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OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

## **Obama expands Iowa lead to 7 points**

**Raleigh, N.C.--** PPP's newest Iowa poll finds Barack Obama leading Mitt Romney by 7 points in the state, 51-44. Obama's advantage has increased by 5 points since PPP's last poll of the state in late August when he led just 47-45.

The biggest change in the last month has been significant deterioration in Mitt Romney's image. His favorability has dropped a net 14 points from -1 at 47/48 to -15 at 40/55. His 47% comments last week appear to be hurting him more in Iowa than most places. 42% of voters in the state say they made them less likely to vote for him, compared to only 24% who consider them a positive. Overall 51% of voters consider his comments to have been inappropriate to 42% who thought they were ok.

Obama's further consolidated his party base over the last month and now leads 91-7 with Democrats, compared to 87-10 in August. We're also seeing a more Democratic likely electorate this time around. That's a function of the fact that 62% of Democrats say they're 'very excited' to vote this fall compared to only 55% of Republicans who say the same. For most of the cycle there's been a perceived pro-Republican enthusiasm gap but now it seems like that's flipped with Democrats saying they're more excited about the election.

PPP's conducted polls in three swing states- Iowa, Florida, and Colorado- both before the Democratic convention and after Romney's 47% comments. Obama's standing has improved by 3 points each in Florida and Colorado, and 5 points in Iowa.

In addition to Romney's decline Obama is also becoming at least a little bit stronger in Iowa in his own right. His approval is on narrowly positive ground at 49/48, compared to 45/50 a month ago. Obama has the edge over Romney on both who voters trust more on the economy (49/47) and on foreign policy (50/44).

“Barack Obama is starting to pull away in Iowa,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Voters there just really don’t like Mitt Romney. It would be more competitive if the Republicans had a half decent candidate.”

PPP surveyed 754 likely Iowa voters from September 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.6%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization.



## Iowa Survey Results

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

*Approve* ..... 49%  
*Disapprove*..... 48%  
*Not sure* ..... 3%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

*Favorable*..... 40%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 55%  
*Not sure* ..... 5%

**Q3** The candidates for President are Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

*Barack Obama*..... 51%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 44%  
*Undecided*..... 5%

**Q4** Do you trust Barack Obama or Mitt Romney more on the issue of the economy?

*Barack Obama*..... 49%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 47%  
*Not sure* ..... 4%

**Q5** Do you trust Barack Obama or Mitt Romney more on the issue of foreign policy?

*Barack Obama*..... 50%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 44%  
*Not sure* ..... 6%

**Q6** Are you very excited, somewhat excited, or not at all excited about voting in the 2012 elections?

*Very excited* ..... 52%  
*Somewhat excited* ..... 27%  
*Not at all excited* ..... 20%

**Q7** Are you familiar with comments Mitt Romney has made about the '47%', or not?

*Familiar*..... 86%  
*Not familiar*..... 14%

**Q8** Mitt Romney recently said, "There are 47 percent of the people who will vote for the president no matter what. All right? There are 47 percent who are with him, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe the government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you-name-it, that that's an entitlement. And the government should give it to them. And they will vote for this president no matter what.... These are people who pay no income tax." Do you think Romney's comments were appropriate or inappropriate?

*Appropriate* ..... 42%  
*Inappropriate*..... 51%  
*Not sure* ..... 7%

**Q9** Do these comments make you more or less likely to vote for Mitt Romney, or do they not make a difference?

*More likely*..... 24%  
*Less likely* ..... 42%  
*No difference* ..... 33%  
*Not sure* ..... 1%

**Q10** Do you think Mitt Romney should release his tax returns for the last 12 years, or not?

*He should*..... 51%  
*He should not*..... 40%  
*Not sure* ..... 10%





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

<i>Very liberal</i> .....	9%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i> .....	14%
<i>Moderate</i> .....	35%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i> .....	27%
<i>Very conservative</i> .....	15%

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

<i>Woman</i> .....	50%
<i>Man</i> .....	50%

**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.

<i>Democrat</i> .....	37%
<i>Republican</i> .....	33%
<i>Independent/Other</i> .....	30%

