

The Highlights

- The Florida Chamber's General Election Voter Guide is now available online - learn more about Chamber-backed candidates and amendments [here](#).
- Florida's business community had a successful Primary Election night - [2 of 2 in Senate, 19 of 21 in House](#).
- The Florida Chamber of Commerce released another round of endorsements post-primary including [Jason Brodeur](#), [Jennifer Bradley](#), [Senate Incumbents](#), and [multiple candidates campaigning for the Florida House](#).
- The 2020 Florida Chamber Election Center is now LIVE - [follow early voting numbers and get involved with Chamber political action](#).
- The Florida Institute for Political Leadership is partnering with local chambers of commerce and hosting virtual candidate schools on how to run a winning political campaign. [Click here to learn more](#).
- Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 and Florida's economy by checking out [The Florida Scorecard](#) and visiting the Florida Chamber [Resource Center](#).

Chamber Members can access exclusive political intel here:

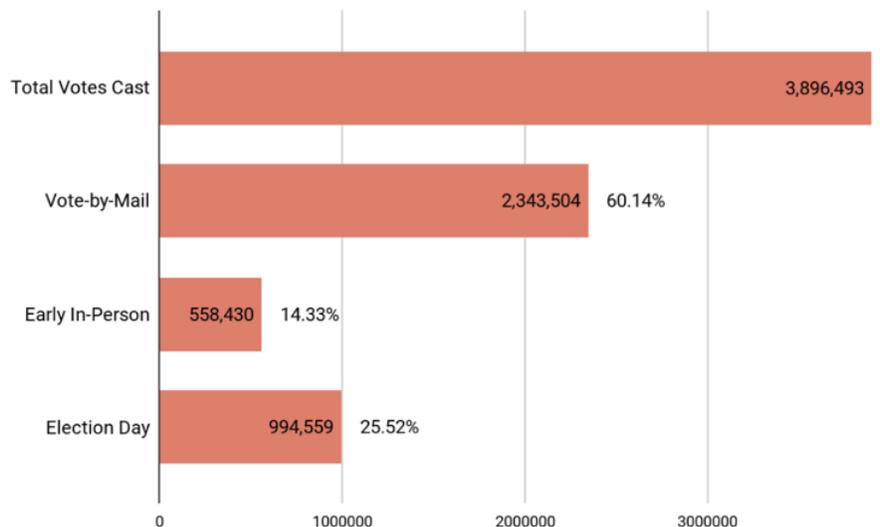
Chamber Member's Only Access

Florida: Behind The Numbers

ANALYSIS BY CHAMBERHUB

Primary Analysis

Ballots Cast by Method, 2020 Florida Primary



The Big Picture: Florida's August Primary saw nearly 3.9 million Floridians cast ballots across the state, 28.2% of all registered voters. This marked the highest turnout for a Florida Primary since the 2002 Primary. Heightened turnout for last month's primary was even more remarkable when considering that, unlike 2002, this year's Primary did not feature any statewide elected offices on the ballot.

Why It Matters: The August Primary was also notable due to a surge of Vote-by-Mail ballots. Undoubtedly, a consequence of ongoing COVID-19 concerns, 60% of Floridians used a VBM ballot in the August Primary. **This marked the first time ever in a statewide Florida election that a majority of ballots cast were by mail.**

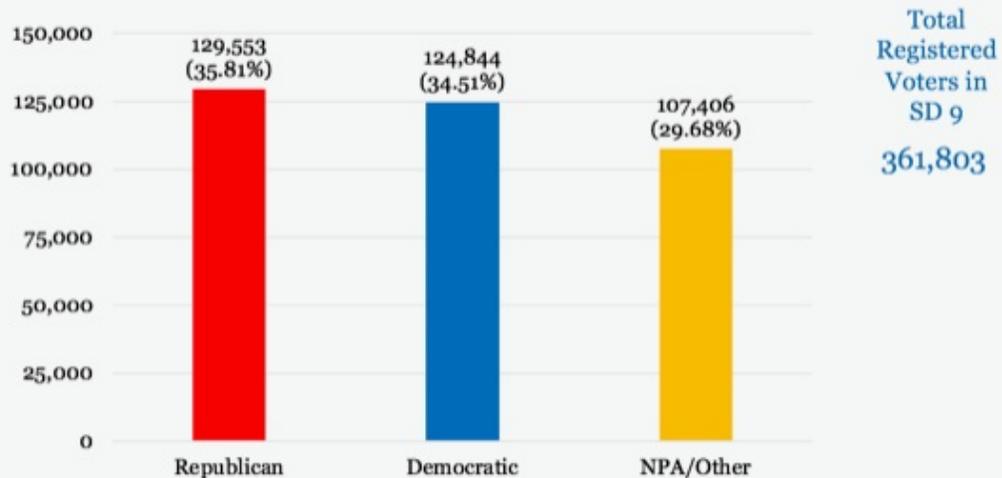
Next Steps: With requested VBM ballots set to be sent to millions of Floridians later this month for the General Election, Floridians are poised to be voting in just a few short weeks. The Florida Chamber political team will be continually analyzing how the significant VBM ballots impact elections across the state and what these ballots tell us about voter enthusiasm.

