
NEWS



FOR RELEASE
10:30 a.m. EDT
May 6, 2016

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Trump Has Big Lead in West Virginia

Cincinnati, Ohio – Donald Trump leads Ted Cruz by 32 points among likely voters in next Tuesday’s West Virginia Republican party primary election, while Bernie Sanders holds a slim four-point lead over Hillary Clinton in the Democratic primary, according to the latest MetroNews West Virginia Poll.

Businessman Trump leads 57 percent-to-25 percent over the Texas Senator, while Ohio Governor John Kasich has 14 percent support. Only four percent are undecided in this race.

This edition of the MetroNews West Virginia Poll was conducted prior to this week’s Indiana primary election and the announcements that Cruz and Kasich were suspending their campaigns.

Sanders leads Clinton by a 47 percent-to-43 percent. The Vermont Senator held a 57 percent to 29 percent lead in the MetroNews West Virginia Poll conducted in February.

“As we’ve seen in recent primaries, including the result on Tuesday in Indiana, Trump’s lead in West Virginia has increased dramatically as other candidates have fallen by the wayside,” Rex Repass, CEO of REPASS Research and director of the MetroNews West Virginia Poll said. “Trump is now the presumptive Republican nominee and I expect he will have broad and deep support in West Virginia next Tuesday.”

“In our MetroNews West Virginia Poll, Trump leads among men and women, voters of all age categories, and among independents,” Repass added.

Among Democrats, Sanders’s strength remains very strong with 18-34 year-olds. “The key of course for Sanders is a high turnout with young voters, while Clinton support is generally older, those with a college degree or post graduate degree, and upper income Democrats,” Repass added.

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Methodology Statement

Results of this edition of MetroNews West Virginia Poll are the result of interviews conducted between April 22-May 2, 2016 with a sample of 596 registered, likely voters in W.Va. including registered Democrats, Republicans, Libertarian, Mountain Party, and unaffiliated or independent voters. Unaffiliated or independent voters were asked which ballot they would select and were included in that party's set of ballot questions. A total of Interviews were completed with a total of 315 respondents to the survey were classified as requesting a Democratic Party ballot, 228 were classified as requesting a Republican Party ballot and balance requested a minor party ballot. Data collection methods used included landline phone, cell phone, and opt-in Internet panel. Each data collection method has inherent strengths and weakness.

Respondents answered screening questions to qualify for participation in the poll including West Virginia residency, current voter registration, past voting behavior and likelihood to vote in the May 10, 2016 primary election. All 55 counties in West Virginia were represented in the survey proportionate to the number of registered voters by party based on 2016 data from the W.Va. Secretary of State's office.

When using multiple data collection methods, it is not appropriate to apply a probability-based margin of error to interviews completed. However, applying statistical tests of significance to each question asked at the 95 percent confidence interval yields an overall statistical error of +/- 4.0 percentage points. The 95 percent confidence interval varies by question. For example, for the 315 Democratic party questions, the overall statistical error for testing purposes is +/- 5.5 percentage points; and for the 228 Republican party questions, the overall statistical error for testing purposes is 6.5 percentage points.

The purpose of the MetroNews West Virginia Poll is to provide a snapshot of opinion and timely voter views in the Mountain State. The media sponsor of the West Virginia Poll is MetroNews, the statewide radio network owned by West Virginia Radio Corporation.

REPASS is responsible for questionnaire design, the respondent screening and selection process, data tabulation, statistical analysis, and reporting of results. The firm's data collection partner, McMillion Research Services, conducts the data collection. Data collection for this issue of the poll was conducted from the firm's Charleston, W.Va. data collection facilities for telephone, mobile, and online surveys. Both the REPASS and McMillion firms are members of the Council of American Survey Research Organizations (CASRO).

Data as reported has been statistically weighted based by Census estimates of voter participation by age, party affiliation, and gender.

The MetroNews West Virginia Poll is a non-partisan survey of public opinion owned and conducted by the REPASS firm. The West Virginia Poll has been conducted periodically since January 21, 1980. The name The West Virginia Poll is a registered trademark of R.L. Repass & Partners, Inc., dba REPASS, all rights reserved. For more information, see www.wvpoll.com.

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About REPASS® | Research • Strategic Consulting

REPASS is a custom survey research and strategic consulting firm. The firm's services range from consulting with clients to identify research objectives, through study design, data collection, analysis, and research-based strategy recommendations. The company is headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio with offices in metro Washington, DC and Charleston, W.Va. For more information, see www.repassinc.com.

Topline Results Follow

Respondent qualifications:

- Age 18 or older
- Resident of West Virginia
- Registered in current precinct or election district
- Absolutely certain or very likely to vote in May primary election

Respondent Profile

- Gender
 - Male 48%
 - Female 52%

- Age
 - 18-24 8%
 - 25-34 13%
 - 35-44 17%
 - 45-64 33%
 - 65+ 29%

- County of residence
 - Northern 48%
 - Southern 52%

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Findings

- Are you registered to vote as a Democrat, a Republican, a Libertarian, the Mountain Party or is your registration unaffiliated with any political party, sometimes referred to as “independent”?
Base: All respondents, n=596

48%	Democrat
30%	Republican
20%	Unaffiliated or Independent
2%	Libertarian
<1%	Mountain

- If the Democratic primary for president was being held today, and the candidates are **(ROTATE ORDER OF NAMES)** [Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders], for whom would you vote? *Base: Democrat voter registration or Unaffiliated voter registration and will ask for Democratic ballot, n=315*

47%	Bernie Sanders
43%	Hillary Clinton
11%	Not sure

- If the Republican primary for president was being held today, and the candidates are **(ROTATE ORDER OF NAMES)** [Donald Trump / Ted Cruz / John Kasich] for whom would you vote? *Base: Republican voter registration or Unaffiliated voter registration and will ask for Republican ballot, n=228*

57%	Donald Trump
25%	Ted Cruz
14%	John Kasich
4%	Not sure

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Respondent Demographics

These last few questions are for statistical purposes only.

- Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be...? *Base: All respondents, n=596*

11%	Very liberal
20%	Somewhat liberal
	<i>31% NET Liberal</i>
32%	Moderate
19%	Somewhat conservative
16%	Very conservative
	<i>35% NET Conservative</i>
2%	Refused/Other

- Which of the following best describes your level of education? *Base: All respondents, n=596*

2%	Some high school or less
27%	High school graduate or equivalent (GED)
4%	Technical school graduate
22%	Some college
12%	Associate's degree
19%	Bachelor's degree
13%	Graduate or professional degree
1%	Refused/Other
	<i>29% NET HS grad or less education</i>
	<i>38% NET Tech school, some college, Associate's degree</i>
	<i>32% NET College degree or graduate degree</i>

- Are you or anyone else in your immediate household a member of a labor union organization?
Base: All respondents, n=596

20%	Yes
80%	No

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- Finally, into which of the following categories does your total annual household income happen to fall? *Base: All respondents, n=411*

6%	Less than \$10,000
7%	\$10,000 - \$14,999
9%	\$15,000 - \$24,999
14%	\$25,000 - \$34,999
22%	\$35,000 - \$49,999
20%	\$50,000 - \$74,999
11%	\$75,000 - \$99,999
7%	\$100,000 - \$149,999
2%	Over \$150,000
3%	Refused