



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Obama down 12 to Romney, 11 to Perry in West Virginia

Raleigh, N.C. – West Virginia is not even remotely on the Obama campaign’s radar if it were in a position to expand the map of swing states. Despite its blue-collar Democratic history, the state has not gone for a Democrat since Bill Clinton in 1996, and has voted for the Republican by identical 13-point margins in both of the last two elections. But Obama can at least take heart that he has not lost much ground here, unlike in some states.

In PPP’s latest poll of the Mountain State, the president trails Mitt Romney, 49-37; Rick Perry, 49-38; Michele Bachmann, 48-39; Newt Gingrich, 45-40; and Sarah Palin, 45-42. Though all the GOP contenders underperform McCain by raw numbers, poll respondents report having voted for McCain by only nine points. Compared to that likely electorate for this fall’s gubernatorial election, only Gingrich and Palin do worse than the 2008 nominee.

The state’s conservative Democrats, who make a 55% majority of the electorate, only approve of Obama’s job performance by a 49-43 margin, a major part of his overall 32-62 mark.

But Obama far exceeds his -30 approval margin in the horse races because most of those Democrats would still prefer him to the GOP alternatives. He loses “only” 27% of his party to Perry, 25% to Romney and Bachmann, and 23% to Gingrich and Palin. The president also gets a little more support from independents than approval. They give him a -44 approval grade, but vote for the Republicans by only 22 (Perry) to 32 points (Romney). Republicans are pretty unanimously against him though.

“Even with its strong Democratic ancestry it’s hard to imagine West Virginia going blue in a Presidential election again anytime soon,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “The national Democratic Party just isn’t in tune with WV Democrats.”

PPP surveyed 708 likely West Virginia voters from September 1st to 4th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.7%. 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.





West Virginia Survey Results

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

Approve 32%
Disapprove..... 62%
Not sure 6%

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

Favorable..... 25%
Unfavorable 44%
Not sure 31%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Newt Gingrich?

Favorable..... 22%
Unfavorable 56%
Not sure 22%

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

Favorable..... 37%
Unfavorable 53%
Not sure 11%

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

Favorable..... 29%
Unfavorable 32%
Not sure 39%

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

Favorable..... 27%
Unfavorable 41%
Not sure 31%

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

Barack Obama..... 39%
Michele Bachmann 48%
Undecided..... 13%

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

Barack Obama..... 40%
Newt Gingrich 45%
Undecided..... 15%

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

Barack Obama..... 42%
Sarah Palin 45%
Undecided..... 13%

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

Barack Obama..... 38%
Rick Perry 49%
Undecided..... 13%

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

Barack Obama..... 37%
Mitt Romney..... 49%
Undecided..... 14%





Q12 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

<i>John McCain</i>	49%
<i>Barack Obama</i>	40%
<i>Someone else/Don't remember</i>	11%

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

<i>Very liberal</i>	8%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	15%
<i>Moderate</i>	26%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	28%
<i>Very conservative</i>	22%

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

<i>Woman</i>	53%
<i>Man</i>	47%

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>	55%
<i>Republican</i>	36%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	9%

