

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 21, 2009

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Vitter Vulnerable? It Depends

Raleigh, N.C. – A new Louisiana survey from Public Policy Polling finds that when it comes to the question of whether David Vitter is vulnerable for reelection or not next year, it depends on how you look at it.

Only 38% of voters in the state say that he should be reelected, while 47% say it's time to give somebody else a chance. But when you pit Vitter against a generic Democrat, he leads 44-38. And when you test him specifically against Congressman Charlie Melancon, a likely opponent, that lead expands to 44-32.

The 44% Vitter receives against an unnamed Democrat and Melancon is also both his approval rating and his favorability rating with the state's voters. So he's below the 50% considered safe ground for an incumbent, but whether or not Democrats are going to be able to capitalize on that next year is another question.

One thing the poll's results do seem to indicate is that Vitter wouldn't be overly vulnerable to a primary challenge. 56% of Republicans say he deserves another term and 62% of them approve of his job performance.

“David Vitter's polling in the mid-40s is a very similar position to where Mary Landrieu was a couple years ago at this time,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Republicans were never able to translate that into a serious challenge, so it will be interesting to see if Democrats are better able to capitalize on Vitter's vulnerability.”

PPP numbers tomorrow will look at how voters in the state view Barack Obama, Bobby Jindal, and Sarah Palin.

PPP conducted a national survey of 727 Louisiana voters from July 17th to 19th. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.6%. 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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Louisiana Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Republican Senator David Vitter? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable..... 44%
Unfavorable 39%
Not Sure..... 18%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of David Vitter's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve44% *Not Sure*.....20%
Disapprove.....36%

Q3 Do you think that David Vitter deserves another term in the US Senate, or is it time to give someone else a chance? If you think Vitter deserves another term, press 1. If you think it's time to give someone else a chance, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Deserves another term 38%
Time to give someone else a chance..... 47%
Not Sure..... 14%

Q4 Generally speaking, next year would you vote to reelect Republican David Vitter or vote for his Democratic opponent? If you would vote for Vitter, press 1. If you would vote for his Democratic opponent, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Vitter 44%
Democrat 38%
Not Sure..... 18%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Democratic Congressman Charlie Melancon? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable..... 26%
Unfavorable 32%
Not Sure..... 42%

Q6 If the candidates for US Senate next year were Democrat Charlie Melancon and Republican David Vitter, who would you vote for? If Charlie Melancon, press 1. If David Vitter, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Melancon 32%
Vitter 44%
Undecided..... 24%

Q7 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 13%
Moderate..... 37%
Conservative..... 50%

Q8 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q9 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 47%
Republican..... 39%
Independent/Other..... 14%





Q10 If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White 69%
African-American 28%
Other..... 3%

Q11 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..... 15%
30 to 45..... 25%
46 to 65..... 40%
Older than 65..... 20%

