



# Biden and Sanders attract the same voters in Idaho

March 4, 2020 | [Samuel Smith](#) and [Michael Sanders](#)

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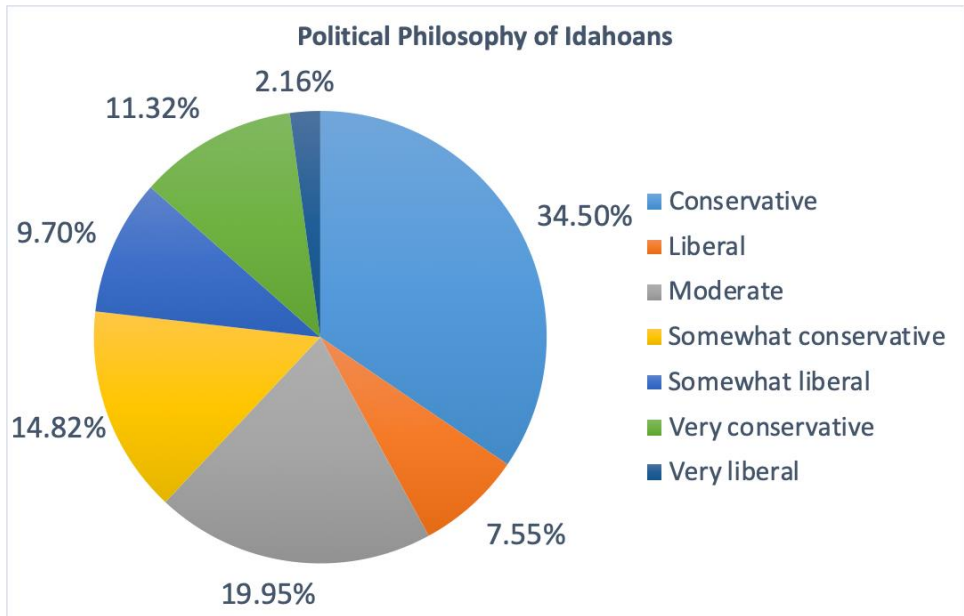
## **DNC Candidate Has No Bearing on Election Outcomes**

Idaho Analytics newest Idaho poll asked voters who they would support in the 2020 general election. Idaho is a deep red state, with overwhelming popular support for Trump. However, with Sanders and Biden both considered to be serious contenders for the presidency, the question as to who will perform better in Idaho against the incumbent President will rely solely on the ability of each candidate to draw moderate and independent support. Our survey measures political identification across two metrics, the first being party identification (I.e. Democrat, Republican, Independent), and the other measuring political philosophy (I.e. conservative, moderate, liberal).

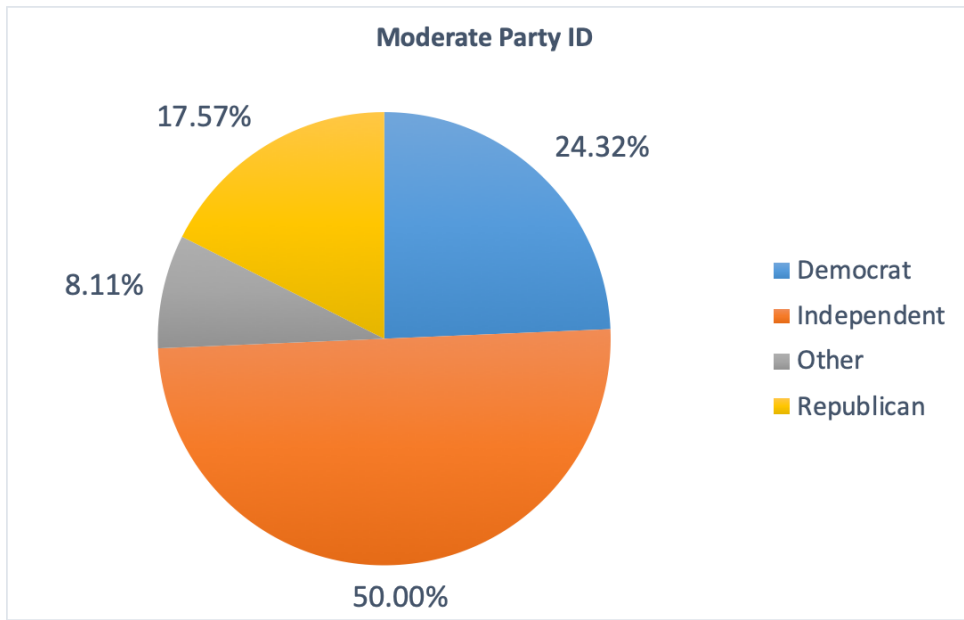
According to our survey data, the democratic candidate endorsed by the DNC has no bearing on election outcomes in the state of Idaho. Trump will win, regardless of who wears the blue tie during the general election. However, it remains interesting to see who draws greater support among moderates regardless of party identification. Through a series of “what-if” head-to-head matchups, we find that in general, moderates are largely dissatisfied with the options available to them, with just under half stating that they are unsure who they would vote for between Trump, Sanders and Biden. However, among those who demonstrate preference, it leans towards the democratic candidate.

