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QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Obama even with 2012 Republicans in North Carolina

Raleigh, N.C. – Two years after he became the first Democrat to win the Tar Heel State since Jimmy Carter in 1976, Barack Obama remains in solid shape to win the state again. He defeated John McCain by about half a point, and remains statistically tied with the four main contenders vying to face off against him in PPP's first look at the 2012 landscape in North Carolina, three weeks after his party's crushing losses at the polls.

Even in a relatively conservative state where Sarah Palin and Newt Gingrich do best in the early GOP primary matchup, Mike Huckabee and Mitt Romney, as most everywhere else, are currently President Obama's strongest challengers. Obama tops Palin, 48-43, Gingrich, 46-45, ties with Romney at 44%, and loses to Huckabee, 44-48. These results come among an electorate that voted for McCain by four points—less Republican-friendly than 2010 but still more so than 2008.

A release last week showed the president leading in northern neighbor Virginia, a state he took for his party for the first time since 1964, by at least five points. Unlike in that state, however, the president loses with independents in each matchup, and bleeds significantly more of his own party's voters than the Republicans do. His closest margin with unaffiliateds is a 42-46 deficit against Palin, but he loses 37-50 to Romney.

The president still does well because Democrats make up 49% of the electorate, a 14-point advantage over the GOP. But that edge is effectively erased by Democratic defections. He gets 73-78% of his party, to the Republicans' 76-87% of theirs, because he is losing 17-21% of Democrats and only pulling 5-9% of the GOP.

Palin is personally the least popular with Democrats and independents, and Huckabee the most popular across the board. Obama is still relatively unpopular, with a 45-51 job approval rating.

“It has to be encouraging for President Obama that so soon after some wrote his political obituary, he is already looking just as strong in North Carolina and Virginia as he did in 2008. The remarkable thing is he is doing this well while still losing independents, unlike in 2008,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 517 North Carolina voters from November 19th to 21st. The survey's margin of error is +/- 4.3%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



North Carolina Survey Results

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

Approve 45%
Disapprove..... 51%
Not sure 4%

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

Favorable..... 34%
Unfavorable 43%
Not sure 23%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Huckabee?

Favorable..... 44%
Unfavorable 31%
Not sure 25%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Sarah Palin?

Favorable..... 36%
Unfavorable 55%
Not sure 9%

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

Favorable..... 33%
Unfavorable 38%
Not sure 28%

Q6 If the candidates for President in 2012 were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Newt Gingrich, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 46%
Newt Gingrich..... 45%
Undecided..... 9%

Q7 If the candidates for President in 2012 were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mike Huckabee, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 44%
Mike Huckabee..... 48%
Undecided..... 9%

Q8 If the candidates for President in 2012 were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Sarah Palin, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 48%
Sarah Palin..... 43%
Undecided..... 9%

Q9 If the candidates for President in 2012 were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 44%
Mitt Romney..... 44%
Undecided..... 12%

Q10 Do you approve or disapprove of Republican Senator Richard Burr's job performance?

Approve 44%
Disapprove..... 34%
Not sure 22%

Q11 Do you approve or disapprove of Democratic Senator Kay Hagan's job performance?

Approve 33% *Not sure* 23%
Disapprove..... 44%

Q12 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 49%
Barack Obama..... 45%
Someone else/Don't remember 6%





Q13 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

<i>Liberal</i>	20%
<i>Moderate</i>	38%
<i>Conservative</i>	42%

Q14 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	54%
<i>Man</i>	46%

Q15 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>	49%
<i>Republican</i>	35%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	17%

Q16 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

<i>White</i>	77%
<i>African-American</i>	19%
<i>Other</i>	4%

Q17 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>	9%
<i>30 to 45</i>	24%
<i>46 to 65</i>	47%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%

