

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 13, 2010

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Republicans Retake Generic Ballot Lead

Raleigh, N.C. – Republicans again lead the generic Congressional ballot test, 45-42, a slight jump over a 43-43 tie last month and a 43-41 Democratic edge in June. These are the GOP's best numbers since April, when they had a 47-42 advantage. The difference in the last month is small movements towards Democrats among independents, from a 38-31 GOP edge to only 37-33 now, but Democrats have become slightly less unified around their party's candidates and Republicans more so around theirs.

Congressional Democrats are still more popular than their Republican counterparts, but that is not saying much. Democrats' favorability mark stayed steady at 34-58 (33-57 in July), but Republicans' has improved from 20-62 in June, 20-60 in July, to 24-61 now.

Overall, the voter enthusiasm figures have changed little since July, with 58% claiming to be very excited, 23% somewhat excited, and 15% not very excited (57-22-17 last month). But while Republicans still have an excitement edge—67% of them say they are very excited about voting—that is essentially the same as the 66% who said that last month. Democrats, meanwhile, have become more motivated, at 56% very excited, versus July's 51%. Independents are down from 55% very excited to 50%.

34% support legalizing marijuana, to 52% who oppose it. Among the 27% who say they have smoked marijuana, 52% support legalization, versus only 25% support among the 63% who have never tried marijuana.

While only 33% think same-sex marriage should be legal, to 57% who think it should be illegal, 53% think it will be legal in 20 years, with 32% saying it will not.

“Despite improvements in President Obama's own numbers, things are not looking quite as rosy for Congressional Democrats, and the GOP's chances of gaining seats in Congress are ticking upward,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 606 American voters from August 6th to 9th. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.0%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

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



National Survey Results

- Q1** How excited are you about casting your vote in the midterm election this fall?
- Very excited*..... 58%
 - Somewhat excited* 23%
 - Not very excited*..... 15%
 - Not sure*..... 4%
- Q2** Do you approve or disapprove of the job Democrats in Congress are doing?
- Approve*..... 34% *Not sure* 8%
 - Disapprove*..... 58%
- Q3** Do you approve or disapprove of the job Republicans in Congress are doing?
- Approve*..... 24% *Not sure* 15%
 - Disapprove*..... 61%
- Q4** If the election for Congress was today would you vote for a Democrat or a Republican?
- Democrat* 42%
 - Republican*..... 45%
 - Undecided*..... 14%
- Q5** Do you support or oppose the legalization of marijuana?
- Support*..... 34%
 - Oppose* 52%
 - Not sure*..... 14%
- Q6** Do you think same-sex marriage should be legal or illegal?
- Legal*..... 33%
 - Illegal* 57%
 - Not sure*..... 11%
- Q7** 20 years from now do you think same sex marriage will be legal or illegal?
- Legal*..... 53%
 - Illegal* 32%
 - Not sure*..... 15%
- Q8** Who did you vote for President in 2008?
- John McCain*..... 45%
 - Barack Obama*..... 48%
 - Someone else/Don't remember* 7%
- Q9** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?
- Liberal*..... 19%
 - Moderate*..... 42%
 - Conservative*..... 39%
- Q10** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.
- Woman* 52%
 - Man*..... 48%
- Q11** 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*..... 35%
 - Independent/Other*..... 25%
- Q12** If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.
- Hispanic*..... 10%
 - White* 74%
 - African-American* 12%
 - Other*..... 4%





Q13 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.....	11%
30 to 45.....	25%
46 to 65.....	49%
Older than 65.....	16%

Q14 How would you describe your current employment status? If you are employed full time, press 1. If you are employed part time, press 2. If you are unemployed and looking for work, press 3. If you are a student, press 4. If you are a homemaker, press 5. If other, press 6

Full Time.....	46%
Part Time.....	10%
Unemployed.....	8%
Student.....	3%
Homemaker.....	8%
Other.....	25%

Q15 Have you ever smoked Marijuana? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you don't care to say, press 3.

Yes.....	27%
No.....	63%
N/A.....	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Voter Excitement					
Very excited	58%	100%	-	-	-
Somewhat excited	23%	-	100%	-	-
Not very excited	15%	-	-	100%	-
Not sure	4%	-	-	-	100%

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Congress Dem Approval					
Approve	34%	34%	38%	26%	52%
Disapprove	58%	60%	50%	65%	36%
Not sure	8%	6%	12%	9%	12%

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Congress GOP Approval					
Approve	24%	27%	23%	15%	20%
Disapprove	61%	57%	65%	72%	56%
Not sure	15%	16%	11%	13%	24%

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	42%	38%	52%	38%	44%
Republican	45%	54%	32%	34%	24%
Undecided	13%	8%	16%	28%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Marijuana Legalization					
Support	34%	32%	37%	39%	23%
Oppose	52%	57%	48%	38%	55%
Not sure	14%	11%	14%	23%	21%

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Gay Marriage Legal or Illegal					
Legal	33%	31%	38%	31%	39%
Illegal	57%	60%	51%	55%	53%
Not sure	10%	9%	11%	14%	8%

