



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Palin or Perry would make Obama competitive in Texas

Raleigh, N.C. – Despite Tuesday’s release showing a dire outlook for Democrats in succeeding Kay Bailey Hutchison, today’s results indicate President Obama is poised to make a run at winning Texas’ expanded 38 electoral votes next year. Mike Huckabee is the only candidate who currently puts the president in a larger hole than his 12-point loss to John McCain in 2008. Against everyone else, including Governor Rick Perry, the result is a statistical tie or just outside the margin of error. In fact, Perry and Sarah Palin would be only even-money to keep Texas from turning blue for the first time in 36 years.

Huckabee tops Obama by 16 points, 55-39. Mitt Romney has a respectable 49-42 advantage, and Newt Gingrich a 48-43 lead. But homegrown Perry only matches the president at 45%, and Palin posts an insignificant 47-46 edge.

The size of Obama’s deficit is largely a reflection of how independents swing. At 27% of Texas’ electorate, they are almost as numerous as Democrats (31%), and Obama wins their support against every opponent but Huckabee—50-31 over Perry, 54-37 over Palin, 48-34 over Gingrich, and 43-41 over Romney. Huckabee reverses that to a 49-38 lead with unaffiliated voters. Huckabee is also the only candidate to take more Democrats (12%) than the president does Republicans (6%). Whereas Obama has a slight party-unity advantage over most of the others, getting 83-87% of Democrats to their 80-86% of Republicans, Huckabee gets 92% of his party, with Obama at 85% of Democrats.

Perry is only slightly more popular than the president in this deep red state where 42% of voters are Republicans, with a poor 42-50 approval rating to Obama’s 42-55. Perry was soundly re-elected last November, but in a much more Republican electorate than he would face in a presidential year. Huckabee is extremely popular, with a 51-30 favorability rating. Romney is the only other one above water, at 40-37, with Gingrich at 38-44 and Palin at 42-53.

“At the end of the day, it’s unlikely even the most unelectable Republican loses Texas in even the largest re-election landslide scenario for President Obama,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But this certainly drives home how unpopular Sarah Palin is right now, and how much more popular Obama is than most Democrats.”

PPP surveyed 892 Texas voters from January 14th to 16th. 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.





Texas Survey Results

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

Approve 42%
Disapprove..... 55%
Not sure 4%

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

Favorable..... 38%
Unfavorable 44%
Not sure 18%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Huckabee?

Favorable..... 51%
Unfavorable 30%
Not sure 19%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Sarah Palin?

Favorable..... 42%
Unfavorable 53%
Not sure 5%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

Favorable..... 40%
Unfavorable 37%
Not sure 24%

Q6 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Rick Perry's job performance?

Approve 42%
Disapprove..... 50%
Not sure 9%

Q7 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Newt Gingrich, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 43%
Newt Gingrich 48%
Undecided..... 9%

Q8 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mike Huckabee, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 39%
Mike Huckabee 55%
Undecided..... 5%

Q9 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Sarah Palin, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 46%
Sarah Palin 47%
Undecided..... 7%

Q10 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 42%
Mitt Romney..... 49%
Undecided..... 9%

Q11 If the candidates for President next year were Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Rick Perry, who would you vote for?

Barack Obama..... 45%
Rick Perry 45%
Undecided..... 11%





Q12 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison's job performance?

Approve 45%
Disapprove..... 37%
Not sure 18%

Q13 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator John Cornyn's job performance?

Approve 44%
Disapprove..... 32%
Not sure 24%

Q14 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 13%
Moderate..... 37%
Conservative..... 50%

Q15 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q16 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..... 31%
Republican..... 42%
Independent/Other..... 27%

Q17 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 17%
White 65%
African-American 13%
Other..... 5%

