



South Carolina Governor/Atty General Statewide Republican Runoff Poll Summary

JMC Analytics and Polling (who is not affiliated with any candidate running for Governor or Attorney General) commissioned this poll for marketing/promotional purposes for Republican runoff races in South Carolina both for Governor and Attorney General. There are three main takeaways from this poll: (1) In the Republican runoff race for governor, Attorney General Alan Wilson has built up a wide lead since the primary, (2) the Attorney General's race is more fluid, and (3) economic concerns are the top issue among likely Republican runoff voters.

In the primary, Lt. Governor Pamela Evette had a 29-26% lead over Attorney General Alan Wilson. With the runoff a week away, Wilson has since then built a wide (59-25%) lead over Evette on the ballot test. If we include undecided "leaners", Wilson's lead widens even more, to 63-28%, with 9% still undecided. This momentum is due to Wilson's cornering the "also ran" vote by a 60-24% margin over Evette (66-25% for Wilson if we include undecided "leaners").

From an ideological standpoint, Wilson has built his wide lead by having strong support across the Republican ideological spectrum. He begins with 73-22% support from "Establishment" Republicans, which is then augmented with 65-27% support from Evangelical conservatives, then 55-38% support from Trump/MAGA conservatives - despite Evette's getting the Trump endorsement. From a geographic standpoint, Wilson has wide leads (in excess of 63%) across the state, although he has a plurality (48-37%) lead in the Myrtle Beach DMA, while Evette leads 43-30% in the Augusta (GA) -Aiken DMA.

In the primary race for Attorney General, state senator (and Citadel graduate) Stephen Goldfinch had a 40-36% lead over Solicitor David Stumbo; since then, Stumbo has a 39-30% poll lead, although it's worth noting that this race is fluid, with a significant (31%) undecided vote.

From an ideological standpoint, Stumbo's lead is strongest among Evangelicals, where he has a 52-24% lead. He is also strong among self-described independents, with a 36-23% lead. He has a narrower 39-34% lead over Goldfinch among traditional Republicans, while Trump/MAGA Republicans are evenly (36-36%) split. From a geographic standpoint, Stumbo has wide leads in the Greenville/Spartanburg, Columbia, and Savannah (GA) DMAs (58% of the sample). Goldfinch has wide leads in both the Myrtle Beach and Charlotte (NC) DMAs (22% of the sample).

In summary, Alan Wilson has built up a wide lead that positions him to win next Tuesday's runoff, while the Attorney General's race is more fluid - the question for that race is whether it could flip again before the runoff.