

**To:** *Interested Parties*  
**From:** *Hart Research*  
**Date:** *November 11, 2025*  
**Re:** *Survey on Ohio 2026 Senate Race*

*On behalf of the Ohio Federation of Teachers, Hart Research has conducted a survey of 800 likely 2026 Ohio voters that included questions about next year's U.S. Senate election. This memo reviews the survey's key findings on a hypothetical matchup between Republican Jon Husted and Democrat Sherrod Brown.*

**1. Sherrod Brown is narrowly leading the 2026 U.S. Senate race in Ohio, enjoying a 3-point advantage over GOP incumbent Jon Husted.**

When voters are asked their preference in a potential senate election between former senator Sherrod Brown and incumbent Jon Husted, Brown currently leads the race with 48% to Husted's 45%. Brown has impressive leads among independents (+25), moderates (+29), suburban voters (+10), and women (+16).

**Preference in Election for Senator**

	<u>Brown</u>	<u>Husted</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Democrats	95	1	+93
Independents	56	31	+25
Republicans	7	87	-80
Harris voters	95	3	+92
Trump voters	9	84	-76
Liberals	95	2	+93
Moderates	58	29	+29
Conservatives	12	83	-71
Urban	63	29	+34
Suburban	52	42	+10
Rural	33	59	-26
Men	40	52	-13
Women	54	39	+16
18-34	52	40	+12
35-49	53	36	+18
50-64	42	51	-8
65+	47	48	-1

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## 2. Sherrod Brown is also viewed much more favorably by Ohio voters than Senator Husted.

Sherrod Brown currently enjoys a strong favorability rating among Ohio likely voters, with 42% favorable, 23% neutral, and just 35% unfavorable (net rating of +7). In addition to strong support from Democrats (73% to 8%), this includes a two-to-one favorable rating among independents (49%-25%) and a +17-point margin among moderates (42%- 24%). Impressively, Brown has stronger ratings than Donald Trump (-3), former Ohio senator J.D. Vance (-1), or Governor Mike DeWine (-3).

Voters view Brown much more favorably than incumbent Jon Husted, who is viewed favorably by a mere 21% of Ohio voters. While this low proportion partially reflects his lack of name recognition, even among voters who have an opinion of Husted he receives a net rating of -3 (21% favorable, 24% unfavorable).

### Survey Methodology

A total of 800 likely Ohio voters were interviewed from September 19 to 22, 2025, using a mix of live telephone interviews (408) and text-to-web online interviews (392). All respondents said they are certain or likely to vote in the 2026 general election, and large proportions voted in the 2022 (78%) and 2024 (95%) general elections. The margin of error for full-sample questions is +/-3.5 percentage points.

- Partisan identification: 49% Republican, 10% independent, 41% Democratic.
- Ideology: 43% conservative, 28% middle of the road, 27% liberal.