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Wisconsin Voters Want Dems to Control State Senate, Support Recall Elections

Raleigh, N.C. – A new poll by Public Policy Polling finds that Wisconsin voters would prefer that Democrats control the State Senate rather than Republicans, 48%-41%. Nearly all Democratic and Republican voters want their own party to control the chamber, but the scales are tipped by independent voters who say they would rather Democrats run the State Senate by a 45%-31% margin.

As controversy continues to swirl around a possible upcoming recall election of Governor Scott Walker, voters say that in general, they think Wisconsin should have recall elections by a 53%-41% margin. Democrats support the idea of recall elections 86%-9%, Republicans oppose recall elections 16%-78%, and independents support them 56%-37%.

“Recall elections have become a polarizing issue in Wisconsin politics, but a majority of independent voters side with Democrats in having the option to use them,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

Outgoing Senator Herb Kohl sees a strong approval rating among Wisconsin voters, with 54% approving of his job performance and just 28% disapproving – a slight increase from the last time PPP polled on his job performance in October 2011 when he was at 51/31. Republican Senator Ron Johnson hasn’t made much of a positive impression yet among Wisconsin voters, with 36% of voters approving of his job performance, 35% disapproving and 29% not sure.

PPP also polled on the favorability ratings of some major Wisconsin sports stars. Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers is at 73% favorable and 6% unfavorable – gaudy numbers to be sure but down from October 2011 when he was at 89/4 (and Packers fans were still dreaming of a Super Bowl repeat). Milwaukee Brewers star Ryan Braun, recently cleared of performance-enhancing drug charges, is viewed favorably by 59% of Wisconsin voters and unfavorably by just 7%.

PPP surveyed 900 Wisconsin voters from February 23rd to 26th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.27%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.



Wisconsin Survey Results

Q1 In general, do you think Wisconsin should have recall elections, or not?

Wisconsin should have recalls..... 53%
It should not..... 41%
Not sure..... 6%

Q2 Would you rather that Democrats or Republicans had control of the State Senate?

Democrats..... 48%
Republicans..... 41%
Not sure..... 12%

Q3 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Ron Johnson's job performance?

Approve.....36% *Not sure*.....29%
Disapprove.....35%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Herb Kohl's job performance?

Approve.....54% *Not sure*.....17%
Disapprove.....28%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Aaron Rodgers?

Favorable..... 73%
Unfavorable..... 6%
Not sure..... 21%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike McCarthy?

Favorable..... 65%
Unfavorable..... 8%
Not sure..... 28%

Q7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Ryan Braun?

Favorable..... 59%
Unfavorable..... 7%
Not sure..... 34%

Q8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Prince Fielder?

Favorable..... 49%
Unfavorable..... 16%
Not sure..... 35%

Q9 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 40%
Barack Obama..... 52%
Someone else/Don't remember..... 8%

Q10 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 10%
Somewhat liberal..... 19%
Moderate..... 31%
Somewhat conservative..... 25%
Very conservative..... 15%

Q11 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman..... 54%
Man..... 46%

Q12 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..... 33%
Republican..... 31%
Independent/Other..... 36%

Q13 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White..... 90%
Other..... 10%





Q14 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>	10%
<i>30 to 45</i>	28%
<i>46 to 65</i>	42%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%

Q15 Are you or is anyone in your household a member of a labor union?

