

# SOUTH CAROLINA STATEWIDE GOP PRIMARY SURVEY

Interview Schedule



PUBLIC OPINION  
STRATEGIES

turning questions into answers

September 28-October 1, 2023

Project: 232054

N=400 GOP Primary Voters

Margin of Error:  $\pm$  4.9%

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D4A. And, in politics today, do you consider yourself ...

a Republican,  
a Democrat,  
or something else?

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
61%	61%	61%	64%	57%	STRONG REPUBLICAN
13%	12%	12%	10%	14%	NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN
12%	14%	18%	14%	16%	LEAN TO REPUBLICANS
14%	13%	8%	12%	12%	UNAFFILIATED / INDEPENDENT / SOMETHING ELSE
<b>74%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>TOTAL REPUBLICAN</b>
<b>26%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>TOTAL LEAN GOP/IND</b>

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PP1. And, how likely are you to vote in the 2024 Republican Presidential Primary here in South Carolina? Are you...

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
86%	83%	86%	88%	87%	EXTREMELY LIKELY
14%	17%	14%	12%	13%	VERY LIKELY

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Now, I would like to read you several names of different people active in politics. For each one, please tell me, first, whether you have heard of the person. If you have, please tell me whether you have a FAVORABLE impression of that person or an UNFAVORABLE impression of that person. If I name someone you have not heard of or someone who you do not know too much about, just tell me and we will go to the next one.

	TOTAL FAV	TOTAL UNFAV	VERY FAV	SMWT FAV	SMWT UNFAV	VERY UNFAV	HEARD OF/NO OPIN	NEVER HRD	REF
<b>RANKED BY % VERY FAVORABLE</b>									
N2. Donald Trump									
10-1	77%	21%	59%	18%	9%	12%	1%	*	—
9/14	79%	20%	59%	20%	6%	13%	1%	1%	—
8-24	75%	23%	58%	17%	6%	17%	2%	—	—
6-22	77%	21%	57%	20%	6%	14%	2%	—	—
6-1	73%	26%	49%	25%	10%	16%	*	*	—
N4. Nikki Haley									
10-1	68%	29%	37%	30%	14%	15%	2%	1%	—
9/14	70%	26%	33%	36%	11%	15%	2%	2%	—
8-24	69%	28%	36%	33%	13%	15%	3%	—	—
6-22	69%	28%	27%	42%	15%	13%	1%	2%	—
6-1	68%	29%	30%	38%	13%	16%	3%	1%	—
N6. Tim Scott									
10-1	78%	15%	35%	43%	9%	6%	5%	1%	—
9/14	78%	14%	41%	37%	9%	5%	4%	4%	—
8-24	79%	15%	39%	40%	10%	6%	4%	1%	—
6-22	78%	12%	46%	32%	8%	4%	7%	4%	—
6-1	79%	14%	45%	35%	8%	6%	5%	2%	—
N1. Ron DeSantis									
10-1	72%	22%	30%	42%	11%	11%	4%	1%	—
9/14	69%	25%	32%	37%	12%	13%	4%	2%	—
8-24	72%	24%	36%	36%	14%	10%	3%	1%	—
6-22	75%	18%	38%	37%	8%	9%	5%	3%	*
6-1	73%	18%	43%	31%	9%	9%	6%	2%	*
N3. Vivek Ramaswamy									
10-1	43%	29%	10%	33%	16%	13%	11%	17%	—
9/14	43%	26%	14%	29%	12%	13%	13%	18%	*
8-24	54%	20%	23%	30%	11%	9%	11%	15%	*
6-22	28%	9%	9%	19%	4%	4%	17%	47%	—
6-1	22%	10%	7%	15%	5%	5%	23%	45%	*

Continued...

	TOTAL FAV	TOTAL UNFAV	VERY FAV	SMWT FAV	SMWT UNFAV	VERY UNFAV	HEARD OF/NO OPIN	NEVER HRD	REF
<b>RANKED BY % VERY FAVORABLE</b>									
N5. Mike Pence									
10-1	32%	59%	7%	26%	27%	33%	8%	*	—
9/14	32%	61%	7%	25%	25%	37%	6%	1%	—
8-24	33%	61%	6%	28%	24%	38%	5%	*	—
6-22	49%	45%	13%	36%	17%	27%	6%	1%	—
6-1	44%	48%	10%	34%	24%	24%	7%	*	*
N8. Doug Burgum									
10-1	17%	19%	4%	13%	9%	10%	18%	46%	*
9/14	10%	14%	1%	8%	7%	7%	22%	55%	—
8-24	11%	16%	1%	11%	8%	8%	26%	46%	—
6-22	1%	9%	*	1%	4%	4%	16%	75%	—
N7. Chris Christie									
10-1	14%	75%	2%	12%	22%	53%	8%	4%	*
9/14	13%	72%	2%	11%	18%	54%	7%	7%	1%
8-24	11%	77%	1%	10%	22%	55%	8%	4%	*
6-22	19%	63%	2%	16%	22%	41%	11%	7%	—

