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GOP up big in Wisconsin

Raleigh, N.C. – Republicans are headed for comfortable wins in Wisconsin's races for both Senator and Governor. Ron Johnson leads Russ Feingold 53-44 in the US Senate race and Scott Walker leads by an identical margin against Tom Barrett.

There are two major factors leading to the GOP's likely victory on Tuesday:

- 1) Wisconsin has one of the largest enthusiasm gaps of any state in the country. Although it appears Democrats will have turnout issues pretty much everywhere the problem is unusually severe in Wisconsin. Those saying they're likely to vote this fall report having voted for Barack Obama by only 3 points in 2008. He actually won the state by 14 points. .
- 2) Barack Obama's popularity in Wisconsin has declined at a rate much faster than the rest of the country and the state's Democratic Governor is one of the most unpopular people holding his position anywhere in the country as well. Obama's approval with likely voters is only 37%, with 54% of voters disapproving of him. Those bad numbers are partly a function of the state's more conservative electorate this year but worrisome for the President is that only 70% of voters in the state who supported him in 2008 still approve of the job that he's doing. Meanwhile 93% of McCain voters disapprove of his performance.

Jim Doyle's numbers are even worse than Obama's. Just 27% of voters are happy with him, while 62% say they disapprove. Tom Barrett has by most accounts run a strong campaign but it's rare for a party to hold the Governor's office when its incumbent is so unpopular.

“The top of the Republican ticket appears to be headed for surprisingly easy victories in Wisconsin,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Voters in the state are down on the Democratic politicians they elected in 2006 and 2008 so it’s not surprising to see they’re planning to head in a different direction with their picks this fall.”

PPP surveyed 1,372 likely Wisconsin voters from October 26th to 28th. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 2.6%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



Wisconsin Survey Results

Q1 The candidates for US Senate are Democrat Russ Feingold and Republican Ron Johnson. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Russ Feingold..... 44%
Ron Johnson..... 53%
Undecided..... 3%

Q2 The candidates for Governor are Democrat Tom Barrett and Republican Scott Walker. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Tom Barrett..... 44%
Scott Walker 53%
Undecided..... 3%

Q3 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Russ Feingold's job performance?

Approve 44%
Disapprove..... 48%
Not sure 9%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Ron Johnson?

Favorable 51% *Not sure* 14%
Unfavorable..... 35%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tom Barrett?

Favorable 41% *Not sure* 16%
Unfavorable..... 43%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Scott Walker?

Favorable 47% *Not sure* 13%
Unfavorable..... 39%

Q7 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 37%
Disapprove..... 54%
Not sure 9%

Q8 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Herb Kohl's job performance?

Approve 41%
Disapprove..... 40%
Not sure 18%

Q9 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Jim Doyle's job performance?

Approve 27%
Disapprove..... 62%
Not sure 11%

Q10 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 46%
Barack Obama..... 49%
Someone else/Don't remember 5%

Q11 Do you identify yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 18%
Moderate..... 41%
Conservative..... 40%

Q12 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q13 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..... 30%
Republican..... 34%
Independent/Other..... 37%





Q14 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

<i>White</i>	89%
<i>African-American</i>	6%
<i>Other</i>	4%

Q15 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>	24%
<i>46 to 65</i>	42%
<i>Older than 65</i>	24%

Q16 Have you already cast your ballot for this year's election?

