
FOR RELEASE: AUGUST 25, 2021

**FLORIDA VOTERS GIVE GOVERNOR DESANTIS MIXED GRADES,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
NEARLY 6 IN 10 DON'T WANT DESANTIS TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT IN 2024**

With Florida currently struggling with one of the highest rates of COVID-19 in the country, slightly more than half of voters (51 percent) disapprove of Governor Ron DeSantis' handling of the response to the coronavirus, while 46 percent approve, according to a Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pea-ack) University poll of registered voters in Florida released today. However, this is an improvement from July 2020, when 57 percent of voters disapproved and 38 percent approved.

In today's poll, Republicans approve 85 – 9 percent of the way DeSantis is handling the response to the coronavirus, while Democrats disapprove 93 – 6 percent and independents disapprove 55 – 43 percent.

When it comes to the way DeSantis is handling the public schools, voters give DeSantis a negative 44 – 51 percent approval rating.

On DeSantis' overall job performance, voters are divided with 47 percent approving and 45 percent disapproving of the way he's handling his job as governor. In July 2020, they gave him a negative 41 – 52 percent job approval rating.

“Amid a frightening surge in cases, DeSantis weathers withering criticism from critics on his handling of COVID-19. His numbers have actually improved from a year ago. But he's still not as popular as he was before the pandemic,” said Quinnipiac University Polling Analyst Tim Malloy.

APPROVALS

Voters in Florida give President Joe Biden a negative 40 – 53 percent job approval rating. On his handling of the response to the coronavirus, they give Biden a mixed grade, with 47 percent approving and 49 percent disapproving.

Florida voters give Senator Rick Scott a mixed job approval rating, as 42 percent approve, 40 percent disapprove, and 18 percent did not offer an opinion.

Senator Marco Rubio receives a positive approval rating, as 49 percent approve, 38 percent disapprove, and 13 percent did not offer an opinion.

“Florida's voters approve less of the president's overall job performance than they do of his handling of the pandemic. On the other hand, Rubio gets decent numbers from voters heading into 2022, but is just shy of the more comfortable 50% mark,” added Malloy.

POLITICAL FUTURES

Governor Ron DeSantis and Senator Marco Rubio are up for reelection in 2022.

Voters are split on whether Ron DeSantis deserves to be reelected, as 48 percent say he does and 45 percent say he does not, with 6 percent not offering an opinion. Republicans say 87 – 8 percent that DeSantis deserves to be reelected, while Democrats say 90 – 4 percent that he does not deserve to be reelected. Forty-nine percent of independents say that he deserves to be reelected, while 43 percent say he does not.

When it comes to Marco Rubio, voters say 47 – 41 percent that he deserves to be reelected, with 13 percent not offering an opinion. Republicans say 77 – 13 percent that Rubio deserves to be reelected, while Democrats say 74 – 15 percent he does not deserve to be reelected. Forty-six percent of independents say that he deserves to be reelected, while 40 percent say he does not.

Voters say 59 – 35 percent that they would not like to see Ron DeSantis run for president in 2024. Republicans say 67 – 24 percent that they would like to see DeSantis run for president, while Democrats say 96 – 2 percent and independents say 61 – 35 percent that they would not like to see him run for president.

“Do Florida voters want to send DeSantis back to Tallahassee? It’s a tossup. But 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue is, for now, just not in the cards,” added Malloy.

SATISFACTION

A majority of voters (57 percent) say they are either very satisfied (30 percent) or somewhat satisfied (27 percent) with the way things are going in Florida today. Forty-one percent say they are either somewhat dissatisfied (15 percent) or very dissatisfied (26 percent).

This compares to March 2019, when satisfaction levels hit an all-time high with 67 percent either very or somewhat satisfied and 30 percent somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Voters say 51 – 44 percent that they think climate change is going to have a significant negative effect on Florida in their lifetimes. In March 2019, voters were split on the issue, with 45 percent saying climate change would have a significant negative effect and 48 percent saying it would not.

