



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Major Divides on Health Care, DADT**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – A new Public Policy Polling survey finds that opposition to some key Democratic initiatives is dominated by voters who aren't open to the possibility of supporting the party anyway.

34% of Americans say they'll definitely vote Democratic this fall while 37% say they definitely will not. That leaves about 24% of the country that will determine the balance of power this fall.

50% of voters say they're opposed to Barack Obama's health care plan with 39% in support. Going a little deeper, voters who will definitely vote Democratic this fall or are considering it support the plan by a 64/22 margin. The overall negative numbers are due to 94/1 opposition among voters who say there's no way they'll vote Democratic in November.

It's a similar story with another current hot button issue, that of allowing gays and lesbians to serve in the military. Overall 54% of voters support it with 37% opposed. Voters who will or may vote Democratic this fall are for it by a 72/24 margin, while those who have already closed the door on the party oppose it by a 59/25 ratio.

"Congressional Democrats have been slow to act on some major issues of interest to the party base," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "This survey shows that declining to deal with things like health care and don't ask, don't tell will not bring voters opposed to them back into the fold."

PPP will release its monthly 2012 poll tomorrow.

PPP surveyed 743 registered voters from February 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error is +/-3.6%. 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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## 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*..... 48% *Not Sure*..... 6%  
*Disapprove*..... 47%

**Q2** Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or do you not have an opinion? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you don't have an opinion, press 3.

*Support*..... 39%  
*Oppose*..... 50%  
*No Opinion*..... 11%

**Q3** Do you think gay men and women should be able to serve openly in the military? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Yes* ..... 54%  
*No*..... 37%  
*Not Sure*..... 8%

**Q4** This fall will you definitely vote for a Democrat for Congress, consider voting for a Democrat for Congress, or definitely not vote for a Democrat for Congress. If you will definitely vote Democratic, press 1. If you will consider voting Democratic, press 2. If you will definitely not vote Democratic, press 3. If you're not sure, press 4.

*Definitely Democratic*..... 34%  
*Consider Democratic*..... 24%  
*Definitely not Democratic*..... 37%  
*Not Sure*..... 5%

**Q5** 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*..... 46%  
*Obama*..... 51%  
*Someone else/don't remember*..... 3%

**Q6** 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*..... 35%

**Q7** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 52%  
*Man*..... 48%

**Q8** 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*..... 40%  
*Republican*..... 34%  
*Independent/Other*..... 26%

**Q9** If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

*Hispanic*..... 10%  
*White* ..... 74%  
*African American* ..... 12%  
*Other*..... 4%





**Q10** 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> .....	11%
<i>30 to 45</i> .....	23%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	47%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	19%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Congressional Vote			
		Definitely Democratic	Consider Democratic	Definitely not Democratic	Not Sure
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	48%	92%	54%	4%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	6%	36%	92%	41%
<b>Not Sure</b>	6%	2%	10%	4%	19%

	Base	Congressional Vote			
		Definitely Democratic	Consider Democratic	Definitely not Democratic	Not Sure
<b>Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	39%	79%	42%	1%	36%
<b>Oppose</b>	50%	7%	44%	94%	49%
<b>No Opinion</b>	11%	13%	15%	5%	15%

	Base	Congressional Vote			
		Definitely Democratic	Consider Democratic	Definitely not Democratic	Not Sure
<b>Gays in the Military</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	55%	78%	64%	25%	64%
<b>No</b>	37%	19%	31%	59%	29%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	2%	5%	16%	7%

