



Survey February 5 and ended February 11, 2024

Research Design: Reach 1,000 random registered voters

Sample gathered from South Carolina registered voter file, as well as some from Verasight's panel of online respondents.

### **Survey Instrument**

#### **Once Informed Consent is Given**

[If the respondent is not known to be a registered voter]

REG\_VTE Are you a registered voter in South Carolina?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

Q1 In what year were you born?

- ####, year much be lower than 2007
- 9999, if refused

Q2 Were you born in South Carolina?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No, born in another state
- 3 No, born in another country
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q3A [If born in SC] Have you always lived in South Carolina or did you move back to South Carolina after living somewhere else?

- 1 Always in South Carolina
- 2 Moved back within the past 5 years
- 3 Moved back sometime between 5 and 10 years ago
- 4 Moved back more than 10 years ago
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q3B [If not born in SC] Approximately how long have you lived in South Carolina?

- 1 Moved to South Carolina within the past 5 years
- 2 Moved to South Carolina sometime between 5 and 10 years ago
- 3 Moved to South Carolina more than 10 years ago
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q4 [If Q2=No, born in another state or Q3A=Moved back] Did you move to South Carolina from one of the following states?

[List all 50 in alphabetical order, with Washington, D.C. listed] 1 = AL

Q5 What County in South Carolina are you registered to vote?

[List all 46 counties, selecting the FIPS code] 1 = Abbeville, 3 = Aiken...

Q6 What is your gender?

1 Female

2 Male

3 Neither/Refused

Q7 Are you Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin? If yes, what is the national origin of your ancestry?

1 No

2 Yes, Mexican

3 Yes, Puerto Rican

4 Yes, Cuban

5 Yes, Salvadorian

6 Yes, Dominican

7 Other [text entry]

Q8 What is your race? Select as many as apply to you.

1 White

2 Black or African American

3 Asian or South Asian

4 American Indian or Alaska Native

5 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

6 Some other race [Open]

Q9 What is the highest level of education you have attained?

1 Attended high school, but did not graduate

2 High school diploma or equivalency

3 High school graduation, some college

4 Completed Associates Degree

5 Completed Bachelor's Degree

6 Graduate or Professional Degree/Coursework

9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

### **MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE**

Q10 Would you say you follow what's going on in politics most of the time, some of the time, only now and then, or hardly at all?

1 Most of the time

2 Some of the time

- 3 Only now and then
- 4 Hardly at all

Q11 Using a 7-point scale where 1 is extremely liberal and 7 is extremely conservative, how would you rate your political views?

- 1 Extremely Liberal
- 2 Liberal
- 3 Slightly Liberal
- 4 Moderate, Middle of the Road
- 5 Slightly Conservative
- 6 Conservative
- 7 Extremely Conservative
- 8 Don't know

Q12 Do you consider yourself to be a Republican, Democrat, or neither?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democrat
- 3 Neither

Q13\_1 [If Republican or Democrat] Do you consider yourself to be a strong [Republican/Democrat] or not strong [Republican/Democrat]?

- 1 Strong
- 2 Not strong
- 3 Unsure

Q13\_2 [If independent, no preference, or other party] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?

- 1 Democratic
- 2 Republican
- 3 Neither

Q14 Have you voted in South Carolina before?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 Unsure
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q15 [If Q14=Yes] In 2020, which candidate did you vote for in the presidential election?

- 1 Joe Biden
- 2 Donald Trump
- 3 Someone else
- 4 Did not vote
- 5 Cannot recall

9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q16 [If Q14=Yes] In 2022, which candidate did you vote for in the gubernatorial election?

- 1 Henry McMaster
- 2 Joe Cunningham
- 3 Someone else
- 4 Did not vote
- 5 Cannot recall
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q17 If the next election were between President Joe Biden or former President Donald Trump, who would you vote for?

- 1 Joe Biden, President
- 2 Donald Trump, former President
- 3 Unsure
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q18 If Nikki Haley wins the Republican nomination, would you vote for President Joe Biden or former South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley?

- 1 Joe Biden, President
- 2 Nikki Haley, former Governor
- 3 Unsure
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q19 There are third-party candidates in the race or considering entering the race.