A majority of voters (55 percent) say Governor DeSantis needs to do more to address rising sea levels, while 30 percent say he is doing enough, and 15 percent did not offer an opinion.

Over half of voters (52 percent) also say Governor DeSantis needs to do more to protect the Everglades, while 35 percent say he is doing enough, and 13 percent did not offer an opinion.

889 self-identified registered voters in Florida were surveyed from August 17th – 21st with a margin of error of +/- 3.3 percentage points.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Doug Schwartz, Ph.D. since 1994, conducts independent, non-partisan national and state polls on politics and issues. Surveys adhere to industry best practices and are based on random samples of adults using random digit dialing with live interviewers calling landlines and cell phones.

Visit poll.qu.edu or www.facebook.com/quinnipiapoll
Email poll@qu.edu, or follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/QuinnipiacPoll) @QuinnipiacPoll.

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ron DeSantis is handling his job as governor?

REGISTERED VOTERS.....

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	Yes
Approve	47%	87%	2%	47%	53%	42%	50%	63%
Disapprove	45	8	92	43	38	52	48	31
DK/NA	7	5	5	10	9	6	3	5

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Approve	40%	50%	47%	48%	65%	53%	58%	13%	40%
Disapprove	45	47	49	45	30	43	37	80	45
DK/NA	15	3	4	7	5	4	4	6	15

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Rick Scott is handling his job as United States Senator?

REGISTERED VOTERS.....

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	Yes
Approve	42%	74%	16%	34%	45%	39%	38%	55%
Disapprove	40	12	68	42	38	42	49	27
DK/NA	18	14	16	24	17	19	13	18

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Approve	31%	38%	40%	51%	55%	45%	49%	31%	32%
Disapprove	35	47	46	36	31	38	35	57	43
DK/NA	34	16	14	13	14	17	16	13	26

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Marco Rubio is handling his job as United States Senator?

REGISTERED VOTERS.....

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	Yes
Approve	49%	82%	20%	45%	56%	43%	45%	61%
Disapprove	38	10	71	37	33	44	46	26
DK/NA	13	8	9	18	12	14	9	13

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Approve	50%	43%	44%	55%	59%	52%	55%	27%	50%
Disapprove	33	42	43	37	30	36	33	65	36
DK/NA	17	15	12	8	11	12	12	9	15

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG			
							Yes	No		
Approve	40%	6%	87%	36%	36%	45%	45%	24%		
Disapprove	53	91	5	56	57	50	51	71		
DK/NA	7	2	8	8	8	6	4	4		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Approve	34%	41%	46%	43%	26%	36%	31%	80%	39%	
Disapprove	50	52	52	53	68	61	64	17	48	
DK/NA	16	7	2	4	6	3	4	3	13	

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ron DeSantis is handling - the response to the coronavirus?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG			
							Yes	No		
Approve	46%	85%	6%	43%	51%	41%	46%	62%		
Disapprove	51	9	93	55	46	55	53	34		
DK/NA	3	6	1	2	4	3	2	5		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Approve	39%	48%	44%	49%	62%	51%	56%	15%	39%	
Disapprove	57	52	53	47	34	45	40	85	55	
DK/NA	5	1	3	4	4	3	3	-	5	

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ron DeSantis is handling - the public schools?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG			
							Yes	No		
Approve	44%	80%	4%	43%	49%	39%	45%	58%		
Disapprove	51	12	91	53	44	57	52	35		
DK/NA	5	8	4	4	6	5	3	7		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Approve	41%	45%	40%	46%	58%	50%	54%	18%	37%	
Disapprove	48	54	56	48	35	45	41	82	55	
DK/NA	11	2	4	5	8	4	6	-	8	