Q18 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..... 12%
30 to 45..... 26%
46 to 65..... 42%
Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	42%	70%	67%	15%
Disapprove	55%	25%	25%	84%
Not sure	4%	5%	8%	0%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	38%	24%	24%	53%
Unfavorable	44%	60%	55%	30%
Not sure	18%	16%	21%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	51%	16%	38%	71%
Unfavorable	30%	65%	39%	13%
Not sure	19%	19%	23%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	42%	15%	18%	67%
Unfavorable	53%	81%	78%	26%
Not sure	5%	5%	4%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	40%	25%	32%	49%
Unfavorable	37%	57%	38%	30%
Not sure	24%	17%	29%	21%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Perry Approval				
Approve	42%	18%	24%	61%
Disapprove	50%	76%	66%	30%
Not sure	9%	6%	10%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	43%	76%	68%	16%
Newt Gingrich	48%	15%	28%	72%
Undecided	9%	10%	4%	12%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	39%	76%	63%	12%
Mike Huckabee	55%	15%	33%	82%
Undecided	5%	10%	3%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	46%	81%	68%	20%
Sarah Palin	47%	15%	23%	73%
Undecided	7%	5%	9%	7%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	42%	76%	69%	13%
Mitt Romney	49%	13%	25%	77%
Undecided	9%	11%	6%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama/Perry				
Barack Obama	45%	81%	69%	17%
Rick Perry	45%	11%	25%	69%
Undecided	11%	8%	6%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Hutchison Approval				
Approve	45%	38%	46%	46%
Disapprove	37%	44%	38%	34%
Not sure	18%	18%	16%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Cornyn Approval				
Approve	44%	11%	26%	65%
Disapprove	32%	65%	41%	17%
Not sure	24%	24%	33%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	42%	40%	44%
Disapprove	55%	54%	55%
Not sure	4%	6%	1%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	38%	35%	42%
Unfavorable	44%	40%	48%
Not sure	18%	25%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Huckabee Favorability			
Favorable	51%	46%	56%
Unfavorable	30%	24%	36%
Not sure	19%	30%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	42%	39%	45%
Unfavorable	53%	53%	52%
Not sure	5%	8%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	40%	34%	46%
Unfavorable	37%	34%	40%
Not sure	24%	33%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perry Approval			
Approve	42%	42%	41%
Disapprove	50%	47%	53%
Not sure	9%	11%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	43%	43%	44%
Newt Gingrich	48%	48%	48%
Undecided	9%	9%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Huckabee			
Barack Obama	39%	41%	38%
Mike Huckabee	55%	54%	57%
Undecided	5%	6%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Palin			
Barack Obama	46%	44%	48%
Sarah Palin	47%	46%	48%
Undecided	7%	10%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	42%	43%	42%
Mitt Romney	49%	48%	50%
Undecided	9%	9%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Perry			
Barack Obama	45%	45%	45%
Rick Perry	45%	43%	47%
Undecided	11%	12%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hutchison Approval			
Approve	45%	43%	47%
Disapprove	37%	34%	40%
Not sure	18%	22%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cornyn Approval			
Approve	44%	37%	50%
Disapprove	32%	27%	38%
Not sure	24%	35%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	42%	80%	11%	45%
Disapprove	55%	14%	87%	52%
Not sure	4%	6%	2%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	38%	16%	63%	26%
Unfavorable	44%	63%	20%	58%
Not sure	18%	21%	17%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Huckabee Favorability				
Favorable	51%	17%	75%	55%
Unfavorable	30%	54%	11%	30%
Not sure	19%	29%	14%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	42%	8%	73%	33%
Unfavorable	53%	87%	22%	61%
Not sure	5%	5%	5%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	40%	25%	53%	35%
Unfavorable	37%	53%	24%	37%
Not sure	24%	21%	23%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perry Approval				
Approve	42%	15%	68%	31%
Disapprove	50%	73%	24%	61%
Not sure	9%	12%	7%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	43%	85%	9%	48%
Newt Gingrich	48%	10%	86%	34%
Undecided	9%	5%	6%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Huckabee				
Barack Obama	39%	85%	6%	38%
Mike Huckabee	55%	12%	92%	49%
Undecided	5%	4%	2%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	46%	83%	12%	54%
