

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Obama still lacks popularity in West Virginia**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Four months into his time as President Barack Obama’s not much more popular with West Virginia voters now than he was when they went to the polls last November, the newest survey from Public Policy Polling finds.

Just 39% say they approve of his job performance so far, with 50% disapproving. His 61% approval rating among Democrats is the worst PPP has found for Obama in any state, and he’s also having a hard time with independents. 53% of them disapprove of the President with just 33% approving. Obama’s 11% approval from Republicans mirrors what it is in most states.

While the President is not popular, West Virginia’s Democratic Governor and two Senators get good reviews from the state’s voters.

Joe Manchin has a 53% approval rating with 34% disapproving. In a time when many Governors’ popularity is plummeting as they take blame for the troubles with the economy Manchin’s numbers are particularly impressive. Out of 11 Governors PPP has polled on so far this year he ranks third in popularity.

Robert Byrd and Jay Rockefeller own approval ratings of 53 and 52% respectively. Out of 26 Senators PPP has polled on in the last year Byrd is tied for seventh and Rockefeller for ninth.

“These poll numbers pretty much sum up West Virginia politics these days,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Voters in the state don’t like national Democrats, but the ones they’ve elected to office in the state over and over again continue to be quite popular whether their party’s President is or not.”

PPP surveyed 1,366 West Virginia voters on May 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The survey’s margin of error is +/-2.7%. 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).

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.



## West Virginia Poll

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve .....39% Not Sure.....10%  
Disapprove.....50%

**Q2** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Joe Manchin's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve .....53%  
Disapprove.....34%  
Not Sure.....13%

**Q3** Do you approve or disapprove of Democratic Senator Robert Byrd's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve .....53%  
Disapprove.....37%  
Not Sure.....9%

**Q4** Do you approve or disapprove of Democratic Senator Jay Rockefeller's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve .....52%  
Disapprove.....39%  
Not Sure.....9%

**Q5** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal.....17%  
Moderate.....41%  
Conservative.....43%

**Q6** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

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

**Q7** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat.....51%  
Republican.....36%  
Other.....13%

**Q8** If you are white, press 1. If you are African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White .....93%  
African-American .....4%  
Other.....3%

**Q9** 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.....16%  
30 to 45.....26%  
46 to 65.....40%  
Older than 65.....18%





	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>39%</b>	81%	48%	15%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>50%</b>	14%	39%	75%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>10%</b>	5%	13%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Manchin Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>53%</b>	60%	54%	50%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>34%</b>	28%	33%	37%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>13%</b>	12%	12%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Byrd Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>53%</b>	83%	61%	34%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>37%</b>	12%	29%	55%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>9%</b>	5%	10%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Rockefeller Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>52%</b>	85%	60%	32%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>39%</b>	14%	29%	58%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>9%</b>	1%	11%	10%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	39%	44%	34%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	43%	58%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	13%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Manchin Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	53%	54%	53%
<b>Disapprove</b>	34%	32%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	13%	14%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Byrd Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	53%	56%	50%
<b>Disapprove</b>	37%	31%	44%
<b>Not Sure</b>	9%	13%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Rockefeller Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	52%	58%	45%
<b>Disapprove</b>	39%	32%	47%
<b>Not Sure</b>	9%	10%	8%





	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
Approve	39%	61%	11%	33%
Disapprove	50%	28%	81%	53%
Not Sure	10%	11%	8%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Manchin Approval</b>				
Approve	53%	62%	46%	38%
Disapprove	34%	26%	41%	43%
Not Sure	13%	11%	13%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Byrd Approval</b>				
Approve	53%	74%	29%	40%
Disapprove	37%	18%	61%	45%
Not Sure	9%	8%	10%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Rockefeller Approval</b>				
Approve	52%	75%	26%	35%
Disapprove	39%	19%	64%	48%
Not Sure	9%	6%	10%	17%





	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
Approve	39%	39%	49%	51%
Disapprove	50%	51%	47%	35%
Not Sure	10%	10%	4%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Manchin Approval</b>				
Approve	53%	54%	49%	45%
Disapprove	34%	34%	42%	33%
Not Sure	13%	13%	9%	22%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Byrd Approval</b>				
Approve	53%	54%	42%	55%
Disapprove	37%	37%	50%	29%
Not Sure	9%	9%	8%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Rockefeller Approval</b>				
Approve	52%	52%	48%	52%
Disapprove	39%	39%	44%	27%
Not Sure	9%	9%	8%	21%





	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
Approve	39%	44%	31%	42%	40%
Disapprove	50%	42%	60%	49%	46%
Not Sure	10%	13%	9%	8%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Manchin Approval</b>					
Approve	53%	48%	46%	57%	61%
Disapprove	34%	38%	40%	33%	24%
Not Sure	13%	14%	14%	10%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Byrd Approval</b>					
Approve	53%	54%	45%	58%	55%
Disapprove	37%	30%	46%	35%	35%
Not Sure	9%	16%	9%	7%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Rockefeller Approval</b>					
Approve	52%	57%	42%	55%	55%
Disapprove	39%	30%	49%	37%	36%
Not Sure	9%	13%	9%	7%	9%

