

**April 19, 2011** 

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## **QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312**

## NC generic leg. ballot tied, voters against GOP budget cuts

**Raleigh, N.C.** – With proposed state budgets emerging, the public has turned against Republicans and a little toward Governor Bev Perdue and the Democrats since PPP last polled North Carolina a month ago.

In March, GOP legislators were viewed considerably more favorably than their Democratic counterparts, 38% favorable and 39% unfavorable, versus 34-46. Now those fortunes have flipped. 43% view both parties' lawmakers negatively, but while only 34% view the Republicans positively, 40% do the Democrats.

If legislative elections were held today, voters statewide would split 45-45 between the two parties. Last month, 45% were behind the GOP, but only 41% backed the Democratic candidate in their district. The largest movement has come with independents, from 33-25 in the GOP's favor to only 42-38. As they flipped control of both houses of the G.A. last November for the first time in over 100 years, Republican legislative candidates won the statewide vote by double digits, including by about 20 with independents.

The reason for the GOP's decline? It could likely be their suggested cuts to education. 64% oppose an 8.8% cut to public schools, 58% are against a 10% cut to the community college system, and 44% balk at a 15.5% slash of the state's support for the flagship 16-campus UNC system.

Voters across the partisan spectrum think these potential cuts are a bad idea. 56-75% of Democrats and 42-68% of independents oppose all three cuts, and 42% or 47% pluralities of Republicans oppose the cuts to public schools and community colleges. Only for the UNC system does the GOP turn slightly in favor of the cuts, 39-31.

"The more North Carolinians see of the new Republican legislative majority the less they like it," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Their proposed cuts to education from early childhood all the way through college are proving to be very unpopular with the public."

PPP surveyed 507 North Carolina voters from April 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.4%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

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# **North Carolina Survey Results**

Q1	If there was an election for the state legislated today, would you vote Democratic or	ature	Q7	Do you support or oppose a 10% cur for community colleges?	t in funding
	Republican?			Support	29%
	Democratic			Oppose	
	Republican	45%		Not sure	
	Undecided	10%	Q8	Who did you vote for President in 20	
Q2	Do you have a favorable or unfavorable op of the Democrats in the North Carolina	oinion		John McCain	
	Legislature?			Barack Obama	
	Favorable	40%		Someone else/Don't remember	
	Unfavorable		Q9	What best describes when you started North Carolina?	ed living in
	Not sure			Sometime between 2000 and now	19%
Q3	Do you have a favorable or unfavorable op of the Republicans in the North Carolina Legislature?	oinion		1990s	15%
	· ·	3/10/		1980s	11%
	Favorable			1970s	12%
	Unfavorable			1960s	12%
	Not sure			1950s	13%
Q4	Do you have more faith in Governor Perdu Legislative Republicans to lead the state?	e or		1940s	10%
	Governor Perdue	42%		1930s	5%
	Legislative Republicans	43%		Before 1930	3%
	Not sure		Q10	Would you describe yourself as very	
Q5	Do you support or oppose an 8.8% cut in funding for the public schools?			somewhat liberal, moderate, somew conservative, or very conservative?	
	Support	22%		Very liberal	9%
	Oppose			Somewhat liberal	14%
				Moderate	32%
06	Not sure  Do you support or oppose a 15.5% cut in	14 /0		Somewhat conservative	
Q6	funding for the UNC system?			Very conservative	
	Support	29%	Q11	If you are a woman, press 1. If a ma	an, press 2.
	Oppose			Woman	53%
	Not sure	27%		Man	47%





Q12	If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republic press 2. If you are an independent or identified with another party, press 3.	
	Democrat	46%
	Republican	36%
	Independent/Other	18%
Q13	If you are white, press 1. If African-America press 2. If other, press 3.	n,
	White	74%
	African-American	22%
	Other	4%
Q14	If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.	
	18 to 29	10%
	30 to 45	25%
	46 to 65	
	Older than 65	

252	8%
336	26%
704	20%
828	13%
910	

Q15



		2008 Vote								
	Base	John McCain	Someone else/Don't remember							
Generic Leg. Ballot										
Democratic	45%	9%	82%	51%						
Republican	45%	83%	7%	37%						
Undecided	10%	8%	11%	11%						

		2008 Vote							
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember					
Leg. Dem Favorability									
Favorable	40%	11%	72%	33%					
Unfavorable	43%	71%	12%	50%					
Not sure	17%	18%	16%	17%					

		2008 Vo	2008 Vote								
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember							
Leg. GOP Favorability											
Favorable	34%	59%	9%	26%							
Unfavorable	43%	17%	72%	30%							
Not sure	23%	24%	19%	45%							





