

INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

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

Republicans set to win Mississippi gubernatorial race

Raleigh, N.C. – It will probably come as no surprise to anyone that the Republicans are a near mortal lock to retain Mississippi's governor's mansion when Haley Barbour leaves office next year. Except for Lt. Gov. Phil Bryant, all the candidates are disliked and unknown to at least three of every five voters. But the state's Democrats and independents are so conservative that despite there being an equal number of Democrats as Republicans, any of the three major GOP candidates ought to easily win in November.

Bryant is seen favorably by 32% of voters and unfavorably by 27%. The 41% with no opinion makes him a beloved household name compared to Hattiesburg mayor Johnny DuPree's 61% (12-28 favorable-to-unfavorable margin), businessmen Bill Luckett's and Dave Dennis' 65% (each 13-22), and retired general Hudson Holliday's 69% (7-24). But even if voters do not know who these candidates are, and those who do say they dislike them, voters still prefer the Republicans across the board.

Bryant already has majority support against either DuPree (56-25) or Luckett (53-27). But Dennis also leads DuPree, 41-28, and Luckett 43-25. Holliday has the lowest profile, and therefore leads DuPree only 37-28 and Luckett by an almost identical 38-28. No Democrat can top 28%, but the more voters know the Republicans, the more willing they are to vote for them. Bryant is pulling 23% or 28% of Democrats and leading with independents by 22 or 23 points. Dennis and Holliday are doing not quite as well with Democrats but a little better with independents.

There is some chance for the eventual Democratic nominee to make up ground by consolidating support from African-Americans, who make up a third of voters, much more than in most states. The best showing is DuPree's 63% against Dennis. But even boosting that to 90% leaves DuPree four points down, and if the undecided whites and others fall proportionately to where they are now, he trails 59-41, because blacks are already more in his corner than whites are in Dennis'.

“It's never a good idea for a politician to start measuring the drapes seven months before an election but Phil Bryant is an overwhelming favorite right now to be the next Governor of Mississippi,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 817 Mississippi voters from March 24th to 27th. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.4%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



Mississippi Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Phil Bryant?

Favorable..... 32%
Unfavorable 27%
Not sure 41%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Dave Dennis?

Favorable..... 13%
Unfavorable 22%
Not sure 65%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Johnny DuPree?

Favorable..... 12%
Unfavorable 28%
Not sure 61%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Hudson Holliday?

Favorable..... 7%
Unfavorable 24%
Not sure 69%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Bill Lockett?

Favorable..... 13%
Unfavorable 22%
Not sure 65%

Q6 If the candidates for Governor this fall were Republican Phil Bryant and Democrat Johnny DuPree, who would you vote for?

Phil Bryant 56%
Johnny DuPree 25%
Undecided..... 19%

Q7 If the candidates for Governor this fall were Republican Phil Bryant and Democrat Bill Lockett, who would you vote for?

Phil Bryant 53%
Bill Lockett 27%
Undecided..... 20%

Q8 If the candidates for Governor this fall were Republican Dave Dennis and Democrat Johnny DuPree, who would you vote for?

Dave Dennis 41%
Johnny DuPree 28%
Undecided..... 31%

Q9 If the candidates for Governor this fall were Republican Dave Dennis and Democrat Bill Lockett, who would you vote for?

Dave Dennis 43%
Bill Lockett 25%
Undecided..... 32%

Q10 If the candidates for Governor this fall were Republican Hudson Holliday and Democrat Johnny DuPree, who would you vote for?

Hudson Holliday..... 37%
Johnny DuPree 28%
Undecided..... 35%

Q11 If the candidates for Governor this fall were Republican Hudson Holliday and Democrat Bill Lockett, who would you vote for?

Hudson Holliday..... 38%
Bill Lockett 28%
Undecided..... 34%





Q12 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	11%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	11%
<i>Moderate</i>	28%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	24%
<i>Very conservative</i>	26%

Q13 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	56%
<i>Man</i>	44%

Q14 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

<i>Democrat</i>	40%
<i>Republican</i>	40%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	20%

Q15 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

<i>White</i>	63%
<i>African-American</i>	33%
<i>Other</i>	4%

Q16 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.

