



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington Governor's Race a Dead Heat; Voters Support Gay Marriage, Relaxing Marijuana Laws

Raleigh, N.C. – Washington Gubernatorial candidates Democrat Jay Inslee and Republican Rob McKenna are tied with 42% each, with 16% of voters undecided, a new survey of Washington voters from Public Policy Polling finds. About 1/3 of voters still don't know enough about each candidate to form an opinion of them, with 36% holding a favorable opinion of Inslee, 28% unfavorable, and 36% not sure. Rob McKenna sees a 39% favorable rating, 29% unfavorable, and 32% not sure. Last May, our polling found the race in a similar position with 38% supporting Inslee, 40% supporting McKenna and 22% not sure.

The Attorney General's race looks similarly close, with 34% supporting Republican Reagan Dunn, 32% supporting Democrat Bob Ferguson and 34% undecided.

Voters say if there was a referendum on the new law legalizing same-sex marriage, they would vote to uphold it rather than repeal it, 50%-46%. Only 20% of voters say they feel there should be no legal recognition of same-sex couples at all, with 46% supporting legal gay marriage and 32% supporting civil unions but not gay marriage.

Washington Initiative 502, which would legalize and allow for the sale and regulation of marijuana, looks headed for passage if the election were today. 47% of voters support the initiative while 39% oppose it.

“Washington appears to be headed for a close state election this fall,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “The Governor's race, gay marriage repeal, and marijuana legalization issue all appear to be things voters are pretty evenly divided about. That should compensate for the lack of a competitive Presidential race in the state.”

Senator Patty Murray holds a positive job approval rating with 50% approving and 43% disapproving.

PPP surveyed 1,264 Washington voters between February 16th and 19th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-2.76%. 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.





Washington Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Christine Gregoire's job performance?

Approve..... 40% Not sure 7%
Disapprove..... 53%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jay Inslee?

Favorable..... 36%
Unfavorable 28%
Not sure 36%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rob McKenna?

Favorable..... 39%
Unfavorable 29%
Not sure 32%

Q4 If the candidates for Governor this fall were Democrat Jay Inslee and Republican Rob McKenna, who would you vote for?

Jay Inslee..... 42%
Rob McKenna..... 42%
Undecided..... 16%

Q5 If the candidates for Attorney General this fall were Republican Reagan Dunn and Democrat Bob Ferguson, who would you vote for?

Reagan Dunn..... 34%
Bob Ferguson 32%
Undecided..... 34%

Q6 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Patty Murray's job performance?

Approve 50% Not sure 7%
Disapprove..... 43%

Q7 If there was a referendum on the new law legalizing same-sex marriage, would you vote to uphold the law, or would you vote to repeal it?

Would vote to uphold the law..... 50%
Would vote to repeal it..... 46%
Not sure 4%

Q8 Do you think same-sex marriage should be legal or illegal?

Legal..... 49% Not sure 7%
Illegal 44%

Q9 Which of the following best describes your opinion on gay marriage: gay couples should be allowed to legally marry, or gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not legally marry, or there should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship?

Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry..... 46%	There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship 20%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry..... 32%	Not sure 2%

Q10 Washington Initiative 502 would license and regulate marijuana production, distribution, and possessions for persons over 21; remove state-law criminal and civil penalties for activities that it authorizes; tax marijuana sales; and earmark marijuana-related revenues. If the election was today, would you vote yes or no on Initiative 502?

Yes..... 47%
No..... 39%
Not sure..... 15%





Q11 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

<i>John McCain</i>	39%
<i>Barack Obama</i>	53%
<i>Someone else/Don't remember</i>	8%

Q12 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	14%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	20%
<i>Moderate</i>	28%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	21%
<i>Very conservative</i>	17%

Q13 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	54%
<i>Man</i>	46%

Q14 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>	32%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	32%

