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Bachmann takes the lead

Raleigh, N.C. – Michele Bachmann's momentum continues to build and she's taken first place by the smallest of margins on PPP's newest national Presidential poll. 21% of Republican primary voters say she's their top choice to 20% for Mitt Romney, 12% for Rick Perry, 11% for Herman Cain, 9% for Ron Paul, 7% for Newt Gingrich, 5% for Tim Pawlenty, and 3% for Jon Huntsman.

Bachmann's rise has been fueled by her appeal to voters on the far right- and their skepticism about Romney. Romney has the lead with centrist Republicans (23-17) and with those defining themselves as only somewhat right of center (24-17). But among 'very conservative' voters only 48% have a positive opinion of Romney to 34% who view him negatively, weak numbers, and Bachmann's capitalizing on that with a 26-15 lead over Romney, who's in third place with that group of voters.

Oddly enough one of the best things that could happen to Romney right now is the late entry of Sarah Palin into the race. In a ballot test including her as a candidate he leads the way with 20% to 16% for Bachmann, 12% for Palin, and 11% for Perry. 44% of Palin's voters say they would vote for Bachmann if Palin didn't run, compared to only 6% who say they would otherwise vote for Romney. So basically a Palin candidacy would take a large bite out of Bachmann's support with virtually no impact on Romney.

Republicans don't want Palin to run though. Just 29% think she should enter the race at this point to 53% opposed to that idea. Even among those voters who see her in a positive light only 45% think she should make a White House bid.

“For the last month all the momentum in the Republican Presidential race has been on Michele Bachmann’s side,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “The big question is whether she’ll be able to sustain that if other conservatives like Rick Perry and Sarah Palin end up joining the race.”

PPP surveyed 730 Republican primary voters from July 15th to 17th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.6%. 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 have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Michele Bachmann?

Favorable..... 48%
Unfavorable 26%
Not sure 26%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Herman Cain?

Favorable..... 40%
Unfavorable 19%
Not sure 41%

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

Favorable..... 57%
Unfavorable 32%
Not sure 10%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tim Pawlenty?

Favorable..... 32%
Unfavorable 25%
Not sure 43%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

Favorable..... 50%
Unfavorable 31%
Not sure 20%

Q6 If the candidates for President next year were Michele Bachmann, Herman Cain, Newt Gingrich, Jon Huntsman, Sarah Palin, Ron Paul, Tim Pawlenty, Rick Perry, and Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

Michele Bachmann 16%
Herman Cain..... 10%
Newt Gingrich 6%
Jon Huntsman..... 2%
Sarah Palin 12%
Ron Paul..... 9%
Tim Pawlenty 5%
Rick Perry 11%
Mitt Romney..... 20%
Someone else/Not sure 10%

Q7 If Sarah Palin didn't end up running for President, and the candidates were Michele Bachmann, Herman Cain, Newt Gingrich, Jon Huntsman, Ron Paul, Tim Pawlenty, Rick Perry, and Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

Michele Bachmann 21%
Herman Cain..... 11%
Newt Gingrich 7%
Jon Huntsman..... 3%
Ron Paul..... 9%
Tim Pawlenty 5%
Rick Perry 12%
Mitt Romney..... 20%
Someone else/Not sure 12%





Q8 If the Republican candidates for President were just Michele Bachmann and Mitt Romney, who would you vote for?

Michele Bachmann 44%
Mitt Romney..... 41%
Not sure 15%

Q9 Would you be willing or unwilling to vote for a Presidential candidate who supported a law at the state level mandating that people have health insurance?

Willing 17%
Unwilling 66%
Not sure 17%

Q10 Do you want Sarah Palin to run for President or not?

Want her to 29%
Don't want her to..... 53%
Not sure 18%

Q11 Do you think Sarah Palin is good or bad for the image of the Republican Party?

Good..... 57%
Bad 28%
Not sure 16%

Q12 Do you have a more favorable opinion of John Boehner or Eric Cantor?

John Boehner 41%
Eric Cantor..... 18%
Not sure 40%

Q13 Do you have a more favorable opinion of Jim DeMint or Mitch McConnell?

