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## **Close WV Dem gov. primary, Capito runs away with GOP**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – A Shelley Moore Capito candidacy would be an instant field-clearer on the Republican side of the West Virginia gubernatorial picture, and if she remains as strong in the general election as Wednesday's release showed, she could be a shoo-in all the way to October. But whoever her Democratic opponent ends up being will have a tougher road. Acting Governor Earl Ray Tomblin, only in office for a couple months, does not have the strength of a usual incumbent, and several Democrats see an opportunity to ascend to the state house, including popular Secretary of State Natalie Tennant, who essentially ties Tomblin, with State Treasurer John Perdue not far behind.

Capito is the favorite of 72% of her party faithful. Her closest competitor, at 10%, is former Secretary of State Betty Ireland, with state senator Clark Barnes at 5%, and attorney Mark Sorsaia and state GOP chairman Mike Stuart barely registering at 1% apiece. If Capito decides to keep her House seat now that the Republicans are in the majority, or chooses instead to challenge Joe Manchin for Senate, Ireland would take her place, with 46% ahead of Barnes' 11%, Sorsaia's 9%, and Stuart's 4%. But Capito's void would leave three times as many undecided as before.

Across the aisle, Tomblin is holding onto an insignificant 25-24 lead over Tennant, with Perdue at 16%, acting state Senate President Jeff Kessler at 7%, state House Speaker Rick Thompson at 6%, state Senate President Pro Tem Brooks McCabe at 4%, and 17% undecided—meaning this race is pretty wide open. All of these candidates appear at least somewhat likely to run, and several have already created websites and campaign organizations.

But in a short primary campaign, Tomblin and Tennant, as the best known, have a clear advantage. Which of them is the victor depends on who turns out. West Virginia's Democrats are unusually conservative, with more (31%) claiming to be right of center than left (21%). Among the moderate near-majority, Tennant edges Tomblin, 26-23. But the other two ideological groups diverge, with Tennant holding a 29-18-17 lead over Tomblin and Perdue with liberals, and Tomblin dominating, 32-17-17, with conservatives, providing for his overall razor-thin edge.

PPP surveyed 686 usual West Virginia Democratic primary voters, with a +/-3.7% margin of error, and 355 usual Republican primary voters, with a +/-5.2% margin of error, from January 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



## West Virginia Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Earl Ray Tomblin's job performance?

*Approve*..... 52% *Not sure* ..... 33%  
*Disapprove*..... 15%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John Perdue?

*Favorable*..... 35%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 18%  
*Not sure* ..... 47%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Natalie Tennant?

*Favorable*..... 51%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 15%  
*Not sure* ..... 33%

**Q4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rick Thompson?

*Favorable*..... 20%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 15%  
*Not sure* ..... 64%

**Q5** If the Democratic candidates for Governor were Jeff Kessler, Brooks McCabe, John Perdue, Natalie Tennant, Rick Thompson, and Earl Ray Tomblin who would you vote for?

*Jeff Kessler*..... 7%  
*Brooks McCabe* ..... 4%  
*John Perdue* ..... 16%  
*Natalie Tennant*..... 24%  
*Rick Thompson*..... 6%  
*Earl Ray Tomblin*..... 25%  
*Undecided*..... 17%

