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**WALKER HAS STRONG EARLY LEAD IN IOWA GOP CAUCUS,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
CONSERVATIVE BASE WITH LARGE DOSE OF TEA PARTY**

An early look at likely Iowa Republican Caucus participants shows a strong conservative tilt as Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker leads the pack with 25 percent, twice as high as his nearest rival, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Voters who identify as “very conservative” make up 45 percent of the caucus participants surveyed by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University. Tea Party supporters make up 32 percent of likely caucus-goers and Walker gets 33 percent of that Tea Party vote.

There is a horse race for second place, with 13 percent for U.S. Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, 11 percent each for Michigan physician Ben Carson and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and 10 percent for former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush. No other candidate is above 5 percent and 9 percent are undecided.

Walker gets 13 percent when caucus participants name their second choice, with 11 percent for Bush and 9 percent each for former Texas Gov. Rick Perry and Paul.

In a combination of first and second choices, Walker tops the list with 37 percent, with 21 percent for Paul, 20 percent for Bush, 19 percent for Carson and 18 percent for Huckabee.

“Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker is taking the Republican political world by storm,” said Quinnipiac University Poll Assistant Director Peter A. Brown. “He’s gone from being unknown outside Wisconsin to the hot candidate, poised to become the front-runner for the GOP presidential nomination. Front-runner status would make it easier for Gov. Walker to raise money and recruit top talent for his staff, but it also puts a target on his back.

“Perhaps most impressive about Walker’s numbers is that 57 percent view him favorably to only 7 percent who view him unfavorably – a heck of a first impression.”

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“It’s worth remembering that former Sen. Rick Santorum and former Gov. Mike Huckabee won the last two caucuses and neither came close to the nomination,” Brown added.

Perhaps the biggest losers in Iowa are Bush and New Jersey Gov. Christopher Christie as each gets 26 percent when likely Republican Caucus participants name a candidate they “would definitely not support.”

Christie and Bush also are lowest in favorability, with mixed or negative scores:

- 41 – 40 percent favorable for Bush;
- 30 – 54 percent favorable for Christie;
- 57 – 7 percent favorable for Walker;
- 51 – 5 percent favorable for Carson;
- 46 – 19 percent favorable for U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas;
- 63 – 24 percent favorable for Huckabee;
- 41 – 9 percent favorable for Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal;
- 17 – 6 percent favorable for Ohio Gov. John Kasich, with 77 percent who don’t know enough about him to form an opinion;
- 58 – 22 percent for Paul;
- 56 – 22 percent favorable for Perry;
- 48 – 15 percent favorable for U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida;
- 54 – 23 percent favorable for former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania.

Walker gets 26 percent of men and 22 percent of women. Voters who say they are moderate or liberal go 21 percent for Paul and 17 percent for Bush.

By a 64 – 21 percent margin, likely Iowa Republican Caucus participants prefer a presidential candidate with experience as a governor or administrator, rather than experience as a Senator or member of Congress.

Only 8 percent of caucus participants are less likely to vote for Walker because he does not have a college degree, while 82 percent say that makes no difference in their vote. Because his father and brother were presidents, 25 percent say they are less likely to vote for Jeb Bush, but 63 percent say it makes no difference.

From February 16 – 23, Quinnipiac University surveyed 623 likely Iowa Republican Caucus participants with a margin of error of +/- 3.9 percent. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#) @QuinnipiacPoll.

1. If the Republican caucus were being held today, and the candidates were Jeb Bush, Ben Carson, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Mike Huckabee, Bobby Jindal, John Kasich, Rand Paul, Rick Perry, Marco Rubio, Rick Santorum, and Scott Walker, who would you support? (If undecided) If you had to choose today, would you support Bush, Carson, Christie, Cruz, Huckabee, Jindal, Kasich, Paul, Perry, Rubio, Santorum, or Walker?

LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....								
	Tot	Tea Party	Wht		POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY		Men	Wom
			BrnAgn	Evang	CONSERVATIVE Very	Mod/ Smwht Lib		
Bush	10%	3%	6%	4%	11%	17%	8%	12%
Carson	11	11	16	13	11	7	11	11
Christie	4	1	2	1	6	8	5	3
Cruz	5	10	4	8	2	2	6	3
Huckabee	11	10	16	14	8	8	8	14
Jindal	2	3	1	3	3	2	2	4
Kasich	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Paul	13	15	9	9	12	21	17	8
Perry	3	2	3	2	3	4	3	3
Rubio	4	2	5	4	2	5	4	3
Santorum	4	5	6	6	3	4	4	5
Walker	25	33	23	30	30	12	26	22
DK/NA	9	6	9	6	10	10	6	13

2. (If candidate chosen q1) Who is your second choice: Bush, Carson, Christie, Cruz, Huckabee, Jindal, Kasich, Paul, Perry, Rubio, Santorum, or Walker?

LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....								
CANDIDATE CHOSEN Q1.....								
	Tot	Tea Party	Wht		POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY		Men	Wom
			BrnAgn	Evang	CONSERVATIVE Very	Mod/ Smwht Lib		
Bush	11%	5%	11%	4%	17%	18%	11%	11%
Carson	8	9	9	11	8	5	10	5
Christie	7	3	3	4	6	14	7	7
Cruz	7	13	9	10	5	2	8	5
Huckabee	8	7	9	8	10	7	7	10
Jindal	3	3	4	5	1	1	3	2
Kasich	2	2	1	1	2	3	2	1
Paul	9	10	6	6	10	11	9	7
Perry	9	11	11	15	3	3	8	10
Rubio	6	5	3	4	9	6	6	5
Santorum	6	6	9	6	6	8	6	7
Walker	13	17	15	17	13	6	12	16
DK/NA	11	11	11	10	7	15	10	12

2a. If the Republican caucus were being held today, and the candidates were Jeb Bush, Ben Carson, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Mike Huckabee, Bobby Jindal, John Kasich, Rand Paul, Rick Perry, Marco Rubio, Rick Santorum, and Scott Walker, who would you support? (If undecided) If you had to choose today, would you support Bush, Carson, Christie, Cruz, Huckabee, Jindal, Kasich, Paul, Perry, Rubio, Santorum, or Walker? COMBINED WITH: Who is your second choice ...? (Note: Percentages add to more than 100%)

LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....
CANDIDATE CHOSEN Q1 OR Q2 COMBINED.....

			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE		Mod/		
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Bush	20%	7%	15%	7%	27%	34%	19%	22%
Carson	19	19	24	23	18	12	20	16
Christie	11	3	4	4	11	20	12	9
Cruz	11	22	13	17	7	4	13	7
Huckabee	18	16	25	22	17	15	15	23
Jindal	5	6	4	7	4	3	5	6
Kasich	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	1
Paul	21	24	15	15	21	31	26	14
Perry	11	12	13	16	5	7	10	11
Rubio	9	6	8	7	11	11	10	8
Santorum	10	10	14	11	8	12	9	11
Walker	37	49	36	46	42	17	37	36
DK/NA	18	17	19	15	16	23	15	23

3. Are there any of these candidates you would definitely not support for the Republican nomination for president? (Totals may add up to more than 100% because multiple responses were allowed)

LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....

			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE		Mod/		
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Bush	26%	38%	27%	31%	23%	21%	31%	19%
Carson	3	4	3	3	3	5	4	2
Christie	26	34	27	35	20	16	23	29
Cruz	8	3	5	5	4	17	9	5
Huckabee	10	8	5	8	8	14	11	8
Jindal	4	3	4	2	3	8	5	3
Kasich	3	2	2	2	2	5	3	2
Paul	7	5	7	7	8	7	6	10
Perry	7	6	3	3	7	13	8	5
Rubio	5	5	4	5	3	8	6	4
Santorum	8	5	4	4	8	16	11	4
Walker	3	1	2	2	1	6	4	2
No/No one	29	24	32	25	34	28	31	24
DK/NA	14	12	15	14	14	13	9	21

