

CIVITAS INSTITUTE DECISION MAKER POLL

January 2009 Statewide Poll January 29, 2009

1. Do you feel things in North Carolina are generally headed in the right direction or have gotten off on the wrong track?

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Right Direction | 49% |
| Wrong Track | 38% |
| Not sure | 13% |

2. What is the biggest issue or problem facing North Carolina today?

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| None | >1% |
| Economy | 24% |
| Unemployment | 38% |
| High Taxes | 6% |
| Illegal Immigration | 3% |
| Education Issues | 6% |
| Health Care | 2% |
| Government Corruption | 2% |
| Budget/spending | 3% |
| Roads/Highways | 2% |
| Gas Tax | >1% |
| Crime | 1% |
| Environmental Issues | >1% |
| Lack of Leadership | 1% |
| Other | 5% |
| Not Sure | 6% |
| Refused | >1% |

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as President?

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Strongly Approve | 33% |
| Somewhat Approve | 27% |
| Somewhat Disapprove | 3% |
| Strongly Disapprove | 3% |
| Not Sure | 34% |
| Refused | >1% |

4. What issue or problem should be President Obama's highest priority?

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| The Economy | 55% |
| Health Care | 3% |
| Unemployment | 15% |
| End the War | 8% |
| National Security | 3% |
| Illegal Immigration | 1% |
| Senior Citizen Issues | 1% |
| Homeland Security | 1% |
| War on Terrorism | 1% |
| Education Issues | >1% |
| Take Care of All Citizens | 2% |
| Foreign Policy | >1% |
| Budget/spending | 1% |
| Government Corruption | >1% |
| Taxes | >1% |
| Other | 4% |
| Not Sure | 5% |

5. On which of the following issues do you think President Obama will be most successful during his first term in office:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Improve Econ/Create Jobs | 45% |
| Ending War in Iraq | 20% |
| Stopping Terrorism | 3% |
| Lower Health Care Costs | 5% |
| Illegal Immigration | 2% |
| Lower the Crime Rate | 1% |
| Lower Taxes/Spending | 7% |
| Improve Public Education | 5% |
| Not Sure | 12% |

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Beverly Perdue is doing as Governor?

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Strongly Approve | 15% |
| Somewhat Approve | 32% |
| Somewhat Disapprove | 3% |
| Strongly Disapprove | 5% |
| Not Sure | 45% |
| Refused | >1% |

7. What issue or problem should be Governor Perdue's Highest Priority?

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| The Economy | 30% |
| Unemployment | 29% |
| Education Issues | 9% |
| Illegal Immigration | 1% |
| High Taxes | 4% |
| Health Care | 3% |
| Budget/Spending | 4% |
| Rebuild Roads/Highways | 2% |
| Crime/Drugs | 1% |
| Transportation Issues | >1% |
| Gas Tax | 1% |
| Government Corruption | >1% |
| Other | 5% |
| Not Sure | 11% |

8. On which of the following issues do you think Governor Perdue will be most successful during her first term in office:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Improve Econ/Create Jobs | 27% |
| Lower Health Care Costs | 5% |
| Illegal Immigration | 3% |
| Lower the Crime Rate | 3% |
| Lower Taxes/Spending | 6% |
| Improve Public Education | 19% |
| Stop Government Corruption | 5% |
| Improve Roads/Highways | 10% |
| Not Sure | 23% |
| Refused | >1% |

9. Opinion of Richard Burr

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Very Favorable | 14% |
| Somewhat Favorable | 23% |
| Somewhat Unfavorable | 7% |
| Very Unfavorable | 3% |
| No Opinion | 30% |
| Not Aware | 24% |

10. Opinion of Roy Cooper

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Very Favorable | 14% |
| Somewhat Favorable | 18% |
| Somewhat Unfavorable | 1% |
| Very Unfavorable | 1% |
| No Opinion | 21% |
| Not Aware | 44% |

11. Opinion of Heath Shuler

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Very Favorable | 6% |
| Somewhat Favorable | 11% |
| Somewhat Unfavorable | 1% |
| Very Unfavorable | 1% |
| No Opinion | 20% |
| Not Aware | 61% |

12. For each of the following, please tell me which party in North Carolina, Democrat or Republican, will do a better job on each issue in the upcoming session of the General Assembly: Holding taxes down?