## **Political Ideology of Idahoans**

Idaho is predominantly conservative, with 60% of respondents identifying themselves as such. Of the remaining 40%, 20% identify as liberal, and 20% are moderate:



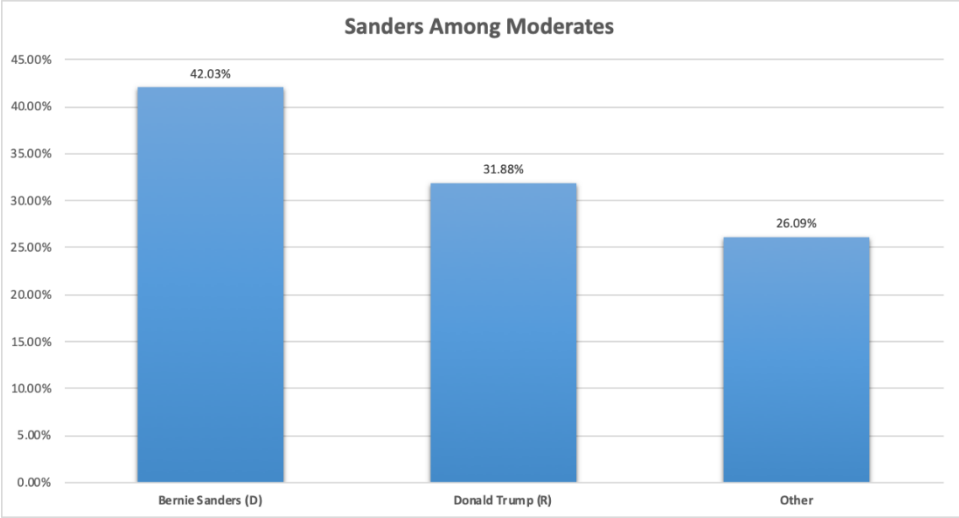
Among those who consider themselves to be moderate, half belong to the Independent Party. However, more moderates are Democrats than Republicans:



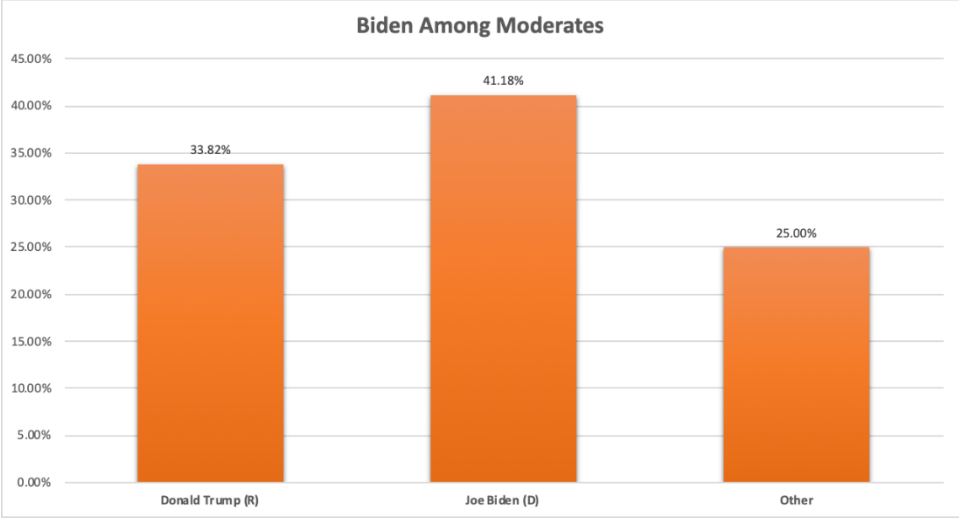
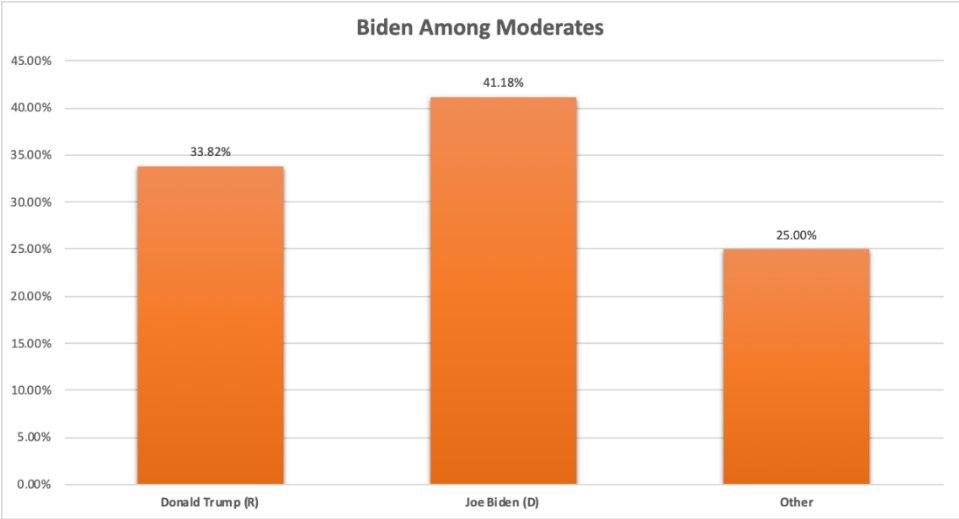
#### Sanders and Biden Beat Trump Among Moderates

