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Dixon Surges to 11% Lead in GOP Governor’s Race
(Dixon 26% - Kelley 15% - Rinke 13% - Soldano 13%)

LANSING, Mich. — Tudor Dixon (26%), fueled by support in Detroit and among absentee voters, older voters, and men, has surged into an eleven percent lead over her closest opponents Ryan Kelley (15%) Kevin Rinke (13%) and Garret Soldano (13%), who are in a statistical dead heat for second place. Ralph Rebandt (1%) is far behind, according to the most recent Mitchell-MIRS Poll of likely August Republican Party Primary voters conducted by Mitchell Research & Communications, Inc. Undecided voters have dropped from almost half (46%) on June 21-22 to a third (33%) now.

The poll, commissioned by MIRS, a Lansing based capital news service, used a combination of IVR (automated) surveys to landlines (50%) and text messaging to cell phones directing the cell phone users to a SurveyMonkey poll (50%). The survey of N=683 Likely Voters was conducted on July 7-8, 2022 and has a Margin of Error of + or – 3.75% at the 95% level of confidence.

“Tudor Dixon has moved into a double-digit eleven percent lead over her closest competitors because of strong support from voters in the Detroit DMA (TV media market) where she is getting 35% of the vote, from absentee voters who have already voted (39%), voters who plan to vote by absentee ballot (29%), men (32%) and voters who are 65 years and older (31%). While her opponents have stayed in almost the same position as they were two and a half weeks ago, Dixon has taken off,” Steve Mitchell, president of Mitchell Research said

Rinke (23%) leads in the Flint/Saginaw/Bay City DMA while Ryan Kelley (24%) leads with 18-44-year-old voters, and in the Grand Rapids/Kalamazoo/Battle Creek DMA (23%) where a pitched battle is taking place with Soldano (22%) and Dixon (20%) right behind Kelley. With the exception of those two areas and that one demographic, Dixon leads in all other areas and demographics.

Although Dixon is strong with men, she is not doing nearly as well with women voters. Dixon leads with men and women, but she does twelve percent better with men (32%-20%). Dixon’s biggest problem is with women under 65 where she is getting only 11% of the vote and trails Garret Soldano (25%) and Ryan Kelley (16%).

In addition to the trial ballot question, the survey asked voters if they watched a WOOD-TV Grand Rapids televised debate that was streamed by other stations across the state on Wednesday, June 6, 2022, and who they thought won.
Two-thirds of the respondents (65%) did not watch and another 12% were not sure who won. Of the sixteen percent that said they watched and identified a winner, Tudor Dixon (8%) and Garrett Soldano (8%) were tied for first with Ryan Kelley (5%) and Kevin Rinke (2%) behind.

“Dixon’s campaign has gained real momentum with the endorsements of the DeVos family from Grand Rapids as well as endorsements by Right-to-Life PAC of Michigan, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Associated Building & Contractors (ABC), U.S. Representatives Bill Huizinga and Lisa McClain, Michigan Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, former Gov. John Engler, former Lt. Gov. Dick Posthumus, and twenty Michigan legislators from around the state. She is clearly now on the path to victory in the GOP Primary. If she wins, Dixon will have to take a very tough opponent in Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer,” Mitchell concluded.

[The poll was conducted by Mitchell Research and Communications of Lansing, MI and was commissioned by MIRS]

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