

Subject: [Fwd: SCIndex - Summer 2004]
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Primary season is heating up!

The spring SCIndex is concentrated on South Carolina's Republican voters in order to highlight the developing US Senate Primary and review how the president's base vote in South Carolina is weighing in on his handling of the war in Iraq and the economy.

US Senate Primary Race

The Republican Senate Primary is shaping up the way most political analysts have forecast the race. Former Governor David Beasley enjoys the status of front runner with 34% of the vote. Congressman Jim Demint is second with 23%. As the campaigns move into the final days Demint is well positioned to make the expected run off. Condon (12%) and Ravenel (13%) are competing for third place. If either Condon or Ravenel are to have a chance their campaigns must surge quickly in order to displace Demint.

SC Republicans and the President

South Carolina Republican voters continue to be optimistic about the direction of the country. 65% of all Republican voters believe the country is headed in the right direction. Republican voters who think the nation is currently on the wrong track increased slightly from the winter SCIndex survey. In December 17% of all Republican voters thought the country was headed in the wrong direction. Our May survey shows that number has increased among Republican voters to 21%.

Some erosion in the degree of confidence South Carolina Republican voters have in the president's handling of the economy and the situation in Iraq, however, are noticeable in the May SCIndex.

Bush's overall approval rating on Iraq among Republican voters dropped from 85% in December to 71% in May.

Bush's overall disapproval rating on Iraq among Republican voters went from 14% in December to 24% in May.

Bush's approval on handling the economy also showed a noticeable decline. In December Bush's overall approval rating on handling the economy was 80% among Republican voters. In May the approval rating dropped among Republican voters to 69%. Bush's disapproval ratings for handling the

economy among Republican voters went from 18% in December to 24% in May.

Sanford stays Constant

Republican voters continue to give Governor Sanford strong job performance ratings. Support for the governor among South Carolina Republican voters remains virtually unchanged between the December and May SCIndex surveys. In December 71% of all Republican voters gave Sanford a positive job performance rating. In May 73% of all Republicans think the governor is doing a good to excellent job.

SCIndex - Tell your friends!

Remember, you can share all the juicy info in the SCIndex with your friends and neighbors. Just have them send a blank email with "SCIndex" in the subject line to scindex@bellsouth.net and they'll automatically receive the SCIndex.

REMEMBER - If you'd like to know how South Carolinians feel about a specific issue, you can tag a question onto the SCIndex without having to do an expensive poll. Call Wil Brown at 803-206-0901 for more information.

The SCIndex is a private publication not intended for public use. The SCIndex is a joint production of Campaign Systems, Crantford & Associates, and the Southern Political Information Network (SPIN). Any questions or comments should be directed to Wil Brown and emailed to scindex@bellsouth.net.

Information contained in the SCIndex was compiled from a poll of likely Republican voters conducted on May 20-21 and has an error of +/- 4 percentage points.