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## Candidate Traits: D.C. Experience Viewed Less Positive

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## Republican Candidates Stir Little Enthusiasm

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## Candidate Traits: D.C. Experience Viewed Less Positively Republican Candidates Stir Little Enthusiasm

The emerging Republican presidential field draws tepid ratings. Just a quarter of voters (25%) have an excellent or good impression of the possible GOP candidates, and a [separate survey](#) conducted jointly with *The Washington Post* finds that negative descriptions of the field far outnumber positive ones. Asked for a single word to describe the GOP field, the top response is “unimpressed.”

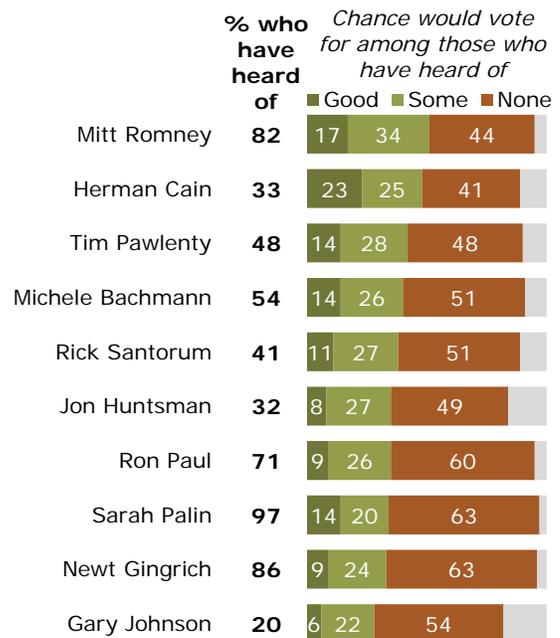
Of the party’s best-known possible candidates, only Mitt Romney has broad potential appeal. Large majorities have heard of four possible Republican candidates – Romney, Sarah Palin, Newt Gingrich and Ron Paul. But most who have heard of Palin and Gingrich say there is no chance they would vote for them (63% each). About as many (60%) say there is no chance they would support Paul.

By contrast, far fewer voters (44%) who have heard of Romney have ruled out voting for him, while 51% say there is at least some chance they could support the former Massachusetts governor.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research for the People & the Press, conducted May 25-30 among 1,509 adults (including 1,227 registered voters), finds that Barack Obama continues to hold a sizable lead against a generic Republican opponent in next year’s election. Currently, 48% of registered voters say they would like to see Obama reelected while 37% would prefer to see a Republican elected. This is little changed from March (47% to 37%).

Obama’s job approval rating, which rose after the killing of Osama bin Laden, remains positive. Currently, 52% of the public approves of his job performance while 39%

### The Appeal of the 2012 GOP Field



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011.  
Based on registered voters.

disapprove. Last fall, after his party's weak showing in the midterm elections, as many disapproved as approved of the way Obama was handling his job as president (44% each).

Obama's personal image also remains strong. Large percentages continue to view Obama as a good communicator (75%) and warm and friendly (73%), and more see him as a strong leader than did so in January (58% now, 53% then).

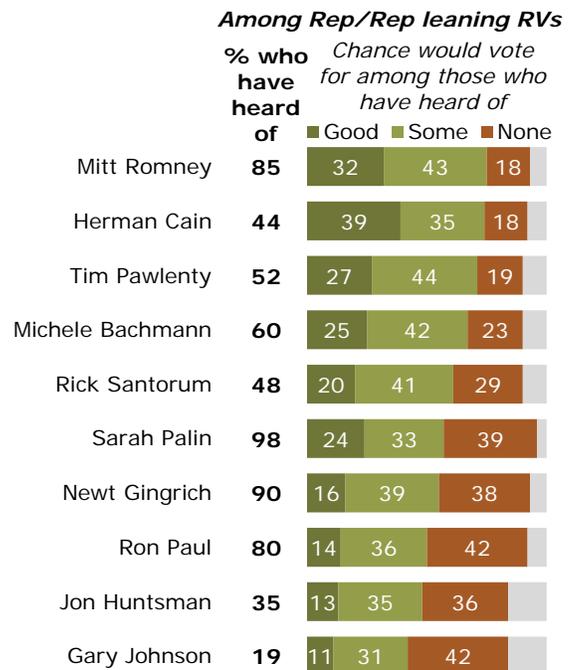
The new survey finds that among the Republican candidates, Herman Cain has made a positive impression on the relatively small share of voters – mostly Republicans – who have heard of him. Just 33% of voters have heard of Cain. Among them, 23% say there is a good chance they will vote for the former business executive and another 25% say there is some chance they would vote for him.

Among the 44% of Republican and Republican-leaning voters who have heard of Cain, 39% say there is a good chance they would vote for him, while 35% say there is some chance. Nearly twice as many Republican voters have heard of Romney (85%). Among this group, 32% say there is a good chance they would vote for him and 43% say there is some chance.

Smaller majorities of GOP voters who have heard of Palin, Gingrich and Paul say there is at least some chance they could support them (57% Palin, 56% Gingrich, 50% Paul). Roughly four-in-ten Republican voters say there is no chance they would support Palin (39%), Gingrich (38%) and Paul (42%).

At this early stage in the race, Republican and Republican-leaning voters express mixed views of the possible GOP field as a whole: 44% say the possible candidates are excellent or good, but about as many (43%) say the party's candidates are only fair or poor.

## GOP Voters' Views of 2012 Field



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters. Q33b-1.

Republican voters had only a somewhat more positive view of the GOP field at a later point in the 2008 campaign. In October 2007, 52% rated the candidates as excellent or good while 43% said they were only fair or poor. Republican voters' current ratings of their party's possible candidates are comparable to Democratic voters' ratings of their party's candidates in September 2003.

The survey finds that in assessing traits and characteristics of presidential candidates, the public values prior experience as a governor or business executive more than experience as an elected official in Washington.

Nearly four-in-ten Americans (37%) say that, in general, they would be more likely to support a candidate who has been a governor, just 5% say they would be less likely to support such a candidate and 55% say it would make no difference.

Past experience as a business executive also is seen as an asset; 35% say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who has been a business executive, although 14% would be less likely to support such a candidate; 49% say it would make no difference.

The public has mixed views of a presidential candidate who has been an elected official in Washington for many years. As many say they would be less likely to back such a candidate (25%) as more likely to support them (26%). During the last presidential campaign, long experience as a Washington politician was seen more positively. In February 2007, 35% say they would be more likely to support a candidate with long-time Washington experience compared with 15% who said they would be less likely.

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### GOP Voters' Mixed Views of 2012 Field

|  | Oct<br>1991       | Oct<br>1995       | Sept<br>2003      | Oct<br>2007       | Oct<br>2007       | May<br>2011       |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | Dem<br>cands      | Rep<br>cands      | Dem<br>cands      | Dem<br>cands      | Rep<br>cands      | Rep<br>cands      |
| <i>All registered voters</i>                             | %                 | %                 | %                 | %                 | %                 | %                 |
| Excellent/Good   | 20                | 33                | 32                | 44                | 31                | 25                |
| Only fair/Poor   | 55                | 63                | 55                | 50                | 59                | 61                |
| Don't know   | <u>24</u>         | <u>4</u>          | <u>14</u>         | <u>6</u>          | <u>10</u>         | <u>13</u>         |
|  | 100               | 100               | 100               | 100               | 100               | 100               |
| <i>Voters who identify with or lean toward the party</i> | <i>Among Dems</i> | <i>Among Reps</i> | <i>Among Dems</i> | <i>Among Dems</i> | <i>Among Reps</i> | <i>Among Reps</i> |
|  | %                 | %                 | %                 | %                 | %                 | %                 |
| Excellent/Good   | 27                | 51                | 44                | 64                | 52                | 44                |
| Only fair/Poor   | 49                | 46                | 44                | 31                | 43                | 43                |
| Don't know   | <u>23</u>         | <u>3</u>          | <u>12</u>         | <u>5</u>          | <u>6</u>          | <u>13</u>         |
|  | 100               | 100               | 100               | 100               | 100               | 100               |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q31. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Question not asked in 2000 election cycle, and asked about both parties' candidates in 2007.

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As was the case during the last campaign, prior service in the military is viewed very positively. Nearly half (49%) say they would be more likely to support a candidate who has served in the military, the highest percentage for the 14 traits and characteristics listed.

Among traits perceived negatively, 61% say they would be less likely to support a presidential candidate who does not believe in God, which is little changed from four years ago.

A past extramarital affair is viewed even more negatively today than in 2007: Currently, 46% say they would be less likely to support a candidate who had an extramarital affair, up from 39% in February 2007.

A third of Americans (33%) say they would be less likely to support a presidential candidate who is homosexual, which is sizable decline from 2007 (46%). In the new survey, 62% say it would not matter if a candidate is homosexual, up from 51% four years ago.

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### Candidate Traits: Positives and Negatives

| <i>A candidate who is/has/does...</i>                 | More likely to support | Less likely to support | No difference | DK    |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------|
|   | %                      | %                      | %             | %     |
| Served in military                                    | 49                     | 4                      | 47            | 1=100 |
| Been a governor                                       | 37                     | 5                      | 55            | 3=100 |
| Been a business executive                             | 35                     | 14                     | 49            | 2=100 |
| A woman   | 14                     | 7                      | 77            | 1=100 |
| Black   | 7                      | 3                      | 89            | 1=100 |
| Been an elected official in Washington for many years | 26                     | 25                     | 46            | 3=100 |
| Hispanic  | 8                      | 11                     | 80            | 1=100 |
| Been divorced   | 3                      | 11                     | 85            | 1=100 |
| Used marijuana in the past                            | 5                      | 24                     | 69            | 2=100 |
| Mormon  | 5                      | 25                     | 68            | 3=100 |
| Homosexual  | 3                      | 33                     | 62            | 2=100 |
| Never held elected office                             | 9                      | 51                     | 38            | 3=100 |
| Had an extramarital affair                            | 2                      | 46                     | 49            | 3=100 |
| Not believe in God                                    | 5                      | 61                     | 33            | 2=100 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011 Q49a-n.

