

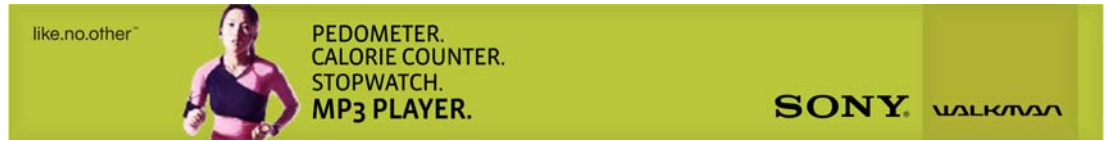
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Survey of 500 Likely Voters  
November 1, 2006

Election 2006: Montana Senate	
Jon Tester (D)	50%
Conrad Burns (R)	46%

Election 2006: Montana Senate Three-Poll Rolling Average		
Surveys	Tester	Burns
Oct 18-Oct 26-Nov 1	50%	46%
Oct 11-Oct 18-Oct 26	49%	45%
Sep 20-Oct 11-Oct 18	49%	44%
Sep 13-Sep 20-Oct	50%	43%
Aug-Sep 13-Sep 20	50%	44%
Jul-Aug-Sep 13	50%	44%
May-Jul-Aug	48%	45%
Apr-May-Jul	47%	45%
Mar-Apr-May	46%	45%
Feb-Mar-Apr	45%	45%

Election 2006: Montana Senate		
Date	Tester	Burns
Nov 1	50%	46%
Oct 26	51%	47%
Oct 18	48%	46%
Oct 11	49%	42%
Sep 20	50%	43%
Sep 13	52%	43%
Aug 8	47%	47%
Jul 6	50%	43%
May 11	48%	44%
Apr 11	44%	47%
Mar 14	46%	43%
Feb 7	46%	46%



Montana Senate: Tester by 4  
Tester (D) 50% Burns (R) 46%

November 3, 2006

Montana offers another Senate race where a Republican who had been closing the gap in the final weeks may be falling a bit short. With only a few days left in the election, Republican Senator Conrad Burns now trails Democrat Jon Tester 50% to 46% ([see crosstabs](#)).



Democrat Jon Tester

Forty-eight percent (48%) are certain they will vote for Tester, 43% are certain they'll pick Burns.

The race now reverts to the "Leans Democrat" column in our [Senate Balance of Power](#) summary.

Burdened by scandal, Senator Burns has been struggling all year to stay afloat politically. With one exception he has lagged in each of our last nine polls (in [August](#), the race was a tie). The Senator received more money from disgraced lobbyist Jack Abramoff than any other Congressman, and Tester and other Democrats in the state weren't about to let the electorate forget it.

Still, most Tester supporters (60%) regard their vote as "for Tester" rather than "against Burns" (32%). Similarly, 66% of Burns supporters see their vote as pro-Burns, 32% as anti-Tester.

Thirty-seven percent (37%) view Burns "very unfavorably." He is viewed favorably by only 46%. Tester is viewed favorably by 53%.

Though this race bears some comparison to [New Jersey's Senate contest](#), and political corruption has been a persistent issue in both, Montana voters are much less likely to say their state suffers more political corruption than most other states. Only 4% believe that is true; 54% say the level of corruption is "about the same," and 36% say Montana is less corrupt than others. The issue is deemed very important by 68%.

In New Jersey, a majority of the state's voters view their state politics as more corrupt than most.

President Bush earns approval from 48% of voters, which is a little higher than he fetches nationally. Forty percent (40%) "strongly disapprove" of the job he's doing as chief executive.

The President recently visited Montana to rally support for Burns.

[Crosstabs](#) available for [Premium Members](#) only.

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within half a percentage point of the actual outcome.

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Scott Rasmussen, president of Rasmussen Reports, has been an independent pollster for more than a decade.

The telephone survey of 500 Likely Voters was conducted by Rasmussen Reports November 1, 2006. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.5 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence. (see Methodology)  
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