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**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL [information@publicpolicypolling.com](mailto:information@publicpolicypolling.com), OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

## **Obama up 20 on Romney in VT instead of 37 on McCain**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – President Obama is even struggling in Vermont, compared to 2008—but his 37-point victory over John McCain there means “struggling” is a relative term, to say the least. He still beats any potential Republican nominee by at least 20 points.

Neighboring Massachusetts’ Mitt Romney unsurprisingly does the best of the GOP bunch, not only because of his regional ties but because he performs the best everywhere. His 54-34 deficit is yards ahead of Michele Bachmann’s 58-30, Rick Perry’s 57-28, Herman Cain’s 58-26, and Sarah Palin’s 62-28. That Palin even outperforms McCain on the margin is a sign of the president’s slippage in this heavily white yet progressive state.

It is not a matter of a decline within his own party—Obama still locks them up, and that is a large part of the battle in Vermont, where Democrats have a 13-point identification advantage over the GOP. Most of the decline is because two of every five voters claims to not align with either party, and 14-23% of them remain undecided. The president still leads by 25 to 42 points with them, but that is down from the 49-point victory reported in the 2008 exit polls. If the undecided independents were assigned proportionately to where the decided ones are, the president would still only match his 2008 margin against Palin. He also only achieves the double-digit GOP support he got against McCain now against McCain’s running mate.

The president’s 53-40 approval-disapproval spread remains his sixth best out of the 45 states in which PPP has polled him, topping only his native Hawaii, Massachusetts, Maryland, and Connecticut, and barely behind Rhode Island and ahead of California. Even his 20-point margin over Romney matches Kerry’s victory over Bush and outdoes Gore’s edge by 10 points.

“There are states where the president can slip a lot and still win without a sweat, and Vermont is one of them,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 1,233 Vermont voters from July 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>. The margin of error for the survey is +/-2.8%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.



## Vermont Survey Results

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

*Approve* ..... 53%  
*Disapprove*..... 40%  
*Not sure* ..... 7%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Michele Bachmann?

*Favorable*..... 23%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 55%  
*Not sure* ..... 22%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Herman Cain?

*Favorable*..... 13%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 30%  
*Not sure* ..... 56%

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

*Favorable*..... 25%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 66%  
*Not sure* ..... 9%

**Q5** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rick Perry?

*Favorable*..... 14%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 34%  
*Not sure* ..... 52%

**Q6** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

*Favorable*..... 31%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 49%  
*Not sure* ..... 21%

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

*Barack Obama*..... 58%  
*Michele Bachmann* ..... 30%  
*Undecided*..... 11%

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

*Barack Obama*..... 58%  
*Herman Cain*..... 26%  
*Undecided*..... 16%

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

*Barack Obama*..... 62%  
*Sarah Palin* ..... 28%  
*Undecided*..... 10%

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

*Barack Obama*..... 57%  
*Rick Perry* ..... 28%  
*Undecided*..... 15%

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

*Barack Obama*..... 54%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 34%  
*Undecided*..... 12%





**Q12** Who did you vote for President in 2008?

<i>John McCain</i> .....	32%
<i>Barack Obama</i> .....	60%
<i>Someone else/Don't remember</i> .....	8%

**Q13** Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i> .....	15%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i> .....	25%
<i>Moderate</i> .....	30%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i> .....	20%
<i>Very conservative</i> .....	9%

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

<i>Woman</i> .....	52%
<i>Man</i> .....	48%

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

<i>Democrat</i> .....	37%
<i>Republican</i> .....	24%
<i>Independent/Other</i> .....	40%