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## SECTION 1: THE 2012 ELECTION

Barack Obama continues to fare well against a generic Republican opponent in the 2012 general election. Nearly half (48%) of registered voters say they would like to see Barack Obama reelected, while 37% say they would prefer to see a Republican candidate win in 2012. This is virtually unchanged from March.

This 11-point edge is comparable to the 14-point advantage George W. Bush held in April 2003, when 48% said they would like to see him reelected and 34% said they would prefer to see a Democrat win. At that time, the Iraq war was viewed very favorably, and Bush's overall job approval rating among the public stood at 72%. By comparison, Obama's enjoys a much more modest 52% approval rating in the current survey.

Voter preferences continue to follow the same patterns seen in the 2008 election outcome – Obama holds commanding leads among minorities, young people, and low income Americans, but trails by substantial margins among whites – particularly white men and working-class whites. But critically, Obama holds a slim 42% to 35% edge against an unnamed Republican challenger among independents. This, too, is virtually unchanged from March (40%-34%), and mirrors the margin by which he won independents according to the 2008 exit polls (52% vs. 44% for McCain).

### Obama Maintains Wide Lead

| <i>Looking ahead to 2012, would you prefer to see...</i> | <b>Barack Obama reelected</b><br>% | <b>Republican candidate win</b><br>% | <b>Other/DK</b><br>% |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <i>All Voters</i>  |                                    |                                      |                      |
| <b>May 25-30</b>   | <b>48</b>                          | <b>37</b>                            | <b>15=100</b>        |
| <b>March 8-14</b>  | <b>47</b>                          | <b>37</b>                            | <b>16=100</b>        |
| <i>May 25-30 among...</i>                                |                                    |                                      |                      |
| Republican   | 8                                  | 81                                   | 11=100               |
| Democrat   | 87                                 | 7                                    | 6=100                |
| Independent  | 42                                 | 35                                   | 24=100               |
| Men  | 46                                 | 37                                   | 18=100               |
| Women  | 49                                 | 38                                   | 13=100               |
| White  | 37                                 | 46                                   | 17=100               |
| Black  | 96                                 | 1                                    | 3=100                |
| 18-29  | 48                                 | 33                                   | 18=100               |
| 30-49  | 51                                 | 37                                   | 12=100               |
| 50-64  | 47                                 | 37                                   | 16=100               |
| 65+  | 43                                 | 40                                   | 17=100               |
| College grad   | 46                                 | 37                                   | 16=100               |
| Some coll or less  | 48                                 | 37                                   | 15=100               |
| <i>Household income</i>                                  |                                    |                                      |                      |
| \$75,000+  | 44                                 | 41                                   | 15=100               |
| \$30k to \$74,999  | 47                                 | 37                                   | 16=100               |
| <\$30,000  | 54                                 | 35                                   | 11=100               |
| <i>Among whites...</i>                                   |                                    |                                      |                      |
| Men  | 34                                 | 47                                   | 19=100               |
| Women  | 40                                 | 45                                   | 15=100               |
| College grad   | 41                                 | 42                                   | 17=100               |
| Some coll or less  | 35                                 | 49                                   | 17=100               |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q30. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

## Prospects for Possible GOP Candidates

At this early stage of the 2012 presidential election Sarah Palin, Newt Gingrich and Mitt Romney stand-out as the most widely recognized candidates by Republican and Republican-leaning independent voters. But while highly visible, many say there is “no chance” they will vote for Palin or Gingrich; somewhat fewer have ruled out voting for Mitt Romney.

### Republican Voters View the Field

*Chance would vote for based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters who have heard of each ...*

|                  | Good chance | Some chance | No chance | DK     | Heard of |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------|----------|
|                  | %           | %           | %         | %      | %        |
| Herman Cain      | 39          | 35          | 18        | 8=100  | 44       |
| Mitt Romney      | 32          | 43          | 18        | 7=100  | 85       |
| Tim Pawlenty     | 27          | 44          | 19        | 10=100 | 52       |
| Michele Bachmann | 25          | 42          | 23        | 10=100 | 60       |
| Sarah Palin      | 24          | 33          | 39        | 4=100  | 98       |
| Rick Santorum    | 20          | 41          | 29        | 10=100 | 48       |
| Newt Gingrich    | 16          | 39          | 38        | 6=100  | 90       |
| Ron Paul         | 14          | 36          | 42        | 8=100  | 80       |
| Jon Huntsman     | 13          | 35          | 36        | 15=100 | 35       |
| Gary Johnson     | 11          | 31          | 42        | 16=100 | 19       |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning registered voters. Q33b-l.

Sarah Palin is nearly unanimously recognized by Republican and Republican-leaning voters – 98% say they have heard of her. Of those familiar with Palin, more say there is no chance they would vote for her (39%) than say there is a good chance (24%); 33% say there is some chance they would vote for the former Alaska governor. Palin does worse among independents who lean Republican (49% no chance) than she does among self-described Republicans (35% no chance).

Mitt Romney elicits somewhat more positive responses from Republican voters than do other highly visible Republicans. Among those who have heard of him 75% say there is a good chance (32%) or some chance (43%) they would vote for Romney if he is a candidate in 2012, just 18% say there is no chance they would vote for the former Massachusetts governor.

Newt Gingrich is also widely recognized – 90% have heard of him – but just 16% say there is a good chance they will vote for him if he is a candidate for president; 39% say there is some chance, 38% no chance.

While not widely known, Herman Cain enjoys broad support among the 44% of Republican and Republican-leaning independents who have heard of him: 74% say there

is either a good chance (39%) or some chance (35%) they would vote for him; 18% say there is no chance.

## Interest in 2012 Candidates

Overall, six-in-ten voters (60%) say they are paying a lot (27%) or some (33%) attention to the candidates who may be running for president in 2012. Compared to roughly the same time period in the 2008 election cycle – a contest where both parties had primary elections – interest is somewhat lower: in June of 2007, 68% were paying at least some attention to potential candidates in the 2008 election.

Interest in the presidential candidates among Republican and Republican-leaning voters is as high today as at a nearly comparable point in the 2008 campaign. Currently, 67% of Republican and GOP-leaning voters say they have given at least some thought to the candidates; in June 2007, 68% of these voters had done so. Interest among Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters is lower than at about this point in the last campaign (57% a lot/some thought today vs. 70% then).

Republican voters who agree with the Tea Party are much more engaged by the presidential race than are GOP voters who have no opinion of the Tea Party or disagree with the movement.

Fully 81% of Republican and Republican-leaning voters who agree with the Tea Party have given at least some thought to the presidential candidates and 46% have given them a lot of thought. Among GOP voters who have no opinion of or disagree with the Tea Party, 55% have given the candidates at least some thought and just 16% have given the 2012 contenders a lot of thought.

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### GOP Voters' Interest in Candidates on Par with '08 Campaign

|  | June<br>2007 | May<br>2011 | Diff |
|--|--------------|-------------|------|
| <i>Given a lot/some thought to 2012 candidates</i> | %            | %           |      |
| All registered voters                              | 68           | 60          | -8   |
| Rep/Rep-leaning RVs                                | 68           | 67          | -1   |
| Dem/Dem-leaning RVs                                | 70           | 57          | -13  |
| <i>Among Rep/Rep-leaning RVs</i>                   |              |             |      |
| Agree w/Tea Party (43%)                            | --           | 81          |      |
| Disagree/No opinion (56%)                          | --           | 55          |      |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q29. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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## So-So Ratings for GOP Field, But It's Early

Republican and Republican-leaning voters do not have a very positive view of their party's presidential candidates: 44% say as a group, the candidates running for the Republican nomination are excellent or good, while 43% say they are only fair or poor.

But these ratings are only slightly more negative than GOP voters' views of the party's presidential field in September 2007. At that time, 49% of Republican and Republican-leaning voters said the GOP candidates were excellent or good while 44% said they were only fair or poor.

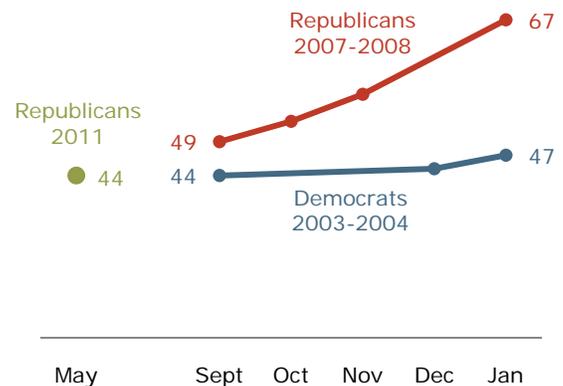
And as the 2008 campaign progressed, Republican voters subsequently came to view their party's candidates more favorably. By January 2008, 67% said the GOP candidates were excellent or good compared with 31% who said they were only fair or poor.

Democratic voters had much more positive views of their party's candidates throughout the 2008 campaign. In September 2007, 64% of Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters rated the Democratic field as excellent or good and by January 2008, 78% expressed a positive opinion of the candidates.

But in 2004, Democratic voters began with a fairly lukewarm impression of their party's candidates, and those opinions changed little as the campaign continued. In September 2003, 44% rated the Democratic field as excellent or good; by January 2004, 47% of Democratic voters expressed positive views of their party's candidates.

## GOPers Grew to Like Field in 2008, Democrats Did Not in 2004

*Percent of partisans and party leaners who describe their field of candidates as excellent or good*



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q31. Figures based on Republican and Republican-leaning registered voters in the 2007-2008 election cycle, and Democratic and Democratic-leaning registered voters in the 2003-2004 election cycle.

## The Tea Party Primary

Tea Party Republicans are not only more engaged by the 2012 candidates, they also have more positive opinions of the GOP field. Most Tea Party Republican and Republican-leaning independents (55%) rate the prospective GOP field as either excellent (7%) or good (48%). By comparison, just 36% of non-Tea Party Republicans give the GOP candidates an excellent or good rating.

Reflecting the intense political engagement of Republican voters who agree with the Tea Party, substantial majorities have heard of even the lesser known possible GOP candidates, such as Michele Bachmann, Tim Pawlenty, Rick Santorum and Herman Cain. Roughly two-thirds or more Republican Tea Party supporters have heard of these candidates. Among Republican and Republican-leaning voters who do not agree with the Tea Party, fewer than half heard of these candidates.

