



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The GOP's front-runner is...Donald Trump?

Raleigh, N.C. – Every month, PPP polls Republican primary voters nationwide about their preferences for the GOP presidential nomination. Almost every month, the top four candidates have been in a statistical tie, with various candidates jockeying back and forth for slim leads. But for the first time in three months, when Mike Huckabee had a ten-point lead over Mitt Romney and Sarah Palin, PPP has found a candidate who puts serious distance between himself and the rest of the field: Donald Trump.

Trump leads with 26% over Huckabee's 17%, Romney's 15%, Newt Gingrich's 11%, Palin's 8%, Ron Paul's 5%, and Tim Pawlenty and Michele Bachmann's 4%.

23% of these voters say they would not be willing to vote for a candidate who stated clearly that Obama was born in the U.S. 38% say they would, and a 39% plurality are not sure. Among the hardcore birthers, Trump leads with 37%, almost three times as much support as anyone else. He comes in only third at 17% with those who are fine with a candidate that thinks the President was born in the country. Romney, who recently stated he believes Obama is a citizen, leads with 23% with that group but gets only 10% with birthers.

Take Trump out of the equation, and the field is more muddled. Huckabee leads with 22% over Romney's 16%, Gingrich's 15%, Palin's 12%, Paul's 8%, Pawlenty's and Bachmann's 6%, and Haley Barbour's 3%. In this and other variations of the potential field, Palin and Huckabee are the favorites of birthers. Trump pulls the least support from Romney of any of the candidates.

“Who knows if he's really going to end up running or not but Donald Trump is certainly getting a lot of traction with Republican primary voters,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “A lot of GOP voters have not been happy with their choice of candidates and Trump is filling that void, at least for the moment.”

PPP numbers released yesterday found Barack Obama leading six potential Republican opponents by anywhere from 5-18 points.

PPP surveyed 400 Republican primary voters nationally from April 7th to 10th. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.9%. 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 a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Huckabee?

Favorable..... 61%
Unfavorable 18%
Not sure 21%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Sarah Palin?

Favorable..... 61%
Unfavorable 31%
Not sure 8%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Newt Gingrich?

Favorable..... 50%
Unfavorable 33%
Not sure 17%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

Favorable..... 50%
Unfavorable 29%
Not sure 20%

Q5 If the Republican candidates for President in 2012 were Michele Bachmann, Haley Barbour, Newt Gingrich, Mike Huckabee, Sarah Palin, Ron Paul, Tim Pawlenty, and Mitt Romney who would you vote for?

Michele Bachmann 6%
Haley Barbour..... 3%
Newt Gingrich 15%
Mike Huckabee 22%
Sarah Palin 12%
Ron Paul..... 8%
Tim Pawlenty 6%
Mitt Romney..... 16%
Someone else/Undecided..... 13%

Q6 Let's say Mike Huckabee decides not to run and the candidates for President next year were Michele Bachmann, Haley Barbour, Newt Gingrich, Sarah Palin, Ron Paul, Tim Pawlenty, and Mitt Romney. Who would you vote for?

Michele Bachmann 5%
Haley Barbour..... 3%
Newt Gingrich 20%
Sarah Palin 15%
Ron Paul..... 12%
Tim Pawlenty 6%
Mitt Romney..... 22%
Someone else/Undecided..... 16%





Q7 Let's say Sarah Palin decides not to run and the candidates for President next year were Michele Bachmann, Haley Barbour, Mitch Daniels, Newt Gingrich, Mike Huckabee, Ron Paul, Tim Pawlenty, and Mitt Romney. Who would you vote for?

<i>Michele Bachmann</i>	7%
<i>Haley Barbour</i>	2%
<i>Newt Gingrich</i>	18%
<i>Mike Huckabee</i>	24%
<i>Ron Paul</i>	10%
<i>Tim Pawlenty</i>	6%
<i>Mitt Romney</i>	19%
<i>Someone else/Undecided</i>	15%

Q8 Let's say neither Mike Huckabee nor Sarah Palin runs for President and the candidates next year were Michele Bachmann, Haley Barbour, Newt Gingrich, Ron Paul, Tim Pawlenty, and Mitt Romney. Who would you vote for?

<i>Michele Bachmann</i>	8%
<i>Haley Barbour</i>	4%
<i>Newt Gingrich</i>	23%
<i>Ron Paul</i>	13%
<i>Tim Pawlenty</i>	10%
<i>Mitt Romney</i>	25%
<i>Someone else/Undecided</i>	16%

Q9 Here's one last scenario: what if Donald Trump ran for President and the candidates were Michele Bachmann, Newt Gingrich, Mike Huckabee, Sarah Palin, Ron Paul, Tim Pawlenty, Mitt Romney, and Donald Trump. Who would you vote for?

