



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 13, 2013

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Americans trust Clinton over GOP on Benghazi

Raleigh, N.C. – PPP's newest national poll finds that Republicans aren't getting much traction with their focus on Benghazi over the last week. Voters trust Hillary Clinton over Congressional Republicans on the issue of Benghazi by a 49/39 margin and Clinton's +8 net favorability rating at 52/44 is identical to what it was on our last national poll in late March. Meanwhile Congressional Republicans remain very unpopular with a 36/57 favorability rating.

Voters think Congress should be more focused on other major issues right now rather than Benghazi. By a 56/38 margin they say passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill is more important than continuing to focus on Benghazi, and by a 52/43 spread they think passing a bill requiring background checks for all gun sales should be a higher priority.

While voters overall may think Congress' focus should be elsewhere there's no doubt about how mad Republicans are about Benghazi. 41% say they consider this to be the biggest political scandal in American history to only 43% who disagree with that sentiment. Only 10% of Democrats and 20% of independents share that feeling. Republicans think by a 74/19 margin that Benghazi is a worse political scandal than Watergate, by a 74/12 margin that it's worse than Teapot Dome, and by a 70/20 margin that it's worse than Iran Contra.

One interesting thing about the voters who think Benghazi is the biggest political scandal in American history is that 39% of them don't actually know where it is. 10% think it's in Egypt, 9% in Iran, 6% in Cuba, 5% in Syria, 4% in Iraq, and 1% each in North Korea and Liberia with 4% not willing to venture a guess.

“What we’re finding after last week’s Benghazi hearings is that as angry as Republicans are, most voters think Congress should be focused more on other issues,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “And Hillary Clinton’s poll numbers weren’t negatively impacted by the focus on her.”

PPP surveyed 576 voters nationwide from May 10th to 12th. The margin of error is +/- 4.1%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.





National Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Hillary Clinton?

Favorable..... 52%
Unfavorable 44%
Not sure 5%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Congressional Republicans?

Favorable..... 36%
Unfavorable 57%
Not sure 7%

Q3 Who do you trust more on the issue of Benghazi: Hillary Clinton or Congressional Republicans?

Hillary Clinton..... 49%
Congressional Republicans 39%
Not sure 11%

Q4 Where do you think Benghazi is located: Egypt, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Libya, Syria, Iraq, or Liberia?

Egypt 10%
Cuba 3%
Iran 4%
North Korea 2%
Libya 58%
Syria 8%
Iraq 1%
Liberia 2%
Somewhere else/Not sure..... 13%

Q5 What do you think should be a higher priority for Congress: investigating Benghazi or passing a bill requiring background checks for all gun sales?

Investigating Benghazi..... 43%
Passing a bill requiring background checks for all gun sales 52%
Not sure 5%

Q6 What do you think should be a higher priority for Congress: investigating Benghazi or passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill?

Investigating Benghazi..... 38%
Passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill 56%
Not sure 6%

Q7 Which political scandal do you think is worse: Benghazi or Watergate?

Benghazi..... 45%
Watergate 45%
Not sure 10%

Q8 Which political scandal do you think is worse: Benghazi or the Teapot Dome scandal?

Benghazi..... 45%
Teapot Dome 30%
Not sure 25%

Q9 Which political scandal do you think is worse: Benghazi or Iran Contra?

Benghazi..... 44%
Iran Contra..... 44%
Not sure 12%





Q10 Do you think Benghazi is the biggest political scandal in American history, or not?

It is 23%
It is not 65%
Not sure 13%

Q11 In the last presidential election, did you vote for Barack Obama or Mitt Romney?

Barack Obama 49%
Mitt Romney 43%
Someone else/Don't remember 8%

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

Very liberal 10%
Somewhat liberal 16%
Moderate 39%
Somewhat conservative 20%
Very conservative 14%

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

Woman 52%
Man 48%

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.

Democrat 39%
Republican 31%
Independent/Other 30%

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

Hispanic 8%
White 73%
African-American 11%
Other 8%

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.