**Q6** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

*Liberal*..... 21%  
*Moderate*..... 48%  
*Conservative*..... 31%

**Q7** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 55%  
*Man*..... 45%

**Q8** 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*..... 9%  
*30 to 45*..... 19%  
*46 to 65*..... 48%  
*Older than 65*..... 24%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Tomblin Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	52%	58%	53%	46%
<b>Disapprove</b>	15%	14%	15%	17%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	28%	32%	37%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Perdue Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	35%	42%	38%	27%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	15%	18%	21%
<b>Not sure</b>	47%	43%	44%	52%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Tennant Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	51%	59%	55%	41%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	15%	14%	12%	22%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	27%	33%	37%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Thompson Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	20%	25%	22%	16%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	15%	14%	15%	16%
<b>Not sure</b>	64%	61%	63%	68%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>2012 Dem Gov Primary</b>				
<b>Jeff Kessler</b>	7%	10%	7%	6%
<b>Brooks McCabe</b>	4%	8%	5%	2%
<b>John Perdue</b>	16%	17%	16%	17%
<b>Natalie Tennant</b>	24%	29%	26%	17%
<b>Rick Thompson</b>	6%	4%	7%	6%
<b>Earl Ray Tomblin</b>	25%	18%	23%	32%
<b>Undecided</b>	17%	14%	16%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Tomblin Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	52%	51%	53%
<b>Disapprove</b>	15%	14%	17%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	35%	30%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Perdue Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	35%	33%	38%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	16%	22%
<b>Not sure</b>	47%	52%	41%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Tennant Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	51%	53%	49%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	15%	13%	19%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	34%	32%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Thompson Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>20%</b>	17%	25%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>15%</b>	15%	16%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>64%</b>	68%	59%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>2012 Dem Gov Primary</b>			
<b>Jeff Kessler</b>	<b>7%</b>	5%	10%
<b>Brooks McCabe</b>	<b>4%</b>	4%	4%
<b>John Perdue</b>	<b>16%</b>	17%	16%
<b>Natalie Tennant</b>	<b>24%</b>	28%	19%
<b>Rick Thompson</b>	<b>6%</b>	6%	7%
<b>Earl Ray Tomblin</b>	<b>25%</b>	24%	27%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>17%</b>	17%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Tomblin Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	<b>52%</b>	56%	54%	50%	53%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>15%</b>	21%	21%	13%	12%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>33%</b>	24%	25%	37%	35%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Perdue Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>35%</b>	38%	25%	37%	38%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>18%</b>	15%	33%	15%	14%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>47%</b>	47%	42%	48%	47%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Tennant Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	51%	38%	46%	55%	54%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	15%	15%	19%	16%	12%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	47%	34%	30%	33%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Thompson Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	20%	21%	22%	21%	18%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	15%	18%	22%	13%	13%
<b>Not sure</b>	64%	62%	55%	66%	68%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>2012 Dem Gov Primary</b>					
<b>Jeff Kessler</b>	7%	9%	3%	9%	7%
<b>Brooks McCabe</b>	4%	-	4%	5%	5%
<b>John Perdue</b>	16%	32%	18%	13%	15%
<b>Natalie Tennant</b>	24%	24%	21%	25%	24%
<b>Rick Thompson</b>	6%	3%	10%	6%	5%
<b>Earl Ray Tomblin</b>	25%	24%	30%	25%	22%
<b>Undecided</b>	17%	9%	13%	18%	21%





## West Virginia Survey Results

**Q1** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Shelley Moore Capito?

*Favorable*..... 78%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 9%  
*Not sure* ..... 13%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Clark Barnes?

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

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Betty Ireland?

*Favorable*..... 38%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 11%  
*Not sure* ..... 51%

**Q4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Stuart?

*Favorable*..... 7%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 10%  
*Not sure* ..... 83%

**Q5** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Newt Gingrich?

*Favorable*..... 60%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 19%  
*Not sure* ..... 21%

**Q6** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Huckabee?

*Favorable*..... 76% *Not sure* ..... 15%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 9%

**Q7** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Sarah Palin?

*Favorable*..... 69%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 18%  
*Not sure* ..... 12%

**Q8** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

*Favorable*..... 56%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 18%  
*Not sure* ..... 25%

**Q9** If the Republican candidates for Governor were Clark Barnes, Shelley Moore Capito, Betty Ireland, Mark Sorsaia, and Mike Stuart who would you vote for?

*Clark Barnes*..... 5%  
*Shelley Moore Capito*..... 72%  
*Betty Ireland*..... 10%  
*Mark Sorsaia*..... 1%  
*Mike Stuart*..... 1%  
*Undecided*..... 10%

**Q10** If the Republican candidates for Governor were just Clark Barnes, Betty Ireland, Mark Sorsaia, and Mike Stuart who would you vote for?

