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Obama lead expands to 4 points in Florida

Raleigh, N.C.-- PPP's newest Florida poll finds Barack Obama leading Mitt Romney by a 50-46 margin in the state. That represents a 3 point improvement for Obama since PPP's last poll of the state, which was conducted the weekend after the Republican convention. It represents the largest lead PPP has found for Obama in Florida since early June.

Mitt Romney's image with Floridians has taken a turn in the wrong direction since his party gathered in Tampa for its convention. His favorability has dropped a net 9 points from +2 at 49/47 over Labor Day weekend to now -7 at 44/51. Romney's comments about the '47%' this week aren't doing him any favors. 89% of voters are familiar with them and 50% consider them to have been inappropriate to 44% who were ok with them. Most troubling for Romney independent voters considered the comments improper by a 58/37 margin and he trails Obama by a 51/40 spread with those folks who could determine the final outcome in the state.

Obama's lead in Florida isn't all about Romney losing ground though. He's pretty strong in his own right with 51% of voters approving of him to 47% who disapprove. That's up a net 7 points from 47/50 before the Democratic convention. This is the first time since April we've found his approval over 50% in the state. Perhaps more importantly Florida voters trust Obama over Romney on the issue of the economy by the same 50/46 margin as the overall numbers- Romney's not getting any traction on that front.

The main shift in the horse race comparing this poll to our last one has come with Democrats. Previously Romney was getting a pretty decent amount of crossover support from them, getting 18% to 79% for Obama. Now Democratic voters are more united around their nominee with 83% planning to support the President to 13% for Romney.

“What’s happened over the last three weeks in Florida is pretty simple,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Voters have warmed up to Barack Obama and they’ve cooled on Mitt Romney, and as a result Obama’s seen an increase in his lead.”

PPP surveyed 861 likely Florida voters from September 20th to 23rd . The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.3%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization.



Florida Survey Results

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

Approve 51%
Disapprove..... 47%
Not sure 2%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

Favorable..... 44%
Unfavorable 51%
Not sure 5%

Q3 The candidates for President are Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 50%
Mitt Romney..... 46%
Undecided..... 4%

Q4 Do you trust Barack Obama or Mitt Romney more on the issue of the economy?

Barack Obama..... 50%
Mitt Romney..... 46%
Not sure 5%

Q5 Do you trust Barack Obama or Mitt Romney more on the issue of foreign policy?

Barack Obama..... 50%
Mitt Romney..... 45%
Not sure 4%

Q6 Are you very excited, somewhat excited, or not at all excited about voting in the 2012 elections?

Very excited 66%
Somewhat excited 19%
Not at all excited 15%

Q7 Are you familiar with comments Mitt Romney has made about the '47%', or not?

Familiar..... 89%
Not familiar..... 11%

Q8 Mitt Romney recently said, "There are 47 percent of the people who will vote for the president no matter what. All right? There are 47 percent who are with him, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe the government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you-name-it, that that's an entitlement. And the government should give it to them. And they will vote for this president no matter what.... These are people who pay no income tax." Do you think Romney's comments were appropriate or inappropriate?

Appropriate 44%
Inappropriate..... 50%
Not sure 5%

Q9 Do these comments make you more or less likely to vote for Mitt Romney, or do they not make a difference?

More likely..... 30%
Less likely..... 35%
No difference 31%
Not sure 3%

Q10 Do you think Mitt Romney should release his tax returns for the last 12 years, or not?

He should..... 52%
He should not..... 39%
Not sure 9%





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

<i>Very liberal</i>	10%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	15%
<i>Moderate</i>	34%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	25%
<i>Very conservative</i>	16%

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

<i>Woman</i>	53%
<i>Man</i>	47%

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.