<i>18 to 29</i>	12%
<i>30 to 45</i>	26%
<i>46 to 65</i>	43%
<i>Older than 65</i>	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bryant Favorability						
Favorable	32%	15%	18%	25%	41%	43%
Unfavorable	27%	47%	43%	27%	20%	20%
Not sure	41%	38%	39%	48%	40%	37%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Dennis Favorability						
Favorable	13%	12%	11%	8%	14%	17%
Unfavorable	22%	39%	31%	20%	17%	19%
Not sure	65%	49%	58%	72%	68%	64%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
DuPree Favorability						
Favorable	12%	24%	13%	10%	12%	7%
Unfavorable	28%	30%	36%	24%	26%	30%
Not sure	61%	46%	52%	66%	63%	63%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Holliday Favorability						
Favorable	7%	10%	5%	4%	11%	5%
Unfavorable	24%	39%	38%	18%	18%	25%
Not sure	69%	50%	58%	78%	70%	71%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Lockett Favorability						
Favorable	13%	18%	14%	16%	10%	9%
Unfavorable	22%	30%	29%	14%	20%	26%
Not sure	65%	52%	57%	71%	70%	64%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bryant/DuPree						
Phil Bryant	56%	48%	19%	39%	75%	74%
Johnny DuPree	25%	38%	56%	35%	8%	12%
Undecided	19%	14%	25%	25%	16%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bryant/Lockett						
Phil Bryant	53%	37%	28%	35%	69%	75%
Bill Lockett	27%	51%	44%	40%	9%	12%
Undecided	20%	12%	28%	25%	22%	13%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Dennis/DuPree						
Dave Dennis	41%	27%	20%	28%	54%	58%
Johnny DuPree	28%	53%	47%	35%	11%	17%
Undecided	31%	20%	33%	36%	35%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Dennis/Luckett						
Dave Dennis	43%	29%	17%	27%	58%	63%
Bill Luckett	25%	55%	35%	33%	9%	15%
Undecided	32%	16%	48%	41%	33%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Holliday/DuPree						
Hudson Holliday	37%	21%	11%	24%	48%	61%
Johnny DuPree	28%	59%	50%	31%	14%	15%
Undecided	35%	20%	39%	45%	39%	24%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Holliday/Luckett						
Hudson Holliday	38%	25%	10%	21%	49%	64%
Bill Luckett	28%	55%	54%	35%	10%	14%
Undecided	34%	20%	36%	44%	41%	22%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bryant Favorability			
Favorable	32%	30%	33%
Unfavorable	27%	24%	32%
Not sure	41%	46%	35%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dennis Favorability			
Favorable	13%	10%	15%
Unfavorable	22%	20%	25%
Not sure	65%	69%	60%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
DuPree Favorability			
Favorable	12%	11%	13%
Unfavorable	28%	24%	32%
Not sure	61%	65%	55%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Holliday Favorability			
Favorable	7%	6%	8%
Unfavorable	24%	18%	32%
Not sure	69%	76%	60%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Luckett Favorability			
Favorable	13%	11%	15%
Unfavorable	22%	19%	26%
Not sure	65%	71%	59%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bryant/DuPree			
Phil Bryant	56%	52%	61%
Johnny DuPree	25%	25%	26%
Undecided	19%	23%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bryant/Luckett			
Phil Bryant	53%	47%	61%
Bill Luckett	27%	29%	24%
Undecided	20%	24%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dennis/DuPree			
Dave Dennis	41%	34%	50%
Johnny DuPree	28%	30%	25%
Undecided	31%	35%	25%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dennis/Luckett			
Dave Dennis	43%	35%	53%
Bill Luckett	25%	27%	22%
Undecided	32%	38%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Holliday/DuPree			
Hudson Holliday	37%	28%	49%
Johnny DuPree	28%	30%	25%
Undecided	35%	41%	26%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Holliday/Luckett			
Hudson Holliday	38%	31%	47%
Bill Luckett	28%	28%	28%
Undecided	34%	41%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bryant Favorability				
Favorable	32%	18%	43%	36%
Unfavorable	27%	39%	19%	22%
Not sure	41%	43%	38%	42%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dennis Favorability				
Favorable	13%	8%	14%	18%
Unfavorable	22%	33%	13%	20%
Not sure	65%	59%	73%	61%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
DuPree Favorability				
Favorable	12%	21%	5%	7%
Unfavorable	28%	32%	25%	25%
Not sure	61%	48%	70%	67%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Holliday Favorability				
Favorable	7%	8%	7%	5%
Unfavorable	24%	37%	15%	17%
Not sure	69%	55%	78%	78%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Luckett Favorability				
Favorable	13%	18%	9%	9%
Unfavorable	22%	27%	18%	21%
Not sure	65%	55%	73%	70%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bryant/DuPree				