<i>Yes</i>	29%
<i>No</i>	71%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Should WI Have Recalls?				
Wisconsin should have recalls	53%	20%	81%	45%
It should not	41%	73%	14%	47%
Not sure	6%	7%	5%	9%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled WI Sen.?				
Democrats	48%	8%	81%	33%
Republicans	41%	83%	8%	38%
Not sure	12%	9%	11%	30%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Johnson Approval				
Approve	36%	68%	11%	35%
Disapprove	35%	8%	57%	29%
Not sure	29%	24%	32%	35%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Kohl Approval				
Approve	54%	25%	80%	38%
Disapprove	28%	56%	7%	31%
Not sure	17%	20%	13%	31%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Rodgers Favorability				
Favorable	73%	76%	73%	60%
Unfavorable	6%	6%	6%	9%
Not sure	21%	18%	21%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
McCarthy Favorability				
Favorable	65%	68%	63%	58%
Unfavorable	8%	6%	9%	9%
Not sure	28%	26%	28%	33%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Braun Favorability				
Favorable	59%	64%	57%	42%
Unfavorable	7%	7%	8%	9%
Not sure	34%	29%	35%	49%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Fielder Favorability				
Favorable	49%	53%	50%	24%
Unfavorable	16%	16%	15%	21%
Not sure	35%	31%	35%	55%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Should WI Have Recalls?						
Wisconsin should have recalls	53%	86%	81%	67%	22%	21%
It should not	41%	12%	13%	30%	68%	69%
Not sure	6%	2%	6%	4%	9%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled WI Sen.?						
Democrats	48%	83%	87%	59%	16%	5%
Republicans	41%	10%	5%	21%	74%	92%
Not sure	12%	8%	8%	20%	10%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Johnson Approval						
Approve	36%	15%	5%	20%	59%	82%
Disapprove	35%	69%	61%	43%	12%	3%
Not sure	29%	16%	34%	37%	29%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Kohl Approval						
Approve	54%	88%	81%	69%	28%	12%
Disapprove	28%	10%	6%	11%	48%	71%
Not sure	17%	2%	13%	19%	24%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Rodgers Favorability						
Favorable	73%	68%	73%	72%	75%	74%
Unfavorable	6%	8%	5%	8%	6%	5%
Not sure	21%	24%	22%	21%	19%	21%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
McCarthy Favorability						
Favorable	65%	58%	63%	62%	70%	66%
Unfavorable	8%	7%	8%	10%	7%	5%
Not sure	28%	34%	29%	28%	23%	30%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Braun Favorability						
Favorable	59%	55%	58%	58%	62%	57%
Unfavorable	7%	14%	8%	7%	6%	7%
Not sure	34%	31%	34%	36%	31%	36%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Fielder Favorability						
Favorable	49%	59%	45%	50%	50%	48%
Unfavorable	16%	16%	19%	15%	15%	16%
Not sure	35%	25%	36%	36%	35%	37%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Should WI Have Recalls?			
Wisconsin should have recalls	53%	52%	54%
It should not	41%	40%	41%
Not sure	6%	7%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled WI Sen.?			
Democrats	48%	49%	46%
Republicans	41%	38%	44%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Johnson Approval			
Approve	36%	31%	41%
Disapprove	35%	33%	38%
Not sure	29%	36%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Kohl Approval			
Approve	54%	58%	50%
Disapprove	28%	24%	34%
Not sure	17%	18%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Rodgers Favorability			
Favorable	73%	73%	73%
Unfavorable	6%	4%	8%
Not sure	21%	23%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCarthy Favorability			
Favorable	65%	65%	64%
Unfavorable	8%	5%	11%
Not sure	28%	30%	25%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Braun Favorability			
Favorable	59%	56%	62%
Unfavorable	7%	6%	9%
Not sure	34%	38%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Fielder Favorability			
Favorable	49%	48%	51%
Unfavorable	16%	13%	20%
Not sure	35%	39%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Should WI Have Recalls?				
Wisconsin should have recalls	53%	86%	16%	56%
It should not	41%	9%	78%	37%
Not sure	6%	5%	6%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled WI Sen.?				
Democrats	48%	92%	4%	45%
Republicans	41%	4%	91%	31%
Not sure	12%	4%	5%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Johnson Approval				
Approve	36%	8%	72%	30%
Disapprove	35%	58%	4%	41%
Not sure	29%	34%	24%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Kohl Approval				
Approve	54%	81%	19%	61%
Disapprove	28%	7%	59%	22%
Not sure	17%	13%	22%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Rodgers Favorability				
Favorable	73%	71%	76%	72%
Unfavorable	6%	7%	5%	7%
Not sure	21%	22%	20%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCarthy Favorability				
Favorable	65%	61%	70%	64%
Unfavorable	8%	8%	4%	10%
Not sure	28%	31%	26%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Braun Favorability				
Favorable	59%	58%	63%	57%
Unfavorable	7%	8%	6%	7%
Not sure	34%	34%	31%	36%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Fielder Favorability				
Favorable	49%	49%	52%	48%
Unfavorable	16%	18%	17%	13%
Not sure	35%	34%	31%	39%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Should WI Have Recalls?			
Wisconsin should have recalls	53%	52%	63%
It should not	41%	41%	32%
Not sure	6%	6%	5%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled WI Sen.?			
Democrats	48%	48%	48%
Republicans	41%	42%	27%
Not sure	12%	10%	24%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Johnson Approval			
Approve	36%	36%	30%
Disapprove	35%	35%	36%
Not sure	29%	28%	35%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Kohl Approval			
Approve	54%	55%	53%
Disapprove	28%	28%	30%
Not sure	17%	17%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Rodgers Favorability			
Favorable	73%	75%	54%
Unfavorable	6%	6%	13%
Not sure	21%	19%	33%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
McCarthy Favorability			
Favorable	65%	67%	39%
Unfavorable	8%	7%	13%
Not sure	28%	25%	48%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Braun Favorability			
Favorable	59%	60%	45%
Unfavorable	7%	7%	8%
Not sure	34%	32%	47%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Fielder Favorability			
Favorable	49%	51%	39%
Unfavorable	16%	16%	12%
Not sure	35%	33%	48%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Should WI Have Recalls?					
Wisconsin should have recalls	53%	50%	54%	57%	46%
It should not	41%	47%	38%	38%	47%
Not sure	6%	3%	8%	5%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled WI Sen.?					
Democrats	48%	57%	48%	48%	42%
Republicans	41%	33%	39%	41%	46%
Not sure	12%	10%	13%	11%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Johnson Approval					
Approve	36%	33%	34%	35%	41%
Disapprove	35%	37%	35%	37%	30%
Not sure	29%	30%	31%	27%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Kohl Approval					
Approve	54%	53%	51%	58%	51%
Disapprove	28%	30%	25%	29%	31%
Not sure	17%	17%	24%	13%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Rodgers Favorability					
Favorable	73%	70%	71%	77%	68%
Unfavorable	6%	13%	6%	6%	3%
Not sure	21%	17%	23%	17%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCarthy Favorability					
Favorable	65%	57%	69%	67%	58%
Unfavorable	8%	17%	7%	8%	4%
Not sure	28%	27%	24%	26%	38%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Braun Favorability					
Favorable	59%	48%	57%	62%	59%
Unfavorable	7%	7%	9%	7%	5%
Not sure	34%	45%	34%	31%	36%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Fielder Favorability					
Favorable	49%	48%	46%	53%	47%
Unfavorable	16%	7%	19%	16%	16%
Not sure	35%	45%	34%	32%	37%