How would you vote if the candidates were:

- 1 Democrat Joe Biden
- 2 Republican Donald Trump
- 3 Third-party candidate Robert F. Kennedy
- 4 Third-party candidate Joe Manchin
- 5 Green party candidate Jill Stein
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q20 How would you vote if the candidates were:

- 1 Democrat Joe Biden
- 2 Republican Nikki Haley
- 3 Third-party candidate Robert F. Kennedy
- 4 Third-party candidate Joe Manchin
- 5 Green party candidate Jill Stein
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q21-25 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of:

[RANDOMIZE order of names displayed]

	Very favorable 1	Somewhat favorable 2	Somewhat unfavorable 3	Very unfavorable 4	Have not heard of them 5	No answer 6
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Joe Biden						
Kamala Harris						
Nikki Haley						
Donald Trump						

Q26 Did you recently vote in the South Carolina Democratic Primary, held on February 3?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 Not sure/Refused

## Democratic Primary Recall

[Ask if Q26 = 1]

Q27\_D There are multiple ways you can vote, did you cast a ballot in-person early, on Election Day, or by mail?

- 1 In-person early
- 2 In-person on Election Day
- 3 Absentee by mail
- 4 Not sure
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

[Ask if Q26 = 1 OR Q12 = 2]

Q28\_D Joe Biden and Kamala Harris did not campaign in New Hampshire and began their campaign in South Carolina. Do you agree a Democratic nominee will better represent the country if states like South Carolina vote first in the future?

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Somewhat agree
- 3 Somewhat disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 Probably doesn't matter
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

[Ask if Q26 = 1]

Q29\_D Understanding that you cannot participate in the Republican primary now, did you ever contemplate waiting to vote in the Republican Primary?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 Cannot recall
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

## Republican Primary Set

[Ask if Q26=2]

Q27\_R How likely are you to vote in the South Carolina Republican primary scheduled for February 2024 -- will you definitely vote in the Republican primary, probably vote in the primary, probably not vote, or definitely not vote?

- 1 Definitely vote
- 2 Probably vote

- 3 Probably not vote
- 4 Definitely not vote
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

[Ask if Q26=2 and Q27\_R<4]

Q28\_R Do you plan to cast a ballot in-person early, on Election Day, or by mail?

- 1 In-person early
- 2 In-person on Election Day
- 3 Absentee by mail
- 4 Not sure
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

[Ask if Q26=2 and Q27\_R<4]

Q29\_R In the Republican Primary is your first choice former President Donald Trump, former Governor of South Carolina, or someone else?

- 1 Donald Trump, former President
- 2 Nikki Haley, former Governor of South Carolina
- 3 Someone else
- 4 Unsure
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

[Ask if Q29\_R=1]

Q30\_T Would you say you're certain to vote for Donald Trump, considering other candidates, or not sure?

- 1 Certain you will vote for Trump
- 2 Considering other candidates
- 3 Don't know

[Ask if Q29\_R=2]

Q30\_H Would you say you're certain to vote for Nikki Haley, considering other candidates, or not sure?

- 1 Certain you will vote for Haley
- 2 Considering other candidates
- 3 Don't know

[Ask if Q29\_R=3]

Q30\_S Would you say you're certain to vote for someone else, considering Trump, considering Haley, or not sure?

- 1 Certain you will vote for someone else
- 2 Considering Donald Trump
- 3 Considering Nikki Haley
- 4 Don't know

[Ask if Q27\_R<4]

Q31\_R How frequently have you voted in a South Carolina Republican primary?

- 1 This will be my first time
- 2 A few times
- 3 Almost all
- 4 Have not missed one
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

## Events & Policy

Q32 Do you believe the South Carolina Republican Primary will be a close election or one candidate will win by a large margin?

- 1 will win a close election
- 2 will win by a large margin
- 3 not sure

[Ask if Q32<3]

Q33 Do you believe Donald Trump or Nikki Haley [Q32] in South Carolina?

- 1 Donald Trump
- 2 Nikki Haley
- 3 Or someone else

[Ask if Q32=3]

Q33\_NS Do you believe Donald Trump or Nikki Haley will win in South Carolina?

- 1 Donald Trump
- 2 Nikki Haley
- 3 Or someone else

Q34-36 Of the candidates running for president, how confident are you in their ability to lead the U.S. Military as Commander-in-Chief?

