

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL
information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH
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Obama safe in Minnesota

Raleigh, N.C. – President Obama beat John McCain in Minnesota by about 10 points four years ago, and he now leads Mitt Romney by even more.

When PPP last polled the state in January, around when primary voting kicked off and Romney was not the inevitable nominee, Obama already led Romney by an identical margin as in 2008 (51-41). As supporters of the other Republican candidates have come around to accepting Romney, his position has improved a little elsewhere. But not in Minnesota. Romney now trails by 15 points (54-39).

Just as is the case in the shift against the marriage amendment and toward marriage equality, all the movement for Obama has come with independents. Democrats and Republicans are already polarized, with 94% of Democrats pledging for Obama and 88% of Republicans for Romney. But independents have moved from favoring Obama by nine points in January to 23 now.

The reason for that is that while Romney has gotten a little more popular overall, it is all because of Republicans rallying around the flag. But independents dislike him by the same net 30 points as in the last poll. At the same time, they have become more fond of the president, flipping from a net -5 approval spread to +16, moving his overall mark from 49-45 to 52-43. That compares very well to Romney's 32-54 favorability.

“Minnesota is not going to be a swing state this fall,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Barack Obama's standing is very solid there right now and it was one of Mitt Romney's weakest states during the GOP primary season.”

And no Minnesotan running mate would help Romney make up much ground. His erstwhile opponent Tim Pawlenty would close the gap to 11 points (52-41), but he is not very popular (37% favorable, 52% unfavorable). Norm Coleman would keep it right at 15 points (52-37). Coleman is just narrowly unpopular in retirement (38-41). The most disastrous pick for Romney would be Michele Bachmann, who would give Obama a 21-point lead (56-35). She is disliked statewide by an almost 2:1 margin (33-60).

PPP surveyed 973 Minnesota voters from May 31st to June 3rd. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.1%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.



Minnesota Survey Results

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

Approve 52%
Disapprove..... 43%
Not sure 4%

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

Favorable..... 32%
Unfavorable 54%
Not sure 14%

Q3 If the candidates for President this year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 54%
Mitt Romney..... 39%
Undecided..... 7%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tim Pawlenty?

Favorable..... 37%
Unfavorable 52%
Not sure 11%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Michele Bachmann?

Favorable..... 33%
Unfavorable 60%
Not sure 7%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Norm Coleman?

Favorable..... 38%
Unfavorable 41%
Not sure 21%

Q7 If the Democratic ticket for President was Barack Obama and Joe Biden, and the Republican ticket was Mitt Romney and Tim Pawlenty, which would you vote for?

Obama-Biden..... 52%
Romney-Pawlenty..... 41%
Not sure..... 7%

Q8 If the Democratic ticket for President was Barack Obama and Joe Biden, and the Republican ticket was Mitt Romney and Michele Bachmann, which would you vote for?

Obama-Biden..... 56%
Romney-Bachmann 35%
Not sure..... 10%

Q9 If the Democratic ticket for President was Barack Obama and Joe Biden, and the Republican ticket was Mitt Romney and Norm Coleman, which would you vote for?

Obama-Biden..... 52%
Romney-Coleman..... 37%
Not sure..... 11%

Q10 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 41%
Barack Obama..... 50%
Someone else/Don't remember 8%

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

Very liberal..... 11%
Somewhat liberal 20%
Moderate..... 32%
Somewhat conservative..... 20%
Very conservative 16%





