



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

Obama still leading 2012 contests, but Huck getting closer

Raleigh, N.C. – Public Policy Polling’s fifth monthly survey looking at how Barack Obama does when matched up against possible 2012 opponents reaches the same key conclusions all of the other polls did: Obama leads all comers, and Mike Huckabee is the strongest Republican at this point.

In this month’s iteration of the survey Huckabee polls the closest to Obama of any match up so far, trailing the President just 47-44. A month ago the spread was 48-42.

Newt Gingrich comes the next closest, trailing 49-41, followed by Mitt Romney at 47-40 and Sarah Palin at 52-38.

In addition to coming the closest to Obama, Huckabee also has the best favorability rating of the group. 45% of voters have a positive opinion of him to just 28% unfavorable. The other Republican with a net positive rating, at 37/34, is Mitt Romney.

A plurality of voters have a negative opinion of both Sarah Palin and Newt Gingrich. For the former Alaska Governor it’s 49% unfavorable to 40% favorable, and for the one time Speaker of the House it’s 42% unfavorable to 33% favorable.

“Mike Huckabee has received a lot less attention in the context of 2012 than Sarah Palin and Mitt Romney,” said Dean Debnam. “But he’s quietly, at this very early stage, emerging as the strongest GOP alternative to Barack Obama.”

Last month’s survey had found Obama leading Huckabee by 6, Palin and Gingrich by 8, and Romney by 9.

PPP conducted a national survey of 909 voters from August 14th to 17th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.3%. 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 approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve..... 52% *Not Sure*..... 6%
Disapprove..... 42%

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

Favorable.....33% *Not Sure*.....25%
Unfavorable42%

Q3 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.....45% *Not Sure*.....27%
Unfavorable28%

Q4 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..... 40%
Unfavorable 49%
Not Sure..... 11%

Q5 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..... 37%
Unfavorable 34%
Not Sure..... 29%

Q6 If the candidates for President next time were Newt Gingrich and Barack Obama, who would you vote for? If Newt Gingrich, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Gingrich 41%
Obama.....49%
Not Sure..... 10%

Q7 If the candidates for President next time were Mike Huckabee and Barack Obama, who would you vote for? If Mike Huckabee, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Huckabee..... 44%
Obama.....47%
Not Sure..... 10%

Q8 If the candidates for President next time were Sarah Palin and Barack Obama, who would you vote for? If Sarah Palin, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Palin..... 38%
Obama.....52%
Not Sure..... 10%

Q9 If the candidates for President next time were Mitt Romney and Barack Obama, who would you vote for? If Mitt Romney, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Romney 40%
Obama.....47%
Not Sure..... 12%





Q10 Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

McCain..... 42%
Obama..... 48%
Someone else/don't remember..... 10%

Q11 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 16%
Moderate..... 48%
Conservative..... 36%

Q12 If you make less than \$25,000 a year, press 1. If you make between \$25,000 and \$50,000 a year, press 2. If you make between \$50,000 and \$75,000 a year, press 3. If you make between \$75,000 and \$100,000 a year, press 4. If you make more than \$100,000 a year, press 5.

Less than 25k..... 26%
25 to 50k..... 30%
50 to 75k..... 19%
75 to 100k..... 10%
Over 100k..... 15%

Q13 Which of these categories best describes your education level? If you have some graduate or professional schooling after college, press 1. If you have a bachelor's degree, press 2. If you attended some college, including community college, after high school press 3. If you are a high school graduate, press 4. If you did not graduate from high school, press 5.

Post-Graduate Education..... 35%
Bachelor's Degree 21%
Some College 28%
High School Grad 12%
Didn't graduate from High School..... 4%

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

Woman 51%
Man..... 49%

Q15 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat..... 41%
Republican..... 35%
Independent/Other..... 24%

Q16 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 10%
White 73%
African American 12%
Other..... 5%

