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UM Poll: Montanans Mixed on Impeachment, Economy, Elected Officials

UM News Service

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Big Sky Poll recently polled 303 registered Montana voters and discovered they have mixed views about the impeachment of President Donald Trump, the economy and the job performance of elected officials.

When asked, “Do you think that President Trump should be impeached and removed from office?” 52% of respondents answered no, 39% responded yes, and 10% responded that they did not know.

The poll asked Montanans, “In your view, is the economy improving, staying the same or getting worse?” Forty-two percent of respondents said the economy was improving, 31% said it was staying the same, and 27% said it was getting worse.

In a series of questions Montanans rated the job performance of their elected officials from excellent to poor, with the results in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Elected Official Job Performance

Pres. Donald Trump	Poor 41.9%	Good 16.5%	Fair 12.0%	Excellent 29.5%
Sen. Jon Tester	Poor 20.8%	Good 26.8%	Fair 30.1%	Excellent 22.3%
Sen. Steve Daines	Poor 21.0%	Good 36.4%	Fair 31.8%	Excellent 10.8%
Rep. Greg Gianforte	Poor 35.2%	Good 25.0%	Fair 27.6%	Excellent 12.2%
U.S. Congress	Poor 50.2%	Good 16.8%	Fair 32.1%	Excellent 1.0%
Gov. Steve Bullock	Poor 25.6%	Good 32.3%	Fair 24.3%	Excellent 17.8%
MT State Legislature	Poor 9.4%	Good 39.7%	Fair 45.7%	Excellent 5.2%

Participants were asked to pick their preferred candidate, if the presidential election were held today, in a series of head-to-head match-ups. Results are listed in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Presidential Candidates: Head-to-Head Matchups

53.5% Donald Trump	46.5% Joe Biden
54.4% Donald Trump	45.6% Elizabeth Warren
54.2% Donald Trump	45.8% Bernie Sanders
55.1% Donald Trump	44.9% Kamala Harris
48.1% Donald Trump	51.9% Steve Bullock

When asked, “If the election for Montana’s U.S. Senate seat was held today, which of the following potential candidates would you vote for?” 64% of respondents selected the incumbent Steve Daines (R), and 18% selected Jack Ballard (D).

When asked if the election were held today for Montana's U.S. House Representative seat election, 36% of respondents selected Kathleen Williams (D), 35% selected Matt Rosendale (R), and 20% selected Corey Stapleton (R).

When asked if the election were held today for Montana's governor, 35% selected Greg Gianforte (R), 23% selected Mike Cooney (D), 16% selected Tim Fox (R), and 8% selected Whitney Williams (D).

The UM Big Sky Poll online survey was conducted Sept. 26 through Oct., 3 with 303 registered Montana voters. The poll has a margin of error of +/- 5.63 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence level.

The poll is directed by UM Associate Professor Sara Rinfret, chair of the Department of Public Administration and Policy, and UM marketing Associate Professor Justin Angle in conjunction with four graduate students from UM's public administration and business analytics programs.

The survey was commissioned with support from UM's Office of Research and Creative Scholarship, Blewett School of Law's Baucus Institute and the Social Science Research Laboratory. The Big Sky Poll is conducted on an ongoing basis with its next iteration planned for spring 2020.

Use of poll findings require attribution to UM Big Sky Poll. Full results from the poll are available on the UM Big Sky Poll website at <http://www.umt.edu/bigskypoll/>.

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Table 1: Elected Officials Approval Ratings

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Pres. Donald Trump	30%	17%	12%	42%
Sen. Jon Tester	22%	27%	30%	21%
Sen. Steve Daines	11%	36%	32%	21%
Rep. Greg Gianforte	12%	25%	28%	35%
U.S. Congress	1%	17%	32%	50%
Gov. Steve Bullock	18%	32%	24%	26%
MT State Legislature	5%	40%	46%	9%

Table 2: President Trump Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Excellent	26.3%	33.8%	27.3%	33.3%	-	58.8%	22.1%
Good	16.4%	16.9%	12.3%	23.1%	1.3%	23.7%	17.9%
Fair	12.3%	11.5%	12.8%	11.1%	9.0%	9.6%	16.8%
Poor	45.0%	37.7%	47.6%	32.5%	89.7%	7.9%	43.2%

Table 2 Cont'd., Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Excellent	40.0%	35.4%	25.6%	33.7%	16.4%	-
Good	20.0%	15.2%	25.6%	18.6%	7.5%	33.3%
Fair	13.3%	13.9%	10.3%	12.8%	10.4%	33.3%
Poor	26.7%	35.4%	38.5%	34.9%	65.7%	33.3%

