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Obama edges Romney in Missouri

Raleigh, N.C. – Despite the president becoming a little less popular and Mitt Romney a little more so since PPP last gauged public opinion in the Show-Me State four months ago, the two are just as knotted as they were then. In a few polls last year, the state had seemed to be slipping away from the president, but is now reverting to its traditional razor's-edge outcome.

Obama leads Romney 45-44, little change from a 45-all tie in January. That comes despite Obama's approval margin slipping from 45-50 to 44-52, and Romney's personal favorability improving considerably from 30-54 to 38-50 in the same time frame.

Romney remains still more disliked than the president, even as he consolidates his base. He has moved from barely breaking even with Republicans at 44-40 to a still somewhat weak 71-18 margin now that he has essentially wrapped up the nomination. That compares poorly to Obama's 83-13 with his own party.

It is often said that the top of the ticket matters more to voters than the running mates. That is only proven by the disparate results PPP found for three Missouri figures who could be added to Romney's ticket. The third least popular senator on which PPP has polled this year, freshman Roy Blunt (32% approve, 46% disapprove), moves the race two points in Obama's favor (46-43). On the flip side, the extraordinarily esteemed ex-senator John Danforth, who has a 46-19 favorability spread, can only help Romney stay at a slim deficit (44-43). And the somewhat popular former senator John Ashcroft (43-36) would cause a 47-43 edge for the Obama-Biden ticket.

"Missouri remains surprisingly competitive," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Barack Obama's unpopular there but this was one of Mitt Romney's weakest states during the primary season and it still hasn't warmed up to him. This will not be part of the path to 270 for Obama but if he stays close there it could help Claire McCaskill."

PPP surveyed 602 Missouri voters from May 24th to 27th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.0%. 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 President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 44%
Disapprove..... 52%
Not sure 4%

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

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

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

Barack Obama..... 45%
Mitt Romney..... 44%
Undecided..... 11%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Roy Blunt's job performance?

Approve 32% *Not sure* 22%
Disapprove..... 46%

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 Roy Blunt for Vice President, which would you vote for?

Obama-Biden..... 46%
Romney-Blunt..... 43%
Undecided..... 11%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John Ashcroft?

Favorable..... 43%
Unfavorable 36%
Not sure 21%

Q7 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 John Ashcroft for Vice President, which would you vote for?

Obama-Biden..... 47%
Romney-Ashcroft..... 43%
Undecided..... 10%

Q8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John Danforth?

Favorable..... 46%
Unfavorable 19%
Not sure 35%

Q9 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 John Danforth for Vice President, which would you vote for?

Obama-Biden..... 44%
Romney-Danforth 43%
Undecided..... 12%

Q10 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 46%
Barack Obama..... 45%
Someone else/Don't remember 8%

Q11 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 9%
Somewhat liberal 14%
Moderate..... 30%
Somewhat conservative..... 25%
Very conservative 21%