**Q16** If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

<i>White</i> .....	94%
<i>Other</i> .....	6%

**Q17** 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.

<i>18 to 29</i> .....	10%
<i>30 to 45</i> .....	28%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	42%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	53%	9%	78%	40%
<b>Disapprove</b>	40%	90%	13%	46%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	2%	9%	14%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	23%	47%	10%	21%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	55%	27%	73%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	22%	26%	17%	39%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Cain Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	13%	31%	4%	15%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	19%	38%	23%
<b>Not sure</b>	56%	50%	59%	62%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Palin Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	25%	64%	5%	25%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	66%	25%	89%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	11%	6%	27%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Perry Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	14%	34%	4%	11%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	34%	18%	44%	25%
<b>Not sure</b>	52%	48%	51%	64%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	55%	17%	32%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	25%	63%	36%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	19%	20%	32%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	58%	10%	88%	32%
<b>Michele Bachmann</b>	30%	79%	5%	29%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	11%	7%	39%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Cain</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	58%	10%	87%	35%
<b>Herman Cain</b>	26%	70%	3%	24%
<b>Undecided</b>	16%	21%	10%	41%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Palin</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	62%	15%	90%	41%
<b>Sarah Palin</b>	28%	72%	5%	30%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	13%	6%	29%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Perry</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	57%	9%	86%	33%
<b>Rick Perry</b>	28%	72%	5%	26%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	19%	9%	41%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	54%	8%	82%	34%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	34%	81%	8%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	12%	11%	10%	30%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama approval</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	53%	81%	77%	58%	18%	3%
<b>Disapprove</b>	40%	11%	14%	33%	78%	95%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	8%	9%	9%	4%	2%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>						
Favorable	23%	6%	10%	16%	46%	56%
Unfavorable	55%	85%	73%	56%	26%	20%
Not sure	22%	9%	17%	27%	29%	23%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Cain Favorability</b>						
Favorable	13%	4%	3%	9%	25%	41%
Unfavorable	30%	45%	36%	29%	23%	15%
Not sure	56%	51%	61%	62%	52%	44%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Palin Favorability</b>						
Favorable	25%	4%	7%	16%	53%	77%
Unfavorable	66%	93%	86%	73%	34%	13%
Not sure	9%	3%	6%	12%	13%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Perry Favorability</b>						
Favorable	14%	4%	3%	11%	27%	40%
Unfavorable	34%	50%	44%	34%	21%	13%
Not sure	52%	46%	52%	55%	52%	47%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Romney Favorability</b>						
Favorable	31%	13%	15%	30%	52%	54%
Unfavorable	49%	76%	63%	44%	25%	31%
Not sure	21%	11%	21%	25%	23%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>						
Barack Obama	58%	92%	85%	64%	18%	4%
Michele Bachmann	30%	4%	8%	19%	67%	87%
Undecided	11%	4%	7%	17%	15%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Cain</b>						
Barack Obama	58%	91%	86%	63%	18%	2%
Herman Cain	26%	5%	6%	14%	58%	81%
Undecided	16%	4%	8%	24%	24%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Palin</b>						
Barack Obama	62%	92%	88%	68%	26%	5%
Sarah Palin	28%	5%	8%	17%	59%	87%
Undecided	10%	3%	5%	15%	15%	8%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Perry</b>						
Barack Obama	57%	90%	85%	61%	18%	2%
Rick Perry	28%	4%	6%	17%	62%	84%
Undecided	15%	5%	9%	22%	20%	13%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Romney</b>						
Barack Obama	54%	91%	83%	57%	14%	2%
Mitt Romney	34%	4%	8%	26%	73%	87%
Undecided	12%	5%	9%	17%	13%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama approval</b>			
Approve	53%	56%	49%
Disapprove	40%	36%	45%
Not sure	7%	8%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>			
Favorable	23%	20%	26%
Unfavorable	55%	55%	55%
Not sure	22%	25%	19%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Cain Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	13%	10%	17%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	25%	36%
<b>Not sure</b>	56%	65%	47%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Palin Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	25%	21%	29%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	66%	70%	61%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	9%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Perry Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	14%	10%	18%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	34%	31%	38%
<b>Not sure</b>	52%	59%	43%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Romney Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	26%	36%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	49%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	25%	16%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>58%</b>	64%	53%
<b>Michele Bachmann</b>	<b>30%</b>	25%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>11%</b>	11%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Cain</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>58%</b>	64%	52%
<b>Herman Cain</b>	<b>26%</b>	21%	31%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>16%</b>	15%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Palin</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>62%</b>	68%	56%
<b>Sarah Palin</b>	<b>28%</b>	23%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	9%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Perry</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>57%</b>	62%	52%
<b>Rick Perry</b>	<b>28%</b>	22%	34%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>15%</b>	15%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Romney</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	54%	60%	49%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	34%	28%	40%
<b>Undecided</b>	12%	13%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	53%	81%	10%	53%
<b>Disapprove</b>	40%	12%	87%	38%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	8%	3%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	23%	12%	48%	18%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	55%	73%	23%	58%
