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Maine won't be lobster red in 2012; Obama cruising

Raleigh, N.C. – President Obama's approval rating has dropped eight points since PPP last polled Maine in March, but he has actually improved against his potential foes, even his toughest challenger in this region and nationally, Mitt Romney.

47% of Maine voters approve and 48% disapprove of the president's job performance, down from a 51-44 margin seven months ago. But as almost everywhere, the Republicans are even less popular. With a -11 net favorability rating, Romney is the best liked of the Republican bunch, followed by Herman Cain's -14, and then in the distant background, Michele Bachmann's -32, Ron Paul's -33, Newt Gingrich's -38, and Rick Perry's shocking -50 (16-66). So the president leads them all by at least 11 points in a state he won by about 17 three years ago.

Obama tops Romney, 49-38, an improvement from only 49-41 in the previous poll. The others trail by at least as much as John McCain did: Cain by 17 (54-37); Paul by 19 (53-34); Gingrich by 20 (55-35), down from 16 (53-37) in March; Bachmann also by 20 (55-35); and Perry by 21 (55-34).

Though 17% of his party disapproves of his handling of his duties, and 13% of Republicans approve, and independents disapprove by a three-point spread, Obama improves on all those marks against every single GOP foe. He earns 13% (against Romney) to 19% (versus Paul and Bachmann) of the Republican vote and cedes only 8% (Gingrich and Perry) to 11% (Paul) of his own party, while winning independents by margins of 13 (Romney) to 34 points (Cain).

“Barack Obama probably doesn't need to worry about actually winning Maine,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But his being under water there in his approval numbers speaks to the difficulties he's having even in states that he won by wide margins in 2008.”

PPP surveyed 673 Maine voters from October 28th to 31st. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.8%. 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 47%
Disapprove..... 48%
Not sure 5%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Michele Bachmann?

Favorable..... 23%
Unfavorable 55%
Not sure 22%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Herman Cain?

Favorable..... 32%
Unfavorable 46%
Not sure 22%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Newt Gingrich?

Favorable..... 25%
Unfavorable 63%
Not sure 11%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Ron Paul?

Favorable..... 24%
Unfavorable 57%
Not sure 18%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rick Perry?

Favorable..... 16%
Unfavorable 66%
Not sure 18%

Q7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

Favorable..... 38%
Unfavorable 49%
Not sure 13%

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

Barack Obama..... 55%
Michele Bachmann 35%
Undecided..... 10%

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

Barack Obama..... 54%
Herman Cain..... 37%
Undecided..... 9%

Q10 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Newt Gingrich, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 55%
Newt Gingrich 35%
Undecided..... 9%

Q11 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Ron Paul, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 53%
Ron Paul..... 34%
Undecided..... 13%





Q12 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Rick Perry, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 55%
Rick Perry..... 34%
Undecided..... 11%

Q13 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 49%
Mitt Romney..... 38%
Undecided..... 12%

Q14 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 38%
Barack Obama..... 57%
Someone else/Don't remember 6%

Q15 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 11%
Somewhat liberal 23%
Moderate..... 33%
Somewhat conservative..... 19%
Very conservative 14%

Q16 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q17 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..... 41%
Republican..... 35%
Independent/Other..... 24%

Q18 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 94%
Other..... 6%

Q19 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..... 8%
30 to 45..... 23%
46 to 65..... 44%
Older than 65..... 24%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	47%	6%	77%	26%
Disapprove	48%	93%	16%	66%
Not sure	5%	1%	7%	8%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	23%	45%	8%	16%
Unfavorable	55%	31%	72%	47%
Not sure	22%	24%	20%	37%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Cain Favorability				
Favorable	32%	60%	14%	25%
Unfavorable	46%	21%	64%	41%
Not sure	22%	19%	22%	34%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	25%	57%	6%	15%
Unfavorable	63%	32%	85%	59%
Not sure	11%	12%	9%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Paul Favorability				
Favorable	24%	32%	17%	41%
Unfavorable	57%	49%	65%	36%
Not sure	18%	19%	18%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Perry Favorability				
Favorable	16%	31%	6%	21%
Unfavorable	66%	50%	79%	36%
Not sure	18%	19%	15%	43%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	38%	56%	25%	57%
Unfavorable	49%	35%	61%	21%
Not sure	13%	9%	14%	21%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Bachmann				
Barack Obama	55%	8%	89%	32%
Michele Bachmann	35%	80%	4%	40%
Undecided	10%	12%	7%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Cain				
Barack Obama	54%	7%	88%	26%
Herman Cain	37%	83%	5%	48%
Undecided	9%	10%	7%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	55%	8%	88%	40%
Newt Gingrich	35%	82%	5%	37%
Undecided	9%	11%	7%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Paul				
Barack Obama	53%	9%	85%	27%
Ron Paul	34%	73%	7%	46%
Undecided	13%	18%	9%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Perry				
Barack Obama	55%	9%	87%	32%
Rick Perry	34%	78%	4%	36%
Undecided	11%	13%	8%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	49%	5%	81%	26%
Mitt Romney	38%	84%	7%	51%
Undecided	12%	11%	12%	23%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval						
Approve	47%	69%	75%	56%	13%	8%
Disapprove	48%	23%	23%	35%	83%	92%
Not sure	5%	8%	2%	9%	4%	-

