

gap. Women voted for Democrats by a bigger margin than men favored Republicans. But Mr. Trump has swelled his advantage so much among men of late that the gender gap has been suddenly favoring the G.O.P. Ms. Harris has a chance to reverse that and has already proved herself a far more compelling messenger than Mr. Biden on the issue that Democrats believe can win them the 2024 race. Mr. Biden rarely would say the word abortion; Ms. Harris visited an abortion clinic. Ms. Harris faces other distinctive challenges as a Black candidate and a woman, in a country and a political system where both groups are often held to different standards. And in Mr. Trump, she faces

an opponent with a history of exploiting stereotypes for his own advantage. **She can be transcendent but also tentative** One of the notable facts of Ms. Harris's speedy rise to the pinnacle of Democratic politics is a little more than a decade is how few loyalists have been along for the full ride. If Mr. Biden surrounded himself with a small, sometimes insular, coterie of advisers — a recent Biden inner-circle addition could have served him for a decade — Ms. Harris has relatively few similarly long-standing aides. Early on as vice president, her staff turned over significantly. She has few advisers dating back even to her days in the Senate, let alone her time as

attorney general of California. She parted ways with a swath of the senior team on her 2020 presidential primary run, which was wracked with infighting. Those who have worked both for and against her say she has few equivalents when she nails a big speech, or delivers an acerbic line on the debate stage or at a committee hearing. But they also say she can get in her own head, retreat back to canned comments, and make tentative, self-inflicted mistakes. Now, she is inheriting Mr. Biden's enormous campaign apparatus. And she has little more than 100 days to capture both the Democratic nomination and the presidency.



The article first appeared on The New York Times.

The illustration shows potential 2024 Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris (L) and Former US president Donald Trump. **LINDSEY BAILEY/AXIOS**

US Vice President Kamala Harris speaks on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, DC, on July 22, 2024. **TING SHEN/BLOOMBERG**



# Can Kamala Harris beat Donald Trump?

Here's what polls show

By **Aana Gordon**  
Reporter

## ANALYSIS

But even if Harris becomes the Democratic nominee at the convention in August, concerns remain about her ability to compete in a general election against Donald Trump.

The Democratic Party appears to be injected with new hope in the aftermath of President Joe Biden's decision on Sunday to drop out from the race and endorse Kamala Harris. She raised a record-breaking \$81 million within 24 hours of announcing her candidacy, and as of Monday night, Harris has secured enough support from delegates at the Democratic National Convention to clinch the Democratic nomination.

A slight majority of Americans have a negative opinion of Harris, according to FiveThirtyEight polling. Some 51% of Americans disapprove of Harris to 38% who approve. Former president Donald Trump has a higher disapproval rating at 53%, but 39% of Americans approve of him. Election polls show Harris lagging behind the former president by a small, but not insurmountable margin of 1.5 percentage points on average, according to an analysis done by the Washington Post of 11 different pollsters. These figures are only a slight

improvement on President Joe Biden, who trails Trump by 1.9 percentage points. However, all of these polls were conducted before Biden's drop-out announcement, and surveys about the potential performance of hypothetical candidates are often inaccurate. With those caveats, here are what some of the most respected polls show:

**ABC News/The Washington Post/Ipsos: +2 Harris**  
ABC News, The Washington Post, and Ipsos worked together to conduct a poll from July 6 to July 9, inter-

viewing 2,431 US adults. ABC News/The Washington Post polls are ranked second in FiveThirtyEight's list of best pollsters after the New York Times/Siena College, which has yet to release a national survey on a Harris vs. Trump matchup.

Their survey found that Harris outperformed Trump by 2 percentage points. That is better than Biden, who is polling exactly the same as Trump.

**The Economist/YouGov: +5 Trump**  
A poll conducted by The Economist and YouGov

from July 13 to July 16 found that Harris trailed behind Trump by five percentage points, performing worse than Biden, who trailed Trump by two percentage points. The poll sampled 1,582 US adult citizens.

