Montana Senate race

March 2024
Methodology and summary of findings
Methodology: polling

J.L. Partners polled a sample of Montana voters who are planning to vote in November's elections.

- Fieldwork dates of March 26 - 29 2024
- Sample of 503 Likely Voters in Montana
- Sample collected using mixed methods:
  - Live landline call for 90 responses (18%)
  - Live mobile call for 135 responses (27%)
  - SMS for 225 responses (45%)
  - In-app for 53 responses (11%)
- Quotas were added to ensure representative data: on gender, age, education, race, partisanship, primary participation, and vote in the 2020 presidential election
- The sample was weighted back to the population using data on the same variables: on gender, age, education, race, partisanship, primary participation, and vote in the 2020 presidential election
- 5-minute duration
- Margin of error: 4.3%
Key points

• Sheehy currently leads Tester by 3 points 48% to 45% with 7% undecided

• Sheehy is strongest amongst men and older voters; Tester leads amongst Independents, women and younger voters

• What is propelling Sheehy to the lead is claiming enough Independents to pip Tester to the post, even though Tester is winning slightly more independents

• Undecideds look more like Sheehy voters than Tester in their issue priorities, with the exception of abortion
Voting intention
Sheehy leads Tester by three points

If the election for U.S. Senate were being held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were…

Q3. If the election for U.S. Senate were being held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were…
Sheehy is strongest amongst men and older voters; Tester leads amongst Independents, women and younger voters

If the election for U.S. Senate were being held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jon Tester</th>
<th>Undecided</th>
<th>Tim Sheehy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-35</td>
<td>+11</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-50</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-64</td>
<td>+11</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-graduate</td>
<td>+9</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>+7</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trump 2020</td>
<td>+75</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biden 2020</td>
<td>+83</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>+87</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>+10</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>+54</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q3. If the election for U.S. Senate were being held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were…
Independents are splitting narrowly for Tester, but Sheehy is claiming enough to lead overall

If the election for U.S. Senate were being held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were…
Issues battleground
The economy dominates in Montana with the border in second and threats to democracy in third

In your opinion, which of the following is the most important issue facing Montana?

- Inflation and the economy: 33%
- Border security & illegal immigration: 20%
- Threats to democracy: 15%
- Climate change: 7%
- Healthcare: 7%
- Abortion: 5%
- National security: 4%
- Election integrity: 4%
- Crime and public safety: 3%
- Unsure: 2%

Q4. In your opinion, which of the following is the most important issue facing Montana?
Democrats rank democracy top, Republicans see economy and the border as most important, while Independents remain focused on the economy.

In your opinion, which of the following is the most important issue facing Montana?

- **Democrat**
  - Inflation and the economy: 21%
  - Border security & illegal immigration: 3%
  - Threats to democracy: 31%
  - Healthcare: 13%
  - Climate change: 16%
  - Abortion: 8%
  - National security: 1%
  - Crime and public safety: 4%
  - Election integrity: 1%
  - Unsure: 2%

- **Independent**
  - Inflation and the economy: 38%
  - Border security & illegal immigration: 18%
  - Threats to democracy: 11%
  - Healthcare: 7%
  - Climate change: 6%
  - Abortion: 6%
  - National security: 5%
  - Crime and public safety: 4%
  - Election integrity: 2%
  - Unsure: 3%

- **Republican**
  - Inflation and the economy: 36%
  - Border security & illegal immigration: 36%
  - Threats to democracy: 7%
  - Healthcare: 1%
  - Climate change: 1%
  - Abortion: 2%
  - National security: 7%
  - Crime and public safety: 2%
  - Election integrity: 3%
  - Unsure: 1%
Undecideds look more like Sheehy voters than Tester in their issue priorities, with the exception of abortion.

In your opinion, which of the following is the most important issue facing Montana?

Q4. In your opinion, which of the following is the most important issue facing Montana?
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