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## RACES FOR NH HOUSE, SENATE, AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REMAIN CLOSE

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DURHAM, NH – Democratic candidates continue to hold small advantages in races for the New Hampshire State House and Senate, but past election results indicate that control of both houses is still too close to call. Races for the Executive Council are also tied.

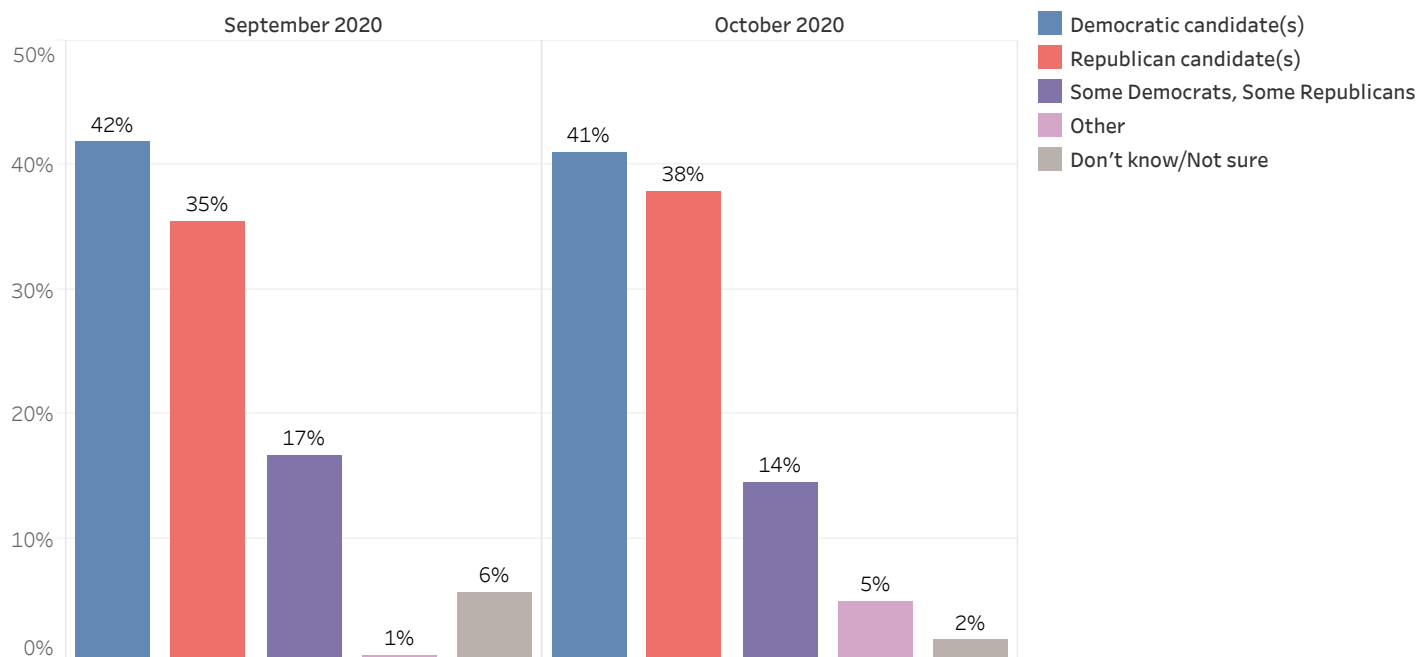
These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll\***, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Nine hundred thirty-three (933) Granite State Panel members completed the survey online between October 9 and October 12, 2020. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 3.2 percent. Included were 899 likely 2020 general election voters (MSE = +/- 3.3%). Data were weighted by respondent sex, age, education, and region of the state to targets from the most recent American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, as well as party registration levels provided by the New Hampshire Secretary of State and 2016 election results in NH. Granite State Panel members are recruited from randomly-selected landline and cell phone numbers across New Hampshire and surveys are sent periodically to panel members.

### New Hampshire House of Representatives

The Democratic Party has held the majority of seats in the New Hampshire House of Representatives since 2018. However, New Hampshire likely voters are split on whether they will vote for Democratic or Republican candidates for the House in November. If the election for the State House were held today, 41% of likely New Hampshire voters say they would vote for the Democratic candidate(s), 38% would vote for the Republican candidate(s), 14% would vote for some Democrats and some Republicans, 5% would vote for the other candidate(s), and 2% don't know or are unsure. The Granite State Poll in October 2018 showed Democrats holding a similar, narrow 45% to 43% lead over Republicans.

Among those respondents who have already voted by absentee ballot (N=146), 83% say they voted for the Democratic candidate(s), 9% voted for the Republican candidate(s), and 7% voted for some Democrats and some Republicans.

