

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

Tester jumps ahead of Rehberg for re-election

Raleigh, N.C. – For the first time in four polls of the race, Denny Rehberg does not have the advantage in his bid to topple freshman Montana Sen. Jon Tester. In each of the previous three polls, conducted between November 2010 and November 2011, Rehberg had led Tester by exactly two points. Now Tester leads Rehberg by five points, 48-43.

Most of the movement comes with independents, who favored Tester by five points last time but 12 points now. Independents make up a 37% plurality of the electorate. He is also consolidating his intraparty support; 90% of Democrats are now behind Tester, versus 86% five months ago. Democrats are a 30% minority, so Tester needs to maintain that advantage with nonpartisans to win. Rehberg has an 85-8 edge with the GOP, roughly the same as in November. The race should tighten once undecided Republicans come off the fence.

Tester's job performance numbers are essentially unchanged from last November. 46% approved in both polls. 42% disapproved then, and 43% now. Rehberg's approval figures are just slightly down from 41-47 to 39-49 in that timeframe.

"Momentum is on Jon Tester's side in the Montana Senate race," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "But the bottom line remains that this will one of the most closely contested Senate races in the country."

The good news for Republicans is that they have a slight edge in the so-far low-profile race to succeed Rehberg in Congress. Steve Daines leads Democratic frontrunner Kim Gillan by six points (33-27) and Franke Wilmer by 11 (36-25). 73% to 79% of voters have no opinion about any of the three personally, so about 40% are still undecided in either matchup. With Democratic primary voters, Gillan has 21% to Diane Smith's 13%, Wilmer's 11%, Dave Strohmaier's 9%, with three others in the low single digits and 41% undecided. The primary is on June 5th.

PPP surveyed 934 Montana voters, including 332 usual Democratic primary voters, from April 26th to 29th. The margin of error for the overall survey is +/-3.2%, and +/-5.4% for the primary portion. 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.



Montana Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Jon Tester's job performance?

Approve46% Not sure11%
Disapprove.....43%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of Congressman Denny Rehberg's job performance?

Approve39% Not sure12%
Disapprove.....49%

Q3 If the candidates for Senate this fall were Democrat Jon Tester and Republican Denny Rehberg, who would you vote for?

Jon Tester.....48% Undecided..... 9%
Denny Rehberg.....43%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Steve Daines?

Favorable..... 9%
Unfavorable 17%
Not sure 73%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Kim Gillan?

Favorable..... 9%
Unfavorable 13%
Not sure 77%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Franke Wilmer?

Favorable..... 10%
Unfavorable 11%
Not sure 79%

Q7 If the candidates for Congress this fall were Republican Steve Daines and Democrat Kim Gillan, who would you vote for?

Steve Daines 33%
Kim Gillan 27%
Undecided..... 40%

Q8 If the candidates for Congress this fall were Republican Steve Daines and Democrat Franke Wilmer, who would you vote for?

Steve Daines 36%
Franke Wilmer 25%
Undecided..... 39%

Q9 The Democratic candidates for Congress are Kim Gillan, Sam Rankin, Diane Smith, Dave Strohmaier, Rob Stutz, Jason Ward, and Franke Wilmer. If the election was today, who would you vote for? (Asked of 332 Democratic primary voters)

Kim Gillan 21%
Sam Rankin 4%
Diane Smith 13%
Dave Strohmaier..... 9%
Rob Stutz..... 1%
Jason Ward..... 0%
Franke Wilmer 11%
Undecided..... 41%

Q10 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 45%
Barack Obama..... 42%
Someone else/Don't remember 13%





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

<i>Very liberal</i>	8%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	16%
<i>Moderate</i>	32%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	26%
<i>Very conservative</i>	18%

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

<i>Woman</i>	53%
<i>Man</i>	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.

<i>Democrat</i>	30%
<i>Republican</i>	33%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	37%

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

<i>White</i>	89%
<i>Other</i>	11%

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.

