

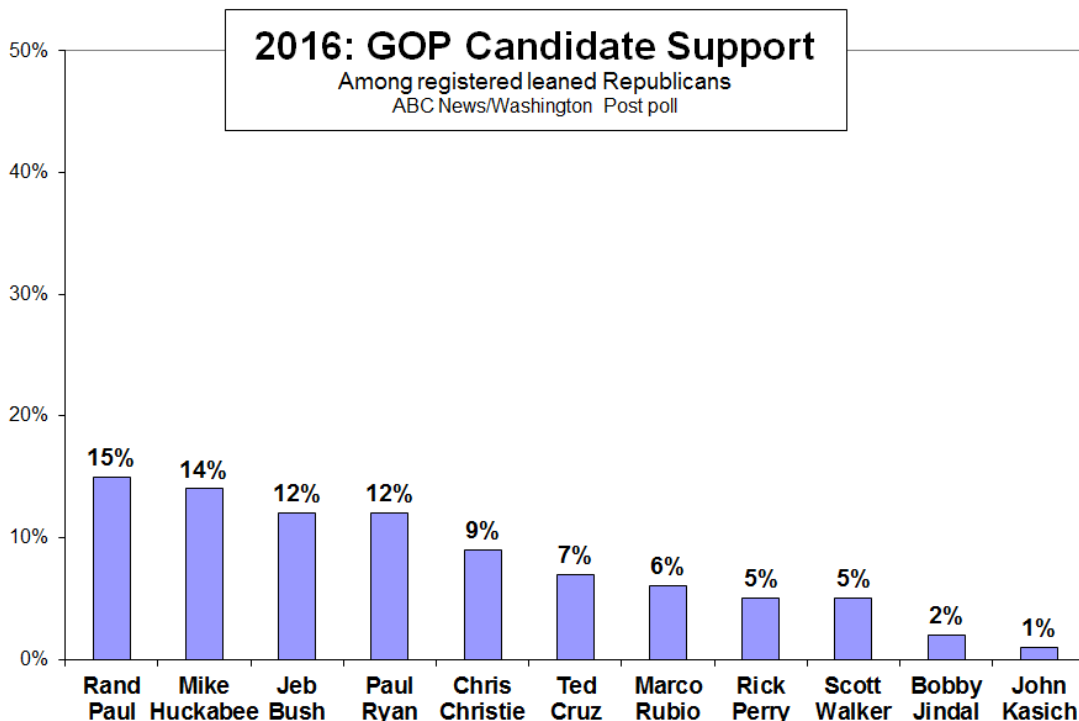
Running for President? A Known Name Can Help

When it comes to running for president – at least at this early stage – a famous name sure helps.

So it is in the latest ABC News/Washington Post poll, in which some of the most recognizable potential candidates – Rand Paul, Mike Huckabee, Jeb Bush and Paul Ryan – lead a crowded 2016 Republican field, albeit none with anything near a clear advantage.

Moving on to a hypothetical matchup between Bush and Hillary Clinton, the Democrat leads, boosted by a huge gender gap and with a more popular clan, as well. Sixty-six percent of Americans express a favorable view of her famous family, vs. 54 percent for Bush's.

In the GOP, each of the current leaders has name recognition: Paul's father and Huckabee ran previously for their party's nomination. Ryan was Mitt Romney's running mate in 2012. And Bush, a former Florida governor, has a father and a brother you might have heard of.



Paul, a senator from Kentucky, and Huckabee, a former Arkansas governor, are backed, respectively, by 15 and 14 percent of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who

report being registered to vote. Bush and Ryan get 12 percent each in this poll, produced for ABC by [Langer Research Associates](#).

All others are in the single digits, ranging from 9 percent for the better-known Chris Christie, governor of New Jersey, to 1 or 2 percent for comparatively less-known John Kasich and Bobby Jindal, the governors of Ohio and Louisiana, respectively.

Some say horse race polls this early in an election cycle mean little, and in a predictive sense that may well be the case. But there's insight to gain nonetheless. An early advantage, even if based on name recognition, still is an advantage, and one that can carry through to the presidency, as in the case of George W. Bush.

