



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Nixon still strong for re-election to MO Gov.**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Jay Nixon remains in solid shape for re-election next fall. None of three prospective Republican challengers gets within single digits of the Missouri governor. Former governor Matt Blunt would come closest, trailing 48-38, followed by Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder, 48-34. That marks a doubling of Nixon’s spread against Kinder since PPP last polled the race two months ago; then, Kinder was the only candidate tested, and lagged only 45-38. A rematch with former Rep. Kenny Hulshof would yield a victory margin for Nixon almost equal to his 19-point victory in 2008, 51-34.

Nixon’s approval rating has nudged just barely more positive, from 47-31 to 48-29 in the last two months, because he has improved slightly with voters of both parties, from 60-24 with Democrats to 61-19, and from 32-40 with Republicans to almost breaking even at 36-38. He continues to be one of the most popular politicians with voters across the aisle in the country, and is overall the 11<sup>th</sup> best liked governor in the country. Unfortunately for him, few of those Republicans end up voting for him; he takes only 11-14% of the GOP. But luckily for him, his weakness with his own party on the job performance front disappears at the ballot box, winning 84-87% and losing only 5-8% of Democrats. He also posts leads of 19 to 29 points with the 27% who call themselves independents.

Blunt is the least liked candidate personally, but he performs best against the governor because he is currently the best known. Blunt’s net -10 favorability rating is worse than Kinder’s -2 and Hulshof’s -4, but less than a quarter of voters are unaware of Blunt, compared to just over half who cannot express an opinion of each of the others. This suggests that Hulshof and Kinder may have a better chance at catching up to Nixon in a general election when voters have more perfect information about the candidates, or that either could become less popular when voters know more about them.

“Jay Nixon continues to look like a pretty solid favorite for reelection at this early stage,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 555 Missouri voters from April 28<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.9%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.





## Missouri Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Jay Nixon's job performance?

*Approve*..... 48% *Not sure* ..... 23%  
*Disapprove*..... 29%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Matt Blunt?

*Favorable*..... 33%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 43%  
*Not sure* ..... 24%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Kenny Hulshof?

*Favorable*..... 21%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 25%  
*Not sure* ..... 54%

**Q4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Peter Kinder?

*Favorable*..... 24%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 26%  
*Not sure* ..... 50%

**Q5** If the candidates for Governor next year were Democrat Jay Nixon and Republican Matt Blunt, who would you vote for?

*Jay Nixon*..... 48%  
*Matt Blunt*..... 38%  
*Undecided*..... 13%

**Q6** If the candidates for Governor next year were Democrat Jay Nixon and Republican Kenny Hulshof, who would you vote for?

*Jay Nixon*..... 51%  
*Kenny Hulshof* ..... 34%  
*Undecided*..... 15%

**Q7** If the candidates for Governor next year were Democrat Jay Nixon and Republican Peter Kinder, who would you vote for?

*Jay Nixon*..... 48%  
*Peter Kinder*..... 34%  
*Undecided*..... 18%

**Q8** Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

*Very liberal*..... 9%  
*Somewhat liberal* ..... 14%  
*Moderate*..... 32%  
*Somewhat conservative*..... 25%  
*Very conservative* ..... 20%

**Q9** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 54%  
*Man*..... 46%

**Q10** 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*..... 37%  
*Independent/Other*..... 25%

**Q11** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

*White* ..... 84%  
*African-American* ..... 11%  
*Other*..... 5%



**Q12** 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.

<i>18 to 29</i> .....	15%
<i>30 to 45</i> .....	24%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	41%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	20%



