



To: Interested Parties

From: Andrew Baumann and Lida Allen, Global Strategy Group

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Re: Jessica Killin Pulls into Slight Lead Over Jeff Crank in CO-05

A new survey from Global Strategy Group shows that Jessica Killin has pulled into a slight lead in Colorado's 5th congressional district. Despite this district voting for Trump by 9 points in 2024, and despite a double-digit Republican registration advantage, Trump has become politically toxic in the district, which has dragged Republicans down to a tie in the generic ballot. Meanwhile, thanks largely to his close embrace of Trump, incumbent Jeff Crank has seen his ratings tank with unaffiliated voters while Killin has been able to weather attacks from Crank, Trump, and their allied super PACs. As we enter the final two weeks of the campaign, this race is very close, but Killin is in a stronger position than Crank.

Key Findings

The political environment looks promising for Democrats. We project an electorate where Republicans hold a 13-point advantage on party registration, and Republicans have an 8-point advantage on party self-identification.¹ Yet a Democrat is tied with a Republican in the generic ballot for Congress (44% Democrat/44% Republican), and Democrat Phil Weiser is 2 points ahead of Republican Victor Marx in the gubernatorial race (45% Weiser/43% Marx).² This is due in part to unaffiliateds breaking for Democrats, with unaffiliateds preferring a Democrat for Congress by 13 points (48% Democrat/35% Republican), and Weiser by 16 points (49% Weiser/33% Marx). Moreover, 2024 Harris voters are much more motivated to vote (84% rate themselves a 9-10 on our 0-10 motivation scale) than Trump voters (67% rate themselves a 9-10).

Trump is toxic with unaffiliated and swing voters. Donald Trump is underwater (-16 net favorable, 40% favorable/56% unfavorable), especially among unaffiliated voters (-35 net favorable, 29% favorable/64% unfavorable) and swing voters (those who are not locked into voting Democrat or Republican at every level of the ballot – -24 net favorable, 34% favorable/58% unfavorable).

Crank is less well-liked than Killin. While voters are somewhat split in their opinions of Killin (-1 net favorable, 37% favorable/38% unfavorable), they hold much more negative views of Crank (-11 net favorable, 34% favorable/45% unfavorable). What's more, while Crank is deeply unpopular with unaffiliated voters (-27 net favorable, 24% favorable/51% unfavorable), Killin has remained above water with these voters despite millions of dollars in attack ads from Trump's super PAC (+8 net favorable, 39% favorable/31% unfavorable).

¹ We are projecting an electorate that will be 19% registered Democrat, 49% registered unaffiliated/other, and 32% registered Republican. While Trump won this district by 9 points in 2024, we are projecting a 2026 electorate that voted for Trump by a 5-point margin.

² We only asked the two-way gubernatorial ballot (excluding Greg Lopez).

Killin has a slight edge in the race for Congress. Killin leads Crank by two points in the two-way vote (46% Killin/44% Crank) and by five points in the multi-candidate ballot with third party candidates included (43% Killin/38% Crank/4% Mitchell/3% Elworth). Third party candidates always get more of the vote in polls than they end up with in real life, so we do not expect Mitchell and Elworth to combine for 7%, but their presence on the ballot clearly hurts Crank. In the two-way vote, Killin has a more consolidated base than Crank and, critically, is winning unaffiliateds by 20 points.

2-Way Vote for Congress				
	Killin	Crank	Und.	Net Killin
Overall	46	44	10	+2
Democrat	93	4	3	+89
Unaffiliated	52	32	16	+20
Republican	9	85	6	-76

Undecideds look more friendly to Killin. Undecided voters voted for Trump over Harris by a 10-point margin in 2024 (34% to 24%, with 42% not voting or voting for a third party). However, they now loathe Trump: 22% view him favorably vs. 64% who view him unfavorably, including 50% who view him VERY unfavorably.³ When we allocate undecideds first based on their choice in the generic ballot and then (if they don't have a choice on the generic) by their views on Trump (with those who view Trump favorably allocated to Crank, those who view him VERY unfavorably to Killin, and those who view him somewhat unfavorably not allocated), Killin's lead expand to four points: 51% to 47%.

ABOUT THIS POLL

Global Strategy Group conducted a survey of 500 likely 2026 voters in CO-05 between October 14-18, 2026. The survey has a margin of error of +/-4.4%. Care has been taken to ensure the geographic, political, and demographic divisions of the population of likely voters are properly represented.

³ Undecideds are a small sample size, so all of these results have a large margin of error and should be taken as directional, not dispositive.