

STATE NAVIGATE POLL BRIEFING

PENNSYLVANIA

2026 GENERAL ELECTION - STATE SENATE DISTRICT 24

SD-24 Chris Thomas (D) · Tracy E. Pennycuick (R) · Mike Schonewolf (Green)

GOVERNOR Josh Shapiro (D) · Stacy Garrity (R)

Likely-voter survey of the November 3, 2026 general election · Upper Montgomery & Lower Berks Counties

AT A GLANCE



ELECTION DATE

November 3, 2026



FIELD DATES

Sep 18 - Sep 20, 2026



SAMPLE SIZE

n = 594 LV



MARGIN OF ERROR

±4.0%

Pennsylvania State Senate District 24 (Upper Montgomery & Berks) - weighted to the likely-voter electorate

METHODOLOGY

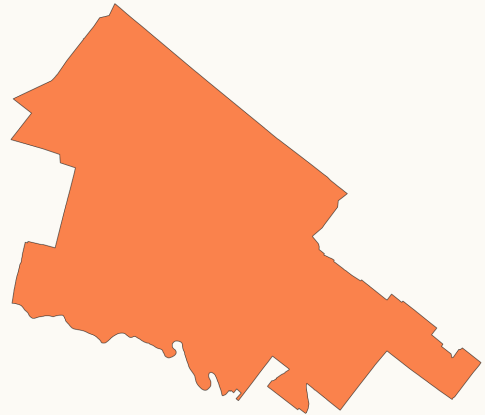
State Navigate surveyed 594 likely voters in Pennsylvania's 24th State Senate District from September 18-20, 2026, with oversamples of voters living in the 131st and 147th State House Districts. Text messages were sent to voters by AllianceForge, which directed them to an online survey hosted on the SurveyMonkey platform. The sample was drawn from a voter file provided by L2 and results were weighted by gender, race, age, education, party registration, and State House district to reflect the likely November 2026 general electorate. The margin of error is 4.0% at a 95% confidence level. This survey was designed and conducted by the State Navigate Polling Team, and was not sponsored by any candidate or candidate's committee.

DISTRICT DNA • SD-24 (LV)



STATE SENATE DISTRICT 24

A State Senate district in Upper Montgomery and lower Berks Counties. Republican incumbent Tracy E. Pennycuick is running for re-election against Democrat Chris Thomas, with Green candidate Mike Schonewolf also on the ballot.



