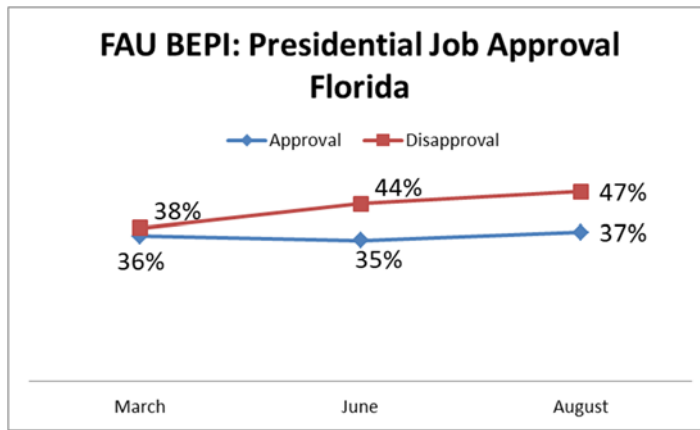


**Florida Voters Sour on the President But Not on His Policies (or statements).
Front runner in GOP Nomination for Governor's race while Democrats have open field.
Nelson and Scott deadlocked in hypothetical 2018 Senate match.**

A new FAU [BEPI](#) survey of Florida registered voters finds President Trump's job approval at 37% and his disapproval at 47%. The poll also found voters are split on what to do with the Affordable Care Act and are split on Trump's statements after Charlottesville that "there is blame on both sides". However a near majority of voters would like to see the statues of Confederate leaders stay and voters appear to want some form of gun control. The survey also found a lead candidate in Adam Putnam for the Republican nomination for Governor and a dead heat on the Democratic side between a few candidates. It appears a toss-up in a hypothetical race for U.S. Senate between Sen. Bill Nelson and Gov. Rick Scott.

Presidential Job Approval

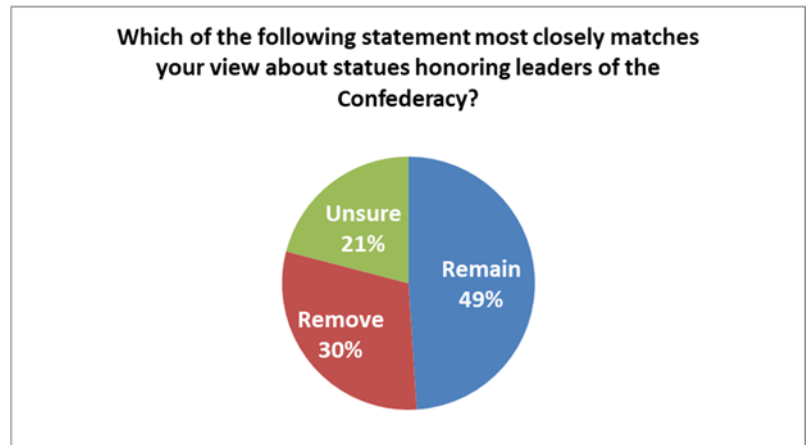
Trump's job performance continues to go in the wrong direction with 37% approval and 47% disapproval; both numbers are slightly up from a 35% to 44% approve/disapprove in June's survey.



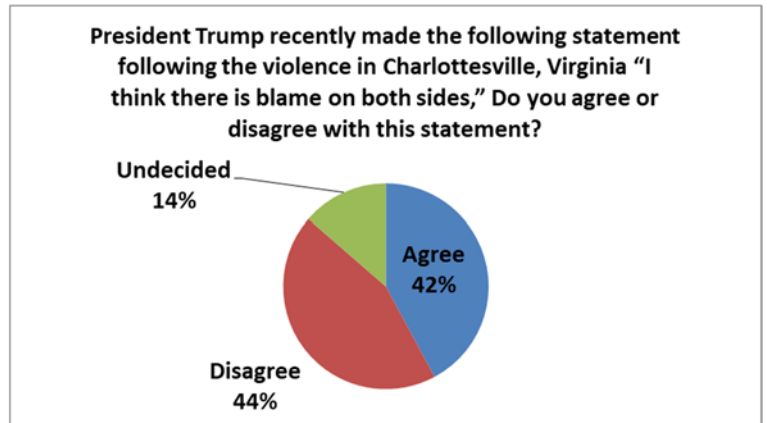
Issues of the day

Voters were asked about four current issues being discussed in the news.

