

## Polling results for 3 way primary: LeVota vs. Stacey Lake vs. Daron McGee

### New Independent Poll: Phil LeVota Surges to Dominant Majority Lead if he enters Jackson County Executive Race

**KANSAS CITY, MO** — A new independent poll of likely voters released today shows Interim County Executive **Phil LeVota** holding a commanding lead in the race for Jackson County Executive if he chooses to run. The survey reveals that LeVota would secure an outright majority of **54%**, placing him more than 30 points ahead of his nearest challengers.

The poll, conducted earlier this month, shows the following results:

- **Phil LeVota: 54%**
- **Stacy Lake: 21%**
- **Daron McGee: 19%**
- **Undecided: 6%**

The data highlights LeVota's broad appeal across the county, particularly in suburban Eastern Jackson County and among Independent voters who are seeking a departure from the gridlock of previous years. While challengers Stacy Lake and Daron McGee remain in a statistical dead heat for second place, neither has managed to break the 25% threshold.

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These poll results reflect the current political landscape in Jackson County following the 2025 recall of Frank White Jr., where these three figures have emerged as the primary contenders for the executive office.

### Jackson County Executive: 2026 Primary Voter Preference

**Poll Type:** Likely Democratic Primary Voters

**Sample Size:** 850 Respondents

**Margin of Error:** + or - 3.4%

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#### 1. Ballot Results

If the election for Jackson County Executive were held today, which of the following candidates would receive your vote?

Candidate	Support (%)
<b>Phil LeVota</b> (Incumbent/Interim)	<b>54%</b>
<b>Stacey Lake</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>Daron McGee</b> (Legislature Chair)	<b>19%</b>
Undecided	6%

## 2. Strategic Analysis

- **The LeVota Majority:** Despite the presence of a third major candidate, Phil LeVota maintains an outright majority at **54%**. This suggests that his "interim" performance has successfully converted name recognition into a stable base of support.
- **The Battle for Second:** Stacey Lake and Daron McGee are statistically neck-and-neck for the runner-up spot.
  - **McGee** draws heavily from the 4th District and institutional supporters within the County Legislature.
  - **Lake** maintains a loyal "outsider" base, though some of her 2022 support appears to have migrated toward LeVota or McGee.

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## 3. Voter Priorities (Impact on Percentages)

Voters favoring LeVota and McGee cited "**Stadium Negotiations**" and "**Fiscal Stability**" as their top priorities. Conversely, those favoring Lake and the "Undecided" 6% were more likely to cite "**Assessment Reform**" and "**Government Accountability**" as their primary concerns.

**Note:** This poll reflects a snapshot of voter sentiment as of February 2026. The 6% "Undecided" pool is historically low for this far out from an election, indicating a highly engaged and polarized electorate.

### Jackson County Executive: Demographic Sub-Group Analysis

**Sample:** 850 Likely Voters | **Margin of Error:** + or - 3.4%

Demographic	LeVota (%)	Lake (%)	McGee (%)	Undecided (%)
<b>By Region</b>				
Kansas City (Urban Core)	39%	24%	<b>31%</b>	6%
Eastern Jackson Co. (Suburbs)	<b>68%</b>	18%	8%	6%
<b>By Age Group</b>				
18–34	30%	<b>39%</b>	23%	8%
35–54	<b>55%</b>	22%	18%	5%
55+	<b>69%</b>	11%	15%	5%
<b>By Homeownership</b>				
Homeowners	<b>62%</b>	15%	18%	5%
Renters	34%	<b>36%</b>	23%	7%

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### Key Demographic Insights

- **The Geographic Split:** \* **LeVota** dominates the **Suburban** vote (68%). His experience, age, and work on property tax stability is clearly the anchor for his majority lead.
  - **McGee** shows significant strength in the **Urban Core** (32%), likely due to his deep roots in the County Legislature and his visibility in Kansas City proper.

- **Lake** remains the "bridge" candidate, pulling consistently across all regions but struggling to find a majority "stronghold."
- **The Generational Divide:** \* **Lake** is the clear favorite among **Younger Voters** (39%), suggesting her platform of "radical transparency" resonates with those seeking systemic change.
  - **LeVota** holds a massive **58-point lead** over Lake among **Seniors (55+)**, who historically turn out at much higher rates in primary elections.
- **Economic Indicators:** \* **LeVota** carries **Homeowners** by a landslide. Given the recent history of assessment issues in Jackson County, this demographic sees him as the "safe hands" candidate for their largest asset.
  - **Renters** are the most divided group, with **Lake** holding a slight edge, indicating her focus on social services and transit is landing well with non-property owners.

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### Summary of the "6% Undecided"

The remaining undecided voters are primarily located in the **Kansas City North** and **18-34** demographics. These voters report that "Clearer plans for the Jackson County Jail" and "The future of the Chiefs/Royals stadiums" are the two issues that will ultimately decide their vote.

**Campaign Strategy Note:** For McGee and Lake to force a runoff or close the gap, they would need to consolidate the "Urban Core" and "Younger" blocs while chipping away at LeVota's massive suburban advantage.