Q12

225..... 18%
 318..... 28%
 337..... 21%
 504..... 18%
 985..... 14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Vitter Favorability				
Favorable	44%	21%	32%	58%
Unfavorable	39%	61%	52%	23%
Not Sure	18%	19%	16%	19%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Vitter Approval				
Approve	44%	19%	33%	60%
Disapprove	36%	60%	49%	20%
Not Sure	20%	21%	19%	20%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Vitter Reelect				
Deserves another term	38%	19%	29%	50%
Time to give someone else a chance	47%	69%	60%	33%
Not Sure	14%	13%	11%	17%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Ballot				
Vitter	44%	18%	30%	62%
Democrat	38%	67%	53%	20%
Not Sure	18%	16%	17%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Melancon Favorability				
Favorable	26%	34%	34%	18%
Unfavorable	32%	28%	22%	40%
Not Sure	42%	39%	44%	42%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Vitter/Melancon				
Melancon	32%	53%	46%	16%
Vitter	44%	23%	29%	61%
Undecided	24%	24%	25%	23%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Vitter Favorability			
Favorable	44%	38%	50%
Unfavorable	39%	38%	39%
Not Sure	18%	24%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Vitter Approval			
Approve	44%	41%	48%
Disapprove	36%	36%	36%
Not Sure	20%	23%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Vitter Reelect			
Deserves another term	38%	34%	43%
Time to give someone else a chance	47%	47%	48%
Not Sure	14%	19%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Ballot			
Vitter	44%	38%	51%
Democrat	38%	40%	36%
Not Sure	18%	23%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Melancon Favorability			
Favorable	26%	25%	28%
Unfavorable	32%	25%	40%
Not Sure	42%	51%	32%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Vitter/Melancon			
Melancon	32%	33%	31%
Vitter	44%	38%	51%
Undecided	24%	29%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Vitter Favorability				
Favorable	44%	26%	64%	44%
Unfavorable	39%	56%	20%	34%
Not Sure	18%	18%	16%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Vitter Approval				
Approve	44%	28%	62%	48%
Disapprove	36%	52%	19%	30%
Not Sure	20%	20%	19%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Vitter Reelect				
Deserves another term	38%	23%	56%	36%
Time to give someone else a chance	47%	64%	29%	47%
Not Sure	14%	13%	15%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Ballot				
Vitter	44%	19%	74%	45%
Democrat	38%	65%	11%	27%
Not Sure	18%	16%	16%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Melancon Favorability				
Favorable	26%	38%	14%	23%
Unfavorable	32%	18%	49%	30%
Not Sure	42%	44%	38%	47%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Vitter/Melancon				
Melancon	32%	53%	9%	25%
Vitter	44%	19%	74%	43%
Undecided	24%	27%	16%	32%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Vitter Favorability				
Favorable	44%	55%	18%	32%
Unfavorable	39%	30%	59%	47%
Not Sure	18%	16%	23%	21%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Vitter Approval				
Approve	44%	55%	19%	41%
Disapprove	36%	26%	59%	39%
Not Sure	20%	19%	22%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Vitter Reelect				
Deserves another term	38%	48%	16%	29%
Time to give someone else a chance	47%	37%	70%	64%
Not Sure	14%	15%	14%	8%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Ballot				
Vitter	44%	58%	9%	45%
Democrat	38%	23%	76%	29%
Not Sure	18%	18%	15%	26%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Melancon Favorability				
Favorable	26%	24%	33%	33%
Unfavorable	32%	35%	23%	33%
Not Sure	42%	41%	44%	34%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Vitter/Melancon				
Melancon	32%	24%	53%	29%
Vitter	44%	57%	15%	36%
Undecided	24%	20%	32%	35%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Vitter Favorability					
Favorable	44%	36%	50%	37%	54%
Unfavorable	39%	39%	31%	47%	30%
Not Sure	18%	25%	19%	15%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Vitter Approval					
Approve	44%	30%	50%	41%	54%
Disapprove	36%	34%	33%	41%	30%
Not Sure	20%	36%	18%	17%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Vitter Reelect					
Deserves another term	38%	31%	41%	34%	47%
Time to give someone else a chance	47%	49%	43%	53%	41%
Not Sure	14%	20%	15%	13%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Ballot					
Vitter	44%	40%	45%	40%	54%
Democrat	38%	38%	37%	43%	31%
Not Sure	18%	22%	18%	17%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Melancon Favorability					
Favorable	26%	24%	24%	30%	24%
Unfavorable	32%	33%	35%	29%	30%
Not Sure	42%	42%	41%	40%	46%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Vitter/Melancon					
Melancon	32%	27%	28%	39%	27%
Vitter	44%	40%	51%	37%	53%
Undecided	24%	33%	20%	24%	19%

	Base	Area Code				
		225	318	337	504	985
Vitter Favorability						
Favorable	44%	38%	38%	51%	44%	51%
Unfavorable	39%	42%	44%	27%	45%	32%
Not Sure	18%	20%	19%	21%	12%	17%

	Base	Area Code				
		225	318	337	504	985
Vitter Approval						
Approve	44%	40%	38%	49%	50%	49%
Disapprove	36%	41%	39%	25%	39%	34%
Not Sure	20%	20%	23%	25%	11%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code				
		225	318	337	504	985
Vitter Reelect						
Deserves another term	38%	30%	35%	42%	38%	49%
Time to give someone else a chance	47%	53%	50%	41%	53%	38%
Not Sure	14%	17%	15%	17%	9%	13%

	Base	Area Code				
		225	318	337	504	985
Generic Ballot						
Vitter	44%	34%	41%	47%	45%	56%
Democrat	38%	43%	44%	25%	43%	35%
Not Sure	18%	23%	16%	27%	12%	8%

	Base	Area Code				
		225	318	337	504	985
Melancon Favorability						
Favorable	26%	33%	9%	23%	46%	33%
Unfavorable	32%	31%	33%	36%	22%	35%
Not Sure	42%	36%	58%	41%	32%	32%

	Base	Area Code				
		225	318	337	504	985
Vitter/Melancon						
Melancon	32%	35%	26%	23%	42%	41%
Vitter	44%	34%	42%	49%	45%	52%
Undecided	24%	30%	32%	27%	13%	7%

