



**HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY POLL
MEMO RELEASE (UPDATE) 3/2/2016**

ELEMENTS	DETAILS
Population represented	Adults in North Carolina.
Sample size	476 adults in North Carolina (393=registered voter subsample).
Mode of data collection	Telephone (Random Digit Dial (RDD) landline and cellular telephones). Interviews conducted in English.
Type of sample (probability/non-probability)	Probability, using RDD samples of landline and cellular telephones generated by Survey Sampling International. Landline respondents were randomly selected within household by asking to speak with the person age 18 or older who has had the most recent birthday.
Start and end dates of data collection	February 18 – February 25, 2016
Margin of sampling error for total sample	Approximately 4.5 percentage points for the all adult sample. Approximately 4.9 percentage points for the registered voter sample. The margin of error is not adjusted for sample weights.
Are the data weighted?	Yes, relative to U.S. Census (2014 American Community Survey and Population Estimates Program) estimates for age, race and gender as well as CDC estimates for phone usage (cell only, landline only, or both).
Survey sponsor and funded by	High Point University Survey Research Center, High Point, NC
Survey/Data collection supplier	High Point University Survey Research Center. The Center is located on the High Point University campus. Student interviewers staff the 42 stations equipped with WinCati computer assisted telephone interviewing systems.
Contact for more information	<p>Martin Kifer Director, High Point University Survey Research Center 336-841-9333 mkifer@highpoint.edu</p> <p>Brian McDonald Associate Director 336-841-9651 bmcdonal@highpoint.edu</p>

Attached is the full text of survey questions our interviewers asked. Interested parties can access results from the survey at <http://www.highpoint.edu/src> and should contact the Director of the Survey Research Center for additional information.

Survey questions: Below are questions the Survey Research Center fielded for this study. They represent the text as read by the interviewers, plus options that appeared to interviewers but were not offered to respondents (in parentheses). Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding. Percentages less than one percent are denoted with a *

Registered Voter Screening

These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes	86	100
No	13	0
(Don't know/Refuse)	1	0
	n= 476	n= 393

Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote or is there a chance that your registration has lapsed because you moved or some other reason?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes, absolutely certain	96	100
Chance registration has lapsed	4	0
(Don't know)	*	0
	n= 410	n=393

Direction of Country

On November 4th, 2014, North Carolina held its general election for U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives and other offices. Did you vote or were you unable to vote for some reason?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes	65	65
No	32	32
(Don't know)	2	2
	n= 393	n= 393

Do you happen to know which party currently has the most members in the U.S. Senate?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Democrats	7	7
Republicans	63	67
Equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans	*	*
(Don't know)	30	26
	n= 476	n= 393

Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Right direction	21	21
Wrong track	70	71
(Don't know/Refuse)	9	8
	n= 476	n= 393

Approval Ratings for Public Officials

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

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Approve	44	43
Disapprove	47	49
(Don't know/Refuse)	9	8
	n= 476	n= 393

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

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Approve	27	29
Disapprove	32	35
(Don't know/Refuse)	41	37
	n= 476	n= 393

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

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Approve	29	31
Disapprove	32	34
(Don't know/Refuse)	39	36
	n= 476	n= 393

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Pat McCrory is handling his job as Governor?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Approve	47	48
Disapprove	38	39
(Don't know/Refuse)	15	13
	n= 476	n= 393

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that U.S. Congress is handling its job?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Approve	17	16
Disapprove	72	76
(Don't know/Refuse)	12	9
	n= 474	n= 391

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that United States Supreme Court is handling its job?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Approve	46	48
Disapprove	39	40
(Don't know/Refuse)	15	12
	n= 476	n= 393

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that the North Carolina General Assembly is handling its job?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Approve	33	34
Disapprove	41	42
(Don't know/Refuse)	26	24
	n= 476	n= 393

Connect NC Bond

Now I am going to ask you about some other public affairs issues.

