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information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH
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Sherrod Brown up eight over Josh Mandel

Raleigh, N.C. – The Ohio Senate race has tightened a bit in the last month, but incumbent Democrat Sherrod Brown maintains a high single-digit advantage over his Republican challenger, State Treasurer Josh Mandel. Brown leads 48-40 among likely voters, down a tick from the 47-37 margin PPP found in early August.

The closure is due mostly to voters souring on Brown and growing a little fonder of Mandel as they get to know him better. 42% approve and 44% disapprove of Brown's job performance, versus 41-37 in the last survey. Mandel is seen favorably by a third and unfavorably by 44%, a bump from 26-42 last time. While Brown is not a particularly popular figure, Mandel is one of the weakest Republican candidates in the country.

Further, unlike in some races in which a challenger is less known than the office's current occupant, Mandel stands little to gain from raising his profile unless he also drastically improves his image. Among voters who already have an opinion on both Brown and Mandel, whether positive or negative, Brown is up by 12 points. On top of that, Mandel cannot hope that the undecideds fall according to general partisan preferences or that he receives downballot love from Mitt Romney supporters. Undecideds in the Senate race are split evenly between President Obama and Romney and between Democratic and Republican congressional candidates.

“Sherrod Brown's had a consistent good sized lead in our polling all year,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Josh Mandel has not proven to be a very strong candidate.”

Speaking of the generic congressional ballot, there has been a huge shift on that front in the last month. While Republicans led by four points then (45-41), Democrats lead by two now (46-44).

Voters are confused about Issue 2, which would establish a bipartisan redistricting commission. When asked the exact ballot language, it fails by five points (33-38), but last month, support for an independent commission was passing by 13 points (37-24).

PPP surveyed 1,072 likely Ohio voters from September 7th to 9th. The margin of error for the overall survey is +/-3.0%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.



Ohio Survey Results

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

Approve42% Not sure15%
Disapprove.....44%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Josh Mandel?

Favorable..... 33%
Unfavorable 44%
Not sure 23%

Q3 The candidates for US Senate are Democrat Sherrod Brown and Republican Josh Mandel. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Sherrod Brown..... 48%
Josh Mandel 40%
Undecided..... 11%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor John Kasich's job performance?

Approve41% Not sure14%
Disapprove.....44%

Q5 Generally speaking, if there was an election today, would you vote for Republican John Kasich or his Democratic opponent?

John Kasich45% Not sure12%
Democratic
opponent.....43%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Ted Strickland?

Favorable..... 41%
Unfavorable 38%
Not sure 21%

Q7 If the candidates for Governor next time were Republican John Kasich and Democrat Ted Strickland, who would you vote for?

John Kasich44% Not sure11%
Ted Strickland45%

Q8 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Rob Portman's job performance?

Approve36% Not sure35%
Disapprove.....28%

Q9 Do you approve or disapprove of House Speaker John Boehner's job performance?

Approve36% Not sure19%
Disapprove.....45%

Q10 If there was an election for Congress today, would you vote Democratic or Republican?

Democratic..... 46%
Republican..... 44%
Not sure 10%





Q11 Issue 2 would remove the authority of elected representatives and grant new authority to appointed officials to establish congressional and state legislative district lines. It would create a state-funded commission of appointed individuals from a limited pool of applicants to replace the aforementioned. The commission would consist of 12 members as follows: four affiliated with the largest political party, four affiliated with the second largest political party, and four not affiliated with either of the two largest political parties. Affirmative votes of 7 of 12 members are needed to select a plan. If the election was today, would you vote for or against Issue 2?

For 33%
Against..... 38%
Not sure 29%

Q12 Do you think early voting should be available the weekend before the election, or not?

It should 58%
It should not 35%
Not sure 8%

Q13 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jon Husted?

Favorable..... 14%
Unfavorable 24%
Not sure 62%

Q14 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal 11%
Somewhat liberal 17%
Moderate..... 29%
Somewhat conservative..... 25%
Very conservative 17%

Q15 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 54%
Man..... 46%

Q16 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 41%
Republican..... 37%
Independent/Other 22%

Q17 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 83%
African-American 11%
Other..... 6%

