Eaton County, Michigan Midterm Bellwether 2026

Hello, my name is ___, I am conducting a survey for Suffolk University, and I would like to get your opinions on some political questions. Would you be willing to spend less than five minutes answering some questions?

QUOTA GENDER, PARTY, & AGE… SCREEN.

Thank You. Are you currently registered to vote in Eaton County?

(N=300)	n	%
Yes	300	100.00

1. How certain are you to vote in the upcoming November general election for governor and U.S. Senate - would you say you are almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or that it is not likely you will vote?

(N=300)	n	%
Almost certain	273	91.00
Probably vote	27	9.00

2. Which do you most closely identify as – male, female, or non-binary (transgender, gender variant, non-conforming)?

(N=300)	n	%
Male	145	48.33
Female	153	51.00
Non-binary (transgender, gender variant, non-conforming)	0	0.00
Refused	2	0.67

3. Do you consider yourself to be a Democrat, Republican, or Independent?

(N=300)	n	%
Democrat	95	31.67
Republican	80	26.67
Independent	102	34.00
Other	9	3.00
Undecided	14	4.67

4. What is your age category?

(N=300)	n	%
18-24 Years	14	4.67
25-34 Years	48	16.00
35-44 Years	47	15.67
45-54 Years	55	18.33
55-64 Years	46	15.33
65-74 Years	53	17.67
75+ Years	36	12.00
Refused	1	0.33

5. For statistical purposes only, can you please tell me your ethnic background/ancestry? {READ}

(N=300)	n	%
White/Caucasian	242	80.67
Black/African American	18	6.00
Native American/Alaska Native	9	3.00
Asian	0	0.00
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	2	0.67
Hispanic/Latino	17	5.67
2 or more races	3	1.00
Other	4	1.33
Don't know	5	1.67

6. What is the highest level of education you have completed? (READ)

(N=300)	n	%
Some high school	10	3.33
High school graduate	48	16.00
Some college	97	32.33
Trade/technical/vocational training	17	5.67
College graduate	89	29.67
Master's or PhD	37	12.33
Undecided	1	0.33
Refused	1	0.33

7. There are 6 candidates for United States Senate who will appear on the Michigan ballot. I'm going to read you the list, and please let me know who you plan to vote for or lean toward at this time.

(N=300)	n	%
Abdul El-Sayed – Democratic Party	139	46.33
Mike Rogers – Republican Party	123	41.00
Lydia Christensen – Libertarian Party	2	0.67
Tim Long – U.S. Taxpayers Party	0	0.00
Douglas Marsh – Green Party	2	0.67
Walter Kristy – Natural Law Party	3	1.00
Other/Write-in	0	0.00
Undecided	20	6.67
Refused	11	3.67

{FOR 7.3 - 7.7}

8. Who would be your second choice if it were between El-Sayed and Rogers?

(N=7)	n	%
Abdul El-Sayed – Democratic Party	4	57.14
Mike Rogers – Republican Party	3	42.86
Undecided	0	0.00
Refused	0	0.00

9. There are 5 candidates for governor who will appear on the Michigan ballot. I'm going to read you the list, and please let me know who you plan to vote for or lean toward at this time.

(N=300)	n	%
Jocelyn Benson – Democratic Party	148	49.33
John James – Republican Party	107	35.67
Anthony Hudson – Libertarian Party	5	1.67
Donna Brandenburg – U.S. Taxpayers Party	0	0.00
Douglas Campbell – Green Party	0	0.00
Other/Write-in (Evan Space)	2	0.67
Undecided	22	7.33
Refused	16	5.33

{FOR 9.3 - 9.6}

10. Who would be your second choice if it were between Benson and James?

(N=7)	n	%
Jocelyn Benson – Democratic Party	2	28.57
John James – Republican Party	5	71.43
Undecided	0	0.00
Refused	0	0.00

11. Earlier you indicated you were likely to vote. Will you vote… {RANDOMIZE}

(N=300)	n	%
Early in person	41	13.67
Early by mail	97	32.33
In person on Election Day	156	52.00
Undecided	6	2.00
Refused	0	0.00

12. Thinking back to the 2024 election for president did you vote for… {READ}

(N=300)	n	%
Donald Trump - Republican	136	45.33
Kamala Harris - Democrat	146	48.67
Chase Oliver - Other	0	0.00
Someone else	8	2.67
Did you not vote for president in 2024	8	2.67
Undecided	0	0.00
Refused	2	0.67

Great, I am going to read you a list of individuals in state and national politics. For each, please tell me if your opinion of them is generally favorable or generally unfavorable. If you are undecided or if you have never heard of someone, just tell me that. (RANDOMIZE 13-18)

(N=300)	Never Heard	Favorable	Unfavorable	HOF/Und
13. Gretchen Whitmer	6	148	132	14
	2	49.33	44.00	4.67
14. Jocelyn Benson	28	134	101	37
	9.33	44.67	33.67	12.33
15. John James	38	106	109	47
	12.67	35.33	36.33	15.67
16. Donald Trump	0	105	174	21
	0.00	35.00	58.00	7.00
17. Abdul El-Sayed	16	134	123	27
	5.33	44.67	41.00	9.00
18. Mike Rogers	10	120	139	31
	3.33	40.00	46.33	10.33

19. How would you describe your own political viewpoint – very liberal, liberal, moderate, conservative, very conservative? {ROTATE .1-.5 ASCENDING TO DESCENDING}

(N=300)	n	%
Very liberal	22	7.33
Liberal	55	18.33
Moderate	88	29.33
Conservative	72	24.00
Very conservative	38	12.67
Other	5	1.67
Don't know	20	6.67

These final two questions will help us classify your answers with others taking the survey.

20. Has anyone in your household ever served in the U.S. military, yes or no?

(N=300)	n	%
Yes	110	36.67
No	188	62.67
Undecided	2	0.67
Refused	0	0.00

21. What is your annual household income?

(N=300)	n	%
Under $20,000 per year	23	7.67
Under $50,000 per year	43	14.33
Under $75,000 per year	46	15.33
Under $100,000 per year	53	17.67
Under $140,000 per year	41	13.67
$140,000 per year or more	49	16.33
Undecided	45	15.00

[THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. HAVE A NICE DAY/EVENING.]