

## Florida Candidates and Issues

The Saint Leo University Polling Institute is pleased to present the results of a statewide Florida political survey, conducted in conjunction with a national survey. With Florida poll participants – 698 registered likely voters – their views were recorded on the 2018 political candidates in the state, their support or opposition to some of the ballot measures proposed, and motivating factors in their choices.

The Florida poll was conducted using an online survey instrument from October 16 through October 22, 2018. A pre-test occurred on October 11, 2018. The resulting margin of error is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

All answers are given in percentages

<b>Florida Governor</b>	<b>Florida</b>
Andrew Gillum	48.6
Ron DeSantis	36.8
Someone else	3.6
Unsure / Undecided	11.0

<b>United States Senate</b>	<b>Florida</b>
Bill Nelson	46.6
Rick Scott	38.4
Someone else	5.7
Unsure / Undecided	9.3

<b>Florida Attorney General</b>	<b>Florida</b>
Sean Shaw	39.7
Ashley Moody	36.1
Someone else	2.6
Unsure / Undecided	21.6

<b>Florida Agriculture Commissioner</b>	<b>Florida</b>
Nikki Fried	40.0
Matt Caldwell	32.7
Someone else	4.0
Unsure / Undecided	23.4

<b>Florida Chief Financial Officer</b>	<b>Florida</b>
Jeremy Ring	37.4
Jimmy Patronis	34.2
Someone else	3.9
Unsure / Undecided	24.5

A short list of potential motivating factors or issues for Florida voters was presented. Each was asked which, if any, they considered motivating factors for them personally in their voting plans. Results are displayed here. Multiple responses were accepted.

<b>Possible Motivating Factors for Florida Voters</b>	<b>Florida</b>
The problems of red tide along Florida coastlines	51.3
The problems of toxic algae blooms in Florida water bodies	50.3
A desire for more gun control after the Parkland shooting	43.4
Climate change	37.0
To show support for President Trump	29.2
To register opposition to President Trump	32.2
Other / unsure	9.7

**Would you say your opinion of the job Florida Governor Rick Scott is doing is...?**

<b>Favorable Rating of Governor Rick Scott</b>	<b>March 2017</b>	<b>September 2017</b>	<b>November 2017</b>	<b>February 2018</b>	<b>May 2018</b>	<b>August 2018</b>	<b>Oct. 2018</b>
Very favorable	21.1	26.6	24.2	27.4	27.5	31.0	26.1
Somewhat favorable	34.7	35.2	36.4	32.6	31.0	30.0	28.9
<b>Total: Very &amp; Somewhat Favorable</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>60.6</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>61.0</b>	<b>55.0</b>
Somewhat unfavorable	18.1	15.2	16.2	17.6	15.0	15.2	18.1
Not at all favorable	21.1	14.8	15.0	16.8	18.4	15.8	20.6
<b>Total: Somewhat Unfavorable &amp; Not at all Favorable</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>38.7</b>
Unsure	4.9	8.2	8.2	5.6	8.1	8.0	6.3

**On Ballot Measures in November 2018**

<b>Ballot Measures</b>	<b>Support/ Yes Vote</b>	<b>Oppose/No Vote</b>	<b>Unsure</b>
Allows Florida voters, through citizen-initiated ballot measures, the right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling in Florida	69.6	16.3	14.0
Restores (automatically) the right to vote for people with prior felony convictions (except those convicted of murder, felony sexual offense) following completion of their respective sentences	64.3	23.8	11.9
Requires a two-thirds vote of each Florida state legislative chamber to enact new taxes or fees or increases to existing taxes or fees	61.2	20.5	18.3
Adds specific rights for victims of crimes, increases the judicial retirement ages from 70 to 75, and stops state courts from deferring interpretation of state statutes or rulings on lawsuits to state administrative agencies	55.9	20.9	23.2