		2008 Vote						
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember				
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?								
Governor Perdue	42%	14%	74%	14%				
Legislative Republicans	43%	73%	12%	41%				
Not sure	15%	13%	14%	45%				

		2008 Vote						
	Base		Barack Someone else/E Obama remen					
Support/Oppose 8.8% Cut to Schools								
Support	22%	36%	9%	17%				
Oppose	64%	48%	80%	62%				
Not sure	14%	16%	11%	21%				

		2008 Vo	2008 Vote								
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember							
Support/Oppose 15.5% Cut to UNC		-	-								
Support	29%	42%	16%	21%							
Oppose	44%	27%	63%	44%							
Not sure	27%	31%	21%	35%							





		2008 Vote						
	Base	John McCain		Someone else/Don't remember				
Support/Oppose 10% Cut to Community Colleges								
Support	29%	40%	17%	32%				
Oppose	58%	44%	75%	44%				
Not sure	13%	16%	8%	24%				

		When Did You Start Living in NC?									
	Base	Sometime between 2000 and now	1990s	1980s	1970s	1960s	1950s	1940s	1930s	Before 1930	
Generic Leg. Ballot											
Democratic	45%	48%	37%	49%	45%	46%	54%	34%	43%	49%	
Republican	45%	41%	53%	40%	40%	52%	45%	44%	43%	45%	
Undecided	10%	10%	10%	11%	14%	1%	1%	22%	14%	6%	

		When Did You Start Living in NC?										
	Base	Sometime between 2000 and now	1990s	1980s	1970s	1960s	1950s	1940s	1930s	Before 1930		
Leg. Dem Favorability												
Favorable	40%	45%	31%	51%	42%	38%	44%	36%	31%	36%		
Unfavorable	43%	36%	44%	35%	40%	56%	43%	48%	36%	51%		
Not sure	17%	20%	24%	15%	18%	6%	13%	16%	33%	13%		





		When Did You Start L	iving i	n NC?						
	Base	Sometime between 2000 and now	1990s	1980s	1970s	1960s	1950s	1940s	1930s	Before 1930
Leg. GOP Favorability										
Favorable	34%	27%	31%	35%	35%	42%	35%	29%	48%	38%
Unfavorable	43%	47%	40%	50%	39%	47%	43%	38%	38%	28%
Not sure	23%	26%	30%	15%	26%	11%	22%	33%	14%	34%

		When Did You Start L	When Did You Start Living in NC?											
	Base	Sometime between 2000 and now	1990s	1980s	1970s	1960s	1950s	1940s	1930s	Before 1930				
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?														
Governor Perdue	42%	43%	30%	51%	47%	43%	42%	38%	46%	28%				
Legislative Republicans	43%	38%	43%	40%	42%	52%	48%	43%	39%	38%				
Not sure	15%	18%	27%	9%	10%	4%	10%	19%	14%	34%				

		When Did You Start Living in NC?											
	Base	Sometime between 2000 and now	1990s	1980s	1970s	1960s	1950s	1940s	1930s	Before 1930			
Support/Oppose 8.8% Cut to Schools													
Support	22%	31%	24%	14%	21%	22%	21%	22%	11%	28%			
Oppose	64%	61%	66%	76%	70%	55%	66%	59%	74%	13%			
Not sure	14%	7%	10%	10%	9%	23%	13%	19%	15%	60%			





		When Did You Start Living in NC?											
	Base	Sometime between 2000 and now	1990s	1980s	1970s	1960s	1950s	1940s	1930s	Before 1930			
Support/Oppose 15.5% Cut to UNC													
Support	29%	38%	26%	27%	20%	30%	34%	24%	30%	13%			
Oppose	44%	40%	44%	59%	57%	48%	39%	43%	30%	6%			
Not sure	27%	22%	30%	14%	23%	22%	27%	34%	40%	81%			

		When Did You Start L	iving i	n NC?						
	Base	Sometime between 2000 and now		1980s	1970s	1960s	1950s	1940s	1930s	Before 1930
Support/Oppose 10% Cut to Community Colleges										
Support	29%	34%	24%	25%	15%	31%	33%	28%	50%	40%
Oppose	58%	57%	61%	70%	72%	55%	53%	62%	32%	13%
Not sure	13%	9%	15%	5%	13%	14%	15%	10%	18%	47%

		Ideology							
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal		Somewhat conservative	Very conservative			
Generic Leg. Ballot									
Dem ocratic	45%	79%	91%	58%	18%	9%			
Republican	45%	4%	8%	24%	73%	89%			
Undecided	10%	17%	1%	18%	9%	2%			





