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Schweitzer would rout Baucus in '14 Senate primary

Raleigh, N.C. – Max Baucus could be in trouble in 2014 if the out-of-work progressive icon Brian Schweitzer decides to challenge him in the primary. Montana Democrats have a significantly better opinion of their term-limited governor than their six-term senator. 81% approve and only 14% disapprove of Schweitzer's performance, versus a 70-23 spread for Baucus. Schweitzer would take an outright majority (51%) of primary voters' support, with Baucus managing only about a third (34%). Schweitzer draws his strength from the two largest ideological groups in the party, winning by 28 points with the third who say they are moderate and by 12 points with the 38% plurality who claim to be somewhat liberal. Only among the 2% who say they are very conservative does Baucus lead, and only by seven points.

The Republican primaries for House and governor come down mostly to name recognition at this point, as other than Rick Hill, of whom 42% have an opinion, 76-89% of these engaged partisans have no clue about the candidates. Steve Daines is favored 22-14 over John Abarra to replace Denny Rehberg on the congressional ticket. Hill unsurprisingly leads for the gubernatorial slot, with 35% to Neil Livingstone's 15%, Jeff Essmann's 11%, Ken Miller's 6%, and three others with 1-2%. 64% are undecided for House, and 28% for governor.

Democrats are considerably more familiar with their leading gubernatorial candidates, with only 37-60% unable to express an opinion of them. Therefore, name recognition, while still powerful, is less a deciding factor at this early stage. Steve Bullock is actually slightly less known than and equally as liked as John Bohlinger, but the Attorney General leads Schweitzer's number two 40-27. Bohlinger's lifelong Republican affiliation likely has a lot to do with his deficit. Four other candidates place in single digits, and 18% are undecided.

PPP surveyed 333 usual Montana Democratic primary voters, for a +/- 5.4% margin of error, and 382 usual Republican primary voters, for a +/- 5.0% margin of error, from June 16th to 19th. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.



Montana Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Max Baucus' job performance?

Approve 70%
Disapprove..... 23%
Not sure 7%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Brian Schweitzer's job performance?

Approve 81%
Disapprove..... 14%
Not sure 5%

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

Favorable..... 48%
Unfavorable 15%
Not sure 37%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Steve Bullock?

Favorable..... 46%
Unfavorable 13%
Not sure 41%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Dave Wanzonried?

Favorable..... 23%
Unfavorable 17%
Not sure 60%

Q6 If the Democratic candidates for Senate in 2014 were Max Baucus and Brian Schweitzer, who would you vote for?

Max Baucus 34%
Brian Schweitzer..... 51%
Not sure 14%

Q7 Given the choices of John Bohlinger, Carl Borgquist, Steve Bullock, Larry Jent, Jim Lynch, and Dave Wanzonried, who would you most like to be the Democratic candidate for Governor next year?

John Bohlinger..... 27%
Carl Borgquist..... 2%
Steve Bullock..... 40%
Larry Jent..... 2%
Jim Lynch..... 4%
Dave Wanzonried 7%
Someone else/Not sure 18%

Q8 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 17%
Somewhat liberal 38%
Moderate..... 33%
Somewhat conservative..... 10%
Very conservative 2%

Q9 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 56%
Man..... 44%

Q10 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..... 14%
30 to 45..... 23%
46 to 65..... 43%
Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Baucus Approval						
Approve	70%	61%	77%	74%	52%	46%
Disapprove	23%	35%	16%	17%	44%	54%
Not sure	7%	4%	7%	9%	4%	-

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Schweitzer Approval						
Approve	81%	82%	87%	84%	49%	51%
Disapprove	14%	17%	9%	10%	30%	49%
Not sure	5%	2%	4%	5%	21%	-

