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Thurmond most popular statewide figure in South Carolina

Raleigh, N.C. – South Carolinians are not particularly fond of their new Governor Nikki Haley, and they like her 2010 opponent Vincent Sheheen slightly better, but voters are still giving her the benefit of the doubt. Unlike some of her controversial counterparts, like Florida's Rick Scott and Ohio's John Kasich, Haley is a rare governor of the 2010 Tea Party breed who has not turned voters off so much that they have buyers' remorse. Despite a slightly underwater 41-43 job approval rating, she would still defeat Sheheen, and by even a slightly larger margin than last fall. She won 51-47, and would win in a do-over, 49-43, according to PPP's latest poll. Haley's approval is down slightly from June, when PPP last polled the state; then voters were split 42-41 in her favor. But the margin of the re-do question is the same (48-42 then).

The state's senators, Jim DeMint and Lindsey Graham, remain equally as popular as three months ago, with DeMint still better-liked than Graham. DeMint's 47-32 approval rating is almost identical to the 47-34 measured in June. Ditto for Graham, at 41-39 now and 40-38 then. Unsurprisingly, Graham is slightly better liked by Democrats and seen considerably better by independents than DeMint, but the junior senator is far more palatable to Republicans (73% approval, versus 53%).

The Palmetto State still sees their late senator Strom Thurmond very well, 46% favorably and 29% unfavorably. A third of Democrats remember him fondly and half negatively, with Republicans falling at 58-12.

Thurmond's long-serving Democratic colleague, Fritz Hollings, is not seen as well, with a third viewing him positively and 31% negatively. At 24-38, Republicans are not as hostile to Hollings as Democrats to Thurmond.

Mark Sanford is still *persona non grata*, particularly to Democrats and independents. His overall 26-58 favorability rating is helped by a 39-42 with his own GOP.

PPP surveyed 587 South Carolina voters from August 25th to 28th. 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.



South Carolina Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Nikki Haley's job performance?

Approve 41%
Disapprove..... 43%
Not sure 16%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Vincent Sheheen?

Favorable..... 27%
Unfavorable 25%
Not sure 47%

Q3 If you could do last fall's election for Governor over again, would you vote for Republican Nikki Haley or Democrat Vincent Sheheen?

Nikki Haley..... 49%
Vincent Sheheen..... 43%
Not sure 8%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Lindsey Graham's job performance?

Approve 41%
Disapprove..... 39%
Not sure 20%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Jim DeMint's job performance?

Approve 47%
Disapprove..... 32%
Not sure 21%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Strom Thurmond?

Favorable..... 46%
Unfavorable 29%
Not sure 25%

Q7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Fritz Hollings?

Favorable..... 33%
Unfavorable 31%
Not sure 36%

Q8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jim Hodges?

Favorable..... 24%
Unfavorable 32%
Not sure 44%

Q9 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of David Beasley?

Favorable..... 30%
Unfavorable 29%
Not sure 41%

Q10 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Carroll Campbell?

Favorable..... 45%
Unfavorable 19%
Not sure 36%

Q11 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mark Sanford?

Favorable..... 28%
Unfavorable 58%
Not sure 14%

Q12 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 49%
Barack Obama..... 39%
Someone else/Don't remember 11%





Q13 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	7%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	14%
<i>Moderate</i>	27%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	26%
<i>Very conservative</i>	26%

Q14 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

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

Q15 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>	36%
<i>Republican</i>	44%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	20%

