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Split Decision in New Hampshire

Raleigh, N.C. – PPP's final New Hampshire poll finds there's a better chance of Republicans winning the race for Governor than there is of Democrats winning the race for US Senate. That says a lot about the massive shift in the political climate we've seen over the course of 2010. Kelly Ayotte leads Paul Hodes 56-41 in the Senate contest while John Lynch has a more modest 53-44 advantage over John Stephen in his quest for reelection as Governor.

Ayotte has rebounded strongly from a turbulent primary season that saw her favorability numbers decline precipitously. 57% of voters have a favorable opinion of her to only 34% with a negative one. That +23 net favorability represents a 35 point improvement from early September, right before the primary, when her standing was at -12 with 47% of voters seeing her negatively to only 35% with a positive opinion.

Hodes meanwhile never emerged as a strong candidate. 50% of voters see him unfavorably to only 34% who rate him in a positive light. Independents don't like him and the number of Democrats who dislike him is greater than the number of Republicans who do like him.

Meanwhile in the Governor's race it appears John Lynch will get reelected, but not by nearly the kind of gaudy margin he has become accustomed to. For instance he's winning independents 56-40, an unusual feat for a Democrat this year. But that's nothing compared to the 79-19 advantage exit polls showed for him with them in 2008. And the 22% of Republicans he's winning is an unusual amount of crossover support for any candidate this year, but it's less than the 31% of them he got the last time around. Nevertheless barring a major shift in the final few days of the campaign he should survive for another term.

“When Judd Gregg announced his retirement I don't think anyone could have imagined Republicans would retain his seat by such a large margin,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Democrats are lucky John Lynch is so popular or else the GOP would be headed for a sweep in New Hampshire this year.”

PPP surveyed 1,308 likely New Hampshire voters from October 27th to 29th. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 2.7%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



New Hampshire Survey Results

Q1 The candidates for US Senate are Republican Kelly Ayotte and Democrat Paul Hodes. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Kelly Ayotte 56%
Paul Hodes 41%
Undecided 3%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Paul Hodes?

Favorable 34% *Not sure* 16%
Unfavorable 50%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Kelly Ayotte?

Favorable 57% *Not sure* 9%
Unfavorable 34%

Q4 The candidates for Governor are Democrat John Lynch and Republican John Stephen. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

John Lynch 53%
John Stephen 44%
Undecided 3%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor John Lynch's job performance?

Approve 51%
Disapprove 39%
Not sure 11%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John Stephen?

Favorable 37% *Not sure* 23%
Unfavorable 40%

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

Approve 39%
Disapprove 55%
Not sure 6%

Q8 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Judd Gregg's job performance?

Approve 52%
Disapprove 29%
Not sure 20%

Q9 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Jeanne Shaheen's job performance?

Approve 41%
Disapprove 46%
Not sure 12%

Q10 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain 48%
Barack Obama 46%
Someone else/Don't remember 5%

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

Liberal 14%
Moderate 47%
Conservative 39%

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

Woman 54%
Man 46%





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 28%
Republican..... 37%
Independent/Other..... 36%

Q14 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 93%
Other..... 7%

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.

