Florida voters losing confidence in Trump’s handling of coronavirus pandemic

Florida voters’ assessment of President Donald Trump’s handling of the coronavirus has declined significantly with the widely-watched efforts of the pandemic now in their third month.

A poll released Friday by Florida Atlantic University shows 42% of Florida voters approve of the job Trump is doing in handling the spread of the coronavirus in the United States and 58% disapprove.

That represents a significant decline over the past two months.

In March, 62% of Florida voters approved of Trump’s handling of the coronavirus and 38% disapproved. That was one of 10 positive job performance numbers — which he has described as showing how he has performed better than others, more have come to his jobs, and Trump’s approval has been reliably exceeded by visible daily in-crowd news, and in the rising number of deaths.

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Floridaites have a more positive assessment of Trump’s performance than the nation as a whole.

National polling shows more Americans disapprove of Trump’s handling of the coronavirus. The RealClearPolitics average of the most recent national polls showed 45% approve and 55% disapprove of Trump’s handling of the pandemic.

As Florida’s first of the coronavirus pandemic reaches its sixth, the fewest overall assessment of Trump’s performance is a concern.

The overall approval rating in 4% is well below previous weeks and now stands at 4% not requiring to give their views.

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In national polls, in March, his approval was 45% and disapproval was 49%, a 2% positive of 57 points.

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DeSantis performance

Floridaites give Gov. Ron DeSantis slightly higher approval than Trump for his handling of the coronavirus, but a smaller share of voters disagrees of his performance on the pandemic.

DeSantis handling of the coronavirus was approved by 46% and disapproved by 53% of Florida votes.

DeSantis’ overall job approval rating — which was high in the first of the March after he took office in January — has dropped.

The poll showed 51% of Florida voters approve of the job DeSantis is doing, while 49% disapprove, a net positive of 2 points.

In March, his approval was 33% and disapproved was 41%, a net positive of 8 points. In March 2019, he was ahead for some with 73% approval and 26% disapproved.

Democrats and Republicans

He with just about everything concerning with Trump, assessments of his handling of the coronavirus break sharply by party lines.

According to a June 8, 2020, poll by Maguire Associates, 70% of Democrats approve of Trump’s handling of the coronavirus, down from 88% disapproved in March.

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Kentucky Wagner, an FFU political scientist and research fellow at the university’s Business and Economic Polling Initiative, said such partisan assessments during a cable aren’t typical.

“Political dissidents don’t usually have partisan breakdowns,” he said, adding that it shows “there’s now little in America that people don’t see through a prism from one’s own.”

Among our party affiliates, independent voters, 46% approve and 53% disapprove of his performance, numbers which are little changed from before.

Fine print

The latest results come from an FFU Business and Economic Polling Initiative survey of 469 Florida registered voters conducted online and through automated calls to people with landline phones from May 9 to 12.

It found a margin of error plus or minus 5 percentage points.

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