

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

Bill Nelson leads Connie Mack, others by at least 11 points

Raleigh, N.C. – Sen. Bill Nelson’s approval rating has slipped since PPP last polled Florida in September, but he maintains double-digit leads over all his potential opponents. That is even true when matched against the highest-profile Republican, Connie Mack IV, whose family name instantly shot him to the top of the primary race when he recently announced he had reversed his original decision not to run.

Nelson leads Mack by eleven points (46-35), Adam Hasner by 15 (48-33), George LeMieux and Mike McCalister also by 15 (47-32), and Craig Miller by 19 (49-30). Two months ago, Nelson led McCalister by 13 points, Hasner and LeMieux by 14, and Miller by 17. When Mack was last tested in March, he trailed by 13 points.

After bumping his overall job performance rating to a 40-32 spread in September, Nelson has declined to barely even (38-37). At 51-27, he continues to be weak with his own party, but he is unusually strong across the aisle, with 22% of Republicans approving. Meanwhile, with 51% aware enough of him to form an opinion, Mack is the most recognized Republican; the others are known to only 23-33% of voters. Because of that, more Republicans and independents are undecided than Democrats in all the matchups, so the race will get closer once the GOP settles on a nominee next year.

But the reason Nelson succeeds in the horse races is not just the anonymity of the GOP contenders. Rather, he manages to bring his ambivalent partymates around when they enter the voting booth, and the Republicans so far cannot do the same. Only 8-11% of Democrats pledge for Nelson’s GOP foes, but he maintains 14-18% of the Republican vote, while leading by nine to 17 points with independents.

“We continue to think that Bill Nelson’s vulnerability is being overrated,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “His approval numbers are mediocre because Democrats aren’t enthralled with him, but they’ll vote for him in the end and when you combine that with an unusual amount of Republican support it makes Nelson very hard to beat.”

PPP surveyed 700 Florida voters from November 28th to December 1st. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.7%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.



Florida Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Bill Nelson's job performance?

Approve38% *Not sure*25%
Disapprove.....37%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Adam Hasner?

Favorable..... 4%
Unfavorable 21%
Not sure 75%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of George LeMieux?

Favorable..... 6%
Unfavorable 27%
Not sure 67%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Connie Mack IV?

Favorable..... 23%
Unfavorable 28%
Not sure 49%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike McCalister?

Favorable..... 5%
Unfavorable 21%
Not sure 73%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Craig Miller?

Favorable..... 4%
Unfavorable 19%
Not sure 77%

Q7 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Bill Nelson and Republican Adam Hasner, who would you vote for?

Bill Nelson..... 48%
Adam Hasner..... 33%
Undecided..... 19%

Q8 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Bill Nelson and Republican George LeMieux, who would you vote for?

Bill Nelson..... 47%
George LeMieux 32%
Undecided..... 20%

Q9 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Bill Nelson and Republican Connie Mack IV, who would you vote for?

Bill Nelson..... 46%
Connie Mack IV 35%
Undecided..... 19%

Q10 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Bill Nelson and Republican Mike McCalister, who would you vote for?

Bill Nelson..... 47%
Mike McCalister 32%
Undecided..... 21%

Q11 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Bill Nelson and Republican Craig Miller, who would you vote for?

Bill Nelson..... 49%
Craig Miller..... 30%
Undecided..... 21%





Q12 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	9%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	19%
<i>Moderate</i>	36%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	23%
<i>Very conservative</i>	14%

Q13 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	53%
<i>Man</i>	47%

Q14 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

<i>Democrat</i>	42%
<i>Republican</i>	38%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	20%

