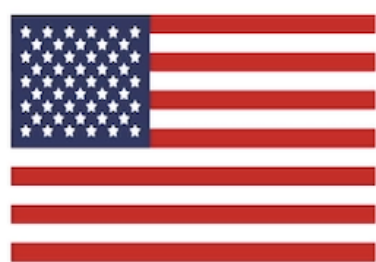


STETSON UNIVERSITY
Center for Public Opinion Research



**MIDTERM
ELECTIONS
2024**



STETSON UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR PUBLIC
OPINION RESEARCH

Poll: Donalds Opens a Double-Digit Lead as Trump's Approval Slides and Florida's Homestead Tax Amendment Falls Short of the Bar to Pass

Center for Public Opinion Research - Stetson University*

2026-09-25

Summary

Florida's gubernatorial race has widened while its Senate race holds steady, and Republican-appointed leaders in Washington are losing ground with Florida adults. Among likely voters, once undecided leaners are allocated, Byron Donalds leads David Jolly 51%–39% — a double-digit margin, wider than the single-digit split this race showed in Spring. Ashley Moody's Senate lead over Angie Nixon is essentially unchanged at 51%–40%. President Trump's approval among Florida adults is at 43%, while Governor DeSantis's sits at 53%. Moody, an appointed rather than elected senator, draws 50% of approval. A homestead exemption amendment tested this wave draws only 51% support among likely voters, short of the 60% needed to pass. Cost of living remains the dominant issue (40%).

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1 Key Findings Report

1.1 2026 Elections: A Wider Governor’s Race, a Steady Senate Race

Among likely voters, Byron Donalds leads David Jolly 51%–39%, with 5% undecided and 5% naming another candidate (Figure 1). The gender gap is pronounced: men favor Donalds by 23 points (58%–35%), while women are essentially split (44% Donalds, 43% Jolly) (Figure 4).

For the Senate race, Ashley Moody leads Angie Nixon 51%–40%, with 5% undecided and 3% naming another candidate (Figure 9). The gender gap persists here too: men favor Moody by 23 points (57%–34%), while women split narrowly toward Nixon (46%–45%) (Figure 11).

Party loyalty is extremely high in both races: 89% of Republicans back Donalds and 89% back Moody; 88% of Democrats back Jolly and 92% back Nixon. Independents remain the most persuadable and least settled bloc — around a third are still undecided in each race even after the leaner follow-up (33% in the governor’s race, 30% in the Senate race) (Figures 2, 10).

Name recognition remains an asset for the two Republican incumbents and a liability for Angie Nixon. Among all Florida adults, 47% say they know Moody and could vote for her, versus 35% for Nixon, who also draws the highest “don’t know this person” share of the four candidates tested (32%) (Figure 18). Donalds (41% could-vote-for) and Jolly (35%) show a similar, smaller gap.

1.2 Tracking the Races

Comparing this wave’s topline to Spring gives an early read on where the two races are moving. The Senate race looks flat: Moody held at 51% while Nixon gained two points (38% to 40%) as the undecided share shrank slightly. The governor’s race shows more movement: Donalds gained four points (47% to 51%) while Jolly slipped one point (40% to 39%), widening the margin from 7 to 12 points. Every individual point movement in both races falls inside the survey’s margin of error for likely voters, so this section documents a plausible early signal in the governor’s race rather than a confirmed trend.

1.3 What Drives the Vote: Cost of Living Still Dominates

Cost of living and inflation remains the top issue for Florida adults, named by 40% overall (Figure 19), with some variation across partisan groups (Republicans 37%, Democrats 40%, and Independents 51%). Immigration ranks second for Republicans (12%) and Independents (12%), while Democrats are more likely to name threats to democracy (16%) as their secondary issue.

Among likely voters, a majority say they are voting *for* their preferred candidate rather than against the opponent: 56% in the Senate race and 60% in the governor’s race (Figures 20, 21). This varies by party — 68–72% of Republicans say they are voting affirmatively for their candidate, compared to 53–56% of Democrats, who are, on average, twice as likely as Republicans to say they are voting mainly against the opponent (23–31% versus 12–14%). Republican voters are not just larger in number this wave; they are also more enthusiastic about their own candidates, which is a structural advantage that shows up across nearly every measure in this survey.

Approval Ratings: Republican Leaders Lose Ground With Florida Adults

President Trump’s approval among Florida adults is at 43%, while 55% disapprove and 2% haven’t heard enough to say (Figure 24). The partisan gap remains enormous: 77% of Republicans approve compared to 10% of Democrats (Figure 25). Governor DeSantis shows 53% approval, with 43% disapproving and 5% saying they haven’t heard enough (Figures 26–27). Senator Moody sits at 50% approval and 32% disapproval, but a striking 19% say they haven’t heard enough to say (Figures 28–29).

Florida’s senator, Rick Scott, sits at 51% approval and 37% disapproval, with 10% unfamiliar to decline a rating (Table 4); the Florida Supreme Court draws 55% approval, 30% disapproval, and 15% unsure (Table 6). The Florida Legislature holds 56% approval (Table 5), driven by Republicans (82%) against a plurality of Democrats disapproving (64%) (Table 5). U.S. Congress remains the least popular institution measured, at 39% approval and 55% disapproval — even Republicans split closely (55% approve, 41% disapprove), suggesting the low regard for Washington crosses party lines (Tables 7). The U.S. Supreme Court sits at 51% approval with the familiar partisan divide: 71% of Republicans approve versus 34% of Democrats (Tables 8).

1.4 Direction of the Country and State: Two Floridas, Still

Florida adults are more pessimistic about the nation than the state: 59% say the country is on the wrong track versus 34% right direction (Figure 30), compared to Florida—45% right direction, 44% wrong direction, 10% not sure (Figure 32).

The partisan gap remains wide: 61% of Republicans say the country is on the right track, compared to just 11% of Democrats, with Independents leaning sharply negative (77% wrong direction) (Figure 31). On Florida specifically, Republicans remain overwhelmingly positive (77%), while majorities of Independents (56%) and Democrats (74%) say the state is on the wrong track (Figure 33).

1.5 Voter Flow: Where Did Past Voters Go?

This wave’s voter-flow analysis follows two different lineages: 2022 governor vote into 2026 governor intention, and 2024 presidential vote into 2026 Senate intention (Figures 22, 23). The patterns show strong core loyalty with the same mobilization-target dynamic seen in Spring. Eighty-five percent of 2022 DeSantis voters back Donalds in 2026, and 85% of 2022 Crist voters back Jolly. On the Senate side, 86% of 2024 Trump voters back Moody and 84% of 2024 Harris voters back Nixon.

The more interesting movement is among respondents who did not vote or cannot recall how they voted. Among those who did not vote in 2022, the 2026 governor’s race splits almost evenly (43% Jolly, 41% Donalds) rather than favoring either party’s base — a genuine swing bloc rather than a leaning one. On the Senate side, respondents who did not vote in 2024 lean Democratic in their 2026 intention (65% Nixon, 23% Moody), while those who voted for a third-party candidate in 2024 lean narrowly Republican in 2026 (42% Moody, 35% Nixon). The 2022 and 2024 non-voters are not the same people and do not lean the same way, which means a single “mobilize the non-voters” strategy will not serve both campaigns equally.

1.6 Data Centers: Broad Wariness, and a Clear “*Not in my backyard*” Gap

Data center construction is a new topic this wave, and Florida adults are more skeptical of it near home than in the abstract. Statewide, 35% support large data center construction in Florida (12% strongly, 23% somewhat) against 47% opposed (Figure 39). Asked about their own community, support drops to 27% (9% strongly, 18% somewhat) while opposition rises to 54%, including 35% who strongly oppose it (Figure 40). That eight-point drop in support — and comparable rise in opposition — when the question moves from “the state” to “your community” is a textbook NIMBY gap (Figure 41). Florida adults lean negative towards data centers, but are especially against them when their proposed construction is in their community.

1.7 Flock License-Plate Cameras

Views on Flock license-plate cameras, also new this wave, are closely divided: 39% hold a positive view (19% mostly, 20% somewhat) and 44% hold a negative view (27% mostly, 17% somewhat), with 18% neutral (Figure 42).

1.8 Online Casinos: Support for the Attorney General’s Lawsuits

A plurality of Florida adults, 45%, support the Attorney General’s lawsuits seeking to shut down online social casinos in the state (23% strongly, 22% somewhat), against 23% opposed and 32% neutral (Figure 43). There is a general support for the lawsuit across parties — 41% of Democrats, 34% of Independents, and 55% of Republicans (Figure 43) — though the sizable neutral share across all three groups suggests this is a lower-salience issue than the horse races or cost of living.

1.9 Policy: A Shortfall on the Homestead Amendment and Other Issues

The homestead exemption amendment (raising the non-school exemption to \$150,000 in 2027 and \$250,000 in 2028), draws only 51% “yes” support among likely voters against a 60% threshold needed to pass, with 25% opposed and 24% not sure (Figure 35). Support splits by party as expected: 61% of Republicans, 43% of Independents, and 41% of Democrats say yes.

Abortion views remain tilted toward the status quo or looser restrictions: 34% want the current six-week ban with exceptions, 26% want legality until about 24 weeks, 18% want legality at any point, and 17% want a near-total ban (Table 26). Combining the two most permissive options, 44% want legal abortion up to 24 weeks or beyond, compared to 51% who want some form of ban; the partisan divide is stark, with 68% of Democrats favoring one of the two more permissive options against just 25% of Republicans (Table 26).

On marijuana, 53% support full legalization for medical and recreational use, 30% support medical use only, and 14% oppose legalization entirely (Table 27). A plurality of Republicans (40%) now favor full legalization, though a combined 78% support at least some form of legalization (Table 27).

On guns, 47% favor requiring a permit and background check while also banning assault-style rifles and high-capacity magazines, 37% favor a permit and background check without the additional ban, and 14% favor no permit requirement at all (Figure 28). The partisan gap is

wide but not absolute: even among Republicans, a combined 81% favor some form of permit and background-check requirement, with 16% favoring no permit at all (Figure 28).

1.10 Confidence in the Vote Count: Florida vs. the Rest of the Country

This wave splits electoral-integrity confidence into two separate items — confidence that votes will be counted fairly in Florida, and confidence in the rest of the country — and finds a clear gap between them. Eighty-five percent of Florida adults are at least somewhat confident in Florida’s own count (43% very, 42% somewhat), compared to 70% for the rest of the country (26% very, 44% somewhat) — a 15-point confidence gap favoring Florida’s own process (Figure 45). That gap holds up within every partisan group, though Republicans show the largest home-state premium (93% confident in Florida vs. 69% confident nationally) (Figure 45). Democrats trust vote counting in Florida and other states at similar levels (81% in Florida’s process and 79% in other states). Floridians trust their own state’s election administration considerably more than they trust the rest of the country’s, a pattern that cuts across party lines even as absolute confidence levels differ sharply by party.

1.11 The Bottom Line

Florida’s 2026 landscape has shifted since Spring in ways that mostly help Republicans at the top of the ticket but complicate the picture underneath. Byron Donalds has opened real, if not yet fully confirmed, distance from David Jolly, and Ashley Moody’s lead over Angie Nixon looks durable. At the same time, the president and governor most closely associated with the Republican brand are both less popular with Florida adults than they were six months ago, the country’s perceived direction has soured, and a signature ballot measure — the homestead exemption amendment — currently falls short of the supermajority it needs. Party loyalty remains extremely high on both sides, and Republican voters remain more affirmatively enthusiastic about their own candidates than Democrats are about theirs, which is a structural advantage as the election nears. The question for the next survey is whether the governor’s race keeps widening on a like-for-like instrument, or whether this wave’s double-digit read converges back toward Spring’s single digits once methodology stops being a moving part.

2 About CPOR

Founded in 2022, the Center for Public Opinion Research is an independent, non-partisan survey research center of Stetson University. The purpose of CPOR is to produce knowledge about how the public thinks about politics, the economy and other social issues. Stetson’s CPOR also advances our students’ education in the dynamic science of survey research and social science methodology.

3 Methodology

The CPOR September 2026 Survey interviewed 830 Florida adults via an online non-probability panel administered by Qualtrics, fielded September 14–21, 2026.

Weighting. Two weights are used in this report. `rake_weight` is a raking (iterative proportional fitting) weight calibrated to population margins for age, gender, race, ethnicity, education, and Nielsen DMA-based region, with item-missing demographics randomly imputed prior to raking (imputation seed recorded in the analysis script). `rake_weight` is used throughout this report for attitude and policy items and is described as reflecting “Florida adults” or “Floridians.” `final_weight` multiplies `rake_weight` by each respondent’s predicted likelihood of voting (see below) and renormalizes to a mean of 1. `final_weight` is used for electoral items — the governor and Senate horse races, the leaner follow-ups, vote type (for/against), and the homestead exemption amendment — and is described as reflecting “likely voters.” Both weights are capped at 3 to limit the influence of any single respondent. Percentages in text, figures, and tables may not sum to exactly 100 due to rounding.

Most-likely-voter (MLV) model. Turnout probability was estimated with a logistic regression predicting self-reported 2022 midterm turnout from 2024 presidential turnout, self-reported voting frequency, stated chance of voting in 2026, attention to the 2026 election, and mail-ballot status. The model’s predicted probabilities were multiplied into `rake_weight` to build `final_weight`, as described above.

Margins of error. Design-effect-adjusted margins of error are ± 4.0 percentage points for the full sample (design effect 1.37; effective $n = 608$) and ± 4.3 percentage points for likely voters (design effect 1.59; effective $n = 522$). Throughout this report, differences of less than roughly six points between subgroups or between this wave and Spring are described as within the margin of error rather than as a trend, and margin-of-error language always specifies which of the two bases (full sample or likely voters) it refers to.

Comparability with Spring. The comparison made throughout this report are based on our previous report, published in April 2026. You can access this report [here](#).

4 2026 Elections

4.1 Florida Governor Race: Donalds vs. Jolly

Figure 1: Florida Governor Vote Intention

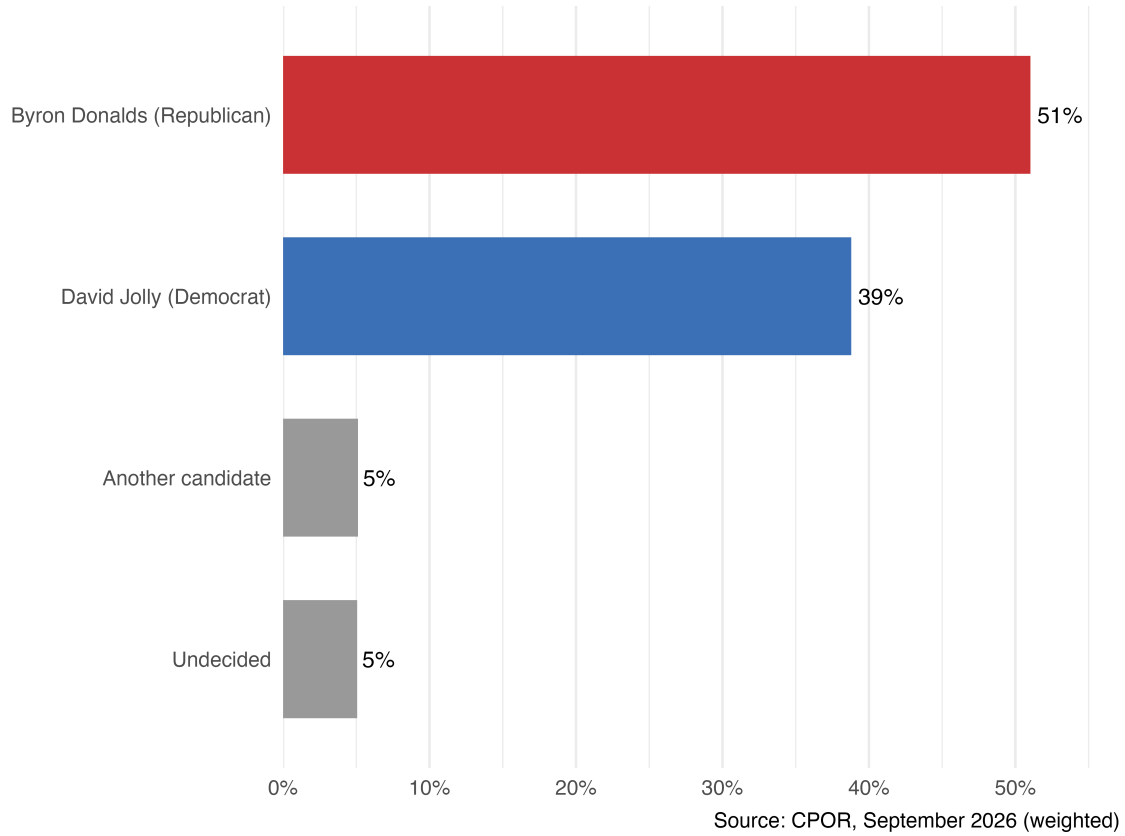
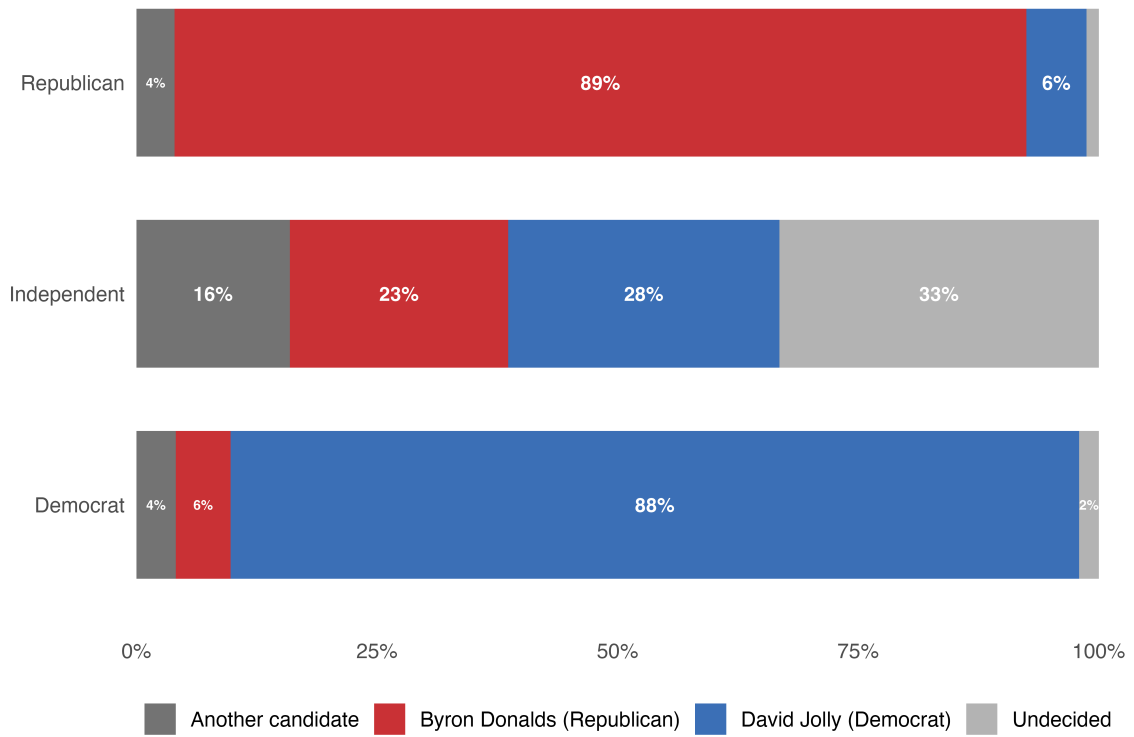
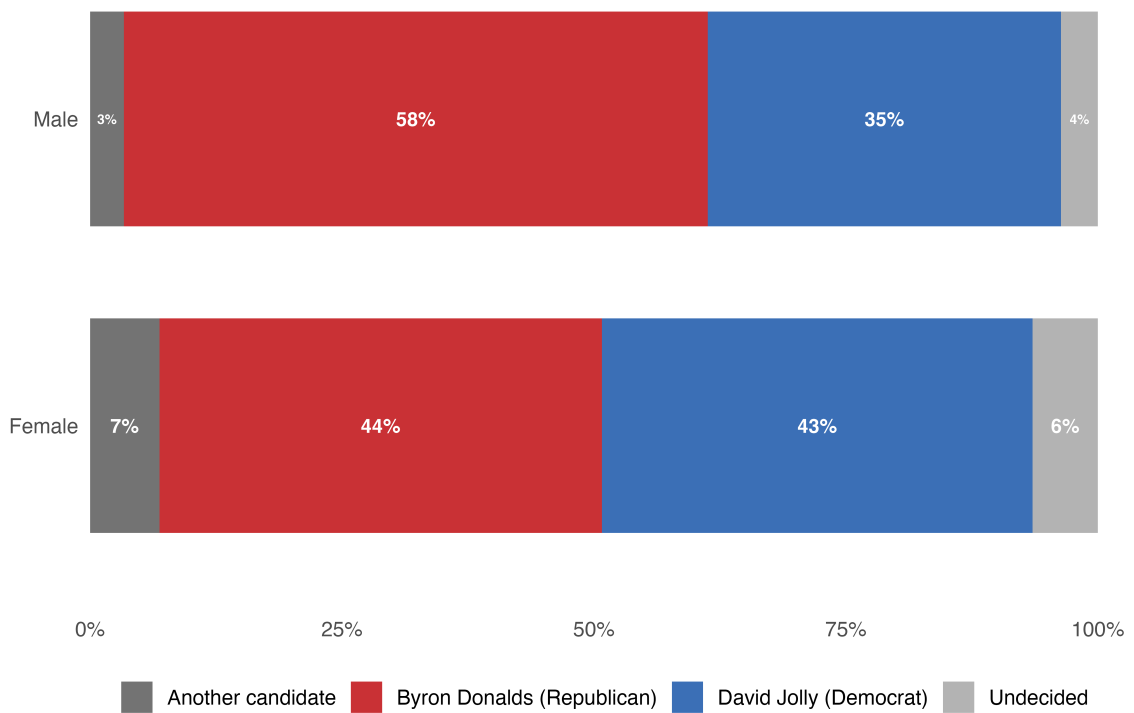