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B1. Thinking ahead to the 2024 Republican Presidential Primary, for whom would you vote if the candidates were...

Ron DeSantis, Donald Trump, Vivek Ramaswamy, Nikki Haley, Tim Scott, Asa Hutchinson, Mike Pence, Chris Christie...and...Doug Burgum

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
14%	8%	6%	6%	7%	DEFINITELY DeSANTIS
10%	8%	5%	3%	4%	PROBABLY DeSANTIS
2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	LEAN DeSANTIS
32%	37%	40%	43%	46%	DEFINITELY TRUMP
7%	8%	9%	8%	7%	PROBABLY TRUMP
2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	LEAN TRUMP
5%	5%	5%	8%	9%	DEFINITELY HALEY
5%	4%	7%	8%	8%	PROBABLY HALEY
2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	LEAN HALEY
6%	5%	3%	6%	4%	DEFINITELY SCOTT
5%	6%	4%	2%	2%	PROBABLY SCOTT
1%	1%	2%	1%	*	LEAN SCOTT
1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	DEFINITELY RAMASWAMY
*	1%	3%	2%	1%	PROBABLY RAMASWAMY
*	*	*	—	*	LEAN RAMASWAMY
1%	*	1%	*	1%	DEFINITELY PENCE
*	1%	1%	*	1%	PROBABLY PENCE
*	1%	—	*	*	LEAN PENCE
—	1%	*	1%	*	DEFINITELY CHRISTIE
—	1%	1%	*	1%	PROBABLY CHRISTIE
—	*	—	*	*	LEAN CHRISTIE
—	—	—	—	*	DEFINITELY BURGUM
—	—	—	—	1%	PROBABLY BURGUM
—	*	—	—	—	LEAN BURGUM
*	*	—	—	—	DEFINITELY HUTCHINSON
*	*	—	*	—	PROBABLY HUTCHINSON
—	*	—	—	—	LEAN HUTCHINSON
6%	5%	6%	5%	3%	HARD UNDECIDED/NOT SURE
—	—	—	*	*	REFUSED

Continued...

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
24%	16%	11%	10%	11%	<b>TOTAL DESANTIS</b>
39%	45%	49%	51%	53%	<b>TOTAL TRUMP</b>
10%	10%	13%	16%	17%	<b>TOTAL HALEY</b>
10%	12%	7%	8%	7%	<b>TOTAL SCOTT</b>
1%	2%	6%	3%	2%	<b>TOTAL RAMASWAMY</b>
1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	<b>TOTAL PENCE</b>
-	2%	1%	1%	1%	<b>TOTAL CHRISTIE</b>
-	-	-	-	1%	<b>TOTAL BURGUM</b>
*	1%	-	*	-	<b>TOTAL HUTCHINSON</b>
14%	13%	13%	10%	7%	<b>TOTAL LEAN/ UNDECIDED</b>

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**(ASKED IF B1:1-2, 4-5, 7-8, 10-11, 13-14, 16-17, 19-20, 22-23, 25-26)**

B1S. And, who would be your second choice?

<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
23%	26%	Ron DeSantis
16%	18%	Nikki Haley
17%	15%	Tim Scott
10%	10%	Vivek Ramaswamy
9%	7%	Donald Trump
3%	3%	Mike Pence
1%	2%	Chris Christie
*	2%	Doug Burgum
*	1%	Asa Hutchinson
9%	9%	Hard Undecided/Not Sure
*	1%	Refused

B1C. Combined Choices.

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
24%	16%	11%	32%	37%	DESANTIS
39%	45%	49%	61%	60%	TRUMP
10%	10%	13%	31%	35%	HALEY
10%	12%	7%	25%	21%	SCOTT
1%	2%	6%	13%	13%	RAMASWAMY
1%	1%	2%	4%	4%	PENCE
–	2%	1%	2%	3%	CHRISTIE
–	–	–	*	3%	BURGUM
*	1%	–	1%	1%	HUTCHINSON
14%	13%	13%	19%	15%	HARD UNDECIDED/NOT SURE
–	–	–	1%	1%	REFUSED

B2. And, for whom would you vote for in the 2024 Republican Presidential Primary if the candidates were...

