

Romney leads Republicans in N.H.

by UPI

CONCORD, N.H. - A new poll indicated Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney leads his party for support in New Hampshire, the site of the nation's first primary election.

The former Massachusetts governor came from a position behind U.S. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani to make a gain of 11 percent from an April poll to a total 28 percent in the latest poll, CNN reported Wednesday.

The poll indicated McCain and Giuliani were tied for second in the early primary state with 20 percent support each. Other candidates failed to score higher than the low single digits for support.

The telephone survey of 309 New Hampshire residents who said they plan to vote in the Republican primary in January had a sampling error of 5.5 percentage points.

After a Republican debate in the state, 32 percent of those polled described Romney as the "most likeable" of the candidates, compared to 12 percent who said the same of McCain, who won the state's primary in 2000 but lost the nomination to George Bush.

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