RECENT ELECTION RESULTS IN SD-24

2024 President: Trump +2.2



2022 Governor: Shapiro +13.6



2022 U.S. Senate: Fetterman +4.2

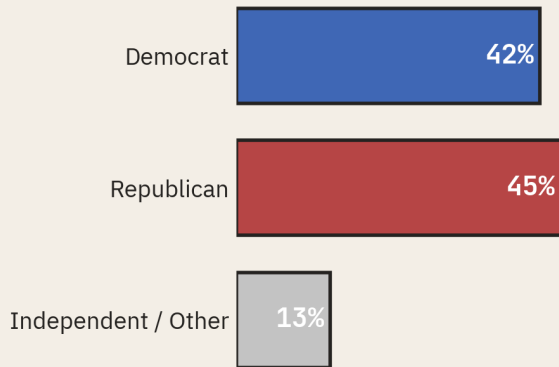


2022 State Senate: Pennycuick +4.0

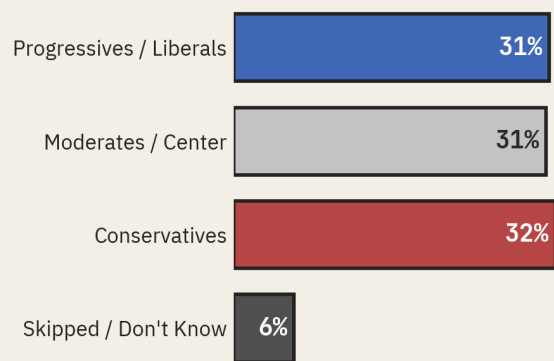


DISTRICT DNA - SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS

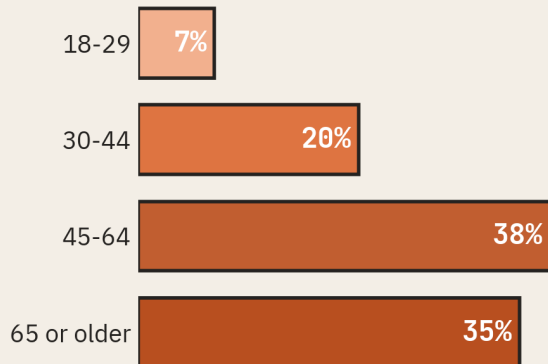
PARTY REGISTRATION



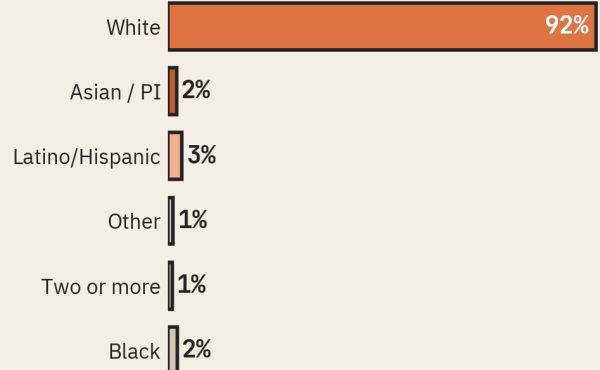
IDEOLOGICAL SELF-ID (0-10)



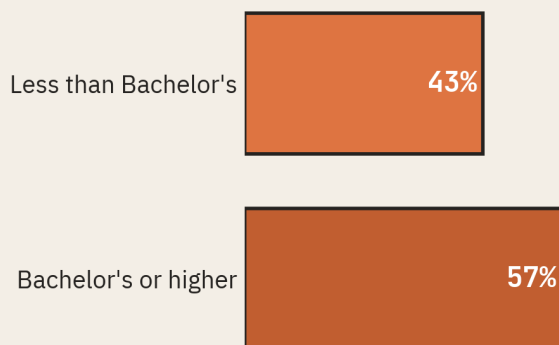
AGE



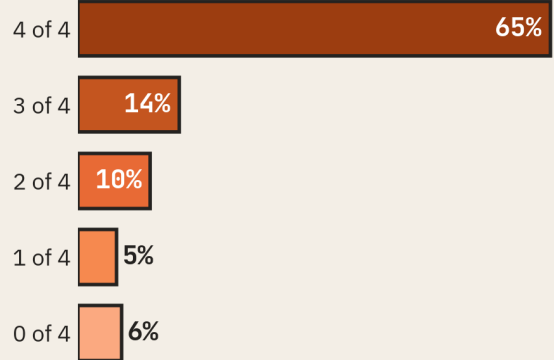
RACE / ETHNICITY



EDUCATION



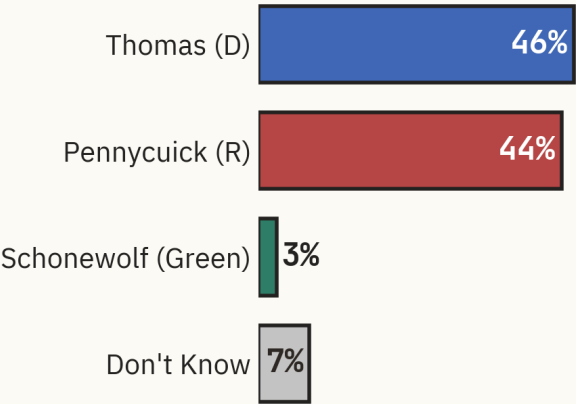
VOTE HISTORY (LAST 4 GENERALS)



