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## **MASON-DIXON® TENNESSEE POLL**



**APRIL 2018**

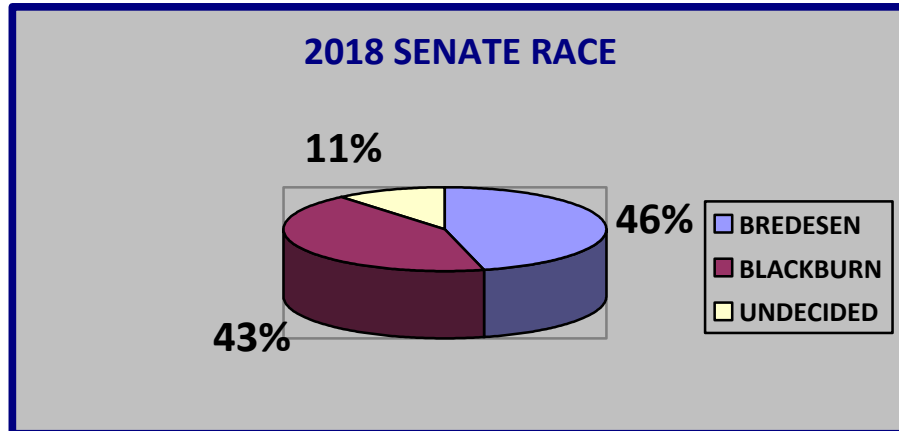
*Polling in Tennessee since 1986*

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## BREDESEN HOLDS NARROW LEAD IN SENATE RACE

Democrat Phil Bredesen holds a narrow lead over Republican Marsha Blackburn in the race for the Tennessee Senate seat being vacated by Bob Corker. Statewide, 46% of voters currently support Bredesen, while 43% back Blackburn and 11% are undecided.



Bredesen leads in West Tennessee (51%-38%) and Middle Tennessee (49%-42%), while Blackburn runs stronger in traditionally Republican East Tennessee (48%-39%).

Bredesen leads among women (49%-38%), voters under the age of 50 (49%-40%), black voters (87%-4%) and self-identified Democrats (87%-4%). He also is ahead among Independents (49%-35%).

Blackburn leads among men (48%-42%), white voters (51%-37%) and Republicans (81%-12%).

Both candidates have about the same statewide name recognition, but Bredesen's favorable/unfavorable ratio (43%/18%) is better than Blackburn's (35%-26%).

The outcome of this race will likely be crucial for Republicans to hold on to their majority in the U.S. Senate.

## STATEWIDE NAME RECOGNITION

Do you recognize the name \_\_\_\_\_?

(IF YES) Do you have a favorable, unfavorable or neutral opinion of \_\_\_\_\_?

	<u>RECOGNIZE FAVORABLE</u>	<u>RECOGNIZE UNFAVORABLE</u>	<u>RECOGNIZE NEUTRAL</u>	<u>DON'T RECOGNIZE</u>
<b>Phil Bredesen</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Marsha Blackburn</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>14%</b>

**QUESTION: If the 2018 general election for Tennessee’s U. S. Senate seat were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Phil Bredesen, the Democrat, and Marsha Blackburn, the Republican?**

	<u>BREDESEN</u>	<u>BLACKBURN</u>	<u>UNDECIDED</u>
<b>STATE</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>11%</b>

<u>REGION</u>	<u>BREDESEN</u>	<u>BLACKBURN</u>	<u>UNDECIDED</u>
East Tennessee	39%	48%	13%
Middle Tennessee	49%	42%	9%
West Tennessee	51%	38%	11%

<u>SEX</u>	<u>BREDESEN</u>	<u>BLACKBURN</u>	<u>UNDECIDED</u>
Men	42%	48%	10%
Women	49%	38%	13%

<u>AGE</u>	<u>BREDESEN</u>	<u>BLACKBURN</u>	<u>UNDECIDED</u>
<50	49%	40%	11%
50+	44%	45%	11%

<u>RACE</u>	<u>BREDESEN</u>	<u>BLACKBURN</u>	<u>UNDECIDED</u>
White	37%	51%	12%
Black	87%	4%	9%

<u>PARTY IDENTIFICATION</u>	<u>BREDESEN</u>	<u>BLACKBURN</u>	<u>UNDECIDED</u>
Democrat	87%	4%	9%
Republican	12%	81%	7%
Independent	49%	35%	16%

## HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

**This poll was conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, Inc. of Jacksonville, Florida from April 17 through April 19, 2017. A total of 625 registered Tennessee voters were interviewed statewide by telephone. All stated they vote regularly in state elections.**

**Those interviewed were randomly selected from a phone-matched Tennessee voter registration list that included both land-line and cell phone numbers. Quotas were assigned to reflect voter registration by county.**

**The margin for error, according to standards customarily used by statisticians, is no more than  $\pm 4$  percentage points. This means that there is a 95 percent probability that the "true" figure would fall within that range if all voters were surveyed. The margin for error is higher for any subgroup, such as a gender or age grouping.**

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### **PARTY IDENTIFICATION:**

<b>Democrat</b>	<b>182 (29%)</b>
<b>Republican</b>	<b>238 (38%)</b>
<b>Independent or Other</b>	<b>205 (33%)</b>

### **AGE:**

<b>18-34</b>	<b>107 (17%)</b>
<b>35-49</b>	<b>186 (30%)</b>
<b>50-64</b>	<b>185 (30%)</b>
<b>65+</b>	<b>140 (22%)</b>
<b>Refused</b>	<b>7 (1%)</b>

### **RACE/ETHNICITY:**

<b>White/Caucasian</b>	<b>496 (79%)</b>
<b>Black/African American</b>	<b>100 (16%)</b>
<b>Other/Refused</b>	<b>29 (5%)</b>

### **SEX:**

<b>Male</b>	<b>297 (48%)</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>328 (52%)</b>

### **REGION:**

<b>East Tennessee</b>	<b>225 (36%)</b>
<b>Middle Tennessee</b>	<b>245 (39%)</b>
<b>West Tennessee</b>	<b>155 (25%)</b>

## TENNESSEE POLL REGIONS

**EAST TENNESSEE: Voters in Johnson, Sullivan, Carter, Washington, Union, Greene, Hamlin, Hawkins, Hancock, Claiborne, Grainger, Jefferson, Cocke, Sevier, Blount, Knox, Campbell, Scott, Morgan, Anderson, Cumberland, Roane, Loudoun, Monroe, Polk, Meigs, McMinn, Bradley, Hamilton, Marion, Sequatchie, Rhea and Bledsoe counties.**

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE: Voters in Pickett, Fentress, Overton, Clay, Jackson, Putnam, White, Van Buren, Warren, Grundy, Franklin, Coffee, Moore, Cannon, DeKalb, Smith, Macon, Trousdale, Sumner, Wilson, Davidson, Robertson, Cheatham, Rutherford, Williamson, Maury, Marshall, Bedford, Lincoln, Giles, Lawrence, Wayne, Lewis, Perry, Hickman, Humphreys, Dickson, Houston, Montgomery and Stewart counties.**

**WEST TENNESSEE: Voters in Henry, Benton, Decatur, Hardin, McNairy, Chester, Henderson, Carroll, Weakley, Obion, Lake, Dyer, Gibson, Crockett, Madison, Henderson, Fayette, Haywood, Lauderdale, Dyer, Tipton and Shelby counties.**