

INDEPENDENT CENTER VOICE

Survey Toplines — Alaska — At-Large Congressional District

Statewide Benchmark Survey · 2026 Election Cycle

Methodology

Survey of 546 Likely 2026 General Voters statewide; margin of error ± 4.19 percentage points; field date: 07/13-16/2026.

All percentages are weighted to the study's demographic and partisan quota targets. Each figure is the Total % of the stated base, rounded to whole numbers, so responses may not sum to 100%. Multiple-response questions (e.g., top-three issue selection and racial identification) and per-candidate blocks may sum to more than 100. Aggregate rows (e.g., TOTAL DEMOCRAT) are sums of the categories that follow and are shaded for reference. Question codes in brackets match the analysis report and banner books. This study utilizes a multi-frame, probability-based sampling design combining live telephone calls and Short Message Service (SMS) outreach. To correct for non-response bias, the final sample was adjusted against U.S. Census Bureau and national voter databases to ensure accurate representation across core demographics, specifically gender, geographic region, age, race and ethnicity, political affiliation, educational attainment, household income, and population density, ensuring statistically valid generalizability.

Q1. How likely are you to vote in the November 2026 midterm elections? [Screener 3]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Very likely	94%
Somewhat likely	6%

Q2. Thinking about the upcoming election this November, which of the following best describes the MAIN reason you are motivated to turn out and vote? [Screener 4]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
There is a specific candidate running who I really like and want to support.	12%
I am primarily voting to oppose a specific candidate and make sure they do not win.	8%
I always vote because I see it as my civic duty, regardless of who is on the ballot.	70%
I am motivated to vote because of a specific issue or policy that is deeply important to me.	8%
I never usually vote, but I am thinking that I will this year	2%
Unsure	1%

Q3. In politics today, and regardless of how you are registered, do you consider yourself to be a...

[Party ID]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL DEMOCRAT	13%
Strong Democrat	11%
Not so strong Democrat	2%
TOTAL INDEPENDENT	61%
Independent leaning Democrat	25%
Independent	19%
Independent leaning Republican	16%
TOTAL REPUBLICAN	25%
Not so strong Republican	5%
Strong Republican	20%

Response	%
Other	0%
Unsure	1%

Q4. Your gender identification? [Gender]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Female	51%
Male	49%
Other	0%

Q5. In which county do you currently reside? [County]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Anchorage	40%
Bethel	2%
Denali	0%
Fairbanks North Star	13%
Haines	1%
Juneau	5%
Kenai Peninsula	8%
Ketchikan Gateway	5%
Kodiak Island	3%
Lake and Peninsula	1%
Matanuska-Susitna	16%
Nome	0%
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan	1%
Sitka	2%
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon	1%
Southeast Fairbanks	0%
Valdez-Cordova	1%
Wrangell-Petersburg	1%

Q6. What is your race or ethnicity? [Race]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
White or Caucasian	65%
Black or African American	6%
Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin	10%
Asian or Pacific Islander	5%
Native American or American Indian	15%
Other	9%

Q7. Which of the following categories best describes your age? [AgeRange]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
18 to 24	0%
25 to 34	13%
35 to 44	17%
45 to 54	17%
55 to 64	21%
65 or older	32%

Q8. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed? [Education]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
High School or Less	28%
Some college, Associate degree, or technical school	38%
4-year college graduate (Bachelor's degree) or higher	34%

Q9. We want to classify households into broad income groups only. Would you estimate your total annual household income to be...? [Income]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Less than \$30,000	2%
\$30,000 to \$54,999	11%
\$55,000 to \$100,000	22%
More than \$100,000	48%
Prefer not to answer	16%

Q10. In the election for Alaska's at-large U.S. House seat. [Ranked-choice ballot — Rank 1 choice]

Base: Gave a rank-1 choice

Response	%
Bill Hill, Independent	20%
Matt Shultz, Democrat	32%
Nick Begich, Republican	46%
Another candidate	2%

Q11. In the election for Alaska's at-large U.S. House seat. [Ranked-choice ballot — Rank 2 choice]