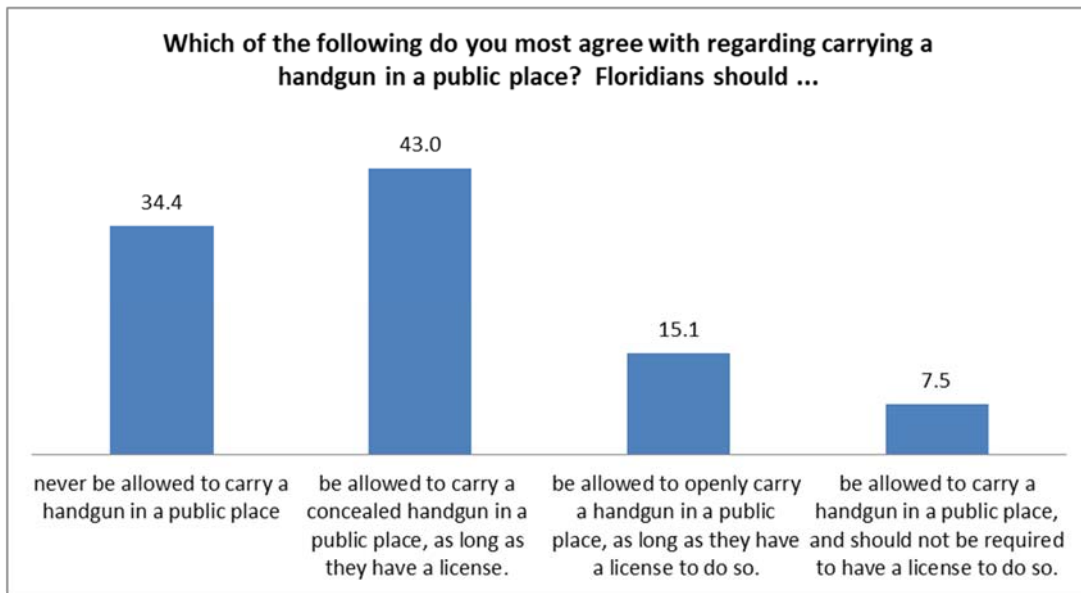
First they were asked about statues honoring leaders of the confederacy and 49% agreed with the statement that statues should remain in public places while 30% would like them removed.



When asked about President Trump’s remarks that in Charlottesville, VA “there is blame on both sides”, voters were split with 44% disagreeing with the statement and 42% agreeing.

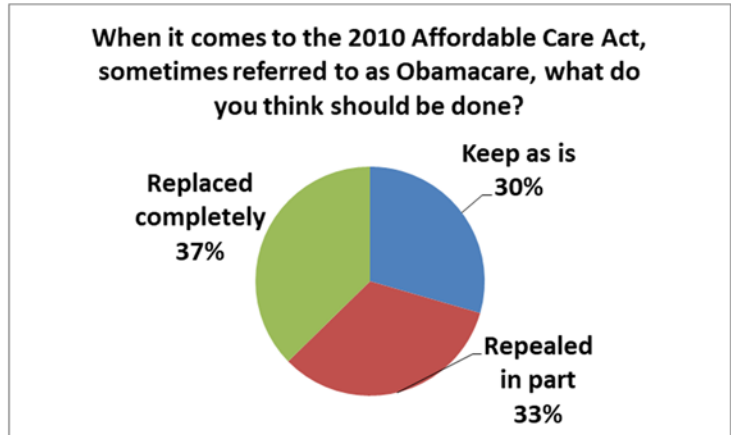


An item that is being discussed by candidates in Florida is gun laws. When voters were asked what limitation if any should be placed on carrying a handgun in a public place, 8% said they should always be allowed to carry in public even without a license while 34% said they should never be allowed to carry in public regardless if they had a license. Forty-three percent (43%) would approve of concealed carry with a license and 15% approve of openly carry with a license.