<i>Michele Bachmann</i>	4%
<i>Newt Gingrich</i>	11%
<i>Mike Huckabee</i>	17%
<i>Sarah Palin</i>	8%
<i>Ron Paul</i>	5%
<i>Tim Pawlenty</i>	4%
<i>Mitt Romney</i>	15%
<i>Donald Trump</i>	26%
<i>Someone else/Undecided</i>	10%

Q10 Would you be willing or unwilling to support a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States?

<i>Willing to support a candidate for the nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States</i>	38%
<i>Would be unwilling to</i>	23%
<i>Not sure</i>	39%

Q11 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	2%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	5%
<i>Moderate</i>	17%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	44%
<i>Very conservative</i>	31%

Q12 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	45%
<i>Man</i>	55%





Q13 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.

<i>18 to 29</i>	8%
<i>30 to 45</i>	28%
<i>46 to 65</i>	40%
<i>Older than 65</i>	24%





Crosstabs

	Willing to Vote for Non-birther?			
	Base	Willing to support a candidate for the nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States	Would be unwilling to	Not sure
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	61%	60%	62%	61%
Unfavorable	19%	24%	17%	14%
Not sure	21%	16%	21%	25%

	Willing to Vote for Non-birther?			
	Base	Willing to support a candidate for the nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States	Would be unwilling to	Not sure
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	61%	56%	70%	61%
Unfavorable	31%	41%	21%	27%
Not sure	8%	3%	9%	12%

	Willing to Vote for Non-birther?			
	Base	Willing to support a candidate for the nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States	Would be unwilling to	Not sure
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	50%	49%	52%	50%
Unfavorable	33%	35%	36%	30%
Not sure	17%	16%	12%	21%

	Willing to Vote for Non-birther?			
	Base	Willing to support a candidate for the nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States	Would be unwilling to	Not sure
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	50%	60%	38%	47%
Unfavorable	29%	25%	44%	25%
Not sure	20%	15%	18%	27%





Crosstabs

	Willing to Vote for Non-birther?			
	Base	Willing to support a candidate for the nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States	Would be unwilling to	Not sure
2012 GOP Pres Primary				
Michele Bachmann	6%	4%	7%	7%
Haley Barbour	3%	1%	5%	4%
Newt Gingrich	15%	14%	13%	16%
Mike Huckabee	23%	24%	17%	24%
Sarah Palin	12%	7%	21%	10%
Ron Paul	8%	7%	12%	7%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	8%	5%	4%
Mitt Romney	16%	23%	12%	12%
Someone else/Undecided	12%	11%	8%	16%

	Willing to Vote for Non-birther?			
	Base	Willing to support a candidate for the nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States	Would be unwilling to	Not sure
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Huck				
Michele Bachmann	5%	4%	6%	7%
Haley Barbour	4%	3%	6%	3%
Newt Gingrich	20%	17%	18%	25%
Sarah Palin	15%	9%	22%	16%
Ron Paul	12%	12%	16%	9%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	7%	5%	6%
Mitt Romney	22%	30%	18%	18%
Someone else/Undecided	16%	19%	9%	17%

	Willing to Vote for Non-birther?			
	Base	Willing to support a candidate for the nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States	Would be unwilling to	Not sure
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin				
Michele Bachmann	7%	6%	7%	7%
Haley Barbour	2%	1%	3%	2%
Newt Gingrich	18%	16%	17%	21%
Mike Huckabee	24%	21%	24%	28%
Ron Paul	10%	10%	14%	8%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	9%	2%	5%
Mitt Romney	19%	24%	18%	14%
Someone else/Undecided	14%	13%	14%	15%

	Willing to Vote for Non-birther?			
	Base	Willing to support a candidate for the nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States	Would be unwilling to	Not sure
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin or Huck				
Michele Bachmann	8%	7%	6%	9%
Haley Barbour	4%	2%	7%	4%
Newt Gingrich	23%	18%	22%	29%
Ron Paul	13%	10%	19%	13%
Tim Pawlenty	10%	14%	8%	7%
Mitt Romney	25%	31%	24%	20%
Someone else/Undecided	16%	17%	14%	17%