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Gay Marriage in 20y					
Legal	53%	50%	60%	54%	59%
Illegal	32%	37%	23%	29%	20%
Not sure	15%	13%	16%	18%	21%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Voter Excitement				
Very excited	58%	69%	51%	42%
Somewhat excited	23%	19%	29%	11%
Not very excited	15%	11%	15%	36%
Not sure	4%	2%	4%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	34%	4%	65%	23%
Disapprove	58%	94%	23%	62%
Not sure	8%	3%	12%	15%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	24%	41%	10%	7%
Disapprove	61%	36%	84%	67%
Not sure	15%	23%	5%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	42%	6%	79%	19%
Republican	45%	85%	8%	36%
Undecided	14%	10%	13%	45%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Marijuana Legalization				
Support	34%	20%	47%	33%
Oppose	52%	69%	37%	45%
Not sure	14%	11%	16%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gay Marriage Legal or Illegal				
Legal	33%	12%	54%	20%
Illegal	57%	80%	34%	58%
Not sure	11%	7%	12%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gay Marriage in 20y				
Legal	53%	33%	72%	52%
Illegal	32%	47%	19%	22%
Not sure	15%	19%	9%	26%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Voter Excitement				
Very excited	58%	59%	47%	71%
Somewhat excited	23%	24%	31%	15%
Not very excited	15%	16%	17%	12%
Not sure	4%	1%	6%	3%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	34%	72%	38%	11%
Disapprove	58%	20%	48%	87%
Not sure	8%	8%	14%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	24%	5%	19%	39%
Disapprove	61%	90%	67%	41%
Not sure	15%	6%	14%	20%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	42%	83%	50%	13%
Republican	45%	6%	31%	78%
Undecided	14%	11%	19%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Marijuana Legalization				
Support	34%	65%	36%	16%
Oppose	52%	22%	47%	72%
Not sure	14%	13%	17%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gay Marriage Legal or Illegal				
Legal	33%	70%	40%	7%
Illegal	57%	23%	44%	87%
Not sure	11%	7%	16%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gay Marriage in 20y				
Legal	53%	85%	61%	30%
Illegal	32%	12%	24%	50%
Not sure	15%	4%	15%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Voter Excitement			
Very excited	58%	53%	64%
Somewhat excited	23%	28%	18%
Not very excited	15%	15%	14%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Congress Dem Approval			
Approve	34%	37%	31%
Disapprove	58%	52%	64%
Not sure	8%	10%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Congress GOP Approval			
Approve	24%	24%	24%
Disapprove	61%	57%	65%
Not sure	15%	19%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Ballot			
Democrat	42%	44%	39%
Republican	45%	42%	48%
Undecided	14%	14%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Marijuana Legalization			
Support	34%	30%	38%
Oppose	52%	54%	50%
Not sure	14%	16%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gay Marriage Legal or Illegal			
Legal	33%	35%	31%
Illegal	57%	55%	59%
Not sure	11%	10%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gay Marriage in 20y			
Legal	53%	56%	51%
Illegal	32%	28%	36%
Not sure	15%	16%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Voter Excitement				
Very excited	58%	56%	67%	50%
Somewhat excited	23%	29%	19%	20%
Not very excited	15%	12%	12%	23%
Not sure	4%	3%	2%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	34%	66%	6%	25%
Disapprove	58%	24%	92%	61%
Not sure	8%	10%	2%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	24%	10%	40%	24%
Disapprove	61%	81%	36%	65%
Not sure	15%	9%	24%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	42%	81%	4%	33%
Republican	45%	10%	89%	37%
Undecided	14%	9%	7%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Marijuana Legalization				
Support	34%	41%	18%	44%
Oppose	52%	40%	72%	43%
Not sure	14%	19%	10%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gay Marriage Legal or Illegal				
Legal	33%	47%	12%	41%
Illegal	57%	40%	81%	48%
Not sure	11%	14%	7%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gay Marriage in 20y				
Legal	53%	65%	36%	59%
Illegal	32%	22%	47%	26%
Not sure	15%	13%	17%	15%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Voter Excitement					
Very excited	58%	53%	58%	63%	73%
Somewhat excited	23%	23%	23%	27%	18%
Not very excited	15%	23%	16%	3%	5%
Not sure	4%	-	3%	7%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Congress Dem Approval					
Approve	34%	43%	27%	70%	32%
Disapprove	58%	40%	67%	17%	55%
Not sure	8%	17%	6%	13%	14%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Congress GOP Approval					
Approve	24%	23%	26%	13%	14%
Disapprove	61%	57%	59%	77%	73%
Not sure	15%	20%	15%	10%	14%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	42%	53%	34%	83%	36%
Republican	45%	27%	52%	13%	41%
Undecided	14%	20%	14%	3%	23%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Marijuana Legalization					
Support	34%	33%	34%	33%	32%
Oppose	52%	50%	52%	50%	59%
Not sure	14%	17%	14%	17%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Gay Marriage Legal or Illegal					
Legal	33%	27%	34%	34%	23%
Illegal	57%	57%	58%	52%	45%
Not sure	11%	17%	8%	14%	32%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Gay Marriage in 20y					
Legal	53%	47%	54%	60%	41%
Illegal	32%	33%	31%	30%	45%
Not sure	15%	20%	15%	10%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Voter Excitement					
Very excited	58%	61%	48%	60%	67%
Somewhat excited	23%	25%	32%	20%	17%
Not very excited	15%	11%	15%	16%	14%
Not sure	4%	3%	5%	3%	2%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Congress Dem Approval					
Approve	34%	41%	29%	36%	31%
Disapprove	58%	58%	59%	56%	60%
Not sure	8%	1%	12%	7%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Congress GOP Approval					
Approve	24%	29%	24%	25%	16%
Disapprove	61%	63%	58%	64%	58%
Not sure	15%	8%	18%	11%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	42%	48%	33%	46%	37%
Republican	45%	41%	49%	43%	45%
Undecided	14%	11%	18%	11%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Marijuana Legalization					
Support	34%	52%	33%	31%	33%
Oppose	52%	42%	54%	52%	57%
Not sure	14%	5%	13%	18%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gay Marriage Legal or Illegal					
Legal	33%	44%	37%	29%	31%
Illegal	57%	52%	51%	59%	61%
Not sure	11%	4%	12%	12%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gay Marriage in 20y					
Legal	53%	63%	60%	50%	48%
Illegal	32%	31%	27%	33%	36%
Not sure	15%	6%	13%	17%	16%

