



[Analysis on Latest Polling for the 2024 U.S. Presidential Race Including in Key Swing States](#)

It has now been nearly three weeks since U.S. President Joe Biden's decision to drop out of the 2024 presidential race, and things have begun to subsequently take shape. Following the move, Biden endorsed U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris to become the Democratic Party's nominee, and she has officially secured the necessary delegate votes in order to win the nomination while also selecting Minnesota Governor Tim Walz as her running mate. Even prior to the formalizing of this, Harris already stood as the presumptive nominee after she faced no serious challengers and the Democratic Party coalesced around her. Officials are still set to hold a symbolic roll call vote during the upcoming Democratic National Convention between August 19th and August 22nd in Chicago as well, in which state delegations will announce their votes for the Harris-Walz ticket from the floor. Given the weeks-long assumption that Vice President Harris would be the 2024 presidential nominee, new polling had started to be conducted in the aftermath of President Biden's exit from the race. Many of these show that Democrats have gained some momentum behind Harris in the matchup against Former President Donald Trump, with the race being extremely tight, including in several key swing states that are expected to determine the outcome of the election.

The latest presidential polling carried out between late July and the early part of this month has Harris holding a very slim lead over Trump across many national poll aggregators. According to reputable aggregators like RealClearPolitics (RCP), FiveThirtyEight, and others, most of the recent national polls find Harris with a marginal advantage ranging between one and four percentage points, but polls in the critical battleground states show a more mixed picture. Based on FiveThirtyEight's polling averages in some of these important swing states, Trump leads Harris by four points in Georgia and two points in Arizona, while Harris leads by two points in Michigan, one in Pennsylvania, and one-and-a-half in Wisconsin. Back in 2020, President Biden edged out Former President Trump in all five of these states and was thus able to win the presidency, a complete reversal from the 2016 general election in which Trump carried all of them and defeated Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. The consequential role that the outcomes in these states played in the last two presidential elections cannot be understated, and therefore, they are justifiably under the spotlight again now in 2024.

Election analysts agree that seven states in particular are likely to determine the outcome of the 2024 U.S. presidential election in November. These consist of the five aforementioned states of Georgia, Arizona, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, in addition to Nevada and North Carolina. The over 90 combined electoral votes up for grabs in these battleground states are anticipated to be pivotal to dictating the winner of the presidential election. As a result, the polling numbers there have been garnering much of the focus and attention. Since the presidential election is decided by the Electoral College system, as opposed to a national popular vote, a lot of prognosticators and commentators tend to gravitate towards polls in the vital swing states that can be realistically won by either of the two major party candidates – although experts point out that national polls are beneficial too as they normally pick up overall shifts in voter sentiments and trends quicker than state-level polling.

In order to better understand whether the slight Harris surge is one born out of mere initial enthusiasm regarding her entry into the 2024 presidential race or a noticeable shift that has emerged, time is needed to see what transpires moving forward over the coming days and weeks – especially following the announcement of Walz as

her running mate and the formalizing of the Harris-Walz ticket at the impending Democratic National Convention in less than two weeks. For now, what appears evident though is that many Democrats are more enthusiastic and satisfied about Harris than they were about Biden, as outlined in a recent Times/Siena survey which found that nearly 80% of voters who lean Democratic said that they would like to see Harris be the nominee, compared to only 48% who said the same regarding Biden several weeks ago. This is also reflected in a double-digit uptick across multiple core Democratic voter groups of poll respondents who have expressed that they are definitely participating in the November election. Thus, with the shake-up of the Democratic ticket, what does seem possible at this point based on the latest polling is that some voters who had conveyed apathy when faced with the choice between Biden and Trump may be keener regarding one involving Harris and Trump.