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Obama well ahead in Michigan

Raleigh, N.C. – Barack Obama won't have to worry too much about holding Michigan for the Democrats this fall- he leads Mitt Romney 53-39 there, a lead little changed from PPP's last poll of the state in February when his advantage was 54-38.

Romney just doesn't have much of a home field advantage in the state. Only 24% of voters consider him to be a Michigander to 65% who do not. And only 35% have a favorable opinion of him to 57% with a negative view.

It's not just Romney's unpopularity helping Obama in Michigan though. Obama's own approval rating is at a record high in our polling of the state with 53% of voters giving him good marks to 41% who disapprove, including a 50/43 standing with independents.

Obama's crushing Romney on what will doubtless be one of the biggest issues in the campaign in Michigan- 55% think that he's been better for the automotive industry in the state to only 31% who say Romney wins out on that front.

Going inside the numbers Obama's winning over 13% of Republican voters while losing just 7% of Democrats, and he also has a double digit advantage with independents at 48-36.

There's been some talk about Rick Snyder as a potential running mate but he wouldn't help the ticket any- with him as the VP pick Obama's lead actually expands slightly to 53-38. That's because Snyder continues to be an unpopular Governor with only 37% of voters approving of him to 52% who disapprove. That's a regression for Snyder compared to February when he was at 40/47, largely because he's seen a drop with independents.

"Barack Obama looks like a pretty safe bet to win Michigan this fall," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Voters trust Obama more on the auto industry and don't feel much of a personal connection to Romney despite his roots in the state."

PPP surveyed 500 Michigan voters between May 24th and 27th. 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.

Public Policy Polling

Michigan Survey Results

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

Approve 53%

Disapprove 41%

Not sure 5%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

Favorable 35%

Unfavorable 57%

Not sure 9%

Q3 If the candidates for President this year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama 53%

Mitt Romney 39%

Undecided 8%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Rick Snyder's job performance?

Approve .... 37%   Not sure 12%

Disapprove 52%

Q5 If the Democratic ticket was Barack Obama for President and Joe Biden for Vice President, and the Republican ticket was Mitt Romney for President and Rick Snyder for Vice President, which would you vote for?

Obama-Biden 53%

Romney-Snyder 38%

Undecided 9%

Q6 Who do you think has been better for the automotive industry in Michigan: Barack Obama or Mitt Romney?

Barack Obama 55%

Mitt Romney 31%

Not sure 14%

Q7 Do you consider Mitt Romney to be a Michigander, or not?

He is a Michigander 24%

He is not 65%

Not sure 11%

Q8 In Michigan, do you think the trees are the right height, or not?

The trees are the right height 38%

They are not 8%

Not sure 55%

Q9 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain 37%

Barack Obama 53%

Someone else/Don't remember 10%

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

Very liberal 11%

Somewhat liberal 23%

Moderate 30%

Somewhat conservative 22%

Very conservative 15%

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

Woman 56%

Man 44%

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 38%

Republican 28%

Independent/Other 34%

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

White 78%

African-American 14%

Other.. 9%

Q14 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.

18 to 29... 14%

30 to 45... 27%

46 to 65... 39%

Older than 65.. 20%

		2008 Vote		
	Base	John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	53%	18%	85%	20%
Disapprove	41%	80%	10%	63%
Not sure	5%	3%	5%	17%

		2008 Vote		
	Base	John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	35%	70%	9%	41%
Unfavorable	57%	26%	83%	29%
Not sure	9%	4%	8%	30%

		2008 Vote		
	Base	John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	53%	17%	87%	14%
Mitt Romney	39%	76%	10%	47%
Undecided	8%	7%	3%	39%

		2008 Vote		
	Base	John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Snyder Approval				
Approve	37%	64%	16%	49%
Disapprove	52%	28%	72%	31%
Not sure	12%	8%	12%	19%