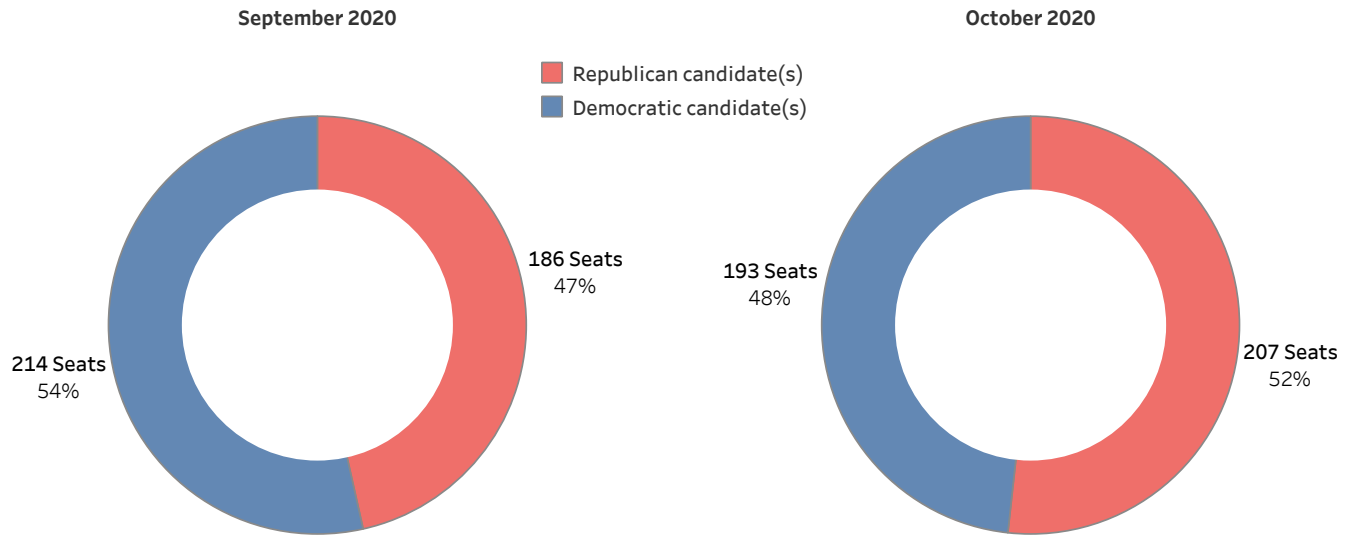
### 2020 NH House of Representatives Election (With Leaners & Those Who Have Already Voted)



\* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the Granite State Poll*, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center.

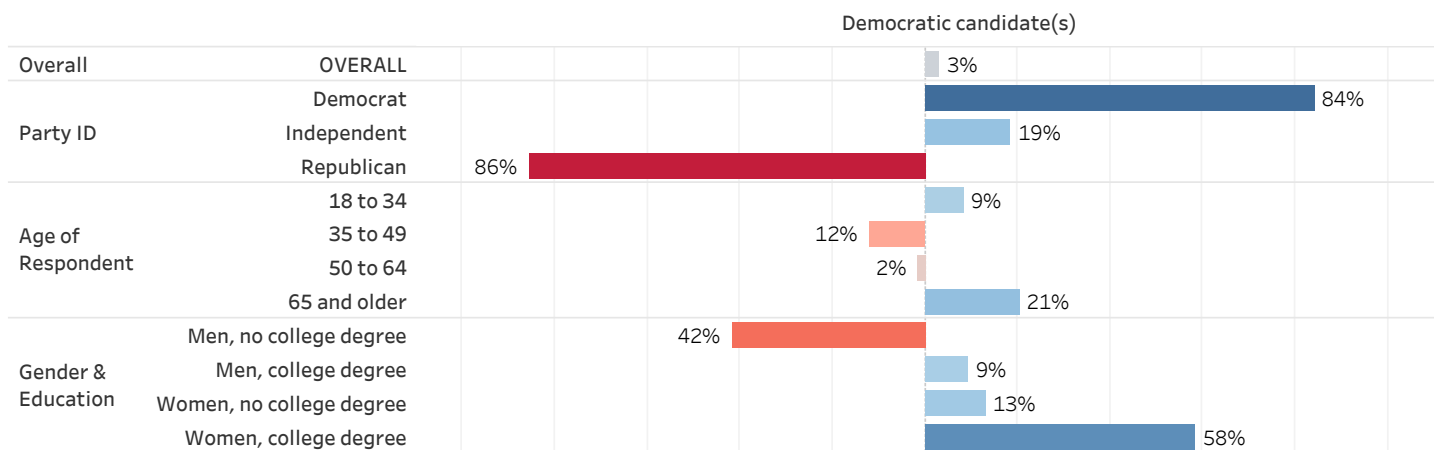
Based on evaluations of past "generic ballot" polling for the New Hampshire State House of Representatives and actual election results, these findings translate into a predicted 207 seats for Republicans and 193 seats for Democrats. Democrats need approximately 53% of the popular vote to win a majority of seats in the State House.

