

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 19, 2010**

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**QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312**

## **Majority Disapprove of Obama**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Public Policy Polling’s monthly survey looking at Barack Obama’s approval rating in North Carolina finds him matching his highest level of disapproval in the state to date. He’s at 51%, compared to 45% of voters approving of him, just as he was back in September.

Obama’s still not seeing too much erosion with the party base- 77% of Democrats like the job he’s doing compared to 19% who disapprove. But he has virtually no support from Republicans- just 9% approval- and a majority of independents now disapprove of him as well.

While 88% of African Americans like how Obama’s doing only 33% of whites do. There are large imbalances along gender and age lines as well. 50% of women but just 39% of men give him good marks, and 49% of voters under 30 but only 43% over 65 do so.

The Democratic health care plan continues to be unpopular with North Carolinians. 53% oppose it with only 38% supportive. The voters, however, support allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military. 50% say yes to that compared to 40% in opposition.

“Barack Obama’s popularity in North Carolina is starting to slip a little from where it was a year ago,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Independents are getting antsy about the economy and taking it out on the man in charge.”

PPP will release numbers next week looking at the favorite sports of North Carolinians and how they view former Governor Mike Easley.

PPP surveyed 788 North Carolina voters from February 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.5%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at [www.publicpolicypolling.com](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com).

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

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## North Carolina Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* ..... 45%  
*Disapprove*..... 51%  
*Not Sure*..... 4%

**Q2** Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or do you not have an opinion? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you don't have an opinion, press 3.

*Support*..... 38%  
*Oppose*..... 53%  
*No Opinion*..... 9%

**Q3** Do you think gay men and women should be able to serve openly in the military? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Yes* .....50% *Not Sure*.....10%  
*No*.....40%

**Q4** If there was an election for the state legislature today, would you vote Democratic or Republican? If Democratic, press 1. If Republican, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Democratic*..... 41%  
*Republican*..... 44%  
*Undecided*..... 15%

**Q5** If there was an election for Congress today, would you vote Democratic or Republican? If Democratic, press 1. If Republican, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Democratic*..... 41%  
*Republican*..... 44%  
*Undecided*..... 15%

**Q6** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Democratic Party? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Favorable*..... 38%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 51%  
*Not Sure*..... 11%

**Q7** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Republican Party? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Favorable*..... 32%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 48%  
*Not Sure*..... 20%

**Q8** Generally speaking when you vote this fall do you plan to support incumbents or vote for challengers? If you will mostly vote for incumbents, press 1. If you will mostly vote for challengers, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Incumbents* ..... 13%  
*Challengers*..... 31%  
*Not Sure*..... 56%

**Q9** Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

*McCain*..... 48%  
*Obama*..... 48%  
*Someone else/Don't remember* ..... 4%

**Q10** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

*Liberal*..... 17%  
*Moderate*..... 39%  
*Conservative*..... 44%





**Q11** I am going to name 7 issues. Which of these is most important to you? The War in Iraq, education, the economy and jobs, taxes, moral or family values, health care, or immigration. If the War in Iraq is most important, press 1. If education, press 2. If the economy and jobs, press 3. If taxes, press 4. If moral and family values, press 5. If health care, press 6. If immigration, press 7. If some other issue is most important, press 8.

<i>War in Iraq</i> .....	5%
<i>Education</i> .....	8%
<i>Economy and Jobs</i> .....	56%
<i>Taxes</i> .....	6%
<i>Moral and family values</i> .....	12%
<i>Health care</i> .....	10%
<i>Immigration</i> .....	2%
<i>Other</i> .....	1%

**Q12** Would you describe the community you live in as urban, suburban, rural, or a small town? If urban, press 1. If suburban, press 2. If rural, press 3. If a small town, press 4.

<i>Urban</i> .....	16%
<i>Suburban</i> .....	29%
<i>Rural</i> .....	27%
<i>Small Town</i> .....	28%

**Q13** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i> .....	52%
<i>Man</i> .....	48%

**Q14** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

<i>Democrat</i> .....	44%
<i>Republican</i> .....	38%
<i>Independent/Other</i> .....	18%

**Q15** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

<i>White</i> .....	77%
<i>African-American</i> .....	20%
<i>Other</i> .....	3%

**Q16** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

<i>18 to 29</i> .....	10%
<i>30 to 45</i> .....	25%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	44%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	21%

