

Tight race in NPP primaries for Governor

June 2, 2016

The Puerto Rico Herald obtained the key findings from a telephone survey of 898 Puerto Rico registered and likely voters conducted May 17-24, 2016 by a nationally recognized firm. The poll, not conducted for any candidate or party, included an oversample of 96 interviews with New Progressive Party (PNP for its Spanish acronym) voters to produce reliable findings regarding the current standings in the primary races.

As Puerto Ricans prepare to go to the polls for primary elections on June 5th, there have been two significant changes since the March poll:

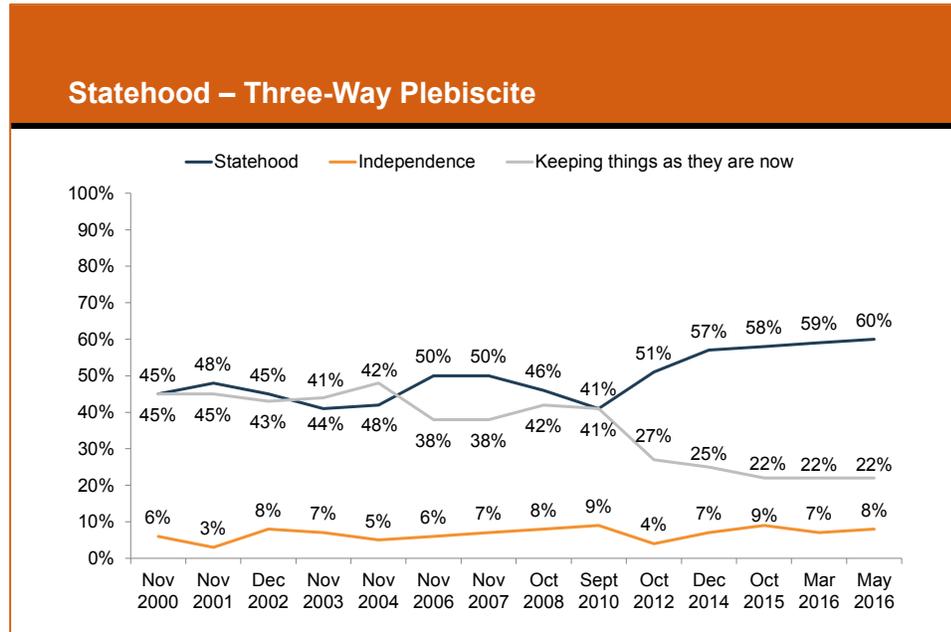
- 1- Scientist and University Professor Ricardo Rosselló now narrowly leads Resident Commissioner Pedro Pierluisi in the PNP gubernatorial primary by four percentage points.
- 2- The Fiscal Control Board has lost some support since March but continues to be favored by 56% of likely voters.



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Statehood

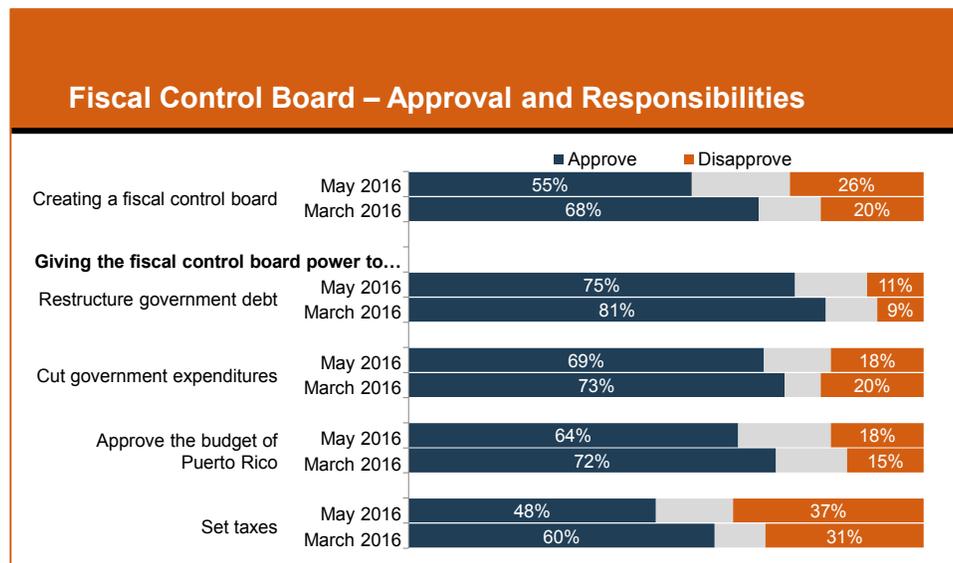
By a wide margin, more Puerto Ricans continue to favor seeking statehood (63%) than oppose it (28%). And for the first time in our polling – which dates back to November 2000 – fully 60% of Puerto Ricans say they would choose statehood in a three-way plebiscite over keeping things as they are now (22%) or independence (8%) .



The Fiscal Control Board

As some Puerto Rican career politicians and pundits from all parties have aggressively opposed the creation of a fiscal control board, support has decreased – from 68% in March to 56% now. Approval of the fiscal control board decreased most notably among more affluent Puerto Ricans and statehood opponents.

Still, the fiscal control board remains the most popular measure tested for improving government finances and the economy. The only other proposal to win approval from more than three-in-ten voters is cutting \$700 million in government spending, which 51% of voters support.



The race for non-voting Delegate to Congress

Territorial Representative Jenniffer González remains the presumptive PNP nominee for resident commissioner. She currently has a 52-point lead over former Transportation and Public Works Secretary Carlos I. Pesquera, up from a 42-point lead in March. On the PPD side, Héctor Ferrer has also solidified his position as the frontrunner. He now holds a 36-point primary lead over Territorial Senator Angel Rosa, up from 21 points in March.

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