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N.C. African Americans shift toward same-sex marriage

Raleigh, N.C. – Just days after President Obama's declaration of support for gay marriage, African Americans in North Carolina are showing a major shift in their views on the issue.

55% of African-Americans believe same-sex couples should either be allowed to marry or form civil unions, up 11 points from the last statewide same-sex marriage poll, conducted May 6. In the pre-primary poll, a majority (51%) of African-Americans said there should be no legal recognition of gay couples in North Carolina, but that number has dropped to 39%.

But same-sex marriage is still viewed unfavorably in the state as a whole, despite nationwide backlash from the passage of Amendment One. 58% of voters think same-sex marriage should be illegal, which is consistent with the 61% passage rate for Amendment One in last week's primary.

Voters are more sympathetic to same-sex couples seeking civil unions, with 46% supporting civil unions and 46% opposing. A majority—55%—of voters believe gay couples should either be allowed to marry or form civil unions. This is up from 53% in the pre-primary poll.

Governor Bev Perdue's approval ratings continue to slide as her political power wanes and the gubernatorial election strips her of media coverage. 31% approve of Perdue's job performance, down from 35% in March, when the last statewide approval ratings poll was conducted. 50% of Democrats approve of her performance in her first and only term, and 64% of Independents disapprove.

Approval rating of N.C. General Assembly is 17%, down from 18% in April. Dismal ratings for the entire legislature notwithstanding, Democratic members of the General Assembly are viewed more favorably than their Republican colleagues. Voters would favor Democratic state legislative candidates over Republicans 46-41 if there was an election held today.

PPP surveyed 666 North Carolina voters from May 10th to 13th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.8%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.

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North Carolina Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Bev Perdue's job performance?

Approve ..... 31% *Not sure* 11%

Disapprove 57%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Kay Hagan's job performance?

Approve ..... 31% *Not sure* 26%

Disapprove 42%

Q3 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the General Assembly is doing?

Approve ..... 17% *Not sure* 26%

Disapprove 57%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Democrats in the North Carolina Legislature?

Favorable 33%

Unfavorable 49%

Not sure 18%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Republicans in the North Carolina Legislature?

Favorable 31%

Unfavorable 52%

Not sure 17%

Q6 If there was an election for the state legislature today, would you vote Democratic or Republican?

Democratic 46%

Republican 41%

Not sure 13%

Q7 Do you think same-sex marriage should be legal or illegal?

Legal 34%

Illegal 58%

Not sure 8%

Q8 Do you support or oppose allowing same-sex couples to form civil unions with the same legal rights as marriage?

Support 46%

Oppose 46%

Not sure 7%

Q9 Which of the following best describes your opinion on gay marriage: gay couples should be allowed to legally marry, or gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not legally marry, or there should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship?

Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry 29%

Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry 26%

There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship 42%

Not sure 3%

Q10 Do you have any family members who are gay, or not?

Have family members who are gay 33%

Do not 59%

Not sure 8%

Q11 Do you personally know any gay people, or not?

Know gay people 88%

Do not 9%

Not sure 3%

May 10-13, 2012
Survey of 666 North Carolina voters

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Q12 Do you think being gay should be a felony, or not?

Being gay should be a felony	8%
It should not	85%
Not sure	6%

Q13 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal	11%
Somewhat liberal	17%
Moderate	29%
Somewhat conservative	25%
Very conservative	19%

Q14 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman	54%
Man	46%

Q15 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat	48%
Republican	34%
Independent/Other	18%

Q16 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White	73%
African-American	23%
Other	5%

Q17 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29	16%
30 to 45	28%
46 to 65	36%
Older than 65	20%

Q18 Area Code

252	11%
336	21%
704	19%
828	12%
910	12%
919	25%

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Public Policy Polling

Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Perdue Approval						
Approve	**31%**	57%	57%	37%	15%	7%
Disapprove	**57%**	24%	33%	46%	80%	87%
Not sure	**11%**	18%	10%	18%	6%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hagan Approval						
Approve	**31%**	59%	49%	36%	18%	10%
Disapprove	**42%**	20%	28%	35%	54%	66%
Not sure	**26%**	21%	23%	30%	28%	24%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
GA Approval						
Approve	**17%**	16%	7%	12%	25%	24%
Disapprove	**57%**	65%	71%	57%	56%	41%
Not sure	**26%**	20%	23%	31%	20%	34%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Leg. Dems Favorability						
Favorable	**33%**	73%	61%	38%	9%	8%
Unfavorable	**49%**	15%	16%	34%	76%	84%
Not sure	**18%**	13%	22%	28%	15%	8%