THE SNAPSHOTS

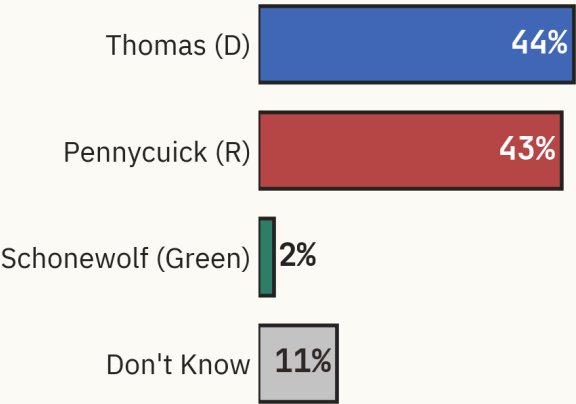
STATE SENATE (SD-24) WITH LEANERS

If the election for Pennsylvania State Senate District 24 were held today, which candidate would you vote for? (undecideds allocated via leaner follow-up)



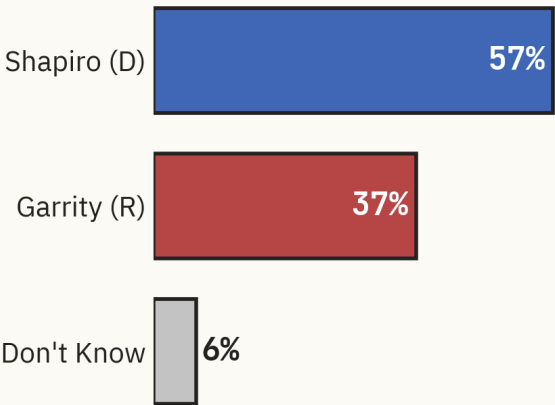
STATE SENATE (SD-24) BEFORE UNDECIDED PUSH

If the election for Pennsylvania State Senate District 24 were held today, which candidate would you vote for? (initial ballot, before leaner follow-up)



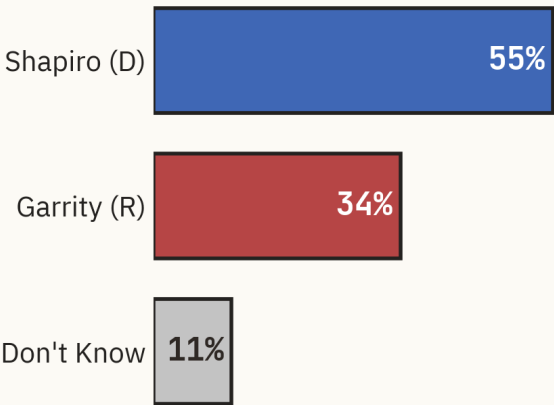
GOVERNOR WITH LEANERS

If the election for Governor were held today, which candidate would you vote for? (undecideds allocated via leaner follow-up)



GOVERNOR BEFORE UNDECIDED PUSH

If the election for Governor were held today, which candidate would you vote for? (initial ballot, before leaner follow-up)

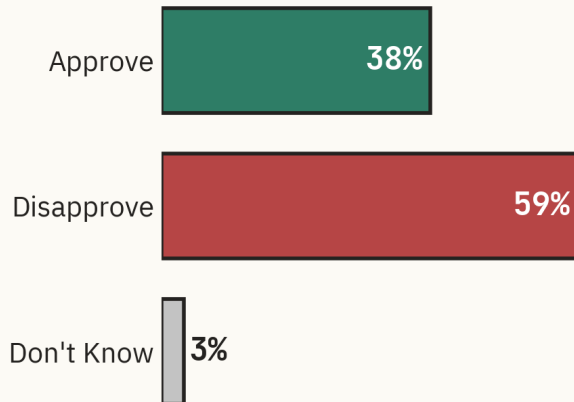


Chris Thomas (D) leads 46-44 with leaners in SD-24 (a 2-point margin), with 7% undecided. Mike Schonewolf (Green) draws 3%. Governor Shapiro leads the top of the ticket 57-37.