<i>Yes</i>	13%
<i>No</i>	87%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Feingold/Johnson				
Russ Feingold	44%	7%	81%	26%
Ron Johnson	53%	91%	17%	45%
Undecided	3%	1%	1%	28%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Barrett/Walker				
Tom Barrett	44%	7%	80%	25%
Scott Walker	53%	92%	18%	48%
Undecided	3%	1%	2%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Feingold Approval				
Approve	44%	9%	79%	25%
Disapprove	48%	83%	14%	40%
Not sure	9%	8%	7%	34%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Johnson Favorability				
Favorable	51%	83%	19%	56%
Unfavorable	35%	7%	65%	13%
Not sure	14%	10%	15%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Barrett Favorability				
Favorable	41%	11%	71%	29%
Unfavorable	43%	72%	15%	36%
Not sure	16%	17%	14%	35%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Walker Favorability				
Favorable	47%	81%	16%	45%
Unfavorable	39%	9%	70%	20%
Not sure	13%	10%	14%	36%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	37%	4%	70%	21%
Disapprove	54%	93%	18%	52%
Not sure	9%	3%	12%	28%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Kohl Approval				
Approve	41%	14%	70%	19%
Disapprove	40%	68%	14%	41%
Not sure	18%	18%	16%	40%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Doyle Approval				
Approve	27%	4%	50%	13%
Disapprove	62%	92%	33%	61%
Not sure	11%	4%	17%	27%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Feingold/Johnson				
Russ Feingold	44%	85%	57%	13%
Ron Johnson	53%	13%	41%	84%
Undecided	3%	2%	3%	3%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Barrett/Walker				
Tom Barrett	44%	84%	53%	15%
Scott Walker	53%	16%	42%	82%
Undecided	3%	0%	4%	3%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Feingold Approval				
Approve	44%	81%	57%	13%
Disapprove	48%	11%	34%	78%
Not sure	9%	8%	9%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Johnson Favorability				
Favorable	51%	16%	38%	80%
Unfavorable	35%	75%	44%	9%
Not sure	14%	9%	18%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Barrett Favorability				
Favorable	41%	79%	48%	17%
Unfavorable	43%	11%	32%	68%
Not sure	16%	10%	20%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Walker Favorability				
Favorable	47%	11%	35%	76%
Unfavorable	39%	80%	47%	14%
Not sure	13%	8%	18%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	37%	83%	43%	11%
Disapprove	54%	13%	44%	83%
Not sure	9%	4%	13%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Kohl Approval				
Approve	41%	73%	51%	18%
Disapprove	40%	12%	30%	63%
Not sure	18%	15%	19%	19%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Doyle Approval				
Approve	27%	63%	29%	9%
Disapprove	62%	23%	55%	86%
Not sure	11%	14%	16%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Feingold/Johnson			
Russ Feingold	44%	49%	39%
Ron Johnson	53%	48%	59%
Undecided	3%	3%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Barrett/Walker			
Tom Barrett	44%	50%	37%
Scott Walker	53%	47%	60%
Undecided	3%	3%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Feingold Approval			
Approve	44%	47%	40%
Disapprove	48%	42%	54%
Not sure	9%	11%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Johnson Favorability			
Favorable	51%	46%	56%
Unfavorable	35%	37%	34%
Not sure	14%	17%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Barrett Favorability			
Favorable	41%	45%	37%
Unfavorable	43%	37%	49%
Not sure	16%	18%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Walker Favorability			
Favorable	47%	44%	52%
Unfavorable	39%	41%	37%
Not sure	13%	15%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	37%	42%	32%
Disapprove	54%	49%	60%
Not sure	9%	9%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Kohl Approval			
Approve	41%	45%	38%
Disapprove	40%	33%	48%
Not sure	18%	22%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Doyle Approval			
Approve	27%	31%	22%
Disapprove	62%	55%	70%
Not sure	11%	14%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Feingold/Johnson				
Russ Feingold	44%	89%	8%	41%
Ron Johnson	53%	10%	92%	52%
Undecided	3%	1%	0%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Barrett/Walker				
Tom Barrett	44%	88%	8%	40%
Scott Walker	53%	10%	91%	54%
Undecided	3%	1%	1%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Feingold Approval				
Approve	44%	83%	8%	43%
Disapprove	48%	9%	86%	44%
Not sure	9%	8%	6%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Johnson Favorability				
Favorable	51%	12%	85%	51%
Unfavorable	35%	68%	9%	33%
Not sure	14%	19%	6%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Barrett Favorability				
Favorable	41%	78%	11%	38%
Unfavorable	43%	9%	74%	41%