7. Is your opinion of Jeb Bush favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....			POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY			
		Tea Party	Wht BrnAgn Evang	Very	CONSERVATIVE Smwht	Mod/ Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	41%	26%	40%	31%	48%	55%	37%	48%
Unfavorable	40	60	40	51	33	31	46	31
Hvn't hrd enough	17	12	18	16	19	14	15	21
REFUSED	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	-

8. Is your opinion of Ben Carson favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....			POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY			
		Tea Party	Wht BrnAgn Evang	Very	CONSERVATIVE Smwht	Mod/ Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	51%	67%	61%	66%	47%	33%	57%	43%
Unfavorable	5	5	3	3	4	9	6	2
Hvn't hrd enough	43	28	36	30	49	57	37	54
REFUSED	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

9. Is your opinion of Chris Christie favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....			POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY			
		Tea Party	Wht BrnAgn Evang	Very	CONSERVATIVE Smwht	Mod/ Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	30%	18%	27%	18%	36%	46%	32%	27%
Unfavorable	54	71	53	67	45	41	54	53
Hvn't hrd enough	15	10	19	14	18	12	13	19
REFUSED	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

10. Is your opinion of Ted Cruz favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....			POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY			
		Tea Party	Wht BrnAgn Evang	Very	CONSERVATIVE Smwht	Mod/ Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	46%	67%	55%	61%	42%	25%	53%	36%
Unfavorable	19	9	13	11	17	36	21	15
Hvn't hrd enough	34	24	31	27	41	37	25	48
REFUSED	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	1

11. Is your opinion of Mike Huckabee favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
		Wht		POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	63%	65%	76%	71%	63%	50%	61%	65%
Unfavorable	24	25	15	21	25	29	26	22
Hvn't hrd enough	12	10	8	6	11	20	12	11
REFUSED	1	-	1	2	1	1	1	2

12. Is your opinion of Bobby Jindal favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
		Wht		POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	41%	57%	41%	49%	40%	26%	44%	35%
Unfavorable	9	8	8	7	9	11	10	7
Hvn't hrd enough	50	35	49	43	51	61	45	56
REFUSED	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	1

13. Is your opinion of John Kasich favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
		Wht		POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	17%	18%	17%	18%	15%	16%	18%	14%
Unfavorable	6	9	7	8	4	4	7	4
Hvn't hrd enough	77	72	75	73	80	80	74	82
REFUSED	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-

14. Is your opinion of Rand Paul favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
		Wht		POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	58%	69%	61%	62%	57%	54%	64%	50%
Unfavorable	22	16	20	21	21	27	20	26
Hvn't hrd enough	18	12	16	15	21	18	15	23
REFUSED	1	2	3	2	-	1	1	1

15. Is your opinion of Rick Perry favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	56%	69%	63%	67%	49%	48%	60%	51%
Unfavorable	22	18	16	13	25	35	25	17
Hvn't hrd enough	21	12	20	18	26	17	15	30
REFUSED	1	2	1	2	-	-	1	2

16. Is your opinion of Marco Rubio favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	48%	55%	54%	53%	51%	40%	53%	41%
Unfavorable	15	15	13	16	13	17	16	14
Hvn't hrd enough	34	27	30	28	35	39	29	41
REFUSED	2	3	2	3	1	3	1	3

17. Is your opinion of Rick Santorum favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	54%	64%	62%	68%	47%	39%	56%	51%
Unfavorable	23	21	18	13	28	35	25	19
Hvn't hrd enough	22	15	19	18	25	24	18	29
REFUSED	1	-	1	-	-	2	1	1

18. Is your opinion of Scott Walker favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Favorable	57%	74%	58%	66%	61%	40%	61%	50%
Unfavorable	7	6	5	4	3	18	9	4
Hvn't hrd enough	36	21	37	30	36	42	29	45
REFUSED	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

