



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dayton holds small lead in Minnesota

Raleigh, N.C. – Mark Dayton is the slight favorite heading into the final three days of the Minnesota Governor's race but Tom Emmer's close enough that he could still come from behind to win. Dayton's getting 43% to 40% for Emmer and 15% for Tom Horner.

The Minnesota Gubernatorial race is somewhat emblematic of the unhappiness voters across the country are feeling with politicians this year. None of the three candidates has a net positive favorability rating. Horner comes closest at -1 (35/36), followed by Dayton at -2 (43/45), and Emmer at -14 (37/51).

Neither Dayton nor Emmer really has any crossover appeal. Only 6% of Democrats are planning to vote for Emmer and just 5% of Republicans are for Dayton. That makes the state of this race pretty easy to spell out. Minnesota's a Democratic state so if the Democratic candidate wins all the Democrats and the Republican candidate wins all the Republicans and the independents split pretty evenly the Democratic candidate's going to win. That's where the contest stands right now so Emmer will have to make up some ground in the final days if he's going to pull this one out.

One other interesting note on the Minnesota Governor's race is the impact that Pawlenty fatigue might be having on it. There are a lot of open Gubernatorial seats this year where the unpopularity of an outgoing Democratic Governor is making it hard for his party to hold onto the office, but Minnesota's a rare case where an unpopular outgoing Republican could be part of his party's problem. Only 43% of voters in the state approve of the job Pawlenty is doing to 50% who disapprove. And the state expresses little enthusiasm for a 2012 Pawlenty White House bid with only 23% supportive of the idea and 59% opposed to it. It's a close race and could go either way but Pawlenty fatigue might help put Dayton over the top.

“Mark Dayton is a slight favorite to make the Minnesota Governor’s office a rare pick up for Democrats in what’s going to be a tough year for their party overall,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But Tom Emmer’s close enough that if he can expand his lead with independents and win over a few more Democrats in the final days he could pull an upset.”

PPP surveyed 2,058 likely Minnesota voters from October 27th to 29th. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 2.2%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.





Minnesota Survey Results

Q1 The candidates for Governor are Democrat Mark Dayton, Republican Tom Emmer and Independent Party candidate Tom Horner. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Mark Dayton 43%
Tom Emmer 40%
Tom Horner..... 15%
Undecided..... 3%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mark Dayton?

Favorable 43% *Not sure* 12%
Unfavorable..... 45%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tom Emmer?

Favorable 37% *Not sure* 12%
Unfavorable..... 51%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tom Horner?

Favorable 35% *Not sure* 29%
Unfavorable..... 36%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 43%
Disapprove..... 49%
Not sure 8%

Q6 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Amy Klobuchar's job performance?

Approve 53%
Disapprove..... 32%
Not sure 15%

Q7 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Al Franken's job performance?

Approve 44%
Disapprove..... 44%
Not sure 11%

Q8 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Tim Pawlenty's job performance?

Approve 43%
Disapprove..... 50%
Not sure 6%

Q9 Do you want Tim Pawlenty to run for President in 2012?

Yes..... 23%
No..... 59%
Not sure 18%

Q10 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 43%
Barack Obama..... 51%
Someone else/Don't remember 5%

Q11 Do you identify yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 21%
Moderate..... 43%
Conservative..... 37%

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.

Democrat 36%
Republican..... 31%
Independent/Other..... 33%





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

White 91%

Other..... 9%

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.

18 to 29..... 14%

30 to 45..... 30%

46 to 65..... 36%

Older than 65..... 20%

Q16 Have you already cast your ballot for this year's election?