In most cases, individual GOP candidates receive more support from Tea Party Republicans than from non-Tea Party Republicans – in some instances dramatically more support. For instance, among GOP voters who agree with the Tea Party and have heard of Michele Bachmann, 34% say there is a good chance they would vote for her; that compares with just 11% of Republican voters who do not agree with the Tea Party and have heard of Bachmann. And while Herman Cain is not well known enough among non-Tea Party Republicans to measure support for his candidacy, 51% of Tea Party Republicans who are familiar with him say there is a good chance they would vote for him in 2012 if he were a candidate.

## Tea Party Reps: More Engaged...

|                   | <i>Rep/Lean Rep</i> |                      |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|                   | <b>Tea Party</b>    | <b>Non-Tea Party</b> |
| <i>% heard of</i> | %                   | %                    |
| Palin             | 99                  | 97                   |
| Gingrich          | 98                  | 84                   |
| Romney            | 98                  | 76                   |
| Paul              | 91                  | 70                   |
| Bachmann          | 82                  | 43                   |
| Pawlenty          | 75                  | 35                   |
| Santorum          | 70                  | 30                   |
| Cain              | 66                  | 27                   |
| Huntsman          | 43                  | 29                   |
| Johnson           | 26                  | 14                   |

## More Enthusiastic

| <i>Impression of GOP field</i>       |          |           |
|--------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Excellent/Good                       | 55       | 36        |
| Only fair/Poor                       | 39       | 46        |
| Don't know                           | <u>6</u> | <u>18</u> |
|                                      | 100      | 100       |
| <i>% good chance would vote for*</i> |          |           |
| Cain                                 | 51       | --        |
| Romney                               | 38       | 27        |
| Bachmann                             | 34       | 11        |
| Palin                                | 34       | 17        |
| Pawlenty                             | 31       | 22        |
| Santorum                             | 24       | 11        |
| Gingrich                             | 24       | 10        |
| Paul                                 | 18       | 11        |
| Huntsman                             | 12       | --        |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Based on Republicans and Republican-leaning registered voters. Q31 & Q33b-I. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

\*Based on those who have heard of the candidates; sample size among non-Tea Party Republicans too small to measure "good chance" for Cain, Huntsman.

## SECTION 2: CANDIDATE TRAITS AND EXPERIENCE

Military service and past experience as a governor or a business executive are seen as positive traits for a presidential candidate. About half (49%) say they would be more likely to support a candidate who has served in the military, 37% would be more likely to support a candidate who has been a governor, and 35% say the same about a candidate who has been a business executive. The proportion saying they would be more likely to vote for a candidate with experience as a business executive has risen seven points, from 28%, since 2007.

The public expresses more mixed views of a candidate with extensive Washington experience – 26% say they would be more likely to support a candidate who has been an elected official in Washington for many years, while about as many (25%) would be less likely. This is a change from 2007, when 35% said they would be more likely to support a candidate with long Washington experience, compared with 15% who said they would be less likely.

Lacking *any* prior experience in elected office, however, continues to be seen as a liability. Roughly half (51%) say they would be less likely to vote for a candidate who has never held elective office, which is little changed from four years ago (56%).

There are wide partisan differences in views about a candidate's prior experience, as well as substantial differences between Republicans and who agree with the Tea Party and those who do not.

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### Partisan Divides on Candidate Experience

| <i>A candidate who has...</i>                                    | <b>Total</b> | <b>Rep</b> | <b>Dem</b> | <b>Ind</b> |
|--|--------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b><i>Served in the military</i></b>                             | %            | %          | %          | %          |
| More likely to support   | 49           | 68         | 36         | 49         |
| Less likely to support   | 4            | *          | 4          | 5          |
| Wouldn't matter  | 47           | 31         | 59         | 44         |
| <b><i>Been a governor</i></b>                                    |              |            |            |            |
| More likely to support   | 37           | 43         | 30         | 40         |
| Less likely to support   | 5            | 4          | 7          | 6          |
| Wouldn't matter  | 55           | 49         | 62         | 52         |
| <b><i>Been a business executive</i></b>                          |              |            |            |            |
| More likely to support   | 35           | 51         | 20         | 38         |
| Less likely to support   | 14           | 6          | 20         | 13         |
| Wouldn't matter  | 49           | 40         | 57         | 47         |
| <b><i>Been elected official in Washington for many years</i></b> |              |            |            |            |
| More likely to support   | 26           | 25         | 29         | 25         |
| Less likely to support   | 25           | 34         | 15         | 27         |
| Wouldn't matter  | 46           | 38         | 52         | 47         |
| <b><i>Never held elected office</i></b>                          |              |            |            |            |
| More likely to support   | 9            | 11         | 6          | 9          |
| Less likely to support   | 51           | 53         | 55         | 49         |
| Wouldn't matter  | 38           | 33         | 38         | 40         |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q49f-i, n.

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More Republicans than Democrats value military service, business experience and experience as a governor. About two-thirds of Republicans (68%) say they would be more likely to support a candidate with prior military service, compared with just 36% of

Democrats. Similarly, more Republicans than Democrats say prior business experience would make them more likely to vote for a candidate (51% vs. 20%). This gap has grown since 2007 as more Republicans now say they value business experience in a candidate; four years ago, 38% of Republicans and 21% of Democrats said they would be more likely to support a candidate who had been a business executive. The current survey also finds that more Republicans than Democrats say they would be more likely to support a candidate who has been a governor (by 43% to 30%).

Only a quarter (25%) of Republicans say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate with lengthy Washington experience, while 34% say they would be less likely to support such a candidate. In 2007, 40% of Republicans said they would be more likely to support a long-time Washington politician while only 17% said they would be less likely.

Democrats also have a less positive view of long-time Washington elected officials than they did in 2007. Currently, 29% say they would be more likely to vote for such a candidate, compared with 15% who would be less likely. Four years ago, 39% of Democrats were more likely to back a long-time D.C. politician and 10% less likely.

### Tea Party Divide in GOP

Tea Party Republicans are far less likely than other Republicans to value experience in Washington and are more likely to say they would support candidates who have been a governor or a business executive.

A majority (51%) of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who agree with the Tea Party say they would be less likely to vote for a candidate who has been an elected official in Washington for many years, compared with only 26% of Republicans who disagree with or have no opinion of the Tea Party. However, Tea Party Republicans are no

### Tea Party Republicans' Negative Views of Washington Experience

| <i>A candidate who has...</i>                                    | <b>All</b> | <i>Among Rep/Ln Rep</i>  |                            |
|--|------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
|  |            | <b>Agree w/Tea Party</b> | <b>Disagree/No opinion</b> |
|  | <b>%</b>   | <b>%</b>                 | <b>%</b>                   |
| <b><i>Been elected official in Washington for many years</i></b> |            |                          |                            |
| More likely  | 24         | 14                       | 28                         |
| Less likely  | 35         | 51                       | 26                         |
| Wouldn't matter  | 39         | 34                       | 43                         |
| <b><i>Been a governor</i></b>                                    |            |                          |                            |
| More likely  | 45         | 55                       | 38                         |
| Less likely  | 5          | 5                        | 4                          |
| Wouldn't matter  | 48         | 38                       | 57                         |
| <b><i>Been a business executive</i></b>                          |            |                          |                            |
| More likely  | 50         | 64                       | 42                         |
| Less likely  | 7          | 3                        | 8                          |
| Wouldn't matter  | 42         | 32                       | 48                         |
| N  | 616        | 271                      | 332                        |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q49g-h,n. Based on Republicans and independents who lean to the Republican Party.

more likely to support candidates who have never held elected office.

A majority of Tea Party Republicans (55%) say they would be more likely to support a candidate who has been a governor, compared with 38% of non-Tea Party Republicans (the majority of whom say it would make no difference). There is a similar difference on business experience – 64% of Republicans who agree with the Tea Party say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who has been a business executive while only 42% of other Republicans say this.

### Extramarital Affair Viewed Negatively

The public has a more negative view of a candidate's past infidelity than in 2007 – 46% now say they would be less likely to vote for a candidate who had an extramarital affair in the past while 49% say this would not matter to them. In 2007, 39% said they would be less likely to support a candidate who had an affair while the majority (56%) said it would not matter to them.

More Republicans (57%) than Democrats (42%) say they would be less likely to support a candidate who has had an extramarital affair. The gap was much wider in 2007 when 62% of Republicans and only 25% of Democrats said they would be less likely to vote for a candidate who had an extramarital affair.

The public continues to be far more forgiving of a past divorce - only 11% say they would be less likely to vote for a candidate who has been divorced while most (85%) say this wouldn't matter to them. Republicans are somewhat more likely than Democrats to view a candidate's divorce negatively.

Nearly seven-in-ten (69%) say it would not matter to them if a candidate has used marijuana in the past, while 24% say they would be less likely to support such a

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#### Candidates and Past Behavior

| <i>A candidate who...</i>                            | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind |
|--|-------|-----|-----|-----|
|  | %     | %   | %   | %   |
| <b><i>Had an extramarital affair in the past</i></b> |       |     |     |     |
| More likely to support                               | 2     | 2   | 3   | 2   |
| Less likely to support                               | 46    | 57  | 42  | 44  |
| Wouldn't matter                                      | 49    | 40  | 52  | 52  |
| <b><i>Has been divorced</i></b>                      |       |     |     |     |
| More likely to support                               | 3     | 2   | 3   | 4   |
| Less likely to support                               | 11    | 16  | 7   | 11  |
| Wouldn't matter                                      | 85    | 80  | 88  | 85  |
| <b><i>Has used marijuana in the past</i></b>         |       |     |     |     |
| More likely to support                               | 5     | 2   | 5   | 6   |
| Less likely to support                               | 24    | 35  | 20  | 22  |
| Wouldn't matter                                      | 69    | 61  | 73  | 71  |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q49j-I.

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candidate. Republicans are more likely than Democrats to view past marijuana use as a negative (35% vs. 20%).