<i>Democrat</i>	44%
<i>Republican</i>	36%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	20%

Q14 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

<i>Hispanic</i>	13%
<i>White</i>	69%
<i>African-American</i>	13%
<i>Other</i>	5%

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

<i>18 to 29</i>	12%
<i>30 to 45</i>	22%
<i>46 to 65</i>	34%
<i>Older than 65</i>	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval						
Approve	51%	82%	90%	64%	22%	12%
Disapprove	47%	13%	10%	33%	76%	87%
Not sure	2%	5%	-	3%	2%	1%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	44%	10%	9%	29%	75%	82%
Unfavorable	51%	86%	87%	63%	22%	15%
Not sure	5%	4%	4%	8%	3%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Romney						
Barack Obama	50%	84%	88%	64%	19%	12%
Mitt Romney	46%	12%	10%	31%	76%	85%
Undecided	4%	4%	2%	5%	5%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Trust More on Economy?						
Barack Obama	50%	85%	88%	63%	20%	11%
Mitt Romney	46%	12%	8%	33%	74%	84%
Not sure	5%	3%	4%	4%	6%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Trust More on Foreign Policy?						
Barack Obama	50%	84%	90%	63%	19%	13%
Mitt Romney	45%	13%	8%	32%	75%	84%
Not sure	4%	3%	2%	6%	6%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Voter Enthusiasm						
Very excited	66%	83%	65%	57%	63%	78%
Somewhat excited	19%	5%	23%	24%	20%	11%
Not at all excited	15%	12%	12%	19%	17%	11%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Familiar with Romney Comments?						
Familiar	89%	85%	93%	86%	91%	91%
Not familiar	11%	15%	7%	14%	9%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate						
Appropriate	44%	18%	9%	31%	66%	88%
Inappropriate	50%	73%	86%	65%	29%	5%
Not sure	5%	9%	5%	3%	5%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Comments: More/Less Likely to Vote for Him						
More likely	30%	23%	13%	22%	36%	59%
Less likely	35%	45%	63%	45%	18%	11%
No difference	31%	26%	22%	30%	43%	28%
Not sure	3%	5%	1%	4%	3%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Should Romney Release Taxes?						
He should	52%	74%	85%	67%	26%	15%
He should not	39%	12%	11%	28%	61%	74%
Not sure	9%	14%	4%	6%	13%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	51%	55%	46%
Disapprove	47%	41%	53%
Not sure	2%	4%	1%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	44%	39%	49%
Unfavorable	51%	55%	46%
Not sure	5%	6%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	50%	55%	44%
Mitt Romney	46%	41%	51%
Undecided	4%	3%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust More on Economy?			
Barack Obama	50%	55%	44%
Mitt Romney	46%	40%	52%
Not sure	5%	5%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust More on Foreign Policy?			
Barack Obama	50%	55%	45%
Mitt Romney	45%	41%	51%
Not sure	4%	5%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Voter Enthusiasm			
Very excited	66%	66%	66%
Somewhat excited	19%	20%	17%
Not at all excited	15%	14%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Familiar with Romney Comments?			
Familiar	89%	87%	92%
Not familiar	11%	13%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate			
Appropriate	44%	38%	52%
Inappropriate	50%	56%	43%
Not sure	5%	6%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Comments: More/Less Likely to Vote for Him			
More likely	30%	27%	34%
Less likely	35%	40%	30%
No difference	31%	30%	33%
Not sure	3%	4%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Should Romney Release Taxes?			
He should	52%	57%	46%
He should not	39%	32%	48%
Not sure	9%	11%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	51%	84%	9%	54%
Disapprove	47%	14%	89%	44%
Not sure	2%	3%	2%	2%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	44%	14%	85%	35%
Unfavorable	51%	80%	11%	58%
Not sure	5%	5%	4%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	50%	83%	9%	51%
Mitt Romney	46%	13%	88%	40%
Undecided	4%	3%	3%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Trust More on Economy?				
Barack Obama	50%	83%	9%	53%
Mitt Romney	46%	13%	86%	43%
Not sure	5%	4%	6%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Trust More on Foreign Policy?				
Barack Obama	50%	84%	8%	51%
Mitt Romney	45%	12%	88%	42%