**Q14** If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

<i>White</i> .....	92%
<i>Other</i> .....	8%

**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.

<i>18 to 29</i> .....	13%
<i>30 to 45</i> .....	28%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	39%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>						
Approve	49%	86%	84%	63%	21%	13%
Disapprove	48%	11%	13%	35%	73%	87%
Not sure	3%	4%	3%	2%	6%	-

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Romney Favorability</b>						
Favorable	40%	12%	13%	26%	61%	77%
Unfavorable	55%	88%	85%	69%	29%	19%
Not sure	5%	-	2%	5%	10%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Romney</b>						
Barack Obama	51%	93%	90%	64%	22%	10%
Mitt Romney	44%	7%	9%	31%	67%	87%
Undecided	5%	-	1%	6%	10%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Trust More on Economy?</b>						
Barack Obama	49%	89%	86%	62%	21%	8%
Mitt Romney	47%	10%	12%	35%	71%	89%
Not sure	4%	1%	2%	3%	8%	4%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Trust More on Foreign Policy?</b>						
Barack Obama	50%	90%	88%	64%	23%	9%
Mitt Romney	44%	10%	12%	32%	64%	85%
Not sure	6%	-	1%	4%	13%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Voter Enthusiasm</b>						
Very excited	52%	80%	47%	48%	45%	64%
Somewhat excited	27%	16%	35%	29%	29%	21%
Not at all excited	20%	5%	17%	23%	27%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Familiar with Romney Comments?</b>						
Familiar	86%	93%	90%	86%	84%	78%
Not familiar	14%	7%	10%	14%	16%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Romney Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate</b>						
Appropriate	42%	28%	14%	29%	61%	78%
Inappropriate	51%	71%	83%	66%	28%	11%
Not sure	7%	2%	3%	5%	11%	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Romney Comments: More/Less Likely to Vote for Him</b>						
More likely	24%	20%	10%	15%	31%	48%
Less likely	42%	59%	69%	54%	22%	9%
No difference	33%	20%	20%	28%	46%	44%
Not sure	1%	1%	-	3%	0%	-

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Should Romney Release Taxes?</b>						
He should	51%	84%	75%	62%	31%	12%
He should not	40%	4%	16%	29%	60%	76%
Not sure	10%	12%	9%	9%	9%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
Approve	49%	52%	46%
Disapprove	48%	45%	50%
Not sure	3%	2%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Romney Favorability</b>			
Favorable	40%	40%	40%
Unfavorable	55%	55%	54%
Not sure	5%	5%	6%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Romney</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	51%	53%	49%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	44%	44%	44%
<b>Undecided</b>	5%	3%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Trust More on Economy?</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	49%	51%	47%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	47%	46%	49%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	4%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Trust More on Foreign Policy?</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	50%	52%	49%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	44%	42%	45%
<b>Not sure</b>	6%	5%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Voter Enthusiasm</b>			
<b>Very excited</b>	52%	55%	50%
<b>Somewhat excited</b>	27%	29%	26%
<b>Not at all excited</b>	20%	17%	24%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Familiar with Romney Comments?</b>			
<b>Familiar</b>	86%	80%	91%
<b>Not familiar</b>	14%	20%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Romney Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate</b>			
<b>Appropriate</b>	42%	40%	44%
<b>Inappropriate</b>	51%	52%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	8%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Romney Comments: More/Less Likely to Vote for Him</b>			
<b>More likely</b>	24%	26%	21%
<b>Less likely</b>	42%	42%	42%
<b>No difference</b>	33%	30%	36%
<b>Not sure</b>	1%	1%	1%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Should Romney Release Taxes?</b>			
<b>He should</b>	51%	50%	51%
<b>He should not</b>	40%	39%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	11%	8%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	49%	91%	10%	40%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	8%	88%	52%
<b>Not sure</b>	3%	1%	2%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	40%	7%	79%	37%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	55%	92%	15%	53%
<b>Not sure</b>	5%	1%	6%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	51%	91%	10%	47%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	44%	7%	85%	43%
<b>Undecided</b>	5%	2%	5%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Trust More on Economy?</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	49%	88%	9%	43%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	47%	9%	87%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	3%	4%	6%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Trust More on Foreign Policy?</b>				
Barack Obama	50%	89%	11%	47%
Mitt Romney	44%	7%	81%	47%
Not sure	6%	3%	8%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Voter Enthusiasm</b>				
Very excited	52%	62%	55%	38%
Somewhat excited	27%	27%	24%	31%
Not at all excited	20%	11%	21%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Familiar with Romney Comments?</b>				
Familiar	86%	89%	85%	82%
Not familiar	14%	11%	15%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Romney Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate</b>				
Appropriate	42%	13%	72%	47%
Inappropriate	51%	85%	16%	46%
Not sure	7%	2%	13%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Romney Comments: More/Less Likely to Vote for Him</b>				
<b>More likely</b>	24%	9%	46%	19%
<b>Less likely</b>	42%	68%	13%	40%
<b>No difference</b>	33%	22%	41%	38%
<b>Not sure</b>	1%	2%	-	2%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Should Romney Release Taxes?</b>				
<b>He should</b>	51%	80%	18%	48%
<b>He should not</b>	40%	11%	70%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	9%	13%	8%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	49%	49%	45%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	47%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	3%	3%	4%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Romney Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	40%	39%	47%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	55%	55%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	5%	6%	2%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Obama/Romney</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	51%	50%	58%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	44%	44%	41%
<b>Undecided</b>	5%	6%	2%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Trust More on Economy?</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	49%	49%	47%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	47%	47%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	4%	2%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Trust More on Foreign Policy?</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	50%	51%	48%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	44%	43%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	6%	6%	4%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Voter Enthusiasm</b>			
<b>Very excited</b>	52%	52%	54%
<b>Somewhat excited</b>	27%	28%	26%
<b>Not at all excited</b>	20%	20%	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Familiar with Romney Comments?</b>			
<b>Familiar</b>	86%	86%	74%
<b>Not familiar</b>	14%	14%	26%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Romney Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate</b>			
<b>Appropriate</b>	42%	41%	58%
<b>Inappropriate</b>	51%	51%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	7%	-