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling the response to the coronavirus?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG			
							Yes	No		
Approve	47%	14%	84%	48%	44%	49%	52%	36%		
Disapprove	49	81	13	48	52	46	43	60		
DK/NA	4	5	4	4	4	5	5	4		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
	Approve	39%	45%	54%	50%	39%	43%	41%	67%	47%
Disapprove	56	48	42	48	57	52	54	28	49	
DK/NA	6	8	4	2	4	5	5	5	4	
	AREA.....					DENSITY.....				
	North/ PnHnd		Bay	Cntrl	Sthw	SthE	City	Suburb	Rural	
	Approve	43%	45%	43%	43%	56%	54%	48%	30%	
Disapprove	49	53	54	55	38	40	50	65		
DK/NA	7	1	3	2	6	6	2	4		

8. Do you feel that Ron DeSantis deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG			
							Yes	No		
Yes/Deserves	48%	87%	4%	49%	53%	44%	49%	65%		
No/Does not	45	8	90	43	39	51	49	28		
DK/NA	6	5	5	8	8	5	2	7		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
	Yes/Deserves	43%	50%	44%	51%	64%	55%	59%	15%	41%
No/Does not	45	49	49	43	30	40	35	85	46	
DK/NA	12	2	6	6	6	5	5	1	13	

9. Do you feel that Marco Rubio deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Deserves	47%	77%	15%	46%	52%	41%	46%	57%
No/Does not	41	13	74	40	36	45	45	29
DK/NA	13	11	11	15	12	14	8	14

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes/Deserves	35%	48%	43%	54%	56%	51%	53%	25%	43%
No/Does not	40	40	47	39	32	37	35	67	40
DK/NA	24	12	10	7	11	12	12	7	17

10. Would you like to see Ron DeSantis run for president in 2024, or not?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes	35%	67%	2%	35%	39%	32%	38%	47%
No	59	24	96	61	55	63	56	46
DK/NA	6	9	2	4	6	5	6	7

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes	32%	37%	37%	30%	46%	42%	44%	12%	27%
No	64	60	59	61	47	51	49	88	67
DK/NA	4	3	4	9	7	7	7	-	6

11. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Florida today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Very satisfied	30%	60%	1%	27%	36%	25%	31%	40%
Smwht satisfied	27	32	14	33	28	26	20	33
Smwht dissatisfied	15	3	25	20	14	16	16	10
Very dissatisfied	26	3	59	19	20	31	31	15
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Very satisfied	26%	30%	35%	32%	40%	33%	36%	9%	27%
Smwht satisfied	30	27	23	25	31	28	29	18	30
Smwht dissatisfied	21	17	11	17	14	11	12	23	21
Very dissatisfied	23	25	31	25	14	26	21	49	22
DK/NA	1	1	-	2	1	2	2	-	-

12. Do you think that climate change is going to have a significant negative effect on Florida in your lifetime, or don't you think that?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Negative effect	51%	17%	83%	56%	49%	53%	54%	36%
No	44	75	11	41	47	41	44	58
DK/NA	5	8	6	2	4	6	2	6

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Yes/Negative effect	70%	53%	47%	40%	38%	47%	43%	65%	62%
No	24	46	48	50	58	48	52	25	34
DK/NA	6	1	5	10	4	6	5	10	4

13. Do you think Governor DeSantis is doing enough to address rising sea levels, doing too much, or do you think he needs to do more to address rising sea levels?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Doing enough	30%	57%	3%	26%	33%	27%	33%	42%
Doing too much	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
Needs to do more	55	21	92	60	52	58	52	38
DK/NA	15	23	5	14	15	14	14	20

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Doing enough	20%	30%	34%	32%	40%	37%	39%	9%	21%
Doing too much	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
Needs to do more	68	57	52	49	40	47	43	86	67
DK/NA	12	12	13	18	19	16	17	5	12

14. Do you think Governor DeSantis is doing enough to protect the Everglades, doing too much, or do you think he needs to do more to protect the Everglades?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Doing enough	35%	64%	6%	31%	39%	31%	41%	44%
Doing too much	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Needs to do more	52	23	83	55	50	53	47	40
DK/NA	13	13	11	13	11	16	12	16

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Doing enough	24%	38%	34%	39%	45%	40%	42%	9%	32%
Doing too much	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Needs to do more	60	52	51	48	43	43	43	83	58
DK/NA	16	9	15	13	11	17	14	8	10