



From: Jim Williams, Public Policy Polling

To: Interested Parties

Subject: Tight Race for Governor in Nebraska

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A new Public Policy Polling survey in Nebraska finds a dead heat in the race for Governor and an electorate deeply unhappy with the direction of the state.

Republican Jim Pillen and Democrat Lynne Walz are neck and neck on the five-way ballot Nebraskans will see in November, with Pillen at 32% and Walz at 31%. America First Party candidate Brett Lindstrom is at 10%, Legal Marijuana Now Party candidate Rick Beard gets 7%, and 4% of respondents say they'd back a candidate from the Nebraska Working People's Party. 17% of voters are undecided. No candidate filed for the Nebraska Working People's Party.

The discontent underneath those numbers is broad: voters say Nebraska is on the wrong track by a 35-point margin and say tariffs have made their lives more expensive by a 39-point margin.

In April, PPP [found](#) Nebraskans calling the state's direction wrong by a 30-point margin and Pillen's job approval underwater at 32-50, including 16-69 among independents. Five months later, the wrong-track margin has widened to 35 points.

With 17% of voters undecided and a clear majority saying the state is headed the wrong way, this race remains fully in play.

PPP interviewed 559 registered voters in Nebraska on September 1-2, 2026. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 4.1%. The interviews were conducted by text message.