18 to 29 15%
30 to 45 22%
46 to 65 45%
Older than 65 18%





Crosstabs

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Hillary Favorability				
Favorable	52%	85%	18%	29%
Unfavorable	44%	11%	77%	61%
Not sure	5%	3%	5%	10%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Cong. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	36%	10%	64%	38%
Unfavorable	57%	85%	26%	53%
Not sure	7%	5%	9%	9%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Trust Hillary or Cong. GOP More on Benghazi?				
Hillary Clinton	49%	79%	19%	33%
Congressional Republicans	39%	10%	72%	42%
Not sure	11%	11%	9%	25%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Where is Benghazi?				
Egypt	10%	12%	9%	1%
Cuba	3%	2%	4%	-
Iran	4%	3%	4%	7%
North Korea	2%	3%	1%	-
Libya	58%	53%	64%	65%
Syria	8%	8%	7%	8%
Iraq	1%	1%	1%	2%
Liberia	2%	1%	2%	5%
Somewhere else/Not sure	13%	17%	9%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Higher Priority: Benghazi or B/g Checks?				
Investigating Benghazi	43%	15%	74%	49%
Passing a bill requiring background checks for all gun sales	52%	81%	22%	42%
Not sure	5%	4%	4%	8%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Higher Priority: Benghazi or Immigration?				
Investigating Benghazi	38%	18%	58%	46%
Passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill	56%	77%	36%	42%
Not sure	6%	5%	6%	11%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Benghazi or Watergate Worse?				
Benghazi	45%	15%	77%	54%
Watergate	45%	72%	16%	29%
Not sure	10%	12%	7%	17%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Benghazi or Teapot Dome Worse?				
Benghazi	45%	22%	74%	38%
Teapot Dome	30%	47%	11%	23%
Not sure	25%	31%	15%	39%