### Little Change in View of a Mormon Candidate

A substantial majority of Americans (68%) say it would not matter to them if a presidential candidate was Mormon. A quarter (25%) says they would be less likely to support a Mormon, while 5% say they would be more likely to support a Mormon candidate. These opinions are little changed from February 2007 (64% said this would not matter, 30% less likely, 2% more likely).

Politically, more Democrats than Republicans say they would be less likely to support a Mormon candidate. Liberal Democrats stand out, with 41% saying they would be less likely to support a Mormon candidate. Only about a quarter or fewer in other groups say this.

### Many White Evangelicals Less Likely to Support a Mormon

|                   | More likely | Less likely | Wouldn't matter | DK    |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-------|
|                   | %           | %           | %               | %     |
| Total             | 5           | 25          | 68              | 3=100 |
| Republican        | 5           | 23          | 70              | 1=100 |
| Democrat          | 4           | 31          | 61              | 3=100 |
| Independent       | 5           | 20          | 72              | 2=100 |
| Protestant        | 6           | 29          | 63              | 3=100 |
| White evangelical | 6           | 34          | 58              | 2=100 |
| White mainline    | 3           | 19          | 75              | 3=100 |
| Catholic          | 3           | 19          | 75              | 3=100 |
| White Catholic    | 3           | 16          | 80              | 1=100 |
| Unaffiliated      | 3           | 24          | 72              | 2=100 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q49d. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

There also are differences by religious affiliation. About a third of white evangelical Protestants (34%) say they would less likely to support a Mormon candidate, compared with 24% of the religiously unaffiliated, and just 19% of white mainline Protestants and about the same percentage of white Catholics (16%). These opinions have changed little since 2007.

Mitt Romney loses support among voters who are less likely to vote for candidate who is Mormon. Among this group, only 31% say there is at least some chance they would vote for Mitt Romney, while 63% say there is no chance they would vote for him.

Among those who say it would not matter if a candidate was Mormon, 57% say there is at least some chance they would vote for Romney, while 39% say there is no chance they would vote for him. There was a similar gap in February 2007, although more now have heard of Romney than had in 2007, and more now say there is at least some chance they will vote for him than did so then.

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## Views of Mormon Candidate and Support for Romney

| <i>Chance will vote for Mitt Romney</i> | <i>Likely to support a Mormon candidate</i> |                    |                        |
|---|---|--------------------|------------------------|
|   | <b>All voters</b>                           | <b>Less likely</b> | <b>Wouldn't matter</b> |
| <b>May 2011</b>                         | %   | %                  | %                      |
| Good chance                             | 17  | 8                  | 19                     |
| Some chance                             | 34  | 23                 | 38                     |
| No chance                               | 44  | 63                 | 39                     |
| Don't know                              | <u>5</u>                                    | <u>6</u>           | <u>4</u>               |
|   | 100   | 100                | 100                    |
| N                                       | 1057  | 230                | 783                    |
| <b>Feb 2007</b>                         |   |                    |                        |
| Good chance                             | 8   | 5                  | 8                      |
| Some chance                             | 27  | 17                 | 34                     |
| No chance                               | 50  | 60                 | 46                     |
| Don't know                              | <u>14</u>                                   | <u>18</u>          | <u>12</u>              |
|   | 100   | 100                | 100                    |
| N                                       | 605   | 172                | 398                    |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q33b. Based on registered voters who have heard of Mitt Romney. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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## Greater Acceptance of a Homosexual Candidate

The public has grown far more accepting of a presidential candidate who is homosexual. In the current survey, 33% say they would be less likely to vote for a candidate who is homosexual, while 62% say it would not matter. In 2007, 46% said they would be less likely to support a homosexual candidate and 51% said it would not matter.

Men are now only slightly less likely than women to express a negative view of a homosexual candidate (36% vs. 31%). In 2007, a majority of men (53%) said they would be less likely to support a candidate who is homosexual, compared with 39% of women. The age gap between the oldest and the youngest also has narrowed.

There has been a decline across most groups in the percentages saying they would be less likely to vote for a candidate who is homosexual. Still, white evangelical Protestants (65% less likely), conservative Republicans (58%) and those who attend religious services weekly or more frequently (48%) continue to express the most negative views of a presidential candidate who is homosexual. Majorities across nearly all other demographic, political and religious groups say it would not matter if a candidate is homosexual.

### Far Fewer Would Be Less Likely to Support Gay Candidate

| <i>% less likely to support a candidate who is homosexual</i> | 2007 | 2011 | Change |
|---|------|------|--------|
|   | %    | %    | %      |
| Total   | 46   | 33   | -13    |
| Men   | 53   | 36   | -17    |
| Women   | 39   | 31   | -8     |
| White   | 46   | 35   | -11    |
| Black   | 53   | 34   | -19    |
| Hispanic  | --   | 27   |        |
| 18-29   | 43   | 31   | -12    |
| 30-49   | 43   | 27   | -16    |
| 50-64   | 45   | 38   | -7     |
| 65+   | 59   | 40   | -19    |
| Republican  | 64   | 52   | -12    |
| Conserv. Rep  | 73   | 58   | -15    |
| Mod/Lib Rep   | 51   | 36   | -15    |
| Independent   | 41   | 27   | -14    |
| Democrat  | 37   | 27   | -10    |
| Cons/Mod Dem  | 43   | 32   | -11    |
| Liberal Dem   | 24   | 18   | -6     |
| Protestant  | 56   | 44   | -12    |
| White evangelical   | 71   | 65   | -6     |
| White mainline  | 37   | 30   | -7     |
| Catholic  | 36   | 25   | -11    |
| White Catholic  | 40   | 25   | -15    |
| Unaffiliated  | 27   | 17   | -10    |
| <i>Church attendance</i>                                      |      |      |        |
| Weekly or more  | 62   | 48   | -14    |
| Monthly/Yearly  | 41   | 31   | -10    |
| Less often  | 29   | 18   | -11    |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q49m. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

## Gender, Race and Ethnicity Not Major Factors

The public overwhelmingly says that a candidate being black (89%), Hispanic (80%) or a woman (77%) would not matter in their decision to support that person for president. There are only modest partisan differences in these opinions; at least three-quarters of Republicans, Democrats and independents say these characteristics would not matter to them.

More women (18%) than men (10%) say they are more likely to support a woman candidate. Similarly, blacks and Hispanics are far more likely than whites to say they would support a candidate who is black or Hispanic. One-in-five blacks (20%) say a candidate being black would make them more likely to support that person. Even more Hispanics (37%) say they would be more likely to support a candidate who is Hispanic.

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### Gender, Race and Ethnicity

| <i>A candidate who is...</i> | <b>More likely</b> | <b>Less likely</b> | <b>Wouldn't matter</b> | <b>DK</b> |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------|
|                              | %                  | %                  | %                      | %         |
| <b>A woman</b>               |                    |                    |                        |           |
| Total                        | 14                 | 7                  | 77                     | 1=100     |
| Men                          | 10                 | 6                  | 83                     | 1=100     |
| Women                        | 18                 | 9                  | 72                     | 1=100     |
| <b>Black</b>                 |                    |                    |                        |           |
| Total                        | 7                  | 3                  | 89                     | 1=100     |
| White                        | 3                  | 4                  | 91                     | 1=100     |
| Black                        | 20                 | 0                  | 79                     | 1=100     |
| Hispanic                     | 10                 | 2                  | 88                     | *=100     |
| <b>Hispanic</b>              |                    |                    |                        |           |
| Total                        | 8                  | 11                 | 80                     | 1=100     |
| White                        | 3                  | 14                 | 82                     | 2=100     |
| Black                        | 9                  | 10                 | 80                     | *=100     |
| Hispanic                     | 37                 | 2                  | 61                     | *=100     |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q49a-c. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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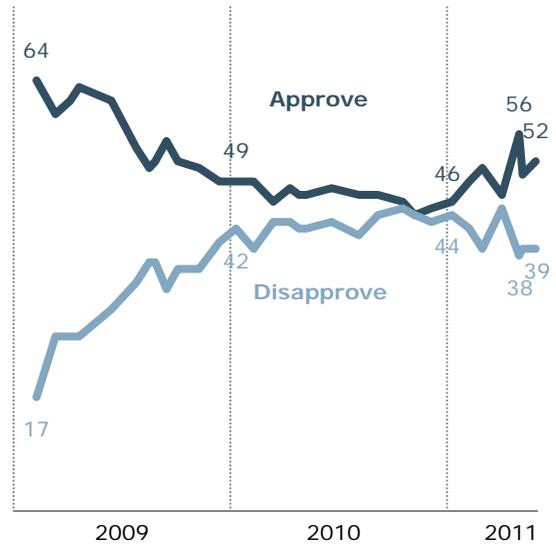
## SECTION 3: VIEWS OF OBAMA

Obama's job approval ratings are relatively unchanged since early May. Currently, 52% approve of the way Obama is handling his job as president while 39% disapprove. As recently as early April, the public was divided (47% approved, 45% disapproved).

Following a significant bump to 56% in the immediate wake of Osama bin Laden's death, Obama's approval ratings have subsided somewhat but remain far more positive than they have been for much of the last year.

Independents' assessments of Obama's performance spiked from 42% to 52% approval on news of Osama's death, and remain at 49% in the current survey. The current survey also finds that just 37% of independents disapprove of Obama's job performance, the lowest since the fall of 2009. By comparison, approval ratings among Democrats and Republicans have been more stable.

**Obama Job Approval**



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q1.

## Obama's Personal Ratings Steady

Obama continues to earn positive personal assessments from the public. Three-quarters say Obama is a good communicator (75%), stands up for what he believes in (75%) and nearly as many view him as

warm and friendly (73%). Many also consider Obama to be well-informed (67%), trustworthy (62%) and able to get things done (55%).

And 64% say he is concerned about people like them.

Nearly six-in-ten (58%) say Obama is a strong leader, up five points from January and last June (53%).

For the most part, public views of Obama's personal qualities have been relatively stable over the last year. The public's opinions about Obama's personal traits and characteristics are substantially less positive than they were in February 2009, shortly after he took office.

