### Exclusive Poll Results www.puertorico-herald.org

1. What is the biggest problem facing Puerto Rico today—the one that affects you and your family the most?

|                                | September 2012 |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Economy                        | 16%            |
| Crime/Drugs                    | 54             |
| Unemployment                   | 12             |
| Politics/Government/Corruption | 4              |
| Cost of living                 | 1              |
| Health care                    | 1              |
| Education                      | <1             |
| Everything (unspecified)       | 1              |
| Puerto Rico's Status           | 1              |
| Sense of security/stability    | 2              |
| Poor streets                   | 2              |
| Poor communication             | -              |
| Taxes                          | <1             |
| Low salaries                   | 1              |
| Gas prices                     | <1             |
| (Nothing)                      | 2              |
| (Other)                        | 2              |
| (Not sure/refused)             | 1              |
|                                |                |

2. Just thinking about the quality of life in Puerto Rico, with 10 representing the best it has been in the last 10 years and 1 being the worst it could possibly be, where do you think the quality of life is today?

|           | 1     |          |          |   |          |          |    |   |   | 10          |             |
|-----------|-------|----------|----------|---|----------|----------|----|---|---|-------------|-------------|
|           | Worst | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | 4 | <u>5</u> | <u>6</u> | 7  | 8 | 9 | <u>Best</u> | <u>(Dk)</u> |
| September |       |          |          |   |          |          |    |   |   |             |             |
| 2012      | 12%   | 7        | 8        | 9 | 24       | 14       | 10 | 7 | 2 | 4           | 3           |

3. Concerning the economy, how would you rate the present general business conditions in your area:

|           | <u>Good</u> | <u>Normal</u> | <u>Bad</u> | (Don't know) |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| September |             |               |            |              |
| 2012      | 88          | 37            | 54         | 1            |

4. Six months from now, do you think general business conditions in your area will be:

|           | <u>Better</u> | <u>The same</u> | <u>Worse</u> | (Don't know) |
|-----------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| September |               |                 |              |              |
| 2012      | 16%           | 42              | 33           | 10           |

5. Thinking about the government budget, do you think issues with the government budget are a major problem for Puerto Rico, a minor problem, or not much of a problem at all?

|           |                |         | Not much | (Not            |
|-----------|----------------|---------|----------|-----------------|
|           | <u>Major</u>   | Minor   | of a     | sure /          |
|           | <u>problem</u> | problem | problem  | <u>refused)</u> |
| September |                |         |          |                 |
| 2012      | 89%            | 6       | 4        | 2               |

6. Have you ever lived on the mainland US?

|           | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | (DK/Ref) |
|-----------|------------|-----------|----------|
| September |            |           |          |
| 2012      | 38%        | 62        | <1       |

7. Have you ever considered moving to the mainland?

|           |            |    | Have lived |
|-----------|------------|----|------------|
|           |            |    | there and  |
|           | <u>Yes</u> | No | moved back |
| September |            |    |            |
| 2012      | 26%        | 67 | 7          |

As you may know, this November there will be elections for Governor, Resident Commissioner and other offices.

8. If the election for governor were held today, how would you vote if the candidates were?

| PNP Luis Fortuño     | 34% |
|----------------------|-----|
| PPD Alejandro Garcia |     |
| Padilla              | 30  |
| PIP Juan Dalmau      | 4   |
| MUS Arturo Hernandez | 2   |
| PPR Rogelio Figueroa | 1   |
| PPT Rafael Bernabe   | 2   |
| (Other)              | 6   |
| (Wouldn't vote)      | 5   |
| (Don't know)         | 18  |

9. If the elections for Resident Commissioner were held today, how would you vote if the candidates were?

| PNP Pedro Pierluisi    | 41% |
|------------------------|-----|
| PPD Rafael Cox Alomar  | 25  |
| PIP Juan Mercado       | 1   |
| MUS Maria de Lourdes   |     |
| Guzman                 | 2   |
| PPT Felix Cordova      | 1   |
| PPR Sadiasept Guillont | 1   |
| (Other)                | 6   |
| (Wouldn't vote)        | 6   |
| (Don't know)           | 17  |

10. And in general, are you more inclined to vote for PNP or PPD legislative candidates for Puerto Rico's Senate and House of Representatives in November? If you had to choose between a PNP or PPD candidate, which would you choose?

|           | PNP | PPD | (Other) | (Neither) |
|-----------|-----|-----|---------|-----------|
| September |     |     |         |           |
| 2012      | 36  | 30  | 13      | 20        |

# 11. On a scale of excellent, good, fair or poor, how would you rate the job that Luis Fortuño has done as Governor of Puerto Rico?

