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NEVADA: TRUMP OVERTAKES CLINTON

Heck holds onto narrow lead in Senate race

West Long Branch, NJ – The race for Nevada’s electoral votes has flipped from two months ago, with Donald Trump now holding a slim 2 point lead over Hillary Clinton, whereas Clinton held a 4 point lead in July’s *Monmouth University Poll*. In the U.S. Senate contest, Republican Joe Heck clings to a narrow 3 point lead over Democrat Catherine Cortez Masto, virtually unchanged from his earlier 2 point lead.

Among Silver State voters likely to participate in November’s presidential election, 44% currently support Trump and 42% back Clinton. Another 8% intend to vote for Libertarian Gary Johnson and 3% say they will choose Nevada’s unique “none of these candidates” ballot option. Monmouth’s July poll found Clinton leading Trump by 45% to 41%, with Johnson at 5% and none of the above at 4%. Green Party candidate Jill Stein will not appear on the ballot in Nevada.

Among self-identified Republicans, 88% support Trump, which is identical to his 88% support in July. Among Democrats, 90% support Clinton, which is similar to her 92% support in July. Independents have shifted, however, now giving Trump a clear 43% to 29% advantage over Clinton, with 17% supporting Johnson. Two months ago, the independent vote was divided at 39% for Trump, 37% for Clinton, and 10% for Johnson.

“The race in Nevada is still tight, but the momentum has swung toward Trump,” said Patrick Murray, director of the independent Monmouth University Polling Institute.

Clinton still has a sizable lead among non-white voters – 63% to 28% for Trump, which is down slightly from her 64% to 23% lead among this group in July. The Republican nominee retains his lead among white voters, now standing at 51% to 33%, which is up slightly from 49% to 37% two months ago.

Clinton's lead among women voters is also a bit narrower than in Monmouth's prior poll, currently at 50% to 40% compared with 53% to 38% in July. Trump has a 48% to 34% edge among men, which is slightly better than his 44% to 37% lead among male voters two months ago.

"These demographic shifts are within the margin of error for these demographic groups, but they suggest that Trump has had a little more success solidifying his base in Nevada than Clinton has," said Murray.

Interestingly, Trump has pulled ahead of Clinton in the horse race even while his favorable ratings have declined. Only 30% of Nevada voters have a favorable opinion of Trump while 55% hold an unfavorable view of him, which is down from 35% favorable and 53% unfavorable in July. Opinion of Clinton, on the other hand, has held steady. She currently gets a 34% favorable and 54% unfavorable rating, which is identical to her 34% favorable and 54% unfavorable rating from two months ago.

Turning to the U.S. Senate race, Rep. Joe Heck currently has the backing of 46% of likely voters while former Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto has 43% support. Tom Jones of the Independent American Party has 4% and "none of these candidates" has 3%, with another 4% undecided. Heck held a similar 42% to 40% lead in July, with Jones then at 5% and none of the above at 6%.

More than 8-in-10 Republicans (84%) back Heck, similar to his 81% partisan support in July. Cortez Masto gets the backing of 86% of Democrats, which is similar to her 83% support two months ago. Heck maintains the advantage among independents, now leading Cortez Masto by 49% to 33%, with 10% for Jones. Two months ago, independents preferred Heck by 43% to 30%, with 11% backing Jones.

Heck holds a 52% to 38% edge among white voters, compared with 47% to 35% in July. Cortez Masto has a 55% to 32% lead among Hispanic, black and Asian voters, compared with 49% to 29% in July.

Both U.S. Senate candidates have become better known since the summer, but opinion has moved in the negative direction. Currently, 36% of Nevada voters have a favorable opinion of Heck and 32% have an unfavorable view of him, with 32% registering no opinion. Voter opinion of Heck in July was 36% favorable and 19% unfavorable with 44% having no opinion. Also, 34% of Nevada voters have a favorable opinion of Cortez Masto and 29% have an unfavorable view of her, with 37% registering no opinion. Voter opinion of Cortez Masto in July was 29% favorable and 16% unfavorable with 55% having no opinion.