Among survey respondents who declared themselves to be moderate, support for the democratic candidate (either Sanders or Biden) outweighs support for Trump.

Sanders performs slightly better than Biden, with 42%:

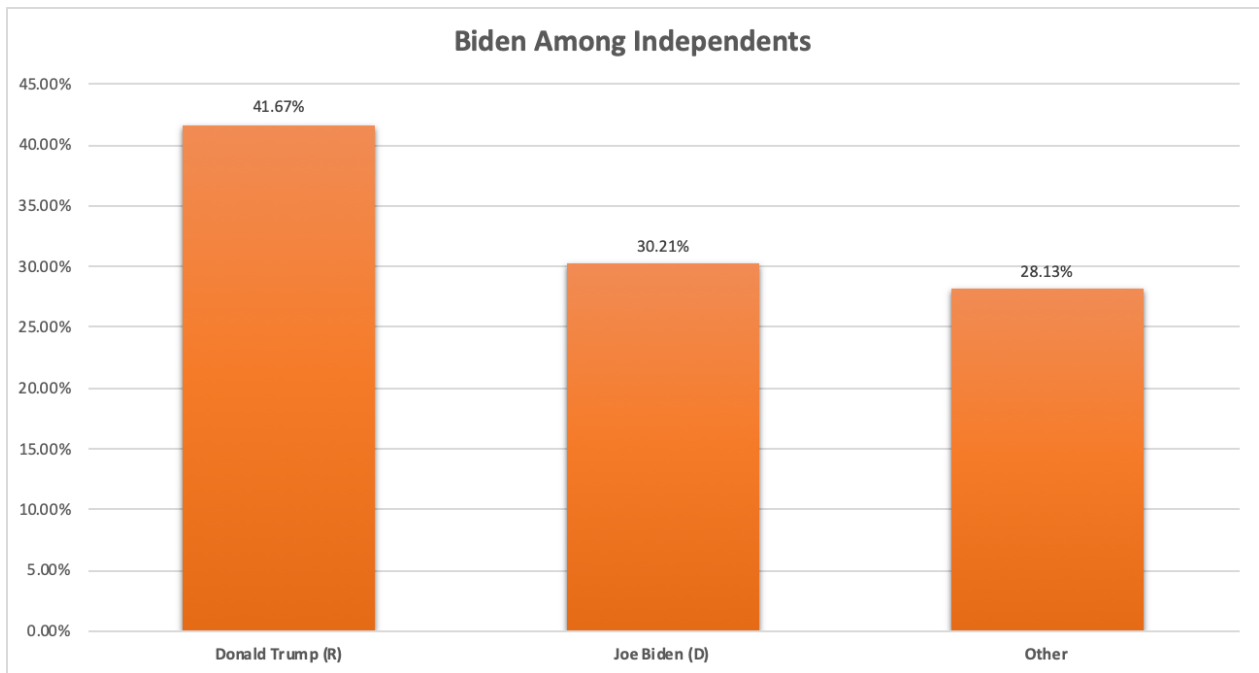
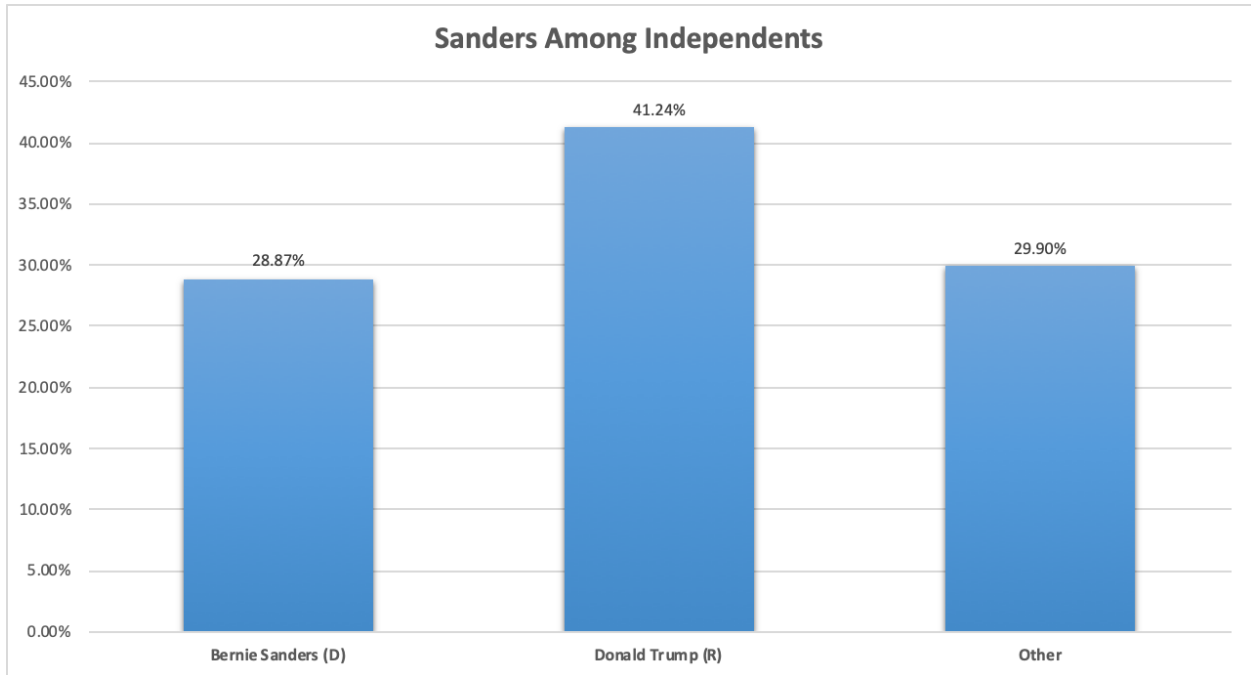


Biden follows closely behind Sanders, with 41%:



**Biden and Sanders the Same Among Independents**

Among those who identify as Independent, Trump enjoys more significant support, with both Sanders and Biden performing the same at 26% and 27%, respectively:



With this data, it becomes apparent that Independents in Idaho lean well to the right, and among that demographic it doesn't matter who the Democratic nominee is, as Trump has consistent support at 42%. However, among political moderates, there is greater support for Democratic candidates.