Q15 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

<i>Hispanic</i>	12%
<i>White</i>	70%
<i>African-American</i>	12%
<i>Other</i>	6%

Q16 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

<i>18 to 29</i>	13%
<i>30 to 45</i>	22%
<i>46 to 65</i>	40%
<i>Older than 65</i>	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Nelson Approval						
Approve	38%	52%	48%	47%	23%	17%
Disapprove	37%	27%	29%	28%	48%	59%
Not sure	25%	21%	24%	26%	29%	24%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hasner Favorability						
Favorable	4%	3%	1%	3%	6%	6%
Unfavorable	21%	35%	35%	21%	10%	16%
Not sure	75%	62%	64%	77%	84%	78%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
LeMieux Favorability						
Favorable	6%	3%	2%	6%	8%	11%
Unfavorable	27%	37%	41%	24%	21%	20%
Not sure	67%	60%	57%	69%	72%	68%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Mack Favorability						
Favorable	23%	8%	16%	18%	35%	36%
Unfavorable	28%	40%	37%	30%	18%	18%
Not sure	49%	51%	47%	52%	47%	46%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
McCalister Favorability						
Favorable	5%	5%	5%	5%	3%	11%
Unfavorable	21%	33%	35%	20%	14%	9%
Not sure	73%	62%	60%	75%	83%	79%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Miller Favorability						
Favorable	4%	-	4%	4%	4%	8%
Unfavorable	19%	35%	27%	18%	13%	7%
Not sure	77%	65%	69%	77%	83%	85%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Nelson/Hasner						
Bill Nelson	48%	87%	67%	59%	22%	13%
Adam Hasner	33%	5%	13%	20%	55%	71%
Undecided	19%	8%	20%	21%	22%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Nelson/LeMieux						
Bill Nelson	47%	86%	70%	57%	22%	12%
George LeMieux	32%	7%	13%	21%	51%	71%
Undecided	20%	7%	18%	22%	27%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Nelson/Mack						
Bill Nelson	46%	86%	67%	55%	20%	9%
Connie Mack IV	35%	7%	15%	23%	54%	82%
Undecided	19%	7%	18%	22%	25%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Nelson/McCalister						
Bill Nelson	47%	88%	71%	57%	22%	6%
Mike McCalister	32%	6%	12%	22%	48%	76%
Undecided	21%	6%	18%	22%	30%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Nelson/Miller						
Bill Nelson	49%	90%	75%	58%	22%	11%
Craig Miller	30%	5%	11%	20%	43%	73%
Undecided	21%	5%	14%	23%	35%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Nelson Approval			
Approve	38%	39%	37%
Disapprove	37%	30%	44%
Not sure	25%	31%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hasner Favorability			
Favorable	4%	3%	4%
Unfavorable	21%	21%	22%
Not sure	75%	76%	74%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
LeMieux Favorability			
Favorable	6%	4%	9%
Unfavorable	27%	26%	28%
Not sure	67%	70%	63%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Mack Favorability			
Favorable	23%	20%	27%
Unfavorable	28%	27%	29%
Not sure	49%	53%	44%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCalister Favorability			
Favorable	5%	5%	6%
Unfavorable	21%	20%	23%
Not sure	73%	75%	71%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Miller Favorability			
Favorable	4%	3%	6%
Unfavorable	19%	18%	19%
Not sure	77%	79%	75%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Nelson/Hasner			
Bill Nelson	48%	47%	49%
Adam Hasner	33%	29%	37%
Undecided	19%	24%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Nelson/LeMieux			
Bill Nelson	47%	48%	47%
George LeMieux	32%	28%	37%
Undecided	20%	24%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Nelson/Mack			
Bill Nelson	46%	45%	46%
Connie Mack IV	35%	33%	38%
Undecided	19%	22%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Nelson/McCalister			
Bill Nelson	47%	48%	46%
Mike McCalister	32%	29%	35%
Undecided	21%	23%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Nelson/Miller			
Bill Nelson	49%	50%	48%
Craig Miller	30%	26%	33%
Undecided	21%	23%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Nelson Approval				
Approve	38%	51%	22%	40%
Disapprove	37%	27%	49%	35%
Not sure	25%	21%	30%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hasner Favorability				
Favorable	4%	2%	5%	4%
Unfavorable	21%	29%	14%	20%
Not sure	75%	69%	81%	76%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
LeMieux Favorability				
Favorable	6%	5%	7%	8%
Unfavorable	27%	36%	17%	29%
Not sure	67%	60%	76%	63%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Mack Favorability				
Favorable	23%	15%	32%	25%
Unfavorable	28%	38%	19%	22%
Not sure	49%	47%	49%	52%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCalister Favorability				
Favorable	5%	7%	4%	6%
Unfavorable	21%	28%	15%	19%