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

<i>White</i>	95%
<i>Other</i>	5%

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>	8%
<i>30 to 45</i>	18%
<i>46 to 65</i>	45%
<i>Older than 65</i>	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	32%	4%	71%	12%
Disapprove	62%	93%	21%	76%
Not sure	6%	3%	8%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	25%	41%	6%	17%
Unfavorable	44%	25%	71%	34%
Not sure	31%	34%	23%	49%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	22%	37%	5%	13%
Unfavorable	56%	39%	81%	45%
Not sure	22%	24%	14%	42%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	37%	63%	9%	16%
Unfavorable	53%	24%	86%	64%
Not sure	11%	13%	6%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Perry Favorability				
Favorable	29%	47%	8%	22%
Unfavorable	32%	12%	57%	30%
Not sure	39%	41%	35%	49%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	27%	37%	17%	20%
Unfavorable	41%	30%	57%	37%
Not sure	31%	33%	26%	43%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Bachmann				
Barack Obama	39%	6%	85%	21%
Michele Bachmann	48%	81%	8%	46%
Undecided	13%	13%	7%	33%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	40%	6%	86%	26%
Newt Gingrich	45%	77%	6%	39%
Undecided	15%	17%	8%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	42%	7%	87%	32%
Sarah Palin	45%	78%	9%	34%
Undecided	13%	15%	4%	34%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Perry				
Barack Obama	38%	5%	84%	21%
Rick Perry	49%	82%	10%	40%
Undecided	13%	13%	6%	39%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	37%	6%	80%	24%
Mitt Romney	49%	81%	11%	41%
Undecided	14%	13%	9%	36%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval						
Approve	32%	59%	68%	43%	15%	4%
Disapprove	62%	38%	26%	50%	78%	92%
Not sure	6%	3%	6%	8%	7%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bachmann Favorability						
Favorable	25%	6%	5%	12%	32%	51%
Unfavorable	44%	78%	76%	51%	28%	21%
Not sure	31%	16%	19%	36%	40%	28%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gingrich Favorability						
Favorable	22%	2%	7%	8%	30%	46%
Unfavorable	56%	87%	81%	69%	41%	32%
Not sure	22%	12%	12%	23%	29%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Palin Favorability						
Favorable	37%	10%	14%	21%	43%	73%
Unfavorable	53%	83%	83%	66%	41%	19%
Not sure	11%	7%	2%	13%	17%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Perry Favorability						
Favorable	29%	3%	14%	9%	37%	62%
Unfavorable	32%	75%	58%	41%	16%	6%
Not sure	39%	22%	28%	50%	47%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	27%	10%	25%	17%	37%	35%
Unfavorable	41%	75%	53%	43%	30%	32%
Not sure	31%	15%	21%	39%	33%	33%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Bachmann						
Barack Obama	39%	69%	80%	55%	19%	7%
Michele Bachmann	48%	22%	12%	30%	64%	84%
Undecided	13%	9%	8%	15%	17%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Gingrich						
Barack Obama	40%	72%	81%	57%	19%	6%
Newt Gingrich	45%	20%	14%	26%	58%	80%
Undecided	15%	8%	5%	17%	23%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Palin						
Barack Obama	42%	72%	81%	58%	23%	8%
Sarah Palin	45%	17%	14%	28%	57%	84%
Undecided	13%	11%	5%	14%	20%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Perry						
Barack Obama	38%	71%	80%	55%	17%	4%
Rick Perry	49%	21%	17%	24%	66%	89%
Undecided	13%	8%	3%	21%	17%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama/Romney						
Barack Obama	37%	73%	74%	52%	18%	6%
Mitt Romney	49%	19%	18%	27%	67%	84%
Undecided	14%	8%	8%	22%	15%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	32%	31%	33%
Disapprove	62%	62%	62%
Not sure	6%	7%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bachmann Favorability			
Favorable	25%	22%	27%
Unfavorable	44%	44%	45%
Not sure	31%	34%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	22%	19%	25%
Unfavorable	56%	54%	59%
Not sure	22%	27%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	37%	34%	39%
Unfavorable	53%	55%	51%
Not sure	11%	11%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perry Favorability			
Favorable	29%	26%	32%
Unfavorable	32%	27%	38%
Not sure	39%	47%	30%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	27%	28%	26%
Unfavorable	41%	34%	49%
Not sure	31%	37%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Bachmann			
Barack Obama	39%	37%	42%
Michele Bachmann	48%	49%	46%
Undecided	13%	14%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	40%	39%	42%
Newt Gingrich	45%	45%	44%
Undecided	15%	16%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Palin			
Barack Obama	42%	40%	44%
Sarah Palin	45%	46%	45%
Undecided	13%	14%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Perry			
Barack Obama	38%	37%	39%
Rick Perry	49%	48%	50%