### Obama's Personal Image Remains Positive

| <i>Which phrase better describes Obama?</i> | <u>Feb 2009</u> | <u>Sep 2009</u> | <u>Jan 2010</u> | <u>Jun 2010</u> | <u>Jan 2011</u> | <u>May 2011</u> |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Stands up for what he believes in           | --              | --              | --              | --              | 77              | 75              |
| Doesn't stand up                            | --              | --              | --              | --              | 16              | 18              |
| A good communicator                         | 92              | 83              | 83              | 77              | 75              | 75              |
| Not a good communicator                     | 6               | 13              | 14              | 20              | 21              | 20              |
| Warm and friendly                           | 87              | 78              | 77              | 68              | 70              | 73              |
| Cold and aloof                              | 8               | 16              | 16              | 26              | 23              | 20              |
| Well-informed                               | 79              | 70              | 69              | 67              | 64              | 67              |
| Not well-informed                           | 15              | 23              | 26              | 30              | 31              | 27              |
| Cares about people like me                  | 81              | 68              | 64              | 60              | 60              | 64              |
| Doesn't care                                | 14              | 25              | 30              | 35              | 34              | 30              |
| Trustworthy                                 | 76              | 64              | 61              | 58              | 58              | 62              |
| Not trustworthy                             | 15              | 30              | 31              | 37              | 36              | 31              |
| A strong leader                             | 77              | 65              | 62              | 53              | 53              | 58              |
| Not a strong leader                         | 13              | 29              | 32              | 42              | 41              | 37              |
| Able to get things done                     | 70              | 58              | 57              | 55              | 54              | 55              |
| Not able to get things done                 | 15              | 31              | 35              | 39              | 38              | 38              |

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## Republicans Positive about Some Obama Traits

Democratic impressions of the president are overwhelmingly positive. Nearly all Democrats say Obama is a good communicator (95%) and that he cares about people like them (91%); three-quarters or more rate him positively on all of the other characteristics.

Republican assessments are more critical, but more than half of Republicans say that Obama stands up for what he believes in (59%), is warm and friendly (55%) and is a good communicator (55%).

GOP opinions about other traits are more negative. Just 29% say Obama is a strong leader, only 30% say Obama is trustworthy, and 31% say he is able to get things done. Independent opinions largely mirror those of the general public.

Democrats are nearly three times as likely as Republicans to view Obama as trustworthy (87% vs. 30%) or as a strong leader (85% vs. 29%). By contrast, there is more agreement about whether he is well-informed (82% of Democrats, 46% of Republicans), warm and friendly (86% to 55%), and stands up for his beliefs (87% vs. 59%). These partisan differences in evaluations of Obama are largely unchanged over the past year.

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### Wide Partisan Differences in Views of Obama Traits

|                                   | Rep | Dem | Ind | R-D diff |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| <i>Think of Obama as...</i>       | %   | %   | %   |          |
| Trustworthy                       | 30  | 87  | 62  | -57      |
| Cares about people like me        | 35  | 91  | 63  | -56      |
| A strong leader                   | 29  | 85  | 52  | -56      |
| Able to get things done           | 31  | 79  | 50  | -48      |
| A good communicator               | 55  | 95  | 73  | -40      |
| Well-informed                     | 46  | 82  | 68  | -36      |
| Warm and friendly                 | 55  | 86  | 76  | -31      |
| Stands up for what he believes in | 59  | 87  | 75  | -28      |

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## Perceptions of Obama's Ideology

Impressions of Obama's ideological stance remain mixed. A plurality (40%) says he is liberal, 32% say he is middle-of-the-road, and 16% say he is conservative.

A majority of Republicans (61%) – including 75% of conservative Republicans – say that Obama is liberal. Democrats are divided in their views of Obama's ideology: 41% say he is middle-of-the-road, 28% say he is liberal and 20% say he is conservative. Nearly four-in-ten independents (39%) view Obama as liberal while about as many (35%) say he is middle-of-the-road; 16% of independents say Obama is conservative.

### No Change in Views of Obama's Ideology

| <i>Impression of Obama...</i> | <b>Liberal</b> | <b>Middle of the road</b> | <b>Conser-vative</b> | <b>None/DK</b> |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
|                               | %              | %                         | %                    | %              |
| May 2011                      | 40             | 32                        | 16                   | 12=100         |
| Jan 2010                      | 42             | 36                        | 14                   | 8=100          |
| Sep 2009                      | 44             | 36                        | 9                    | 11=100         |
| Feb 2009                      | 38             | 40                        | 13                   | 9=100          |
| <i>May 2011</i>               |                |                           |                      |                |
| Republican                    | 61             | 17                        | 12                   | 10=100         |
| Democrat                      | 28             | 41                        | 20                   | 11=100         |
| Independent                   | 39             | 35                        | 16                   | 11=100         |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 25-30, 2011. Q15IF2.

## About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted May 25-30, 2011 among a national sample of 1,509 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (1,004 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 505 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 255 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers at Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see <http://people-press.org/methodology/>

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2010 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2010 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

| Group                  | Sample Size | Plus or minus ...     |
|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Total sample           | 1,509       | 3.5 percentage points |
| Form 1                 | 742         | 4.5 percentage points |
| Form 2                 | 767         | 4.5 percentage points |
| Republicans            | 384         | 6.0 percentage points |
| Democrats              | 500         | 5.5 percentage points |
| Independents           | 552         | 5.0 percentage points |
| Registered voters      | 1227        | 3.5 percentage points |
| Rep/Rep-leaning voters | 535         | 5.5 percentage points |
| Dem/Dem-leaning voters | 595         | 5.0 percentage points |

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

## PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL TABLE

Q1: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

|                             | <u>Approve</u> | <u>Disapprove</u> | <u>(VOL.)</u><br><u>DK/Ref</u> | <u>N</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
|                             | <u>%</u>       | <u>%</u>          | <u>%</u>                       |          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | 52             | 39                | 10                             | 1509     |
| <b>SEX</b>                  |                |                   |                                |          |
| Men                         | 52             | 39                | 9                              | 683      |
| Women                       | 51             | 38                | 10                             | 826      |
| <b>AGE</b>                  |                |                   |                                |          |
| 18-49                       | 53             | 34                | 13                             | 596      |
| 50+                         | 49             | 45                | 6                              | 885      |
| <b>DETAILED AGE</b>         |                |                   |                                |          |
| 18-29                       | 57             | 27                | 16                             | 209      |
| 30-49                       | 51             | 38                | 11                             | 387      |
| 50-64                       | 50             | 44                | 6                              | 497      |
| 65+                         | 47             | 46                | 6                              | 388      |
| <b>SEX BY AGE</b>           |                |                   |                                |          |
| Men 18-49                   | 53             | 34                | 12                             | 299      |
| Men 50+                     | 50             | 45                | 5                              | 374      |
| Women 18-49                 | 54             | 33                | 14                             | 297      |
| Women 50+                   | 49             | 44                | 7                              | 511      |
| <b>RACE</b>                 |                |                   |                                |          |
| White, non-Hispanic         | 42             | 47                | 11                             | 1101     |
| Black, non-Hispanic         | 97             | 2                 | 1                              | 159      |
| Hispanic                    | 56             | 33                | 11                             | 132      |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>            |                |                   |                                |          |
| College grad+               | 53             | 38                | 9                              | 602      |
| Some college                | 53             | 39                | 8                              | 385      |
| HS or less                  | 50             | 39                | 12                             | 516      |
| <b>INCOME</b>               |                |                   |                                |          |
| \$75,000+                   | 50             | 43                | 6                              | 417      |
| \$30,000-\$74,999           | 51             | 39                | 10                             | 502      |
| <\$30,000                   | 54             | 33                | 13                             | 415      |
| <b>RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE</b> |                |                   |                                |          |
| Total White NH Prot.        | 35             | 55                | 11                             | 587      |
| White NH evang. Prot.       | 28             | 63                | 9                              | 310      |
| White NH mainline Prot.     | 42             | 45                | 13                             | 277      |
| Total Catholic              | 51             | 41                | 8                              | 329      |
| White NH Cath.              | 46             | 47                | 7                              | 247      |
| Unaffiliated                | 63             | 25                | 12                             | 248      |
| <b>REGION</b>               |                |                   |                                |          |
| Northeast                   | 55             | 37                | 8                              | 257      |
| Midwest                     | 54             | 37                | 10                             | 398      |
| South                       | 49             | 40                | 11                             | 572      |
| West                        | 50             | 40                | 11                             | 282      |

## PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL TABLE

Q1: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

|                           | <u>Approve</u> | <u>Disapprove</u> | (VOL.)<br><u>DK/Ref</u> | <u>N</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------|
|                           | %              | %                 | %                       |          |
| <b>REGISTERED VOTER</b>   |                |                   |                         |          |
| Yes, certain              | 52             | 40                | 8                       | 1227     |
| Not registered            | 50             | 33                | 16                      | 282      |
| <b>PARTY ID</b>           |                |                   |                         |          |
| Republican                | 18             | 74                | 8                       | 384      |
| Democrat                  | 80             | 15                | 5                       | 500      |
| Independent               | 49             | 37                | 13                      | 552      |
| <b>PARTY WITH LEANERS</b> |                |                   |                         |          |
| Rep/Lean Rep              | 23             | 69                | 8                       | 616      |
| Dem/Lean Dem              | 78             | 15                | 7                       | 737      |
| <b>IDEOLOGY</b>           |                |                   |                         |          |
| Conservative              | 32             | 62                | 7                       | 570      |
| Moderate                  | 58             | 32                | 11                      | 575      |
| Liberal                   | 77             | 14                | 9                       | 305      |
| <b>PARTY AND IDEOLOGY</b> |                |                   |                         |          |
| Conservative Republican   | 14             | 80                | 6                       | 269      |
| Mod/Lib Republican        | 27             | 62                | 11                      | 108      |
| Mod/Cons Democrat         | 76             | 20                | 4                       | 300      |
| Liberal Democrat          | 90             | 4                 | 6                       | 182      |
| <b>TEA PARTY MOVEMENT</b> |                |                   |                         |          |
| Agree                     | 14             | 83                | 3                       | 325      |
| Disagree                  | 85             | 11                | 4                       | 424      |
| No opinion/Don't know     | 50             | 35                | 15                      | 760      |
| <b>PARENT OR GUARDIAN</b> |                |                   |                         |          |
| Yes                       | 54             | 35                | 11                      | 411      |
| No                        | 51             | 40                | 9                       | 1098     |
| <b>AMONG WHITES</b>       |                |                   |                         |          |
| Men                       | 40             | 50                | 10                      | 483      |
| Women                     | 43             | 45                | 12                      | 618      |
| 18-49                     | 41             | 42                | 16                      | 375      |
| 50+                       | 42             | 52                | 6                       | 706      |
| College grad+             | 47             | 44                | 9                       | 467      |
| Some college or less      | 39             | 48                | 12                      | 632      |
| \$75,000+                 | 45             | 49                | 7                       | 331      |
| \$30,000-\$74,999         | 45             | 45                | 11                      | 386      |
| <\$30,000                 | 39             | 45                | 17                      | 259      |
| Republican                | 13             | 79                | 8                       | 339      |
| Democrat                  | 72             | 20                | 8                       | 293      |
| Independent               | 45             | 40                | 15                      | 425      |
| Northeast                 | 46             | 47                | 7                       | 199      |
| Midwest                   | 46             | 44                | 11                      | 318      |
| South                     | 35             | 50                | 14                      | 390      |
| West                      | 44             | 45                | 11                      | 194      |