Figure 2: Florida Governor by Party Identification



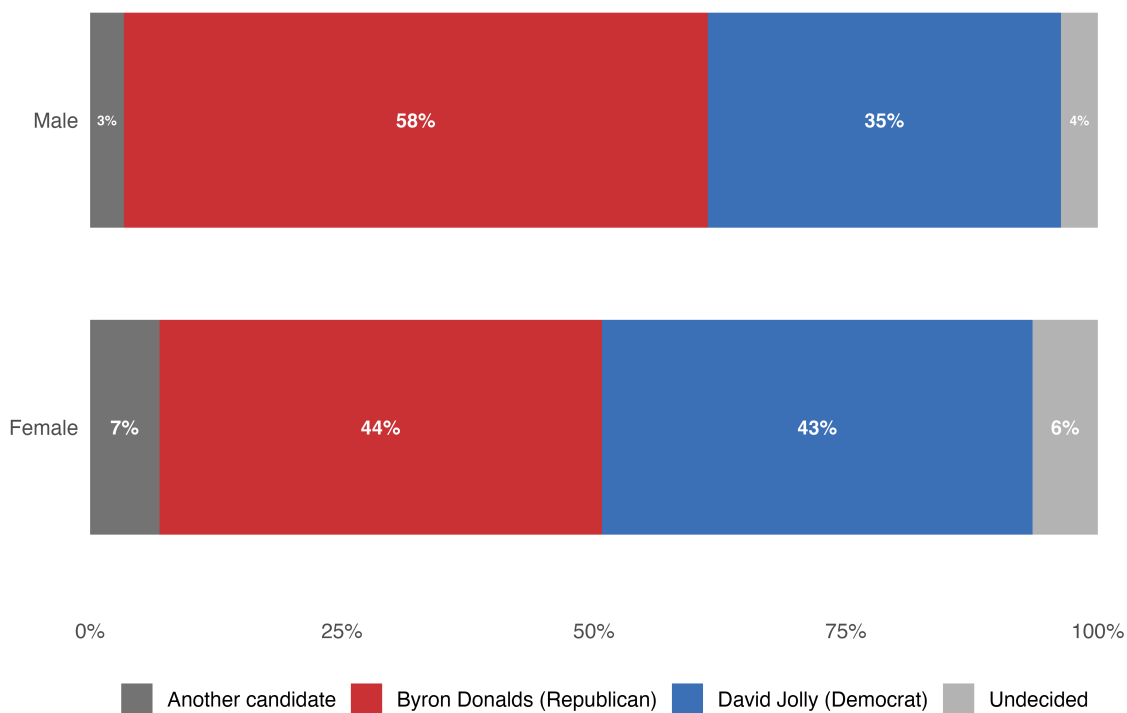
Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 3: Florida Governor Vote Intention by Gender



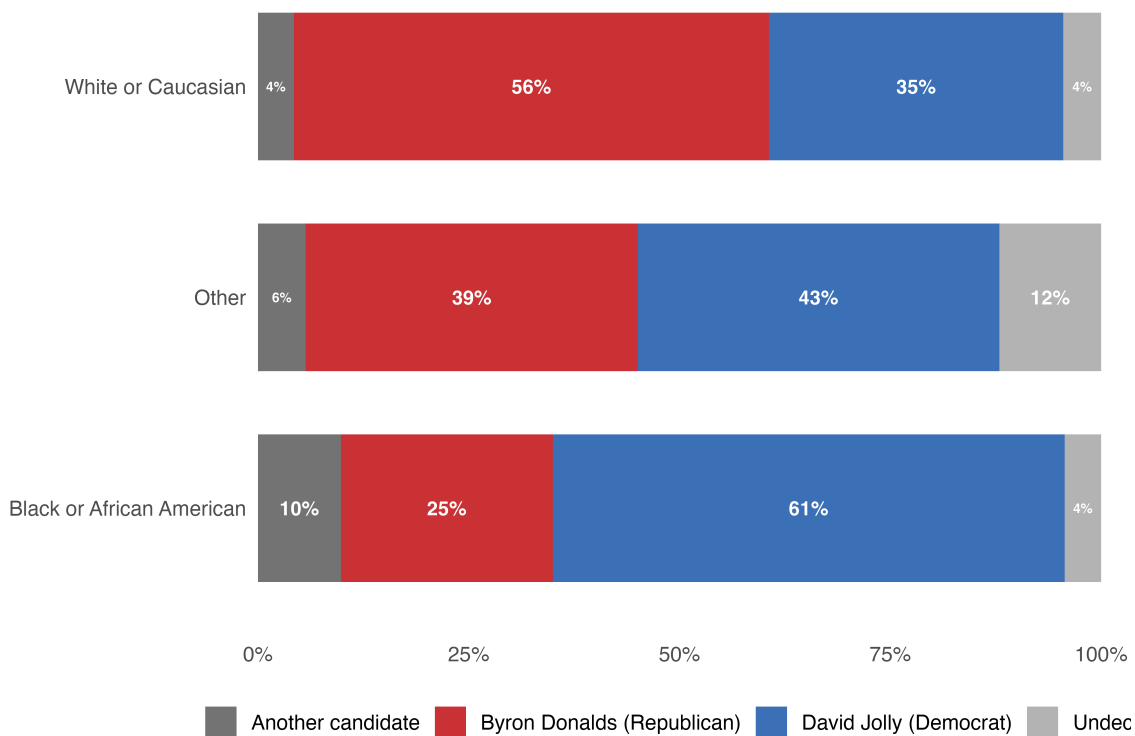
Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 4: Florida Governor Vote Intention by Gender



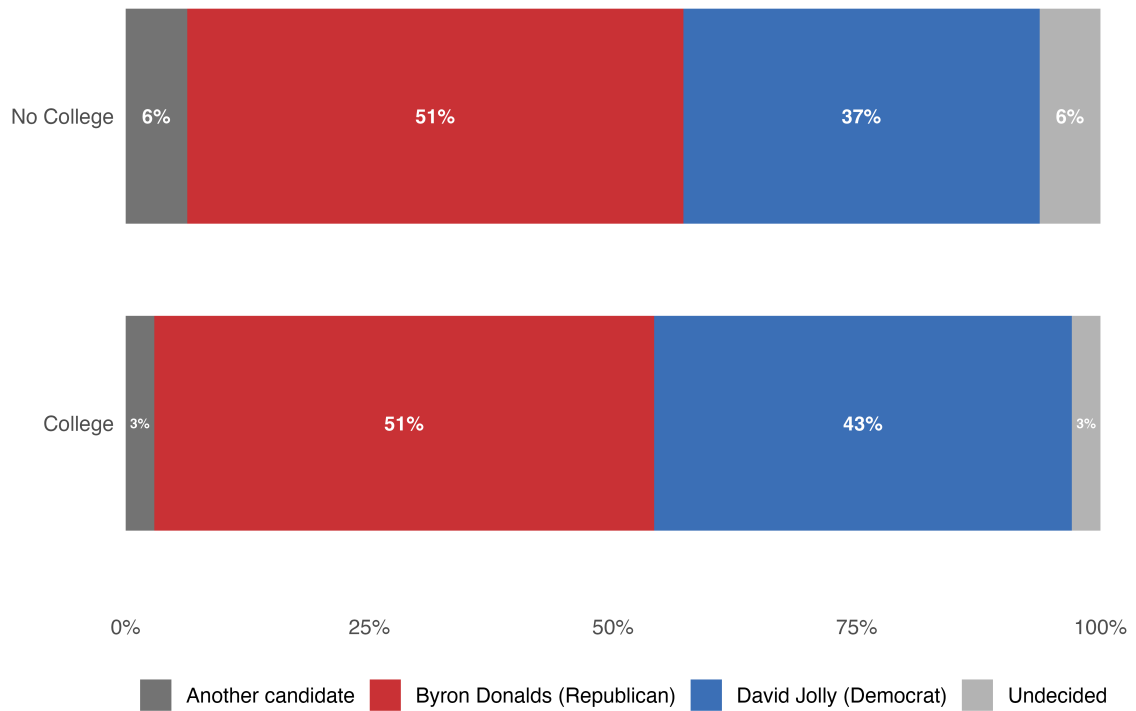
Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 5: Florida Governor Vote Intention by Race



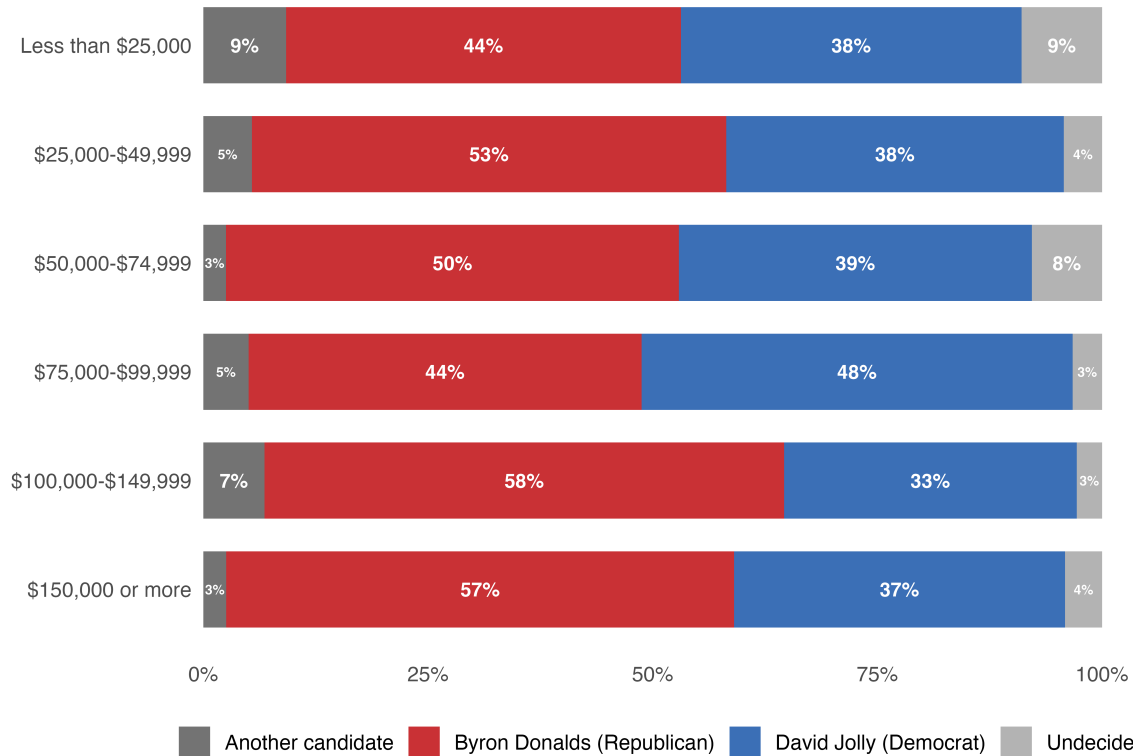
Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 6: Florida Governor Vote Intention by Education



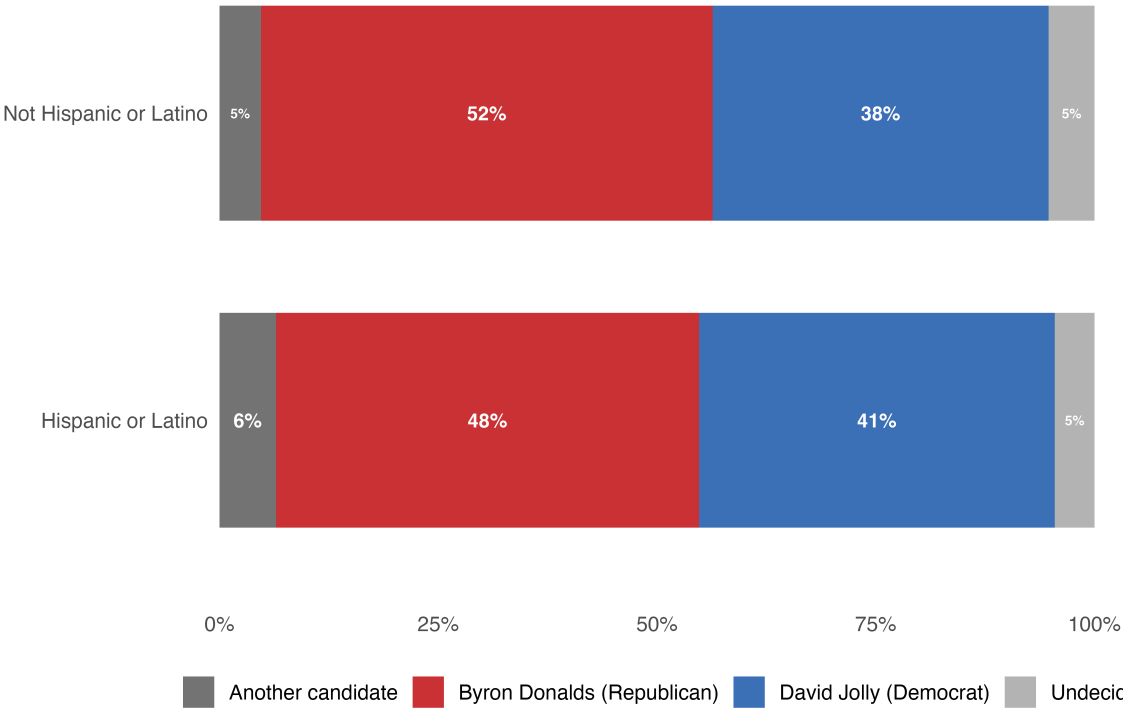
Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 7: Florida Governor Vote Intention by Household Income



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 8: Florida Governor Vote Intention by Hispanic Origin



