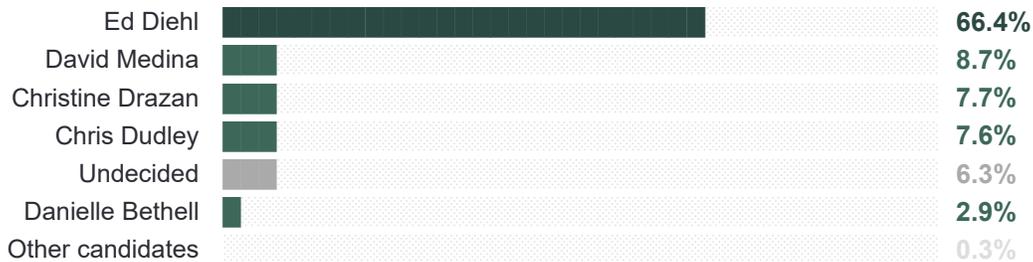# What 1,022 Oregon Voters Told Us
About the 2026 Governor's Race

Independent Poll & Analysis · Conducted March 3–8, 2026 · n=1,022 Completed Responses

March 3 – 8, 2026. In a little over five days, 1,022 Oregon voters from across the state weighed in on the 2026 Republican gubernatorial primary. Who they'd vote for, who is likely to win in November, favorability, vote flow, and more. Primary ballot and scenario questions were asked of Republican respondents only (n=921). General election questions asked of all respondents.

FIRST CHOICE: REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR PRIMARY?

"If the Republican primary for governor were held today, who would you vote for?" Candidates were listed in randomized order.

Candidate	%
Ed Diehl	**66.4%**
David Medina	**8.7%**
Christine Drazan	**7.7%**
Chris Dudley	**7.6%**
Undecided	6.3%
Danielle Bethell	**2.9%**
Other candidates	0.3%

Q1: Full-field (9 candidates) Republican primary vote intent — n=917 Republican respondents

PERCEIVED TOP-4 FINISHERS

We also asked: "Regardless of your own preference, which four candidates do you expect to finish in the top four?"

Candidate	% Who Expect a Top-4 Finish	What This Means
Ed Diehl	97.7%	Near-universal expectation
Christine Drazan	93.8%	Strong consensus
Chris Dudley	75.7%	Clear majority
David Medina	59.5%	Slight majority
Danielle Bethell	56.5%	Slight majority

Q2A: Perceived top-four finishers — n=917 Republican respondents

HOW REPUBLICANS ACTUALLY FEEL ABOUT EACH CANDIDATE

We asked respondents to rate their overall impression of each candidate on a scale of 1 (Very Unfavorable) to 5 (Very Favorable), with 3 being neutral or no opinion.

Candidate	Favorable (4–5)	Neutral / No Opinion (3)	Unfavorable (1–2)	Mean Score
Ed Diehl	87.4%	6.3%	6.3%	4.42
David Medina	45.4%	38.0%	16.6%	3.37
Christine Drazan	46.5%	14.9%	**38.6%**	3.08
Chris Dudley	40.1%	44.5%	15.4%	3.31
Danielle Bethell	39.1%	49.9%	11.0%	3.32

Q3: Candidate favorability — n=918 Republican respondents · Scale: 1=Very Unfavorable, 5=Very Favorable

WHAT IF THE FIELD CHANGES? FOUR SCENARIOS TESTED

This is where the data gets interesting. We gave Republican respondents four "what if" scenarios — different versions of a narrowed primary field — and asked how they'd vote in each. Here's what happened.

Scenario	Diehl	2nd Place	3rd Place	Key Takeaway
A: Three-way — Diehl, Drazan, Dudley	**74.6%**	Dudley 10.5%	Drazan 10.2%	Diehl dominates
B: Full field without Dudley	**71.9%**	Medina 10.0%	Drazan 9.3%	Half of Dudley's voters go to Diehl
C: Full field without Diehl	N/A	Drazan 25.8%	Medina 23.4%	No clear winner emerges
D: Diehl vs. Drazan head-to-head	**81.5%**	Drazan 12.2%	—	Decisive two-to-one margin

Q4A–D: Scenario testing — n=918 Republican respondents

> **SCENARIO C: No Diehl**
>
> No candidate appeared to have a natural claim on Diehl's coalition. If Diehl were not in the race, it pointed to the most unpredictable and fragmented in the field. Rather than consolidating around a single alternative, Diehl's 609 voters split nearly equally four ways:
>
> **Drazan 24.8% • Bethell 22.5% • Medina 20.9% • Dudley 18.7% • Undecided 13.1%**

SECOND CHOICE VOTE FLOW: WHERE DO VOTERS GO?

