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Klobuchar easily beats any 2012 opponent

Raleigh, N.C. – Amy Klobuchar is the most popular of 66 senators PPP has measured in 2010, and she won her first election to the Senate four years ago by 20 points. But that was in a Democratic wave. With the closeness of the still-contested 2010 gubernatorial race, and a generally more conservative electorate in the Midwest this year, Klobuchar could draw a strong challenge in 2012. But even emptying the GOP bench, and in an electorate in which Democrats barely outnumber Republicans, no one can come within ten points of defeating Klobuchar in PPP's first test of that race.

Outgoing Governor Tim Pawlenty comes closest, but Klobuchar still beats him, 53-43. She could breathe easy if the Tea Party grassroots elevate one of their firebrands to the nomination, leading Congresswoman Michele Bachmann, 56-39. And she would give two victims of a recount a bigger run for their money than did Mark Dayton or Al Franken. She is ahead of former senator Norm Coleman, 54-40, and likely defeated gubernatorial candidate Tom Emmer, 56-38. Finally, she tops Congressman Erik Paulsen, 52-34.

Klobuchar almost literally has the unanimous support of her party, getting 93-98% of Democrats and losing only 1% to every one of the Republicans except Coleman, to whom she only loses 3%. She also has leads of 17 (against Pawlenty) to 26 points (versus Bachmann) with independents, and takes 6% (Pawlenty) to 11% (Bachmann and Emmer) of Republicans.

At 59-29, Klobuchar's job approval rating and margin are the highest by six points over those of the next most popular senator, Scott Brown of Massachusetts. By comparison, colleague Al Franken sits at 45-42, and her most popular potential Republican opponent is Coleman, at 43-42. Klobuchar earns the favor of 26% from the opposite party, very unusual in this polarized climate. Bachmann is the least well liked overall, with a 37-51 favorability rating, just a hair worse than Emmer's 37-49. Paulsen breaks even at 22-22, but 57% have no opinion of or have not heard of him.

“Amy Klobuchar is so popular President Obama may want to ride *her* coattails in 2012,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 949 Minnesota voters on December 4th and 5th. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.2%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



Minnesota Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Al Franken's job performance?

Approve 45%
Disapprove..... 42%
Not sure 13%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Amy Klobuchar's job performance?

Approve 59%
Disapprove..... 29%
Not sure 12%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Michele Bachmann?

Favorable..... 37%
Unfavorable 51%
Not sure 11%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Norm Coleman?

Favorable..... 43%
Unfavorable 42%
Not sure 16%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tom Emmer?

Favorable..... 37%
Unfavorable 49%
Not sure 14%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Erik Paulsen?

Favorable..... 22%
Unfavorable 22%
Not sure 57%

Q7 If the candidates for US Senate in 2012 were Democrat Amy Klobuchar and Republican Michele Bachmann, who would you vote for?

Amy Klobuchar 56%
Michele Bachmann 39%
Undecided..... 4%

Q8 If the candidates for US Senate in 2012 were Democrat Amy Klobuchar and Republican Norm Coleman, who would you vote for?

Amy Klobuchar 54%
Norm Coleman..... 40%
Undecided..... 6%

Q9 If the candidates for US Senate in 2012 were Democrat Amy Klobuchar and Republican Tom Emmer, who would you vote for?

Amy Klobuchar 56%
Tom Emmer 38%
Undecided..... 6%

Q10 If the candidates for US Senate in 2012 were Democrat Amy Klobuchar and Republican Tim Pawlenty, who would you vote for?

Amy Klobuchar 53%
Tim Pawlenty 43%
Undecided..... 4%

Q11 If the candidates for US Senate in 2012 were Democrat Amy Klobuchar and Republican Erik Paulsen, who would you vote for?