### 2020 NH House of Representatives Election Prediction



- House Democratic candidates lead Republican candidates by 84 percentage points among Democrats and by 19 points among Independents. Republican candidates hold a 86 point lead among Republicans.
- House Democratic candidates lead Republican candidates among those aged 65 and older (+21) and those aged 18 to 34 (+9). Republican candidates lead among those aged 35 to 49 (+12) while the two parties are effectively tied among those aged 50 to 64 (Republicans +2).
- House Democratic candidates hold a large lead over Republican candidates among women with a college degree (+58 percentage points) and smaller leads among women without a college degree (+13) and men with a college degree (+9). Republican candidates hold a large lead among men without a college degree (+42).

### 2020 NH House Election - Difference in Support - October 2020

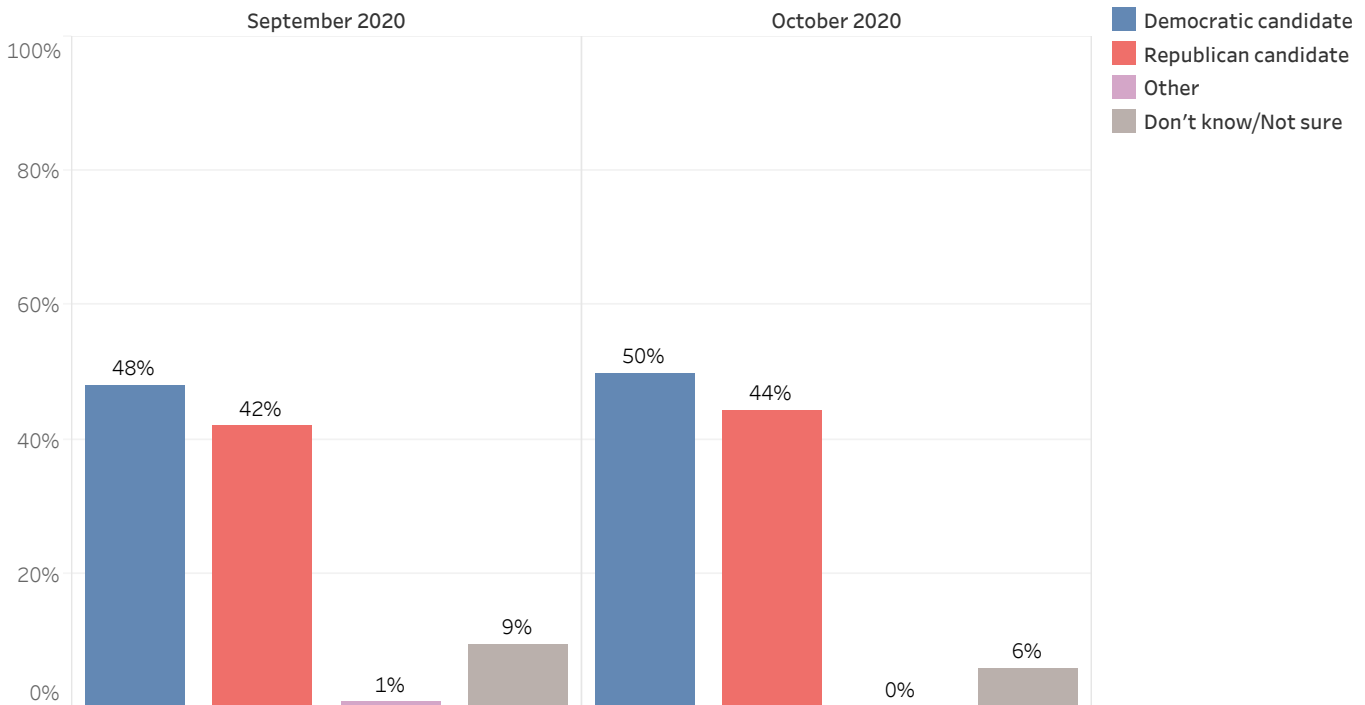


## New Hampshire State Senate

Democrats have also held a majority of seats in the New Hampshire Senate since 2018. New Hampshire likely voters have a slight preference for Democrats over Republicans in 2020. If the election for the State Senate were held today, 50% of likely New Hampshire voters say they would vote for the Democratic candidate, 44% would vote for the Republican candidate, less than 1% would vote for another candidate, and 6% don't know or are unsure. In the October 2018 Granite State Poll, Democrats and Republicans were tied at 45% each.

