



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Democrats and Republicans neck and neck in generic ballot

Raleigh, N.C. – After their disastrous 2010 election, Democrats are on track to make gains in 2012, now leading the Republicans by the slimmest of margins, 43-42, when voters are asked whether they would vote for a Democratic or a Republican candidate for the House from their district. However, this might not be enough for the Democrats to retake the house, and represents a narrowing from their 46-41 lead in April.

Americans continue to express dissatisfaction with the performance of Congress, giving both parties poor marks. Only 29% approve of Congressional Democrats compared to 60% who disapprove. This spread is even worse for the Republicans at 22-61. Republican Speaker of the House John Boehner also fares poorly, with 27% of voters approving compared to 37% who disapprove.

In a comparison between the Democratic and Republican Congresses, voters give the edge to the Democrats with 30% of the opinion that Republicans are doing a better job compared to 37% who say they are doing a worse job and 31% who feel the two Congresses have been about the same. This sentiment is particularly true among independents of whom 38% feel the Republicans are doing a worse job compared to only 19% who feel they are doing a better job. Voters also have more faith in President Obama than Congressional Republicans to lead the country in the right direction, 49 to 43.

While every year seems to bring a new batch of political sex scandals, Americans don't think this reflects on all politicians. Only 23% of voters think that most male politicians are sexually immoral, while 56% don't think so. Though Anthony Weiner's sex scandal dominates the news, in a look back on sex scandals past, 38% of voters feel John Edwards is the worst person compared to 21% for Bill Clinton, 8% for Larry Craig, 5% for Mark Foley, and only 3% for Anthony Weiner, John Ensign, Mark Sanford, and Eliot Spitzer. Democrats disfavor Edwards over Clinton by a wide 41 to 11 margin, while Republicans do so only 35 to 34.

PPP surveyed 520 American voters from June 9th to 12th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.3%. 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.





National Survey Results

Q1 Do you think that most male politicians are sexually immoral or not?

They are mostly sexually immoral..... 23%
They are not..... 56%
Not sure 21%

Q2 Which politician caught in a sex scandal do you think is the worst person: Bill Clinton, Larry Craig, John Edwards, Mark Foley, John Ensign, Mark Sanford, Eliot Spitzer, or Anthony Weiner?

Bill Clinton..... 21%
Larry Craig..... 8%
John Edwards..... 38%
Mark Foley..... 5%
John Ensign..... 3%
Mark Sanford..... 3%
Eliot Spitzer..... 3%
Anthony Weiner 3%
Not sure..... 17%

Q3 On his midnight ride, do you think Paul Revere was warning the British or not?

He was warning the British 14%
He was not..... 67%
Not sure 18%

Q4 Do you think Sarah Palin's interpretation of Paul Revere's midnight ride is historically accurate or not?

Her interpretation is historically accurate 14%
It is not..... 56%
Not sure 30%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of the job John Boehner is doing?

Approve 27%
Disapprove..... 37%
Not sure..... 36%

Q6 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Congressional Democrats are doing?

Approve 29%
Disapprove..... 60%
Not sure..... 11%

Q7 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Congressional Republicans are doing?

Approve 22%
Disapprove..... 61%
Not sure 17%

Q8 Do you think the Republicans are doing a better job than the Democrats did while in charge of the House of Representatives, a worse job, or about the same?

A better job 30%
A worse job..... 37%
About the same..... 31%
Not sure..... 1%

Q9 Do you have more faith in Barack Obama or Congressional Republicans to lead the country in the right direction?

Barack Obama..... 49%
Congressional Republicans 43%
Not sure 8%





Q10 If there was an election for Congress today would you vote for the Democratic or Republican candidate from your district?

Democrat 43%
Republican..... 42%
Not sure 15%

Q11 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 9%
Somewhat liberal 19%
Moderate..... 31%
Somewhat conservative..... 23%
Very conservative 18%

Q12 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%

Q13 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 40%
Republican..... 35%
Independent/Other..... 25%

Q14 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 9%
White 72%
African-American 12%
Other..... 6%