**Q17**

<i>252</i> .....	9%
<i>336</i> .....	21%
<i>704</i> .....	19%
<i>828</i> .....	16%
<i>910</i> .....	14%
<i>919</i> .....	21%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	5%	87%	38%
<b>Disapprove</b>	51%	92%	9%	54%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	4%	4%	8%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	38%	3%	74%	29%
<b>Oppose</b>	53%	92%	13%	57%
<b>No Opinion</b>	9%	5%	13%	14%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Gays in the Military</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	50%	26%	75%	41%
<b>No</b>	40%	62%	17%	42%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	12%	8%	17%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Generic Legislative Ballot</b>				
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	4%	79%	33%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	83%	6%	25%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	12%	15%	43%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Generic Congressional Ballot</b>				
Democratic	41%	4%	79%	28%
Republican	44%	83%	7%	32%
Undecided	15%	13%	14%	40%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Democratic Party Favorability</b>				
Favorable	38%	5%	73%	35%
Unfavorable	51%	88%	14%	43%
Not Sure	11%	7%	14%	22%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Republican Party Favorability</b>				
Favorable	32%	61%	5%	15%
Unfavorable	48%	18%	78%	46%
Not Sure	20%	21%	17%	39%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Incumbents/Challengers</b>				
Incumbents	13%	8%	19%	12%
Challengers	31%	41%	20%	27%
Not Sure	56%	51%	61%	61%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>45%</b>	83%	61%	15%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>51%</b>	14%	33%	82%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>4%</b>	3%	6%	3%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	<b>38%</b>	75%	52%	11%
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>53%</b>	16%	36%	84%
<b>No Opinion</b>	<b>9%</b>	9%	12%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Gays in the Military</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	<b>50%</b>	88%	65%	22%
<b>No</b>	<b>40%</b>	9%	27%	63%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>10%</b>	3%	8%	15%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Generic Legislative Ballot</b>				
<b>Democratic</b>	<b>41%</b>	84%	53%	13%
<b>Republican</b>	<b>44%</b>	10%	27%	72%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>15%</b>	6%	20%	14%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Generic Congressional Ballot</b>				
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	86%	53%	12%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	9%	29%	72%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	5%	18%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Democratic Party Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	79%	50%	12%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	15%	36%	78%
<b>Not Sure</b>	11%	6%	14%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Republican Party Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	9%	21%	52%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	48%	81%	61%	23%
<b>Not Sure</b>	20%	10%	18%	25%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Incumbents/Challengers</b>				
<b>Incumbents</b>	13%	26%	12%	9%
<b>Challengers</b>	31%	21%	27%	38%
<b>Not Sure</b>	56%	53%	61%	53%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	45%	59%	49%	36%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	51%	37%	47%	60%	55%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	38%	53%	42%	28%	35%
<b>Oppose</b>	53%	39%	50%	61%	57%
<b>No Opinion</b>	9%	7%	8%	11%	8%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Gays in the Military</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	50%	63%	60%	36%	45%
<b>No</b>	40%	28%	29%	53%	45%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	9%	11%	11%	9%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Generic Legislative Ballot</b>					
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	53%	41%	36%	39%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	34%	43%	49%	46%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	12%	16%	15%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Generic Congressional Ballot</b>					
Democratic	41%	56%	43%	31%	38%
Republican	44%	36%	43%	51%	45%
Undecided	15%	8%	14%	18%	17%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Democratic Party Favorability</b>					
Favorable	38%	45%	42%	31%	38%
Unfavorable	51%	43%	49%	55%	52%
Not Sure	11%	12%	9%	14%	9%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Republican Party Favorability</b>					
Favorable	32%	17%	34%	38%	34%
Unfavorable	48%	65%	52%	37%	44%
Not Sure	20%	18%	14%	25%	22%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
<b>Incumbents/Challengers</b>					
Incumbents	13%	19%	14%	12%	11%
Challengers	31%	32%	29%	33%	29%
Not Sure	56%	49%	57%	55%	60%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	45%	50%	39%
<b>Disapprove</b>	51%	45%	58%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	5%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Health Care</b>			
<b>Support</b>	38%	41%	35%
<b>Oppose</b>	53%	49%	58%
<b>No Opinion</b>	9%	10%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Gays in the Military</b>			
<b>Yes</b>	50%	54%	45%
<b>No</b>	40%	34%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	12%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Generic Legislative Ballot</b>			
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	47%	35%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	38%	51%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	15%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Generic Congressional Ballot</b>			
Democratic	41%	45%	36%
Republican	44%	39%	51%
Undecided	15%	16%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Democratic Party Favorability</b>			
Favorable	38%	44%	32%
Unfavorable	51%	42%	60%
Not Sure	11%	13%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Republican Party Favorability</b>			
Favorable	32%	31%	34%
Unfavorable	48%	48%	48%
Not Sure	20%	21%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Incumbents/Challengers</b>			
Incumbents	13%	11%	15%
Challengers	31%	25%	37%
Not Sure	56%	64%	48%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	77%	9%	40%
<b>Disapprove</b>	51%	19%	87%	53%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	4%	3%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	38%	68%	5%	33%
<b>Oppose</b>	53%	21%	90%	55%
<b>No Opinion</b>	9%	11%	5%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Gays in the Military</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	50%	67%	26%	59%