Crosstabs

	Willing to Vote for Non-birther?			
	Base	Willing to support a candidate for the nomination who firmly stated they believed Barack Obama was born in the United States	Would be unwilling to	Not sure
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/ Trump				
Michele Bachmann	4%	3%	5%	5%
Newt Gingrich	11%	10%	10%	13%
Mike Huckabee	17%	18%	13%	19%
Sarah Palin	8%	7%	13%	6%
Ron Paul	5%	6%	6%	3%
Tim Pawlenty	4%	7%	3%	1%
Mitt Romney	15%	23%	10%	11%
Donald Trump	26%	17%	37%	28%
Someone else/Undecided	10%	10%	4%	14%

	Ideology					
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Huckabee Favorability						
Favorable	61%	64%	28%	50%	61%	73%
Unfavorable	18%	22%	52%	25%	17%	12%
Not sure	21%	14%	21%	26%	23%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Palin Favorability						
Favorable	61%	47%	27%	43%	67%	71%
Unfavorable	31%	39%	63%	47%	28%	21%
Not sure	8%	14%	10%	9%	6%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gingrich Favorability						
Favorable	50%	47%	16%	41%	49%	61%
Unfavorable	33%	39%	80%	41%	29%	27%
Not sure	17%	14%	4%	18%	22%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	50%	30%	19%	45%	53%	56%
Unfavorable	29%	48%	57%	36%	24%	27%
Not sure	20%	22%	24%	19%	23%	17%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Pres Primary						
Michele Bachmann	6%	-	6%	2%	6%	8%
Haley Barbour	3%	14%	6%	3%	0%	5%
Newt Gingrich	15%	26%	19%	14%	14%	15%
Mike Huckabee	22%	30%	15%	27%	24%	18%
Sarah Palin	12%	22%	32%	11%	10%	10%
Ron Paul	8%	9%	-	12%	7%	8%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	-	4%	2%	8%	5%
Mitt Romney	16%	-	-	18%	18%	16%
Someone else/Undecided	13%	-	18%	11%	12%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Huck						
Michele Bachmann	5%	-	-	2%	5%	8%
Haley Barbour	3%	-	12%	4%	1%	5%
Newt Gingrich	20%	38%	19%	23%	19%	19%
Sarah Palin	15%	9%	37%	12%	15%	12%
Ron Paul	12%	22%	4%	13%	11%	13%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	9%	-	2%	8%	6%
Mitt Romney	22%	-	4%	27%	24%	21%
Someone else/Undecided	16%	22%	24%	16%	16%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin						
Michele Bachmann	7%	-	10%	3%	7%	8%
Haley Barbour	2%	-	10%	3%	0%	3%
Newt Gingrich	18%	47%	15%	15%	17%	19%
Mike Huckabee	24%	17%	15%	29%	22%	26%
Ron Paul	10%	22%	-	13%	9%	10%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	-	8%	3%	9%	4%
Mitt Romney	19%	-	6%	20%	21%	18%
Someone else/Undecided	15%	14%	36%	14%	14%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin or Huck						
Michele Bachmann	8%	-	4%	4%	8%	10%
Haley Barbour	4%	-	16%	4%	2%	6%
Newt Gingrich	23%	47%	15%	23%	23%	24%
Ron Paul	13%	9%	4%	16%	14%	13%
Tim Pawlenty	10%	14%	8%	6%	12%	9%
Mitt Romney	25%	9%	11%	29%	25%	27%
Someone else/Undecided	16%	22%	43%	18%	17%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/ Trump						
Michele Bachmann	4%	-	6%	3%	3%	6%
Newt Gingrich	11%	17%	19%	11%	11%	10%
Mike Huckabee	17%	21%	10%	17%	17%	19%
Sarah Palin	8%	9%	37%	8%	5%	7%
Ron Paul	5%	-	-	6%	5%	5%
Tim Pawlenty	4%	-	4%	5%	4%	3%
Mitt Romney	15%	-	-	16%	18%	15%
Donald Trump	26%	53%	6%	28%	26%	28%
Someone else/Undecided	10%	-	18%	7%	11%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Huckabee Favorability			
Favorable	61%	61%	61%
Unfavorable	18%	18%	18%
Not sure	21%	20%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	61%	59%	63%
Unfavorable	31%	29%	32%
Not sure	8%	11%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	50%	46%	52%
Unfavorable	33%	31%	35%
Not sure	17%	23%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	50%	54%	47%
Unfavorable	29%	27%	31%
Not sure	20%	19%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Pres Primary			
Michele Bachmann	6%	5%	6%
Haley Barbour	3%	3%	3%
Newt Gingrich	15%	14%	15%
Mike Huckabee	22%	25%	20%
Sarah Palin	12%	14%	10%
Ron Paul	8%	4%	11%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	9%	3%
Mitt Romney	16%	15%	17%
Someone else/Undecided	13%	12%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Huck			
Michele Bachmann	5%	4%	7%
Haley Barbour	3%	2%	5%
Newt Gingrich	20%	21%	20%
Sarah Palin	15%	16%	13%
Ron Paul	12%	9%	14%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	7%	5%
Mitt Romney	22%	23%	21%
Someone else/Undecided	16%	19%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin			
Michele Bachmann	7%	4%	9%
Haley Barbour	2%	2%	2%
Newt Gingrich	18%	13%	22%
Mike Huckabee	24%	31%	19%
Ron Paul	10%	6%	13%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	8%	4%
Mitt Romney	19%	18%	19%
Someone else/Undecided	15%	17%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin or Huck			
Michele Bachmann	8%	6%	9%
Haley Barbour	4%	3%	5%
Newt Gingrich	23%	22%	24%
Ron Paul	13%	7%	18%
Tim Pawlenty	10%	14%	6%
Mitt Romney	25%	26%	25%
Someone else/Undecided	16%	21%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/ Trump			
Michele Bachmann	4%	3%	5%
Newt Gingrich	11%	12%	10%
Mike Huckabee	17%	18%	16%
Sarah Palin	8%	10%	7%
Ron Paul	5%	2%	7%
Tim Pawlenty	4%	5%	2%
Mitt Romney	15%	12%	18%
Donald Trump	26%	25%	27%
Someone else/Undecided	10%	12%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	61%	67%	56%	63%	61%
Unfavorable	18%	20%	21%	20%	14%
Not sure	21%	13%	23%	18%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	61%	38%	64%	62%	65%
Unfavorable	31%	38%	30%	32%	28%
Not sure	8%	25%	6%	6%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	50%	31%	43%	54%	57%
Unfavorable	33%	31%	31%	36%	32%
Not sure	17%	38%	26%	11%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	50%	56%	40%	54%	55%
Unfavorable	29%	19%	32%	30%	28%
Not sure	20%	25%	28%	17%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Pres Primary					
Michele Bachmann	6%	-	6%	7%	5%
Haley Barbour	3%	6%	3%	3%	1%
Newt Gingrich	15%	13%	13%	16%	15%
Mike Huckabee	22%	50%	28%	14%	21%
Sarah Palin	12%	6%	13%	13%	9%
Ron Paul	8%	-	11%	6%	9%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	6%	6%	5%	7%
Mitt Romney	16%	6%	10%	21%	18%
Someone else/Undecided	13%	13%	10%	13%	15%



Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Huck					
Michele Bachmann	5%	-	6%	7%	3%
Haley Barbour	3%	13%	4%	2%	2%
Newt Gingrich	20%	25%	19%	17%	25%
Sarah Palin	15%	13%	18%	16%	10%
Ron Paul	12%	13%	18%	9%	9%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	6%	5%	5%	9%
Mitt Romney	22%	13%	18%	26%	24%
Someone else/Undecided	16%	19%	14%	17%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin					
Michele Bachmann	7%	-	8%	8%	4%
Haley Barbour	2%	6%	1%	2%	1%
Newt Gingrich	18%	19%	18%	16%	21%
Mike Huckabee	24%	38%	28%	20%	22%
Ron Paul	10%	13%	13%	7%	9%
Tim Pawlenty	6%	-	6%	6%	7%
Mitt Romney	19%	6%	13%	25%	19%
Someone else/Undecided	15%	19%	13%	14%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin or Huck					
Michele Bachmann	8%	-	8%	9%	6%
Haley Barbour	4%	13%	5%	4%	2%
Newt Gingrich	23%	27%	25%	21%	23%
Ron Paul	13%	13%	17%	11%	13%
Tim Pawlenty	10%	7%	11%	9%	12%
Mitt Romney	25%	13%	16%	32%	29%
Someone else/Undecided	16%	27%	18%	14%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/ Trump					
Michele Bachmann	4%	-	5%	4%	4%
Newt Gingrich	11%	6%	10%	13%	9%
Mike Huckabee	17%	25%	23%	11%	18%
Sarah Palin	8%	6%	10%	7%	7%
Ron Paul	5%	-	8%	3%	5%
Tim Pawlenty	4%	-	3%	3%	5%
Mitt Romney	15%	13%	9%	18%	18%
Donald Trump	26%	38%	23%	28%	24%
Someone else/Undecided	10%	13%	8%	11%	9%