

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 10, 2010**

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## **Perry, Hutchison Popularity Down**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – The spirited primary contest between Rick Perry and Kay Bailey Hutchison is driving down both politicians’ approval ratings, but the GOP is still favored to hold onto the Texas Governorship this fall.

Hutchison’s approval rating is just 40/37 and Perry’s is a negative 33/50 spread. A year ago at this time PPP found 58% of voters in the state with a favorable opinion of Hutchison and 41% with a positive take on Perry.

The main reason for each of their declines is reduced popularity among GOP voters, as partisans of each candidate direct their enmity toward the other. Only 54% of Republicans approve of Hutchison now and just 51% say they like how Perry is doing.

The other two major candidates in the race at this point who aren’t being attacked have much better favorability spreads, although they’re not all that well known. 32% have a positive opinion of GOP insurgent Debra Medina to 13% who see her negatively. For Democratic front runners Bill White it’s a 34/17 spread.

Hutchison, Perry, and Medina all lead White by similar margins for the general election. Hutchison is up 45-38, Medina 44-38, and Perry 48-42. The Republican candidates lead among independents in each match up.

“Democrats might have their best chance in a while to win the Texas Governor’s race,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “This primary is generating a lot of bad blood and making Bill White more competitive. The extent to which Republicans are able to unify around their nominee once this is over will have a big impact on what happens this fall.”

PPP will release numbers tomorrow looking at President Obama’s popularity in the state, as well as the state’s leanings in a potential special US Senate election.

PPP surveyed 1,200 Texas registered voters from February 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the survey is +/-2.8%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

[Complete results are attached and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com)



## Texas Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Rick Perry's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* ..... 33%  
*Disapprove*..... 50%  
*Not Sure*..... 17%

**Q2** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* ..... 40%  
*Disapprove*..... 37%  
*Not Sure*..... 23%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Debra Medina? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Favorable*..... 32%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 13%  
*Not Sure*..... 55%

**Q4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Bill White? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Favorable* ..... 34% *Not Sure*..... 49%  
*Unfavorable*..... 17%

**Q5** If the candidates for Governor this fall were Republican Kay Bailey Hutchison and Democrat Bill White, who would you vote for? If Kay Bailey Hutchison, press 1. If Bill White, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Hutchison*..... 45%  
*White* ..... 38%  
*Undecided*..... 17%

**Q6** If the candidates for Governor this fall were Republican Debra Medina and Democrat Bill White, who would you vote for? If Debra Medina, press 1. If Bill White, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Medina* ..... 44% *Undecided*..... 18%  
*White*..... 38%

**Q7** If the candidates for Governor this fall were Republican Rick Perry and Democrat Bill White, who would you vote for? If Rick Perry, press 1. If Bill White, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Perry* ..... 48% *Undecided*..... 10%  
*White* ..... 42%

**Q8** Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

*McCain*..... 54%  
*Obama* ..... 40%  
*Someone Else/Don't Remember*..... 6%

**Q9** If you are a liberal, press 1. If a moderate, press 2. If a conservative, press 3.

*Liberal*..... 15%  
*Moderate*..... 34%  
*Conservative*..... 51%

**Q10** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 52%  
*Man*..... 48%

**Q11** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

*Democrat* ..... 36%  
*Republican*..... 40%  
*Independent/Other*..... 24%





**Q12** If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2.  
If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

*Hispanic*..... 21%  
*White* ..... 63%  
*African American* ..... 12%  
*Other*..... 4%

**Q13** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If  
you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65,  
press 3. If older, press 4.