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

4.2 U.S. Senate Race: Moody vs. Nixon

Figure 9: Florida U.S. Senate Vote Intention

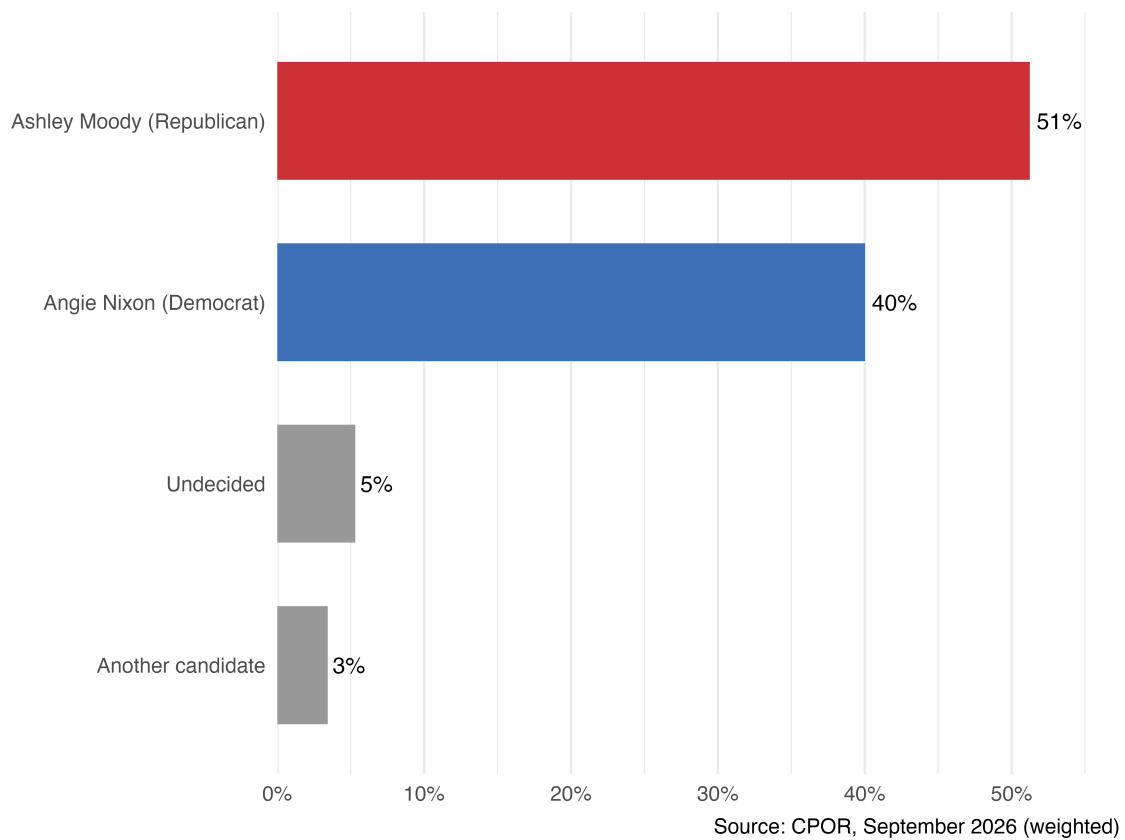
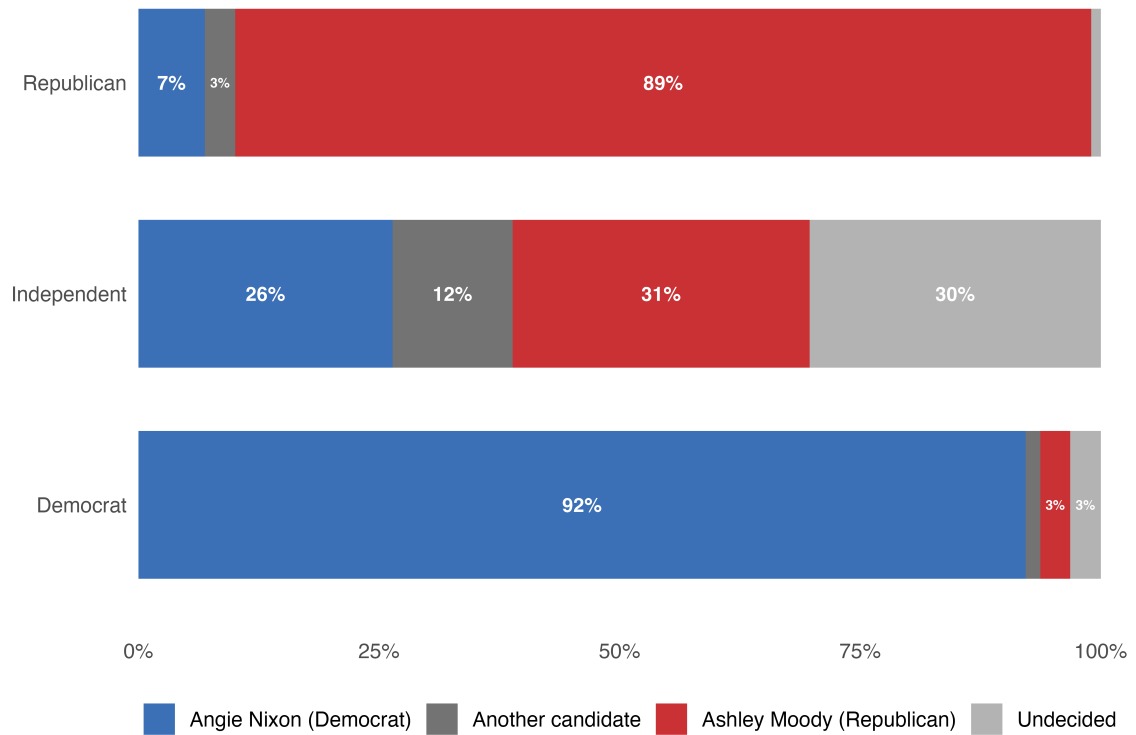
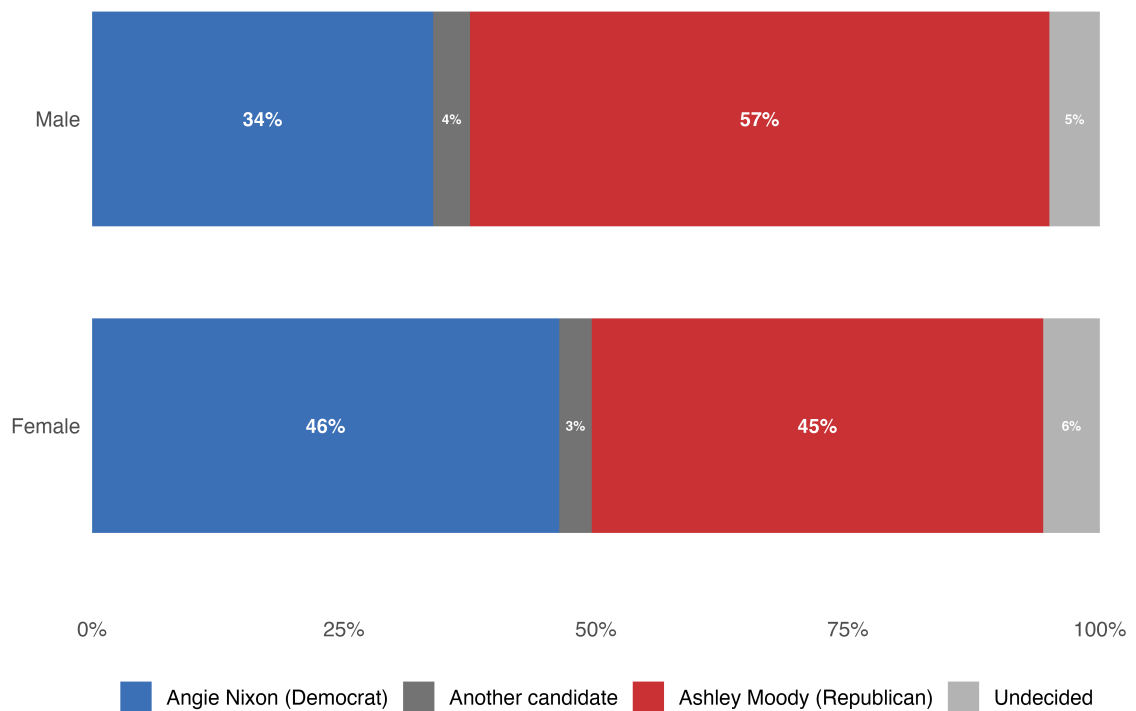


Figure 10: Florida U.S. Senate Vote Intention by Party Identification



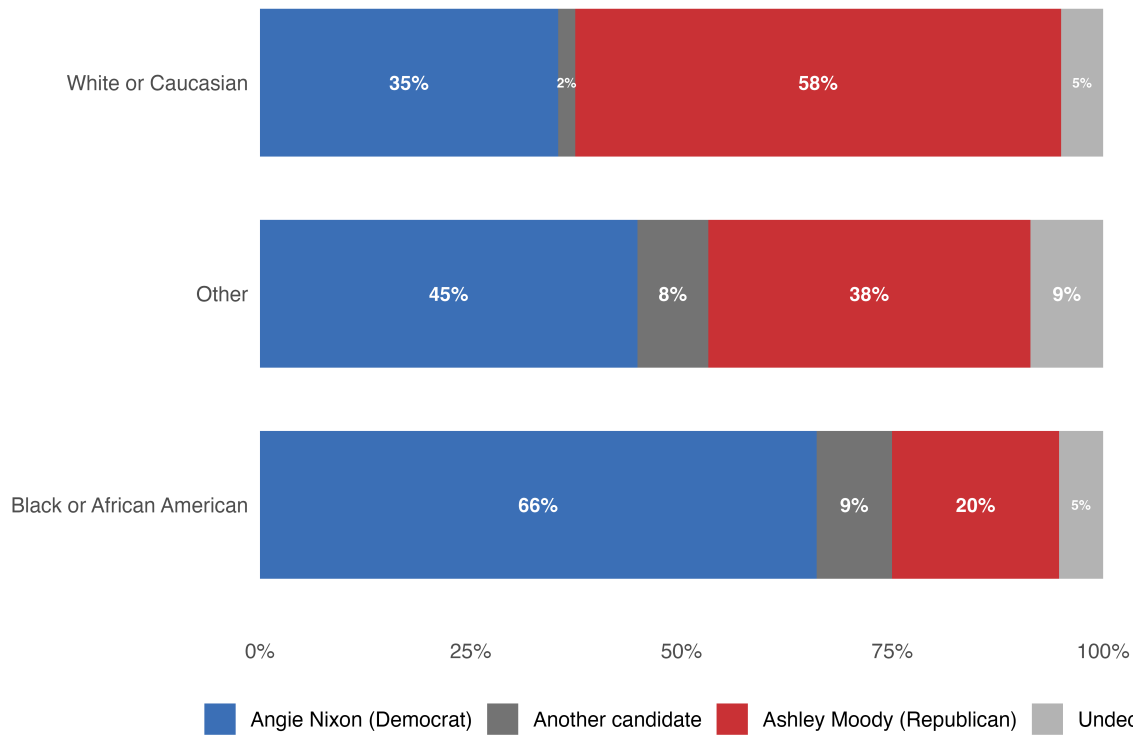
Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 11: Florida U.S. Senate Vote Intention by Gender



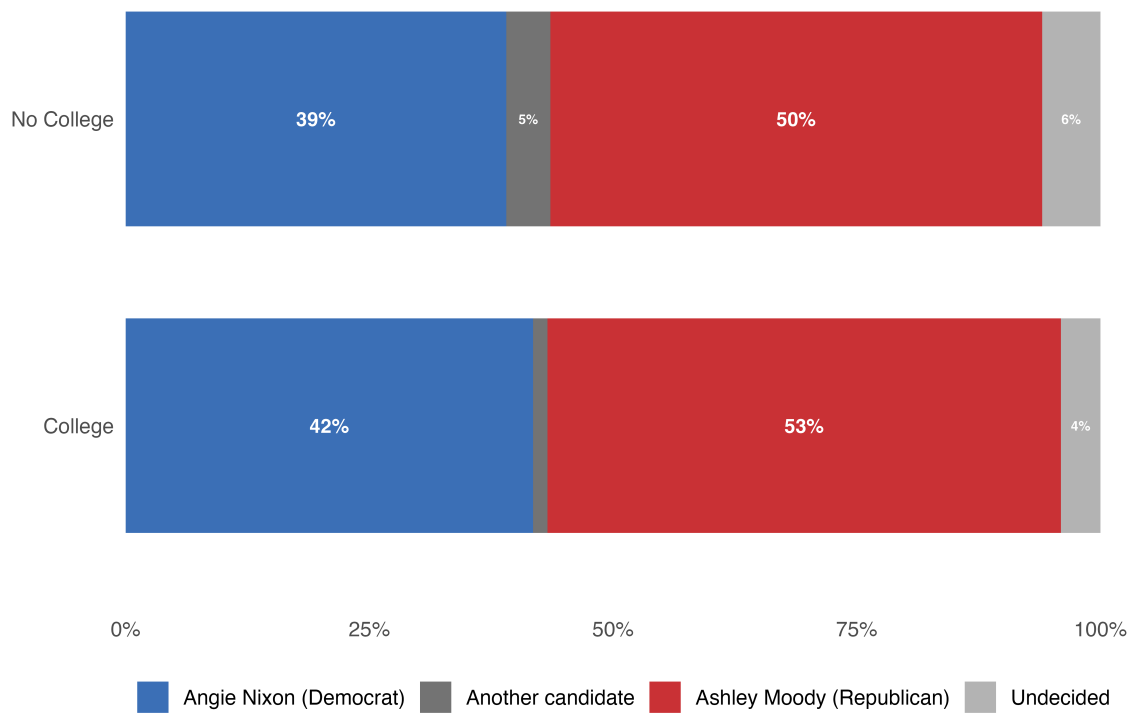
Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 12: Florida U.S. Senate Vote Intention by Race



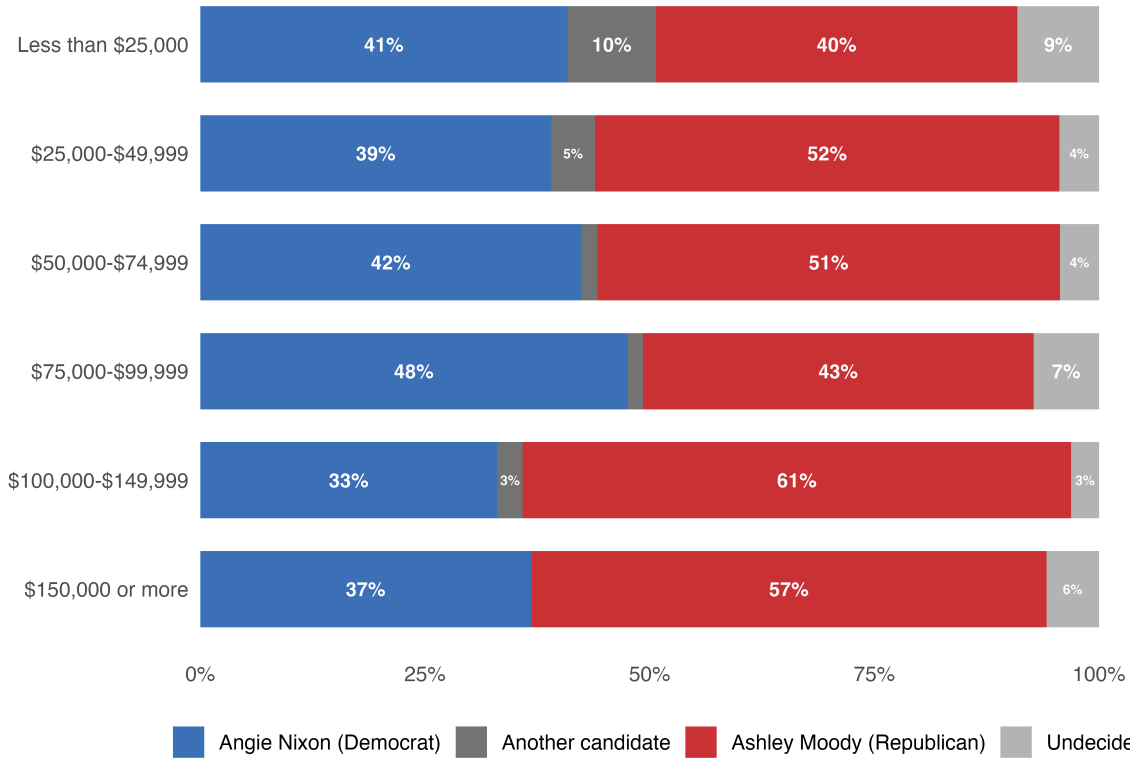
Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 13: U.S. Senate Vote Intention by Education



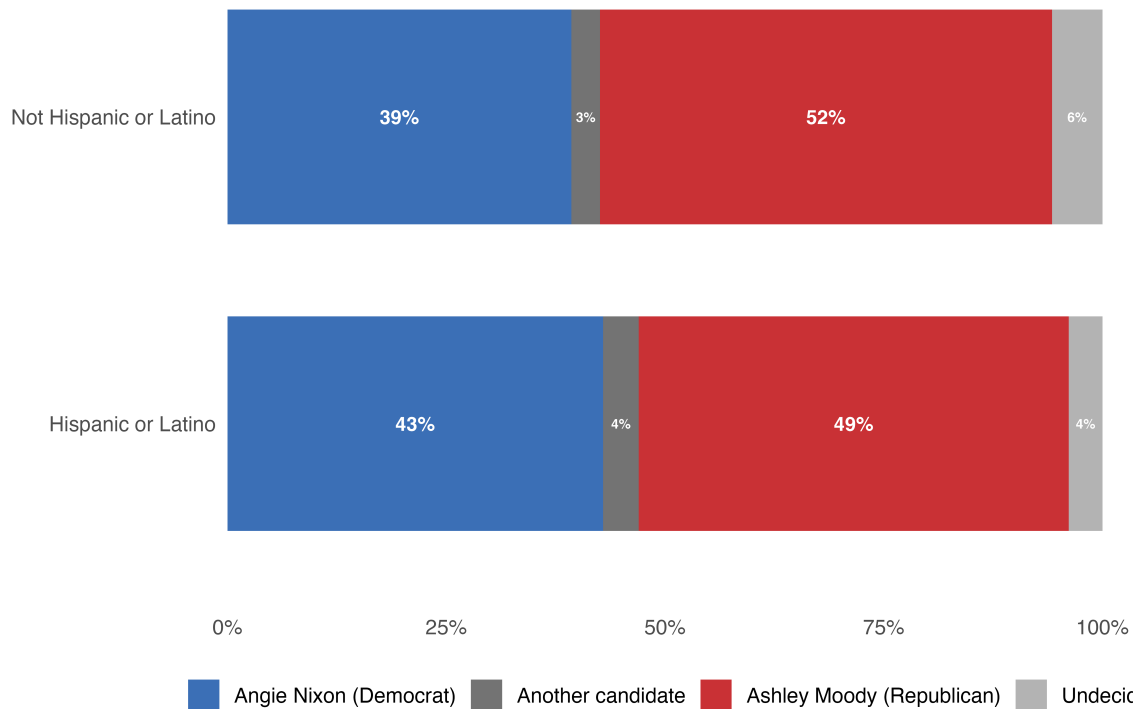
Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 14: U.S. Senate Vote Intention by Household Income



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

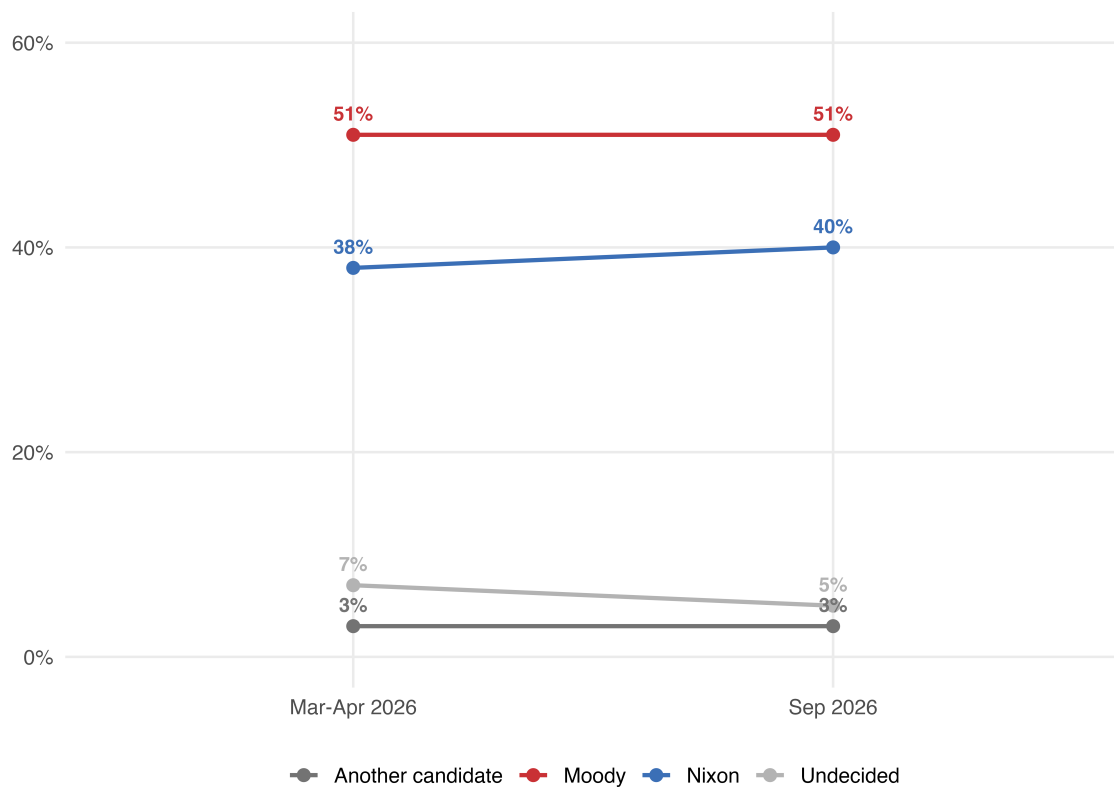
Figure 15: U.S. Senate Vote Intention by Hispanic Origin