From the Campaign Trail

Senate District 9

Florida Chamber Endorsed Jason Brodeur

Total Registered Voters in Senate District 9 (as of July 31, 2020)



The Big Picture: With Democrat Patricia Sigman's Primary victory on August 18th, the November ballot is set in the critical race for Senate District 9 in Seminole and Volusia counties. Florida Chamber-endorsed Republican nominee Jason Brodeur, unopposed in August's Republican primary, will face Sigman and Jistine Iannotti (NPA) in one of the highest profile races for the Florida Legislature this year.

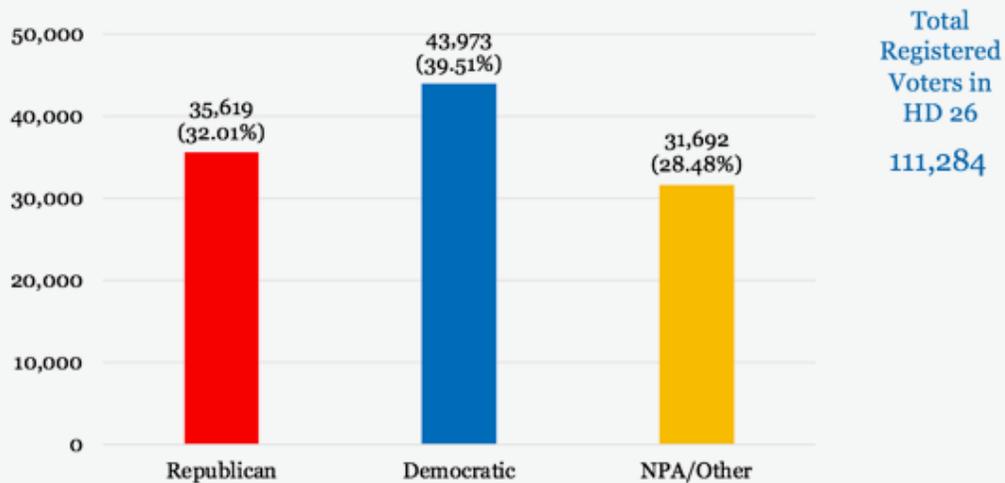
By the Numbers: Long thought of as a solidly Republican part of Florida, the district has quickly become a closely-contested battleground area of the state as this predominantly Seminole County seat has trended in Democrats' favor. As recently as the 2016 General Election, Republicans outnumbered Democrats by more than 17,000 registered voters, a margin that has narrowed to just more than 5,000 today. Won by President Trump in 2016 by 4% over Hillary Clinton, it narrowed considerably in 2018 as both Governor DeSantis and Senator Scott won by less than a one-half percent margin over their respective Democratic opponents.

Why It Matters: As a local Chamber President/CEO and former member of the State House, Jason Brodeur earned the Florida Chamber's endorsement thanks to his strong record of supporting free enterprise in Florida as demonstrated by his lifetime 94% "A" rating on the Florida Chamber's Legislative Report Card. Sigman, the Democrat, is a lawyer who has made millions during her career of suing businesses. With both parties poised to make this race a top priority, the Florida Chamber will work to ensure the voters know Jason Brodeur will ensure Florida's economy remains competitive.

House District 26

Florida Chamber Endorsed Rep. Elizabeth Fetterhoff

Total Registered Voters in House District 26 (as of July 31, 2020)



The Big Picture: First-term Republican and Chamber-endorsed Rep. Elizabeth Fetterhoff is set for a rematch against former Representative Patrick Henry (DEM) in this Volusia based House seat following Henry's Primary victory last month. Fetterhoff's victory in 2018 could not have been much closer, winning by just 61 votes out of over 60,000 cast, and this race once again seems poised to be among Florida's most competitive House races.

