
FOR RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

**SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE RACE: GRAHAM AND HARRISON TIED,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
VOTERS DIVIDED ON TRUMP FILLING SCOTUS VACANCY BEFORE ELECTION**

Republican incumbent Senator Lindsey Graham and Democratic challenger Jaime Harrison are locked in a dead heat in the race for U.S. Senate, 48 – 48 percent, according to a Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pea-ack) University poll of likely voters, which was conducted prior to the presidential debate. This is unchanged from a September 16th survey, which also showed both candidates each getting 48 percent support.

Ninety-five percent of likely voters who selected a candidate in the Senate match up say their minds are made up, while 4 percent say they might change their minds.

“There hasn’t been a Democrat elected to the Senate from South Carolina since 1998. Outspent and labeled by critics as an apologist for President Trump, Lindsey Graham is facing the fight of his political life,” said Quinnipiac University Polling Analyst Tim Malloy.

In general, 49 percent of likely voters want to see the Republican Party win control of the U.S. Senate, while 44 percent want the Democratic Party.

VOTING IN 2020

A big majority of likely voters in South Carolina (71 percent) think they will vote in person on Election Day, while 25 percent say they will vote early by mail or absentee ballot.

HARRISON VS. GRAHAM: PERSONAL TRAITS

Harrison receives higher scores than Graham when it comes to honesty, empathy, and likely voters’ overall opinions about the candidates.

Likely voters give Harrison a positive favorability rating, 48 – 35 percent, while Graham’s favorability rating is negative, 51 – 43 percent.

When it comes to honesty, likely voters say Harrison is honest 51 – 25 percent, with 24 percent saying they don’t know. For Graham, likely voters say 50 – 40 percent that he is not honest.

Harrison gets another positive score on whether or not he cares about average people, as likely voters say he does, 59 – 25 percent. Graham gets another negative score on whether or not he cares about average people, with 50 percent saying he does not and 44 percent saying that he does.

Twenty-one percent of voters name the economy as the most important issue in deciding who to vote for in the Senate race, and 20 percent say law and order.

TRUMP APPROVALS

On the way President Trump is handling his job, 49 percent of likely voters approve and 48 percent disapprove. Forty-eight percent of likely voters approve of his handling of the response to the coronavirus and 50 percent disapprove.

2020 PRESIDENTIAL RACE

In this pre-debate poll, President Trump receives 48 percent support among likely voters, while former Vice President Joe Biden receives 47 percent support. This compares to a September 16th poll when Trump had 51 percent to Biden's 45 percent, a change which is not statistically significant.

Both candidates receive similar favorability ratings as likely voters are roughly divided on both. Forty-nine percent of likely voters give Biden an unfavorable rating, while 46 percent say favorable. Trump gets an evenly split 48 – 48 percent favorability rating.

Likely voters are also divided on who would do a better job handling two issues that have emerged in the wake of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's death: Supreme Court nominations and health care.

On who would do a better job handling Supreme Court nominations, 50 percent say Trump and 47 percent say Biden.

On who would do a better job handling health care, 48 percent say Biden and 47 percent say Trump.

SUPREME COURT, ACA, & ABORTION

On the question of who should fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court, 49 percent say it should be the winner of the presidential election, while 47 percent say it should be President Trump before the election.

“POTUS picked the SCOTUS nominee, but almost half of likely voters say before the election it's not Trump's call on who to install,” added Malloy.

With the Supreme Court set to hear arguments in November challenging the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, half of likely voters (50 percent) say they would like to see the law remain in place, while 43 percent say they would like to see it ended.

A majority of likely voters (55 percent) agree with the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that established a woman's right to an abortion, while 37 percent disagree.

1,123 likely South Carolina voters were surveyed from September 23 – 27 with a margin of error of +/- 2.9 percentage points.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts gold standard surveys using random digit dialing with live interviewers calling landlines and cell phones. The Quinnipiac University Poll conducts nationwide surveys and polls in more than twenty states on national and statewide elections, as well as public policy issues.