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

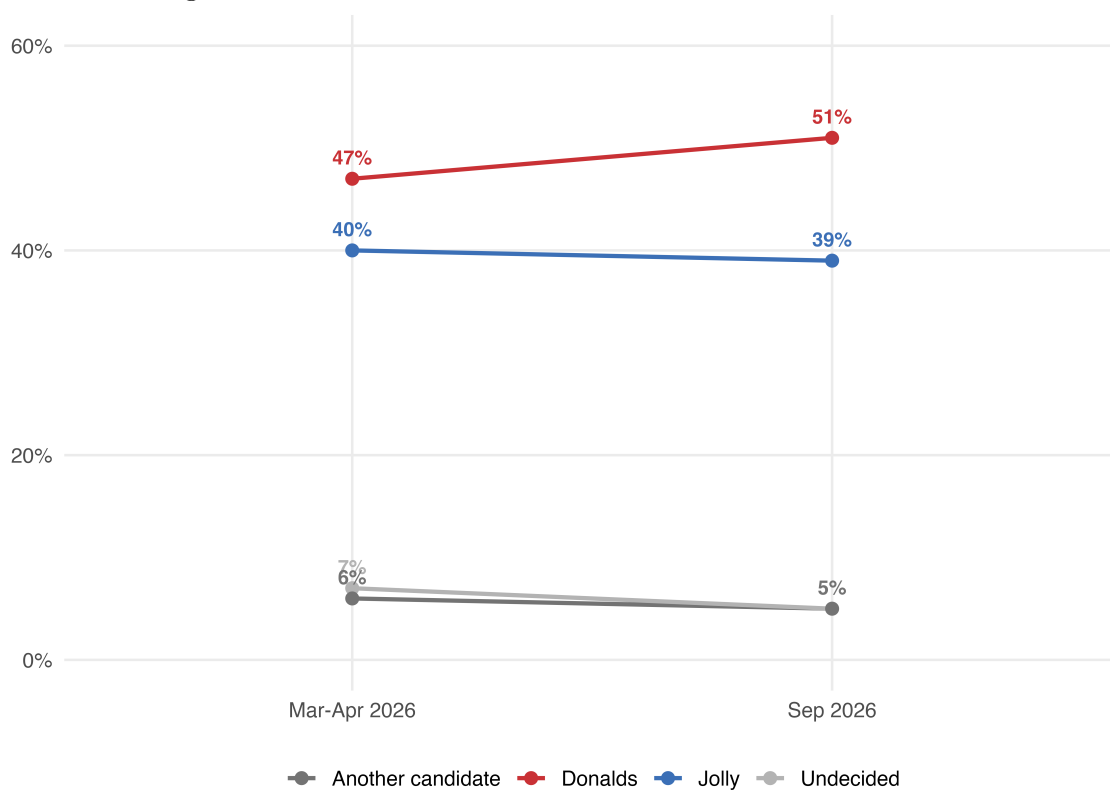
4.3 Tracking the Races

Figure 16: 2026 U.S. Senate Vote Intention Over Time



Source: CPOR, 2026

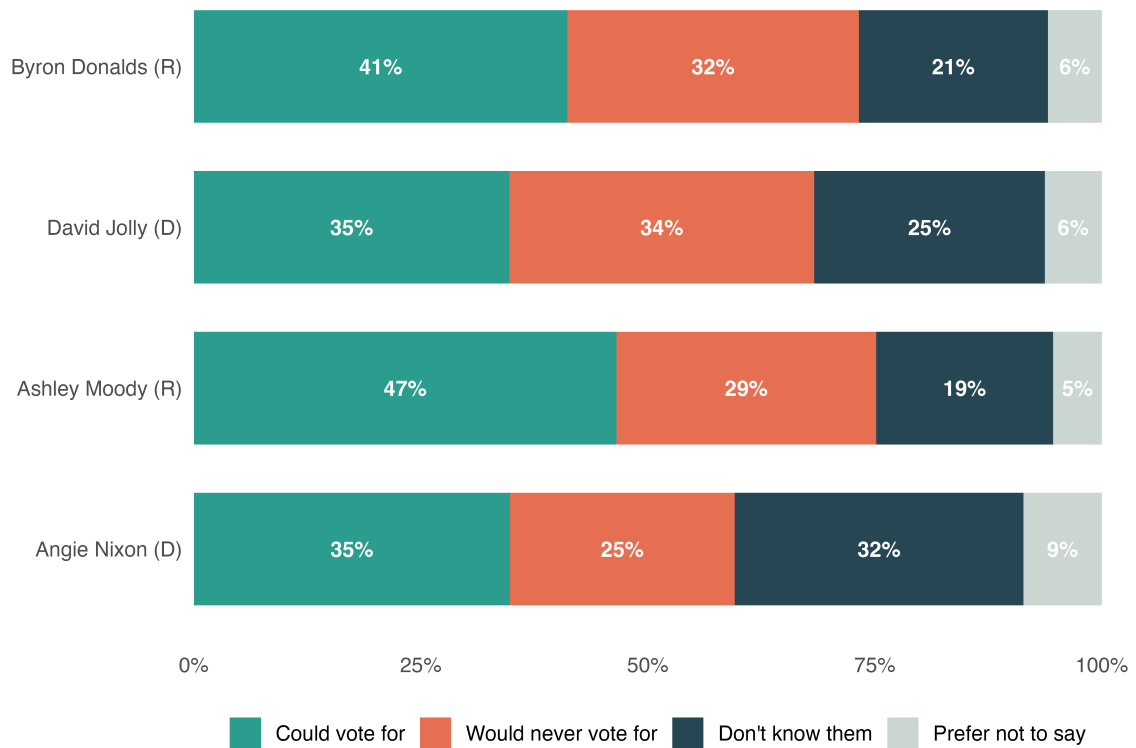
Figure 17: 2026 Florida Gubernatorial Vote Intention Over Time



Source: CPOR, 2026

4.4 Candidate Familiarity and Rejection

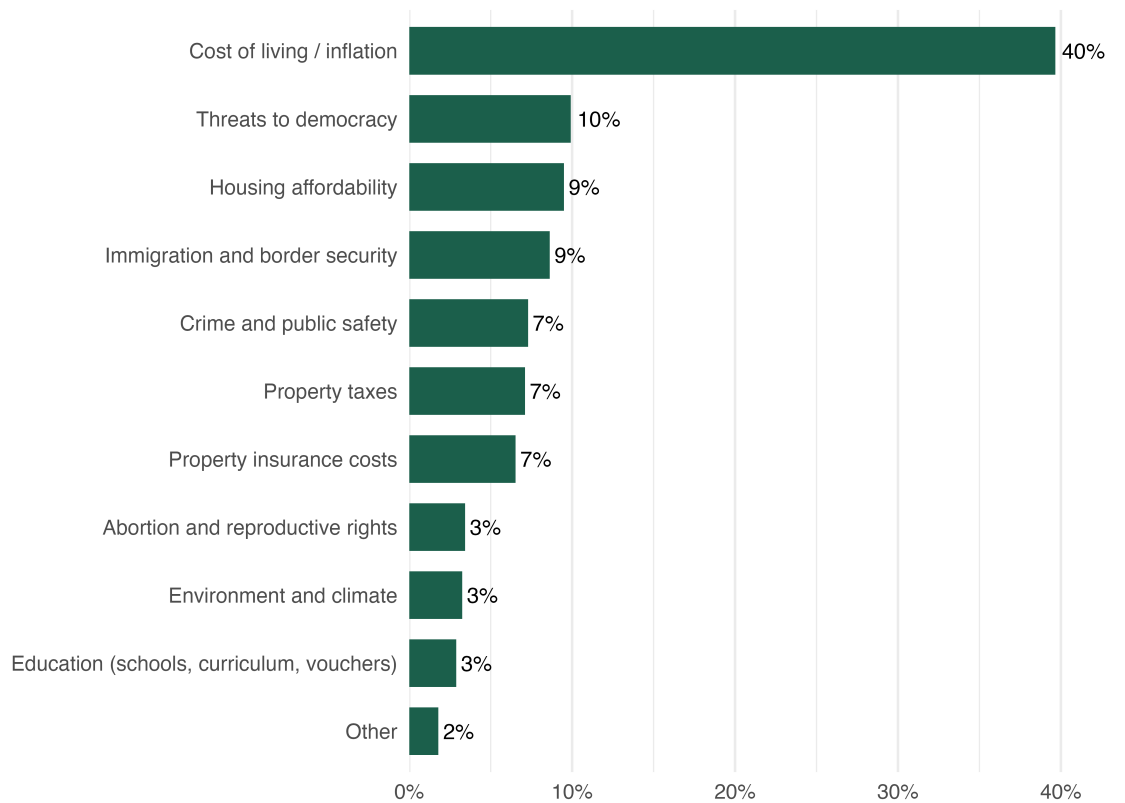
Figure 18: Candidate Rejection: Could You Ever Vote for Them?



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

4.5 What Drives the Vote

Figure 19: Most Important Issue in the 2026 Election



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

4.6 Vote For or Against Candidate

Figure 20: Is Your Senate Vote FOR Your Candidate or AGAINST the Opponent?

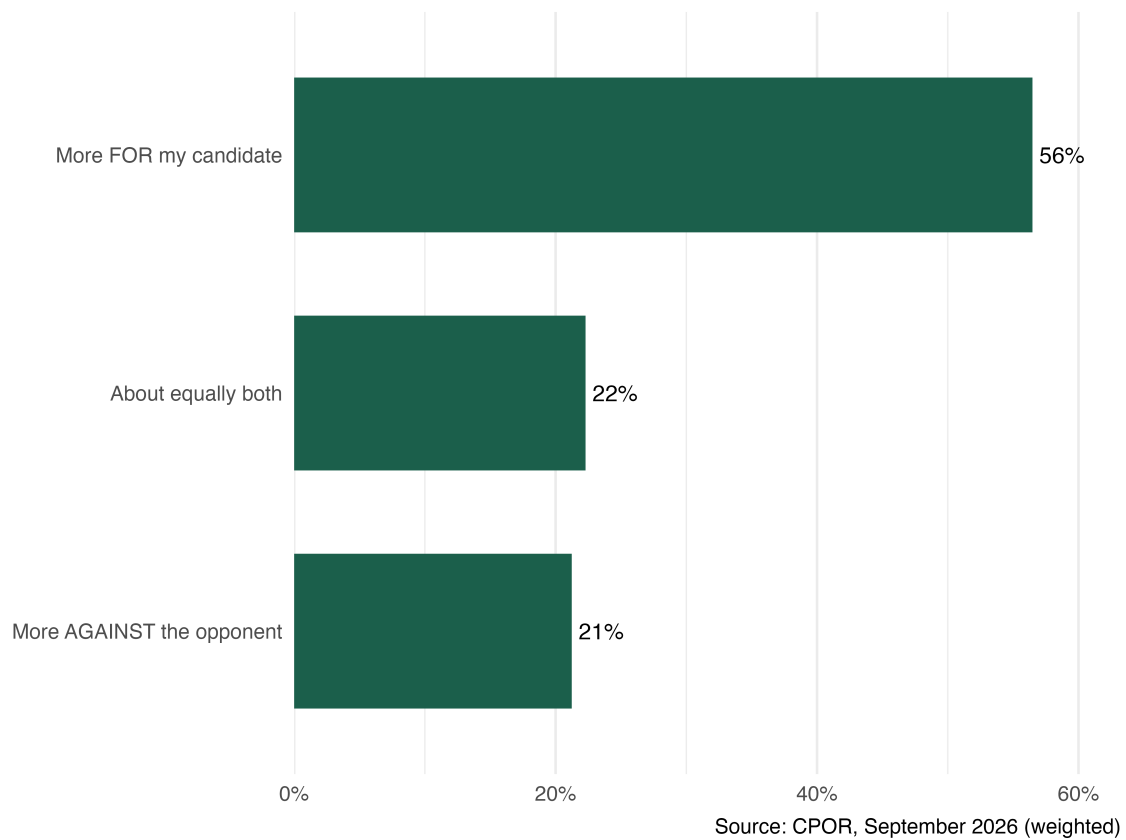
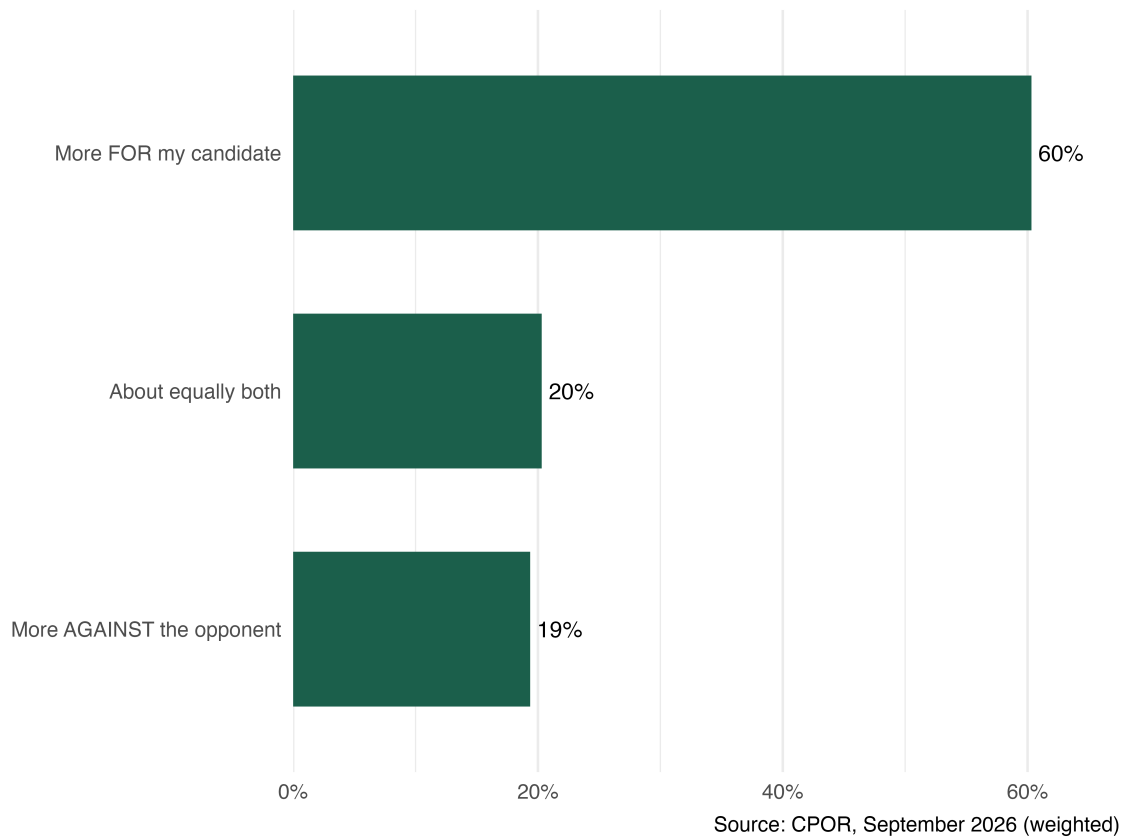


Figure 21: Is Your Governor Vote FOR Your Candidate or AGAINST the Opponent?



5 Voter Flow

Figure 22: Voter Flow: 2022 Governor Vote → 2026 Governor Intention
Voter Migration: 2022 Governor Vote to 2026 Intention

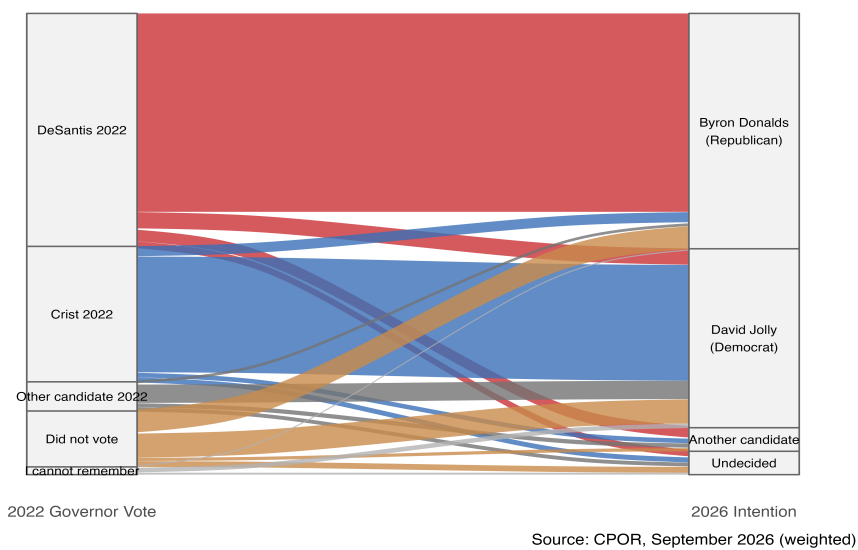
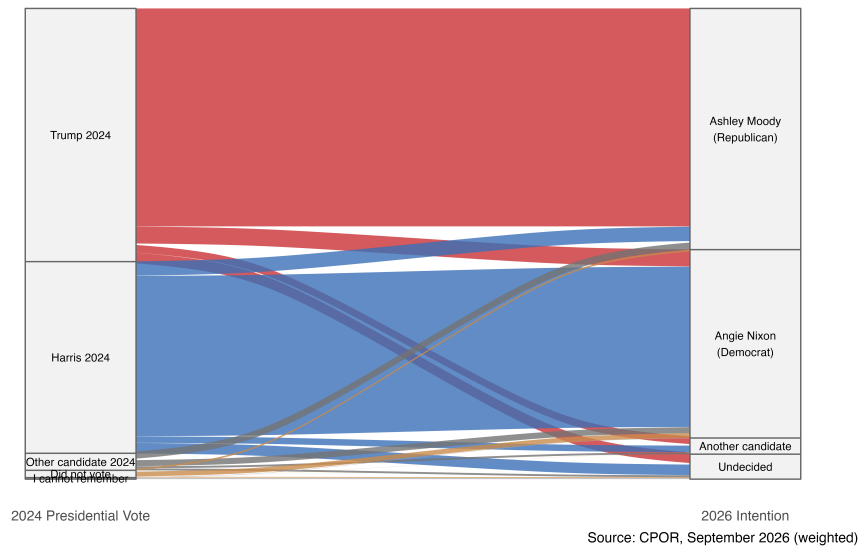


Figure 23: Voter Flow: 2024 Presidential Vote → 2026 Senate Intention
 Voter Migration: 2024 Presidential Vote to 2026 Senate Intention



6 Approval Ratings and Direction of the Country

6.1 President Trump

Figure 24: Approval Rating: President Trump

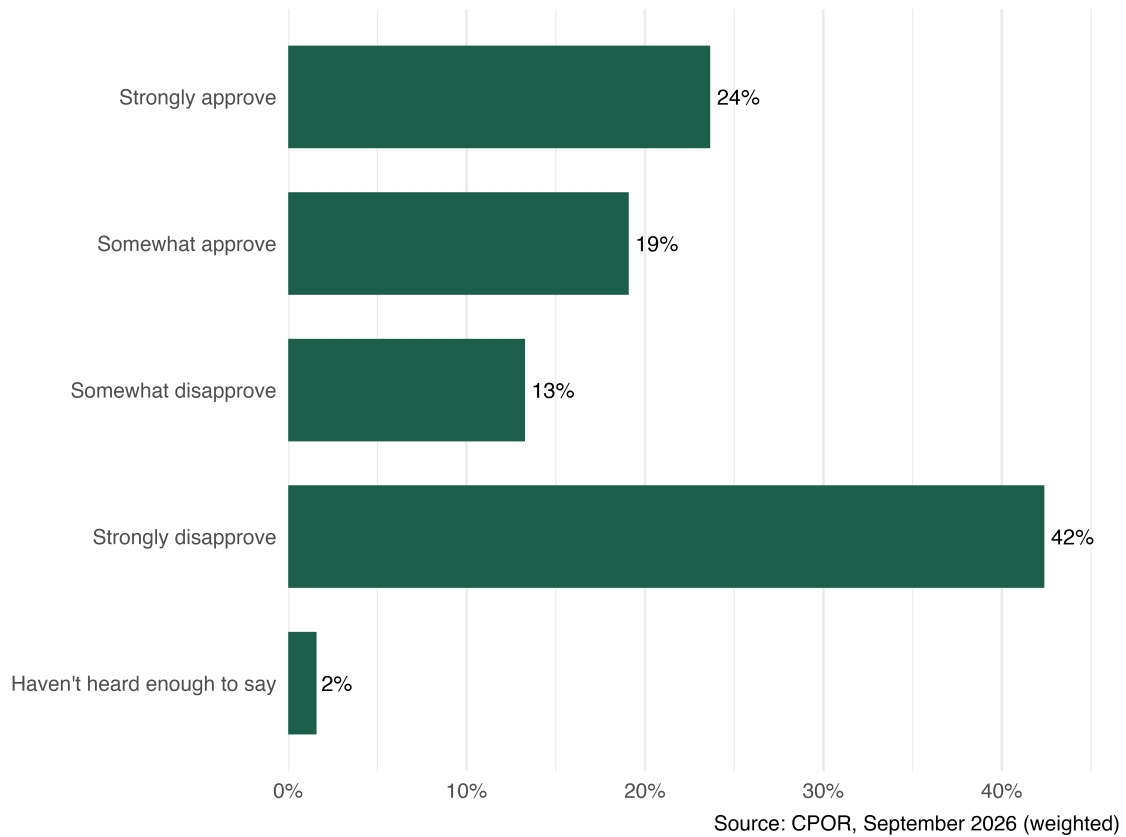
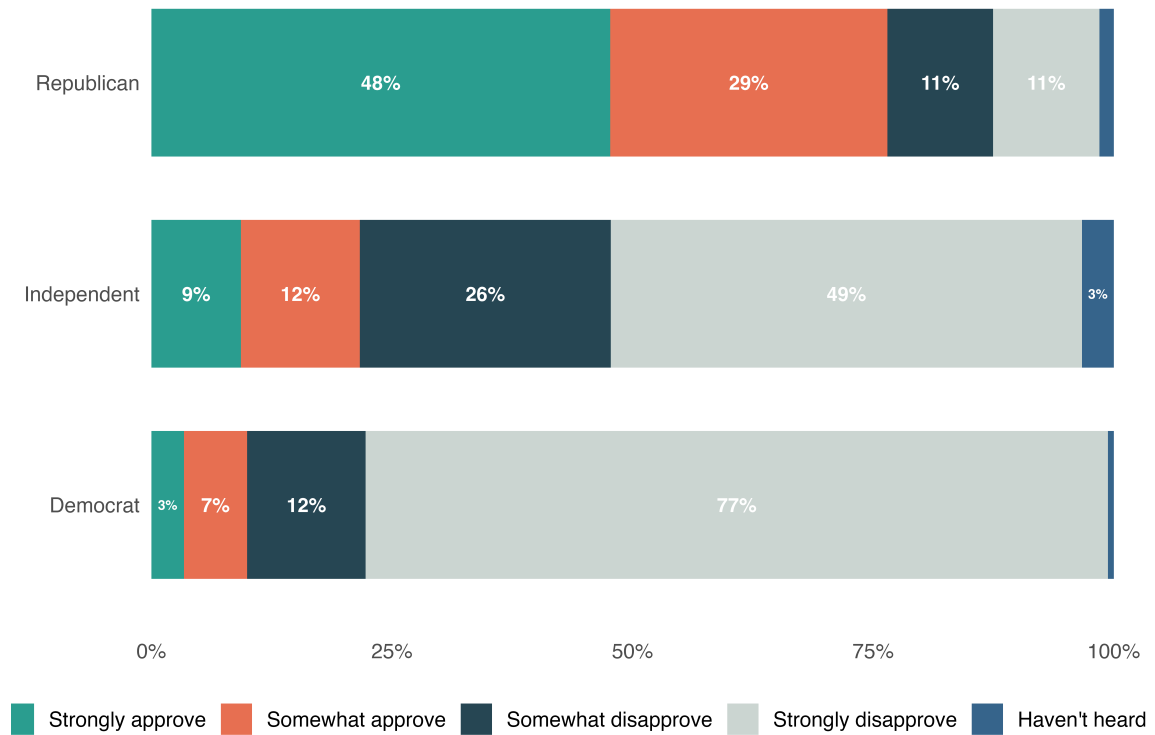


