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Stabenow leads by 9 in Michigan Senate Race

Raleigh, N.C.-- PPP's first poll of the Michigan Senate race since switching to likely voters continues to find Debbie Stabenow with a solid lead over Pete Hoekstra, 50-41. Stabenow has her party more unified around her, taking 88% of Democrats to Hoekstra's 81% of Republicans. She's also up 53-36 with independents. Stabenow is running almost even among white voters, trailing Hoekstra just 46-45, and when you add in her overwhelming support among non-whites you get her overall solid lead.

Michigan voters aren't in love with Stabenow. They're evenly divided on her job performance with 43% approving and 43% disapproving. But they continue to have a dim view of Hoekstra with 32% rating him favorably to 39% with an unfavorable opinion. That's about where his numbers have been ever since his controversial Super Bowl ad—he's had a hard time bouncing back from that.

“Debbie Stabenow’s had a healthy lead in our polling all year,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “She tends to run a little ahead of Barack Obama so it seems unlikely she’ll lose unless he does too. She remains the clear favorite in this race.”

We polled three of this fall's ballot initiatives and found little change from our Michigan July poll on any of them. The constitutional amendment to guarantee collective bargaining rights is ahead by a 44/37 margin. The one to mandate that 25% of Michigan's electricity comes from renewable energy sources by 2025 is up 49/31. And in what would be a big victory for Rick Snyder, voters are saying by a 40/31 margin that they will keep the emergency managers law. There are a lot of undecideds on all these so the numbers could shift but for now they're favored for passage.

Speaking of Snyder for the first time since he took office he has positive approval numbers in our polling. 45% of voters like the job he's doing to 42% who disapprove, and he would lead a generic Democratic opponent for reelection by a 46/41 margin. Even just a little over three months ago Snyder was at 37/52 so clearly he's improved his standing with voters in the state over the summer.

PPP surveyed 815 likely Michigan voters from August 31st to September 2nd. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.4%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization.



Michigan Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Debbie Stabenow's job performance?

Approve43% Not sure14%
Disapprove.....43%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Pete Hoekstra?

Favorable..... 32%
Unfavorable 39%
Not sure29%

Q3 The candidates for Senate this fall are Democrat Debbie Stabenow and Republican Pete Hoekstra. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Debbie Stabenow 50%
Pete Hoekstra 41%
Undecided..... 9%

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

Approve45% Not sure12%
Disapprove.....42%

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

Rick Snyder46% Not sure13%
Democratic
opponent.....41%

Q6 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Carl Levin's job performance?

Approve46% Not sure18%
Disapprove.....35%

Q7 Generally speaking, if there was an election today, would you vote for Democrat Carl Levin or his Republican opponent?

Carl Levin.....51% Not sure 9%
Republican
opponent.....40%

Q8 Generally speaking, if there was an election for the state legislature today, would you vote Democratic or Republican?

Democratic.....45% Not sure14%
Republican.....41%

Q9 Would you support or oppose a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to collective bargaining for all employees, either in the public or private sectors?

Support44% Not sure19%
Oppose37%

Q10 Would you support or oppose an initiative mandating that 25% of Michigan's electricity come from renewable energy sources by 2025?

Support49% Not sure20%
Oppose31%

Q11 There will be a referendum on Public Act 4, Michigan's Emergency Managers law, on the November ballot. If the election was today would you vote yes, to keep the emergency managers law, or no, to over turn it?

Yes.....40% Not sure29%
No.....31%

Q12 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jennifer Granholm?

Favorable..... 38%
Unfavorable 50%
Not sure 12%

Q13 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John Engler?

Favorable..... 33%
Unfavorable 45%
Not sure 22%





Q14 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jim Blanchard?

Favorable..... 37%
Unfavorable 25%
Not sure 38%

Q15 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of William Milliken?

