



TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

FiveThirtyEight/Washington Post/Ipsos Republican Post- Debate Survey

Conducted by Ipsos using KnowledgePanel®
A survey of Republican primary voters and debate watchers (18+)
Interview dates: August 23-24, 2023
Number of interviews: 2,219

Margin of error: +/- 2.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all respondents
Margin of error: +/- 4.0 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for debate watchers

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Reduced bases are unweighted values.

NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents, N/A = not applicable

Annotated Questionnaire:

Q1. Thanks for taking our survey! First, did you watch the Republican primary debate on Wednesday, August 23?

	Total
Yes (net)	33%
Yes, I watched all of it	15%
Yes, I watched some of it	17%
No, I did not watch it	67%
Skipped	-





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q2. What did you do instead of watching the debate on Wednesday from 9 to 11 p.m. Eastern Time?
(Select all that apply)

Base: Did not watch debate

	Non-debate watchers (N=1,444)
Watched something else on TV or watched a movie	29%
Spent time with a family member	22%
Slept	20%
Cleaned or did other housework	11%
Worked	10%
Ate	8%
Watched Tucker Carlson's interview of Donald Trump	7%
Read a book	6%
Took care of an animal or pet	5%
Drove/Traveled	4%
Exercised	4%
Cooked or baked	4%
Attended a meeting	2%
Shopped	2%
Paid bills	2%
Worked on a craft	2%
Attended class	1%
Worked on a vehicle	*
Something else	16%
None of these	4%
Skipped	-

Base for Q3-Q11: Watched all or some of the debate

Q3. What moment of the debate was most memorable to you?

Open-ended responses provided separately.





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q4. No matter how you plan to vote, who do you think performed best in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

	Debate watchers (N=775)
Ron DeSantis	29%
Vivek Ramaswamy	26%
Nikki Haley	15%
Mike Pence	7%
Chris Christie	4%
Tim Scott	4%
Doug Burgum	1%
Asa Hutchinson	1%
None of these	7%
Don't know	6%
Skipped	*

Q5. Why do you think [INSERT RESPONSE Q4] performed the best in the Republican debate on Wednesday?

Base: Respondents who watched all or some of the debate and said one of the candidates performed best

Open-ended responses provided separately.

Q6. Who do you think performed the worst in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

	Debate watchers
Chris Christie	22%
Asa Hutchinson	14%
Mike Pence	13%
Vivek Ramaswamy	11%
Ron DeSantis	9%
Doug Burgum	9%
Nikki Haley	2%
Tim Scott	2%
None of these	4%
Don't know	14%
Skipped	*





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q7. And thinking more specifically, how would you rate the performance of each of the candidates who participated in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

Total Excellent/Very good Summary

	Debate watchers
Ron DeSantis	58%
Vivek Ramaswamy	55%
Nikki Haley	50%
Tim Scott	38%
Mike Pence	27%
Chris Christie	24%
Doug Burgum	15%
Asa Hutchinson	11%

Q7_1. Ron DeSantis - And thinking more specifically, how would you rate the performance of each of the candidates who participated in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	58%
Excellent	22%
Very good	37%
About average	23%
Poor/Terrible (net)	15%
Poor	11%
Terrible	5%
Don't know	2%
Skipped	1%

Q7_2. Mike Pence - And thinking more specifically, how would you rate the performance of each of the candidates who participated in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	27%
Excellent	5%
Very good	22%
About average	37%
Poor/Terrible (net)	33%
Poor	22%
Terrible	10%
Don't know	3%
Skipped	*





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q7_3. Doug Burgum - And thinking more specifically, how would you rate the performance of each of the candidates who participated in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	15%
Excellent	2%
Very good	13%
About average	42%
Poor/Terrible (net)	32%
Poor	25%
Terrible	6%
Don't know	11%
Skipped	1%

Q7_4. Chris Christie - And thinking more specifically, how would you rate the performance of each of the candidates who participated in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	24%
Excellent	5%
Very good	19%
About average	33%
Poor/Terrible (net)	39%
Poor	24%
Terrible	15%
Don't know	3%
Skipped	1%

