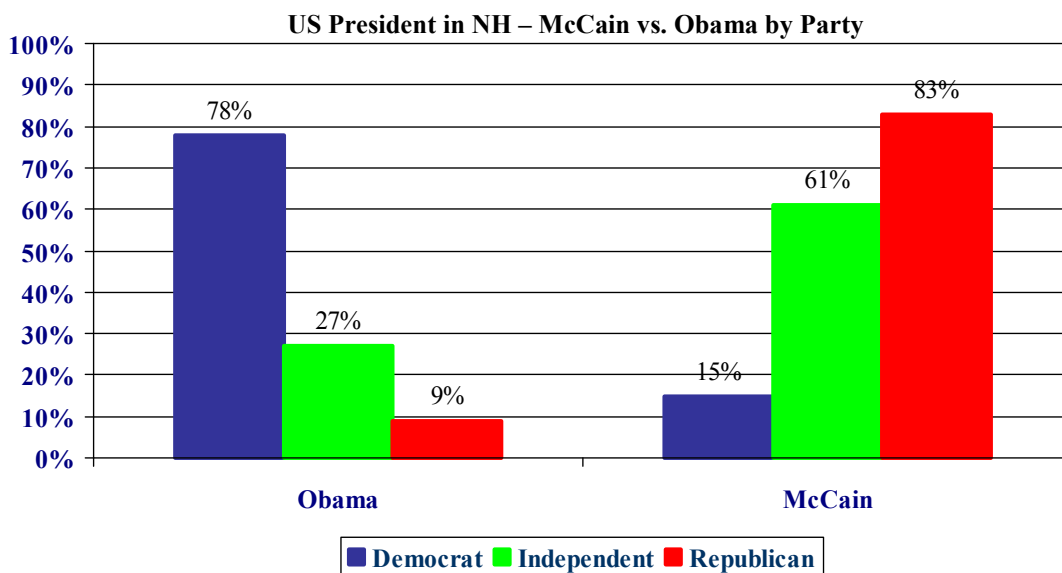
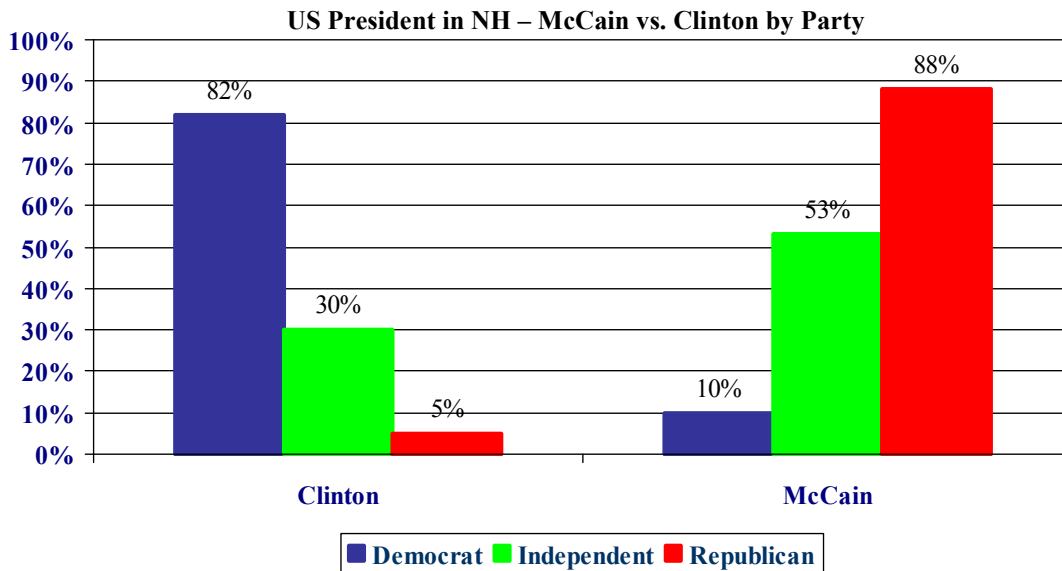
### Subgroup Analysis

McCain runs strongest against Clinton among Republicans and conservatives, while Clinton does best among Democrats, liberals, voters with post-graduate educations, union households, non-religious voters, and newcomers to New Hampshire.