Overall, 38% of voters say special interests have too much influence over Heck, which is up from 26% in July. Another 26% say special interests have the right amount of influence and 4% say they have too little influence, while 31% offer no opinion on this. Similarly, 38% of voters say special interests have too much influence over Cortez Masto, which is up from 27% in July. Another 24% say they have the right amount and 5% say they have too little influence, while 33% offer no opinion on this.

The candidates are vying to fill the seat of outgoing Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, whose own job approval rating has dipped since July. Just 41% of likely Nevada voters approve of the job he has been doing while 51% disapprove. This compares to a rating of 41% approve and 46% disapprove two months ago.

The *Monmouth University Poll* was conducted by telephone from September 11 to 13, 2016 with 406 Nevada residents likely to vote in the November election. This sample has a margin of error of ± 4.9 percent. The poll was conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute in West Long Branch, NJ.

DATA TABLES

QUESTIONS AND RESULTS

(* Some columns may not add to 100% due to rounding.)

1/2. If the election for President was today, would you vote for Donald Trump the Republican, Hillary Clinton the Democrat, or Gary Johnson the Libertarian – or would you choose the option for none of these candidates? [*IF UNDECIDED*: If you had to vote for one of the following candidates at this moment, who do you lean toward Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton?] [*NAMES WERE ROTATED*]

	September 2016	July 2016
(with leaners)		
Donald Trump	44%	41%
Hillary Clinton	42%	45%
Gary Johnson	8%	5%
None of these candidates	3%	4%
(VOL) Other	<1%	<1%
(VOL) Undecided	3%	4%
(n)	(406)	(408)

3. If the election for U.S. Senate was today, would you vote for Joe Heck the Republican, Catherine Cortez Masto the Democrat, or Tom Jones of the Independent American Party – or would you choose the option for none of these candidates? [*IF UNDECIDED*: If you had to vote for one of the following candidates at this moment, who do you lean toward – Joe Heck or Catherine Cortez Masto?] [*NAMES WERE ROTATED*]

	September 2016	July 2016
(with leaners)		
Joe Heck	46%	42%
Catherine Cortez Masto	43%	40%
Tom Jones	4%	5%
None of these candidates	3%	6%
(VOL) Other	0%	1%
(VOL) Undecided	4%	7%
(n)	(406)	(408)

Regardless of who you may support for president...

[*QUESTIONS 4 & 5 WERE ROTATED*]

4. Is your general impression of Donald Trump favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of him?

	September 2016	July 2016
Favorable	30%	35%
Unfavorable	55%	53%
No opinion	15%	12%
(n)	(406)	(408)

5. Is your general impression of Hillary Clinton favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of her?

	September 2016	July 2016
Favorable	34%	34%
Unfavorable	54%	54%
No opinion	11%	11%
(n)	(406)	(408)

Turning to the Senate race...

[QUESTIONS 6 & 7 WERE ROTATED]

6. Is your general impression of Joe Heck favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of him?

	September 2016	July 2016
Favorable	36%	36%
Unfavorable	32%	19%
No opinion	32%	44%
(n)	(406)	(408)

7. Is your general impression of Catherine Cortez Masto favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of her?

	September 2016	July 2016
Favorable	34%	29%
Unfavorable	29%	16%
No opinion	37%	55%
(n)	(406)	(408)

[QUESTIONS 8 & 9 WERE ROTATED]

8. How much influence do special interest groups have over Joe Heck – too much, too little, or the right amount?

	September 2016	July 2016
Too much	38%	26%
Too little	4%	5%
Right amount	26%	28%
(VOL) Don't know	31%	41%
(n)	(406)	(408)

9. How much influence do special interest groups have over Catherine Cortez Masto – too much, too little, or the right amount?

	September 2016	July 2016
Too much	38%	27%
Too little	5%	5%
Right amount	24%	23%
(VOL) Don't know	33%	45%
(n)	(406)	(408)

10. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Harry Reid is doing as U.S. senator?