<i>18 to 29</i>	13%
<i>30 to 45</i>	31%
<i>46 to 65</i>	36%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Tester Approval				
Approve	46%	19%	81%	26%
Disapprove	43%	70%	11%	54%
Not sure	11%	11%	7%	20%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Rehberg Approval				
Approve	39%	63%	14%	36%
Disapprove	49%	26%	77%	41%
Not sure	12%	11%	9%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Tester/Rehberg				
Jon Tester	48%	15%	88%	34%
Denny Rehberg	43%	76%	8%	41%
Undecided	9%	9%	4%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Daines Favorability				
Favorable	9%	16%	3%	7%
Unfavorable	17%	10%	28%	10%
Not sure	73%	74%	69%	82%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gillan Favorability				
Favorable	9%	7%	12%	7%
Unfavorable	13%	11%	16%	11%
Not sure	77%	82%	71%	82%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Wilmer Favorability				
Favorable	10%	5%	17%	4%
Unfavorable	11%	11%	12%	8%
Not sure	79%	84%	71%	88%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Daines/Gillan				
Steve Daines	33%	61%	7%	21%
Kim Gillan	27%	8%	53%	11%
Undecided	40%	31%	40%	67%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Daines/Wilmer				
Steve Daines	36%	67%	7%	23%
Franke Wilmer	25%	5%	52%	10%
Undecided	39%	28%	42%	67%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
2012 Dem Cong Primary				
Kim Gillan	21%	34%	19%	28%
Sam Rankin	4%	8%	4%	2%
Diane Smith	13%	20%	12%	19%
Dave Strohmaier	9%	3%	10%	-
Rob Stutz	1%	-	1%	-
Jason Ward	0%	2%	0%	-
Franke Wilmer	11%	-	13%	8%
Undecided	41%	33%	41%	43%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Tester Approval						
Approve	46%	88%	78%	63%	19%	7%
Disapprove	43%	7%	15%	26%	65%	83%
Not sure	11%	5%	6%	11%	16%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Rehberg Approval						
Approve	39%	19%	14%	25%	54%	73%
Disapprove	49%	76%	74%	64%	30%	17%
Not sure	12%	5%	12%	12%	15%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Tester/Rehberg						
Jon Tester	48%	87%	88%	66%	18%	5%
Denny Rehberg	43%	12%	9%	22%	68%	89%
Undecided	9%	1%	2%	12%	14%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Daines Favorability						
Favorable	9%	9%	4%	6%	10%	20%
Unfavorable	17%	44%	28%	18%	8%	7%
Not sure	73%	48%	68%	75%	83%	72%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gillan Favorability						
Favorable	9%	16%	11%	11%	7%	5%
Unfavorable	13%	30%	19%	11%	9%	10%
Not sure	77%	54%	70%	77%	84%	85%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Wilmer Favorability						
Favorable	10%	29%	16%	11%	3%	4%
Unfavorable	11%	22%	12%	10%	8%	11%
Not sure	79%	50%	72%	80%	88%	85%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Daines/Gillan						
Steve Daines	33%	22%	12%	16%	45%	71%
Kim Gillan	27%	58%	58%	30%	10%	5%
Undecided	40%	20%	30%	54%	45%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Daines/Wilmer						
Steve Daines	36%	19%	10%	18%	50%	79%
Franke Wilmer	25%	61%	56%	27%	7%	4%
Undecided	39%	20%	34%	55%	43%	17%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 Dem Cong Primary						
Kim Gillan	21%	26%	18%	20%	26%	10%
Sam Rankin	4%	3%	5%	3%	5%	-
Diane Smith	13%	16%	14%	13%	10%	-
Dave Strohmaier	9%	10%	10%	9%	4%	-
Rob Stutz	1%	-	1%	-	8%	-
Jason Ward	0%	-	1%	-	-	10%
Franke Wilmer	11%	16%	13%	11%	-	-
Undecided	41%	28%	39%	44%	47%	80%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tester Approval			
Approve	46%	50%	42%
Disapprove	43%	38%	50%
Not sure	11%	13%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Rehberg Approval			
Approve	39%	37%	41%
Disapprove	49%	50%	48%
Not sure	12%	12%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tester/Rehberg			
Jon Tester	48%	51%	44%
Denny Rehberg	43%	41%	45%
Undecided	9%	8%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Daines Favorability			
Favorable	9%	10%	8%
Unfavorable	17%	15%	20%
Not sure	73%	75%	72%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gillan Favorability			
Favorable	9%	9%	10%
Unfavorable	13%	13%	14%
Not sure	77%	78%	77%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Wilmer Favorability			
Favorable	10%	10%	9%
Unfavorable	11%	9%	13%
Not sure	79%	80%	78%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Daines/Gillan			
Steve Daines	33%	32%	35%
Kim Gillan	27%	27%	27%
Undecided	40%	41%	38%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Daines/Wilmer			
Steve Daines	36%	34%	39%
Franke Wilmer	25%	25%	25%
Undecided	39%	41%	36%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 Dem Cong Primary			
Kim Gillan	21%	17%	27%
Sam Rankin	4%	2%	7%
Diane Smith	13%	16%	9%
Dave Strohmaier	9%	10%	7%
