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Obama Crushing Republican Field in Maine

Raleigh, N.C. – President Obama leads each of his potential Republican challengers in Maine by 15 points or more, a new poll from Public Policy Polling finds. The President leads Mitt Romney in Maine 58-35 (up from 49-38 the last time PPP polled the matchup in October), leads Rick Santorum 58-35, and leads Newt Gingrich 60-32 (up from 55-35 compared to last October). Ron Paul actually performs best against Obama but still loses by 16 points, 54-38.

The Republican candidates suffer from horrific favorability ratings. Mitt Romney is viewed favorably by just 30% of voters compared to 63% who view him unfavorably (down from 38-49 last October). Rick Santorum sits at 29% favorable and 63% unfavorable. Newt Gingrich sees the worst favorability rating of the group at 17% favorable and 74% unfavorable (somehow down even further compared to where he was last October at 25-63). Ron Paul once again performs best, with a 34% favorable and 54% unfavorable opinion rating (up slightly from 24-57 last October).

Meanwhile President Obama enjoys a healthy 55-41 positive job approval rating in Maine, up sharply from 47-48 the last time PPP polled Maine in October.

“Maine voters just flat-out don’t like any of the Republican candidates and that, combined with Obama’s improving job approval numbers, make Maine a lock for Democrats on the Presidential level this fall,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP also asked Republican primary voters who they would most like to see as the Republican candidate for President: 35% chose Mitt Romney, 30% said Santorum, 17% said Ron Paul, and 12% said Newt Gingrich.

PPP surveyed 1,256 Maine voters, including 369 Republican primary voters, from March 2nd to 4th. The margin of error is +/-2.8% for the entire survey and +/-5.1% for the Republican sample. 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.



Maine Survey Results

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

Approve 55%
Disapprove..... 41%
Not sure 5%

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

Favorable..... 17%
Unfavorable 74%
Not sure 9%

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

Favorable..... 34%
Unfavorable 54%
Not sure 11%

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

Favorable..... 30%
Unfavorable 63%
Not sure 7%

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

Favorable..... 29%
Unfavorable 63%
Not sure 9%

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

Barack Obama..... 60%
Newt Gingrich 32%
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..... 54%
Ron Paul..... 38%
Undecided..... 8%

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

Barack Obama..... 58%
Mitt Romney..... 35%
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..... 58%
Rick Santorum 35%
Undecided..... 7%

Q10 Given the choices of Newt Gingrich, Ron Paul, Mitt Romney, and Rick Santorum, who would you most like to see as the Republican candidate for President? (Asked of 369 Republican primary voters)

Newt Gingrich 12%
Ron Paul..... 17%
Mitt Romney..... 35%
Rick Santorum 30%
Not sure..... 7%

Q11 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 37%
Barack Obama..... 57%
Someone else/Don't remember 7%





Q12 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	14%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	21%
<i>Moderate</i>	31%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	21%
<i>Very conservative</i>	14%

Q13 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	50%
<i>Man</i>	50%

Q14 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>	43%
<i>Republican</i>	34%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	23%

