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**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL [information@publicpolicypolling.com](mailto:information@publicpolicypolling.com), OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

## **Obama jumps to 13-point lead over Romney in CO**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Colorado was one of several swing and even traditionally red states that President Obama flipped in 2008—and if his re-election bid were decided today, there would be no looking back. He would actually defeat likely Republican nominee Mitt Romney by an even larger margin than he did John McCain four years ago. McCain lost by nine points in the Centennial State, and Romney trails by 13 in PPP's latest poll.

Obama's 53-40 lead over Romney here is up 11 points from only a two-point edge when PPP last polled the state only four months ago. And Romney is not even the most competitive Republican contender here. Ron Paul lags the president by only five points (47-42). Romney does manage to best his other two intraparty opponents: Rick Santorum is down by 16 points (54-38), and Newt Gingrich by 18 (55-37).

The story in Colorado is the same as everywhere: the president has seen his popularity rise in the last few months, while the dragging GOP primary contest has sunk their candidates' personal numbers. Romney's favorability rating is still the best of the Republicans' except Paul's, but he sits at 31% favorable and 60% unfavorable, down from 35-53 in the previous poll. Meanwhile, 50% approve and 47% disapprove of Obama's job performance, up eight points on the margin from early December (45-50).

Where Obama was seeing 14% of his party cross over for Romney in December, now only 7% do, while 90% stick with him, up from 83%. That 14-point marginal shift, plus a doubling of his lead with independents (from 49-37 to 57-31), is responsible for Obama's surge. Democrats are a narrow plurality of the electorate, and independents are almost a third of voters, more than in most other states.

"Colorado flipped to the Democratic column in 2008 and it doesn't look like it's going back where it came from," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Obama is looking exceptionally strong there."

PPP surveyed 542 Colorado voters from April 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.2%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.



## Colorado Survey Results

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

*Approve* ..... 50%  
*Disapprove*..... 47%  
*Not sure* ..... 4%

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

*Favorable*..... 21%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 70%  
*Not sure* ..... 10%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Ron Paul?

*Favorable*..... 37%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 51%  
*Not sure* ..... 13%

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

*Favorable*..... 31%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 60%  
*Not sure* ..... 9%

**Q5** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rick Santorum?

*Favorable*..... 29%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 61%  
*Not sure* ..... 10%

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

*Barack Obama*..... 55%  
*Newt Gingrich*..... 37%  
*Undecided*..... 8%

**Q7** If the candidates for President this year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Ron Paul, who would you vote for?

*Barack Obama*..... 47%  
*Ron Paul*..... 42%  
*Undecided*..... 10%

**Q8** If the candidates for President this year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

*Barack Obama*..... 53%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 40%  
*Undecided*..... 7%

**Q9** If the candidates for President this year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Rick Santorum, who would you vote for?

*Barack Obama*..... 54%  
*Rick Santorum* ..... 38%  
*Undecided*..... 8%

**Q10** Who did you vote for President in 2008?

*John McCain*..... 43%  
*Barack Obama*..... 51%  
*Someone else/Don't remember* ..... 6%

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

*Very liberal*..... 13%  
*Somewhat liberal* ..... 22%  
*Moderate*..... 28%  
*Somewhat conservative*..... 23%  
*Very conservative* ..... 13%

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

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





**Q13** 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* ..... 36%  
*Republican*..... 35%  
*Independent/Other*..... 30%

