

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL
information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH
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Deal rebounds, in solid shape for re-election

Raleigh, N.C.— Georgia voters have had an about-face on their feelings toward their governor. His approval rating rebounding a net 17 points in the last six months, Nathan Deal is now the 14th most popular of 42 sitting governors on which PPP has polled. As a result, he appears to be in little trouble in either the primary or general election.

44% approve and only 32% disapprove of Deal's job performance, versus 36-41 when PPP last polled the state in February. The Republican has made gains across the partisan spectrum, but his largest turnaround is with independents—35 points (51-28 now versus 31-43 in the previous poll).

Then, Deal led three relatively big-name Democrats by only eight to ten points. He now tops one of the same possible opponents and two lesser-known Democrats by 13 to 20. His lead over Jimmy Carter's grandson, state Sen. Jason Carter, has almost doubled from eight (46-38) to 15 points (48-33). Deal also leads state Rep. Stacey Abrams, 47-34, and state Rep. Scott Holcomb, 48-28.

Granted, only 21-23% of voters have an opinion on the Democratic contenders. Among voters who already know how they feel about both Deal and the respective Democrats, Abrams leads by one point, Carter trails by one, and Holcomb lags by four. With the potential challengers so little known; with 19-24% of voters unsurprisingly undecided at this point; and with Deal still at only 47-48% of the vote, similar to February, this race could tighten next year once the opposition party settles on a candidate.

Though Democrats would probably benefit from facing someone other than Deal, the incumbent should also have little problem dispensing any primary challengers. He leads declared candidate David Pennington, 71-11, and possible opponent John Barge, 71-8.

“Nathan Deal is in a much stronger position now than he was six months ago,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “He looks like a solid favorite for reelection.”

PPP surveyed 520 Georgia voters, including an oversample of 260 usual Republican primary voters, between August 2nd and 5th. The margin of error for the overall survey is +/- 4.3%, and +/- 6.1% for the GOP portion. This poll was not authorized or paid for by any campaign or political organization. PPP's surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.



Georgia Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Nathan Deal's job performance?

Approve 44%
Disapprove..... 32%
Not sure 23%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Stacey Abrams?

Favorable..... 9%
Unfavorable 14%
Not sure 77%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jason Carter?

Favorable..... 7%
Unfavorable 16%
Not sure 77%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Scott Holcomb?

Favorable..... 6%
Unfavorable 15%
Not sure 79%

Q5 If the candidates for Governor in 2014 were Republican Nathan Deal and Democrat Stacey Abrams, who would you vote for?

Nathan Deal..... 47%
Stacey Abrams..... 34%
Not sure 19%

Q6 If the candidates for Governor in 2014 were Republican Nathan Deal and Democrat Jason Carter, who would you vote for?

Nathan Deal..... 48%
Jason Carter 33%
Not sure 19%

Q7 If the candidates for Governor in 2014 were Republican Nathan Deal and Democrat Scott Holcomb, who would you vote for?

Nathan Deal..... 48%
Scott Holcomb 28%
Not sure 24%

Q8 In the last presidential election, did you vote for Barack Obama or Mitt Romney?

Barack Obama..... 43%
Mitt Romney..... 50%
Someone else/Don't remember 7%

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

Very liberal..... 9%
Somewhat liberal 18%
Moderate..... 30%
Somewhat conservative..... 21%
Very conservative 22%

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..... 38%
Republican..... 39%
Independent/Other..... 23%

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

White 71%
African-American 24%
Other..... 5%





Q13 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>	11%
<i>30 to 45</i>	21%
<i>46 to 65</i>	42%
<i>Older than 65</i>	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Deal Approval				
Approve	44%	23%	63%	39%
Disapprove	32%	56%	13%	32%
Not sure	23%	21%	25%	29%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Abrams Favorability				
Favorable	9%	11%	8%	5%
Unfavorable	14%	14%	14%	19%
Not sure	77%	75%	78%	76%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Carter Favorability				
Favorable	7%	11%	3%	8%
Unfavorable	16%	14%	17%	15%
Not sure	77%	75%	79%	76%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Holcomb Favorability				
Favorable	6%	6%	7%	-
Unfavorable	15%	18%	12%	15%
Not sure	79%	75%	81%	85%





