



P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Contact: Steve Mitchell
248-891-2414

Whitmer Lead over Dixon Shrinks to 2% (49%-47%) (Nessel 46%- DePerno 43% and Benson 49%-Karamo 49%)

LANSING, Mich. — With less than three weeks before the November election, underfunded Republican candidate Tudor Dixon has pulled within two percent of Democratic incumbent Governor Gretchen Whitmer in Michigan’s gubernatorial election according to the most recent Mitchell-MIRS Poll of likely General Election voters conducted by Mitchell Research & Communications, Inc. Whitmer leads 49%-47% with three percent undecided.

Democrat incumbent Attorney General Dana Nessel is also in a very tight race with GOP candidate Mathew DePerno. Nessel leads 46%-43%. Incumbent Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson has a much stronger lead over Republican challenger Kristina Karamo (49%-40%). Support for Proposal 3 has slipped to 50% with 47% opposed.

The poll was conducted using automated Interactive Voice Response (IVR) methodology calling landlines and by text messaging voter’s cell phones and sending them to a SurveyMonkey poll. Data was weighted by age, gender, and race to reflect the likely voter turnout on November 8. The survey of N=541 Likely Voters was conducted October 19, 2022 and has a Margin of Error of + or – 4.21% at the 95% level of confidence.

“After a strong debate performance and after a statewide TV buy that has given Tudor Dixon much needed advertising, she has closed the race to a two percent margin, 49%-47%. Governor Gretchen Whitmer, who also had a strong debate against the challenger, has out-raised and out-spent Dixon exponentially, but the Governor is faced with a very bad economic environment that includes the highest inflation in more than forty years. Both candidates are exceptionally strong campaigners, but Whitmer is also running with an unpopular Democratic president in the White House. This may be a real ‘barnburner’ going all the way down to the wire,” Steve Mitchell, president of Mitchell Research, said.

Governor Whitmer leads by fourteen percent (54%-41%) with women while Dixon leads with men by eleven percent (54%-43%). The Governor leads with early voters while Dixon has a strong lead with those who plan to vote on Election Day.

The Governor has consolidated the Democratic vote where she leads 92%-6%, but Dixon is finally getting her base vote behind her where she now leads 89%-6%. Whitmer has a four percent lead with independents (49%-45%).

www.MitchellResearch.net

Mitchell - MIRS MI STATEWIDE POLL 10/19/2022

101 S. Washington Square – Suite 500 – Lansing, MI 48933 - 517-351-4111

When asked “which of two issues is most important to them in determining their vote for governor and the legislature,” fifty-one percent say “inflation/the economy” while forty-one percent say “abortion.” Democrats (68%) are much more likely to say “abortion” while Republicans (82%) are more likely to cite the economic issues. The crucial independents say economy (56%) rather than abortion (39%).

“Mid-term elections are bad for the party in the White House, in three weeks we will see how difficult it was for Democrats, this year,” Mitchell concluded.

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

SteveMitchell40@gmail.com; @SteveMitchell40 on Twitter

FIELD COPY – BELOW:

**Mitchell/MIRS Poll of Michigan
IVR/TEXT
Conducted October 19, 2022
(N=541 LV's)
MOE +or – 4.21% 95% Level of Confidence**

Hi, we are conducting a survey on important issues for the news media. You must answer all questions or none of your answers will count.

1. If you are a registered voter at the household we are calling please press 1. If you're not, press 2.

Yes	100%
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2. Thinking about the upcoming General Election for Governor, how will you be voting?

Already voted absentee	9%
Will vote by absentee ballot	34
Voting on Election Day	55

Before questions on other issues, a few statistical questions:

3. Thinking about the November General Election, how enthusiastic are you to vote?

Extremely enthusiastic	68%
Very enthusiastic	14
Somewhat enthusiastic	10
Not too enthusiastic	5
Not at all enthusiastic	2
Not sure	1
4. Are you...

Male	48%
Or Female	52%

5. What is your age?
- | | |
|--------------|-----|
| 18-29 | 10% |
| 30-44 | 21 |
| 45-64 | 37 |
| 65 and older | 32 |
6. What is your race?
- | | |
|------------------|-----|
| White/Caucasian | 81% |
| African American | 11 |
| Other | 5 |
7. Are you a Democrat or lean Democrat, a Republican or lean Republican, a member of another party, or independent?
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Republican or lean Republican | 39% |
| Democrat or lean Democrat | 40 |
| Independent | 19 |
| Another Party | 2 |
8. From what city do you get your local TV news?
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Detroit | 43% |
| Grand Rapids/Kalamazoo/Battle Creek | 18 |
| Flint/Saginaw/Bay City | 9 |
| Lansing/Jackson | 7 |
| Traverse City/Cadillac | 7 |
| Marquette | 1 |
| Somewhere else | 15 |
9. On the issue of abortion, do you consider yourself to be Pro-Life or Pro-Choice?
- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Strongly Pro-Life | 26% |
| Somewhat Pro-Life | 14 |
| Strongly Pro-Choice | 13 |
| Somewhat Pro-Choice | 40 |
| Not sure | 6 |
10. What is your education?
- | | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Not High School Grad | 2% |
| High School Grad | 13 |
| Some College/Trade School | 22 |
| College Grad | 35 |
| Master's + | 28 |
11. If the election for US. House of Representatives in your district was being held today, would you be voting for the Republican or Democratic candidate?
- | | |
|------------|-----|
| Democrat | 47% |
| Republican | 46 |
| Not sure | 7 |

12. If the election for Governor of Michigan was being held today, would you be voting for or leaning towards Gretchen Whitmer, the Democrat, voting for or leaning towards Tudor Dixon, the Republican, or voting for or leaning towards another candidate?

Whitmer	49%
Dixon	47
Another candidate	1
Not Sure	3

13. If the election for Attorney General of Michigan was being held today, would you be voting for or leaning towards Dana Nessel, the Democrat, voting for or leaning towards Mathew DePerno, the Republican, or voting for or leaning towards another candidate?

Nessel	46%
DePerno	43
Another candidate	3
Not Sure	8

14. If the election for Secretary of State of Michigan was being held today, would you be voting for or leaning towards Jocelyn Benson, the Democrat, voting for or leaning towards Kristina Karamo the Republican, or voting for or leaning towards another candidate?

Benson	49%
Karamo	40
Another candidate	2
Not Sure	9

15. If the election were held today, how would you vote on Michigan Proposal 3 which would amend the constitution in Michigan to establish the right to abortion?

Yes, to adopt the proposal	50%
No, to reject the proposal.	47
Don't plan on voting on the proposal.	3

Thank you very much!