



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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

## **Country Divided on Obama, Congress**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Voters across the country are continuing to lean toward the GOP for 2012, with Republicans holding a 46-43 lead on our latest look at the generic Congressional ballot.

There are two major trends driving their lead that have shown up in our polling for a while now. They have a 44-26 lead with independents, and their party is more unified with 87% of Republicans planning to vote Republican compared to 80% of Democrats who plan to stick with their party.

Congressional Republicans are actually less popular than Congressional Democrats with 60% of voters disapproving of them compared to 56% for the Democrats. But mirroring something we've found repeatedly in our polling voters with a negative opinion of both parties plan to support the GOP by a 49-28 margin this year, figuring that a shift in control brings at least the possibility of change.

Barack Obama's approval this month is 47%, with 48% of voters disapproving of him. Every national PPP survey so far in 2010 has shown Obama at either +/-1%. 75% of Democrats, 44% of independents, and 11% of Republicans think Obama's doing a good job.

His health care plan is also at its highest level of support in a long time with 49% of voters opposing it and 45% in support.

“Our national polling tells the story of a country divided,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “It's almost evenly divided on Obama as well as how it will vote for Congress this fall.”

PPP surveyed 1,403 registered voters from March 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error is +/- 2.6%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at [www.publicpolicypolling.com](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com).

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.





## National Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve*..... 47% *Not Sure*..... 5%  
*Disapprove*..... 48%

**Q2** Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or do you not have an opinion? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you don't have an opinion, press 3.

*Support*..... 45%  
*Oppose*..... 49%  
*No Opinion*..... 6%

**Q3** If the election for Congress was today would you vote for a Democrat or a Republican? If a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Democrat*..... 43%  
*Republican*..... 46%  
*Undecided*..... 11%

**Q4** Do you approve or disapprove of the job Democrats in Congress are doing? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve*..... 31%  
*Disapprove*..... 56%  
*Not Sure*..... 12%

**Q5** Do you approve or disapprove of the job Republicans in Congress are doing? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve*..... 23%  
*Disapprove*..... 60%  
*Not Sure*..... 17%

**Q6** Do you think the Democrats in Congress are too liberal, too conservative, or about right? If too liberal, press 1. If too conservative, press 2. If about right, press 3.

*Too Liberal*..... 48%  
*Too Conservative*..... 18%  
*About Right*..... 34%

**Q7** Do you think the Republicans in Congress are too liberal, too conservative, or about right? If too liberal, press 1. If too conservative, press 2. If about right, press 3.

*Too Liberal*..... 23%  
*Too Conservative*..... 44%  
*About Right*..... 33%

**Q8** Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

*McCain*..... 46%  
*Obama*..... 52%  
*Someone else/don't remember*..... 3%

**Q9** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

*Liberal*..... 18%  
*Moderate*..... 47%  
*Conservative*..... 35%

**Q10** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman*..... 51%  
*Man*..... 49%





**Q11** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

*Democrat* ..... 43%  
*Republican*..... 33%  
*Independent/Other*..... 24%

**Q12** 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%

**Q13** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

*18 to 29*..... 12%  
*30 to 45*..... 27%  
*46 to 65*..... 43%  
*Older than 65*..... 18%

**Q14**

*Northeast* ..... 25%  
*South* ..... 29%  
*Midwest* ..... 26%  
*West* ..... 19%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	47%	8%	83%	17%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	90%	10%	71%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	3%	7%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	46%	7%	81%	17%
<b>Oppose</b>	48%	90%	11%	54%
<b>No Opinion</b>	6%	2%	8%	28%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Generic Ballot</b>				
<b>Democrat</b>	44%	5%	80%	12%
<b>Republican</b>	46%	86%	11%	32%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	9%	9%	56%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Congressional Democrats Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	32%	4%	57%	12%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	91%	24%	71%
<b>Not Sure</b>	12%	5%	19%	17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Congressional Republicans Approval</b>				
Approve	23%	47%	3%	6%
Disapprove	60%	29%	85%	77%
Not Sure	17%	23%	12%	17%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Congressional Democrats Ideology</b>				
Too Liberal	47%	87%	12%	43%
Too Conservative	18%	8%	26%	40%
About Right	35%	5%	63%	17%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Congressional Republicans Ideology</b>				
Too Liberal	23%	31%	16%	28%
Too Conservative	45%	20%	68%	17%
About Right	32%	50%	15%	54%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
Approve	47%	92%	57%	9%
Disapprove	48%	5%	35%	89%
Not Sure	5%	3%	8%	3%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	45%	89%	56%	8%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	3%	37%	89%
<b>No Opinion</b>	6%	9%	7%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Generic Ballot</b>				
<b>Democrat</b>	43%	87%	53%	9%
<b>Republican</b>	46%	9%	32%	82%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	4%	15%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Congressional Democrats Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	31%	69%	37%	5%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	17%	46%	89%
<b>Not Sure</b>	12%	14%	17%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Congressional Republicans Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	23%	4%	16%	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	60%	80%	72%	33%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	15%	12%	24%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Congressional Democrats Ideology</b>				
<b>Too Liberal</b>	48%	8%	35%	84%
<b>Too Conservative</b>	18%	42%	16%	9%
<b>About Right</b>	34%	50%	49%	8%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Congressional Republicans Ideology</b>				
<b>Too Liberal</b>	23%	17%	17%	34%
<b>Too Conservative</b>	44%	70%	61%	8%
<b>About Right</b>	33%	12%	22%	58%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	47%	52%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	43%	53%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	5%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Health Care</b>			
<b>Support</b>	45%	48%	42%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	46%	52%
<b>No Opinion</b>	6%	6%	6%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Generic Ballot</b>			
Democrat	43%	50%	37%
Republican	46%	39%	52%
Undecided	11%	11%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Congressional Democrats Approval</b>			
Approve	31%	36%	26%
Disapprove	56%	50%	64%
Not Sure	12%	14%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Congressional Republicans Approval</b>			
Approve	23%	19%	28%
Disapprove	60%	59%	60%
Not Sure	17%	22%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Congressional Democrats Ideology</b>			
Too Liberal	48%	43%	52%
Too Conservative	18%	18%	18%
About Right	34%	39%	30%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Congressional Republicans Ideology</b>			
<b>Too Liberal</b>	23%	24%	22%
<b>Too Conservative</b>	44%	46%	42%
<b>About Right</b>	33%	29%	36%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	47%	75%	11%	44%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	19%	86%	50%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	6%	4%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	45%	76%	8%	40%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	19%	88%	49%
<b>No Opinion</b>	6%	5%	4%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Generic Ballot</b>				
<b>Democrat</b>	43%	80%	8%	26%
<b>Republican</b>	46%	15%	87%	44%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	5%	6%	30%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Congressional Democrats Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	31%	57%	6%	20%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	27%	91%	61%
<b>Not Sure</b>	12%	16%	2%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Congressional Republicans Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	23%	6%	50%	18%
<b>Disapprove</b>	60%	81%	30%	63%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	14%	20%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Congressional Democrats Ideology</b>				
<b>Too Liberal</b>	48%	20%	83%	49%
<b>Too Conservative</b>	18%	23%	9%	21%
<b>About Right</b>	34%	57%	8%	31%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Congressional Republicans Ideology</b>				
<b>Too Liberal</b>	23%	20%	29%	21%
<b>Too Conservative</b>	44%	59%	20%	50%
<b>About Right</b>	33%	21%	51%	29%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	47%	65%	37%	90%	61%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	29%	58%	5%	33%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	6%	5%	5%	6%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	45%	65%	36%	77%	65%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	29%	59%	9%	35%
<b>No Opinion</b>	6%	6%	5%	14%	-

