

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

LePage Up Big for Maine Governor

Raleigh, N.C. – In PPP’s first measurement of the race, Tea Party favorite Paul LePage, GOP nominee for Maine governor, is leading Democrat Libby Mitchell, 43-29, among likely voters, with independent Eliot Cutler at 11% and two other independents totaling 6%.

Mitchell is clearly hurt by the three independents splitting 15% of the Democratic vote and LePage pulling 11% himself, to Mitchell’s 61%. LePage gets 75% of the GOP vote, with no one else getting more than 6%. LePage also leads Mitchell among unaffiliated voters, 39-21, with Cutler at 16%.

Mitchell is also not helped by the fact that President Obama now has only a 44-51 job performance mark. He won Maine by 17 points in 2008, but this year’s electorate voted for him by only 7 over John McCain. That ten-point swing explains much of LePage’s lead, and it corresponds to a two-point GOP turnout advantage in this Democratic state.

LePage and Mitchell have reverse personal favorability margins, with the Republican weighing in at 43-35 and the Democrat at 34-43. Republicans dislike Mitchell significantly more than Democrats dislike LePage, but the real difference comes among independents, who see LePage positively, 43-33, and Mitchell negatively, 28-39.

Most states with unpopular incumbent governors are ceding the seat to the opposite party, and Maine is no exception. Democrat John Baldacci has a 31-57 job approval rating.

“While Maine does have a peculiar history of independent governors and anti-establishment politics, you know things are bad for Democrats when this pretty reliably blue state in most other recent cycles is looking bad for the party at the gubernatorial level,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 1,468 likely Maine voters from September 2nd to 6th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-2.6%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.



Maine Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 44%
Disapprove..... 51%
Not sure 5%

Q2 Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or do you not have an opinion?

Support 41%
Oppose 50%
No opinion..... 9%

Q3 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor John Baldacci's job performance?

Approve 31%
Disapprove..... 57%
Not sure 12%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Libby Mitchell?

Favorable..... 34%
Unfavorable 43%
Not sure 23%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Paul LePage?

Favorable..... 43%
Unfavorable 35%
Not sure 21%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Eliot Cutler?

Favorable..... 20%
Unfavorable 35%
Not sure 45%

Q7 The candidates for Governor are Democrat Libby Mitchell, Republican Paul LePage, Independent Eliot Cutler, Independent Shawn Moody, and Independent Kevin Scott. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Libby Mitchell..... 29%
Paul LePage 43%
Eliot Cutler 11%
Shawn Moody..... 5%
Kevin Scott..... 1%
Undecided..... 12%

Q8 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 44%
Barack Obama..... 51%
Someone else/Don't remember 5%

Q9 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 19%
Moderate..... 43%
Conservative..... 38%

Q10 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q11 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 37%
Republican..... 39%
Independent/Other..... 25%

