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Missouri Senate Still Looks Like a Toss Up

Raleigh, N.C. – PPP's newest poll of the Missouri Senate race finds that Todd Akin is weathering the storm and the contest remains a toss up. Claire McCaskill leads 45-44, just a small change from our poll last week which found Akin ahead by a 44-43 margin.

53% of voters say that they accept Akin's apology for his comments last week to 40% who do not. For most Missourians Akin's words weren't a permanent deal breaker. Although Democrats are not ready to forgive him, 77% of Republicans say they accept his apology to only 18% who do not.

Only 37% of voters now say they think Akin should withdraw from the race to 54% who believe he should not. There's a bipartisan consensus that he should stay in- 57% of independents, 53% of Democrats, and 52% of Republicans think he should continue running. There's clearly a disconnect on Akin's candidacy between GOP leaders in Washington DC and actual GOP voters back in Missouri.

Akin's favorability numbers are still poor with 33% of voters rating him favorably to 56% with a negative opinion. But that's up a net 11 points from our survey last Monday when it came down at 24/58. A lot of voters have already moved on from being disgusted with him over his comments.

One thing this whole episode hasn't done is soften voters' opinions of Claire McCaskill. Only 40% of voters approve of the job she's doing to 55% who disapprove. Even though 32% of Republicans have an unfavorable opinion of Akin, only 11% of them actually say that they're going to vote for McCaskill.

Missouri continues to look like a tough sell for Barack Obama. We find him trailing Romney 53-41, little change from the 52-42 we found on our poll there this week.

"The Missouri Senate race continues to look like a toss up," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Claire McCaskill's unpopularity is balancing out the unhappiness voters feel with Todd Akin over his comments last week."

PPP surveyed 621 likely Missouri voters on August 28th and 29th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.9%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.

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Missouri Survey Results

Q1	Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?	Q7	Do you think Todd Akin should withdraw from the US Senate race, or not?	m
	Approve39%		He should withdraw	37%
	Disapprove55%		He should not	
	Not sure5%		Not sure	
Q2	Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?	Q8	Do you accept Todd Akin's apology for the comments he made last week, or not?	
	Favorable51%		Accept his apology	53%
	Unfavorable43%		Do not	40%
	Not sure 6%		Not sure	7%
Q3	If the candidates for President this year were	Q9	Who did you vote for President in 2008?	
	Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?		John McCain	49%
	Barack Obama41%		Barack Obama	44%
			Someone else/Don't remember	
	Mitt Romney53%	Q10	Would you describe yourself as very liberal	
Q4	Undecided		somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?	
Q4	Claire McCaskill's job performance?		•	8%
	Approve40%		Very liberal	
	Disapprove55%		Somewhat liberal	
	Not sure		Moderate	
Q5	Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion		Somewhat conservative	
-1-	of Todd Akin?		Very conservative	
	Favorable33%	Q11	If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, pres	
	Unfavorable56%		Woman	
	Not sure		Man	
Q6	The candidates for Senate this fall are Democrat Claire McCaskill and Republican Todd Akin. If the election was today, who would	Q12	If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republic press 2. If you are an independent or identified with another party, press 3.	
	you vote for?		Democrat	33%
	Claire McCaskill45%		Republican	35%
	Todd Akin44%		Independent/Other	
	Undecided11%			





Q13 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White	82%
African-American	10%
Other	8%

Q14 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29	18%
30 to 45	25%
46 to 65	37%
Older than 65	20%





		2008 Vo	te	
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	39%	8%	74%	44%
Disapprove	55%	90%	19%	42%
Not sure	5%	2%	7%	14%

		2008 Vo	2008 Vote				
	Base	John Barack Someone else McCain Obama reme					
Romney Favorability		·					
Favorable	51%	82%	20%	36%			
Unfavorable	43%	12%	75%	48%			
Not sure	6%	6%	4%	16%			

		2008 Vo	2008 Vote			
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember		
Obama/Romney		-				
Barack Obama	41%	9%	76%	38%		
Mitt Romney	53%	87%	19%	34%		
Undecided	6%	4%	5%	28%		

		2008 Vo	2008 Vote				
	Base		John Barack Someone else/Don't McCain Obama remember				
McCaskill Approval		•					
Approve	40%	11%	74%	31%			
Disapprove	55%	86%	23%	39%			
Not sure	5%	3%	3%	30%			





		2008 Vo	te	
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember
Akin Favorability				
Favorable	33%	49%	16%	27%
Unfavorable	56%	35%	80%	54%
Not sure	11%	15%	4%	19%

		2008 Vote			
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember	
McCaskill/Akin		·			
Claire McCaskill	45%	15%	78%	49%	
Todd Akin	44%	72%	17%	27%	
Undecided	11%	14%	6%	23%	