Rob Stutz	1%	0%	2%
Jason Ward	0%	0%	1%
Franke Wilmer	11%	11%	12%
Undecided	41%	44%	36%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tester Approval				
Approve	46%	85%	11%	45%
Disapprove	43%	10%	74%	44%
Not sure	11%	5%	14%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Rehberg Approval				
Approve	39%	17%	64%	34%
Disapprove	49%	74%	22%	53%
Not sure	12%	9%	13%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tester/Rehberg				
Jon Tester	48%	90%	8%	48%
Denny Rehberg	43%	7%	85%	36%
Undecided	9%	3%	7%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Daines Favorability				
Favorable	9%	6%	15%	7%
Unfavorable	17%	28%	8%	16%
Not sure	73%	66%	76%	76%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gillan Favorability				
Favorable	9%	13%	6%	9%
Unfavorable	13%	18%	12%	10%
Not sure	77%	69%	82%	80%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Wilmer Favorability				
Favorable	10%	20%	5%	6%
Unfavorable	11%	12%	11%	10%
Not sure	79%	68%	84%	84%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Daines/Gillan				
Steve Daines	33%	11%	62%	26%
Kim Gillan	27%	56%	7%	21%
Undecided	40%	33%	31%	53%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Daines/Wilmer				
Steve Daines	36%	8%	70%	29%
Franke Wilmer	25%	58%	4%	16%
Undecided	39%	33%	26%	55%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
2012 Dem Cong Primary				
Kim Gillan	21%	18%	27%	28%
Sam Rankin	4%	5%	-	2%
Diane Smith	13%	14%	16%	10%
Dave Strohmaier	9%	11%	-	3%
Rob Stutz	1%	2%	-	-
Jason Ward	0%	0%	-	1%
Franke Wilmer	11%	14%	21%	3%
Undecided	41%	37%	37%	52%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Tester Approval			
Approve	46%	46%	40%
Disapprove	43%	43%	46%
Not sure	11%	10%	14%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Rehberg Approval			
Approve	39%	39%	36%
Disapprove	49%	49%	49%
Not sure	12%	12%	15%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Tester/Rehberg			
Jon Tester	48%	48%	44%
Denny Rehberg	43%	43%	47%
Undecided	9%	9%	9%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Daines Favorability			
Favorable	9%	10%	9%
Unfavorable	17%	17%	17%
Not sure	73%	73%	74%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gillan Favorability			
Favorable	9%	9%	8%
Unfavorable	13%	13%	18%
Not sure	77%	78%	74%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Wilmer Favorability			
Favorable	10%	10%	7%
Unfavorable	11%	10%	19%
Not sure	79%	80%	74%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Daines/Gillan			
Steve Daines	33%	34%	33%
Kim Gillan	27%	26%	31%
Undecided	40%	40%	36%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Daines/Wilmer			
Steve Daines	36%	36%	37%
Franke Wilmer	25%	25%	25%
Undecided	39%	39%	38%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
2012 Dem Cong Primary			
Kim Gillan	21%	22%	11%
Sam Rankin	4%	5%	-
Diane Smith	13%	13%	15%
Dave Strohmaier	9%	9%	4%
Rob Stutz	1%	1%	-
Jason Ward	0%	0%	-
Franke Wilmer	11%	12%	5%
Undecided	41%	38%	64%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tester Approval					
Approve	46%	43%	46%	48%	42%
Disapprove	43%	39%	45%	43%	45%
Not sure	11%	18%	9%	9%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Rehberg Approval					
Approve	39%	36%	35%	40%	45%
Disapprove	49%	36%	54%	51%	47%
Not sure	12%	28%	11%	9%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tester/Rehberg					
Jon Tester	48%	47%	51%	49%	41%
Denny Rehberg	43%	36%	43%	42%	50%
Undecided	9%	17%	6%	9%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Daines Favorability					
Favorable	9%	11%	8%	10%	9%
Unfavorable	17%	15%	19%	16%	18%
Not sure	73%	74%	73%	74%	72%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gillan Favorability					
Favorable	9%	8%	8%	10%	10%
Unfavorable	13%	13%	15%	13%	10%
Not sure	77%	79%	76%	77%	79%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Wilmer Favorability					
Favorable	10%	11%	8%	10%	10%
Unfavorable	11%	8%	13%	10%	11%
Not sure	79%	81%	79%	79%	79%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Daines/Gillan					
Steve Daines	33%	28%	32%	33%	39%
Kim Gillan	27%	24%	26%	29%	26%
Undecided	40%	49%	42%	37%	35%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Daines/Wilmer					
Steve Daines	36%	34%	34%	37%	41%
Franke Wilmer	25%	21%	25%	25%	25%
Undecided	39%	44%	41%	37%	34%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 Dem Cong Primary					
Kim Gillan	21%	22%	24%	16%	26%
Sam Rankin	4%	-	6%	4%	3%
Diane Smith	13%	17%	12%	12%	13%
Dave Strohmaier	9%	9%	6%	12%	5%
Rob Stutz	1%	4%	-	1%	-
Jason Ward	0%	-	-	1%	1%
Franke Wilmer	11%	9%	8%	11%	17%
Undecided	41%	39%	43%	42%	35%