		Ideology								
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal		Somewhat conservative	Very conservative				
Leg. Dem Favorability										
Favorable	40%	66%	72%	53%	19%	12%				
Unfavorable	43%	21%	13%	26%	61%	76%				
Not sure	17%	13%	16%	21%	20%	11%				

		Ideolog	ЭУ			
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal		Somew hat conservative	Very conservative
Leg. GOP Favorability						
Favorable	34%	8%	7%	22%	45%	67%
Unfavorable	43%	75%	77%	54%	20%	14%
Not sure	23%	17%	16%	23%	34%	20%

		Ideolog	ду			
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal		Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?						
Governor Perdue	42%	76%	77%	53%	24%	6%
Legis lative Republicans	43%	14%	10%	28%	59%	83%
Not sure	15%	10%	13%	19%	17%	11%





		Ideology								
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal		Somewhat conservative	Very conservative				
Support/Oppose 8.8% Cut to Schools										
Support	22%	20%	10%	13%	26%	42%				
Oppose	64%	65%	86%	75%	53%	43%				
Not sure	14%	15%	4%	12%	21%	15%				

		Ideolog	<b>а</b> у			
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal		Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose 15.5% Cut to UNC			•			
Support	29%	14%	13%	23%	35%	47%
Oppose	44%	62%	62%	53%	32%	26%
Not sure	27%	25%	25%	24%	33%	27%

		Ideolog	ЭУ			
	Base	Very liberal	Somewhat liberal		Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose 10% Cut to Community Colleges						
Support	29%	24%	15%	24%	33%	43%
Oppose	58%	70%	80%	65%	46%	42%
Not sure	13%	6%	5%	11%	21%	15%





		Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man	
Generic Leg. Ballot		-		
Democratic	45%	44%	46%	
Republican	45%	46%	44%	
Undecided	10%	9%	10%	

		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
Leg. Dem Favorability			
Favorable	40%	41%	39%
Unfavorable	43%	41%	44%
Not sure	17%	18%	16%

		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
Leg. GOP Favorability		-	
Favorable	34%	32%	36%
Unfavorable	43%	39%	47%
Notsure	23%	28%	17%





		Gender		
	Base	Woman	Man	
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?				
Governor Perdue	42%	41%	42%	
Legislative Republicans	43%	41%	45%	
Notsure	15%	17%	13%	

		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
Support/Oppose 8.8% Cut to Schools			
Support	22%	18%	28%
Oppose	64%	65%	62%
Not sure	14%	17%	10%

		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
Support/Oppose 15.5% Cut to UNC			
Support	29%	22%	36%
Oppose	44%	46%	43%
Not sure	27%	32%	21%





		Gender	
	Base	Woman	Man
Support/Oppose 10% Cut to Community Colleges			
Support	29%	29%	29%
Oppose	58%	58%	59%
Not sure	13%	14%	12%

		Party				
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other		
Generic Leg. Ballot		-	-			
Dem ocratic	45%	80%	5%	38%		
Republican	45%	11%	90%	42%		
Undecided	10%	9%	5%	21%		

		Party				
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other		
Leg. Dem Favorability						
Favorable	40%	69%	8%	33%		
Unfavorable	43%	16%	76%	43%		
Not sure	17%	16%	15%	23%		





		Party			
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other	
Leg. GOP Favorability		-			
Favorable	34%	12%	66%	26%	
Unfavorable	43%	66%	12%	47%	
Not sure	23%	22%	23%	27%	

		Party				
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other		
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?						
Governor Perdue	42%	70%	8%	38%		
Legislative Republicans	43%	16%	81%	38%		
Not sure	15%	14%	11%	25%		

		Party			
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other	
Support/Oppose 8.8% Cut to Schools					
Support	22%	13%	37%	18%	
Oppose	64%	75%	47%	68%	
Not sure	14%	12%	16%	14%	





		Party					
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other			
Support/Oppose 15.5% Cut to UNC							
Support	29%	18%	39%	35%			
Oppose	44%	56%	31%	42%			
Not sure	27%	27%	30%	22%			

		Party						
	Base	Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other				
Support/Oppose 10% Cut to Community Colleges								
Support	29%	21%	40%	28%				
Oppose Not sure	58%	68%	42%	65%				
Not sure	13%	11%	18%	8%				

		Race		
	Base	White	African- American	Other
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	45%	35%	81%	35%
Republican	45%	55%	9%	52%
Undecided	10%	10%	9%	13%





		Race		
	Base	White	African- American	Other
Leg. Dem Favorability				
Favorable	40%	32%	72%	30%
Unfavorable	43%	51%	13%	43%
Not sure	17%	17%	15%	26%

		Race		
	Base	White	African- American	Other
Leg. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	34%	43%	6%	17%
Unfavorable	43%	35%	70%	43%
Not sure	23%	22%	25%	39%

