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Stabenow remains favored for re-election

Raleigh, N.C. – Though Senator Debbie Stabenow looked vulnerable when the race was polled in December, Stabenow improved her position in March and remains strong today. Stabenow garners at least 50% of the vote against all of her possible opponents. Stabenow leads former congressman Pete Hoekstra 50-41 (50-38 in March), former Kent County judge Randy Hekman 52-36 (52-33), Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner John McCulloch 52-32, and businessman Peter Konetchy 52-31.

Stabenow holds the lead by garnering at least 90% with Democrats who make up 40% of the voters in Michigan. Although against Hoekstra Stabenow has a small deficit with independents, 38-44, this isn't enough to put Hoekstra within striking range of a victory. In a Presidential year, it's very difficult for a Republican to win Michigan without making inroads with Democrats.

Despite Stabenow's leads, she has only a mediocre 46-40 approval rating (effectively unchanged from 46-39 in March). Stabenow does well with Democrats, 75-12, gets a small amount of crossover support from Republicans, 15-72, but has a deficit with independents 37-47. While not spectacular, Stabenow's approval ratings are enough to get the job done for re-election, and it will likely take a strong opponent to dislodge her.

While a strong candidate is needed, the Republicans have yet to find it. Hoekstra is the most popular with a tepid 31-30 favorability rating. The rest of the field is completely unknown and unpopular with the few who do know them. Hoekstra is followed by Hekman at 4-16, McCulloch at 5-18, and Konetchy at 3-18.

“Pete Hoekstra gives Republicans a credible candidate in this race but he is certainly an under dog,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “It's not going to be easy for the GOP to win a Senate race in a Presidential year, as Spence Abraham learned the first time Debbie Stabenow ran for this seat.”

PPP surveyed 593 Michigan voters from July 21th to 24th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.



Michigan Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Debbie Stabenow's job performance?

Approve 46%
Disapprove..... 40%
Not sure 14%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Randy Hekman?

Favorable..... 4%
Unfavorable 16%
Not sure 81%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Pete Hoekstra?

Favorable..... 31%
Unfavorable 30%
Not sure 39%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Peter Konetchy?

Favorable..... 3%
Unfavorable 18%
Not sure 79%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John McCulloch?

Favorable..... 5%
Unfavorable 18%
Not sure 77%

Q6 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Debbie Stabenow and Republican Randy Hekman, who would you vote for?

Debbie Stabenow 52%
Randy Hekman 36%
Undecided..... 12%

Q7 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Debbie Stabenow and Republican Pete Hoekstra, who would you vote for?

Debbie Stabenow 50%
Pete Hoekstra 41%
Undecided..... 9%

Q8 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Debbie Stabenow and Republican Peter Konetchy, who would you vote for?

Debbie Stabenow 52%
Peter Konetchy 31%
Undecided..... 18%

Q9 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Debbie Stabenow and Republican John McCulloch, who would you vote for?

Debbie Stabenow 52%
John McCulloch 32%
Undecided..... 16%

Q10 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 42%
Barack Obama..... 53%
Someone else/Don't remember 4%

Q11 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal 12%
Somewhat liberal 18%
Moderate..... 30%
Somewhat conservative..... 26%
Very conservative 14%

Q12 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%





Q13 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 40%
Republican..... 30%
Independent/Other..... 30%

Q14 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 82%
African-American 13%
Other..... 5%