Q15 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

<i>White</i>	89%
<i>Other</i>	11%

Q16 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>	9%
<i>30 to 45</i>	22%
<i>46 to 65</i>	49%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gregoire Approval				
Approve	40%	8%	67%	21%
Disapprove	53%	86%	25%	69%
Not sure	7%	6%	7%	10%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Inslee Favorability				
Favorable	36%	13%	54%	22%
Unfavorable	28%	44%	17%	25%
Not sure	36%	43%	28%	52%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
McKenna Favorability				
Favorable	39%	60%	23%	40%
Unfavorable	29%	9%	46%	20%
Not sure	32%	31%	31%	40%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Inslee/McKenna				
Jay Inslee	42%	7%	71%	22%
Rob McKenna	42%	83%	11%	42%
Undecided	16%	11%	17%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Dunn/Ferguson				
Reagan Dunn	34%	63%	11%	40%
Bob Ferguson	32%	8%	53%	16%
Undecided	34%	29%	36%	44%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Murray Approval				
Approve	50%	12%	81%	33%
Disapprove	43%	80%	13%	61%
Not sure	7%	8%	6%	6%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gay Marriage Referendum Vote				
Would vote to uphold the law	50%	14%	79%	31%
Would vote to repeal it	46%	82%	17%	58%
Not sure	4%	4%	4%	11%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Same-sex Legal/Illegal				
Legal	49%	14%	78%	30%
Illegal	44%	78%	16%	54%
Not sure	7%	8%	6%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	46%	12%	74%	27%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	32%	50%	18%	40%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	20%	37%	6%	27%
Not sure	2%	1%	2%	6%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Initiative 502				
Yes	47%	26%	63%	44%
No	39%	62%	21%	40%
Not sure	15%	12%	16%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gregoire Approval						
Approve	40%	76%	72%	41%	12%	5%
Disapprove	53%	15%	23%	48%	82%	93%
Not sure	7%	9%	5%	11%	6%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Inslee Favorability						
Favorable	36%	57%	57%	39%	15%	13%
Unfavorable	28%	19%	13%	23%	38%	52%
Not sure	36%	25%	30%	38%	48%	35%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
McKenna Favorability						
Favorable	39%	18%	21%	35%	56%	66%
Unfavorable	29%	59%	44%	30%	8%	12%
Not sure	32%	23%	36%	35%	36%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Inslee/McKenna						
Jay Inslee	42%	78%	76%	45%	9%	7%
Rob McKenna	42%	10%	7%	31%	76%	86%
Undecided	16%	12%	17%	24%	16%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Dunn/Ferguson						
Reagan Dunn	34%	13%	15%	21%	54%	70%
Bob Ferguson	32%	64%	53%	32%	11%	9%
Undecided	34%	23%	33%	47%	35%	21%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Murray Approval						
Approve	50%	85%	86%	54%	21%	7%
Disapprove	43%	10%	11%	35%	70%	89%
Not sure	7%	5%	2%	11%	9%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gay Marriage Referendum Vote						
Would vote to uphold the law	50%	88%	80%	55%	20%	8%
Would vote to repeal it	46%	11%	15%	39%	74%	91%
Not sure	4%	1%	6%	6%	6%	1%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Same-sex Legal/Illegal						
Legal	49%	88%	80%	55%	18%	8%
Illegal	44%	10%	12%	36%	70%	90%
Not sure	7%	3%	8%	9%	12%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition						
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	46%	87%	77%	49%	17%	6%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	32%	8%	14%	36%	50%	46%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	20%	4%	7%	13%	29%	48%
Not sure	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%	1%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Initiative 502						
Yes	47%	72%	66%	49%	30%	19%
No	39%	17%	18%	34%	55%	70%
Not sure	15%	11%	16%	17%	15%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gregoire Approval			
Approve	40%	42%	38%
Disapprove	53%	50%	56%
Not sure	7%	7%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Inslee Favorability			
Favorable	36%	35%	37%
Unfavorable	28%	24%	33%
Not sure	36%	41%	30%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McKenna Favorability			
Favorable	39%	38%	41%
Unfavorable	29%	27%	32%
Not sure	32%	35%	27%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Inslee/McKenna			
Jay Inslee	42%	44%	39%
Rob McKenna	42%	37%	47%
Undecided	16%	19%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dunn/Ferguson			
Reagan Dunn	34%	30%	38%
Bob Ferguson	32%	32%	33%
Undecided	34%	38%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Murray Approval			
Approve	50%	55%	45%
Disapprove	43%	37%	50%
Not sure	7%	8%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gay Marriage Referendum Vote			
Would vote to uphold the law	50%	55%	44%
Would vote to repeal it	46%	40%	52%
Not sure	4%	5%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Same-sex Legal/Illegal			
Legal	49%	54%	43%
Illegal	44%	38%	50%
Not sure	7%	7%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition			
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	46%	51%	40%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	32%	30%	35%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	20%	17%	23%