18 to 29..... 10%
30 to 45..... 24%
46 to 65..... 41%
Older than 65..... 25%

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

Yes..... 8%
No..... 92%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Ayotte/Hodes				
Kelly Ayotte	56%	92%	18%	59%
Paul Hodes	41%	6%	78%	23%
Undecided	3%	2%	4%	18%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hodes Favorability				
Favorable	34%	6%	66%	15%
Unfavorable	50%	79%	18%	60%
Not sure	16%	15%	16%	25%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Ayotte Favorability				
Favorable	57%	88%	24%	61%
Unfavorable	34%	6%	64%	25%
Not sure	9%	6%	12%	14%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Lynch/Stephen				
John Lynch	53%	23%	86%	41%
John Stephen	44%	75%	12%	51%
Undecided	3%	3%	2%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Lynch Approval				
Approve	51%	23%	81%	34%
Disapprove	39%	65%	11%	46%
Not sure	11%	12%	8%	20%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Stephen Favorability				
Favorable	37%	63%	10%	36%
Unfavorable	40%	13%	70%	29%
Not sure	23%	25%	20%	35%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	39%	5%	77%	19%
Disapprove	55%	91%	15%	73%
Not sure	6%	4%	8%	9%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gregg Approval				
Approve	52%	72%	30%	56%
Disapprove	29%	13%	47%	18%
Not sure	20%	16%	23%	27%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Shaheen Approval				
Approve	41%	11%	76%	18%
Disapprove	46%	77%	12%	61%
Not sure	12%	12%	12%	21%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Ayotte/Hodes				
Kelly Ayotte	56%	11%	40%	91%
Paul Hodes	41%	85%	56%	6%
Undecided	3%	3%	4%	3%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Hodes Favorability				
Favorable	34%	74%	46%	6%
Unfavorable	50%	10%	35%	82%
Not sure	16%	16%	19%	12%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Ayotte Favorability				
Favorable	57%	17%	43%	87%
Unfavorable	34%	71%	46%	6%
Not sure	9%	12%	11%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Lynch/Stephen				
John Lynch	53%	90%	71%	19%
John Stephen	44%	10%	27%	78%
Undecided	3%	0%	3%	3%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Lynch Approval				
Approve	51%	85%	66%	20%
Disapprove	39%	7%	24%	69%
Not sure	11%	8%	10%	12%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Stephen Favorability				
Favorable	37%	7%	23%	64%
Unfavorable	40%	75%	53%	13%
Not sure	23%	18%	24%	23%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	39%	83%	51%	8%
Disapprove	55%	14%	39%	89%
Not sure	6%	3%	9%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gregg Approval				
Approve	52%	17%	46%	71%
Disapprove	29%	55%	34%	14%
Not sure	20%	28%	21%	15%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Shaheen Approval				
Approve	41%	84%	55%	10%
Disapprove	46%	7%	31%	79%
Not sure	12%	10%	14%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Ayotte/Hodes			
Kelly Ayotte	56%	51%	62%
Paul Hodes	41%	45%	35%
Undecided	3%	4%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hodes Favorability			
Favorable	34%	39%	29%
Unfavorable	50%	44%	57%
Not sure	16%	17%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Ayotte Favorability			
Favorable	57%	53%	61%
Unfavorable	34%	38%	29%
Not sure	9%	9%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Lynch/Stephen			
John Lynch	53%	58%	47%
John Stephen	44%	40%	50%
Undecided	3%	2%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Lynch Approval			
Approve	51%	56%	44%
Disapprove	39%	34%	45%
Not sure	11%	10%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Stephen Favorability			
Favorable	37%	34%	40%
Unfavorable	40%	45%	35%
Not sure	23%	21%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	39%	45%	31%
Disapprove	55%	49%	63%
Not sure	6%	7%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gregg Approval			
Approve	52%	46%	59%
Disapprove	29%	31%	26%
Not sure	20%	23%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Shaheen Approval			
Approve	41%	50%	31%
Disapprove	46%	38%	56%
Not sure	12%	12%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Ayotte/Hodes				
Kelly Ayotte	56%	13%	91%	54%
Paul Hodes	41%	83%	7%	42%
Undecided	3%	4%	2%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hodes Favorability				
Favorable	34%	72%	7%	34%
Unfavorable	50%	14%	78%	49%
Not sure	16%	15%	15%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Ayotte Favorability				
Favorable	57%	21%	87%	54%
Unfavorable	34%	67%	7%	36%
Not sure	9%	12%	7%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Lynch/Stephen				
John Lynch	53%	90%	22%	56%
John Stephen	44%	9%	75%	40%