Q16 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

<i>White</i>	72%
<i>African-American</i>	23%
<i>Other</i>	5%

Q17 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>	17%
<i>30 to 45</i>	28%
<i>46 to 65</i>	39%
<i>Older than 65</i>	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Haley Approval				
Approve	41%	64%	17%	25%
Disapprove	43%	19%	71%	46%
Not sure	16%	17%	11%	28%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Sheheen Favorability				
Favorable	27%	17%	40%	29%
Unfavorable	25%	27%	26%	19%
Not sure	47%	56%	35%	52%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Haley/Sheheen Do-over				
Nikki Haley	49%	77%	18%	33%
Vincent Sheheen	43%	17%	76%	43%
Not sure	8%	5%	7%	25%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Graham Approval				
Approve	41%	53%	24%	46%
Disapprove	39%	30%	52%	32%
Not sure	20%	16%	24%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
DeMint Approval				
Approve	47%	70%	17%	48%
Disapprove	32%	13%	57%	32%
Not sure	21%	17%	26%	20%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Thurmond Favorability				
Favorable	46%	58%	30%	50%
Unfavorable	29%	13%	53%	20%
Not sure	25%	29%	18%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hollings Favorability				
Favorable	33%	25%	42%	36%
Unfavorable	31%	37%	23%	31%
Not sure	36%	37%	35%	33%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hodges Favorability				
Favorable	24%	14%	36%	23%
Unfavorable	32%	35%	31%	29%
Not sure	44%	51%	33%	48%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Beasley Favorability				
Favorable	30%	42%	15%	30%
Unfavorable	29%	18%	45%	22%
Not sure	41%	40%	40%	48%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Campbell Favorability				
Favorable	45%	58%	31%	42%
Unfavorable	19%	7%	32%	26%
Not sure	36%	35%	38%	32%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
M. Sanford Favorability				
Favorable	28%	41%	8%	36%
Unfavorable	58%	40%	83%	49%
Not sure	14%	19%	9%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Haley Approval						
Approve	41%	15%	20%	25%	53%	64%
Disapprove	43%	84%	71%	53%	31%	19%
Not sure	16%	1%	10%	22%	17%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Sheheen Favorability						
Favorable	27%	35%	40%	35%	26%	11%
Unfavorable	25%	40%	28%	16%	26%	30%
Not sure	47%	24%	32%	49%	49%	59%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Haley/Sheheen Do-over						
Nikki Haley	49%	13%	21%	34%	58%	78%
Vincent Sheheen	43%	85%	75%	55%	30%	16%
Not sure	8%	2%	5%	11%	11%	5%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Graham Approval						
Approve	41%	41%	29%	35%	53%	42%
Disapprove	39%	48%	53%	36%	29%	42%
Not sure	20%	11%	18%	29%	18%	17%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
DeMint Approval						
Approve	47%	23%	15%	27%	62%	75%
Disapprove	32%	54%	69%	40%	22%	10%
Not sure	21%	23%	15%	33%	17%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Thurmond Favorability						
Favorable	46%	31%	31%	36%	58%	56%
Unfavorable	29%	39%	62%	37%	19%	13%
Not sure	25%	31%	7%	27%	23%	31%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hollings Favorability						
Favorable	33%	40%	47%	40%	36%	14%
Unfavorable	31%	21%	31%	17%	30%	49%
Not sure	36%	40%	22%	43%	34%	38%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hodges Favorability						
Favorable	24%	26%	28%	33%	25%	9%
Unfavorable	32%	33%	42%	23%	26%	43%
Not sure	44%	41%	30%	43%	49%	48%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Beasley Favorability						
Favorable	30%	22%	26%	15%	37%	44%
Unfavorable	29%	47%	43%	34%	21%	20%
Not sure	41%	32%	31%	51%	43%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Campbell Favorability						
Favorable	45%	30%	37%	34%	57%	54%
Unfavorable	19%	36%	36%	23%	11%	10%
Not sure	36%	34%	27%	43%	32%	36%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
M. Sanford Favorability						
Favorable	28%	18%	7%	15%	40%	43%
Unfavorable	58%	68%	87%	71%	46%	38%
Not sure	14%	14%	6%	14%	14%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Haley Approval			
Approve	41%	39%	44%
Disapprove	43%	45%	40%
Not sure	16%	16%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Sheheen Favorability			
Favorable	27%	28%	26%
Unfavorable	25%	20%	32%
Not sure	47%	52%	42%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Haley/Sheheen Do-over			
Nikki Haley	49%	47%	51%
Vincent Sheheen	43%	45%	41%
Not sure	8%	9%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Graham Approval			
Approve	41%	42%	39%
Disapprove	39%	37%	41%
Not sure	20%	20%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
DeMint Approval			
Approve	47%	47%	46%
Disapprove	32%	29%	36%
Not sure	21%	23%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Thurmond Favorability			
Favorable	46%	42%	51%
Unfavorable	29%	30%	28%
Not sure	25%	28%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hollings Favorability			
Favorable	33%	32%	35%
Unfavorable	31%	27%	35%
Not sure	36%	41%	30%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hodges Favorability			
Favorable	24%	24%	23%
Unfavorable	32%	27%	39%
Not sure	44%	49%	38%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Beasley Favorability			
Favorable	30%	32%	28%
Unfavorable	29%	26%	32%
Not sure	41%	42%	40%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Campbell Favorability			
Favorable	45%	48%	42%
Unfavorable	19%	17%	21%
