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McCrorry back above Perdue by double digits

Raleigh, N.C. – After getting a little boost in January, Governor Bev Perdue’s standing against likely 2012 GOP challenger Pat McCrorry has receded to the same 49-37 deficit she faced last November. In a state with a 45-37 Democrat-to-Republican ratio, Perdue has a built-in advantage, but she continues to be weak with her own party and with independents. McCrorry has the support of three times as many Democrats as Perdue does Republicans, and twice as many Democrats are undecided as Republicans. The former Charlotte mayor also wins unaffiliated voters, 44-29.

Democrats want her to stand firm on their budget priorities, but independents will likely want Perdue to show she can make smart cuts and get the financial house in order. Right now, voters trust the new Republican majority to lead the state more than they do the governor, 44-37. 82% of Republicans choose their party leadership, but Perdue is again weak with her own side, only 62% of whom say they trust her most. 13% say the Republicans. Independents also side narrowly, 41-35, with the GOP legislators.

But there is a silver lining: when asked who is doing more to bring jobs to the state, voters are split pretty evenly three ways. A 35% plurality are not sure, but almost as many, 34%, say Perdue, and only 31% say the Republicans. The two parties are polarized, with over 55% of each siding with their respective leaders, while independents think Perdue has done more, 34-29. This week, Perdue vetoed a bill which would have depleted funds to incentivize companies to create jobs in the state.

Voters also stand with Perdue on two of her specific budget proposals. 48% favor cutting the corporate tax rate from 6.9% to 4.9%, while 30% oppose that, and 22% are not sure. Unsurprisingly, she gets a boost from across the aisle on this issue, with Republicans at 59-24 in support, independents at 53-28, and her own party split at 36% in support and opposition. The governor’s stand against cutting any teachers or teaching assistants has support across the board, from 77% of Democrats, 59% of independents, and even 58% of Republicans. Overall, two-thirds of voters are with her on the issue. If she can communicate her stances and see them enacted, she may see a boost in her numbers.

“Several of Bev Perdue’s most recent policy initiatives are quite popular,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Her challenge is figuring out how to make that translate into personal popularity for her. Right now it’s not happening.”

PPP surveyed 650 North Carolina voters from February 16th to 21st. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.8%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



North Carolina Survey Results

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

Approve..... 30% Not sure 22%
Disapprove..... 48%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Pat McCrory?

Favorable..... 31%
Unfavorable 22%
Not sure 47%

Q3 If the candidates for Governor next year were Democrat Bev Perdue and Republican Pat McCrory, who would you vote for?

Bev Perdue..... 37%
Pat McCrory..... 49%
Undecided..... 15%

Q4 If there was an election for the state legislature today, would you vote Democratic or Republican?

Democratic..... 42%
Republican..... 46%
Undecided..... 12%

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

Favorable..... 35%
Unfavorable 41%
Not sure 24%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Republicans in the North Carolina Legislature?

Favorable..... 36%
Unfavorable 38%
Not sure 27%

Q7 Do you have more faith in Governor Perdue or Legislative Republicans to lead the state?

Governor Perdue 37%
Legislative Republicans 44%
Not sure 19%

Q8 Do you think that Governor Perdue or Legislative Republicans are doing more to bring jobs to North Carolina?

Governor Perdue 34%
Legislative Republicans 31%
Not sure 35%

Q9 Do you support or oppose cutting the state's corporate tax rate from 6.9 percent to 4.9 percent?

Support 48%
Oppose 30%
Not sure 22%

Q10 Do you support or oppose eliminating any K-12 teachers and teacher assistants as part of this year's budget?

Support 20%
Oppose 67%
Not sure 13%

Q11 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 46%
Barack Obama..... 47%
Someone else/Don't remember 7%

Q12 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%





Q13 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 45%
Republican..... 37%
Independent/Other..... 18%

Q14 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 74%
African-American 22%
Other..... 5%

Q15 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..... 10%
30 to 45..... 30%
46 to 65..... 40%
Older than 65..... 20%

