

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312

IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE

Romney down 8 to Obama in NV, 6 with Sandoval

Raleigh, N.C. – PPP has consistently found President Obama struggling in Nevada, which he won by over 12 points in 2008. Unless he lucks out by facing Rick Santorum or Newt Gingrich this fall, it will be a tighter contest for Barack Obama than it was last time, but he has made serious strides in the state since PPP last polled there last October.

Obama now leads most likely Republican nominee Mitt Romney by eight points (51-43) after tying him at 46% five months ago. Ron Paul runs a point closer to the president (49-42), but is also down from a four-point deficit in the previous poll. Santorum, tested for the first time in the state, trails by 14 points (54-40), and Gingrich is down 12 points since October to a 15-point deficit (54-39). Obama leads by 39 to 44 points with Hispanics. He also tops by 15 to 22 points with independents, up from leads of six to 10 and a deficit of two points in October.

The reasons for Obama's improvement over the last few months are two-fold: a boost in his own job approval rating and a decline in the personal popularity of the GOP field. Obama's job performance numbers are up 13 points on the margin, from 44% approving and 53% disapproving to 50-46. Meanwhile, Romney is down 14 points from 45% favorable and 44% unfavorable to 38-51. None of the others do any better. Paul stands at 35-53, Gingrich at 27-62, and Santorum at 25-64.

If Vice President Joe Biden and Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval were Obama's and Romney's respective running mates, it would only pad the GOP gap by two points; they would still lag 50-44. Sandoval is quite popular, with 46% approving and 31% disapproving of his work in office, but the top of the ticket matters more to voters. Obama still leads almost 2:1 with Hispanic voters even with Sandoval on the GOP ticket.

"Nevada really captures how the Presidential race has shifted over the last five months," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Barack Obama's more popular, Mitt Romney's less popular, and this is looking like much less of a swing state."

PPP surveyed 553 Nevada voters from March 29th to April 1st. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.2%. 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.



Nevada Survey Results

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

Approve 50%
Disapprove..... 46%
Not sure 4%

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

Favorable..... 27%
Unfavorable 62%
Not sure 11%

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

Favorable..... 35%
Unfavorable 53%
Not sure 11%

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

Favorable..... 38%
Unfavorable 51%
Not sure 11%

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

Favorable..... 25%
Unfavorable 64%
Not sure 12%

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..... 49%
Ron Paul..... 42%
Undecided..... 9%

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..... 43%
Undecided..... 6%

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

Barack Obama..... 54%
Rick Santorum 40%
Undecided..... 7%

Q10 If the Democratic ticket for President was Barack Obama and Joe Biden, and the Republican ticket was Mitt Romney and Brian Sandoval, which would you vote for?

Obama-Biden..... 50%
Romney-Sandoval 44%
Not sure 6%

Q11 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Brian Sandoval's job performance?

Approve..... 46% *Not sure* 23%
Disapprove..... 31%





Q12 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	10%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	17%
<i>Moderate</i>	30%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	26%
<i>Very conservative</i>	16%

Q13 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	53%
<i>Man</i>	47%

Q14 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>	43%
<i>Republican</i>	39%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	18%

Q15 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

<i>Hispanic</i>	15%
<i>White</i>	71%
<i>African-American</i>	8%
<i>Other</i>	6%

Q16 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>	12%
<i>30 to 45</i>	32%
<i>46 to 65</i>	36%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval						
Approve	50%	87%	86%	63%	21%	10%
Disapprove	46%	9%	12%	32%	72%	90%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%	5%	7%	-

