

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 9, 2009**

**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**

## **Alabama divided on Obama**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Alabamans are almost evenly split in their evaluations of Barack Obama's Presidency so far, with 45% saying they approve of his job performance and 47% saying they disapprove.

Obama's reviews break down pretty predictably along party lines, with 84% of Democrats but just 11% of Republicans giving him good marks. Among independents it's 40% approving to 49% disapproving.

Obama is doing well with demographic groups that supported him in November, as 85% of African Americans and 54% of voters under 30 say they approve of his work, while just 28% of whites and 41% of senior citizens do.

"More Alabama voters disapprove than approve of the work the President has done so far," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "But when you consider that he got only 39% of the vote last fall in the state, a 45% approval rating isn't so bad."

The state's Republican Governor and Senators all get pretty good reviews from the voters. Jeff Sessions' approval spread is 50/33 and Richard Shelby's is 48/35. That makes them more popular than most of their peers.

Bob Riley's is 51/36, pretty good in a time when many Governors are taking the blame for economic difficulties in their states. It's interesting to note that he is less popular among Republicans but more popular among Democrats than Sessions and Shelby.

PPP will release numbers looking at next year's race for Governor tomorrow.

PPP surveyed 667 Alabama voters from June 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.8%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at [www.publicpolicypolling.com](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com).

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

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## Alabama Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve .....45% Not Sure..... 8%  
Disapprove.....47%

**Q2** Do you approve or disapprove of Republican Senator Jeff Sessions' job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve .....50% Not Sure.....16%  
Disapprove.....33%

**Q3** Do you approve or disapprove of Republican Senator Richard Shelby's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve..... 48% Not Sure..... 17%  
Disapprove..... 35%

**Q4** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Bob Riley's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve..... 51% Not Sure..... 13%  
Disapprove..... 36%

**Q5** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 14%  
Moderate..... 37%  
Conservative..... 49%

**Q6** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman ..... 54%  
Man..... 46%

**Q7** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat..... 38%  
Republican..... 41%  
Other..... 21%

**Q8** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White ..... 69%  
African-American ..... 28%  
Other..... 3%

**Q9** 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..... 11%  
30 to 45..... 25%  
46 to 65..... 44%  
Older than 65..... 20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>45%</b>	87%	63%	19%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>47%</b>	11%	28%	73%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>8%</b>	2%	9%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Sessions Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>50%</b>	21%	40%	66%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>34%</b>	67%	43%	17%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>16%</b>	13%	17%	17%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Shelby Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>48%</b>	19%	38%	65%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>35%</b>	66%	44%	20%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>17%</b>	15%	18%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Riley Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>51%</b>	24%	46%	63%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>36%</b>	59%	41%	25%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>13%</b>	17%	13%	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	45%	46%	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	45%	50%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	9%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Sessions Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	50%	49%	51%
<b>Disapprove</b>	33%	30%	38%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	21%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Shelby Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	48%	44%	53%
<b>Disapprove</b>	35%	34%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	22%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Riley Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	51%	55%	47%
<b>Disapprove</b>	36%	31%	41%
<b>Not Sure</b>	13%	14%	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	84%	11%	40%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	8%	83%	49%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	8%	6%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Sessions Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	50%	25%	74%	50%
<b>Disapprove</b>	33%	58%	13%	31%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	18%	13%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Shelby Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	48%	22%	72%	50%
<b>Disapprove</b>	35%	59%	16%	30%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	19%	12%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Riley Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	51%	31%	67%	56%
<b>Disapprove</b>	36%	53%	23%	30%
<b>Not Sure</b>	13%	16%	10%	14%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	28%	85%	48%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	63%	8%	52%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	9%	7%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Sessions Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	50%	61%	24%	40%
<b>Disapprove</b>	33%	24%	54%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	14%	21%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Shelby Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	48%	60%	22%	44%
<b>Disapprove</b>	35%	26%	56%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	14%	23%	10%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Riley Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	51%	63%	24%	47%
<b>Disapprove</b>	36%	27%	55%	43%
<b>Not Sure</b>	13%	10%	21%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	45%	54%	42%	46%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	38%	53%	46%	49%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	8%	6%	8%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Sessions Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	50%	42%	46%	51%	58%
<b>Disapprove</b>	33%	36%	37%	32%	31%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	22%	17%	17%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Shelby Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	48%	43%	45%	48%	56%
<b>Disapprove</b>	35%	36%	40%	34%	31%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	21%	15%	18%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Riley Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	51%	51%	46%	52%	56%
<b>Disapprove</b>	36%	37%	43%	32%	33%
<b>Not Sure</b>	13%	12%	11%	15%	12%