Crosstabs

	Base	Union Member?	
		Yes	No
Should WI Have Recalls?			
Wisconsin should have recalls	53%	70%	46%
It should not	41%	25%	47%
Not sure	6%	5%	7%

	Base	Union Member?	
		Yes	No
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled WI Sen.?			
Democrats	48%	64%	41%
Republicans	41%	26%	47%
Not sure	12%	11%	12%

	Base	Union Member?	
		Yes	No
Johnson Approval			
Approve	36%	24%	41%
Disapprove	35%	42%	33%
Not sure	29%	34%	27%

	Base	Union Member?	
		Yes	No
Kohl Approval			
Approve	54%	63%	51%
Disapprove	28%	19%	32%
Not sure	17%	18%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Union Member?	
		Yes	No
Rodgers Favorability			
Favorable	73%	69%	75%
Unfavorable	6%	10%	5%
Not sure	21%	22%	21%

	Base	Union Member?	
		Yes	No
McCarthy Favorability			
Favorable	65%	60%	67%
Unfavorable	8%	12%	6%
Not sure	28%	28%	28%

	Base	Union Member?	
		Yes	No
Braun Favorability			
Favorable	59%	59%	59%
Unfavorable	7%	10%	6%
Not sure	34%	32%	35%

	Base	Union Member?	
		Yes	No
Fielder Favorability			
Favorable	49%	49%	50%
Unfavorable	16%	20%	14%
Not sure	35%	32%	36%