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bachmann Favorability						
Favorable	23%	6%	7%	17%	42%	50%
Unfavorable	55%	84%	75%	60%	31%	20%
Not sure	22%	10%	18%	23%	27%	30%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cain Favorability						
Favorable	32%	11%	12%	24%	61%	62%
Unfavorable	46%	72%	64%	52%	21%	16%
Not sure	22%	17%	24%	24%	18%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gingrich Favorability						
Favorable	25%	9%	5%	17%	51%	59%
Unfavorable	63%	86%	87%	72%	37%	22%
Not sure	11%	6%	8%	11%	13%	19%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Paul Favorability						
Favorable	24%	18%	14%	25%	30%	36%
Unfavorable	57%	74%	67%	56%	51%	40%
Not sure	18%	8%	19%	19%	19%	24%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Perry Favorability						
Favorable	16%	2%	5%	11%	31%	39%
Unfavorable	66%	92%	80%	70%	47%	37%
Not sure	18%	6%	15%	19%	22%	24%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	38%	19%	26%	39%	54%	49%
Unfavorable	49%	74%	60%	46%	35%	37%
Not sure	13%	7%	14%	15%	11%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Bachmann						
Barack Obama	55%	82%	90%	65%	15%	7%
Michele Bachmann	35%	15%	5%	21%	71%	84%
Undecided	10%	4%	4%	14%	14%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Cain						
Barack Obama	54%	81%	87%	63%	17%	8%
Herman Cain	37%	15%	6%	25%	73%	84%
Undecided	9%	3%	7%	12%	11%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Gingrich						
Barack Obama	55%	85%	88%	65%	16%	7%
Newt Gingrich	35%	13%	5%	22%	73%	84%
Undecided	9%	2%	7%	13%	11%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Paul						
Barack Obama	53%	81%	89%	59%	17%	5%
Ron Paul	34%	11%	5%	25%	63%	81%
Undecided	13%	8%	6%	16%	20%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Perry						
Barack Obama	55%	83%	90%	62%	18%	6%
Rick Perry	34%	17%	5%	19%	66%	87%
Undecided	11%	1%	5%	18%	16%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Romney						
Barack Obama	49%	78%	82%	53%	18%	7%
Mitt Romney	38%	17%	9%	27%	71%	86%
Undecided	12%	5%	9%	20%	12%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	47%	54%	39%
Disapprove	48%	38%	59%
Not sure	5%	8%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bachmann Favorability			
Favorable	23%	17%	29%
Unfavorable	55%	56%	54%
Not sure	22%	27%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cain Favorability			
Favorable	32%	22%	43%
Unfavorable	46%	52%	39%
Not sure	22%	25%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	25%	20%	32%
Unfavorable	63%	65%	62%
Not sure	11%	15%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Paul Favorability			
Favorable	24%	17%	32%
Unfavorable	57%	60%	55%
Not sure	18%	23%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perry Favorability			
Favorable	16%	13%	20%
Unfavorable	66%	65%	67%
Not sure	18%	22%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	38%	33%	44%
Unfavorable	49%	50%	47%
Not sure	13%	16%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Bachmann			
Barack Obama	55%	63%	47%
Michele Bachmann	35%	27%	44%
Undecided	10%	11%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Cain			
Barack Obama	54%	61%	46%
Herman Cain	37%	30%	45%
Undecided	9%	9%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	55%	63%	47%
Newt Gingrich	35%	27%	45%
Undecided	9%	10%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Paul			
Barack Obama	53%	62%	43%
Ron Paul	34%	24%	46%
Undecided	13%	15%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Perry			
Barack Obama	55%	60%	49%
Rick Perry	34%	27%	42%
Undecided	11%	13%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	49%	57%	41%
Mitt Romney	38%	30%	48%
Undecided	12%	13%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	47%	75%	13%	46%
Disapprove	48%	17%	85%	49%
Not sure	5%	8%	2%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	23%	9%	41%	20%
Unfavorable	55%	71%	35%	56%
Not sure	22%	19%	24%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cain Favorability				
Favorable	32%	13%	57%	29%
Unfavorable	46%	66%	24%	44%
Not sure	22%	21%	19%	27%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	25%	10%	48%	20%
Unfavorable	63%	81%	41%	66%
Not sure	11%	9%	11%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Paul Favorability				
Favorable	24%	18%	30%	27%
Unfavorable	57%	67%	52%	49%
Not sure	18%	16%	17%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perry Favorability				
Favorable	16%	8%	30%	10%
Unfavorable	66%	78%	50%	68%
Not sure	18%	14%	20%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	38%	25%	54%	37%