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bohlinger Favorability						
Favorable	48%	45%	51%	56%	23%	25%
Unfavorable	15%	24%	7%	12%	37%	18%
Not sure	37%	31%	42%	32%	39%	57%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bullock Favorability						
Favorable	46%	51%	50%	45%	27%	36%
Unfavorable	13%	14%	7%	13%	29%	10%
Not sure	41%	35%	43%	41%	44%	54%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Wanzenried Favorability						
Favorable	23%	41%	23%	15%	18%	25%
Unfavorable	17%	25%	8%	20%	29%	15%
Not sure	60%	34%	70%	65%	53%	59%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2014 Dem Sen Primary: Baucus/Schweitzer						
Max Baucus	34%	41%	38%	27%	33%	46%
Brian Schweitzer	51%	52%	50%	55%	44%	39%
Not sure	14%	7%	12%	18%	23%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 Dem Gov Primary						
John Bohlinger	27%	38%	23%	30%	24%	8%
Carl Borgquist	2%	3%	2%	3%	2%	-
Steve Bullock	40%	34%	44%	41%	35%	18%
Larry Jent	2%	2%	3%	1%	-	10%
Jim Lynch	4%	3%	4%	2%	8%	-
Dave Wanzenreid	7%	8%	7%	8%	3%	8%
Someone else/Not sure	18%	14%	17%	16%	28%	57%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Baucus Approval			
Approve	70%	72%	68%
Disapprove	23%	23%	23%
Not sure	7%	5%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Schweitzer Approval			
Approve	81%	80%	81%
Disapprove	14%	12%	16%
Not sure	5%	7%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bohlinger Favorability			
Favorable	48%	49%	47%
Unfavorable	15%	11%	20%
Not sure	37%	40%	33%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bullock Favorability			
Favorable	46%	48%	43%
Unfavorable	13%	8%	19%
Not sure	41%	44%	38%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Wanzenried Favorability			
Favorable	23%	21%	25%
Unfavorable	17%	10%	26%
Not sure	60%	69%	49%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2014 Dem Sen Primary: Baucus/Schweitzer			
Max Baucus	34%	36%	32%
Brian Schweitzer	51%	48%	55%
Not sure	14%	16%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 Dem Gov Primary			
John Bohlinger	27%	28%	27%
Carl Borgquist	2%	1%	4%
Steve Bullock	40%	40%	39%
Larry Jent	2%	2%	2%
Jim Lynch	4%	4%	3%
Dave Wanzenreid	7%	6%	8%
Someone else/Not sure	18%	20%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Baucus Approval					
Approve	70%	63%	58%	78%	74%
Disapprove	23%	32%	39%	14%	19%
Not sure	7%	5%	3%	9%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Schweitzer Approval					
Approve	81%	79%	71%	85%	83%
Disapprove	14%	11%	26%	11%	9%
Not sure	5%	11%	3%	4%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bohlinger Favorability					
Favorable	48%	26%	39%	54%	61%
Unfavorable	15%	16%	18%	13%	14%
Not sure	37%	58%	42%	33%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bullock Favorability					
Favorable	46%	42%	37%	52%	46%
Unfavorable	13%	5%	11%	14%	17%
Not sure	41%	53%	53%	34%	37%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Wanzenried Favorability					
Favorable	23%	26%	13%	28%	20%
Unfavorable	17%	16%	8%	20%	21%
Not sure	60%	58%	79%	51%	59%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2014 Dem Sen Primary: Baucus/Schweitzer					
Max Baucus	34%	58%	21%	36%	29%
Brian Schweitzer	51%	42%	58%	52%	49%
Not sure	14%	-	21%	12%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 Dem Gov Primary					
John Bohlinger	27%	32%	24%	21%	42%
Carl Borgquist	2%	-	5%	1%	2%
Steve Bullock	40%	37%	39%	48%	24%
Larry Jent	2%	-	-	4%	2%
Jim Lynch	4%	5%	5%	2%	3%
Dave Wanzenreid	7%	11%	3%	8%	8%
Someone else/Not sure	18%	16%	24%	15%	20%





Montana Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jeff Essmann?

Favorable..... 10%
Unfavorable 14%
Not sure 76%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rick Hill?

Favorable..... 32%
Unfavorable 10%
Not sure 57%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Ken Miller?

Favorable..... 12%
Unfavorable 9%
Not sure 79%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John Abarr?

Favorable..... 1%
Unfavorable 9%
Not sure 89%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Steve Daines?

Favorable..... 12%
Unfavorable 8%
Not sure 80%

Q6 If the Republican candidates for House were John Abarr and Steve Daines, who would you vote for?

John Abarr 14%
Steve Daines 22%
Undecided..... 64%

Q7 Given the choices of Jeff Essmann, Rick Hill, Neil Livingstone, Ken Miller, Jim O'Hara, Corey Stapleton, and Ryan Zinke who would you most like to see as the Republican candidate for Governor next year?