Q12 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%

Man..... 47%

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 35%

Republican..... 33%

Independent/Other..... 33%

Q14 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 85%

African-American 11%

Other..... 5%

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..... 21%

46 to 65..... 43%

Older than 65..... 22%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	44%	7%	85%	32%
Disapprove	52%	91%	11%	51%
Not sure	4%	2%	4%	16%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	38%	69%	9%	24%
Unfavorable	50%	18%	82%	55%
Not sure	12%	14%	9%	21%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	45%	7%	86%	39%
Mitt Romney	44%	84%	7%	27%
Undecided	11%	9%	7%	34%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Blunt Approval				
Approve	32%	53%	11%	31%
Disapprove	46%	22%	75%	25%
Not sure	22%	25%	14%	44%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama-Biden/Romney-Blunt				
Obama-Biden	46%	8%	87%	38%
Romney-Blunt	43%	82%	6%	31%
Undecided	11%	10%	7%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Ashcroft Favorability				
Favorable	43%	66%	21%	30%
Unfavorable	36%	15%	59%	35%
Not sure	21%	19%	21%	35%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama-Biden/Romney-Ashcroft				
Obama-Biden	47%	8%	86%	47%
Romney-Ashcroft	43%	82%	7%	24%
Undecided	10%	10%	6%	29%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Danforth Favorability				
Favorable	46%	52%	41%	35%
Unfavorable	19%	16%	23%	16%
Not sure	35%	32%	36%	49%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama-Biden/Romney-Danforth				
Obama-Biden	44%	7%	84%	37%
Romney-Danforth	43%	81%	7%	34%
Undecided	12%	13%	9%	30%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval						
Approve	44%	84%	79%	62%	18%	9%
Disapprove	52%	12%	16%	33%	77%	89%
Not sure	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	38%	9%	11%	22%	64%	59%
Unfavorable	50%	84%	82%	66%	23%	24%
Not sure	12%	7%	7%	11%	14%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Romney						
Barack Obama	45%	76%	87%	66%	18%	8%
Mitt Romney	44%	15%	8%	23%	73%	76%
Undecided	11%	9%	5%	11%	10%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Blunt Approval						
Approve	32%	8%	15%	24%	45%	49%
Disapprove	46%	77%	63%	62%	30%	20%
Not sure	22%	15%	22%	14%	25%	31%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama-Biden/Romney-Blunt						
Obama-Biden	46%	84%	87%	68%	15%	9%
Romney-Blunt	43%	11%	9%	23%	70%	75%
Undecided	11%	5%	4%	9%	15%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Ashcroft Favorability						
Favorable	43%	10%	23%	29%	62%	66%
Unfavorable	36%	70%	58%	49%	18%	12%
Not sure	21%	20%	20%	22%	20%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama-Biden/Romney-Ashcroft						
Obama-Biden	47%	82%	88%	67%	19%	9%
Romney-Ashcroft	43%	14%	8%	22%	72%	75%
Undecided	10%	5%	5%	11%	9%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Danforth Favorability						
Favorable	46%	29%	38%	50%	53%	43%
Unfavorable	19%	37%	28%	15%	13%	19%
Not sure	35%	34%	33%	35%	34%	39%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama-Biden/Romney-Danforth						
Obama-Biden	44%	86%	84%	62%	17%	8%
Romney-Danforth	43%	10%	7%	25%	70%	75%
Undecided	12%	5%	8%	13%	13%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	44%	46%	42%
Disapprove	52%	49%	55%
Not sure	4%	5%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	38%	36%	40%
Unfavorable	50%	49%	51%
Not sure	12%	15%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	45%	45%	45%
Mitt Romney	44%	45%	44%
Undecided	11%	10%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Blunt Approval			
Approve	32%	26%	39%
Disapprove	46%	48%	45%
Not sure	22%	26%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama-Biden/Romney-Blunt			
Obama-Biden	46%	47%	46%
Romney-Blunt	43%	43%	43%
Undecided	11%	10%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Ashcroft Favorability			
Favorable	43%	41%	45%
Unfavorable	36%	33%	40%
Not sure	21%	26%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama-Biden/Romney-Ashcroft			
Obama-Biden	47%	47%	47%
Romney-Ashcroft	43%	43%	43%
Undecided	10%	10%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Danforth Favorability			
Favorable	46%	44%	48%
Unfavorable	19%	17%	21%
Not sure	35%	39%	31%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama-Biden/Romney-Danforth			
Obama-Biden	44%	45%	44%
Romney-Danforth	43%	43%	43%
Undecided	12%	12%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	44%	83%	6%	41%
Disapprove	52%	13%	91%	53%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	38%	8%	71%	36%
Unfavorable	50%	84%	18%	46%
Not sure	12%	9%	11%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	45%	88%	7%	39%
Mitt Romney	44%	6%	86%	42%
Undecided	11%	6%	7%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Blunt Approval				
Approve	32%	11%	51%	35%
Disapprove	46%	71%	20%	46%
Not sure	22%	18%	29%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Blunt				
Obama-Biden	46%	90%	6%	41%
Romney-Blunt	43%	4%	86%	40%
Undecided	11%	6%	7%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Ashcroft Favorability				
Favorable	43%	16%	67%	46%
Unfavorable	36%	61%	11%	36%
Not sure	21%	23%	22%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Ashcroft				
Obama-Biden	47%	89%	8%	41%
Romney-Ashcroft	43%	5%	86%	40%
Undecided	10%	5%	6%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Danforth Favorability				
Favorable	46%	37%	52%	48%
Unfavorable	19%	28%	12%	18%
Not sure	35%	35%	36%	34%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Danforth				
Obama-Biden	44%	88%	5%	38%
Romney-Danforth	43%	5%	85%	41%
Undecided	12%	7%	10%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	44%	39%	86%	48%
Disapprove	52%	57%	9%	48%
Not sure	4%	4%	5%	3%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	38%	40%	18%	37%
Unfavorable	50%	47%	72%	56%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%	8%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	45%	40%	87%	51%
Mitt Romney	44%	48%	9%	44%
Undecided	11%	12%	3%	5%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Blunt Approval				
Approve	32%	36%	9%	17%
Disapprove	46%	44%	64%	45%
Not sure	22%	20%	27%	38%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Blunt				
Obama-Biden	46%	41%	89%	42%
Romney-Blunt	43%	47%	9%	40%
Undecided	11%	11%	1%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Ashcroft Favorability				
Favorable	43%	45%	27%	39%
Unfavorable	36%	35%	48%	30%
Not sure	21%	20%	25%	31%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Ashcroft				
Obama-Biden	47%	42%	86%	42%
Romney-Ashcroft	43%	47%	13%	49%
Undecided	10%	11%	1%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Danforth Favorability				
Favorable	46%	48%	36%	34%
Unfavorable	19%	18%	24%	21%
Not sure	35%	34%	40%	45%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Danforth				
Obama-Biden	44%	39%	86%	51%
Romney-Danforth	43%	47%	11%	40%
Undecided	12%	14%	3%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	44%	56%	47%	41%	40%
Disapprove	52%	38%	51%	55%	55%
Not sure	4%	5%	2%	4%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	38%	18%	38%	41%	44%
Unfavorable	50%	74%	48%	45%	46%
Not sure	12%	8%	13%	14%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	45%	64%	42%	44%	40%
Mitt Romney	44%	28%	40%	47%	52%
Undecided	11%	8%	17%	9%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Blunt Approval					
Approve	32%	18%	29%	37%	34%
Disapprove	46%	51%	48%	46%	43%
Not sure	22%	31%	23%	18%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama-Biden/Romney-Blunt					
Obama-Biden	46%	66%	42%	44%	42%
Romney-Blunt	43%	32%	37%	48%	46%
Undecided	11%	3%	21%	7%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Ashcroft Favorability					
Favorable	43%	26%	42%	44%	52%
Unfavorable	36%	46%	33%	37%	32%
Not sure	21%	28%	25%	19%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama-Biden/Romney-Ashcroft					
Obama-Biden	47%	64%	44%	45%	42%
Romney-Ashcroft	43%	31%	40%	47%	48%
Undecided	10%	5%	15%	9%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Danforth Favorability					
Favorable	46%	31%	44%	50%	49%
Unfavorable	19%	18%	17%	19%	22%
Not sure	35%	51%	38%	31%	29%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama-Biden/Romney-Danforth					
Obama-Biden	44%	67%	44%	41%	38%
Romney-Danforth	43%	26%	40%	48%	48%
Undecided	12%	8%	15%	12%	14%