Unfavorable	49%	61%	36%	46%
Not sure	13%	14%	9%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Bachmann				
Barack Obama	55%	84%	19%	58%
Michele Bachmann	35%	10%	71%	26%
Undecided	10%	6%	10%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Cain				
Barack Obama	54%	84%	17%	56%
Herman Cain	37%	9%	73%	32%
Undecided	9%	7%	9%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	55%	86%	17%	57%
Newt Gingrich	35%	8%	75%	26%
Undecided	9%	6%	8%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Paul				
Barack Obama	53%	82%	19%	52%
Ron Paul	34%	11%	65%	28%
Undecided	13%	7%	16%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Perry				
Barack Obama	55%	84%	17%	58%
Rick Perry	34%	8%	70%	26%
Undecided	11%	8%	12%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	49%	81%	13%	47%
Mitt Romney	38%	10%	75%	34%
Undecided	12%	9%	12%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama Approval			
Approve	47%	46%	63%
Disapprove	48%	49%	33%
Not sure	5%	5%	4%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Bachmann Favorability			
Favorable	23%	23%	21%
Unfavorable	55%	55%	55%
Not sure	22%	22%	25%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Cain Favorability			
Favorable	32%	32%	42%
Unfavorable	46%	46%	48%
Not sure	22%	22%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	25%	26%	24%
Unfavorable	63%	63%	64%
Not sure	11%	11%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Paul Favorability			
Favorable	24%	24%	31%
Unfavorable	57%	57%	60%
Not sure	18%	19%	9%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Perry Favorability			
Favorable	16%	16%	12%
Unfavorable	66%	66%	61%
Not sure	18%	17%	27%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	38%	37%	56%
Unfavorable	49%	49%	40%
Not sure	13%	13%	4%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Bachmann			
Barack Obama	55%	55%	58%
Michele Bachmann	35%	35%	33%
Undecided	10%	10%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Cain			
Barack Obama	54%	54%	63%
Herman Cain	37%	37%	26%
Undecided	9%	9%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	55%	55%	59%
Newt Gingrich	35%	36%	34%
Undecided	9%	10%	6%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Paul			
Barack Obama	53%	53%	59%
Ron Paul	34%	34%	29%
Undecided	13%	13%	12%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Perry			
Barack Obama	55%	55%	59%
Rick Perry	34%	34%	31%
Undecided	11%	11%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	49%	49%	58%
Mitt Romney	38%	39%	30%
Undecided	12%	12%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	47%	37%	39%	53%	47%
Disapprove	48%	53%	58%	43%	47%
Not sure	5%	11%	3%	4%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bachmann Favorability					
Favorable	23%	37%	29%	19%	19%
Unfavorable	55%	47%	43%	61%	59%
Not sure	22%	16%	28%	21%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cain Favorability					
Favorable	32%	28%	38%	30%	32%
Unfavorable	46%	56%	32%	48%	53%
Not sure	22%	17%	30%	22%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	25%	32%	32%	21%	25%
Unfavorable	63%	58%	55%	67%	66%
Not sure	11%	11%	13%	11%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Paul Favorability					
Favorable	24%	47%	26%	22%	18%
Unfavorable	57%	47%	46%	60%	66%
Not sure	18%	5%	28%	18%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perry Favorability					
Favorable	16%	37%	16%	14%	14%
Unfavorable	66%	42%	58%	69%	75%
Not sure	18%	21%	26%	17%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	38%	42%	42%	33%	43%
Unfavorable	49%	42%	45%	54%	47%
Not sure	13%	16%	13%	14%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Bachmann					
Barack Obama	55%	53%	42%	61%	57%
Michele Bachmann	35%	37%	45%	31%	33%
Undecided	10%	11%	13%	8%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Cain					
Barack Obama	54%	47%	45%	59%	55%
Herman Cain	37%	42%	48%	31%	35%
Undecided	9%	11%	7%	9%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	55%	53%	42%	60%	59%
Newt Gingrich	35%	37%	48%	31%	31%
Undecided	9%	11%	10%	9%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Paul					
Barack Obama	53%	58%	42%	57%	54%
Ron Paul	34%	32%	45%	31%	30%
Undecided	13%	11%	13%	12%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Perry					
Barack Obama	55%	47%	42%	61%	59%
Rick Perry	34%	37%	46%	29%	30%
Undecided	11%	16%	12%	10%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	49%	42%	41%	54%	51%
Mitt Romney	38%	37%	43%	35%	40%
Undecided	12%	21%	16%	11%	9%

