



**Survey of Maine Likely Voters
May 13-26, 2026**

N = 650 Maine likely voters

The sample has an adjusted margin of error of +/-4.9 percentage points, adjusted for design effects

See <http://uml.edu/polls> for full questionnaire/topline results and detailed methodology disclosure.

Survey design and analysis by John Cluverius, director of survey research, and Rodrigo Castro Cornejo, associate director, University of Massachusetts Lowell Center for Public Opinion.

Do you have a question about this poll? If so, reach out to us on social media via Bluesky or Instagram(@umlcpo)

HIGHLIGHTS

Platner Slightly Ahead of Collins, 48% to 43%

In one of the nation's most competitive U.S. Senate races, oyster farmer Graham Platner is slightly ahead of incumbent U.S. Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, 48% to 43%, according to a new poll by the University of Massachusetts Lowell Center for Public Opinion and YouGov. A clear gender gap has emerged among voters. Platner earns the support of 54% of women in the poll, compared with 35% of women who say they will vote for Collins. Collins earns the support of 51% of men in the poll, while 42% of men say they will vote for Platner. When asked about their views of each candidate, 43% of all respondents have a favorable view of Platner, 41% view him unfavorably, 14% have no opinion and 2% have never heard of him. Collins is viewed unfavorably by 53%, while 36% view her favorably, 11% have no opinion and 0% have never heard of her.

The poll reveals a dynamic political environment that presents rough conditions for Collins, the only U.S. Senate candidate in 2020 to win in a state that her party's presidential candidate lost. President Donald Trump's approval rating in Maine is 39%, while 62% disapprove of the job he is doing as president. Seventy percent of respondents say the country is on the wrong track, while 30% say the country is headed in the right direction. Gov. Janet Mills comparatively has a 50% job approval rating, while 49% disapprove of the job she is doing.

72% of Mainers Oppose AI Data Centers in Their Communities; 61% Oppose ICE Detention Facilities

Large majorities of Maine’s likely voters oppose both AI data centers and ICE detention facilities being built in their communities, with opposition to AI data centers larger. In the poll, 72% oppose an AI data center being built in their community, including 51% who strongly oppose it, while 28% support one. By comparison, 61% oppose an ICE detention facility being built in their community, including 53% who strongly oppose it, while 39% support one.

Opposition to AI data centers cuts across partisan lines more than opposition to ICE detention facilities. Majorities of Democrats, Republicans and independents oppose AI data centers in their communities, including 86% of Democrats, 55% of Republicans and 76% of independents. Majorities of all subgroups across age, gender, income, partisanship, education, and choice in the 2024 presidential election oppose construction of an AI data center in their community.

Views of ICE detention facilities are more sharply divided by party: 94% of Democrats and 71% of independents oppose one being built in their community, while 79% of Republicans support one.

Mainers Say Iran War Makes U.S. Less Safe, Costs Too Much

Respondents express broad skepticism about the Iran war, with 58% saying the war has made the United States less safe, compared with 21% who say it has made the country more safe and 21% who say it has kept things about the same. Views of the cost of the war are more lopsided: 70% say the United States is spending too much on the Iran war, while 6% say the country is spending too little and 24% say it is spending the right amount.

Those findings are part of broader skepticism about U.S. foreign policy in the poll. A majority, 51%, say they feel a lot or a great deal of frustration when thinking about the foreign policy of the Trump administration, while 35% say they feel a little or no frustration. On Israel, 65% oppose the United States providing additional military aid, and 44% say the close U.S. relationship with Israel does more to hurt U.S. interests, compared with 31% who say it does more to help and 26% who say it neither helps nor hurts. An endorsement from the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is more likely to hurt than help a congressional candidate with Maine voters: 44% say it would make them less likely to support a candidate, compared with 15% who say it would make them more likely and 41% who say it would have no impact.