Q17 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..... 16%
30 to 45..... 22%
46 to 65..... 44%
Older than 65..... 19%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	52%	10%	91%	41%
Disapprove	42%	84%	4%	40%
Not Sure	6%	5%	5%	19%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	33%	56%	14%	27%
Unfavorable	42%	22%	59%	37%
Not Sure	25%	22%	26%	37%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	45%	69%	25%	37%
Unfavorable	28%	12%	44%	19%
Not Sure	27%	19%	31%	44%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	40%	76%	11%	32%
Unfavorable	48%	13%	81%	42%
Not Sure	11%	11%	9%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	37%	56%	21%	34%
Unfavorable	34%	16%	51%	25%
Not Sure	29%	28%	27%	42%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Gingrich/Obama				
Gingrich	41%	80%	8%	33%
Obama	49%	8%	87%	37%
Not Sure	10%	12%	5%	30%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Huckabee/Obama				
Huckabee	44%	84%	10%	33%
Obama	47%	7%	85%	29%
Not Sure	10%	9%	5%	38%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Obama/Palin				
Palin	38%	77%	5%	31%
Obama	52%	9%	92%	39%
Not Sure	10%	13%	3%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Obama/Romney				
Romney	40%	79%	6%	38%
Obama	47%	6%	87%	31%
Not Sure	12%	15%	7%	31%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	52%	90%	62%	21%
Disapprove	42%	7%	32%	70%
Not Sure	6%	3%	6%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	33%	18%	24%	52%
Unfavorable	42%	66%	49%	20%
Not Sure	25%	16%	26%	28%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	45%	24%	40%	61%
Unfavorable	28%	54%	30%	13%
Not Sure	27%	21%	29%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	40%	14%	29%	68%
Unfavorable	49%	83%	58%	20%
Not Sure	11%	4%	13%	12%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	37%	22%	34%	49%
Unfavorable	34%	55%	36%	22%
Not Sure	29%	23%	30%	30%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gingrich/Obama				
Gingrich	41%	17%	28%	68%
Obama	49%	81%	60%	21%
Not Sure	10%	3%	12%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Huckabee/Obama				
Huckabee	44%	17%	32%	71%
Obama	47%	81%	56%	19%
Not Sure	9%	3%	12%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Palin				
Palin	38%	11%	25%	68%
Obama	52%	85%	63%	22%
Not Sure	10%	3%	12%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Romney				
Romney	40%	13%	30%	66%
Obama	47%	81%	57%	20%
Not Sure	12%	6%	13%	14%

	Base	Income				
		Less than 25k	25 to 50k	50 to 75k	75 to 100k	Over 100k
Obama Approval						
Approve	52%	54%	53%	52%	47%	50%
Disapprove	42%	39%	41%	40%	44%	48%
Not Sure	6%	7%	6%	8%	8%	3%

	Base	Income				
		Less than 25k	25 to 50k	50 to 75k	75 to 100k	Over 100k
Gingrich Favorability						
Favorable	33%	31%	30%	36%	30%	40%
Unfavorable	42%	37%	42%	43%	45%	45%
Not Sure	25%	32%	28%	21%	25%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Income				
		Less than 25k	25 to 50k	50 to 75k	75 to 100k	Over 100k
Huckabee Favorability						
Favorable	45%	43%	47%	42%	44%	49%
Unfavorable	28%	23%	24%	32%	30%	36%
Not Sure	27%	34%	29%	25%	26%	14%

	Base	Income				
		Less than 25k	25 to 50k	50 to 75k	75 to 100k	Over 100k
Palin Favorability						
Favorable	40%	42%	41%	39%	40%	37%
Unfavorable	49%	41%	50%	50%	50%	55%
Not Sure	11%	17%	9%	10%	10%	8%

	Base	Income				
		Less than 25k	25 to 50k	50 to 75k	75 to 100k	Over 100k
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	37%	29%	37%	35%	37%	54%
Unfavorable	34%	32%	33%	40%	34%	33%
Not Sure	29%	39%	30%	25%	29%	13%

	Base	Income				
		Less than 25k	25 to 50k	50 to 75k	75 to 100k	Over 100k
Gingrich/Obama						
Gingrich	41%	39%	39%	41%	42%	44%
Obama	49%	48%	50%	50%	47%	50%
Not Sure	10%	13%	11%	9%	11%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Income				
		Less than 25k	25 to 50k	50 to 75k	75 to 100k	Over 100k
Huckabee/Obama						
Huckabee	44%	42%	45%	40%	47%	47%
Obama	47%	46%	46%	48%	47%	48%
Not Sure	10%	12%	10%	12%	5%	5%

