



OPINION RESEARCH ■ MARKETING RESEARCH ■ STRATEGIC COUNSEL

# Repass & Partners

***The West Virginia™***

**August 29, 2012**

***Methodology Statement & Results***  
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Results of this edition of *The West Virginia Poll™* are based on interviews conducted between August 22-25, 2012 with a sample of 401 West Virginia residents age 18 and over. Respondents were screened and qualified as registered voters who are likely to vote in the November 6<sup>th</sup> general election.

A multi-modal data collection method was used, including interviews with respondents on landline telephones, cellular phones, and through online contact. All landline respondents were chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday. Cell phone and online respondents were selected based on age, voter registration, interest in and likelihood to vote in the November general election. A majority of the interviews were conducted by telephone. For results based on registered voters, one can say with 95% confidence that the overall maximum margin of statistical error for the total sample is +/- 4.9 percentage points.

Samples were statistically weighted by gender and age. Demographic weighting targets are based on 2010 population estimates from the US Census Bureau for residents age 18 and older living in West Virginia.

All reported margins of statistical error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design. In addition to these errors, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

R.L. Repass & Partners, Inc. is responsible for questionnaire design, sample/respondent selection, data tabulation, statistical analysis, and reporting of results. Interviewing is conducted by the firm's data collection partner, McMillion Research LLC. All data collection is conducted from the firm's Charleston, West Virginia facilities. Repass & Partners is a member of the Council of American Survey Research Organizations (CASRO).

*The West Virginia Poll* is a non-partisan survey of public opinion owned and conducted by R.L. Repass & Partners, Inc. The Poll has been conducted periodically since January 21, 1980 and reported by the *Charleston Daily Mail* and other media outlets.

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# The West Virginia Poll™

## RESULTS

Visit [www.wvpoll.com](http://www.wvpoll.com) for more information

August 2012 Edition

### Questionnaire

Hello, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ with Repass & Partners a public opinion company in Charleston. I am calling you today to participate in *The West Virginia Pol*, a public opinion survey among residents of West Virginia.

#### FOR LANDLINE CALLS ONLY, SAY:

I would like to speak with (RANDOMIZE ORDER OF LIST)

- Youngest male over 18 currently at home
- Oldest female over 18 currently at home
- Youngest female over 18 currently at home
- Oldest male over 18 currently at home

**IF FIRST RNA, ASK FOR NEXT PERSON ON LIST. IF ALL NOT AVAILABLE, ASK SPEAKER TO PARTICIPATE IF OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE.**

You have been selected at random to participate in the West Virginia Poll, to find out what is important to Mountain State residents today. We are not attempting to sell any product or service and are only interested in your opinions.

Your answers to this survey will be kept confidential; your responses will be combined with those of others from around the state to help us understand how residents of West Virginia feel about these issues.

Now, let's begin with the survey...

1. What is your gender?

48%	Male
52%	Female

2. Are you age 18 or older?

100%                      Yes  
No                              (TERMINATE)

-more-



3. Are you a resident of West Virginia, or not?

100%	Yes
No	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>

4. In what county do you reside?

**WV COUNTIES RECORDED**

5. These days many people are so busy they can't find the time to register to vote, or they move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?

100%	Yes, registered
No, not registered	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>
Not sure if registered, or not	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>
Refused	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>

6. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat, a Republican, as an Independent or some other party affiliation?

51%	Democrat
31	Republican
17%	Independent
1%	Other party
Refused	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>

7. Do you plan to vote in the 2012 general election on November 6<sup>th</sup> or not?

100%	Yes, plan to vote
No, don't plan to vote	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>
Refused	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>

8. How likely is it that you will vote in the 2012 general election?

80%	Absolutely certain
20%	Very likely
Somewhat likely	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>
Not too likely	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>
Not at all likely	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>
Refused	<b>(TERMINATE)</b>

9. Next, do you consider yourself a sports fan, or not?

71%	Yes <b>(CONTINUE)</b>
29%	No <b>(SKIP TO Q14)</b>

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10. As you know, there are two NCAA Division 1 college athletic programs in West Virginia – West Virginia University and Marshall University (**ROTATE**). Do you consider yourself primarily a West Virginia University Mountaineer fan or primarily a Marshall University Thundering Herd fan (**ROTATE**)?

71%	Primarily a WVU Fan
16%	Primarily a Marshall Fan
13	Not sure

11. And, do you favor or oppose WVU and Marshall [**ROTATE**] playing each other in football every year?

76%	Favor ( <b>CONTINUE</b> )
12%	Oppose ( <b>SKIP TO Q13</b> )
12%	Not sure ( <b>SKIP TO Q13</b> )

12. Which of the following do you agree with most?

83% Marshall and WVU (**ROTATE**) should rotate playing home and home football games every year: one game in Morgantown followed by the next game in Huntington, and so on.

