

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Americans Think GOP Will Control House But Not Senate

Raleigh, N.C. – As November approaches, Americans are becoming more excited about voting, and a plurality has bought into the conventional wisdom that the Republicans will win control of the U.S. House but that Democrats will narrowly retain the Senate. By a 46-32 margin, registered voters think the GOP will rule the House next January, but by a much smaller 40-36 margin, they do not think that party will be in the Senate majority. Predictably, Republicans are high on their party's chances in both chambers, higher for the House, and Democrats are down, more so for the Senate. But independents think the GOP will net at least 40 House seats by a 47-33 margin, and do not think they will gain at least 10 Senate seats, 27-43.

Although the election is looking more and more like a Republican romp, largely because of depressed Democratic turnout and an excited Republican base, those same Americans who recognize the likelihood of Republican gains would, at the same time, prefer to vote for the Democrats. Democrats have retaken a 45-44 lead in the national generic Congressional ballot, after being down 42-45 in August. Independents prefer the GOP by a slim 36-33.

While they are still massively unpopular, Democrats in Congress also still are better liked than their Republican counterparts by 19 points. Largely unchanged since last month, Congressional Democrats have a 34-54 job approval rating to Republicans' 22-61.

Despite several incumbent Republicans being pushed out by the Tea Party fervor dominating primaries this year, 41% still think there is a place for moderate voters in the GOP, to 34% who do not. 58% of Republicans and a 45% plurality of independents say there is room for non-conservatives, but only 24% of Democrats say that.

“This is just more demonstration that if Democrats were turning out at the same rate they did in 2008, this election would not be nearly as bad for their party as it looks like it will be,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

Complete results are attached, and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.

PPP surveyed 590 American voters from September 10th to 13th. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.0%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



National Survey Results

Q1 If the election for Congress was today would you vote for a Democrat or a Republican?

Democrat 45%
Republican 44%
Undecided 11%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Democrats in Congress are doing?

Approve 34% *Not sure* 12%
Disapprove 54%

Q3 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Republicans in Congress are doing?

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

Q4 Do you think Republicans will gain control of the House of Representatives this year?

Yes 46%
No 32%
Not sure 23%

Q5 Do you think Republicans will gain control of the Senate this year?

Yes 36%
No 40%
Not sure 24%

Q6 Do you think there is a place for moderate voters in the Republican Party?

Yes 41%
No 34%
Not sure 25%

Q7 Do you think the economy has gotten better, worse, or stayed about the same since Barack Obama became President?

Better 32%
Worse 49%
Stayed about the same 20%

Q8 How excited are you about casting your vote in the midterm election this fall?

Very excited 64%
Somewhat excited 20%
Not very excited 12%
Not sure 3%

Q9 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain 46%
Barack Obama 47%
Someone else/Don't remember 6%

Q10 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal 19%
Moderate 42%
Conservative 39%

Q11 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 55%
Man 45%

Q12 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 41%
Republican 36%
Independent/Other 23%





Q13 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2.
If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

<i>Hispanic</i>	9%
<i>White</i>	75%
<i>African-American</i>	12%
<i>Other</i>	4%

Q14 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>	8%
<i>30 to 45</i>	32%
<i>46 to 65</i>	42%
<i>Older than 65</i>	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Econ Better/Worse		
		Better	Worse	Stayed about the same
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	45%	88%	7%	69%
Republican	44%	4%	82%	16%
Undecided	11%	9%	10%	15%

	Base	Econ Better/Worse		
		Better	Worse	Stayed about the same
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	34%	73%	4%	48%
Disapprove	54%	14%	90%	31%
Not sure	12%	14%	7%	22%

	Base	Econ Better/Worse		
		Better	Worse	Stayed about the same
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	22%	4%	40%	5%
Disapprove	61%	86%	40%	73%
Not sure	17%	10%	20%	23%

	Base	Econ Better/Worse		
		Better	Worse	Stayed about the same
GOP Control House				
Yes	46%	15%	72%	29%
No	32%	64%	5%	46%
Not sure	23%	21%	23%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	Econ Better/Worse		
		Better	Worse	Stayed about the same
GOP Control Senate				
Yes	36%	9%	60%	21%
No	40%	73%	12%	54%
Not sure	24%	18%	28%	26%

	Base	Econ Better/Worse		
		Better	Worse	Stayed about the same
Moderates in GOP				
Yes	41%	26%	56%	32%
No	34%	54%	20%	37%
Not sure	25%	20%	25%	32%

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	45%	42%	53%	40%	55%
Republican	44%	49%	39%	31%	27%
Undecided	11%	8%	7%	29%	18%

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Congress Dem Approval					
Approve	34%	37%	34%	22%	33%
Disapprove	54%	57%	49%	47%	45%
Not sure	12%	6%	16%	31%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Congress GOP Approval					
Approve	22%	28%	10%	9%	13%
Disapprove	61%	61%	66%	56%	53%
Not sure	17%	11%	23%	35%	33%

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
GOP Control House					
Yes	46%	54%	36%	22%	27%
No	32%	32%	31%	27%	38%
Not sure	23%	14%	32%	51%	36%

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
GOP Control Senate					
Yes	36%	42%	28%	21%	18%
No	40%	42%	39%	28%	42%
Not sure	24%	16%	33%	51%	40%

