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Gingrich, Romney down by double digits in Minnesota

Raleigh, N.C. – President Obama is not whalloping Mitt Romney and Newt Gingrich in Minnesota like he was when PPP last polled the state last May, a few weeks after Osama Bin Laden was killed. That was the high point of Obama’s standing last year. But in PPP’s latest survey of the Gopher State, the president still looks like he is set to win the state by a similar margin as in 2008, when he defeated John McCain by 10 points here.

In fact, Obama leads Romney by that same spread now (51-41), down five points from eight months ago (51-36). But no one else does any better. Gingrich lags by 15 (54-39), versus 18 (54-36). Rick Santorum and Ron Paul were not tested last time, and they trail by respective 12- (52-40) and 13-point margins (51-38).

Wednesday’s results showed the former speaker winning the caucus race by a 2:1 margin over Romney. But he finds the most disfavor among voters in the general election, with the worst favorability rating and the biggest deficit to Obama. Only 27% of Minnesotans see him positively, and 60% negatively. The others are all also very disliked personally, but not to the same extent. Santorum is the most popular, at 30-50, followed by Paul (29-53) and Romney (29-56). The president’s approval rating stands at 49-45, down a tick from 51-44 last May.

Gingrich is by far the most disliked by Democrats, who make up a narrow plurality of the electorate, and independents, who are almost a third of voters. So he lags the president by the most with independents (17 points) and Democrats (93). Obama leads Santorum by 13 with independents, Romney by nine, and Paul by six. Gingrich also cedes the second highest proportion of GOP voters to the president, at 11% to Paul’s 12%, Santorum’s 10%, and Romney’s 8%.

“This is another reminder of what a disastrous nominee Gingrich would be,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 1,236 Minnesota voters on January 21st and 22nd. The margin of error for the survey is +/-2.8%. 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.



Minnesota Survey Results

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

Approve 49%
Disapprove..... 45%
Not sure 6%

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

Favorable..... 27%
Unfavorable 60%
Not sure 13%

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

Favorable..... 29%
Unfavorable 53%
Not sure 18%

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

Favorable..... 29%
Unfavorable 56%
Not sure 15%

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

Favorable..... 30%
Unfavorable 50%
Not sure 19%

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

Barack Obama..... 54%
Newt Gingrich..... 39%
Undecided..... 7%

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

Barack Obama..... 51%
Ron Paul..... 38%
Undecided..... 11%

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

Barack Obama..... 51%
Mitt Romney..... 41%
Undecided..... 8%

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

Barack Obama..... 52%
Rick Santorum 40%
Undecided..... 8%

Q10 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 42%
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..... 11%
Somewhat liberal 22%
Moderate..... 29%
Somewhat conservative..... 22%
Very conservative 16%

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..... 33%
Independent/Other..... 32%

