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QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL

FOR RELEASE: FEBRUARY 26, 2016

WOMEN GIVE CLINTON BIG LEAD AMONG FLORIDA DEMOCRATS, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; YOUNG VOTERS GO TO SANDERS

A huge lead among women propels former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to a 59 – 33 percent lead over Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont among Florida likely Democratic primary voters, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Women back Clinton 69 – 24 percent, while men go 47 percent for Sanders and 43 percent for Clinton, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds.

Likely Democratic primary voters 18 to 44 years old back Sanders 51 – 39 percent, while voters 45 to 64 years old back Clinton 64 – 28 percent and voters over 65 years old back her 73 – 21 percent.

Clinton leads among voters who describe themselves as “very liberal,” “somewhat liberal” or “moderate to conservative.”

Eight percent of Florida likely Democratic primary voters are undecided and 17 percent of those who name a candidate say they might change their mind before the March 15 primary.

Looking at the qualities they want in a presidential nominee, 25 percent of Florida Democrats most want someone who cares about their needs and problems, while 20 percent most want someone who is honest and trustworthy and 16 percent most want someone with the right experience. Another 15 percent most want someone who shares their values.

“This has been a turbulent political year, but the Florida Democratic primary looks like a blow-out. With her 26-point lead over Sen. Bernie Sanders, Secretary Hillary Clinton would have to undergo a political meltdown of historic proportions to lose this contest,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

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“Yes, Sen. Sanders has made up ground in earlier contests, but they were smaller states,” Brown added. “Florida is the third most populous state. The type of grass roots organizing that stood Sanders in good stead in Iowa and New Hampshire just isn’t doable in mega-state Florida where TV commercials are the coin of the realm.

“There is other good news for Secretary Clinton other than the horserace numbers in this poll. After seeing Sanders cut into her traditional big margin among female voters in earlier contests, the sisterhood seems strongly in her corner. She defeats Sanders almost 3-1 among women likely Florida Democratic primary voters.”

Among likely Democratic primary voters who most want a candidate who cares about their needs and problems, Sanders gets 48 percent to Clinton’s 42 percent. He leads 49 – 37 percent among voters who most want a candidate who is honest and trustworthy.

Clinton leads 87 – 9 among Democrats who most want a candidate with the right experience and 53 – 44 percent among voters who most want someone who shares their values.

The economy and jobs is the most important issue in deciding who to support, 36 percent of Democrats say, followed by 16 percent who cite health care.

Among likely Democratic primary voters who see the economy and jobs as the most important issue, Clinton gets 48 percent to 42 percent for Sanders. Clinton leads 59 – 30 percent among those who see health care as the most important issue.

From February 21 – 24, Quinnipiac University surveyed 476 Florida likely Democratic primary voters with a margin of error of +/- 4.5 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

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5. If the Democratic primary were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, for whom would you vote? (If undecided) If you had to choose today, would you vote for Clinton or Sanders?

	LIKELY DEM PRIMARY VOTERS.....							
	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY							COLLEGE DEG
	Tot	LIBERAL.....	Mod/	Cons	Men	Wom	Yes	
Clinton	59%	56%	59%	62%	43%	69%	60%	58%
Sanders	33	41	33	29	47	24	34	34
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	8	3	8	9	10	7	6	9

	MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE Q6					
	AGE IN YRS.....			Economy/	Health	
	18-44	45-64	65+	Jobs	Care	
Clinton	39%	64%	73%	48%	59%	
Sanders	51	28	21	42	30	
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	
DK/NA	10	8	6	10	10	

	MOST IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTIC Q7.....			
	Shares	Cares	Honest/	Right
	Values		Trustworthy	Experience
Clinton	53%	42%	37%	87%
Sanders	44	48	49	9
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	2	10	14	4

5A. (If candidate chosen q5) Is your mind made up, or do you think you might change your mind before the primary?

	LIKELY DEM PRIMARY VOTERS.....		
	CANDIDATE CHOSEN Q5.....		
	Tot	CANDIDATE OF CHOICE Q5	
		Clinton	Sanders
Made up	81%	81%	82%
Might change	17	18	15
DK/NA	1	-	3

6. Which of these is the most important issue to you in deciding who to support for the Democratic nomination for President: the economy and jobs, terrorism, immigration, the federal deficit, health care, foreign policy, climate change, race relations, abortion, gun policy or taxes?

	LIKELY DEM PRIMARY VOTERS.....							
	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY							
	Tot	LIBERAL.....			Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG	
Very		Smwht	Cons	Yes			No	
Economy and jobs	36%	33%	36%	38%	36%	37%	37%	36%
Terrorism	6	6	1	9	8	5	3	7
Immigration	4	3	-	5	4	3	4	4
Federal deficit	1	-	1	2	2	1	2	1
Health care	16	14	17	16	17	14	16	15
Foreign policy	7	12	8	4	5	8	7	7
Climate change	5	9	3	4	8	3	5	5
Race relations	5	7	1	5	3	6	4	5
Abortion	3	4	9	1	2	5	1	4
Gun policy	4	1	10	3	4	4	3	4
Taxes	4	3	3	6	5	4	5	4
DK/NA	9	7	11	7	6	10	11	8

	AGE IN YRS.....		
	18-44	45-64	65+
Economy and jobs	45%	37%	26%
Terrorism	7	4	6
Immigration	1	5	5
Federal deficit	1	1	3
Health care	15	16	16
Foreign policy	4	8	9
Climate change	4	6	4
Race relations	8	2	6
Abortion	5	4	2
Gun policy	2	2	7
Taxes	4	7	2
DK/NA	5	7	14

7. Thinking about the Democratic nominee for president in 2016, which of the following is most important to you: Someone who shares your values, cares about the needs and problems of people like you, has strong leadership qualities, is honest and trustworthy, has the right kind of experience, or has the best chance of winning?

	LIKELY DEM PRIMARY VOTERS.....							
	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY							
	Tot	LIBERAL.....			Mod/ Cons	Men	Wom	COLLEGE DEG
Very		Smwht		Yes				No
Shares values	15%	26%	10%	11%	15%	15%	19%	13%
Cares needs/problems	25	23	32	22	26	24	18	28
Strong leadership	15	4	22	18	15	14	17	13
Honest/trustworthy	20	22	11	21	21	18	18	20
Right experience	16	18	13	18	12	19	16	17
Best chance/winning	6	6	8	5	8	5	8	5
DK/NA	4	2	5	4	2	4	4	4

	AGE IN YRS.....		
	18-44	45-64	65+
Shares values	18%	14%	14%
Cares needs/problems	33	26	15
Strong leadership	14	15	13
Honest/trustworthy	26	15	18
Right experience	4	21	24
Best chance/winning	4	7	9
DK/NA	2	3	7