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

Woman 50%

Man..... 50%

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 35%

Republican..... 31%

Independent/Other..... 34%

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

White 90%

Other..... 10%

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..... 30%

46 to 65..... 38%

Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	52%	12%	90%	27%
Disapprove	43%	84%	8%	57%
Not sure	4%	4%	2%	16%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	32%	62%	8%	32%
Unfavorable	54%	22%	83%	37%
Not sure	14%	16%	8%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	54%	12%	90%	36%
Mitt Romney	39%	80%	7%	40%
Undecided	7%	8%	3%	24%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Pawlenty Favorability				
Favorable	37%	67%	14%	29%
Unfavorable	52%	22%	78%	46%
Not sure	11%	11%	8%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	33%	63%	8%	35%
Unfavorable	60%	25%	89%	50%
Not sure	7%	11%	3%	16%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Coleman Favorability				
Favorable	38%	58%	23%	38%
Unfavorable	41%	22%	57%	33%
Not sure	21%	20%	21%	29%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama-Biden/Romney-Pawlenty				
Obama-Biden	52%	10%	89%	33%
Romney-Pawlenty	41%	81%	8%	46%
Not sure	7%	9%	3%	21%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama-Biden/Romney-Bachmann				
Obama-Biden	56%	14%	93%	36%
Romney-Bachmann	35%	71%	5%	39%
Not sure	10%	15%	3%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama-Biden/Romney-Coleman				
Obama-Biden	52%	11%	89%	35%
Romney-Coleman	37%	74%	6%	38%
Not sure	11%	16%	4%	27%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval						
Approve	52%	94%	88%	65%	12%	7%
Disapprove	43%	4%	9%	29%	81%	92%
Not sure	4%	2%	3%	6%	7%	1%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	32%	3%	10%	21%	58%	69%
Unfavorable	54%	93%	80%	64%	20%	20%
Not sure	14%	4%	10%	15%	22%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Romney						
Barack Obama	54%	96%	91%	68%	12%	4%
Mitt Romney	39%	3%	6%	22%	81%	86%
Undecided	7%	1%	2%	10%	7%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Pawlenty Favorability						
Favorable	37%	8%	11%	29%	64%	70%
Unfavorable	52%	86%	78%	60%	21%	19%
Not sure	11%	5%	10%	11%	15%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bachmann Favorability						
Favorable	33%	9%	5%	15%	59%	86%
Unfavorable	60%	88%	91%	78%	26%	9%
Not sure	7%	3%	4%	7%	15%	5%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Coleman Favorability						
Favorable	38%	13%	17%	38%	54%	62%
Unfavorable	41%	78%	58%	39%	22%	21%
Not sure	21%	9%	25%	23%	24%	17%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama-Biden/Romney-Pawlenty						
Obama-Biden	52%	98%	89%	64%	11%	4%
Romney-Pawlenty	41%	2%	6%	27%	82%	87%
Not sure	7%	-	5%	10%	7%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama-Biden/Romney-Bachmann						
Obama-Biden	56%	98%	93%	72%	14%	3%
Romney-Bachmann	35%	2%	4%	16%	69%	88%
Not sure	10%	-	3%	13%	17%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama-Biden/Romney-Coleman						
Obama-Biden	52%	97%	91%	65%	11%	4%
Romney-Coleman	37%	3%	5%	21%	77%	79%
Not sure	11%	1%	5%	14%	13%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	52%	53%	52%
Disapprove	43%	42%	45%
Not sure	4%	5%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	32%	29%	36%
Unfavorable	54%	55%	53%
Not sure	14%	16%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	54%	56%	52%
Mitt Romney	39%	38%	41%
Undecided	7%	7%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Pawlenty Favorability			
Favorable	37%	37%	37%
Unfavorable	52%	49%	55%
Not sure	11%	14%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bachmann Favorability			
Favorable	33%	30%	36%
Unfavorable	60%	60%	59%
Not sure	7%	9%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Coleman Favorability			
Favorable	38%	36%	41%
Unfavorable	41%	38%	43%
Not sure	21%	26%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama-Biden/Romney-Pawlenty			
Obama-Biden	52%	53%	51%
Romney-Pawlenty	41%	40%	42%