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gingrich Favorability						
Favorable	27%	12%	8%	19%	37%	54%
Unfavorable	62%	76%	88%	70%	47%	34%
Not sure	11%	11%	3%	10%	15%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Paul Favorability						
Favorable	35%	23%	21%	36%	40%	51%
Unfavorable	53%	61%	70%	50%	51%	39%
Not sure	11%	17%	9%	14%	9%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	38%	22%	14%	32%	57%	55%
Unfavorable	51%	62%	83%	56%	30%	35%
Not sure	11%	17%	3%	12%	14%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Santorum Favorability						
Favorable	25%	3%	11%	20%	31%	54%
Unfavorable	64%	82%	84%	71%	52%	34%
Not sure	12%	15%	5%	9%	17%	13%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Gingrich						
Barack Obama	54%	90%	89%	71%	23%	10%
Newt Gingrich	39%	6%	11%	23%	64%	83%
Undecided	7%	4%	1%	7%	12%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Paul						
Barack Obama	49%	80%	83%	63%	20%	11%
Ron Paul	42%	13%	13%	26%	68%	79%
Undecided	9%	7%	4%	11%	11%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Romney						
Barack Obama	51%	89%	86%	67%	21%	6%
Mitt Romney	43%	11%	11%	29%	67%	84%
Undecided	6%	-	3%	4%	12%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Santorum						
Barack Obama	54%	83%	88%	68%	29%	10%
Rick Santorum	40%	14%	10%	24%	60%	85%
Undecided	7%	3%	1%	8%	11%	5%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama-Biden/Romney-Sandoval						
Obama-Biden	50%	86%	87%	63%	22%	8%
Romney-Sandoval	44%	14%	10%	32%	67%	85%
Not sure	6%	-	3%	5%	11%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Sandoval Approval						
Approve	46%	30%	17%	45%	59%	72%
Disapprove	31%	44%	53%	32%	21%	11%
Not sure	23%	26%	30%	23%	20%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	50%	48%	52%
Disapprove	46%	45%	46%
Not sure	4%	7%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	27%	28%	26%
Unfavorable	62%	58%	67%
Not sure	11%	14%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Paul Favorability			
Favorable	35%	29%	42%
Unfavorable	53%	55%	51%
Not sure	11%	16%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	38%	40%	36%
Unfavorable	51%	47%	56%
Not sure	11%	13%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Santorum Favorability			
Favorable	25%	28%	21%
Unfavorable	64%	59%	68%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	54%	53%	54%
Newt Gingrich	39%	40%	39%
Undecided	7%	7%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Paul			
Barack Obama	49%	49%	48%
Ron Paul	42%	39%	46%
Undecided	9%	12%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	51%	51%	51%
Mitt Romney	43%	44%	41%
Undecided	6%	5%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Santorum			
Barack Obama	54%	52%	55%
Rick Santorum	40%	41%	38%
Undecided	7%	7%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama-Biden/Romney-Sandoval			
Obama-Biden	50%	49%	51%
Romney-Sandoval	44%	46%	41%
Not sure	6%	5%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Sandoval Approval			
Approve	46%	47%	46%
Disapprove	31%	27%	35%
Not sure	23%	25%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	50%	82%	12%	55%
Disapprove	46%	13%	84%	40%
Not sure	4%	5%	4%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	27%	12%	46%	22%
Unfavorable	62%	76%	44%	69%
Not sure	11%	12%	10%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Paul Favorability				
Favorable	35%	23%	46%	43%
Unfavorable	53%	62%	47%	47%
Not sure	11%	15%	8%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	38%	18%	61%	36%
Unfavorable	51%	69%	30%	54%
Not sure	11%	13%	8%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Santorum Favorability				
Favorable	25%	10%	42%	22%
Unfavorable	64%	78%	46%	68%
Not sure	12%	12%	12%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	54%	88%	15%	55%
Newt Gingrich	39%	8%	76%	36%
Undecided	7%	4%	9%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Paul				
Barack Obama	49%	82%	10%	53%
