



[Super Tuesday 2020 Recap](#)

Voters in 14 states and the U.S. territory of American Samoa headed to the polls to cast their ballots in Super Tuesday's presidential primaries. Former Vice President Joe Biden was declared the winner in 10 of the 14 states, while Senator Bernie Sanders won the remaining 4. Former New York City Mayor Mike Bloomberg won the primary in American Samoa, but later ended his presidential campaign and endorsed Biden after a poor performance in most of the 14 states up for grabs. Senator Elizabeth Warren followed suit and ended her campaign on Thursday as well. Pledged delegates are awarded proportionally by the Democratic Party to candidates who win at least 15% of the vote in a particular state. Following Super Tuesday's results, the two frontrunners – Biden and Sanders – lead the field in pledged delegates. Biden has 596 and Sanders has 531. A total of 1,991 delegates are needed in order to clinch the Democratic presidential nomination.

Super Tuesday marked an extremely strong performance for the Biden campaign, and a decent showing for Senator Sanders. In total, Biden won the Democratic presidential primaries in the 10 states of Alabama, Arkansas, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Texas, Maine, and Massachusetts. On the other hand, Sanders won in the 4 states of Vermont, Colorado, Utah, and California. The U.S. territory of American Samoa was won by Bloomberg, who has since dropped out of the race. While Sanders did win the largest single delegate prize of the night in California, the biggest shock came in the second-largest one of Texas where former Vice President Biden emerged as the winner. Most pundits anticipated that Sanders would win handily in Texas, as he has spent a lot of time campaigning there and has a strong presence of support among the state's Latino population – which makes up nearly a third of its total electorate. However, it seems as though Biden was boosted by two major factors: the consolidation of the moderate vote with the recent drop-outs of Buttigieg and Klobuchar, in addition to the high-profile endorsement of former Texas Congressman Beto O'Rourke on the eve of Super Tuesday.

As opposed to a winner-take-all method, the Democratic Party uses a proportional system for awarding pledged delegates to each presidential candidate based on their performance in each state, so long as they reach a minimum 15% threshold. Since this is the case, both Biden and Sanders were able to rack up a significant number of delegates on Super Tuesday, not only in the states that they won but also in states where they did not finish in first place. In fact, both Biden and Sanders finished above the 15% threshold in all 14 states, so they were each able to win delegates in every respective contest on Super Tuesday.

The results on Super Tuesday have turned the race for the Democratic presidential nomination to challenge Trump into a two-person contest between Biden and Sanders. Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard is still officially in the race, but is not seen as a viable candidate with a legitimate shot to garner enough pledged delegates, as she only has one from her second-place finish in American Samoa. The next presidential primaries will take place on Tuesday, March 10th when voters head to the polls in Idaho, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Washington, and North Dakota. Overall, 9% of all pledged delegates will be up for grabs on that day.