		Race			
	Base	White	African- American	Other	
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?					
Governor Perdue	42%	35%	65%	39%	
Legislative Republicans	43%	52%	15%	39%	
Not sure	15%	13%	20%	22%	





		Race			
	Base	White	African- American	Other	
Support/Oppose 8.8% Cut to Schools		•			
Support	22%	26%	9%	26%	
Oppose	64%	61%	72%	61%	
Not sure	14%	13%	19%	13%	

		Race		
	Base	White	African- American	Other
Support/Oppose 15.5% Cut to UNC				
Support	29%	31%	18%	35%
Oppose	44%	44%	47%	43%
Not sure	27%	25%	35%	22%

		Race		
	Base	White	African- American	Other
Support/Oppose 10% Cut to Community Colleges				
Support	29%	30%	26%	22%
Oppose	58%	56%	65%	70%
Not sure	13%	14%	9%	9%





		Age				
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65	
Generic Leg. Ballot						
Democratic	45%	59%	45%	46%	38%	
Republican	45%	31%	42%	49%	48%	
Undecided	10%	11%	13%	5%	15%	

		Age				
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45		Older than 65	
Leg. Dem Favorability						
Favorable	40%	44%	42%	40%	38%	
Unfavorable	43%	29%	40%	47%	42%	
Not sure	17%	28%	18%	13%	20%	

		Age				
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65	
Leg. GOP Favorability						
Favorable	34%	27%	32%	33%	40%	
Unfavorable	43%	50%	47%	44%	33%	
Not sure	23%	23%	21%	23%	27%	





		Age						
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45		Older than 65			
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?								
Governor Perdue	42%	48%	41%	42%	41%			
Legislative Republicans	43%	36%	41%	45%	45%			
Not sure	15%	16%	18%	14%	14%			

		Age						
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65			
Support/Oppose 8.8% Cut to Schools								
Support	22%	20%	19%	25%	22%			
Oppose	64%	73%	70%	61%	57%			
Not sure	14%	7%	11%	13%	21%			

		Age						
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45		Older than 65			
Support/Oppose 15.5% Cut to UNC		•						
Support	29%	21%	26%	34%	24%			
Oppose	44%	40%	49%	44%	40%			
Not sure	27%	38%	25%	22%	35%			





		Age						
	Base	18 to 29	30 to 45		Older than 65			
Support/Oppose 10% Cut to Community Colleges								
Support	29%	28%	25%	31%	30%			
Oppose	58%	59%	61%	58%	53%			
Not sure	13%	12%	14%	11%	17%			

		Area Code						
	Base	252	336	704	828	910	919	
Generic Leg. Ballot								
Democratic	45%	56%	42%	40%	36%	49%	52%	
Republican	45%	31%	42%	54%	52%	43%	43%	
Undecided	10%	12%	16%	6%	12%	8%	5%	

		Area (	Code				
	Base	252	336	704	828	910	919
Leg. Dem Favorability							
Favorable	40%	47%	34%	38%	35%	46%	48%
Unfavorable	43%	29%	44%	53%	41%	40%	39%
Not sure	17%	24%	22%	9%	24%	14%	13%





		Area Code						
	Base	252	336	704	828	910	919	
Leg. GOP Favorability								
Favorable	34%	19%	35%	38%	35%	29%	36%	
Favorable Unfavorable	43%	54%	39%	43%	29%	42%	52%	
Not sure	23%	27%	26%	19%	36%	29%	12%	

		Area Code						
	Base	252	336	704	828	910	919	
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?								
Governor Perdue	42%	56%	37%	35%	32%	45%	52%	
Legislative Republicans	43%	29%	44%	53%	52%	37%	36%	
Not sure	15%	16%	18%	11%	16%	18%	13%	

		Area Code							
	Base	252	336	704	828	910	919		
Support/Oppose 8.8% Cut to Schools									
Support	22%	20%	18%	27%	11%	24%	30%		
Oppose	64%	68%	66%	59%	74%	55%	61%		
Not sure	14%	12%	15%	13%	16%	20%	9%		





		Area Code						
	Base	252	336	704	828	910	919	
Support/Oppose 15.5% Cut to UNC								
Support	29%	28%	24%	34%	23%	27%	34%	
Oppose	44%	44%	44%	41%	44%	45%	49%	
Not sure	27%	29%	32%	25%	33%	29%	18%	

		Area (	Code				
	Base	252	336	704	828	910	919
Support/Oppose 10% Cut to Community Colleges							
Support	29%	33%	24%	34%	20%	21%	38%
Oppose	58%	52%	60%	53%	65%	67%	54%
Not sure	13%	15%	15%	13%	15%	11%	8%