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Public Policy Polling

Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Leg. GOP Favorability						
Favorable	**31%**	13%	14%	15%	46%	63%
Unfavorable	**52%**	81%	76%	63%	37%	19%
Not sure	**17%**	6%	11%	23%	18%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Generic Leg. Ballot						
Democratic	**46%**	87%	79%	55%	23%	9%
Republican	**41%**	10%	13%	24%	66%	80%
Not sure	**13%**	3%	9%	21%	11%	11%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal						
Legal	**34%**	67%	63%	41%	12%	7%
Illegal	**58%**	20%	33%	43%	82%	92%
Not sure	**8%**	13%	4%	15%	6%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose Civil Unions						
Support	**46%**	73%	70%	57%	32%	13%
Oppose	**46%**	16%	27%	35%	63%	77%
Not sure	**7%**	11%	3%	9%	6%	9%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition						
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	**29%**	57%	60%	34%	9%	4%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	**26%**	25%	14%	33%	33%	19%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	**42%**	17%	21%	31%	55%	75%
Not sure	**3%**	2%	5%	3%	3%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Have Family Who're Gay?						
Have family members who are gay	**33%**	38%	35%	27%	39%	28%
Do not	**59%**	52%	56%	62%	53%	69%
Not sure	**8%**	10%	9%	11%	8%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Know Someone Who's Gay?						
Know gay people	**88%**	89%	90%	86%	90%	86%
Do not	**9%**	9%	10%	8%	6%	13%
Not sure	**3%**	1%	-	6%	3%	1%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Should Being Gay Be a Felony?						
Being gay should be a felony	**8%**	9%	6%	8%	4%	17%
It should not	**85%**	82%	89%	87%	88%	77%
Not sure	**6%**	9%	5%	5%	9%	7%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue Approval			
Approve	**31%**	36%	26%
Disapprove	**57%**	52%	63%
Not sure	**11%**	12%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hagan Approval			
Approve	**31%**	37%	25%
Disapprove	**42%**	33%	53%
Not sure	**26%**	30%	22%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
GA Approval			
Approve	**17%**	14%	20%
Disapprove	**57%**	55%	59%
Not sure	**26%**	30%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Leg. Dems Favorability			
Favorable	**33%**	38%	28%
Unfavorable	**49%**	40%	58%
Not sure	**18%**	22%	14%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Leg. GOP Favorability			
Favorable	**31%**	26%	37%
Unfavorable	**52%**	52%	53%
Not sure	**17%**	23%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Leg. Ballot			
Democratic	**46%**	52%	40%
Republican	**41%**	34%	49%
Not sure	**13%**	14%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal			
Legal	**34%**	39%	29%
Illegal	**58%**	55%	61%
Not sure	**8%**	6%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose Civil Unions			
Support	**46%**	52%	41%
Oppose	**46%**	42%	51%
Not sure	**7%**	7%	8%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition			
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	29%	34%	25%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	26%	25%	27%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	42%	37%	46%
Not sure	3%	4%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Have Family Who're Gay?			
Have family members who are gay	33%	33%	33%
Do not	59%	57%	60%
Not sure	8%	10%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Know Someone Who's Gay?			
Know gay people	88%	89%	87%
Do not	9%	8%	10%
Not sure	3%	3%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Should Being Gay Be a Felony?			
Being gay should be a felony	8%	4%	12%
It should not	85%	89%	81%
Not sure	6%	6%	7%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue Approval				
Approve	**31%**	50%	7%	27%
Disapprove	**57%**	34%	87%	64%
Not sure	**11%**	16%	6%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hagan Approval				
Approve	**31%**	46%	11%	31%
Disapprove	**42%**	26%	67%	40%
Not sure	**26%**	28%	22%	29%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
GA Approval				
Approve	**17%**	12%	23%	18%
Disapprove	**57%**	60%	50%	61%
Not sure	**26%**	28%	27%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Leg. Dems Favorability				
Favorable	**33%**	58%	3%	23%
Unfavorable	**49%**	18%	90%	48%
Not sure	**18%**	23%	6%	29%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Leg. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	**31%**	12%	63%	19%
Unfavorable	**52%**	73%	22%	54%
Not sure	**17%**	15%	15%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	**46%**	80%	5%	36%
Republican	**41%**	12%	86%	33%
Not sure	**13%**	9%	9%	31%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal				
Legal	**34%**	50%	10%	41%
Illegal	**58%**	40%	85%	53%
Not sure	**8%**	11%	5%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose Civil Unions				
Support	**46%**	57%	26%	58%
Oppose	**46%**	35%	67%	37%
Not sure	**7%**	8%	7%	5%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	**29%**	43%	8%	33%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	**26%**	23%	27%	34%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	**42%**	30%	64%	29%
Not sure	**3%**	4%	1%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Have Family Who're Gay?				
Have family members who are gay	**33%**	35%	31%	31%
Do not	**59%**	54%	63%	62%
Not sure	**8%**	11%	5%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Know Someone Who's Gay?				