If this candidate exits...	% to Diehl	Next best alternative	Remaining voters scatter to...
Danielle Bethell voters	**59.3%**	Drazan 14.8%	Dudley 11.1%, Medina 3.7%
Christine Drazan voters	**54.9%**	Dudley 14.1%	Medina 8.5%, Bethell 1.4%
Chris Dudley voters	**52.9%**	Medina / Drazan 12.9% each	Bethell 10.0%
David Medina voters	**43.8%**	Drazan / Dudley 15.0% each	Bethell 8.8%

Q2: Second-choice vote flow — If your first choice were not in the race, who would be your second choice? · n=918 Republicans

WHO CAN WIN IN NOVEMBER? GENERAL ELECTION vs. GOVERNOR TINA KOTEK

We asked all 1,022 respondents to rate how likely each Republican candidate would be to defeat Governor Kotek in the general election. Scale: 1 = Kotek definitely wins, 3 = Too close to call, 5 = Republican definitely wins.

Candidate	Mean	All Voters	Republicans	NAVs	WON'T VOTE (Rs)
Ed Diehl	3.84	88.1%	90.2%	73.3%	1.7%
Christine Drazan	2.97	66.9%	68.0%	65.0%	**5.8%**
Chris Dudley	2.95	66.5%	67.8%	58.3%	2.0%
Danielle Bethell	2.61	50.0%	51.9%	30.0%	2.7%
David Medina	2.52	46.9%	48.5%	30.0%	3.2%

Q5A: Perceived electability vs. Governor Kotek   All respondents n=1,019

> **PERCEPTIONS WORTH NOTING:**
>
> Oregon general elections are decided by Non-Affiliated voters. Diehl is seen as competitive by nearly three-quarters of that group. Drazan and Dudley are in the mid-60s. Bethell and Medina sit at 30%.

We also asked who respondents would actually vote for in each general election matchup. Diehl produces the lowest 'won't vote' rate among Republicans (1.7%) and the highest Republican turnout intent (96.8%). Drazan produces the highest 'won't vote' rate at 5.8% — more than 3× Diehl's (1.7%) and nearly 2× the next highest "won't vote," Medina's (3.2%) — meaning she loses more of her own party's voters in November than any other candidate tested.

WHO RESPONDED — RESPONDENT PROFILE & METHODOLOGY

RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Total completed responses: **1,022**
  Republican: **90.4% (n=924)**
  Non-Affiliated : **5.8% (n=59)**
  Democrat / Other: **3.7% (n=38)**

Gender:
  Female: **56.4%**   Male: **40.3%**

Age:
  55+: **64.8%**   45–54: **20.0%**   18–44: **15.3%**

Likelihood/Motivated:
  Primary vote likelihood (Rep): **9.86 / 10** Mean
  98.3% Republican respondents scored themselves an
    8, 9, or 10 out of 10 to vote in the primary

GEOGRAPHIC REACH

759 of 1,022 respondents (74.3%) provided zip codes, spread across 230 unique zip codes statewide.

  Salem / Mid-Valley: **31.2%**
  Portland Metro West: **18.0%**
  Eugene / Springfield: **16.3%**
  Portland Metro East/NE: **9.2%**
  Portland Suburbs / Clackamas: **6.9%**
  Bend / Central Oregon: **6.8%**
  Medford / Southern Oregon: **5.2%**
  Eastern Oregon: **3.7%**
  Klamath Falls area: **2.5%**

Every major Oregon region represented.

METHODOLOGY

n=1,022 self-selected respondents recruited via Oregon-focused political social media and organic spread, March 3–8, 2026. Non-probability sample — traditional margin of error calculations do not apply and are not reported. Results are directional indicators. Seven independent question types — full-field primary, perceived top-four, favorability, four scenario tests, second-choice flow, and general election ratings — all pointed in the same direction. Survey completion rate: 84.6%, roughly 3× the typical rate for self-selected online polls. Raw data available upon request..

Republicans: n=921 completed. Non-Republicans (NAV, Democrat, Other): n=101. Primary ballot and scenario questions asked of Republican respondents only. General election questions asked of all respondents.

Predict Oregon is an independent polling project, not affiliated with any campaign, party, or political organization. It is directed by Mark Anderson, MBA, who has analyzed Oregon politics since 2008 and served in multiple capacities within Oregon Republican politics and its grassroots organizations . This poll was conducted independently and without compensation from any campaign or political organization.

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Oregon Deserves a Winner

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