

## Hutchinson Leads McDaniel in 2014 Governor Race

**Raleigh, N.C.** – If the November 2014 election were held today, PPP’s latest Arkansas poll shows Republican Asa Hutchinson cruising to a 13-point victory over his likely Democratic opponent Dustin McDaniel.

46% of voters prefer Hutchinson to 33% for McDaniel, and 22% are not sure who they would support in the general election. Hutchinson’s +9 favorability (39/30) among Arkansas voters is way ahead of McDaniel’s -15 rating (25/40).

Lack of support from independents is what’s really hurting McDaniel. Hutchison beats McDaniel by 27 points with independents, 49% to 22%. Hutchison’s favorability is +4 with independents compared to -26 for McDaniel. McDaniel is also struggling with Democratic voters: 24% view Hutchison favorably and 30% view McDaniel unfavorably. Hutchinson leads among both women (42-34) and men (49-31).

McDaniel’s candidacy may be hurting in part because he recently admitted to having an extramarital affair. 49% of respondents said they heard or read ‘a lot’ about a controversy surrounding McDaniel’s run for governor and 18% said they heard or read ‘some’ about a controversy involving McDaniel.

Hutchinson’s new role leading the NRA’s task force on school security, which is focused on putting armed volunteer guards in all schools, isn’t necessarily a good thing for the Republican. The association prompted 27% of respondents to have serious doubts about Hutchison, while 13% had some doubts and 21% had minor doubts.

PPP surveyed 600 Arkansas voters from January 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the overall sample is +/-4.0%. This poll was authorized and paid for by Jobs Now Think Tank. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.



## Arkansas Survey Results

**Q1** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Asa Hutchinson?

*Favorable*..... 39%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 30%  
*Not sure* ..... 32%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Dustin McDaniel?

*Favorable*..... 25%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 40%  
*Not sure* ..... 35%

**Q3** In the November general election in 2014, the two candidates for governor may be the Republican Asa Hutchinson and the Democrat Dustin McDaniel. If the election were held today, would you vote for?

*Hutchinson*..... 46%  
*McDaniel*..... 33%  
*Not sure* ..... 22%

**Q4** Generally speaking, do you think Arkansas is headed in the right direction, or is it off on the wrong track?

*Right direction*..... 51%  
*Wrong track* ..... 28%  
*Not sure* ..... 21%

**Q5** Have you seen, heard or read anything in the news media recently about any controversy surrounding the candidacy of Attorney General Dustin McDaniel for Governor of Arkansas?

*A lot*..... 49%  
*Some* ..... 18%  
*None* ..... 31%  
*Not sure* ..... 2%

**Q6** Asa Hutchinson has been named to lead a task force for the National Rifle Association on school security. Hutchinson and the NRA propose placing armed volunteer guards in all of our nation's schools. Does this raise serious doubts, some doubts, minor doubts, or no real doubts in your own mind about Asa Hutchinson?

*Serious doubts*..... 27%  
*Some doubts*..... 13%  
*Minor doubts*..... 21%  
*No real doubts* ..... 35%  
*Not sure* ..... 4%

**Q7** Generally speaking, who do you trust more to create jobs: Republicans in Congress, or President Obama?

*Republicans in Congress*..... 53%  
*President Obama*..... 35%  
*Not sure* ..... 12%

**Q8** Generally speaking, who do you think would be more likely to create jobs in Arkansas: a Democratic governor or a Republican governor?

*A Democratic Governor* ..... 38%  
*A Republican Governor*..... 43%  
*Not sure*..... 19%

**Q9** Generally speaking, do you think Arkansas is in a better position, worse position or equal position to other states to build and attract new jobs?

*Arkansas is in a better position* ..... 30%  
*Arkansas is in a worse position* ..... 29%  
*Arkansas is equally positioned*..... 34%  
*Not sure* ..... 7%



