

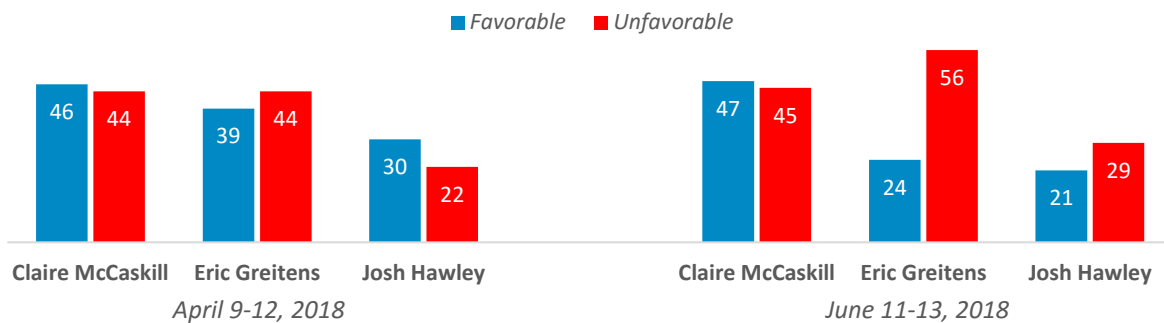
TO: Interested Parties
 FROM: Global Strategy Group
 DATE: June 15, 2018
 RE: **MISSOURI SENATE POLL: Josh Hawley takes on water; Claire McCaskill expands her lead**

A new poll, commissioned by Senate Majority PAC, conducted two weeks after the resignation of Gov. Eric Greitens finds Republican Josh Hawley taking on significant water and slipping further behind Sen. Claire McCaskill in the race for U.S. Senate. Hawley's personal numbers have fallen, and he now trails McCaskill by 6 points, down from a 2-point deficit in April. Voters already see Hawley as ethically-challenged, and even with Greitens gone, the damage done to his stature will not dissipate. With voters increasingly associating Hawley with the cloud of corruption hanging over Republican-controlled Jefferson City, McCaskill remains in a strong position for November.

KEY SURVEY FINDINGS:

Bottom falls out for Greitens, Hawley falls with him. Though several stories about his misconduct had broken by April, Greitens still held mixed ratings. However, his personal numbers have collapsed following his resignation (-32 favorable now, down from -5 in April). At the same time, Hawley's ratings have dramatically shifted and are now underwater (-8 favorable now, down from +8 in April).

McCaskill's popularity remains intact. McCaskill's personal ratings remain solid and have changed little since our last survey (+2 favorable now and in April). McCaskill's steady ratings come at a time when Missourians hold generally positive feelings for President Trump (50% favorable/45% unfavorable).



Hawley has a credibility problem on ethics. When asked to compare, more say "is honest" better describes McCaskill than Hawley (+10 McCaskill now, up from +6 in April). Hawley's connection to Greitens is just one of his ethical challenges. Despite promising to clean up Jefferson City, the AG is part of the problem by turning a blind eye to pay-to-play allegations against his biggest donor and his campaign is backed by millions of dollars in dark money.

Changing political dynamic translates into a growing advantage for McCaskill. Fallout from the Greitens scandals has impacted Hawley's standing against McCaskill with her lead expanding to 6 points (47% McCaskill to 41% Hawley). This is a net 4-point drop in support for Hawley since April (46% McCaskill/44% Hawley). This is also the second straight poll where McCaskill holds double-digit leads among independents (+19 now, +22 in April).

ABOUT THIS POLL

Global Strategy Group conducted a live telephone survey of 804 likely midterm voters in Missouri from June 11th-13th, 2018. The margin of error at the 95% confidence level is +/- 3.5%. Care has been taken to ensure the geographic and demographic divisions of the expected electorate are properly represented based on historical turnout.