

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

Obama leads all Republicans in Iowa

Raleigh, N.C. – President Obama beat John McCain in Iowa by nine points in 2008. The state had gone red for President Bush in 2004, but, though always competitive, has otherwise been blue in every election since 1988. Yesterday's release showed Mike Huckabee and Mitt Romney as the leading Republicans in the early caucus race for 2012, and if the election were today, those two are the only ones who would give Obama a bigger run for his money than McCain did two years ago. Obama tops Huckabee by a slender 47-43 margin, and Romney by 47-41. But against Newt Gingrich, he would prevail, 51-38, and by 53-37 over Sarah Palin.

The difference comes with independents, who make up a full quarter of the electorate, with Democrats and Republicans splitting the rest evenly. Obama has a significant party-unity advantage against all four Republicans, taking 86-91% of his own party and holding each of them to 67-79% of the GOP. But while he leads with unaffiliated voters by a 49-34 margin over Gingrich and 49-38 over Palin, he actually trails Huckabee, 41-42, and leads Romney only 40-38. Huckabee and Romney do also hold Obama's crossover support down. While he takes 13% of Republicans to Gingrich's 5% of Democrats and 17% of Republicans to Palin's 6% of Democrats, the split against Huckabee is only 10-7, and 11-9 against Romney.

A majority of the state now approves of the president's job performance, giving him a 50-43 margin, a reversal of the 43-52 he posted the last time PPP polled the state, in late May 2010. In fact, only four out of the 37 states PPP has surveyed in the last year now give him a higher mark.

Each of the Republicans except Huckabee, however, is under water. Huckabee's 42-39 favorability grade makes him look golden next to Romney's 37-42, Gingrich's 30-49, and Palin's 34-59.

“In Iowa, we see the same two tiers of electability as in most other states: Mitt Romney and Mike Huckabee remaining competitive with President Obama, and Newt Gingrich and especially Sarah Palin headed for blowout defeats,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 1,077 Iowa voters from January 7th to 9th. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.0%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



Iowa Survey Results

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

Approve 50%
Disapprove..... 43%
Not sure 7%

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

Favorable..... 30%
Unfavorable 49%
Not sure 20%

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

Favorable..... 42%
Unfavorable 39%
Not sure 19%

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

Favorable..... 34%
Unfavorable 59%
Not sure 8%

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

Favorable..... 37%
Unfavorable 42%
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..... 51%
Newt Gingrich..... 38%
Undecided..... 11%

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

Barack Obama..... 47%
Mike Huckabee 43%
Undecided..... 10%

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

Barack Obama..... 53%
Sarah Palin 37%
Undecided..... 10%

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

Barack Obama..... 47%
Mitt Romney..... 41%
Undecided..... 12%

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

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

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

Woman 54%
Man..... 46%

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..... 37%
Republican..... 37%
Independent/Other..... 25%



Q13 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 94%
Other..... 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.

