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CLINTON NARROWLY LEADS TRUMP IN FLORIDA -GOP THIRD PARTY DEFECTIONS & HISPANIC VOTERS CREATING THE CURRENT GAP

Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton currently holds a slight lead over Republican Donald Trump among Florida voters. Statewide, 45% support Clinton, 42% back Trump, 6% say they will vote for Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson and 7% are undecided.

Clinton is gaining her edge in two key areas – some defections from Trump to Johnson among white Republican and independent voters and extremely strong support for her among Hispanics (68%).

BIDEN STRONGER & SANDERS WEAKER AGAINST TRUMP

With the possibility of an indictment by the FBI regarding the use of her private e-mail server for State Department business still hanging in the air, another Democrat could become the party's nominee before November. In that event, it is clear that Vice President Joe Biden would be the strongest candidate to replace her and that current opponent Bernie Sanders would create problems.

In a hypothetical match-up, Biden holds a strong lead over Trump (50%-40%), while Sanders can only muster a 42%-42% tie. Biden's high favorable rating and relatively low negatives compared to the other candidates is a big factor. Both Trump (53%) and Clinton (47%) are seen unfavorably by about half of Florida voters.

AS A VP CHOICE, NELSON COULD HELP CLINTON WHILE SCOTT COULD SINK TRUMP

As the largest swing state, there is always speculation that one of the party nominees might choose a Floridian as a vice presidential running-mate. This year is no different with some chatter that Clinton might consider Florida Senator Bill Nelson and even more talk surrounding the possibility that Trump could select Florida Governor Rick Scott.

Nelson doesn't appear to pay big dividends for Clinton. He does have a small net positive effect amongst independent and undecided voters, but it appears to be marginal. Still, he certainly would do no damage and could make the difference in a one or two-point race.

On the other hand, Scott could be toxic for Trump in the state. A whopping 40% of Florida voters say they would be "less likely" to vote for Trump with Scott on the ticket. It should be noted that this figure is heavily driven by voters already supporting Clinton (67%), but the negative numbers also spill over into those still undecided. A significant 43% of those who are yet to make up their minds say they would be "less likely" to vote for a Trump-Scott ticket.

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

This poll was conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, Inc. of Jacksonville, Florida from May 31 through June 2, 2016. A total of 625 registered Florida voters were interviewed statewide by telephone. All indicated they were likely to vote in the November general election.

Those interviewed on land-lines were selected by the random variation of the last four digits of telephone numbers. A cross-section of exchanges was utilized in order to ensure an accurate reflection of the state. Those interviewed on cell phones were selected from a list of working cell phone numbers. Quotas were assigned to reflect voter turnout by county.

The margin for error, according to standards customarily used by statisticians, is no more than ± 4 percentage points. This means that there is a 95 percent probability that the "true" figure would fall within that range if all voters were surveyed. The margin for error is higher for any subgroup, such as a gender or age grouping.

STATEWIDE NAME RECOGNITION

Do you recognize the name _____?
(IF YES) Do you have a favorable, unfavorable or neutral opinion of _____?

	RECOGNIZE FAVORABLE	RECOGNIZE UNFAVORABLE	RECOGNIZE NEUTRAL	DON'T RECOGNIZE
Joe Biden	48%	26%	24%	2%
Hillary Clinton	41%	47%	12%	-
Donald Trump	31%	53%	16%	-
Bernie Sanders	30%	41%	29%	-
Gary Johnson	9%	4%	24%	63%

QUESTION: If the 2016 general election for president were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Hillary Clinton, the Democrat, Donald Trump, the Republican and Gary Johnson, the Libertarian?

