

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Obama leading all Republicans nationally, Palin by 17 points

Raleigh, N.C. – Since PPP’s last nationwide poll taken a few weeks after the 2010 election in which President Obama’s party took a self-acknowledged “shellacking,” the president has increased his lead over all four 2012 Republican White House frontrunners. Obama tops Mitt Romney, 48-43 (up from 47-46 in November); Mike Huckabee, 49-44 (48-45); Newt Gingrich, 51-39 (49-43); and Sarah Palin, 55-38 (51-42). Obama also tops monthly wild-card pick Michele Bachmann, who is reportedly considering a bid, 51-33.

The worse the candidate did against the president previously, the greater the decline since. That is particularly true for Palin. No one has lost the national popular vote by anything approaching 17 points since Ronald Reagan’s historic 18-point landslide over Walter Mondale in 1984, when Mondale won only his home state of Minnesota and eternally blue Washington, D.C.

The explanation for Palin’s precipitous decline is that she has gone from taking only 79% of the GOP’s vote, bad enough as it is, to 69% now, with Obama surging from 13% of her party to 20%. Against the others, he earns only 11% (Huckabee) to 16% (Bachmann) of Republicans. Each of the Republicans takes only between 7% and 10% of Obama’s partisans. Gingrich has seen a similar drop as Palin, from 81% to 72% of the GOP. In fact, even Huckabee (from 87% to 80%) and Romney (87% to 78%) have seen GOP support evaporate. Romney, who tied the president with independents in the previous poll, now leads him, 46-43. Against the others, Obama has held his ground, maintaining edges of three (versus Huckabee) to 13 points (Palin) with unaffiliated voters.

Considering Obama’s sizeable leads, it is not surprising that a majority of Americans (51%), including 56% of independents, think the GOP would be better off with a current unknown as their nominee. But Republicans are modestly satisfied with this crop, 47-35.

“Barack Obama’s in his strongest position for reelection in our polling since 2009,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Democrats have really rallied around him since the party’s defeat in November and he continues to benefit from a pretty weak field of potential opponents.”

PPP surveyed 632 American voters from January 14th to 16th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.9%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



National Survey Results

Q1 Do you have more faith in the ability of Barack Obama or John Boehner to lead the country?

Barack Obama 48% *Not sure* 17%

John Boehner 35%

Q2 Do you have more faith in Barack Obama or Congressional Republicans to run the country?

Barack Obama 48% *Not sure* 8%

*Congressional
Republicans* 44%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Huckabee?

Favorable 37% *Not sure* 25%

Unfavorable 38%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Sarah Palin?

Favorable 35%

Unfavorable 58%

Not sure 7%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Newt Gingrich?

Favorable 31%

Unfavorable 52%

Not sure 17%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

Favorable 36%

Unfavorable 40%

Not sure 24%

Q7 Do you think Republicans would be better off with someone well known like Mike Huckabee, Sarah Palin, Newt Gingrich or Mitt Romney as their Presidential nominee next year, or would they be better off with someone newer to the national scene who is currently not as well known?

Someone already well known 29%

Someone currently not as well known 51%

Not sure 20%

Q8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Michele Bachmann?

Favorable 22% *Not sure* 48%

Unfavorable 31%

Q9 If the candidates for President in 2012 were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mike Huckabee, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama 49%

Mike Huckabee 44%

Undecided 7%

Q10 If the candidates for President in 2012 were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Sarah Palin, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama 55%

Sarah Palin 38%

Undecided 7%

Q11 If the candidates for President in 2012 were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Newt Gingrich, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama 51%

Newt Gingrich 39%

Undecided 10%





Q12 If the candidates for President in 2012 were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 48%
Mitt Romney..... 43%
Undecided..... 9%

Q13 If the candidates for President in 2012 were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Michele Bachmann, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 51%
Michele Bachmann 33%
Undecided..... 17%

Q14 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 18%
Moderate..... 41%
Conservative..... 40%

Q15 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 48%
Man..... 52%

Q16 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat..... 40%
Republican..... 37%
Independent/Other..... 23%

Q17 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 10%
White 74%
African-American 12%
Other..... 4%