Undecided	3%	1%	3%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Lynch Approval				
Approve	51%	84%	22%	54%
Disapprove	39%	9%	66%	34%
Not sure	11%	7%	12%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Stephen Favorability				
Favorable	37%	8%	64%	32%
Unfavorable	40%	73%	15%	41%
Not sure	23%	18%	22%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	39%	80%	8%	38%
Disapprove	55%	14%	88%	53%
Not sure	6%	5%	4%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gregg Approval				
Approve	52%	30%	71%	49%
Disapprove	29%	50%	14%	28%
Not sure	20%	20%	16%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Shaheen Approval				
Approve	41%	82%	10%	42%
Disapprove	46%	7%	78%	44%
Not sure	12%	10%	12%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Ayotte/Hodes			
Kelly Ayotte	56%	57%	41%
Paul Hodes	41%	39%	54%
Undecided	3%	3%	6%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Hodes Favorability			
Favorable	34%	35%	31%
Unfavorable	50%	50%	47%
Not sure	16%	15%	22%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Ayotte Favorability			
Favorable	57%	58%	45%
Unfavorable	34%	33%	42%
Not sure	9%	9%	12%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Lynch/Stephen			
John Lynch	53%	53%	48%
John Stephen	44%	44%	44%
Undecided	3%	2%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Lynch Approval			
Approve	51%	51%	46%
Disapprove	39%	39%	42%
Not sure	11%	11%	12%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Stephen Favorability			
Favorable	37%	38%	27%
Unfavorable	40%	40%	44%
Not sure	23%	22%	29%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama Approval			
Approve	39%	39%	41%
Disapprove	55%	55%	49%
Not sure	6%	6%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gregg Approval			
Approve	52%	52%	46%
Disapprove	29%	29%	30%
Not sure	20%	19%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Shaheen Approval			
Approve	41%	42%	39%
Disapprove	46%	46%	51%
Not sure	12%	12%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Ayotte/Hodes					
Kelly Ayotte	56%	47%	62%	55%	55%
Paul Hodes	41%	50%	34%	43%	40%
Undecided	3%	3%	4%	3%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hodes Favorability					
Favorable	34%	32%	24%	38%	39%
Unfavorable	50%	57%	54%	47%	49%
Not sure	16%	11%	23%	15%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Ayotte Favorability					
Favorable	57%	51%	64%	55%	54%
Unfavorable	34%	46%	24%	36%	35%
Not sure	9%	3%	12%	8%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Lynch/Stephen					
John Lynch	53%	53%	49%	54%	56%
John Stephen	44%	45%	46%	45%	42%
Undecided	3%	3%	4%	1%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Lynch Approval					
Approve	51%	49%	48%	52%	52%
Disapprove	39%	49%	39%	37%	37%
Not sure	11%	3%	13%	11%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Stephen Favorability					
Favorable	37%	41%	35%	37%	36%
Unfavorable	40%	38%	36%	43%	42%
Not sure	23%	22%	29%	20%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	39%	43%	33%	41%	39%
Disapprove	55%	51%	60%	54%	54%
Not sure	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gregg Approval					
Approve	52%	54%	51%	50%	54%
Disapprove	29%	26%	21%	34%	29%
Not sure	20%	20%	28%	16%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Shaheen Approval					
Approve	41%	46%	36%	44%	41%
Disapprove	46%	43%	48%	46%	46%
Not sure	12%	11%	16%	10%	13%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Ayotte/Hodes			
Kelly Ayotte	56%	57%	56%
Paul Hodes	41%	39%	41%
Undecided	3%	4%	3%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Hodes Favorability			
Favorable	34%	40%	34%
Unfavorable	50%	45%	50%
Not sure	16%	15%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Ayotte Favorability			
Favorable	57%	61%	56%
Unfavorable	34%	31%	34%
Not sure	9%	9%	9%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Lynch/Stephen			
John Lynch	53%	51%	53%
John Stephen	44%	45%	44%
Undecided	3%	4%	2%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Lynch Approval			
Approve	51%	46%	51%
Disapprove	39%	46%	38%
Not sure	11%	8%	11%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Stephen Favorability			
Favorable	37%	41%	37%
Unfavorable	40%	36%	41%
Not sure	23%	23%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Obama Approval			
Approve	39%	43%	38%
Disapprove	55%	50%	55%
Not sure	6%	8%	6%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Gregg Approval			
Approve	52%	51%	52%
Disapprove	29%	33%	28%
Not sure	20%	15%	20%

	Base	Already Voted?	
		Yes	No
Shaheen Approval			
Approve	41%	49%	41%
Disapprove	46%	38%	47%
Not sure	12%	12%	12%