18 to 29..... 10%
30 to 45..... 28%
46 to 65..... 44%
Older than 65..... 18%



Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	50%	88%	64%	11%
Disapprove	43%	9%	27%	84%
Not sure	7%	3%	9%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	30%	12%	18%	57%
Unfavorable	49%	72%	61%	22%
Not sure	20%	16%	21%	22%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	42%	13%	34%	67%
Unfavorable	39%	72%	43%	18%
Not sure	19%	16%	23%	15%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	34%	9%	23%	60%
Unfavorable	59%	88%	71%	26%
Not sure	8%	2%	5%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	37%	16%	32%	54%
Unfavorable	42%	67%	46%	25%
Not sure	21%	17%	22%	21%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	51%	89%	66%	12%
Newt Gingrich	38%	9%	23%	73%
Undecided	11%	2%	11%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	47%	90%	60%	9%
Mike Huckabee	43%	5%	30%	80%
Undecided	10%	5%	10%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	53%	94%	68%	12%
Sarah Palin	37%	5%	24%	71%
Undecided	10%	1%	8%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	47%	87%	58%	10%
Mitt Romney	41%	9%	29%	75%
Undecided	12%	4%	13%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	50%	56%	43%
Disapprove	43%	37%	51%
Not sure	7%	8%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	30%	24%	38%
Unfavorable	49%	50%	49%
Not sure	20%	26%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Huckabee Favorability			
Favorable	42%	37%	47%
Unfavorable	39%	40%	39%
Not sure	19%	23%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	34%	26%	43%
Unfavorable	59%	67%	49%
Not sure	8%	7%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	37%	32%	42%
Unfavorable	42%	45%	40%
Not sure	21%	23%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	51%	59%	42%
Newt Gingrich	38%	31%	46%
Undecided	11%	10%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Huckabee			
Barack Obama	47%	56%	38%
Mike Huckabee	43%	36%	51%
Undecided	10%	8%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Palin			
Barack Obama	53%	62%	42%
Sarah Palin	37%	29%	46%
Undecided	10%	9%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	47%	56%	36%
Mitt Romney	41%	35%	48%
Undecided	12%	9%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	50%	87%	13%	49%
Disapprove	43%	8%	82%	40%
Not sure	7%	5%	5%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	30%	10%	54%	26%
Unfavorable	49%	73%	27%	48%
Not sure	20%	18%	19%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	42%	17%	68%	40%
Unfavorable	39%	62%	20%	34%
Not sure	19%	21%	11%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	34%	7%	60%	35%
Unfavorable	59%	90%	28%	56%
Not sure	8%	3%	12%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	37%	16%	59%	35%
Unfavorable	42%	62%	25%	39%
Not sure	21%	22%	16%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	51%	90%	13%	49%
Newt Gingrich	38%	5%	73%	34%
Undecided	11%	5%	13%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	47%	89%	10%	41%
Mike Huckabee	43%	7%	79%	42%
Undecided	10%	4%	11%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	53%	91%	17%	49%
Sarah Palin	37%	6%	67%	38%
Undecided	10%	3%	16%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	47%	86%	11%	40%
Mitt Romney	41%	9%	76%	38%
Undecided	12%	5%	13%	22%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama Approval			
Approve	50%	49%	71%
Disapprove	43%	45%	22%
Not sure	7%	6%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	30%	31%	19%
Unfavorable	49%	49%	53%
Not sure	20%	20%	28%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Huckabee Favorability			
Favorable	42%	44%	12%
Unfavorable	39%	38%	63%
Not sure	19%	18%	25%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	34%	35%	18%
Unfavorable	59%	57%	78%
Not sure	8%	8%	4%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	37%	38%	20%
Unfavorable	42%	41%	57%
Not sure	21%	21%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	51%	50%	67%
Newt Gingrich	38%	39%	23%
Undecided	11%	11%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Huckabee			
Barack Obama	47%	46%	67%
Mike Huckabee	43%	44%	24%
Undecided	10%	10%	9%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Palin			
Barack Obama	53%	52%	67%
Sarah Palin	37%	38%	21%
Undecided	10%	10%	11%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	47%	45%	66%
Mitt Romney	41%	42%	25%
Undecided	12%	12%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	50%	58%	54%	48%	45%
Disapprove	43%	37%	40%	45%	48%
Not sure	7%	5%	6%	7%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	30%	42%	24%	32%	32%
Unfavorable	49%	26%	54%	51%	50%
Not sure	20%	32%	22%	17%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	42%	32%	34%	47%	49%
Unfavorable	39%	53%	41%	37%	35%
Not sure	19%	16%	26%	16%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	34%	47%	27%	35%	32%
Unfavorable	59%	47%	65%	58%	57%
Not sure	8%	5%	8%	7%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	37%	26%	35%	36%	47%
Unfavorable	42%	47%	39%	47%	35%
Not sure	21%	26%	26%	17%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	51%	68%	51%	49%	47%
New t Gingrich	38%	26%	36%	40%	42%
Undecided	11%	5%	14%	11%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Huckabee					
Barack Obama	47%	58%	48%	46%	44%
Mike Huckabee	43%	32%	41%	45%	47%
Undecided	10%	11%	11%	9%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Palin					
Barack Obama	53%	58%	55%	51%	50%
Sarah Palin	37%	37%	36%	38%	37%
Undecided	10%	5%	9%	11%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	47%	53%	46%	47%	43%
Mitt Romney	41%	32%	43%	40%	47%
Undecided	12%	16%	11%	13%	10%

