



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Michaud takes the lead in Maine Gubernatorial race**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Mike Michaud is the new leader in the Maine Governor's race, benefiting from the continued unpopularity of incumbent Paul LePage and declining support for independent Eliot Cutler over the last seven months. Michaud is at 39% to 35% for LePage and 18% for Cutler.

LePage's position is pretty much unchanged from our last poll of Maine in January. He was at 34% then and he's at 35% now. His approval rating was a 39/55 spread then, and it's a 39/56 spread now. Where there's been a pretty big shift is the positions of Michaud and Cutler. Cutler has dropped 8 points from 26% in the winter to 18% now and Michaud's been the beneficiary, going from 30% then to 39% now.

In a two way contest Michaud would blow LePage out, leading him 54/39. Michaud has already improved from 47% of the Democratic vote in January to 63% now, and if Cutler's chances continue to fade Michaud may keep moving closer to the 84% of Democrats he gets in a head to head contest with LePage.

LePage has drawn a lot of attention recently for comments he allegedly made saying that President Obama 'hates white people.' Despite attempts to deny, 47% of Mainers believe LePage made the comments to 30% who think he did not. Only 20% of voters in the state agree with the sentiment that Obama hates white people to 66% who do not.

This latest episode, along with everything else that's happened throughout LePage's term, has resulted in 62% of voters in the state feeling that he brings Maine 'national embarrassment' to only 33% of voters who disagree with that. 88% of Democrats, 60% of independents, and even 30% of Republicans think LePage is making the state look bad to the rest of the country.

“Paul LePage’s chances of getting reelected next year probably depend on Eliot Cutler getting at least 30% of the vote,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But Cutler’s support is moving in the wrong direction, and that makes Mike Michaud the favorite in this race.”

PPP surveyed 953 Maine voters between August 23-25, 2013. The margin of error was +/- 3.2%. This poll was not authorized or paid for by any campaign or political organization. PPP's surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.





## Maine Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

*Approve* ..... 49%  
*Disapprove*..... 44%  
*Not sure* ..... 7%

**Q2** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Paul LePage's job performance?

*Approve* ..... 39%  
*Disapprove*..... 56%  
*Not sure* ..... 5%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Eliot Cutler?

*Favorable*..... 32%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 35%  
*Not sure* ..... 33%

**Q4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Michaud?

*Favorable*..... 53%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 30%  
*Not sure* ..... 17%

**Q5** If the candidates for Governor next year were independent Eliot Cutler, Republican Paul LePage, and Democrat Mike Michaud, who would you vote for?

*Eliot Cutler* ..... 18%  
*Paul LePage* ..... 35%  
*Mike Michaud*..... 39%  
*Not sure* ..... 9%

**Q6** If the candidates for Governor were just Republican Paul LePage and Democrat Mike Michaud, who would you vote for?

*Paul LePage* ..... 39%  
*Mike Michaud*..... 54%  
*Not sure* ..... 7%

**Q7** Do you think that Governor LePage causes Maine national embarrassment, or not?

*Think he does* ..... 62%  
*Think he does not* ..... 33%  
*Not sure* ..... 5%

**Q8** Do you believe Paul LePage said that Barack Obama hates white people, or not?

*Think he did* ..... 47%  
*Don't think he did* ..... 30%  
*Not sure* ..... 23%

**Q9** Do you think that Barack Obama hates white people, or not?

*Think he does* ..... 20%  
*Think he does not* ..... 66%  
*Not sure* ..... 13%

**Q10** In the last presidential election, did you vote for Barack Obama or Mitt Romney?

*Barack Obama*..... 54%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 38%  
*Someone else/Don't remember* ..... 8%

**Q11** Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

*Very liberal* ..... 11%  
*Somewhat liberal* ..... 21%  
*Moderate*..... 32%  
*Somewhat conservative*..... 21%  
*Very conservative* ..... 15%

**Q12** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 52%  
*Man*..... 48%





**Q13** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

<i>Democrat</i> .....	39%
<i>Republican</i> .....	32%
<i>Independent/Other</i> .....	29%