Q7_5. Nikki Haley - And thinking more specifically, how would you rate the performance of each of the candidates who participated in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	50%
Excellent	17%
Very good	33%
About average	33%
Poor/Terrible (net)	12%
Poor	9%
Terrible	3%
Don't know	4%
Skipped	*





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q7_6. Asa Hutchinson - And thinking more specifically, how would you rate the performance of each of the candidates who participated in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	11%
Excellent	1%
Very good	10%
About average	43%
Poor/Terrible (net)	38%
Poor	28%
Terrible	10%
Don't know	8%
Skipped	*

Q7_7. Vivek Ramaswamy - And thinking more specifically, how would you rate the performance of each of the candidates who participated in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	55%
Excellent	21%
Very good	34%
About average	21%
Poor/Terrible (net)	19%
Poor	11%
Terrible	8%
Don't know	5%
Skipped	1%

Q7_8. Tim Scott - And thinking more specifically, how would you rate the performance of each of the candidates who participated in the Republican primary debate on Wednesday?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	38%
Excellent	8%
Very good	29%
About average	45%
Poor/Terrible (net)	11%
Poor	9%
Terrible	2%
Don't know	6%
Skipped	1%





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q8. How would you rate the performance of the moderators of the Republican primary debate, held Wednesday?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	44%
Excellent	13%
Very good	32%
About average	39%
Poor/Terrible (net)	14%
Poor	10%
Terrible	5%
Don't know	1%
Skipped	*

Q9. Do you think the Republican primary debate on Wednesday did a good or poor job covering the following topics?

Total Excellent/Very good Summary

	Debate watchers
Dealing with immigration	36%
How to build the American economy	35%
Reducing crime and promoting public safety	31%
Wokeness or political correctness	21%
Donald Trump's indictments	19%

Q9_1. How to build the American economy - Do you think the Republican primary debate on Wednesday did a good or poor job covering the following topics?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	35%
Excellent	8%
Very good	27%
About average	46%
Poor/Terrible (net)	14%
Poor	11%
Terrible	3%
Don't know	5%
Skipped	*





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q9_2. Dealing with immigration - Do you think the Republican primary debate on Wednesday did a good or poor job covering the following topics?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	36%
Excellent	9%
Very good	27%
About average	41%
Poor/Terrible (net)	16%
Poor	13%
Terrible	3%
Don't know	6%
Skipped	*

Q9_3. Reducing crime and promoting public safety - Do you think the Republican primary debate on Wednesday did a good or poor job covering the following topics?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	31%
Excellent	6%
Very good	26%
About average	45%
Poor/Terrible (net)	16%
Poor	13%
Terrible	4%
Don't know	7%
Skipped	*

Q9_4. Wokeness or political correctness - Do you think the Republican primary debate on Wednesday did a good or poor job covering the following topics?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	21%
Excellent	4%
Very good	16%
About average	39%
Poor/Terrible (net)	27%
Poor	20%
Terrible	7%
Don't know	12%
Skipped	*





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q9_5. Donald Trump's indictments - Do you think the Republican primary debate on Wednesday did a good or poor job covering the following topics?

	Debate watchers
Excellent/Very good (net)	19%
Excellent	3%
Very good	16%
About average	39%
Poor/Terrible (net)	30%
Poor	22%
Terrible	8%
Don't know	12%
Skipped	*

Q10. After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

Total Favorable Summary

	Debate watchers
Ron DeSantis	72%
Nikki Haley	65%
Tim Scott	65%
Vivek Ramaswamy	60%
Donald Trump	59%
Mike Pence	43%
Doug Burgum	39%
Chris Christie	35%
Asa Hutchinson	34%
Will Hurd	11%
Francis Suarez	8%

Q10_1. Donald Trump - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	59%
Very favorable	42%
Somewhat favorable	17%
Unfavorable (net)	35%
Somewhat unfavorable	11%
Very unfavorable	24%
Heard of, no opinion	4%
Never heard of	*
Skipped	2%





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q10_2. Ron DeSantis - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	72%
Very favorable	42%
Somewhat favorable	30%
Unfavorable (net)	25%
Somewhat unfavorable	10%
Very unfavorable	14%
Heard of, no opinion	3%
Never heard of	-
Skipped	1%

