

CIVITAS INSTITUTE DECISION/MAKER POLL

July 2008 Statewide Poll

July 23, 2008

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

Definitely voting	82%
Very likely	15%
Somewhat likely	3%

Retirement	1%
Outsourcing	1%
Recession	1%
Uncertainty	2%
Other	12%
Not sure	5%

2. 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	49%
Not sure	16%

6. If the election for state legislature were held today, would you be voting:

Democratic	43%
Republican	40%
Neither	4%
Not sure	13%

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

Lower healthcare costs	17%
Improve public education	17%
Create jobs/improve econ.	32%
Hold down taxes	11%
Improve roads/highways	6%
Illegal immigration	13%
Not sure	4%

7. If the election for president were held today, would you be voting for:

Democrat Barack Obama	40%
Republican John McCain	43%
Libertarian Bob Barr	2%
Not sure	15%

4. If you could improve one thing about education in North Carolina, what would it be?

Better trained teachers	10%
Increase teacher salaries	28%
Get back to basics	7%
Classroom discipline	6%
Parental involvement	2%
Hire more teachers	6%
Reduce class size	11%
Increase funding	7%
Lower dropout rate	4%
Other	14%
Not sure	5%

8. What issue is most important to you in deciding who to vote for president?

None	1%
Create jobs/improve econ.	26%
Taxes/spending	4%
Succeed in Iraq	5%
Affordable healthcare	6%
Moral/family values	9%
Global war on terror	5%
Illegal immigration	2%
Corruption/Washington	2%
Environ./global warming	1%
High gas prices	5%
Abortion issue	1%
Honesty/integrity	3%
Experience	5%
National security	1%
Get out of the war	2%
Turn the country around	2%
Leadership	1%
Other	10%
Not sure	10%

5. What bothers you or scares you the most about the economy?

Food prices	3%
High fuel costs	21%
Housing crisis/mortgages	7%
Lack of jobs	37%
High taxes	5%
Govt. wasteful spending	2%
Inflation	3%

9. If the election for U.S. Senate were held today, would you be voting for:

Democrat Kay Hagan	38%
Republican Elizabeth Dole	47%
Libertarian Chris Cole	2%
Not sure	14%

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

Democrat Bev Perdue	43%
Republican Pat McCrory	40%
Libertarian Michael Munger	2%
Not sure	14%

11. On the issue of crime and punishment for crimes, do you generally think we need longer prison sentences or more intervention and rehabilitation for criminals?

Longer prison sentences	37%
More intervention/rehab.	48%
Not sure	15%

12. Do you support or oppose the death penalty for raping a child?

Support	65%
Oppose	24%
Not sure	11%

13. Do you think abortion should be legal always, never or only in cases of rape, incest and to preserve the life of the mother?

Always	30%
Never	16%
Rape/incest/life of mother	47%
Not sure	7%

14. Which do you believe is the best role for government as it relates to the economy:

Spend money/create jobs	39%
Limited role/markets/jobs	48%
Not sure	12%

15. Do you believe taxes in North Carolina are too high, too low or just about right for the services you receive?

Too high	59%
Too low	2%
Just about right	36%
Not sure	4%

16. Which party, the Republican or Democratic, controls the North Carolina House?

Democratic	49%
Republican	17%
Not sure	35%

17. The North Carolina Senate?

Democratic	40%
Republican	15%
Not sure	44%

18. The Governor's office?

Democratic	61%
Republican	14%
Not sure	25%

19. Congress?

Democratic	51%
Republican	19%
Not sure	30%

20. Do you agree or disagree with the Supreme Court's decision to affirm a person's right to own a gun?

Agree	76%
Disagree	18%
Not sure	6%

21. Would you be more or less likely to support a candidate who: is endorsed by unions?

More	19%
Less	37%
No difference	35%
Not sure	9%

22. Supports oil drilling off the coast of North Carolina?

More	60%
Less	21%
No difference	12%
Not sure	7%

23. Supports school vouchers?

More	51%
Less	23%
No difference	13%
Not sure	12%

24. Is it better for the state to have lower tax rates for all businesses, new and existing, or to give targeted tax and cash incentives to a few new or relocating businesses?

Lower tax rates/all bus.	51%
Targeted tax/cash few bus.	30%
Not sure	19%

25. In the next one to two years, the state of North Carolina will likely consider legislation to address what many perceive as the problem of global warming. Would you favor such legislation if it resulted in the following: higher gasoline prices?

Yes	28%
No	64%
Not sure	8%

26. How much more would you be willing to pay?

5% or less	41%
5-10%	25%
11-20%	7%
21-30%	4%
Over 30%	5%
Not sure	17%

27. Higher electricity rates?	
Yes	26%
No	64%
Not sure	10%
28. How much more would you be willing to pay?	
5% or less	48%
5-10%	26%
11-20%	11%
21-30%	1%
Over 30%	6%
Not sure	9%
29. Local community colleges in North Carolina are permitting the Mexican Consulate to use college facilities to issue foreign ID cards (Matricula Consulars) to foreign nationals. Do you think the Mexican government should be allowed to use government property to give ID cards to illegal aliens?	
Yes	20%
No	72%
Not sure	8%
30. Age group	
18-25	6%
26-40	16%
41-55	32%
56-65	20%
66+	26%
Not sure	0%
31. Political philosophy	
Very liberal	7%
Somewhat liberal	10%
Somewhat conservative	24%
Very conservative	19%
Moderate	37%
Not sure	3%
32. On social issues do you generally consider yourself conservative or liberal?	
Very liberal	10%
Somewhat liberal	21%
Somewhat conservative	33%
Very conservative	23%
Moderate	9%
Not sure	4%
33. Regardless of your party registration, do you:	
Always vote Democrat	16%
Vote Dem. more than Rep.	27%
Vote Rep. more than Dem.	29%
Always vote Republican	8%
Both equally/split ticket	18%
Not sure	2%

34. Education	
Less than HS graduate	5%
High school graduate	25%
2-yr college/technical	24%
4-yr college graduate	30%
Post graduate	15%
Not sure	0%
35. In your current employment status, are you:	
Self-employed	9%
Working for a private co.	35%
Work for government	12%
Spouse (housewife)	8%
Retired	32%
Unemployed	3%
Not sure	0%
36. National heritage	
Caucasian	76%
African-American	19%
Hispanic	1%
Native American	1%
Asian	1%
Other	2%
Not sure	1%
37. Affiliation	
Democrat	47%
Republican	36%
Unaffiliated	17%
38. Gender	
Male	47%
Female	53%
39. Geographic area	
Charlotte	21%
Western	14%
Piedmont Triad	19%
Triangle	19%
Northeast	13%
Southeast	14%
40. Voting history	
New	4%
One of three elections	22%
Two of three elections	25%
Three of three election	48%

METHODOLOGY: The study of 600 registered voters was conducted July 14-17 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, respondents interviewed voted in either the 2002, 2004 or 2006 general elections or were newly registered voters since 2006. Voters were screened for being likely to vote in November. The interviews were conducted using live callers.