Not sure	7%	7%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama-Biden/Romney-Bachmann			
Obama-Biden	56%	57%	54%
Romney-Bachmann	35%	34%	36%
Not sure	10%	9%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama-Biden/Romney-Coleman			
Obama-Biden	52%	54%	51%
Romney-Coleman	37%	35%	38%
Not sure	11%	11%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	52%	91%	7%	54%
Disapprove	43%	6%	91%	38%
Not sure	4%	3%	2%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	32%	5%	71%	26%
Unfavorable	54%	87%	15%	56%
Not sure	14%	8%	14%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	54%	94%	6%	55%
Mitt Romney	39%	4%	88%	32%
Undecided	7%	2%	6%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Pawlenty Favorability				
Favorable	37%	12%	72%	32%
Unfavorable	52%	80%	16%	56%
Not sure	11%	9%	12%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	33%	8%	69%	26%
Unfavorable	60%	89%	18%	67%
Not sure	7%	3%	12%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Coleman Favorability				
Favorable	38%	20%	58%	39%
Unfavorable	41%	57%	24%	38%
Not sure	21%	23%	17%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Pawlenty				
Obama-Biden	52%	93%	6%	52%
Romney-Pawlenty	41%	4%	90%	35%
Not sure	7%	4%	4%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Bachmann				
Obama-Biden	56%	94%	7%	61%
Romney-Bachmann	35%	3%	80%	26%
Not sure	10%	3%	13%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Coleman				
Obama-Biden	52%	94%	5%	53%
Romney-Coleman	37%	4%	82%	30%
Not sure	11%	3%	13%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama Approval			
Approve	52%	53%	47%
Disapprove	43%	43%	50%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	32%	31%	48%
Unfavorable	54%	55%	42%
Not sure	14%	14%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	54%	54%	53%
Mitt Romney	39%	39%	41%
Undecided	7%	7%	6%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Pawlenty Favorability			
Favorable	37%	38%	30%
Unfavorable	52%	52%	49%
Not sure	11%	10%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Bachmann Favorability			
Favorable	33%	32%	46%
Unfavorable	60%	61%	45%
Not sure	7%	7%	9%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Coleman Favorability			
Favorable	38%	38%	42%
Unfavorable	41%	41%	36%
Not sure	21%	21%	21%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Pawlenty			
Obama-Biden	52%	52%	48%
Romney-Pawlenty	41%	41%	44%
Not sure	7%	7%	8%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Bachmann			
Obama-Biden	56%	57%	48%
Romney-Bachmann	35%	34%	46%
Not sure	10%	10%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Coleman			
Obama-Biden	52%	53%	48%
Romney-Coleman	37%	36%	39%
Not sure	11%	11%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	52%	64%	49%	52%	53%
Disapprove	43%	34%	46%	45%	43%
Not sure	4%	2%	5%	4%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	32%	29%	31%	32%	38%
Unfavorable	54%	64%	51%	56%	48%
Not sure	14%	7%	17%	12%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	54%	66%	52%	52%	52%
Mitt Romney	39%	25%	45%	39%	40%
Undecided	7%	9%	3%	9%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Pawlenty Favorability					
Favorable	37%	34%	37%	37%	39%
Unfavorable	52%	55%	53%	54%	46%
Not sure	11%	11%	10%	9%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bachmann Favorability					
Favorable	33%	30%	31%	34%	35%
Unfavorable	60%	63%	59%	61%	57%
Not sure	7%	7%	10%	5%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Coleman Favorability					
Favorable	38%	38%	37%	40%	38%
Unfavorable	41%	41%	40%	41%	40%
Not sure	21%	21%	23%	19%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama-Biden/Romney-Pawlenty					
Obama-Biden	52%	63%	49%	51%	52%
Romney-Pawlenty	41%	30%	44%	42%	43%
Not sure	7%	7%	8%	7%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama-Biden/Romney-Bachmann					
Obama-Biden	56%	64%	56%	54%	54%
Romney-Bachmann	35%	27%	36%	36%	36%
Not sure	10%	9%	8%	11%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama-Biden/Romney-Coleman					
Obama-Biden	52%	63%	51%	51%	52%
Romney-Coleman	37%	23%	40%	39%	37%
Not sure	11%	14%	10%	11%	11%

