

INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Manchin leads Capito, Raese, McKinley for 2012 re-election

Raleigh, N.C. – Joe Manchin’s maintained his popularity with West Virginia voters as he has transitioned from the state house to the nation’s capital. He has a 52-32 job approval margin, good for 10th out of 74 senators on which PPP has polled in the last year or so. Despite West Virginians’ wariness of national Democrats, the state still has a strongly Democratic, if conservative Democratic, electorate, and Manchin is in good shape against three potential opponents next fall.

Second-district Rep. Shelley Moore Capito has long been considered the GOP’s best shot at higher office in the Mountain State. She has slightly better favorability numbers than Manchin’s job performance rating, at 54-30. But the state’s voters still prefer Manchin to Capito, 50-41. In two other matchups, the result is not nearly as close; Manchin has roughly 2:1 leads in both. In a rematch with 2010 opponent John Raese, Manchin leads by a whopping 60-31, far greater than the 54-43 result from just a few months ago. Versus newly inaugurated 1st-district Rep. David McKinley, Manchin prevails, 57-28.

Despite the conservatism of the state’s voters and the red streak at the presidential level in recent years, Democrats still dominate here because there are just so many more of them, so Republicans have to clean up with independents and poach a lot of Democratic voters to be able to win. Capito is the only one who approaches accomplishing that.

Raese has fallen out of favor since his defeat, turning a 41-47 favorability rating into a 30-52 now. As such, Manchin has flipped a 39-55 deficit with independents into a nominal 43-42 lead, and he earns the support of twice as many Republicans (30%) as Raese does Democrats. Last year, Raese pulled slightly more Democrats than Manchin did Republicans. It is a similar story against the lesser known McKinley, who leads 43-37 with independents, but is held to only 52% of the GOP, similar to Raese’s 57%. Manchin picks up 28% of Republicans, and loses only 12% of his own party.

“So far, so good for Joe Manchin since going to Washington DC,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “He remains very popular and leads the most formidable potential opponent Republicans could run against him next year by an amount comparable to his 2010 margin of victory.”

PPP surveyed 1,105 West Virginia voters from January 20th to 23rd. The survey’s margin of error is +/-2.9%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



West Virginia Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Joe Manchin's job performance?

Approve..... 52% Not sure 15%
Disapprove..... 32%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Shelley Moore Capito?

Favorable..... 54%
Unfavorable 30%
Not sure 15%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of David McKinley?

Favorable..... 19%
Unfavorable 25%
Not sure 56%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John Raese?

Favorable..... 30%
Unfavorable 52%
Not sure 18%

Q5 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Joe Manchin and Republican Shelley Moore Capito, who would you vote for?

Joe Manchin 50%
Shelley Moore Capito..... 41%
Undecided..... 10%

Q6 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Joe Manchin and Republican David McKinley, who would you vote for?

Joe Manchin 57%
David McKinley 28%
Undecided..... 14%

Q7 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Joe Manchin and Republican John Raese, who would you vote for?

Joe Manchin 60%
John Raese..... 31%
Undecided..... 9%

Q8 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 15%
Moderate..... 40%
Conservative..... 45%

Q9 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%

Q10 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 57%
Republican..... 32%
Independent/Other..... 10%

Q11 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 95%
Other..... 5%

Q12 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.