Jim DeMint..... 25%
Mitch McConnell 21%
Not sure 54%

Q14 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal 2%
Somewhat liberal 4%
Moderate..... 20%
Somewhat conservative..... 38%
Very conservative 37%

Q15 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 48%
Man..... 52%

Q16 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 3%
Republican..... 80%
Independent/Other..... 17%

Q17 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..... 20%
46 to 65..... 42%
Older than 65..... 30%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bachmann Favorability						
Favorable	48%	50%	37%	26%	46%	63%
Unfavorable	26%	14%	49%	41%	25%	17%
Not sure	26%	36%	14%	33%	29%	20%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cain Favorability						
Favorable	40%	56%	12%	22%	37%	55%
Unfavorable	19%	9%	50%	26%	20%	11%
Not sure	41%	36%	38%	52%	43%	33%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Palin Favorability						
Favorable	57%	64%	27%	36%	56%	74%
Unfavorable	32%	36%	68%	54%	33%	16%
Not sure	10%	-	5%	10%	12%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Pawlenty Favorability						
Favorable	32%	47%	8%	26%	29%	41%
Unfavorable	25%	26%	47%	33%	23%	19%
Not sure	43%	27%	45%	42%	48%	40%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Romney Favorability						
Favorable	50%	56%	52%	50%	51%	48%
Unfavorable	31%	44%	40%	24%	29%	34%
Not sure	20%	-	8%	26%	20%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Pres Primary						
Michele Bachmann	16%	59%	19%	11%	13%	19%
Herman Cain	10%	9%	34%	6%	9%	10%
Newt Gingrich	6%	6%	6%	9%	6%	5%
Jon Huntsman	2%	-	-	7%	2%	0%
Sarah Palin	12%	18%	9%	12%	7%	17%
Ron Paul	9%	9%	13%	10%	9%	6%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	-	-	4%	4%	6%
Rick Perry	11%	-	-	5%	14%	14%
Mitt Romney	20%	-	16%	25%	24%	13%
Someone else/Not sure	10%	-	2%	10%	12%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin						
Michele Bachmann	21%	59%	18%	17%	17%	26%
Herman Cain	11%	14%	41%	9%	9%	10%
Newt Gingrich	7%	-	2%	11%	6%	6%
Jon Huntsman	3%	9%	-	7%	3%	2%
Ron Paul	9%	-	13%	10%	9%	7%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	-	-	4%	6%	6%
Rick Perry	12%	18%	-	6%	12%	17%
Mitt Romney	20%	-	19%	23%	24%	15%
Someone else/Not sure	12%	-	7%	13%	13%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bachmann/Romney						
Michele Bachmann	44%	81%	38%	26%	42%	56%
Mitt Romney	41%	19%	56%	54%	42%	32%
Not sure	15%	-	6%	20%	16%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Willing to Vote for Candidate Who Supported HC Mandate?						
Willing	17%	51%	39%	31%	13%	10%
Unwilling	66%	41%	57%	46%	67%	78%
Not sure	17%	9%	5%	23%	20%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Want Palin to Run?						
Want her to	29%	41%	37%	24%	27%	33%
Don't want her to	53%	59%	54%	61%	57%	45%
Not sure	18%	-	9%	16%	16%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Palin Good/Bad for GOP Image?						
Good	57%	56%	50%	35%	53%	73%
Bad	28%	36%	48%	44%	29%	15%
Not sure	16%	9%	2%	21%	19%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
More Fav Opinion of Boehner or Cantor?						
John Boehner	41%	64%	29%	41%	43%	40%
Eric Cantor	18%	-	41%	12%	15%	24%
Not sure	40%	36%	30%	47%	42%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
More Fav Opinion of DeMint or McConnell?						
Jim DeMint	25%	50%	12%	13%	23%	35%
Mitch McConnell	21%	9%	60%	18%	21%	19%
Not sure	54%	41%	28%	69%	56%	47%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bachmann Favorability			
Favorable	48%	44%	52%
Unfavorable	26%	23%	29%
Not sure	26%	33%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cain Favorability			