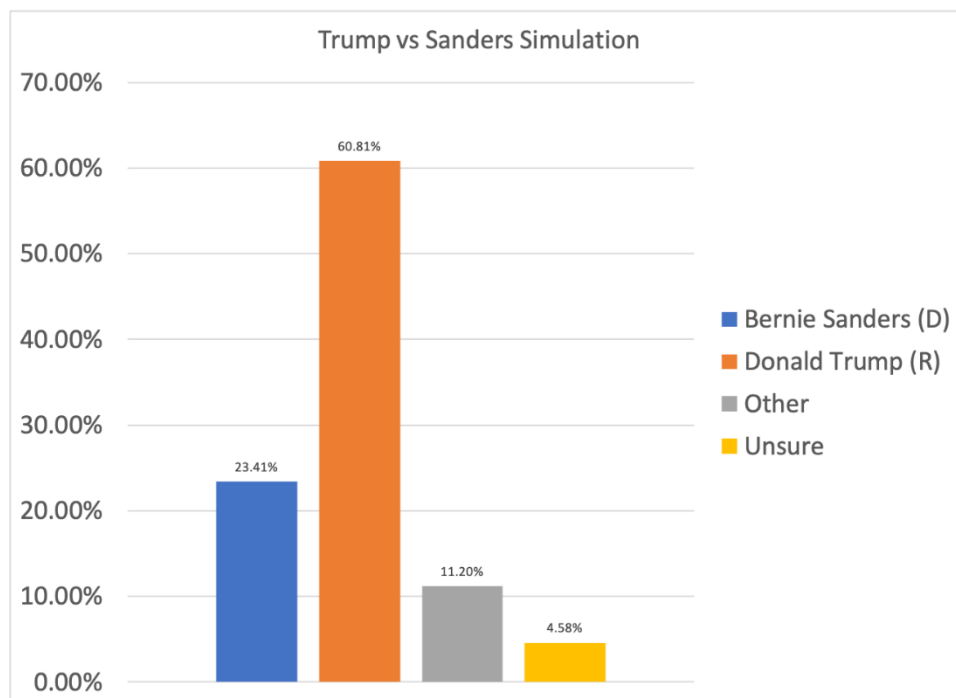
This data demonstrates a stratified view of Idahoan politics, with most voters voting Democrat or Republican, irrespective of the candidates. Though it is true that Trump can safely count on the Idahoan vote, it is also clear that moderates in Idaho aren't satisfied with their options.

## Any Democrat loses to Trump by roughly the same margin

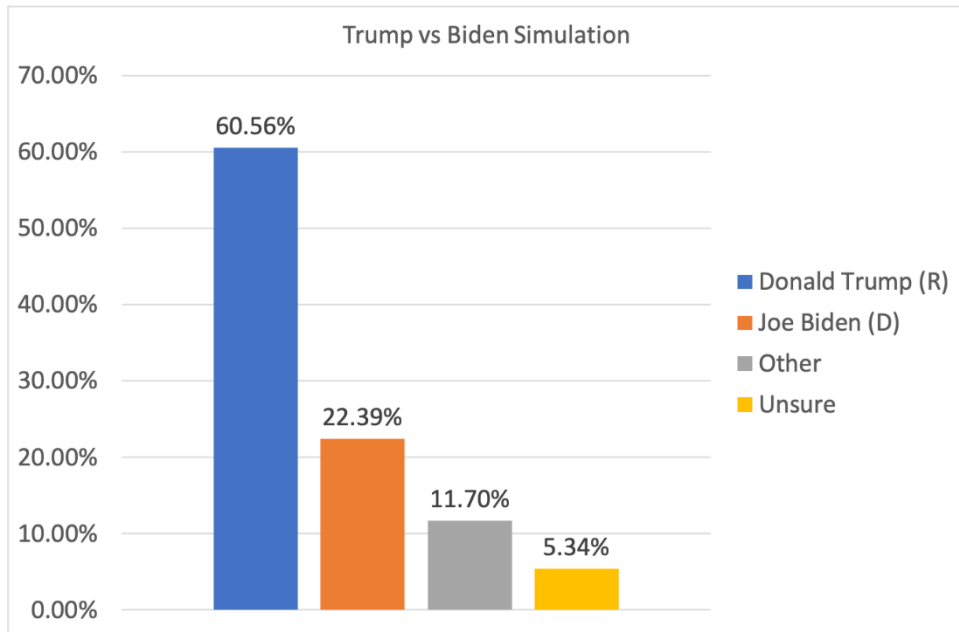
In the 2016 Presidential Election in Idaho Donald Trump won 59% of the vote, Hillary Clinton won 27% and 14% of people voted for other candidates. It is a big question among Democrats as to which candidate can most likely defeat Trump in this year's November election. With the results of Super Tuesday in, Bernie Sanders and Joe Biden are the frontrunners.

According to our survey data it does not matter if Sanders or Biden is the Democratic candidate; Trump would still win Idaho by a considerable margin.

Reports show in a "what if" matchup that between Sanders and Trump that Sanders would lose to Trump by a margin of approximately 38%. Even if Sanders could manage to sway the additional 16% of other and undecided voters, he would still lose by 22%.



Biden performs slightly poorer than Sanders in a head to head simulation against Trump. Trump came in winning by over 39% ahead of Biden. With the additional 17% from unsure and other voters Biden still is unable to outperform Trump and loses by 21%.



A Democratic candidate has not carried Idaho since 1964, and according to our survey data, it is highly unlikely that it will happen during this election. No matter who the democratic nominee is, Trump has a safe refuge of electoral votes from Idaho.