

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

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

Romney continues to lead GOP field

Raleigh, N.C. – Mitt Romney continues to lead the way in early national polling of Republican voters about who they'd like to see as their party's nominee for President in 2012, although Mike Huckabee and Sarah Palin continue to have strong levels of support as well.

Romney has 33% to 27% for Huckabee and 23% for Palin. Palin is actually the best liked of the early trio of front runners, with 66% of primary voters viewing her favorably to 55% for Huckabee and 54% for Romney. But that popularity isn't translating into support for her to be President.

Huckabee has a strong advantage in the South with 37% to 25% for Palin and 23% for Romney. In the rest of the country the former Massachusetts Governor leads the way with a pretty consistent showing of 37-39% in the Northeast, Midwest, and West. Huckabee is second in the former two regions while Palin gets runner up honors in the latter.

Interestingly even though Palin has positioned herself as a bit of a thorn in the side of the Republican establishment, she polls poorly with voters who don't like the direction of the party. With those folks she's at just 16% to Romney's 36% and Huckabee's 29%.

"As we've gone state by state looking ahead to 2012 we've generally found Mike Huckabee ahead in the South and Romney leading everywhere else," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "The national numbers reflect that as well, but it's important to remember that in April of 2006 we would not have expected John McCain or Barack Obama to end up as their party's 2008 nominees. There's a long way to go."

PPP surveyed 400 self identified Republican primary voters from April 9th to 11th. The margin of error is +/-4.9%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

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National Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Huckabee? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable.....55% *Not Sure*.....32%
Unfavorable13%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Sarah Palin? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable.....66%
Unfavorable21%
Not Sure.....14%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable.....54%
Unfavorable24%
Not Sure.....22%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of the direction of the Republican Party? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve51%
Disapprove.....28%
Not Sure.....21%

Q5 If the Republican candidates for President in 2012 were Mike Huckabee, Sarah Palin, and Mitt Romney who would you vote for? If Mike Huckabee, press 1. If Sarah Palin, press 2. If Mitt Romney, press 3. If you're undecided, press 4.

Huckabee.....27%
Palin.....23%
Romney33%
Undecided.....17%

Q6 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal.....2%
Moderate.....25%
Conservative.....73%

Q7 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman49%
Man.....51%

Q8 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

18 to 29.....10%
30 to 45.....25%
46 to 65.....45%
Older than 65.....20%

Q9

Northeast.....20%
South35%
Midwest25%
West20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Republican Party Direction		
		Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	55%	64%	44%	47%
Unfavorable	13%	9%	27%	6%
Not Sure	32%	28%	28%	47%

	Base	Republican Party Direction		
		Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	66%	77%	47%	63%
Unfavorable	21%	9%	47%	16%
Not Sure	14%	14%	7%	21%

	Base	Republican Party Direction		
		Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	54%	61%	48%	48%
Unfavorable	24%	19%	35%	22%
Not Sure	22%	21%	18%	30%

	Base	Republican Party Direction		
		Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
Republican Party Direction				
Approve	51%	100%	-	-
Disapprove	28%	-	100%	-
Not Sure	21%	-	-	100%





Crosstabs

	Base	Republican Party Direction		
		Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
2012 GOP Nominee				
Huckabee	27%	29%	29%	22%
Palin	23%	27%	16%	25%
Romney	33%	32%	36%	30%
Undecided	17%	13%	18%	23%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	55%	30%	42%	60%
Unfavorable	13%	12%	22%	10%
Not Sure	32%	58%	36%	30%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	66%	50%	40%	75%
Unfavorable	21%	37%	44%	12%
Not Sure	14%	12%	16%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	54%	29%	44%	58%
Unfavorable	24%	25%	34%	21%
Not Sure	22%	46%	22%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Republican Party Direction				
Approve	51%	46%	32%	57%
Disapprove	28%	21%	50%	21%
Not Sure	21%	33%	18%	22%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
2012 GOP Nominee				
Huckabee	27%	21%	26%	28%
Palin	23%	33%	19%	25%
Romney	33%	21%	31%	34%
Undecided	17%	25%	25%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Huckabee Favorability			
Favorable	55%	58%	51%
Unfavorable	13%	10%	16%
Not Sure	32%	32%	32%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	66%	62%	69%
Unfavorable	21%	19%	23%
Not Sure	14%	19%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	54%	54%	54%
Unfavorable	24%	21%	27%
Not Sure	22%	25%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Republican Party Direction			
Approve	51%	52%	49%
Disapprove	28%	22%	34%
Not Sure	21%	26%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Nominee			
Huckabee	27%	30%	25%
Palin	23%	23%	24%
Romney	33%	31%	35%
Undecided	17%	16%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	55%	44%	51%	57%	59%
Unfavorable	13%	11%	15%	13%	13%
Not Sure	32%	44%	34%	30%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	66%	44%	59%	69%	76%
Unfavorable	21%	33%	23%	20%	14%
Not Sure	14%	22%	18%	11%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	54%	39%	52%	57%	58%
Unfavorable	24%	28%	24%	23%	24%
Not Sure	22%	33%	23%	20%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Republican Party Direction					
Approve	51%	56%	55%	48%	48%
Disapprove	28%	33%	28%	30%	21%
Not Sure	21%	11%	17%	22%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Nominee					
Huckabee	27%	44%	27%	24%	26%
Palin	23%	17%	27%	22%	24%
Romney	33%	33%	31%	35%	29%
Undecided	17%	6%	15%	19%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	55%	45%	65%	51%	49%
Unfavorable	13%	15%	8%	17%	15%
Not Sure	32%	40%	26%	31%	35%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	66%	61%	69%	63%	67%
Unfavorable	21%	23%	19%	23%	18%
Not Sure	14%	16%	11%	14%	15%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	54%	52%	53%	57%	56%
Unfavorable	24%	21%	26%	24%	23%
Not Sure	22%	27%	21%	20%	21%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Republican Party Direction					
Approve	51%	58%	53%	47%	42%
Disapprove	28%	22%	24%	35%	34%
Not Sure	21%	20%	23%	19%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
2012 GOP Nominee					
Huckabee	27%	23%	37%	27%	15%
Palin	23%	20%	25%	20%	28%
Romney	33%	39%	23%	38%	37%
Undecided	17%	17%	15%	15%	20%