Not sure	73%	66%	81%	75%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Miller Favorability				
Favorable	4%	4%	4%	5%
Unfavorable	19%	24%	13%	20%
Not sure	77%	73%	84%	74%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Nelson/Hasner				
Bill Nelson	48%	76%	18%	44%
Adam Hasner	33%	9%	62%	27%
Undecided	19%	14%	19%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Nelson/LeMieux				
Bill Nelson	47%	78%	15%	44%
George LeMieux	32%	8%	61%	28%
Undecided	20%	14%	23%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Nelson/Mack				
Bill Nelson	46%	76%	14%	42%
Connie Mack IV	35%	11%	64%	33%
Undecided	19%	13%	22%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Nelson/McCalister				
Bill Nelson	47%	77%	17%	42%
Mike McCalister	32%	11%	59%	26%
Undecided	21%	13%	24%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Nelson/Miller				
Bill Nelson	49%	80%	18%	42%
Craig Miller	30%	9%	55%	25%
Undecided	21%	11%	27%	32%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Nelson Approval					
Approve	38%	40%	35%	44%	58%
Disapprove	37%	42%	38%	29%	32%
Not sure	25%	18%	28%	27%	10%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Hasner Favorability					
Favorable	4%	2%	4%	-	5%
Unfavorable	21%	25%	18%	29%	42%
Not sure	75%	73%	78%	71%	53%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
LeMieux Favorability					
Favorable	6%	4%	7%	3%	8%
Unfavorable	27%	38%	23%	35%	37%
Not sure	67%	58%	70%	62%	56%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Mack Favorability					
Favorable	23%	25%	25%	16%	18%
Unfavorable	28%	32%	25%	35%	36%
Not sure	49%	43%	50%	49%	47%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
McCalister Favorability					
Favorable	5%	14%	4%	2%	8%
Unfavorable	21%	18%	19%	30%	32%
Not sure	73%	68%	76%	68%	60%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Miller Favorability					
Favorable	4%	4%	4%	7%	5%
Unfavorable	19%	19%	17%	21%	34%
Not sure	77%	76%	79%	72%	61%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Nelson/Hasner					
Bill Nelson	48%	52%	42%	71%	68%
Adam Hasner	33%	28%	39%	5%	20%
Undecided	19%	20%	19%	24%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Nelson/LeMieux					
Bill Nelson	47%	47%	42%	72%	58%
George LeMieux	32%	33%	38%	2%	23%
Undecided	20%	20%	20%	25%	19%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Nelson/Mack					
Bill Nelson	46%	51%	40%	70%	52%
Connie Mack IV	35%	27%	42%	5%	32%
Undecided	19%	22%	17%	25%	16%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Nelson/McCalister					
Bill Nelson	47%	51%	41%	72%	55%
Mike McCalister	32%	30%	37%	4%	29%
Undecided	21%	19%	21%	24%	16%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Nelson/Miller					
Bill Nelson	49%	59%	42%	74%	58%
Craig Miller	30%	20%	36%	4%	26%
Undecided	21%	21%	22%	22%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Nelson Approval					
Approve	38%	30%	29%	43%	41%
Disapprove	37%	49%	36%	34%	36%
Not sure	25%	22%	35%	23%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hasner Favorability					
Favorable	4%	3%	5%	3%	4%
Unfavorable	21%	24%	23%	22%	19%
Not sure	75%	73%	72%	76%	77%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
LeMieux Favorability					
Favorable	6%	3%	4%	7%	9%
Unfavorable	27%	30%	28%	28%	23%
Not sure	67%	68%	68%	64%	68%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Mack Favorability					
Favorable	23%	16%	16%	24%	33%
Unfavorable	28%	27%	29%	29%	26%
Not sure	49%	57%	55%	47%	42%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCalister Favorability					
Favorable	5%	5%	5%	6%	5%
Unfavorable	21%	22%	27%	20%	18%
Not sure	73%	73%	68%	74%	77%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Miller Favorability					
Favorable	4%	8%	3%	4%	4%
Unfavorable	19%	19%	23%	19%	14%
Not sure	77%	73%	75%	77%	82%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Nelson/Hasner					
Bill Nelson	48%	43%	43%	53%	48%
Adam Hasner	33%	27%	35%	30%	38%
Undecided	19%	30%	23%	17%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Nelson/LeMieux					
Bill Nelson	47%	43%	41%	51%	49%
George LeMieux	32%	27%	32%	31%	36%
Undecided	20%	30%	27%	17%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Nelson/Mack					
Bill Nelson	46%	42%	44%	48%	46%
Connie Mack IV	35%	33%	31%	36%	40%
Undecided	19%	25%	25%	16%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Nelson/McCalister					
Bill Nelson	47%	50%	44%	49%	46%
Mike McCalister	32%	33%	28%	32%	34%
Undecided	21%	17%	28%	19%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Nelson/Miller					
Bill Nelson	49%	54%	47%	50%	47%
Craig Miller	30%	27%	28%	30%	31%
Undecided	21%	19%	25%	20%	21%

