

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Anonymity the Story in Senate Race

Raleigh, N.C. – Ohio voters aren't particularly familiar with any of the candidates running to take George Voinovich's seat in the US Senate.

66% don't know enough about Rob Portman to have an opinion, 62% are ambivalent toward Jennifer Brunner, and 55% don't take a stance on Lee Fisher.

Portman has the early advantage, leading Brunner 38-37 and Fisher 41-36. That is largely due to a 37-25 edge against both Democratic candidates with independents.

Given the obscurity of all the candidates the key to this race may be how Ohio voters feel about Barack Obama, and that's not very good. 53% of the state disapproves of the President's job performance with only 40% giving him good marks. Portman's lead may be more a reflection of that and a good political climate for Republicans than anything else.

Ohio's not particularly taken with any of its politicians right now. 42% of voters disapprove of Voinovich to only 33% approving, and for Sherrod Brown it's 32% approving and 39% disapproving.

The health care bill passed Sunday night is not faring particularly well in the state. 54% of voters say they're opposed to it with only 39% in support and independents are particularly strong in their opposition, going against it by a 64/29 margin.

"None of the *candidates* in Ohio is really standing out right now," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "But if Barack Obama's numbers in the state remain this low it's not likely to elect a Democratic Senator this year. His popularity could be the deciding factor in this race."

PPP surveyed 630 Ohio voters on March 20th and 21st. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.9%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

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

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Ohio Survey Results

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 40%
Disapprove..... 53%
Not Sure..... 7%

Q2 Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or are you not sure? If you support it, press 1. If you're opposed, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Support 39%
Oppose 54%
Not Sure..... 6%

Q3 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Sherrod Brown's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve..... 32% Not Sure..... 29%
Disapprove..... 39%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator George Voinovich's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 33%
Disapprove..... 42%
Not Sure..... 26%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jennifer Brunner? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable..... 15%
Unfavorable 22%
Not Sure..... 62%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Lee Fisher? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable..... 22%
Unfavorable 24%
Not Sure..... 55%

Q7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rob Portman? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable..... 16%
Unfavorable 19%
Not Sure..... 66%

Q8 If the candidates for Senate this fall were Democrat Jennifer Brunner and Republican Rob Portman, who would you vote for? If Jennifer Brunner, press 1. If Rob Portman, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Brunner37% Undecided.....24%
Portman38%

Q9 If the candidates for Senate this fall were Democrat Lee Fisher and Republican Rob Portman, who would you vote for? If Lee Fisher, press 1. If Rob Portman, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Fisher..... 36%
Portman 41%
Undecided..... 23%

Q10 Do you think that Columbus politicians or Washington politicians are better equipped to deal with Ohio's problems? If Columbus politicians, press 1. If Washington politicians, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Columbus..... 65%
Washington..... 11%
Not Sure..... 25%





Q11 Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

McCain..... 47%
Obama..... 45%
Someone Else/Don't Remember..... 8%

Q12 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 16%
Moderate..... 41%
Conservative..... 42%

Q13 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 54%
Man..... 46%

Q14 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat..... 42%
Republican..... 39%
Independent/Other..... 19%

Q15 If you are white, press one now. If black, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 85%
Black..... 12%
Other..... 3%