|           |                  |             |             |             | (Don't       |
|-----------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
|           | <u>Excellent</u> | <u>Good</u> | <u>Fair</u> | <u>Poor</u> | <u>Know)</u> |
| September |                  |             |             |             |              |
| 2012      | 12%              | 24          | 32          | 30          | 2            |

# 12. On a scale of excellent, good, fair, or poor, how would you rate the job that Pedro Pierluisi has done as Resident Commissioner?

|           | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | (Don't<br>Know) |
|-----------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------------|
| September |           |      |      |      |                 |
| 2012      | 14%       | 32   | 32   | 16   | 6               |

#### 13. When it comes to political parties, do you consider yourself a:

|           |     |            |     | Somethin      | (DK /           |
|-----------|-----|------------|-----|---------------|-----------------|
|           | PNP | <u>PPD</u> | PIP | <u>g Else</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |     |            |     |               |                 |
| 2012      | 34% | 26         | 2   | 13            | 25              |

#### 14. Would you say your commitment to that party is:

| -         | <u>Very</u>   |               | Only            | <u>Fairly</u> | (DK /           |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
|           | <u>strong</u> | <u>Strong</u> | <u>moderate</u> | <u>weak</u>   | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |               |               |                 |               |                 |
| 2012      | 20%           | 27            | 39              | 9             | 5               |

### 15. On another topic, do you think the issue of protecting the environment is:

|           |                  |                  |                  | Not           |              |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|
|           | Very             | Somewhat         | Not very         | important     | (Not         |
|           | <u>important</u> | <u>important</u> | <u>important</u> | <u>at all</u> | <u>sure)</u> |
| September |                  |                  |                  |               |              |
| 2012      | 87%              | 8                | 2                | 1             | 1            |

16. Do you think that the extreme weather the world has seen recently, like more hurricanes, draught and other natural disasters, is a result of climate change and global warming caused by human beings, or do you just think it is just part of nature's cycles and is not due to human behavior?

|           | Climate          |                 |            |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|------------|
|           | change           | Part of         |            |
|           | caused <u>by</u> | <u>nature's</u> |            |
|           | <u>humans</u>    | <u>cycles</u>   | (Not sure) |
| September |                  |                 |            |
| 2012      | 59%              | 35              | 6          |

17. Most places on the mainland have recycling programs to separate bottles, cans and newspapers from trash so they can be recycled and to reduce landfills. Do you think this would be a good idea in Puerto Rico, or just a waste of time and money?

|           |                  | Waste of        |            |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|------------|
|           |                  | time <u>and</u> |            |
|           | <u>Good idea</u> | money           | (Not sure) |
| September |                  |                 |            |
| 2012      | 98%              | 1               | 1          |

18. As you may know, a large number of government workers were laid off in 2009 because of Law 7--do you think the Puerto Rican government has become more or less efficient as a result of the layoffs?

|           | <u>More</u>      | <u>Less_</u>     | <u>(No</u>         | <u>(Not</u>  |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|           | <u>efficient</u> | <u>efficient</u> | <u>difference)</u> | <u>sure)</u> |
| September |                  |                  |                    |              |
| 2012      | 20%              | 51               | 21                 | 9            |

19. As far as you know, does the Constitution of Puerto Rico require that the government have a balanced budget?

|           |                   | No, does not     |            |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------|------------|
|           | Yes, requires     | require <u>a</u> |            |
|           | a <u>balanced</u> | <u>balanced</u>  |            |
|           | <u>budget</u>     | <u>budget</u>    | (Not sure) |
| September |                   |                  |            |
| 2012      | 83%               | 3                | 13         |

20. In fact, the Constitution of Puerto Rico does require a balanced budget. Do you approve or disapprove of this requirement?

|           |                |                   | (Not            |
|-----------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
|           |                |                   | sure /          |
|           | <u>Approve</u> | <u>Disapprove</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |                |                   |                 |
| 2012      | 86%            | 3                 | 10              |

21. Most people believe the economic conditions in Puerto Rico are in the worst shape in years—who would you blame most?

|                      | September<br><u>2012</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| The Puerto Rican     |                          |
| government           | 27%                      |
| The United States    |                          |
| government           | 4                        |
| The private sector   | 3                        |
| The overall world    |                          |
| economy              | 41                       |
| (All of the above)   | 19                       |
| (Not sure / Refused) | 5                        |
|                      |                          |

22. Do you think Puerto Rico needs to reform its tax system, or would any reform probably be bad for people like you?

|               | Reform         |                                       |
|---------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
|               | would be       |                                       |
|               | bad for        | (Not                                  |
| <u>Needs</u>  | <u>people</u>  | sure /                                |
| <u>reform</u> | <u>like me</u> | <u>Refused)</u>                       |
|               |                |                                       |
| 75%           | 8              | 16                                    |
|               | reform         | would be bad for Needs people like me |

