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Polls & Numbers of the 2020 USA Presidential Election

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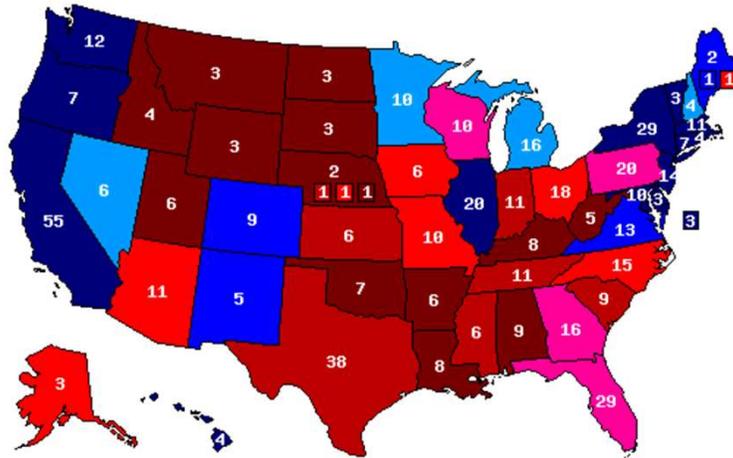
Agenda

- Introduction
- Presidential Polling
- Key Senate Races
- Key Gubernatorial Races



July 2020 Strehl Presidential Polling

President Donald Trump vs former VP Joe Biden: 290/248



- Benny does monthly polling until September, when he will start updating polls each week
- He uses a system where he takes a variety of published polls, looks at the internal data on party affiliation, gender and race and then adds in other metrics such as the President's approval rating in order to arrive at his own predictions
- Benny predicted Trump's 2016 win but with 302 electoral votes instead of 306
- Fox News Polls currently showing independent support for Trump at 17%, but this usually falls in line with the Presidential job approval rating, which at 45% would mean 45% independent support
- Florida: Benny predicts Trump will win Florida but only by 3-4%
- Trump may be able to pick up Minnesota, New Hampshire and Nevada
- Michigan is +7 Democrat, so difficult for Trump to repeat his victory there, but John James' Senate run may boost support
- In 2016, Trump won independents by 12%, which allowed him to carry the state. He does not currently have enough independent support there and would need to carry them by at least 10% to win the state.
- Florida, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Nevada are good Trump bets and Arizona and Georgia are moving more red
- Not enough data on Minnesota, but it has been trending red and GOP won a House seat there

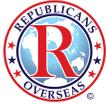
- Trump is currently carrying independents in Arizona by 9% which would mean an easy win in AZ if they do indeed vote that way
- Ohio is in the Trump camp and Benny estimates Ohio will go for Trump by 7-9%



How to read the polling numbers

- **MT: Senator Daines has a solid lead over Gov. Bullock; Gianforte has a strong lead over Cooney for Governor; President Trump has a strong lead over Joe Biden by PPP**
- Montana Senate race 2020: Senator Steve Daines vs. Governor Steve Bullock:
DEM: 11/89
GOP: 88/12
IND: 38/46
- Overall: 49.9/45.3 Daines

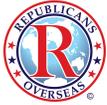
- Polling right now is often slanted
- Nobody has won the Presidential election by 10-12%, so the suggestion that Biden has this sort of lead is not serious
- Obama won by 7% and his was an historical election
- Rasmussen was recently showing Biden up by 8%, but looking at the internal data, they only gave Trump 75% of the GOP votes, even though his approval rating with GOP voters is >90%
- Pollsters and media like a close election at the end, so making the spread wide at the beginning fits a narrative
- Benny gives Trump a 70-80% chance of a win at the moment
- The only polling outfit to correctly poll the Brexit win is giving a 91% chance of winning to the President



Key Senate Races

- Alabama – Doug Jones (D) - flip D ->R
- Arizona – Martha McSally (R) – flip R -> D
- Colorado – Cory Gardner (R) – flip R -> D
- Maine – Susan Collins (R) - tossup
- Michigan – Gary Peters (D) – lean D but could flip D->R
- Montana – Steve Daines (R) – should stay R by small %
- North Carolina – Thom Tillis (R) - tossup

- Alabama is very likely to flip as Alabama is strongly GOP
- Arizona is a likely loss as McSally is not a strong candidate
- Colorado is also a likely loss as the Democrat opposition is a former governor and well liked
- Maine will probably stay GOP as internal polling data from Collins' competitor shows her with a 5% lead
- North Carolina – GOP has a chance to hold this state if Tillis runs a strong campaign. His Dem competitor is weak and was the Dems' second choice



Key Gubernatorial Races

- Montana – Steve Bullock (D) – tossup or flip R
- North Carolina – Roy Cooper (D) – lean D but maybe tossup

- Montana is a probably flip to the GOP as Steve Bullock is running for Senate and the state is strongly red
- North Carolina is likely to stay blue

Questions?

- VP choices usually have a minimal impact on voting favorability, but they may have slightly greater impact this year as Biden's apparent dementia indicates that he will not be in office very long
- Independents will take a hard look at the VP candidate for this reason, and the debates vs. Mike Pence will be important
- Kamala Harris will not sit well with Bernie supporters
- Elizabeth Warren will lose independents
- Hillary Clinton is hated by independents and unlikely to run
- Tammy Duckworth is good for her base but has little impact & her state is already blue so she won't bring any extra votes

- Only 45% of people according to Rasmussen poll think that Biden is mentally fit enough to do a debate

- Trump has strong enthusiasm among his voters while low enthusiasm amongst Biden voters

- Biden needs a younger VP because he does poorly with younger people as well as having problems with black and Hispanic voters
- Trump will likely do well with black voters and may get 12% of their vote; if he wins 15-

18% of the black vote, then Dems cannot hold Michigan or attempt to win Pennsylvania