

GOP presidential candidates

Nine candidates are vying for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination

▶ **Rick Perry:** Three-term Texas governor led polls after entering race in August, but has since come under fire over immigration policy and poor debate performances

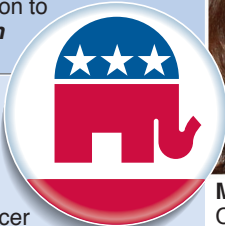
◀ **Mitt Romney:** Former Massachusetts governor clear frontrunner until entry of Perry. Lost nomination to **John McCain** in 2008

▶ **Herman Cain:** Radio talk show host and former chief executive officer of **Godfather's Pizza**. Has run for political office only once, losing 2004 Republican Senate primary in Georgia

◀ **Newt Gingrich:** Political analyst and former U.S. House speaker, widely respected within Republican party but with history of fierce political rhetoric

▶ **Jon Huntsman:** Former Utah governor. Served as President Obama's ambassador to China, stepping down in April 2011 to pursue Republican candidacy

▶ **L-to-r:** Former U.S. senator from Pennsylvania **Rick Santorum**, Texas congressman **Ron Paul**, former New Mexico governor **Gary Johnson**



▶ **Michele Bachmann** Congresswoman from Minnesota and leader of Tea Party caucus in House of Representatives