



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Sherrod Brown in strong shape for re-election

Raleigh, N.C. – PPP’s first poll of next year’s Ohio Senate race last December showed first-termer Sherrod Brown in perilous shape even against little-known potential GOP opponents. But in a reflection of how much Governor Kasich’s actions on collective bargaining have engaged Democrats and turned independents sharply back Democrats’ way, Brown is now leading all six candidates tested against him by 15-19 points.

After trailing Brown only 40-38 last time, Lt. Governor Mary Taylor now lags 49-30. Rep. Jim Jordan is behind Brown by the same margin, but was down only 43-35 in December. Secretary of State Jon Husted is down 49-34, a decline from his 43-38 deficit in the previous poll. Tested for the first time, Rep. Steve LaTourette trails 48-30, and state Treasurer Josh Mandel lags 48-32. PPP also tested unlikely candidate, comedian Drew Carey, and he also fell to Brown by a 49-34 margin.

Brown still has a 40% approval rating, but his disapproval level has decreased from 37% to 30% in the last three months. That is because Republicans have moved from 62% disapproval to only 51%, and independents have flipped from 28-48 in disapproval to 43-24 in approval. None of his opponents is well-known, even Cleveland native Carey, of whom 58% have no opinion. Those who do fall 29-13 in his favor, something none of the others can say. The rest have barely positive or barely negative ratings, and 72-83% of voters are unaware of them.

Because of this anonymity, 22-29% of Republicans are undecided in each matchup, roughly twice as many as Democrats. This suggests that once the nominee is crowned next spring, he or she will start to close the gap as GOP voters fall in line. But they will have to reverse Brown’s progress with independents. After at best breaking even with them in the last poll, Brown now holds leads of 18 to 25 points with this group. He has also improved significantly with his base since December, taking 83-86% of Democrats and losing only 3-6% to the GOP candidates.

“Sherrod Brown appears to be in a much stronger position now than he was just three months ago,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “There’s been a very significant shift in the Ohio political landscape toward the Democrats.”

PPP surveyed 559 Ohio voters from March 10th to 13th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-4.1%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.





Ohio Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Sherrod Brown's job performance?

Approve 40%
Disapprove..... 30%
Not sure 30%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Drew Carey?

Favorable 29% *Not sure* 58%
Unfavorable..... 13%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jon Husted?

Favorable 13% *Not sure* 73%
Unfavorable..... 15%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jim Jordan?

Favorable 7% *Not sure* 83%
Unfavorable..... 10%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Steve LaTourette?

Favorable 13% *Not sure* 75%
Unfavorable..... 12%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Josh Mandel?

Favorable 13% *Not sure* 75%
Unfavorable..... 12%

Q7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mary Taylor?

Favorable 15% *Not sure* 72%
Unfavorable..... 13%

Q8 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Sherrod Brown and Republican Drew Carey, who would you vote for?

Sherrod Brown..... 49%
Drew Carey..... 34%
Undecided..... 17%

Q9 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Sherrod Brown and Republican Jon Husted, who would you vote for?

Sherrod Brown..... 49%
Jon Husted..... 34%
Undecided..... 18%

Q10 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Sherrod Brown and Republican Jim Jordan, who would you vote for?

Sherrod Brown..... 49%
Jim Jordan 30%
Undecided..... 21%

Q11 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Sherrod Brown and Republican Steve LaTourette, who would you vote for?

Sherrod Brown..... 48%
Steve LaTourette..... 30%
Undecided..... 22%

Q12 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Sherrod Brown and Republican Josh Mandel, who would you vote for?

Sherrod Brown..... 48%
Josh Mandel 32%
Undecided..... 21%





Q13 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Sherrod Brown and Republican Mary Taylor, who would you vote for?

<i>Sherrod Brown</i>	49%
<i>Mary Taylor</i>	30%
<i>Undecided</i>	21%

Q14 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

<i>John McCain</i>	46%
<i>Barack Obama</i>	49%
<i>Someone else/Don't remember</i>	6%

Q15 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	7%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	19%
<i>Moderate</i>	29%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	28%
<i>Very conservative</i>	15%

Q16 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	55%
<i>Man</i>	45%

Q17 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>	43%
<i>Republican</i>	35%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	21%