Crosstabs

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Deal/Abrams				
Nathan Deal	47%	6%	81%	44%
Stacey Abrams	34%	70%	6%	13%
Not sure	19%	23%	13%	44%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Deal/Carter				
Nathan Deal	48%	7%	84%	35%
Jason Carter	33%	67%	4%	29%
Not sure	19%	26%	11%	36%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Deal/Holcomb				
Nathan Deal	48%	9%	82%	35%
Scott Holcomb	28%	60%	4%	10%
Not sure	24%	32%	14%	55%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Deal Approval						
Approve	44%	16%	30%	36%	64%	61%
Disapprove	32%	63%	46%	43%	12%	14%
Not sure	23%	21%	24%	22%	24%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Abrams Favorability						
Favorable	9%	10%	8%	10%	10%	6%
Unfavorable	14%	22%	27%	15%	5%	10%
Not sure	77%	67%	65%	75%	85%	84%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Carter Favorability						
Favorable	7%	9%	12%	11%	2%	1%
Unfavorable	16%	13%	25%	14%	16%	12%
Not sure	77%	78%	63%	74%	82%	87%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Holcomb Favorability						
Favorable	6%	6%	9%	7%	4%	6%
Unfavorable	15%	17%	31%	15%	11%	6%
Not sure	79%	78%	61%	79%	86%	88%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Deal/Abrams						
Nathan Deal	47%	13%	11%	28%	78%	85%
Stacey Abrams	34%	71%	66%	45%	8%	2%
Not sure	19%	16%	23%	27%	14%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Deal/Carter						
Nathan Deal	48%	15%	14%	25%	85%	85%
Jason Carter	33%	63%	63%	46%	6%	2%
Not sure	19%	21%	23%	28%	9%	13%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Deal/Holcomb						
Nathan Deal	48%	17%	14%	27%	80%	85%
Scott Holcomb	28%	62%	58%	34%	6%	3%
Not sure	24%	20%	28%	39%	14%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Deal Approval			
Approve	44%	42%	47%
Disapprove	32%	34%	31%
Not sure	23%	25%	22%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Abrams Favorability			
Favorable	9%	7%	11%
Unfavorable	14%	11%	18%
Not sure	77%	81%	71%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Carter Favorability			
Favorable	7%	6%	8%
Unfavorable	16%	13%	19%
Not sure	77%	81%	73%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Holcomb Favorability			
Favorable	6%	5%	7%
Unfavorable	15%	13%	18%
Not sure	79%	82%	75%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Deal/Abrams			
Nathan Deal	47%	39%	55%
Stacey Abrams	34%	37%	30%
Not sure	19%	24%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Deal/Carter			
Nathan Deal	48%	41%	55%
Jason Carter	33%	35%	31%
Not sure	19%	24%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Deal/Holcomb			
Nathan Deal	48%	41%	54%
Scott Holcomb	28%	32%	24%
Not sure	24%	27%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Deal Approval				
Approve	44%	23%	61%	51%
Disapprove	32%	56%	12%	28%
Not sure	23%	21%	27%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Abrams Favorability				
Favorable	9%	12%	8%	6%
Unfavorable	14%	18%	12%	13%
Not sure	77%	70%	80%	81%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Carter Favorability				
Favorable	7%	11%	2%	9%
Unfavorable	16%	18%	16%	11%
Not sure	77%	71%	82%	80%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Holcomb Favorability				
Favorable	6%	8%	4%	6%
Unfavorable	15%	21%	13%	9%
Not sure	79%	70%	83%	86%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Deal/Abrams				
Nathan Deal	47%	9%	82%	47%
Stacey Abrams	34%	69%	4%	27%
Not sure	19%	22%	14%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Deal/Carter				
Nathan Deal	48%	11%	85%	46%
Jason Carter	33%	68%	2%	28%
Not sure	19%	21%	13%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Deal/Holcomb				
Nathan Deal	48%	12%	83%	46%
Scott Holcomb	28%	60%	3%	19%
Not sure	24%	29%	13%	35%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Deal Approval				
Approve	44%	48%	29%	57%
Disapprove	32%	28%	48%	26%
Not sure	23%	24%	23%	16%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Abrams Favorability				
Favorable	9%	9%	11%	-
Unfavorable	14%	13%	20%	11%
Not sure	77%	78%	69%	89%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Carter Favorability				
Favorable	7%	8%	6%	-
Unfavorable	16%	15%	19%	11%
Not sure	77%	77%	75%	89%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Holcomb Favorability				
Favorable	6%	7%	4%	-
Unfavorable	15%	14%	21%	11%
Not sure	79%	79%	76%	89%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Deal/Abrams				
Nathan Deal	47%	60%	9%	38%
Stacey Abrams	34%	25%	63%	23%
Not sure	19%	15%	28%	39%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Deal/Carter				
Nathan Deal	48%	62%	9%	36%
Jason Carter	33%	23%	64%	23%
Not sure	19%	15%	28%	41%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Deal/Holcomb				
Nathan Deal	48%	61%	12%	36%
Scott Holcomb	28%	20%	54%	28%
Not sure	24%	20%	34%	36%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Deal Approval					
Approve	44%	30%	43%	45%	51%
Disapprove	32%	50%	29%	34%	25%
Not sure	23%	20%	29%	21%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Abrams Favorability					
Favorable	9%	20%	-	9%	11%
Unfavorable	14%	15%	21%	13%	11%
Not sure	77%	65%	79%	78%	77%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Carter Favorability					
Favorable	7%	15%	-	5%	12%
Unfavorable	16%	30%	19%	14%	10%
Not sure	77%	55%	81%	81%	78%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Holcomb Favorability					
Favorable	6%	10%	5%	6%	6%
Unfavorable	15%	25%	14%	13%	15%
Not sure	79%	65%	81%	81%	80%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Deal/Abrams					
Nathan Deal	47%	32%	40%	47%	58%
Stacey Abrams	34%	58%	31%	33%	28%
Not sure	19%	11%	29%	20%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Deal/Carter					
Nathan Deal	48%	40%	43%	49%	54%
Jason Carter	33%	45%	33%	31%	31%
Not sure	19%	15%	24%	20%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Deal/Holcomb					
Nathan Deal	48%	35%	40%	50%	55%
Scott Holcomb	28%	35%	31%	29%	22%
Not sure	24%	30%	29%	21%	23%