Figure 25: Approval Rating by Party Identification: President Trump



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

6.2 Governor DeSantis

Figure 26: Approval Rating: Governor DeSantis

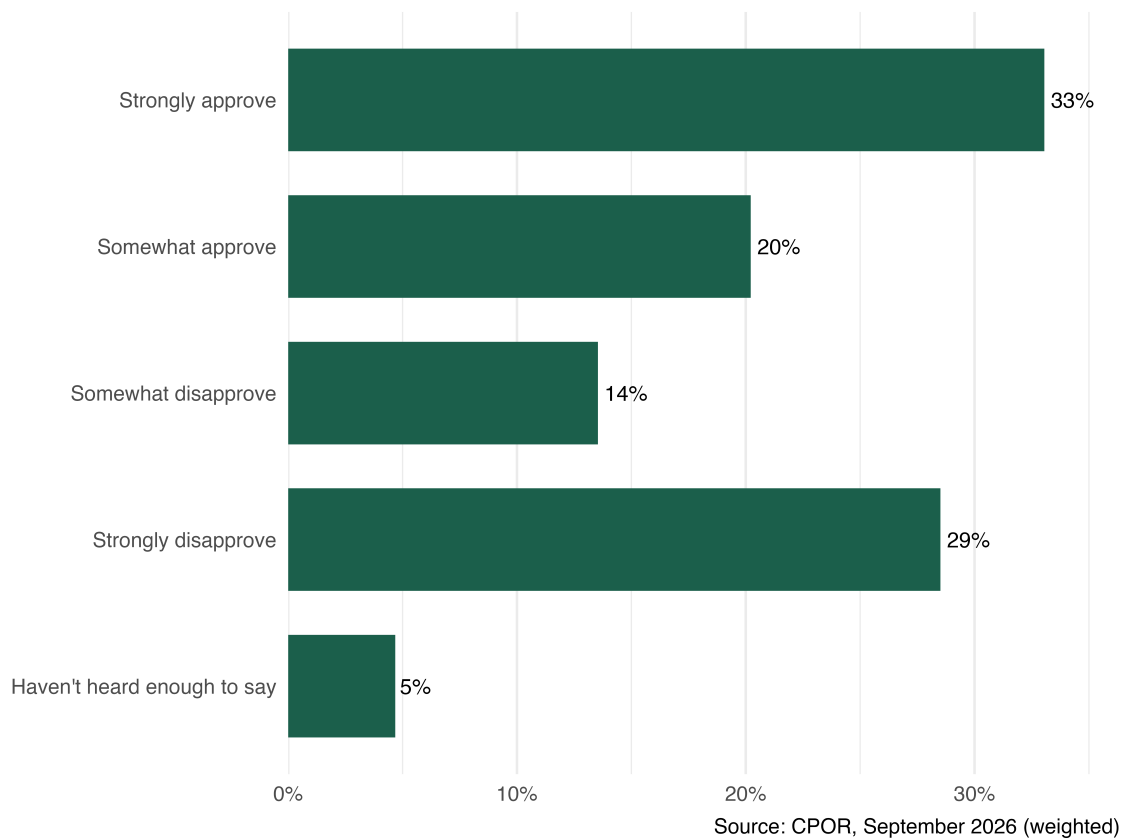
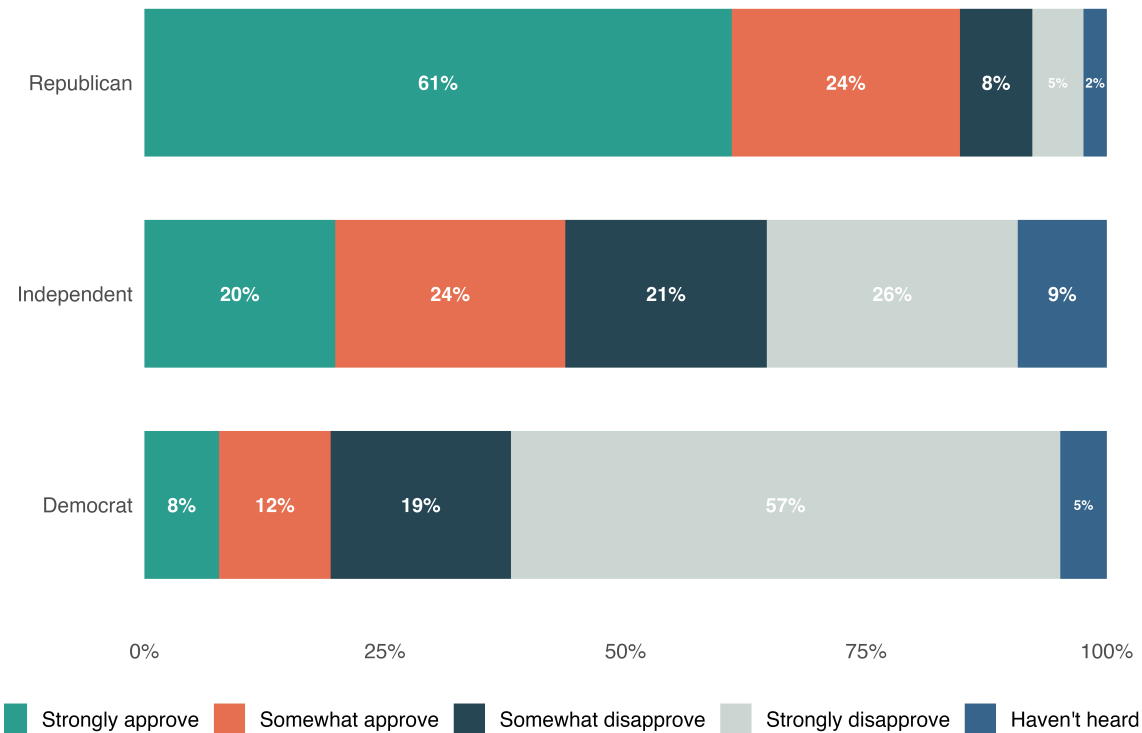


Figure 27: Approval Rating by Party Identification: Governor DeSantis



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

6.3 Senator Moody

Figure 28: Approval Rating: Senator Moody

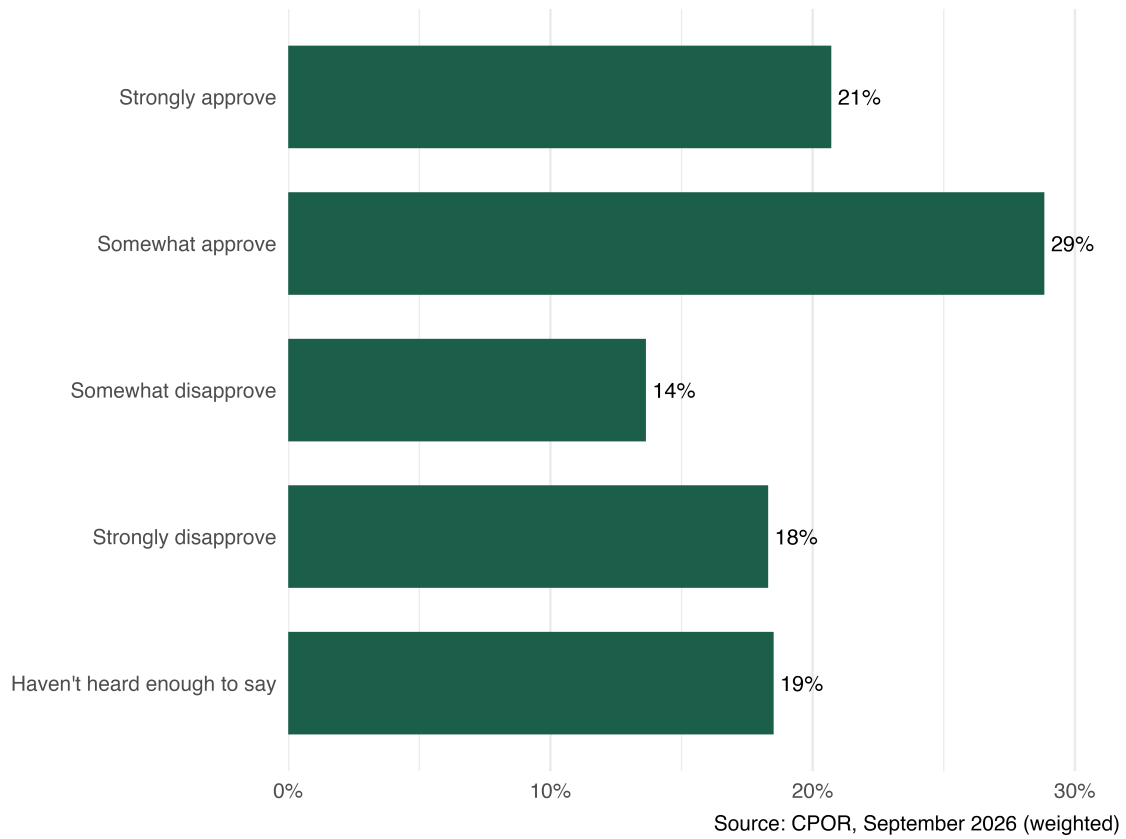
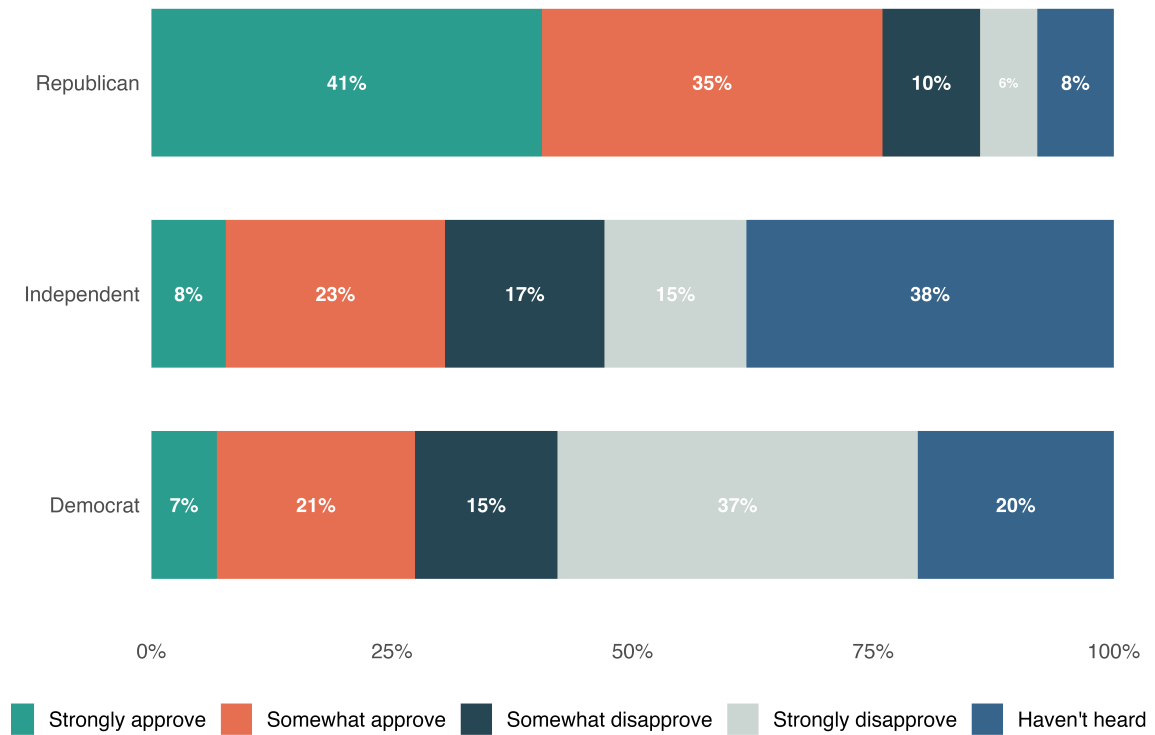


Figure 29: Approval Rating by Party Identification: Senator Moody

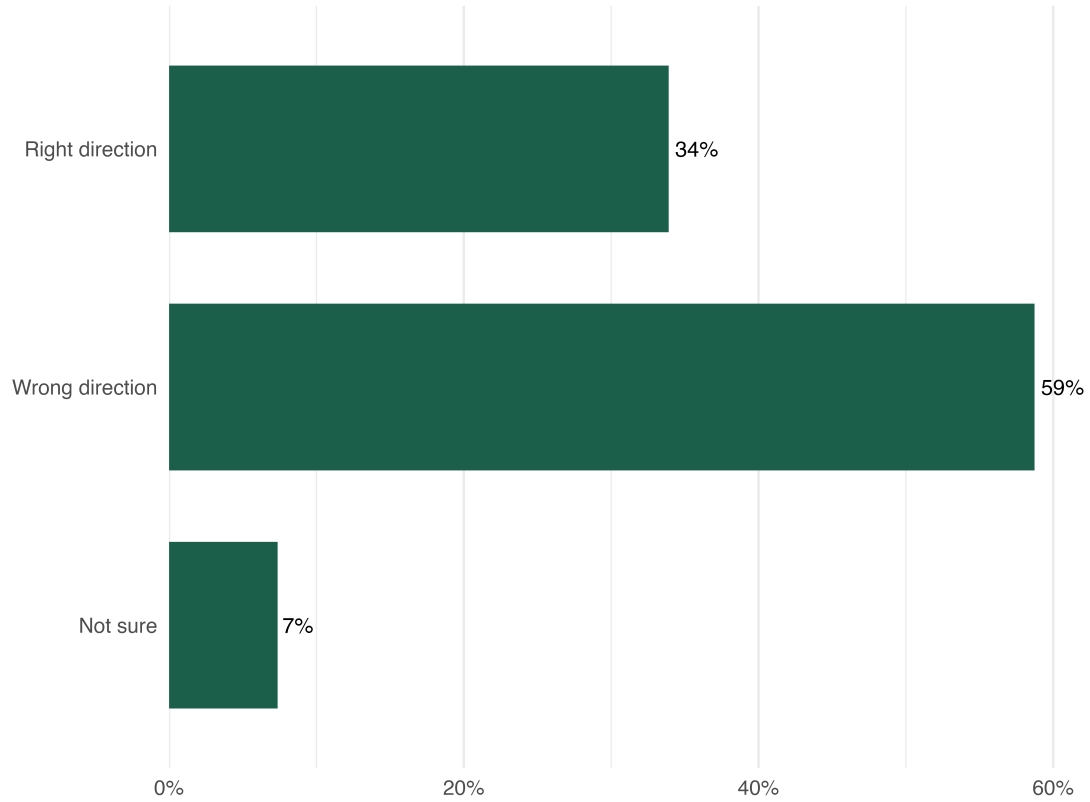


Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

7 Right / Wrong Direction

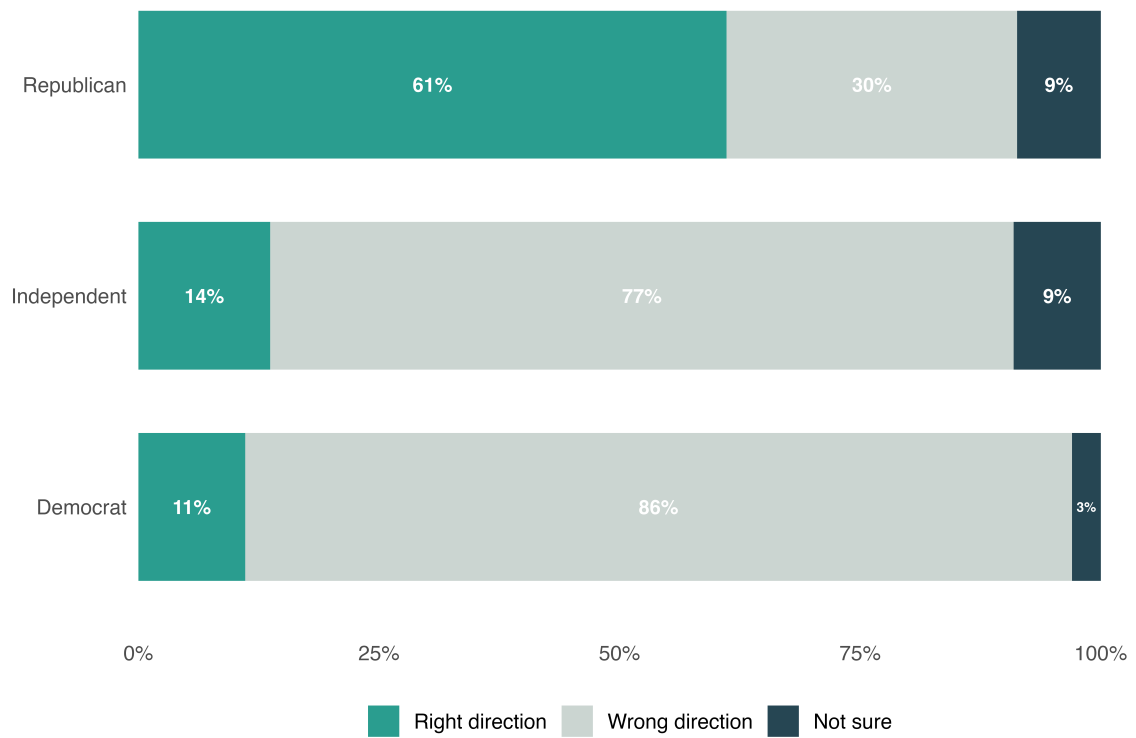
7.1 Country

Figure 30: Is the Country on the Right Track or Wrong Direction?



