



**For Immediate Release
Thursday, October 13, 2005**

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Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker Continues to Hold a Commanding Lead Over His Likely Primary Opponent

Jim Doyle Remains One of the Most Vulnerable Incumbent Governors in the Nation

[Wauwatosa, WI...] A recent poll conducted for the Walker for Governor Campaign shows that Scott Walker continues to hold a commanding lead over his likely primary opponent. The survey also shows that Jim Doyle remains one of the most vulnerable incumbent governors in the Country.

“Scott Walker has maintained his strong lead,” Brian Tringali, Partner of the nationally respected polling firm The Tarrance Group. “Furthermore, the issues Scott Walker has championed, (primarily tax relief), remain the number one concern for voters,” added Tringali.

- The sitting Governor continues to be among the most vulnerable. Doyle’s job approval number stands at 50%, but only 35% believe he deserves re-election, while almost 50% believe it is time to give a new person a chance.
- Jim Doyle’s support among moderates, including some Democrats, is weakening.
- Scott Walker continues to hold a strong 13-point lead among Republican primary voters against Mark Green; nearly identical to the results found in an April, 2005 Survey.
- Voters continue to be focused on pocketbook issues; while Republican primary voters remain squarely focused on the main issue that Walker is identified with: property taxes.

“These poll numbers show the strength of my candidacy as well as the dissatisfaction of Wisconsin voters in Jim Doyle,” said Scott Walker. “This is just a foundation; there is much more work to be done, and I am ready for the challenge.”

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Key Findings

- Scott Walker leads his likely primary opponent 46% to 33%, with 21% undecided
- 47% of general election voters believe Wisconsin is headed on the wrong track (32% strongly)
- According to voters, property taxes is the most important issue that they feel elected officials should deal with (24%)
- Less than half of Wisconsin voters (37%) believe Jim Doyle deserves to be re-elected, while 51% believe it is time to give a new person a chance

The Friends of Scott Walker campaign commissioned The Tarrance Group to conduct a telephone survey of N=600 registered “likely” voters from across the state of Wisconsin. An additional n=200 “likely” Republican primary voters were interviewed to bring the GOP primary voter sample up to N=432. For a random sample of this type, the margin of error for the general election voter study is $\pm 4.1\%$ and the margin of error for the GOP primary voter study is $\pm 4.9\%$ in 95 out of 100 cases. Responses to the survey were gathered September 18-20, 2005.

The Tarrance Group is a nationally recognized survey research firm, whose clients have included, Governor Tommy Thompson and President George W. Bush. More information about the Tarrance Group can be found at: <http://www.tarrance.com>.

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Paid for by Friends of Scott Walker, John Hiller, Treasurer