Q15 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..... 10%
30 to 45..... 20%
46 to 65..... 46%
Older than 65..... 24%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Stabenow Approval				
Approve	46%	13%	73%	33%
Disapprove	40%	76%	12%	40%
Not sure	14%	11%	15%	27%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hekman Favorability				
Favorable	4%	6%	2%	-
Unfavorable	16%	7%	23%	4%
Not sure	81%	87%	74%	96%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hoekstra Favorability				
Favorable	31%	61%	7%	24%
Unfavorable	30%	10%	48%	14%
Not sure	39%	29%	45%	62%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Konetchy Favorability				
Favorable	3%	5%	2%	-
Unfavorable	18%	7%	28%	2%
Not sure	79%	88%	70%	98%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
McCulloch Favorability				
Favorable	5%	8%	3%	4%
Unfavorable	18%	7%	27%	6%
Not sure	77%	84%	70%	90%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Stabenow/Hekman				
Debbie Stabenow	52%	11%	86%	46%
Randy Hekman	36%	75%	6%	18%
Undecided	12%	14%	9%	36%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Stabenow/Hoekstra				
Debbie Stabenow	50%	10%	83%	42%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	82%	8%	30%
Undecided	9%	8%	9%	28%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Stabenow/Konetchy				
Debbie Stabenow	52%	10%	86%	38%
Peter Konetchy	31%	68%	3%	10%
Undecided	18%	22%	11%	52%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Stabenow/McCulloch				
Debbie Stabenow	52%	11%	86%	38%
John McCulloch	32%	69%	3%	14%
Undecided	16%	20%	11%	48%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Stabenow Approval						
Approve	46%	78%	74%	55%	21%	7%
Disapprove	40%	18%	11%	26%	65%	83%
Not sure	14%	5%	15%	18%	14%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hekman Favorability						
Favorable	4%	5%	1%	2%	6%	5%
Unfavorable	16%	36%	20%	16%	8%	5%
Not sure	81%	59%	79%	82%	86%	89%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hoekstra Favorability						
Favorable	31%	6%	5%	25%	49%	64%
Unfavorable	30%	61%	50%	31%	15%	8%
Not sure	39%	32%	46%	44%	36%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Konetchy Favorability						
Favorable	3%	7%	2%	4%	1%	5%
Unfavorable	18%	39%	23%	17%	12%	9%
Not sure	79%	54%	76%	79%	87%	87%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
McCulloch Favorability						
Favorable	5%	8%	1%	5%	6%	8%
Unfavorable	18%	40%	23%	17%	10%	9%
Not sure	77%	52%	76%	79%	84%	82%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Stabenow/Hekman						
Debbie Stabenow	52%	84%	82%	67%	23%	8%
Randy Hekman	36%	10%	10%	16%	62%	86%
Undecided	12%	6%	8%	17%	15%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Stabenow/Hoekstra						
Debbie Stabenow	50%	86%	84%	62%	21%	5%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	8%	8%	25%	69%	90%
Undecided	9%	6%	7%	13%	10%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Stabenow/Konetchy						
Debbie Stabenow	52%	84%	85%	65%	22%	5%
Peter Konetchy	31%	10%	6%	13%	51%	79%
Undecided	18%	6%	8%	22%	26%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Stabenow/McCulloch						
Debbie Stabenow	52%	85%	85%	65%	22%	8%
John McCulloch	32%	9%	7%	17%	51%	81%
Undecided	16%	6%	8%	19%	27%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Stabenow Approval			
Approve	46%	49%	42%
Disapprove	40%	36%	45%
Not sure	14%	15%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hekman Favorability			
Favorable	4%	4%	3%
Unfavorable	16%	14%	17%
Not sure	81%	81%	80%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hoekstra Favorability			
Favorable	31%	26%	36%
Unfavorable	30%	31%	30%
Not sure	39%	43%	34%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Konetchy Favorability			
Favorable	3%	3%	3%
Unfavorable	18%	18%	19%
Not sure	79%	79%	78%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCulloch Favorability			
Favorable	5%	4%	7%
Unfavorable	18%	17%	18%
Not sure	77%	79%	75%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Stabenow/Hekman			
Debbie Stabenow	52%	57%	47%
Randy Hekman	36%	31%	41%
Undecided	12%	12%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Stabenow/Hoekstra			
Debbie Stabenow	50%	54%	46%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	37%	44%
Undecided	9%	9%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Stabenow/Konetchy			
Debbie Stabenow	52%	55%	47%
Peter Konetchy	31%	28%	34%
Undecided	18%	17%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Stabenow/McCulloch			
Debbie Stabenow	52%	56%	47%
