



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on February 25, 2024

After Crushing Defeat in Home State of South Carolina, Haley Vows to Keep Fighting Trump

Former President Donald Trump crushed former South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley in yet another GOP primary, only this time, Haley lost on her own territory.

POTUS 45 defeated her in the Palmetto State contest with 59.8 percent of the vote, to Haley's 39.5. At this writing, Trump had won 44 of the state's 50 delegates.

The latest embarrassing loss is Haley's fifth, and it was particularly embarrassing because it was, again, a defeat in her home state.

When she'll abandon her quixotic quest is anyone's guess.



AP Images

Trump's Overwhelming Numbers

The numbers in this latest victory demonstrated once again that Trump is unstoppable, and will almost certainly face President Joe Biden on November 5.

[Trump won](#) 451,905 votes. Haley won 298,681. Twenty-nine delegates went to the winner of the statewide contest, and three went to the winner of the state's seven congressional districts.

But those numbers aren't surprising. Trump has steamrolled Haley in every contest:

- In New Hampshire, [Trump pulled](#) 176,385 votes, or 54.4 percent, to Haley's 140,290.
- Likewise in Iowa, [Trump prevailed](#) with 51 percent of the vote against Haley's 21.2 percent, defeating her by more than 32,000 votes.
- [Haley lost](#) the no-delegate Nevada primary to "none of these candidates," then lost the caucuses because she did not participate.
- Trump also won in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

[So now Trump has 107 delegates](#) to Haley's 20. The three delegates from S.C.'s 6th Congressional District are yet to be awarded. Trump has to get 1,215 out of the 2,429 delegates needed to win, and he's already collected almost nine percent of those.

The polls never looked good for the former governor. As of February 23, [she was behind](#) Trump by 23.3 points, 60.8-37.5



2024 South Carolina Republican Primary



GOP Primary Polling: National | Iowa | New Hampshire | South Carolina | Nevada | Betting Odds

POLLSTER	DATE	SAMPLE	TRUMP	HALEY	SPREAD
RCP Average	2/14 - 2/23	—	60.8	37.5	Trump +23.3
Trafalgar Group (R)	2/21 - 2/23	1093 LV	59	38	Trump +21
USA Today/Suffolk	2/15 - 2/18	500 LV	63	35	Trump +28
The Hill/Emerson	2/15 - 2/17	728 LV	61	39	Trump +22
InsiderAdvantage	2/14 - 2/15	800 LV	60	38	Trump +22

Early last week, Trump’s campaign rolled out a memo, as [The Hill and other media reported](#), predicting that “the end is near for Nikki Haley”:

Of course, like any wailing loser hell-bent on an alternative reality and refusing to come to grips with her imminent political mortality, we should expect more references to Kings and Coronations — even though the results of 5 elections overwhelmingly sent an unmistakable message: Nikki Haley doesn’t represent Republicans any more than Joe Biden does.

But Haley, apparently unaware of political reality, vowed to keep fighting, and complained that two old men were running for president.

“South Carolina will vote on Saturday, but on Sunday I will still be running for president,” the five-time loser said. “Trump and Biden are two old men who are only getting older. Nearly 60 percent of Americans say Trump and Biden are both too old to be president. Because they are.”

She also claimed that “Democrats are getting weaker by holding a coronation for Biden,” but that “Republicans will get stronger through a vigorous competition.”

The problem is, the competition isn’t “vigorous.” Haley is so far behind she’s not even choking on Trump’s exhaust fumes.

What’s Ahead

Trump delivered his victory speech with characteristic brio, but didn’t bash Haley. He did mention that she lost the Nevada primary to “none of these candidates.”

It was “an even a bigger win than we anticipated,” he said, noting that he pulled “double the number of votes that have ever received ... a record times two.”

Then he turned to [President Joe Biden’s illegal-alien invasion](#) at the southwest border:

You see millions and millions of people coming across the border illegally. We don’t know where they come from. They come from jails. They come from prisons. They come from all sorts of places.... They come from mental institutions and insane asylums and we don’t want that in our country. We’re not going to stand for it.... You have terrorists coming in....



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No country could sustain what’s happening to the United States of America.... The border is the worst it’s ever been.

Haley apparently thinks she still has a chance of beating the former president and won’t quit the race. “Everyone wants to bring back the America we know and love,” [she told supporters](#):

That’s the underlying message of what happened today.... America will come apart if we make the wrong choices.... I said earlier this week that no matter what happens in South Carolina, I would continue to run for president. I’m a woman of my word.... I’m not giving up this fight when a majority of Americans disapprove of both Donald Trump and Joe Biden.

Michigan voters head to the polls on February 27, followed by caucuses on March 2, to award 16 and 39 delegates respectively. Idaho and Missouri vote on March 2.

Republicans vote in Washington, D.C., on March 3, and in North Dakota on March 4. Then follows March 5’s delegate-rich Super Tuesday primaries that include 15 states and American Samoa. If Haley is still in the race, she’ll fight Trump for [874 delegates](#).

As of four days ago, [Trump led Haley](#) in the RealClearPolitics Average of polls 74.8-16.9, a whopping 57.9 margin.

The chances of Haley’s defeating Trump are about zero.

2024 Republican Presidential Nomination



2024 Democratic Presidential Nomination

GOP Primary Polling: National | Iowa | New Hampshire | South Carolina | Nevada | Betting Odds

February 24, 2008, '12, '16: 2016 Trump +13.2 | 2012 Santorum +5.0 | 2008 McCain +26.2

POLLSTER	DATE	SAMPLE	TRUMP	HALEY	SPREAD
RCP Average	1/25 - 2/20	—	74.8	16.9	Trump +57.9
Economist/YouGov	2/18 - 2/20	564 RV	79	14	Trump +65
Morning Consult	2/17 - 2/19	3854 RV	81	18	Trump +63
Quinnipiac	2/15 - 2/19	576 RV	80	17	Trump +63
Emerson	2/13 - 2/14	524 RV	77	13	Trump +64
Marquette	2/5 - 2/15	429 RV	73	15	Trump +58
I&I/TIPP	1/31 - 2/2	587 RV	74	17	Trump +57
Rasmussen Reports**	1/28 - 1/30	679 LV	56	23	Trump +33
NBC News	1/26 - 1/30	349 RV	79	19	Trump +60
CNN	1/25 - 1/30	RV	70	19	Trump +51
Yahoo News	1/25 - 1/29	451 RV	79	14	Trump +65



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