

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL
information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH
OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

No worries for Durbin

Raleigh, N.C. – As yesterday’s release showed, there is some concern about keeping the Illinois governor’s mansion in Democratic hands, but its senior U.S. Senate seat is probably safe, as long as its current occupant, Majority Whip Dick Durbin, wants it. More than half of Illinoisans (51%) approve of Durbin’s job performance, and about a third (34%) disapprove. In a generic re-elect test, Durbin gets 52% of the vote to an unnamed Republican’s 38%.

Durbin is in such good shape because 20% of Republicans support his work in the Senate, and 13% of them say they will probably vote for him in two years. Independents are split right down the middle on both fronts, including 42-42 on the re-elect.

Faced with actual opponents, Durbin does even better, though slightly more Republicans and independents are undecided than Democrats. Outgoing Rep. Bob Dold comes closest to matching the ideal Republican’s standing, with a 21-point deficit (54-33). Failed 2010 Tea Party contender Patrick Hughes is down 22 (53-31), and retiring Rep. Joe Walsh lags by 25 (54-29).

In all three actual head-to-heads, Durbin maintains the same 13% of the GOP’s support, and outdoes his 82% level with his own party by two or three points. The main difference is with independents. He jumps up two to five points with them for leads of nine points over Dold and Hughes and 18 over Walsh.

Granted, Hughes is a complete unknown—88% have no opinion of him, so he is truly generic. Still only 46% have an opinion on Walsh (14% favorable and 32% unfavorable), and 49% on Dold (21-28). So they stand more to gain than Durbin does. But when name recognition is equalized at this point, Durbin’s advantage actually increases to leads of 25 to 35 points, so combined with his strength and the Republicans’ relative unpopularity, he is unlikely to get much if any more vulnerable.

“It should come as no surprise, but this is not a seat Republicans can expect to target next cycle,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 500 Illinois voters from November 26th to 28th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.4%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.



Illinois Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Dick Durbin's job performance?

Approve 51%
Disapprove..... 34%
Not sure 15%

Q2 Generally speaking, in 2014, if the Democratic candidate for Senate was Dick Durbin, would you vote for him or his Republican opponent?

Dick Durbin 52%
Republican opponent..... 38%
Not sure 10%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Bob Dold?

Favorable..... 21%
Unfavorable 28%
Not sure 52%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Patrick Hughes?

Favorable..... 4%
Unfavorable 8%
Not sure 88%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Joe Walsh?

Favorable..... 14%
Unfavorable 32%
Not sure 55%

Q6 If the candidates for Senate in 2014 were Democrat Dick Durbin and Republican Bob Dold, who would you vote for?

Dick Durbin 54%
Bob Dold..... 33%
Not sure..... 13%

Q7 If the candidates for Senate in 2014 were Democrat Dick Durbin and Republican Patrick Hughes, who would you vote for?

Dick Durbin 53%
Patrick Hughes 31%
Not sure 16%

Q8 If the candidates for Senate in 2014 were Democrat Dick Durbin and Republican Joe Walsh, who would you vote for?

Dick Durbin 54%
Joe Walsh..... 29%
Not sure 17%

Q9 In the last presidential election, did you vote for Barack Obama or Mitt Romney?

Barack Obama..... 56%
Mitt Romney..... 39%
Someone else/Don't remember 4%

Q10 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 10%
Somewhat liberal 24%
Moderate..... 30%
Somewhat conservative..... 22%
Very conservative 14%

Q11 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 57%
Man..... 43%

Q12 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 45%
Republican..... 30%
Independent/Other..... 25%





Q13 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2.
If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

<i>Hispanic</i>	12%
<i>White</i>	68%
<i>African-American</i>	13%
<i>Other</i>	6%

Q14 If you are 18 to 45 years old, press 1. If 46 to
65, press 2. If you are older than 65, press 3.

