



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 3, 2011

INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

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

California a lock for Obama

Raleigh, N.C. – In PPP’s latest poll, two of the leading GOP candidates for president next year come a little closer than John McCain did to defeating Barack Obama in California—but a little closer than 24 points is still a long way off from becoming the first Republican to win the state since 1988.

Mike Huckabee is the most competitive with the president, losing by 15 points, 54-39, followed by Mitt Romney’s 20-point deficit, 56-36. Those two are the only ones who exceed McCain’s finish in the state, but even Newt Gingrich ties the 2008 nominee, 58-34. Only Sarah Palin gets routed by what is an unusually decisive blowout even for Republicans, lagging Obama by a 2:1 margin, 62-31.

The president is culling more GOP support than any of the Republicans are Democratic votes, and he wins independents by margins of 19 (against Romney) to a whopping 44 points (versus Palin). Against the former Alaska governor, 90% of Obama’s party is already behind him, and only 1% are undecided, but her candidacy causes an inordinately high 14% of Republicans to remain on the fence, with only two-thirds in her camp.

Before last fall’s election, President Obama’s approval rating had sunk to only 45-47 in this deep blue state, but without that more conservative electorate, and in the wake of a larger nationwide rebound, he now sits at a more expected 53-41. The Golden State now gives him his fourth highest approval rating of any of the 40 states PPP has polled in the previous year, after Maryland, his native Hawaii, and Massachusetts.

By contrast, none of his prospective challengers is even close to treading water with the voting public. Romney’s 32-46 personal favorability rating is the closest any of them gets to breaking even. Huckabee sits at 29-47, Gingrich at 25-55, and Palin at an amazing 28-67. Two-thirds of the most populous state in the nation dislike her.

“It’s pretty safe to say the eventual Republican nominee won’t darken California’s door next year,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 892 California voters from January 28th to 30th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.3%. 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)

Public Policy Polling
3020 Highwoods Blvd.
Raleigh, NC 27604

Phone: 888 621-6988
Web: www.publicpolicypolling.com
Email: information@publicpolicypolling.com





California Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 53%
Disapprove..... 41%
Not sure 6%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Newt Gingrich?

Favorable..... 25%
Unfavorable 55%
Not sure 19%

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

Favorable..... 29%
Unfavorable 47%
Not sure 23%

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

Favorable..... 28%
Unfavorable 67%
Not sure 6%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

Favorable..... 32%
Unfavorable 46%
Not sure 21%

Q6 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Newt Gingrich, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 58%
Newt Gingrich..... 34%
Undecided..... 8%

Q7 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mike Huckabee, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 54%
Mike Huckabee..... 39%
Undecided..... 7%

Q8 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Sarah Palin, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 62%
Sarah Palin..... 31%
Undecided..... 6%

Q9 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 56%
Mitt Romney..... 36%
Undecided..... 9%

Q10 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 24%
Moderate..... 46%
Conservative..... 30%

Q11 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%

Q12 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..... 45%
Republican..... 32%
Independent/Other..... 23%



Q13 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2.
If African-American, press 3. If Asian, press 4.
If other, press 5.

<i>Hispanic</i>	19%
<i>White</i>	63%
<i>African-American</i>	8%
<i>Asian</i>	5%
<i>Other</i>	6%

Q14 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>	12%
<i>30 to 45</i>	30%
<i>46 to 65</i>	38%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%



Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	53%	83%	60%	19%
Disapprove	41%	12%	34%	75%
Not sure	6%	4%	6%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	25%	7%	19%	49%
Unfavorable	55%	83%	58%	29%
Not sure	19%	10%	23%	22%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	29%	7%	23%	56%
Unfavorable	47%	77%	45%	28%
Not sure	23%	16%	32%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	28%	5%	16%	63%
Unfavorable	67%	93%	79%	27%
Not sure	6%	1%	5%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	32%	8%	32%	52%
Unfavorable	46%	77%	41%	30%
Not sure	21%	15%	27%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	58%	89%	67%	19%
Newt Gingrich	34%	9%	24%	70%
Undecided	8%	2%	9%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	54%	86%	61%	18%
Mike Huckabee	39%	13%	30%	73%
Undecided	7%	1%	9%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	62%	93%	74%	21%
Sarah Palin	31%	7%	20%	68%
Undecided	6%	-	7%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	56%	90%	62%	18%
Mitt Romney	36%	7%	29%	68%
Undecided	9%	2%	9%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	53%	55%	51%
Disapprove	41%	37%	45%
Not sure	6%	8%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	25%	20%	31%
Unfavorable	55%	56%	55%
Not sure	19%	24%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Huckabee Favorability			
Favorable	29%	27%	32%
Unfavorable	47%	43%	52%
Not sure	23%	30%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	28%	26%	30%
Unfavorable	67%	67%	66%
Not sure	6%	7%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	32%	27%	38%
Unfavorable	46%	43%	50%
Not sure	21%	30%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	58%	59%	56%
Newt Gingrich	34%	35%	33%
Undecided	8%	5%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Huckabee			
Barack Obama	54%	56%	52%
Mike Huckabee	39%	39%	38%
Undecided	7%	5%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Palin			
Barack Obama	62%	64%	61%
Sarah Palin	31%	32%	31%
Undecided	6%	5%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	56%	59%	52%
Mitt Romney	36%	34%	37%
Undecided	9%	7%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	53%	82%	15%	50%
Disapprove	41%	13%	79%	43%
Not sure	6%	5%	6%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	25%	8%	49%	24%
Unfavorable	55%	74%	26%	61%
Not sure	19%	18%	24%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	29%	16%	52%	23%
Unfavorable	47%	56%	28%	59%
Not sure	23%	29%	20%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	28%	7%	61%	21%
Unfavorable	67%	88%	30%	76%
Not sure	6%	4%	10%	3%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	32%	15%	53%	37%
Unfavorable	46%	60%	24%	51%
Not sure	21%	24%	23%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	58%	85%	18%	61%
Newt Gingrich	34%	10%	71%	30%
Undecided	8%	5%	11%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	54%	82%	14%	57%
Mike Huckabee	39%	12%	77%	37%
Undecided	7%	6%	9%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	62%	90%	19%	69%
Sarah Palin	31%	9%	67%	25%
Undecided	6%	1%	14%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	56%	86%	15%	54%
Mitt Romney	36%	7%	75%	35%
Undecided	9%	7%	10%	11%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Obama Approval						
Approve	53%	69%	46%	84%	37%	46%
Disapprove	41%	25%	49%	14%	50%	44%
Not sure	6%	6%	5%	2%	13%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Gingrich Favorability						
Favorable	25%	22%	30%	7%	7%	26%
Unfavorable	55%	59%	50%	76%	63%	65%
Not sure	19%	20%	20%	18%	30%	9%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Huckabee Favorability						
Favorable	29%	14%	33%	19%	43%	40%
Unfavorable	47%	61%	46%	43%	30%	40%
Not sure	23%	26%	21%	39%	27%	19%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Palin Favorability						
Favorable	28%	16%	34%	14%	6%	35%
Unfavorable	67%	78%	60%	82%	90%	63%
Not sure	6%	7%	6%	4%	4%	2%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	32%	21%	36%	32%	32%	27%
Unfavorable	46%	52%	45%	41%	45%	53%
Not sure	21%	28%	19%	27%	23%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Obama/Gingrich						
Barack Obama	58%	70%	52%	84%	46%	52%
Newt Gingrich	34%	26%	38%	14%	36%	48%
Undecided	8%	4%	10%	2%	19%	-

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Obama/Huckabee						
Barack Obama	54%	69%	48%	79%	42%	45%
Mike Huckabee	39%	25%	43%	19%	52%	55%
Undecided	7%	6%	8%	2%	7%	-

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Obama/Palin						
Barack Obama	62%	77%	56%	84%	63%	52%
Sarah Palin	31%	22%	35%	14%	28%	45%
Undecided	6%	1%	9%	2%	9%	2%

	Base	Race				
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Asian	Other
Obama/Romney						
Barack Obama	56%	68%	50%	79%	41%	52%
Mitt Romney	36%	21%	41%	14%	44%	48%
Undecided	9%	11%	9%	7%	16%	-





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	53%	43%	53%	54%	58%
Disapprove	41%	40%	44%	40%	37%
Not sure	6%	17%	3%	5%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	25%	7%	22%	29%	35%
Unfavorable	55%	60%	60%	55%	48%
Not sure	19%	33%	18%	17%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	29%	23%	25%	32%	33%
Unfavorable	47%	57%	56%	43%	38%
Not sure	23%	20%	19%	25%	29%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	28%	13%	26%	32%	30%
Unfavorable	67%	77%	71%	64%	60%
Not sure	6%	10%	3%	4%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	32%	20%	24%	38%	42%
Unfavorable	46%	53%	56%	43%	35%
Not sure	21%	27%	21%	19%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	58%	67%	57%	58%	54%
New t Gingrich	34%	27%	35%	34%	39%
Undecided	8%	7%	8%	8%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Huckabee					
Barack Obama	54%	60%	51%	55%	55%
Mike Huckabee	39%	40%	39%	38%	38%
Undecided	7%	-	10%	7%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Palin					
Barack Obama	62%	73%	60%	62%	60%
Sarah Palin	31%	27%	36%	30%	30%
Undecided	6%	-	4%	8%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	56%	53%	58%	55%	53%
Mitt Romney	36%	33%	32%	37%	40%
Undecided	9%	13%	10%	8%	6%