	Base	Income				
		Less than 25k	25 to 50k	50 to 75k	75 to 100k	Over 100k
Obama/Palin						
Palin	38%	41%	37%	36%	38%	38%
Obama	52%	48%	53%	56%	50%	55%
Not Sure	10%	11%	11%	8%	12%	7%

	Base	Income				
		Less than 25k	25 to 50k	50 to 75k	75 to 100k	Over 100k
Obama/Romney						
Romney	40%	38%	36%	41%	44%	49%
Obama	47%	47%	49%	49%	44%	45%
Not Sure	12%	16%	14%	10%	12%	6%

	Base	Education				
		Post-Graduate Education	Bachelor's Degree	Some College	High School Grad	Didn't graduate from High School
Obama Approval						
Approve	52%	60%	53%	46%	44%	42%
Disapprove	42%	33%	45%	47%	47%	41%
Not Sure	6%	7%	2%	6%	9%	18%





Crosstabs

	Education					
	Base	Post-Graduate Education	Bachelor's Degree	Some College	High School Grad	Didn't graduate from High School
Gingrich Favorability						
Favorable	33%	34%	36%	35%	25%	20%
Unfavorable	42%	45%	45%	38%	34%	44%
Not Sure	25%	21%	19%	28%	41%	36%

	Education					
	Base	Post-Graduate Education	Bachelor's Degree	Some College	High School Grad	Didn't graduate from High School
Huckabee Favorability						
Favorable	45%	43%	51%	46%	43%	38%
Unfavorable	28%	33%	32%	24%	17%	21%
Not Sure	27%	25%	17%	30%	40%	41%

	Education					
	Base	Post-Graduate Education	Bachelor's Degree	Some College	High School Grad	Didn't graduate from High School
Palin Favorability						
Favorable	40%	32%	44%	42%	55%	36%
Unfavorable	49%	57%	52%	44%	30%	42%
Not Sure	11%	11%	4%	13%	15%	21%

	Education					
	Base	Post-Graduate Education	Bachelor's Degree	Some College	High School Grad	Didn't graduate from High School
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	37%	42%	39%	35%	32%	14%
Unfavorable	34%	37%	41%	29%	25%	39%
Not Sure	29%	20%	20%	37%	44%	46%





Crosstabs

	Education					
	Base	Post-Graduate Education	Bachelor's Degree	Some College	High School Grad	Didn't graduate from High School
Gingrich/Obama						
Gingrich	41%	37%	47%	43%	39%	28%
Obama	49%	57%	49%	44%	40%	45%
Not Sure	10%	6%	4%	14%	21%	27%

	Education					
	Base	Post-Graduate Education	Bachelor's Degree	Some College	High School Grad	Didn't graduate from High School
Huckabee/Obama						
Huckabee	44%	37%	47%	46%	55%	38%
Obama	47%	55%	47%	42%	33%	41%
Not Sure	10%	8%	6%	12%	11%	21%

	Education					
	Base	Post-Graduate Education	Bachelor's Degree	Some College	High School Grad	Didn't graduate from High School
Obama/Palin						
Palin	38%	30%	43%	41%	46%	41%
Obama	52%	61%	53%	46%	39%	47%
Not Sure	10%	9%	4%	13%	14%	13%