	Base	Congressional Vote			
		Definitely Democratic	Consider Democratic	Definitely not Democratic	Not Sure
<b>Congressional Vote</b>					
<b>Definitely Democratic</b>	34%	100%	-	-	-
<b>Consider Democratic</b>	24%	-	100%	-	-
<b>Definitely not Democratic</b>	37%	-	-	100%	-
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	-	-	-	100%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	48%	7%	86%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	91%	9%	27%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	2%	5%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	40%	6%	71%	42%
<b>Oppose</b>	50%	91%	13%	27%
<b>No Opinion</b>	11%	3%	16%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Gays in the Military</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	55%	31%	76%	52%
<b>No</b>	37%	55%	21%	35%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	14%	3%	13%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
<b>Congressional Vote</b>				
<b>Definitely Democratic</b>	35%	5%	60%	55%
<b>Consider Democratic</b>	23%	17%	30%	10%
<b>Definitely not Democratic</b>	38%	73%	6%	31%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	5%	4%	3%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	48%	81%	59%	16%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	15%	34%	80%
<b>Not Sure</b>	6%	4%	7%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	39%	73%	48%	12%
<b>Oppose</b>	50%	19%	38%	81%
<b>No Opinion</b>	11%	8%	14%	7%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Gays in the Military</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	54%	75%	66%	29%
<b>No</b>	37%	22%	28%	57%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	3%	6%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Congressional Vote</b>				
<b>Definitely Democratic</b>	34%	70%	37%	12%
<b>Consider Democratic</b>	24%	22%	31%	14%
<b>Definitely not Democratic</b>	37%	6%	26%	67%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	1%	5%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	48%	48%	47%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	47%	47%
<b>Not Sure</b>	6%	5%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Health Care</b>			
<b>Support</b>	39%	38%	40%
<b>Oppose</b>	50%	51%	50%
<b>No Opinion</b>	11%	11%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Gays in the Military</b>			
<b>Yes</b>	54%	59%	49%
<b>No</b>	37%	31%	44%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	10%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Congressional Vote</b>			
<b>Definitely Democratic</b>	34%	32%	36%
<b>Consider Democratic</b>	24%	27%	20%
<b>Definitely not Democratic</b>	37%	34%	41%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	7%	3%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	48%	77%	12%	48%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	15%	85%	47%
<b>Not Sure</b>	6%	8%	3%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	39%	63%	10%	39%
<b>Oppose</b>	50%	20%	85%	53%
<b>No Opinion</b>	11%	17%	5%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Gays in the Military</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	54%	71%	33%	57%
<b>No</b>	37%	25%	54%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	4%	13%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Congressional Vote</b>				
<b>Definitely Democratic</b>	34%	67%	7%	19%
<b>Consider Democratic</b>	24%	21%	14%	41%
<b>Definitely not Democratic</b>	37%	8%	75%	33%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	4%	4%	8%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	48%	76%	37%	85%	54%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	14%	58%	12%	42%
<b>Not Sure</b>	6%	10%	5%	3%	4%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	39%	62%	31%	67%	44%
<b>Oppose</b>	50%	24%	60%	15%	44%
<b>No Opinion</b>	11%	14%	9%	18%	13%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Gays in the Military</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	54%	71%	50%	67%	48%
<b>No</b>	37%	29%	40%	30%	40%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	-	10%	3%	13%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
<b>Congressional Vote</b>					
<b>Definitely Democratic</b>	34%	62%	23%	71%	42%
<b>Consider Democratic</b>	24%	14%	27%	12%	21%
<b>Definitely not Democratic</b>	37%	10%	46%	12%	33%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	14%	4%	6%	4%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	48%	64%	33%	50%	51%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	33%	62%	45%	43%
<b>Not Sure</b>	6%	4%	5%	6%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	39%	47%	26%	42%	42%
<b>Oppose</b>	50%	40%	67%	45%	49%
<b>No Opinion</b>	11%	13%	7%	13%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Gays in the Military</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	54%	57%	46%	55%	61%
<b>No</b>	37%	34%	44%	37%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	9%	10%	7%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Congressional Vote</b>					
<b>Definitely Democratic</b>	34%	49%	21%	34%	41%
<b>Consider Democratic</b>	24%	31%	26%	22%	19%
<b>Definitely not Democratic</b>	37%	17%	50%	36%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	3%	2%	7%	4%