For the primary election this year in North Carolina, there will be a referendum in which voters can vote for or against the state issuing what is called the "Connect North Carolina Public Improvement Bond." I am going to read the entire text of the language on the referendum. Please let me know if you support or oppose this proposal. Please listen to the entire paragraph since this is the language that will appear on primary ballots:

"The issuance of two billion dollars (\$2,000,000,000) State of North Carolina Public Improvement Bonds constituting general obligation bonds of the State secured by a pledge of the faith and credit and taxing power of the State for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, to fund capital improvements and new facilities for the State, including, without limitation, the construction and furnishing of new facilities and the renovation and rehabilitation of existing facilities for, without limitation, the University of North Carolina System, the North Carolina Community College System, water and sewer systems, the State's National Guard, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, attractions and parks, and the Department of Public Safety."

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Support	69	69
Oppose	20	20
(Don't know/Refuse)	12	11
	n= 476	n= 393

Supreme Court Vacancy

Antonin Scalia, an Associate on the U.S. Supreme Court, recently passed away. How much, if anything, have you heard about this? Would you say a lot, some, a little bit, or nothing at all?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
A lot	54	60
Some	15	15
A little bit	10	10
Nothing at all		
(Bad times with qualifications)	20	14
(Don't know/Refuse)	1	1
	n= 474	n=391

Under the U.S. Constitution, the President has the power to appoint U.S. Supreme Court Justices. President Obama has less than a year left in his presidency, but has said he intends to nominate someone to fill Justice Scalia’s seat on the Supreme Court. Do you think that President Obama should or should NOT nominate someone to fill this seat on the U.S. Supreme Court?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes, President Obama should nominate a replacement	38	38
No, President Obama should not nominate a replacement	60	60
(Don’t know/Refuse)	3	2
	n= 476	n=393

Under the U.S. Constitution, the U.S. Senate has the power to confirm or reject the President’s Supreme Court nominees. Mitch McConnell, the Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate, has said that the next President rather than President Obama should nominate the next U.S. Supreme Court Justice. Should the U.S. Senate consider any nominee that President Obama suggests or should the U.S. Senate not consider any nominees?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes, should consider any nominee	29	29
No, should not consider any nominee	68	68
(Don’t know/Refuse)	3	2
	n= 476	n=393

Presidential Candidates

How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who may be running for president in 2016? A lot, some, not much, or none at all?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
A lot	66	73
Some	25	20
Not much	6	5
None at all (Refuse)	4	2
	*	0
	n= 476	n=393

Which of the following is more important to you in a presidential candidate: experience and a proven record or new ideas and a different approach?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Experience and a proven record	39	40
New ideas and a different approach	39	38
(Both)	17	17
(Don't know/Refuse)	5	5
	n= 476	n=393

Most Important Problem

Now I am going to read a list of possible problems facing this country today. Please wait for me to read the entire list, then tell me which ONE of these problems is the MOST important facing the country today.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
National security	15	17
The budget deficit	10	10
Health care	12	11
Education	15	13
Immigration	6	6
The economy	22	22
Government ineffectiveness	18	17
(Don't know/Refuse)	3	3
	n= 476	n=393

Now I am going to read a list of possible problems facing the state of North Carolina today. Please wait for me to read the entire list, then tell me which ONE of these problems is the MOST important facing the state of North Carolina today.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Transportation and infrastructure	6	6
The size of the state budget	6	4
Taxes	8	9
Health care	10	9
Education	35	37
Immigration	4	5
The economy	13	14
Government ineffectiveness	10	10
Policing and law enforcement	5	5
(Don't know/Refuse)	4	4
	n= 476	n=393

Finances (Consumer Sentiment Index)

We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days. Would you say that you and your family living there are better off or worse off financially than you were a year ago?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Better off	53	52
Worse off	25	26
(Neither better nor worse)	20	21
(Don't know/Refuse)	2	1
	n= 475	n=392

Now looking ahead, do you think that a year from now you and your family living there will be better off financially, or worse off, or just about the same as now?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Better off	36	35
Worse off	8	8
Just about the same as now	51	51
(Don't know/Refuse)	6	6
	n= 475	n=392

Now turning to business conditions in the country as a whole, do you think that during the next twelve months we'll have good times financially, or bad times, or what?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Good times	35	31
Bad times	33	36
Neither good nor bad, both good and bad	16	17
(Good times with qualifications)	3	3
(Bad times with qualifications)	3	4
(Don't know/Refuse)	11	10
	n= 475	n=392

Looking ahead, which would you say is more likely, that in the country as a whole we'll have continuous good times during the next five years or so, or that we'll have periods of widespread unemployment or depression, or what?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Widespread unemployment or depression	37	38
Continuous good times	31	32
(Neither)	3	2
(A mix of both)	13	12
(Don't know/Refuse)	17	16
	n= 474	n=392

About the big things people buy for their homes, such as furniture, a refrigerator, stove, television, and things like that.