Amy Klobuchar 52%
Erik Paulsen..... 34%
Undecided..... 14%





Q12 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 20%
Moderate..... 41%
Conservative..... 39%

Q13 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 51%
Man..... 49%

Q14 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 37%
Republican..... 34%
Independent/Other..... 29%

Q15 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 95%
Other..... 5%

Q16 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..... 26%
46 to 65..... 44%
Older than 65..... 18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Franken Approval				
Approve	45%	91%	55%	10%
Disapprove	42%	4%	24%	81%
Not sure	13%	4%	21%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Klobuchar Approval				
Approve	59%	88%	75%	26%
Disapprove	29%	7%	14%	57%
Not sure	12%	5%	11%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	37%	5%	20%	73%
Unfavorable	51%	90%	68%	13%
Not sure	11%	5%	12%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Coleman Favorability				
Favorable	43%	12%	37%	64%
Unfavorable	42%	80%	46%	17%
Not sure	16%	8%	16%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Emmer Favorability				
Favorable	37%	5%	21%	71%
Unfavorable	49%	89%	62%	14%
Not sure	14%	6%	16%	15%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Paulsen Favorability				
Favorable	22%	9%	18%	31%
Unfavorable	22%	44%	23%	9%
Not sure	57%	47%	59%	59%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Klobuchar/Bachmann				
Amy Klobuchar	56%	95%	75%	16%
Michele Bachmann	39%	4%	19%	79%
Undecided	4%	1%	5%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Klobuchar/Coleman				
Amy Klobuchar	54%	94%	72%	15%
Norm Coleman	40%	3%	23%	77%
Undecided	6%	3%	6%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Klobuchar/Emmer				
Amy Klobuchar	56%	96%	75%	15%
Tom Emmer	38%	2%	19%	75%
Undecided	6%	2%	6%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Klobuchar/Pawlenty				
Amy Klobuchar	53%	95%	71%	13%
Tim Pawlenty	43%	3%	25%	83%
Undecided	4%	2%	4%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Klobuchar/Paulsen				
Amy Klobuchar	52%	92%	69%	14%
Erik Paulsen	34%	3%	17%	67%
Undecided	14%	5%	14%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Franken Approval			
Approve	45%	50%	40%
Disapprove	42%	35%	50%
Not sure	13%	15%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Klobuchar Approval			
Approve	59%	66%	50%
Disapprove	29%	20%	39%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bachmann Favorability			
Favorable	37%	31%	44%
Unfavorable	51%	55%	47%
Not sure	11%	13%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Coleman Favorability			
Favorable	43%	39%	46%
Unfavorable	42%	42%	41%
Not sure	16%	19%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Emmer Favorability			
Favorable	37%	33%	42%
Unfavorable	49%	53%	45%
Not sure	14%	15%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Paulsen Favorability			
Favorable	22%	17%	26%
Unfavorable	22%	19%	25%
Not sure	57%	64%	49%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Klobuchar/Bachmann			
Amy Klobuchar	56%	63%	49%
Michele Bachmann	39%	32%	47%
Undecided	4%	5%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Klobuchar/Coleman			
Amy Klobuchar	54%	61%	46%
Norm Coleman	40%	33%	47%
Undecided	6%	5%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Klobuchar/Emmer			
Amy Klobuchar	56%	62%	49%
Tom Emmer	38%	31%	44%
Undecided	6%	6%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Klobuchar/Pawlenty			
Amy Klobuchar	53%	61%	46%
Tim Pawlenty	43%	36%	51%
Undecided	4%	4%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Klobuchar/Paulsen			
Amy Klobuchar	52%	59%	45%
Erik Paulsen	34%	27%	41%
Undecided	14%	14%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Franken Approval				
Approve	45%	84%	6%	42%
Disapprove	42%	5%	85%	38%
Not sure	13%	11%	9%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Klobuchar Approval				
Approve	59%	87%	26%	62%
Disapprove	29%	5%	56%	29%
Not sure	12%	9%	18%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	37%	5%	76%	33%
Unfavorable	51%	85%	12%	55%
Not sure	11%	10%	13%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Coleman Favorability				
Favorable	43%	16%	73%	40%
Unfavorable	42%	70%	10%	43%
Not sure	16%	13%	17%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Emmer Favorability				
Favorable	37%	4%	79%	30%
Unfavorable	49%	86%	9%	49%
Not sure	14%	10%	12%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Paulsen Favorability				
Favorable	22%	10%	35%	21%
Unfavorable	22%	39%	9%	17%
Not sure	57%	52%	57%	63%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Klobuchar/Bachmann				
Amy Klobuchar	56%	97%	11%	59%
Michele Bachmann	39%	1%	85%	33%
Undecided	4%	2%	4%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Klobuchar/Coleman				
Amy Klobuchar	54%	95%	9%	55%
Norm Coleman	40%	3%	85%	33%
Undecided	6%	2%	6%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Klobuchar/Emmer				
Amy Klobuchar	56%	98%	11%	57%
Tom Emmer	38%	1%	81%	32%
Undecided	6%	1%	8%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Klobuchar/Pawlenty				
Amy Klobuchar	53%	97%	6%	55%
Tim Pawlenty	43%	1%	92%	38%
Undecided	4%	2%	2%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Klobuchar/Paulsen				
Amy Klobuchar	52%	93%	9%	51%
Erik Paulsen	34%	1%	75%	27%
Undecided	14%	6%	16%	22%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Franken Approval			
Approve	45%	44%	50%
Disapprove	42%	42%	41%
Not sure	13%	13%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Klobuchar Approval			
Approve	59%	58%	70%
Disapprove	29%	30%	27%
Not sure	12%	13%	3%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Bachmann Favorability			
Favorable	37%	38%	29%
Unfavorable	51%	51%	62%
Not sure	11%	11%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Coleman Favorability			
Favorable	43%	43%	38%
Unfavorable	42%	41%	49%
Not sure	16%	16%	12%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Emmer Favorability			
Favorable	37%	38%	30%
Unfavorable	49%	48%	60%
Not sure	14%	14%	9%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Paulsen Favorability			
Favorable	22%	22%	13%
Unfavorable	22%	21%	38%
Not sure	57%	57%	50%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Klobuchar/Bachmann			
Amy Klobuchar	56%	56%	67%
Michele Bachmann	39%	40%	33%
Undecided	4%	4%	-