EXECUTIVE APPROVALS

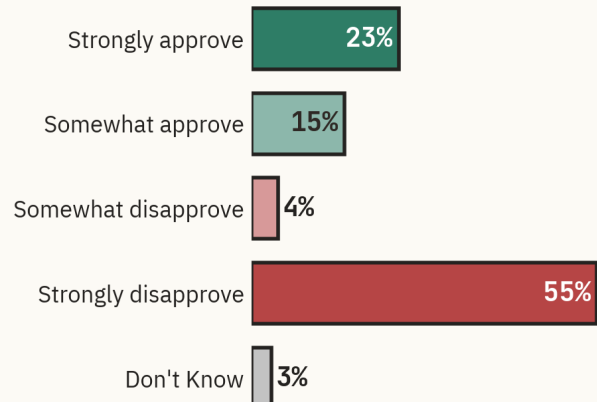
PRESIDENT TRUMP JOB APPROVAL

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Donald Trump is doing as President?



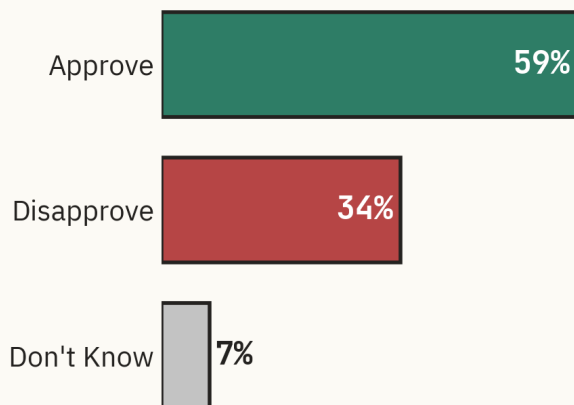
PRESIDENT TRUMP JOB APPROVAL (DETAILED)

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Donald Trump is doing as President?



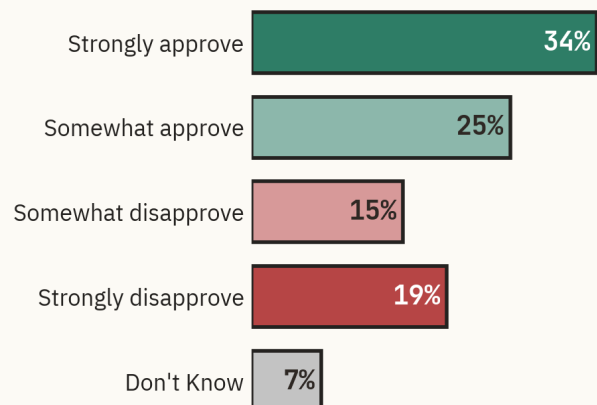
GOV. SHAPIRO JOB APPROVAL

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Josh Shapiro is doing as Governor?



GOV. SHAPIRO JOB APPROVAL (DETAILED)

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Josh Shapiro is doing as Governor?



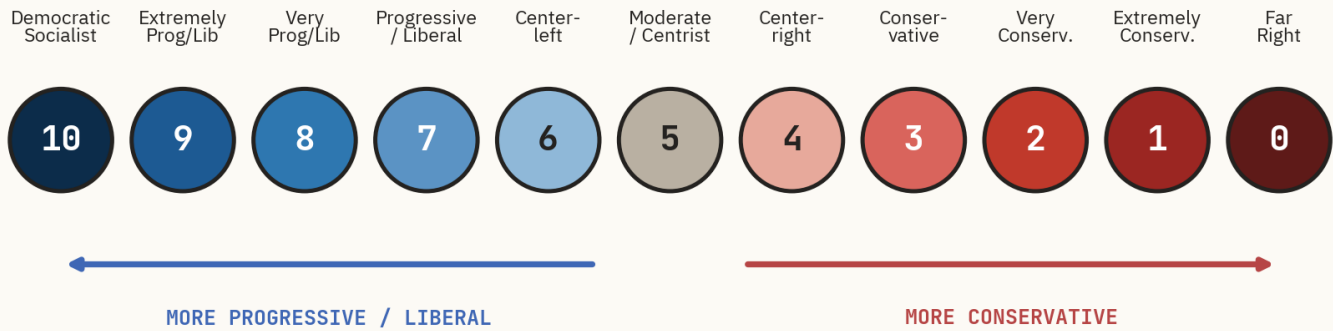
President Trump is underwater in SD-24 (38% approve / 59% disapprove), while Gov. Shapiro sits at 59% approve / 34% disapprove. The detailed breakdowns show how much of each number is strongly held versus soft.