Phil Bryant	56%	28%	84%	55%
Johnny DuPree	25%	49%	4%	23%
Undecided	19%	24%	12%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bryant/Luckett				
Phil Bryant	53%	23%	82%	54%
Bill Luckett	27%	55%	3%	21%
Undecided	20%	23%	15%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dennis/DuPree				
Dave Dennis	41%	16%	64%	45%
Johnny DuPree	28%	57%	6%	16%
Undecided	31%	28%	30%	39%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dennis/Luckett				
Dave Dennis	43%	16%	68%	46%
Bill Luckett	25%	51%	5%	13%
Undecided	32%	33%	27%	41%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Holliday/DuPree				
Hudson Holliday	37%	9%	65%	39%
Johnny DuPree	28%	58%	4%	17%
Undecided	35%	33%	31%	44%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Holliday/Luckett				
Hudson Holliday	38%	9%	65%	41%
Bill Luckett	28%	59%	4%	16%
Undecided	34%	33%	31%	43%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Bryant Favorability				
Favorable	32%	41%	14%	32%
Unfavorable	27%	21%	40%	26%
Not sure	41%	38%	47%	42%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Dennis Favorability				
Favorable	13%	17%	6%	3%
Unfavorable	22%	13%	40%	29%
Not sure	65%	71%	54%	68%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
DuPree Favorability				
Favorable	12%	8%	20%	3%
Unfavorable	28%	25%	33%	26%
Not sure	61%	67%	47%	71%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Holliday Favorability				
Favorable	7%	8%	4%	6%
Unfavorable	24%	16%	41%	16%
Not sure	69%	75%	56%	77%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Lockett Favorability				
Favorable	13%	12%	14%	16%
Unfavorable	22%	19%	30%	13%
Not sure	65%	69%	57%	71%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Bryant/DuPree				
Phil Bryant	56%	74%	22%	39%
Johnny DuPree	25%	10%	54%	26%
Undecided	19%	15%	23%	35%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Bryant/Lockett				
Phil Bryant	53%	72%	19%	42%
Bill Lockett	27%	12%	54%	29%
Undecided	20%	16%	27%	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Dennis/DuPree				
Dave Dennis	41%	58%	11%	26%
Johnny DuPree	28%	11%	63%	26%
Undecided	31%	32%	26%	48%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Dennis/Luckett				
Dave Dennis	43%	61%	10%	35%
Bill Luckett	25%	9%	56%	19%
Undecided	32%	30%	35%	45%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Holliday/DuPree				
Hudson Holliday	37%	54%	6%	29%
Johnny DuPree	28%	11%	62%	26%
Undecided	35%	35%	32%	45%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Holliday/Luckett				
Hudson Holliday	38%	54%	7%	39%
Bill Luckett	28%	12%	59%	23%
Undecided	34%	34%	33%	39%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bryant Favorability					
Favorable	32%	28%	27%	33%	38%
Unfavorable	27%	21%	34%	26%	26%
Not sure	41%	51%	40%	41%	36%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dennis Favorability					
Favorable	13%	9%	9%	15%	13%
Unfavorable	22%	18%	32%	23%	10%
Not sure	65%	73%	59%	61%	77%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
DuPre Favorability					
Favorable	12%	13%	13%	13%	7%
Unfavorable	28%	24%	30%	32%	16%
Not sure	61%	63%	57%	55%	77%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Holliday Favorability					
Favorable	7%	9%	3%	7%	10%
Unfavorable	24%	22%	34%	25%	11%
Not sure	69%	68%	63%	68%	79%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Luckett Favorability					
Favorable	13%	14%	17%	11%	9%
Unfavorable	22%	17%	25%	26%	11%
Not sure	65%	68%	58%	63%	79%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bryant/DuPree					
Phil Bryant	56%	61%	45%	54%	70%
Johnny DuPree	25%	18%	34%	28%	11%
Undecided	19%	21%	20%	17%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bryant/Luckett					
Phil Bryant	53%	55%	40%	54%	66%
Bill Luckett	27%	29%	37%	27%	12%
Undecided	20%	15%	23%	19%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dennis/DuPree					
Dave Dennis	41%	44%	35%	39%	51%
Johnny DuPree	28%	29%	37%	32%	6%
Undecided	31%	27%	28%	28%	42%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dennis/Luckett					
Dave Dennis	43%	41%	36%	41%	57%
Bill Lockett	25%	24%	38%	24%	11%
Undecided	32%	35%	26%	35%	32%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Holliday/DuPree					
Hudson Holliday	37%	38%	26%	38%	51%
Johnny DuPree	28%	26%	37%	31%	12%
Undecided	35%	36%	37%	31%	37%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Holliday/Lockett					
Hudson Holliday	38%	44%	26%	39%	49%
Bill Lockett	28%	26%	40%	27%	15%
Undecided	34%	31%	34%	34%	36%

