



**To:** DMFI PAC  
**From:** The Mellman Group  
**Re:** Georgia Senate Polling  
**Date:** December 31, 2020

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*This analysis represents the findings of a survey of 578 voters who report that they will vote in the 2021 Georgia Senate runoff elections. Interviews were conducted December 18-22, 2020 using a registration-based sample, with live interviewers calling cellphones and landlines and text-to-online interviews sent to cell phones. The margin of error for this survey is +/-4.1% at a 95% level of confidence. The margin of error is higher for subgroups.*

Our poll in Georgia shows both Democratic candidates with identical 3-point leads in the Senate runoffs over the two incumbent Republicans. John Ossoff leads David Perdue 50% to 47%, and Rev. Raphael Warnock leads Kelly Loeffler by the same 50% to 47%.

While these results are encouraging for Democrats, these races are extremely close and at least three key caveats are in order.

First, turnout, and therefore the composition of the electorate, in January is uncertain at best. In such runoffs, Republicans typically turn out at a higher rate than Democrats. However, this runoff is absolutely unique in the level of interest, the volume of spending, the importance to the country's direction, and the bizarre behavior of President Trump vis-à-vis the election and the state's Republican leadership. Likely electorates can only be constructed based on history and we have no comparable election.

Second, as we pointed out in a *Washington Post* [op-ed](#) last month, in November, late undecideds broke wholly to the GOP. We have no way of knowing whether that pattern will repeat itself. But if it does, these become tie races.

Finally, these races are not over. Between this poll and Election Day over \$100 million will be spent to influence the outcome. Intervening real world events, such as the debate over stimulus checks, and the actions of the campaigns themselves, might just have some impact as well.

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