Q14 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 92%
Other..... 8%

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..... 12%
30 to 45..... 32%
46 to 65..... 36%
Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	49%	7%	85%	41%
Disapprove	45%	88%	8%	53%
Not sure	6%	4%	7%	6%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	27%	53%	7%	20%
Unfavorable	60%	31%	84%	60%
Not sure	13%	16%	9%	20%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Paul Favorability				
Favorable	29%	33%	24%	43%
Unfavorable	53%	46%	61%	38%
Not sure	18%	20%	15%	19%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	29%	48%	14%	17%
Unfavorable	56%	35%	72%	67%
Not sure	15%	17%	14%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Santorum Favorability				
Favorable	30%	54%	11%	32%
Unfavorable	50%	24%	73%	42%
Not sure	19%	22%	16%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	54%	10%	93%	33%
Newt Gingrich	39%	82%	4%	35%
Undecided	7%	8%	3%	32%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Paul				
Barack Obama	51%	10%	87%	34%
Ron Paul	38%	73%	9%	37%
Undecided	11%	17%	4%	29%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	51%	7%	89%	37%
Mitt Romney	41%	85%	6%	28%
Undecided	8%	8%	5%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Santorum				
Barack Obama	52%	9%	90%	28%
Rick Santorum	40%	83%	4%	41%
Undecided	8%	9%	5%	31%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval						
Approve	49%	83%	84%	63%	15%	5%
Disapprove	45%	11%	10%	29%	81%	92%
Not sure	6%	6%	6%	8%	4%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gingrich Favorability						
Favorable	27%	6%	9%	18%	44%	58%
Unfavorable	60%	87%	83%	70%	37%	27%
Not sure	13%	7%	8%	12%	19%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Paul Favorability						
Favorable	29%	19%	22%	30%	34%	35%
Unfavorable	53%	74%	59%	50%	47%	46%
Not sure	18%	6%	19%	20%	18%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	29%	9%	17%	25%	45%	44%
Unfavorable	56%	85%	73%	57%	37%	40%
Not sure	15%	6%	11%	19%	18%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Santorum Favorability						
Favorable	30%	7%	13%	21%	46%	62%
Unfavorable	50%	85%	74%	55%	26%	20%
Not sure	19%	8%	13%	23%	27%	17%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Gingrich						
Barack Obama	54%	89%	89%	71%	16%	7%
New t Gingrich	39%	6%	8%	19%	74%	87%
Undecided	7%	5%	3%	10%	9%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Paul						
Barack Obama	51%	88%	85%	65%	16%	5%
Ron Paul	38%	9%	11%	22%	69%	76%
Undecided	11%	4%	4%	12%	14%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Romney						
Barack Obama	51%	90%	89%	63%	13%	5%
Mitt Romney	41%	5%	8%	26%	77%	83%
Undecided	8%	5%	3%	11%	10%	11%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Santorum						
Barack Obama	52%	90%	85%	69%	15%	4%
Rick Santorum	40%	4%	8%	21%	75%	90%
Undecided	8%	6%	7%	10%	10%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	49%	56%	42%
Disapprove	45%	37%	53%
Not sure	6%	7%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	27%	19%	36%
Unfavorable	60%	65%	55%
Not sure	13%	16%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Paul Favorability			
Favorable	29%	24%	35%
Unfavorable	53%	54%	52%
Not sure	18%	22%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	29%	26%	31%
Unfavorable	56%	54%	59%
Not sure	15%	20%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Santorum Favorability			
Favorable	30%	27%	34%
Unfavorable	50%	48%	52%
Not sure	19%	25%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	54%	60%	47%
Newt Gingrich	39%	33%	45%
Undecided	7%	7%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Paul			
Barack Obama	51%	58%	43%
Ron Paul	38%	31%	45%
Undecided	11%	11%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	51%	58%	44%
Mitt Romney	41%	34%	48%
Undecided	8%	8%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Santorum			
Barack Obama	52%	58%	46%
Rick Santorum	40%	33%	47%
Undecided	8%	10%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	49%	90%	11%	43%
Disapprove	45%	4%	87%	48%
Not sure	6%	6%	2%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	27%	5%	55%	25%
Unfavorable	60%	87%	31%	59%
Not sure	13%	8%	14%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Paul Favorability				
Favorable	29%	19%	34%	36%
Unfavorable	53%	67%	49%	43%
Not sure	18%	15%	17%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	29%	11%	52%	25%
Unfavorable	56%	77%	35%	54%
Not sure	15%	12%	13%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Santorum Favorability				
Favorable	30%	10%	53%	29%
Unfavorable	50%	75%	25%	49%
Not sure	19%	14%	22%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	54%	95%	11%	52%
Newt Gingrich	39%	2%	84%	35%
Undecided	7%	3%	5%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Paul				
Barack Obama	51%	92%	12%	45%
Ron Paul	38%	4%	73%	39%
Undecided	11%	4%	15%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	51%	94%	8%	47%
Mitt Romney	41%	3%	85%	38%
Undecided	8%	3%	7%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Santorum				
Barack Obama	52%	93%	10%	49%
Rick Santorum	40%	3%	84%	36%
Undecided	8%	4%	7%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama Approval			
Approve	49%	49%	58%
Disapprove	45%	46%	35%
Not sure	6%	6%	7%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	27%	28%	22%
Unfavorable	60%	60%	57%
Not sure	13%	12%	21%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Paul Favorability			
Favorable	29%	29%	33%
Unfavorable	53%	53%	54%
Not sure	18%	18%	13%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	29%	30%	15%
Unfavorable	56%	55%	65%
Not sure	15%	15%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Santorum Favorability			
Favorable	30%	30%	29%
Unfavorable	50%	50%	54%
Not sure	19%	20%	17%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	54%	53%	65%
Newt Gingrich	39%	40%	29%
Undecided	7%	7%	6%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Paul			
Barack Obama	51%	50%	60%
Ron Paul	38%	38%	30%
Undecided	11%	11%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	51%	50%	65%
Mitt Romney	41%	42%	29%
Undecided	8%	8%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Santorum			
Barack Obama	52%	51%	62%
Rick Santorum	40%	40%	34%
Undecided	8%	9%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	49%	58%	46%	49%	51%
Disapprove	45%	35%	49%	46%	42%
Not sure	6%	7%	5%	5%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	27%	18%	26%	31%	29%
Unfavorable	60%	53%	65%	59%	58%
Not sure	13%	30%	9%	10%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Paul Favorability					
Favorable	29%	27%	34%	29%	23%
Unfavorable	53%	46%	51%	54%	60%
Not sure	18%	27%	15%	17%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	29%	16%	28%	30%	35%
Unfavorable	56%	62%	61%	54%	50%
Not sure	15%	22%	11%	16%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Santorum Favorability					
Favorable	30%	20%	29%	33%	33%
Unfavorable	50%	50%	55%	50%	45%
Not sure	19%	30%	16%	18%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	54%	61%	53%	52%	54%
Newt Gingrich	39%	32%	43%	39%	37%
Undecided	7%	7%	4%	9%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Paul					
Barack Obama	51%	61%	47%	50%	52%
Ron Paul	38%	32%	43%	38%	32%
Undecided	11%	7%	10%	11%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	51%	64%	48%	49%	51%
Mitt Romney	41%	28%	46%	41%	39%
Undecided	8%	8%	6%	9%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Santorum					
Barack Obama	52%	61%	50%	51%	51%
Rick Santorum	40%	32%	43%	41%	38%
Undecided	8%	7%	7%	9%	11%