Yes..... 9%

No..... 91%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Dayton/Emmer/Horner				
Mark Dayton	43%	7%	75%	21%
Tom Emmer	40%	78%	7%	35%
Tom Horner	15%	13%	15%	27%
Undecided	3%	1%	3%	17%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Dayton Favorability				
Favorable	43%	10%	72%	27%
Unfavorable	45%	80%	16%	46%
Not sure	12%	10%	12%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Emmer Favorability				
Favorable	37%	71%	10%	26%
Unfavorable	51%	16%	81%	46%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%	28%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Horner Favorability				
Favorable	35%	32%	37%	45%
Unfavorable	36%	35%	37%	25%
Not sure	29%	33%	26%	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	43%	5%	78%	24%
Disapprove	49%	89%	13%	62%
Not sure	8%	6%	9%	14%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Klobuchar Approval				
Approve	53%	23%	80%	40%
Disapprove	32%	57%	11%	42%
Not sure	15%	21%	9%	19%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Franken Approval				
Approve	44%	7%	78%	27%
Disapprove	44%	83%	10%	53%
Not sure	11%	10%	12%	19%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Pawlenty Approval				
Approve	43%	80%	11%	45%
Disapprove	50%	12%	84%	44%
Not sure	6%	8%	5%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Pawlenty Run for Pres?				
Yes	23%	42%	8%	24%
No	59%	30%	85%	47%
Not sure	18%	28%	7%	30%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Dayton/Emmer/Horner				
Mark Dayton	43%	85%	51%	9%
Tom Emmer	40%	6%	24%	77%
Tom Horner	15%	8%	22%	11%
Undecided	3%	2%	4%	3%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Dayton Favorability				
Favorable	43%	82%	51%	11%
Unfavorable	45%	10%	33%	81%
Not sure	12%	8%	17%	8%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Emmer Favorability				
Favorable	37%	8%	24%	69%
Unfavorable	51%	83%	63%	18%
Not sure	12%	9%	13%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Horner Favorability				
Favorable	35%	31%	42%	29%
Unfavorable	36%	42%	29%	40%
Not sure	29%	27%	29%	31%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	43%	84%	52%	9%
Disapprove	49%	12%	35%	87%
Not sure	8%	3%	13%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Klobuchar Approval				
Approve	53%	83%	64%	22%
Disapprove	32%	11%	20%	60%
Not sure	15%	7%	16%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Franken Approval				
Approve	44%	86%	54%	9%
Disapprove	44%	8%	29%	83%
Not sure	11%	6%	17%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Pawlenty Approval				
Approve	43%	10%	30%	77%
Disapprove	50%	87%	62%	16%
Not sure	6%	3%	8%	7%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Pawlenty Run for Pres?				
Yes	23%	8%	19%	37%
No	59%	88%	68%	32%
Not sure	18%	4%	13%	31%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dayton/Emmer/Horner			
Mark Dayton	43%	47%	38%
Tom Emmer	40%	39%	40%
Tom Horner	15%	11%	19%
Undecided	3%	3%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dayton Favorability			
Favorable	43%	45%	40%
Unfavorable	45%	42%	50%
Not sure	12%	13%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Emmer Favorability			
Favorable	37%	36%	38%
Unfavorable	51%	50%	52%
Not sure	12%	15%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Horner Favorability			
Favorable	35%	31%	39%
Unfavorable	36%	35%	36%
Not sure	29%	34%	24%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	43%	46%	40%
Disapprove	49%	46%	53%
Not sure	8%	8%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Klobuchar Approval			
Approve	53%	55%	51%
Disapprove	32%	27%	38%
Not sure	15%	18%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Franken Approval			
Approve	44%	46%	43%
Disapprove	44%	41%	48%
Not sure	11%	14%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Pawlenty Approval			
Approve	43%	41%	45%
Disapprove	50%	51%	49%
Not sure	6%	7%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Pawlenty Run for Pres?			
Yes	23%	21%	26%
No	59%	59%	59%
Not sure	18%	20%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dayton/Emmer/Horner				
Mark Dayton	43%	83%	5%	33%
Tom Emmer	40%	6%	83%	36%
Tom Horner	15%	8%	11%	26%
Undecided	3%	3%	1%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dayton Favorability				
Favorable	43%	81%	6%	35%
Unfavorable	45%	11%	83%	48%
Not sure	12%	8%	10%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Emmer Favorability				
Favorable	37%	9%	76%	32%
Unfavorable	51%	81%	13%	51%
Not sure	12%	10%	11%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Horner Favorability				
Favorable	35%	31%	30%	44%
Unfavorable	36%	43%	38%	25%
Not sure	29%	26%	31%	31%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	43%	81%	5%	38%