When paired against Obama, McCain runs strongest among Republicans, conservatives, older voters, and regular church goers while Obama runs strongest among Democrats, liberals, voters with post-graduate educations, union households, younger voters (under 35), and non-religious voters.

McCain leads both Obama and Clinton in all regions of the state except the traditionally Democratic Connecticut Valley.

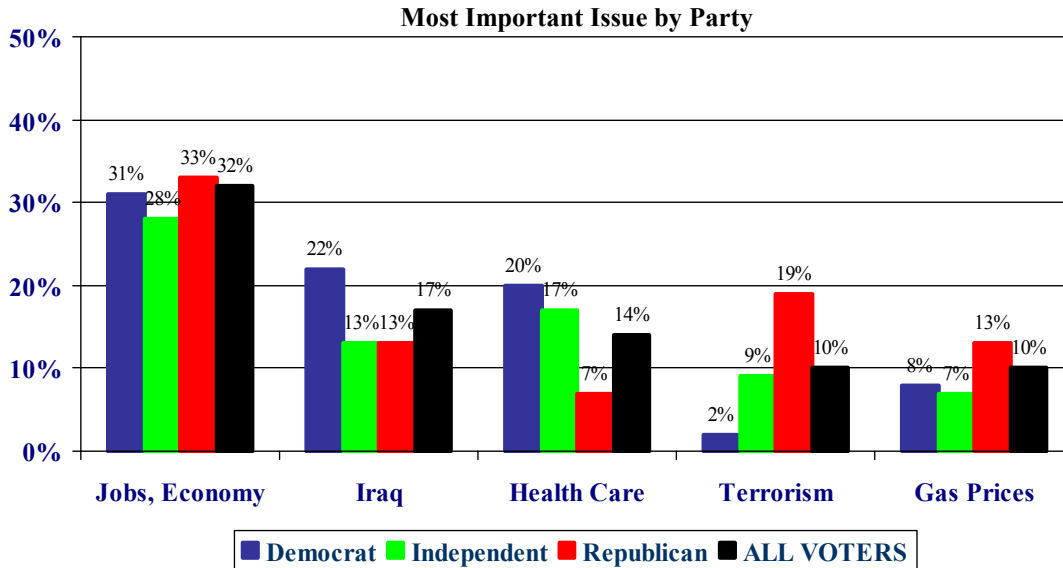
Most importantly, McCain leads both Democrats among independent voters. McCain holds a 53% to 30% lead over Clinton among New Hampshire independents and leads Obama by an even bigger margin, 61% to 27%. "McCain did very well among more independent voters in both the 2000 and 2008 New Hampshire primaries and it shows," said Smith. "His national strategy depends on him broadening the weakened Republican party base by drawing in more independent voters."



## Issues

While the war in Iraq dominated much of the political debate during the primary campaign in 2007, the faltering US economy is seen as the most important issue for the fall election. One-third of likely New Hampshire voters (32%) said jobs and the economy is the most important issue in determining their vote for the election in November, followed by the war in Iraq (17%), health care and prescription drugs (14%), terrorism (10%), and gas prices (10%).

Republican voters are more concerned about terrorism than are Democrats while Democrats are more concerned about the war in Iraq and health care issues than are Republicans.



### Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll** conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred (500) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between April 25 and April 30, 2008. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-4.4 percent. Included was a subsample of 456 likely November voters (margin of sampling error, +/- 4.6%). Two hundred forty-nine (249) respondents lived in New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District (margin of sampling error = +/-6.2%) and 251 lived in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District (margin of sampling error = +/-6.2%). Results reported for other subgroups have potential for somewhat larger variation than those for the entire population.

The data have been weighted to adjust for numbers of adults and telephone lines within households, respondent sex, and region of the state. In addition to potential sampling error, all surveys have other potential sources of non-sampling error including question order effects, question wording effects, and non-response.