Voters were split on what to do with Obamacare (ACA) as 30% of voters want to keep it as is while 33% want it repealed in part and 37% want it completely replaced. Younger voters are most in favor of the ACA with 36% wanting to keep it as is and 25% want it completely replaced. The oldest voters are most opposed with 25% wanting to keep it as is while 40% want it completely replaced.

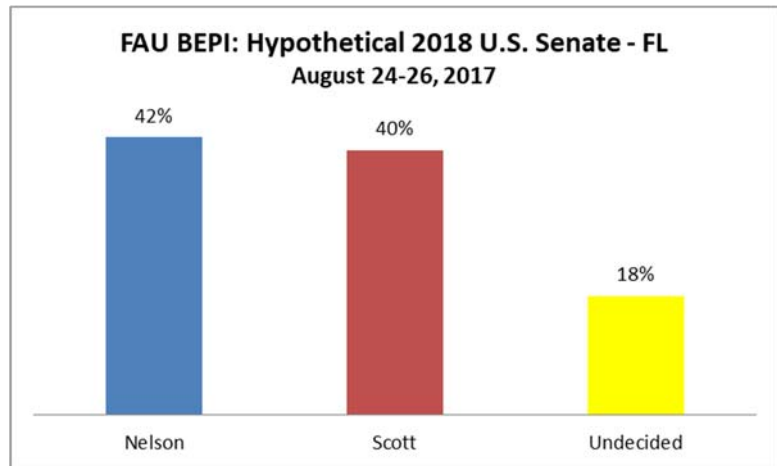
As expected Democrats were most in favor of keeping the law as is at 51%, Republicans were most in favor of completely replacing at 59% and Independents fall in the middle with 27% wanting to keep it as is and 36% want it totally replaced.



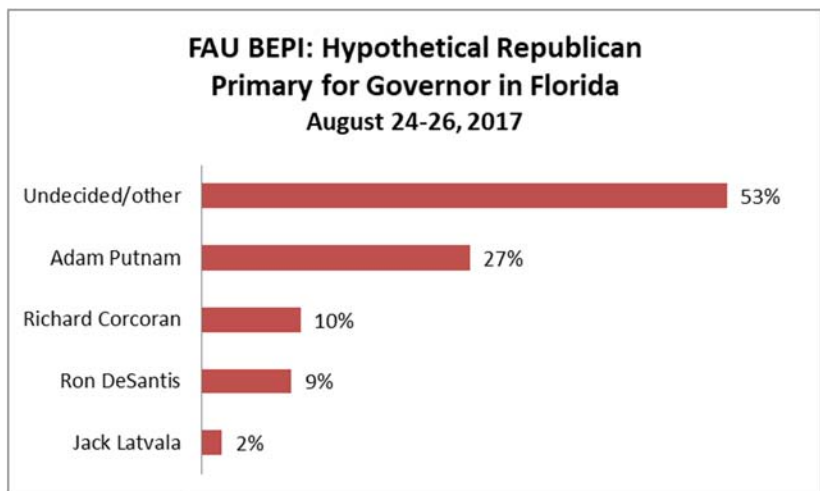
Looking Ahead to 2018

Next voters were asked about potential 2018 races including a hypothetical match up for U.S. Senate and the Democratic and Republican primaries for Governor.

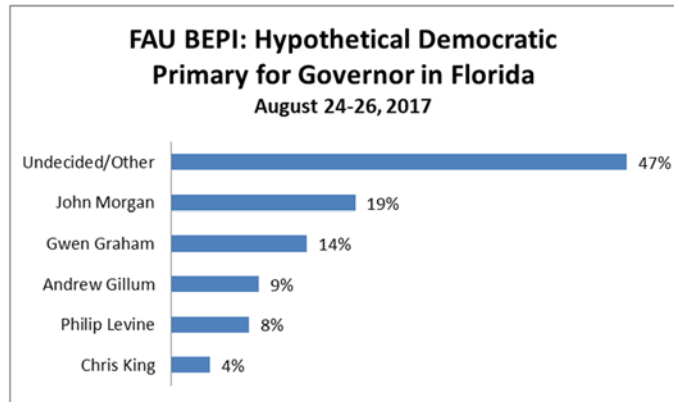
With term limits keeping Gov. Rick Scott from seeking re-election, a hypothetical matchup with Senator Bill Nelson has Nelson ahead 42% to 40% which is well within the polls confidence interval of 4 percentage points. While Nelson carries an approval/disapproval of +4 (36% to 32%), both his approval and ballot test are well below the 50% threshold incumbents are looking for in their re-elect campaigns.