By the Numbers: While Democrats currently enjoy a registration advantage of more than 7%, this district, like much of Volusia County has been trending Republican in recent years. Fetterhoff claimed victory in 2018 despite what was then a 10.6% registration advantage for Democrats, leaving her a much smaller deficit to overcome this year.

Why It Matters: This race could not be much clearer for those in the business community supporting free enterprise. Fetterhoff earned her endorsement from the Florida Chamber thanks to a perfect 100% "A" rating on the Chamber's Legislative Report Card. On the other hand, Henry earned "F" ratings of 59% and 49% on the Chamber's Legislative Report Card during his two years in Tallahassee.

Spotlight

Personal Injury Trial Lawyers Trying to Cash In

A [recent national survey](#) shows strong bipartisan support for coronavirus related legal protections – with 85% supporting a law that would protect business from frivolous lawsuits. As certain opportunistic trial lawyers join the pursuit of high dollar coronavirus-related lawsuits, it's pertinent that Florida's business community unites around Chamber-backed reform and leans in on our elected officials to pass necessary protections.

Say NO to Amendment 2 First in the Nation \$15 Mandated Wage

["The Florida Chamber is the leading opponent to Amendment 2."](#) - South Florida Sun Sentinel Editorial Board

America's largest personal injury trial law firm has spent millions to buy signatures for the amendment and put it on the ballot. This amendment will negatively impact job growth, limit opportunities for entry-level workers, and increase financial pressures on Florida seniors.

[SIGN THE PETITION TO HELP DEFEAT IT](#)

The Money Race Fundraising is down 65% this year

SHOT: COVID-19 Impact: fundraising for House and Senate candidates and political committees, excluding parties and party affiliated committees, during the ten-week target window is down this year by \$18.5 million, a 65% decrease.

CHASER: While the COVID-19 pandemic may have caused fundraising to slow down for most interested parties, **personal injury trial lawyers are more than \$1.25 million ahead of where they were at the same point in 2018.**

With 2 months until Election Day, political contributions are incredibly important. To learn more and to get involved with the Florida Chamber Political Operations, click the link below.

[Learn More and Contribute](#)

Social Media Toolkit

Capital Tweets:

📌 Pinned Tweet



Ron DeSantis @GovRonDeSantis · Jul 31

COVID-19 has been a significant challenge for all Floridians but I'm 100% confident we can, and will, overcome this challenge. To that end, I'm asking all Floridians to join me in this important effort – One Goal One Florida.

[Learn More About #OneGoalOneFlorida](#)

📌 Pinned Tweet



AG Ashley Moody @AGAshleyMoody · 23h

Millions of students are headed back to school—many virtually. That means more time online, making them more vulnerable to online predators. As a mom, I know how scary that is, so I am issuing tips to help parents protect their children.

[Hear Attorney General Moody's Tips Here](#)

Tweet Suggestions:

.@FLChamber is uniting Florida's business community to help make Florida more competitive and endorsed a bipartisan list of over fifty House incumbents running for reelection this year. #FlaPol

The @FLChamber is continuing to unite Florida's business community and endorsed a bipartisan list of Florida House and Senate candidates for the November Election! #FlaPol

COVID-19 has temporarily diverted our course and we will get back on track as we #ReimagineFL and #RelaunchFL at the 2020 Virtual Future of Florida Forum. Your mission awaits: <https://bit.ly/3i8pGqy>



What's Next: Upcoming Calls, Webinars, and Events

REGISTER NOW:

[Florida Chamber of Commerce Future of Florida Forum Virtual Event - October 20-22](#)

[Florida Chamber of Commerce Virtual Insurance Summit - November 5-6](#)

September 19 - Deadline for overseas and VBM ballots to be sent
September 24 - October 1 - VBM ballots sent to those with requests on file
September 29 - First Presidential Debate

October 5 - Deadline to register to vote for the General Election

October 7 - Vice Presidential Debate
October 15 - Second Presidential Debate
October 22 - Third Presidential Debate

October 24 - 31 - Early Voting period for all counties (Optional Dates: Oct. 19-23 and Nov. 1)
November 3 - General Election

For assistance with Political Operations, please contact:

Nick Catroppo, Vice President of Political Operations

O: 850-521-1298 | C: 352-587-4122 | E: ncatroppo@flchamber.com

Andrew Wiggins, Senior Director of Political Affairs and Coalition Advocacy

O: 850-521-1240 | C: 850-251-3244 | E: awiggins@flchamber.com

Marian Johnson, Executive Director, Florida Chamber Political Institute

O: 850-521-1241 | C: 850-212-7073 | E: marianjohnson@flchamber.com