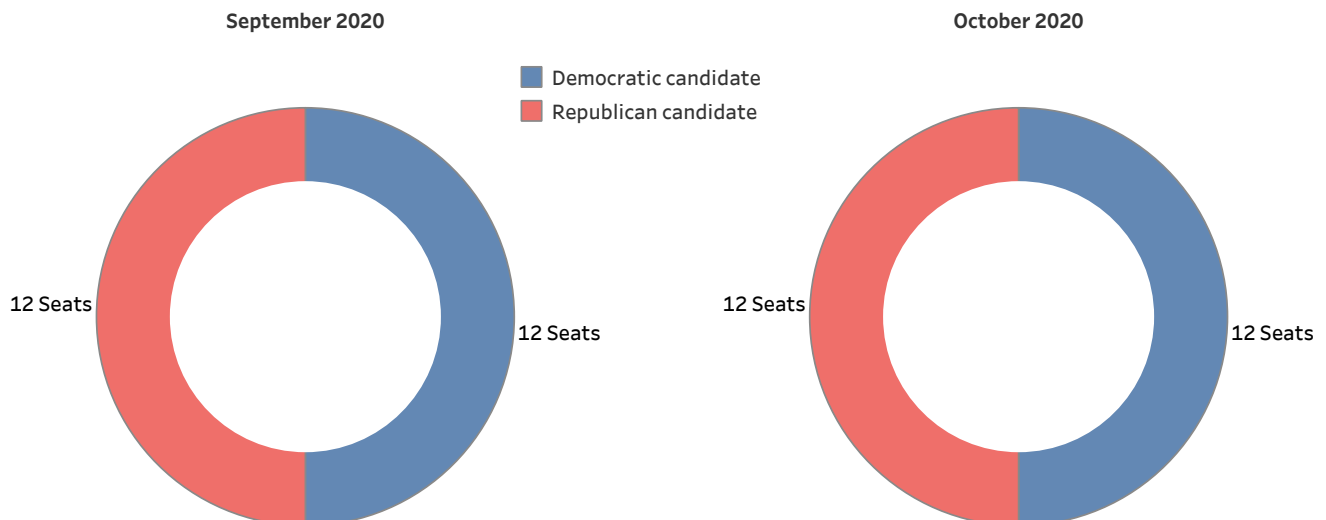
Among respondents who have already voted by absentee ballot (N=150), 85% say they voted for the Democratic candidate and 13% voted for the Republican candidate.

### 2020 NH State Senate Election (With Leaners & Those Who Have Already Voted)



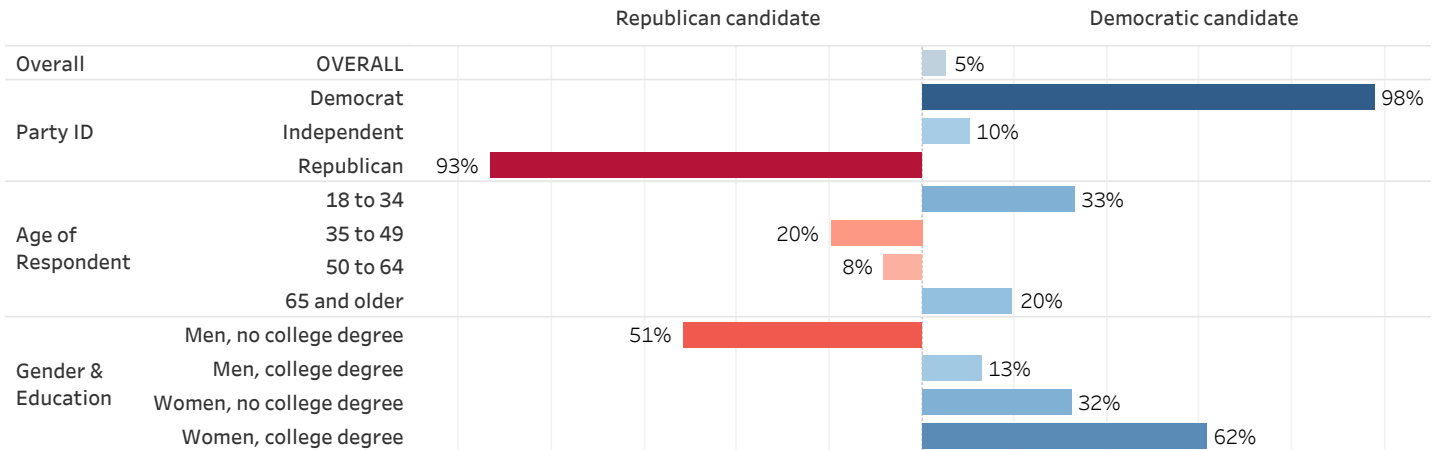
Based on evaluations of past "generic ballot" polling for the New Hampshire State Senate and actual election results, these findings translate into 12 seats for Democrats and 12 seats for Republicans. Democrats need approximately 53% of votes cast for State Senate candidates to win a majority of Senate seats.

### 2020 NH State Senate Election Prediction



- Democratic Senate candidates lead Republican candidates by 98 percentage points among Democrats and by 10 points among Independents. Republican candidates hold a 93 point lead among Republicans.
- Democratic Senate candidates lead Republican candidates among those aged 18 to 34 (+33 percentage points) and those aged 65 and older (+20) while Republican candidates lead among those aged 35 to 49 (+20) and those aged 50 to 64 (+8).
- Democratic Senate candidates hold large leads over Republican candidates among women with a college degree (+62 percentage points) and women without a college degree (+32) and also lead among men with a college degree (+13%). Republican candidates hold a wide lead among men without a college degree (+51).

