



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 25, 2008**

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## **High Level of Ambiguity toward Isakson**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – A new Public Policy Polling survey gauging the popularity of first term Senator Johnny Isakson finds that a plurality of Georgia voters have no opinion of his job performance one way or the other.

30% of Georgians approve of what Isakson's done in Washington and 25% disapprove, but by far the largest group is those who are 'not sure,' at 44%.

Isakson in particular has not made a lot of head way in appealing across party lines. Just 8% of Democrats say they approve of his work.

Isakson does, however, lead against two possible Democratic challengers he was tested against. He would lead Attorney General Thurbert Baker 45-39 in a hypothetical match up and has a 47-38 edge over Jim Marshall if the two of them were to face off.

“Johnny Isakson's approval numbers aren't very good, and he may not have as big an incumbency advantage as most folks would have in 2010 since so few Georgia voters have developed an opinion of him,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “The question is whether the Democrats will nominate anyone strong enough to run a strong campaign against him though. The bench isn't exactly loaded with the high level of success Republicans have had in the state of late.”

One thing that should be noted is that twice as many Democrats are undecided as Republicans in both potential match ups. It seems likely many of those voters would support a Democratic nominee against Isakson once that individual was identified.

PPP surveyed 871 likely voters on November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. 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](http://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** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Johnny Isakson's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve*..... 30% *Not Sure*..... 44%

*Disapprove*..... 25%

**Q2** If the candidates for US Senate in 2010 were Democrat Thurbert Baker and Republican Johnny Isakson, who would you vote for? If you would vote for the Democrat, Thurbert Baker, press 1. If for the Republican, Johnny Isakson, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Baker* ..... 39%

*Isakson* ..... 45%

*Undecided*..... 16%

**Q3** If the candidates for US Senate in 2010 were Republican Johnny Isakson and Democrat Jim Marshall, who would you vote for? If you would vote for the Republican, Johnny Isakson, press 1. If for the Democrat, Jim Marshall, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Isakson* ..... 47%

*Marshall* ..... 38%

*Undecided*..... 15%

**Q4** 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%

**Q5** 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%

**Q6** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 55%

*Man*..... 45%

**Q7** 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%





**Q8** 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%

**Q9** 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**

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Isakson Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	30%	26%	32%	31%	30%
<b>Disapprove</b>	25%	35%	25%	22%	23%
<b>Not Sure</b>	44%	39%	43%	47%	47%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Baker/Isakson</b>					
<b>Baker</b>	39%	49%	39%	30%	39%
<b>Isakson</b>	45%	30%	46%	51%	48%
<b>Undecided</b>	16%	20%	15%	19%	13%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Isakson/Marshall</b>					
<b>Isakson</b>	47%	32%	48%	49%	51%
<b>Marshall</b>	38%	49%	39%	32%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	20%	13%	19%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Isakson Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	30%	23%	39%
<b>Disapprove</b>	25%	20%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	44%	56%	29%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Baker/Isakson</b>			
<b>Baker</b>	39%	40%	38%
<b>Isakson</b>	45%	39%	52%
<b>Undecided</b>	16%	21%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Isakson/Marshall</b>			
<b>Isakson</b>	47%	40%	54%
<b>Marshall</b>	38%	41%	35%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	19%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Isakson Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	30%	8%	51%	35%
<b>Disapprove</b>	25%	40%	11%	28%
<b>Not Sure</b>	44%	52%	38%	37%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Baker/Isakson</b>				
<b>Baker</b>	39%	77%	8%	23%
<b>Isakson</b>	45%	5%	85%	42%
<b>Undecided</b>	16%	18%	8%	35%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Isakson/Marshall</b>				
<b>Isakson</b>	47%	7%	88%	39%
<b>Marshall</b>	38%	78%	5%	27%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	16%	8%	34%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Isakson Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	30%	39%	8%	37%
<b>Disapprove</b>	25%	20%	37%	29%
<b>Not Sure</b>	44%	40%	55%	34%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Baker/Isakson</b>				
<b>Baker</b>	39%	24%	78%	14%
<b>Isakson</b>	45%	60%	9%	56%
<b>Undecided</b>	16%	16%	13%	31%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Isakson/Marshall</b>				
<b>Isakson</b>	47%	63%	8%	47%
<b>Marshall</b>	38%	23%	76%	20%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	14%	15%	33%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Isakson Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	<b>30%</b>	18%	23%	30%	49%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>25%</b>	28%	28%	26%	19%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>44%</b>	54%	49%	44%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Baker/Isakson</b>					
<b>Baker</b>	<b>39%</b>	44%	44%	40%	27%
<b>Isakson</b>	<b>45%</b>	28%	37%	47%	62%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>16%</b>	28%	18%	13%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Isakson/Marshall</b>					
<b>Isakson</b>	<b>47%</b>	32%	41%	46%	64%
<b>Marshall</b>	<b>38%</b>	48%	43%	38%	27%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>15%</b>	20%	15%	16%	9%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Issues							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and Jobs	Taxes	Moral and family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
<b>Isakson Approval</b>									
Approve	30%	22%	12%	27%	66%	43%	19%	40%	22%
Disapprove	25%	28%	43%	29%	11%	3%	31%	6%	20%
Not Sure	44%	50%	45%	43%	23%	54%	50%	54%	57%

	Base	Issues							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and Jobs	Taxes	Moral and family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
<b>Baker/Isakson</b>									
Baker	39%	48%	56%	47%	13%	3%	43%	6%	14%
Isakson	45%	36%	25%	37%	80%	79%	23%	78%	70%
Undecided	16%	16%	19%	16%	7%	17%	34%	16%	15%

	Base	Issues							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and Jobs	Taxes	Moral and family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
<b>Isakson/Marshall</b>									
Isakson	47%	42%	23%	39%	87%	83%	20%	67%	70%
Marshall	38%	46%	66%	44%	9%	3%	53%	18%	14%
Undecided	15%	12%	11%	17%	4%	14%	27%	16%	15%