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Klobuchar/Coleman			
Amy Klobuchar	54%	53%	68%
Norm Coleman	40%	40%	30%
Undecided	6%	6%	2%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Klobuchar/Emmer			
Amy Klobuchar	56%	55%	70%
Tom Emmer	38%	38%	30%
Undecided	6%	7%	-

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Klobuchar/Pawlenty			
Amy Klobuchar	53%	53%	65%
Tim Pawlenty	43%	44%	33%
Undecided	4%	4%	2%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Klobuchar/Paulsen			
Amy Klobuchar	52%	51%	67%
Erik Paulsen	34%	34%	28%
Undecided	14%	15%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Franken Approval					
Approve	45%	51%	37%	47%	45%
Disapprove	42%	31%	51%	39%	45%
Not sure	13%	19%	12%	14%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Klobuchar Approval					
Approve	59%	58%	49%	63%	62%
Disapprove	29%	22%	38%	27%	27%
Not sure	12%	20%	13%	10%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bachmann Favorability					
Favorable	37%	31%	42%	35%	42%
Unfavorable	51%	49%	44%	57%	49%
Not sure	11%	20%	14%	8%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Coleman Favorability					
Favorable	43%	44%	46%	41%	40%
Unfavorable	42%	39%	39%	44%	43%
Not sure	16%	17%	15%	15%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Emmer Favorability					
Favorable	37%	29%	49%	33%	36%
Unfavorable	49%	56%	39%	54%	47%
Not sure	14%	15%	12%	13%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Paulsen Favorability					
Favorable	22%	14%	25%	20%	26%
Unfavorable	22%	32%	17%	22%	21%
Not sure	57%	54%	58%	58%	53%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Klobuchar/Bachmann					
Amy Klobuchar	56%	66%	45%	61%	56%
Michele Bachmann	39%	32%	50%	35%	39%
Undecided	4%	2%	5%	4%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Klobuchar/Coleman					
Amy Klobuchar	54%	69%	39%	59%	55%
Norm Coleman	40%	25%	50%	37%	42%
Undecided	6%	5%	11%	4%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Klobuchar/Emmer					
Amy Klobuchar	56%	63%	43%	62%	56%
Tom Emmer	38%	31%	48%	34%	37%
Undecided	6%	7%	10%	4%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Klobuchar/Pawlenty					
Amy Klobuchar	53%	69%	42%	57%	51%
Tim Pawlenty	43%	29%	53%	40%	45%
Undecided	4%	2%	5%	3%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Klobuchar/Paulsen					
Amy Klobuchar	52%	61%	39%	57%	53%
Erik Paulsen	34%	25%	43%	30%	35%
Undecided	14%	14%	17%	13%	12%