Table 3: Sen. Tester Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Excellent	25.1%	19.1%	23.0%	21.4%	59.0%	4.4%	15.5%
Good	25.1%	28.2%	28.3%	23.9%	26.9%	18.4%	32.0%
Fair	29.8%	30.5%	30.5%	29.9%	11.5%	42.1%	30.9%
Poor	19.9%	22.1%	18.2%	24.8%	2.6%	35.1%	21.6%

Table 3 Cont'd., Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Excellent	19.4%	19.2%	5.3%	19.8%	40.3%	33.3%
Good	16.1%	28.2%	34.2%	20.9%	31.3%	33.3%
Fair	38.7%	32.1%	39.5%	32.6%	16.4%	-
Poor	25.8%	20.5%	22.1%	26.7%	11.9%	33.3%

Table 4: Sen. Daines Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Excellent	10.5%	11.5%	8.6%	14.5%	2.6%	21.9%	6.3%
Good	33.3%	40.8%	33.7%	40.2%	23.1%	40.4%	43.8%
Fair	33.9%	29.2%	34.2%	28.2%	32.1%	28.1%	36.5%
Poor	22.2%	18.5%	23.5%	17.1%	42.3%	9.6%	13.5%

Table 4 Cont'd., Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Excellent	6.7%	10.3%	7.9%	16.3%	7.6%	-
Good	40.0%	35.9%	39.5%	36.0%	33.3%	66.7%
Fair	30.0%	33.3%	31.6%	29.1%	34.8%	33.3%
Poor	23.3%	20.5%	21.1%	18.6%	24.2%	-

Table 5: Rep. Gianforte Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Excellent	9.9%	15.3%	10.2%	15.5%	2.6%	24.8%	7.3%
Good	24.6%	26.0%	21.4%	30.2%	6.5%	33.6%	29.2%
Fair	28.1%	26.7%	28.3%	26.7%	22.1%	34.5%	26.0%
Poor	37.4%	32.1%	40.1%	27.6%	68.8%	7.1%	37.5%

Table 5 Cont'd., Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Excellent	6.5%	15.4%	5.0%	15.3%	12.1%	-
Good	35.5%	23.1%	27.5%	31.8%	12.1%	-
Fair	29.0%	32.1%	32.5%	27.1%	22.7%	-
Poor	29.0%	29.5%	35.0%	25.9%	53.0%	100%

Table 6: U.S. Congress Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Excellent	1.2%	0.8%	0.5%	1.7%	-	2.7%	-
Good	20.0%	12.3%	17.2%	16.2%	24.4%	11.5%	14.6%
Fair	37.6%	25.4%	31.2%	33.3%	47.4%	26.5%	29.2%
Poor	41.2%	61.5%	51.1%	48.7%	28.2%	59.3%	56.3%

Table 6 Cont'd., Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Excellent	-	2.5%	-	1.2%	-	-
Good	23.3%	25.3%	23.7%	11.8%	7.6%	-
Fair	26.7%	31.6%	23.7%	35.3%	36.4%	33.3%
Poor	50.0%	40.5%	52.6%	51.8%	56.2%	66.7%

Table 7: Gov. Bullock Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Excellent	21.2%	13.7%	16.6%	19.7%	41.0%	5.3%	15.6%
Good	36.5%	26.7%	32.6%	31.6%	46.2%	23.9%	31.3%
Fair	22.9%	26.0%	26.7%	20.5%	10.3%	31.0%	26.0%
Poor	19.4%	33.6%	24.1%	28.2%	2.6%	39.8%	27.1%

Table 7 Cont'd., Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Excellent	22.6%	19.2%	5.1%	17.6%	22.1%	33.3%
Good	19.4%	32.1%	38.5%	25.9%	41.2%	33.3%
Fair	29.0%	26.9%	23.1%	28.2%	16.2%	-
Poor	29.0%	21.8%	33.3%	28.2%	20.6%	33.3%

Table 8: Montana Legislature Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Excellent	4.1%	6.9%	4.8%	6.0%	7.7%	1.8%	7.3%
Good	44.7%	33.6%	37.1%	43.6%	46.2%	38.1%	38.5%
Fair	44.1%	47.3%	48.9%	41.0%	37.2%	54.0%	42.7%
Poor	7.1%	12.2%	9.1%	9.4%	9.0%	6.2%	11.5%

Table 8 Cont'd., Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Excellent	6.7%	6.4%	2.6%	4.7%	4.5%	-
Good	30.0%	43.6%	44.7%	37.6%	42.4%	33.3%
Fair	50.0%	41.0%	44.7%	51.8%	42.4%	33.3%
Poor	13.3%	9.0%	7.9%	5.9%	10.6%	33.3%

Table 9: If the election were held today, who would you vote for?