	Education					
	Base	Post-Graduate Education	Bachelor's Degree	Some College	High School Grad	Didn't graduate from High School
Obama/Romney						
Romney	40%	36%	45%	44%	39%	29%
Obama	47%	54%	49%	42%	36%	46%
Not Sure	12%	10%	6%	13%	24%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	52%	56%	48%
Disapprove	42%	39%	45%
Not Sure	6%	6%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	33%	28%	38%
Unfavorable	42%	42%	41%
Not Sure	25%	30%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Huckabee Favorability			
Favorable	45%	43%	47%
Unfavorable	28%	28%	28%
Not Sure	27%	29%	25%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	40%	37%	43%
Unfavorable	49%	51%	46%
Not Sure	11%	12%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	37%	33%	42%
Unfavorable	34%	32%	37%
Not Sure	29%	35%	22%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich/Obama			
Gingrich	41%	35%	46%
Obama	49%	53%	45%
Not Sure	10%	12%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Huckabee/Obama			
Huckabee	44%	39%	49%
Obama	47%	50%	43%
Not Sure	10%	11%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Palin			
Palin	38%	35%	41%
Obama	52%	56%	48%
Not Sure	10%	9%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Romney	40%	36%	44%
Obama	47%	50%	44%
Not Sure	12%	14%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	52%	85%	16%	48%
Disapprove	42%	10%	79%	42%
Not Sure	6%	6%	5%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	33%	13%	56%	34%
Unfavorable	42%	57%	21%	45%
Not Sure	25%	30%	23%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	45%	26%	66%	48%
Unfavorable	28%	43%	13%	24%
Not Sure	27%	31%	22%	27%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	40%	15%	72%	37%
Unfavorable	49%	75%	16%	49%
Not Sure	11%	10%	11%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	37%	23%	52%	40%
Unfavorable	34%	49%	18%	31%
Not Sure	29%	28%	30%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich/Obama				
Gingrich	41%	12%	76%	38%
Obama	49%	82%	13%	45%
Not Sure	10%	6%	11%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Huckabee/Obama				
Huckabee	44%	15%	80%	41%
Obama	47%	80%	11%	42%
Not Sure	10%	6%	9%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Palin				
Palin	38%	10%	74%	34%
Obama	52%	84%	15%	50%
Not Sure	10%	6%	11%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Romney	40%	11%	74%	41%
Obama	47%	81%	11%	41%
Not Sure	12%	7%	14%	18%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Obama Approval					
Approve	52%	62%	44%	91%	57%
Disapprove	42%	32%	49%	6%	37%
Not Sure	6%	6%	7%	3%	6%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	33%	37%	34%	24%	37%
Unfavorable	42%	32%	43%	42%	43%
Not Sure	25%	31%	24%	34%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	45%	38%	50%	28%	27%
Unfavorable	28%	27%	26%	32%	47%
Not Sure	27%	35%	24%	40%	26%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	40%	33%	46%	17%	23%
Unfavorable	49%	50%	43%	71%	71%
Not Sure	11%	17%	11%	12%	6%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	37%	33%	40%	19%	45%
Unfavorable	34%	35%	33%	39%	35%
Not Sure	29%	32%	27%	41%	21%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Gingrich/Obama					
Gingrich	41%	38%	47%	7%	28%
Obama	49%	51%	42%	89%	56%
Not Sure	10%	10%	11%	4%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Huckabee/Obama					
Huckabee	44%	38%	52%	7%	24%
Obama	47%	49%	39%	89%	61%
Not Sure	10%	14%	10%	4%	15%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Obama/Palin					
Palin	38%	36%	44%	5%	31%
Obama	52%	53%	45%	90%	59%
Not Sure	10%	11%	11%	5%	10%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Obama/Romney					
Romney	40%	37%	47%	9%	28%
Obama	47%	52%	39%	88%	63%
Not Sure	12%	11%	14%	3%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	52%	68%	43%	52%	49%
Disapprove	42%	25%	50%	42%	46%
Not Sure	6%	8%	7%	6%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	33%	30%	33%	32%	37%
Unfavorable	42%	32%	38%	47%	42%
Not Sure	25%	38%	30%	21%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	45%	45%	49%	41%	49%
Unfavorable	28%	19%	24%	33%	28%
Not Sure	27%	36%	27%	26%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	40%	30%	43%	41%	44%
Unfavorable	49%	53%	45%	50%	45%
Not Sure	11%	17%	12%	9%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	37%	32%	37%	38%	40%
Unfavorable	34%	34%	29%	38%	32%
Not Sure	29%	34%	34%	25%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich/Obama					
Gingrich	41%	40%	44%	39%	42%
Obama	49%	53%	44%	51%	47%
Not Sure	10%	8%	12%	10%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Huckabee/Obama					
Huckabee	44%	40%	49%	41%	46%
Obama	47%	51%	42%	48%	45%
Not Sure	10%	9%	8%	11%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Palin					
Palin	38%	28%	45%	38%	39%
Obama	52%	60%	47%	52%	51%
Not Sure	10%	11%	8%	10%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Romney	40%	28%	46%	40%	44%
Obama	47%	58%	43%	47%	44%
Not Sure	12%	13%	11%	13%	11%