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Romney Comments: More/Less Likely to Vote for Him</b>			
<b>More likely</b>	24%	22%	46%
<b>Less likely</b>	42%	42%	32%
<b>No difference</b>	33%	34%	22%
<b>Not sure</b>	1%	1%	-

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Should Romney Release Taxes?</b>			
<b>He should</b>	51%	51%	37%
<b>He should not</b>	40%	39%	52%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	10%	11%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	<b>49%</b>	62%	44%	49%	49%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>48%</b>	31%	53%	49%	49%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>3%</b>	7%	3%	3%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Romney Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>40%</b>	26%	40%	42%	44%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>55%</b>	69%	53%	53%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>5%</b>	5%	7%	5%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Romney</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>51%</b>	64%	47%	50%	49%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	<b>44%</b>	29%	46%	46%	47%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>5%</b>	7%	7%	4%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Trust More on Economy?</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>49%</b>	63%	45%	48%	47%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	<b>47%</b>	34%	53%	48%	46%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>4%</b>	2%	2%	4%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Trust More on Foreign Policy?</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>50%</b>	64%	45%	50%	50%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	<b>44%</b>	33%	46%	45%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>6%</b>	2%	9%	5%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Voter Enthusiasm</b>					
<b>Very excited</b>	<b>52%</b>	58%	47%	55%	50%
<b>Somewhat excited</b>	<b>27%</b>	19%	28%	26%	35%
<b>Not at all excited</b>	<b>20%</b>	22%	25%	19%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Familiar with Romney Comments?</b>					
<b>Familiar</b>	<b>86%</b>	72%	86%	88%	88%
<b>Not familiar</b>	<b>14%</b>	28%	14%	12%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Romney Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate</b>					
<b>Appropriate</b>	<b>42%</b>	37%	51%	39%	40%
<b>Inappropriate</b>	<b>51%</b>	52%	43%	56%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>7%</b>	11%	6%	5%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Romney Comments: More/Less Likely to Vote for Him</b>					
<b>More likely</b>	<b>24%</b>	26%	25%	22%	24%
<b>Less likely</b>	<b>42%</b>	41%	38%	43%	45%
<b>No difference</b>	<b>33%</b>	26%	37%	35%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>1%</b>	7%	-	-	2%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Should Romney Release Taxes?</b>					
<b>He should</b>	<b>51%</b>	52%	44%	55%	50%
<b>He should not</b>	<b>40%</b>	26%	46%	39%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>10%</b>	22%	10%	5%	10%