<i>18 to 45</i>	39%
<i>46 to 65</i>	41%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Durbin Approval				
Approve	51%	77%	14%	43%
Disapprove	34%	7%	74%	22%
Not sure	15%	16%	12%	35%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Durbin or GOP Opponent				
Dick Durbin	52%	84%	9%	36%
Republican opponent	38%	5%	85%	34%
Not sure	10%	11%	5%	31%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Dold Favorability				
Favorable	21%	12%	33%	18%
Unfavorable	28%	39%	14%	15%
Not sure	52%	49%	53%	68%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Hughes Favorability				
Favorable	4%	4%	4%	-
Unfavorable	8%	7%	11%	-
Not sure	88%	90%	85%	100%





Crosstabs

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Walsh Favorability				
Favorable	14%	5%	27%	8%
Unfavorable	32%	44%	15%	23%
Not sure	55%	51%	58%	69%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Durbin/Dold				
Dick Durbin	54%	86%	9%	47%
Bob Dold	33%	2%	77%	34%
Not sure	13%	11%	14%	19%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Durbin/Hughes				
Dick Durbin	53%	86%	9%	36%
Patrick Hughes	31%	2%	75%	4%
Not sure	16%	12%	17%	60%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Durbin/Walsh				
Dick Durbin	54%	87%	9%	36%
Joe Walsh	29%	0%	72%	4%
Not sure	17%	13%	19%	60%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Durbin Approval						
Approve	51%	80%	82%	51%	26%	15%
Disapprove	34%	12%	5%	33%	56%	69%
Not sure	15%	8%	12%	16%	18%	17%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Durbin or GOP Opponent						
Dick Durbin	52%	90%	81%	58%	24%	13%
Republican opponent	38%	7%	7%	29%	67%	84%
Not sure	10%	3%	12%	13%	9%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Dold Favorability						
Favorable	21%	13%	12%	15%	34%	31%
Unfavorable	28%	45%	40%	32%	13%	9%
Not sure	52%	42%	48%	53%	54%	59%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hughes Favorability						
Favorable	4%	10%	0%	5%	5%	1%
Unfavorable	8%	9%	6%	10%	7%	7%
Not sure	88%	81%	94%	85%	88%	92%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Walsh Favorability						
Favorable	14%	10%	6%	8%	26%	24%
Unfavorable	32%	44%	44%	43%	13%	7%
Not sure	55%	46%	51%	49%	60%	69%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Durbin/Dold						
Dick Durbin	54%	94%	78%	63%	26%	11%
Bob Dold	33%	1%	8%	27%	56%	75%
Not sure	13%	5%	14%	10%	18%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Durbin/Hughes						
Dick Durbin	53%	94%	78%	62%	23%	12%
Patrick Hughes	31%	1%	7%	27%	46%	77%
Not sure	16%	5%	16%	11%	31%	11%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Durbin/Walsh						
Dick Durbin	54%	94%	79%	66%	20%	12%
Joe Walsh	29%	1%	7%	20%	47%	75%
Not sure	17%	5%	14%	14%	33%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Durbin Approval			
Approve	51%	55%	45%
Disapprove	34%	29%	42%
Not sure	15%	16%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Durbin or GOP Opponent			
Dick Durbin	52%	56%	48%
Republican opponent	38%	31%	47%
Not sure	10%	13%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dold Favorability			
Favorable	21%	19%	23%
Unfavorable	28%	27%	28%
Not sure	52%	54%	49%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hughes Favorability			
Favorable	4%	3%	5%
Unfavorable	8%	6%	10%
Not sure	88%	91%	85%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Walsh Favorability			
Favorable	14%	14%	15%
Unfavorable	32%	28%	35%
Not sure	55%	58%	50%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Durbin/Dold			
Dick Durbin	54%	60%	46%
Bob Dold	33%	26%	43%
Not sure	13%	15%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Durbin/Hughes			
Dick Durbin	53%	57%	47%
Patrick Hughes	31%	24%	40%
Not sure	16%	18%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Durbin/Walsh			
Dick Durbin	54%	57%	49%
Joe Walsh	29%	22%	37%