Q16 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..... 7%
30 to 45..... 21%
46 to 65..... 48%
Older than 65..... 24%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	40%	5%	82%	16%
Disapprove	53%	92%	9%	75%
Not Sure	7%	4%	9%	8%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Obama Health Care				
Support	39%	2%	82%	15%
Oppose	54%	94%	10%	71%
Not Sure	6%	3%	8%	15%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Brown Approval				
Approve	32%	9%	58%	24%
Disapprove	39%	64%	12%	47%
Not Sure	29%	28%	30%	29%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Voinovich Approval				
Approve	33%	37%	29%	27%
Disapprove	42%	40%	43%	39%
Not Sure	26%	23%	28%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Brunner Favorability				
Favorable	15%	7%	27%	1%
Unfavorable	22%	29%	13%	31%
Not Sure	62%	64%	60%	68%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Fisher Favorability				
Favorable	22%	9%	36%	14%
Unfavorable	24%	33%	11%	38%
Not Sure	55%	58%	53%	48%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Portman Favorability				
Favorable	16%	23%	9%	12%
Unfavorable	19%	12%	25%	22%
Not Sure	66%	65%	66%	66%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Brunner/Portman				
Brunner	37%	7%	73%	22%
Portman	38%	69%	8%	23%
Undecided	24%	24%	19%	55%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Fisher/Portman				
Fisher	36%	4%	72%	23%
Portman	41%	77%	6%	28%
Undecided	23%	19%	22%	50%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Columbus/Washington				
Columbus	65%	84%	45%	59%
Washington	11%	3%	19%	10%
Not Sure	25%	12%	36%	31%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	40%	87%	51%	12%
Disapprove	53%	11%	41%	82%
Not Sure	7%	2%	9%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Health Care				
Support	39%	85%	50%	11%
Oppose	54%	11%	43%	83%
Not Sure	6%	4%	7%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Brown Approval				
Approve	32%	64%	39%	13%
Disapprove	39%	14%	32%	56%
Not Sure	29%	22%	29%	31%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Voinovich Approval				
Approve	33%	22%	36%	33%
Disapprove	42%	62%	36%	39%
Not Sure	26%	16%	28%	28%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Brunner Favorability				
Favorable	15%	28%	17%	9%
Unfavorable	22%	13%	20%	28%
Not Sure	62%	59%	63%	63%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Fisher Favorability				
Favorable	22%	42%	24%	11%
Unfavorable	24%	10%	24%	29%
Not Sure	55%	48%	52%	60%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Portman Favorability				
Favorable	16%	12%	12%	21%
Unfavorable	19%	27%	23%	12%
Not Sure	66%	61%	66%	67%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Brunner/Portman				
Brunner	37%	80%	48%	11%
Portman	38%	9%	26%	61%
Undecided	24%	11%	26%	28%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Fisher/Portman				
Fisher	36%	78%	47%	9%
Portman	41%	9%	27%	67%
Undecided	23%	13%	27%	24%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Columbus/Washington				
Columbus	65%	40%	59%	79%
Washington	11%	22%	13%	4%
Not Sure	25%	38%	28%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	40%	43%	37%
Disapprove	53%	49%	58%
Not Sure	7%	8%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Health Care			
Support	39%	42%	35%
Oppose	54%	49%	61%
Not Sure	6%	9%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brown Approval			
Approve	32%	32%	33%
Disapprove	39%	32%	48%
Not Sure	29%	36%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Voinovich Approval			
Approve	33%	31%	34%
Disapprove	42%	35%	49%
Not Sure	26%	33%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brunner Favorability			
Favorable	15%	15%	16%
Unfavorable	22%	17%	28%
Not Sure	62%	68%	55%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Fisher Favorability			
Favorable	22%	20%	23%
Unfavorable	24%	19%	29%
Not Sure	55%	61%	47%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Portman Favorability			
Favorable	16%	15%	17%
Unfavorable	19%	13%	25%
Not Sure	66%	72%	58%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brunner/Portman			
Brunner	37%	39%	36%
Portman	38%	35%	41%
Undecided	24%	26%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Fisher/Portman			
Fisher	36%	38%	34%
Portman	41%	37%	46%
Undecided	23%	26%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Columbus/Washington			
Columbus	65%	62%	67%
Washington	11%	11%	11%
Not Sure	25%	27%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	40%	73%	9%	32%