Ron Paul	42%	12%	78%	37%
Undecided	9%	6%	12%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	51%	85%	12%	54%
Mitt Romney	43%	12%	78%	39%
Undecided	6%	3%	10%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Santorum				
Barack Obama	54%	85%	17%	58%
Rick Santorum	40%	11%	74%	36%
Undecided	7%	5%	9%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Sandoval				
Obama-Biden	50%	82%	12%	56%
Romney-Sandoval	44%	14%	80%	38%
Not sure	6%	5%	7%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Sandoval Approval				
Approve	46%	30%	68%	39%
Disapprove	31%	42%	14%	42%
Not sure	23%	28%	18%	19%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval					
Approve	50%	65%	42%	81%	65%
Disapprove	46%	32%	54%	10%	29%
Not sure	4%	3%	4%	9%	6%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	27%	29%	28%	11%	25%
Unfavorable	62%	50%	62%	78%	71%
Not sure	11%	21%	9%	11%	4%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Paul Favorability					
Favorable	35%	23%	38%	19%	53%
Unfavorable	53%	54%	53%	70%	32%
Not sure	11%	23%	9%	11%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	38%	38%	41%	14%	30%
Unfavorable	51%	43%	49%	74%	66%
Not sure	11%	18%	10%	12%	3%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Santorum Favorability					
Favorable	25%	19%	28%	10%	23%
Unfavorable	64%	55%	64%	71%	72%
Not sure	12%	26%	8%	19%	5%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	54%	70%	46%	87%	62%
Newt Gingrich	39%	26%	47%	5%	28%
Undecided	7%	3%	7%	8%	10%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Paul					
Barack Obama	49%	68%	40%	84%	62%
Ron Paul	42%	26%	51%	5%	27%
Undecided	9%	6%	10%	11%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	51%	69%	42%	89%	66%
Mitt Romney	43%	30%	50%	10%	25%
Undecided	6%	1%	8%	1%	9%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Santorum					
Barack Obama	54%	66%	46%	86%	64%
Rick Santorum	40%	27%	47%	12%	26%
Undecided	7%	7%	7%	2%	10%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama-Biden/Romney-Sandoval					
Obama-Biden	50%	64%	43%	77%	65%
Romney-Sandoval	44%	33%	52%	10%	25%
Not sure	6%	3%	6%	13%	10%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Sandoval Approval					
Approve	46%	32%	52%	30%	38%
Disapprove	31%	39%	28%	31%	48%
Not sure	23%	29%	20%	39%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	50%	59%	55%	45%	45%
Disapprove	46%	32%	39%	53%	52%
Not sure	4%	9%	7%	2%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	27%	26%	27%	26%	29%
Unfavorable	62%	53%	65%	63%	61%
Not sure	11%	21%	8%	10%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Paul Favorability					
Favorable	35%	50%	37%	32%	30%
Unfavorable	53%	38%	52%	57%	57%
Not sure	11%	12%	11%	11%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	38%	44%	28%	42%	44%
Unfavorable	51%	41%	57%	51%	49%
Not sure	11%	15%	16%	7%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Santorum Favorability					
Favorable	25%	24%	22%	26%	26%
Unfavorable	64%	50%	68%	65%	61%
Not sure	12%	26%	9%	8%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	54%	62%	60%	50%	45%
New t Gingrich	39%	32%	33%	41%	50%
Undecided	7%	6%	7%	9%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Paul					
Barack Obama	49%	59%	53%	43%	45%
Ron Paul	42%	35%	39%	44%	48%
Undecided	9%	6%	8%	13%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	51%	62%	56%	47%	45%
Mitt Romney	43%	35%	33%	49%	51%
Undecided	6%	3%	11%	5%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Santorum					
Barack Obama	54%	62%	62%	48%	45%
Rick Santorum	40%	35%	33%	42%	49%
Undecided	7%	3%	5%	10%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama-Biden/Romney-Sandoval					
Obama-Biden	50%	56%	57%	46%	43%
Romney-Sandoval	44%	41%	36%	48%	51%
Not sure	6%	3%	8%	6%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Sandoval Approval					
Approve	46%	41%	32%	56%	57%
Disapprove	31%	32%	38%	29%	22%
Not sure	23%	26%	30%	15%	21%