Q12 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 97%
Other..... 3%





Q13 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

18 to 29.....	9%
30 to 45.....	21%
46 to 65.....	42%
Older than 65.....	28%

Q14

1st.....	53%
2nd.....	47%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	44%	4%	80%	19%
Disapprove	51%	94%	12%	71%
Not sure	5%	2%	8%	11%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Health Care				
Support	41%	4%	77%	17%
Oppose	50%	91%	12%	68%
No opinion	9%	6%	11%	15%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Baldacci Approval				
Approve	31%	10%	50%	22%
Disapprove	57%	80%	37%	65%
Not sure	12%	10%	13%	13%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Mitchell Favorability				
Favorable	34%	7%	59%	19%
Unfavorable	43%	69%	18%	58%
Not sure	23%	24%	23%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
LePage Favorability				
Favorable	43%	73%	18%	37%
Unfavorable	35%	9%	58%	34%
Not sure	21%	18%	23%	29%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Cutler Favorability				
Favorable	20%	14%	27%	12%
Unfavorable	35%	41%	30%	40%
Not sure	45%	46%	43%	48%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gov Race				
Libby Mitchell	29%	4%	52%	14%
Paul LePage	43%	76%	13%	45%
Eliot Cutler	11%	6%	15%	3%
Shawn Moody	5%	5%	4%	11%
Kevin Scott	1%	0%	1%	1%
Undecided	12%	8%	15%	25%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	44%	88%	54%	9%
Disapprove	51%	7%	38%	88%
Not sure	5%	5%	8%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Health Care				
Support	41%	88%	51%	7%
Oppose	50%	6%	37%	86%
No opinion	9%	6%	13%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Baldacci Approval				
Approve	31%	61%	35%	11%
Disapprove	57%	26%	53%	78%
Not sure	12%	13%	13%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Mitchell Favorability				
Favorable	34%	72%	39%	8%
Unfavorable	43%	8%	34%	70%
Not sure	23%	20%	27%	22%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
LePage Favorability				
Favorable	43%	7%	31%	76%
Unfavorable	35%	74%	41%	9%
Not sure	21%	19%	28%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Cutler Favorability				
Favorable	20%	23%	26%	13%
Unfavorable	35%	35%	29%	42%
Not sure	45%	42%	45%	45%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gov Race				
Libby Mitchell	29%	72%	32%	4%
Paul LePage	43%	8%	27%	78%
Eliot Cutler	11%	8%	16%	5%
Shawn Moody	5%	2%	5%	5%
Kevin Scott	1%	0%	2%	1%
Undecided	12%	9%	18%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	44%	49%	38%
Disapprove	51%	46%	57%
Not sure	5%	5%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Health Care			
Support	41%	45%	37%
Oppose	50%	44%	56%
No opinion	9%	11%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Baldacci Approval			
Approve	31%	35%	27%
Disapprove	57%	51%	64%
Not sure	12%	15%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Mitchell Favorability			
Favorable	34%	40%	27%
Unfavorable	43%	33%	53%
Not sure	23%	27%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
LePage Favorability			
Favorable	43%	38%	49%
Unfavorable	35%	36%	34%
Not sure	21%	25%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cutler Favorability			
Favorable	20%	20%	21%
Unfavorable	35%	31%	40%
Not sure	45%	49%	39%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gov Race			
Libby Mitchell	29%	35%	23%
Paul LePage	43%	36%	50%
Eliot Cutler	11%	10%	11%
Shawn Moody	5%	4%	5%
Kevin Scott	1%	1%	1%
Undecided	12%	15%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	44%	81%	8%	43%
Disapprove	51%	13%	88%	50%
Not sure	5%	6%	4%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Health Care				
Support	41%	77%	9%	40%
Oppose	50%	14%	86%	47%
No opinion	9%	10%	5%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Baldacci Approval				
Approve	31%	56%	10%	25%
Disapprove	57%	31%	80%	61%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Mitchell Favorability				
Favorable	34%	65%	8%	28%
Unfavorable	43%	16%	70%	39%
Not sure	23%	19%	22%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
LePage Favorability				
Favorable	43%	15%	71%	43%
Unfavorable	35%	60%	13%	33%
Not sure	21%	25%	16%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cutler Favorability				
Favorable	20%	24%	13%	27%
Unfavorable	35%	33%	42%	28%
Not sure	45%	44%	46%	45%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gov Race				
Libby Mitchell	29%	61%	3%	21%
Paul LePage	43%	11%	75%	39%
Eliot Cutler	11%	11%	6%	16%
Shawn Moody	5%	4%	5%	5%
Kevin Scott	1%	1%	0%	1%
Undecided	12%	12%	9%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama Approval			
Approve	44%	43%	54%
Disapprove	51%	52%	38%
Not sure	5%	5%	8%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama Health Care			
Support	41%	41%	56%
Oppose	50%	50%	30%
No opinion	9%	9%	14%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Baldacci Approval			
Approve	31%	30%	42%
Disapprove	57%	58%	46%
Not sure	12%	12%	11%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Mitchell Favorability			
Favorable	34%	34%	35%
Unfavorable	43%	43%	40%
Not sure	23%	23%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
LePage Favorability			
Favorable	43%	43%	47%
Unfavorable	35%	35%	42%
Not sure	21%	21%	11%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Cutler Favorability			
Favorable	20%	21%	13%
Unfavorable	35%	34%	51%
Not sure	45%	45%	36%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gov Race			
Libby Mitchell	29%	29%	32%
Paul LePage	43%	43%	42%
Eliot Cutler	11%	11%	8%
Shawn Moody	5%	5%	-
Kevin Scott	1%	1%	7%
Undecided	12%	12%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	44%	57%	35%	43%	48%
Disapprove	51%	40%	57%	53%	47%
Not sure	5%	3%	8%	5%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Health Care					
Support	41%	50%	37%	41%	42%
Oppose	50%	43%	55%	50%	46%
No opinion	9%	7%	8%	9%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Baldacci Approval					
Approve	31%	37%	22%	28%	40%
Disapprove	57%	60%	67%	60%	45%
Not sure	12%	3%	11%	12%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Mitchell Favorability					
Favorable	34%	38%	21%	35%	41%
Unfavorable	43%	38%	51%	44%	37%
Not sure	23%	24%	28%	22%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
LePage Favorability					
Favorable	43%	23%	46%	47%	42%
Unfavorable	35%	50%	30%	35%	35%
Not sure	21%	27%	24%	18%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cutler Favorability					
Favorable	20%	17%	20%	20%	21%
Unfavorable	35%	45%	33%	35%	34%
Not sure	45%	38%	47%	45%	45%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gov Race					
Libby Mitchell	29%	34%	22%	27%	35%
Paul LePage	43%	34%	48%	45%	37%
Eliot Cutler	11%	7%	11%	10%	12%
Shawn Moody	5%	7%	8%	4%	3%
Kevin Scott	1%	-	1%	1%	1%
Undecided	12%	17%	11%	13%	12%

	Base	Congressional District	
		1st	2nd
Obama Approval			
Approve	44%	46%	41%
Disapprove	51%	48%	54%
Not sure	5%	6%	5%

	Base	Congressional District	
		1st	2nd
Obama Health Care			
Support	41%	45%	37%
Oppose	50%	47%	53%
No opinion	9%	8%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Congressional District	
		1st	2nd
Baldacci Approval			
Approve	31%	35%	27%
Disapprove	57%	51%	64%
Not sure	12%	15%	9%

	Base	Congressional District	
		1st	2nd
Mitchell Favorability			
Favorable	34%	36%	31%
Unfavorable	43%	39%	47%
Not sure	23%	25%	22%

	Base	Congressional District	
		1st	2nd
LePage Favorability			
Favorable	43%	41%	46%
Unfavorable	35%	38%	33%
Not sure	21%	21%	22%

	Base	Congressional District	
		1st	2nd
Cutler Favorability			
Favorable	20%	22%	19%
Unfavorable	35%	34%	36%
Not sure	45%	45%	45%





Crosstabs

	Base	Congressional District	
		1st	2nd
Gov Race			
Libby Mitchell	29%	31%	27%
Paul LePage	43%	38%	48%
Eliot Cutler	11%	13%	8%
Shawn Moody	5%	5%	4%
Kevin Scott	1%	1%	1%
Undecided	12%	12%	12%

