

# [***Bernie Moreno's Chances of Beating Sherrod Brown in Ohio, According to Polls***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BKY-0631-JBR6-90M2-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Highlight:** Bernie Moreno clinched the Ohio Republican nomination and will now face Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown in November, who leads in current polls.

**Body**

Bernie Moreno, the [*Donald Trump*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/donald-trump?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)-backed Ohio [*Senate*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/senate?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) candidate, faces a tough battle against incumbent Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown in the highly contested Buckeye State, recent polls suggest.

Moreno clinched the Ohio [*Republican*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/republican?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) nomination on Tuesday, beating out the GOP-endorsed state Sen. Matt Dolan by [*four percentage points*](https://apnews.com/article/ohio-senate-republican-primary-dolan-larose-moreno-f74767db9e1772d15ad47ee7dbde8dac), meaning he will face Brown in November.

Several surveys conducted before the Republican primary put Brown ahead in a then-hypothetical matchup between the pair.

*Newsweek* reached out to the campaigns of Sen. Sherrod Brown and Bernie Moreno for comment.

A poll of 1,298 Ohio voters from [*East Carolina University*](https://surveyresearch-ecu.reportablenews.com/pr/matt-dolan-holds-narrow-lead-over-bernie-moreno-in-ohio-senate-republican-primary-frank-larose-in-third-place-general-election-matchups-with-sherrod-brown-competitive-trump-leads-biden-by-10-points)'s Center for Survey Research, conducted between March 8 and 11, positioned the Democrat as beating out Moreno by four percentage points, 45 to 41 percent. The poll had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.2 percentage points.

This same poll indicated Dolan would pull ahead of Brown by two percentage points. "Our polling results suggest that Matt Dolan may give [*Republicans*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/republicans?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) the best chance to unseat Sherrod Brown in the November general election," Jay Morris, Senior Polling Scientist for the East Carolina University Center for Survey Research, said at the time.

Several other polls shared the same findings. Robert Gutsche, associate professor in the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies at Florida Atlantic University and strategic lead at PolCom Lab, who assisted with a March 13 poll, stated, "With these poll numbers, Dolan appears to be the strongest challenger for the incumbent senators."

The [*text message-based poll*](https://www.faupolling.com/march162024/) by Florida Atlantic University, involving 818 participants, showed Brown ahead of Moreno by 11 percentage points—47 to 36 percent—with a margin of error of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points.

"Ohioans are unhappy with much of what is going on in ***politics*** today and rate many political figures negatively. Sherrod Brown is a notable exception to this frustration, and he will need to draw upon his personal brand if he is to win reelection this fall," said Dr. Robert Alexander, director of the Institute for Civics and Public Policy (ICAPP) at Ohio Northern University.

The ICAPP's [*web-based poll*](https://www.onu.edu/northern-poll) of 1,241 likely voters, conducted between March 6 and March 11, showed Brown edging out Moreno by 6 percentage points in a matchup. The poll had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.3 percent.

And an [*Emerson College Polling Ohio*](https://emersoncollegepolling.com/ohio-2024-poll-dolan-26-moreno-23-larose-16-32-undecided-in-gop-primary/) survey of 1,300 registered votes, conducted between March 7 and 10, put Brown ahead of Moreno by 39 percent to 34 percent. The poll's margin of error of plus or minus 2.6 percentage points still positioned the Democrat as the victor.

While Brown is currently favored by several polls, campaigning in the contested state remains fraught. Ohio [*Democratic Party*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/democratic-party?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) spokesperson Katie Smith said in a statement to *Newsweek* following the Republican primary: "Moreno is out for himself, not Ohioans."

[*Moreno wrote on X*](https://twitter.com/berniemoreno/status/1770292615851745551), formerly [*Twitter*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), "I look forward to uniting our party and working to send Sherrod Brown packing in November!"

Brown first won his seat in 2006 and has since secured two reelection campaigns in 2012 and 2018. In his most recent election against Rep. Jim Renacci, Brown garnered [*53.4 percent of the vote*](https://www.cnn.com/election/2018/results/ohio).

[*Link to Image*](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2365888/moreno.jpg)

**Graphic**

Moreno

KAMIL KRZACZYNSKI/AFP

Bernie Moreno speaks before former U.S. President and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump takes the stage during a Buckeye Values PAC Rally in Vandalia, Ohio, on March 16, 2024.

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