SURVEY IDEOLOGY

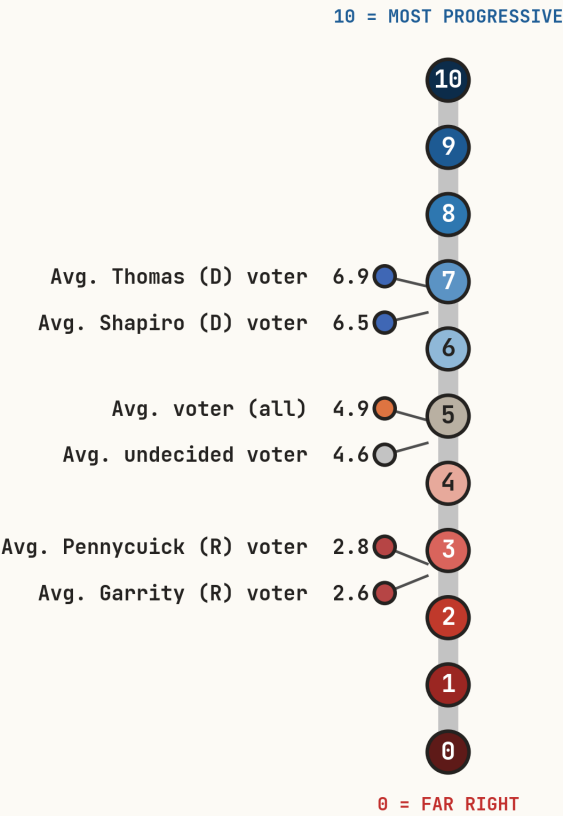
THE SELF-PLACEMENT SCALE

IDEOLOGICAL SELF-PLACEMENT SCALE

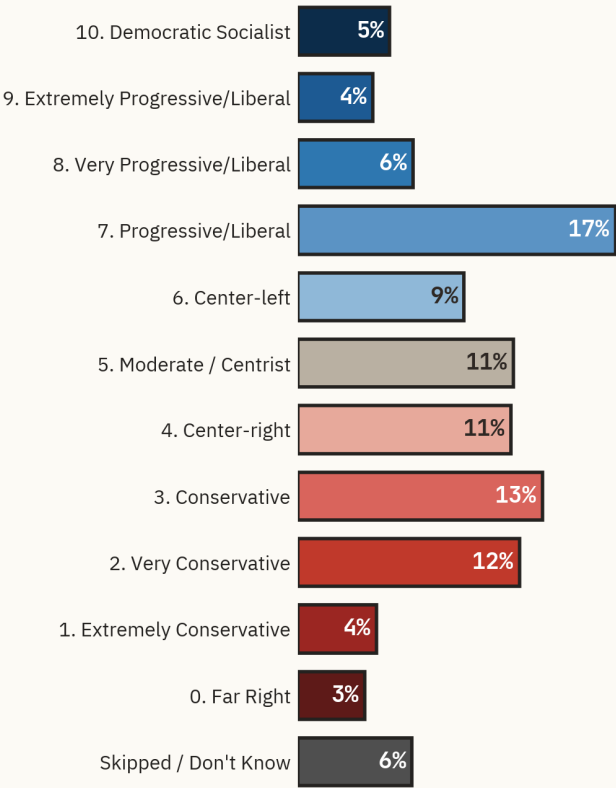
Place yourself — and each candidate — somewhere on the 0–10 scale.