John McCulloch	32%	28%	36%
Undecided	16%	16%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Stabenow Approval				
Approve	46%	75%	15%	37%
Disapprove	40%	12%	72%	47%
Not sure	14%	12%	14%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hekman Favorability				
Favorable	4%	3%	6%	2%
Unfavorable	16%	25%	10%	9%
Not sure	81%	72%	84%	89%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hoekstra Favorability				
Favorable	31%	7%	60%	33%
Unfavorable	30%	51%	11%	23%
Not sure	39%	42%	29%	44%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Konetchy Favorability				
Favorable	3%	4%	3%	2%
Unfavorable	18%	30%	11%	10%
Not sure	79%	67%	86%	87%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCulloch Favorability				
Favorable	5%	4%	7%	6%
Unfavorable	18%	29%	10%	11%
Not sure	77%	68%	83%	83%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Stabenow/Hekman				
Debbie Stabenow	52%	91%	12%	40%
Randy Hekman	36%	5%	74%	38%
Undecided	12%	4%	14%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Stabenow/Hoekstra				
Debbie Stabenow	50%	90%	8%	38%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	4%	85%	44%
Undecided	9%	5%	7%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Stabenow/Konetchy				
Debbie Stabenow	52%	91%	11%	39%
Peter Konetchy	31%	3%	66%	33%
Undecided	18%	6%	24%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Stabenow/McCulloch				
Debbie Stabenow	52%	91%	12%	40%
John McCulloch	32%	4%	66%	35%
Undecided	16%	5%	22%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Stabenow Approval				
Approve	46%	41%	75%	44%
Disapprove	40%	45%	11%	42%
Not sure	14%	14%	13%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Hekman Favorability				
Favorable	4%	4%	3%	10%
Unfavorable	16%	14%	25%	7%
Not sure	81%	82%	72%	82%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Hoekstra Favorability				
Favorable	31%	34%	7%	44%
Unfavorable	30%	29%	46%	20%
Not sure	39%	38%	46%	36%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Konetchy Favorability				
Favorable	3%	3%	1%	4%
Unfavorable	18%	16%	34%	16%
Not sure	79%	81%	64%	80%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
McCulloch Favorability				
Favorable	5%	6%	-	9%
Unfavorable	18%	15%	32%	16%
Not sure	77%	79%	68%	75%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Stabenow/Hekman				
Debbie Stabenow	52%	47%	82%	54%
Randy Hekman	36%	39%	11%	42%
Undecided	12%	13%	7%	4%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Stabenow/Hoekstra				
Debbie Stabenow	50%	45%	82%	54%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	45%	11%	42%
Undecided	9%	10%	7%	4%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Stabenow/Konetchy				
Debbie Stabenow	52%	46%	86%	51%
Peter Konetchy	31%	34%	5%	42%
Undecided	18%	20%	9%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Stabenow/McCulloch				
Debbie Stabenow	52%	46%	86%	51%
John McCulloch	32%	36%	5%	40%
Undecided	16%	18%	9%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Stabenow Approval					
Approve	46%	52%	48%	43%	46%
Disapprove	40%	24%	37%	44%	44%
Not sure	14%	24%	15%	13%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hekman Favorability					
Favorable	4%	7%	3%	4%	3%
Unfavorable	16%	21%	10%	15%	19%
Not sure	81%	72%	87%	82%	77%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hoekstra Favorability					
Favorable	31%	21%	30%	30%	36%
Unfavorable	30%	34%	22%	33%	31%
Not sure	39%	45%	48%	37%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Konetchy Favorability					
Favorable	3%	3%	2%	4%	3%
Unfavorable	18%	24%	13%	18%	21%
Not sure	79%	72%	85%	79%	77%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCulloch Favorability					
Favorable	5%	17%	3%	4%	4%
Unfavorable	18%	17%	13%	18%	22%
Not sure	77%	66%	83%	78%	74%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Stabenow/Hekman					
Debbie Stabenow	52%	66%	48%	54%	47%
Randy Hekman	36%	21%	37%	33%	45%
Undecided	12%	14%	15%	13%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Stabenow/Hoekstra					
Debbie Stabenow	50%	66%	45%	51%	47%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	28%	40%	40%	48%
Undecided	9%	7%	15%	9%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Stabenow/Konetchy					
Debbie Stabenow	52%	62%	50%	53%	47%
Peter Konetchy	31%	17%	32%	30%	37%
Undecided	18%	21%	18%	18%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Stabenow/McCulloch					
Debbie Stabenow	52%	69%	50%	52%	46%
John McCulloch	32%	17%	32%	31%	40%
Undecided	16%	14%	18%	17%	14%