Know gay people	**88%**	89%	86%	91%
Do not	**9%**	9%	11%	7%
Not sure	**3%**	2%	4%	2%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Should Being Gay Be a Felony?				
Being gay should be a felony	**8%**	6%	13%	5%
It should not	**85%**	86%	82%	89%
Not sure	**6%**	8%	5%	6%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue Approval				
Approve	**31%**	28%	41%	40%
Disapprove	**57%**	64%	37%	53%
Not sure	**11%**	8%	22%	7%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Hagan Approval				
Approve	**31%**	28%	46%	18%
Disapprove	**42%**	47%	21%	65%
Not sure	**26%**	25%	33%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
GA Approval				
Approve	**17%**	18%	16%	8%
Disapprove	**57%**	58%	49%	74%
Not sure	**26%**	24%	35%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Leg. Dems Favorability				
Favorable	**33%**	27%	56%	17%
Unfavorable	**49%**	57%	21%	56%
Not sure	**18%**	16%	23%	27%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Leg. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	**31%**	36%	14%	36%
Unfavorable	**52%**	47%	69%	56%
Not sure	**17%**	18%	17%	7%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	**46%**	35%	82%	42%
Republican	**41%**	50%	13%	39%
Not sure	**13%**	15%	5%	19%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal				
Legal	**34%**	37%	27%	30%
Illegal	**58%**	57%	59%	58%
Not sure	**8%**	6%	14%	12%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose Civil Unions				
Support	**46%**	49%	43%	34%
Oppose	**46%**	47%	44%	53%
Not sure	**7%**	5%	14%	12%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	**29%**	33%	19%	24%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	**26%**	24%	36%	18%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	**42%**	42%	39%	54%
Not sure	**3%**	2%	6%	3%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Have Family Who're Gay?				
Have family members who are gay	**33%**	29%	40%	56%
Do not	**59%**	66%	42%	35%
Not sure	**8%**	5%	18%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Know Someone Who's Gay?				
Know gay people	**88%**	88%	86%	94%
Do not	**9%**	9%	12%	-
Not sure	**3%**	3%	2%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Should Being Gay Be a Felony?				
Being gay should be a felony	**8%**	8%	5%	19%
It should not	**85%**	85%	89%	75%
Not sure	**6%**	7%	6%	6%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue Approval					
Approve	**31%**	31%	22%	36%	36%
Disapprove	**57%**	55%	69%	53%	50%
Not sure	**11%**	14%	9%	11%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hagan Approval					
Approve	**31%**	25%	31%	31%	37%
Disapprove	**42%**	41%	47%	42%	37%
Not sure	**26%**	33%	22%	27%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
GA Approval					
Approve	**17%**	21%	14%	17%	17%
Disapprove	**57%**	53%	59%	58%	55%
Not sure	**26%**	26%	27%	24%	29%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Leg. Dems Favorability					
Favorable	**33%**	34%	29%	37%	31%
Unfavorable	**49%**	41%	55%	44%	53%
Not sure	**18%**	25%	16%	19%	16%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Leg. GOP Favorability					
Favorable	**31%**	37%	31%	27%	34%
Unfavorable	**52%**	47%	54%	58%	45%
Not sure	**17%**	16%	16%	15%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Leg. Ballot					
Democratic	**46%**	47%	46%	48%	42%
Republican	**41%**	33%	41%	40%	49%
Not sure	**13%**	21%	13%	12%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal					
Legal	**34%**	38%	31%	37%	30%
Illegal	**58%**	53%	65%	53%	61%
Not sure	**8%**	10%	4%	10%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose Civil Unions					
Support	**46%**	48%	46%	51%	37%
Oppose	**46%**	48%	48%	40%	54%
Not sure	**7%**	5%	5%	9%	9%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition					
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	**29%**	33%	28%	32%	24%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	**26%**	15%	27%	29%	27%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	**42%**	50%	43%	34%	46%
Not sure	**3%**	3%	1%	5%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Have Family Who're Gay?					
Have family members who are gay	**33%**	35%	40%	33%	20%
Do not	**59%**	60%	53%	56%	71%
Not sure	**8%**	5%	7%	11%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Know Someone Who's Gay?					
Know gay people	**88%**	80%	91%	93%	81%
Do not	**9%**	18%	9%	4%	13%
Not sure	**3%**	3%	-	3%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Should Being Gay Be a Felony?					
Being gay should be a felony	**8%**	13%	6%	7%	11%
It should not	**85%**	85%	90%	90%	71%
Not sure	**6%**	3%	4%	4%	18%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue Approval							
Approve	**31%**	23%	21%	29%	34%	34%	42%
Disapprove	**57%**	67%	68%	58%	51%	51%	49%
Not sure	**11%**	11%	11%	13%	15%	14%	8%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Hagan Approval							
Approve	**31%**	33%	33%	24%	28%	33%	36%
Disapprove	**42%**	39%	42%	50%	42%	37%	42%
Not sure	**26%**	28%	25%	27%	30%	30%	22%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
GA Approval							
Approve	**17%**	15%	15%	15%	18%	23%	16%
Disapprove	**57%**	46%	60%	62%	60%	49%	58%
Not sure	**26%**	39%	24%	23%	21%	28%	26%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Leg. Dems Favorability							
Favorable	**33%**	45%	23%	28%	28%	44%	37%
Unfavorable	**49%**	41%	53%	54%	49%	43%	47%
Not sure	**18%**	14%	24%	18%	23%	13%	17%