	Base	Voter Excitement			
		Very excited	Somewhat excited	Not very excited	Not sure
Moderates in GOP					
Yes	41%	44%	41%	36%	22%
No	34%	36%	35%	26%	29%
Not sure	25%	21%	24%	38%	49%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	45%	5%	87%	22%
Republican	44%	88%	5%	24%
Undecided	11%	8%	8%	54%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	34%	4%	65%	23%
Disapprove	54%	92%	18%	46%
Not sure	12%	3%	17%	32%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	22%	42%	3%	17%
Disapprove	61%	40%	83%	53%
Not sure	17%	19%	14%	30%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
GOP Control House				
Yes	46%	74%	19%	37%
No	32%	5%	59%	24%
Not sure	23%	21%	23%	39%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
GOP Control Senate				
Yes	36%	61%	12%	30%
No	40%	11%	69%	31%
Not sure	24%	28%	20%	39%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Moderates in GOP				
Yes	41%	58%	26%	37%
No	34%	19%	50%	24%
Not sure	25%	23%	24%	39%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	45%	85%	58%	11%
Republican	44%	7%	28%	80%
Undecided	11%	7%	14%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	34%	67%	46%	6%
Disapprove	54%	17%	42%	85%
Not sure	12%	15%	12%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	22%	6%	12%	40%
Disapprove	61%	84%	72%	38%
Not sure	17%	11%	16%	22%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
GOP Control House				
Yes	46%	23%	34%	69%
No	32%	55%	42%	10%
Not sure	23%	23%	24%	21%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
GOP Control Senate				
Yes	36%	17%	23%	58%
No	40%	62%	51%	16%
Not sure	24%	21%	25%	26%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Moderates in GOP				
Yes	41%	23%	41%	51%
No	34%	58%	38%	18%
Not sure	25%	19%	21%	31%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Ballot			
Democrat	45%	50%	39%
Republican	44%	41%	48%
Undecided	11%	9%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Congress Dem Approval			
Approve	34%	38%	29%
Disapprove	54%	48%	61%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Congress GOP Approval			
Approve	22%	19%	25%
Disapprove	61%	60%	62%
Not sure	17%	21%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
GOP Control House			
Yes	46%	41%	52%
No	32%	34%	29%
Not sure	23%	25%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
GOP Control Senate			
Yes	36%	34%	38%
No	40%	41%	38%
Not sure	24%	25%	24%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Moderates in GOP			
Yes	41%	39%	45%
No	34%	33%	35%
Not sure	25%	28%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	45%	85%	7%	33%
Republican	44%	11%	87%	36%
Undecided	11%	4%	6%	31%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	34%	64%	5%	28%
Disapprove	54%	21%	89%	57%
Not sure	12%	15%	6%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	22%	7%	44%	13%
Disapprove	61%	77%	38%	69%
Not sure	17%	16%	19%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
GOP Control House				
Yes	46%	22%	74%	43%
No	32%	53%	7%	33%
Not sure	23%	25%	19%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
GOP Control Senate				
Yes	36%	17%	62%	27%
No	40%	61%	14%	43%
Not sure	24%	22%	24%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Moderates in GOP				
Yes	41%	24%	58%	45%
No	34%	48%	19%	34%
Not sure	25%	28%	23%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	45%	57%	39%	71%	51%
Republican	44%	35%	52%	13%	23%
Undecided	11%	9%	9%	16%	26%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Congress Dem Approval					
Approve	34%	35%	29%	68%	34%
Disapprove	54%	52%	61%	16%	49%
Not sure	12%	13%	11%	16%	17%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Congress GOP Approval					
Approve	22%	13%	26%	6%	14%
Disapprove	61%	57%	59%	77%	63%
Not sure	17%	30%	16%	16%	23%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
GOP Control House					
Yes	46%	35%	50%	29%	37%
No	32%	48%	27%	45%	46%
Not sure	23%	17%	23%	26%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
GOP Control Senate					
Yes	36%	30%	40%	19%	29%
No	40%	57%	34%	61%	46%
Not sure	24%	13%	27%	19%	26%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Moderates in GOP					
Yes	41%	48%	44%	23%	34%
No	34%	35%	33%	42%	34%
Not sure	25%	17%	23%	35%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	45%	64%	42%	38%	56%
Republican	44%	25%	46%	51%	35%
Undecided	11%	11%	12%	10%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Congress Dem Approval					
Approve	34%	41%	35%	30%	41%
Disapprove	54%	42%	55%	60%	44%
Not sure	12%	17%	10%	11%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Congress GOP Approval					
Approve	22%	16%	22%	27%	12%
Disapprove	61%	52%	63%	60%	63%
Not sure	17%	33%	14%	13%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
GOP Control House					
Yes	46%	44%	50%	47%	35%
No	32%	36%	32%	28%	37%
Not sure	23%	20%	18%	25%	27%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
GOP Control Senate					
Yes	36%	35%	39%	35%	31%
No	40%	43%	41%	37%	43%
Not sure	24%	21%	20%	28%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Moderates in GOP					
Yes	41%	41%	43%	44%	33%
No	34%	37%	39%	30%	33%
Not sure	25%	22%	18%	26%	34%