	September 2016	July 2016
Approve	41%	41%
Disapprove	51%	46%
(VOL) No opinion	7%	13%
(n)	(406)	(408)

METHODOLOGY

The *Monmouth University Poll* was sponsored and conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute from September 11 to 13, 2016 with a random sample of 406 likely Nevada voters. Interviews were conducted by a live caller in English, including 356 drawn from a list of registered voters (206 landline / 150 cell phone) and a random digit dial supplement of 50 cell phone interviews. Monmouth is responsible for all aspects of the survey design, data weighting and analysis. The final sample is weighted for age, gender, race and partisanship based on voter list and U.S. Census information. Data collection support provided by Braun Research (field), Aristotle (voter list sample), and SSI (RDD sample). For results based on this sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling has a maximum margin of plus or minus 4.9 percentage points (unadjusted for sample design). Sampling error can be larger for sub-groups (see table below). In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

<i>DEMOGRAPHICS (weighted)</i>	
<i>Self-Reported</i>	
31% Republican	
36% Independent	
33% Democrat	
48% Male	
52% Female	
20% 18-34	
24% 35-49	
29% 50-64	
27% 65+	
67% White	
11% Black	
14% Hispanic	
8% Other	

<i>MARGIN OF ERROR</i>		<i>unweighted</i>	<i>moe</i>
<i>LIKELY VOTER</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>sample</i>	<i>(+/-)</i>
		406	4.9%
<i>SELF-REPORTED</i>	<i>Republican</i>	129	8.6
<i>PARTY ID</i>	<i>Independent</i>	137	8.4
	<i>Democrat</i>	137	8.4
<i>IDEOLOGY</i>	<i>Conservative</i>	151	8.0
	<i>Moderate</i>	155	7.9
	<i>Liberal</i>	86	10.6
<i>GENDER</i>	<i>Male</i>	198	7.0
	<i>Female</i>	208	6.8
<i>AGE</i>	<i>18-49</i>	156	7.9
	<i>50+</i>	242	6.3
<i>RACE</i>	<i>White non-Hispanic</i>	282	5.8
	<i>Other</i>	113	9.2
<i>COLLEGE DEGREE</i>	<i>No</i>	217	6.7
	<i>Yes</i>	183	7.3
<i>INCOME</i>	<i><\$50K</i>	125	8.8
	<i>\$50-100K</i>	125	8.8
	<i>\$100K+</i>	106	9.5

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Monmouth University Poll -- NEVADA -- 9/14/16

		TOTAL	PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER		AGE 2-WAY
			Rep	Ind	Dem	Con	Mod	Lib	Male	Female	18-49
PREZ VOTE WITH LEANERS	Trump	44%	88%	43%	5%	78%	29%	11%	48%	40%	40%
	Clinton	42%	6%	29%	90%	13%	53%	77%	34%	50%	41%
	Johnson	8%	2%	17%	3%	5%	11%	6%	9%	6%	10%
	None of these	3%	2%	6%	1%	2%	4%	1%	5%	0%	5%
	[VOL] Other cand	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%	1%
	Undecided	3%	3%	4%	1%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	4%

		AGE 2-WAY	RACE		COLLEGE DEGREE		INCOME		
		50+	White non-Hispanic	Other	No	Yes	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+
PREZ VOTE WITH LEANERS	Trump	47%	51%	28%	45%	42%	34%	43%	58%
	Clinton	44%	33%	63%	40%	44%	53%	43%	31%
	Johnson	6%	9%	5%	6%	10%	6%	11%	6%
	None of these	1%	3%	4%	4%	2%	2%	2%	4%
	[VOL] Other cand	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	2%	0%	0%
	Undecided	2%	4%	0%	3%	1%	3%	1%	1%

		TOTAL	PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER		AGE 2-WAY
			Rep	Ind	Dem	Con	Mod	Lib	Male	Female	18-49
SEN VOTE WITH LEANERS	Heck	46%	84%	49%	8%	75%	37%	10%	53%	39%	45%
	Cortez Masto	43%	8%	33%	86%	11%	52%	83%	35%	50%	41%
	Jones	4%	1%	10%	1%	7%	2%	3%	5%	3%	4%
	None of these	3%	2%	5%	2%	4%	3%	3%	2%	4%	4%
		Undecided	4%	5%	4%	4%	3%	5%	2%	4%	5%