**2020 NH Senate Election - Difference in Support - October 2020**

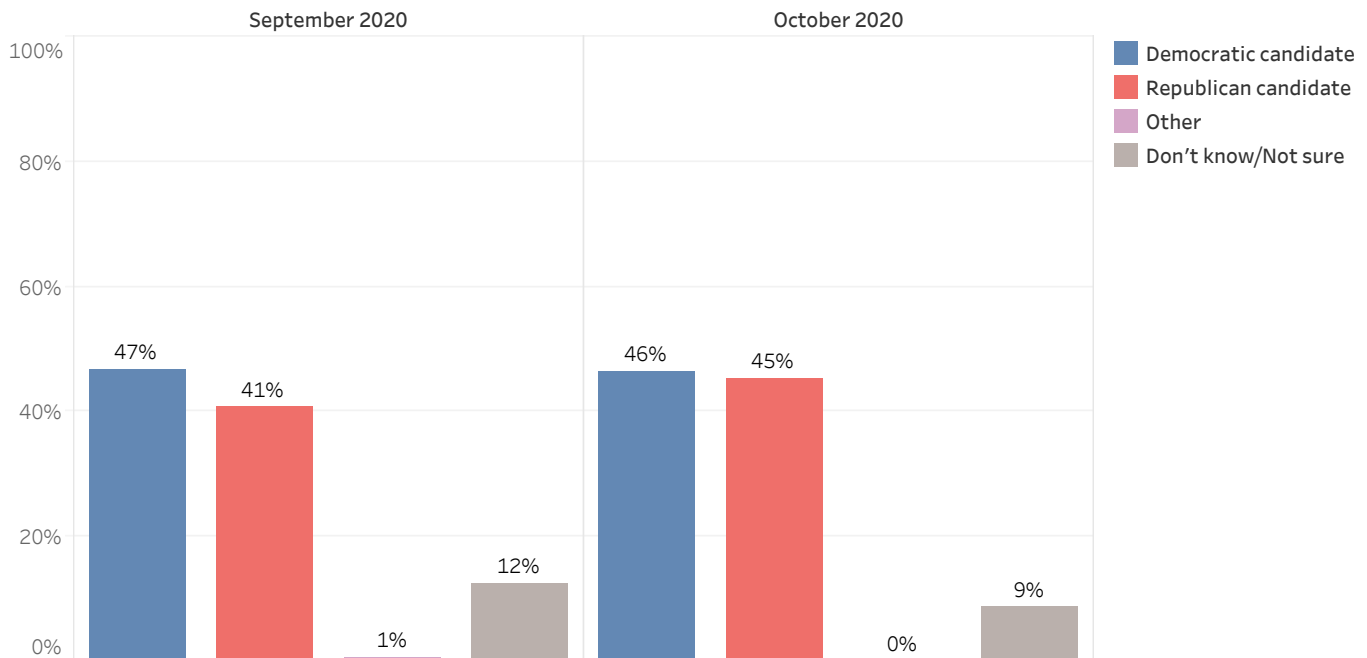


**New Hampshire Executive Council**

Democrats currently hold three of the five seats in the New Hampshire Executive Council but likely voters are currently split on whether they will vote for Democratic or Republican candidates in their Executive Council district. If the election for Executive Council were held today, 46% of likely New Hampshire voters say they would vote for the Democratic candidate, 45% would vote for the Republican candidate, less than 1% would vote for another candidate, and 9% don't know or are unsure. In the October 2018 Granite State Poll, Democrats and Republicans were tied at 44%.

