

Polling News & Notes

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Republicans More Confident In Quality Of 2016 Field: There may be more than fifteen candidates for the Republican presidential nomination, but there is still no serious challenger to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Some suggest that a crowded Republican field will fragment the party, but how do voters feel about the current pool of candidates?

A recent Pew Research [report](#) highlights data showing Republicans have a slightly better impression of the Republican field than Democrats have of theirs, with 57% of Republicans and 54% of Democrats having an excellent or good impression of the candidates running for their party's nomination. However, Republicans are more confident in the current field than they were at this point in the 2012 or 2008 elections. Forty-four percent of Republicans had excellent or good impressions of the pool of candidates in 2011 and 50% felt the same in 2007. Democrats, on the other hand, have a less favorable impression of their candidates than 2007 when 64% had an excellent or good impression, compared to 54% in today.

As more Republican candidates join the race to become the nominee, it will be interesting to see if voters keep a favorable impression of the field. If they do, it could well help bring about a change in the party that controls the White House, which is the fervent hope of every Republican voter.