Favorable..... 37%
Unfavorable 11%
Not sure 52%

Q16 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 9%
Somewhat liberal 18%
Moderate..... 35%
Somewhat conservative..... 23%
Very conservative 16%

Q17 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 50%
Man..... 50%

Q18 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 33%
Republican..... 34%
Independent/Other..... 33%

Q19 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 84%
African-American 11%
Other..... 6%

Q20 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..... 12%
30 to 45..... 20%
46 to 65..... 48%
Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Stabenow Approval						
Approve	43%	76%	68%	57%	18%	4%
Disapprove	43%	8%	21%	28%	68%	81%
Not sure	14%	16%	12%	15%	14%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hoekstra Favorability						
Favorable	32%	2%	10%	21%	50%	68%
Unfavorable	39%	70%	58%	48%	18%	11%
Not sure	29%	28%	32%	31%	32%	21%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Stabenow/Hoekstra						
Debbie Stabenow	50%	90%	81%	66%	19%	4%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	8%	12%	22%	69%	91%
Undecided	9%	2%	7%	11%	13%	5%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Snyder Approval						
Approve	45%	19%	28%	35%	64%	75%
Disapprove	42%	77%	65%	48%	27%	9%
Not sure	12%	4%	6%	17%	9%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Snyder or Dem Opponent?						
Rick Snyder	46%	7%	17%	34%	72%	87%
Democratic opponent	41%	89%	67%	46%	21%	4%
Not sure	13%	4%	16%	20%	7%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Levin Approval						
Approve	46%	68%	70%	61%	24%	7%
Disapprove	35%	6%	13%	21%	55%	78%
Not sure	18%	26%	17%	17%	21%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Levin or GOP Opponent?						
Carl Levin	51%	88%	82%	64%	25%	7%
Republican opponent	40%	7%	13%	22%	69%	86%
Not sure	9%	5%	4%	14%	6%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Generic Leg. Ballot						
Democratic	45%	90%	73%	55%	18%	5%
Republican	41%	6%	10%	23%	71%	93%
Not sure	14%	4%	17%	22%	11%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose Collective Bargaining Amendment						
Support	44%	80%	66%	54%	24%	6%
Oppose	37%	6%	17%	25%	55%	73%
Not sure	19%	14%	17%	21%	20%	20%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose Renewable Energy Amendment						
Support	49%	86%	66%	53%	39%	19%
Oppose	31%	7%	17%	22%	40%	62%
Not sure	20%	7%	16%	25%	20%	19%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Public Act 4						
Yes	40%	26%	29%	35%	58%	45%
No	31%	54%	44%	35%	17%	15%
Not sure	29%	20%	27%	31%	25%	40%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Granholm Favorability						
Favorable	38%	68%	56%	52%	16%	7%
Unfavorable	50%	22%	27%	35%	76%	85%
Not sure	12%	10%	17%	13%	9%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Engler Favorability						
Favorable	33%	20%	15%	20%	49%	62%
Unfavorable	45%	68%	66%	58%	23%	16%
Not sure	22%	12%	19%	22%	28%	23%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Blanchard Favorability						
Favorable	37%	52%	47%	41%	31%	21%
Unfavorable	25%	20%	12%	24%	28%	42%
Not sure	38%	27%	42%	36%	41%	37%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Milliken Favorability						
Favorable	37%	32%	37%	37%	46%	28%
Unfavorable	11%	32%	13%	7%	5%	15%
Not sure	52%	36%	50%	55%	49%	58%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Stabenow Approval			
Approve	43%	42%	44%
Disapprove	43%	39%	46%
Not sure	14%	19%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hoekstra Favorability			
Favorable	32%	31%	32%
Unfavorable	39%	35%	42%
Not sure	29%	34%	25%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Stabenow/Hoekstra			
Debbie Stabenow	50%	50%	50%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	41%	41%
Undecided	9%	9%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Snyder Approval			
Approve	45%	44%	47%
Disapprove	42%	42%	43%
Not sure	12%	15%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Snyder or Dem Opponent?			
Rick Snyder	46%	49%	43%
Democratic opponent	41%	39%	43%
Not sure	13%	12%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Levin Approval			
Approve	46%	42%	50%
Disapprove	35%	32%	39%