	CLINTON	TRUMP	JOHNSON	UNDECIDED
STATE	45%	42 %	6%	7 %
REGION	CLINTON	TRUMP	JOHNSON	UNDECIDED
North Florida	33%	52 %	88	7 %
Central Florida	38 %	47 %	8%	7 %
Tampa Bay	44%	42 %	6 %	8 %
Southwest Florida	37 %	51 %	4 %	8 %
Southeast Florida	63%	27%	4 %	6%
SEX	CLINTON	TRUMP	JOHNSON	UNDECIDED
Men	34%	52 %	7 %	7 %
Women	55%	33%	5%	7%
AGE	CLINTON	TRUMP	JOHNSON	UNDECIDED
18-34	53%	26%	10%	11%
35-49	43%	39 %	8 %	10%
50-64	42 %	46%	6 %	6 %
65+	44%	51%	2 %	3 %
RACE/ETHNICITY	CLINTON	TRUMP	JOHNSON	UNDECIDED
White	31%	55%	8%	6 %
Black	90%	4 %	-	6 %
Hispanic	68%	20%	2%	10%
PARTY REGISTRATION	CLINTON	TRUMP	JOHNSON	UNDECIDED
Democrat	85%	8%	2%	5%
Republican	7 %	81%	8 %	4 %
Independent	34 %	40%	10%	16%

QUESTION: If the 2016 general election for president were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Bernie Sanders, the Democrat, Donald Trump, the Republican and Gary Johnson, the Libertarian?

	STATE	MEN	WOMEN	DEMS	REPS	INDS
SANDERS	42%	35%	48%	73%	7 %	42%
TRUMP	42%	51 %	34%	13%	78 %	37 %
JOHNSON	8%	9 %	7 %	3 %	9 %	12 %
UNDECIDED	8%	5 %	11 %	11%	6 %	9 %

QUESTION: If the 2016 general election for president were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Joe Biden, the Democrat, Donald Trump, the Republican and Gary Johnson, the Libertarian?

	STATE	MEN	WOMEN	DEMS	REPS	INDS
BIDEN	50%	42%	57%	82%	12%	52%
TRUMP	40%	50%	31%	8%	76 %	40%
JOHNSON	6 %	6 %	6 %	5%	9 %	4 %
UNDECIDED	4 %	2 %	6 %	5%	3%	4 %

QUESTION: If Hillary Clinton selected Florida Senator Bill Nelson as her vice presidential running-mate, would that make you more likely to vote for Clinton, less likely to vote for her or would it have no effect on your vote?

	STATE	DEMS	REPS	INDS	CLINTON VOTERS	TRUMP VOTERS	UNDECIDED VOTERS
MORE LIKELY	17%	24%	5%	24%	33%	1%	16%
LESS LIKELY	11%	3 %	22%	7 %	2%	21%	11%
NO EFFECT	72 %	73 %	73 %	69 %	65%	78 %	73 %

QUESTION: If Donald Trump selected Florida governor Rick Scott as his vice presidential running-mate, would that make you more likely to vote for Trump, less likely to vote for him or would it have no effect on your vote?

	STATE	DEMS	REPS	INDS	CLINTON VOTERS	TRUMP VOTERS	UNDECIDED VOTERS
MORE LIKELY	7 %	3 %	14%	3 %	1%	14%	6 %
LESS LIKELY	40%	59%	13%	50%	67 %	11%	43%
NO EFFECT	53%	38%	73%	47 %	32%	75%	51%

DEMOGRAPHICS

PARTY REGISTRATION:

	Democrat Republican Independent or Other	256 (41%) 234 (37%) 135 (22%)
AGE:		
	18-34	112 (18%)
	35-49	162 (26%)
	50-64	165 (26%)
	65+	186 (30%)
RACE/ETHNICITY:		
,	White/Caucasian	415 (66%)
	Black/African American	77 (13%)
	Hispanic or Cuban	108 (17%)
	Other	21 (3%)
	Refused	4 (1%)
SEX:		
SEX:	Male	294 (47%)
	Female	331 (53%)
REGION:		
	North Florida	135 (22%)
	Central Florida	120 (19%)
	Tampa Bay	115 (18%)
	Southwest Florida	75 (12%)
	Southeast Florida	180 (29%)