

CIVITAS INSTITUTE DECISION/MAKER POLL

September 2008 Statewide Poll September 24, 2008

1. How likely are you to vote in the November election for president and other state offices:

Definitely voting	86%
Very likely	13%
Somewhat likely	1%

2. Will you cast your vote during early voting or on Election Day?

Election Day	61%
Early voting	30%
Not sure	9%

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

Right direction	35%
Wrong track	48%
Not sure	17%

4. What specific issue in North Carolina needs the most attention from state government?

Lower health care costs	17%
Improve public education	21%
Create jobs/improve econ	29%
Hold down taxes	15%
Improve roads/highways	4%
Illegal immigration	12%
Not sure	2%

5. And what issue needs the second most attention from state government:

Lower health care costs	18%
Improve public education	24%
Create jobs/improve econ	22%
Hold down taxes	12%
Improve roads/highways	8%
Illegal immigration	14%
Not sure	3%

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the job George W. Bush is doing as president?

Approve	34%
Disapprove	59%
Not sure	7%

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Mike Easley is doing as governor?

Approve	46%
Disapprove	34%
Not sure	20%

8. Do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by the state Legislature?

Approve	34%
Disapprove	38%
Not sure	28%

9. If the election for state Legislature were held today, would you be voting:

Democratic	42%
Republican	38%
Neither	5%
Not sure	14%

10. When you think about voting in this year's election, would you say you are more enthusiastic, less enthusiastic or have the same level of enthusiasm about voting as you have in the past?

More enthusiastic	51%
Less enthusiastic	16%
Same enthusiasm as past	31%
Not sure	2%

11. Do you think the media is being too hard, not hard enough or just right on Sarah Palin?

Too hard	44%
Not hard enough	24%
Just right	21%
Not sure	11%

12. Regardless of which candidate you intend to vote for, does the selection of Sarah Palin make you more or less committed to your choice for president?

More	56%
Less	8%
No difference	32%
Not sure	3%

13. If the election for president were held today, would you be voting for: Democrat Barack Obama, Republican John McCain or Libertarian Bob Barr? If not sure/refused, are you leaning toward: Democrat Barack Obama, Republican John McCain or Libertarian Bob Barr?

McCain	44%
Lean McCain	2%
Obama	44%
Lean Obama	1%
Barr	1%
Lean Barr	1%
Not sure	7%

14. If the election for U.S. Senate were held today, would you be voting for: Democrat Kay Hagan, Republican Elizabeth Dole or Libertarian Chris Cole? If not sure/refused, are you leaning toward: Democrat Kay Hagan, Republican Elizabeth Dole or Libertarian Chris Cole?

Dole	40%
Lean Dole	3%
Hagan	41%
Lean Hagan	1%
Cole	5%
Lean Cole	1%
Not sure	10%

15. If the election for governor were held today, would you be voting for: Democrat Bev Perdue, Republican Pat McCrory or Libertarian Michael Munger? If not sure/refused, are you leaning toward: Democrat Bev Perdue, Republican Pat McCrory or Michael Munger?

McCrory	38%
Lean McCrory	5%
Perdue	39%
Lean Perdue	2%
Munger	3%
Lean Munger	0%
Not sure	13%

16. If the election for lieutenant governor were held today, would you be voting for:

Republican Robert Pittenger	30%
Democrat Walter Dalton	36%
Libertarian Phillip Rhodes	4%
Not sure	30%

17. If the election for state insurance commissioner were held today, would you be voting for:

Republican John Odom	27%
Democrat Wayne Goodwin	37%
Libertarian Mark McMains	3%
Not sure	33%

18. If the election for state treasurer were held today, would you be voting for:

Republican Bill Daughtridge	31%
Democrat Janet Cowell	39%
Not sure	30%

19. If Governor Mike Easley were eligible to run for a third term, would you vote to re-elect him?

Yes	34%
No	52%
Not sure	14%

20. On fiscal issues, do you think of yourself as liberal or conservative?

Strongly conservative	31%
Somewhat conservative	31%
Somewhat liberal	16%
Strongly liberal	7%
Moderate	9%
Not sure	6%

21. On social issues, do you think of yourself as liberal or conservative?

Strongly conservative	27%
Somewhat conservative	24%
Somewhat liberal	21%
Strongly liberal	15%
Moderate	8%
Not sure	5%

22. Do you think the average elected official in North Carolina is honest and ethical or tends to be unethical and dishonest?