[RANDOMIZE order of names displayed]

	Very confident 1	Somewhat confident 2	Not too confident 3	Not confident at all 4	Neither 5
President Joe Biden					
Fmr. President Donald Trump					
Fmr. Governor Nikki Haley					

Q37-40 Do you agree or disagree that the President of the United States should:

[RANDOMIZE order of traits displayed]

	Strongly agree 1	Somewhat agree 2	Somewhat disagree 3	Strongly disagree 4	Unsure 5
Respect the ideas and feelings of the public					
Accomplish tasks efficiently					

Project calm					
Reduce uncertainty					

Q41 – Q44 Do you approve or disapprove of the way  
[RANDOMIZE order of names displayed]

	Strongly Approve 1	Somewhat approve 2	Somewhat disapprove 3	Strongly disapprove 4	Neither 5
Joe Biden is handling his job as president?					
Henry McMaster is handling his job as governor?					
Lindsey Graham is handling his job as senator?					
Tim Scott is handling his job as senator?					

Q45 If Donald Trump is the Republican nominee, would selecting Senator Tim Scott as a vice presidential nominee make you more or less enthusiastic about supporting Donald Trump?

- 1 Extremely enthusiastic
- 2 Somewhat more enthusiastic
- 3 Somewhat less enthusiastic
- 4 Significantly less enthusiastic
- 5 No impact at all
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q25 Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Joe Biden is handling immigration?

- 1 Strongly approve
- 2 Somewhat approve
- 3 Somewhat disapprove
- 4 Strongly disapprove
- 5 Neither

[Randomly ask ½ of the sample]

Q46G In June of 2023, Governor McMaster deployed troops to protect the U.S. Southern border. Do you support or oppose the use of state funds to deploy South Carolina National Guard troops to patrol the Texas-Mexico border?

- 1 Support
- 2 Oppose
- 3 Don't know



[Randomly ask the second ½ of the sample]

Q46B Do you support or oppose the use of state funds to deploy South Carolina National Guard troops to patrol the Texas-Mexico border?

- 1 Support
- 2 Oppose
- 3 Don't know

Q47 In American Politics do you agree or disagree that electing officials from the Republican party in 2024 would result in lasting harm to the United States.

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Somewhat agree
- 3 Somewhat disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 Not sure

Q48 In American Politics do you agree or disagree that electing officials from the Democratic party in 2024 would result in lasting harm to the United States.

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Somewhat agree
- 3 Somewhat disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 Not sure

### **Remaining Demographics Questionnaire**

Q49 What is your marital status?

- 1 Married
- 2 Divorced
- 3 Separated
- 4 Single/Never Married
- 5 Widowed
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q50 Which of the following best describes your employment last week?

- 1 Retired
- 2 Employed full-time
- 3 Employed, part-time
- 4 Self employed
- 5 Seeking employment
- 6 Unemployed, not seeking work
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q51\_1 How many adults who currently live with you are 18 years old or older? Please be sure to include yourself.

- 1 Yourself alone
- 2 Yourself and one other adult
- 3 Yourself and two other adults
- 4 Yourself and three other adults
- 5 Yourself and four other adults
- 6 Six or more adults

9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q51\_2 How many children under 18 are currently living with you, if any?

0 None

1 One

2 Two

3 Three

4 Four or more

9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q52 In the last calendar year, what was your total household income, including wages, salaries, Social Security, and retirement benefits before taxes?

1 Less than \$30,000

2 \$30,000-\$49,999

3 \$50,000-\$74,999

4 \$75,000-\$99,999

5 \$100,000-\$149,999

6 \$150,000-\$199,999

7 \$200,000 or more

9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q53 Thinking about your family's financial situation, would you say you are living comfortably, just getting by, or struggling to make ends meet?

1 Living comfortably

2 Just getting by

3 Struggling to make ends meet

9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q54 "What is your present religion, if any? Are you:

1 Protestant

2 Roman Catholic

3 Mormon

4 Orthodox such as Greek or Russian Orthodox

5 Jewish

6 Muslim

7 Buddhist

- 8 Hindu
- 9 Atheist
- 10 Agnostic
- 11 Something else
- 12 or nothing in particular
- 99 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q55 Do you consider yourself a born-again Christian?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 Unsure

Q56 Finally, are you most comfortable taking surveys like this one by phone, text, or either option?

- 1 Phone
- 2 Text
- 3 Online
- 4 Any of these options
- 9 (DO NOT READ) Refused

Q57 Are you willing to be contacted again to share your opinions in the future?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 No answer given