Q16

252..... 13%
 336..... 18%
 704..... 20%
 828..... 15%
 910..... 16%
 919..... 18%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Perdue Approval				
Approve	30%	14%	47%	28%
Disapprove	48%	66%	28%	58%
Not sure	22%	20%	24%	14%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
McCrorry Favorability				
Favorable	31%	45%	15%	38%
Unfavorable	22%	9%	36%	21%
Not sure	47%	46%	49%	41%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Perdue/McCrory				
Bev Perdue	37%	8%	66%	26%
Pat McCrory	49%	79%	16%	58%
Undecided	15%	12%	17%	16%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	42%	6%	81%	23%
Republican	46%	84%	8%	47%
Undecided	12%	11%	10%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Leg. Dem Favorability				
Favorable	35%	6%	65%	24%
Unfavorable	41%	75%	8%	32%
Not sure	24%	19%	27%	44%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Leg. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	36%	64%	8%	34%
Unfavorable	38%	11%	66%	24%
Not sure	27%	25%	26%	43%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?				
Governor Perdue	37%	7%	68%	22%
Legislative Republicans	44%	79%	9%	45%
Not sure	19%	14%	23%	33%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Perdue or Leg. GOP Doing More for Jobs?				
Governor Perdue	34%	8%	62%	21%
Legislative Republicans	31%	55%	6%	43%
Not sure	35%	37%	32%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Support/Oppose Lowering Corp. Tax Rate				
Support	48%	63%	32%	52%
Oppose	30%	18%	43%	25%
Not sure	22%	19%	24%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Support/Oppose Cutting K-12 Teachers				
Support	20%	34%	10%	2%
Oppose	67%	52%	79%	87%
Not sure	13%	14%	11%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue Approval			
Approve	30%	32%	29%
Disapprove	48%	44%	52%
Not sure	22%	24%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCrory Favorability			
Favorable	31%	27%	35%
Unfavorable	22%	19%	25%
Not sure	47%	54%	40%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue/McCrory			
Bev Perdue	37%	38%	35%
Pat McCrory	49%	45%	52%
Undecided	15%	17%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Leg. Ballot			
Democratic	42%	46%	38%
Republican	46%	41%	51%
Undecided	12%	13%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Leg. Dem Favorability			
Favorable	35%	34%	36%
Unfavorable	41%	34%	49%
Not sure	24%	32%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Leg. GOP Favorability			
Favorable	36%	32%	40%
Unfavorable	38%	38%	37%
Not sure	27%	30%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?			
Governor Perdue	37%	37%	36%
Legislative Republicans	44%	39%	50%
Not sure	19%	24%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue or Leg. GOP Doing More for Jobs?			
Governor Perdue	34%	35%	33%
Legislative Republicans	31%	24%	39%
Not sure	35%	41%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose Lowering Corp. Tax Rate			
Support	48%	42%	54%
Oppose	30%	31%	30%
Not sure	22%	28%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose Cutting K-12 Teachers			
Support	20%	16%	25%
Oppose	67%	70%	63%
Not sure	13%	14%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue Approval				
Approve	30%	45%	13%	30%
Disapprove	48%	28%	69%	52%
Not sure	22%	26%	18%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCrorry Favorability				
Favorable	31%	19%	43%	33%
Unfavorable	22%	32%	11%	20%
Not sure	47%	48%	46%	47%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue/McCrorry				
Bev Perdue	37%	64%	7%	29%
Pat McCrorry	49%	21%	84%	44%
Undecided	15%	15%	8%	27%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	42%	82%	1%	29%
Republican	46%	11%	89%	41%
Undecided	12%	7%	10%	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Leg. Dem Favorability				
Favorable	35%	62%	3%	32%
Unfavorable	41%	13%	77%	37%
Not sure	24%	26%	19%	31%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Leg. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	36%	10%	70%	29%
Unfavorable	38%	62%	11%	33%
Not sure	27%	28%	19%	38%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?				
Governor Perdue	37%	64%	5%	35%
Legislative Republicans	44%	13%	82%	41%
Not sure	19%	23%	14%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue or Leg. GOP Doing More for Jobs?				
Governor Perdue	34%	55%	8%	34%
Legislative Republicans	31%	9%	59%	29%
Not sure	35%	36%	33%	37%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose Lowering Corp. Tax Rate				
Support	48%	36%	59%	53%
Oppose	30%	36%	24%	28%
Not sure	22%	27%	17%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose Cutting K-12 Teachers				
Support	20%	11%	31%	23%
Oppose	67%	77%	58%	59%
Not sure	13%	12%	11%	18%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue Approval				
Approve	30%	26%	46%	30%
Disapprove	48%	52%	29%	64%
Not sure	22%	22%	25%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
McCrory Favorability				
Favorable	31%	36%	13%	22%
Unfavorable	22%	16%	38%	40%