*18 to 29*..... 9%  
*30 to 45*..... 26%  
*46 to 65*..... 47%  
*Older than 65*..... 17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Perry Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	33%	48%	11%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	33%	75%	39%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	20%	14%	20%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Hutchison Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	40%	52%	29%	10%
<b>Disapprove</b>	36%	26%	51%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	23%	22%	20%	54%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Medina Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	35%	24%	54%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	13%	10%	19%	2%
<b>Not Sure</b>	55%	55%	57%	44%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>White Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	34%	17%	61%	15%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	17%	23%	8%	22%
<b>Not Sure</b>	49%	60%	30%	64%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Hutchison/White</b>				
Hutchison	45%	70%	13%	24%
White	38%	11%	76%	35%
Undecided	17%	18%	11%	41%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Medina/White</b>				
Medina	44%	63%	15%	61%
White	38%	15%	74%	23%
Undecided	18%	22%	11%	16%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Perry/White</b>				
Perry	48%	77%	6%	52%
White	42%	13%	87%	25%
Undecided	10%	10%	8%	24%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Perry Approval</b>				
Approve	33%	9%	29%	43%
Disapprove	50%	81%	57%	35%
Not Sure	17%	9%	14%	22%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Hutchison Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>40%</b>	13%	43%	47%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>37%</b>	69%	33%	29%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	18%	24%	24%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Medina Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>32%</b>	25%	23%	39%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>13%</b>	23%	15%	9%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>55%</b>	51%	61%	52%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>White Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>34%</b>	57%	43%	21%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>17%</b>	14%	9%	24%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>49%</b>	29%	48%	56%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Hutchison/White</b>				
<b>Hutchison</b>	<b>45%</b>	14%	31%	64%
<b>White</b>	<b>38%</b>	75%	50%	19%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>17%</b>	12%	19%	17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Medina/White</b>				
<b>Medina</b>	<b>44%</b>	20%	28%	63%
<b>White</b>	<b>38%</b>	68%	49%	21%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>18%</b>	11%	23%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Perry/White</b>				
<b>Perry</b>	<b>48%</b>	6%	29%	73%
<b>White</b>	<b>42%</b>	85%	60%	17%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	9%	11%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Perry Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	<b>33%</b>	32%	35%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>50%</b>	47%	52%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>17%</b>	21%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Hutchison Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	<b>40%</b>	37%	44%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>37%</b>	33%	40%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	30%	16%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Medina Favorability</b>			
Favorable	32%	24%	40%
Unfavorable	13%	13%	14%
Not Sure	55%	64%	46%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>White Favorability</b>			
Favorable	34%	33%	35%
Unfavorable	17%	14%	20%
Not Sure	49%	53%	45%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Hutchison/White</b>			
Hutchison	45%	46%	45%
White	38%	36%	40%
Undecided	17%	18%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Medina/White</b>			
Medina	44%	39%	50%
White	38%	38%	37%
Undecided	18%	23%	13%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Perry/White</b>			
<b>Perry</b>	<b>48%</b>	47%	50%
<b>White</b>	<b>42%</b>	41%	43%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	12%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Perry Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>33%</b>	12%	51%	33%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>50%</b>	72%	28%	52%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>17%</b>	15%	20%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Hutchison Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>40%</b>	26%	54%	39%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>37%</b>	50%	25%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	24%	21%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Medina Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>32%</b>	23%	33%	43%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>13%</b>	17%	12%	10%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>55%</b>	60%	56%	47%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>White Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	34%	59%	15%	29%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	17%	7%	27%	16%
<b>Not Sure</b>	49%	34%	58%	55%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Hutchison/White</b>				
<b>Hutchison</b>	45%	12%	79%	36%
<b>White</b>	38%	76%	9%	32%
<b>Undecided</b>	17%	11%	12%	32%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Medina/White</b>				
<b>Medina</b>	44%	14%	67%	49%
<b>White</b>	38%	75%	14%	26%
<b>Undecided</b>	18%	11%	19%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Perry/White</b>				
<b>Perry</b>	48%	6%	83%	47%
<b>White</b>	42%	85%	10%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	9%	7%	17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Perry Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	33%	39%	35%	18%	24%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	44%	48%	64%	55%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	17%	17%	18%	21%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Hutchison Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	40%	39%	42%	39%	29%
<b>Disapprove</b>	37%	27%	37%	43%	50%
<b>Not Sure</b>	23%	33%	21%	18%	21%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Medina Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	42%	31%	22%	21%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	13%	15%	10%	22%	24%
<b>Not Sure</b>	55%	42%	59%	56%	55%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>White Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	34%	39%	30%	48%	18%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	17%	21%	16%	15%	18%
<b>Not Sure</b>	49%	39%	53%	37%	63%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Hutchison/White</b>					
<b>Hutchison</b>	45%	33%	54%	15%	46%
<b>White</b>	38%	42%	30%	78%	27%
<b>Undecided</b>	17%	24%	16%	7%	27%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Medina/White</b>					
<b>Medina</b>	44%	50%	49%	15%	32%
<b>White</b>	38%	34%	33%	73%	35%
<b>Undecided</b>	18%	16%	19%	12%	32%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Perry/White</b>					
<b>Perry</b>	48%	53%	54%	12%	41%
<b>White</b>	42%	41%	35%	81%	46%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	6%	11%	8%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Perry Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	33%	28%	35%	29%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	57%	45%	55%	39%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	15%	20%	16%	19%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Hutchison Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	40%	46%	41%	39%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	37%	22%	31%	41%	41%
<b>Not Sure</b>	23%	32%	28%	21%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Medina Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	46%	33%	30%	27%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	13%	24%	11%	15%	7%
<b>Not Sure</b>	55%	30%	56%	55%	67%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>White Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	34%	36%	39%	32%	31%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	17%	15%	16%	17%	21%
<b>Not Sure</b>	49%	49%	45%	51%	49%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Hutchison/White</b>					
<b>Hutchison</b>	45%	36%	43%	45%	53%
<b>White</b>	38%	53%	38%	37%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	17%	10%	19%	18%	13%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Medina/White</b>					
<b>Medina</b>	<b>44%</b>	58%	39%	43%	50%
<b>White</b>	<b>38%</b>	42%	36%	39%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>18%</b>	-	24%	18%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Perry/White</b>					
<b>Perry</b>	<b>48%</b>	47%	55%	43%	51%
<b>White</b>	<b>42%</b>	47%	39%	44%	38%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	6%	5%	13%	12%