*Clark Barnes*..... 11%  
*Betty Ireland*..... 46%  
*Mark Sorsaia*..... 9%  
*Mike Stuart*..... 4%  
*Undecided*..... 31%





**Q11** If the Republican candidates for President next year were Mitch Daniels, Newt Gingrich, Mike Huckabee, Sarah Palin, Ron Paul, Tim Pawlenty, Mitt Romney, and John Thune who would you vote for?

<i>Mitch Daniels</i> .....	2%
<i>Newt Gingrich</i> .....	17%
<i>Mike Huckabee</i> .....	28%
<i>Sarah Palin</i> .....	23%
<i>Ron Paul</i> .....	6%
<i>Tim Pawlenty</i> .....	5%
<i>Mitt Romney</i> .....	10%
<i>John Thune</i> .....	0%
<i>Someone else/Undecided</i> .....	8%

**Q12** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

<i>Liberal</i> .....	4%
<i>Moderate</i> .....	26%
<i>Conservative</i> .....	70%

**Q13** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i> .....	49%
<i>Man</i> .....	51%

**Q14** 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.

<i>18 to 29</i> .....	5%
<i>30 to 45</i> .....	24%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	48%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	23%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Capito Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	78%	44%	77%	81%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	9%	32%	9%	8%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	24%	14%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Barnes Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	9%	14%	7%	9%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	12%	20%	13%	11%
<b>Not sure</b>	79%	67%	80%	80%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Ireland Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	29%	33%	41%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	11%	14%	14%	10%
<b>Not sure</b>	51%	57%	53%	50%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Stuart Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	7%	14%	6%	7%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	10%	7%	11%	9%
<b>Not sure</b>	83%	79%	82%	84%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	60%	39%	40%	69%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	19%	54%	36%	10%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	7%	24%	21%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Huckabee Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	76%	68%	57%	84%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	9%	14%	17%	6%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	18%	26%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Palin Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	69%	64%	53%	75%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	36%	34%	12%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	-	12%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	56%	56%	46%	60%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	33%	21%	16%
<b>Not sure</b>	25%	11%	33%	24%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>2012 GOP Gov Primary w/ Capito</b>				
Clark Barnes	5%	7%	4%	5%
Shelley Moore Capito	72%	78%	71%	72%
Betty Ireland	10%	11%	9%	10%
Mark Sorsaia	1%	-	1%	1%
Mike Stuart	1%	-	1%	2%
Undecided	10%	4%	14%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>2012 GOP Gov Primary w/o Capito</b>				
Clark Barnes	11%	7%	9%	13%
Betty Ireland	46%	78%	48%	43%
Mark Sorsaia	9%	7%	8%	9%
Mike Stuart	4%	-	2%	5%
Undecided	31%	8%	33%	31%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>2012 GOP Pres Primary</b>				
Mitch Daniels	2%	7%	1%	2%
Newt Gingrich	17%	4%	16%	18%
Mike Huckabee	28%	14%	21%	32%
Sarah Palin	23%	46%	26%	21%
Ron Paul	6%	4%	6%	6%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	-	2%	6%
Mitt Romney	10%	14%	11%	10%
John Thune	0%	-	-	1%
Someone else/Undecided	8%	11%	16%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Capito Favorability</b>			
Favorable	78%	78%	78%
Unfavorable	9%	7%	12%
Not sure	13%	15%	11%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Barnes Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	9%	6%	11%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	12%	9%	14%
<b>Not sure</b>	79%	85%	74%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Ireland Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	39%	38%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	11%	11%	11%
<b>Not sure</b>	51%	50%	51%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Stuart Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	7%	5%	10%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	10%	7%	12%