Not sure	47%	47%	49%	38%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue/McCrory				
Bev Perdue	37%	27%	66%	57%
Pat McCrory	49%	59%	17%	38%
Undecided	15%	15%	17%	5%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	42%	29%	84%	55%
Republican	46%	58%	8%	32%
Undecided	12%	13%	8%	13%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Leg. Dem Favorability				
Favorable	35%	24%	68%	41%
Unfavorable	41%	52%	8%	27%
Not sure	24%	24%	24%	31%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Leg. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	36%	44%	9%	26%
Unfavorable	38%	31%	61%	40%
Not sure	27%	25%	30%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?				
Governor Perdue	37%	27%	66%	57%
Legislative Republicans	44%	55%	9%	31%
Not sure	19%	18%	25%	12%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue or Leg. GOP Doing More for Jobs?				
Governor Perdue	34%	25%	58%	53%
Legislative Republicans	31%	39%	8%	22%
Not sure	35%	36%	34%	25%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose Lowering Corp. Tax Rate				
Support	48%	49%	44%	47%
Oppose	30%	31%	29%	38%
Not sure	22%	21%	27%	16%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose Cutting K-12 Teachers				
Support	20%	23%	13%	15%
Oppose	67%	64%	76%	66%
Not sure	13%	13%	11%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue Approval					
Approve	30%	20%	22%	36%	36%
Disapprove	48%	37%	56%	48%	42%
Not sure	22%	43%	21%	16%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCrary Favorability					
Favorable	31%	33%	29%	30%	33%
Unfavorable	22%	17%	16%	28%	23%
Not sure	47%	50%	55%	42%	44%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue/McCrary					
Bev Perdue	37%	40%	31%	39%	39%
Pat McCrary	49%	43%	51%	48%	49%
Undecided	15%	17%	18%	13%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Leg. Ballot					
Democratic	42%	50%	41%	42%	41%
Republican	46%	37%	48%	44%	51%
Undecided	12%	13%	11%	14%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Leg. Dem Favorability					
Favorable	35%	43%	31%	35%	35%
Unfavorable	41%	30%	42%	41%	46%
Not sure	24%	27%	28%	24%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Leg. GOP Favorability					
Favorable	36%	30%	33%	35%	45%
Unfavorable	38%	37%	36%	40%	36%
Not sure	27%	33%	32%	25%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?					
Governor Perdue	37%	27%	35%	40%	38%
Legislative Republicans	44%	43%	45%	42%	46%
Not sure	19%	30%	20%	18%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue or Leg. GOP Doing More for Jobs?					
Governor Perdue	34%	37%	28%	36%	38%
Legislative Republicans	31%	27%	32%	32%	32%
Not sure	35%	37%	41%	32%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose Lowering Corp. Tax Rate					
Support	48%	50%	45%	47%	53%
Oppose	30%	27%	35%	31%	24%
Not sure	22%	23%	20%	22%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose Cutting K-12 Teachers					
Support	20%	10%	26%	18%	24%
Oppose	67%	77%	63%	70%	61%
Not sure	13%	13%	11%	13%	15%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue Approval							
Approve	30%	39%	30%	30%	29%	30%	27%
Disapprove	48%	41%	56%	49%	50%	35%	52%
Not sure	22%	20%	14%	20%	21%	35%	21%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
McCrory Favorability							
Favorable	31%	19%	29%	55%	22%	18%	32%
Unfavorable	22%	19%	25%	23%	23%	21%	20%
Not sure	47%	62%	46%	22%	55%	61%	48%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue/McCrory							
Bev Perdue	37%	47%	37%	32%	33%	41%	34%
Pat McCrory	49%	40%	45%	57%	56%	45%	46%
Undecided	15%	13%	18%	11%	11%	14%	21%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Generic Leg. Ballot							
Democratic	42%	52%	41%	37%	36%	47%	44%
Republican	46%	39%	46%	49%	54%	46%	41%
Undecided	12%	9%	13%	14%	10%	7%	15%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Leg. Dem Favorability							
Favorable	35%	39%	34%	30%	29%	43%	33%
Unfavorable	41%	33%	45%	40%	51%	37%	39%
Not sure	24%	27%	21%	29%	20%	19%	28%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Leg. GOP Favorability							
Favorable	36%	34%	41%	35%	43%	29%	34%
Unfavorable	38%	36%	39%	33%	38%	38%	43%
Not sure	27%	30%	20%	32%	19%	33%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?							
Governor Perdue	37%	42%	31%	33%	31%	47%	38%
Legislative Republicans	44%	34%	42%	49%	53%	40%	43%
Not sure	19%	23%	27%	18%	16%	13%	19%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue or Leg. GOP Doing More for Jobs?							
Governor Perdue	34%	43%	31%	31%	30%	39%	32%
Legislative Republicans	31%	24%	28%	33%	43%	27%	31%
Not sure	35%	34%	40%	36%	27%	35%	36%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Support/Oppose Lowering Corp. Tax Rate							
Support	48%	44%	54%	53%	48%	40%	45%
Oppose	30%	19%	30%	30%	32%	28%	40%
Not sure	22%	37%	16%	17%	20%	32%	14%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Support/Oppose Cutting K-12 Teachers							
Support	20%	19%	21%	22%	23%	18%	19%
Oppose	67%	65%	69%	70%	61%	71%	63%
Not sure	13%	16%	11%	8%	15%	11%	18%