"Let's turn to politics for a minute. Are you registered to vote at your current address?"  
IF YES: "Are you registered as a Democrat, Independent, Republican or something else?"

27%	REGISTERED DEMOCRAT
43%	REGISTERED INDEPENDENT / UNAFFILIATED
24%	REGISTERED REPUBLICAN
6%	NOT REGISTERED

(N=500)

"Now think ahead to the 2008 general election for President, Governor, and Congress. Which of the following statements best describes you ... (READ NUMBERS 1 TO 5)

1%	I will probably NOT vote in the 2008 general election, → SKIP
3%	I MAY vote,
5%	Unless some emergency comes up, I WILL vote,
83%	I will DEFINITELY vote in the 2008 general election, or
8%	I just don't know at this time." → SKIP

(N=500)

ROTATE PRES1 AND PRES2

PRES1

"Suppose the 2008 presidential election was being held today and the candidates were John McCain the Republican and Hillary Clinton, the Democrat, who would you vote for?" ROTATE CANDIDATES

47%	JOHN MCCAIN
44%	HILLARY CLINTON
2%	OTHER -- VOLUNTEERED
7%	DK / NOT SURE / UNDECIDED

(N=439)

PRES2

"Suppose the 2008 presidential election was being held today and the candidates were John McCain the Republican and Barack Obama, the Democrat, who would you vote for? ROTATE CANDIDATES

49%	JOHN MCCAIN
43%	BARACK OBAMA
1%	OTHER -- VOLUNTEERED
6%	DK / NOT SURE / UNDECIDED

(N=435)

MIPUS

"Of the following list, which one of these will be the single most important issue in your vote for president this year ... the U.S. campaign against terrorism ... the war in Iraq ... the economy and jobs ... education ... health care ... Medicare and prescription drugs ... Social Security ... gas and oil prices ... or something else?" ROTATE

RESPONSES

32%	THE ECONOMY AND JOBS
17%	IRAQ
11%	HEALTH CARE
10%	CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM
10%	OIL AND GAS PRICES
4%	EDUCATION
3%	MEDICARE AND PRESCRIPTION DRUGS
2%	SOCIAL SECURITY
11%	OTHER - SPECIFY
1%	DK / UNSURE

(N=456)

**US President: McCain v. Clinton**

	<u>McCain</u>	<u>Clinton</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>(N)</u>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>439</b>
Registered Democrat	10%	81%	1%	8%	121
Undeclared	46%	44%	4%	6%	189
Registered Republican	85%	7%	2%	6%	115
Not registered	67%	28%	0%	5%	11
Democrat	10%	82%	2%	6%	195
Independent	53%	30%	5%	12%	68
Republican	88%	5%	2%	5%	171
Liberal	18%	75%	1%	5%	69
Moderate	40%	53%	3%	5%	211
Conservative	75%	15%	2%	8%	141
Union household	36%	56%	0%	8%	53
Non-union	49%	42%	3%	6%	384
5 years or less in NH	46%	54%	0%	0%	15
6 to 10 years	42%	53%	2%	3%	39
11 to 20 years	56%	30%	6%	8%	60
More than 20 years	46%	45%	2%	7%	316
18 to 34	46%	46%	5%	4%	27
35 to 49	48%	41%	3%	8%	126
50 to 64	42%	50%	2%	6%	175
65 and over	55%	37%	1%	7%	94
Male	53%	39%	2%	6%	210
Female	41%	49%	3%	7%	228
High school or less	44%	45%	1%	11%	97
Some college	51%	36%	5%	8%	100
College graduate	56%	38%	2%	4%	160
Post-graduate	28%	65%	1%	6%	79
Less than \$30K	45%	50%	0%	5%	44
\$30K to \$60K	40%	45%	4%	11%	81
\$60K to \$75K	53%	34%	0%	13%	37
\$75K to \$100K	46%	45%	3%	7%	64
More than \$100K	47%	49%	1%	3%	96
Married	49%	41%	2%	8%	301
Divorced/separated	46%	45%	2%	7%	87
Never married	35%	63%	2%	0%	44
Protestant	53%	38%	1%	8%	184
Catholic	46%	47%	3%	4%	144
Other / None	33%	58%	3%	6%	85
Attend services 1 or more/week	55%	39%	3%	2%	122
1-2 times a month	32%	57%	0%	11%	63
Less often	48%	44%	2%	6%	140
Never	44%	44%	2%	9%	97
Born in NH	49%	42%	2%	7%	114
Moved from MA	46%	44%	2%	7%	132
Moved from other NE	46%	43%	4%	6%	52
Moved from Mid-Atlantic	41%	48%	5%	7%	60
Moved from other state	49%	45%	0%	5%	80
North Country	47%	41%	4%	8%	40
Central/Lakes	51%	40%	4%	4%	76
Connecticut Valley	31%	59%	1%	8%	69
Mass Border	46%	44%	4%	6%	118
Seacoast	53%	44%	0%	3%	71
Manchester Area	55%	35%	0%	10%	66
1st Cong. District	50%	41%	2%	7%	221
2nd Cong. District	44%	47%	2%	7%	218