Sarah Palin	47%	12%	80%	37%
Undecided	7%	5%	8%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	42%	87%	8%	43%
Mitt Romney	49%	8%	86%	41%
Undecided	9%	5%	6%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Perry				
Barack Obama	45%	87%	9%	50%
Rick Perry	45%	9%	81%	31%
Undecided	11%	4%	10%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hutchison Approval				
Approve	45%	32%	51%	52%
Disapprove	37%	45%	31%	35%
Not sure	18%	23%	18%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cornyn Approval				
Approve	44%	11%	66%	47%
Disapprove	32%	55%	14%	34%
Not sure	24%	33%	20%	20%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval					
Approve	42%	53%	28%	86%	65%
Disapprove	55%	43%	68%	14%	29%
Not sure	4%	4%	4%	-	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	38%	27%	47%	18%	16%
Unfavorable	44%	47%	38%	55%	72%
Not sure	18%	25%	15%	26%	12%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	51%	35%	62%	28%	29%
Unfavorable	30%	34%	24%	41%	59%
Not sure	19%	31%	14%	32%	13%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	42%	28%	55%	4%	13%
Unfavorable	53%	65%	39%	93%	84%
Not sure	5%	7%	6%	3%	3%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Rom ney Favorability					
Favorable	40%	36%	43%	36%	22%
Unfavorable	37%	31%	34%	43%	71%
Not sure	24%	33%	23%	21%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Perry Approval					
Approve	42%	35%	49%	21%	13%
Disapprove	50%	63%	42%	62%	75%
Not sure	9%	2%	9%	17%	13%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	43%	55%	29%	90%	71%
Newt Gingrich	48%	33%	62%	9%	16%
Undecided	9%	12%	9%	1%	13%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Huckabee					
Barack Obama	39%	53%	26%	82%	56%
Mike Huckabee	55%	40%	70%	14%	19%
Undecided	5%	7%	4%	4%	25%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Palin					
Barack Obama	46%	56%	31%	88%	87%
Sarah Palin	47%	34%	61%	9%	10%
Undecided	7%	11%	8%	3%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	42%	57%	27%	90%	71%
Mitt Romney	49%	33%	64%	9%	16%
Undecided	9%	10%	9%	1%	13%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama/Perry					
Barack Obama	45%	52%	31%	90%	81%
Rick Perry	45%	29%	58%	9%	16%
Undecided	11%	19%	11%	1%	3%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Hutchison Approval					
Approve	45%	36%	46%	49%	57%
Disapprove	37%	45%	37%	28%	31%
Not sure	18%	19%	17%	24%	12%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Cornyn Approval					
Approve	44%	33%	51%	19%	41%
Disapprove	32%	39%	28%	41%	47%
Not sure	24%	28%	21%	40%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	42%	37%	51%	42%	32%
Disapprove	55%	53%	44%	56%	67%
Not sure	4%	11%	5%	2%	2%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	38%	42%	31%	37%	50%
Unfavorable	44%	21%	62%	44%	33%
Not sure	18%	37%	8%	19%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	51%	42%	51%	52%	56%
Unfavorable	30%	37%	31%	29%	24%
Not sure	19%	21%	18%	19%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	42%	47%	26%	47%	50%
Unfavorable	53%	47%	69%	50%	39%
Not sure	5%	5%	5%	3%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	40%	42%	33%	42%	42%
Unfavorable	37%	32%	44%	35%	34%
Not sure	24%	26%	23%	23%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perry Approval					
Approve	42%	58%	31%	40%	48%
Disapprove	50%	37%	59%	52%	39%
Not sure	9%	5%	10%	7%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	43%	42%	59%	40%	30%
Newt Gingrich	48%	53%	31%	52%	59%
Undecided	9%	5%	10%	7%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Huckabee					
Barack Obama	39%	42%	49%	38%	28%
Mike Huckabee	55%	53%	44%	57%	68%
Undecided	5%	5%	8%	5%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Palin					
Barack Obama	46%	37%	67%	43%	29%
Sarah Palin	47%	53%	31%	50%	58%
Undecided	7%	11%	3%	7%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	42%	42%	56%	40%	27%
Mitt Romney	49%	53%	33%	54%	58%
Undecided	9%	5%	10%	6%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Perry					
Barack Obama	45%	37%	64%	42%	29%
Rick Perry	45%	58%	28%	47%	55%
Undecided	11%	5%	8%	11%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hutchison Approval					
Approve	45%	42%	51%	40%	49%
Disapprove	37%	32%	31%	44%	32%
Not sure	18%	26%	18%	15%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cornyn Approval					
Approve	44%	26%	41%	44%	55%
Disapprove	32%	32%	36%	34%	24%
Not sure	24%	42%	23%	21%	21%