Crosstabs

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Benghazi or Iran Contra Worse?				
Benghazi	44%	19%	73%	35%
Iran Contra	44%	67%	18%	43%
Not sure	12%	14%	9%	22%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Benghazi the Biggest Scandal in American History?				
It is	23%	10%	38%	21%
It is not	65%	82%	46%	60%
Not sure	13%	9%	16%	20%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hillary Favorability						
Favorable	52%	74%	74%	68%	26%	5%
Unfavorable	44%	26%	24%	26%	68%	92%
Not sure	5%	-	3%	6%	6%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cong. GOP Favorability						
Favorable	36%	19%	10%	27%	58%	68%
Unfavorable	57%	81%	87%	67%	30%	18%
Not sure	7%	-	3%	7%	11%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Trust Hillary or Cong. GOP More on Benghazi?						
Hillary Clinton	49%	86%	66%	58%	26%	12%
Congressional Republicans	39%	6%	16%	29%	66%	82%
Not sure	11%	8%	18%	13%	8%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Where is Benghazi?						
Egypt	10%	11%	19%	9%	4%	7%
Cuba	3%	7%	6%	2%	1%	2%
Iran	4%	13%	2%	4%	4%	-
North Korea	2%	6%	1%	2%	1%	-
Libya	58%	55%	43%	55%	67%	74%
Syria	8%	4%	9%	7%	11%	8%
Iraq	1%	-	-	2%	1%	2%
Liberia	2%	-	-	4%	1%	-
Somewhere else/Not sure	13%	4%	19%	15%	11%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Higher Priority: Benghazi or B/g Checks?						
Investigating Benghazi	43%	21%	19%	31%	66%	88%
Passing a bill requiring background checks for all gun sales	52%	77%	73%	65%	29%	10%
Not sure	5%	2%	8%	5%	5%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Higher Priority: Benghazi or Immigration?						
Investigating Benghazi	38%	14%	18%	31%	54%	72%
Passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill	56%	84%	70%	63%	42%	23%
Not sure	6%	3%	12%	6%	3%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Benghazi or Watergate Worse?						
Benghazi	45%	14%	31%	30%	67%	91%
Watergate	45%	76%	52%	59%	24%	4%
Not sure	10%	10%	17%	10%	9%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Benghazi or Teapot Dome Worse?						
Benghazi	45%	21%	31%	36%	62%	81%
Teapot Dome	30%	54%	34%	38%	14%	7%
Not sure	25%	25%	35%	26%	23%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Benghazi or Iran Contra Worse?						
Benghazi	44%	18%	23%	35%	65%	80%
Iran Contra	44%	74%	60%	54%	20%	10%
Not sure	12%	7%	17%	11%	15%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Benghazi the Biggest Scandal in American History?						
It is	23%	26%	12%	12%	29%	55%
It is not	65%	67%	79%	79%	48%	31%
Not sure	13%	7%	10%	10%	23%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hillary Favorability			
Favorable	52%	57%	46%
Unfavorable	44%	38%	49%
Not sure	5%	4%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cong. GOP Favorability			
Favorable	36%	30%	41%
Unfavorable	57%	60%	55%
Not sure	7%	10%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust Hillary or Cong. GOP More on Benghazi?			
Hillary Clinton	49%	53%	45%
Congressional Republicans	39%	34%	45%
Not sure	11%	12%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Where is Benghazi?			
Egypt	10%	8%	11%
Cuba	3%	3%	2%
Iran	4%	5%	4%
North Korea	2%	3%	1%
Libya	58%	52%	65%
Syria	8%	10%	5%
Iraq	1%	2%	0%
Liberia	2%	1%	2%
Somewhere else/Not sure	13%	17%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Higher Priority: Benghazi or B/g Checks?			
Investigating Benghazi	43%	36%	51%
Passing a bill requiring background checks for all gun sales	52%	60%	45%
Not sure	5%	4%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Higher Priority: Benghazi or Immigration?			
Investigating Benghazi	38%	37%	38%
Passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill	56%	56%	57%
Not sure	6%	7%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Benghazi or Watergate Worse?			
Benghazi	45%	44%	46%
Watergate	45%	42%	47%
Not sure	10%	14%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Benghazi or Teapot Dome Worse?			
Benghazi	45%	40%	51%
Teapot Dome	30%	28%	31%
Not sure	25%	32%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Benghazi or Iran Contra Worse?			
Benghazi	44%	42%	45%
Iran Contra	44%	42%	46%
Not sure	12%	16%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Benghazi the Biggest Scandal in American History?			
It is	23%	24%	21%
It is not	65%	62%	67%
Not sure	13%	13%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hillary Favorability				
Favorable	52%	84%	20%	45%
Unfavorable	44%	13%	76%	49%
Not sure	5%	3%	4%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cong. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	36%	11%	68%	34%
Unfavorable	57%	84%	24%	57%
Not sure	7%	5%	8%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Trust Hillary or Cong. GOP More on Benghazi?				
Hillary Clinton	49%	77%	22%	41%
Congressional Republicans	39%	12%	71%	43%
Not sure	11%	11%	7%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Where is Benghazi?				
Egypt	10%	11%	13%	5%
Cuba	3%	5%	2%	0%
Iran	4%	4%	3%	5%
North Korea	2%	2%	2%	1%
Libya	58%	49%	60%	68%
Syria	8%	10%	8%	5%
Iraq	1%	1%	2%	1%
Liberia	2%	1%	2%	2%
Somewhere else/Not sure	13%	16%	8%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Higher Priority: Benghazi or B/g Checks?				
