

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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

## **Kentucky voters polarized on Obama**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Voters in Kentucky are split almost right down the middle when it comes to whether they think Barack Obama is doing a good job or not so far as President, the newest survey from Public Policy Polling finds.

46% of voters approve of the job he's doing while 45% disapprove.

Obama is predictably getting high marks within his own party with 71% of Democrats expressing support for his work. It's no surprise that few Republicans agree, with only 16% saying they like what he's doing. But his numbers are also pretty poor with independents, 57% of whom say they disapprove of Obama's performance compared to only 35% who give him good marks. This continues a pretty strong recent trend PPP has found in its polling across the country of Obama losing some support with that group.

“The fact that more Kentucky voters approve of the job Obama is doing than not is good news for him in a state where he didn't do particularly well at the ballot box last fall,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling “Still, it's becoming more apparent that the honeymoon is over with independent voters and that's probably a trend he'll need to reverse in the coming months.”

Governor Steve Beshear gets the best reviews of the state's major statewide elected officials with 47% of voters approving of his work compared to 37% who disapprove. Senator Mitch McConnell continues to show mediocre numbers after his surprisingly close reelection contest last fall, with 47% disapproving and just 44% approving of his work.

PPP will release new numbers on Jim Bunning's political standing Wednesday.

PPP surveyed 610 Kentucky voters on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.0%. 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.



## Kentucky 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* .....46% *Not Sure*.....10%  
*Disapprove*.....45%

**Q2** Do you approve or disapprove of Democratic Governor Steve Beshear's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* .....47% *Not Sure*.....16%  
*Disapprove*.....37%

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

*Approve*..... 44% *Not Sure*..... 10%  
*Disapprove*..... 47%

**Q4** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 49%  
*Man*.....51%

**Q5** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

*Democrat*..... 50%  
*Republican*..... 39%  
*Other*..... 11%

**Q6** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

*White* ..... 91%  
*African-American* ..... 6%  
*Other*..... 3%

**Q7** 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*..... 10%  
*30 to 45*..... 27%  
*46 to 65*..... 36%  
*Older than 65*..... 27%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	46%	50%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	45%	39%	50%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	11%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Beshear Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	47%	48%	46%
<b>Disapprove</b>	37%	36%	38%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	16%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>McConnell Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	44%	42%	45%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	48%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	10%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	71%	16%	35%
<b>Disapprove</b>	45%	20%	72%	57%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	8%	11%	9%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Beshear Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	47%	66%	27%	37%
<b>Disapprove</b>	37%	23%	53%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	12%	20%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>McConnell Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	44%	23%	71%	40%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	68%	20%	47%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	9%	9%	13%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	43%	91%	36%
<b>Disapprove</b>	45%	47%	4%	64%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	10%	5%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Beshear Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	47%	46%	65%	33%
<b>Disapprove</b>	37%	38%	21%	54%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	16%	14%	13%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>McConnell Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	44%	46%	14%	40%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	45%	77%	52%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	10%	9%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	46%	38%	42%	52%	45%
<b>Disapprove</b>	45%	49%	53%	39%	42%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	13%	5%	9%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Beshear Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	47%	37%	44%	49%	53%
<b>Disapprove</b>	37%	47%	39%	38%	30%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	16%	17%	13%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>McConnell Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	44%	41%	47%	41%	45%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	46%	40%	54%	44%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	13%	13%	5%	11%