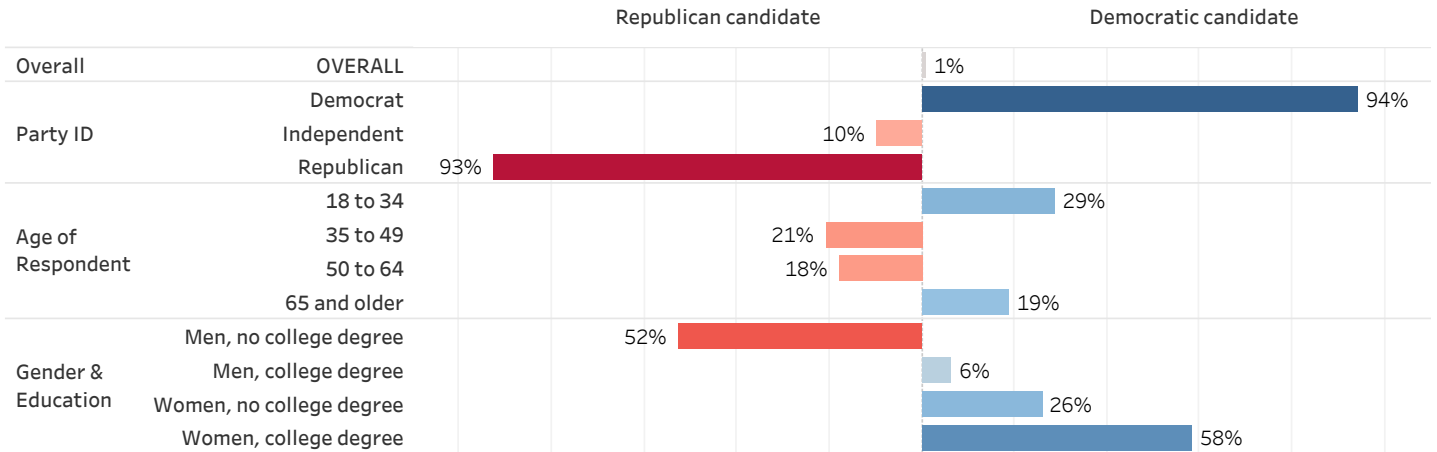
Among respondents who have already voted by absentee ballot (N=150), 77% say they voted for the Democratic candidate and 13% voted for the Republican candidate.

**2020 NH Executive Council Election (With Leaners & Those Who Have Already Voted)**



- Democratic Executive Council candidates lead Republican candidates by 94 percentage points among Democrats while Republican candidates hold a 93 point lead among Republicans and a 10 point lead among Independents.
- Democratic Executive Council candidates lead Republican candidates among those aged 18 to 34 (+29) and those aged 65 and older (+19) while Republican candidates lead among those aged 35 to 49 (+21) and 50 to 64 (+18).
- Democratic Executive Council candidates hold a large lead over Republican candidates among women with a college degree (+58 percentage points) and smaller leads among women without a college degree (+26) and men with a college degree (+6). Republican candidates hold a wide lead among men without a college degree (+52).

**2020 NH Executive Council Election - Difference in Support - October 2020**



## Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the latest Granite State Poll, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Nine hundred thirty-three (933) Granite State Panel members completed the survey online between October 9 and October 12, 2020. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 3.2 percent. Included were 899 likely 2020 general election voters (MSE = +/- 3.3%). These MSE's have not been adjusted for design effect. The response rate for the October 2020 Granite State Poll is 35%. The design effect for the survey is 2.7%.

Data were weighted by respondent sex, age, education, and region of the state to targets from the most recent American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, as well as party registration levels provided by the New Hampshire Secretary of State and to 2016 election results in New Hampshire.

The Granite State Panel is part of an effort by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center to investigate new ways of gathering and understanding the opinion of New Hampshire residents. Approximately 5,750 New Hampshire adults were recruited from randomly selected landline and cell phone numbers to participate in the panel. Panelists are then asked to participate in online surveys sponsored by the UNH Survey Center.

The number of respondents in each demographic below may not equal the number reported in cross-tabulation tables as some respondents choose not to answer some questions. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100%.

For more information about the methodology used in the Granite State Panel, contact Dr. Andrew Smith at (603) 862-2226 or by email at [andrew.smith@unh.edu](mailto:andrew.smith@unh.edu).

### Granite State Poll, October 2020 Demographics

		%	N
Gender of Respondent	Men	49%	476
	Women	51%	495
Age of Respondent	18 to 34	27%	264
	35 to 49	18%	179
	50 to 64	34%	332
	65 and older	21%	204
Level of Education	High school or less	36%	362
	Tech school/Some college	31%	309
	College graduate	21%	206
	Postgraduate work	12%	122
Region of State	Connecticut Valley	15%	155
	Manchester Area	21%	211
	Mass Border	22%	220
	North Country	8%	80
	Seacoast	19%	195
	Central/Lakes	16%	163
Party ID	Democrat	42%	417
	Independent	16%	164
	Republican	42%	419
Voting Registration	Registered Democrat	28%	284
	Registered Undeclared/Not Reg.	42%	417
	Registered Republican	30%	298

A historical analysis was done looking at the results of the "generic ballot" question and the actual number of seats won by Republicans in the New Hampshire House and Senate in the 2000 through 2018 elections. This was presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) Annual Meeting, and is available from the UNH Survey Center.

The model developed in this paper used for estimating House seats from the generic ballot question is:

$$\text{HOUSE SEATS} = -269.923 + (\text{two party GOP estimate} * 993.803)$$

In this Granite State Poll, the two party estimate of House vote percentage with leaners for Republicans, 48.0% (37.9% GOP / (37.9% GOP + 41.0% DEM) = 48.0%) is calculated and inserted into the formula above. This results in an estimate of 193 Democratic House seats and 207 Republican House seats.

### 2020 NH House of Representatives Election (With Leaners & Those Who Have Already Voted)

Please think about the election for your representative(s) to the New Hampshire House of Representatives. How do you plan to vote for the New Hampshire House of Representatives?