U.S. President (asked as head-to-head matchups)

53.5% Donald Trump	46.5% Joe Biden
54.4% Donald Trump	45.6% Elizabeth Warren
54.2% Donald Trump	45.8% Bernie Sanders
55.1% Donald Trump	44.9% Kamala Harris
48.1% Donald Trump	51.9% Steve Bullock

Table 9 Cont'd., Trump vs. Biden by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Donald Trump	48.5%	60.3%	48.1%	62.1%	1.3%	89.4%	56.3%
Joe Biden	51.5%	39.7%	51.9%	37.9%	98.7%	10.6%	43.8%

Table 9 Cont'd., Trump vs. Biden by Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Donald Trump	63.3%	59.0%	57.9%	61.2%	32.8%	33.3%
Joe Biden	36.7%	41.0%	42.1%	38.8%	67.2%	66.7%

Table 9 Cont'd., Trump vs. Warren by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Donald Trump	49.7%	60.3%	49.2%	62.9%	1.3%	94.7%	51.5%
Elizabeth Warren	50.3%	39.7%	50.8%	37.1%	98.7%	5.3%	48.5%

Table 9 Cont'd., Trump vs. Warren by Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Donald Trump	66.7%	53.8%	59.0%	62.4%	37.9%	33.3%
Elizabeth Warren	33.3%	46.2%	41.0%	37.6%	62.1%	66.7%

Table 9 Cont'd., Trump vs. Sanders by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Donald Trump	49.4%	61.1%	49.7%	61.2%	1.3%	92.9%	52.1%
Bernie Sanders	50.6%	38.9%	50.3%	38.8%	98.7%	7.1%	47.9%

Table 9 Cont'd., Trump vs. Sanders by Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Donald Trump	60.0%	57.7%	57.9%	63.5%	34.8%	-
Bernie Sanders	40.0%	42.3%	42.1%	36.5%	65.2%	100%

Table 9 Cont'd., Trump vs. Harris by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Donald Trump	50.6%	61.4%	50.0%	63.2%	2.6%	92.9%	55.2%
Kamala Harris	49.4%	38.6%	50.0%	36.8%	97.4%	7.1%	44.8%

Table 9 Cont'd., Trump vs. Harris by Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Donald Trump	70.0%	57.7%	59.0%	64.0%	32.8%	33.3%
Kamala Harris	30.0%	42.3%	41.0%	36.0%	67.2%	66.7%

Table 9 Cont'd., Trump vs. Bullock by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Donald Trump	46.8%	50.0%	42.5%	56.9%	-	89.4%	40.6%
Steve Bullock	53.2%	50.0%	57.5%	43.1%	100%	10.6%	59.4%

Table 9 Cont'd., Trump vs. Bullock by Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Donald Trump	60.0%	52.6%	55.3%	53.5%	27.3%	33.3%
Steve Bullock	40.0%	47.4%	44.7%	46.5%	72.7%	66.7%

Table 10: If the Election Were Held Today, Who Would You Vote For?

U.S. Senate

Answer	Percentage
Steve Daines	64%
Jack Ballard	18%
Wilmot Collins	9%
John Mues	9%

Table 10 Cont'd., U.S. Senate by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Steve Daines	59.1%	71.0%	59.4%	70.7%	36.8%	82.3%	68.8%
Jack Ballard	21.1%	14.5%	18.2%	18.1%	23.7%	13.3%	17.7%
Wilmot Collins	10.5%	6.9%	12.8%	4.3%	22.4%	0.9%	8.3%
John Mues	9.4%	7.6%	9.6%	6.9%	17.1%	3.5%	5.2%

Table 10 Cont'd., U.S. Senate by Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc.	Bach.	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Steve Daines	67.7%	59.7%	73.7%	68.2%	58.2%	33.3%
Jack Ballard	22.6%	23.4%	15.8%	17.6%	13.4%	-
Wilmot Collins	3.2%	9.1%	7.9%	4.7%	16.4%	33.3%
John Mues	6.5%	7.8%	2.6%	9.4%	11.9%	33.3%

Table 11: If the Election Were Held Today, Who Would You Vote For?