Not sure	16%	13%	15%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Walker Favorability				
Favorable	47%	8%	82%	48%
Unfavorable	39%	76%	10%	37%
Not sure	13%	16%	8%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	37%	79%	6%	32%
Disapprove	54%	11%	91%	55%
Not sure	9%	10%	3%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Kohl Approval				
Approve	41%	75%	14%	39%
Disapprove	40%	10%	65%	42%
Not sure	18%	15%	20%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Doyle Approval				
Approve	27%	58%	4%	23%
Disapprove	62%	26%	92%	64%
Not sure	11%	16%	4%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Feingold/Johnson				
Russ Feingold	44%	42%	74%	43%
Ron Johnson	53%	55%	24%	46%
Undecided	3%	2%	2%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Barrett/Walker				
Tom Barrett	44%	42%	73%	42%
Scott Walker	53%	55%	27%	52%
Undecided	3%	3%	-	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Feingold Approval				
Approve	44%	43%	54%	45%
Disapprove	48%	49%	27%	39%
Not sure	9%	8%	19%	16%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Johnson Favorability				
Favorable	51%	53%	35%	37%
Unfavorable	35%	34%	51%	39%
Not sure	14%	13%	15%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Barrett Favorability				
Favorable	41%	39%	77%	29%
Unfavorable	43%	44%	10%	51%
Not sure	16%	16%	14%	19%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Walker Favorability				
Favorable	47%	49%	28%	42%
Unfavorable	39%	38%	60%	40%
Not sure	13%	13%	12%	18%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	37%	35%	69%	36%
Disapprove	54%	57%	25%	46%
Not sure	9%	8%	6%	18%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Kohl Approval				
Approve	41%	40%	55%	41%
Disapprove	40%	41%	25%	42%
Not sure	18%	18%	20%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Doyle Approval				
Approve	27%	25%	47%	38%
Disapprove	62%	64%	36%	60%
Not sure	11%	11%	17%	2%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Feingold/Johnson					
Russ Feingold	44%	52%	33%	48%	45%
Ron Johnson	53%	40%	64%	50%	52%
Undecided	3%	7%	2%	2%	2%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Barrett/Walker					
Tom Barrett	44%	56%	33%	47%	44%
Scott Walker	53%	37%	66%	51%	53%
Undecided	3%	7%	1%	2%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Feingold Approval					
Approve	44%	51%	32%	47%	46%
Disapprove	48%	36%	57%	45%	47%
Not sure	9%	13%	12%	8%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Johnson Favorability					
Favorable	51%	46%	59%	47%	51%
Unfavorable	35%	33%	26%	39%	39%
Not sure	14%	21%	15%	13%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Barrett Favorability					
Favorable	41%	56%	30%	44%	40%
Unfavorable	43%	23%	54%	39%	45%
Not sure	16%	21%	16%	17%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Walker Favorability					
Favorable	47%	29%	57%	46%	48%
Unfavorable	39%	50%	29%	42%	40%
Not sure	13%	21%	14%	12%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	37%	47%	27%	41%	37%
Disapprove	54%	45%	66%	51%	51%
Not sure	9%	8%	7%	8%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Kohl Approval					
Approve	41%	45%	31%	45%	44%
Disapprove	40%	32%	51%	37%	38%
Not sure	18%	24%	18%	18%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Doyle Approval					
Approve	27%	39%	20%	28%	27%
Disapprove	62%	50%	71%	60%	61%
Not sure	11%	11%	10%	12%	12%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Feingold/Johnson			
Russ Feingold	44%	44%	44%
Ron Johnson	53%	54%	53%
Undecided	3%	2%	3%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Barrett/Walker			
Tom Barrett	44%	45%	44%
Scott Walker	53%	55%	53%
Undecided	3%	0%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Feingold Approval			
Approve	44%	44%	43%
Disapprove	48%	47%	48%
Not sure	9%	8%	9%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Johnson Favorability			
Favorable	51%	55%	50%
Unfavorable	35%	36%	35%
Not sure	14%	9%	14%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Barrett Favorability			
Favorable	41%	48%	40%
Unfavorable	43%	38%	43%
Not sure	16%	14%	17%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Walker Favorability			
Favorable	47%	48%	47%
Unfavorable	39%	39%	39%
Not sure	13%	13%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Obama Approval			
Approve	37%	37%	37%
Disapprove	54%	53%	54%
Not sure	9%	10%	8%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Kohl Approval			
Approve	41%	44%	41%
Disapprove	40%	41%	40%
Not sure	18%	15%	19%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Doyle Approval			
Approve	27%	31%	26%
Disapprove	62%	55%	63%
Not sure	11%	13%	11%