	<u>Democratic candidate(s)</u>	<u>Republican candidate(s)</u>	<u>Some Democrats, Some Republicans</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Don't know/Not sure</u>	<u>N</u>
September 2020	42%	35%	17%	1%	6%	967
October 2020	41%	38%	14%	5%	2%	882

The model developed for estimating Senate seats from the generic ballot question is:

$$\text{SENATE SEATS} = -18.457 + (\text{two party GOP estimate} * 64.822)$$

In this Granite State Poll, the two party estimate of Senate vote percentage with leaners for Republicans, 47.1% (44.3% GOP / (44.3% GOP + 49.7% DEM) = 47.1%) is calculated and inserted into the formula above. This results in an estimate of 12 Democratic Senate seats and 12 Republican Senate seats.

### 2020 NH State Senate Election (With Leaners & Those Who Have Already Voted)

Do you plan to vote for the Republican candidate or Democratic candidate for the New Hampshire Senate?

	<u>Democratic candidate</u>	<u>Republican candidate</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Don't know/Not sure</u>	<u>N</u>
September 2020	48%	42%	1%	9%	969
October 2020	50%	44%	0%	6%	896

### 2020 NH Executive Council Election (With Leaners & Those Who Have Already Voted)

Do you plan to vote for the Republican candidate or Democratic candidate for the New Hampshire Executive Council?

	<u>Democratic candidate</u>	<u>Republican candidate</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Don't know/Not sure</u>	<u>N</u>
September 2020	47%	41%	1%	12%	968
October 2020	46%	45%	0%	9%	881

**2020 NH House of Representatives Election (With Leaners & Those Who Have Already Voted)**

		<u>Democratic candidate(s)</u>	<u>Republican candidate(s)</u>	<u>Some Democrats, Some Republicans</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Don't know/Not sure</u>	<u>N</u>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>October 2020</b>	41%	38%	14%	5%	2%	882
<b>Voting Registration</b>	Registered Democrat	79%	1%	3%	17%	1%	256
	Registered Undeclared/Not Reg.	42%	28%	27%	0%	3%	359
	Registered Republican	3%	88%	9%	0%	0%	258
<b>Party ID</b>	Democrat	84%		3%	11%	1%	379
	Independent	28%	9%	57%	0%	6%	124
	Republican	2%	87%	10%	0%	1%	367
<b>Ideology</b>	Liberal	78%		2%	20%	0%	219
	Moderate	49%	23%	26%	0%	2%	323
	Conservative	2%	87%	9%	0%	2%	269
<b>Media Usage</b>	Boston Globe reader	71%	13%	16%		0%	61
	Conservative radio listener	3%	84%	13%	0%	0%	270
	Fox News viewer	10%	67%	22%	0%	1%	421
	Local newspapers reader	53%	20%	24%	0%	3%	200
	NHPR listener	50%	32%	17%	0%	1%	567
	Union Leader reader	40%	32%	27%	0%	1%	149
	WMUR viewer	46%	36%	17%	0%	1%	663
<b>Age of Respondent</b>	18 to 34	42%	33%	5%	20%		215
	35 to 49	36%	48%	12%		4%	196
	50 to 64	38%	39%	21%	0%	2%	284
	65 and older	51%	30%	17%	0%	1%	181
<b>Gender of Respondent</b>	Men	28%	54%	16%	0%	2%	421
	Women	54%	24%	11%	10%	1%	443
<b>Level of Education</b>	High school or less	27%	44%	14%	14%		303
	Tech school/Some college	35%	47%	17%		1%	276
	College graduate	58%	24%	13%	0%	5%	189
	Postgraduate work	65%	22%	10%	0%	2%	113
<b>Region of State</b>	Connecticut Valley	57%	37%	4%	0%	2%	133
	Manchester Area	31%	35%	15%	18%	0%	236
	Mass Border	43%	41%	15%		1%	197
	North Country	31%	49%	18%		2%	55
	Seacoast	57%	28%	10%		6%	116
	Central/Lakes	30%	44%	25%		1%	144
<b>Gender &amp; Education</b>	Men, no college degree	21%	63%	16%		0%	293
	Men, college degree	43%	34%	16%	0%	6%	127
	Women, no college degree	42%	29%	13%	16%	1%	273
	Women, college degree	74%	15%	8%	0%	3%	169
<b>2016 Presidential Vote</b>	Voted for Trump	3%	76%	19%	0%	2%	411
	Voted for Hillary Clinton	80%	1%	9%	10%	1%	418
	Did not vote in 2016	22%	48%	25%		4%	15