U.S. Representative

Answer	Percentage
Kathleen Williams	36%
Matt Rosendale	35%
Corey Stapleton	20%
Joe Dooling	3%
Matt Rains	2%
Tom Winter	2%
Timothy Johnson	2%

Table 11 Cont'd., U.S. Representative by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Kathleen Williams	40.9%	29.0%	40.6%	28.2%	82.1%	4.4%	34.4%
Matt Rosendale	36.8%	33.6%	28.3%	46.2%	6.4%	61.9%	30.2%
Corey Stapleton	15.2%	26.0%	21.4%	17.1%	3.8%	23.0%	29.2%
Joe Dooling	1.8%	3.8%	2.7%	2.6%	1.3%	3.5%	3.1%
Matt Rains	1.8%	3.1%	2.7%	2.6%	1.3%	3.5%	1.0%
Tom Winter	1.8%	3.1%	2.1%	2.6%	5.1%	-	1.0%
Timothy Johnson	1.8%	1.5%	2.1%	0.9%	-	3.5%	1.0%

Table 11 Cont'd., U.S. Representative by Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc.	Bach.	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Kathleen Williams	26.7%	33.3%	36.8%	26.2%	53.0%	66.7%
Matt Rosendale	40.0%	47.4%	47.4%	36.9%	15.2%	-
Corey Stapleton	20.0%	11.5%	15.8%	27.4%	22.7%	33.3%
Joe Dooling	3.3%	2.6%	2.6%	2.4%	1.5%	-
Matt Rains	6.7%	3.8%	-	2.4%	-	-
Tom Winter	3.3%	1.3%	-	2.4%	3.0%	-
Timothy Johnson	-	-	-	2.4%	4.5%	-

Table 12: If the Election Were Held Today, Who Would You Vote For?

Montana Governor

Answer	Percentage
Greg Gianforte	35%
Mike Cooney	23%
Tim Fox	16%
Whitney Williams	8%
Albert Olszewski	8%
Casey Schreiner	6%
Reilly Neill	3%
Gary Perry	<1%

Table 12 Cont'd., Montana Governor by Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Greg Gianforte	32.6%	38.5%	34.8%	36.2%	10.5%	56.6%	35.7%
Mike Cooney	23.8%	21.5%	26.7%	17.2%	52.6%	9.7%	13.3%
Tim Fox	14.5%	18.5%	12.3%	21.6%	10.5%	16.8%	18.4%
Whitney Williams	9.9%	5.4%	7.5%	8.6%	7.9%	3.5%	12.2%
Albert Olszewski	7.0%	10.0%	7.5%	9.5%	3.9%	8.8%	9.2%
Casey Schreiner	7.6%	3.8%	8.0%	2.6%	10.5%	1.8%	7.1%
Reilly Neill	4.1%	1.5%	2.1%	4.3%	3.9%	1.8%	4.1%
Gary Perry	0.6%	0.8%	1.1%	-	-	0.9%	-

Table 12 Cont'd., Montana Governor by Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc.	Bach.	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Greg Gianforte	46.7%	38.5%	40%	37.2%	22.4%	-
Mike Cooney	16.7%	17.9%	10%	20.9%	37.3%	66.7%
Tim Fox	13.3%	14.1%	10%	23.3%	14.9%	-
Whitney Williams	3.3%	10.3%	12.5%	4.7%	10.4%	-
Albert Olszewski	6.7%	7.7%	12.5%	8.1%	7.5%	-
Casey Schreiner	6.7%	9%	10%	3.5%	3%	-
Reilly Neill	6.7%	2.6%	2.5%	2.3%	3%	33.3%
Gary Perry	-	-	2.5%	-	1.5%	-

Table 13: In Your View, is the Economy Improving, Staying the Same, or Getting Worse?

Answer	Percentage
Improving	42%
Staying the same	31%
Getting worse	27%

Table 13 Cont'd., Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
Improving	35.3%	50.0%	40.1%	44.0%	12.8%	68.4%	37.1%
Staying the same	30.0%	33.3%	30.5%	32.8%	34.6%	23.7%	35.1%
Getting worse	34.7%	16.7%	29.4%	23.3%	52.6%	7.9%	27.8%

Table 13 Cont'd., Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
Improving	48.4%	46.2%	36.8%	44.7%	32.8%	33.3%
Staying the same	29.0%	30.8%	28.9%	31.8%	32.8%	33.3%
Getting worse	22.6%	23.1%	34.2%	23.5%	34.3%	33.3%

Table 14: Do You Think That President Trump Should be Impeached and Removed from Office?

Answer	Percentage
No	52%
Yes	39%
Don't Know	10%

Table 14 Cont'd., Demographic

	Women	Men	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
No	47.1%	58.8%	45.5%	62.1%	2.6%	90.4%	47.9%
Yes	41.2%	34.4%	43.3%	31.0%	85.7%	7.9%	35.4%
Don't Know	11.8%	6.9%	11.2%	6.9%	11.7%	1.8%	16.7%

Table 14 Cont'd., Education Level

	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)	Other
No	60.0%	56.4%	61.5%	58.1%	31.3%	33.3%
Yes	26.7%	32.1%	33.3%	30.2%	62.7%	66.7%
Don't Know	13.3%	11.5%	5.1%	11.6%	6.0%	-

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