Base: Gave a rank-2 choice

Response	%
Bill Hill, Independent	59%
Matt Shultz, Democrat	28%
Nick Begich, Republican	2%
Another candidate	12%

Q12. In the election for Alaska's at-large U.S. House seat. [Ranked-choice ballot — Rank 3 choice]

Base: Gave a rank-3 choice

Response	%
Bill Hill, Independent	15%
Matt Shultz, Democrat	17%
Nick Begich, Republican	13%
Another candidate	55%

Q13. At this time next year, do you think that you will personally be better or worse off than you are today? [GSPS]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL BETTER OFF	42%
Much better off	10%
Somewhat better off	32%
TOTAL WORSE OFF	27%
Somewhat worse off	23%
Much worse off	4%
Unsure	31%

Q14. At this time next year, do you think America will be better or worse off than it is today? [GSAS]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL BETTER OFF	37%
Much better off	11%
Somewhat better off	26%
TOTAL WORSE OFF	38%
Somewhat worse off	18%
Much worse off	19%
Unsure	26%

Q15. Please select and rank the top three most pressing issues in America today from the list below, where 1 is the most pressing, 2 is the second most pressing, and 3 is the third most pressing. [Most pressing issue]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Economy	31%
Government	25%
Immigration	14%
Health Care	10%
International concerns	6%
Environment	6%
Social Issues	4%
Education	4%

Q16. Regarding the economy, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTEC]

Base: Most Pressing On Economy Issue

Response	%
Jobs	25%
Unemployment	1%
Taxes	12%
Food prices/inflation	58%
Other	4%

Q17. Regarding social issues, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTSI]

Base: Most Pressing On Social Issue

Response	%
Crime	48%
Equality	5%
Civil liberties	23%
Abortion	25%

Q18. Regarding education, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTED]

Base: Most Pressing On Education Issue

Response	%
School choice	12%
Student loans	5%
Testing standards	42%
Other	42%

Q19. Regarding the environment, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTEV]

Base: Most Pressing On Environment Issue

Response	%
Climate change	79%
EPA	7%
Energy regulations	13%
Other	1%

Q20. Regarding international issues, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTIN]

Base: Most Pressing On International Issue

Response	%
Trade	6%
Foreign policy	20%
Global affairs conflicts	74%

Q21. Regarding health care, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTHC]

Base: Most Pressing On Health Care Issue

Response	%
Medicare	9%
Medicaid	0%
Affordable Care Act	8%
Cost of health care	83%
Other	0%

Q22. Regarding the government, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTGA]

Base: Most Pressing On Government Issue

Response	%
Political extremism	55%
Polarization	11%
The role of elected officials	22%
Other	12%

Q23. Regarding immigration, which of the following do you see as the most important aspect of that issue? [GSTIM]

Base: Most Pressing On Immigration Issue

Response	%
Legalization & citizenship	36%
Border security	55%
Refugee resettlement	4%
Other	5%

Q24. Do you approve or disapprove of the job President Donald Trump is doing? [STA]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL APPROVE	42%
Strongly approve	22%
Somewhat approve	20%
TOTAL DISAPPROVE	55%
Somewhat disapprove	2%
Strongly disapprove	53%
Unsure	2%

Q25. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing? [GSCA]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL APPROVE	20%
Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	18%

Response	%
TOTAL DISAPPROVE	74%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	51%
Unsure	6%

Q26. When it comes to your political philosophy, where would you place yourself on the following scale? [PSY]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
0 - Very liberal / Progressive	4%
1	4%
2	6%
3	7%
4	10%
5 - Moderate / Centrist	32%
6	6%
7	7%
8	9%
9	4%
10 - Staunch / Strong conservative	12%

Q27. In the perfect world, where on the following scale, would you like to see America's elected officials stand politically? [PSEQ]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
0 - Strongly along Democratic lines	6%
1	1%
2	4%
3	9%
4	5%
5 - Centrist / Independent	41%
6	3%
7	7%
8	9%
9	2%
10 - Strongly along Republican lines	13%