Q15 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

<i>White</i>	95%
<i>Other</i>	5%

Q16 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>	24%
<i>46 to 65</i>	44%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	55%	10%	88%	22%
Disapprove	41%	87%	8%	63%
Not sure	5%	4%	4%	15%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	17%	38%	3%	24%
Unfavorable	74%	48%	92%	59%
Not sure	9%	14%	4%	16%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Paul Favorability				
Favorable	34%	34%	32%	54%
Unfavorable	54%	51%	59%	30%
Not sure	11%	15%	9%	16%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	30%	57%	13%	32%
Unfavorable	63%	35%	81%	54%
Not sure	7%	8%	6%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Santorum Favorability				
Favorable	29%	57%	9%	37%
Unfavorable	63%	32%	84%	46%
Not sure	9%	12%	6%	17%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	60%	13%	93%	36%
Newt Gingrich	32%	75%	3%	40%
Undecided	8%	12%	4%	24%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Paul				
Barack Obama	54%	11%	86%	21%
Ron Paul	38%	76%	10%	58%
Undecided	8%	13%	4%	21%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	58%	12%	90%	40%
Mitt Romney	35%	80%	6%	36%
Undecided	7%	8%	4%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Santorum				
Barack Obama	58%	13%	90%	33%
Rick Santorum	35%	78%	6%	44%
Undecided	7%	9%	4%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
2012 GOP Pres Preference				
Newt Gingrich	12%	15%	5%	2%
Ron Paul	17%	12%	29%	40%
Mitt Romney	35%	37%	28%	28%
Rick Santorum	30%	34%	17%	20%
Not sure	7%	3%	21%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval						
Approve	55%	84%	90%	68%	14%	3%
Disapprove	41%	13%	7%	25%	80%	94%
Not sure	5%	3%	3%	6%	7%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gingrich Favorability						
Favorable	17%	8%	2%	13%	27%	47%
Unfavorable	74%	88%	94%	81%	56%	39%
Not sure	9%	4%	4%	7%	17%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Paul Favorability						
Favorable	34%	21%	29%	41%	38%	36%
Unfavorable	54%	69%	62%	49%	43%	57%
Not sure	11%	9%	10%	10%	19%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	30%	11%	13%	28%	53%	48%
Unfavorable	63%	85%	81%	66%	37%	42%
Not sure	7%	4%	7%	6%	10%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Santorum Favorability						
Favorable	29%	11%	6%	19%	50%	71%
Unfavorable	63%	81%	89%	74%	33%	23%
Not sure	9%	8%	5%	8%	17%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Gingrich						
Barack Obama	60%	87%	92%	76%	21%	5%
Newt Gingrich	32%	7%	5%	16%	63%	87%
Undecided	8%	6%	3%	8%	16%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Paul						
Barack Obama	54%	85%	88%	65%	14%	6%
Ron Paul	38%	12%	10%	22%	72%	88%
Undecided	8%	3%	2%	13%	14%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Romney						
Barack Obama	58%	89%	92%	69%	19%	8%
Mitt Romney	35%	8%	5%	22%	71%	87%
Undecided	7%	4%	4%	9%	10%	5%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Santorum						
Barack Obama	58%	88%	92%	72%	18%	4%
Rick Santorum	35%	6%	4%	19%	73%	90%
Undecided	7%	5%	3%	9%	9%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Pres Preference						
Newt Gingrich	12%	-	3%	9%	14%	14%
Ron Paul	17%	23%	42%	23%	15%	11%
Mitt Romney	35%	8%	37%	39%	42%	25%
Rick Santorum	30%	60%	-	16%	22%	49%
Not sure	7%	8%	18%	13%	7%	1%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	55%	62%	48%
Disapprove	41%	34%	47%
Not sure	5%	4%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	17%	16%	19%
Unfavorable	74%	74%	74%
Not sure	9%	10%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Paul Favorability			
Favorable	34%	28%	40%
Unfavorable	54%	56%	52%
Not sure	11%	15%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	30%	27%	34%
Unfavorable	63%	65%	60%
Not sure	7%	8%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Santorum Favorability			
Favorable	29%	26%	31%
Unfavorable	63%	62%	63%
Not sure	9%	12%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	60%	66%	53%
Newt Gingrich	32%	25%	38%
Undecided	8%	8%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Paul			
Barack Obama	54%	63%	45%
Ron Paul	38%	28%	47%
Undecided	8%	9%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	58%	64%	52%
Mitt Romney	35%	30%	41%
Undecided	7%	6%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Santorum			
Barack Obama	58%	64%	52%
Rick Santorum	35%	29%	42%
Undecided	7%	7%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Pres Preference			
Newt Gingrich	12%	14%	11%
Ron Paul	17%	7%	24%
Mitt Romney	35%	36%	34%
Rick Santorum	30%	32%	29%
Not sure	7%	11%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	55%	86%	15%	54%
Disapprove	41%	10%	82%	38%
Not sure	5%	4%	4%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	17%	6%	35%	14%
Unfavorable	74%	90%	52%	76%
Not sure	9%	5%	13%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Paul Favorability				
Favorable	34%	27%	33%	49%
Unfavorable	54%	63%	54%	38%
Not sure	11%	9%	13%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	30%	14%	53%	29%
Unfavorable	63%	81%	39%	61%
Not sure	7%	5%	8%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Santorum Favorability				
Favorable	29%	11%	54%	25%
Unfavorable	63%	82%	37%	63%
Not sure	9%	7%	9%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	60%	92%	18%	61%
Newt Gingrich	32%	5%	71%	25%
Undecided	8%	3%	11%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Paul				
Barack Obama	54%	88%	16%	47%
Ron Paul	38%	9%	73%	41%
Undecided	8%	4%	11%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	58%	91%	16%	57%
Mitt Romney	35%	6%	76%	32%
Undecided	7%	3%	8%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Santorum				
Barack Obama	58%	91%	15%	58%
Rick Santorum	35%	6%	75%	31%
Undecided	7%	3%	10%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
2012 GOP Pres Preference				
Newt Gingrich	12%	16%	13%	5%
Ron Paul	17%	22%	13%	46%
Mitt Romney	35%	11%	36%	25%
Rick Santorum	30%	46%	31%	16%
Not sure	7%	6%	7%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama Approval			
Approve	55%	55%	58%
Disapprove	41%	41%	39%
Not sure	5%	5%	3%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	17%	17%	26%
Unfavorable	74%	74%	69%
Not sure	9%	9%	5%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Paul Favorability			
Favorable	34%	34%	33%
Unfavorable	54%	54%	56%
Not sure	11%	11%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	30%	30%	31%
Unfavorable	63%	62%	66%
Not sure	7%	7%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Santorum Favorability			
Favorable	29%	29%	26%
Unfavorable	63%	62%	68%
Not sure	9%	9%	7%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	60%	60%	61%
Newt Gingrich	32%	32%	37%
Undecided	8%	8%	2%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Paul			
Barack Obama	54%	54%	55%
Ron Paul	38%	37%	44%
Undecided	8%	9%	1%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	58%	58%	62%
Mitt Romney	35%	35%	37%
Undecided	7%	7%	1%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Santorum			
Barack Obama	58%	58%	61%
Rick Santorum	35%	35%	34%
Undecided	7%	7%	5%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
2012 GOP Pres Preference			
Newt Gingrich	12%	12%	6%
Ron Paul	17%	17%	18%
Mitt Romney	35%	34%	36%
Rick Santorum	30%	29%	39%
Not sure	7%	7%	-