In a potential GOP primary for the above mentioned open Governor seat has FL Commissioner of Agriculture, Adam Putnam with a significant early lead at 27% with FL House Speaker Richard Corcoran at 10% and Congressman Ron DeSantis in third at 9%. Fifty-three percent (53%) of likely GOP primary voters were undecided. This subsample had a confidence interval of 6.5 percentage points.



On the Democratic side things are more open with activist and attorney John Morgan leading that pack at 19%, former US Congresswoman Gwen Graham is in the hunt at 14% and Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum along with Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine is at 9% and 8% respectively with 47% undecided. This subsample also had a confidence interval of 6.5 percentage points.



Looking beyond 2018, Sen. Marco Rubio has a slight image problem in his home state with a 34% job approval and 40% disapproval. However, of the three political figures asked about in the poll Rubio was the only one with a positive job performance with Independents at 34% to 32%.

A study within a study

In an effort to continuously improve our methodology this survey used two different ways of collecting responses, one was the use of registered voter lists with automated phone calls (IVR) and the other was through an opt-in online panel supplied by Survey Sampling International, (SSI). Unlike previous IVR only polls, this survey included n=358 cell phone only respondents.

When comparing the weighted and unweighted results, there were key distinctions between the compositions of the two samples. The IVR participants were much more likely to take the poll in English, the online sample had significantly more independents, and both samples had more registered Democrats than Republicans. Perhaps the most striking finding was the composition of the samples based on age. The online sample had a higher percentage of individuals between the ages of 18-34 while the IVR sample had a higher percentage of individuals over 55.

Despite the different compositions of the samples there was general consistency on three of the four ballot questions. When asked how they voted in 2016, both the phone and the online sample reported voting in favor of Clinton at the almost exact same rate; the GOP and Democratic 2018 primary ballot test questions had no significant differences, but a significant difference was found in the hypothetical ballot test for US Senate.

We will continue to test methodologies over the next academic year as we prepare for the 2018 polling and beyond.

This poll was conducted using an online sample supplied by Survey Sampling International using an online questionnaires (n=392) and via an automated telephone platform (IVR) using registered voter lists supplied by Aristotle, Inn. (n=408). There were 800 respondents sampled between August 24-26, 2017 with a credibility interval, a measure of accuracy, of 4 percentage points. The credibility interval for either the Democratic or Republican primary was 6.5 percentage points. Responses for the entire sample were weighted to reflect the statewide distribution of the Florida population by gender, 2016 return of the vote and region. The polling results and full cross-tabulations can be viewed on the [BEPI](#) website. If you need further information, please contact Dr. Monica Escaleras, Director of BEPI at mescaler@fau.edu.

FLORIDA SURVEY
(AUGUST 2017)

1. What is your gender?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Male	368	46.0	46.0	46.0
Female	432	54.0	54.0	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

2. What is your age range?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid 18-34	172	21.5	21.5	21.5
35-54	249	31.2	31.2	52.7
55-74	281	35.2	35.2	87.8
75+	97	12.2	12.2	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

3. What is the highest level of education you have attained?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid HS or less	123	15.4	15.4	15.4
Some College	237	29.7	29.7	45.1
College Graduate	266	33.2	33.2	78.3
Postgrad or higher	173	21.7	21.7	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

4. Are you currently registered to vote with a political party?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Democrat	324	40.5	40.5	40.5
Republican	290	36.2	36.2	76.7
Independent/Other	186	23.3	23.3	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

5. Who did you vote for in the 2016 Presidential election?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Trump	350	43.8	43.8	43.8
Clinton	341	42.6	42.6	86.4
Johnson	16	2.0	2.0	88.4
Stein	5	.6	.6	89.0
Somebody else	88	11.0	11.0	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

