

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Lynch Still Up By Double Digits Over Stephen

Raleigh, N.C. – John Stephen looked the most likely victor in the New Hampshire GOP gubernatorial primary, and the strongest possible challenger to incumbent Democrat John Lynch, all along. Taken just before the primary that propelled Stephen to the general election, PPP's first survey of likely voters in the state shows that while Stephen has closed his deficit to Lynch by five points since the previous survey of registered voters in July, he still lags by 12 points.

Lynch tops Stephen, 51-39, a closer result than the previous survey's 51-34. The governor's standing in the horse race tracks very closely with his 51-38 job approval rating, suggesting that although Stephen has upped his name recognition and personal favorability from 14-21 two months ago to 31-30 now, he is still fairly unknown, and cannot take advantage of the significantly pro-Republican enthusiasm gap that is boosting Kelly Ayotte over Paul Hodes.

Lynch's popularity gives him 93% of his own party's vote, along with 13% of Republicans, which, along with Stephen's unknown quantity holding the GOP at 13% undecided (versus 3% of Democrats), puts the Republican at only 74% support in his party, a huge Democratic party unity advantage when in most races Republicans are more unified. Lynch also leads independents, 46-41. Stephen has actually upped his support among both Republicans and independents since July, but Lynch has improved among Democrats even more.

"John Lynch is still one of the most popular governors in the country," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "He is bucking a lot of trends facing other Democratic incumbent governors and senators, making him still a strong favorite for re-election, in spite of Republicans being much more excited to turn out and vote."

PPP surveyed 1,959 likely New Hampshire voters on September 11th and 12th. The margin of error is +/-2.2%. 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.



New Hampshire Survey Results

Q1 If the candidates for Governor this fall were Democrat John Lynch and Republican John Stephen, who would you vote for?

John Lynch 51%
John Stephen..... 39%
Undecided..... 10%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor John Lynch's job performance?

Approve 51%
Disapprove..... 38%
Not sure 12%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John Stephen?

Favorable..... 31%
Unfavorable 30%
Not sure 39%

Q4 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 47%
Barack Obama..... 47%
Someone else/Don't remember 6%

Q5 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 21%
Moderate..... 41%
Conservative..... 39%

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

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q7 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..... 35%
Republican..... 36%
Independent/Other..... 30%

Q8 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 94%
Other..... 6%

Q9 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..... 6%
30 to 45..... 20%
46 to 65..... 50%
Older than 65..... 24%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Lynch/Stephen				
John Lynch	51%	14%	89%	27%
John Stephen	39%	73%	5%	52%
Undecided	10%	13%	6%	21%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Lynch Approval				
Approve	51%	25%	79%	29%
Disapprove	38%	63%	11%	52%
Not sure	12%	12%	10%	19%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Stephen Favorability				
Favorable	31%	55%	7%	39%
Unfavorable	30%	13%	49%	12%
Not sure	39%	32%	45%	49%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Lynch/Stephen				
John Lynch	51%	94%	66%	11%
John Stephen	39%	1%	25%	76%
Undecided	10%	5%	9%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Lynch Approval				
Approve	51%	81%	65%	20%
Disapprove	38%	9%	23%	68%
Not sure	12%	10%	13%	12%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Stephen Favorability				
Favorable	31%	4%	23%	55%
Unfavorable	30%	52%	35%	12%
Not sure	39%	44%	42%	33%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Lynch/Stephen			
John Lynch	51%	56%	45%
John Stephen	39%	33%	47%
Undecided	10%	11%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Lynch Approval			
Approve	51%	56%	46%
Disapprove	38%	32%	44%
Not sure	12%	13%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Stephen Favorability			
Favorable	31%	26%	37%
Unfavorable	30%	31%	28%
Not sure	39%	42%	35%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Lynch/Stephen				
John Lynch	51%	93%	13%	46%
John Stephen	39%	4%	74%	41%
Undecided	10%	3%	13%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Lynch Approval				
Approve	51%	82%	24%	47%
Disapprove	38%	10%	63%	40%
Not sure	12%	8%	13%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Stephen Favorability				
Favorable	31%	7%	54%	32%
Unfavorable	30%	49%	13%	28%
Not sure	39%	44%	33%	40%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Lynch/Stephen			
John Lynch	51%	50%	57%
John Stephen	39%	40%	37%
Undecided	10%	10%	7%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Lynch Approval			
Approve	51%	51%	49%
Disapprove	38%	38%	37%
Not sure	12%	11%	14%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Stephen Favorability			
Favorable	31%	32%	26%
Unfavorable	30%	29%	37%
Not sure	39%	39%	37%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Lynch/Stephen					
John Lynch	51%	54%	44%	55%	47%
John Stephen	39%	35%	44%	36%	43%
Undecided	10%	10%	12%	9%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Lynch Approval					
Approve	51%	56%	48%	54%	47%
Disapprove	38%	31%	39%	38%	38%
Not sure	12%	13%	13%	9%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Stephen Favorability					
Favorable	31%	31%	36%	26%	38%
Unfavorable	30%	24%	20%	36%	25%
Not sure	39%	45%	44%	37%	37%