Q18 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

<i>White</i>	84%
<i>African-American</i>	12%
<i>Other</i>	4%

Q19 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>	7%
<i>30 to 45</i>	25%
<i>46 to 65</i>	47%
<i>Older than 65</i>	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Brown Approval				
Approve	40%	15%	65%	27%
Disapprove	30%	49%	14%	19%
Not sure	30%	36%	21%	54%

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Carey Favorability				
Favorable	29%	26%	32%	30%
Unfavorable	13%	16%	9%	25%
Not sure	58%	58%	58%	45%

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Husted Favorability				
Favorable	13%	22%	4%	6%
Unfavorable	15%	6%	22%	19%
Not sure	73%	71%	73%	75%

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Jordan Favorability				
Favorable	7%	9%	6%	6%
Unfavorable	10%	7%	11%	19%
Not sure	83%	84%	83%	75%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
LaTourette Favorability				
Favorable	13%	14%	12%	21%
Unfavorable	12%	8%	15%	10%
Not sure	75%	78%	73%	69%

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Mandel Favorability				
Favorable	13%	17%	10%	9%
Unfavorable	12%	5%	17%	19%
Not sure	75%	78%	73%	72%

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Taylor Favorability				
Favorable	15%	23%	6%	16%
Unfavorable	13%	6%	19%	18%
Not sure	72%	71%	75%	66%

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Brown/Carey				
Sherrod Brown	49%	12%	84%	43%
Drew Carey	34%	64%	7%	21%
Undecided	17%	24%	9%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Brown/Husted				
Sherrod Brown	49%	11%	84%	43%
Jon Husted	34%	67%	5%	12%
Undecided	18%	22%	10%	45%

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Brown/Jordan				
Sherrod Brown	49%	11%	84%	37%
Jim Jordan	30%	60%	5%	12%
Undecided	21%	29%	11%	51%

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Brown/LaTourette				
Sherrod Brown	48%	9%	85%	37%
Steve LaTourette	30%	60%	4%	12%
Undecided	22%	30%	11%	51%

