

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL
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OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

Maine narrowly favors gay marriage legalization

Raleigh, N.C. – Maine voters are leaning towards legalizing gay marriage, but it looks like it will be probably be close. 52% of voters say that they plan to vote yes on Question 1 to 44% who are opposed. When we ask simply whether or not voters think same sex marriage should be legal, 52% say it should be while 40% think it should not.

“Our experience in polling gay marriage is that if people say they’re undecided it usually means they’re opposed to it,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Despite the 8 point lead for passage this should be seen as a very close race.”

There's a pretty significant gender gap on this issue with women supporting Question 1 58-38, while men oppose it 50/47. There's a major divide along generational lines as well with voters under 65 support it by a 56/41 margin, but those over 65 opposing it 53/41.

Paul LePage continues to be one of the most unpopular Governors in the country with only 37% of voters approving of him to 52% who disapprove. He trails a generic Democratic opponent for reelection by a 48/40 margin, including 45/38 with independents. Of course LePage got elected in 2010 with less than 40% of the vote so if there's a strong independent candidate and that person and the Democratic candidate cannibalize each other enough LePage could continue to be really unpopular and get himself reelected anyway. Probably related to voters' unhappiness with LePage, Democrats lead the generic legislative ballot in the state by a 48/37 margin.

Maine continues to have, along with Wyoming and Vermont, one of the few states in the country where both Senators have a 60% or more approval rating. Olympia Snowe's approval rating as she prepares to leave office is 63% with 25% of voters disapproving of her. She is most popular with Democrats (70/20), followed by independents (64/24), then Republicans (54/32). Susan Collins is only slightly less popular than her senior colleague. 60% of voters give her good marks to 26% who disapprove. Unless Collins retires there doesn't appear to be much point in Democrats trying to seriously contest her seat in 2014. She leads a generic Democratic opponent 59-25, taking 34% of the Democratic vote and leading 64-17 with independents.

PPP surveyed 804 likely Maine voters on September 17th and 18th. The margin of error for the overall survey is +/-3.5%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.



Maine Survey Results

Q1 Question 1 would allow the State of Maine to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. If the election was today, would you vote yes or no on question 1?

Yes..... 52%
No..... 44%
Not sure..... 4%

Q2 Do you think same-sex marriage should be legal or illegal?

Legal..... 52%
Illegal..... 40%
Not sure..... 8%

Q3 If there was an election for state legislature today, would you vote Democratic or Republican?

Democratic..... 48%
Republican..... 37%
Not sure..... 16%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Paul LePage's job performance?

Approve..... 37%
Disapprove..... 52%
Not sure..... 11%

Q5 Generally speaking, if there was an election for Governor today, would you vote for Republican Paul LePage or his Democratic opponent?

Paul LePage..... 40%
Democratic opponent..... 48%
Not sure..... 12%

Q6 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Olympia Snowe's job performance?

Approve..... 63%
Disapprove..... 25%
Not sure..... 12%

Q7 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Susan Collins' job performance?

Approve..... 60%
Disapprove..... 26%
Not sure..... 14%

Q8 Generally speaking, if there was an election for the Senate today, would you vote for Republican Susan Collins or her Democratic opponent?

Susan Collins..... 59%
Democratic opponent..... 25%
Not sure..... 15%

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

Very liberal..... 9%
Somewhat liberal..... 24%
Moderate..... 32%
Somewhat conservative..... 23%
Very conservative..... 12%

Q10 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

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

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..... 42%
Republican..... 29%
Independent/Other..... 29%

Q12 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White..... 96%
Other..... 4%