Disapprove	53%	16%	89%	63%
Not Sure	7%	10%	3%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Health Care				
Support	39%	72%	8%	29%
Oppose	54%	18%	88%	64%
Not Sure	6%	9%	3%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brown Approval				
Approve	32%	53%	14%	23%
Disapprove	39%	18%	56%	52%
Not Sure	29%	30%	30%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Voinovich Approval				
Approve	33%	27%	39%	32%
Disapprove	42%	43%	38%	45%
Not Sure	26%	30%	23%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brunner Favorability				
Favorable	15%	24%	8%	12%
Unfavorable	22%	16%	29%	23%
Not Sure	62%	60%	63%	65%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Fisher Favorability				
Favorable	22%	33%	13%	15%
Unfavorable	24%	15%	30%	28%
Not Sure	55%	52%	57%	57%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Portman Favorability				
Favorable	16%	10%	24%	12%
Unfavorable	19%	25%	10%	23%
Not Sure	66%	66%	66%	64%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brunner/Portman				
Brunner	37%	68%	10%	25%
Portman	38%	12%	67%	37%
Undecided	24%	20%	22%	38%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Fisher/Portman				
Fisher	36%	67%	8%	25%
Portman	41%	9%	77%	37%
Undecided	23%	24%	15%	38%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Columbus/Washington				
Columbus	65%	43%	85%	70%
Washington	11%	19%	4%	7%
Not Sure	25%	38%	12%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	40%	34%	80%	38%
Disapprove	53%	59%	13%	60%
Not Sure	7%	7%	7%	2%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Obama Health Care				
Support	39%	33%	87%	34%
Oppose	54%	61%	10%	62%
Not Sure	6%	7%	3%	4%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Brown Approval				
Approve	32%	31%	47%	19%
Disapprove	39%	41%	20%	53%
Not Sure	29%	28%	33%	28%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Voinovich Approval				
Approve	33%	34%	20%	38%
Disapprove	42%	42%	40%	49%
Not Sure	26%	24%	40%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Brunner Favorability				
Favorable	15%	14%	23%	15%
Unfavorable	22%	22%	23%	28%
Not Sure	62%	64%	53%	57%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Fisher Favorability				
Favorable	22%	19%	40%	23%
Unfavorable	24%	25%	13%	34%
Not Sure	55%	56%	47%	43%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Portman Favorability				
Favorable	16%	16%	10%	23%
Unfavorable	19%	17%	30%	17%
Not Sure	66%	67%	60%	60%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Brunner/Portman				
Brunner	37%	32%	80%	30%
Portman	38%	43%	3%	40%
Undecided	24%	25%	17%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Fisher/Portman				
Fisher	36%	30%	77%	26%
Portman	41%	46%	7%	43%
Undecided	23%	24%	17%	32%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Columbus/Washington				
Columbus	65%	69%	30%	68%
Washington	11%	8%	30%	2%
Not Sure	25%	22%	40%	30%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	40%	46%	34%	42%	40%
Disapprove	53%	54%	59%	52%	51%
Not Sure	7%	-	7%	6%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Health Care					
Support	39%	48%	31%	41%	39%
Oppose	54%	47%	61%	54%	53%
Not Sure	6%	5%	8%	5%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brown Approval					
Approve	32%	50%	28%	32%	30%
Disapprove	39%	33%	42%	40%	37%
Not Sure	29%	17%	30%	27%	33%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Voinovich Approval					
Approve	33%	35%	35%	31%	34%
Disapprove	42%	31%	37%	45%	41%
Not Sure	26%	35%	28%	24%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brunner Favorability					
Favorable	15%	21%	16%	13%	18%
Unfavorable	22%	36%	25%	18%	25%
Not Sure	62%	44%	59%	69%	57%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Fisher Favorability					
Favorable	22%	29%	17%	21%	24%
Unfavorable	24%	21%	23%	24%	25%
Not Sure	55%	51%	60%	55%	51%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Portman Favorability					
Favorable	16%	35%	8%	15%	18%
Unfavorable	19%	19%	16%	17%	24%
Not Sure	66%	46%	75%	68%	57%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brunner/Portman					
Brunner	37%	46%	34%	38%	37%
Portman	38%	32%	40%	38%	39%
Undecided	24%	22%	27%	24%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Fisher/Portman					
Fisher	36%	43%	29%	37%	37%
Portman	41%	40%	44%	39%	42%
Undecided	23%	17%	27%	23%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Columbus/Washington					
Columbus	65%	57%	70%	66%	60%
Washington	11%	30%	11%	8%	12%
Not Sure	25%	13%	19%	27%	28%

