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**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL [information@publicpolicypolling.com](mailto:information@publicpolicypolling.com), OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

## **Missouri close, but Obama trails Romney by 2, Perry by 4**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Though it was the closest state in the country, Missouri lost its bellwether status in 2008, choosing John McCain over Barack Obama. The president has to hope he has truly broken the trend and that 2008 was not a blip on the radar. The state has moved a little further right in the last three years, and Obama would probably lose if the election were today, and by a slightly larger margin than he did in 2008.

Obama's standing is a mirror image—trailing Mitt Romney, 47-43, but leading Michele Bachmann by that same margin, and lagging Rick Perry, 47-45, while beating Newt Gingrich by that amount. The two parties are pretty identically united behind their respective candidates, so the 30% of the electorate that claims neither label makes the difference, favoring Obama by six over Perry but Romney by three over Obama. The president leads by double digits against the other two.

Obama has the same approval rating—43% approving and 53% disapproving—as when PPP last polled the state in early May, and the same as in the next closest 2008 state, North Carolina, which Obama barely won, and where he now ties or just leads his opponents. But even though he does better with Missouri Democrats and independents than their Tar Heel counterparts, he does worse overall because there are fewer Democrats and African Americans here than there.

Poll respondents report having voted for McCain by three points, when the real result was essentially a tie. That means the turnout environment today is weaker for Obama, as it is in most states, a large part of the reason he has lost ground in states around the country. .

“Missouri is still within reach for Barack Obama in 2012,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But given that it's not part of the path to 270 electoral votes and that the overall race is probably going to be closer than in 2008 he may not have the time and resources to really try to win the state the way he did last time.”

PPP surveyed 632 Missouri voters from September 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.9%. 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.



## Missouri Survey Results

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

*Approve* ..... 43%  
*Disapprove*..... 53%  
*Not sure* ..... 4%

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

*Favorable*..... 30%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 49%  
*Not sure* ..... 21%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Newt Gingrich?

*Favorable*..... 25%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 60%  
*Not sure* ..... 15%

**Q4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rick Perry?

*Favorable*..... 33%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 43%  
*Not sure* ..... 23%

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

*Favorable*..... 28%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 51%  
*Not sure* ..... 21%

**Q6** If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Michele Bachmann, who would you vote for?

*Barack Obama*..... 47%  
*Michele Bachmann* ..... 43%  
*Undecided*..... 10%

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

*Barack Obama*..... 47%  
*Newt Gingrich* ..... 45%  
*Undecided*..... 8%

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

*Barack Obama*..... 45%  
*Rick Perry* ..... 47%  
*Undecided*..... 8%

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

*Barack Obama*..... 43%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 47%  
*Undecided*..... 10%

**Q10** Who did you vote for President in 2008?

*John McCain*..... 48%  
*Barack Obama*..... 45%  
*Someone else/Don't remember* ..... 7%

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

*Very liberal*..... 10%  
*Somewhat liberal* ..... 14%  
*Moderate*..... 27%  
*Somewhat conservative*..... 26%  
*Very conservative* ..... 23%

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

*Woman* ..... 49%  
*Man*..... 51%





**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* ..... 33%  
*Republican*..... 37%  
*Independent/Other*..... 30%

