

News From The States

COUNTDOWN '24

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By **Robin Opsahl**, [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)

Following an [overwhelming victory](#) in the 2024 Republican Iowa caucuses last week, former President Donald Trump's campaign is aiming for a decisive win in the New Hampshire primary Tuesday to end the race for the GOP presidential nomination early.

- Former U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley is also looking for a New Hampshire win. She hopes the primary results will show there's a path to victory while challenging Trump for the nomination. [New Hampshire polls](#) show her behind Trump — but gaining traction — with Republican primary voters.
- The New Hampshire campaign trail looks different this year, with fewer direct voter interactions with candidates and pointed questions than other nomination cycles. [Experts say](#) this may be because there are two separate electorates voting for their presidential nominee of choice Tuesday — those locked in to vote for Donald Trump and those still interested in exploring their options.
- Secretary of State Dave Scanlan [is predicting Republican voter participation](#) will outnumber that of Democrats by more than 230,000 in the Tuesday primary, and will far outpace the former 2016 record of 287,652 votes cast in the GOP primary.

TOP IMPACT *What to read this week*

Florida's DeSantis withdraws from Republican presidential race, endorses Trump



(Photo by Scott Olson/Getty Images)

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who came in second in the first-in-the-nation Iowa Caucuses on Jan. 15, released a nearly five-minute video on social media Sunday announcing that he had suspended his campaign and was endorsing the front-runner, former President Donald Trump.

“Following our second-place finish in Iowa, we’ve prayed and deliberated on the way forward,” DeSantis said. “If there was anything I could do to produce a favorable outcome, more campaign stops, more interviews, I would do it. But I can’t ask our supporters to volunteer their time and donate their resources. We don’t have a clear path to victory.” | [News from the States](#)

'We're all in this together': Issues unite voters, candidates divide them



(Photo by Annmarie Timmins/New Hampshire Bulletin)

Though New Hampshire voters expressed support for different presidential candidates, many said the need for a more compassionate, democratic America was one of the main three issues motivating them to vote in 2024, along with illegal immigration and the economy.

That's in line with results released Friday by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center, which showed that 66 percent of respondents said the southern border/immigration were a top concern in choosing a candidate, followed by the cost of living (39 percent), protecting democracy (38 percent), and the economy (29 percent). | [New Hampshire Bulletin](#)

BIG PICTURE Election coverage across the country



(Photo by Hadley Barndollar/New Hampshire Bulletin)

- **I'm a registered Democrat. Can I write in a Republican candidate on my ballot?** | [New Hampshire Bulletin](#)
- **Poll: Trump's lead over Haley widens to double digits in New Hampshire** | [CNN](#)
- **Nikki Haley bets on New Hampshire as best chance of wresting nomination from Trump** | [The Guardian](#)

- **A guide to the primary for Democrats** | [New Hampshire Bulletin](#)
- **Biden write-in confusion at the polls: What the secretary of state and moderators are saying** | [New Hampshire Bulletin](#)

- **Haley looks ahead to New Hampshire after coming in third in Iowa** | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)
- **With Haley and Trump out, last two Republican debates canceled ahead of NH primary** | [New Hampshire Bulletin](#)
- **Nikki Haley brings campaign back to South Carolina with a rally in Charleston County** | [SC Daily Gazette](#)
- **3 misleading messages from Louisiana leaders on closed primaries** | [Louisiana Illuminator](#)

Caucus results, aftermath

- **No surprises in Iowa caucus results, experts say, but tough road ahead for Trump challengers** | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)
- **Inside CNN, a Debate Over Taking Trump Live** | [New York Times](#)
- **Trump praises Burgum, suggests governor could shift to White House team** | [North Dakota Monitor](#)
- **SC Sen. Tim Scott endorses Donald Trump over Haley for president** | [SC Daily Gazette](#)
- **Former Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson ends presidential campaign** | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)
- **Ramaswamy drops out of presidential race, endorses Trump** | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)

General election

- **Biden visits North Carolina to tout rural internet investments, promote 2024 reelection** | [NC Newsline](#)
- **Whitmer says she's 'fired up' to take the fight for reproductive rights to voters nationwide** | [Michigan Advance](#)
- **'Scared to death': Local election officials on edge ahead of 2024 vote** | [Politico](#)
- **From RFK Jr. to Cornel West: Could third-party presidential candidates tip the 2024 scales?** | [USA Today](#)
- **WEC administrator wants candidates to 'tell the truth' about elections in 2024** | [Wisconsin Examiner](#)
- **Number of active registered voters in Maine dips nearly 15% from 2022** | [Maine Morning Star](#)

Courts

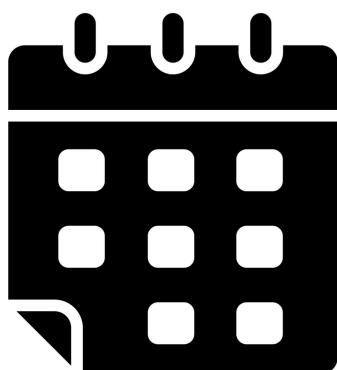
- **Trump brief asks Supreme Court to put 'decisive end' to 14th Amendment challenges** | [Colorado Newsline](#)
- **Bellows appeals Maine Superior Court ruling returning Trump ballot question back to her** | [Maine Morning Star](#)
- **Benson asks U.S. Supreme Court for 'quick' decision on Trump eligibility for 2024 ballot** | [Michigan Advance](#)



(Photo by Stephen Maturen/Getty Images)

- **Fulton 19 update: Prosecutor melodrama, squabble over documents, Eastman courthouse sighting** | [Georgia Recorder](#)
 - **Trump damages trial postponed amid Covid concerns** | [NBC News](#)
 - **Polls Show Trump Could Be Doomed If He's Convicted. Will a Trial Happen in Time?** | [Politico](#)
 - **Arkansas Supreme Court will hear supporters' case for paper ballots amendments** | [Arkansas Advocate](#)
 - **SCOTUS asked to delay implementation of new Michigan House districts until 2026** | [Michigan Advance](#)
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COMING UP Calendar of events



- **Jan. 23, 2024, NEW HAMPSHIRE** | The New Hampshire presidential primary.
- **Feb. 6 and 8, 2024, NEVADA** | The Nevada primary will take place Feb. 6, but Nevada Republicans have the option to caucus on Feb. 8.
- **Feb. 24, 2024, SOUTH CAROLINA** | The South Carolina Republican primary.

Follow state-level coverage of Election 2024 anytime at [News From The States](#). Send tips and thoughts to ropsahl@iowacapitaldispatch.com, and follow them on Twitter [@robinlopsahl](#)

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