

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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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

The Maryland Governor's Race is Close

Governor Martin O'Malley and former Governor Bob Ehrlich are neck and neck. Governor O'Malley is slightly ahead of Ehrlich 45 to 42%.

Marylanders have mixed opinions about both candidates. 42% of voters approve of O'Malley, 43% disapprove. Ehrlich faces similar numbers 39% of voters have favorable opinions and 39% have unfavorable opinions. More voters are uncertain about their opinion of Ehrlich, 22% of voters have yet to form an opinion of the former governor.

Ehrlich has stronger support amongst Republicans than O'Malley does with Democrats. 77% of Republicans have a favorable opinion of Ehrlich in contrast to the 60% of Democrats that have a favorable opinion of O'Malley. In the horse race 87% of Republicans support the former Governor while only 66% of Democrats support the current Governor. Republicans are united for Ehrlich and against O'Malley, while the Democrats are more fractured in their support.

In such a close race the undecided voters will play an important role. 12% of Maryland voters have yet to choose sides.

"The race is close. But with the clear support of his Republican base Ehrlich is off to a strong start," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Most of the undecided voters are Democrats, gaining their support will be key to O'Malley's success."

PPP surveyed 569 Maryland voters from July 10th-12th. The survey's margin of error is +/- 4.1%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

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



Maryland Survey Results

- Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Martin O'Malley's job performance?
Approve42% *Not Sure*.....16%
Disapprove.....43%
- Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Bob Ehrlich?
Favorable..... 39%
Unfavorable 39%
Not sure 22%
- Q3** The candidates for Governor this fall are Republican Bob Ehrlich and Democrat Martin O'Malley. If the election was today, who would you vote for?
Bob Ehrlich 42%
Martin O'Malley.....45%
Undecided.....12%
- Q4** Who did you vote for President last year?
John McCain..... 36%
Barack Obama.....59%
Someone else/Don't remember 5%
- Q5** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?
Liberal..... 24%
Moderate.....45%
Conservative..... 32%
- Q6** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.
Woman56%
Man.....44%
- Q7** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.
Democrat 60%
Republican.....28%
Independent/Other..... 12%
- Q8** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.
White 69%
African-American 25%
Other..... 6%
- 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..... 8%
30 to 45.....26%
46 to 65.....41%
Older than 65..... 25%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
O'Malley Approval				
Approve	42%	7%	66%	12%
Disapprove	43%	82%	16%	65%
Not Sure	16%	12%	18%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Ehrlich Favorability				
Favorable	39%	80%	13%	49%
Unfavorable	39%	7%	59%	29%
Not sure	22%	13%	27%	22%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
O'Malley/Ehrlich				
Bob Ehrlich	42%	89%	14%	49%
Martin O'Malley	45%	5%	72%	14%
Undecided	12%	6%	14%	37%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
O'Malley Approval				
Approve	42%	64%	50%	13%
Disapprove	43%	15%	35%	74%
Not Sure	16%	21%	15%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Ehrlich Favorability				
Favorable	39%	11%	34%	66%
Unfavorable	39%	59%	44%	17%
Not sure	22%	30%	22%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
O'Malley/Ehrlich				
Bob Ehrlich	42%	11%	36%	75%
Martin O'Malley	45%	79%	49%	14%
Undecided	12%	10%	15%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
O'Malley Approval			
Approve	42%	46%	36%
Disapprove	43%	34%	53%
Not Sure	16%	20%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Ehrlich Favorability			
Favorable	39%	31%	48%
Unfavorable	39%	42%	36%
Not sure	22%	27%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
O'Malley/Ehrlich			
Bob Ehrlich	42%	33%	54%
Martin O'Malley	45%	52%	37%
Undecided	12%	15%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
O'Malley Approval				
Approve	42%	60%	7%	31%
Disapprove	43%	24%	78%	53%
Not Sure	16%	16%	15%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Ehrlich Favorability				
Favorable	39%	21%	77%	41%
Unfavorable	39%	54%	10%	34%
Not sure	22%	25%	13%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
O'Malley/Ehrlich				
Bob Ehrlich	42%	21%	87%	45%
Martin O'Malley	45%	66%	6%	29%
Undecided	12%	13%	6%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
O'Malley Approval				
Approve	42%	34%	64%	38%
Disapprove	43%	51%	20%	39%
Not Sure	16%	15%	16%	23%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Ehrlich Favorability				
Favorable	39%	49%	14%	27%
Unfavorable	39%	36%	50%	34%
Not sure	22%	16%	36%	39%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
O'Malley/Ehrlich				
Bob Ehrlich	42%	53%	16%	37%
Martin O'Malley	45%	39%	64%	40%
Undecided	12%	9%	20%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
O'Malley Approval					
Approve	42%	35%	37%	44%	44%
Disapprove	43%	46%	44%	41%	42%
Not Sure	16%	19%	19%	15%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Ehrlich Favorability					
Favorable	39%	23%	43%	37%	41%
Unfavorable	39%	44%	37%	41%	38%
Not sure	22%	33%	20%	22%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
O'Malley/Ehrlich					
Bob Ehrlich	42%	22%	42%	45%	45%
Martin O'Malley	45%	51%	46%	45%	42%
Undecided	12%	27%	11%	10%	13%