Q18

<i>252</i>	12%
<i>336</i>	23%
<i>704</i>	19%
<i>828</i>	15%
<i>910</i>	12%
<i>919</i>	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	45%	7%	88%	35%
Disapprove	51%	90%	7%	54%
Not sure	4%	3%	4%	11%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	34%	54%	14%	19%
Unfavorable	43%	22%	65%	50%
Not sure	23%	24%	21%	30%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	44%	66%	19%	51%
Unfavorable	31%	11%	52%	35%
Not sure	25%	23%	29%	14%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	36%	63%	5%	40%
Unfavorable	55%	24%	90%	43%
Not sure	9%	13%	4%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	33%	47%	19%	36%
Unfavorable	38%	23%	56%	28%
Not sure	28%	30%	25%	36%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	46%	7%	91%	19%
Newt Gingrich	45%	81%	6%	40%
Undecided	9%	11%	2%	42%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	44%	6%	88%	19%
Mike Huckabee	48%	84%	8%	48%
Undecided	9%	10%	4%	33%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	48%	8%	94%	26%
Sarah Palin	43%	76%	5%	51%
Undecided	9%	16%	1%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	44%	6%	90%	19%
Mitt Romney	44%	78%	7%	40%
Undecided	12%	17%	3%	42%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Burr Approval				
Approve	44%	70%	16%	40%
Disapprove	34%	12%	57%	37%
Not sure	22%	18%	27%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hagan Approval				
Approve	33%	10%	59%	30%
Disapprove	44%	70%	16%	37%
Not sure	23%	20%	25%	33%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	45%	81%	58%	18%
Disapprove	51%	17%	36%	79%
Not sure	4%	2%	6%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	34%	16%	18%	56%
Unfavorable	43%	67%	55%	22%
Not sure	23%	16%	27%	22%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	44%	26%	33%	62%
Unfavorable	31%	55%	33%	17%
Not sure	25%	19%	34%	21%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	36%	12%	22%	58%
Unfavorable	55%	85%	67%	31%
Not sure	9%	3%	10%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	33%	24%	26%	44%
Unfavorable	38%	58%	40%	27%
Not sure	28%	18%	34%	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	46%	85%	59%	16%
Newt Gingrich	45%	12%	29%	75%
Undecided	9%	3%	12%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	44%	83%	55%	15%
Mike Huckabee	48%	14%	30%	79%
Undecided	9%	3%	15%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	48%	86%	61%	18%
Sarah Palin	43%	12%	30%	68%
Undecided	9%	2%	9%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	44%	82%	57%	16%
Mitt Romney	44%	12%	28%	72%
Undecided	12%	6%	15%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Burr Approval				
Approve	44%	19%	35%	64%
Disapprove	34%	65%	38%	15%
Not sure	22%	16%	27%	21%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Hagan Approval				
Approve	33%	63%	41%	13%
Disapprove	44%	17%	31%	67%
Not sure	23%	20%	28%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	45%	51%	39%
Disapprove	51%	45%	58%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	34%	26%	43%
Unfavorable	43%	45%	41%
Not sure	23%	29%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Huckabee Favorability			
Favorable	44%	41%	47%
Unfavorable	31%	31%	31%
Not sure	25%	28%	22%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	36%	30%	42%
Unfavorable	55%	60%	50%
Not sure	9%	10%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	33%	29%	39%
Unfavorable	38%	38%	39%
Not sure	28%	33%	23%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	46%	53%	38%
Newt Gingrich	45%	37%	55%
Undecided	9%	10%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Huckabee			
Barack Obama	44%	50%	36%
Mike Huckabee	48%	41%	55%
Undecided	9%	9%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Palin			
Barack Obama	48%	55%	39%
Sarah Palin	43%	35%	51%
Undecided	9%	9%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	44%	50%	37%
Mitt Romney	44%	37%	52%
Undecided	12%	13%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Burr Approval			
Approve	44%	39%	49%
Disapprove	34%	36%	32%
Not sure	22%	25%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hagan Approval			
Approve	33%	36%	30%
Disapprove	44%	36%	53%
Not sure	23%	29%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	45%	73%	9%	40%
Disapprove	51%	25%	87%	53%
Not sure	4%	3%	4%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	34%	18%	56%	33%
Unfavorable	43%	61%	20%	41%
Not sure	23%	21%	24%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	44%	25%	67%	51%
Unfavorable	31%	46%	11%	26%
Not sure	25%	28%	22%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	36%	16%	62%	38%
Unfavorable	55%	79%	24%	50%
Not sure	9%	5%	14%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	33%	22%	44%	46%
Unfavorable	38%	52%	22%	32%
Not sure	28%	26%	35%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	46%	75%	7%	39%
Newt Gingrich	45%	18%	84%	44%
Undecided	9%	7%	8%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	44%	73%	5%	37%
Mike Huckabee	48%	21%	87%	46%
Undecided	9%	6%	8%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	48%	78%	9%	42%
Sarah Palin	43%	17%	78%	46%
Undecided	9%	6%	13%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	44%	73%	6%	37%
Mitt Romney	44%	18%	76%	50%
Undecided	12%	8%	17%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Burr Approval				