May 24-27, 2012
survey of 500 Michigan voters

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		2008 Vote		
	Base	John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama-Biden/Romney-Snyder				
Obama-Biden	53%	17%	87%	16%
Romney-Snyder	38%	75%	10%	45%
Undecided	9%	8%	3%	39%

		2008 Vote		
	Base	John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Better Candidate for Auto Industry?				
Barack Obama	55%	21%	86%	18%
Mitt Romney	31%	61%	8%	41%
Not sure	14%	18%	6%	40%

		2008 Vote		
	Base	John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Romney a Michigander?				
He is a Michigander	24%	38%	15%	25%
He is not	65%	48%	81%	41%
Not sure	11%	14%	4%	33%

		2008 Vote		
	Base	John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Trees the Right Height?				
The trees are the right height	38%	27%	44%	40%
They are not	8%	7%	8%	13%
Not sure	55%	66%	48%	47%

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Crosstabs

		Ideology				
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval						
Approve	53%	91%	78%	60%	20%	23%
Disapprove	41%	4%	17%	29%	77%	77%
Not sure	5%	5%	4%	10%	3%	-

		Ideology				
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	35%	9%	14%	22%	66%	65%
Unfavorable	57%	75%	82%	65%	26%	34%
Not sure	9%	16%	5%	13%	8%	1%

		Ideology				
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Romney						
Barack Obama	53%	80%	79%	66%	18%	22%
Mitt Romney	39%	10%	14%	21%	75%	76%
Undecided	8%	10%	6%	13%	7%	2%

		Ideology				
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Snyder Approval						
Approve	37%	15%	20%	26%	66%	58%
Disapprove	52%	76%	68%	65%	22%	27%
Not sure	12%	9%	12%	10%	12%	16%

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Crosstabs

		Ideology				
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama-Biden/Romney-Snyder						
Obama-Biden	53%	86%	80%	65%	17%	22%
Romney-Snyder	38%	4%	17%	22%	72%	73%
Undecided	9%	10%	3%	13%	11%	5%

		Ideology				
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Better Candidate for Auto Industry?						
Barack Obama	55%	86%	76%	69%	22%	20%
Mitt Romney	31%	12%	14%	19%	50%	68%
Not sure	14%	2%	10%	12%	27%	12%

		Ideology				
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney a Michigander?						
He is a Michigander	24%	14%	12%	21%	39%	37%
He is not	65%	84%	76%	70%	46%	50%
Not sure	11%	3%	12%	9%	15%	13%

		Ideology				
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Trees the Right Height?						
The trees are the right height	38%	51%	30%	48%	34%	27%
They are not	8%	8%	9%	6%	10%	5%
Not sure	55%	41%	60%	46%	56%	68%

Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	53%	57%	48%
Disapprove	41%	36%	48%
Not sure	5%	7%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	35%	30%	40%
Unfavorable	57%	60%	53%
Not sure	9%	10%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	53%	58%	48%
Mitt Romney	39%	34%	45%
Undecided	8%	8%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Snyder Approval			
Approve	37%	32%	43%
Disapprove	52%	57%	45%
Not sure	12%	12%	11%

	Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man
Obama-Biden/Romney-Snyder			
Obama-Biden	53%	59%	47%
Romney-Snyder	38%	33%	44%
Undecided	9%	8%	9%

	Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man
Better Candidate for Auto Industry?			
Barack Obama	55%	59%	50%
Mitt Romney	31%	27%	36%
Not sure	14%	14%	14%

	Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man
Romney a Michigander?			
He is a Michigander	24%	24%	25%
He is not	65%	66%	63%
Not sure	11%	10%	12%

	Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man
Trees the Right Height?			
The trees are the right height	38%	43%	31%
They are not	8%	6%	10%
Not sure	55%	51%	59%

Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	53%	86%	12%	50%
Disapprove	41%	9%	85%	43%
Not sure	5%	5%	4%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	35%	6%	77%	32%
Unfavorable	57%	82%	17%	60%
Not sure	9%	12%	5%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	53%	88%	13%	48%
Mitt Romney	39%	7%	85%	36%
Undecided	8%	5%	3%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Snyder Approval				
Approve	37%	13%	70%	37%
Disapprove	52%	77%	19%	50%
Not sure	12%	11%	11%	12%

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	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Snyder				
Obama-Biden	53%	90%	9%	48%
Romney-Snyder	38%	7%	87%	33%
Undecided	9%	3%	4%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Better Candidate for Auto Industry?				
Barack Obama	55%	88%	10%	54%
Mitt Romney	31%	7%	73%	25%
Not sure	14%	5%	17%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney a Michigander?				
He is a Michigander	24%	14%	44%	20%
He is not	65%	78%	44%	66%
Not sure	11%	7%	12%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Trees the Right Height?				
The trees are the right height	38%	48%	34%	28%
They are not	8%	8%	5%	10%
Not sure	55%	45%	61%	62%

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	Race			
	Base	White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	**53%**	50%	74%	52%
Disapprove	**41%**	45%	20%	46%
Not sure	**5%**	6%	6%	2%

	Race			
	Base	White	African-American	Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	**35%**	37%	20%	41%
Unfavorable	**57%**	54%	72%	56%
Not sure	**9%**	9%	8%	3%

	Race			
	Base	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	**53%**	50%	79%	45%
Mitt Romney	**39%**	40%	20%	53%
Undecided	**8%**	10%	1%	2%

	Race			
	Base	White	African-American	Other
Snyder Approval				
Approve	**37%**	40%	20%	34%
Disapprove	**52%**	50%	63%	51%
Not sure	**12%**	10%	17%	15%

Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Snyder				
Obama-Biden	**53%**	50%	76%	45%
Romney-Snyder	**38%**	40%	24%	39%
Undecided	**9%**	9%	-	15%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Better Candidate for Auto Industry?				
Barack Obama	**55%**	51%	74%	56%
Mitt Romney	**31%**	32%	24%	33%
Not sure	**14%**	16%	1%	12%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Romney a Michigander?				
He is a Michigander	**24%**	26%	17%	20%
He is not	**65%**	63%	71%	71%
Not sure	**11%**	11%	11%	8%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Trees the Right Height?				
The trees are the right height	**38%**	36%	37%	51%
They are not	**8%**	6%	4%	21%
Not sure	**55%**	58%	59%	27%

Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	53%	56%	58%	55%	41%
Disapprove	41%	41%	35%	40%	53%
Not sure	5%	3%	7%	5%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	35%	35%	30%	30%	50%
Unfavorable	57%	56%	60%	62%	41%
Not sure	9%	9%	9%	8%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	53%	47%	57%	59%	42%
Mitt Romney	39%	41%	36%	34%	50%
Undecided	8%	12%	7%	8%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Snyder Approval					
Approve	37%	35%	33%	36%	47%
Disapprove	52%	59%	53%	53%	42%
Not sure	12%	6%	14%	12%	11%

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		Age			
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama-Biden/Romney-Snyder					
Obama-Biden	**53%**	53%	55%	60%	40%
Romney-Snyder	**38%**	41%	33%	34%	50%
Undecided	**9%**	6%	12%	7%	9%

		Age			
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Better Candidate for Auto Industry?					
Barack Obama	**55%**	50%	56%	61%	46%
Mitt Romney	**31%**	38%	30%	26%	39%
Not sure	**14%**	12%	14%	14%	15%

		Age			
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney a Michigander?					
He is a Michigander	**24%**	24%	21%	24%	31%
He is not	**65%**	62%	70%	69%	52%
Not sure	**11%**	15%	9%	8%	16%

		Age			
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trees the Right Height?					
The trees are the right height	**38%**	42%	48%	35%	25%
They are not	**8%**	8%	9%	9%	2%
Not sure	**55%**	50%	42%	56%	73%