Ethical	48%
Unethical	35%
Not sure	18%

23. Do you think illegal immigrants are a benefit or burden to North Carolina?

Benefit	19%
Burden	62%
Not sure	19%

24. Do you think local governments are doing enough to combat illegal immigration?

Yes	15%
No	73%
Not sure	12%

25. Do you support a constitutional amendment defining marriage as between one man and one woman?

Yes	66%
No	30%
Not sure	4%

26. Do you support lowering the drinking age to 18 years old?

Yes	16%
No	79%
Not sure	5%

27. Do you agree with the statement, "to change state government, you need to change your state legislator"?

Yes	65%
No	19%
Not sure	16%

28. Using a scale of 1 to 10 to rate public education, with a 10 meaning it is completely on the right track and a 1 means it is seriously off on the wrong track, how would you rate public education in North Carolina?

1 wrong track	8%
2	6%
3	9%
4	12%
5	21%
6	13%
7	14%
8	9%
9	2%
10 right track	3%
Not sure	3%

29. Given our current economic conditions, do you feel government is making the same financial sacrifices as your family is making?

Yes	5%
No	90%
Not sure	5%

30. How likely do you think it is that America will again be attacked by Islamic terrorists:

Very	40%
Somewhat	41%
Not very likely	15%
Not sure	5%

31. Age group

18-25	5%
26-40	23%
41-55	32%
56-65	18%
66+	22%

32. Political philosophy

Very liberal	7%
Somewhat liberal	13%
Somewhat conservative	18%
Very conservative	23%
Moderate	35%
Not sure	3%

33. Regardless of your party registration, do you:

Always vote Democrat	18%
Vote Dem. more than Republican	19%
Vote Rep. more than Democrat	24%
Always vote Republican	9%
Both equally/split ticket	28%
Not sure	2%

34. Education

Less than high school graduate	5%
High school graduate	23%
2-yr. College/technical	23%
4-yr. College graduate	33%
Post graduate	16%

35. In your current employment status, are you:

Self-employed	13%
Working for a private co.	31%
Work for government	11%
Spouse (housewife)	12%
Retired	26%
Unemployed	6%
Not sure	1%

36. National heritage

Caucasian	70%
African-American	22%
Hispanic	1%
Native American	2%
Asian	0%
Other	4%
Not sure	1%

37. Affiliation

Democrat	46%
Republican	35%
Unaffiliated	19%

38. Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

39. Geographic area

Charlotte	21%
Western	13%
Piedmont triad	19%
Triangle	20%
Northeast	13%
Southeast	14%

40. Voting history

New voter	14%
One of three elections	20%
Two of three elections	21%
Three of three elections	45%

METHODOLOGY: The study of 600 registered voters was conducted September 17-20 by Tel Opinion Research of Alexandria, Virginia. All respondents were part of a fully representative sample of registered voters in North Carolina. For purposes of this study, voters we interviewed had to have voted in either the 2002, 2004 or 2006 general election or were newly registered voters since 2006. The voters were interviewed using live callers.

The confidence interval associated with a sample of this size is such that: 95% of the time, results from 600 interviews (registered voters) will be within $\pm 4.2\%$ of the "True Values." "True Values" refer to the results obtained if were possible to interview every person in North Carolina who had voted in either the 2002, 2004 or 2006 general elections or were newly registered voters since 2006.