		AGE 2-WAY	RACE		COLLEGE DEGREE		INCOME		
		50+	White non-Hispanic	Other	No	Yes	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+
SEN VOTE WITH LEANERS	Heck	47%	52%	32%	43%	49%	31%	47%	63%
	Cortez Masto	44%	38%	55%	43%	42%	55%	43%	32%
	Jones	4%	4%	5%	5%	2%	7%	5%	0%
	None of these	2%	2%	4%	4%	2%	3%	2%	1%
		Undecided	3%	5%	4%	5%	3%	4%	4%

Monmouth University Poll -- NEVADA -- 9/14/16

		TOTAL	PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER		AGE 2-WAY
			Rep	Ind	Dem	Con	Mod	Lib	Male	Female	18-49
Q4. Is your general impression of Donald Trump favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of him?	Favorable	30%	63%	28%	3%	60%	16%	4%	37%	24%	24%
	Unfavorable	55%	20%	54%	88%	23%	67%	88%	50%	59%	61%
	No opinion	15%	17%	18%	9%	17%	16%	7%	13%	17%	15%

		AGE 2-WAY	RACE		COLLEGE DEGREE		INCOME		
		50+	White non-Hispanic	Other	No	Yes	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+
Q4. Is your general impression of Donald Trump favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of him?	Favorable	35%	35%	18%	33%	26%	29%	26%	40%
	Unfavorable	51%	51%	66%	48%	63%	59%	56%	53%
	No opinion	14%	14%	16%	19%	11%	12%	18%	7%

		TOTAL	PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER		AGE 2-WAY
			Rep	Ind	Dem	Con	Mod	Lib	Male	Female	18-49
Q5. Is your general impression of Hillary Clinton favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of her?	Favorable	34%	3%	21%	78%	9%	41%	72%	24%	44%	32%
	Unfavorable	54%	89%	63%	13%	84%	44%	22%	63%	46%	55%
	No opinion	11%	7%	16%	10%	7%	15%	6%	13%	10%	13%

		AGE 2-WAY	RACE		COLLEGE DEGREE		INCOME		
		50+	White non-Hispanic	Other	No	Yes	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+
Q5. Is your general impression of Hillary Clinton favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of her?	Favorable	38%	30%	45%	32%	38%	42%	36%	27%
	Unfavorable	54%	61%	37%	54%	55%	46%	51%	69%
	No opinion	9%	8%	18%	14%	7%	12%	13%	4%

		TOTAL	PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER		AGE 2-WAY
			Rep	Ind	Dem	Con	Mod	Lib	Male	Female	18-49
Q6. Is your general impression of Joe Heck favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of him?	Favorable	36%	67%	36%	8%	60%	29%	7%	43%	30%	32%
	Unfavorable	32%	4%	29%	63%	11%	35%	67%	25%	39%	26%
	No opinion	32%	29%	35%	29%	29%	36%	26%	32%	31%	42%

		AGE 2-WAY	RACE		COLLEGE DEGREE		INCOME		
		50+	White non-Hispanic	Other	No	Yes	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+
Q6. Is your general impression of Joe Heck favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of him?	Favorable	40%	42%	25%	34%	39%	24%	36%	52%
	Unfavorable	36%	31%	36%	32%	32%	42%	32%	22%
	No opinion	24%	27%	40%	33%	29%	34%	32%	26%

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		TOTAL	PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER		AGE 2-WAY
			Rep	Ind	Dem	Con	Mod	Lib	Male	Female	18-49
Q7. Is your general impression of Catherine Cortez Masto favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of her?	Favorable	34%	10%	31%	63%	10%	44%	63%	30%	39%	29%
	Unfavorable	29%	51%	31%	6%	49%	22%	9%	32%	26%	24%
	No opinion	37%	39%	39%	31%	41%	33%	29%	38%	35%	47%