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Brown/Mandel				
Sherrod Brown	48%	10%	84%	40%
Josh Mandel	32%	61%	6%	18%
Undecided	21%	29%	10%	42%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Pres Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Brown/Taylor				
Sherrod Brown	49%	12%	86%	36%
Mary Taylor	30%	58%	4%	16%
Undecided	21%	30%	10%	48%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Brown Approval						
Approve	40%	56%	67%	51%	23%	10%
Disapprove	30%	24%	17%	14%	41%	61%
Not sure	30%	20%	16%	35%	36%	29%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Carey Favorability						
Favorable	29%	26%	37%	34%	26%	18%
Unfavorable	13%	16%	9%	12%	12%	21%
Not sure	58%	58%	54%	54%	62%	62%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Husted Favorability						
Favorable	13%	7%	6%	7%	16%	26%
Unfavorable	15%	13%	24%	21%	10%	-
Not sure	73%	80%	69%	71%	74%	74%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Jordan Favorability						
Favorable	7%	9%	5%	7%	6%	11%
Unfavorable	10%	7%	11%	17%	7%	2%
Not sure	83%	84%	83%	77%	87%	87%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
LaTourette Favorability						
Favorable	13%	20%	9%	13%	18%	8%
Unfavorable	12%	16%	20%	12%	7%	7%
Not sure	75%	64%	71%	75%	75%	86%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Mandel Favorability						
Favorable	13%	7%	13%	11%	13%	21%
Unfavorable	12%	11%	17%	18%	7%	2%
Not sure	75%	82%	70%	71%	80%	77%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Taylor Favorability						
Favorable	15%	11%	9%	12%	20%	21%
Unfavorable	13%	11%	16%	19%	10%	2%
Not sure	72%	78%	75%	69%	70%	77%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Brown/Carey						
Sherrod Brown	49%	86%	80%	67%	26%	1%
Drew Carey	34%	12%	9%	16%	53%	76%
Undecided	17%	2%	11%	17%	21%	23%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Brown/Husted						
Sherrod Brown	49%	86%	82%	69%	22%	-
Jon Husted	34%	9%	5%	14%	54%	82%
Undecided	18%	4%	13%	17%	25%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Brown/Jordan						
Sherrod Brown	49%	86%	82%	68%	21%	1%
Jim Jordan	30%	7%	4%	13%	44%	82%
Undecided	21%	7%	14%	20%	35%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Brown/LaTourette						
Sherrod Brown	48%	88%	82%	68%	19%	-
Steve LaTourette	30%	9%	7%	10%	44%	82%
Undecided	22%	2%	11%	23%	37%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Brown/Mandel						
Sherrod Brown	48%	84%	83%	67%	20%	-
Josh Mandel	32%	9%	6%	11%	48%	84%
Undecided	21%	7%	11%	21%	32%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Brown/Taylor						
Sherrod Brown	49%	88%	82%	71%	20%	1%
Mary Taylor	30%	4%	7%	9%	47%	76%
Undecided	21%	7%	11%	20%	33%	23%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown Approval			
Approve	40%	43%	36%
Disapprove	30%	20%	43%
Not sure	30%	37%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Carey Favorability			
Favorable	29%	29%	30%
Unfavorable	13%	13%	12%
Not sure	58%	58%	57%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Husted Favorability			
Favorable	13%	12%	14%
Unfavorable	15%	14%	16%
Not sure	73%	74%	70%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Jordan Favorability			
Favorable	7%	7%	7%
Unfavorable	10%	8%	12%
Not sure	83%	84%	81%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
LaTourette Favorability			
Favorable	13%	13%	13%
Unfavorable	12%	10%	14%
Not sure	75%	77%	73%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Mandel Favorability			
Favorable	13%	13%	13%
Unfavorable	12%	10%	14%
Not sure	75%	77%	73%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Taylor Favorability			
Favorable	15%	14%	16%
Unfavorable	13%	12%	14%
Not sure	72%	74%	70%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown/Carey			
Sherrrod Brown	49%	53%	45%
Drew Carey	34%	29%	39%
Undecided	17%	18%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown/Husted			
Sherrrod Brown	49%	51%	46%
Jon Husted	34%	29%	40%
Undecided	18%	21%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown/Jordan			
Sherrrod Brown	49%	50%	47%
Jim Jordan	30%	28%	34%
Undecided	21%	23%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown/LaTourette			
Sherrod Brown	48%	49%	46%
Steve LaTourette	30%	27%	34%
Undecided	22%	24%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown/Mandel			
Sherrod Brown	48%	50%	45%
Josh Mandel	32%	26%	38%
Undecided	21%	24%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown/Taylor			
Sherrod Brown	49%	51%	47%
Mary Taylor	30%	25%	35%
Undecided	21%	24%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown Approval				
Approve	40%	61%	13%	43%
Disapprove	30%	16%	51%	24%
Not sure	30%	23%	36%	33%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Carey Favorability				
Favorable	29%	35%	24%	27%
Unfavorable	13%	10%	15%	16%
Not sure	58%	55%	61%	57%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Husted Favorability				
Favorable	13%	5%	24%	8%
Unfavorable	15%	21%	4%	20%
Not sure	73%	74%	71%	72%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Jordan Favorability				
Favorable	7%	6%	10%	6%
Unfavorable	10%	12%	5%	13%
Not sure	83%	82%	85%	81%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
LaTourette Favorability				
Favorable	13%	14%	13%	12%
Unfavorable	12%	15%	5%	16%
Not sure	75%	71%	82%	71%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Mandel Favorability				