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

*Woman* ..... 50%

*Man*..... 50%

**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* ..... 33%

*Republican*..... 31%

*Independent/Other*..... 36%

**Q12** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

*White* ..... 83%

*African-American* ..... 11%

*Other*..... 6%

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

*18 to 29*..... 15%

*30 to 45*..... 21%

*46 to 65*..... 42%

*Older than 65*..... 22%



**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Hutchinson Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>39%</b>	37%	41%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>30%</b>	29%	30%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>32%</b>	34%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>McDaniel Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>25%</b>	26%	23%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>40%</b>	34%	47%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>35%</b>	40%	31%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Hutchinson/McDaniel</b>			
<b>Hutchinson</b>	<b>46%</b>	42%	49%
<b>McDaniel</b>	<b>33%</b>	34%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>22%</b>	24%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>AR right/wrong track</b>			
<b>Right direction</b>	<b>51%</b>	52%	50%
<b>Wrong track</b>	<b>28%</b>	24%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>21%</b>	24%	18%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Seen, heard or read anything re: McDaniel controversy?</b>			
<b>A lot</b>	<b>49%</b>	44%	54%
<b>Some</b>	<b>18%</b>	20%	16%
<b>None</b>	<b>31%</b>	33%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>2%</b>	3%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Hutchinson task force: raise doubts?</b>			
<b>Serious doubts</b>	<b>27%</b>	25%	28%
<b>Some doubts</b>	<b>13%</b>	19%	8%
<b>Minor doubts</b>	<b>21%</b>	20%	21%
<b>No real doubts</b>	<b>35%</b>	30%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>4%</b>	6%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Trust Obama or Congress R's more to create jobs?</b>			
<b>Republicans in Congress</b>	<b>53%</b>	49%	58%
<b>President Obama</b>	<b>35%</b>	40%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>12%</b>	11%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>D or R Gov more likely to create AR jobs?</b>			
<b>A Democratic Governor</b>	<b>38%</b>	43%	33%
<b>A Republican Governor</b>	<b>43%</b>	38%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>19%</b>	19%	18%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>How is AR positioned to create jobs v. other states?</b>			
Arkansas is in a better position	30%	28%	32%
Arkansas is in a worse position	29%	27%	30%
Arkansas is equally positioned	34%	37%	32%
Not sure	7%	8%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Hutchinson Favorability</b>				
Favorable	39%	24%	58%	36%
Unfavorable	30%	45%	10%	32%
Not sure	32%	31%	32%	32%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>McDaniel Favorability</b>				
Favorable	25%	41%	14%	18%
Unfavorable	40%	30%	47%	44%
Not sure	35%	29%	39%	37%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Hutchinson/McDaniel</b>				
Hutchinson	46%	16%	74%	49%
McDaniel	33%	64%	10%	22%
Not sure	22%	20%	16%	28%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>AR right/wrong track</b>				
<b>Right direction</b>	51%	61%	45%	46%
<b>Wrong track</b>	28%	24%	29%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	14%	27%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Seen, heard or read anything re: McDaniel controversy?</b>				
<b>A lot</b>	49%	47%	49%	50%
<b>Some</b>	18%	17%	18%	20%
<b>None</b>	31%	34%	30%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	2%	2%	3%	1%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Hutchinson task force: raise doubts?</b>				
<b>Serious doubts</b>	27%	48%	8%	23%
<b>Some doubts</b>	13%	19%	9%	12%
<b>Minor doubts</b>	21%	16%	24%	22%
<b>No real doubts</b>	35%	12%	54%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	6%	5%	3%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Trust Obama or Congress R's more to create jobs?</b>				
<b>Republicans in Congress</b>	53%	15%	91%	57%
<b>President Obama</b>	35%	76%	3%	23%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	9%	6%	19%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>D or R Gov more likely to create AR jobs?</b>				
<b>A Democratic Governor</b>	38%	81%	7%	26%
<b>A Republican Governor</b>	43%	8%	80%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	19%	10%	13%	31%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>How is AR positioned to create jobs v. other states?</b>				
<b>Arkansas is in a better position</b>	30%	33%	26%	31%
<b>Arkansas is in a worse position</b>	29%	27%	27%	31%
<b>Arkansas is equally positioned</b>	34%	34%	36%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	6%	11%	4%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Hutchinson Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	39%	41%	29%	25%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	29%	29%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	32%	30%	42%	33%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>McDaniel Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	25%	23%	35%	23%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	40%	41%	36%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	35%	36%	30%	37%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Hutchinson/McDaniel</b>				