Q28. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — Donald Trump]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	40%
Very favorable	23%

Response	%
Somewhat favorable	16%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	56%
Somewhat unfavorable	4%
Very unfavorable	52%
Never heard of	1%
Unsure	3%

Q29. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — The Republican party]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	35%
Very favorable	15%
Somewhat favorable	20%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	57%
Somewhat unfavorable	18%
Very unfavorable	39%
Never heard of	1%
Unsure	7%

Q30. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — The Democratic party]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	38%
Very favorable	12%
Somewhat favorable	26%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	56%
Somewhat unfavorable	19%
Very unfavorable	37%
Never heard of	0%
Unsure	6%

Q31. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — A politician willing to work with both sides of the aisle]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	80%
Very favorable	43%
Somewhat favorable	38%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	10%

Response	%
Somewhat unfavorable	6%
Very unfavorable	5%
Never heard of	2%
Unsure	7%

Q32. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — A bipartisan candidate]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	57%
Very favorable	16%
Somewhat favorable	41%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	18%
Somewhat unfavorable	12%
Very unfavorable	6%
Never heard of	5%
Unsure	20%

Q33. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — A non-partisan candidate]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	50%
Very favorable	12%
Somewhat favorable	39%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	13%
Somewhat unfavorable	8%
Very unfavorable	5%
Never heard of	8%
Unsure	29%

Q34. You will now read a list of political officials and entities in the United States. After each, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you don't know or haven't heard of the subject, please note that. [Favorability — A politically Independent candidate]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	57%
Very favorable	14%
Somewhat favorable	44%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	13%
Somewhat unfavorable	9%
Very unfavorable	4%

Response	%
Never heard of	7%
Unsure	23%

Q35. Please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person. [Favorability
— Bill Hill (Independent)]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	32%
Very favorable	5%
Somewhat favorable	26%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	11%
Somewhat unfavorable	7%
Very unfavorable	4%
Never heard of	28%
Unsure	29%

Q36. Please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person. [Favorability
— Matt Shultz (Democrat)]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	32%
Very favorable	8%
Somewhat favorable	23%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	11%
Somewhat unfavorable	5%
Very unfavorable	6%
Never heard of	27%
Unsure	30%

Q37. Please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person. [Favorability
— Nick Begich (Republican)]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL FAVORABLE	39%
Very favorable	20%
Somewhat favorable	18%
TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	53%
Somewhat unfavorable	13%
Very unfavorable	41%
Never heard of	1%
Unsure	7%

Q38. Overall, how would you rate the current health of American democracy? [MSOH]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL HEALTHY	19%
Very healthy	4%
Somewhat healthy	15%
TOTAL UNHEALTHY	78%
Somewhat unhealthy	30%
Very unhealthy	49%
Unsure	2%

Q39. How do you think federally elected officials in Washington, DC are doing at their job? [MSEO]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
They're doing fine	5%
We can do better	94%
Unsure	1%

Q40. Thinking about your role as a voter in the upcoming 2026 elections, which of the following best describes how you intend to use your vote to ensure the continued health of our democracy? [MSRV]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
I will vote for candidates who will go to Washington to work and vote with Republicans to advance a conservative agenda and ensure that Democratic policies do not pass.	29%
I will vote for candidates who will go to Washington to work and vote with Democrats to advance a progressive agenda and ensure that Republican policies do not pass.	14%
I will look past party labels to vote for candidates who prioritize bipartisan cooperation and seek to modernize the system to make it more accountable and stable for the people.	46%
I do not believe that my choice of candidate has a significant impact on the long-term health of our democracy.	6%
Unsure / Other	5%