Not sure	17%	20%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Durbin Approval				
Approve	51%	76%	20%	42%
Disapprove	34%	8%	67%	43%
Not sure	15%	16%	13%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Durbin or GOP Opponent				
Dick Durbin	52%	84%	13%	42%
Republican opponent	38%	7%	82%	42%
Not sure	10%	9%	5%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dold Favorability				
Favorable	21%	13%	30%	22%
Unfavorable	28%	36%	17%	27%
Not sure	52%	51%	53%	51%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hughes Favorability				
Favorable	4%	4%	4%	4%
Unfavorable	8%	4%	11%	10%
Not sure	88%	92%	85%	86%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Walsh Favorability				
Favorable	14%	8%	21%	16%
Unfavorable	32%	37%	16%	40%
Not sure	55%	54%	63%	45%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Durbin/Dold				
Dick Durbin	54%	85%	13%	46%
Bob Dold	33%	5%	73%	37%
Not sure	13%	10%	14%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Durbin/Hughes				
Dick Durbin	53%	85%	13%	44%
Patrick Hughes	31%	3%	71%	35%
Not sure	16%	13%	16%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Durbin/Walsh				
Dick Durbin	54%	85%	13%	47%
Joe Walsh	29%	2%	69%	29%
Not sure	17%	13%	18%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Durbin Approval					
Approve	51%	45%	45%	78%	67%
Disapprove	34%	30%	41%	11%	25%
Not sure	15%	25%	15%	11%	8%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Durbin or GOP Opponent					
Dick Durbin	52%	51%	46%	89%	52%
Republican opponent	38%	31%	48%	5%	22%
Not sure	10%	18%	7%	7%	26%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Dold Favorability					
Favorable	21%	21%	22%	15%	13%
Unfavorable	28%	37%	26%	30%	24%
Not sure	52%	42%	52%	55%	63%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Hughes Favorability					
Favorable	4%	11%	2%	9%	-
Unfavorable	8%	12%	7%	9%	8%
Not sure	88%	77%	92%	82%	92%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Walsh Favorability					
Favorable	14%	16%	16%	4%	6%
Unfavorable	32%	37%	28%	38%	44%
Not sure	55%	47%	56%	58%	50%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Durbin/Dold					
Dick Durbin	54%	69%	45%	82%	66%
Bob Dold	33%	18%	44%	6%	8%
Not sure	13%	13%	12%	13%	26%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Durbin/Hughes					
Dick Durbin	53%	70%	43%	84%	57%
Patrick Hughes	31%	22%	40%	5%	10%
Not sure	16%	8%	17%	11%	34%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Durbin/Walsh					
Dick Durbin	54%	69%	43%	88%	69%
Joe Walsh	29%	13%	40%	-	8%
Not sure	17%	18%	17%	12%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Durbin Approval				
Approve	51%	52%	51%	49%
Disapprove	34%	28%	38%	39%
Not sure	15%	20%	11%	12%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Durbin or GOP Opponent				
Dick Durbin	52%	52%	53%	53%
Republican opponent	38%	38%	38%	39%
Not sure	10%	11%	9%	8%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dold Favorability				
Favorable	21%	19%	23%	19%
Unfavorable	28%	34%	25%	21%
Not sure	52%	47%	53%	59%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hughes Favorability				
Favorable	4%	5%	4%	2%
Unfavorable	8%	6%	10%	6%
Not sure	88%	89%	86%	91%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Walsh Favorability				
Favorable	14%	16%	16%	6%
Unfavorable	32%	30%	33%	33%
Not sure	55%	55%	51%	61%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Durbin/Dold				
Dick Durbin	54%	56%	52%	53%
Bob Dold	33%	28%	36%	37%
Not sure	13%	16%	11%	10%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Durbin/Hughes				
Dick Durbin	53%	53%	53%	54%
Patrick Hughes	31%	28%	33%	33%
Not sure	16%	19%	14%	14%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Durbin/Walsh				
Dick Durbin	54%	55%	52%	56%
Joe Walsh	29%	25%	32%	30%
Not sure	17%	20%	16%	14%