Favorable	40%	32%	47%
Unfavorable	19%	18%	20%
Not sure	41%	49%	33%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Favorability			
Favorable	57%	55%	59%
Unfavorable	32%	32%	33%
Not sure	10%	13%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Pawlenty Favorability			
Favorable	32%	28%	37%
Unfavorable	25%	19%	30%
Not sure	43%	54%	33%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Romney Favorability			
Favorable	50%	49%	51%
Unfavorable	31%	28%	33%
Not sure	20%	23%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Pres Primary			
Michele Bachmann	16%	15%	16%
Herman Cain	10%	8%	11%
Newt Gingrich	6%	5%	7%
Jon Huntsman	2%	2%	3%
Sarah Palin	12%	15%	9%
Ron Paul	9%	6%	11%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	4%	5%
Rick Perry	11%	10%	13%
Mitt Romney	20%	22%	17%
Someone else/Not sure	10%	12%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin			
Michele Bachmann	21%	22%	20%
Herman Cain	11%	8%	13%
Newt Gingrich	7%	6%	8%
Jon Huntsman	3%	4%	3%
Ron Paul	9%	8%	10%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	5%	6%
Rick Perry	12%	10%	15%
Mitt Romney	20%	23%	17%
Someone else/Not sure	12%	15%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bachmann/Romney			
Michele Bachmann	44%	44%	45%
Mitt Romney	41%	40%	41%
Not sure	15%	16%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Willing to Vote for Candidate Who Supported HC Mandate?			
Willing	17%	13%	21%
Unwilling	66%	67%	65%
Not sure	17%	20%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Want Palin to Run?			
Want her to	29%	29%	29%
Don't want her to	53%	53%	54%
Not sure	18%	18%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Palin Good/Bad for GOP Image?			
Good	57%	52%	61%
Bad	28%	28%	27%
Not sure	16%	20%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Fav Opinion of Boehner or Cantor?			
John Boehner	41%	39%	44%
Eric Cantor	18%	14%	23%
Not sure	40%	48%	33%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Fav Opinion of DeMint or McConnell?			
Jim DeMint	25%	21%	29%
Mitch McConnell	21%	18%	24%
Not sure	54%	62%	47%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bachmann Favorability				
Favorable	48%	32%	50%	43%
Unfavorable	26%	46%	25%	28%
Not sure	26%	22%	25%	29%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cain Favorability				
Favorable	40%	20%	40%	42%
Unfavorable	19%	51%	18%	18%
Not sure	41%	29%	42%	40%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Favorability				
Favorable	57%	34%	60%	47%
Unfavorable	32%	49%	30%	43%
Not sure	10%	17%	10%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Pawlenty Favorability				
Favorable	32%	34%	33%	26%
Unfavorable	25%	42%	22%	33%
Not sure	43%	25%	44%	40%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Romney Favorability				
Favorable	50%	40%	50%	49%
Unfavorable	31%	25%	30%	34%
Not sure	20%	36%	20%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
2012 GOP Pres Primary				
Michele Bachmann	16%	12%	16%	14%
Herman Cain	10%	33%	9%	10%
Newt Gingrich	6%	17%	5%	7%
Jon Huntsman	2%	-	2%	4%
Sarah Palin	12%	17%	14%	4%
Ron Paul	9%	-	6%	21%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	5%	4%	6%
Rick Perry	11%	-	12%	9%
Mitt Romney	20%	13%	20%	17%
Someone else/Not sure	10%	3%	11%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin				
Michele Bachmann	21%	12%	22%	18%
Herman Cain	11%	23%	11%	8%
Newt Gingrich	7%	14%	5%	12%
Jon Huntsman	3%	3%	3%	4%
Ron Paul	9%	9%	7%	18%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	5%	6%	5%
Rick Perry	12%	-	13%	10%
Mitt Romney	20%	18%	21%	15%
Someone else/Not sure	12%	15%	13%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bachmann/Romney				