Q18 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..... 15%
30 to 45..... 22%
46 to 65..... 43%
Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Brown Approval						
Approve	42%	68%	72%	53%	19%	8%
Disapprove	44%	20%	19%	32%	64%	73%
Not sure	15%	12%	9%	15%	17%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Mandel Favorability						
Favorable	33%	15%	12%	21%	48%	64%
Unfavorable	44%	66%	70%	59%	25%	10%
Not sure	23%	19%	18%	21%	27%	26%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Brown/Mandel						
Sherrod Brown	48%	83%	80%	62%	23%	7%
Josh Mandel	40%	11%	14%	24%	64%	79%
Undecided	11%	6%	6%	14%	14%	13%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Kasich Approval						
Approve	41%	22%	16%	32%	58%	72%
Disapprove	44%	65%	72%	53%	28%	13%
Not sure	14%	13%	13%	15%	14%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Kasich or Dem Opponent?						
John Kasich	45%	22%	14%	29%	67%	84%
Democratic opponent	43%	70%	76%	53%	20%	9%
Not sure	12%	7%	11%	18%	13%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Strickland Favorability						
Favorable	41%	65%	67%	53%	20%	10%
Unfavorable	38%	20%	13%	27%	55%	70%
Not sure	21%	14%	21%	21%	25%	20%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Kasich/Strickland '14						
John Kasich	44%	21%	15%	27%	67%	82%
Ted Strickland	45%	72%	78%	57%	20%	8%
Not sure	11%	8%	6%	15%	12%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Portman Approval						
Approve	36%	18%	17%	27%	52%	61%
Disapprove	28%	55%	46%	32%	12%	10%
Not sure	35%	27%	37%	41%	36%	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Boehner Approval						
Approve	36%	25%	14%	21%	52%	65%
Disapprove	45%	55%	71%	61%	25%	15%
Not sure	19%	20%	16%	18%	23%	20%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Generic Cong. Ballot						
Democratic	46%	81%	82%	58%	16%	9%
Republican	44%	16%	14%	22%	73%	89%
Not sure	10%	2%	4%	20%	10%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Issue 2						
For	33%	41%	51%	39%	23%	15%
Against	38%	28%	26%	31%	47%	56%
Not sure	29%	31%	23%	31%	29%	29%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Should Early Voting Be Open Weekend Before Election?						
It should	58%	76%	79%	68%	39%	35%
It should not	35%	21%	14%	26%	50%	56%
Not sure	8%	4%	6%	6%	11%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Husted Favorability						
Favorable	14%	10%	10%	11%	19%	20%
Unfavorable	24%	45%	43%	25%	10%	9%
Not sure	62%	46%	48%	65%	71%	71%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown Approval			
Approve	42%	42%	41%
Disapprove	44%	41%	46%
Not sure	15%	17%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Mandel Favorability			
Favorable	33%	30%	37%
Unfavorable	44%	45%	43%
Not sure	23%	25%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown/Mandel			
Sherrrod Brown	48%	51%	46%
Josh Mandel	40%	36%	45%
Undecided	11%	13%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Kasich Approval			
Approve	41%	36%	48%
Disapprove	44%	45%	43%
Not sure	14%	19%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Kasich or Dem Opponent?			
John Kasich	45%	42%	48%
Democratic opponent	43%	45%	40%
Not sure	12%	13%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Strickland Favorability			
Favorable	41%	41%	41%
Unfavorable	38%	34%	43%
Not sure	21%	24%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Kasich/Strickland '14			
John Kasich	44%	39%	50%
Ted Strickland	45%	49%	41%
Not sure	11%	13%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Portman Approval			
Approve	36%	33%	40%
Disapprove	28%	27%	29%
Not sure	35%	40%	31%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Boehner Approval			
Approve	36%	32%	39%
Disapprove	45%	45%	45%
Not sure	19%	23%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Cong. Ballot			
Democratic	46%	48%	43%
Republican	44%	43%	46%
Not sure	10%	9%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Issue 2			
For	33%	28%	39%
Against	38%	40%	37%
Not sure	29%	33%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Should Early Voting Be Open Weekend Before Election?			
It should	58%	56%	59%
It should not	35%	34%	35%
Not sure	8%	10%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Husted Favorability			
Favorable	14%	11%	18%
Unfavorable	24%	21%	26%
Not sure	62%	68%	56%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown Approval				
Approve	42%	69%	13%	39%
Disapprove	44%	18%	70%	48%
Not sure	15%	14%	18%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Mandel Favorability				
Favorable	33%	11%	58%	33%
Unfavorable	44%	69%	17%	45%
Not sure	23%	21%	25%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown/Mandel				
Sherrod Brown	48%	80%	16%	44%
Josh Mandel	40%	10%	74%	40%
Undecided	11%	10%	10%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Kasich Approval				
Approve	41%	15%	69%	45%
Disapprove	44%	70%	20%	38%
Not sure	14%	16%	12%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Kasich or Dem Opponent?				
John Kasich	45%	13%	79%	46%
Democratic opponent	43%	79%	10%	31%
Not sure	12%	8%	11%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Strickland Favorability				
Favorable	41%	66%	16%	39%
Unfavorable	38%	13%	64%	39%
