

Where the Early Vote Stood

Universe: voters who cast ballots during the early voting period

Fielded June 22, 2026 • n = 953 confirmed early voters • Results weighted to the certified early-voter file

Among confirmed early voters in the June 23 South Carolina Republican primary runoff, the survey found the following ballot results. Figures are weighted to the actual early-voter file by age, gender, and county, and reflect voters who disclosed a choice.

Governor

Weighted result among early voters who disclosed a choice (n = 761)

Alan Wilson

Pamela Evette

72%

28%

Attorney General

Weighted result among early voters who disclosed a choice (n = 751)

David Stumbo

Stephen Goldfinch

64%

36%

Commissioner of Agriculture

Weighted result among early voters who disclosed a choice (n = 746)

Cody Simpson

Danny Ford, Jr.

65%

35%

Why these numbers hold up: Unlike polls weighted to a projected electorate, this survey is weighted to the **actual list of people who voted early** — a known, fixed universe. The sample was drawn from that file and balanced to its true age, gender, and county composition. Modeled credibility interval of ± 3.7 percentage points at 95% confidence (design effect 1.17; effective sample 695).

Conducted by
ICS Group

Sponsored by
Faith & Freedom Coalition of South Carolina

Released
[DATE] • Contact: [NAME, EMAIL, PHONE]

Faith & the Early Vote

The early electorate in the 2026 South Carolina Republican primary runoff was, by its own account, deeply faith-motivated. Two findings capture how central faith was to the voters who turned out early:

63%

said their faith, values, or biblical principles were **very important** in deciding how they voted

63%

attend religious services **once a week or more** often

Taken together, **84% of early voters said faith was very or somewhat important** to their vote — leaving fewer than one in six who said it carried little or no weight.

Importance of faith to the vote	Share
Very important	63%
Somewhat important	21%
Not too important	8%
Not at all important	8%

Religious service attendance	Share
More than once a week	28%
About once a week	35%
A few times a month	12%
A few times a year	11%
Rarely or never	15%

Weighted to the early-voter file. Faith-importance base n = 794; attendance base n = 725 (excludes 'not sure / prefer not to say'). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Methodology & Disclosure

Polling firm	ICS Group
Sponsor	Faith & Freedom Coalition of South Carolina
Population (universe)	Registered voters who cast a ballot during the early voting period for the June 23, 2026 South Carolina Republican primary runoff. This is not a sample of all Republicans or all likely voters; it is limited to early voters.
Sample frame	Voters drawn from the State's early-voter file for the runoff.
Mode	Online survey.
Field dates	June 22, 2026 (day before Election Day).
Sample size	953 respondents who confirmed they had already voted early. Ballot percentages are reported among respondents who disclosed a choice in each race (n shown per race; range 746–761). Weighting base of 812 respondents with complete age, gender, and county data.
Weighting	Results raked (iterative proportional fitting) to the early-voter file's marginal distributions for age, gender, and county. Weights trimmed to limit influence of any single respondent. Weight range 0.18–3.86.
Precision	Because this is an opt-in / non-probability online sample, a classical margin of sampling error does not strictly apply. We report a modeled credibility interval of ± 3.7 percentage points at the 95% level. Design effect from weighting is 1.17, for an effective sample size of approximately 695.
Rounding	Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. 'Prefer not to say' and skipped responses are excluded from the two-candidate ballot percentages and disclosed separately on request.

Sample composition (transparency)

How the raw (unweighted) sample compared to the early-voter file. After weighting, the sample matches the file targets by construction.

	Unweighted sample	Early-voter file (target)
Age 18–40	5.7%	4.7%
Age 41–64	33.0%	25.0%
Age 65+	61.3%	70.3%
Female	42.6%	50.9%
Male	57.4%	49.1%

Question wording (released items)

1. Did you vote early in the Republican Runoff Election? [screening question]
2. In the Republican runoff election, how did you vote for Governor? (Alan Wilson / Pamela Evette / Prefer not to say / I skipped this race)
3. In the Republican runoff election for Attorney General, how did you vote? (David Stumbo / Stephen Goldfinch / Prefer not to say / I skipped this race)
4. In the Republican runoff election for Commissioner of Agriculture, how did you vote? (Cody Simpson / Danny Ford, Jr. / Prefer not to say / I skipped this race)
5. Thinking about all your votes, how important were your faith, values, or biblical principles in deciding how to vote? (Very important / Somewhat important / Not too important / Not at all important / Not sure / Prefer not to say)
6. How often do you attend church or religious services? (More than once a week / About once a week / A few times a month / A few times a year / Rarely or never / Prefer not to say)

Additional proprietary items were included in the full instrument and are not released here.

Appendix: Demographic Crosstabs

Weighted results by age and gender. Cell (n) is the unweighted base of disclosed voters; small subgroups (especially age 18–40) carry wide error and should be read with caution.

Governor

By age	Alan Wilson	Pamela Evette	(n)
18–40	90%	10%	45
41–64	78%	22%	258
65+	68%	32%	458
By gender	Alan Wilson	Pamela Evette	(n)
Female	72%	28%	330
Male	71%	29%	431

Attorney General

By age	David Stumbo	Stephen Goldfinch	(n)
18–40	73%	27%	44
41–64	63%	37%	258
65+	63%	37%	449
By gender	David Stumbo	Stephen Goldfinch	(n)
Female	63%	37%	324
Male	64%	36%	427

Commissioner of Agriculture

By age	Cody Simpson	Danny Ford, Jr.	(n)
18–40	47%	53%	42
41–64	61%	39%	255
65+	68%	32%	449
By gender	Cody Simpson	Danny Ford, Jr.	(n)
Female	68%	32%	320
Male	62%	38%	426

Weighted vs. unweighted topline

Race	Candidate	Unweighted	Weighted
Governor	Alan Wilson	72.5%	71.6%
	Pamela Evette	27.5%	28.4%
Attorney General	David Stumbo	62.2%	63.5%
	Stephen Goldfinch	37.8%	36.5%
Commissioner of Agriculture	Cody Simpson	64.4%	65.1%
	Danny Ford, Jr.	35.6%	34.9%

Weighting moves every topline by less than two points — evidence the raw sample was already close to the early electorate and the weights are conservative.

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