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

1. If the election for president were being held today, and the candidates were Joe Biden the Democrat and Donald Trump the Republican, for whom would you vote? (If undecided) As of today, do you lean more toward Joe Biden the Democrat or Donald Trump the Republican?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG Yes	No
Biden	47%	5%	99%	52%	40%	52%	46%	28%
Trump	48	94	-	39	54	42	50	68
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	-	-	2	1	1	2	-
DK/NA	4	1	1	7	5	4	2	4

	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....			
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Biden	47%	49%	47%	29%	39%	35%	87%
Trump	45	48	51	68	56	61	8
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	1	-	-	1	1	1
DK/NA	7	2	2	3	4	3	4

1a. (If candidate chosen q1) Is your mind made up, or do you think you might change your mind before the election?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....		
	CANDIDATE CHOSEN Q1.....		
	Tot	CANDIDATE OF CHOICE Q1	
		Biden	Trump
Mind made up	97%	96%	98%
Might change	2	3	2
DK/NA	1	2	-

2. Thinking about the 2020 election, do you think you will vote in person on Election Day, or do you think that you will vote early by mail or absentee ballot?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG Yes	No
In person	71%	88%	56%	67%	75%	68%	69%	80%
Mail/Absentee ballot	25	9	40	31	22	28	29	17
WON'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	3	3	4	3	3	4	2	3

	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....			
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
In person	80%	76%	55%	79%	74%	76%	55%
Mail/Absentee ballot	18	21	41	20	22	22	41
WON'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DK/NA	2	4	4	1	4	3	4

	CANDIDATE OF CHOICE Q1	
	Biden	Trump
In person	54%	88%
Mail/Absentee ballot	42	9
WON'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-
DK/NA	4	3

3. Is your opinion of Joe Biden favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Favorable	46%	5%	97%	49%	39%	52%	45%	26%	
Unfavorable	49	93	1	43	55	44	52	69	
Hvn't hrd enough	4	2	1	7	3	4	3	4	
REFUSED	2	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....					
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk		
Favorable	44%	49%	47%	27%	39%	33%	87%		
Unfavorable	48	47	50	69	57	63	8		
Hvn't hrd enough	5	4	2	4	4	4	3		
REFUSED	2	-	1	-	-	-	2		

4. Is your opinion of Donald Trump favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Favorable	48%	93%	-	41%	53%	44%	48%	69%	
Unfavorable	48	6	97	55	43	52	50	30	
Hvn't hrd enough	1	-	1	3	1	1	1	1	
REFUSED	3	-	2	2	3	2	1	1	
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....					
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk		
Favorable	46%	47%	51%	66%	57%	61%	11%		
Unfavorable	51	50	47	33	42	38	84		
Hvn't hrd enough	-	2	1	1	1	1	1		
REFUSED	3	1	1	1	1	1	4		

5. If the election for United States Senator were being held today, and the candidates were Jaime Harrison the Democrat and Lindsey Graham the Republican, for whom would you vote? (If undecided) As of today, do you lean more toward Jaime Harrison the Democrat or Lindsey Graham the Republican?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Harrison	48%	5%	97%	54%	42%	53%	46%	30%
Graham	48	94	2	39	54	43	51	68
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-
DK/NA	3	1	-	6	4	3	1	2

	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....		Wht	Blk
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom		
Harrison	52%	47%	48%	31%	41%	36%	88%
Graham	44	49	51	67	57	61	9
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	-	-	1	1	1	-
DK/NA	3	3	1	1	2	2	4

	MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE Q14.....					
	Econ	Health care	Corona virus	Racial Ineql	Law+ Order	Suprm Court
Harrison	19%	84%	90%	90%	5%	46%
Graham	78	14	8	5	92	54
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-	-	4	-	-
DK/NA	3	3	2	1	3	-

5a. (If candidate chosen q5) Is your mind made up, or do you think you might change your mind before the election?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....		
	CANDIDATE CHOSEN Q5.....		
	CANDIDATE OF CHOICE Q5		
	Tot	Harrison	
Mind made up	95%	96%	94%
Might change	4	4	5
DK/NA	-	-	1