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	55%	61%	44%	58%	57%
Disapprove	41%	37%	49%	38%	38%
Not sure	5%	2%	7%	4%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	17%	22%	17%	16%	20%
Unfavorable	74%	65%	74%	78%	70%
Not sure	9%	13%	10%	7%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Paul Favorability					
Favorable	34%	39%	44%	31%	27%
Unfavorable	54%	46%	46%	58%	60%
Not sure	11%	15%	10%	10%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	30%	26%	31%	30%	34%
Unfavorable	63%	70%	62%	64%	56%
Not sure	7%	4%	7%	7%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Santorum Favorability					
Favorable	29%	24%	36%	27%	26%
Unfavorable	63%	65%	57%	65%	63%
Not sure	9%	11%	8%	8%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	60%	63%	52%	63%	60%
Newt Gingrich	32%	30%	39%	29%	32%
Undecided	8%	7%	10%	8%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Paul					
Barack Obama	54%	48%	45%	59%	57%
Ron Paul	38%	43%	49%	32%	33%
Undecided	8%	9%	6%	9%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	58%	70%	48%	60%	58%
Mitt Romney	35%	24%	44%	34%	35%
Undecided	7%	7%	8%	6%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Santorum					
Barack Obama	58%	65%	50%	60%	58%
Rick Santorum	35%	28%	41%	34%	35%
Undecided	7%	7%	9%	6%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Pres Preference					
Newt Gingrich	12%	-	9%	15%	14%
Ron Paul	17%	40%	24%	10%	10%
Mitt Romney	35%	20%	26%	39%	45%
Rick Santorum	30%	40%	39%	25%	21%
Not sure	7%	-	2%	10%	10%

