

# ★ ELECTION 2024 UPDATE ★

AUGUST 16, 2024

## DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION SET TO KICK OFF IN CHICAGO

The **Democratic National Convention** will take place next week in Chicago, Illinois. Vice President Kamala Harris and her running mate Minnesota Governor Tim Walz will arrive with the official nomination already in hand as she was formally nominated via a virtual roll call earlier this month on August 5th to satisfy ballot deadlines in several states. According to a statement from the Democratic National Committee, 99% of participating delegates supported Harris during the virtual roll call. Since becoming the nominee, she has both ignited Democratic party enthusiasm and significantly tightened the race with former President Donald Trump. The convention will provide her an opportunity to more clearly define her position as the Democratic party standard bearer and set the tone for the final push to the general election this fall.



### DNC PREVIEW



The Democratic National Convention will take place August 19-22 in Chicago, Illinois

#### WHAT TO EXPECT

Vice President Harris will use the Democratic National Convention to define herself as the new standard bearer for the Democratic party and draw a contrast with former President Trump. She will pay homage to the service and tenure of President Biden and at the same time, seek to shift the direction of the party and the country forward.

Expect an array of Democratic luminaries and celebrities to descend on Chicago to celebrate her historic candidacy.

#### KEY THEMES

In previews of the convention, officials have emphasized key themes of:

##### FREEDOM

Harris and Walz have made freedom, particularly reproductive freedom, a key theme of their campaign.

##### MOVING FORWARD

Harris will frame Trump as of the past and repeat the theme of moving forward and “not going back”.

##### OPPORTUNITY

Harris will emphasize economic opportunity in an effort to turn the economy into an advantage, despite high prices for consumers.

#### FEATURED SPEAKERS

President Joe Biden, former presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton have been confirmed as speakers at the convention. Former President Jimmy Carter’s grandson Jason Carter is also confirmed to be speaking as a representative for his grandfather. Pop star Beyonce may make an appearance on Thursday evening as Harris delivers her acceptance speech. Notably, several incumbent Democrats facing tough reelections are skipping the event.

COUNTDOWN TO THE FIRST  
BALLOTS DISTRIBUTED BY MAIL:

21

DAYS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 6

COUNTDOWN TO ELECTION DAY:

81

DAYS UNTIL NOVEMBER 5

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# ★ STATE OF PLAY ★

## Presidential Election 2024

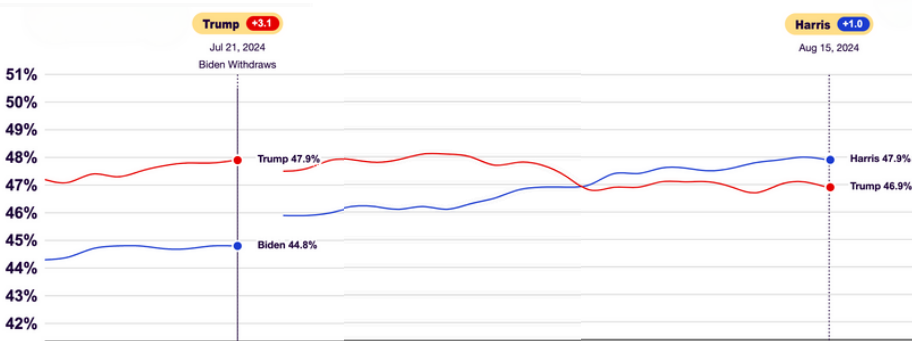
### POLLING AVG

Harris leads polls +1.0



Source: [Real Clear Politics](#) as of 08/16/24

### POLLING TRENDS



Vice President Harris and former President Trump are neck and neck nationally and in key states. There has been a clear shift in momentum toward Vice President Harris since she became the nominee.

### BATTLEGROUND STATES



Source: [Real Clear Politics](#) as of 08/16/24

In the weeks since President Biden dropped out of the running for the Democratic nomination, polling has shifted away from former President Trump, as Vice President Harris unified the party, secured enough delegates to receive the nomination, broke fundraising records, and began a cross-country campaign stretch ahead of the convention. Many of the key battleground states that had been trending in Trump's direction are now tied or with a slight lead for Vice President Harris.

#### BATTLEGROUND STATE SPOTLIGHT: ARIZONA

In 2020, Joe Biden flipped Arizona, marking the first Democratic presidential win in the state since Bill Clinton in 1996. The Phoenix metro area, comprising 60% of Arizona's population, has been critical to Democrats' recent strength. Meanwhile, Republicans are working to maintain their edge in the Phoenix exurbs and rural areas and make plays for minority voters. Both Harris and Trump are set to compete fiercely in Arizona, holding rallies and investing heavily in ads. Key voter groups include the Phoenix and Tucson suburbs, the state's Native population (notably the Navajo and Hopi), a substantial Hispanic community, and retirees from northern states.



**POLLING AVG:**  
Trump +0.8  
as of 08/16/24