

July 9, 2026

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Nancy Zdunkewicz, Z to A Research
MEMO: Results on Maine Survey

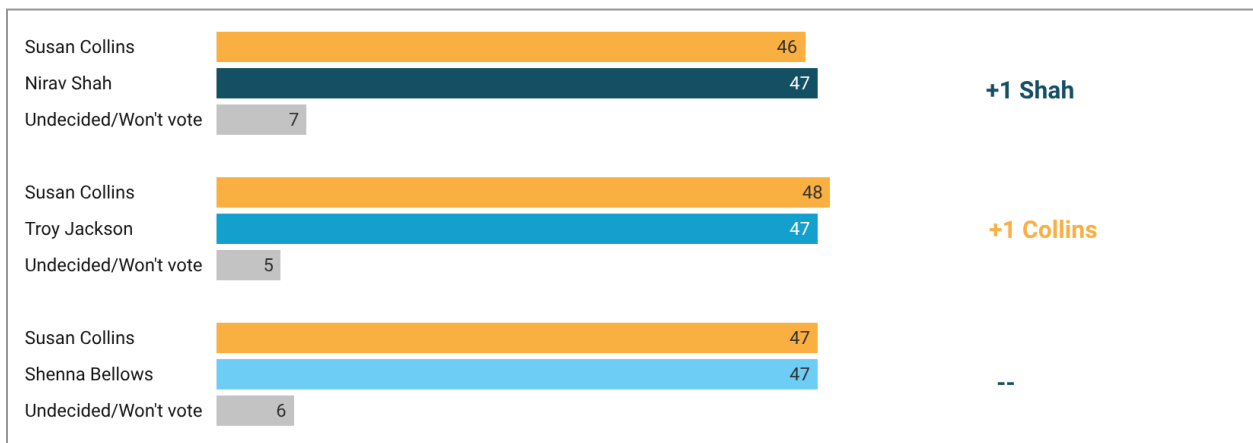


Nirav Shah Leads Collins in New Maine Senate Poll

After new sexual assault allegations about Graham Platner, Z to A Research surveyed 988 likely voters in Maine from July 7-8, 2026, to understand how voters in this key battleground state would like to proceed.

Before Platner's official announcement of his intentions to step down, only 24% of voters, including just 23% of Base Democrats, wanted him to stay in the race. The most recent reports also took a toll on his popularity: just 21% now view him favorably.

As Maine Democrats seek to replace him on the ballot, this poll finds Dr. Nirav Shah, the first runner-up in the primary for Governor, is already leading Susan Collins in the Senate ballot — 47% Shah, 46% Collins. Shenna Bellows is tied with Collins, and Troy Jackson trails her by 1 point.



Despite the anticipated change at the top of the ticket, the overall political environment in Maine still favors Democrats.

- 58% of voters want the next US Senator for Maine to be a check and balance on Trump.
- 56% of voters would prefer Democrats control the next US Congress.
- 51% of voters view Collins unfavorably.

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Z to A Research surveyed 988 likely November 2026 voters in Maine from July 7-8, 2026. Respondents were recruited to an online survey instrument via SMS from a voter-file sample. The margin of error, as traditionally calculated, is $\pm 3.12\%$ for the full sample.