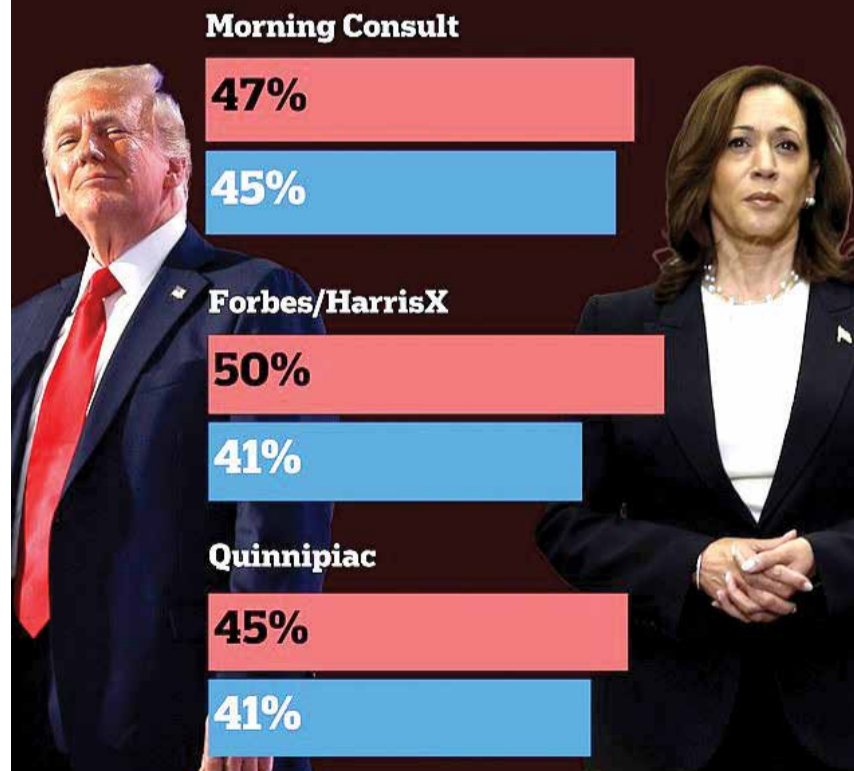
**Reuters/Ipsos: +1 Trump**

Reuters and Ipsos conducted a poll on July 16, surveying 1,202 adults living in the US in the aftermath of the assassination attempt on Trump. The survey found that the former US president narrowly edged out Harris by one percentage point. The same poll showed Trump outperforming Biden by three percentage points.

**Yahoo! News/YouGov: +2 Trump**

Yahoo! News and YouGov conducted a poll from June 28 to July 1, after Biden's botched debate performance but before the assassination attempt on Trump. The poll showed Trump outperforming Harris by two percentage points, the same figure he outperformed Biden by. The poll also found that while 38% of voters who lean Democrat preferred Harris as the replacement for Biden, 42% believed that someone else would be a better fit for the nomination. The survey polled 1,754 American adults.

## Several polls have Trump beating Kamala



Several polls taken after US President Joe Biden dropped his reelection bid show Vice President Kamala Harris trailing Donald Trump in the 2024 race. **DAILY MAIL**

**The New York Times/Siena College**

The New York Times/Siena College poll is considered the most accurate in the country, according to FiveThirtyEight's rank-

ings. While they have yet to release a national survey on Harris vs. Trump, polls in the swing states of Pennsylvania and Virginia from July 9 to July 12 found that Trump led Harris by two

percentage points in Pennsylvania but Harris outperformed Trump by five percentage points in Virginia.

The article first appeared on TIME.

	Biden vs Trump	Margin:	Harris vs Trump	Margin:
All	Trump	<1	Harris	+1
18-29	Biden	-12	Harris	+16
30-44	Biden	-2	Harris	+7
45-64	Trump	+10	Trump	-7
65 and older	Biden	+3	Trump	<1
Male	Trump	+15	Trump	+15
Female	Biden	+14	Harris	+17
White, college	Biden	+22	Harris	+24
White, no college	Trump	+36	Trump	+38
Black	Biden	+58	Harris	+64
Other	Biden	+6	Harris	+16

The chart shows the results of a survey sample of 1,533 likely voters in Pennsylvania and Virginia from July 9 to 12, 2024. This polling was undertaken before Donald Trump's assassination attempt on July 13 and during the NATO conference. **NEW YORK TIMES/SIENA POLL**