

## **Jennifer González now holds a thirteen-point edge in the race for Governor but 19% of voters are undecided or not voting the ballot for Governor**

The Puerto Rico Herald obtained the key findings of a survey of Puerto Rico registered and likely voters. The poll was conducted between October 3<sup>rd</sup> to October 10th, 2024 by a nationally recognized public opinion research firm. The poll, not conducted for any candidate or party, included questions on a wide array of important topics, using a scientifically designed sample across of 807 likely voters all of Puerto Rico regions, age groups, gender and socioeconomic levels to produce reliable findings regarding the current attitudes of registered voters about issues and potential candidates for office. The margin of error is +/- 3%.

Jennifer González currently holds a thirteen-point edge in the race for governor, down four from the previous poll. She gets 33% of the vote, with Juan Dalmau at 20% (+4). And Jesús Manuel Ortiz (20%, +2) in a close race for second and Javier Jimenez (7%) are still behind. However, 19% of voters are unsure, undecided, meaning this race is still wide open.

### **OTHER RACES**

William Villafañe (31%) and Pablo José Hernández (30%) are in a virtual tie. The rest of the field is too far back to make a strong showing.

The race for the San Juan Mayor's office is a very tight race with incumbent Miguel Romero (30%) leading former State Representative Manuel Natal (27%). Romero has lost considerable ground dropping 24 points since June, 1 out of every four voters who supported his candidacy three months ago. However, as in other races, the number of undecided voters is staggering.

In the race for President of the United States, Puerto Rican voters are solidly behind Vice President Kamala Harris who garners the support of 56% of voters while former President Donald Trump comes in with 21%, up five points from June.

On the status plebiscite ballot, once presented with several issues in depth, Statehood receives the support of 49% of those interviewed, 18% for Free Association and 6% for Independence. Nine out of ten (90%) voters stated that keeping U.S. citizenship is very important. But voters are skeptical and fatigued on the process: half of those interviewed think that holding the plebiscite this year was a bad idea. In fact, 62% agree that Puerto Rico has had many votes for status with nothing happening afterwards. Interestingly though, 86% stated that the fight for equal rights and benefits is a long one, but it is worth the effort.