Not sure	18%	25%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Levin or GOP Opponent?			
Carl Levin	51%	50%	53%
Republican opponent	40%	42%	39%
Not sure	9%	9%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Leg. Ballot			
Democratic	45%	44%	45%
Republican	41%	45%	37%
Not sure	14%	10%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose Collective Bargaining Amendment			
Support	44%	39%	49%
Oppose	37%	35%	39%
Not sure	19%	27%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose Renewable Energy Amendment			
Support	49%	51%	48%
Oppose	31%	24%	37%
Not sure	20%	25%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Public Act 4			
Yes	40%	37%	42%
No	31%	27%	35%
Not sure	29%	36%	23%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Granholm Favorability			
Favorable	38%	37%	39%
Unfavorable	50%	50%	51%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Engler Favorability			
Favorable	33%	33%	33%
Unfavorable	45%	41%	49%
Not sure	22%	26%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Blanchard Favorability			
Favorable	37%	36%	38%
Unfavorable	25%	20%	31%
Not sure	38%	44%	31%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Milliken Favorability			
Favorable	37%	31%	44%
Unfavorable	11%	10%	12%
Not sure	52%	59%	44%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Stabenow Approval				
Approve	43%	74%	9%	48%
Disapprove	43%	9%	77%	41%
Not sure	14%	17%	14%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hoekstra Favorability				
Favorable	32%	11%	59%	25%
Unfavorable	39%	62%	17%	39%
Not sure	29%	28%	25%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Stabenow /Hoekstra				
Debbie Stabenow	50%	88%	9%	53%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	6%	81%	36%
Undecided	9%	6%	10%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Snyder Approval				
Approve	45%	17%	77%	42%
Disapprove	42%	73%	14%	41%
Not sure	12%	10%	9%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Snyder or Dem Opponent?				
Rick Snyder	46%	9%	86%	43%
Democratic opponent	41%	82%	6%	35%
Not sure	13%	9%	7%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Levin Approval				
Approve	46%	73%	16%	51%
Disapprove	35%	4%	67%	35%
Not sure	18%	23%	17%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Levin or GOP Opponent?				
Carl Levin	51%	91%	12%	52%
Republican opponent	40%	4%	80%	35%
Not sure	9%	5%	8%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	45%	92%	5%	38%
Republican	41%	3%	92%	28%
Not sure	14%	5%	3%	34%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose Collective Bargaining Amendment				
Support	44%	71%	12%	49%
Oppose	37%	13%	65%	32%
Not sure	19%	16%	23%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose Renewable Energy Amendment				
Support	49%	71%	30%	48%
Oppose	31%	10%	51%	30%
Not sure	20%	19%	19%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Public Act 4				
Yes	40%	28%	51%	40%
No	31%	42%	18%	33%
Not sure	29%	29%	31%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Granholm Favorability				
Favorable	38%	73%	7%	37%
Unfavorable	50%	18%	83%	47%
Not sure	12%	9%	10%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Engler Favorability				
Favorable	33%	15%	58%	24%
Unfavorable	45%	70%	17%	50%
Not sure	22%	15%	25%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Blanchard Favorability				
Favorable	37%	54%	23%	36%
Unfavorable	25%	14%	36%	24%
Not sure	38%	32%	40%	40%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Milliken Favorability				
Favorable	37%	38%	35%	39%
Unfavorable	11%	17%	9%	8%
Not sure	52%	45%	56%	53%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Stabenow Approval				
Approve	43%	40%	60%	57%
Disapprove	43%	46%	26%	26%
Not sure	14%	14%	14%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Hoekstra Favorability				
Favorable	32%	35%	8%	22%
Unfavorable	39%	36%	53%	50%
Not sure	29%	28%	39%	29%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Stabenow/Hoekstra				
Debbie Stabenow	50%	45%	85%	54%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	46%	8%	33%
Undecided	9%	9%	7%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Snyder Approval				
Approve	45%	50%	18%	33%
Disapprove	42%	38%	71%	49%
