

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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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

Early Look at Missouri Senate Shows Close Race

Raleigh, N.C. – Claire McCaskill was involved in incredibly close races for Governor in 2004 and Senator in 2006 from Missouri and it looks like she's in for another one as she seeks reelection to the Senate in 2012. McCaskill leads Sarah Steelman by 1 point in a hypothetical match up and trails Jim Talent and Peter Kinder each by 2 points in them, all results well within the poll's margin of error.

Voters in Missouri are pretty evenly divided in their feelings about McCaskill's job performance during her first term. 43% approve of the job she's doing, while 44% disapprove. There's near complete polarization along party lines in her reviews- 77% of Democrats give her good marks, while 77% of Republicans think she's doing a poor job. Independents lean slightly in her favor by a 43/40 margin.

Voters have mixed reactions to the potential GOP challengers tested in the poll as well. For Steelman and Kinder the main response is ambivalence. 59% of voters don't know enough about Steelman to have formed an opinion and 54% say the same about Kinder. Those who do have feelings about them are slightly positive. Kinder's favorability is 23/22 and Steelman's is 22/19.

Perhaps more surprising is how many voters don't have an opinion about Talent even after he ran statewide 3 times in 4 election cycles at one point in the last decade. 32% of voters now say they don't know enough about Talent to rate him either positively or negatively. His reviews break down 36% favorable and 32% unfavorable with those who do have an opinion.

At this early stage it looks like the 2012 Missouri Senate race will be very much a base election. McCaskill gets only 6-8% among Republican voters in each of the match ups, and the Republicans only get 5-8% of Democrats in each of them.

"Claire McCaskill's accustomed to fighting close races and she may have to do it again," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Missouri's lopsided contest this year is likely to be a blip on the radar of the state's overall trend toward close races."

PPP surveyed 515 Missouri voters from November 29th to December 1st. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.3%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



Missouri Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 43%
Disapprove..... 52%
Not sure 5%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Claire McCaskill's job performance?

Approve 43%
Disapprove..... 44%
Not sure 13%

Q3 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Kit Bond's job performance?

Approve 45%
Disapprove..... 36%
Not sure 19%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Peter Kinder?

Favorable 23%
Unfavorable 22%
Not sure 54%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Sarah Steelman?

Favorable 22%
Unfavorable 19%
Not sure 59%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jim Talent?

Favorable 36%
Unfavorable 32%
Not sure 32%

Q7 If the candidates for Senate in 2012 were Democrat Claire McCaskill and Republican Peter Kinder, who would you vote for?

Claire McCaskill 44%
Peter Kinder 46%
Undecided..... 10%

Q8 If the candidates for Senate in 2012 were Democrat Claire McCaskill and Republican Sarah Steelman, who would you vote for?

Claire McCaskill 45%
Sarah Steelman 44%
Undecided..... 12%

Q9 If the candidates for Senate in 2012 were Democrat Claire McCaskill and Republican Jim Talent, who would you vote for?

Claire McCaskill 45%
Jim Talent 47%
Undecided..... 8%

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

Liberal 17%
Moderate..... 39%
Conservative 44%

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

Woman 55%
Man..... 45%

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 36%
Republican 39%
Independent/Other 26%



Q13 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

<i>White</i>	84%
<i>African-American</i>	12%
<i>Other</i>	4%

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>	8%
<i>30 to 45</i>	31%
<i>46 to 65</i>	34%
<i>Older than 65</i>	27%

Crosstabs

		Ideology		
	Base	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	43%	85%	61%	12%
Disapprove	52%	11%	32%	85%
Not sure	5%	4%	8%	2%

		Ideology		
	Base	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
McCaskill Approval				
Approve	43%	80%	58%	16%
Disapprove	44%	13%	26%	70%
Not sure	13%	7%	16%	14%

		Ideology		
	Base	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Bond Approval				
Approve	45%	30%	36%	59%
Disapprove	36%	57%	40%	24%
Not sure	19%	13%	24%	17%

		Ideology		
	Base	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Kinder Favorability				
Favorable	23%	21%	16%	30%
Unfavorable	22%	33%	24%	17%
Not sure	54%	46%	60%	52%



Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Steelman Favorability				
Favorable	22%	18%	21%	23%
Unfavorable	19%	28%	19%	16%
Not sure	59%	54%	60%	60%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Talent Favorability				
Favorable	36%	19%	25%	51%
Unfavorable	32%	52%	39%	18%
Not sure	32%	29%	36%	31%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
McCaskill/Kinder				
Claire McCaskill	44%	88%	61%	12%
Peter Kinder	46%	9%	27%	78%
Undecided	10%	3%	13%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
McCaskill/Steelman				
Claire McCaskill	45%	84%	62%	14%
Sarah Steelman	44%	11%	26%	71%
Undecided	12%	4%	12%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
McCaskill/Talent				
Claire McCaskill	45%	90%	61%	14%
Jim Talent	47%	8%	28%	79%
Undecided	8%	2%	11%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	43%	46%	39%
Disapprove	52%	48%	57%
Not sure	5%	6%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCaskill Approval			
Approve	43%	46%	39%
Disapprove	44%	40%	48%
Not sure	13%	14%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bond Approval			
Approve	45%	45%	45%
Disapprove	36%	35%	37%
Not sure	19%	21%	17%