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Democrat | 45% |
| Republican | 34% |
| Both Equally | 5% |
| Neither | 9% |
| Not Sure | 8% |

13. Making health care more affordable?

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Democrat | 65% |
| Republican | 18% |
| Both Equally | 5% |
| Neither | 7% |
| Not Sure | 5% |
| Refused | >1% |

14. Improving public education?

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Democrat | 58% |
| Republican | 23% |
| Both Equally | 11% |
| Neither | 4% |
| Not Sure | 5% |

15. Creating jobs and growing the economy?

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Democrat | 58% |
| Republican | 21% |
| Both Equally | 9% |
| Neither | 5% |
| Not Sure | 7% |

16. Bringing change to North Carolina Government?

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Democrat | 56% |
| Republican | 18% |
| Both Equally | 10% |
| Neither | 7% |
| Not Sure | 10% |
| Refused | >1% |

17. Improving roads and highways?

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Democrat | 51% |
| Republican | 21% |
| Both Equally | 14% |
| Neither | 5% |
| Not Sure | 10% |

18. State government faces a \$2 billion budget shortfall. In order to balance the budget, should the General Assembly raise taxes or cut existing programs?

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Raise Taxes | 16% |
| Cut Existing Programs | 68% |
| Not Sure | 15% |
| Refused | >1% |

19. Currently in order to form a labor union, workers hold a federally supervised secret ballot election to determine a majority of workers voted for unionization. Some in congress want to replace secret ballot elections with a system where workers would publicly sign a card stating they want unionization. Which system do you think is best?

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Private ballot | 54% |
| Public card signature | 32% |
| Not sure | 14% |
| Refused | >1% |

20. Would you be more or less likely to re-elect a United States Senator who supports eliminating secret ballot elections for union workers?

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| More | 21% |
| Less | 44% |
| No Difference | 24% |
| Not Sure | 11% |
| Refused | >1% |

21. The plan that funds the health insurance for state employees is underfunded by approximately \$300 million. Do you think the shortage of funds should be made up by raising the premiums on state employees or by using taxpayer dollars to fill the gap?

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| State Employees Pay | 50% |
| Taxpayers Pay | 27% |
| Not Sure | 23% |
| Refused | >1% |

22. Governor Perdue has proposed to fund gubernatorial campaigns by raising private money for a foundation that will fund campaigns if the candidates agree to restrictions on free speech. A board appointed by the Governor would decide if a candidate violated these speech restrictions. Do you support or oppose this proposal?

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Support | 27% |
| Oppose | 53% |
| Not sure | 21% |
| Refused | >1% |

23. In order to fund transportation projects in North Carolina, a legislative commission has recommended changing the current system to a plan that would charge all drivers based on the number of miles they drive in North Carolina each year. Would you view such a system favorably or unfavorably?

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Favorably | 21% |
| Unfavorably | 70% |
| Not Sure | 9% |
| Refused | >1% |

24. Would you support or oppose legislation allowing a restaurant, bar or tavern owner to decide their own smoking policy as long as the policy was clearly posted at the entrance to their business?

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Support | 62% |
| Oppose | 34% |
| Not Sure | 3% |
| Refused | >1% |

25. Do you think it is a worthwhile investment to spend \$1 million in order to purchase the equipment needed to televise the North Carolina General Assembly sessions live to the public like CSPAN?

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Yes | 22% |
| No | 71% |
| Not Sure | 7% |
| Refused | >1% |

26. Age Group

| | |
|----------|-----|
| 18-25 | 5% |
| 26-40 | 19% |
| 41-55 | 34% |
| 56-65 | 20% |
| 66+ | 22% |
| Not Sure | 1% |
| Refused | >1% |

27. Political Philosophy

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Very Liberal | 7% |
| Somewhat Liberal | 14% |
| Somewhat Conservative | 24% |
| Very Conservative | 18% |
| Moderate | 35% |
| Not Sure | 2% |
| Refused | >1% |

28. In your current employment status, are you:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Self-Employed | 14% |
| Work for a Private Company | 32% |
| Work for Government | 11% |
| Spouse [Housewife] | 9% |
| Retired | 29% |
| Unemployed | 5% |
| Refused | >1% |

29. National Heritage

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Caucasian | 75% |
| African-American | 21% |
| Hispanic | >1% |
| Native American | 1% |
| Asian | >1% |
| Other | 1% |
| Refused | >1% |

30. Affiliation

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Democrat | 48% |
| Republican | 33% |
| Unaffiliated | 19% |

31. Gender

| | |
|--------|-----|
| Male | 46% |
| Female | 54% |

32. Geographic Area

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Charlotte | 21% |
| Western | 12% |
| Piedmont Triad | 17% |
| Triangle | 22% |
| Northeast | 15% |
| Southeast | 13% |