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Paul Ryan has home support for GOP pres. nod

Raleigh, N.C. – It is appearing less and less likely that Rep. Paul Ryan, now wielding his long-coveted House Budget Committee gavel, will make a bid for the White House next year, but if he does, he could be assured at least his home-state Republicans would be solidly behind him. In his absence, Mike Huckabee takes the top spot from Sarah Palin, who led in the previous test of the primary race in early December.

Ryan has 30% of the vote, way ahead of Huckabee's 17%, Newt Gingrich's 12%, Mitt Romney's and Palin's 9%, Ron Paul's 5%, Tim Pawlenty's 4%, and Mitch Daniels' 3%. A greater share of potential voters than all but Ryan's and Huckabee's supporters, 13%, are undecided or favor someone unnamed. Among the 19% minority who call themselves moderates, Huckabee actually has a narrow 21-17 lead over Ryan, but with the two conservative groups, who together make up over three-quarters of voters, Ryan has either 34% or 35%, and Huckabee only 15% or 16%.

In the event Ryan bows out of consideration for the presidential nomination, Huckabee would take the lead at 23% to Gingrich's and Palin's 15%, Romney's 12%, and Pawlenty's 10%, with Paul and Daniels picking up no further support. The second-place finisher is actually the 17% who have yet to decide or are longing for someone else. Pawlenty, Huckabee, and Palin get the biggest boosts from Ryan's absence. Pawlenty is from neighboring Minnesota; in most states he has support in the low single digits.

Romney and Palin have both faded since December, and Huckabee surged. Then, Palin was at 21%, Huckabee 18%, Romney 17%, Gingrich 13%, and Pawlenty the same 10%.

The tough math for Romney continues here. His standing fades rightward: he places second to Huckabee at 19% with moderates, but falls to third at 14% with the 43%-plurality somewhat conservative, and only fourth at 7% with the 34% who are very conservative. Gingrich is strongest with the two conservative groups, getting 17% or 16%, but only half that with moderates. Huckabee gets 21-26% across the board, and Palin 10-18%.

Yesterday's release showed that Huckabee would be the strongest candidate against President Obama in Wisconsin, trailing by seven points, half the president's victory margin over John McCain in 2008. Ryan would be next closest, down nine, with Romney down ten, Gingrich 12, and Palin 19.

PPP surveyed 400 usual Wisconsin Republican primary voters from February 24th to 27th. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.9%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



Wisconsin Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Newt Gingrich?

Favorable 54% Not sure 23%
Unfavorable..... 23%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Huckabee?

Favorable 58% Not sure 24%
Unfavorable..... 18%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Sarah Palin?

Favorable 65% Not sure 11%
Unfavorable..... 25%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

Favorable 49% Not sure 26%
Unfavorable..... 25%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Paul Ryan?

Favorable 67% Not sure 24%
Unfavorable..... 10%

Q6 Given the choices of Mitch Daniels, Newt Gingrich, Mike Huckabee, Sarah Palin, Ron Paul, Tim Pawlenty, Mitt Romney, and Paul Ryan who would you most like to see as the Republican candidate for President next year?

Mitch Daniels 3%
Newt Gingrich 12%
Mike Huckabee 17%
Sarah Palin 9%
Ron Paul 5%
Tim Pawlenty 4%
Mitt Romney 9%
Paul Ryan 30%
Someone else/Undecided..... 13%

Q7 If the choices for President were just Mitch Daniels, Newt Gingrich, Mike Huckabee, Sarah Palin, Ron Paul, Tim Pawlenty, and Mitt Romney who would you most like to see as the Republican candidate for President next year?

Mitch Daniels 3%
Newt Gingrich 15%
Mike Huckabee 23%
Sarah Palin 15%
Ron Paul 5%
Tim Pawlenty 10%
Mitt Romney 12%
Someone else/Undecided..... 17%

Q8 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal 1%
Somewhat liberal 3%
Moderate..... 19%
Somewhat conservative..... 43%
Very conservative 34%