Crosstabs

		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
Kinder Favorability			
Favorable	23%	19%	28%
Unfavorable	22%	22%	23%
Not sure	54%	59%	49%

		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
Steelman Favorability			
Favorable	22%	18%	26%
Unfavorable	19%	17%	22%
Not sure	59%	65%	52%

		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
Talent Favorability			
Favorable	36%	35%	36%
Unfavorable	32%	27%	39%
Not sure	32%	38%	26%

		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
McCaskill/Kinder			
Claire McCaskill	44%	47%	40%
Peter Kinder	46%	43%	50%
Undecided	10%	10%	10%



Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCaskill/Steelman			
Claire McCaskill	45%	47%	42%
Sarah Steelman	44%	42%	45%
Undecided	12%	11%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCaskill/Talent			
Claire McCaskill	45%	48%	41%
Jim Talent	47%	44%	51%
Undecided	8%	8%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	43%	86%	8%	39%
Disapprove	52%	10%	90%	52%
Not sure	5%	4%	2%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCaskill Approval				
Approve	43%	77%	12%	43%
Disapprove	44%	10%	77%	40%
Not sure	13%	13%	11%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bond Approval				
Approve	45%	27%	70%	31%
Disapprove	36%	55%	13%	44%
Not sure	19%	18%	17%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Kinder Favorability				
Favorable	23%	12%	36%	19%
Unfavorable	22%	35%	14%	18%
Not sure	54%	52%	50%	63%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Steelman Favorability				
Favorable	22%	16%	24%	24%
Unfavorable	19%	28%	14%	15%
Not sure	59%	55%	61%	61%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Talent Favorability				
Favorable	36%	13%	58%	32%
Unfavorable	32%	55%	11%	34%
Not sure	32%	32%	31%	35%





Crosstabs

		Party		
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCaskill/Kinder				
Claire McCaskill	44%	88%	7%	38%
Peter Kinder	46%	5%	84%	45%
Undecided	10%	7%	9%	17%

		Party		
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCaskill/Steelman				
Claire McCaskill	45%	89%	8%	40%
Sarah Steelman	44%	8%	81%	37%
Undecided	12%	3%	12%	23%

		Party		
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCaskill/Talent				
Claire McCaskill	45%	91%	6%	40%
Jim Talent	47%	5%	90%	40%
Undecided	8%	4%	4%	20%

		Race		
	Base	White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	43%	36%	91%	50%
Disapprove	52%	60%	5%	33%
Not sure	5%	4%	5%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
McCaskill Approval				
Approve	43%	39%	64%	58%
Disapprove	44%	49%	9%	25%
Not sure	13%	11%	27%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Bond Approval				
Approve	45%	48%	27%	33%
Disapprove	36%	34%	45%	42%
Not sure	19%	18%	27%	25%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Kinder Favorability				
Favorable	23%	25%	14%	8%
Unfavorable	22%	20%	27%	58%
Not sure	54%	55%	59%	33%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Steelman Favorability				
Favorable	22%	22%	18%	17%
Unfavorable	19%	18%	23%	33%
Not sure	59%	59%	59%	50%



Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Talent Favorability				
Favorable	36%	39%	18%	9%
Unfavorable	32%	30%	41%	55%
Not sure	32%	31%	41%	36%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
McCaskill/Kinder				
Claire McCaskill	44%	39%	73%	58%
Peter Kinder	46%	52%	9%	33%
Undecided	10%	9%	18%	8%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
McCaskill/Steelman				
Claire McCaskill	45%	38%	82%	75%
Sarah Steelman	44%	49%	14%	17%
Undecided	12%	13%	5%	8%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
McCaskill/Talent				
Claire McCaskill	45%	39%	86%	50%
Jim Talent	47%	54%	5%	33%
Undecided	8%	7%	9%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	43%	53%	39%	43%	46%
Disapprove	52%	41%	53%	54%	51%
Not sure	5%	7%	8%	3%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCaskill Approval					
Approve	43%	55%	36%	41%	50%
Disapprove	44%	38%	47%	45%	39%
Not sure	13%	7%	17%	14%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bond Approval					
Approve	45%	40%	42%	43%	52%
Disapprove	36%	40%	32%	38%	37%
Not sure	19%	20%	26%	19%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Kinder Favorability					
Favorable	23%	27%	18%	26%	25%
Unfavorable	22%	29%	18%	24%	24%
Not sure	54%	44%	64%	51%	50%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Steelman Favorability					
Favorable	22%	16%	17%	25%	24%
Unfavorable	19%	36%	16%	17%	21%
Not sure	59%	49%	67%	57%	55%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Talent Favorability					
Favorable	36%	22%	42%	30%	38%
Unfavorable	32%	43%	25%	37%	31%
Not sure	32%	35%	33%	33%	30%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCaskill/Kinder					
Claire McCaskill	44%	60%	38%	40%	50%
Peter Kinder	46%	31%	48%	50%	44%
Undecided	10%	9%	14%	10%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCaskill/Steelman					
Claire McCaskill	45%	51%	42%	44%	47%
Sarah Steelman	44%	36%	44%	46%	42%
Undecided	12%	13%	14%	10%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCaskill/Talent					
Claire McCaskill	45%	56%	40%	44%	48%
Jim Talent	47%	38%	48%	50%	46%
Undecided	8%	7%	12%	6%	6%