Favorable	13%	11%	19%	7%
Unfavorable	12%	16%	2%	19%
Not sure	75%	73%	79%	74%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Taylor Favorability				
Favorable	15%	8%	22%	16%
Unfavorable	13%	16%	7%	16%
Not sure	72%	75%	71%	68%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown/Carey				
Sherrod Brown	49%	83%	9%	47%
Drew Carey	34%	6%	69%	32%
Undecided	17%	11%	22%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown/Husted				
Sherrod Brown	49%	83%	6%	48%
Jon Husted	34%	5%	72%	28%
Undecided	18%	12%	22%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown/Jordan				
Sherrod Brown	49%	84%	6%	45%
Jim Jordan	30%	4%	69%	21%
Undecided	21%	12%	25%	34%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown/LaTourette				
Sherrod Brown	48%	83%	5%	46%
Steve LaTourette	30%	3%	68%	21%
Undecided	22%	14%	26%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown/Mandel				
Sherrod Brown	48%	84%	5%	45%
Josh Mandel	32%	4%	70%	25%
Undecided	21%	12%	25%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown/Taylor				
Sherrod Brown	49%	86%	7%	44%
Mary Taylor	30%	3%	64%	26%
Undecided	21%	11%	29%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Brown Approval				
Approve	40%	38%	50%	55%
Disapprove	30%	31%	24%	30%
Not sure	30%	31%	26%	15%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Carey Favorability				
Favorable	29%	30%	26%	25%
Unfavorable	13%	13%	11%	25%
Not sure	58%	57%	63%	50%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Husted Favorability				
Favorable	13%	14%	3%	15%
Unfavorable	15%	14%	13%	40%
Not sure	73%	72%	84%	45%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Jordan Favorability				
Favorable	7%	7%	5%	15%
Unfavorable	10%	10%	5%	25%
Not sure	83%	83%	89%	60%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
LaTourette Favorability				
Favorable	13%	13%	16%	20%
Unfavorable	12%	11%	5%	35%
Not sure	75%	76%	79%	45%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Mandel Favorability				
Favorable	13%	13%	13%	15%
Unfavorable	12%	11%	11%	30%
Not sure	75%	76%	76%	55%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Taylor Favorability				
Favorable	15%	15%	8%	20%
Unfavorable	13%	12%	16%	20%
Not sure	72%	72%	76%	60%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Brown/Carey				
Sherrrod Brown	49%	44%	89%	45%
Drew Carey	34%	38%	3%	40%
Undecided	17%	18%	8%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Brown/Husted				
Sherrrod Brown	49%	43%	87%	55%
Jon Husted	34%	37%	8%	30%
Undecided	18%	20%	5%	15%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Brown/Jordan				
Sherrrod Brown	49%	42%	87%	60%
Jim Jordan	30%	34%	8%	20%
Undecided	21%	24%	5%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Brown/LaTourette				
Sherrrod Brown	48%	41%	92%	55%
Steve LaTourette	30%	34%	5%	20%
Undecided	22%	25%	3%	25%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Brown/Mandel				
Sherrrod Brown	48%	42%	89%	55%
Josh Mandel	32%	35%	8%	25%
Undecided	21%	23%	3%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Brown/Taylor				
Sherrrod Brown	49%	43%	89%	60%
Mary Taylor	30%	33%	5%	20%
Undecided	21%	24%	5%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown Approval					
Approve	40%	42%	35%	41%	45%
Disapprove	30%	22%	31%	33%	26%
Not sure	30%	36%	34%	26%	30%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Carey Favorability					
Favorable	29%	32%	40%	28%	19%
Unfavorable	13%	7%	10%	15%	15%
Not sure	58%	61%	51%	57%	66%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Husted Favorability					
Favorable	13%	17%	10%	12%	15%
Unfavorable	15%	20%	12%	17%	12%
Not sure	73%	63%	78%	71%	73%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Jordan Favorability					
Favorable	7%	10%	3%	9%	7%
Unfavorable	10%	8%	13%	10%	7%
Not sure	83%	82%	83%	82%	86%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
LaTourette Favorability					
Favorable	13%	2%	9%	14%	19%
Unfavorable	12%	13%	10%	13%	9%
Not sure	75%	85%	81%	72%	71%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Mandel Favorability					
Favorable	13%	17%	16%	12%	10%
Unfavorable	12%	15%	13%	12%	8%
Not sure	75%	68%	71%	75%	82%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Taylor Favorability					
Favorable	15%	10%	15%	14%	17%
Unfavorable	13%	12%	17%	12%	10%
Not sure	72%	78%	68%	74%	73%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown/Carey					
Sherrrod Brown	49%	41%	46%	52%	49%
Drew Carey	34%	27%	32%	35%	35%
Undecided	17%	32%	22%	13%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown/Husted					
Sherrrod Brown	49%	44%	47%	51%	48%
Jon Husted	34%	24%	29%	35%	38%
Undecided	18%	31%	24%	14%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown/Jordan					
Sherrrod Brown	49%	44%	47%	51%	47%
Jim Jordan	30%	20%	25%	33%	35%
Undecided	21%	36%	29%	17%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown/LaTourette					
Sherrrod Brown	48%	49%	45%	50%	47%
Steve LaTourette	30%	17%	26%	33%	32%
Undecided	22%	34%	29%	17%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown/Mandel					
Sherrrod Brown	48%	42%	45%	51%	47%
Josh Mandel	32%	24%	30%	32%	35%
Undecided	21%	34%	25%	17%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown/Taylor					
Sherrrod Brown	49%	47%	48%	49%	52%
Mary Taylor	30%	20%	27%	32%	31%
Undecided	21%	34%	25%	19%	17%