Q13 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>	33%
<i>46 to 65</i>	46%
<i>Older than 65</i>	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Question 1						
Yes	52%	89%	83%	58%	23%	8%
No	44%	11%	15%	38%	70%	90%
Not sure	4%	-	2%	4%	7%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal						
Legal	52%	89%	86%	59%	21%	4%
Illegal	40%	11%	12%	32%	66%	87%
Not sure	8%	-	2%	10%	13%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Generic Leg. Ballot						
Democratic	48%	90%	86%	50%	13%	3%
Republican	37%	8%	4%	21%	75%	88%
Not sure	16%	1%	10%	30%	12%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
LePage Approval						
Approve	37%	9%	9%	27%	69%	78%
Disapprove	52%	89%	85%	59%	19%	10%
Not sure	11%	1%	6%	15%	13%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Le Page or Dem Opponent?						
Paul LePage	40%	13%	8%	29%	73%	88%
Democratic opponent	48%	80%	86%	53%	15%	3%
Not sure	12%	7%	6%	19%	12%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Snowe Approval						
Approve	63%	66%	69%	70%	66%	32%
Disapprove	25%	27%	21%	19%	23%	47%
Not sure	12%	7%	10%	12%	11%	21%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Collins Approval						
Approve	60%	54%	58%	66%	69%	39%
Disapprove	26%	33%	29%	18%	22%	42%
Not sure	14%	13%	12%	16%	9%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Collins or Dem Opponent?						
Susan Collins	59%	27%	34%	57%	84%	86%
Democratic opponent	25%	60%	47%	24%	7%	1%
Not sure	15%	13%	19%	19%	9%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Question 1			
Yes	52%	58%	47%
No	44%	38%	50%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal			
Legal	52%	59%	46%
Illegal	40%	32%	49%
Not sure	8%	10%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Leg. Ballot			
Democratic	48%	54%	41%
Republican	37%	30%	43%
Not sure	16%	16%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
LePage Approval			
Approve	37%	29%	46%
Disapprove	52%	57%	47%
Not sure	11%	14%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
LePage or Dem Opponent?			
Paul LePage	40%	33%	48%
Democratic opponent	48%	54%	41%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Snowe Approval			
Approve	63%	68%	58%
Disapprove	25%	20%	30%
Not sure	12%	12%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Collins Approval			
Approve	60%	65%	55%
Disapprove	26%	20%	32%
Not sure	14%	15%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Collins or Dem Opponent?			
Susan Collins	59%	57%	61%
Democratic opponent	25%	25%	26%
Not sure	15%	18%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Question 1				
Yes	52%	76%	17%	53%
No	44%	21%	77%	44%
Not sure	4%	3%	6%	3%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal				
Legal	52%	75%	18%	53%
Illegal	40%	20%	68%	42%
Not sure	8%	5%	13%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	48%	83%	7%	37%
Republican	37%	6%	88%	31%
Not sure	16%	11%	5%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
LePage Approval				
Approve	37%	15%	72%	35%
Disapprove	52%	78%	15%	51%
Not sure	11%	7%	13%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
LePage or Dem Opponent?				
Paul LePage	40%	15%	80%	38%
Democratic opponent	48%	75%	11%	45%
Not sure	12%	10%	9%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Snowe Approval				
Approve	63%	70%	54%	64%
Disapprove	25%	20%	32%	24%
Not sure	12%	10%	15%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Collins Approval				
Approve	60%	61%	62%	57%
Disapprove	26%	27%	26%	25%
Not sure	14%	12%	12%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Collins or Dem Opponent?				
Susan Collins	59%	34%	90%	64%
Democratic opponent	25%	46%	4%	17%
Not sure	15%	20%	6%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Question 1			
Yes	52%	53%	35%
No	44%	43%	65%
Not sure	4%	4%	-

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal			
Legal	52%	53%	35%
Illegal	40%	39%	56%
Not sure	8%	8%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Generic Leg. Ballot			
Democratic	48%	48%	36%
Republican	37%	36%	55%
Not sure	16%	16%	8%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
LePage Approval			
Approve	37%	37%	48%
Disapprove	52%	52%	43%
Not sure	11%	11%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
LePage or Dem Opponent?			
Paul LePage	40%	40%	61%
Democratic opponent	48%	48%	37%
Not sure	12%	12%	3%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Snowe Approval			
Approve	63%	64%	39%
Disapprove	25%	24%	48%
Not sure	12%	12%	13%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Collins Approval			
Approve	60%	61%	45%
Disapprove	26%	25%	39%
Not sure	14%	14%	16%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Collins or Dem Opponent?			
Susan Collins	59%	59%	71%
Democratic opponent	25%	25%	26%
Not sure	15%	16%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Question 1				
Yes	52%	54%	56%	41%
No	44%	42%	41%	53%
Not sure	4%	3%	3%	6%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal				
Legal	52%	53%	57%	41%
Illegal	40%	36%	38%	50%
Not sure	8%	11%	5%	9%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	48%	46%	50%	45%
Republican	37%	39%	33%	40%
Not sure	16%	15%	17%	14%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
LePage Approval				
Approve	37%	39%	36%	37%
Disapprove	52%	48%	55%	51%
Not sure	11%	14%	8%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
LePage or Dem Opponent?				
Paul LePage	40%	47%	37%	39%
Democratic opponent	48%	42%	51%	51%
Not sure	12%	11%	13%	10%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Snowe Approval				
Approve	63%	62%	64%	64%
Disapprove	25%	26%	25%	22%
Not sure	12%	11%	11%	14%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Collins Approval				
Approve	60%	61%	59%	63%
Disapprove	26%	24%	28%	24%
Not sure	14%	15%	13%	13%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Collins or Dem Opponent?				
Susan Collins	59%	62%	57%	59%
Democratic opponent	25%	23%	26%	27%
Not sure	15%	15%	17%	14%