		2008 Vote			
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember	
Should Akin Withdraw?		•			
He should withdraw	37%	37%	38%	41%	
He should not	54%	54%	56%	40%	
Not sure	9%	9%	7%	20%	

		2008 Vo	2008 Vote				
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember			
Accept Akin's Apology?		-					
Accept his apology	53%	73%	33%	47%			
Do not	40%	20%	63%	38%			
Not sure	7%	8%	4%	15%			





		Ideolo	ду			
	Base	Very liberal	Som ew hat liberal		Somew hat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval			3	_		
Approve	39%	82%	85%	56%	11%	9%
Disapprove	55%	18%	11%	32%	87%	91%
Not sure	5%	-	4%	13%	2%	0%

		Ideolog	ЭУ			
	Base	Very liberal	Som ew hat liberal		Somew hat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	51%	11%	14%	32%	76%	88%
Unfavorable	43%	89%	79%	60%	16%	10%
Not sure	6%	-	7%	8%	8%	2%

		Ideolo	deology				
	Base	Very liberal	Som ew hat liberal		Somew hat conservative	. ,	
Obam a/Rom ney		_	<u>-</u>	_	<u>-</u>	='	
Barack Obama	41%	84%	85%	57%	13%	8%	
Mitt Romney	53%	14%	14%	32%	82%	90%	
Undecided	6%	2%	1%	11%	5%	3%	

		Ideolog	deology				
	Base	Very liberal	Som ew hat liberal		Somew hat conservative	Very conservative	
McCaskill Approval			-	-	-		
Approve	40%	81%	89%	54%	14%	8%	
Disapprove	55%	13%	11%	36%	82%	92%	
Not sure	5%	6%	-	10%	4%	0%	





		Ideolog	ду			
	Base	Very liberal	Som ew hat liberal		Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Akin Favorability			<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		
Favorable	33%	16%	10%	15%	54%	54%
Unfavorable	56%	80%	83%	77%	31%	32%
Not sure	11%	5%	7%	8%	15%	14%

		Ideolog	deology					
	Base	Very liberal	Som ew hat liberal		Somew hat conservative	Very conservative		
McCaskill/Akin								
Claire McCaskill	45%	90%	89%	64%	17%	8%		
Todd Akin	44%	3%	6%	23%	71%	82%		
Undecided	11%	7%	5%	14%	12%	9%		

		Ideology				
	Base	Very liberal	Som ew hat liberal		Somewhat conservative	
Should Akin Withdraw?		=	•	-	•	•
He should withdraw	37%	53%	33%	40%	33%	35%
He should not	54%	45%	54%	50%	61%	52%
Not sure	9%	2%	13%	10%	6%	13%

		ldeology				
	Base	Very liberal	Som ew hat liberal		Somew hat conservative	Very conservative
Accept Akin's Apology?		=			•	
Accept his apology	53%	26%	33%	35%	74%	79%
Do not	40%	68%	62%	57%	20%	15%
Not sure	7%	6%	5%	8%	6%	6%





		Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man	
Obama Approval		-		
Approve	39%	42%	37%	
Disapprove	55%	53%	58%	
Not sure	5%	5%	5%	

		Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man	
Romney Favorability		•		
Favorable	51%	49%	54%	
Unfavorable	43%	45%	40%	
Not sure	6%	6%	6%	

		Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man	
Obama/Romney		-		
Barack Obama	41%	43%	37%	
Mitt Romney	53%	51%	56%	
Undecided	6%	5%	7%	

	Gender		
Base	Woman	Man	
	- -		
40%	41%	39%	
55%	52%	58%	
5%	6%	3%	
	40% 55%	40% 41% 55% 52%	





		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
Akin Favorability		-	
Favorable	33%	31%	36%
Unfavorable	56%	56%	56%
Not sure	11%	13%	8%

		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
McCaskill/Akin		-	
Claire McCaskill	45%	49%	40%
Todd Akin	44%	42%	48%
Undecided	11%	9%	13%

		Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man	
Should Akin Withdraw?				
He should withdraw	37%	42%	32%	
He should not	54%	48%	61%	
Not sure	9%	10%	7%	

		Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man	
Accept Akin's Apology?				
Accept his apology	53%	50%	57%	
Do not	40%	42%	38%	
Not sure	7%	8%	5%	





		Party					
	Base	Democrat Republican Independent/Other					
Obama Approval		•		•			
Approve	39%	75%	5%	42%			
Disapprove	55%	21%	92%	50%			
Not sure	5%	5%	3%	8%			

		Party			
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other	
Romney Favorability		•			
Favorable	51%	19%	85%	47%	
Unfavorable	43%	78%	9%	43%	
Not sure	6%	3%	6%	9%	