6. Is your opinion of Jaime Harrison favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Favorable	48%	9%	97%	50%	41%	54%	47%	31%
Unfavorable	35	68	1	30	39	32	38	49
Hvn't hrd enough	14	20	2	18	18	11	14	18
REFUSED	3	3	-	2	3	2	1	3
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....				
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	
Favorable	49%	47%	51%	31%	42%	37%	85%	
Unfavorable	33	37	35	47	42	44	6	
Hvn't hrd enough	16	15	11	21	13	17	8	
REFUSED	3	-	2	1	3	2	1	

7. Is your opinion of Lindsey Graham favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Favorable	43%	86%	3%	33%	48%	39%	44%	61%
Unfavorable	51	11	95	60	46	56	54	33
Hvn't hrd enough	4	2	3	5	3	4	1	5
REFUSED	2	1	-	2	2	1	1	1
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....				
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	
Favorable	35%	45%	48%	61%	50%	55%	7%	
Unfavorable	56	52	49	35	46	41	86	
Hvn't hrd enough	8	2	2	4	3	3	6	
REFUSED	2	1	1	1	1	1	-	

8. Would you say that - Jaime Harrison is honest, or not?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes	51%	18%	94%	52%	43%	57%	52%	35%
No	25	43	3	24	30	21	26	34
DK/NA	24	39	3	24	27	21	22	32
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....				
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	
Yes	48%	53%	57%	36%	46%	41%	86%	
No	29	24	21	35	27	30	5	
DK/NA	23	23	23	30	27	28	9	

9. Would you say that - Lindsey Graham is honest, or not?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Yes	40%	75%	4%	34%	44%	36%	44%	53%	
No	50	14	93	57	45	55	49	36	
DK/NA	10	12	3	10	11	9	8	11	
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....					
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk		
Yes	31%	42%	46%	53%	46%	49%	10%		
No	58	50	47	37	44	41	82		
DK/NA	11	8	8	10	10	10	8		

10. Would you say that - Jaime Harrison cares about average people, or not?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Yes	59%	30%	98%	58%	52%	64%	60%	43%	
No	25	46	1	23	27	23	25	35	
DK/NA	16	24	1	19	20	12	15	22	
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....					
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk		
Yes	60%	60%	60%	44%	54%	50%	93%		
No	23	26	25	33	30	31	3		
DK/NA	16	14	15	24	16	19	4		

11. Would you say that - Lindsey Graham cares about average people, or not?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Yes	44%	80%	5%	39%	46%	42%	45%	59%	
No	50	13	91	56	45	53	51	34	
DK/NA	7	7	4	6	9	5	4	7	
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....					
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk		
Yes	37%	46%	48%	57%	51%	54%	14%		
No	54	50	48	37	44	41	80		
DK/NA	9	4	4	6	5	6	6		

12. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		Wht Evang	
							Yes	No		
Approve	49%	93%	1%	41%	54%	44%	49%	69%	82%	
Disapprove	48	5	97	56	43	53	49	28	15	
DK/NA	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....						
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk			
Approve	44%	48%	51%	68%	57%	62%	9%			
Disapprove	52	50	46	31	40	36	87			
DK/NA	4	2	2	1	3	2	3			

13. If the election were today, would you want to see the Republican Party or the Democratic Party win control of the United States Senate?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Republican Party	49%	95%	1%	42%	55%	45%	53%	70%	
Democratic Party	44	4	98	47	37	50	43	24	
DK/NA	6	-	1	10	8	5	4	6	
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....					
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk		
Republican Party	46%	49%	52%	69%	58%	63%	8%		
Democratic Party	42	48	46	25	37	32	87		
DK/NA	12	3	2	6	5	5	5		