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**MAY 2011 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**May 25-30, 2011**  
**N=1509**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

|                    | <u>Approve</u> | Dis-<br><u>approve</u> | (VOL.)<br><u>DK/Ref</u> |                    | <u>Approve</u> | Dis-<br><u>approve</u> | (VOL.)<br><u>DK/Ref</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| May 25-30, 2011    | 52             | 39                     | 10                      | Apr 8-11, 2010     | 48             | 43                     | 9                       |
| May 5-8, 2011      | 50             | 39                     | 11                      | Mar 10-14, 2010    | 46             | 43                     | 12                      |
| May 2, 2011        | 56             | 38                     | 6                       | Feb 3-9, 2010      | 49             | 39                     | 12                      |
| Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011 | 47             | 45                     | 8                       | Jan 6-10, 2010     | 49             | 42                     | 10                      |
| Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011 | 51             | 39                     | 10                      | Dec 9-13, 2009     | 49             | 40                     | 11                      |
| Feb 2-7, 2011      | 49             | 42                     | 9                       | Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009 | 51             | 36                     | 13                      |
| Jan 5-9, 2011      | 46             | 44                     | 10                      | Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009 | 52             | 36                     | 12                      |
| Dec 1-5, 2010      | 45             | 43                     | 13                      | Sep 10-15, 2009    | 55             | 33                     | 13                      |
| Nov 4-7, 2010      | 44             | 44                     | 12                      | Aug 20-27, 2009    | 52             | 37                     | 12                      |
| Oct 13-18, 2010    | 46             | 45                     | 9                       | Aug 11-17, 2009    | 51             | 37                     | 11                      |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 | 47             | 44                     | 9                       | Jul 22-26, 2009    | 54             | 34                     | 12                      |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010 | 47             | 41                     | 12                      | Jun 10-14, 2009    | 61             | 30                     | 9                       |
| Jun 8-28, 2010     | 48             | 41                     | 11                      | Apr 14-21, 2009    | 63             | 26                     | 11                      |
| Jun 16-20, 2010    | 48             | 43                     | 9                       | Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009 | 61             | 26                     | 13                      |
| May 6-9, 2010      | 47             | 42                     | 11                      | Mar 9-12, 2009     | 59             | 26                     | 15                      |
| Apr 21-26, 2010    | 47             | 42                     | 11                      | Feb 4-8, 2009      | 64             | 17                     | 19                      |

**QUESTIONS 2-3 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**NO QUESTIONS 4-14**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.15 As I read some pairs of opposite phrases, please tell me which one best reflects your impression of Barack Obama. (First,) does Barack Obama impress you as...**[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**?

| May 25-30<br><u>2011</u> |    | Jan 5-9<br><u>2011</u>      | Jun 16-20<br><u>2010</u> | Jan 6-10<br><u>2010</u> | Sep 10-15<br><u>2009</u> | Feb 4-8<br><u>2009</u> |    |
|--------------------------|----|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----|
| a.                       | 62 | Trustworthy                 | 58                       | 58                      | 61                       | 64                     | 76 |
|                          | 31 | Not trustworthy             | 36                       | 37                      | 31                       | 30                     | 15 |
|                          | 2  | Neither particularly (VOL.) | 2                        | 1                       | 2                        | 2                      | 1  |
|                          | 5  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)   | 4                        | 3                       | 5                        | 5                      | 8  |
| b.                       | 55 | Able to get things done     | 54                       | 55                      | 57                       | 58                     | 70 |
|                          | 38 | Not able to get things done | 38                       | 39                      | 35                       | 31                     | 15 |
|                          | 3  | Neither particularly (VOL.) | 3                        | 2                       | 3                        | 3                      | 2  |
|                          | 5  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)   | 5                        | 4                       | 5                        | 8                      | 13 |
| c.                       | 58 | A strong leader             | 53                       | 53                      | 62                       | 65                     | 77 |
|                          | 37 | Not a strong leader         | 41                       | 42                      | 32                       | 29                     | 13 |
|                          | 1  | Neither particularly (VOL.) | 2                        | 2                       | 2                        | 2                      | 1  |
|                          | 3  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)   | 4                        | 3                       | 3                        | 5                      | 9  |

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=742]:**

|      |    |                                   |    |    |    |    |    |
|------|----|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| d.F1 | 73 | Warm and friendly                 | 70 | 68 | 77 | 78 | 87 |
|      | 20 | Cold and aloof                    | 23 | 26 | 16 | 16 | 8  |
|      | 1  | Neither particularly (VOL.)       | 2  | 4  | 3  | 2  | 2  |
|      | 5  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)         | 5  | 2  | 4  | 4  | 3  |
| e.F1 | 67 | Well informed                     | 64 | 67 | 69 | 70 | 79 |
|      | 27 | Not well informed                 | 31 | 30 | 26 | 23 | 15 |
|      | 2  | Neither particularly (VOL.)       | 2  | 2  | 1  | 2  | 1  |
|      | 4  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)         | 4  | 2  | 4  | 4  | 5  |
| f.F1 | 75 | Stands up for what he believes in | 77 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
|      |    | Doesn't stand up for what         |    |    |    |    |    |
|      | 18 | he believes in                    | 16 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
|      | 1  | Neither particularly (VOL.)       | 1  | -- | -- | -- | -- |
|      | 5  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)         | 5  | -- | -- | -- | -- |

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=767]:**

|      |    |                             |    |    |    |    |    |
|------|----|-----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| g.F2 | 75 | A good communicator         | 75 | 77 | 83 | 83 | 92 |
|      | 20 | Not a good communicator     | 21 | 20 | 14 | 13 | 6  |
|      | 1  | Neither particularly (VOL.) | 1  | 2  | 1  | 1  | *  |
|      | 3  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)   | 4  | 1  | 2  | 3  | 2  |
| h.F2 |    | Someone who cares about     |    |    |    |    |    |
|      | 64 | people like me              | 60 | 60 | 64 | 68 | 81 |
|      |    | Someone who doesn't care    |    |    |    |    |    |
|      | 30 | about people like me        | 34 | 35 | 30 | 25 | 14 |
|      | *  | Neither particularly (VOL.) | 1  | 2  | 1  | 1  | 1  |
|      | 5  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)   | 5  | 3  | 4  | 6  | 4  |
| i.F2 | 40 | Liberal                     | -- | -- | 42 | 44 | 38 |
|      | 32 | Middle of the road [OR]     | -- | -- | 36 | 36 | 40 |
|      | 16 | Conservative                | -- | -- | 14 | 9  | 13 |
|      | 3  | None particularly (VOL.)    | -- | -- | 1  | 2  | 2  |
|      | 9  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)   | -- | -- | 7  | 9  | 7  |

**QUESTIONS 16-25 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**NO QUESTIONS 26-28**

**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about the 2012 Presidential election...

Q.29 How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who may be running for president in 2012? **[READ]**

|                   |                                  | <b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:<br/>2008 Presidential Election</b> |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| May 25-30<br>2011 |                                  | Dec<br>2007   | Nov<br>2007 | Oct<br>2007 | Sep<br>2007 | Jul<br>2007 | Jun<br>2007 | Apr<br>2007 | Mar<br>2007 | Feb<br>2007 | Dec<br>2006 |
| 23                | A lot                            | 35  | 34          | 30          | 27          | 30          | 29          | 26          | 24          | 24          | 23          |
| 30                | Some                             | 33  | 35          | 37          | 33          | 38          | 34          | 34          | 36          | 34          | 36          |
| 27                | Not much                         | 13  | 16          | 17          | 21          | 16          | 20          | 21          | 20          | 22          | 20          |
| 19                | None at all                      | 18  | 14          | 14          | 17          | 15          | 16          | 17          | 18          | 18          | 20          |
| 1                 | Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b> | 1   | 1           | 2           | 2           | 1           | 1           | 2           | 2           | 2           | 1           |

**ASK ALL:**

Q.30 Looking ahead, would you like to see Barack Obama re-elected president in 2012 or would you prefer that a Republican candidate win the election? **[INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS "OTHER" OR "SOMEONE ELSE," PROBE ONCE: "If you had to choose, would you like to see Barack Obama re-elected or would you prefer that a Republican candidate win the election?"]**

|                 | Obama<br><u>re-elected</u> | Prefer<br><u>Republican</u> | <b>(VOL.)</b><br><u>Other/DK</u> |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| May 25-30, 2011 | 48                         | 35                          | 18                               |
| Mar 8-14, 2011  | 48                         | 35                          | 16                               |

**TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:**

*Looking ahead to the general election in November, would you like to see George W. Bush re-elected president in 2004 or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election? [INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS "OTHER" OR "SOMEONE ELSE," PROBE ONCE: "If you had to choose, would you like to see George W. Bush re-elected or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?"]*

|                     | Bush<br><u>re-elected</u> | Prefer<br><u>Democrat</u> | <b>(VOL.)</b><br><u>Other/DK</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mid-January, 2004   | 44                        | 40                        | 16                               |
| Early January, 2004 | 43                        | 43                        | 14                               |
| December, 2003      | 47                        | 38                        | 15                               |
| October, 2003       | 40                        | 44                        | 16                               |
| September, 2003     | 44                        | 43                        | 13                               |
| August, 2003        | 40                        | 39                        | 21                               |
| Mid-July, 2003      | 45                        | 37                        | 18                               |
| April, 2003         | 46                        | 35                        | 19                               |

*Looking ahead, would you like to see Bill Clinton re-elected or would you prefer that a Republican candidate or an Independent candidate be elected President?*

|                | Clinton<br><u>re-elected</u> | Prefer<br><u>Republican</u> | Prefer<br><u>independent</u> | <b>(VOL.)</b><br><u>DK/Ref</u> |
|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| October, 1995  | 31                           | 28                          | 22                           | 19                             |
| August, 1995   | 29                           | 32                          | 23                           | 16                             |
| March, 1995    | 29                           | 33                          | 20                           | 18                             |
| December, 1994 | 28                           | 35                          | 15                           | 22                             |
| December, 1993 | 28                           | 22                          | 12                           | 38                             |

**Q.30 TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...**

*Would you like to see George Bush re-elected President in November or would you prefer that a Democratic candidate win the election?*

|                | G.H.W. Bush<br><u>re-elected</u> | Prefer<br><u>Democrat</u> | (VOL.)<br><u>Other/DK</u> |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| February, 1992 | 40                               | 48                        | 12                        |
| January, 1992  | 42                               | 42                        | 16                        |

**ASK ALL:**

- Q.31 Overall, what's your impression of the possible candidates running for the REPUBLICAN presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?

**SELECTED TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:**

|                          |                           | Oct 2007     | Sept 2003    | Oct 1995     | Oct 1991     | Jan 1988     |              |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                          |                           | Rep          | Dem          | Dem          | Rep          | Dem          | Rep          |
|                          |                           | <u>cands</u> | <u>cands</u> | <u>cands</u> | <u>cands</u> | <u>cands</u> | <u>cands</u> |
| May 25-30<br><u>2011</u> |                           |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| 3                        | Excellent                 | 4            | 8            | 3            | 3            | 2            | 3            |
| 22                       | Good                      | 28           | 35           | 27           | 29           | 18           | 34           |
| 36                       | Only fair                 | 39           | 34           | 39           | 46           | 38           | 42           |
| 23                       | Poor                      | 18           | 15           | 15           | 18           | 15           | 11           |
| 15                       | Don't know/Refused (VOL.) | 11           | 8            | 16           | 4            | 27           | 10           |

**TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:**

*Overall, what's your impression of the candidates running for the REPUBLICAN presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?*

**BASED ON REPUBLICAN AND REPUBLICAN-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS [N=535]:**

|                    | <u>Excellent</u> | <u>Good</u> | <u>Only fair</u> | <u>Poor</u> | (VOL.)<br><u>DK/Ref</u> |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| May 25-30, 2011    | 5                | 39          | 36               | 7           | 13                      |
| February, 2008     | 10               | 50          | 31               | 7           | 2                       |
| January, 2008      | 10               | 57          | 28               | 3           | 1                       |
| November, 2007     | 9                | 47          | 34               | 7           | 3                       |
| October, 2007      | 6                | 46          | 36               | 7           | 6                       |
| September, 2007    | 8                | 41          | 36               | 8           | 6                       |
| October, 1995      | 5                | 46          | 40               | 6           | 3                       |
| January, 1988 (GP) | 6                | 50          | 35               | 4           | 5                       |

*Overall, what's your impression of the candidates running for the DEMOCRATIC presidential nomination? AS A GROUP, would you say they are excellent candidates, good candidates, only fair candidates or poor candidates?*

**BASED ON DEMOCRATIC AND DEMOCRATIC-LEANING REGISTERED VOTERS:**

|                    | <u>Excellent</u> | <u>Good</u> | <u>Only fair</u> | <u>Poor</u> | (VOL.)<br><u>DK/Ref</u> |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| February, 2008     | 30               | 50          | 16               | 2           | 2                       |
| January, 2008      | 28               | 50          | 18               | 2           | 2                       |
| November, 2007     | 16               | 51          | 28               | 2           | 3                       |
| October, 2007      | 16               | 48          | 26               | 5           | 5                       |
| September, 2007    | 15               | 49          | 29               | 2           | 5                       |
| January, 2004      | 8                | 39          | 41               | 6           | 8                       |
| December, 2003     | 5                | 40          | 39               | 7           | 9                       |
| September, 2003    | 4                | 40          | 39               | 5           | 12                      |
| February, 1992     | 6                | 39          | 47               | 4           | 5                       |
| October, 1991      | 3                | 24          | 38               | 11          | 23                      |
| January, 1988 (GP) | 4                | 33          | 45               | 11          | 7                       |

**NO QUESTION 32**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.33 Next, I'm going to read you a list of possible Republican presidential candidates. Not everyone will have heard of them. For each one that I name, please tell me whether or not you have heard of this person. First, **[INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE NAMES]**, have you heard of **[REPEAT NAME]** or not? **[ASK IF HAVE HEARD: How much of a chance is there that you would vote for (REPEAT NAME) if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2012 — is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance?]** Have you heard of **[INSERT NEXT NAME]** or not? **[ASK IF HAVE HEARD: Is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance that you would vote for (REPEAT NAME) for president?]**

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1227]:**

|                   |                  | <b>BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1227]:</b> |                       |                                | <i>Based on Those Who Have Heard</i> |                    |                  |                                |               |
|-------------------|------------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
|                   |                  | <u>Have heard</u>                           | <u>Have not heard</u> | <b>(VOL.)</b><br><u>DK/Ref</u> | <u>Good chance</u>                   | <u>Some chance</u> | <u>No chance</u> | <b>(VOL.)</b><br><u>DK/Ref</u> | <b>(N)</b>    |
| <b>NO ITEM a.</b> |                  |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
| b.                | Mitt Romney      |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
|                   | May 25-30, 2011  | 82  | 18                    | 1                              | 17                                   | 34                 | 44               | 5                              | <b>(1057)</b> |
|                   | June, 2007       | 62  | 37                    | 1                              | 14                                   | 26                 | 52               | 8                              |               |
|                   | February, 2007   | 43  | 56                    | 1                              | 8                                    | 28                 | 50               | 14                             |               |
| c.                | Newt Gingrich    |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
|                   | May 25-30, 2011  | 86  | 13                    | 1                              | 9                                    | 24                 | 63               | 4                              | <b>(1116)</b> |
|                   | June, 2007       | 87  | 12                    | 1                              | 11                                   | 19                 | 63               | 7                              |               |
|                   | February, 2007   | 85  | 14                    | 1                              | 7                                    | 20                 | 66               | 7                              |               |
| d.                | Sarah Palin      |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
|                   | May 25-30, 2011  | 97  | 2                     | *                              | 14                                   | 20                 | 63               | 3                              | <b>(1119)</b> |
| e.                | Tim Pawlenty     |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
|                   | May 25-30, 2011  | 48  | 50                    | 1                              | 14                                   | 28                 | 48               | 10                             | <b>(654)</b>  |
| f.                | Ron Paul         |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
|                   | May 25-30, 2011  | 71  | 28                    | 1                              | 9                                    | 26                 | 60               | 6                              | <b>(925)</b>  |
| g.                | Michele Bachmann |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
|                   | May 25-30, 2011  | 54  | 45                    | 1                              | 14                                   | 26                 | 51               | 8                              | <b>(731)</b>  |
| <b>NO ITEM h.</b> |                  |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
| i.                | Jon Huntsman     |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
|                   | May 25-30, 2011  | 32  | 68                    | 1                              | 8                                    | 27                 | 49               | 16                             | <b>(412)</b>  |
| j.                | Rick Santorum    |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
|                   | May 25-30, 2011  | 41  | 58                    | 1                              | 11                                   | 27                 | 51               | 10                             | <b>(585)</b>  |
| k.                | Herman Cain      |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
|                   | May 25-30, 2011  | 33  | 66                    | 1                              | 23                                   | 25                 | 41               | 11                             | <b>(444)</b>  |
| l.                | Gary Johnson     |   |                       |                                |                                      |                    |                  |                                |               |
|                   | May 25-30, 2011  | 20  | 79                    | 1                              | 6                                    | 22                 | 54               | 17                             | <b>(244)</b>  |

**NO QUESTION 34-35, 40-44, 47-48.**

**QUESTIONS 36-39 AND 45-46 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

Now a different kind of question...

