

TREASURE STATE 2020 POLL RESULTS: THE MONTANA U.S. HOUSE RACE

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: House Vote among Likely and Active Registered Voters

Williams	Rosendale	Other	Don't Know	Total Row Respondents
46%	48%	1%	5%	1,609

Based upon the margin of error in our sample, Republican State Auditor Matt Rosendale receives between 44 and 52 percent support from our respondents, with 48 percent as the average estimated level of support. Former Democratic state legislator Kathleen Williams receives support from between 42 and 50 (mean of 46) percent of respondents. The gap between the two candidates is within the poll's margin of error.

Table 2: House Vote by Party among Likely and Active Registered Voters

Party	Williams	Rosendale	Other / Don't Know	Total Row Respondents
Democrat	95%	1%	4%	442
Republican	8%	87%	4%	695
Independent	59%	31%	10%	337
Other	61%	28%	11%	103

As with the other statewide races, voting breaks down largely along partisan lines. However, more Republicans intend to vote for Williams (8 percent) than Democrats intend to vote for Rosendale (1 percent). Independents and individuals with other partisan affiliations favor Williams by large margins (28 points and 33 points, respectively). Rosendale leads overall due to the higher number of Republicans in the state, however.

Table 3: House Vote by Gender among Likely and Active Registered Voters

Gender	Williams	Rosendale	Other / Don't Know	Total Row Respondents
Female	48%	45%	6%	745
Male	45%	50%	5%	818

The gender gap in this race is rather small. Women favor Williams (48 to 45 percent), while men favor Rosendale (50 to 45 percent). This contrasts with the 2018 race for the House, in which Greg Gianforte led 54 to 34 percent among men, while Kathleen Williams led 47 to 41 percent among women.

Table 4: House Vote by Age among Likely and Active Registered Voters

Age	Williams	Rosendale	Other / Don't Know	Total Row Respondents
18-29	54%	40%	6%	202
30-39	48%	41%	11%	237
40-49	44%	52%	4%	230
50-59	45%	50%	6%	253
60-69	45%	50%	6%	331
70+	45%	50%	5%	356

Williams holds an edge among voters under 40 years old, while Rosendale holds an edge for those 40 and older. Williams' advantage is particularly pronounced among 18 to 29 year-old voters, which indicates that she really needs strong turnout among younger voters to win. Low turnout among younger voters would result in a Rosendale victory. Williams' margin among younger voters is a bit behind Bullock's advantage in the Senate race, which might explain why she trails Rosendale slightly.

Table 5: House Vote by Education among Likely and Active Registered Voters

Education	Williams	Rosendale	Other / Don't Know	Total Row Respondents
Less than high school	52%	48%	0%	56
High school/GED	43%	52%	5%	958
Associate/junior college	48%	44%	9%	195
Bachelor's degree	53%	41%	7%	308
Graduate degree	72%	24%	5%	46

Rosendale's lead overall is largely a function of his lead among those with a high school degree. Williams leads among all other education groups, with notable advantages among individuals with a bachelor's degree (12 points) and individuals with a graduate or professional degree (48 points).

Table 6: House Vote by Presidential Vote among Likely and Active Registered Voters

Vote for President	Williams	Rosendale	Other / Don't Know	Total Row Respondents
Trump	6%	88%	5%	814
Biden	94%	3%	4%	702
Other / Don't Know	39%	31%	31%	88

More Trump voters are willing to vote for Williams (6 percent) than is true of Biden voters willing to vote for Rosendale (3 percent). Vote intentions largely follow party lines overall, however.