14. Which of these is the most important issue to you in deciding who to vote for in the election for United States Senator: the economy, immigration, health care, climate change, the coronavirus pandemic, racial inequality, law and order, or the Supreme Court?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Economy	21%	34%	8%	19%	26%	17%	26%	24%	
Immigration	2	3	1	1	1	3	2	3	
Health care	13	4	23	13	11	14	9	12	
Climate change	3	1	5	5	5	2	6	2	
Coronavirus	14	4	31	12	9	18	12	6	
Racial inequality	10	2	18	12	9	10	10	4	
Law and order	20	36	3	17	22	18	17	29	
Supreme Court	12	11	10	14	11	12	15	13	
DK/NA	6	5	4	8	6	5	3	7	

	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....			
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men		Wom	
				Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Economy	25%	22%	16%	32%	19%	25%	9%
Immigration	1	2	2	1	4	3	-
Health care	13	11	16	8	13	11	21
Climate change	4	2	4	5	3	4	2
Coronavirus	8	17	18	5	11	9	30
Racial inequality	15	10	4	5	8	6	22
Law and order	20	17	23	27	22	25	6
Supreme Court	11	14	10	12	14	13	6
DK/NA	3	4	7	4	6	5	3

15. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the response to the coronavirus?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Approve	48%	92%	4%	39%	54%	43%	48%	69%	
Disapprove	50	6	96	58	43	55	49	30	
DK/NA	2	1	-	3	3	2	3	1	

	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....			
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men		Wom	
				Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	43%	51%	49%	67%	56%	61%	8%
Disapprove	54	49	49	31	42	37	91
DK/NA	3	1	1	2	2	2	1

16. Regardless of how you intend to vote, who do you think would do a better job - handling health care: Donald Trump or Joe Biden?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Trump	47%	92%	1%	39%	53%	42%	50%	67%	
Biden	48	5	99	55	42	53	46	29	
DK/NA	4	3	-	6	4	4	4	4	

	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....			
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Trump	44%	49%	50%	66%	55%	60%	10%
Biden	51	50	48	31	39	36	88
DK/NA	5	2	2	3	5	4	2

17. Regardless of how you intend to vote, who do you think would do a better job - handling Supreme Court nominations: Donald Trump or Joe Biden?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Trump	50%	95%	1%	43%	55%	45%	51%	70%	
Biden	47	4	98	52	40	53	45	28	
DK/NA	3	1	1	5	4	2	4	2	

	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....			
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Trump	46%	50%	52%	69%	58%	63%	10%
Biden	51	47	47	29	39	34	88
DK/NA	3	3	1	3	3	3	2

18. In general, would you like to see the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, remain in place, or would you like to see Obamacare ended?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Remain in place	50%	8%	97%	59%	42%	57%	49%	30%	
Ended	43	85	2	33	50	37	44	62	
DK/NA	6	6	1	8	8	5	6	8	

	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....			
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Remain in place	52%	53%	51%	29%	44%	37%	93%
Ended	42	42	43	64	49	55	5
DK/NA	6	6	6	7	7	7	1

19. In general, do you agree or disagree with the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that established a woman's right to an abortion?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Agree	55%	24%	86%	65%	52%	59%	63%	42%	
Disagree	37	66	11	27	40	35	33	48	
DK/NA	8	11	3	8	8	7	4	9	
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....					
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk		
Agree	56%	57%	54%	46%	54%	51%	72%		
Disagree	40	34	38	48	38	42	24		
DK/NA	3	9	8	6	8	7	5		

20. Which comes closer to your point of view regarding the Supreme Court vacancy created by the passing of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg: the Supreme Court vacancy should be filled by the winner of the presidential election, or the Supreme Court vacancy should be filled by President Trump before the election?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Election winner	49%	6%	97%	56%	42%	55%	46%	30%	
President Trump	47	89	1	42	53	42	52	67	
DK/NA	4	5	1	2	5	3	2	3	
	AGE IN YRS.....			WHITE.....					
	18-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk		
Election winner	52%	50%	48%	29%	41%	36%	91%		
President Trump	43	49	49	68	56	61	7		
DK/NA	4	1	3	3	3	3	2		

CANDIDATE OF CHOICE Q1

Biden Trump

Election winner	95%	5%
President Trump	3	93
DK/NA	2	3