6. Do you approve or disapprove of President Trump's performance in office?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Approve	297	37.1	37.1	37.1
Disapprove	375	46.8	46.8	83.9
Undecided	129	16.1	16.1	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

7. Do you approve or disapprove of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio's performance in office?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Approve	274	34.2	34.2	34.2
Disapprove	319	39.9	39.9	74.1
Undecided	207	25.9	25.9	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

8. Do you approve or disapprove of U.S. Senator Bill Nelson performance in office?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Approve	287	35.9	35.9	35.9
Disapprove	257	32.1	32.1	68.0
Undecided	256	32.0	32.0	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

9. If the election for U.S. Senate was held today and the candidates were Democrat Bill Nelson and Republican Rick Scott who would you vote for?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Nelson	339	42.4	42.4	42.4
Scott	320	40.1	40.1	82.4
Undecided	141	17.6	17.6	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

10. Next August there will be a primary election for Governor, which party do you plan to vote in?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Democrat	297	37.1	37.1	37.1
Republican	304	38.0	38.0	75.1
Undecided	199	24.9	24.9	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

11. If the Democratic primary for Governor 2018 was held today and the candidates were Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, Former Representative Gwen Graham, real estate executive Chris King, Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine and attorney John Morgan who would you vote for?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Andrew Gillum	26	3.3	8.9	8.9
Gwen Graham	41	5.1	13.7	22.6
Chris King	11	1.3	3.6	26.2
Philip Levine	23	2.9	7.7	33.9
John Morgan	56	7.0	18.8	52.7
Undecided/Other	140	17.6	47.3	100.0
Total	297	37.1	100.0	

12. If the Republican primary for Governor in 2018 was held today and the candidates were Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam, House Speaker Richard Corcoran, Representative Ron DeSantis and Senator Jack Latvala, who would you vote for?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Adam Putnam	81	10.1	26.6	26.6
Richard Corcoran	32	4.0	10.4	37.0
Ron DeSantis	26	3.3	8.6	45.6
Jack Latvala	5	.7	1.8	47.4
Undecided/other	160	20.0	52.6	100.0
Total	304	38.0	100.0	

13. Which of the following statement most closely matches your view about statues honoring leaders of the Confederacy?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Remain	392	49.0	49.0	49.0
Remove	241	30.1	30.1	79.0
Unsure	168	21.0	21.0	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

14. President Trump recently made the following statement following the violence in Charlottesville, Virginia “I think there is blame on both sides,” Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Agree	337	42.1	42.1	42.1
Disagree	354	44.3	44.3	86.4
Undecided	109	13.6	13.6	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

15. Which of the following do you most agree with regarding carrying a handgun in a public place?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Never Allowed in public place	275	34.4	34.4	34.4
License, concealed in public place	344	43.0	43.0	77.4
License, openly carry in public place	121	15.1	15.1	92.5
Always be allowed in public place	60	7.5	7.5	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

16. When it comes to the 2010 Affordable Care Act, sometimes referred to as Obamacare, what do you think should be done?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Keep as is	236	29.5	29.5	29.5
Repealed in part	265	33.2	33.2	62.7
Replaced completely	299	37.3	37.3	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

17. What is your ethnicity?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Caucasian	479	59.9	59.9	59.9
African American	91	11.4	11.4	71.3
Latina	153	19.2	19.2	90.4
Asian	25	3.2	3.2	93.6
Other/Multiple	51	6.4	6.4	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

18. Regarding your telephone, do you have a landline, cell phone or both?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Landline Only	80	10.0	10.0	10.0
Cell Phone Only	358	44.8	44.8	54.8
Both LL and Cell	361	45.2	45.2	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

Language

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid English	567	70.9	70.9	70.9
Spanish	233	29.1	29.1	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

Mode

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Phone	408	51.0	51.0	51.0
Online	392	49.0	49.0	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

Region

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid North	178	22.2	22.2	22.2
Central	356	44.4	44.4	66.7
South	267	33.3	33.3	100.0
Total	800	100.0	100.0	

19. Region based on congressional districts 1-6 (North), 7-18 (Central) 19-27 (South)