**Q14** If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

<i>White</i> .....	93%
<i>Other</i> .....	7%

**Q15** 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> .....	9%
<i>30 to 45</i> .....	20%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	49%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	22%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	49%	84%	6%	12%
<b>Disapprove</b>	44%	8%	91%	69%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	7%	3%	20%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>LePage Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	39%	8%	79%	54%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	89%	15%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	5%	3%	6%	14%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Cutler Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	41%	20%	27%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	35%	28%	45%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	31%	35%	40%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Michaud Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	53%	78%	19%	45%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	8%	63%	24%
<b>Not sure</b>	17%	14%	18%	31%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Cutler/LePage/Michaud</b>				
<b>Eliot Cutler</b>	18%	23%	10%	15%
<b>Paul LePage</b>	35%	7%	74%	40%
<b>Mike Michaud</b>	39%	62%	7%	26%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	7%	9%	19%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>LePage/Michaud</b>				
<b>Paul LePage</b>	39%	8%	81%	47%
<b>Mike Michaud</b>	54%	87%	11%	36%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	5%	8%	17%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Does LePage Cause ME Nat'l Embarrassment?</b>				
<b>Think he does</b>	62%	91%	20%	50%
<b>Think he does not</b>	33%	6%	72%	45%
<b>Not sure</b>	5%	3%	9%	5%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Did LePage Say Obama Hates Whites?</b>				
<b>Think he did</b>	47%	68%	18%	30%
<b>Don't think he did</b>	30%	12%	58%	38%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	21%	25%	32%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Does Obama Hate Whites?</b>				
<b>Think he does</b>	20%	5%	44%	21%
<b>Think he does not</b>	66%	92%	29%	56%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	3%	27%	23%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	49%	89%	81%	59%	12%	3%
<b>Disapprove</b>	44%	11%	14%	30%	79%	96%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	1%	5%	11%	9%	1%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>LePage Approval</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	39%	18%	12%	26%	62%	89%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	82%	85%	67%	31%	7%
<b>Not sure</b>	5%	0%	4%	7%	7%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Cutler Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	37%	38%	39%	23%	16%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	35%	38%	30%	27%	35%	55%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	25%	32%	34%	41%	29%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Michaud Favorability</b>						
Favorable	53%	74%	79%	62%	29%	15%
Unfavorable	30%	19%	8%	16%	52%	71%
Not sure	17%	7%	13%	22%	19%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Cutler/LePage/Michaud</b>						
Eliot Cutler	18%	25%	20%	23%	12%	6%
Paul LePage	35%	9%	8%	21%	62%	82%
Mike Michaud	39%	62%	60%	48%	14%	4%
Not sure	9%	4%	11%	8%	12%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>LePage/Michaud</b>						
Paul LePage	39%	14%	11%	25%	67%	86%
Mike Michaud	54%	79%	86%	65%	26%	6%
Not sure	7%	7%	2%	10%	7%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Does LePage Cause ME Nat'l Embarrassment?</b>						
Think he does	62%	89%	91%	76%	31%	14%
Think he does not	33%	10%	6%	19%	60%	81%
Not sure	5%	2%	3%	5%	9%	6%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Did LePage Say Obama Hates Whites?</b>						
<b>Think he did</b>	<b>47%</b>	67%	69%	55%	22%	15%
<b>Don't think he did</b>	<b>30%</b>	19%	15%	21%	44%	63%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	14%	16%	25%	34%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Does Obama Hate Whites?</b>						
<b>Think he does</b>	<b>20%</b>	13%	4%	12%	33%	50%
<b>Think he does not</b>	<b>66%</b>	83%	93%	80%	40%	22%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>13%</b>	3%	3%	8%	27%	28%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	<b>49%</b>	54%	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>44%</b>	39%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>7%</b>	7%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>LePage Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	<b>39%</b>	32%	46%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>56%</b>	62%	49%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>5%</b>	5%	5%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Cutler Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	33%	31%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	35%	30%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	37%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Michaud Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	53%	57%	49%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	22%	39%
<b>Not sure</b>	17%	20%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Cutler/LePage/Michaud</b>			
<b>Eliot Cutler</b>	18%	20%	16%
<b>Paul LePage</b>	35%	28%	42%
<b>Mike Michaud</b>	39%	40%	37%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	13%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>LePage/Michaud</b>			
<b>Paul LePage</b>	39%	33%	45%
<b>Mike Michaud</b>	54%	60%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	7%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Does LePage Cause ME Nat'l Embarrassment?</b>			
<b>Think he does</b>	<b>62%</b>	68%	56%
<b>Think he does not</b>	<b>33%</b>	26%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>5%</b>	7%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Did LePage Say Obama Hates Whites?</b>			
<b>Think he did</b>	<b>47%</b>	48%	45%
<b>Don't think he did</b>	<b>30%</b>	27%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	24%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Does Obama Hate Whites?</b>			