Georgia Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Nathan Deal's job performance?

Approve 66%
Disapprove..... 11%
Not sure 23%

Q2 If the Republican candidates for Governor were Nathan Deal and David Pennington, who would you vote for?

Nathan Deal..... 71%
David Pennington 11%
Not sure 19%

Q3 If the Republican candidates for Governor were Nathan Deal and John Barge, who would you vote for?

Nathan Deal..... 71%
John Barge 8%
Not sure 21%

Q4 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 2%
Somewhat liberal 7%
Moderate..... 16%
Somewhat conservative..... 34%
Very conservative 41%

Q5 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q6 If you are 18 to 45 years old, press 1. If 46 to 65, press 2. If you are older than 65, press 3.

18 to 45..... 24%
46 to 65..... 43%
Older than 65..... 33%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Deal Approval						
Approve	66%	84%	59%	55%	69%	68%
Disapprove	11%	16%	14%	20%	9%	9%
Not sure	23%	-	27%	25%	22%	23%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Deal/Pennington						
Nathan Deal	71%	33%	63%	62%	74%	75%
David Pennington	11%	67%	11%	12%	11%	8%
Not sure	19%	-	27%	26%	15%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Deal/Barge						
Nathan Deal	71%	33%	52%	58%	71%	81%
John Barge	8%	67%	11%	15%	7%	3%
Not sure	21%	-	37%	27%	22%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Deal Approval			
Approve	66%	65%	67%
Disapprove	11%	9%	13%
Not sure	23%	25%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Deal/Pennington			
Nathan Deal	71%	70%	72%
David Pennington	11%	9%	12%
Not sure	19%	21%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Deal/Barge			
Nathan Deal	71%	71%	72%
John Barge	8%	5%	11%
Not sure	21%	25%	17%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Deal Approval				
Approve	66%	63%	67%	67%
Disapprove	11%	13%	12%	9%
Not sure	23%	23%	22%	24%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Deal/Pennington				
Nathan Deal	71%	53%	76%	76%
David Pennington	11%	20%	8%	7%
Not sure	19%	27%	16%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Deal/Barge				
Nathan Deal	71%	57%	75%	76%
John Barge	8%	13%	6%	6%
Not sure	21%	30%	19%	18%

