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[Presidential Polling in Key Battleground States Compared to This Same Point in the Election Year Back in 2016](#)

The latest presidential polling for the upcoming November general election shows Democratic nominee Biden leading incumbent President Trump in several key battleground states, but by a smaller margin than 2016 Democratic nominee Clinton led at this same juncture 4 years ago. Biden is currently polling better than Trump in Wisconsin, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Florida, all states being ones that Clinton led as well but by a slightly larger margin, with the exception of Florida. The state of North Carolina showed a minuscule gap between the respective Democratic nominee and Trump back in 2016 and the same remains true for this election cycle as well. While Clinton held a tiny lead there over Trump 4 years ago, Trump now does so over Biden. The 6 aforementioned states are viewed as critical swing states, and were all eventually won by Trump in the 2016 presidential election. At the national level, reputable polling sources currently have Biden holding a lead of anywhere between 7% and 10% over Trump as we approach the final two months before the election.

In this week's battleground state polling, according to RealClearPolitics, Biden holds leads over Trump of 6.5% in Wisconsin, 5.7% in Pennsylvania, 5% in Florida, 6.7% in Michigan, and 2.3% in Ohio. On the other hand, Trump has a minor lead of 0.6% in the state of North Carolina. In comparison to where these same figures were at this point back in 2016, Clinton held advantages over Trump of 11.5% in Wisconsin, 9.2% in Pennsylvania, 3.6% in Florida, 8% in Michigan, 4.8% in Ohio, and 1.7% in North Carolina. As such, it was only Florida where Clinton was not performing as well as Biden currently is, plus she also possessed the slight edge in North Carolina compared to the current lead that Trump holds there. For context on how these swing states panned out during the November 2016 general election, it is important to note and remember that all 6 of them were eventually won by Trump. Knowing this full well, the Biden campaign will stress to their supporters not to take these polling numbers for granted and should therefore be cautiously optimistic at the prospects of flipping some of these states in November. Ultimately, the ability to do so may very well depend on how seriously Democrats in these battleground states heed those warnings.

In addition to the 6 critical previously mentioned states, election pundits will also be keeping an eye on the polling numbers in other swing states like Colorado, Iowa, Nevada, and New Hampshire. To date, Biden holds the edge in Colorado, Nevada, and New Hampshire, while Trump is maintaining a slight lead in Iowa. Again however, the Biden camp will be hesitant to put too much stock into these figures considering that Clinton was also polling well, particularly in New Hampshire, around this time in late summer 2016 but eventually lost the general election despite winning some of these individual states.

Overall, while Clinton did lead by a slightly larger margin than Biden currently is in some key states back in 2016, Biden has been performing consistently better than her in national polls during their respective election years. Biden has continued to hover around the 50% range nationally compared to Clinton's 2016 averages in the mid-40s, and might also be helped by the fact that there should be fewer third-party voters this year than in 2016. Of course, it remains to be seen how these various polling numbers will continue to play out as we approach Election Day, but there are some notable differences between now and this point in the race back in 2016.