**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Nixon Approval</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	48%	62%	57%	63%	35%	28%
<b>Disapprove</b>	29%	18%	25%	20%	33%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	20%	18%	17%	32%	28%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Matt Blunt Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	33%	8%	8%	21%	46%	65%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	43%	66%	78%	52%	29%	10%
<b>Not sure</b>	24%	26%	14%	27%	25%	25%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Hulshof Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	21%	2%	13%	14%	23%	41%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	25%	40%	41%	33%	13%	11%
<b>Not sure</b>	54%	58%	46%	53%	63%	48%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Kinder Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	24%	5%	9%	16%	33%	46%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	26%	38%	43%	36%	12%	9%
<b>Not sure</b>	50%	57%	48%	48%	55%	44%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Nixon/Blunt</b>						
Jay Nixon	48%	84%	76%	71%	23%	9%
Matt Blunt	38%	10%	12%	14%	57%	85%
Undecided	13%	6%	13%	14%	20%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Nixon/Hulshof</b>						
Jay Nixon	51%	89%	82%	71%	25%	12%
Kenny Hulshof	34%	2%	7%	12%	51%	80%
Undecided	15%	9%	11%	17%	24%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Nixon/Kinder</b>						
Jay Nixon	48%	86%	77%	69%	21%	12%
Peter Kinder	34%	-	9%	13%	52%	76%
Undecided	18%	14%	15%	18%	27%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Nixon Approval</b>			
Approve	48%	46%	51%
Disapprove	29%	25%	33%
Not sure	23%	29%	17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Matt Blunt Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	33%	33%	33%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	43%	37%	49%
<b>Not sure</b>	24%	30%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Hulshof Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	21%	17%	25%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	25%	23%	28%
<b>Not sure</b>	54%	60%	47%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Kinder Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	24%	19%	31%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	26%	24%	28%
<b>Not sure</b>	50%	57%	42%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Nixon/Blunt</b>			
<b>Jay Nixon</b>	48%	50%	47%
<b>Matt Blunt</b>	38%	35%	42%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	14%	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Nixon/Hulshof</b>			
Jay Nixon	51%	51%	50%
Kenny Hulshof	34%	32%	36%
Undecided	15%	17%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Nixon/Kinder</b>			
Jay Nixon	48%	52%	44%
Peter Kinder	34%	30%	38%
Undecided	18%	18%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Nixon Approval</b>				
Approve	48%	61%	36%	46%
Disapprove	29%	19%	38%	29%
Not sure	23%	20%	26%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Matt Blunt Favorability</b>				
Favorable	33%	14%	59%	22%
Unfavorable	43%	66%	15%	51%
Not sure	24%	21%	26%	27%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Hulshof Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	21%	9%	37%	14%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	25%	39%	10%	28%
<b>Not sure</b>	54%	52%	53%	58%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Kinder Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	24%	12%	42%	17%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	26%	37%	11%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	50%	51%	48%	52%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Nixon/Blunt</b>				
<b>Jay Nixon</b>	48%	84%	11%	52%
<b>Matt Blunt</b>	38%	8%	77%	26%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	8%	12%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Nixon/Hulshof</b>				
<b>Jay Nixon</b>	51%	87%	14%	53%
<b>Kenny Hulshof</b>	34%	5%	70%	24%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	8%	17%	24%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Nixon/Kinder</b>				
Jay Nixon	48%	85%	13%	46%
Peter Kinder	34%	5%	67%	27%
Undecided	18%	10%	20%	27%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Nixon Approval</b>				
Approve	48%	49%	40%	55%
Disapprove	29%	27%	35%	39%
Not sure	23%	24%	25%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Matt Blunt Favorability</b>				
Favorable	33%	34%	17%	44%
Unfavorable	43%	41%	52%	49%
Not sure	24%	24%	31%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Hulshof Favorability</b>				
Favorable	21%	22%	10%	16%
Unfavorable	25%	24%	32%	34%
Not sure	54%	53%	58%	49%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Kinder Favorability</b>				
Favorable	24%	25%	21%	21%
Unfavorable	26%	25%	27%	41%
Not sure	50%	50%	52%	37%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Nixon/Blunt</b>				
Jay Nixon	48%	45%	67%	60%
Matt Blunt	38%	41%	19%	29%
Undecided	13%	13%	14%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Nixon/Hulshof</b>				
Jay Nixon	51%	47%	70%	73%
Kenny Hulshof	34%	37%	18%	15%
Undecided	15%	16%	12%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Nixon/Kinder</b>				
Jay Nixon	48%	44%	73%	60%
Peter Kinder	34%	36%	17%	25%
Undecided	18%	20%	10%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Nixon Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	<b>48%</b>	44%	48%	50%	49%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>29%</b>	38%	28%	27%	25%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	19%	24%	23%	27%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Matt Blunt Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>33%</b>	28%	42%	29%	33%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>43%</b>	51%	34%	48%	37%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>24%</b>	21%	24%	23%	30%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Hulshof Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>21%</b>	15%	27%	18%	24%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>25%</b>	35%	16%	28%	24%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>54%</b>	50%	57%	54%	53%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Kinder Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>24%</b>	21%	33%	22%	22%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>26%</b>	25%	21%	30%	24%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>50%</b>	54%	46%	48%	54%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Nixon/Blunt</b>					
<b>Jay Nixon</b>	<b>48%</b>	48%	39%	54%	49%
<b>Matt Blunt</b>	<b>38%</b>	35%	49%	34%	35%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>13%</b>	17%	12%	11%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Nixon/Hulshof</b>					
<b>Jay Nixon</b>	<b>51%</b>	63%	43%	53%	46%
<b>Kenny Hulshof</b>	<b>34%</b>	25%	42%	32%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>15%</b>	13%	15%	15%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Nixon/Kinder</b>					
<b>Jay Nixon</b>	<b>48%</b>	54%	40%	50%	49%
<b>Peter Kinder</b>	<b>34%</b>	27%	42%	32%	34%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>18%</b>	19%	18%	18%	18%

