

# TREASURE STATE 2020 POLL RESULTS: APPROVAL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

## Tabular data and analysis provided by:

Dr. David C. W. Parker, Dr. Eric D. Raile, and Dr. Elizabeth A. Shanahan  
Department of Political Science, Montana State University-Bozeman

**Notes:** The survey was in the field from September 14 – October 2, 2020. Rows in tables may not sum to 100% exactly due to rounding. The margin of error, adjusted for design effects due to weighting, is +/-3.9 percentage points. Percentages are for weighted respondents as explained in the methods documentation.

**Table 1: Approval of Elected Officials**

	<b>Strongly Approve</b>	<b>Approve</b>	<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>Strongly Disapprove</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total Row Respondents</b>
Donald Trump	33%	18%	7%	42%	1%	1,591
Steve Bullock	32%	28%	16%	21%	3%	1,571
Steve Daines	17%	35%	22%	19%	7%	1,554
Jon Tester	23%	32%	22%	15%	9%	1,565
Greg Gianforte	17%	30%	16%	29%	9%	1,563

President Trump's job approval rating is 51 percent, nearly mirroring Senator Daines' approval rating of 52 percent. Seven percent of respondents indicate that they don't know whether they approve or disapprove of Senator Daines' job in Washington. Governor Bullock's job approval ratings clarify why Daines is trailing in the race. At 60 percent approval, Governor Bullock is the most popular statewide politician in Montana. With only 37 percent of respondents expressing disapproval of the job being done by Governor Bullock, his popularity alone may carry him into the Senate. Conversely, Congressman Gianforte is still quite unpopular: 47 percent indicate approval, 45 percent disapproval, and 9 percent don't know. This suggests Gianforte's lead in the governor's race may be tenuous.