Q41. Regardless of your past voting history or political affiliation, which of the following do you find to be the most compelling reason to support an independent candidate? [GSTI]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
The "Problem Solver" Argument: Independent-minded leaders are free to look at problems from many angles and find the best solution, rather than being forced to view every issue through a single partisan lens.	23%
The "Competition" Argument: In every other aspect of American life, choice and competition yield better results, ending the two-party duopoly would force politicians to work harder to earn our support.	8%
The "Gridlock" Argument: Because they don't answer to party leadership, Independents are uniquely positioned to bridge the divide, de-escalate anger, and force the two sides to work together.	9%
The "People over Party" Argument: Political parties have become too focused on special interests and self-preservation, an Independent is beholden only to their constituents, not a national party agenda.	30%
The "Revolution" Argument: The two-party establishment is fundamentally corrupt and beyond repair, electing Independents is a revolution that will strip power from party elites and completely overhaul the system.	7%

Response	%
None of these / Other	15%
Unsure	9%

Q42. Which of the following statements or priorities would you most need to hear from an independent candidate running for office to seriously consider supporting their candidacy? [GSTL]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
A clear commitment to work across the aisle with both parties to bring the best ideas to the forefront and get things done.	18%
A promise to listen to regular people and be beholden strictly to local voters and constituents, not national political parties or special interests.	23%
A focus on lowering the toxic political rhetoric, reducing partisan division, and restoring common sense and sanity to government.	19%
A concrete plan to immediately lower the daily cost of living, combat inflation, and rein in wasteful government spending.	16%
A common-sense commitment to strictly enforce border security and fix the immigration system without playing political games.	11%
None of these / Other	10%
Unsure	3%

Q43. Which of the following statements comes closer to your own opinion about independent candidates running for elected office, even if neither is exactly right? [GSSA]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Independent candidates offer a new, fresh perspective to move the country forward, free from partisan gridlock and beholden only to the voters	45%
Independent candidates just pull votes away from a major-party candidate, ultimately helping the side that the voter least wanted to win.	39%
Unsure	16%

Q44. Which of the following statements comes closer to your own view about the role independent candidates could play in our political system, even if neither is exactly right? [GSSI]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Electing a few independent candidates could provide a necessary, stabilizing voice, acting as the adult in the room to lower the temperature and bring both sides together to get things done.	67%
The current system is not broken, and the two major parties remain the most effective and stable way to pass laws and represent the country.	12%
Unsure	21%

Q45. Which of the following candidates would you prefer to represent your district in the U.S. House of Representatives, even if neither is exactly perfect? [GSSZ]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
A candidate who goes to Washington to caucus, vote, and work on legislative committees exclusively within one political party, giving them more institutional power to pass legislation.	28%

Response	%
A candidate who does not caucus with either major political party, so that they can independently evaluate every single bill that crosses their desk based entirely on what is best for the people of their district.	54%
Unsure	18%

Q46. Thinking for a moment about your social, economic, and political views...Do you consider yourself to be... [Ideology]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
TOTAL LIBERAL	29%
Very Liberal	10%
Somewhat Liberal	19%
Moderate	31%
TOTAL CONSERVATIVE	36%
Somewhat Conservative	21%
Very Conservative	15%
Libertarian	2%
Unsure	3%

Q47. Do you consider yourself to be lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning? [LGBTQ+]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Yes	6%
No	85%
Unsure	3%
Prefer not to answer	7%

Q48. What would best describe your marital status? [Marital Status]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Single or never married	12%
Married	67%
Separated	1%
Divorced	14%
Widowed	3%
Other	4%

Q49. Do you have children currently living in your household? [Children]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Yes	34%
No	60%
Refused	6%

Q50. Would you best describe the neighborhood or area you live in as... [Neighborhood]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Urban	23%
Suburban	36%
Rural	37%
Unsure	4%

Q51. Do you invest into an IRA or 401k? [401K]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Yes	74%
No	26%

Q52. Please describe your current occupational status. [Occupation]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Employed (Government)	16%
Employed (Private Sector)	29%
Small Business Owner	12%
Student	0%
Homemaker	3%
Retired	31%
Unemployed	5%
Other	4%
Unsure	0%

Q53. Do you currently own (outright/pay mortgage) your residence? [Homeowner]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Own (outright/pay mortgage)	81%
I do not own my residence (rent/other)	19%

Q54. Method [InterviewMethod]

Base: Total sample

Response	%
Phone	8%
Text	92%