



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2011

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312

**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL [information@publicpolicypolling.com](mailto:information@publicpolicypolling.com), OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

## **Kasich still unpopular, voters set to overturn Senate Bill 5**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – John Kasich has gotten a little more popular since May, when PPP last polled Ohio, but he remains the second or third least popular governor in the country, more beloved than only Florida’s Rick Scott and maybe Illinois’ Pat Quinn, whom PPP has not tested since before last fall’s election. Now 36% approve and 53% disapprove of Kasich’s performance, up from 33-56 three months ago. A six-point improvement with independents, who almost exactly mirror the overall electorate, is joined by a 16-point improvement among the GOP. But Democrats also hate him even more, and with 80% disapproving, still despise him more than his own party likes him (67%).

Kasich would lose a do-over election today to former Governor Ted Strickland, 54-39. That is a closure from the 59-34 margin measured in May, but still a huge shift from Kasich’s actual two-point win. Independents favor Strickland, 47-43, a 20-point shift from the 53-37 Kasich edge reported in the exit polls. 17% of Kasich’s party would also switch sides, up from 11% last November.

Things are so bad for Kasich that 41% of Ohioans think former Ohio State football coach Jim Tressel is a more honest and ethical person, while only 31% think Kasich is preferable on that front. Tressel’s program was investigated by the NCAA for violations under his watch, and he was pressured to resign this past May.

Half of voters would vote to reject Senate Bill 5 today, while only 39% to support it. The main reason? While Republicans support SB5 2:1, Democrats oppose it more than 3:1, and they make up a 44% plurality of voters. Independents favor it 46-44, but they are only 22% of the electorate.

“John Kasich and Senate Bill 5 both remain quite unpopular,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But neither is as unpopular as it was 3 months ago, indicative of at least a slight shift toward Republicans in the state.”

PPP surveyed 792 Ohio voters from August 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.5%. 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.





## Ohio Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor John Kasich's job performance?

Approve..... 36% Not sure ..... 11%  
Disapprove..... 53%

**Q2** If you could do last fall's election for Governor over again, would you vote for Democrat Ted Strickland or Republican John Kasich?

Ted Strickland ..... 54%  
John Kasich ..... 39%  
Not sure ..... 7%

**Q3** This fall, Ohio will have a referendum on whether to approve or reject Senate Bill 5, which was passed earlier this year and limits collective bargaining rights for public employees. If the election was today, would you vote to approve or reject Senate Bill 5?

Approve SB5..... 39%  
Reject ..... 50%  
Not sure ..... 11%

**Q4** Who do you think is a more ethical and honest person: John Kasich or Jim Tressel?

John Kasich ..... 31%  
Jim Tressel..... 41%  
Not sure ..... 28%

**Q5** Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 46%  
Barack Obama..... 49%  
Someone else/Don't remember ..... 5%

**Q6** Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 8%  
Somewhat liberal ..... 19%  
Moderate..... 31%  
Somewhat conservative..... 24%  
Very conservative ..... 17%

**Q7** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman ..... 51%  
Man..... 49%

**Q8** 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 ..... 44%  
Republican..... 34%  
Independent/Other..... 22%

