

2020 Election: FAU poll says Warren narrows Biden lead, Trump leads Dems in dead heats

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Posted Sep 18, 2019 at 12:15 PM



The FAU poll surveyed Florida voters about the Democratic and Republican contests, and took a snapshot of how Trump fares against top Democrats.


A poll released Wednesday showed former [Vice President Joe Biden's lead](#) over rival [U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren](#) has narrowed in Florida. Republican [President Donald Trump](#), the overwhelming choice of GOP voters, has razor-thin margins against the top Democratic rivals.

Among Democrats, Biden, who has seen his support erode since the initial debate in Miami in June, continues to lead at 34 percent to Warren's 24 percent. But his margin is down 5 points since May, according to the [poll by the Florida Atlantic University Business and Economics Polling Initiative](#).


Overall, Trump leads Warren by just two-tenths of a point, 50.1-49.9 percent. Trump tops Biden and Vermont U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders by one percent, 50.5 percent to 49.5 percent.

"While Joe Biden continues to lead [other primary candidates in Florida](#), Elizabeth Warren is gathering strength and is becoming a real competitor for the state," said Kevin Wagner, professor of political science at FAU, in a statement. "President Trump is in a dead heat with the leading Democrats in Florida, which continues to be the largest battleground state."

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Warren, alone in second place, has doubled her support in Florida the past four months. That mirrors trends elsewhere that trace back to early summer.

While in Miami for for the June debate, she drew big crowds at a town hall meeting at Florida International University, and drew significant media attention when she appeared at a Homestead detention center for immigrants just hours before she took the debate stage.

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She carried that momentum into two subsequent debates in Detroit and Houston. On Monday night, she drew a crowd estimated at 20,000 for a speech in Manhattan.

The rest of the field in Florida has struggled to gain traction since May.

Sanders, at 14 percent, has risen only two points. South Bend, Indiana Mayor Pete Buttigieg trails at 5 percent.

California U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris, widely seen as the big winner of the Miami debates, stands at just 4 percent. The FAU poll confirms that Harris, who has seen her stock drop in other polls across the country, was not able to capitalize on the momentum from that initial debate performance.

No other Democratic candidate polled above 3 percent in Florida in the FAU survey.

Intriguing, in the GOP field, Trump — at 88 percent — remains the hands-down favorite, but recent newcomers to the race, Mark Sanford and Joe Walsh, picked up some support.

Sanford, a former South Carolina governor and congressman who entered the race just this month, had 8 percent. And former congressman and radio commentator Joe Walsh, who jumped in the race at the end of August, polled at 5 percent.