23. Were the income taxes you paid last year higher, lower or about the same as the year before?

|           |                |              |             | (Not            |
|-----------|----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
|           |                |              | About the   | sure /          |
|           | <u> Higher</u> | <u>Lower</u> | <u>same</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |                |              |             |                 |
| 2012      | 28%            | 24           | 40          | 8               |

## 24. Do you think that lowering the income tax paid by Puerto Ricans will help or hurt the Puerto Rican economy?

|           |             |                 |                  | (Not            |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
|           | IIo l m     | II <del>+</del> | (Dononda)        | sure /          |
| Q 1 1     | <u>Help</u> | <u>Hurt</u>     | <u>(Depends)</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |             |                 |                  | _               |
| 2012      | 52%         | 20              | 21               | 7               |

# 25. Do you think that the current sales tax in Puerto Rico, sometimes called the IVU, is too high, too low, or about right?

|           |          |         |              | (Not            |
|-----------|----------|---------|--------------|-----------------|
|           |          |         | <u>About</u> | sure /          |
|           | Too high | Too low | <u>right</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |          |         |              |                 |
| 2012      | 53%      | 2       | 38           | 7               |

### 26. As far as you know, how much is the current sales tax—what percentage?

|           | (No/Don't   |          |              |                   |
|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|-------------------|
|           | <u>(7응)</u> | (Not 7%) | <u>know)</u> | ( <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |             |          |              |                   |
| 2012      | 70%         | 5        | 19           | 6                 |

#### 27. Do you think the long term solution to fiscal problems in Puerto Rico is:

|  | September<br>2012 |
|--|-------------------|
| <pre>In tax reform - in other words, how   the government taxes people and</pre> |                   |
| businesses   | 16%               |
| In fiscal reform - the way the   |                   |
| government manages itself and its  |                   |
| spending   | 35                |
| (Some of both)   | 34                |
| (Neither)  | 4                 |
| (Not sure / Refused)   | 10                |

28. If you had to choose between raising taxes or laying off additional public workers in order to balance the government budget, which one would you choose? [IF RESPONDENT SAYS BOTH OR NEITHER:] Which would you chose if you had to pick one?

|           |              | Lay off        |        |           | (Not            |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|--------|-----------|-----------------|
|           | <u>Raise</u> | additional     |        |           | sure /          |
|           | <u>taxes</u> | <u>workers</u> | (Both) | (Neither) | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |              |                |        |           |                 |
| 2012      | 38%          | 8              | 9      | 37        | 8               |

29. Do you think the government could further reduce spending without cutting vital services?

|           |            |           | (Not            |
|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
|           |            |           | sure /          |
|           | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |            |           |                 |
| 2012      | 78%        | 13        | 9               |

30. Thinking about illegal immigration and border security in Puerto Rico and the mainland, do you think that security at the border is:

|           |            |              |               | (Not            |
|-----------|------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
|           |            | <u>About</u> | Not strict    | sure /          |
|           | Too strict | <u>right</u> | <u>enough</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |            |              |               |                 |
| 2012      | 12%        | 25           | 56            | 8               |

31. On another topic, do you think IVU/Lotto is a good idea, or is it just another government gimmick to raise money?

|           |                  | Another    | (Not            |
|-----------|------------------|------------|-----------------|
|           |                  | government | sure /          |
|           | <u>Good idea</u> | gimmick    | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |                  |            |                 |
| 2012      | 32%              | 52         | 16              |
|           |                  |            |                 |

32. Do you play IVU/Lotto?

|           |            |           | (Not            |
|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
|           |            |           | sure /          |
|           | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |            |           |                 |
| 2012      | 41%        | 56        | 2               |

On a different topic...You may know that there will be a status plebiscite in November. There will be two questions on the ballot. If the election were today, how would you vote on the first question, which is:

33. Do you agree that Puerto Rico should continue to have its present form of territorial status?

|           |            |           | (Not            |
|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
|           |            |           | sure /          |
|           | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |            |           |                 |
| 2012      | 47%        | 40        | 13              |

- 34. And the second question is this: Regardless of your answer to the first question, which of the following non-territorial options would you prefer?
  - 1. Statehood—Puerto Rico should be admitted as a state of the United States of America
  - 2. Independence—Puerto Rico should become a sovereign nation, fully independent of the United States
  - 3. Sovereign Commonwealth—Puerto Rico should adopt a status outside of the Territory Clause of the Constitution of the United States

|           |                  |                     |                     | (Not            |
|-----------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
|           |                  |                     | <u>Sovereign</u>    | sure /          |
|           | <u>Statehood</u> | <u>Independence</u> | <u>Commonwealth</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |                  |                     |                     |                 |
| 2012      | 63%              | 12                  | 25                  |                 |