**Q9** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White ..... 84%  
African-American ..... 12%  
Other..... 4%

**Q10** 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..... 10%  
30 to 45..... 24%  
46 to 65..... 46%  
Older than 65..... 20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Kasich Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	36%	62%	11%	28%
<b>Disapprove</b>	53%	26%	80%	49%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	11%	9%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Strickland/Kasich Re-do</b>				
<b>Ted Strickland</b>	54%	22%	86%	41%
<b>John Kasich</b>	39%	71%	9%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	7%	6%	15%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>SB5 Referendum</b>				
<b>Approve SB5</b>	39%	57%	22%	43%
<b>Reject</b>	50%	32%	69%	34%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	11%	9%	24%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Kasich or Tressel More Honest/Ethical?</b>				
<b>John Kasich</b>	31%	49%	12%	30%
<b>Jim Tressel</b>	41%	23%	62%	24%
<b>Not sure</b>	28%	28%	26%	45%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Kasich Approval</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	36%	17%	5%	23%	58%	71%
<b>Disapprove</b>	53%	76%	85%	67%	29%	18%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	7%	10%	10%	13%	11%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Strickland/Kasich Re-do</b>						
<b>Ted Strickland</b>	54%	82%	91%	70%	27%	10%
<b>John Kasich</b>	39%	14%	4%	22%	65%	84%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	5%	5%	8%	8%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>SB5 Referendum</b>						
<b>Approve SB5</b>	39%	26%	17%	33%	57%	58%
<b>Reject</b>	50%	64%	76%	57%	32%	27%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	10%	7%	11%	11%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Kasich or Tressel More Honest/Ethical?</b>						
<b>John Kasich</b>	31%	9%	8%	29%	41%	53%
<b>Jim Tressel</b>	41%	57%	59%	49%	27%	24%
<b>Not sure</b>	28%	34%	33%	23%	32%	24%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Kasich Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	36%	31%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	53%	56%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	13%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Strickland/Kasich Re-do</b>			
<b>Ted Strickland</b>	54%	60%	49%
<b>John Kasich</b>	39%	32%	46%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	8%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>SB5 Referendum</b>			
<b>Approve SB5</b>	39%	34%	45%
<b>Reject</b>	50%	52%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	14%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Kasich or Tressel More Honest/Ethical?</b>			
<b>John Kasich</b>	31%	26%	35%
<b>Jim Tressel</b>	41%	43%	39%
<b>Not sure</b>	28%	30%	26%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Kasich Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	36%	11%	67%	36%
<b>Disapprove</b>	53%	80%	21%	52%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	9%	12%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Strickland/Kasich Re-do</b>				
<b>Ted Strickland</b>	54%	87%	17%	47%
<b>John Kasich</b>	39%	8%	76%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	5%	7%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>SB5 Referendum</b>				
<b>Approve SB5</b>	39%	21%	58%	46%
<b>Reject</b>	50%	69%	29%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	10%	12%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Kasich or Tressel More Honest/Ethical?</b>				
<b>John Kasich</b>	31%	15%	45%	38%
<b>Jim Tressel</b>	41%	57%	26%	36%
<b>Not sure</b>	28%	29%	29%	26%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Kasich Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	36%	39%	14%	34%
<b>Disapprove</b>	53%	51%	68%	57%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	10%	18%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Strickland/Kasich Re-do</b>				
<b>Ted Strickland</b>	54%	51%	80%	48%
<b>John Kasich</b>	39%	43%	10%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	6%	10%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>SB5 Referendum</b>				
<b>Approve SB5</b>	39%	40%	33%	50%
<b>Reject</b>	50%	50%	51%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	10%	15%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Kasich or Tressel More Honest/Ethical?</b>				
<b>John Kasich</b>	31%	34%	8%	35%
<b>Jim Tressel</b>	41%	39%	66%	25%
<b>Not sure</b>	28%	28%	26%	41%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Kasich Approval</b>					
Approve	36%	37%	37%	35%	37%
Disapprove	53%	50%	52%	57%	49%
Not sure	11%	13%	12%	8%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Strickland/Kasich Re-do</b>					
Ted Strickland	54%	62%	52%	56%	49%
John Kasich	39%	36%	39%	37%	45%
Not sure	7%	3%	10%	7%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>SB5 Referendum</b>					
Approve SB5	39%	49%	41%	36%	39%
Reject	50%	44%	46%	55%	48%
Not sure	11%	8%	13%	9%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Kasich or Tressel More Honest/Ethical?</b>					
John Kasich	31%	26%	27%	31%	40%
Jim Tressel	41%	53%	45%	38%	35%
Not sure	28%	21%	28%	31%	25%

