

Statehood is well-positioned for victory in the upcoming plebiscite

The Puerto Rico Herald obtained the key findings of a survey of Puerto Rico registered and likely voters. The poll was conducted between September 14th to September 18th, 2020 by a nationally recognized public opinion research firm. The poll, not conducted for any candidate or party, included questions on a wide array of important topics, using a scientifically designed sample across all of Puerto Rico regions, age groups, gender and socioeconomic levels to produce reliable findings regarding the current attitudes of registered voters about issues and potential candidates for office.

Statehood is well-positioned for victory in the upcoming plebiscite. The YES has a 53-35% lead among voters overall and a 70-24% lead among those who plan to cast a plebiscite ballot.

YES has an array of strong messages (highlighted by a focus on EQUAL RIGHTS and the benefits of statehood for EDUCATION and DISASTER RECOVERY), trustworthy spokespeople, and more voters remembering seeing pro-statehood messaging. The opposition's arguments are not particularly effective, and most voters are not seeing or hearing messaging from the NO side.

The race for governor is much less certain. Pedro Pierluisi holds a narrow two-point lead (unchanged since July) over Charlie Delgado, but both candidates are below 30% support and 17% of voters are undecided.

Voters say education, corruption, and the economy are the most important issues to their vote for governor – and political status is among the least important. Coronavirus is a second-tier issue when it comes to voters' preference for governor but is certainly a major concern and voters anticipate another lockdown will be necessary.

Jenniffer González is well-positioned to win another term as resident commissioner. She currently holds a 33-point lead over Aníbal Acevedo Vilá, 51% to 18%. She has doubled her lead since February and remains the most popular politician on the island: 73% view her favorably and 68% approve of the job she is doing as resident commissioner.

The PNP also has a decent chance to control the legislature, with a 36%-31% lead on the generic legislative ballot, although 18% remain undecided.