5% WVU and Marshall (**ROTATE**) should play football two consecutive years in Morgantown followed by one game in Huntington and then return to Morgantown for two years, and so on.

2% Marshall and WVU (**ROTATE**) should play football three consecutive years in Morgantown followed by one game in Huntington and then return to Morgantown for three years, and so on.

6% WVU and Marshall (**ROTATE**) should play all football games in Morgantown.

4% Not sure

13. Do you favor or oppose West Virginia University moving to the Big 12 Conference?

59%	Favor
14%	Oppose
27%	Not sure

14. Turning to some other issues, as you may know the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the 2010 healthcare law, declaring it constitutional. Do you agree or disagree with this decision?

36%	Agree
46%	Disagree
18%	Not sure

-more-



15. Next, are provisions of the 2010 healthcare law. Some of these provisions you may favor while others you may oppose. Do you favor or oppose . . .

<b>ROTATE</b>	<b>FAVOR</b>	<b>OPPOSE</b>	<b>NOT SURE</b>
Requiring health insurance companies to cover people with pre-existing medical conditions	83%	10%	7%
Allowing children to stay on their parents' health insurance until age 26	67%	23%	10%
Requiring companies with more than 50 employees to provide health insurance or pay a tax	65%	23%	12%
Requiring that all Americans have health insurance	39%	43%	18%
Eliminating lifetime limits on the amount of health insurance coverage	54%	28%	18%

16. Next, please think about the upcoming general election in November. If the presidential election were being held TODAY, would you vote for [**ROTATE**]

38% Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats  
 52% Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, the Republicans  
 10% Undecided

17. If the election for US Senator from West Virginia were being held TODAY, would you vote for [**ROTATE**]

66% Joe Manchin, the Democrat  
 27% John Raese, the Republican  
 7% Undecided

18. If the election for Governor of West Virginia were being held TODAY, would you vote for [**ROTATE**]

56% Earl Ray Tomblin, the Democrat  
 35% Bill Maloney, the Republican  
 9% Undecided

-more-



19. In the election of Justices of West Virginia Supreme Court, two candidates will be elected. .  
If the election were being held TODAY, which two candidates would you vote for **[ROTATE]**  
**(ACCEPT TWO RESPONSES)**

40%	Robin Jean Davis
30%	Letitia "Tish" Chafin
29%	John Yoder
24%	Allen Loughry
29%	Undecided

20. If the election for Attorney General of West Virginia were TODAY, would you vote for  
**[ROTATE]**

57%	Darrell V. McGraw, the Democrat
33%	Patrick Morrisey, the Republican
10%	Undecided

21. If the election for Treasurer of West Virginia were being held TODAY, would you vote for  
**[ROTATE]**

53%	John Perdue, the Democrat
34%	Mike Hall, the Republican
13%	Undecided

22. Finally in this section, as you may or may not know there will also be an election for US  
Senator from West Virginia in November of 2014. If that election were being held TODAY  
and the candidates were John D. Rockefeller IV, the Democrat and Shelly Moore Capito, the  
Republican **[ROTATE]** would you vote for **[ROTATE]**

44%	John D. Rockefeller IV
48%	Shelly Moore Capito
8%	Undecided

### **DEMOGRAPHICS**

The following questions are to help us analyze the data.

23. Into which of the following categories does your age happen to fall? **(ALLOW NON-  
RESPONSE)**

11%	18 – 24
15%	25 – 34
16%	35 – 44
19%	45 – 54
10%	55 – 59
9%	60 – 64
11%	65 – 74
9%	75 years and over

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24. Which of the following best describes your level of education? **(ALLOW NON-RESPONSE)**

2%	Some high school or less
29%	High school graduate or equivalent (GED)
5%	Technical school graduate
23%	Some college, no degree
10%	Associate's degree
19%	Bachelor's degree
12%	Graduate or professional degree
<1%	Refused

25. Into which of the following categories does your total annual household income happen to fall? **(ALLOW NON-RESPONSE)**

4%	Less than \$10,000
7%	\$10,000 - \$14,999
11%	\$15,000 - \$24,999
15%	\$25,000 - \$34,999
17%	\$35,000 - \$49,999
22%	\$50,000 - \$74,999
9%	\$75,000 - \$99,999
7%	\$100,000 - \$149,999
4%	Over \$150,000
5%	Refused

26. In political matters, do you consider yourself to be . . .

18%	Very conservative
45%	Somewhat conservative
24%	Somewhat liberal
9%	Very liberal
4%	Refused

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**END:** Those are all of my questions, thank you very much for helping us with *The West Virginia Poll*.

