

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312**

## **Romney has small early edge in Texas, New Mexico**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Mitt Romney is the small early favorite for the 2012 nomination among Republican voters in both Texas and New Mexico.

In both states that advantage is small. In Texas Romney has 32% to 29% for Mike Huckabee and 23% for Sarah Palin. In New Mexico Romney's at 33% to 32% for Palin and 18% for Huckabee.

In both states Romney trails by a small margin among conservatives but makes up for it with a significant advantage with moderates. In Texas Huckabee is up 32-30 with conservatives but Romney is up 40-22 with moderates. In New Mexico Palin is up 34-31 with conservatives but Romney has the 37-29 lead with moderates.

Interestingly in both states Palin has more support with men than women. She gets 26% of the male vote to 21% of the female vote in Texas, and 33% of the male vote to 31% of the female vote in New Mexico. This continues a trend in Palin's polling numbers of her not getting any boost with women because of her gender.

“These polls confirm that the 2012 Republican contest for President is very much up in the air,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But it's still interesting to see Romney ahead in a couple of states that are a long way from home.”

In Texas Romney leads with Republicans unhappy with the direction of their party, while Huckabee has the edge among those who are content with the status quo.

PPP surveyed 400 Republican primary voters in Texas from February 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> and 333 Republican primary voters in New Mexico from February 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the Texas survey is +/-4.9% and for the New Mexico survey it's +/-5.4%. 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](http://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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## New Mexico Survey Results

**Q1** If the Republican candidates for President in 2012 were Mike Huckabee, Sarah Palin, and Mitt Romney who would you vote for? If Mike Huckabee, press 1. If Sarah Palin, press 2. If Mitt Romney, press 3. If you're undecided, press 4.

*Huckabee*..... 18%  
*Palin*..... 32%  
*Romney* ..... 33%  
*Undecided*..... 17%

**Q2** If you are a liberal, press 1. If a moderate, press 2. If a conservative, press 3.

*Liberal*..... 5%  
*Moderate*..... 28%  
*Conservative*..... 68%

**Q3** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 50%  
*Man*..... 50%

**Q4** If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

*Hispanic*..... 29%  
*White* ..... 64%  
*African American* ..... 1%  
*Other*..... 5%

**Q5** 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*..... 9%  
*30 to 45*..... 22%  
*46 to 65*..... 43%  
*Older than 65*..... 25%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>2012 President</b>				
<b>Huckabee</b>	<b>18%</b>	13%	16%	19%
<b>Palin</b>	<b>32%</b>	21%	29%	34%
<b>Romney</b>	<b>33%</b>	25%	37%	31%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>17%</b>	41%	19%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>2012 President</b>			
<b>Huckabee</b>	<b>18%</b>	17%	19%
<b>Palin</b>	<b>32%</b>	31%	33%
<b>Romney</b>	<b>33%</b>	31%	35%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>17%</b>	21%	14%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>2012 President</b>					
<b>Huckabee</b>	<b>18%</b>	14%	20%	-	18%
<b>Palin</b>	<b>32%</b>	38%	28%	50%	40%
<b>Romney</b>	<b>33%</b>	26%	36%	50%	24%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>17%</b>	22%	16%	-	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>2012 President</b>					
<b>Huckabee</b>	<b>18%</b>	36%	21%	13%	17%
<b>Palin</b>	<b>32%</b>	29%	34%	34%	27%
<b>Romney</b>	<b>33%</b>	29%	32%	30%	40%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>17%</b>	7%	13%	23%	16%





## Texas GOP Survey Results

**Q1** The Republican candidates for Governor are Kay Bailey Hutchison, Debra Medina, and Rick Perry. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If Kay Bailey Hutchison, press 1. If Debra Medina, press 2. If Rick Perry, press 3. If you're undecided, press 4.

*Hutchison* ..... 31% *Perry* ..... 40%  
*Medina* ..... 20% *Undecided* ..... 9%

**Q2** Do you approve or disapprove of the current direction of the Republican Party? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* ..... 37%  
*Disapprove* ..... 40%  
*Not Sure* ..... 24%

**Q3** Do you think the Republican Party has gotten too liberal, too conservative, or do you think it's about right? If you think it's too liberal, press 1. If too conservative, press 2. If about right, press 3. If you're not sure, press 4.