**US President: McCain v. Obama**

	<u>McCain</u>	<u>Obama</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>(N)</u>
STATEWIDE	49%	43%	1%	6%	435
Registered Democrat	16%	80%	1%	3%	116
Undeclared	49%	42%	2%	8%	191
Registered Republican	82%	8%	2%	8%	115
Not registered	73%	27%	0%	0%	11
Democrat	15%	78%	2%	4%	191
Independent	61%	27%	0%	12%	69
Republican	83%	9%	1%	6%	172
Liberal	19%	76%	4%	1%	71
Moderate	43%	49%	1%	7%	211
Conservative	78%	12%	2%	8%	135
Union household	34%	59%	0%	7%	53
Non-union	52%	40%	2%	6%	381
5 years or less in NH	38%	62%	0%	0%	16
6 to 10 years	43%	51%	2%	5%	39
11 to 20 years	43%	50%	4%	3%	63
More than 20 years	52%	39%	1%	8%	310
18 to 34	22%	66%	7%	5%	27
35 to 49	54%	37%	1%	8%	127
50 to 64	45%	45%	1%	8%	174
65 and over	61%	36%	1%	2%	90
Male	54%	41%	1%	5%	212
Female	45%	45%	2%	8%	223
High school or less	54%	39%	1%	6%	95
Some college	55%	35%	2%	8%	99
College graduate	52%	41%	2%	6%	161
Post-graduate	32%	60%	1%	7%	77
Less than \$30K	48%	44%	1%	7%	41
\$30K to \$60K	49%	41%	1%	8%	78
\$60K to \$75K	50%	46%	0%	3%	39
\$75K to \$100K	43%	47%	0%	9%	64
More than \$100K	54%	42%	2%	2%	96
Married	52%	40%	1%	7%	299
Divorced/separated	44%	47%	3%	7%	86
Never married	40%	51%	4%	4%	43
Protestant	57%	36%	0%	7%	180
Catholic	53%	39%	3%	6%	143
Other / None	32%	62%	2%	4%	84
Attend services 1 or more/week	58%	34%	2%	7%	120
1-2 times a month	39%	50%	4%	7%	61
Less often	50%	42%	1%	7%	138
Never	46%	50%	1%	3%	99
Born in NH	56%	36%	2%	6%	109
Moved from MA	55%	35%	1%	9%	129
Moved from Other NE	41%	51%	3%	5%	53
Moved from Mid-Atlantic	43%	53%	1%	3%	62
Moved from other state	42%	51%	0%	6%	81
North Country	50%	43%	0%	8%	40
Central/Lakes	55%	35%	2%	8%	74
Connecticut Valley	30%	63%	3%	5%	68
Mass Border	51%	40%	2%	6%	118
Seacoast	51%	42%	1%	6%	69
Manchester Area	58%	36%	0%	6%	66
1st Cong. District	55%	37%	1%	7%	219
2nd Cong. District	44%	48%	2%	6%	216