Q.49 Regardless of the specific candidates who are running for president, we'd like to know how you generally feel about some different traits. First, would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate for president who **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**, or wouldn't this matter to you? How about if a candidate **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PLEASE PROMPT RESPONDENT WITH RESPONSE OPTIONS EVERY FIVE TO TEN ITEMS AS A REMINDER]**

|    |   | More<br><u>likely</u> | Less<br><u>likely</u> | Wouldn't<br><u>matter</u> | <b>(VOL.)</b><br><u>DK/Ref</u> |
|----|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. | Is a woman  |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 14                    | 7                     | 77                        | 1                              |
|    | August, 2007  | 15                    | 12                    | 72                        | 1                              |
|    | February, 2007  | 13                    | 11                    | 75                        | 1                              |
| b. | Is black  |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 7                     | 3                     | 89                        | 1                              |
|    | August, 2007  | 9                     | 6                     | 84                        | 1                              |
|    | February, 2007  | 7                     | 4                     | 88                        | 1                              |
| c. | Is Hispanic   |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 8                     | 11                    | 80                        | 1                              |
|    | August, 2007  | 9                     | 15                    | 75                        | 1                              |
|    | February, 2007  | 4                     | 14                    | 80                        | 2                              |
| d. | Is Mormon   |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 5                     | 25                    | 68                        | 3                              |
|    | August, 2007  | 5                     | 25                    | 66                        | 4                              |
|    | February, 2007  | 2                     | 30                    | 64                        | 4                              |
| e. | Does not believe in God                                   |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 5                     | 61                    | 33                        | 2                              |
|    | August, 2007  | 3                     | 61                    | 34                        | 2                              |
|    | February, 2007  | 3                     | 63                    | 32                        | 2                              |
| f. | Has served in the military                                |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 49                    | 4                     | 47                        | 1                              |
|    | February, 2007  | 48                    | 3                     | 48                        | 1                              |
| g. | Has been a business executive                             |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 35                    | 14                    | 49                        | 2                              |
|    | February, 2007  | 28                    | 13                    | 56                        | 3                              |
| h. | Has been an elected official in Washington for many years |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 26                    | 25                    | 46                        | 3                              |
|    | February, 2007  | 35                    | 15                    | 45                        | 5                              |
| i. | Has never held elected office before                      |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 9                     | 51                    | 38                        | 3                              |
|    | February, 2007  | 7                     | 56                    | 35                        | 2                              |
| j. | Has used marijuana in the past                            |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 5                     | 24                    | 69                        | 2                              |
|    | <b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>                              |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | <i>Used drugs in the past</i>                             |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | February, 2007  | 2                     | 45                    | 47                        | 6                              |
| k. | Had an extramarital affair in the past                    |                       |                       |                           |                                |
|    | May 25-30, 2011   | 2                     | 46                    | 49                        | 3                              |
|    | February, 2007  | 1                     | 39                    | 56                        | 4                              |

## Q.49 CONTINUED...

|    |                     | More<br><u>likely</u> | Less<br><u>likely</u> | Wouldn't<br><u>matter</u> | (VOL.)<br><u>DK/Ref</u> |
|----|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| I. | Has been divorced   |                       |                       |                           |                         |
|    | May 25-30, 2011     | 3                     | 11                    | 85                        | 1                       |
|    | February, 2007      | 3                     | 9                     | 86                        | 2                       |
| m. | Is homosexual       |                       |                       |                           |                         |
|    | May 25-30, 2011     | 3                     | 33                    | 62                        | 2                       |
|    | February, 2007      | 1                     | 46                    | 51                        | 2                       |
| n. | Has been a governor |                       |                       |                           |                         |
|    | May 25-30, 2011     | 37                    | 5                     | 55                        | 3                       |

## ASK ALL:

REGIST These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?  
**[INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS THAT THEY ARE IN NORTH DAKOTA AND DON'T HAVE TO REGISTER, PUNCH 1 FOR REGIST AND REGICERT]**

## ASK IF REGISTERED (REGIST=1):

REGICERT Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote, or is there a chance that your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

May 25-30  
2011

|    |                                |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 77 | Yes, Registered                |
| 74 | Absolutely certain             |
| 3  | Chance registration has lapsed |
| 1  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)      |
| 22 | No, not registered             |
| 1  | Don't know/Refused (VOL.)      |

## ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

## ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

|                      |            |          |             | (VOL.)<br>No<br>preference | (VOL.)<br>Other<br>party | (VOL.)<br>DK/Ref | Lean<br>Rep | Lean<br>Dem |
|----------------------|------------|----------|-------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                      | Republican | Democrat | Independent |                            |                          |                  |             |             |
| May 25-30, 2011      | 24         | 33       | 38          | 3                          | *                        | 2                | 15          | 17          |
| Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011   | 25         | 32       | 37          | 3                          | *                        | 3                | 17          | 16          |
| Mar 8-14, 2011       | 24         | 33       | 38          | 3                          | *                        | 2                | 17          | 15          |
| Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011   | 24         | 33       | 37          | 3                          | *                        | 3                | 15          | 16          |
| Feb 2-7, 2011        | 24         | 31       | 39          | 3                          | *                        | 2                | 16          | 16          |
| Jan 5-9, 2011        | 27         | 32       | 35          | 4                          | *                        | 2                | 15          | 14          |
| Dec 1-5, 2010        | 25         | 33       | 34          | 5                          | 1                        | 2                | 13          | 14          |
| Nov 4-7, 2010        | 26         | 30       | 37          | 4                          | *                        | 2                | 17          | 13          |
| Oct 27-30, 2010      | 25         | 34       | 31          | 6                          | 1                        | 4                | 13          | 11          |
| Oct 13-18, 2010      | 25         | 31       | 36          | 4                          | *                        | 3                | 16          | 13          |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010   | 24         | 32       | 39          | 2                          | *                        | 2                | 15          | 17          |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010   | 26         | 33       | 34          | 4                          | *                        | 3                | 14          | 14          |
| Jun 16-20, 2010      | 27         | 34       | 34          | 3                          | 1                        | 2                | 15          | 15          |
| Apr 21-26, 2010      | 26         | 33       | 36          | 3                          | 1                        | 3                | 16          | 13          |
| <b>Yearly Totals</b> |            |          |             |                            |                          |                  |             |             |
| 2010                 | 25.2       | 32.7     | 35.2        | 3.6                        | .4                       | 2.8              | 14.5        | 14.1        |
| 2009                 | 23.9       | 34.4     | 35.1        | 3.4                        | .4                       | 2.8              | 13.1        | 15.7        |
| 2008                 | 25.7       | 36.0     | 31.5        | 3.6                        | .3                       | 3.0              | 10.6        | 15.2        |
| 2007                 | 25.3       | 32.9     | 34.1        | 4.3                        | .4                       | 2.9              | 10.9        | 17.0        |

## PARTY/PARTLY CONTINUED...

|                   |            |          |             | (VOL.)        | (VOL.)      | (VOL.) | Lean | Lean |
|-------------------|------------|----------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------|------|------|
|                   | Republican | Democrat | Independent | No preference | Other party | DK/Ref | Rep  | Dem  |
| 2006              | 27.8       | 33.1     | 30.9        | 4.4           | .3          | 3.4    | 10.5 | 15.1 |
| 2005              | 29.3       | 32.8     | 30.2        | 4.5           | .3          | 2.8    | 10.3 | 14.9 |
| 2004              | 30.0       | 33.5     | 29.5        | 3.8           | .4          | 3.0    | 11.7 | 13.4 |
| 2003              | 30.3       | 31.5     | 30.5        | 4.8           | .5          | 2.5    | 12.0 | 12.6 |
| 2002              | 30.4       | 31.4     | 29.8        | 5.0           | .7          | 2.7    | 12.4 | 11.6 |
| 2001              | 29.0       | 33.2     | 29.5        | 5.2           | .6          | 2.6    | 11.9 | 11.6 |
| 2001 Post-Sept 11 | 30.9       | 31.8     | 27.9        | 5.2           | .6          | 3.6    | 11.7 | 9.4  |
| 2001 Pre-Sept 11  | 27.3       | 34.4     | 30.9        | 5.1           | .6          | 1.7    | 12.1 | 13.5 |
| 2000              | 28.0       | 33.4     | 29.1        | 5.5           | .5          | 3.6    | 11.6 | 11.7 |
| 1999              | 26.6       | 33.5     | 33.7        | 3.9           | .5          | 1.9    | 13.0 | 14.5 |
| 1998              | 27.9       | 33.7     | 31.1        | 4.6           | .4          | 2.3    | 11.6 | 13.1 |
| 1997              | 28.0       | 33.4     | 32.0        | 4.0           | .4          | 2.3    | 12.2 | 14.1 |
| 1996              | 28.9       | 33.9     | 31.8        | 3.0           | .4          | 2.0    | 12.1 | 14.9 |
| 1995              | 31.6       | 30.0     | 33.7        | 2.4           | .6          | 1.3    | 15.1 | 13.5 |
| 1994              | 30.1       | 31.5     | 33.5        | 1.3           | --          | 3.6    | 13.7 | 12.2 |
| 1993              | 27.4       | 33.6     | 34.2        | 4.4           | 1.5         | 2.9    | 11.5 | 14.9 |
| 1992              | 27.6       | 33.7     | 34.7        | 1.5           | 0           | 2.5    | 12.6 | 16.5 |
| 1991              | 30.9       | 31.4     | 33.2        | 0             | 1.4         | 3.0    | 14.7 | 10.8 |
| 1990              | 30.9       | 33.2     | 29.3        | 1.2           | 1.9         | 3.4    | 12.4 | 11.3 |
| 1989              | 33         | 33       | 34          | --            | --          | --     | --   | --   |
| 1987              | 26         | 35       | 39          | --            | --          | --     | --   | --   |

## ASK ALL:

TEAPARTY2 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

|                            |       |          |                       | (VOL.)           | (VOL.)  | Not heard of/ |
|----------------------------|-------|----------|-----------------------|------------------|---------|---------------|
|                            | Agree | Disagree | No opinion either way | Haven't heard of | Refused | DK            |
| May 25-30, 2011            | 18    | 23       | 54                    | 2                | 2       | --            |
| Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011         | 22    | 29       | 47                    | 1                | 1       | --            |
| Mar 8-14, 2011             | 19    | 25       | 54                    | 1                | 1       | --            |
| Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011         | 20    | 25       | 52                    | 2                | 2       | --            |
| Feb 2-7, 2011 <sup>1</sup> | 22    | 22       | 53                    | 2                | 2       | --            |
| Jan 5-9, 2011              | 24    | 22       | 50                    | 2                | 1       | --            |
| Dec 1-5, 2010              | 22    | 26       | 49                    | 2                | 2       | --            |
| Nov 4-7, 2010              | 27    | 22       | 49                    | 1                | 1       | --            |
| Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)      | 29    | 25       | 32                    | --               | 1       | 13            |
| Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)      | 28    | 24       | 30                    | --               | 1       | 16            |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)   | 29    | 26       | 32                    | --               | 1       | 13            |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010         | 22    | 18       | 37                    | --               | 1       | 21            |
| Jun 16-20, 2010            | 24    | 18       | 30                    | --               | *       | 27            |
| May 20-23, 2010            | 25    | 18       | 31                    | --               | 1       | 25            |
| Mar 11-21, 2010            | 24    | 14       | 29                    | --               | 1       | 31            |

<sup>1</sup> In the February 2-7, 2011 survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May through October, it was described as: "the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."