**Q14** If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If other, press 3.

*Hispanic*..... 14%  
*White* ..... 79%  
*Other*..... 7%

**Q15** 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*..... 14%  
*30 to 45*..... 30%  
*46 to 65*..... 36%  
*Older than 65*..... 20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	50%	11%	83%	46%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	87%	13%	45%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	2%	4%	9%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	21%	40%	6%	11%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	70%	51%	85%	71%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	9%	9%	17%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Paul Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	41%	32%	54%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	49%	55%	25%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	11%	13%	21%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	57%	10%	19%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	60%	34%	82%	65%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	9%	8%	16%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Santorum Favorability</b>				
Favorable	29%	51%	9%	32%
Unfavorable	61%	38%	81%	58%
Not sure	10%	10%	10%	10%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>				
Barack Obama	55%	12%	90%	54%
Newt Gingrich	37%	76%	8%	14%
Undecided	8%	12%	2%	32%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Paul</b>				
Barack Obama	47%	11%	79%	36%
Ron Paul	42%	75%	16%	38%
Undecided	10%	14%	5%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
Barack Obama	53%	11%	87%	56%
Mitt Romney	40%	81%	9%	21%
Undecided	7%	8%	5%	23%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Santorum</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	54%	14%	88%	51%
<b>Rick Santorum</b>	38%	75%	8%	23%
<b>Undecided</b>	8%	11%	3%	26%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	50%	83%	92%	51%	13%	9%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	7%	7%	44%	85%	88%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	9%	1%	5%	2%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	21%	9%	4%	15%	39%	38%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	70%	85%	88%	74%	51%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	6%	8%	11%	9%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Paul Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	27%	34%	39%	44%	33%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	63%	56%	47%	40%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	10%	10%	13%	16%	13%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Romney Favorability</b>						
Favorable	31%	15%	5%	31%	56%	45%
Unfavorable	60%	84%	86%	61%	36%	35%
Not sure	9%	1%	9%	8%	8%	20%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Santorum Favorability</b>						
Favorable	29%	14%	9%	19%	46%	66%
Unfavorable	61%	80%	86%	69%	41%	22%
Not sure	10%	6%	5%	11%	14%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>						
Barack Obama	55%	93%	93%	60%	16%	12%
New t Gingrich	37%	4%	5%	29%	74%	74%
Undecided	8%	3%	2%	11%	11%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Paul</b>						
Barack Obama	47%	87%	82%	46%	14%	11%
Ron Paul	42%	4%	17%	38%	70%	80%
Undecided	10%	8%	1%	16%	15%	9%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Romney</b>						
Barack Obama	53%	93%	90%	54%	15%	12%
Mitt Romney	40%	4%	8%	32%	77%	83%
Undecided	7%	3%	2%	13%	7%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Santorum</b>						
Barack Obama	54%	92%	92%	57%	16%	16%
Rick Santorum	38%	6%	6%	30%	72%	79%
Undecided	8%	1%	3%	14%	12%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
Approve	50%	54%	45%
Disapprove	47%	40%	53%
Not sure	4%	5%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>			
Favorable	21%	18%	23%
Unfavorable	70%	68%	71%
Not sure	10%	13%	6%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Paul Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	30%	44%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	54%	47%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	16%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Romney Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	29%	33%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	60%	61%	59%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	10%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Santorum Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	29%	26%	32%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	61%	61%	62%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	14%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	55%	61%	48%
<b>Newt Gingrich</b>	37%	30%	44%
<b>Undecided</b>	8%	9%	8%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Paul</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	47%	56%	38%
<b>Ron Paul</b>	42%	33%	52%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	11%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Romney</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	53%	58%	47%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	40%	34%	47%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	8%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Santorum</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	54%	58%	51%
<b>Rick Santorum</b>	38%	33%	43%
<b>Undecided</b>	8%	10%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	50%	89%	8%	52%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	8%	91%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	3%	1%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	21%	7%	41%	13%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	70%	84%	49%	76%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	9%	10%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Paul Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	27%	42%	43%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	58%	49%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	15%	10%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	11%	56%	25%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	60%	81%	36%	65%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	8%	9%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Santorum Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	29%	13%	53%	19%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	61%	76%	39%	71%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	11%	8%	11%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>				
Barack Obama	55%	94%	11%	59%
Newt Gingrich	37%	6%	77%	28%
Undecided	8%	1%	12%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Paul</b>				
Barack Obama	47%	85%	8%	48%
Ron Paul	42%	10%	80%	37%
Undecided	10%	5%	12%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
Barack Obama	53%	90%	11%	57%
Mitt Romney	40%	7%	83%	31%
Undecided	7%	3%	7%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Santorum</b>				
Barack Obama	54%	90%	11%	61%
Rick Santorum	38%	5%	79%	29%
Undecided	8%	5%	10%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>50%</b>	46%	50%	53%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>47%</b>	46%	47%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>4%</b>	8%	3%	6%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>21%</b>	14%	21%	23%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>70%</b>	76%	70%	59%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>10%</b>	9%	9%	18%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Paul Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>37%</b>	42%	36%	39%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>51%</b>	45%	53%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>13%</b>	13%	11%	29%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>31%</b>	29%	33%	16%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>60%</b>	63%	59%	73%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>9%</b>	8%	9%	11%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Santorum Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>29%</b>	38%	27%	24%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>61%</b>	54%	64%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>10%</b>	7%	8%	32%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>55%</b>	57%	54%	55%
<b>Newt Gingrich</b>	<b>37%</b>	30%	39%	35%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>8%</b>	13%	7%	10%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Obama/Paul</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>47%</b>	44%	48%	45%
<b>Ron Paul</b>	<b>42%</b>	46%	42%	41%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	10%	10%	13%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>53%</b>	53%	52%	53%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	<b>40%</b>	38%	41%	42%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>7%</b>	10%	7%	5%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Obama/Santorum</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	54%	57%	53%	55%
<b>Rick Santorum</b>	38%	33%	39%	34%
<b>Undecided</b>	8%	10%	7%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	50%	63%	42%	55%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	29%	55%	43%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	9%	2%	2%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	21%	14%	20%	19%	28%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	70%	69%	73%	72%	61%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	17%	7%	9%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Paul Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	42%	47%	33%	25%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	33%	45%	56%	60%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	25%	8%	11%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Romney Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	23%	24%	33%	43%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	60%	66%	70%	57%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	11%	6%	10%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Santorum Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	29%	17%	28%	27%	41%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	61%	61%	67%	63%	49%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	22%	5%	10%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	55%	72%	48%	58%	46%
<b>Newt Gingrich</b>	37%	19%	42%	35%	46%
<b>Undecided</b>	8%	8%	9%	7%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Paul</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	47%	61%	37%	52%	44%
<b>Ron Paul</b>	42%	28%	52%	38%	46%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	11%	10%	10%	10%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Romney</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>53%</b>	72%	47%	54%	44%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	<b>40%</b>	17%	44%	40%	52%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>7%</b>	11%	9%	6%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Santorum</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>54%</b>	75%	50%	56%	43%
<b>Rick Santorum</b>	<b>38%</b>	17%	42%	36%	50%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>8%</b>	8%	8%	8%	7%