Approve	44%	26%	70%	40%
Disapprove	34%	47%	12%	39%
Not sure	22%	26%	18%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hagan Approval				
Approve	33%	54%	8%	25%
Disapprove	44%	24%	69%	47%
Not sure	23%	22%	23%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	45%	34%	86%	71%
Disapprove	51%	62%	7%	29%
Not sure	4%	3%	7%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	34%	38%	18%	19%
Unfavorable	43%	41%	43%	77%
Not sure	23%	20%	39%	3%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	44%	51%	16%	39%
Unfavorable	31%	27%	45%	39%
Not sure	25%	22%	39%	23%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	36%	44%	5%	23%
Unfavorable	55%	46%	88%	71%
Not sure	9%	10%	7%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	33%	39%	12%	29%
Unfavorable	38%	35%	49%	55%
Not sure	28%	26%	40%	16%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	46%	34%	88%	74%
New t Gingrich	45%	55%	7%	23%
Undecided	9%	10%	5%	3%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	44%	32%	88%	71%
Mike Huckabee	48%	59%	7%	23%
Undecided	9%	10%	5%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	48%	35%	95%	68%
Sarah Palin	43%	52%	5%	29%
Undecided	9%	12%	-	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	44%	32%	88%	68%
Mitt Romney	44%	53%	7%	32%
Undecided	12%	15%	5%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Burr Approval				
Approve	44%	51%	20%	26%
Disapprove	34%	29%	48%	58%
Not sure	22%	20%	32%	16%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Hagan Approval				
Approve	33%	28%	48%	55%
Disapprove	44%	51%	16%	29%
Not sure	23%	20%	36%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	45%	61%	44%	46%	39%
Disapprove	51%	35%	51%	51%	57%
Not sure	4%	4%	6%	3%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	34%	30%	35%	32%	38%
Unfavorable	43%	42%	42%	46%	38%
Not sure	23%	28%	24%	21%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	44%	34%	42%	47%	45%
Unfavorable	31%	31%	32%	32%	27%
Not sure	25%	35%	26%	22%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	36%	28%	39%	36%	36%
Unfavorable	55%	60%	52%	57%	52%
Not sure	9%	13%	9%	7%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	33%	28%	28%	35%	39%
Unfavorable	38%	34%	44%	41%	27%
Not sure	28%	38%	28%	24%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	46%	58%	45%	47%	40%
Newt Gingrich	45%	34%	45%	45%	50%
Undecided	9%	9%	10%	8%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Huckabee					
Barack Obama	44%	56%	43%	44%	39%
Mike Huckabee	48%	34%	47%	49%	52%
Undecided	9%	11%	10%	7%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Palin					
Barack Obama	48%	72%	46%	46%	44%
Sarah Palin	43%	22%	46%	43%	46%
Undecided	9%	6%	8%	11%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	44%	56%	44%	45%	38%
Mitt Romney	44%	32%	42%	45%	47%
Undecided	12%	13%	14%	10%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Burr Approval					
Approve	44%	31%	44%	42%	54%
Disapprove	34%	40%	33%	38%	24%
Not sure	22%	29%	24%	20%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hagan Approval					
Approve	33%	40%	30%	32%	37%
Disapprove	44%	28%	47%	45%	44%
Not sure	23%	31%	23%	23%	19%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Obama Approval							
Approve	45%	45%	41%	45%	48%	42%	51%
Disapprove	51%	49%	53%	52%	49%	53%	48%
Not sure	4%	7%	6%	3%	4%	5%	1%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Gingrich Favorability							
Favorable	34%	28%	37%	34%	33%	33%	34%
Unfavorable	43%	36%	39%	45%	48%	46%	46%
Not sure	23%	36%	24%	21%	19%	21%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Huckabee Favorability							
Favorable	44%	42%	53%	43%	43%	40%	38%
Unfavorable	31%	25%	21%	35%	34%	32%	38%
Not sure	25%	33%	27%	22%	22%	28%	24%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Palin Favorability							
Favorable	36%	39%	38%	34%	32%	41%	32%
Unfavorable	55%	58%	47%	57%	61%	56%	56%
Not sure	9%	3%	14%	10%	7%	3%	11%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Romney Favorability							
Favorable	33%	28%	37%	38%	30%	29%	33%
Unfavorable	38%	41%	29%	39%	43%	33%	46%
Not sure	28%	31%	34%	23%	27%	38%	21%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Obama/Gingrich							
Barack Obama	46%	44%	42%	47%	48%	41%	52%
Newt Gingrich	45%	44%	50%	42%	45%	45%	43%
Undecided	9%	12%	8%	11%	7%	14%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Obama/Huckabee							
Barack Obama	44%	43%	34%	46%	45%	41%	52%
Mike Huckabee	48%	44%	57%	47%	44%	50%	42%
Undecided	9%	13%	9%	7%	11%	10%	5%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Obama/Palin							
Barack Obama	48%	46%	43%	49%	51%	47%	52%
Sarah Palin	43%	43%	50%	36%	43%	42%	39%
Undecided	9%	11%	7%	15%	6%	10%	9%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Obama/Romney							
Barack Obama	44%	44%	39%	47%	47%	39%	49%
Mitt Romney	44%	41%	48%	44%	45%	39%	41%
Undecided	12%	15%	13%	9%	8%	21%	10%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Burr Approval							
Approve	44%	37%	53%	43%	32%	44%	47%
Disapprove	34%	40%	24%	35%	38%	28%	42%
Not sure	22%	23%	23%	22%	31%	28%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Hagan Approval							
Approve	33%	35%	29%	35%	24%	35%	40%
Disapprove	44%	43%	46%	44%	46%	30%	47%
Not sure	23%	22%	25%	22%	29%	36%	13%