<b>Think he does</b>	<b>20%</b>	16%	25%
<b>Think he does not</b>	<b>66%</b>	70%	63%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>13%</b>	14%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>49%</b>	83%	12%	45%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>44%</b>	10%	82%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>7%</b>	7%	6%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>LePage Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	39%	12%	73%	36%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	85%	21%	57%
<b>Not sure</b>	5%	3%	5%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Cutler Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	37%	24%	34%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	35%	31%	42%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	31%	34%	35%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Michaud Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	53%	79%	26%	48%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	9%	57%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	17%	11%	17%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Cutler/LePage/Michaud</b>				
<b>Eliot Cutler</b>	18%	19%	12%	22%
<b>Paul LePage</b>	35%	9%	66%	34%
<b>Mike Michaud</b>	39%	63%	13%	34%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	8%	8%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>LePage/Michaud</b>				
Paul LePage	39%	11%	74%	36%
Mike Michaud	54%	84%	19%	55%
Not sure	7%	5%	7%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Does LePage Cause ME Nat'l Embarrassment?</b>				
Think he does	62%	88%	30%	60%
Think he does not	33%	9%	62%	34%
Not sure	5%	3%	8%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Did LePage Say Obama Hates Whites?</b>				
Think he did	47%	67%	20%	46%
Don't think he did	30%	15%	57%	23%
Not sure	23%	17%	23%	31%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Does Obama Hate Whites?</b>				
Think he does	20%	7%	37%	21%
Think he does not	66%	89%	38%	66%
Not sure	13%	4%	25%	14%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	49%	50%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	44%	43%	55%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	7%	3%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>LePage Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	39%	37%	55%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	57%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	5%	5%	2%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Cutler Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	33%	26%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	35%	33%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	34%	24%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Michaud Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	53%	53%	54%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	30%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	17%	17%	14%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Cutler/LePage/Michaud</b>			
<b>Eliot Cutler</b>	18%	18%	18%
<b>Paul LePage</b>	35%	35%	34%
<b>Mike Michaud</b>	39%	39%	39%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	9%	8%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>LePage/Michaud</b>			
<b>Paul LePage</b>	39%	38%	49%
<b>Mike Michaud</b>	54%	56%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	7%	9%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Does LePage Cause ME Nat'l Embarrassment?</b>			
<b>Think he does</b>	62%	63%	49%
<b>Think he does not</b>	33%	32%	37%
<b>Not sure</b>	5%	5%	14%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Did LePage Say Obama Hates Whites?</b>			
<b>Think he did</b>	47%	48%	36%
<b>Don't think he did</b>	30%	29%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	23%	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Does Obama Hate Whites?</b>			
<b>Think he does</b>	20%	20%	28%
<b>Think he does not</b>	66%	67%	61%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	13%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	49%	57%	41%	54%	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	44%	36%	52%	40%	49%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	7%	7%	6%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>LePage Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	39%	33%	45%	35%	44%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	52%	49%	62%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	5%	15%	6%	3%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Cutler Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	39%	38%	34%	20%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	35%	32%	42%	33%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	29%	20%	33%	47%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Michaud Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	53%	57%	46%	55%	53%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	29%	38%	28%	28%
<b>Not sure</b>	17%	14%	16%	16%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Cutler/LePage/Michaud</b>					
<b>Eliot Cutler</b>	18%	25%	20%	19%	11%
<b>Paul LePage</b>	35%	25%	43%	31%	39%
<b>Mike Michaud</b>	39%	36%	28%	42%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	14%	9%	9%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>LePage/Michaud</b>					
<b>Paul LePage</b>	39%	36%	46%	35%	40%
<b>Mike Michaud</b>	54%	54%	48%	59%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	11%	6%	5%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Does LePage Cause ME Nat'l Embarrassment?</b>					
<b>Think he does</b>	62%	67%	54%	68%	55%
<b>Think he does not</b>	33%	25%	42%	28%	38%
<b>Not sure</b>	5%	8%	3%	5%	7%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Did LePage Say Obama Hates Whites?</b>					
<b>Think he did</b>	<b>47%</b>	50%	45%	51%	38%
<b>Don't think he did</b>	<b>30%</b>	31%	33%	28%	34%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	19%	22%	22%	29%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Does Obama Hate Whites?</b>					
<b>Think he does</b>	<b>20%</b>	12%	31%	18%	18%
<b>Think he does not</b>	<b>66%</b>	69%	60%	70%	62%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>13%</b>	19%	9%	12%	19%

