



## INSIDE MICHIGAN POLITICS

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **IMP-MRG STATEWIDE POLL:**

***GOP top Dems in Governor's Race– GOP Primary: A Three Way Tie  
Dem Primary: Dillon Takes Lead***

(Lansing, Mich.) — What a difference a year makes. One year ago national and state publications were discussing the demise of the GOP. A recent statewide survey shows every major Republican gubernatorial candidate defeating both major Democratic gubernatorial candidates by significant margins. In the GOP primary matchup among likely Republican primary voters Attorney General Mike Cox and Congressman Pete Hoekstra are tied at 21% with businessman Rick Snyder right behind at 20%.

In the Democratic primary matchup among likely Democrat primary voters Speaker Andy Dillon has a 21% to 9% lead over Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero.

#### **Republican Primary**

“The GOP primary is now a three-person race. Mike Cox, Pete Hoekstra, and Rick Snyder are in a virtual dead heat in the GOP primary. The advertising for Rick Snyder has obviously paid off. He is has put himself in contention for the nomination with his early spending,” said Tom Shields, president of MRG.

The results show that Snyder has gained dramatically since the Fall 2009 Michigan Poll. Snyder has moved from 2 to 20%. Cox and Hoekstra have dropped from 27% and 26% respectively to 21%. Bouchard has dropped from 15% to 10%.

#### ***LIKELY REPUBLICANS ONLY***

TOTAL BOUCHARD.....	10%
TOTAL COX.....	21%
TOTAL GEORGE.....	1%
TOTAL HOEKSTRA.....	21%
TOTAL SNYDER .....	20%

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**Democratic Primary**

“Speaker Dillon holds a big lead because of his statewide recognition. Dillon leads in every region of the state except Mid Michigan. Bernero has a commanding lead in Mid Michigan but barely registers in the rest of the state,” said Bill Ballenger, editor and publisher of *Inside Michigan Politics*.

With Lt. Governor Cherry out of the race Speaker of the House Andy Dillon holds a twelve-point lead over Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero. State Senator Alma Wheeler Smith is in third with 6%..

*If the Democrat primary election for Michigan Governor were being held today ... for whom would you vote?*

***LIKELY DEMOCRATS ONLY***

TOTAL DILLON..... 21%  
TOTAL BERNERO..... 9%  
TOTAL WHEELER SMITTH .....6%

**Possible General Election Match-ups**

“Every major GOP candidate is defeating both Dillon and Bernero in head-to-head matchups as of now. What is surprising is the size of the lead ranges from 15% to 22% depending on the matchup. These are very significant leads for the GOP at this point in time,” said Shields.

*If the general election for Michigan Governor were being held today ... for whom would you vote?*

TOTAL BOUCHARD ..... 41%  
TOTAL DILLON..... 26%

*Or ...*

TOTAL COX.....44%  
TOTAL DILLON..... 27%

*Or ...*

TOTAL HOEKSTRA..... 43%  
TOTAL DILLON.....27%

*Or ...*

TOTAL SNYDER ..... 42%  
TOTAL DILLON.....26%

2010 SPRING MRG Michigan Poll

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*Or...*

TOTAL BOUCHARD ..... 45%  
TOTAL BERNERO..... 23%

*Or ...*

TOTAL COX.....45%  
TOTAL BERNERO..... 26%

*Or ...*

TOTAL HOEKSTRA..... 43%  
TOTAL BERNERO.....27%

*Or ...*

TOTAL SNYDER ..... 44%  
TOTAL BERNERO.....24%

The survey was conducted March 10-15. Sample size is 600 registered voters. The margin of error is  $\pm 4.1\%$ . Smaller samples have larger margins of error.

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