HPU POLL: NC REGISTERED VOTERS SAY ROMNEY WOULD DO BETTER IN CREATING JOBS, REDUCING DEFICIT

HIGH POINT, N.C., Aug. 29, 2012 – A new High Point University Poll of registered voters finds that 50 percent of survey respondents selected Mitt Romney as the presidential candidate who would do the best job at reducing the federal deficit, compared to 38 percent of voters who selected Obama for the same issue and 11 percent who weren’t sure.

Romney was also chosen by 49 percent of respondents as the candidate who would be most effective at creating jobs, while 41 percent selected Obama and nine percent weren’t sure.

The respondents were split between Obama and Romney regarding who would do a better job dealing with health care and defending the country from future terrorist attacks.

And although registered voters were divided over who would do the best job on health care, a 52 percent majority disapprove of the health care legislation passed by Barack Obama and Congress in 2010.

“This poll shows that North Carolina’s registered voters are leaning toward Gov. Romney on some of the most important issues of the campaign,” says Martin Kifer, director of the HPU Poll and assistant professor of political science at HPU. “The relative confidence that voters have in candidates on the issues that are most important to them are one crucial element of how people make decisions about voting.”

Major Issues

Regardless of who you support, which of the presidential candidates—Mitt Romney or Barack Obama—do you think would do the best job of….

Reducing the federal budget deficit:
Romney – 50 percent
Obama – 38 percent
Not sure 11 percent

Creating jobs:
Romney – 49 percent
Obama – 41 percent
Not sure – 9 percent

Dealing with immigration:
Romney – 47 percent
Obama – 41 percent
Not sure – 12 percent

Dealing with health care:
Romney – 47 percent
Obama – 45 percent
Not sure – 9 percent

Defending the country from future terrorist attacks:
Romney – 45 percent
Obama – 45 percent
Not sure – 9 percent

(n = 540, Margin of sampling error +/- 4.3 percent)

Healthcare Legislation Approval

Do you approve of disapprove of the health care legislation passed by Barack Obama and Congress in 2010?

Disapprove – 52 percent
Approve – 41 percent
Not sure – 7 percent

(n = 540, Margin of sampling error +/- 4.3 percent)

For the survey, the HPU Poll through SurveyUSA interviewed 600 state of North Carolina adults Aug. 19 – Aug. 23. Of the adults, 540 were registered to vote. This research was conducted using blended sample, mixed mode. Respondents reachable on a home telephone (75 percent of adults, 76 percent of registered voters) were interviewed on their home telephone in the recorded voice of a professional announcer. Respondents not reachable on a home telephone (25 percent of adults, 24 percent of registered voters), were shown a questionnaire on their smartphone, laptop, tablet, or other electronic device. In this research, consistent with findings in other states, cellphone respondents are more Democratic than are landline respondents. Romney leads by three points among landline respondents. Obama leads by 12 points among cellphone respondents. When the two groups are proportionally blended, the contest is, as reported here,
Additional methodological explanation is available at:

Additional details including crosstabs of these questions are available at the High Point University Survey Research Center website: http://src.highpoint.edu/

You can follow the HPU Poll on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/SurveyResearchCenter and Twitter at http://twitter.com/HPUSurveyCenter.

At High Point University, every student receives an extraordinary education in an inspiring environment with caring people. High Point University, located in the Piedmont Triad region of North Carolina, is a liberal arts institution with over 4,200 undergraduate and graduate students at campuses in High Point and Winston-Salem. It is ranked by US News and World Report at No. 3 among Regional Colleges in the South. Parade Magazine lists HPU in the top 25 private schools in the nation. HPU was selected in the 2012-2013 list of "Colleges of Distinction," as well as one of the top green schools in the country by the Sierra Club. The university offers 44 undergraduate majors, 43 undergraduate minors and 11 graduate degree programs. It is a member of the NCAA, Division I and the Big South Conference. Visit High Point University on the Web at highpoint.edu.

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