19. What is the most important issue to you in deciding who to support for the Republican nomination for President?

	Likely Rep Caucus-goers
Economy (General)	12%
Jobs/Unemployment	1
Budget (General)	3
Government spending	1
Budget deficit	4
Taxes (General)	3
Terrorism	4
National Security	6
Gun Issues/Policy/Control	2
Healthcare	6
Abortion	4
Immigration Issues	10
Foreign policy	9
Party/Political Philosophy	4
Bipartisan/Cross party lines	
/Coop to get things done	1
Electability	1
Reduce size of government	2
Supporting Constitution	4
Caring about people	1
Leadership	3
Moral/Family Values	5
Honesty/Trustworthiness	1
Other	9
DK/NA	4

27. Which of the following types of experience do you think better prepares someone to be president: A) Serving as a state's governor and gaining experience as the head of an administration, or B) Serving as a U.S. Senator or member of Congress and gaining experience in Washington and in foreign policy?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
Governor	64%	72%	68%	69%	63%	62%	70%	56%
US Senator/Congress	21	12	20	17	22	26	18	27
DK/NA	14	16	12	13	15	13	12	17

28. Jeb Bush's father and his brother both served as president. Does that make you more likely to support Jeb Bush for the Republican nomination for president, less likely, or does it make no difference?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE		Mod/		
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
More likely	11%	8%	9%	6%	14%	15%	11%	10%
Less likely	25	32	24	25	26	25	32	15
No difference	63	60	67	69	61	59	56	74
DK/NA	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	1

29. Ben Carson has never held political or governmental office. Does that make you more likely to support Ben Carson for the Republican nomination for president, less likely, or does it make no difference?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
More likely	17%	27%	21%	21%	15%	11%	22%	10%
Less likely	24	14	20	15	28	35	25	24
No difference	57	59	58	64	56	50	52	65
DK/NA	2	1	1	1	1	4	2	1

30. Scott Walker does not have a college degree. Does that make you more likely to support Scott Walker for the Republican nomination for president, less likely, or does it make no difference?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE		Mod/		
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
More likely	9%	17%	10%	13%	6%	4%	12%	4%
Less likely	8	2	8	4	11	11	9	7
No difference	82	80	82	82	82	84	79	87
DK/NA	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	1

31. Rand Paul's father is former presidential candidate Ron Paul. Does that make you more likely to support Rand Paul for the Republican nomination for president, less likely, or does it make no difference?

	LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....							
			Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY				
		Tea	BrnAgn	CONSERVATIVE	Mod/			
	Tot	Party	Evang	Very	Smwht	Lib	Men	Wom
More likely	13%	16%	11%	11%	12%	16%	16%	8%
Less likely	12	8	13	16	10	7	11	13
No difference	74	76	75	73	78	77	72	78
DK/NA	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

32. Is your opinion of Ron Paul, presidential candidate in 2008 and 2012, favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....								
	Tot	Tea Party	Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY		Mod/ Lib	Men	Wom
			BrnAgn Evang	CONSERVATIVE Very	Smwht			
Favorable	45%	55%	44%	45%	48%	42%	51%	36%
Unfavorable	31	26	34	32	31	32	31	33
Hvn't hrd enough	22	17	20	20	21	24	16	30
REFUSED	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	1

33. Is your opinion of George W. Bush, president from 2001 - 2009, favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....								
	Tot	Tea Party	Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY		Mod/ Lib	Men	Wom
			BrnAgn Evang	CONSERVATIVE Very	Smwht			
Favorable	80%	83%	85%	86%	80%	74%	77%	84%
Unfavorable	15	13	13	11	18	19	19	9
Hvn't hrd enough	3	2	1	1	1	3	2	4
REFUSED	2	2	2	2	1	4	2	3

34. Is your opinion of George H. W. Bush, president from 1989 - 1993, favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

LIKELY REP CAUCUS-GOERS.....								
	Tot	Tea Party	Wht	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY		Mod/ Lib	Men	Wom
			BrnAgn Evang	CONSERVATIVE Very	Smwht			
Favorable	79%	77%	80%	79%	78%	83%	78%	79%
Unfavorable	11	17	13	12	11	9	13	8
Hvn't hrd enough	9	5	5	7	9	6	7	11
REFUSED	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1