

MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Global Strategy Group
RE: Indiana Senate Race
DATE: 09.14.12

Donnelly Leads Mourdock in the Race for U.S. Senate

Donnelly Expands his Lead in the Face of Heavy Attacks from Conservative PACs

Despite being outspent by more than \$800,000, Joe Donnelly now leads Richard Mourdock by a 3-point margin in the race for U.S. Senate, according to a recent survey of 800 likely voters in Indiana conducted by Global Strategy Group between September 10 and September 12, 2012. The margin of error at the 95% confidence level is +/- 3.5%.

Key findings include:

- **Despite a significant Republican advantage in the state, Donnelly remains in a strong position in the race for U.S. Senate:** Even with an 8-point party identification advantage for Republicans – and a presidential contest that favors Mitt Romney (47%) over Barack Obama (41%) – Donnelly leads Mourdock by 3-point margin, 45% to 42%, with just 14% of voters still undecided at this time.
- **Undecided voters are friendly targets for Donnelly:** Undecided voters in the Senate race break for Obama in the race for President by a 6-point margin and Mourdock's unfavorable ratings (30%) are twice as high as Donnelly's (15%) among undecided voters.
- **While voters remain divided on Mourdock, Donnelly is viewed favorably by voters across the state:** While voters give Donnelly a net positive favorability rating (+8 points), they are more mixed when it comes to Mourdock. Just one-third of voters (34%) give Mourdock a warm, favorable rating, while an equal percentage (34%) give him a cool, unfavorable rating.

The bottom line is this: Despite a challenging partisan environment and heavy attacks from outside groups and conservative PACs, Joe Donnelly has been able to not only hold - but grow - his lead over Richard Mourdock. Hoosiers are simply unwilling to accept the kind of divisive politics that Mourdock has to offer and instead are looking to Donnelly to stand up for Hoosier values and fight for the middle class.