18 to 29..... 8%
30 to 45..... 22%
46 to 65..... 47%
Older than 65..... 23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Manchin Approval				
Approve	52%	55%	60%	45%
Disapprove	32%	37%	25%	37%
Not sure	15%	8%	15%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Capito Favorability				
Favorable	54%	28%	44%	73%
Unfavorable	30%	56%	40%	13%
Not sure	15%	16%	17%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
McKinley Favorability				
Favorable	19%	10%	14%	26%
Unfavorable	25%	41%	30%	16%
Not sure	56%	49%	56%	59%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Raese Favorability				
Favorable	30%	10%	17%	48%
Unfavorable	52%	78%	65%	31%
Not sure	18%	12%	18%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Manchin/Capito				
Joe Manchin	50%	77%	62%	29%
Shelley Moore Capito	41%	14%	26%	63%
Undecided	10%	9%	12%	8%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Manchin/McKinley				
Joe Manchin	57%	77%	71%	38%
David McKinley	28%	14%	16%	44%
Undecided	14%	9%	13%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Manchin/Raese				
Joe Manchin	60%	83%	75%	39%
John Raese	31%	12%	17%	49%
Undecided	9%	5%	8%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Manchin Approval			
Approve	52%	58%	46%
Disapprove	32%	27%	38%
Not sure	15%	15%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Capito Favorability			
Favorable	54%	52%	57%
Unfavorable	30%	31%	30%
Not sure	15%	17%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McKinley Favorability			
Favorable	19%	16%	22%
Unfavorable	25%	22%	28%
Not sure	56%	62%	50%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Raese Favorability			
Favorable	30%	25%	34%
Unfavorable	52%	54%	50%
Not sure	18%	21%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Manchin/Capito			
Joe Manchin	50%	54%	45%
Shelley Moore Capito	41%	36%	45%
Undecided	10%	10%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Manchin/McKinley			
Joe Manchin	57%	62%	53%
David McKinley	28%	22%	35%
Undecided	14%	17%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Manchin/Raese			
Joe Manchin	60%	65%	54%
John Raese	31%	25%	37%
Undecided	9%	10%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Manchin Approval				
Approve	52%	62%	42%	31%
Disapprove	32%	26%	38%	49%
Not sure	15%	12%	20%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Capito Favorability				
Favorable	54%	42%	75%	62%
Unfavorable	30%	43%	12%	20%
Not sure	15%	16%	13%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McKinley Favorability				
Favorable	19%	12%	28%	26%
Unfavorable	25%	32%	15%	21%
Not sure	56%	56%	57%	53%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Raese Favorability				
Favorable	30%	15%	52%	38%
Unfavorable	52%	68%	28%	39%
Not sure	18%	16%	20%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Manchin/Capito				
Joe Manchin	50%	71%	18%	31%
Shelley Moore Capito	41%	20%	74%	50%
Undecided	10%	9%	8%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Manchin/McKinley				
Joe Manchin	57%	77%	28%	37%
David McKinley	28%	12%	52%	43%
Undecided	14%	10%	19%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Manchin/Raese				
Joe Manchin	60%	80%	30%	43%
John Raese	31%	14%	57%	42%
Undecided	9%	7%	13%	14%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Manchin Approval			
Approve	52%	53%	51%
Disapprove	32%	32%	34%
Not sure	15%	15%	15%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Capito Favorability			
Favorable	54%	55%	51%
Unfavorable	30%	31%	24%
Not sure	15%	15%	25%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
McKinley Favorability			
Favorable	19%	19%	18%
Unfavorable	25%	25%	30%
Not sure	56%	57%	52%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Raese Favorability			
Favorable	30%	30%	30%
Unfavorable	52%	53%	44%
Not sure	18%	18%	26%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Manchin/Capito			
Joe Manchin	50%	50%	49%
Shelley Moore Capito	41%	40%	44%
Undecided	10%	10%	8%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Manchin/McKinley			
Joe Manchin	57%	58%	53%
David McKinley	28%	28%	27%
Undecided	14%	14%	20%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Manchin/Raese			
Joe Manchin	60%	60%	61%
John Raese	31%	31%	32%
Undecided	9%	10%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Manchin Approval					
Approve	52%	67%	49%	50%	56%
Disapprove	32%	23%	36%	34%	28%
Not sure	15%	10%	15%	16%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Capito Favorability					
Favorable	54%	46%	54%	57%	52%
Unfavorable	30%	35%	29%	28%	34%
Not sure	15%	19%	17%	14%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McKinley Favorability					
Favorable	19%	21%	16%	17%	23%
Unfavorable	25%	29%	22%	26%	25%
Not sure	56%	50%	62%	57%	53%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Raese Favorability					
Favorable	30%	25%	32%	29%	31%
Unfavorable	52%	54%	47%	52%	55%
Not sure	18%	21%	21%	19%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Manchin/Capito					
Joe Manchin	50%	56%	48%	47%	54%
Shelley Moore Capito	41%	29%	41%	44%	36%
Undecided	10%	15%	11%	9%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Manchin/McKinley					
Joe Manchin	57%	65%	50%	57%	62%
David McKinley	28%	25%	36%	27%	26%
Undecided	14%	10%	15%	16%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Manchin/Raese					
Joe Manchin	60%	69%	52%	61%	63%
John Raese	31%	21%	37%	30%	30%
Undecided	9%	10%	11%	10%	7%