<b>Not sure</b>	83%	88%	78%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	60%	51%	69%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	19%	22%	15%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	27%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Huckabee Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	76%	73%	79%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	9%	6%	12%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	21%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Palin Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	69%	66%	72%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	19%	18%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	15%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Romney Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	56%	52%	61%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	18%	17%	20%
<b>Not sure</b>	25%	32%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>2012 GOP Gov Primary w/ Capito</b>			
<b>Clark Barnes</b>	5%	2%	8%
<b>Shelley Moore Capito</b>	72%	69%	75%
<b>Betty Ireland</b>	10%	13%	7%
<b>Mark Sorsaia</b>	1%	2%	1%
<b>Mike Stuart</b>	1%	1%	2%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	14%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>2012 GOP Gov Primary w/o Capito</b>			
Clark Barnes	11%	5%	17%
Betty Ireland	46%	47%	45%
Mark Sorsaia	9%	9%	8%
Mike Stuart	4%	4%	4%
Undecided	31%	35%	26%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>2012 GOP Pres Primary</b>			
Mitch Daniels	2%	1%	3%
Newt Gingrich	17%	8%	25%
Mike Huckabee	28%	30%	27%
Sarah Palin	23%	26%	20%
Ron Paul	6%	7%	5%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	3%	6%
Mitt Romney	10%	11%	10%
John Thune	0%	1%	-
Someone else/Undecided	8%	14%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Capito Favorability</b>					
Favorable	78%	44%	70%	82%	85%
Unfavorable	9%	-	18%	7%	6%
Not sure	13%	56%	11%	11%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Barnes Favorability</b>					
Favorable	9%	-	11%	9%	8%
Unfavorable	12%	22%	11%	10%	14%
Not sure	79%	78%	77%	81%	78%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Ireland Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>38%</b>	33%	27%	40%	47%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>11%</b>	11%	14%	9%	11%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>51%</b>	56%	59%	50%	42%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Stuart Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>7%</b>	-	11%	6%	8%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>10%</b>	11%	7%	11%	9%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>83%</b>	89%	82%	83%	83%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>60%</b>	56%	57%	60%	66%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>19%</b>	33%	20%	19%	14%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>21%</b>	11%	23%	21%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Huckabee Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>76%</b>	88%	77%	76%	73%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>9%</b>	13%	11%	9%	8%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>15%</b>	-	11%	15%	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Palin Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>69%</b>	78%	75%	68%	64%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>18%</b>	22%	16%	17%	23%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>12%</b>	-	9%	15%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Romney Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>56%</b>	56%	48%	58%	61%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>18%</b>	22%	27%	16%	11%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>25%</b>	22%	25%	25%	27%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>2012 GOP Gov Primary w/ Capito</b>					
<b>Clark Barnes</b>	<b>5%</b>	-	14%	3%	2%
<b>Shelley Moore Capito</b>	<b>72%</b>	78%	66%	74%	73%
<b>Betty Ireland</b>	<b>10%</b>	-	9%	11%	11%
<b>Mark Sorsaia</b>	<b>1%</b>	-	2%	1%	1%
<b>Mike Stuart</b>	<b>1%</b>	-	-	2%	2%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	22%	9%	9%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>2012 GOP Gov Primary w/o Capito</b>					
<b>Clark Barnes</b>	<b>11%</b>	-	20%	10%	8%
<b>Betty Ireland</b>	<b>46%</b>	33%	36%	51%	47%
<b>Mark Sorsaia</b>	<b>9%</b>	11%	5%	7%	16%
<b>Mike Stuart</b>	<b>4%</b>	-	5%	4%	5%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>31%</b>	56%	34%	29%	26%







Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>2012 GOP Pres Primary</b>					
Mitch Daniels	2%	-	2%	2%	2%
Newt Gingrich	17%	22%	18%	13%	23%
Mike Huckabee	28%	22%	18%	36%	26%
Sarah Palin	23%	56%	27%	22%	15%
Ron Paul	6%	-	11%	5%	4%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	-	5%	5%	6%
Mitt Romney	10%	-	7%	10%	17%
John Thune	0%	-	-	1%	1%
Someone else/Undecided	8%	-	11%	8%	8%