		AGE 2-WAY	RACE		COLLEGE DEGREE		INCOME		
		50+	White non-Hispanic	Other	No	Yes	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+
Q7. Is your general impression of Catherine Cortez Masto favorable or unfavorable, or do you have no opinion of her?	Favorable	40%	32%	42%	33%	36%	37%	40%	32%
	Unfavorable	33%	33%	20%	28%	30%	24%	32%	30%
	No opinion	27%	35%	39%	39%	34%	39%	28%	38%

		TOTAL	PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER	
			Rep	Ind	Dem	Con	Mod	Lib	Male	Female
Q8. How much influence do special interest groups have over Joe Heck - too much, too little, or the right amount?	Too much	38%	18%	48%	47%	21%	49%	51%	39%	37%
	Too little	4%	8%	1%	4%	7%	2%	3%	4%	4%
	Right amount	26%	41%	22%	17%	38%	18%	24%	30%	23%
	[VOL] Dont know_Refused	31%	33%	29%	32%	35%	31%	22%	26%	36%

		AGE 2-WAY		RACE		COLLEGE DEGREE		INCOME		
		18-49	50+	White non-Hispanic	Other	No	Yes	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+
Q8. How much influence do special interest groups have over Joe Heck - too much, too little, or the right amount?	Too much	33%	42%	40%	36%	35%	43%	40%	40%	39%
	Too little	5%	3%	3%	7%	6%	2%	6%	4%	2%
	Right amount	32%	23%	26%	28%	27%	26%	23%	27%	34%
	[VOL] Dont know_Refused	30%	32%	32%	30%	32%	30%	31%	29%	25%

		TOTAL	PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER	
			Rep	Ind	Dem	Con	Mod	Lib	Male	Female
Q9. How much influence do special interest groups have over Catherine Cortez Masto - too much, too little, or the right amount?	Too much	38%	43%	49%	19%	45%	39%	24%	40%	35%
	Too little	5%	2%	4%	9%	4%	6%	5%	7%	3%
	Right amount	24%	14%	17%	41%	13%	24%	43%	23%	25%
	[VOL] Dont know_Refused	33%	41%	29%	31%	37%	31%	27%	30%	36%

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		AGE 2-WAY		RACE		COLLEGE DEGREE		INCOME		
		18-49	50+	White non-Hispanic	Other	No	Yes	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+
Q9. How much influence do special interest groups have over Catherine Cortez Masto - too much, too little, or the right amount?	Too much	34%	39%	42%	26%	35%	40%	34%	41%	40%
	Too little	5%	5%	4%	6%	7%	3%	8%	3%	5%
	Right amount	25%	24%	21%	33%	26%	23%	28%	27%	22%
	[VOL] Dont know_Refused	36%	31%	33%	34%	33%	34%	30%	29%	33%

		TOTAL	PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER	
			Rep	Ind	Dem	Con	Mod	Lib	Male	Female
Q10. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Harry Reid is doing as U.S. senator?	Approve	41%	11%	35%	76%	14%	50%	73%	35%	47%
	Disapprove	51%	84%	58%	15%	82%	44%	15%	60%	43%
	[VOL] Neither_No opinion_Dont Know_Refused	7%	5%	7%	9%	4%	7%	12%	4%	10%

		AGE 2-WAY		RACE		COLLEGE DEGREE		INCOME
		18-49	50+	White non-Hispanic	Other	No	Yes	<\$50K
Q10. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Harry Reid is doing as U.S. senator?	Approve	41%	42%	37%	52%	37%	45%	45%
	Disapprove	48%	53%	57%	38%	53%	51%	46%
	[VOL] Neither_No opinion_Dont Know_Refused	11%	4%	6%	11%	10%	4%	9%

		INCOME	
		\$50-100K	\$100K+
Q10. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Harry Reid is doing as U.S. senator?	Approve	48%	31%
	Disapprove	44%	68%
	[VOL] Neither_No opinion_Dont Know_Refused	7%	2%