



[Biden Extends His Pledged Delegate Lead over Sanders](#)

Former Vice President Joe Biden had another strong election night showing on Tuesday and extended his pledged delegate lead over Senator Bernie Sanders in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination. This week's contests saw six more states cast their ballots in the presidential primaries. Biden was declared the winner in Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, and Idaho, while Sanders won in North Dakota. The election in the state of Washington is still too close to call for either candidate at this point. Next, the two frontrunners are scheduled to debate in Washington D.C. this Sunday, March 15th, however there will be no live audience due to concerns over the coronavirus outbreak. The debate will come two days before the March 17th primary elections in Arizona, Florida, Illinois, and Ohio.

Biden continued his domination of the Democratic presidential primaries in the southern United States, earning landslide victories in the states of Mississippi and Missouri. In Mississippi, the former Vice President won a whopping 81% of the vote, and in Missouri, he defeated Senator Sanders by over 25 percentage points – 60.1% to 34.6%. However, the most important win of the night for Biden came in Michigan, a state that Sanders won over Hillary Clinton back in 2016. Biden's victory there not only allowed him to earn the majority of the 125 pledged delegates from Michigan, the biggest delegate prize of the night, but it was also a resounding win as Biden carried all of the state's counties and won by over 15 percentage points in a race that most thought would be extremely close.

The noticeable trend which has carried through from the South Carolina primary to Super Tuesday and this week's contests is that Biden is outperforming Sanders by huge margins among some of the more reliable voting blocs for Democrats. The three most important of these demographic segments are African-Americans, older voters, and moderate Democrats, who are voting for the former Vice President in significant numbers compared to Senator Sanders. In addition to voting for Biden over Sanders consistently, their support is also notably making a dramatic impact because of the fact that these segments of the population tend to be more reliable voters than other groups that largely support Sanders, such as those aged 40 and under. As a result, it is evident that groups of the electorate which favor Biden are voting in higher numbers than those which lean towards Sanders.

Following the disappointing string of results on Tuesday evening, Sanders vowed that he would stay in the Democratic presidential race and stated that he is looking forward to a one-on-one debate with Biden on Sunday. Sanders expressed his belief that he is winning the ideological and generational argument, as he is performing better than Biden among young voters, but admitted that he's faltering when it comes to the debate over electability against President Trump. Next up for Sanders and Biden is a debate on Sunday in Washington D.C., which will be followed by primary elections on Tuesday in Arizona, Florida, Illinois, and Ohio. Biden will go into those respective contests as the favorite, both on his recent momentum and the fact that Sanders lost all four of those states to Hillary Clinton back in 2016.