<b>Hutchinson</b>	<b>46%</b>	50%	12%	39%
<b>McDaniel</b>	<b>33%</b>	29%	63%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>22%</b>	20%	26%	31%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>AR right/wrong track</b>				
<b>Right direction</b>	<b>51%</b>	51%	55%	37%
<b>Wrong track</b>	<b>28%</b>	27%	26%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>21%</b>	22%	19%	21%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Seen, heard or read anything re: McDaniel controversy?</b>				
<b>A lot</b>	<b>49%</b>	51%	39%	38%
<b>Some</b>	<b>18%</b>	18%	15%	30%
<b>None</b>	<b>31%</b>	30%	36%	30%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>2%</b>	1%	11%	1%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Hutchinson task force: raise doubts?</b>				
<b>Serious doubts</b>	<b>27%</b>	25%	39%	35%
<b>Some doubts</b>	<b>13%</b>	13%	20%	12%
<b>Minor doubts</b>	<b>21%</b>	22%	18%	4%
<b>No real doubts</b>	<b>35%</b>	36%	20%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>4%</b>	5%	3%	1%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Trust Obama or Congress R's more to create jobs?</b>				
<b>Republicans in Congress</b>	53%	58%	22%	46%
<b>President Obama</b>	35%	30%	65%	45%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	12%	13%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>D or R Gov more likely to create AR jobs?</b>				
<b>A Democratic Governor</b>	38%	34%	67%	42%
<b>A Republican Governor</b>	43%	45%	23%	46%
<b>Not sure</b>	19%	20%	10%	12%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>How is AR positioned to create jobs v. other states?</b>				
<b>Arkansas is in a better position</b>	30%	30%	33%	29%
<b>Arkansas is in a worse position</b>	29%	28%	35%	29%
<b>Arkansas is equally positioned</b>	34%	35%	30%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	7%	2%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Hutchinson Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	39%	35%	33%	43%	39%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	26%	30%	29%	34%
<b>Not sure</b>	32%	40%	37%	28%	28%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>McDaniel Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>25%</b>	23%	15%	28%	29%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>40%</b>	47%	42%	38%	39%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>35%</b>	30%	43%	34%	32%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Hutchinson/McDaniel</b>					
<b>Hutchinson</b>	<b>46%</b>	30%	47%	51%	45%
<b>McDaniel</b>	<b>33%</b>	37%	29%	33%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>22%</b>	33%	24%	16%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>AR right/wrong track</b>					
<b>Right direction</b>	<b>51%</b>	49%	42%	55%	53%
<b>Wrong track</b>	<b>28%</b>	40%	27%	27%	23%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>21%</b>	12%	31%	18%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Seen, heard or read anything re: McDaniel controversy?</b>					
<b>A lot</b>	<b>49%</b>	37%	46%	52%	52%
<b>Some</b>	<b>18%</b>	21%	15%	17%	22%
<b>None</b>	<b>31%</b>	42%	37%	28%	23%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>2%</b>	-	1%	3%	3%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Hutchinson task force: raise doubts?</b>					
<b>Serious doubts</b>	27%	28%	21%	27%	31%
<b>Some doubts</b>	13%	14%	14%	12%	16%
<b>Minor doubts</b>	21%	16%	17%	21%	25%
<b>No real doubts</b>	35%	35%	42%	37%	25%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	7%	6%	4%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Trust Obama or Congress R's more to create jobs?</b>					
<b>Republicans in Congress</b>	53%	53%	52%	53%	55%
<b>President Obama</b>	35%	35%	32%	36%	35%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	12%	17%	11%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>D or R Gov more likely to create AR jobs?</b>					
<b>A Democratic Governor</b>	38%	44%	34%	37%	40%
<b>A Republican Governor</b>	43%	49%	40%	43%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	19%	7%	25%	20%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>How is AR positioned to create jobs v. other states?</b>					
<b>Arkansas is in a better position</b>	30%	19%	34%	30%	33%
<b>Arkansas is in a worse position</b>	29%	47%	28%	27%	19%
<b>Arkansas is equally positioned</b>	34%	26%	30%	37%	39%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	9%	7%	5%	8%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Seen, heard or read anything re: McDaniel controversy?			
		A lot	Some	None	Not sure
<b>Hutchinson Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>39%</b>	46%	42%	27%	15%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>30%</b>	36%	24%	24%	16%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>32%</b>	19%	34%	49%	69%

	Base	Seen, heard or read anything re: McDaniel controversy?			
		A lot	Some	None	Not sure
<b>McDaniel Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>25%</b>	26%	28%	21%	20%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>40%</b>	57%	38%	16%	18%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>35%</b>	17%	33%	63%	62%

	Base	Seen, heard or read anything re: McDaniel controversy?			
		A lot	Some	None	Not sure
<b>Hutchinson/McDaniel</b>					
<b>Hutchinson</b>	<b>46%</b>	52%	44%	37%	43%
<b>McDaniel</b>	<b>33%</b>	32%	32%	34%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>22%</b>	16%	24%	29%	23%