AVERAGE BY VOTER GROUP



DETAILED SELF-PLACEMENT (ALL RESPONDENTS)

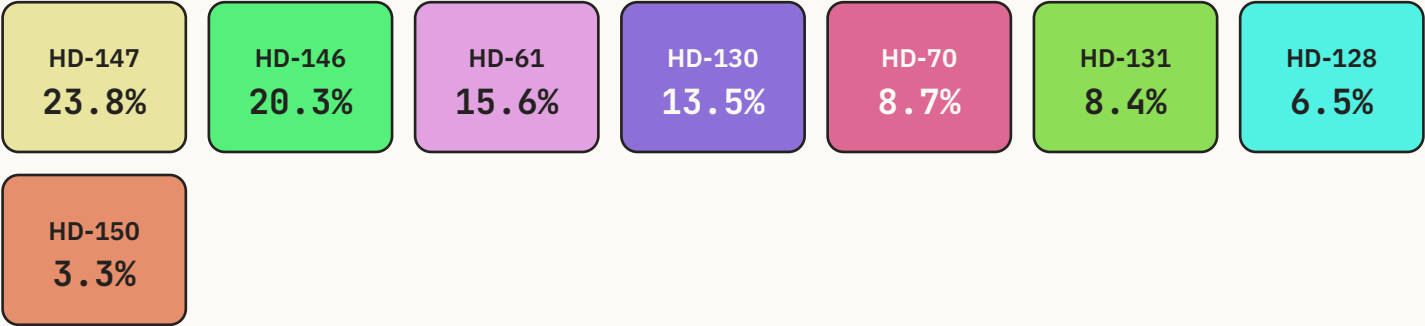


Ideology is respondents' self-placement on a 0-10 scale (10 = most progressive, 0 = far right). Detailed shares are of all respondents; 5.9% skipped the question. Group averages are computed among those who did place themselves (overall mean 4.9).