Q18 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 11%
30 to 45..... 27%
46 to 65..... 43%
Older than 65..... 19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
More Faith in Obama or Boehner?				
Barack Obama	48%	84%	65%	15%
John Boehner	35%	6%	19%	65%
Not sure	17%	10%	16%	20%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
More Faith in Obama or Cong. GOP?				
Barack Obama	48%	91%	62%	14%
Congressional Republicans	44%	5%	26%	81%
Not sure	8%	4%	12%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	37%	13%	23%	63%
Unfavorable	38%	69%	48%	14%
Not sure	25%	18%	30%	24%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	35%	4%	18%	66%
Unfavorable	58%	92%	77%	23%
Not sure	7%	4%	5%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	31%	5%	18%	57%
Unfavorable	52%	84%	65%	23%
Not sure	17%	11%	17%	20%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	36%	17%	31%	50%
Unfavorable	40%	63%	42%	28%
Not sure	24%	20%	27%	22%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
GOP Better Off w/ Someone Well Known or New?				
Someone already well known	29%	17%	21%	43%
Someone currently not as well known	51%	66%	61%	34%
Not sure	20%	17%	18%	24%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	22%	10%	13%	37%
Unfavorable	31%	47%	40%	13%
Not sure	48%	43%	47%	50%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	49%	93%	64%	14%
Mike Huckabee	44%	6%	25%	80%
Undecided	7%	2%	11%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	55%	94%	73%	17%
Sarah Palin	38%	4%	20%	73%
Undecided	7%	2%	7%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	51%	93%	66%	16%
Newt Gingrich	39%	4%	22%	73%
Undecided	10%	3%	12%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	48%	89%	62%	16%
Mitt Romney	43%	6%	28%	75%
Undecided	9%	5%	10%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Bachmann				
Barack Obama	51%	90%	66%	16%
Michele Bachmann	33%	3%	16%	64%
Undecided	17%	6%	18%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Faith in Obama or Boehner?			
Barack Obama	48%	53%	44%
John Boehner	35%	30%	39%
Not sure	17%	16%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Faith in Obama or Cong. GOP?			
Barack Obama	48%	53%	43%
Congressional Republicans	44%	38%	50%
Not sure	8%	9%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Huckabee Favorability			
Favorable	37%	34%	40%
Unfavorable	38%	35%	41%
Not sure	25%	31%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	35%	32%	37%
Unfavorable	58%	63%	54%
Not sure	7%	5%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	31%	26%	36%
Unfavorable	52%	53%	50%
Not sure	17%	21%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	36%	32%	40%
Unfavorable	40%	38%	42%
Not sure	24%	30%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
GOP Better Off w/ Someone Well Known or New?			
Someone already well known	29%	27%	31%
Someone currently not as well known	51%	52%	50%
Not sure	20%	21%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bachmann Favorability			
Favorable	22%	21%	22%
Unfavorable	31%	26%	35%
Not sure	48%	53%	43%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Huckabee			
Barack Obama	49%	55%	45%
Mike Huckabee	44%	41%	46%
Undecided	7%	5%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Palin			
Barack Obama	55%	62%	48%
Sarah Palin	38%	32%	43%
Undecided	7%	6%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	51%	57%	45%
Newt Gingrich	39%	34%	44%
Undecided	10%	9%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	48%	54%	44%
Mitt Romney	43%	39%	46%
Undecided	9%	7%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Bachmann			
Barack Obama	51%	55%	47%
Michele Bachmann	33%	29%	36%
Undecided	17%	16%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Faith in Obama or Boehner?				
Barack Obama	48%	83%	15%	41%
John Boehner	35%	8%	63%	37%
Not sure	17%	9%	22%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Faith in Obama or Cong. GOP?				
Barack Obama	48%	86%	11%	40%
Congressional Republicans	44%	9%	82%	44%
Not sure	8%	5%	6%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	37%	15%	60%	39%
Unfavorable	38%	59%	17%	35%
Not sure	25%	27%	22%	27%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	35%	11%	59%	36%
Unfavorable	58%	83%	32%	56%
Not sure	7%	6%	9%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	31%	11%	55%	28%
Unfavorable	52%	75%	26%	51%
Not sure	17%	13%	19%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	36%	20%	50%	43%
Unfavorable	40%	55%	30%	31%
Not sure	24%	25%	20%	27%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
GOP Better Off w/ Someone Well Known or New?				
Someone already well known	29%	16%	47%	24%
Someone currently not as well known	51%	62%	35%	56%
Not sure	20%	22%	18%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	22%	12%	30%	26%
Unfavorable	31%	44%	16%	29%
Not sure	48%	43%	54%	45%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	49%	86%	11%	47%
Mike Huckabee	44%	10%	80%	44%
Undecided	7%	4%	9%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	55%	89%	20%	51%
Sarah Palin	38%	9%	69%	38%
Undecided	7%	2%	11%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	51%	88%	14%	46%
Newt Gingrich	39%	8%	72%	40%
Undecided	10%	4%	14%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	48%	86%	12%	43%
Mitt Romney	43%	8%	78%	46%
Undecided	9%	6%	10%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Bachmann				
Barack Obama	51%	85%	16%	46%
Michele Bachmann	33%	7%	61%	33%
Undecided	17%	8%	23%	21%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
More Faith in Obama or Boehner?					
Barack Obama	48%	53%	40%	90%	60%
John Boehner	35%	26%	42%	3%	30%
Not sure	17%	21%	18%	7%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
More Faith in Obama or Cong. GOP?					
Barack Obama	48%	53%	39%	97%	59%
Congressional Republicans	44%	32%	53%	2%	31%
Not sure	8%	15%	8%	2%	10%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	37%	15%	44%	17%	27%
Unfavorable	38%	41%	34%	55%	47%
Not sure	25%	44%	22%	28%	27%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	35%	26%	41%	8%	17%
Unfavorable	58%	59%	53%	87%	70%
Not sure	7%	15%	6%	5%	13%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	31%	18%	36%	13%	20%
Unfavorable	52%	56%	48%	67%	63%
Not sure	17%	26%	16%	20%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	36%	29%	41%	17%	27%
Unfavorable	40%	41%	37%	57%	50%
Not sure	24%	29%	22%	27%	23%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
GOP Better Off w/ Someone Well Known or New ?					
Someone already well known	29%	21%	34%	7%	27%
Someone currently not as well known	51%	56%	47%	68%	50%
Not sure	20%	24%	19%	25%	23%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Bachmann Favorability					
Favorable	22%	21%	23%	17%	23%
Unfavorable	31%	26%	29%	43%	40%
Not sure	48%	53%	49%	40%	37%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Huckabee					
Barack Obama	49%	59%	40%	97%	59%
Mike Huckabee	44%	24%	53%	2%	38%
Undecided	7%	18%	7%	2%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Palin					
Barack Obama	55%	62%	46%	98%	72%
Sarah Palin	38%	29%	46%	2%	28%
Undecided	7%	9%	9%	-	-