**Most Important Issue in Presidential Vote**

	<b>Jobs, Economy</b>	<b>Iraq</b>	<b>Health Care</b>	<b>Terrorism</b>	<b>Gas Prices</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>(N=)</b>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>456</b>
Registered Democrat	32%	18%	21%	2%	7%	20%	123
Undeclared	31%	17%	13%	12%	9%	19%	199
Registered Republican	31%	16%	10%	15%	15%	14%	117
Not registered	25%	11%	22%	17%	10%	16%	12
Democrat	31%	22%	20%	2%	8%	18%	201
Independent	28%	13%	17%	9%	7%	25%	75
Republican	33%	13%	7%	19%	13%	15%	176
Liberal	28%	25%	25%	2%	3%	16%	72
Moderate	33%	17%	17%	6%	11%	16%	219
Conservative	32%	13%	5%	20%	11%	19%	145
Union household	40%	19%	12%	6%	8%	14%	55
Non-union	30%	17%	14%	10%	10%	18%	400
5 years or less in NH	23%	12%	23%	16%	6%	20%	16
6 to 10 years	32%	21%	13%	14%	12%	9%	42
11 to 20 years	39%	13%	4%	7%	6%	31%	64
More than 20 years	31%	17%	16%	9%	10%	17%	328
18 to 34	31%	10%	16%	5%	10%	29%	27
35 to 49	37%	13%	8%	8%	12%	22%	130
50 to 64	32%	20%	18%	13%	6%	11%	183
65 and over	25%	16%	16%	7%	14%	23%	97
Male	36%	18%	12%	12%	10%	12%	219
Female	27%	16%	16%	8%	10%	23%	237
High school or less	30%	18%	13%	8%	11%	20%	102
Some college	34%	13%	10%	10%	14%	18%	106
College graduate	31%	14%	13%	14%	10%	19%	166
Post-graduate	32%	27%	24%	2%	2%	13%	79
Less than \$30K	20%	13%	22%	4%	22%	19%	44
\$30K to \$60K	33%	15%	18%	7%	11%	16%	82
\$60K to \$75K	37%	20%	17%	11%	2%	14%	41
\$75K to \$100K	37%	17%	11%	10%	9%	16%	65
More than \$100K	35%	23%	10%	14%	4%	14%	97
Married	34%	17%	14%	11%	8%	17%	314
Divorced/separated	23%	21%	14%	9%	14%	17%	91
Never married	31%	12%	19%	0%	15%	23%	45
Protestant	26%	19%	15%	11%	10%	20%	188
Catholic	38%	15%	13%	10%	9%	15%	149
Other / None	31%	19%	16%	7%	11%	17%	90
Attend services 1 or more/week	28%	15%	14%	11%	12%	20%	124
1-2 times a month	18%	25%	19%	10%	2%	25%	65
Less often	39%	16%	13%	9%	11%	12%	143
Never	32%	19%	13%	10%	8%	18%	105
Born in NH	36%	17%	13%	5%	17%	11%	119
Moved from MA	26%	17%	12%	9%	9%	27%	137
Moved from Other NE	43%	14%	16%	9%	8%	10%	54
Moved from Mid-Atlantic	27%	16%	20%	13%	8%	17%	63
Moved from other state	31%	18%	15%	15%	3%	18%	84
North Country	36%	22%	5%	3%	15%	18%	41
Central/Lakes	34%	15%	18%	7%	9%	17%	79
Connecticut Valley	25%	13%	22%	7%	15%	19%	72
Mass Border	31%	14%	13%	10%	7%	24%	125
Seacoast	35%	25%	6%	16%	7%	11%	71
Manchester Area	30%	17%	17%	14%	10%	12%	69
1st Cong. District	32%	19%	12%	12%	7%	18%	228
2nd Cong. District	31%	15%	16%	8%	13%	18%	228