Investigating Benghazi	43%	18%	72%	46%
Passing a bill requiring background checks for all gun sales	52%	78%	24%	49%
Not sure	5%	5%	3%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Higher Priority: Benghazi or Immigration?				
Investigating Benghazi	38%	20%	58%	40%
Passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill	56%	73%	36%	56%
Not sure	6%	7%	7%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Benghazi or Watergate Worse?				
Benghazi	45%	20%	74%	47%
Watergate	45%	66%	19%	43%
Not sure	10%	14%	7%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Benghazi or Teapot Dome Worse?				
Benghazi	45%	24%	74%	42%
Teapot Dome	30%	47%	12%	26%
Not sure	25%	29%	14%	31%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Benghazi or Iran Contra Worse?				
Benghazi	44%	23%	70%	44%
Iran Contra	44%	64%	20%	43%
Not sure	12%	13%	11%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Benghazi the Biggest Scandal in American History?				
It is	23%	10%	41%	20%
It is not	65%	79%	43%	69%
Not sure	13%	11%	16%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Hillary Favorability					
Favorable	52%	51%	48%	84%	43%
Unfavorable	44%	47%	48%	10%	47%
Not sure	5%	2%	4%	6%	9%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Cong. GOP Favorability					
Favorable	36%	24%	38%	18%	46%
Unfavorable	57%	69%	54%	76%	45%
Not sure	7%	7%	7%	6%	8%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Trust Hillary or Cong. GOP More on Benghazi?					
Hillary Clinton	49%	61%	45%	74%	42%
Congressional Republicans	39%	33%	44%	11%	40%
Not sure	11%	6%	11%	14%	19%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Where is Benghazi?					
Egypt	10%	19%	7%	14%	17%
Cuba	3%	11%	2%	2%	-
Iran	4%	4%	4%	6%	-
North Korea	2%	4%	1%	-	7%
Libya	58%	49%	63%	39%	52%
Syria	8%	6%	7%	15%	6%
Iraq	1%	2%	1%	5%	-
Liberia	2%	-	2%	-	2%
Somewhere else/Not sure	13%	7%	12%	20%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Higher Priority: Benghazi or B/g Checks?					
Investigating Benghazi	43%	56%	46%	8%	49%
Passing a bill requiring background checks for all gun sales	52%	42%	50%	88%	39%
Not sure	5%	2%	4%	4%	11%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Higher Priority: Benghazi or Immigration?					
Investigating Benghazi	38%	37%	39%	18%	51%
Passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill	56%	63%	54%	81%	40%
Not sure	6%	-	7%	1%	9%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Benghazi or Watergate Worse?					
Benghazi	45%	43%	47%	24%	60%
Watergate	45%	52%	45%	56%	22%
Not sure	10%	6%	8%	20%	19%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Benghazi or Teapot Dome Worse?					
Benghazi	45%	45%	47%	25%	53%
Teapot Dome	30%	39%	28%	43%	16%
Not sure	25%	16%	24%	31%	31%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Benghazi or Iran Contra Worse?					
Benghazi	44%	50%	45%	27%	53%
Iran Contra	44%	44%	43%	54%	35%
Not sure	12%	7%	12%	19%	12%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Benghazi the Biggest Scandal in American History?					
It is	23%	38%	23%	10%	23%
It is not	65%	52%	66%	70%	52%
Not sure	13%	10%	10%	19%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hillary Favorability					
Favorable	52%	58%	47%	54%	47%
Unfavorable	44%	42%	49%	40%	45%
Not sure	5%	-	4%	5%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cong. GOP Favorability					
Favorable	36%	35%	40%	32%	39%
Unfavorable	57%	65%	56%	58%	49%
Not sure	7%	-	5%	9%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust Hillary or Cong. GOP More on Benghazi?					
Hillary Clinton	49%	58%	49%	50%	39%
Congressional Republicans	39%	31%	41%	40%	43%
Not sure	11%	12%	10%	10%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Where is Benghazi?					
Egypt	10%	15%	12%	8%	5%
Cuba	3%	4%	5%	1%	4%
Iran	4%	8%	5%	3%	4%
North Korea	2%	4%	1%	2%	1%
Libya	58%	38%	58%	65%	58%
Syria	8%	4%	9%	9%	6%
Iraq	1%	4%	-	1%	2%
Liberia	2%	-	1%	3%	1%
Somewhere else/Not sure	13%	23%	9%	10%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Higher Priority: Benghazi or B/g Checks?					
Investigating Benghazi	43%	42%	48%	41%	45%
Passing a bill requiring background checks for all gun sales	52%	54%	48%	54%	52%
Not sure	5%	4%	5%	5%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Higher Priority: Benghazi or Immigration?					
Investigating Benghazi	38%	31%	41%	37%	42%
Passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill	56%	58%	56%	58%	53%
Not sure	6%	12%	4%	6%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Benghazi or Watergate Worse?					
Benghazi	45%	38%	53%	41%	50%
Watergate	45%	46%	43%	48%	36%
Not sure	10%	15%	4%	10%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Benghazi or Teapot Dome Worse?					
Benghazi	45%	58%	48%	39%	48%
Teapot Dome	30%	23%	27%	33%	30%
Not sure	25%	19%	25%	28%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Benghazi or Iran Contra Worse?					
Benghazi	44%	46%	51%	41%	39%
Iran Contra	44%	42%	41%	48%	41%
Not sure	12%	12%	9%	11%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Benghazi the Biggest Scandal in American History?					
It is	23%	31%	20%	21%	26%
It is not	65%	58%	75%	65%	57%
Not sure	13%	12%	5%	15%	18%

