

# CIVITAS INSTITUTE DECISION MAKER POLL

## May 2008 Statewide Poll

May 28, 2008

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	39%
Wrong track	45%
Not sure	15%

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

Improve public education	21%
Improve the economy	11%
Create and save jobs	10%
Cut taxes in general	9%
Lower healthcare costs	8%
Improve roads/highways	7%
Illegal immigration	5%
Gas prices	5%
Reduce spending	3%
Cut property taxes	2%
Stop crime/gangs	2%
Slow down growth/develop	2%
Stop state govt. corruption	2%
State employee pay	1%
Protect environment	0%
Senior citizen issues	0%
Budget/spending	0%
Water issue	0%
Other	5%
Not sure	7%

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

Democrat	47%
Republican	33%
Neither	3%
Not sure	17%

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

Democrat Barack Obama	39%
Republican John McCain	44%
Not sure	18%

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

Democrat Kay Hagan	43%
Republican Elizabeth Dole	45%
Not sure	12%

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

Democrat Bev Perdue	43%
Republican Pat McCrory	42%
Not sure	15%

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

Democrat Walter Dalton	42%
Republican Robert Pittenger	30%
Not sure	29%

8. Should candidates for office be held responsible for the views of people they associate with?

Yes	45%
No	43%
Not sure	12%

9. Do you think Barack Obama shares some of the controversial views held by Reverend Wright?

Strongly yes	18%
Yes	20%
No	26%
Strongly no	18%
Not sure	17%

10. Have you seen or heard anything about a Republican-sponsored ad tying Reverend Wright and Barack Obama to the Democrat candidates for North Carolina governor?

Yes	25%
No	73%
Not sure	2%

11. Do you support a proposed gas tax holiday over the summer months or believe these funds should be kept for road construction and maintenance in North Carolina?

Gas holiday	28%
Kept for construction	60%
Not sure	12%

12. Do you support North Carolina sharing information with other states to help verify the identity of a person applying for a state driver's license or identification card?

Yes	88%
No	7%
Not sure	5%

13. Do you agree with the Supreme Court's decision to require voters to show a government issued ID before they can vote?

Yes	77%
No	17%
Not sure	6%

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

Ethical/honest	44%
Unethical/dishonest	40%
Not sure	17%

14. Should the North Carolina General Assembly be allowed to borrow money without voter approval?

Yes	14%
No	77%
Not sure	10%

22. If Governor Easley uses state aircraft instead of a car to travel to his homes on the coast, should he reimburse the taxpayers for the difference in the higher cost of using the aircraft?

Yes	82%
No	13%
Not sure	5%

15. Do you think public schools in North Carolina should implement an anti-bullying policy that requires students be taught that homosexuality, bisexuality, cross-dressing and other behaviors are normal and acceptable?

Yes	24%
No	66%
Not sure	10%

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

Yes	71%
No	26%
Not sure	3%

16. Do you think public schools in North Carolina should continue to teach students that they should wait until they are married to engage in sexual activities or should they begin instructing students in middle school on how to have safe sex?

Wait until married	47%
Safe sex	41%
Not sure	12%

24. Do you support or oppose oil and gas exploration off the coast of North Carolina?

Support	68%
Oppose	20%
Not sure	11%

17. Do you think illegal immigration is a burden or benefit to our state?

Benefit	11%
Burden	79%
Not sure	11%

25. Do you support or oppose allowing 500-foot tall wind turbines to be constructed along our coast and mountain ridges?

Support	63%
Oppose	18%
Not sure	18%

18. The state attorney general has ruled that it is against the law to allow illegal immigrants to enroll in North Carolina community colleges and universities. The governor disagrees and says they should be allowed to enroll. Who do you agree with?

Attorney general	68%
Governor	24%
Not sure	8%

26. Political philosophy

Very liberal	8%
Somewhat liberal	13%
Somewhat conservative	25%
Very conservative	20%
Moderate	32%

19. Presently under North Carolina tax laws, individuals are pushed into higher income tax brackets even if their incomes only rise at the rate of inflation. In other words, they are taxed at a higher rate even though their buying power is the same.

Do you support a law that would prevent this from happening even if it may result in a slower growth of tax dollars going to state government?

Yes	66%
No	22%
Not sure	13%

27. Thinking about fiscal issues, do you consider yourself to be:

Very liberal	7%
Somewhat liberal	22%
Somewhat conservative	39%
Very conservative	20%
Moderate	8%
Not sure	4%

20. Should state employee and teachers' unions be allowed to engage in collective bargaining with elected officials they might endorse in elections?

Yes	30%
No	56%
Not sure	14%

28. Regardless of your party registration, do you:

Always vote Democrat	16%
Vote Democrat more than Republican	28%
Vote Republican more than Democrat	27%
Always vote Republican	7%
Both equally/split ticket	21%
Not sure	1%

29. Age group	
18-25	5%
26-40	15%
41-55	30%
56-65	20%
66+	29%

30. Education	
Less than high school graduate	6%
High school graduate	25%
2-yr college/technical	23%
4-yr college graduate	30%
Post graduate	16%

31. In your current employment status, are you:	
Self-employed	10%
Working for a private co.	30%
Work for government	13%
Spouse (housewife)	7%
Retired	36%
Unemployed	3%

32. National heritage	
Caucasian	79%
African-American	17%
Hispanic	0%
Native American	2%
Asian	0%
Other	2%

33. Affiliation	
Democrat	48%
Republican	36%
Unaffiliated	16%

34. Gender	
Male	45%
Female	55%

35. Geographic area	
Charlotte	19%
Western	14%
Piedmont Triad	21%
Triangle	20%
Northeast	12%
Southeast	13%

METHODOLOGY: Tel Opinion Research of Alexandria, Va., conducted the poll on May 14-17 with live telephone interviews of 800 registered voters, who voted in the 2002, 2004 or 2006 general elections, or have registered since 2006. It has a margin of error of +/-3.7 percent.