

Democratic Election Moves to South Carolina, the First Primary Where Black Voters Will Play an Outsized Role

South Carolina Democratic Primary



Timing

- The polls open statewide on Saturday, February 27 at 7 a.m. ET and close at 7 p.m. Anyone who is in line before 7 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

Delegates

- Democrats have 53 pledged delegates up for grabs here
- These delegates will be allocated proportionally: 18 based on the statewide results and 35 by congressional district
- Candidates must reach a threshold of 15% to win a delegate

Turnout

- The South Carolina primary will be the first on the Democratic side in which black voters play an outsized role
- As of Feb. 8, there were nearly 3 million registered voters in South Carolina
- In 2008, 532,000 (23.7%) of South Carolina's 2.2 million registered voters turned out for the Democratic primary
- Barack Obama defeated Hillary Clinton 55-26 percent

Counties to Watch

- **Richland County:** The second-most populous county in the state produced the most Democratic votes in the 2008 primary. The University of South Carolina, where Sanders is looking to garner support, is located in Richland County
- **Horry County:** This was the only county Clinton won in 2008. The electorate is older and whiter here compared to other areas in the state.
- **Allendale County:** This was the most Democratic county in South Carolina in the 2012 election, where Obama took 78% of the vote. The county is just 24% white, which may favor Clinton