Q15 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				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Most Male Politicians Sexually Immoral?						
They are mostly sexually immoral	23%	26%	22%	23%	22%	24%
They are not	56%	51%	62%	57%	58%	47%
Not sure	21%	23%	16%	20%	19%	30%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Worst Sex Scandal Figure						
Bill Clinton	21%	11%	7%	12%	28%	46%
Larry Craig	8%	18%	13%	9%	2%	3%
John Edwards	38%	25%	39%	49%	38%	23%
Mark Foley	5%	9%	11%	5%	-	2%
John Ensign	3%	7%	2%	2%	4%	1%
Mark Sanford	3%	9%	3%	1%	3%	2%
Eliot Spitzer	3%	9%	5%	3%	2%	-
Anthony Weiner	3%	-	3%	3%	5%	4%
Not sure	17%	12%	18%	16%	19%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Revere Warning the Brits?						
He was warning the British	14%	10%	12%	10%	19%	19%
He was not	67%	76%	66%	69%	65%	63%
Not sure	18%	14%	21%	21%	15%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Palin Interpretation of Revere Ride Historically Accurate?						
Her interpretation is historically accurate	14%	5%	3%	8%	23%	30%
It is not	56%	84%	80%	64%	41%	23%
Not sure	30%	11%	17%	28%	36%	47%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Boehner Approval						
Approve	27%	13%	6%	20%	50%	40%
Disapprove	37%	56%	52%	40%	23%	22%
Not sure	36%	30%	42%	40%	26%	39%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cong. Dem Approval						
Approve	29%	57%	57%	31%	13%	5%
Disapprove	60%	31%	34%	51%	81%	88%
Not sure	11%	12%	10%	17%	6%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cong. GOP Approval						
Approve	22%	10%	3%	12%	41%	39%
Disapprove	61%	79%	88%	70%	36%	40%
Not sure	17%	11%	9%	18%	23%	21%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
House GOP Doing Better/Worse/Same as Dems?						
A better job	30%	17%	2%	15%	56%	61%
A worse job	37%	70%	67%	42%	16%	9%
About the same	31%	13%	31%	41%	27%	29%
Not sure	1%	-	1%	3%	1%	-





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
More Faith in Obama or Cong. GOP to Lead US in Rt. Direction?						
Barack Obama	49%	81%	83%	66%	18%	10%
Congressional Republicans	43%	14%	11%	23%	77%	81%
Not sure	8%	5%	6%	10%	5%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Generic Cong. Ballot						
Democrat	43%	79%	85%	48%	14%	9%
Republican	42%	14%	6%	27%	73%	79%
Not sure	15%	7%	10%	25%	13%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Most Male Politicians Sexually Immoral?			
They are mostly sexually immoral	23%	27%	19%
They are not	56%	47%	64%
Not sure	21%	26%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Worst Sex Scandal Figure			
Bill Clinton	21%	19%	23%
Larry Craig	8%	5%	11%
John Edwards	38%	42%	33%
Mark Foley	5%	4%	6%
John Ensign	3%	3%	3%
Mark Sanford	3%	4%	2%
Eliot Spitzer	3%	4%	2%
Anthony Weiner	3%	4%	3%
Not sure	17%	16%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Revere Warning the Brits?			
He was warning the British	14%	16%	12%
He was not	67%	61%	74%
Not sure	18%	23%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Interpretation of Revere Ride Historically Accurate?			
Her interpretation is historically accurate	14%	12%	17%
It is not	56%	58%	54%
Not sure	30%	30%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Boehner Approval			
Approve	27%	25%	30%
Disapprove	37%	32%	42%
Not sure	36%	43%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cong. Dem Approval			
Approve	29%	34%	23%
Disapprove	60%	52%	68%
Not sure	11%	13%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cong. GOP Approval			
Approve	22%	21%	23%
Disapprove	61%	59%	63%
Not sure	17%	20%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
House GOP Doing Better/Worse/Same as Dems?			
A better job	30%	26%	35%
A worse job	37%	39%	35%
About the same	31%	33%	29%
Not sure	1%	1%	1%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Faith in Obama or Cong. GOP to Lead US in Rt. Direction?			
Barack Obama	49%	53%	45%
Congressional Republicans	43%	39%	48%
Not sure	8%	8%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Cong. Ballot			
Democrat	43%	51%	34%
Republican	42%	38%	46%
Not sure	15%	11%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Most Male Politicians Sexually Immoral?				
They are mostly sexually immoral	23%	28%	22%	17%
They are not	56%	50%	58%	61%
Not sure	21%	22%	20%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Worst Sex Scandal Figure				
Bill Clinton	21%	11%	34%	17%
Larry Craig	8%	9%	6%	8%
John Edwards	38%	41%	35%	35%
Mark Foley	5%	9%	2%	2%
John Ensign	3%	5%	-	3%
Mark Sanford	3%	3%	3%	2%
Eliot Spitzer	3%	5%	1%	3%
Anthony Weiner	3%	1%	6%	3%
Not sure	17%	16%	12%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Revere Warning the Brits?				
He was warning the British	14%	11%	24%	8%
He was not	67%	70%	59%	74%
Not sure	18%	20%	17%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Interpretation of Revere Ride Historically Accurate?				
Her interpretation is historically accurate	14%	3%	29%	12%
It is not	56%	75%	30%	62%
Not sure	30%	22%	41%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Boehner Approval				
Approve	27%	12%	52%	17%
Disapprove	37%	48%	20%	41%
Not sure	36%	39%	28%	42%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cong. Dem Approval				
Approve	29%	56%	5%	20%
Disapprove	60%	30%	91%	64%
Not sure	11%	14%	4%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cong. GOP Approval				
Approve	22%	9%	45%	10%
Disapprove	61%	77%	31%	75%
Not sure	17%	14%	23%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
House GOP Doing Better/Worse/Same as Dems ?				
A better job	30%	6%	67%	19%
A worse job	37%	63%	7%	38%
About the same	31%	28%	25%	43%
Not sure	1%	2%	1%	-