Not sure	2%	2%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Initiative 502			
Yes	47%	46%	48%
No	39%	37%	41%
Not sure	15%	17%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gregoire Approval				
Approve	40%	73%	9%	35%
Disapprove	53%	21%	86%	55%
Not sure	7%	6%	5%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Inslee Favorability				
Favorable	36%	57%	17%	30%
Unfavorable	28%	17%	41%	29%
Not sure	36%	26%	42%	41%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McKenna Favorability				
Favorable	39%	19%	62%	39%
Unfavorable	29%	50%	10%	25%
Not sure	32%	31%	28%	35%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Inslee/McKenna				
Jay Inslee	42%	81%	9%	31%
Rob McKenna	42%	6%	81%	43%
Undecided	16%	13%	10%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dunn/Ferguson				
Reagan Dunn	34%	10%	64%	30%
Bob Ferguson	32%	61%	10%	22%
Undecided	34%	29%	25%	48%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Murray Approval				
Approve	50%	89%	15%	41%
Disapprove	43%	8%	79%	47%
Not sure	7%	3%	6%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gay Marriage Referendum Vote				
Would vote to uphold the law	50%	81%	15%	49%
Would vote to repeal it	46%	14%	82%	46%
Not sure	4%	5%	3%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Same-sex Legal/Illegal				
Legal	49%	81%	15%	47%
Illegal	44%	14%	78%	43%
Not sure	7%	5%	7%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	46%	77%	13%	44%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	32%	17%	46%	35%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	20%	4%	40%	17%
Not sure	2%	2%	1%	3%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Initiative 502				
Yes	47%	62%	26%	50%
No	39%	19%	63%	36%
Not sure	15%	19%	11%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gregoire Approval			
Approve	40%	40%	38%
Disapprove	53%	53%	52%
Not sure	7%	7%	11%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Inslee Favorability			
Favorable	36%	35%	38%
Unfavorable	28%	29%	27%
Not sure	36%	36%	36%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
McKenna Favorability			
Favorable	39%	40%	35%
Unfavorable	29%	30%	28%
Not sure	32%	31%	37%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Inslee/McKenna			
Jay Inslee	42%	42%	45%
Rob McKenna	42%	43%	34%
Undecided	16%	16%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Dunn/Ferguson			
Reagan Dunn	34%	34%	34%
Bob Ferguson	32%	32%	37%
Undecided	34%	35%	29%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Murray Approval			
Approve	50%	50%	51%
Disapprove	43%	43%	40%
Not sure	7%	6%	9%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gay Marriage Referendum Vote			
Would vote to uphold the law	50%	50%	46%
Would vote to repeal it	46%	46%	47%
Not sure	4%	4%	6%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Same-sex Legal/Illegal			
Legal	49%	49%	46%
Illegal	44%	44%	43%
Not sure	7%	7%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition			
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	46%	47%	40%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	32%	32%	34%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	20%	19%	24%
Not sure	2%	2%	2%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Initiative 502			
Yes	47%	47%	49%
No	39%	38%	39%
Not sure	15%	15%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gregoire Approval					
Approve	40%	42%	34%	42%	41%
Disapprove	53%	53%	57%	52%	51%
Not sure	7%	5%	10%	6%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Inslee Favorability					
Favorable	36%	39%	31%	37%	35%
Unfavorable	28%	18%	32%	28%	31%
Not sure	36%	42%	37%	35%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McKenna Favorability					
Favorable	39%	39%	39%	37%	43%
Unfavorable	29%	24%	28%	31%	28%
Not sure	32%	37%	32%	31%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Inslee/McKenna					
Jay Inslee	42%	45%	39%	44%	39%
Rob McKenna	42%	29%	44%	41%	47%
Undecided	16%	26%	17%	15%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dunn/Ferguson					
Reagan Dunn	34%	29%	30%	34%	40%
Bob Ferguson	32%	37%	32%	33%	28%
Undecided	34%	34%	38%	33%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Murray Approval					
Approve	50%	61%	40%	53%	50%
Disapprove	43%	32%	51%	42%	44%
Not sure	7%	8%	9%	6%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gay Marriage Referendum Vote					
Would vote to uphold the law	50%	63%	51%	51%	39%
Would vote to repeal it	46%	32%	45%	45%	56%
Not sure	4%	5%	4%	4%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Same-sex Legal/Illegal					
Legal	49%	61%	49%	51%	39%
Illegal	44%	29%	42%	44%	52%
Not sure	7%	11%	9%	5%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition					
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	46%	61%	46%	48%	36%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	32%	16%	32%	31%	41%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	20%	21%	21%	18%	21%
Not sure	2%	3%	1%	3%	2%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Initiative 502					
Yes	47%	55%	50%	49%	35%
No	39%	37%	38%	37%	45%
Not sure	15%	8%	12%	15%	20%

