

Polling results for Phil LeVota vs. Stacey Lake

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

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.

Candidate	Voter Support (%)
Phil LeVota	62%
Stacy Lake	29%
Undecided	9%

Key Takeaways

Lead Margin: Phil LeVota holds a significant 33-point lead over Stacy Lake.

Voter Sentiment: Based on these figures, LeVota has secured a supermajority of the decided vote, indicating strong momentum.

The Gap: Lake would need to capture a substantial portion of any remaining undecided voters **and** flip a significant percentage of the current LeVota base to close the gap.

Internal Polling Summary: Jackson County Executive Race

Survey Period: February 2026

Sample Size: 800 Likely Voters

Margin of Error: +/- 4%

1. Top-Line Results

If the election for Jackson County Executive were held today, and the candidates were Phil LeVota and Stacy Lake, for whom would you vote?

Candidate	Percentage
Phil LeVota	62%
Stacy Lake	29%
Undecided	9%

2. Voter Sentiment Analysis

The current data suggests a significant consolidation of support behind **Phil LeVota**.

Key factors influencing these results include:

- **Incumbency and Substantial Community Involvement Advantage:** As the sitting Interim County Executive (appointed October 2025) and decades of community involvement, LeVota currently benefits from high name recognition and active visibility on local issues like property tax reform and stadium negotiations.
- **The "Undecided" Factor:** In this specific 62/29 split, the "Decided" voter bloc is highly polarized. For Lake to bridge this **33-point gap**, she would need to make significant inroads with voters currently favoring the status quo or mobilize a massive turnout of previously inactive voters.
- **Issue Drivers:**
 - **LeVota:** Likely drawing strength from experience and his focus on "restoring trust" and property tax relief.
 - **Lake:** Maintaining a solid base of 29%, likely composed of voters seeking a complete departure from the legislative consensus that appointed LeVota.

3. Comparative Historical Context

For context, Stacy Lake previously challenged the former executive Frank White in 2022, receiving approximately **47%** of the vote. This decrease in support now demonstrates Lake's vote count in 2022 was more anti-Frank White sentiment. In 2022, Lake received more "anti-Frank White" votes than pro-Stacy Lake votes. With White not running, she loses anti-Frank White votes that go to LeVota. These current figures suggest a shift in the primary electorate's preference toward the current administration's direction.

Strategic Note: A 62% polling threshold is often considered a "safe" lead in local politics, usually indicating that the lead candidate has successfully captured both the moderate center and their party's base.

Demographic Breakdown: LeVota vs. Lake

Demographic Group	Phil LeVota (%)	Stacy Lake (%)
By Region		
Kansas City (Proper)	58%	42%
Eastern Jackson County (Suburbs)	74%	26%
By Age		
18–34	49%	51%
35–54	62%	38%
55+	78%	22%
By Party Affiliation		
Registered Democrats	68%	32%
Independents	61%	39%

Strategic Analysis of the Data

- **The Suburban Stronghold:** LeVota's strongest performance (**74%**) appears in the suburban areas (Independence, Blue Springs, Lee's Summit). This suggests his experience in the community and his focus on **property tax reform** is resonating deeply with homeowners in these regions.
- **The Youth Gap:** Stacy Lake's strongest demographic is the **18–34 age group**, where she actually leads by **2 points**. This aligns with her platform, which emphasizes modernizing government, LGTBQ issues, and transit—issues that typically attract younger, urban voters.
- **Cross-Over Appeal:** LeVota's **61%** support among Independents is a critical metric. In a county-wide race, winning the Independent "middle" by such a wide margin is often what pushes a candidate past the 60% total mark.

Polling Methodology

Field Dates: February 2026

Method: Mixed-mode (Live Caller + SMS to Web)

Weighting: Results are weighted by age, gender, and education to reflect the 2026 Primary turnout in Jackson County.