Undecided	13%	15%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	37%	35%	40%
Mitt Romney	49%	50%	48%
Undecided	14%	15%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	32%	49%	6%	23%
Disapprove	62%	43%	91%	67%
Not sure	6%	8%	2%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	25%	10%	43%	43%
Unfavorable	44%	60%	22%	34%
Not sure	31%	30%	36%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gingrich Favorability				
Favorable	22%	9%	39%	30%
Unfavorable	56%	71%	35%	54%
Not sure	22%	20%	26%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	37%	18%	61%	54%
Unfavorable	53%	72%	26%	37%
Not sure	11%	10%	13%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perry Favorability				
Favorable	29%	15%	48%	37%
Unfavorable	32%	46%	11%	26%
Not sure	39%	39%	41%	37%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	27%	20%	37%	29%
Unfavorable	41%	49%	29%	46%
Not sure	31%	31%	34%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Bachmann				
Barack Obama	39%	61%	7%	34%
Michele Bachmann	48%	25%	81%	57%
Undecided	13%	14%	12%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Gingrich				
Barack Obama	40%	63%	7%	33%
Newt Gingrich	45%	23%	76%	50%
Undecided	15%	14%	17%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Palin				
Barack Obama	42%	66%	8%	31%
Sarah Palin	45%	23%	76%	58%
Undecided	13%	11%	16%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Perry				
Barack Obama	38%	60%	6%	31%
Rick Perry	49%	27%	82%	53%
Undecided	13%	13%	13%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama/Romney				
Barack Obama	37%	59%	6%	27%
Mitt Romney	49%	25%	82%	59%
Undecided	14%	16%	11%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama Approval			
Approve	32%	31%	48%
Disapprove	62%	63%	45%
Not sure	6%	6%	7%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Bachmann Favorability			
Favorable	25%	25%	17%
Unfavorable	44%	44%	48%
Not sure	31%	31%	35%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	22%	22%	17%
Unfavorable	56%	56%	67%
Not sure	22%	22%	16%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	37%	37%	32%
Unfavorable	53%	53%	54%
Not sure	11%	11%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Perry Favorability			
Favorable	29%	30%	8%
Unfavorable	32%	31%	51%
Not sure	39%	39%	41%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	27%	28%	8%
Unfavorable	41%	41%	60%
Not sure	31%	31%	32%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Bachmann			
Barack Obama	39%	38%	61%
Michele Bachmann	48%	49%	36%
Undecided	13%	13%	3%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Gingrich			
Barack Obama	40%	40%	54%
Newt Gingrich	45%	45%	29%
Undecided	15%	15%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Palin			
Barack Obama	42%	41%	50%
Sarah Palin	45%	46%	31%
Undecided	13%	13%	19%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Perry			
Barack Obama	38%	37%	54%
Rick Perry	49%	50%	29%
Undecided	13%	13%	17%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Obama/Romney			
Barack Obama	37%	37%	51%
Mitt Romney	49%	50%	32%
Undecided	14%	14%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	32%	31%	35%	31%	30%
Disapprove	62%	65%	60%	61%	64%
Not sure	6%	4%	5%	7%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bachmann Favorability					
Favorable	25%	19%	28%	24%	26%
Unfavorable	44%	46%	37%	47%	43%
Not sure	31%	35%	35%	29%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	22%	15%	22%	19%	28%
Unfavorable	56%	58%	52%	59%	55%
Not sure	22%	27%	26%	22%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	37%	35%	45%	36%	33%
Unfavorable	53%	50%	51%	53%	54%
Not sure	11%	15%	5%	11%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perry Favorability					
Favorable	29%	12%	22%	31%	35%
Unfavorable	32%	46%	29%	31%	30%
Not sure	39%	42%	49%	38%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	27%	31%	20%	23%	37%
Unfavorable	41%	46%	46%	44%	33%
Not sure	31%	23%	34%	33%	30%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Bachmann					
Barack Obama	39%	42%	37%	40%	39%
Michele Bachmann	48%	46%	54%	44%	52%
Undecided	13%	12%	9%	16%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Gingrich					
Barack Obama	40%	35%	37%	41%	42%
Newt Gingrich	45%	50%	46%	40%	49%
Undecided	15%	15%	17%	18%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Palin					
Barack Obama	42%	35%	37%	44%	44%
Sarah Palin	45%	38%	52%	42%	48%
Undecided	13%	27%	11%	14%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Perry					
Barack Obama	38%	31%	35%	40%	39%
Rick Perry	49%	38%	51%	47%	53%
Undecided	13%	31%	14%	13%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama/Romney					
Barack Obama	37%	38%	31%	40%	37%
Mitt Romney	49%	38%	49%	46%	56%
Undecided	14%	23%	20%	14%	7%