Moreover, differences among groups provide useful information on support profiles. Huckabee, an ordained minister, does particularly well among evangelical white Protestants and strong conservatives, two customarily high-turnout groups in many GOP primaries and caucuses. He also does better among the party faithful – important in closed primaries – than among Republican-leaning independents, while Paul, like his father before him, has more strength among independents.

Paul may have some durability among his supporters. This poll added five names to the potential Republican lineup, compared with an ABC/Post poll in January. As a group, possible candidates on the original, shorter list lost support when others were added. Paul didn't.

CLINTON-BUSH – Matching two marquee names in a hypothetical general election contest, Clinton has 53 percent support among registered voters to Bush's 41 percent. Clinton led Christie by the same margin in the [January ABC/Post poll](#).

Again, results among groups are telling. Notably, Clinton leads Bush by 23 percentage points among women, 59-36 percent, while men divide closely between the two. Clinton also has a 63-34 percent advantage among adults younger than 30 – a key support group for Barack Obama in his two presidential elections – and a vast 54-point lead among nonwhites, 74-20 percent. She leads by 21 points among those with incomes less than \$50,000 a year.

Bush, for his part, leads Clinton by 41 points among conservatives and by 39 points among evangelical white Protestants, two GOP standbys. He runs competitively among independents, a potential swing voter group, as well as among whites, financially better-off adults and four-year college graduates.

Two-thirds of Americans in an [ABC/Post poll last month](#) said they'd at least consider supporting Clinton for president. Far fewer, 44 percent, said they'd consider Bush, while 48 percent ruled him out.

Finally, every president from 1989 through 2009 was a Bush or a Clinton, making family legacies part of the package should these two run and face each other. Both families are more liked than disliked – but Clinton's more so, as noted, by a 12-point margin. “Strongly” positive views of the Clintons are a similar 10 points more than those of the Bushes.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone April 24-27, 2014, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,000 adults, including landline and cell-phone-only respondents. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 3.5 points, including design effect. Partisan divisions are 32-21-38 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents.

The survey was produced for ABC News by [Langer Research Associates](#) of New York, N.Y., with sampling, data collection and tabulation by Abt-SRBI of New York, N.Y.

Analysis by Gregory Holyk.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com at <http://abcnews.com/pollingunit>.

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Full results follow.

* in data columns = less than 0.5 percent

1-14, 16-21 previously released; 15 held for release.

22. (ASKED OF LEANED REPUBLICANS) I'm going to read a list of possible candidates for the Republican nomination for president in 2016. After you hear the list, please tell me, if the 2016 Republican presidential primary or caucus in your state were being held today, for whom would you vote? Which candidate would you lean toward?

4/27/14 - NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - REGISTERED VOTERS

	4/27	1/23*
Jeb Bush	12	18
Chris Christie	9	14
Ted Cruz	7	12
Mike Huckabee	14	NA
Bobby Jindal	2	NA
John Kasich	1	NA
Rand Paul	15	11
Rick Perry	5	NA
Paul Ryan	12	18
Marco Rubio	6	10
Scott Walker	5	NA
Other (vol.)	2	2
None of these (vol.)	4	4
Would not vote (vol.)	*	1
No opinion	5	9

**If the 2016 Republican presidential primary or caucus in your state was being held today, and the candidates were..."

23. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) If the 2016 presidential election were being held today and the candidates were (Hillary Clinton, the Democrat) and (Jeb Bush, the Republican), for whom would you vote? Would you lean toward (Clinton) or toward (Bush)?

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - REGISTERED VOTERS

	Hillary Clinton	Jeb Bush	Other (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Would not vote (vol.)	No opinion
4/27/14	53	41	*	4	1	1

24. Regardless of your vote preference, would you say your opinion of the [ITEM] is very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable?

4/27/14 - Summary Table

	----- Favorable -----			---- Unfavorable ----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	opinion
a. Clinton family	66	26	40	31	16	15	3
b. Bush family	54	16	38	43	22	21	3

*** END ***