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	51%	62%	41%	98%	59%
Newt Gingrich	39%	26%	47%	2%	31%
Undecided	10%	12%	12%	-	10%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	48%	61%	38%	97%	59%
Mitt Romney	43%	27%	52%	2%	31%
Undecided	9%	12%	10%	2%	10%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Bachmann					
Barack Obama	51%	59%	42%	95%	59%
Michele Bachmann	33%	21%	39%	2%	34%
Undecided	17%	21%	19%	3%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Faith in Obama or Boehner?					
Barack Obama	48%	58%	41%	53%	43%
John Boehner	35%	30%	36%	32%	42%
Not sure	17%	12%	23%	14%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Faith in Obama or Cong. GOP?					
Barack Obama	48%	54%	42%	53%	41%
Congressional Republicans	44%	37%	49%	38%	54%
Not sure	8%	9%	9%	9%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	37%	34%	38%	35%	42%
Unfavorable	38%	41%	36%	42%	29%
Not sure	25%	25%	25%	23%	29%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	35%	34%	35%	29%	48%
Unfavorable	58%	61%	57%	64%	43%
Not sure	7%	5%	8%	7%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	31%	24%	32%	28%	41%
Unfavorable	52%	57%	45%	58%	44%
Not sure	17%	19%	23%	14%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	36%	26%	36%	37%	40%
Unfavorable	40%	52%	36%	42%	35%
Not sure	24%	22%	28%	21%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
GOP Better Off w/ Someone Well Known or New?					
Someone already well known	29%	36%	32%	23%	33%
Someone currently not as well known	51%	56%	50%	56%	38%
Not sure	20%	8%	18%	21%	29%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bachmann Favorability					
Favorable	22%	20%	23%	21%	25%
Unfavorable	31%	29%	23%	37%	28%
Not sure	48%	51%	55%	42%	47%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Huckabee					
Barack Obama	49%	55%	42%	55%	42%
Mike Huckabee	44%	40%	49%	38%	50%
Undecided	7%	4%	8%	7%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Palin					
Barack Obama	55%	59%	49%	61%	44%
Sarah Palin	38%	35%	42%	32%	50%
Undecided	7%	5%	9%	7%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	51%	58%	44%	57%	43%
Newt Gingrich	39%	32%	45%	34%	47%
Undecided	10%	9%	12%	10%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	48%	55%	41%	54%	41%
Mitt Romney	43%	37%	48%	38%	50%
Undecided	9%	8%	11%	8%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Bachmann					
Barack Obama	51%	59%	44%	57%	42%
Michele Bachmann	33%	32%	34%	31%	34%
Undecided	17%	9%	21%	12%	24%