<b>Not sure</b>	22%	15%	29%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Cain Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	13%	6%	29%	11%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	37%	20%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	56%	57%	51%	58%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Palin Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	25%	5%	64%	20%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	66%	89%	25%	68%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	6%	11%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Perry Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	14%	5%	33%	11%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	34%	47%	16%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	52%	48%	50%	56%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	14%	60%	29%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	69%	19%	47%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	18%	21%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	58%	89%	9%	61%
<b>Michele Bachmann</b>	30%	5%	80%	23%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	6%	11%	16%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Cain</b>				
Barack Obama	58%	89%	8%	60%
Herman Cain	26%	4%	72%	17%
Undecided	16%	7%	20%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Palin</b>				
Barack Obama	62%	92%	14%	64%
Sarah Palin	28%	5%	73%	22%
Undecided	10%	3%	13%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Perry</b>				
Barack Obama	57%	89%	7%	58%
Rick Perry	28%	5%	75%	21%
Undecided	15%	6%	19%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
Barack Obama	54%	87%	6%	54%
Mitt Romney	34%	5%	84%	29%
Undecided	12%	7%	10%	17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Obama approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	53%	53%	51%
<b>Disapprove</b>	40%	40%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	7%	7%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	23%	23%	28%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	55%	55%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	22%	22%	18%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Cain Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	13%	13%	12%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	30%	37%
<b>Not sure</b>	56%	57%	51%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Palin Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	25%	25%	27%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	66%	66%	58%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	9%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Perry Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	14%	14%	11%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	34%	34%	34%
<b>Not sure</b>	52%	51%	55%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Romney Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	31%	31%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	49%	46%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	21%	23%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	58%	59%	58%
<b>Michele Bachmann</b>	30%	30%	28%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	11%	14%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Obama/Cain</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	58%	58%	62%
<b>Herman Cain</b>	26%	26%	25%
<b>Undecided</b>	16%	16%	13%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Obama/Palin</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>62%</b>	62%	62%
<b>Sarah Palin</b>	<b>28%</b>	28%	28%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	10%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Obama/Perry</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>57%</b>	57%	57%
<b>Rick Perry</b>	<b>28%</b>	28%	27%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>15%</b>	15%	16%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Obama/Romney</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>54%</b>	54%	60%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	<b>34%</b>	34%	24%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>12%</b>	12%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	<b>53%</b>	54%	51%	55%	50%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>40%</b>	26%	42%	40%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>7%</b>	20%	7%	5%	6%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Bachmann Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	23%	14%	19%	25%	29%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	55%	64%	56%	54%	52%
<b>Not sure</b>	22%	22%	25%	21%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Cain Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	13%	14%	10%	14%	16%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	33%	26%	31%	35%
<b>Not sure</b>	56%	53%	64%	55%	50%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Palin Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	25%	22%	28%	24%	25%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	66%	64%	65%	68%	63%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	14%	8%	8%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Perry Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	14%	14%	15%	13%	15%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	34%	33%	28%	36%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	52%	53%	57%	51%	44%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Romney Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	19%	31%	29%	38%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	58%	47%	50%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	22%	22%	20%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Bachmann</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	58%	72%	55%	59%	55%
<b>Michele Bachmann</b>	30%	19%	32%	31%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	8%	13%	10%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Cain</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	58%	69%	54%	60%	55%
<b>Herman Cain</b>	26%	8%	30%	25%	30%
<b>Undecided</b>	16%	22%	16%	15%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Palin</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	62%	72%	60%	63%	58%
<b>Sarah Palin</b>	28%	19%	31%	27%	31%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	8%	9%	10%	11%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Perry</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>57%</b>	69%	53%	58%	54%
<b>Rick Perry</b>	<b>28%</b>	17%	31%	27%	31%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>15%</b>	14%	16%	15%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Romney</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>54%</b>	75%	50%	55%	49%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	<b>34%</b>	14%	37%	34%	38%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>12%</b>	11%	13%	11%	13%