**2020 NH State Senate Election (With Leaners & Those Who Have Already Voted)**

		<u>Democratic candidate</u>	<u>Republican candidate</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Don't know/Not sure</u>	<u>N</u>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>October 2020</b>	50%	44%	0%	6%	896
<b>Voting Registration</b>	Registered Democrat	98%	1%		1%	256
	Registered Undeclared/Not Reg.	49%	39%	0%	12%	373
	Registered Republican	4%	94%	0%	2%	258
<b>Party ID</b>	Democrat	98%	0%	0%	1%	388
	Independent	43%	33%		24%	128
	Republican	2%	95%	0%	2%	368
<b>Ideology</b>	Liberal	99%	0%		1%	228
	Moderate	57%	36%	0%	7%	327
	Conservative	2%	91%	0%	7%	269
<b>Media Usage</b>	Boston Globe reader	77%	21%		3%	61
	Conservative radio listener	4%	92%	0%	4%	270
	Fox News viewer	13%	80%	0%	7%	421
	Local newspapers reader	57%	32%	0%	11%	200
	NHPR listener	54%	42%	0%	4%	567
	Union Leader reader	41%	45%	0%	14%	150
	WMUR viewer	50%	44%	0%	6%	677
<b>Age of Respondent</b>	18 to 34	66%	33%		2%	224
	35 to 49	37%	56%	0%	7%	197
	50 to 64	42%	50%	0%	8%	285
	65 and older	57%	37%	0%	6%	183
<b>Gender of Respondent</b>	Men	31%	64%	0%	5%	431
	Women	68%	25%		7%	446
<b>Level of Education</b>	High school or less	44%	53%		2%	312
	Tech school/Some college	38%	54%		8%	279
	College graduate	64%	27%	0%	8%	189
	Postgraduate work	69%	23%	0%	7%	114
<b>Region of State</b>	Connecticut Valley	59%	38%	0%	3%	133
	Manchester Area	53%	44%		3%	242
	Mass Border	45%	45%		10%	197
	North Country	35%	53%	0%	11%	55
	Seacoast	60%	31%	1%	8%	116
	Central/Lakes	41%	55%		4%	153
<b>Gender &amp; Education</b>	Men, no college degree	23%	75%		2%	302
	Men, college degree	50%	37%	1%	12%	128
	Women, no college degree	62%	30%		8%	277
	Women, college degree	78%	17%		5%	169
<b>2016 Presidential Vote</b>	Voted for Trump	3%	90%	0%	7%	413
	Voted for Hillary Clinton	95%	1%		4%	421
	Did not vote in 2016	30%	62%		8%	15

**2020 NH Executive Council Election (With Leaners & Those Who Have Already Voted)**

		<u>Democratic candidate</u>	<u>Republican candidate</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Don't know/Not sure</u>	<u>N</u>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>October 2020</b>	46%	45%	0%	9%	881
<b>Voting Registration</b>	Registered Democrat	98%	1%		2%	249
	Registered Undeclared/Not Reg.	42%	41%	0%	17%	369
	Registered Republican	3%	94%	0%	3%	256
<b>Party ID</b>	Democrat	96%	2%		2%	381
	Independent	29%	39%		33%	125
	Republican	1%	94%	0%	5%	365
<b>Ideology</b>	Liberal	98%	0%		2%	227
	Moderate	50%	41%		9%	316
	Conservative	2%	91%	0%	7%	266
<b>Media Usage</b>	Boston Globe reader	73%	23%		4%	60
	Conservative radio listener	2%	90%	0%	7%	268
	Fox News viewer	11%	78%	0%	11%	418
	Local newspapers reader	56%	33%	0%	11%	199
	NHPR listener	51%	42%	0%	7%	560
	Union Leader reader	36%	48%		16%	149
	WMUR viewer	46%	45%	0%	9%	663
<b>Age of Respondent</b>	18 to 34	64%	35%		1%	224
	35 to 49	37%	57%		6%	194
	50 to 64	34%	52%		13%	278
	65 and older	53%	34%	0%	13%	179
<b>Gender of Respondent</b>	Men	29%	64%	0%	8%	430
	Women	64%	26%		10%	433
<b>Level of Education</b>	High school or less	42%	53%		5%	307
	Tech school/Some college	33%	55%		12%	274
	College graduate	61%	27%		11%	185
	Postgraduate work	66%	28%	0%	6%	114
<b>Region of State</b>	Connecticut Valley	58%	39%	0%	3%	131
	Manchester Area	45%	49%		6%	237
	Mass Border	44%	42%		15%	189
	North Country	31%	53%		16%	55
	Seacoast	58%	29%		13%	115
	Central/Lakes	37%	59%		4%	153
<b>Gender &amp; Education</b>	Men, no college degree	21%	73%		6%	302
	Men, college degree	47%	41%	0%	12%	126
	Women, no college degree	57%	31%		12%	266
	Women, college degree	76%	17%		7%	167
<b>2016 Presidential Vote</b>	Voted for Trump	3%	88%	0%	10%	410
	Voted for Hillary Clinton	90%	4%		6%	410
	Did not vote in 2016	23%	62%		16%	15