**Q14** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

*White* ..... 85%  
*African-American* ..... 10%  
*Other*..... 5%

**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*..... 10%  
*30 to 45*..... 26%  
*46 to 65*..... 42%  
*Older than 65*..... 22%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	43%	5%	84%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	53%	94%	10%	52%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	1%	6%	7%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	30%	47%	12%	29%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	25%	75%	53%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	28%	14%	18%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	25%	44%	5%	28%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	60%	36%	84%	68%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	20%	11%	4%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Perry Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	33%	56%	6%	47%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	43%	17%	74%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	27%	20%	21%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	28%	43%	16%	11%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	35%	65%	69%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	23%	19%	20%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	47%	7%	91%	42%
<b>Michele Bachmann</b>	43%	80%	4%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	13%	5%	24%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	47%	5%	92%	46%
<b>Newt Gingrich</b>	45%	85%	5%	27%
<b>Undecided</b>	8%	10%	3%	27%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Perry</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	45%	5%	88%	47%
<b>Rick Perry</b>	47%	87%	6%	39%
<b>Undecided</b>	8%	9%	6%	14%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
Barack Obama	43%	4%	84%	49%
Mitt Romney	47%	87%	7%	29%
Undecided	10%	9%	9%	21%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>						
Approve	43%	79%	84%	63%	18%	9%
Disapprove	53%	17%	14%	32%	78%	90%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%	6%	4%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>						
Favorable	30%	11%	18%	15%	31%	61%
Unfavorable	49%	80%	73%	64%	36%	19%
Not sure	21%	8%	9%	21%	33%	19%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>						
Favorable	25%	7%	4%	12%	34%	52%
Unfavorable	60%	87%	80%	76%	45%	35%
Not sure	15%	6%	16%	12%	21%	13%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Perry Favorability</b>						
Favorable	33%	3%	11%	18%	43%	66%
Unfavorable	43%	82%	69%	54%	30%	15%
Not sure	23%	15%	20%	28%	27%	19%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Romney Favorability</b>						
Favorable	28%	13%	22%	25%	39%	31%
Unfavorable	51%	79%	60%	50%	37%	49%
Not sure	21%	8%	18%	25%	24%	20%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>						
Barack Obama	47%	77%	85%	69%	24%	11%
Michele Bachmann	43%	15%	11%	22%	55%	84%
Undecided	10%	8%	5%	9%	21%	5%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>						
Barack Obama	47%	81%	83%	70%	24%	9%
Newt Gingrich	45%	10%	16%	23%	64%	82%
Undecided	8%	9%	1%	7%	12%	9%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Perry</b>						
Barack Obama	45%	80%	83%	66%	20%	9%
Rick Perry	47%	12%	15%	22%	68%	87%
Undecided	8%	8%	1%	11%	11%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Romney</b>						
Barack Obama	43%	83%	79%	61%	20%	10%
Mitt Romney	47%	10%	15%	28%	68%	82%
Undecided	10%	7%	7%	11%	12%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
Approve	43%	47%	40%
Disapprove	53%	49%	57%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>			
Favorable	30%	27%	33%
Unfavorable	49%	50%	49%
Not sure	21%	23%	19%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	25%	19%	31%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	60%	60%	60%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	21%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Perry Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	33%	29%	37%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	43%	40%	47%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	32%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Romney Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	28%	28%	29%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	47%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	25%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	47%	51%	43%
<b>Michele Bachmann</b>	43%	40%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	9%	11%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>			
Barack Obama	47%	52%	43%
Newt Gingrich	45%	42%	48%
Undecided	8%	6%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Perry</b>			
Barack Obama	45%	48%	42%
Rick Perry	47%	43%	51%
Undecided	8%	9%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Romney</b>			
Barack Obama	43%	47%	40%
Mitt Romney	47%	44%	50%
Undecided	10%	9%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
Approve	43%	86%	6%	41%
Disapprove	53%	9%	93%	52%
Not sure	4%	4%	1%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	30%	18%	49%	21%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	70%	25%	56%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	13%	26%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	25%	11%	46%	17%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	60%	76%	37%	69%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	13%	17%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Perry Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	33%	11%	60%	26%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	43%	69%	18%	46%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	21%	22%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	28%	13%	43%	28%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	71%	34%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	16%	23%	24%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>				
Barack Obama	47%	89%	7%	50%
Michele Bachmann	43%	7%	81%	36%
Undecided	10%	5%	12%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>				
Barack Obama	47%	88%	7%	51%
Newt Gingrich	45%	8%	84%	38%
Undecided	8%	4%	9%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Perry</b>				
Barack Obama	45%	88%	5%	46%
Rick Perry	47%	9%	87%	40%
Undecided	8%	4%	7%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
Barack Obama	43%	88%	5%	40%
Mitt Romney	47%	7%	86%	43%
Undecided	10%	5%	8%	17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	43%	37%	88%	57%
<b>Disapprove</b>	53%	59%	10%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	4%	2%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	30%	30%	22%	35%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	48%	60%	53%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	22%	18%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	25%	27%	15%	15%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	60%	57%	75%	78%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	16%	10%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Perry Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	33%	35%	12%	44%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	43%	41%	62%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	24%	26%	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>28%</b>	30%	15%	22%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>51%</b>	48%	66%	67%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>21%</b>	22%	19%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>47%</b>	41%	92%	54%
<b>Michele Bachmann</b>	<b>43%</b>	47%	8%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	12%	-	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>47%</b>	42%	86%	57%
<b>Newt Gingrich</b>	<b>45%</b>	50%	11%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>8%</b>	9%	3%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama/Perry</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>45%</b>	39%	92%	48%
<b>Rick Perry</b>	<b>47%</b>	52%	8%	39%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>8%</b>	9%	-	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
Barack Obama	43%	37%	89%	54%
Mitt Romney	47%	52%	8%	39%
Undecided	10%	11%	3%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
Approve	43%	59%	36%	44%	43%
Disapprove	53%	38%	63%	52%	50%
Not sure	4%	3%	1%	4%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>					
Favorable	30%	24%	31%	29%	33%
Unfavorable	49%	48%	44%	54%	47%
Not sure	21%	28%	25%	17%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Gingrich Favorability</b>					
Favorable	25%	21%	24%	27%	26%
Unfavorable	60%	55%	58%	64%	57%
Not sure	15%	24%	18%	9%	17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Perry Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>33%</b>	38%	31%	35%	30%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>43%</b>	38%	38%	46%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	24%	31%	19%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Romney Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>28%</b>	17%	20%	30%	39%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>51%</b>	66%	52%	51%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>21%</b>	17%	27%	19%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>47%</b>	59%	39%	49%	47%
<b>Michele Bachmann</b>	<b>43%</b>	31%	54%	39%	42%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	10%	7%	12%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Gingrich</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>47%</b>	55%	37%	50%	49%
<b>Newt Gingrich</b>	<b>45%</b>	38%	54%	42%	44%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>8%</b>	7%	10%	8%	7%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Perry</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>45%</b>	55%	35%	48%	47%
<b>Rick Perry</b>	<b>47%</b>	38%	56%	46%	44%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>8%</b>	7%	10%	6%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Romney</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>43%</b>	52%	38%	46%	41%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	<b>47%</b>	34%	54%	46%	47%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	14%	8%	8%	12%