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

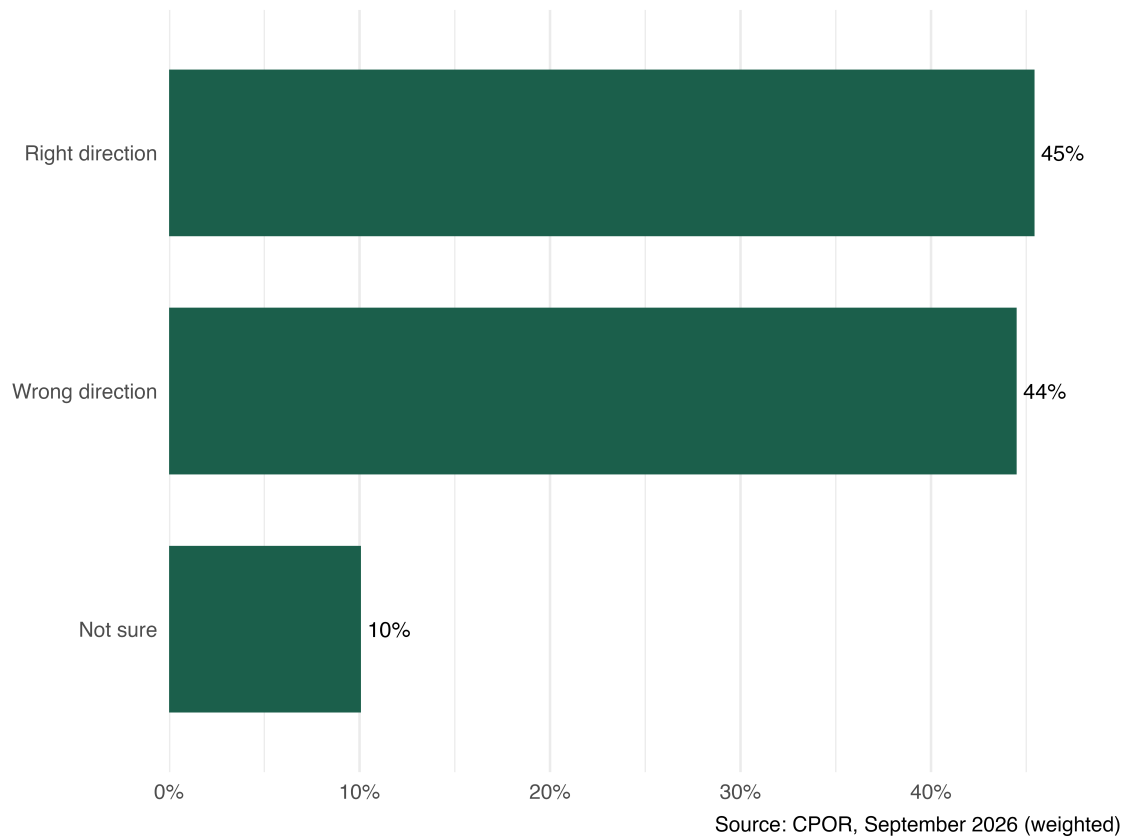
Figure 31: Is the Country on the Right Track or Wrong Direction? (by Party Identification)



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

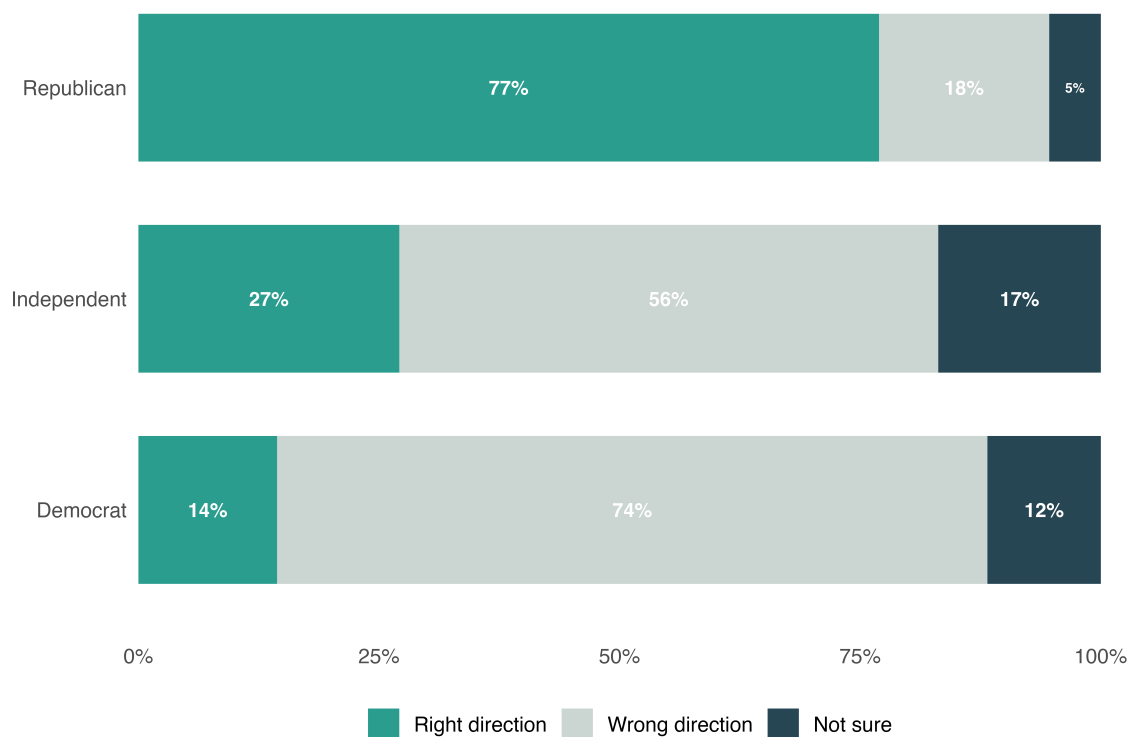
7.2 Florida

Figure 32: Is the Florida on the Right Track or Wrong Direction?



7.3 Florida

Figure 33: Is the Florida on the Right Track or Wrong Direction? (by Party Identification)

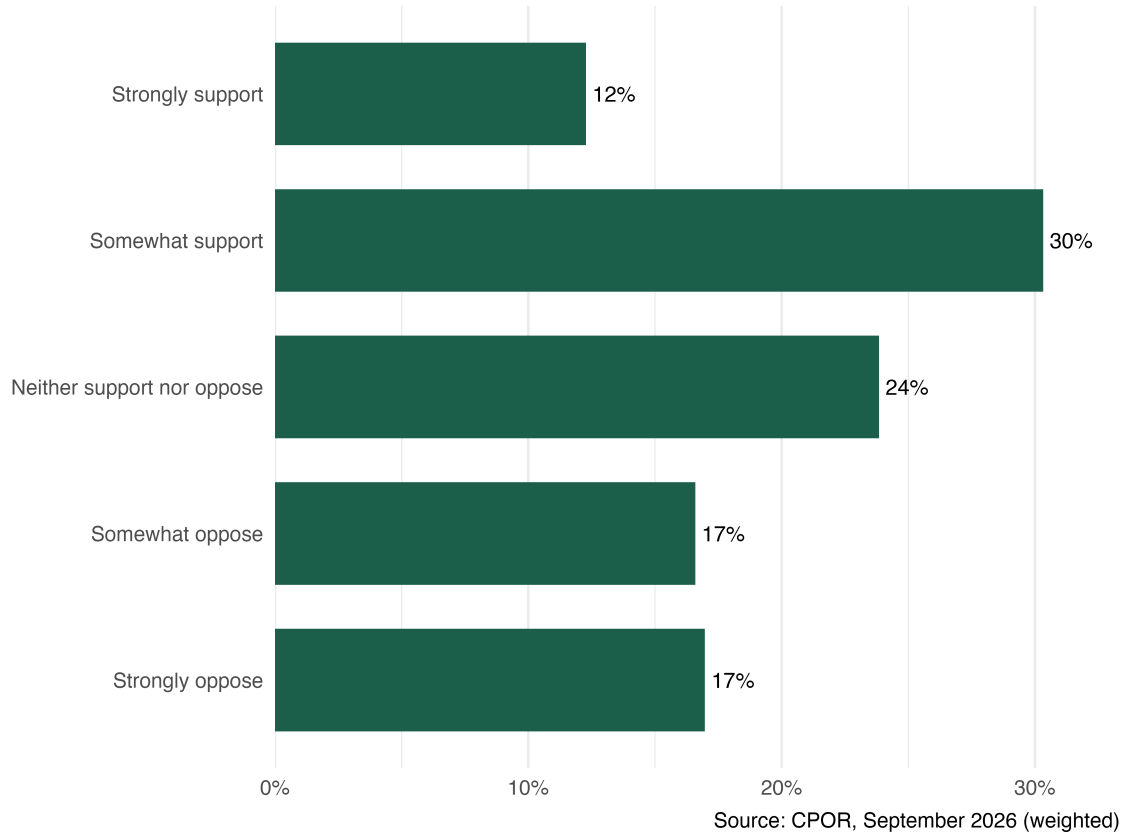


Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

8 Policy Preferences and Potential Issues on the Ballot

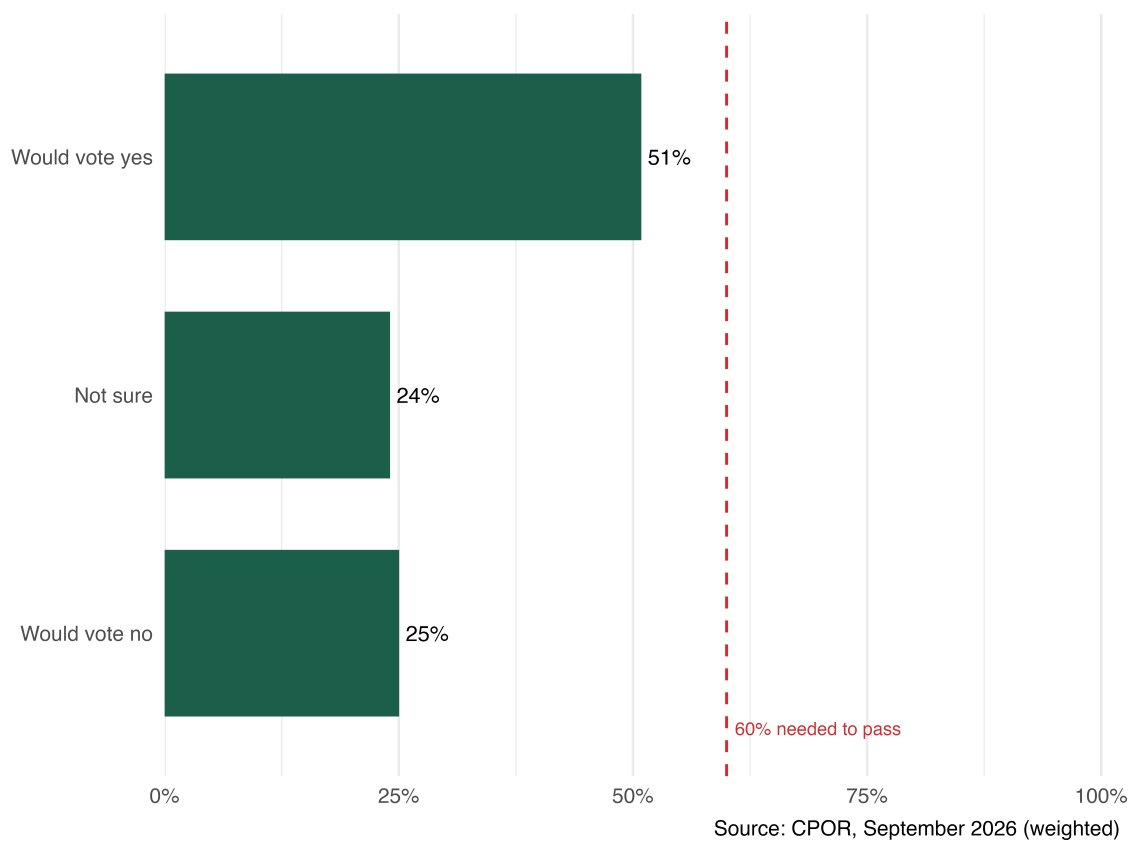
8.1 AI Regulation Amendment

Figure 34: AI Regulation Amendment: How Would You Vote?