	Base	Employment Status					
		Full Time	Part Time	Unemployed	Student	Homemaker	Other
Voter Excitement							
Very excited	58%	57%	57%	51%	32%	62%	65%
Somewhat excited	23%	26%	23%	22%	47%	24%	16%
Not very excited	15%	14%	17%	20%	16%	12%	14%
Not sure	4%	2%	3%	8%	5%	2%	5%

	Base	Employment Status					
		Full Time	Part Time	Unemployed	Student	Homemaker	Other
Congress Dem Approval							
Approve	34%	30%	36%	24%	52%	29%	44%
Disapprove	58%	61%	55%	63%	32%	69%	50%
Not sure	8%	9%	9%	13%	16%	2%	6%

	Base	Employment Status					
		Full Time	Part Time	Unemployed	Student	Homemaker	Other
Congress GOP Approval							
Approve	24%	23%	24%	33%	26%	30%	21%
Disapprove	61%	64%	62%	46%	58%	46%	66%
Not sure	15%	13%	14%	21%	16%	25%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Employment Status					
		Full Time	Part Time	Unemployed	Student	Homemaker	Other
Generic Ballot							
Democrat	42%	39%	48%	36%	73%	32%	45%
Republican	45%	46%	38%	42%	27%	59%	42%
Undecided	14%	14%	14%	23%	-	8%	13%

	Base	Employment Status					
		Full Time	Part Time	Unemployed	Student	Homemaker	Other
Marijuana Legalization							
Support	34%	32%	42%	45%	53%	18%	34%
Oppose	52%	53%	39%	43%	47%	72%	52%
Not sure	14%	15%	18%	12%	-	10%	14%

	Base	Employment Status					
		Full Time	Part Time	Unemployed	Student	Homemaker	Other
Gay Marriage Legal or Illegal							
Legal	33%	32%	43%	32%	64%	22%	31%
Illegal	57%	59%	47%	55%	31%	63%	58%
Not sure	11%	10%	10%	13%	5%	15%	11%

	Base	Employment Status					
		Full Time	Part Time	Unemployed	Student	Homemaker	Other
Gay Marriage in 20y							
Legal	53%	55%	57%	43%	89%	40%	52%
Illegal	32%	30%	32%	37%	11%	41%	32%
Not sure	15%	15%	11%	20%	-	18%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Smoked Marijuana		
		Yes	No	N/A
Voter Excitement				
Very excited	58%	51%	62%	55%
Somewhat excited	23%	27%	22%	20%
Not very excited	15%	22%	11%	19%
Not sure	4%	1%	5%	5%

	Base	Smoked Marijuana		
		Yes	No	N/A
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	34%	37%	35%	24%
Disapprove	58%	55%	58%	61%
Not sure	8%	8%	7%	15%

	Base	Smoked Marijuana		
		Yes	No	N/A
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	24%	21%	26%	20%
Disapprove	61%	69%	59%	55%
Not sure	15%	10%	15%	25%

	Base	Smoked Marijuana		
		Yes	No	N/A
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	42%	47%	40%	37%
Republican	44%	42%	46%	40%
Undecided	14%	11%	13%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Smoked Marijuana		
		Yes	No	N/A
Marijuana Legalization				
Support	34%	52%	25%	40%
Oppose	52%	31%	63%	40%
Not sure	14%	17%	12%	20%

	Base	Smoked Marijuana		
		Yes	No	N/A
Gay Marriage Legal or Illegal				
Legal	33%	47%	27%	34%
Illegal	57%	44%	62%	54%
Not sure	10%	9%	11%	11%

	Base	Smoked Marijuana		
		Yes	No	N/A
Gay Marriage in 20y				
Legal	53%	68%	47%	53%
Illegal	32%	22%	37%	23%
Not sure	15%	9%	16%	24%