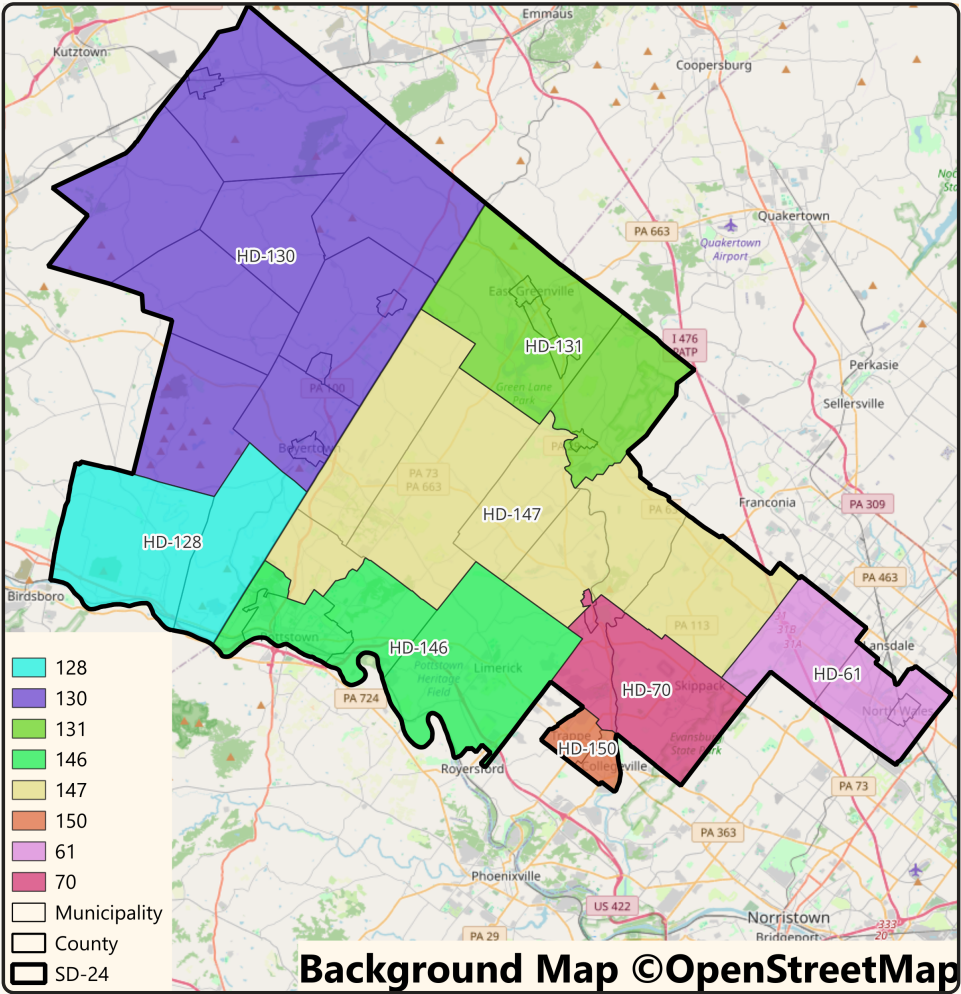
APPENDIX • REGIONS & WEIGHTS

State Senate District 24 was weighted by region. Cards show each region's share of the weighted likely-voter sample. The map shows the regions that make up the district.

REGION WEIGHTS • SHARE OF WEIGHTED SAMPLE



SD-24 BY REGION



Regions that make up State Senate District 24.

TEAM NOTES & ANALYSIS

The following analysis from the State Navigate polling team examines the forces shaping this race.

CHAZ NUTTYCOMBE ON SHAPIRO'S PERFORMANCE

Shapiro is underperforming here, but that's not unusual.

Josh Shapiro is "only" doing 6 points better in SD-24 among decided and leaning voters than he did in the district during the 2022 gubernatorial election. That'd track with what our forecast shows in the Governor race statewide, with Shapiro expected to win by 20 points statewide after winning by 15 points in 2022. But compared to his performance in our other state legislative polls this cycle, he's actually underperforming. When averaging all of our polls since August, the average swing toward Shapiro from 2022 is 9.1%. In SD-24, there's only a 5.8% swing. Shapiro, who served on the Montgomery County Board before becoming Attorney General, has underperformed in this district before based on data in DRA2020. When comparing the presidential and attorney general election results in 2016 and 2020 within SD-24, Shapiro ran 5.9% behind his 2016 statewide performance and 2.95% behind his 2020 statewide performance.

MARY RADCLIFFE ON THE SPOILER EFFECT

Schonewolf's voters lean Democratic, but the sample is too thin to be sure.

Green candidate Mike Schonewolf draws about 3% of the likely-voter vote, and by party ID his support is almost evenly split: roughly 1 to 2% of Democrats, 2% of Republicans, and 7% of independents. By behavior, though, his voters lean Democratic. They favor Josh Shapiro over Stacy Garrity 50% to 31% in the governor's race, and recalled backing Kamala Harris over Donald Trump 44% to 24% in 2024. That hints Schonewolf may pull a little more from Chris Thomas than from Tracy Pennycuick, which matters in a race this close. The heavy caveat: this rests on only about 16 weighted Green voters, far below the roughly 40 needed for a reliable read, so it should be treated as a flag to watch rather than a firm conclusion.

TEAM NOTES & ANALYSIS

CHAZ NUTTYCOMBE ON YOUNG VOTER ENTHUSIASM GAP

Republicans' disaffected voters skew younger, a national trend.