Disapprove	49%	13%	91%	51%
Not sure	8%	7%	5%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Klobuchar Approval				
Approve	53%	80%	22%	52%
Disapprove	32%	12%	58%	32%
Not sure	15%	8%	20%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Franken Approval				
Approve	44%	82%	5%	40%
Disapprove	44%	9%	85%	45%
Not sure	11%	9%	10%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Pawlenty Approval				
Approve	43%	10%	84%	42%
Disapprove	50%	87%	10%	48%
Not sure	6%	3%	6%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Pawlenty Run for Pres?				
Yes	23%	7%	47%	19%
No	59%	88%	24%	60%
Not sure	18%	5%	28%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Dayton/Emmer/Horner			
Mark Dayton	43%	42%	46%
Tom Emmer	40%	40%	31%
Tom Horner	15%	15%	16%
Undecided	3%	3%	7%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Dayton Favorability			
Favorable	43%	42%	47%
Unfavorable	45%	46%	37%
Not sure	12%	11%	16%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Emmer Favorability			
Favorable	37%	37%	33%
Unfavorable	51%	51%	50%
Not sure	12%	12%	17%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Horner Favorability			
Favorable	35%	35%	33%
Unfavorable	36%	35%	38%
Not sure	29%	29%	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama Approval			
Approve	43%	42%	57%
Disapprove	49%	50%	37%
Not sure	8%	8%	6%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Klobuchar Approval			
Approve	53%	53%	50%
Disapprove	32%	32%	37%
Not sure	15%	15%	13%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Franken Approval			
Approve	44%	44%	51%
Disapprove	44%	45%	32%
Not sure	11%	11%	17%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Pawlenty Approval			
Approve	43%	43%	39%
Disapprove	50%	50%	52%
Not sure	6%	6%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Pawlenty Run for Pres?			
Yes	23%	23%	23%
No	59%	59%	60%
Not sure	18%	18%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dayton/Emmer/Horner					
Mark Dayton	43%	43%	38%	44%	48%
Tom Emmer	40%	35%	41%	41%	39%
Tom Horner	15%	17%	18%	13%	10%
Undecided	3%	5%	2%	2%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dayton Favorability					
Favorable	43%	46%	37%	43%	47%
Unfavorable	45%	41%	49%	47%	41%
Not sure	12%	13%	14%	10%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Emmer Favorability					
Favorable	37%	31%	40%	38%	36%
Unfavorable	51%	54%	48%	52%	50%
Not sure	12%	14%	12%	10%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Horner Favorability					
Favorable	35%	32%	42%	34%	29%
Unfavorable	36%	36%	29%	38%	40%
Not sure	29%	32%	28%	28%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	43%	50%	39%	44%	44%
Disapprove	49%	43%	53%	49%	47%
Not sure	8%	7%	8%	7%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Klobuchar Approval					
Approve	53%	48%	48%	56%	58%
Disapprove	32%	36%	35%	31%	28%
Not sure	15%	15%	17%	13%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Franken Approval					
Approve	44%	42%	41%	46%	48%
Disapprove	44%	41%	48%	44%	42%
Not sure	11%	17%	11%	10%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Pawlenty Approval					
Approve	43%	43%	47%	42%	40%
Disapprove	50%	47%	48%	53%	52%
Not sure	6%	10%	5%	5%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Pawlenty Run for Pres?					
Yes	23%	26%	32%	20%	15%
No	59%	57%	55%	61%	63%
Not sure	18%	18%	13%	19%	22%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Dayton/Emmer/Horner			
Mark Dayton	43%	55%	42%
Tom Emmer	40%	36%	40%
Tom Horner	15%	6%	16%
Undecided	3%	2%	3%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Dayton Favorability			
Favorable	43%	55%	41%
Unfavorable	45%	41%	46%
Not sure	12%	4%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Emmer Favorability			
Favorable	37%	37%	37%
Unfavorable	51%	50%	51%
Not sure	12%	13%	12%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Horner Favorability			
Favorable	35%	30%	36%
Unfavorable	36%	39%	35%
Not sure	29%	31%	29%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Obama Approval			
Approve	43%	55%	42%
Disapprove	49%	37%	50%
Not sure	8%	8%	8%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Klobuchar Approval			
Approve	53%	58%	52%
Disapprove	32%	28%	33%
Not sure	15%	13%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Franken Approval			
Approve	44%	52%	44%
Disapprove	44%	36%	45%
Not sure	11%	11%	11%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Pawlenty Approval			
Approve	43%	33%	44%
Disapprove	50%	57%	50%
Not sure	6%	10%	6%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Pawlenty Run for Pres?			
Yes	23%	17%	24%
No	59%	69%	58%
Not sure	18%	14%	18%