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Faith in Obama or Cong. GOP to Lead US in Rt. Direction?				
Barack Obama	49%	81%	10%	54%
Congressional Republicans	43%	11%	86%	33%
Not sure	8%	8%	3%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Cong. Ballot				
Democrat	43%	81%	7%	33%
Republican	42%	8%	87%	32%
Not sure	15%	10%	6%	35%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Most Male Politicians Sexually Immoral?					
They are mostly sexually immoral	23%	40%	20%	29%	19%
They are not	56%	40%	57%	54%	65%
Not sure	21%	19%	23%	17%	15%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Worst Sex Scandal Figure					
Bill Clinton	21%	19%	21%	14%	30%
Larry Craig	8%	11%	5%	16%	17%
John Edwards	38%	38%	39%	34%	28%
Mark Foley	5%	9%	5%	2%	-
John Ensign	3%	1%	2%	10%	-
Mark Sanford	3%	-	2%	9%	-
Eliot Spitzer	3%	7%	3%	3%	-
Anthony Weiner	3%	1%	4%	-	4%
Not sure	17%	13%	18%	12%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Revere Warning the Brits?					
He was warning the British	14%	11%	16%	14%	6%
He was not	67%	61%	69%	64%	60%
Not sure	18%	28%	15%	22%	33%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Palin Interpretation of Revere Ride Historically Accurate?					
Her interpretation is historically accurate	14%	2%	18%	2%	22%
It is not	56%	53%	53%	79%	50%
Not sure	30%	46%	30%	19%	28%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Boehner Approval					
Approve	27%	17%	32%	11%	25%
Disapprove	37%	34%	33%	49%	52%
Not sure	36%	48%	35%	40%	23%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Cong. Dem Approval					
Approve	29%	34%	26%	52%	18%
Disapprove	60%	44%	66%	34%	69%
Not sure	11%	22%	9%	14%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Cong. GOP Approval					
Approve	22%	14%	24%	17%	14%
Disapprove	61%	68%	58%	73%	51%
Not sure	17%	18%	17%	10%	35%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
House GOP Doing Better/Worse/Same as Dems?					
A better job	30%	22%	37%	4%	22%
A worse job	37%	36%	33%	60%	39%
About the same	31%	42%	30%	31%	31%
Not sure	1%	-	0%	4%	8%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
More Faith in Obama or Cong. GOP to Lead US in Rt. Direction?					
Barack Obama	49%	67%	40%	84%	60%
Congressional Republicans	43%	28%	51%	11%	38%
Not sure	8%	6%	9%	5%	2%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Generic Cong. Ballot					
Democrat	43%	44%	37%	82%	31%
Republican	42%	29%	49%	11%	38%
Not sure	15%	27%	14%	6%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Most Male Politicians Sexually Immoral?					
They are mostly sexually immoral	23%	15%	33%	20%	22%
They are not	56%	59%	51%	58%	54%
Not sure	21%	26%	16%	22%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Worst Sex Scandal Figure					
Bill Clinton	21%	22%	15%	24%	22%
Larry Craig	8%	22%	10%	4%	4%
John Edwards	38%	11%	38%	41%	47%
Mark Foley	5%	19%	3%	3%	3%
John Ensign	3%	4%	-	3%	5%
Mark Sanford	3%	7%	2%	3%	1%
Eliot Spitzer	3%	4%	2%	4%	2%
Anthony Weiner	3%	-	5%	4%	3%
Not sure	17%	11%	26%	14%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Revere Warning the Brits?					
He was warning the British	14%	15%	11%	14%	19%
He was not	67%	56%	70%	71%	62%
Not sure	18%	30%	18%	15%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Interpretation of Revere Ride Historically Accurate?					
Her interpretation is historically accurate	14%	4%	13%	17%	17%
It is not	56%	70%	56%	52%	55%
Not sure	30%	26%	31%	31%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Boehner Approval					
Approve	27%	19%	21%	31%	32%
Disapprove	37%	44%	33%	37%	36%
Not sure	36%	37%	46%	32%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cong. Dem Approval					
Approve	29%	41%	21%	32%	26%
Disapprove	60%	52%	66%	58%	62%
Not sure	11%	7%	13%	10%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cong. GOP Approval					
Approve	22%	15%	18%	25%	25%
Disapprove	61%	74%	62%	59%	54%
Not sure	17%	11%	20%	16%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
House GOP Doing Better/Worse/Same as Dems?					
A better job	30%	11%	25%	37%	36%
A worse job	37%	44%	28%	41%	38%
About the same	31%	41%	46%	22%	25%
Not sure	1%	4%	2%	0%	1%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Faith in Obama or Cong. GOP to Lead US in Rt. Direction?					
Barack Obama	49%	63%	49%	48%	44%
Congressional Republicans	43%	26%	44%	46%	47%
Not sure	8%	11%	7%	6%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Cong. Ballot					
Democrat	43%	70%	33%	42%	40%
Republican	42%	26%	39%	46%	47%
Not sure	15%	4%	28%	12%	12%