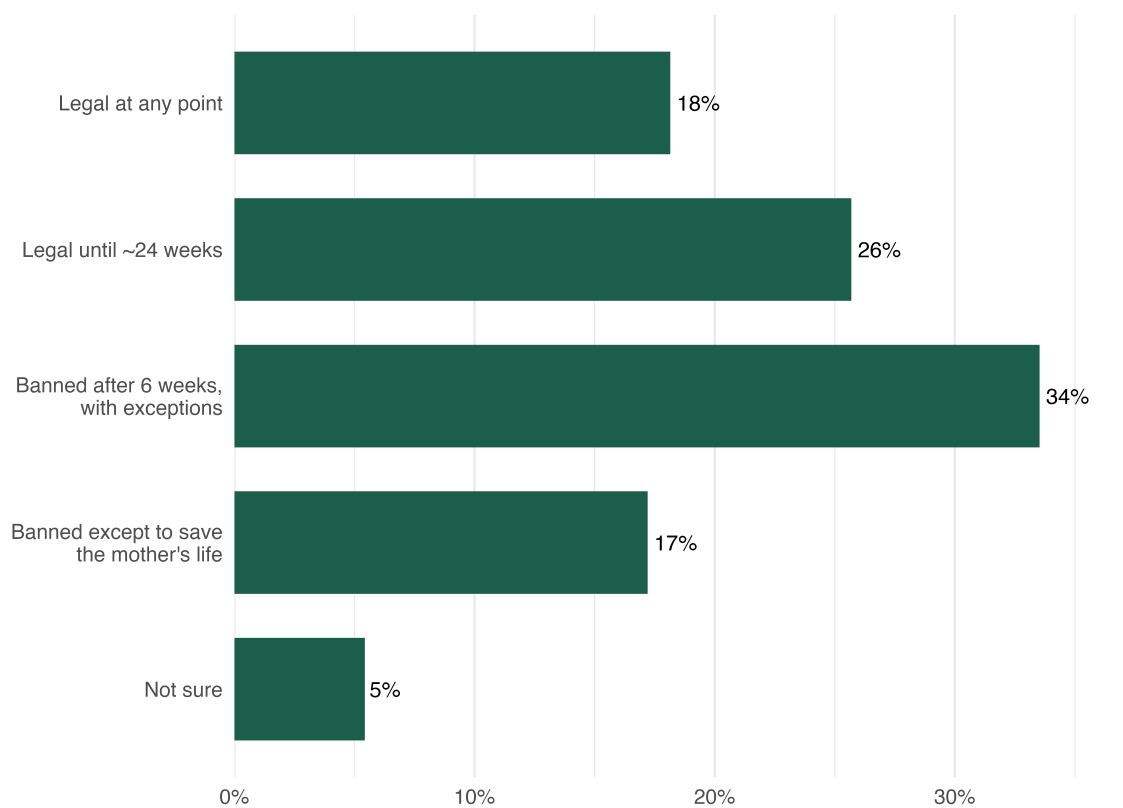
8.2 Homestead Exemption Amendment

Figure 35: Vote Intention on the Homestead Exemption Amendment



8.3 Abortion

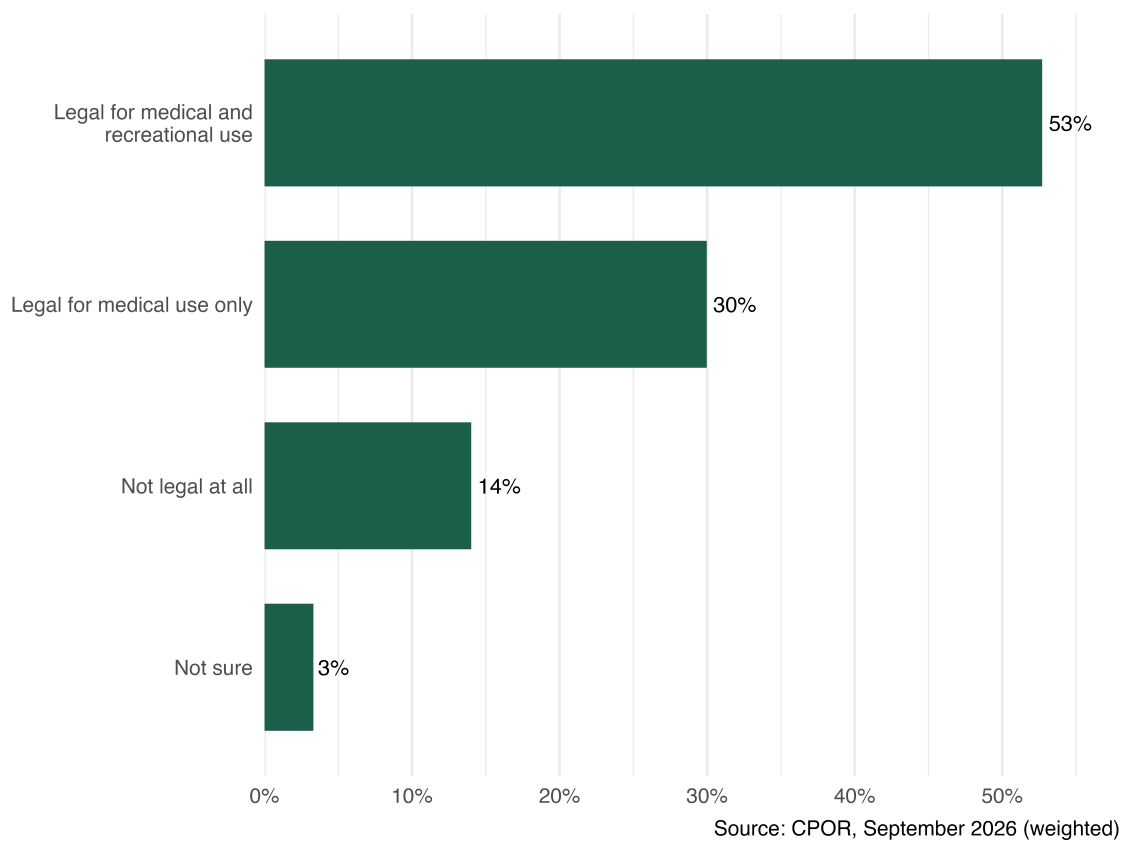
Figure 36: Views on Abortion Policy



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

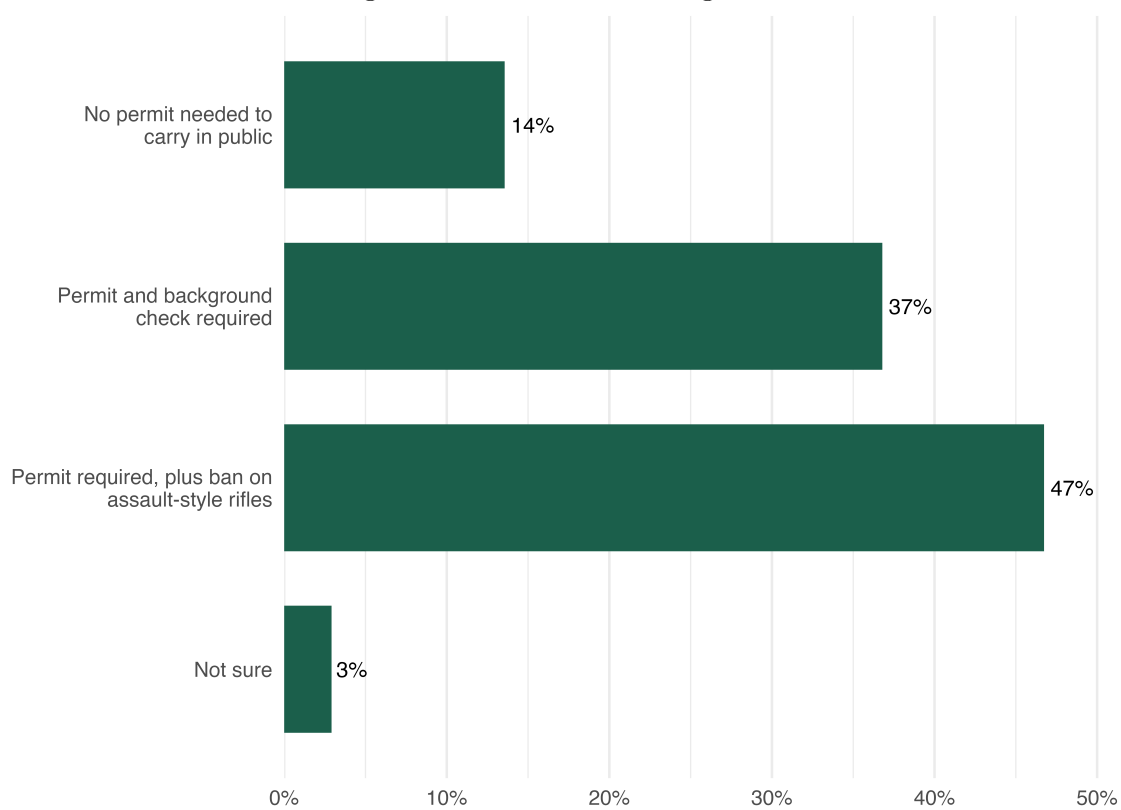
8.4 Marijuana Legalization

Figure 37: Views on Marijuana Legalization



8.5 Gun Regulation

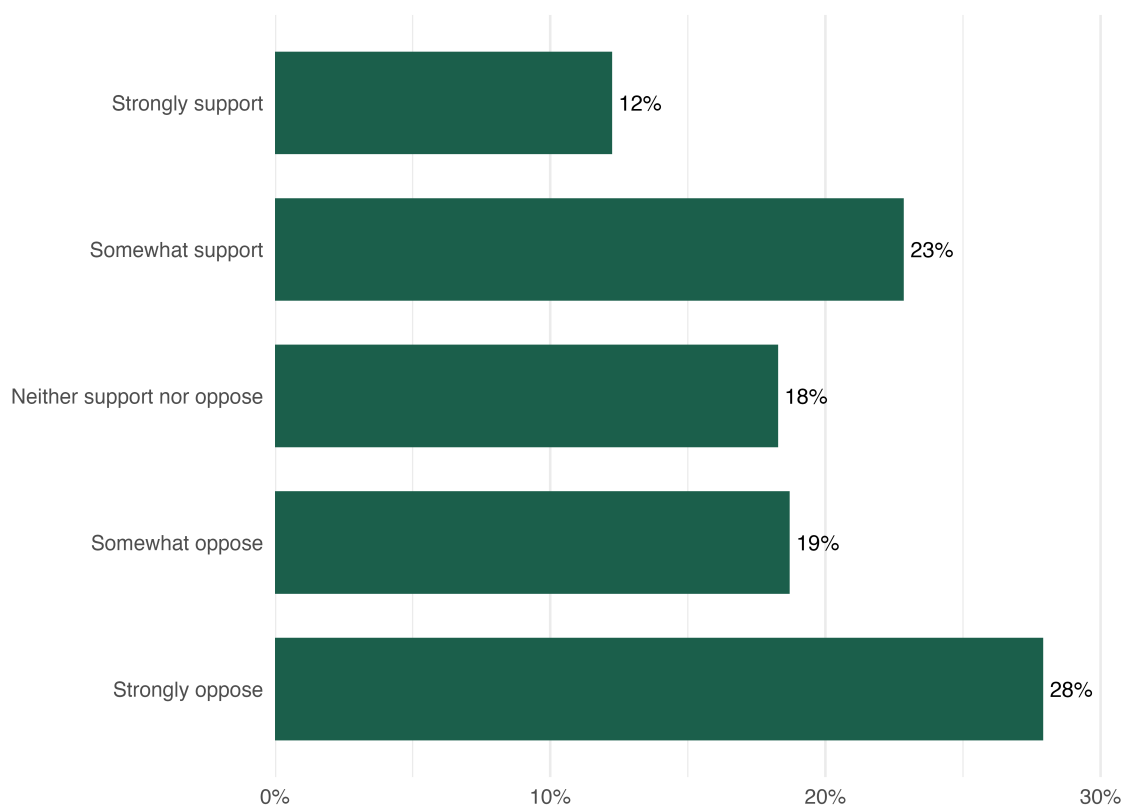
Figure 38: Views on Gun Regulation



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

8.6 Data Centers

Figure 39: Support for Data Center Construction in Florida



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 40: Support for Data Center Construction in Your Community

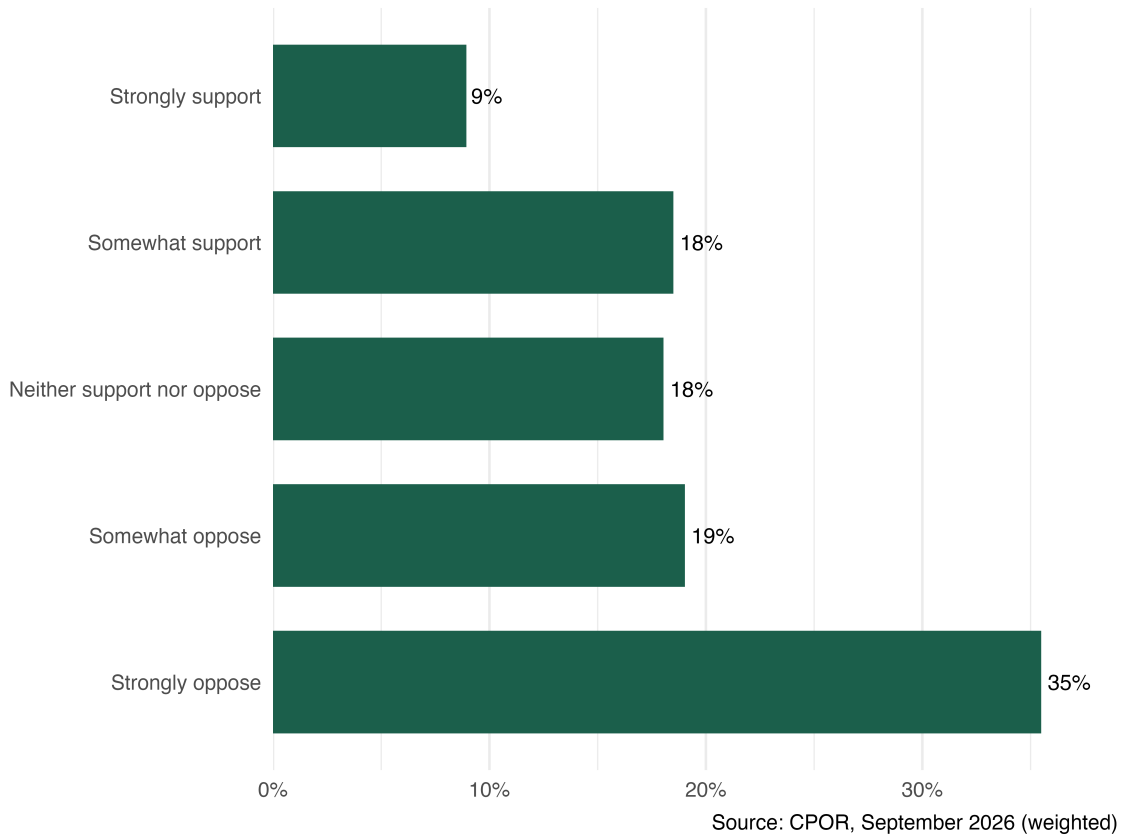
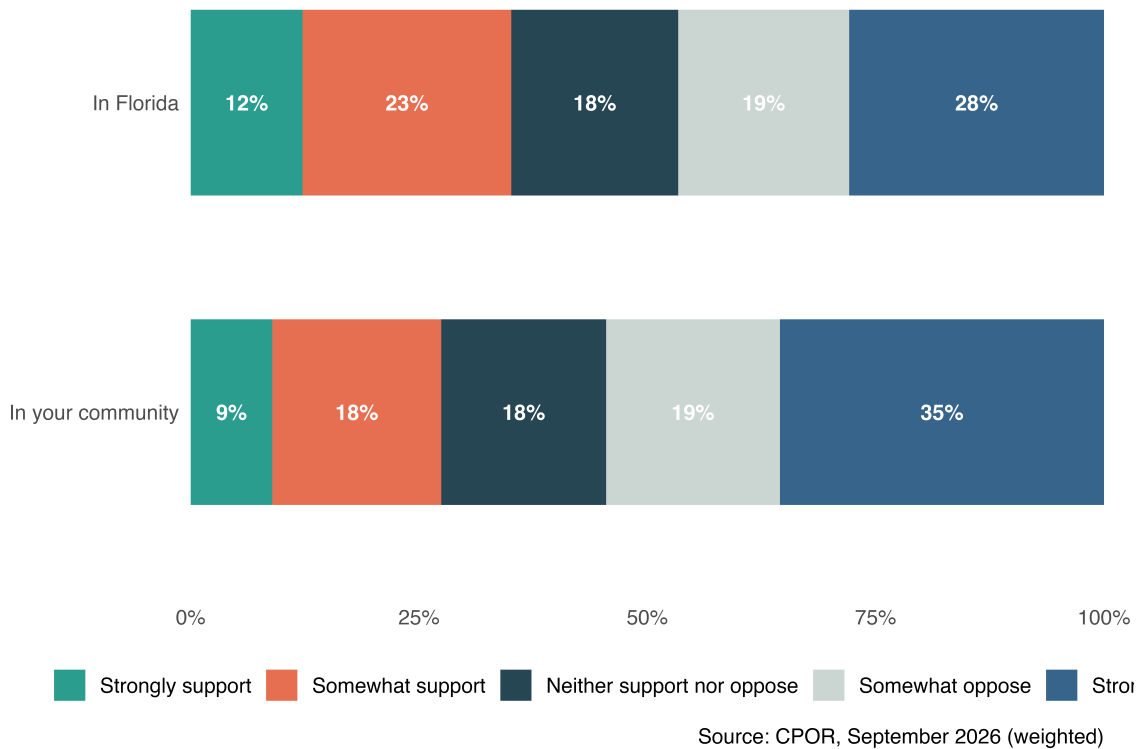
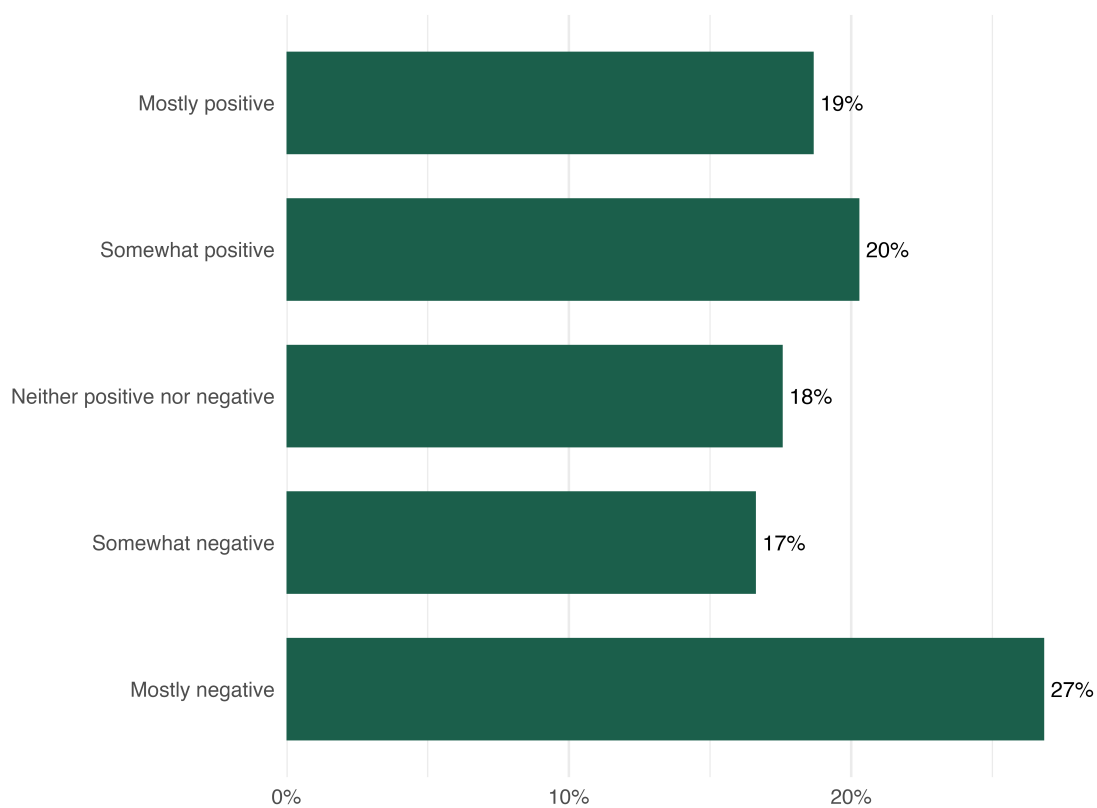


Figure 41: Support for Large Data Center Construction: State vs. Community



8.7 Flock License Plate Cameras

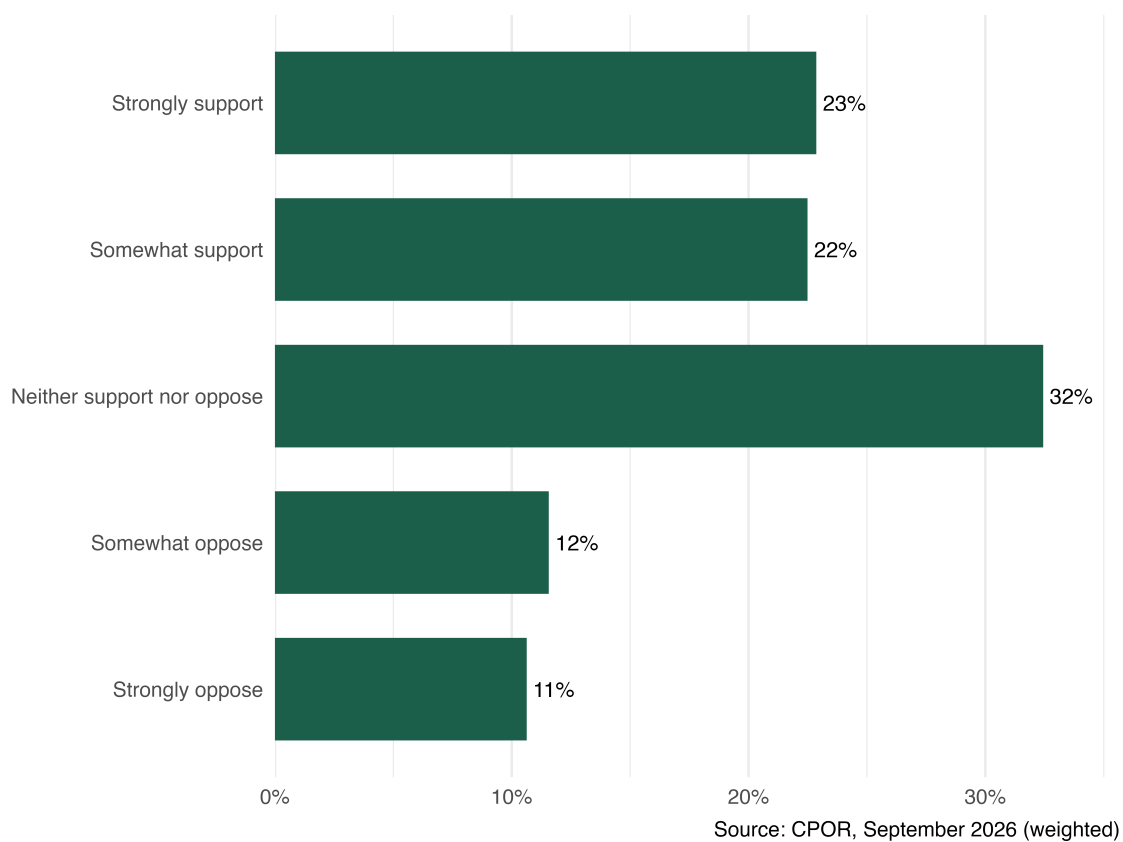
Figure 42: Views on Flock License Plate Cameras



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

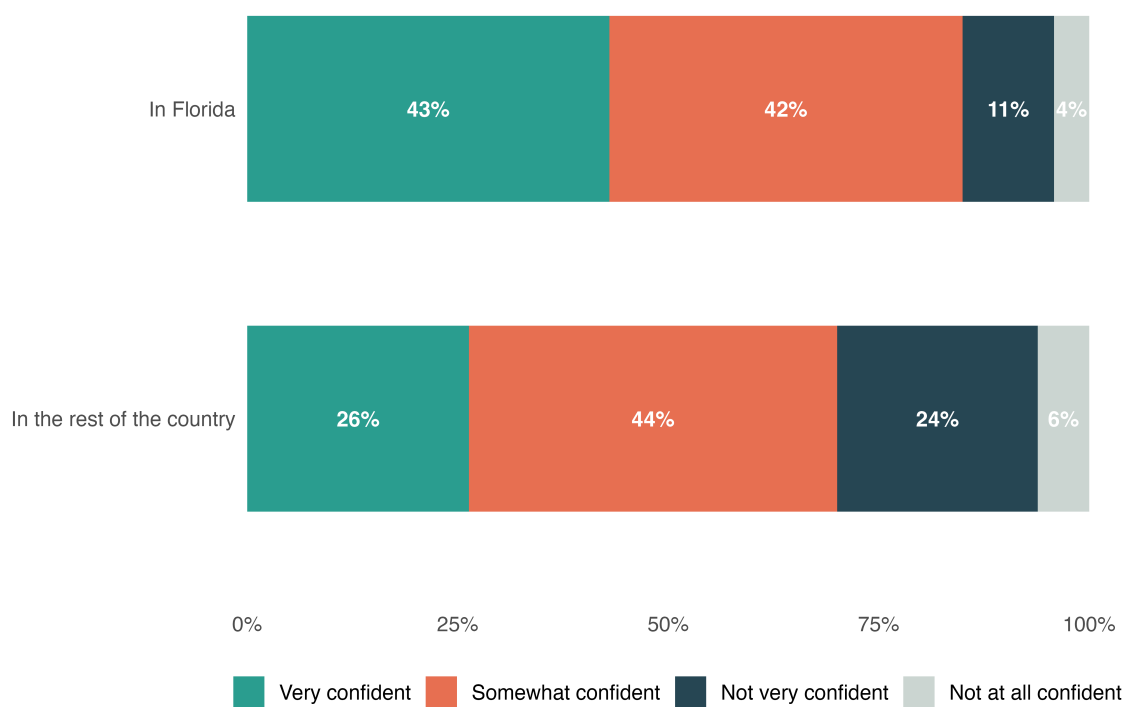
8.8 Online Casinos

Figure 43: Support for the Attorney General's Lawsuits Against Online Casinos



8.9 Confidence That Votes Will Be Counted Fairly

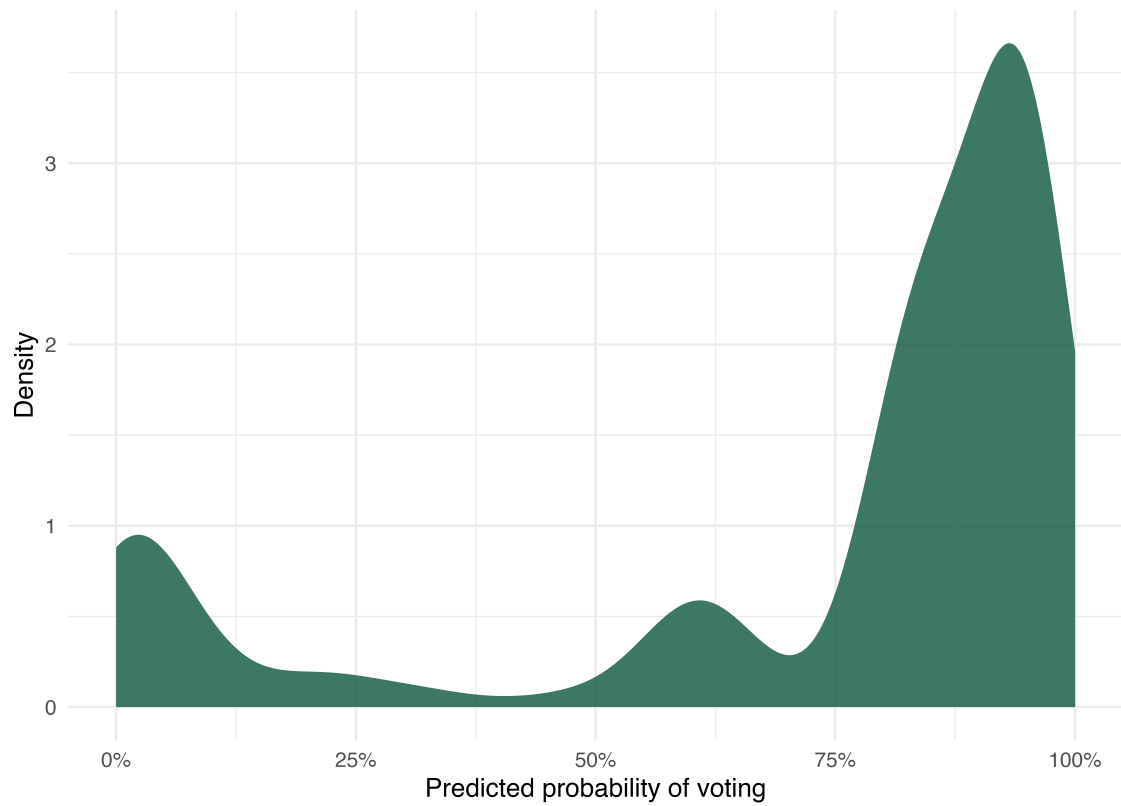
Figure 44: Confidence That Votes Will Be Counted Fairly: Florida vs. Rest of the Country



