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Not Quite a Sweep

Former Vice President Joe Biden expanded his lead for the Democratic presidential nomination, but he didn't quite deliver the knockout blow that many predicted.

He racked up big percentages over Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) in Michigan (53-37%), the biggest delegate prize of the night with 125 bound first ballot votes, Mississippi (81-15%), and Missouri (60-35%), and carried Idaho with a smaller margin (49-43%), but looks to have fallen short in North Dakota (42-49%), and Washington (33-33%).

Mr. Biden earned an approximate total of 211 bound first ballot delegates as opposed to Sen. Sanders' projected 138.

The delegate figures could change to a degree once the final numbers are tabulated. Though just a few votes remain in Mississippi, Sen. Sanders could still reach the 15% mark (current total: 14.9%), which would slightly change the delegate total. Should the final votes allow him to reach 15% statewide, the delegate ratio would change from Biden 34-2, to Biden leading 32-4.

Both former candidates Michael Bloomberg and Elizabeth Warren look to have picked up a stray delegate vote at this point in the counting in several of Washington's congressional district allocations. A candidate receives congressional district delegates when they exceed the 15% vote threshold in a particular congressional district.

Turnout was up in every state, though North Dakota does not report participation figures from their caucus system and both Idaho and Washington switched from holding precinct caucuses to primaries. Therefore, the turnout in both of the latter states would naturally increase substantially.

Washington conducts its elections completely through the mail, and it is legal to postmark a ballot on Election Day. Therefore, it will be several days before the Evergreen State's final totals become known.

Updated National Delegate Standing



Biden

892



Sanders

746



Gabbard

2

Warren	81
Bloomberg	61
Buttigieg	27
Klobuchar	7
Unassigned	69

Most of the above delegate numbers are subject to change pending the final vote totals being reported in the various states. We still could see a significant alteration in the Washington count since only 2/3 of its votes are tabulated at this point. The national count figure reflects Sen. Sanders not qualifying for at-large delegates in Mississippi, but that could change if the final count pushes him above 15%, which is still possible. He did receive two congressional district delegates in the Magnolia State.

Overall, Mr. Biden is quickly approaching majority support, as his overall bound delegate total is 46.8% of the delegate pool from the 25 states that have now voted. Sen. Sanders' total translates into 39.2% of the total allotment to date.

Should the polling for next week's primary prove accurate, Mr. Biden should well exceed 50% nationally at that time since he is currently enjoying strong projected leads in Arizona, Florida, Illinois, and Ohio. Though the race continues, Mr. Biden is well on his way to securing the Democratic presidential nomination.