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Generic Ballot</b>					
<b>Democrat</b>	43%	65%	33%	82%	72%
<b>Republican</b>	46%	24%	54%	18%	28%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	12%	13%	-	-

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Congressional Democrats Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	31%	53%	22%	73%	33%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	29%	68%	14%	39%
<b>Not Sure</b>	12%	18%	10%	14%	28%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Congressional Republicans Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	23%	18%	28%	5%	6%
<b>Disapprove</b>	60%	76%	55%	73%	78%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	6%	17%	23%	17%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Congressional Democrats Ideology</b>					
<b>Too Liberal</b>	48%	24%	58%	9%	28%
<b>Too Conservative</b>	18%	24%	15%	27%	22%
<b>About Right</b>	34%	53%	26%	64%	50%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Congressional Republicans Ideology</b>					
<b>Too Liberal</b>	23%	35%	23%	23%	6%
<b>Too Conservative</b>	44%	53%	42%	41%	78%
<b>About Right</b>	33%	12%	36%	36%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	47%	47%	43%	48%	48%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	48%	50%	48%	47%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	5%	8%	4%	5%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	45%	49%	35%	49%	48%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	45%	55%	47%	47%
<b>No Opinion</b>	6%	6%	10%	4%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Generic Ballot</b>					
<b>Democrat</b>	43%	47%	38%	44%	46%
<b>Republican</b>	46%	41%	51%	44%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	11%	10%	12%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Congressional Democrats Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	31%	41%	30%	27%	37%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	45%	58%	59%	54%
<b>Not Sure</b>	12%	14%	12%	13%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Congressional Republicans Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	23%	23%	24%	23%	23%
<b>Disapprove</b>	60%	59%	57%	62%	58%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	18%	19%	15%	19%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Congressional Democrats Ideology</b>					
<b>Too Liberal</b>	48%	35%	50%	50%	48%
<b>Too Conservative</b>	18%	41%	14%	15%	15%
<b>About Right</b>	34%	24%	36%	35%	37%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Congressional Republicans Ideology</b>					
<b>Too Liberal</b>	23%	22%	27%	23%	18%
<b>Too Conservative</b>	44%	37%	43%	47%	44%
<b>About Right</b>	33%	41%	30%	30%	39%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	47%	51%	44%	43%	50%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	43%	51%	53%	43%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	6%	5%	4%	7%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
<b>Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	45%	51%	41%	41%	50%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	42%	53%	53%	46%
<b>No Opinion</b>	6%	8%	7%	6%	3%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
<b>Generic Ballot</b>					
Democrat	43%	50%	40%	41%	44%
Republican	45%	41%	48%	48%	44%
Undecided	11%	8%	12%	11%	12%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
<b>Congressional Democrats Approval</b>					
Approve	32%	37%	28%	27%	37%
Disapprove	56%	48%	60%	61%	57%
Not Sure	12%	15%	12%	13%	6%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
<b>Congressional Republicans Approval</b>					
Approve	23%	19%	26%	26%	22%
Disapprove	60%	62%	56%	55%	70%
Not Sure	17%	19%	18%	19%	8%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
<b>Congressional Democrats Ideology</b>					
Too Liberal	48%	42%	51%	51%	44%
Too Conservative	18%	21%	15%	17%	19%
About Right	35%	36%	34%	32%	37%



**Crosstabs**

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
<b>Congressional Republicans Ideology</b>					
<b>Too Liberal</b>	<b>23%</b>	26%	25%	24%	16%
<b>Too Conservative</b>	<b>44%</b>	41%	38%	45%	58%
<b>About Right</b>	<b>33%</b>	33%	37%	32%	26%