Michele Bachmann	44%	31%	46%	42%
Mitt Romney	41%	56%	41%	38%
Not sure	15%	14%	14%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Willing to Vote for Candidate Who Supported HC Mandate?				
Willing	17%	31%	16%	21%
Unwilling	66%	66%	66%	64%
Not sure	17%	3%	18%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Want Palin to Run?				
Want her to	29%	39%	29%	28%
Don't want her to	53%	39%	53%	56%
Not sure	18%	22%	18%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Palin Good/Bad for GOP Image?				
Good	57%	48%	58%	51%
Bad	28%	30%	27%	31%
Not sure	16%	22%	15%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Fav Opinion of Boehner or Cantor?				
John Boehner	41%	40%	42%	40%
Eric Cantor	18%	26%	18%	17%
Not sure	40%	34%	40%	44%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Fav Opinion of DeMint or McConnell?				
Jim DeMint	25%	32%	26%	22%
Mitch McConnell	21%	28%	20%	24%
Not sure	54%	40%	54%	54%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bachmann Favorability					
Favorable	48%	48%	40%	51%	49%
Unfavorable	26%	19%	26%	26%	28%
Not sure	26%	33%	34%	23%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cain Favorability					
Favorable	40%	38%	33%	41%	44%
Unfavorable	19%	14%	20%	19%	20%
Not sure	41%	48%	46%	41%	36%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Favorability					
Favorable	57%	62%	52%	58%	60%
Unfavorable	32%	33%	41%	31%	29%
Not sure	10%	5%	7%	11%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Pawlenty Favorability					
Favorable	32%	24%	30%	33%	34%
Unfavorable	25%	14%	28%	26%	24%
Not sure	43%	62%	42%	41%	42%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Romney Favorability					
Favorable	50%	57%	39%	46%	60%
Unfavorable	31%	19%	38%	34%	24%
Not sure	20%	24%	23%	20%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Pres Primary					
Michele Bachmann	16%	24%	16%	16%	12%
Herman Cain	10%	14%	10%	11%	7%
Newt Gingrich	6%	5%	6%	5%	8%
Jon Huntsman	2%	-	3%	3%	3%
Sarah Palin	12%	10%	16%	12%	10%
Ron Paul	9%	19%	16%	7%	4%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	-	6%	5%	5%
Rick Perry	11%	5%	6%	14%	14%
Mitt Romney	20%	14%	9%	20%	28%
Someone else/Not sure	10%	10%	14%	9%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Pres Primary w/o Palin					
Michele Bachmann	21%	19%	20%	24%	19%
Herman Cain	11%	14%	14%	10%	8%
Newt Gingrich	7%	10%	7%	4%	10%
Jon Huntsman	3%	5%	3%	3%	3%
Ron Paul	9%	14%	17%	7%	4%
Tim Pawlenty	5%	-	6%	6%	5%
Rick Perry	12%	10%	9%	14%	13%
Mitt Romney	20%	19%	9%	20%	27%
Someone else/Not sure	12%	10%	16%	11%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bachmann/Romney					
Michele Bachmann	44%	52%	47%	48%	35%
Mitt Romney	41%	38%	32%	39%	49%
Not sure	15%	10%	21%	12%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Willing to Vote for Candidate Who Supported HC Mandate?					
Willing	17%	10%	21%	21%	11%
Unwilling	66%	76%	64%	63%	68%
Not sure	17%	14%	14%	16%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Want Palin to Run?					
Want her to	29%	29%	33%	29%	26%
Don't want her to	53%	57%	46%	53%	57%
Not sure	18%	14%	21%	18%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Palin Good/Bad for GOP Image?					
Good	57%	43%	56%	59%	58%
Bad	28%	33%	29%	28%	25%
Not sure	16%	24%	16%	14%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Fav Opinion of Boehner or Cantor?					
John Boehner	41%	33%	30%	42%	50%
Eric Cantor	18%	19%	20%	21%	14%
Not sure	40%	48%	50%	37%	37%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Fav Opinion of DeMint or McConnell?					
Jim DeMint	25%	14%	26%	29%	23%
Mitch McConnell	21%	19%	21%	17%	27%
Not sure	54%	67%	53%	54%	50%