Not sure	36%	35%	37%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
M. Sanford Favorability			
Favorable	28%	27%	29%
Unfavorable	58%	59%	57%
Not sure	14%	15%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Haley Approval				
Approve	41%	18%	62%	35%
Disapprove	43%	71%	20%	43%
Not sure	16%	11%	18%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Sheheen Favorability				
Favorable	27%	41%	18%	24%
Unfavorable	25%	23%	27%	27%
Not sure	47%	37%	56%	49%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Haley/Sheheen Do-over				
Nikki Haley	49%	16%	78%	42%
Vincent Sheheen	43%	80%	15%	39%
Not sure	8%	4%	6%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Graham Approval				
Approve	41%	25%	53%	43%
Disapprove	39%	50%	32%	34%
Not sure	20%	24%	16%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
DeMint Approval				
Approve	47%	19%	73%	40%
Disapprove	32%	52%	12%	41%
Not sure	21%	29%	15%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Thurmond Favorability				
Favorable	46%	33%	58%	44%
Unfavorable	29%	51%	12%	29%
Not sure	25%	17%	30%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hollings Favorability				
Favorable	33%	43%	24%	34%
Unfavorable	31%	22%	38%	32%
Not sure	36%	35%	38%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hodges Favorability				
Favorable	24%	38%	10%	27%
Unfavorable	32%	27%	38%	29%
Not sure	44%	35%	52%	44%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Beasley Favorability				
Favorable	30%	22%	42%	21%
Unfavorable	29%	38%	18%	35%
Not sure	41%	40%	40%	44%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Campbell Favorability				
Favorable	45%	31%	58%	43%
Unfavorable	19%	31%	8%	21%
Not sure	36%	38%	33%	36%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
M. Sanford Favorability				
Favorable	28%	13%	39%	29%
Unfavorable	58%	76%	42%	59%
Not sure	14%	11%	19%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Haley Approval				
Approve	41%	49%	18%	33%
Disapprove	43%	35%	66%	52%
Not sure	16%	16%	16%	15%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Sheheen Favorability				
Favorable	27%	26%	28%	38%
Unfavorable	25%	24%	28%	29%
Not sure	47%	50%	44%	33%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Haley/Sheheen Do-over				
Nikki Haley	49%	57%	24%	35%
Vincent Sheheen	43%	35%	68%	56%
Not sure	8%	8%	8%	10%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Graham Approval				
Approve	41%	49%	19%	24%
Disapprove	39%	34%	51%	56%
Not sure	20%	17%	29%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
DeMint Approval				
Approve	47%	55%	23%	36%
Disapprove	32%	29%	42%	35%
Not sure	21%	16%	35%	29%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Thurmond Favorability				
Favorable	46%	51%	28%	57%
Unfavorable	29%	24%	47%	23%
Not sure	25%	25%	25%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Hollings Favorability				
Favorable	33%	34%	31%	32%
Unfavorable	31%	32%	28%	32%
Not sure	36%	34%	41%	37%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Hodges Favorability				
Favorable	24%	20%	34%	26%
Unfavorable	32%	34%	26%	37%
Not sure	44%	46%	39%	38%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Beasley Favorability				
Favorable	30%	35%	15%	32%
Unfavorable	29%	27%	37%	26%
Not sure	41%	39%	48%	43%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Campbell Favorability				
Favorable	45%	52%	27%	35%
Unfavorable	19%	16%	31%	14%
Not sure	36%	32%	42%	52%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
M. Sanford Favorability				
Favorable	28%	33%	11%	23%
Unfavorable	58%	52%	76%	57%
Not sure	14%	15%	12%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Haley Approval					
Approve	41%	24%	38%	48%	48%
Disapprove	43%	58%	43%	41%	29%
Not sure	16%	18%	18%	11%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Sheheen Favorability					
Favorable	27%	27%	24%	32%	22%
Unfavorable	25%	27%	24%	26%	26%
Not sure	47%	47%	53%	42%	52%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Haley/Sheheen Do-over					
Nikki Haley	49%	38%	43%	55%	55%
Vincent Sheheen	43%	58%	47%	39%	32%
Not sure	8%	4%	9%	7%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Graham Approval					
Approve	41%	36%	45%	37%	50%
Disapprove	39%	51%	29%	45%	30%
Not sure	20%	13%	26%	19%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
DeMint Approval					
Approve	47%	31%	43%	49%	63%
Disapprove	32%	38%	30%	34%	26%
Not sure	21%	31%	26%	17%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Thurmond Favorability					
Favorable	46%	42%	45%	47%	49%
Unfavorable	29%	36%	28%	30%	26%
Not sure	25%	22%	28%	23%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hollings Favorability					
Favorable	33%	36%	22%	37%	38%
Unfavorable	31%	23%	30%	33%	36%
Not sure	36%	41%	47%	30%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hodges Favorability					
Favorable	24%	16%	21%	29%	23%
Unfavorable	32%	42%	24%	33%	37%
Not sure	44%	42%	55%	38%	40%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Beasley Favorability					
Favorable	30%	29%	30%	30%	31%
Unfavorable	29%	29%	22%	34%	28%
Not sure	41%	42%	47%	36%	41%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Campbell Favorability					
Favorable	45%	24%	39%	52%	62%
Unfavorable	19%	24%	17%	21%	11%
Not sure	36%	51%	43%	26%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
M. Sanford Favorability					
Favorable	28%	18%	28%	30%	32%
Unfavorable	58%	64%	58%	58%	49%
Not sure	14%	18%	14%	11%	19%