Republicans seem to be dropping off the face of the Earth according to many Republican anecdotes (e.g. lack of party volunteers, smaller crowds at rallies) and the start of early voting data across the country (e.g. Virginia). These stories and analyses of data may seem familiar to anyone who witnessed the 2025 Virginia election, when Republican activists complained of lack of volunteers, Republican candidates drew fewer crowds than four years before, and by Election Day it seemed that most Republicans forgot there was an election. It seems all but inevitable that nationwide, a very favorable environment akin to 2018 for Democrats is expected. But who are these Republicans who are less likely to vote? Besides the obvious answer of low propensity minority voters that swung to Trump in 2024, an underdiscussed group are Republican voters under the age of 45 (Millennials and Zoomers).

SD-24 - vote enthusiasm by party: under 45 vs over 45

Likely-voter weighted. Share saying they will “definitely” vote in November.

	Dem definitely	Rep definitely	Gap (D-R)
UNDER 45			
Party registration n = 76 D / 36 R	90%	70%	+20
Self-identified party n = 64 D / 31 R	88%	73%	+15
OVER 45			
Party registration n = 236 D / 280 R	96%	93%	+3
Self-identified party n = 219 D / 260 R	97%	93%	+4

State Navigate - September 2026 likely-voter survey

When examining the vote likelihood of Democrats and Republicans (both by party registration and party ID) under the age of 45, Democrats have a double-digit advantage amongst the most motivated voters who have a ~90% chance of showing up to vote. When comparing this level of voting likelihood to voters over the age of 45, Democrats have just a 3-4 point advantage.

State Navigate is a nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to becoming a compass for state legislatures everywhere. Our bipartisan polling team consists of alumni of FiveThirtyEight, political scientists, and polling experts. Last year, State Navigate was the most accurate pollster in the country for the 2025 election cycle. To learn more about our poll sponsorship opportunities, [click here](#)! Public polling on state governance, especially state legislatures, is rare, so we try to make our polling as affordable as possible for sponsors to help fill this gap.

OUR POLLING TEAM

CHAZ NUTTYCOMBE

FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chaz was the Director of CAnalysis.com, the only website dedicated to state legislative election forecasting. He has successfully forecasted thousands of state legislative elections since 2017 during his senior year in high school. Chaz leads the polling team and works with them on survey design, field work, weighting, and written analysis.

MICHAEL FOLEY

ELECTIONS COORDINATOR

Michael is an expert in GIS technology and has experience in coding and scraping technology. He is a graduate of Fordham University and the University of Chicago Law School. In our polling, Michael conducts fieldwork, setting up surveys and texts, and exports/designs crosstabs.

MARY RADCLIFFE

DATA MANAGER

Mary Radcliffe is a mathematician and data analyst from Pittsburgh. She earned a PhD in Mathematics from the University of California, San Diego in 2012. Mary has previously worked as a Teaching Professor at Carnegie Mellon University and Researcher at FiveThirtyEight. In our polling, Mary helps with survey design, keeps our polling operations ethical, creates topline, and writes analyses of results.

G. ELLIOTT MORRIS

POLLING COMMITTEE MEMBER

Elliott Morris is a data-driven journalist and author living in Washington, DC. He's the author of STRENGTH IN NUMBERS: How Polls Work and Why We Need Them. Elliott was most recently the Editorial Director of Data Analytics at ABC News, where he developed polling aggregation and election-forecasting models and managed the research and data visualization teams for ABC's data-journalism website FiveThirtyEight/538. In our polling, Elliott helps with survey design and writing weighting scripts.

NICHOLAS GOEDERT

POLLING COMMITTEE MEMBER

Nicholas / "Nick" is an assistant professor of Political Science at Virginia Tech with expertise focused on legislative elections and American politics. He is the author of GROUND WAR: Courts, Commissions, and the Fight over Partisan Gerrymanders (Oxford, 2022). He served as an expert witness in the Wisconsin redistricting case Whitford v. Gill. He holds a Ph.D. in Politics from Princeton and a J.D. from Georgetown Law. In our polling, Nick helps with survey design and gives academic feedback.