*Too Liberal* ..... 48%  
*Too Conservative* ..... 19%  
*About Right* ..... 26%  
*Not Sure* ..... 6%

**Q4** Do you support the goals of the Tea Party movement? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Yes* ..... 74%  
*No* ..... 12%  
*Not Sure* ..... 14%

**Q5** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of George W. Bush? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Favorable* ..... 79%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 14%  
*Not Sure* ..... 7%

**Q6** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Ron Paul? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Favorable* ..... 38%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 30%  
*Not Sure* ..... 32%

**Q7** If the Republican candidates for President in 2012 were Mike Huckabee, Sarah Palin, and Mitt Romney who would you vote for? If Mike Huckabee, press 1. If Sarah Palin, press 2. If Mitt Romney, press 3. If you're undecided, press 4.

*Huckabee* ..... 29%  
*Palin* ..... 23%  
*Romney* ..... 32%  
*Undecided* ..... 15%

**Q8** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

*Liberal* ..... 2%  
*Moderate* ..... 25%  
*Conservative* ..... 73%

**Q9** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 47%  
*Man* ..... 53%





**Q10** 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.

<i>Democrat</i> .....	2%
<i>Republican</i> .....	80%
<i>Independent/Other</i> .....	18%

**Q11** If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

<i>Hispanic</i> .....	13%
<i>White</i> .....	82%
<i>African American</i> .....	1%
<i>Other</i> .....	5%

**Q12** 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.

<i>18 to 29</i> .....	8%
<i>30 to 45</i> .....	24%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	44%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	24%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Governor			
		Hutchison	Medina	Perry	Undecided
<b>2012 President</b>					
Huckabee	29%	22%	33%	31%	37%
Palin	23%	20%	26%	26%	17%
Romney	32%	39%	26%	31%	26%
Undecided	15%	19%	15%	12%	19%

	Base	GOP Direction		
		Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
<b>2012 President</b>				
Huckabee	29%	30%	31%	23%
Palin	23%	28%	18%	25%
Romney	32%	27%	38%	31%
Undecided	15%	14%	13%	21%

	Base	Republican Party Ideology			
		Too Liberal	Too Conservative	About Right	Not Sure
<b>2012 President</b>					
Huckabee	29%	31%	20%	31%	34%
Palin	23%	26%	11%	31%	9%
Romney	32%	31%	43%	25%	35%
Undecided	15%	11%	25%	14%	21%

	Base	Tea Party Movement		
		Yes	No	Not Sure
<b>2012 President</b>				
Huckabee	29%	28%	30%	33%
Palin	23%	27%	11%	15%
Romney	32%	33%	40%	22%
Undecided	15%	12%	19%	30%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Bush Favorability		
		Favorable	Unfavorable	Not Sure
<b>2012 President</b>				
<b>Huckabee</b>	29%	28%	38%	26%
<b>Palin</b>	23%	27%	12%	6%
<b>Romney</b>	32%	32%	30%	40%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	14%	20%	27%

	Base	Paul Favorability		
		Favorable	Unfavorable	Not Sure
<b>2012 President</b>				
<b>Huckabee</b>	29%	27%	29%	31%
<b>Palin</b>	23%	21%	24%	26%
<b>Romney</b>	32%	39%	33%	24%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	13%	14%	19%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>2012 President</b>				
<b>Huckabee</b>	29%	22%	22%	32%
<b>Palin</b>	23%	-	13%	27%
<b>Romney</b>	32%	18%	40%	30%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	60%	26%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>2012 President</b>			
<b>Huckabee</b>	29%	30%	27%
<b>Palin</b>	24%	21%	26%
<b>Romney</b>	32%	31%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	17%	14%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>2012 President</b>				
<b>Huckabee</b>	29%	48%	28%	33%
<b>Palin</b>	23%	16%	24%	24%
<b>Romney</b>	32%	30%	33%	27%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	7%	15%	16%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>2012 President</b>					
<b>Huckabee</b>	29%	35%	27%	50%	43%
<b>Palin</b>	24%	17%	25%	-	17%
<b>Romney</b>	32%	30%	33%	-	23%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	18%	14%	50%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>2012 President</b>					
<b>Huckabee</b>	29%	31%	30%	31%	25%
<b>Palin</b>	23%	19%	30%	21%	23%
<b>Romney</b>	32%	50%	28%	29%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	-	13%	19%	16%