Generally speaking, do you think now is a good time or bad time for people to buy major household items?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Good time	60	60
Bad time	20	22
(Neither good time, nor bad time)	8	9
(Don't know/Refuse)	12	11
	n= 476	n=393

Foreign Policy

Do you think it will be best for the future of the country if we take an active part in world affairs, or if we stay out of world affairs?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Active part	60	62
Stay out	34	32
(Don't know/Refuse)	7	6
	n= 475	n=392

Thinking about current U.S. relations with the rest of the world, would you say that the world is becoming safer or more dangerous for the U.S. and the American people?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Safer	10	10
More dangerous	85	85
(Don't know/Refuse)	5	5
	n= 476	n=393

How much, if anything, have you read or heard about recent political violence in Syria? Have you heard a lot, a little, or nothing at all?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
A lot	56	61
A little	38	34
Nothing at all	5	5
(Don't know/Refuse)	*	*
	n= 476	n=393

Do you think the United States has a responsibility to do something about the fighting in Syria between government forces and anti-government groups, or doesn't the United States have this responsibility?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
U.S. has responsibility	39	41
U.S. does not have responsibility	53	53
(Don't know/Refuse)	8	7
	n= 476	n=393

Overall, based on what you know, should the United States increase or decrease its military involvement in the conflict in Syria?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Increase	33	34
Decrease	48	48
(Don't know/Refuse)	18	18
	n= 475	n=392

How much have you heard about the group that calls itself the Islamic State and operates in both Syria and Iraq? (It is sometimes referred to as ISIS or ISIL).

	All Adults	Registered Voters
A lot	78	81
A little	19	17
Nothing at all	2	1
(Don't know/Refuse)	1	1
	n= 473	n=393

Do you think the U.S. government should be doing more to stop the Islamic State or ISIS from advancing in Syria and Iraq?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes	68	69
No	21	21
(Don't know/Refuse)	11	10
	n= 476	n=393

Transportation

Now we would like to ask you about some transportation issues here in North Carolina. Please tell me if you support or oppose each of these proposals to pay for new highways and additional lanes of traffic.

Tolls paid by drivers

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Support	32	32
Oppose	63	64
(Don't know/Refuse)	5	5
	n= 474	n=391

A tax on the number of miles people drive

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Support	10	10
Oppose	87	87
(Don't know/Refuse)	3	3
	n= 476	n=393

Additional motor fuel taxes

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Support	23	22
Oppose	72	73
(Don't know/Refuse)	5	5
	n= 476	n=393

Do you support or oppose more state spending on mass transit systems, including commuter rail service, to reduce traffic on highways?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Support	67	65
Oppose	29	31
(Don't know/Refuse)	4	4
	n= 476	n=393

Do you believe self-driving cars will be common on North Carolina highways within 10 years?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes	36	35
No	57	58
(Don't know/Refuse)	7	7

Guns

Now I would like to ask you some questions about guns.

Which is more important: protecting the constitutional right of citizens to own guns or protecting citizens from gun violence?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Protecting the constitutional right of citizens to own guns	57	58
Protecting citizens from gun violence	35	35
(Don't know/Refuse)	8	7
	n= 476	n=393

Do you favor or oppose each of the following proposals to reduce gun violence?