Not sure	4%	4%	4%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Voter Enthusiasm				
Very excited	66%	72%	68%	49%
Somewhat excited	19%	17%	15%	28%
Not at all excited	15%	11%	16%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Familiar with Romney Comments?				
Familiar	89%	88%	89%	92%
Not familiar	11%	12%	11%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate				
Appropriate	44%	17%	82%	37%
Inappropriate	50%	78%	13%	58%
Not sure	5%	5%	5%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Comments: More/Less Likely to Vote for Him				
More likely	30%	18%	50%	20%
Less likely	35%	52%	8%	49%
No difference	31%	26%	39%	29%
Not sure	3%	5%	2%	2%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Should Romney Release Taxes?				
He should	52%	80%	14%	58%
He should not	39%	13%	75%	33%
Not sure	9%	7%	11%	9%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval					
Approve	51%	48%	43%	89%	61%
Disapprove	47%	52%	54%	8%	35%
Not sure	2%	-	3%	3%	4%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	44%	47%	51%	6%	37%
Unfavorable	51%	50%	44%	86%	59%
Not sure	5%	2%	5%	9%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	50%	49%	42%	87%	61%
Mitt Romney	46%	47%	53%	8%	35%
Undecided	4%	3%	4%	6%	4%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Trust More on Economy?					
Barack Obama	50%	46%	43%	88%	61%
Mitt Romney	46%	50%	53%	6%	35%
Not sure	5%	3%	4%	6%	3%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Trust More on Foreign Policy?					
Barack Obama	50%	48%	43%	88%	59%
Mitt Romney	45%	51%	53%	6%	35%
Not sure	4%	2%	5%	6%	6%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Voter Enthusiasm					
Very excited	66%	73%	60%	82%	82%
Somewhat excited	19%	21%	21%	6%	13%
Not at all excited	15%	6%	18%	13%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Familiar with Romney Comments?					
Familiar	89%	82%	91%	87%	91%
Not familiar	11%	18%	9%	13%	9%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Romney Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate					
Appropriate	44%	49%	50%	14%	43%
Inappropriate	50%	49%	46%	74%	49%
Not sure	5%	2%	4%	12%	8%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Romney Comments: More/Less Likely to Vote for Him					
More likely	30%	35%	32%	12%	38%
Less likely	35%	33%	34%	48%	24%
No difference	31%	27%	32%	34%	29%
Not sure	3%	6%	2%	6%	9%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Should Romney Release Taxes?					
He should	52%	50%	46%	86%	48%
He should not	39%	48%	44%	8%	31%
Not sure	9%	2%	10%	6%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	51%	45%	57%	53%	46%
Disapprove	47%	50%	43%	44%	51%
Not sure	2%	5%	-	3%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	44%	37%	40%	42%	52%
Unfavorable	51%	50%	56%	54%	44%
Not sure	5%	13%	4%	4%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	50%	50%	53%	53%	45%
Mitt Romney	46%	39%	43%	42%	53%
Undecided	4%	11%	4%	4%	2%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust More on Economy?					
Barack Obama	50%	50%	51%	54%	45%
Mitt Romney	46%	42%	44%	43%	50%
Not sure	5%	8%	5%	3%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust More on Foreign Policy?					
Barack Obama	50%	47%	52%	54%	47%
Mitt Romney	45%	42%	43%	43%	51%
Not sure	4%	11%	5%	4%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Voter Enthusiasm					
Very excited	66%	61%	70%	68%	64%
Somewhat excited	19%	19%	13%	18%	23%
Not at all excited	15%	19%	17%	15%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Familiar with Romney Comments?					
Familiar	89%	80%	91%	93%	88%
Not familiar	11%	20%	9%	7%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate					
Appropriate	44%	49%	46%	40%	46%
Inappropriate	50%	43%	52%	55%	47%
Not sure	5%	9%	1%	5%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Comments: More/Less Likely to Vote for Him					
More likely	30%	50%	30%	22%	32%
Less likely	35%	26%	32%	41%	35%
No difference	31%	15%	37%	36%	29%
Not sure	3%	9%	1%	2%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Should Romney Release Taxes?					
He should	52%	53%	55%	53%	48%
He should not	39%	38%	34%	38%	45%
Not sure	9%	9%	11%	9%	8%