Jeff Essmann..... 11%
Rick Hill..... 35%
Neil Livingstone 15%
Ken Miller..... 6%
Jim O'Hara..... 1%
Corey Stapleton..... 1%
Ryan Zinke..... 2%
Someone else/Not sure 29%

Q8 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 3%
Somewhat liberal 3%
Moderate..... 15%
Somewhat conservative..... 39%
Very conservative 40%

Q9 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 56%
Man..... 44%

Q10 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..... 32%
46 to 65..... 40%
Older than 65..... 22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Es smann Favorability						
Favorable	10%	20%	14%	17%	10%	8%
Unfavorable	14%	41%	52%	16%	11%	10%
Not sure	76%	39%	34%	67%	79%	82%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hill Favorability						
Favorable	32%	20%	29%	28%	34%	34%
Unfavorable	10%	33%	38%	19%	5%	8%
Not sure	57%	48%	33%	53%	61%	59%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Miller Favorability						
Favorable	12%	20%	12%	8%	11%	14%
Unfavorable	9%	33%	47%	13%	6%	6%
Not sure	79%	48%	41%	79%	84%	79%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Abarr Favorability						
Favorable	1%	20%	16%	1%	-	0%
Unfavorable	9%	41%	38%	7%	8%	7%
Not sure	89%	39%	46%	92%	92%	93%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Daines Favorability						
Favorable	12%	20%	-	9%	11%	15%
Unfavorable	8%	33%	54%	9%	4%	6%
Not sure	80%	48%	46%	82%	85%	80%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP House Primary						
John Abarr	14%	20%	22%	9%	13%	16%
Steve Daines	22%	-	28%	20%	22%	24%
Undecided	64%	80%	50%	71%	65%	60%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Gov Primary						
Jeff Essmann	11%	20%	16%	12%	10%	11%
Rick Hill	35%	33%	45%	24%	38%	36%
Neil Livingstone	15%	-	7%	25%	16%	11%
Ken Miller	6%	-	-	5%	6%	8%
Jim O'Hara	1%	-	5%	3%	0%	1%
Corey Stapleton	1%	-	-	-	2%	1%
Ryan Zinke	2%	8%	-	4%	1%	1%
Someone else/Not sure	29%	39%	28%	27%	27%	32%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Essmann Favorability			
Favorable	10%	8%	13%
Unfavorable	14%	15%	11%
Not sure	76%	76%	76%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hill Favorability			
Favorable	32%	29%	37%
Unfavorable	10%	10%	10%
Not sure	57%	61%	53%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Miller Favorability			
Favorable	12%	9%	16%
Unfavorable	9%	9%	9%
Not sure	79%	82%	75%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Abarr Favorability			
Favorable	1%	1%	2%
Unfavorable	9%	9%	10%
Not sure	89%	90%	88%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Daines Favorability			
Favorable	12%	10%	14%
Unfavorable	8%	8%	8%
Not sure	80%	82%	78%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP House Primary			
John Abarr	14%	12%	16%
Steve Daines	22%	22%	22%
Undecided	64%	66%	61%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Gov Primary			
Jeff Essmann	11%	10%	13%
Rick Hill	35%	33%	38%
Neil Livingstone	15%	12%	18%
Ken Miller	6%	8%	4%
Jim O'Hara	1%	1%	2%
Corey Stapleton	1%	2%	-
Ryan Zinke	2%	2%	1%
Someone else/Not sure	29%	34%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Essmann Favorability					
Favorable	10%	11%	13%	8%	10%
Unfavorable	14%	22%	16%	12%	10%
Not sure	76%	67%	71%	79%	80%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hill Favorability					
Favorable	32%	33%	26%	35%	38%
Unfavorable	10%	22%	11%	10%	5%
Not sure	57%	44%	63%	55%	57%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Miller Favorability					
Favorable	12%	-	11%	13%	14%
Unfavorable	9%	11%	13%	8%	5%
Not sure	79%	89%	76%	78%	82%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Abarr Favorability					
Favorable	1%	-	3%	-	2%
Unfavorable	9%	11%	13%	8%	7%
Not sure	89%	89%	84%	92%	92%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Daines Favorability					
Favorable	12%	11%	11%	12%	13%
Unfavorable	8%	11%	13%	4%	6%
Not sure	80%	78%	76%	83%	81%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP House Primary					
John Abarr	14%	11%	13%	17%	10%
Steve Daines	22%	22%	24%	20%	23%
Undecided	64%	67%	63%	63%	67%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Gov Primary					
Jeff Essmann	11%	22%	16%	7%	8%
Rick Hill	35%	44%	29%	36%	40%
Neil Livingstone	15%	11%	18%	11%	18%
Ken Miller	6%	11%	3%	7%	8%
Jim O'Hara	1%	-	2%	1%	2%
Corey Stapleton	1%	-	2%	1%	1%
Ryan Zinke	2%	11%	-	2%	1%
Someone else/Not sure	29%	-	31%	35%	24%