		Party				
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other		
Obama/Romney	,					
Barack Obama	41%	75%	5%	44%		
Mitt Romney	53%	23%	90%	45%		
Undecided	6%	2%	5%	11%		

		Party					
	Base	Democrat Republican Independent/Other					
McCaskill Approval		='					
Approve	40%	73%	7%	43%			
Disapprove	55%	23%	88%	51%			
Not sure	5%	4%	5%	6%			





		Party			
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other	
Akin Favorability		•			
Favorable	33%	16%	52%	31%	
Unfavorable	56%	81%	32%	57%	
Not sure	11%	3%	16%	13%	

		Party					
	Base	Democrat Republican Independent/Other					
McCaskill/Akin		•					
Claire McCaskill	45%	81%	11%	45%			
Todd Akin	44%	15%	78%	38%			
Undecided	11%	5%	11%	17%			

		Party					
	Base	Democrat Republican Independent/Other					
Should Akin Withdraw?							
He should withdraw	37%	41%	37%	34%			
He should not	54%	53%	52%	57%			
Not sure	9%	7%	11%	9%			

		Party					
	Base	Democrat Republican Independent/Other					
Accept Akin's Apology?		•					
Accept his apology	53%	31%	77%	51%			
Do not	40%	64%	18%	39%			
Not sure	7%	5%	6%	10%			





		Race		
	Base	White	African- American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	39%	34%	68%	55%
Disapprove	55%	60%	27%	43%
Not sure	5%	6%	5%	2%

		Race		
	Base	White	African- American	Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	51%	57%	17%	39%
Unfavorable	43%	37%	76%	56%
Not sure	6%	6%	7%	5%

		Race				
	Base	White	African- American	Other		
Obam a/Rom ney						
Barack Obama	41%	35%	79%	49%		
Mitt Romney	53%	59%	20%	40%		
Undecided	6%	6%	2%	11%		

		Race			
	Base	White	African- American	Other	
McCaskill Approval					
Approve	40%	36%	66%	44%	
Disapprove	55%	59%	34%	41%	
Not sure	5%	5%	-	14%	





		Race		
	Base	White	African- American	Other
Akin Favorability				
Favorable	33%	35%	17%	35%
Unfavorable	56%	55%	73%	45%
Not sure	11%	10%	10%	21%

		Race		
	Base	White	African- American	Other
McCaskill/Akin				
Claire McCaskill	45%	42%	67%	44%
Todd Akin	44%	48%	17%	41%
Undecided	11%	10%	16%	14%

		Race		
	Base	White	African- American	Other
Should Akin Withdraw?				
He should withdraw	37%	35%	57%	35%
He should not	54%	55%	38%	58%
Not sure	9%	10%	5%	7%

		Race			
	Base	White	African- American	Other	
Accept Akin's Apology?		-			
Accept his apology	53%	55%	36%	59%	
Do not	40%	37%	62%	40%	
Not sure	7%	8%	2%	1%	





		Age			
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	39%	53%	31%	38%	41%
Disapprove	55%	42%	60%	58%	56%
Not sure	5%	6%	9%	4%	3%

		Age				
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45		Older than 65	
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	51%	36%	55%	54%	55%	
Unfavorable	43%	56%	41%	39%	38%	
Not sure	6%	8%	3%	6%	6%	

		Age			
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obam a/Rom ney					
Barack Obama	41%	49%	34%	40%	42%
Mitt Romney	53%	43%	60%	54%	53%
Undecided	6%	8%	5%	6%	6%

		Age			
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCaskill Approval					
Approve	40%	49%	33%	38%	45%
Disapprove	55%	43%	62%	58%	51%
Not sure	5%	8%	5%	4%	4%





		Age			
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Akin Favorability					
Favorable	33%	35%	36%	33%	28%
Unfavorable	56%	57%	53%	56%	60%
Not sure	11%	8%	10%	11%	12%

		Age				
	Base	18 to 29			Older than 65	
McCaskill/Akin						
Claire McCaskill	45%	57%	36%	44%	46%	
Todd Akin	44%	32%	53%	47%	39%	
Undecided	11%	11%	10%	9%	15%	

		Age				
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45		Older than 65	
Should Akin Withdraw?						
He should withdraw	37%	35%	36%	40%	37%	
He should not	54%	54%	59%	51%	52%	
Not sure	9%	11%	5%	9%	12%	

		Age				
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45		Older than 65	
Accept Akin's Apology?		-				
Accept his apology	53%	54%	55%	54%	49%	
Do not	40%	38%	40%	39%	43%	
Not sure	7%	8%	5%	6%	8%	