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

Woman 45%
Man..... 55%

Q10 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..... 8%
30 to 45..... 30%
46 to 65..... 42%
Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gingrich Favorability						
Favorable	54%	50%	46%	25%	54%	71%
Unfavorable	23%	50%	31%	43%	21%	14%
Not sure	23%	-	23%	32%	26%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Huckabee Favorability						
Favorable	58%	50%	46%	43%	56%	68%
Unfavorable	18%	50%	23%	32%	14%	15%
Not sure	24%	-	31%	25%	29%	17%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Palin Favorability						
Favorable	65%	75%	46%	42%	62%	84%
Unfavorable	25%	25%	46%	43%	26%	10%
Not sure	11%	-	8%	16%	12%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	49%	25%	38%	32%	52%	56%
Unfavorable	25%	75%	31%	31%	21%	26%
Not sure	26%	-	31%	36%	27%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Ryan Favorability						
Favorable	67%	25%	38%	45%	71%	77%
Unfavorable	10%	75%	23%	19%	6%	5%
Not sure	24%	-	38%	35%	22%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/ Ryan						
Mitch Daniels	3%	25%	8%	3%	2%	3%
Newt Gingrich	12%	25%	8%	12%	11%	13%
Mike Huckabee	17%	-	15%	21%	15%	16%
Sarah Palin	9%	25%	31%	9%	5%	12%
Ron Paul	5%	-	-	4%	4%	6%
Tim Pawlenty	4%	-	-	6%	4%	3%
Mitt Romney	9%	-	8%	13%	9%	7%
Paul Ryan	30%	25%	8%	17%	34%	35%
Someone else/Undecided	13%	-	23%	16%	17%	5%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Ryan						
Mitch Daniels	3%	25%	-	1%	3%	4%
Newt Gingrich	15%	25%	9%	8%	17%	16%
Mike Huckabee	23%	-	27%	26%	21%	24%
Sarah Palin	15%	50%	36%	14%	10%	18%
Ron Paul	5%	-	9%	5%	5%	6%
Tim Pawlenty	10%	-	-	12%	6%	15%
Mitt Romney	12%	-	9%	19%	14%	7%
Someone else/Undecided	17%	-	9%	15%	25%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gingrich Favorability			
Favorable	54%	46%	60%
Unfavorable	23%	24%	23%
Not sure	23%	30%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Huckabee Favorability			
Favorable	58%	55%	60%
Unfavorable	18%	17%	20%
Not sure	24%	28%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	65%	62%	67%
Unfavorable	25%	28%	22%
Not sure	11%	10%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	49%	47%	50%
Unfavorable	25%	24%	26%
Not sure	26%	29%	23%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Ryan Favorability			
Favorable	67%	61%	71%
Unfavorable	10%	9%	10%
Not sure	24%	29%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/ Ryan			
Mitch Daniels	3%	1%	4%
Newt Gingrich	12%	11%	13%
Mike Huckabee	17%	17%	16%
Sarah Palin	9%	9%	9%
Ron Paul	5%	5%	4%
Tim Pawlenty	4%	3%	5%
Mitt Romney	9%	11%	7%
Paul Ryan	30%	27%	32%
Someone else/Undecided	13%	16%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Ryan			
Mitch Daniels	3%	2%	4%
Newt Gingrich	15%	13%	16%
Mike Huckabee	23%	26%	20%
Sarah Palin	15%	13%	16%
Ron Paul	5%	6%	5%
Tim Pawlenty	10%	6%	13%
Mitt Romney	12%	14%	11%
Someone else/Undecided	17%	20%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gingrich Favorability					
Favorable	54%	48%	46%	52%	70%
Unfavorable	23%	30%	26%	24%	15%
Not sure	23%	21%	28%	24%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Huckabee Favorability					
Favorable	58%	61%	48%	57%	72%
Unfavorable	18%	21%	21%	19%	11%
Not sure	24%	18%	32%	23%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	65%	73%	63%	63%	68%
Unfavorable	25%	24%	29%	23%	20%
Not sure	11%	3%	8%	13%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	49%	48%	45%	47%	60%
Unfavorable	25%	30%	25%	27%	20%
Not sure	26%	21%	30%	26%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Ryan Favorability					
Favorable	67%	55%	58%	69%	78%
Unfavorable	10%	15%	12%	9%	6%
Not sure	24%	30%	30%	22%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/ Ryan					
Mitch Daniels	3%	9%	3%	2%	1%
New t Gingrich	12%	27%	8%	10%	16%
Mike Huckabee	17%	12%	18%	16%	18%
Sarah Palin	9%	15%	8%	9%	9%
Ron Paul	5%	9%	3%	4%	5%
Tim Pawlenty	4%	6%	5%	4%	1%
Mitt Romney	9%	-	5%	11%	14%
Paul Ryan	30%	15%	37%	31%	25%
Someone else/Undecided	13%	6%	14%	14%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Ryan					
Mitch Daniels	3%	6%	3%	4%	1%
Newt Gingrich	15%	25%	16%	10%	18%
Mike Huckabee	23%	16%	25%	24%	21%
Sarah Palin	15%	19%	15%	16%	10%
Ron Paul	5%	13%	3%	5%	6%
Tim Pawlenty	10%	16%	13%	7%	11%
Mitt Romney	12%	-	12%	14%	14%
Someone else/Undecided	17%	6%	14%	20%	19%