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

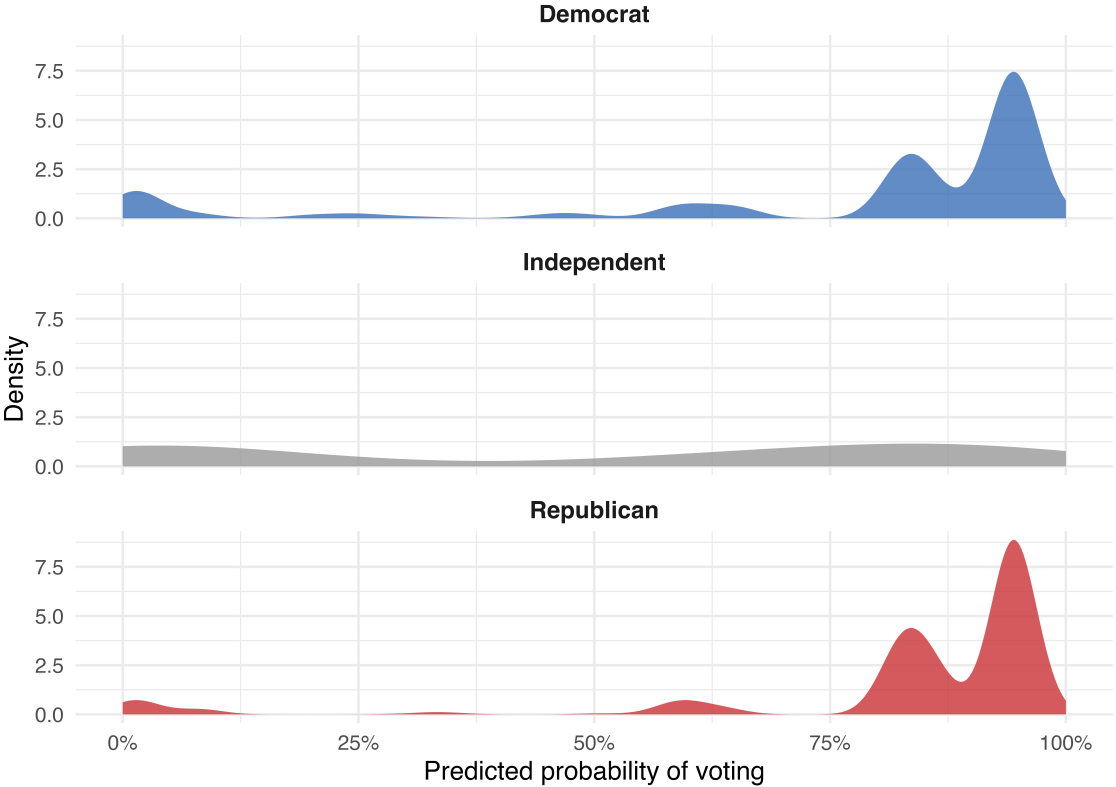
9 Most Likely Voters

Figure 45: Most Likely Voter: Probability of Turnout



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Figure 46: Most Likely Voter: Probability of Turnout by Party Identity



Source: CPOR, September 2026 (weighted)

Full Tables

Approval Ratings

Table 1: President Trump by Partisanship

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly approve	24%	3%	9%	48%
Somewhat approve	19%	7%	12%	29%
Somewhat disapprove	13%	12%	26%	11%
Strongly disapprove	42%	77%	49%	11%
Haven't heard enough to say	2%	1%	3%	1%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 2: Governor DeSantis by Partisanship

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly approve	33%	8%	20%	61%
Somewhat approve	20%	12%	24%	24%
Somewhat disapprove	14%	19%	21%	8%
Strongly disapprove	29%	57%	26%	5%
Haven't heard enough to say	5%	5%	9%	2%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 3: Senator Moody by Partisanship

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly approve	21%	7%	8%	41%
Somewhat approve	29%	21%	23%	35%
Somewhat disapprove	14%	15%	17%	10%
Strongly disapprove	18%	37%	15%	6%
Haven't heard enough to say	19%	20%	38%	8%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 4: Senator Rick Scott by Partisanship

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly approve	23%	5%	15%	42%
Somewhat approve	26%	18%	21%	34%
Somewhat disapprove	14%	17%	13%	12%
Strongly disapprove	26%	51%	27%	7%
Haven't heard enough to say	10%	10%	23%	6%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 5: Florida Legislature by Partisanship

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly approve	17%	9%	6%	31%
Somewhat approve	36%	17%	25%	51%
Somewhat disapprove	20%	34%	27%	7%
Strongly disapprove	16%	30%	17%	5%
Haven't heard enough to say	11%	10%	24%	6%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 6: Florida Supreme Court by Partisanship

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly approve	16%	5%	9%	30%
Somewhat approve	39%	27%	29%	48%
Somewhat disapprove	16%	23%	21%	10%
Strongly disapprove	14%	30%	12%	2%
Haven't heard enough to say	15%	15%	30%	10%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 7: U.S. Congress by Partisanship

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly approve	9%	8%	3%	13%
Somewhat approve	30%	20%	17%	42%
Somewhat disapprove	28%	24%	38%	28%
Strongly disapprove	27%	44%	28%	13%
Haven't heard enough to say	6%	5%	14%	4%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 8: U.S. Supreme Court by Partisanship

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly approve	14%	9%	8%	21%
Somewhat approve	37%	25%	20%	50%
Somewhat disapprove	26%	31%	32%	20%
Strongly disapprove	17%	29%	25%	4%
Haven't heard enough to say	7%	6%	16%	5%
N	830	266	88	350

Right Direction / Wrong Track

Table 9: Country: Right Direction / Wrong Track by Partisanship

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Right direction	34%	11%	14%	61%
Wrong direction	59%	86%	77%	30%
Not sure	7%	3%	9%	9%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 10: Florida: Right Direction / Wrong Track by Partisanship

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Right direction	45%	14%	27%	77%
Wrong direction	44%	74%	56%	18%
Not sure	10%	12%	17%	5%
N	830	266	88	350

2026 Elections

Table 11: Florida Governor by Partisanship (Likely Voters)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Donalds	51%	6%	23%	89%
Jolly	39%	88%	28%	6%
Another candidate	5%	4%	16%	4%
Undecided	5%	2%	33%	1%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 12: Vote intention under alternative weighting specifications

	Published	+ Party reg.	+ 2024 recall
<i>U.S. Senate</i>			
Ashley Moody (R)	51	50.8	52.2
Angie Nixon (D)	40	39.7	39.2
Another candidate	3	3.4	3.2
Undecided	5	6.1	5.3
<i>Margin (R-D)</i>	<i>+11</i>	<i>+11.1</i>	<i>+13.1</i>
<i>Governor</i>			
Byron Donalds (R)	51	49.2	51.0
David Jolly (D)	39	39.4	39.2
Another candidate	5	5.6	5.0
Undecided	5	5.8	4.8
<i>Margin (R-D)</i>	<i>+12</i>	<i>+9.8</i>	<i>+11.7</i>

Note: Cell entries are weighted percentages; undecided respondents allocated by stated lean. Published: demographic raking with modeled likely-voter adjustment, full sample ($n = 830$, MoE ± 4.3). Alternative specifications add party registration or recalled 2024 presidential vote to the raking margins, estimated on self-reported registered voters ($n = 735$; effective $n \approx 470$ – 480 , MoE $\approx \pm 4.5$), with the same likely-voter adjustment. All differences across specifications fall within the margin of error.

Table 13: Florida Governor by Gender (Likely Voters)

Category	Women	Men
Donalds	44%	58%
Jolly	43%	35%
Another candidate	7%	3%
Undecided	6%	4%
N	435	393

Table 14: U.S. Senate by Partisanship (Likely Voters)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Moody	51%	3%	31%	89%
Nixon	40%	92%	26%	7%
Undecided	5%	3%	30%	1%
Another candidate	3%	2%	12%	3%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 15: U.S. Senate by Gender (Likely Voters)

Category	Women	Men
Nixon	46%	34%
Moody	45%	57%
Undecided	6%	5%
Another candidate	3%	4%
N	435	393

Table 16: Tracking: U.S. Senate Vote Intention Over Time

Category	Mar–Apr 2026	Sep 2026
Moody	51%	51%
Nixon	38%	40%
Undecided	7%	5%
Another candidate	3%	3%

Table 17: Tracking: Florida Gubernatorial Vote Intention Over Time

Category	Mar–Apr 2026	Sep 2026
Donalds	47%	51%
Jolly	40%	39%
Undecided	7%	5%
Another candidate	6%	5%

Table 18: Vote Type — U.S. Senate (Likely Voters)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
More FOR my candidate	56%	53%	24%	68%
About equally both	22%	16%	41%	20%
More AGAINST the opponent	21%	31%	35%	12%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 19: Vote Type — Florida Governor (Likely Voters)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
More FOR my candidate	60%	56%	30%	72%
About equally both	20%	21%	38%	14%
More AGAINST the opponent	19%	23%	32%	14%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 20: Homestead Exemption Amendment (Likely Voters)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Yes	51%	41%	43%	61%
No	25%	34%	28%	19%
Not sure	24%	24%	29%	21%
N	830	266	88	350

Note: 60% “yes” is required to pass. Not comparable to Spring’s differently worded property-tax item.

Table 21: Candidate Rejection: Could You Ever Vote for Them? (All Florida Adults)

Category	Donalds	Jolly	Moody	Nixon
Could vote for	41%	35%	47%	35%
Would never vote for	32%	34%	29%	25%
Don't know them	21%	25%	19%	32%
Prefer not to say	6%	6%	5%	9%
N	830	830	830	830

Table 22: Most Important Issue by Partisanship (All Florida Adults)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Cost of living / inflation	40%	40%	51%	37%
Threats to democracy	10%	16%	1%	6%
Housing affordability	9%	9%	10%	10%
Immigration and border security	9%	6%	12%	12%
Crime and public safety	7%	4%	4%	11%
Property insurance costs	7%	8%	5%	5%
Property taxes	7%	4%	6%	11%
Abortion and reproductive rights	3%	3%	6%	3%
Education (schools, curriculum, vouchers)	3%	4%	0%	2%
Environment and climate	3%	4%	3%	2%
Other	2%	2%	2%	1%
N	830	266	88	350

Voter Flow

Table 23: 2022 Governor Vote → 2026 Governor Intention (Likely Voters)

2022 Vote	Donalds '26	Jolly '26	Another	Undecided
DeSantis 2022 (N=348)	85%	7%	5%	3%
Crist 2022 (N=212)	7%	85%	3%	4%
Other candidate 2022 (N=43)	10%	63%	15%	13%
Did not vote (N=202)	41%	43%	6%	10%
Cannot remember (N=25)	16%	59%	0%	25%

Table 24: 2024 Presidential Vote → 2026 Senate Intention (Likely Voters)

2024 Vote	Moody '26	Nixon '26	Another	Undecided
Trump 2024 (N=371)	86%	7%	3%	4%
Harris 2024 (N=293)	7%	84%	3%	6%
Other candidate 2024 (N=25)	42%	35%	11%	11%
Did not vote (N=126)	23%	65%	1%	11%
Cannot remember (N=15)	5%	24%	0%	72%

Policy Issues

Table 25: AI Amendment by Partisanship (All Florida Adults)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly support	12%	14%	5%	15%
Somewhat support	30%	22%	25%	38%
Neither support nor oppose	24%	26%	31%	21%
Somewhat oppose	17%	18%	17%	14%
Strongly oppose	17%	20%	23%	12%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 26: Abortion by Partisanship (All Florida Adults)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Legal at any point	18%	33%	16%	7%
Legal until about 24 weeks	26%	35%	27%	18%
Banned after six weeks, with exceptions	34%	22%	28%	43%
Banned except to save the mother's life	17%	6%	17%	27%
Not sure	5%	5%	11%	4%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 27: Marijuana Legalization by Partisanship (All Florida Adults)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Legal for medical and recreational use	53%	65%	43%	40%
Legal for medical use only	30%	25%	25%	38%
Not legal at all	14%	9%	18%	20%
Not sure	3%	1%	14%	2%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 28: Gun Regulation by Partisanship (All Florida Adults)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Permit and background check required	37%	29%	22%	47%
Permit required, plus ban on assault-style rifles	47%	61%	54%	34%
No permit needed to carry in public	14%	8%	17%	16%
Not sure	3%	2%	8%	3%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 29: Data Centers: Statewide vs. Community (All Florida Adults)

Category	In Florida	In Your Community
Strongly support	12%	9%
Somewhat support	23%	18%
Neither support nor oppose	18%	18%
Somewhat oppose	19%	19%
Strongly oppose	28%	35%
N	830	830

Note: Combined support (strongly+somewhat) is 35% statewide vs. 27% in one's own community — an 8-point NIMBY gap.

Table 30: Overall — Flock License Plate Cameras (All Florida Adults)

Category	Weighted %
Mostly negative	27%
Somewhat positive	20%
Mostly positive	19%
Neither positive nor negative	18%
Somewhat negative	17%
N	830

Table 31: Overall — Online Casinos / AG Lawsuits (All Florida Adults)

Category	Weighted %
Neither support nor oppose	32%
Strongly support	23%
Somewhat support	22%
Somewhat oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	11%
N	830

Table 32: Online Casinos / AG Lawsuits by Partisanship (All Florida Adults)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly support	23%	20%	17%	29%
Somewhat support	22%	21%	17%	26%
Neither support nor oppose	32%	33%	43%	29%
Somewhat oppose	12%	15%	8%	10%
Strongly oppose	11%	11%	15%	7%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 33: Confidence Votes Will Be Counted Fairly: Florida vs. Rest of Country (All Florida Adults)

Category	In Florida	Rest of the Country
Very confident	43%	26%
Somewhat confident	42%	44%
Not very confident	11%	24%
Not at all confident	4%	6%
N	830	830

Note: Combined confidence (very+somewhat) is 85% for Florida vs. 70% for the rest of the country — a 15-point gap.

Table 34: Confidence in Florida's Vote Count by Partisanship (All Florida Adults)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Very confident	43%	36%	29%	54%
Somewhat confident	42%	45%	43%	39%
Not very confident	11%	14%	16%	6%
Not at all confident	4%	5%	12%	1%
N	830	266	88	350

Table 35: Confidence in the Rest of the Country's Vote Count by Partisanship (All Florida Adults)

Category	Overall	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Very confident	26%	30%	16%	27%
Somewhat confident	44%	49%	43%	42%
Not very confident	24%	16%	29%	27%
Not at all confident	6%	4%	12%	5%
N	830	266	88	350

Sample Demographics and Attitudes

Table 36: Raking summary: three weighting specifications versus targets

Category	<i>N</i>	Unw. %	Demo %	Party %	Recall %	Target %
<i>Age</i>						
18–24	66	8.0	16.0 [†]	16.0	16.0	16.0
25–44	306	36.9	22.0 [†]	22.0	22.0	22.0
45–64	275	33.1	32.0 [†]	32.0	32.0	32.0
65+	183	22.0	30.0 [†]	30.0	30.0	30.0
<i>Gender</i>						
Female	437	52.7	51.0	51.0	51.0	51.0
Male	393	47.3	49.0	49.0	49.0	49.0
<i>Race</i>						
Black or African American	134	16.1	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Other	64	7.7	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
White or Caucasian	632	76.1	77.0	77.0	77.0	77.0
<i>Ethnicity</i>						
Hispanic or Latino	140	16.9	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0
Not Hispanic or Latino	690	83.1	74.0	74.0	74.0	74.0
<i>Education</i>						
College	308	37.1	31.0 [†]	31.0	31.0	31.0
No College	522	62.9	69.0 [†]	69.0	69.0	69.0
<i>Region (Nielsen DMA)</i>						
Daytona/Orlando	203	24.5	22.0	22.0	22.0	22.0
Jacksonville	75	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
Miami/Ft. Lauderdale	137	16.5	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
Others	194	23.4	29.0	29.0	29.0	29.0
Tampa	221	26.6	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0
<i>Party identification (target: party registration)</i>						
Republican	326	44.4	44.8	41.6	45.1	41.6
Democrat	240	32.7	31.3	30.2	31.8	30.2
NPA/Other	169	23.0	23.8	28.2	23.1	28.2
<i>Recalled 2024 presidential vote (target: certified FL result)</i>						
Trump 2024	364	49.5	49.3	47.5	50.9	50.9
Harris 2024	281	38.2	37.8	38.0	39.0	39.0
Other candidate 2024	22	3.0	3.5	3.8	0.8	0.8
No 2024 vote / can't recall	68	9.3	9.4	10.7	9.3	9.3

Note: All columns use rake-stage weights, before the likely-voter adjustment. Demographic rows: full adult sample ($n = 830$); the party- and recall-rake columns are estimated on self-reported registered voters ($n = 735$), as are all political rows. Bold cells are margins included in that column's rake (matching their target by construction); unbolded political cells are unforced. Targets: American Community Survey, Florida adults (age, gender, education, ethnicity); county population estimates aggregated to Nielsen DMAs (region); Census Bureau Population Estimates, modified-race series (race); Florida Division of Elections, Aug. 2026 book closing (party registration); certified 2024 Florida results scaled by the share reporting a vote (recall). Demographic percentages are identical across the three rakes at this rounding. Race and ethnicity are asked and weighted as separate questions, following Census Bureau practice; the "White" weighting category therefore includes Hispanic-origin respondents who identify their race as White and is not equivalent to the "non-Hispanic White" category some surveys report. The non-Hispanic White share of the weighted likely-voter sample is 61%.

[†]After fielding, CPOR identified that the age and education targets reflected different category definitions than the survey's response bands. Re-estimation under corrected ACS adult-population targets (18–24: 10%; 25–44: 31%; 45–64: 32%; 65+: 27%; bachelor's degree or higher: 34%) changes no estimate in this report by more than 0.4 percentage points and improves the effective sample size. Estimates shown use the original specification for consistency with the September 22 release; corrected targets will be used in subsequent waves.