Q10_3. Mike Pence - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	43%
Very favorable	9%
Somewhat favorable	34%
Unfavorable (net)	54%
Somewhat unfavorable	30%
Very unfavorable	24%
Heard of, no opinion	3%
Never heard of	-
Skipped	*

Q10_4. Doug Burgum - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	39%
Very favorable	6%
Somewhat favorable	33%
Unfavorable (net)	35%
Somewhat unfavorable	25%
Very unfavorable	11%
Heard of, no opinion	19%
Never heard of	6%
Skipped	*





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q10_5. Chris Christie - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	35%
Very favorable	10%
Somewhat favorable	26%
Unfavorable (net)	60%
Somewhat unfavorable	27%
Very unfavorable	33%
Heard of, no opinion	4%
Never heard of	*
Skipped	*

Q10_6. Nikki Haley - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	65%
Very favorable	25%
Somewhat favorable	41%
Unfavorable (net)	27%
Somewhat unfavorable	18%
Very unfavorable	9%
Heard of, no opinion	7%
Never heard of	1%
Skipped	*

Q10_7. Will Hurd - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	11%
Very favorable	2%
Somewhat favorable	9%
Unfavorable (net)	18%
Somewhat unfavorable	10%
Very unfavorable	8%
Heard of, no opinion	32%
Never heard of	39%
Skipped	1%





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q10_8. Asa Hutchinson - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	34%
Very favorable	5%
Somewhat favorable	29%
Unfavorable (net)	47%
Somewhat unfavorable	29%
Very unfavorable	18%
Heard of, no opinion	17%
Never heard of	3%
Skipped	*

Q10_9. Vivek Ramaswamy - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	60%
Very favorable	31%
Somewhat favorable	29%
Unfavorable (net)	32%
Somewhat unfavorable	14%
Very unfavorable	18%
Heard of, no opinion	6%
Never heard of	2%
Skipped	*

Q10_10. Tim Scott - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	65%
Very favorable	23%
Somewhat favorable	42%
Unfavorable (net)	23%
Somewhat unfavorable	18%
Very unfavorable	5%
Heard of, no opinion	10%
Never heard of	2%
Skipped	*



TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q10_11. Francis Suarez - After watching the primary debate Wednesday, how favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Republican presidential candidates?

	Debate watchers
Favorable (net)	8%
Very favorable	1%
Somewhat favorable	7%
Unfavorable (net)	19%
Somewhat unfavorable	10%
Very unfavorable	9%
Heard of, no opinion	34%
Never heard of	38%
Skipped	1%

Q11. And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

Total Considering Summary

	Debate watchers
Ron DeSantis	67%
Donald Trump	61%
Nikki Haley	46%
Vivek Ramaswamy	46%
Tim Scott	43%
Mike Pence	23%
Chris Christie	22%
Doug Burgum	12%
Asa Hutchinson	9%
Will Hurd	4%
Francis Suarez	3%

Q11_1. Donald Trump - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	61%
Not considering	34%
Don't know	5%
Skipped	*



TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q11_2. Ron DeSantis - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	67%
Not considering	27%
Don't know	5%
Skipped	1%

Q11_3. Mike Pence - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	23%
Not considering	69%
Don't know	7%
Skipped	*

Q11_4. Doug Burgum - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	12%
Not considering	76%
Don't know	11%
Skipped	1%

Q11_5. Chris Christie - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	22%
Not considering	72%
Don't know	6%
Skipped	1%





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q11_6. Nikki Haley - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	46%
Not considering	46%
Don't know	7%
Skipped	1%

Q11_7. Will Hurd - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	4%
Not considering	78%
Don't know	18%
Skipped	*

Q11_8. Asa Hutchinson - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	9%
Not considering	80%
Don't know	10%
Skipped	*

Q11_9. Vivek Ramaswamy - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	46%
Not considering	45%
Don't know	9%
Skipped	1%





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q11_10. Tim Scott - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	43%
Not considering	47%
Don't know	10%
Skipped	1%

Q11_11. Francis Suarez - And now, which of the following Republican candidates for president are you considering voting for in the Republican primary?

