High Point University Poll

Current Issues in the State of North Carolina

February 2011
METHODODOLOGY

- 450 Adults (age 18 and older) in North Carolina
- The survey was conducted January 31 – February 3
- The sample is weighted to Census estimates of demographics of North Carolina’s population
- Estimated margin of sampling error is plus or minus 4.7 percent
LARGE MAJORITY IN NC STILL SAYS COUNTRY IS ON THE WRONG TRACK

Is the country headed in the right direction or is it seriously on the wrong track?

- Right Direction: 26%
- Wrong Track: 64%
- (Don't know/refuse): 10%
Plurality of North Carolinians approve of how President Obama is handling his job

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

Approve: 48%
Disapprove: 44%
(Don't know/refuse): 8%
Majority in NC Disapproves of the Way Republicans in Congress are Handling their Jobs

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Republicans in Congress are handling their jobs?
Plurality in NC approves of the way Bev Perdue is handling her job as governor.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bev Perdue is handling her job as governor?
Plurality in NC Approves of the Way Richard Burr Is Handling His Job as United States Senator

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Richard Burr is handling his job as United States Senator?

- Approve: 39%
- Disapprove: 30%
- (Don't know/refuse): 31%
Plurality in NC Approve of the Way Kay Hagan is Handling Her Job as United States Senator

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Richard Burr is handling his job as United States Senator?
JOBS AND THE ECONOMY ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS FACING THE COUNTRY TODAY

What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

- Jobs: 29%
- Economy: 24%
- Debt/deficit: 8%
- Health care: 5%
- Education: 2%
- Spending: 2%
- Morality: 2%
JOBS AND THE ECONOMY ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS FACING THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA TODAY

What do you think is the most important problem facing the state of North Carolina today?

- Jobs: 42%
- Economy: 18%
- Debt/deficit: 9%
- Education: 7%
- Health care: 3%
- Taxes: 3%
- Government spending: 3%
- Crime: 2%
Plurality in NC says that Divided Government in Washington, D.C. does not make a difference

Do you think it is good for the country, bad for the country, or does not really make a difference that the Republicans now control the House of Representatives while Democrats control the Senate and the presidency?
LARGE MAJORITIES WOULD LIKE REPUBLICAN LEADERS IN CONGRESS TO WORK WITH PRESIDENT OBAMA

This year should the Republican leaders in Washington try as best as they can to work with President Obama to accomplish things? Or should they stand up to Barack Obama on issues that are important to Republican supporters?
A Plurality in NC says that divided government in Raleigh does not make a difference.

Do you think it is good for the state, bad for the state, or does it not really make a difference that the Republicans now control the state House of Representatives and Senate while we have a Democrat as governor?
This year should the Republican leaders in Raleigh... Try as best as they can to work with Bev Perdue to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some groups of Republican supporters? OR should they stand up to Bev Perdue on issues that are important?
Right now, do you think the economic conditions in the country as a whole are getting better or getting worse?
MAJORITY IN NC SAYS ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NC ARE GETTING WORSE

Right now, do you think the economic conditions in North Carolina are getting better or getting worse?

- Getting better: 33%
- Getting worse: 51%
- (Neither better nor worse): 12%
- (Don't know/refuse): 4%

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HALF OF NORTH CAROLINIANS SAY GUN LAWS SHOULD BE STRICTER

In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

- More Strict: 50%
- Less Strict: 38%
- Kept as they are now: 9%
- (Don't know/refuse): 3%

In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?
Plurality of North Carolinians say that it is more important to protect the right to own guns

What do you think is more important - to protect the right of Americans to own guns, OR to control gun ownership?

- Protect the right of Americans to own guns: 48%
- Control gun ownership: 43%
- (Don't know/refuse): 9%