

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chambliss widens lead

Raleigh, N.C. – A new Public Policy Polling survey for Georgia’s Senate runoff finds Saxby Chambliss has widened his lead since the general election. He now leads Democratic challenger Jim Martin 52-46.

Compared to PPP’s final pre election poll of the race, Chambliss’ main gains have come with independent voters. Where he had a 44-41 lead with them before, with Libertarian Allen Buckley pulling 12%, Chambliss is now leading 53-41.

One important factor that could be helping Chambliss is that while PPP finds that black turnout is likely to be similar to what it was earlier in the month, it appears that there will be a decline in young voters relative to when the Presidential race was on the ballot. That means the percentage of voters over 65 in the electorate is likely to be a lot higher, and given Chambliss’ 69-31 lead with those voters compared to Martin’s 50-42 advantage with voters under 30 the age shifts could work to the Republican’s favor.

“This runoff is going to be all about turnout,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “It looks like a lot of the young people Barack Obama got engaged in the process came out mostly for him earlier this month. They may have voted for Jim Martin as long as they were at the polls, but for now anyway it doesn’t look like they’re planning to come out *just* for Martin. That puts Saxby Chambliss in good shape headed to the final week of the campaign.”

Martin leads 52-46 among respondents who said they had already voted, while Chambliss is up 54-44 with those still planning to vote. There is a significant gender gap in the numbers, with Martin leading among women but trailing by 15 with men.

PPP surveyed 871 likely voters on November 22nd and 23rd. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.3%. 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.

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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Georgia Survey Results

Q1 The candidates for US Senate are Republican Saxby Chambliss and Democrat Jim Martin. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If you would vote for the Republican, Saxby Chambliss, press 1. If for the Democrat, Jim Martin, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Chambliss 52%
Martin..... 46%
Undecided..... 2%

Q2 I am going to name 7 issues. Which of these is most important to you? The War in Iraq, education, the economy and jobs, taxes, moral or family values, health care, or immigration. If the War in Iraq is most important, press 1. If education, press 2. If the economy and jobs, press 3. If taxes, press 4. If moral and family values, press 5. If health care, press 6. If immigration, press 7. If some other issue is most important, press 8.

War in Iraq..... 7%
Education..... 6%
Economy and Jobs 63%
Taxes..... 7%
Moral and family values 10%
Health care 3%
Immigration..... 3%
Other..... 1%

Q3 Would you describe the community you live in as urban, suburban, rural, or a small town? If urban, press 1. If suburban, press 2. If rural, press 3. If a small town, press 4.

Urban..... 14%
Suburban 47%
Rural..... 16%
Small Town..... 23%

Q4 Have you already voted either at an early voting site or with an absentee ballot? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2.

Yes 27%
No..... 73%

Q5 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 55%
Man..... 45%

Q6 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..... 43%
Independent/Other..... 15%

Q7 If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White 68%
African-American 29%
Other..... 3%

Q8 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..... 12%
30 to 45..... 27%
46 to 65..... 41%
Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

		Community Type				
		Base	Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Senate						
	Chambliss	52%	35%	51%	66%	53%
	Martin	46%	64%	48%	32%	43%
	Undecided	2%	1%	1%	2%	4%

		Already Voted		
		Base	Yes	No
Senate				
	Chambliss	52%	46%	54%
	Martin	46%	52%	44%
	Undecided	2%	2%	2%

		Gender		
		Base	Woman	Man
Senate				
	Chambliss	52%	48%	57%
	Martin	46%	50%	42%
	Undecided	2%	3%	1%

		Party			
		Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Senate					
	Chambliss	52%	7%	95%	53%
	Martin	46%	91%	5%	41%
	Undecided	2%	1%	1%	6%

		Race			
		Base	White	African-American	Other
Senate					
	Chambliss	52%	69%	10%	52%
	Martin	46%	29%	88%	41%
	Undecided	2%	2%	1%	6%

		Age				
		Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Senate						
	Chambliss	52%	42%	45%	51%	69%
	Martin	46%	50%	54%	48%	31%
	Undecided	2%	8%	1%	1%	0%





Crosstabs

	Base	Issues							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and Jobs	Taxes	Moral and family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
Senate									
Chambliss	52%	47%	27%	43%	89%	97%	26%	84%	78%
Martin	46%	49%	73%	56%	11%	2%	74%	6%	14%
Undecided	2%	5%	-	1%	-	2%	-	10%	7%