	Debate watchers
Considering	3%
Not considering	79%
Don't know	18%
Skipped	*





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

About the Study

The post-debate wave of the FiveThirtyEight/Washington Post/Ipsos poll was conducted August 23 to 24, 2023, by Ipsos using the probability-based KnowledgePanel®. The pre-debate wave of this poll was based on a nationally-representative probability sample of adults age 18 or older fielded August 15 to 22, 2023, screened to those indicating they are likely to vote in the upcoming Republican primary or caucus (n=4,968). The post-debate wave, which this topline reports, was administered to the same sample of respondents who took part in the pre-debate wave. Of those, N=2,219 responded to the post-wave survey and N=775 reported watching all or part of the debate.

The margin of sampling error among those who responded to the post-debate survey is plus or minus 2.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. The margin of sampling error among those who watched all or part of the debate is plus or minus 4.0 percentage points. The margin of sampling error takes into account the design effect, which was 1.32 for respondents and 1.29 for debate watchers. The margin of sampling error is higher and varies for results based on sub-samples. Sampling error is only one potential source of error. There may be other unmeasured non-sampling error in this or any poll. In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total substantially more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.

The post-debate survey weight factors are the same as those from the pre-debate. As such, the weighted total for post-debate respondents and debate watchers do not match their respective sample sizes. The weights for the post-debate respondents were not adjusted to account for the nonresponding pre-debate sample.

The survey was conducted using KnowledgePanel, the largest and most well-established online probability-based panel that is representative of the adult U.S. population. Our recruitment process employs a scientifically developed addressed-based sampling methodology using the latest Delivery Sequence File of the USPS – a database with full coverage of all delivery points in the U.S. Households invited to join the panel are randomly selected from all available households in the U.S. Persons in the sampled households are invited to join and participate in the panel. Those selected who do not already have internet access are provided a tablet and internet connection at no cost to the panel member. Those who join the panel and who are selected to participate in a survey are sent a unique password-protected log-in used to complete surveys online. As a result of our recruitment and sampling methodologies, samples from KnowledgePanel cover all households regardless of their phone or internet status and findings can be reported with a margin of sampling error and projected to the general population. KnowledgePanel members receive a per survey incentive, usually the equivalent of \$1 (though for some it is \$2) in points, that can be redeemed for cash or prizes. No prenotification email for this study was sent prior to field. Panelists receive a unique login to the survey and are only able to complete it one time. No reminder emails were sent for this study.





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in both English and Spanish. The full sample, pre screening, was weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan status, household income, and party identification. The demographic benchmarks came from 2022 Current Population Survey (CPS) from the U.S. Census Bureau. Party ID benchmarks are from recent ABC News/Washington Post telephone polls. The weighting categories were as follows:

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18–29, 30–44, 45–59, and 60+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Other or 2+ Races Non[1]Hispanic, Hispanic)
- Education (High School graduate or less, Some College, Bachelor and beyond)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West)
- Metropolitan status (Metro, non-Metro) •
- Household Income (Under \$25,000, \$25,000-\$49,999, \$50,000-\$74,999, \$75,000-\$99,999, \$100,000-\$149,999, \$150,000+)
- Party ID (Democrat, Republican, Independent, Something else)

No respondents were removed from the final data for refusing all of the survey items.

For more information on this news release, please contact:

Chris Jackson
Senior Vice President, US
Public Affairs
+1 202 420-2025
Chris.Jackson@ipsos.com





TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

About Ipsos

Ipsos is one of the largest market research and polling companies globally, operating in 90 markets and employing over 18,000 people.

Our passionately curious research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide true understanding and powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. Our 75 solutions are based on primary data from our surveys, social media monitoring, and qualitative or observational techniques.

Our tagline "Game Changers" sums up our ambition to help our 5,000 customers move confidently through a rapidly changing world.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos has been listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and Mid-60 indices and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD). ISIN code FR0000073298, Reuters ISOS.PA, Bloomberg IPS:FP www.ipsos.com