35. Let's say that Puerto Rico has to choose statehood or independence, would you choose:

|           |                  |                     | (Not sure /     |
|-----------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
|           | <u>Statehood</u> | <u>Independence</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |                  |                     |                 |
| 2012      | 70%              | 17                  | 13              |

### 36. If the Puerto Rican people chose to ask for statehood, do you think the US Congress would actually make Puerto Rico a state?

|           |            |    | (Not            |
|-----------|------------|----|-----------------|
|           |            |    | sure /          |
|           | <u>Yes</u> | No | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |            |    |                 |
| 2012      | 46%        | 32 | 22              |

#### 37. If the U.S. Congress offered Puerto Rico statehood, would you vote to accept statehood?

|           |            |    | (Not            |
|-----------|------------|----|-----------------|
|           |            |    | sure /          |
|           | <u>Yes</u> | No | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |            |    |                 |
| 2012      | 69%        | 22 | 9               |

Every Representative in the U.S. Congress represents about 600,000 people. If Puerto Rico were equally represented in Congress, it would have six voting Congressional Representatives instead of one non-voting Resident Commissioner. Some people say that Puerto Rico should now set districts and send six elected Representatives to Congress to represent the interests of each district. Do you think it would be good idea or a bad idea for Puerto Rico to send six additional Representatives to Washington?

|           |                  |                 | (Not            |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|           |                  |                 | sure /          |
|           | <u>Good idea</u> | <u>Bad idea</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |                  |                 |                 |
| 2012      | 67%              | 17              | 15              |
| -         |                  |                 | <u> </u>        |

In thinking about the Puerto Rico status issue, please tell me how important each of the following issues are to you.

|  |                                       | Very<br><u>important</u> | Somewhat<br><u>important</u> | Not very<br><u>important</u> | Not<br>important<br><u>at all</u> | (Not<br>sure /<br><u>Refused)</u> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 38.  | U.S. Citizenship<br>September<br>2012 | 74%                      | 18                           | 4                            | 1                                 | 3                                 |
| 39.  | A vote for U.S. Pres                  | sident                   |                              |                              |                                   |                                   |
|  | September<br>2012                     | 64%                      | 21                           | 8                            | 4                                 | 3                                 |
| 40. A separate Puerto Rican Miss Universe Pageant contestant |                                       |                          |                              |                              |                                   |                                   |
|  | September<br>2012                     | 33%                      | 21                           | 23                           | 20                                | 3                                 |
| 41. Both English and Spanish as official languages September |                                       |                          |                              |                              |                                   |                                   |
|  | 2012                                  | 68%                      | 23                           | 5                            | 2                                 | 2                                 |

42. In general, how much do you trust the reporting of the news media in Puerto Rico:

|           |             |                 |               |            | (Not   |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|--|
|           |             |                 |               |            | sure /_                                      |
|           | A great     |                 | <u>Just a</u> | Not at_    | <u>Refused</u>                               |
|           | <u>deal</u> | <u>Somewhat</u> | <u>little</u> | <u>all</u> | <u>)                                    </u> |
| September |             |                 |               |            |  |
| 2012      | 24%         | 35              | 29            | 10         | 2  |

43. On another topic, how do you feel about walking the streets of your neighborhood after dark—are you scared for your personal safety or do you feel fairly safe?

|           | Scared for      | <u>Feel</u>   | (Not            |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
|           | <u>personal</u> | <u>fairly</u> | sure /          |
|           | <u>safety</u>   | <u>safe</u>   | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |                 |               |                 |
| 2012      | 59%             | 35            | 6               |

44. If you saw someone attacking and physically harming someone in your neighborhood, how comfortable would you be calling the police to come and help the victim?

|           |                    |                    | Only               |                    | (Not            |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|           | Totally            |                    | somewhat           | Not really         | sure /          |
|           | <u>comfortable</u> | <u>Comfortable</u> | <u>comfortable</u> | <u>comfortable</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |                    |                    |                    |                    |                 |
| 2012      | 40%                | 29                 | 14                 | 13                 | 3               |

45. If you saw someone stealing a car in your neighborhood, how comfortable would you be calling the police to come and stop the theft?

|           |                    | Only               |                    |                    | (Not            |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|           | Totally            |                    | somewhat           | Not really         | sure /          |
|           | <u>comfortable</u> | <u>Comfortable</u> | <u>comfortable</u> | <u>comfortable</u> | <u>Refused)</u> |
| September |                    |                    |                    |                    |                 |
| 2012      | 42%                | 29                 | 13                 | 13                 | 3               |