Ron DeSantis  
 ...and...  
 Donald Trump

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
27%	21%	20%	16%	19%	DEFINITELY DeSANTIS
12%	9%	9%	8%	8%	PROBABLY DeSANTIS
1%	4%	4%	2%	1%	LEAN DeSANTIS
10%	12%	11%	10%	6%	HARD UNDECIDED/NOT SURE
4%	5%	3%	5%	3%	LEAN TRUMP
8%	8%	8%	7%	11%	PROBABLY TRUMP
37%	41%	46%	51%	51%	DEFINITELY TRUMP
1%	1%	*	1%	1%	REFUSED
<b>40%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>TOTAL DESANTIS</b>
<b>45%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>TOTAL TRUMP</b>
<b>15%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>TOTAL LEAN/UNDECIDED</b>

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B3. And, thinking again about who you're considering voting for in the 2024 Republican Primary...would you say you're

<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
23%	30%	33%	31%	Only considering Trump
55%	47%	47%	47%	Considering Trump and other candidates
21%	23%	19%	22%	Not considering Trump
*	*	*	—	DON'T KNOW
—	—	1%	—	REFUSED

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And, thinking now about Wednesday night's Republican Presidential debate...

1. Which of the following statements best describes you?

<u>8-24</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
50%	37%	You watched or listened to all or some of the debate
24%	25%	You did not watch or listen to the debate, but you paid close attention to news stories about it
25%	37%	You did not watch or listen to the debate or pay much attention to news stories about it
*	1%	NOT SURE
—	—	REFUSED
<b>74%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>TOTAL PAID ATTENTION</b>

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2. And, did the debate change who you plan to vote for?

<u>8-24</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
11%	3%	YES
88%	93%	NO
1%	3%	DON'T KNOW
—	*	REFUSED

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Regardless of whether or not you watched the debate...

3. In your opinion, who won the debate?

<b><u>8-24</u></b>	<b><u>10-1</u></b>	
20%	19%	Nikki Haley
14%	18%	Ron DeSantis
26%	6%	Vivek Ramaswamy
3%	5%	Tim Scott
–	2%	Doug Burgum
1%	1%	Chris Christie
2%	*	Mike Pence
34%	48%	UNDECIDED/DON'T KNOW
1%	2%	REFUSED

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4. In your opinion, who lost the debate?

<b><u>8-24</u></b>	<b><u>10-1</u></b>	
25%	28%	Chris Christie
17%	10%	Mike Pence
6%	9%	Vivek Ramaswamy
4%	4%	Doug Burgum
2%	3%	Nikki Haley
6%	3%	Ron DeSantis
2%	*	Tim Scott
33%	41%	UNDECIDED/DON'T KNOW
1%	2%	REFUSED

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Next, I'm going to read you attributes and regardless of whether or not you watched the debate, I'd like to know which candidate that was on the debate stage this attribute best describes...

5. Which candidate is strongest on border security?

<b><u>8-24</u></b>	<b><u>10-1</u></b>	
46%	41%	Ron DeSantis
9%	17%	Nikki Haley
15%	10%	Vivek Ramaswamy
4%	4%	Tim Scott
2%	4%	Mike Pence
1%	1%	Chris Christie
*	1%	Doug Burgum
22%	23%	UNDECIDED/DON'T KNOW
1%	*	REFUSED

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6. Which candidate is best able to beat Donald Trump?

<b><u>8-24</u></b>	<b><u>10-1</u></b>	
35%	36%	Ron DeSantis,
14%	19%	Nikki Haley
10%	7%	Vivek Ramaswamy
4%	4%	Tim Scott
1%	2%	Mike Pence
1%	1%	Chris Christie
–	*	Doug Burgum
–	*	All
5%	7%	None
29%	24%	UNDECIDED/DON'T KNOW
*	–	REFUSED

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Now, thinking about foreign affairs for a moment...