Requiring criminal background checks on all gun buyers, including those buying at gun shows and private sales.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Favor	89	89
Oppose	8	8
(Don't know/Refuse)	3	3
	n= 475	n=392

Providing services for mentally ill people who show violent tendencies.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Favor	88	88
Oppose	7	7
(Don't know/Refuse)	5	5
	n= 475	n=392

Improving enforcement of existing gun laws.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Favor	84	85
Oppose	11	12
(Don't know/Refuse)	5	4
	n= 475	n=392

Banning high-capacity ammunition clips that can shoot dozens of bullets without stopping to reload.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Favor	56	57
Oppose	40	40
(Don't know/Refuse)	4	4
	n= 475	n=392

Banning the sale of ammunition on-line.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Favor	53	53
Oppose	42	42
(Don't know/Refuse)	5	6
	n= 475	n=392

Banning assault style weapons.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Favor	52	55
Oppose	42	39
(Don't know/Refuse)	6	6
	n= 475	n=392

Reducing access to violent movies and video games.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Favor	42	46
Oppose	52	48
(Don't know/Refuse)	6	7
	n= 474	n=392

Allowing teachers and school officials to carry guns on school grounds.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Favor	45	49
Oppose	48	45
(Don't know/Refuse)	7	7
	n= 475	n=392

Demographics

Do you consider yourself to be of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes	3	2
No	97	97
(Don't know/Refuse)	1	*
	n= 476	n= 393

What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
African-American or Black	22	22
White or Caucasian	71	72
Native American	3	2
Asian	1	*
(Multiple or Other)	2	2
(Don't know/Refuse)	2	2
	n= 476	n= 393

What is the last year of schooling you have completed?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
(1-11 th grade)	5	3
(High school graduate)	15	14
(Some college)	30	29
(College graduate)	32	32
(Graduate school)	19	20
(Don't know/ Refused)	1	1
	n= 475	n= 392

Are you, or is any member of your household, a member of the armed forces or a veteran?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes	33	34
No	67	66
(Don't know/Refuse)	*	*
	n= 475	n= 392

Would you please stop me when I read the correct category for your total household income?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
25 thousand dollars or less	14	11
25 to 50 thousand dollars	22	21
50 to 75 thousand dollars	20	19
75 to 100 thousand dollars	12	14
100 to 150 thousand dollars	12	13
150 to 250 thousand dollars	5	5
More than 250 thousand dollars	3	3
(Don't know/Refuse)	12	13
	n= 475	n= 392

Do you have a gun in your home?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes	54	57
No	40	36
(Don't know)	6	6
	n= 474	n= 392

How often do you attend worship services? Would you say never, a few times a year, a few times a month, almost every week, every week, or more than once a week.

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Never	18	17
A few times a year	23	22
A few times a month	15	15
Almost every week	11	11
Every week	20	22
More than once a week	12	12
(Don't know/Refuse)	1	1
	n= 475	n= 392

Would you describe yourself as a "born again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Yes	49	49
No	47	47
(Don't know)	3	4
	n= 475	n= 392

In politics today, do you generally consider yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or what?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Democrat	31	32
Republican	35	36
(Independent/unaffiliated)	25	26
(Other)	2	2
(Don't know/Refuse)	6	5
	n= 475	n= 392

Thinking about politics today, do you generally consider yourself to be very conservative, somewhat conservative, moderate, somewhat liberal, or very liberal?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Very conservative	15	17
Somewhat conservative	28	29
Moderate	31	32
Somewhat liberal	13	12
Very liberal	6	5
(Other)	1	1
(Don't know/Refuse)	5	3
	n= 475	n= 392

Overall, how qualified do you feel to do the job of an elected official? Would you say: not at all qualified, somewhat qualified, qualified, or very qualified?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Not at all qualified	42	40
Somewhat qualified	27	26
Qualified	17	19
Very qualified	12	12
(Don't know)	2	2
	n= 472	n= 389

Which one of the following statements comes closest to your opinion about men and women as political leaders?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Men generally make better political leaders than women	9	10
Women generally make better political leaders than men	4	4
In general, women and men make equally good political leaders	84	83
(Don't know)	3	3
	n= 472	n= 389

How would you best describe your current relationship status?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Single	31	27
Engaged	6	5
Living with significant other	5	6
Married	49	54
Widowed	6	7
(Don't know/Refuse)	2	1
	n=472	n=389

Gender

	All Adults	Registered Voters
Male	49	50
Female	51	50
	n= 476	n= 393

Age (Calculated using birth year)

In what year were you born?

	All Adults	Registered Voters
18 - 24	13	8
25 - 34	18	17
35 - 44	19	19
45 - 54	19	21
55 - 64	15	17
65 and older	16	18
	n= 476	n= 393