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Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Leg. GOP Favorability							
Favorable	**31%**	32%	36%	33%	28%	36%	23%
Unfavorable	**52%**	54%	44%	49%	47%	55%	61%
Not sure	**17%**	13%	19%	17%	25%	9%	16%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Generic Leg. Ballot							
Democratic	**46%**	57%	38%	43%	35%	48%	55%
Republican	**41%**	38%	42%	46%	48%	40%	35%
Not sure	**13%**	5%	20%	11%	17%	12%	11%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Same-sex Marriage Legal/Illegal							
Legal	**34%**	27%	31%	27%	32%	36%	45%
Illegal	**58%**	65%	64%	63%	59%	54%	47%
Not sure	**8%**	8%	5%	10%	10%	10%	8%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Support/Oppose Civil Unions							
Support	**46%**	30%	42%	50%	42%	44%	57%
Oppose	**46%**	63%	49%	44%	50%	51%	34%
Not sure	**7%**	7%	9%	6%	7%	5%	8%

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	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition							
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	**29%**	20%	30%	21%	28%	25%	41%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	**26%**	21%	19%	34%	28%	31%	26%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	**42%**	55%	49%	43%	41%	40%	30%
Not sure	**3%**	4%	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Have Family Who're Gay?							
Have family members who are gay	**33%**	24%	38%	32%	31%	30%	35%
Do not	**59%**	67%	58%	59%	56%	57%	57%
Not sure	**8%**	8%	4%	10%	13%	13%	7%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Know Someone Who's Gay?							
Know gay people	**88%**	77%	88%	89%	90%	80%	95%
Do not	**9%**	18%	10%	9%	7%	15%	3%
Not sure	**3%**	6%	2%	2%	3%	4%	2%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Should Being Gay Be a Felony?							
Being gay should be a felony	**8%**	15%	11%	4%	10%	5%	7%
It should not	**85%**	78%	85%	90%	74%	90%	88%
Not sure	**6%**	7%	4%	5%	17%	5%	5%

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