Not sure	21%	21%	20%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Kasich/Strickland '14				
John Kasich	44%	13%	77%	45%
Ted Strickland	45%	78%	13%	38%
Not sure	11%	9%	10%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Portman Approval				
Approve	36%	15%	56%	41%
Disapprove	28%	44%	15%	23%
Not sure	35%	41%	30%	36%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Boehner Approval				
Approve	36%	14%	60%	32%
Disapprove	45%	68%	20%	46%
Not sure	19%	18%	20%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Cong. Ballot				
Democratic	46%	86%	9%	35%
Republican	44%	9%	85%	38%
Not sure	10%	5%	5%	27%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Issue 2				
For	33%	43%	21%	35%
Against	38%	25%	53%	37%
Not sure	29%	31%	26%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Should Early Voting Be Open Weekend Before Election?				
It should	58%	78%	40%	52%
It should not	35%	18%	52%	37%
Not sure	8%	5%	8%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Husted Favorability				
Favorable	14%	8%	23%	12%
Unfavorable	24%	35%	12%	21%
Not sure	62%	57%	65%	67%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Brown Approval				
Approve	42%	40%	53%	43%
Disapprove	44%	46%	25%	45%
Not sure	15%	14%	23%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Mandel Favorability				
Favorable	33%	35%	22%	28%
Unfavorable	44%	43%	50%	58%
Not sure	23%	22%	28%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Brown/Mandel				
Sherrrod Brown	48%	46%	65%	52%
Josh Mandel	40%	44%	19%	31%
Undecided	11%	10%	16%	18%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Kasich Approval				
Approve	41%	45%	15%	36%
Disapprove	44%	41%	65%	55%
Not sure	14%	14%	20%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Kasich or Dem Opponent?				
John Kasich	45%	48%	21%	44%
Democratic opponent	43%	39%	69%	48%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Strickland Favorability				
Favorable	41%	40%	52%	40%
Unfavorable	38%	40%	23%	36%
Not sure	21%	20%	25%	24%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Kasich/Strickland '14				
John Kasich	44%	47%	25%	35%
Ted Strickland	45%	42%	63%	54%
Not sure	11%	11%	12%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Portman Approval				
Approve	36%	38%	20%	34%
Disapprove	28%	26%	40%	35%
Not sure	35%	35%	40%	31%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Boehner Approval				
Approve	36%	38%	21%	32%
Disapprove	45%	43%	56%	53%
Not sure	19%	19%	23%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Cong. Ballot				
Democratic	46%	42%	69%	56%
Republican	44%	48%	19%	34%
Not sure	10%	9%	12%	10%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Issue 2				
For	33%	33%	33%	29%
Against	38%	39%	24%	55%
Not sure	29%	28%	43%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Should Early Voting Be Open Weekend Before Election?				
It should	58%	55%	71%	66%
It should not	35%	37%	20%	32%
Not sure	8%	8%	9%	2%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Husted Favorability				
Favorable	14%	15%	7%	18%
Unfavorable	24%	23%	25%	27%
Not sure	62%	62%	68%	54%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown Approval					
Approve	42%	44%	36%	43%	41%
Disapprove	44%	44%	42%	44%	44%
Not sure	15%	12%	22%	12%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Mandel Favorability					
Favorable	33%	38%	29%	33%	34%
Unfavorable	44%	44%	41%	46%	46%
Not sure	23%	18%	31%	21%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown/Mandel					
Sherrod Brown	48%	52%	45%	49%	47%
Josh Mandel	40%	34%	45%	40%	41%
Undecided	11%	14%	10%	11%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Kasich Approval					
Approve	41%	41%	40%	41%	44%
Disapprove	44%	41%	47%	47%	37%
Not sure	14%	18%	13%	12%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Kasich or Dem Opponent?					
John Kasich	45%	46%	44%	44%	47%
Democratic opponent	43%	48%	42%	43%	42%
Not sure	12%	6%	14%	14%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Strickland Favorability					
Favorable	41%	44%	43%	41%	37%
Unfavorable	38%	40%	34%	41%	36%
Not sure	21%	17%	24%	18%	27%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Kasich/Strickland '14					
John Kasich	44%	42%	44%	43%	47%
Ted Strickland	45%	42%	46%	47%	41%
Not sure	11%	17%	9%	10%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Portman Approval					
Approve	36%	36%	35%	37%	36%
Disapprove	28%	34%	25%	29%	26%
Not sure	35%	30%	40%	34%	37%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Boehner Approval					
Approve	36%	43%	31%	33%	41%
Disapprove	45%	36%	48%	49%	39%
Not sure	19%	21%	21%	18%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Cong. Ballot					
Democratic	46%	55%	43%	43%	47%
Republican	44%	43%	43%	44%	47%
Not sure	10%	2%	13%	13%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Issue 2					
For	33%	33%	32%	35%	31%
Against	38%	38%	40%	39%	37%
Not sure	29%	30%	28%	27%	33%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Should Early Voting Be Open Weekend Before Election?					
It should	58%	60%	57%	59%	55%
It should not	35%	33%	36%	34%	36%
Not sure	8%	8%	7%	7%	10%



Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Husted Favorability					
Favorable	14%	18%	8%	14%	19%
Unfavorable	24%	21%	26%	24%	22%
Not sure	62%	61%	66%	62%	59%