Not sure	12%	12%	12%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Snyder or Dem Opponent?				
Rick Snyder	46%	51%	10%	36%
Democratic opponent	41%	35%	77%	54%
Not sure	13%	13%	13%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Levin Approval				
Approve	46%	45%	53%	49%
Disapprove	35%	38%	16%	29%
Not sure	18%	16%	31%	22%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Levin or GOP Opponent?				
Carl Levin	51%	47%	80%	54%
Republican opponent	40%	44%	17%	31%
Not sure	9%	9%	3%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	45%	38%	88%	58%
Republican	41%	47%	5%	29%
Not sure	14%	15%	6%	13%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose Collective Bargaining Amendment				
Support	44%	42%	56%	50%
Oppose	37%	40%	19%	29%
Not sure	19%	19%	25%	21%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose Renewable Energy Amendment				
Support	49%	50%	55%	35%
Oppose	31%	31%	25%	35%
Not sure	20%	19%	20%	29%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Public Act 4				
Yes	40%	41%	35%	31%
No	31%	29%	39%	41%
Not sure	29%	30%	26%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Granholm Favorability				
Favorable	38%	34%	64%	45%
Unfavorable	50%	54%	27%	43%
Not sure	12%	12%	9%	12%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Engler Favorability				
Favorable	33%	36%	13%	30%
Unfavorable	45%	43%	62%	50%
Not sure	22%	22%	26%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Blanchard Favorability				
Favorable	37%	36%	46%	32%
Unfavorable	25%	26%	20%	28%
Not sure	38%	38%	34%	40%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Milliken Favorability				
Favorable	37%	37%	34%	44%
Unfavorable	11%	12%	11%	3%
Not sure	52%	51%	55%	53%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Stabenow Approval					
Approve	43%	42%	35%	47%	42%
Disapprove	43%	45%	47%	40%	42%
Not sure	14%	12%	18%	13%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hoekstra Favorability					
Favorable	32%	30%	31%	32%	34%
Unfavorable	39%	45%	33%	39%	40%
Not sure	29%	24%	36%	29%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Stabenow/Hoekstra					
Debbie Stabenow	50%	55%	44%	53%	47%
Pete Hoekstra	41%	30%	49%	39%	45%
Undecided	9%	15%	7%	9%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Snyder Approval					
Approve	45%	36%	46%	47%	47%
Disapprove	42%	55%	42%	41%	39%
Not sure	12%	9%	13%	12%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Snyder or Dem Opponent?					
Rick Snyder	46%	36%	51%	44%	53%
Democratic opponent	41%	45%	38%	44%	34%
Not sure	13%	18%	11%	12%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Levin Approval					
Approve	46%	42%	43%	49%	46%
Disapprove	35%	33%	39%	34%	36%
Not sure	18%	24%	18%	17%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Levin or GOP Opponent?					
Carl Levin	51%	58%	46%	54%	46%
Republican opponent	40%	30%	46%	38%	44%
Not sure	9%	12%	8%	7%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Leg. Ballot					
Democratic	45%	48%	38%	48%	42%
Republican	41%	36%	42%	39%	50%
Not sure	14%	15%	21%	13%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose Collective Bargaining Amendment					
Support	44%	42%	42%	46%	43%
Oppose	37%	24%	42%	37%	39%
Not sure	19%	33%	17%	17%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose Renewable Energy Amendment					
Support	49%	58%	46%	51%	45%
Oppose	31%	21%	36%	32%	29%
Not sure	20%	21%	18%	18%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Public Act 4					
Yes	40%	42%	43%	38%	39%
No	31%	30%	28%	32%	30%
Not sure	29%	27%	29%	29%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Granholm Favorability					
Favorable	38%	41%	29%	40%	40%
Unfavorable	50%	45%	59%	49%	48%
Not sure	12%	14%	12%	11%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Engler Favorability					
Favorable	33%	24%	30%	34%	37%
Unfavorable	45%	45%	48%	45%	42%
Not sure	22%	31%	21%	21%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Blanchard Favorability					
Favorable	37%	34%	31%	41%	37%
Unfavorable	25%	24%	31%	25%	20%
Not sure	38%	41%	38%	34%	43%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Milliken Favorability					
Favorable	37%	24%	23%	40%	52%
Unfavorable	11%	14%	10%	12%	9%
Not sure	52%	62%	68%	48%	38%