**(Q12 ASKED OF SAMPLE A ONLY)**

12. Do you think the United States is doing...

<b><u>6-1</u></b>	<b><u>10-1</u></b>	
58%	69%	Too much to help Ukraine
19%	6%	Not enough to help Ukraine
		...or...
21%	21%	Doing the right amount to help Ukraine?
1%	2%	DON'T KNOW
1%	2%	REFUSED

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**(Q13 ASKED OF SAMPLE B ONLY)**

13. Next, how serious of a threat do you consider China to be to the economic security of the United States?

81%	Very Serious
16%	Somewhat Serious
3%	Not Very Serious
	...or...
–	Not Serious At All
*	DON'T KNOW
–	REFUSED
<b>97%</b>	<b>TOTAL SERIOUS</b>
<b>3%</b>	<b>TOTAL NOT SERIOUS</b>

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Now, I have just a few questions for statistical purposes only...

D2. Gender.

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
49%	49%	49%	49%	49%	MALE
51%	51%	51%	51%	51%	FEMALE

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D1. In what year were you born?

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
2%	2%	1%	*	1%	18 - 24
8%	6%	5%	5%	4%	25 - 34
12%	12%	15%	15%	16%	35 - 44
18%	16%	14%	16%	16%	45 - 54
23%	25%	27%	25%	25%	55 - 64
37%	39%	38%	38%	38%	65 AND ABOVE
*	1%	-	*	-	REFUSED

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D3. And what was the last grade you completed in school?

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
-	*	-	1%	-	SOME GRADE SCHOOL (1-8)
-	2%	*	*	-	SOME HIGH SCHOOL (9-11)
22%	17%	15%	15%	16%	GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)
7%	3%	4%	7%	9%	TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL (12)
25%	32%	34%	30%	29%	SOME COLLEGE (13-15)
30%	30%	27%	26%	25%	GRADUATED COLLEGE (16)
16%	16%	19%	20%	21%	GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL (16+)
-	-	*	*	-	REFUSED
<b>22%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>TOTAL HS OR LESS</b>
<b>32%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>TOTAL SOME COLLEGE</b>
<b>46%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>TOTAL COLLEGE+</b>

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D5A. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be conservative, moderate or liberal on most issues?

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
54%	49%	57%	54%	52%	VERY CONSERVATIVE
24%	28%	24%	28%	26%	SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE
21%	21%	18%	17%	21%	MODERATE
1%	1%	*	1%	1%	SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
*	1%	*	*	–	VERY LIBERAL
1%	*	*	*	*	DON'T KNOW
–	–	–	–	–	REFUSED
<b>78%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>TOTAL CONSERVATIVE</b>
<b>1%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>TOTAL LIBERAL</b>

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D11B. And, what is your religious affiliation?

<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
66%	67%	74%	76%	PROTESTANT
11%	11%	9%	11%	CATHOLIC
6%	5%	7%	3%	ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN
*	*	1%	1%	LATTER-DAY SAINT OR MORMON
10%	2%	1%	1%	OTHER CHRISTIAN (SPECIFY:)
*	1%	1%	*	JEWISH
—	—	*	—	MUSLIM
5%	11%	5%	6%	NO RELIGION, OR AGNOSTIC
*	1%	1%	2%	OR SOMETHING ELSE
1%	1%	*	*	DON'T KNOW
1%	*	1%	1%	REFUSED

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D11C. Do you consider yourself a born-again, evangelical or fundamentalist Christian or not?

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
69%	65%	65%	65%	65%	YES
29%	33%	34%	34%	34%	NO
2%	1%	1%	1%	*	DON'T KNOW
1%	1%	*	1%	*	NOT SURE

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D13C. Do you, or does anyone in your household, own a gun of any kind?

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
71%	68%	73%	66%	71%	Yes, gun in household
23%	25%	23%	27%	21%	No, no gun in household
1%	1%	*	–	1%	NOT SURE
6%	7%	3%	7%	7%	REFUSED

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D12A. On the issue of abortion, do you consider yourself to be...

Pro-Life  
 ...or...  
 Pro-Choice?

<u>6-1</u>	<u>6-22</u>	<u>8-24</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>10-1</u>	
58%	57%	60%	60%	54%	STRONGLY PRO-LIFE
19%	18%	18%	18%	23%	SOMEWHAT PRO-LIFE
12%	10%	11%	7%	8%	SOMEWHAT PRO-CHOICE
10%	13%	10%	13%	10%	STRONGLY PRO-CHOICE
1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	DON'T KNOW/NEITHER
*	*	1%	*	1%	REFUSED
<b>77%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>TOTAL PRO-LIFE</b>
<b>22%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>TOTAL PRO-CHOICE</b>

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