<b>No</b>	40%	24%	63%	30%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	10%	11%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Generic Legislative Ballot</b>				
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	78%	5%	26%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	13%	87%	32%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	10%	9%	42%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Generic Congressional Ballot</b>				
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	76%	5%	29%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	13%	83%	40%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	11%	12%	31%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Democratic Party Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	70%	7%	26%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	19%	86%	55%
<b>Not Sure</b>	11%	11%	7%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Republican Party Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	12%	62%	21%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	48%	72%	17%	52%
<b>Not Sure</b>	20%	15%	21%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Incumbents/Challengers</b>				
<b>Incumbents</b>	13%	21%	7%	7%
<b>Challengers</b>	31%	21%	42%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	56%	58%	51%	61%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	33%	88%	61%
<b>Disapprove</b>	51%	63%	8%	34%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	4%	4%	5%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	38%	27%	79%	59%
<b>Oppose</b>	53%	65%	11%	32%
<b>No Opinion</b>	9%	8%	10%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Gays in the Military</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	50%	46%	64%	57%
<b>No</b>	40%	44%	26%	30%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	10%	10%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Generic Legislative Ballot</b>				
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	30%	81%	45%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	54%	9%	23%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	16%	10%	32%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Generic Congressional Ballot</b>				
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	31%	79%	43%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	54%	10%	25%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	15%	11%	32%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Democratic Party Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	29%	75%	48%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	61%	13%	39%
<b>Not Sure</b>	11%	10%	12%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Republican Party Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	39%	8%	25%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	48%	42%	70%	55%
<b>Not Sure</b>	20%	19%	22%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Incumbents/Challengers</b>				
<b>Incumbents</b>	13%	12%	19%	7%
<b>Challengers</b>	31%	33%	23%	23%
<b>Not Sure</b>	56%	55%	58%	70%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	45%	49%	47%	44%	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	51%	47%	47%	53%	54%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	4%	6%	4%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	38%	37%	37%	40%	37%
<b>Oppose</b>	53%	52%	51%	53%	57%
<b>No Opinion</b>	9%	11%	12%	7%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Gays in the Military</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	50%	49%	55%	51%	43%
<b>No</b>	40%	41%	36%	41%	41%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	10%	8%	9%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Generic Legislative Ballot</b>					
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	45%	40%	41%	39%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	44%	42%	45%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	10%	18%	14%	17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Generic Congressional Ballot</b>					
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	48%	40%	42%	36%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	48%	42%	43%	47%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	4%	18%	15%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Democratic Party Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	51%	38%	37%	35%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	41%	50%	51%	56%
<b>Not Sure</b>	11%	8%	11%	12%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Republican Party Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	38%	34%	29%	35%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	48%	40%	48%	51%	44%
<b>Not Sure</b>	20%	22%	18%	20%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Incumbents/Challengers</b>					
<b>Incumbents</b>	13%	25%	9%	12%	16%
<b>Challengers</b>	31%	28%	29%	32%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	56%	47%	62%	56%	52%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Obama Approval</b>							
<b>Approve</b>	45%	41%	48%	40%	40%	39%	55%
<b>Disapprove</b>	51%	55%	45%	56%	56%	58%	42%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	4%	7%	4%	4%	3%	3%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Health Care</b>							
<b>Support</b>	38%	33%	45%	31%	32%	31%	50%
<b>Oppose</b>	53%	57%	48%	62%	57%	60%	41%
<b>No Opinion</b>	9%	11%	7%	7%	11%	9%	9%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Gays in the Military</b>							
<b>Yes</b>	50%	33%	61%	50%	46%	35%	59%
<b>No</b>	40%	54%	32%	35%	49%	53%	29%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	12%	7%	15%	5%	12%	12%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Generic Legislative Ballot</b>							
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	36%	47%	33%	38%	36%	50%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	49%	41%	50%	40%	50%	38%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	15%	13%	16%	21%	14%	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Generic Congressional Ballot</b>							
<b>Democratic</b>	41%	36%	45%	33%	38%	34%	51%
<b>Republican</b>	44%	49%	41%	50%	42%	50%	38%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	15%	14%	16%	20%	15%	10%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Democratic Party Favorability</b>							
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	34%	43%	34%	37%	39%	40%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	51%	52%	45%	59%	51%	53%	47%
<b>Not Sure</b>	11%	14%	12%	7%	12%	8%	13%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Republican Party Favorability</b>							
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	39%	25%	35%	32%	41%	28%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	48%	37%	48%	46%	48%	39%	59%
<b>Not Sure</b>	20%	24%	26%	18%	20%	20%	13%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Incumbents/Challengers</b>							
<b>Incumbents</b>	13%	13%	15%	13%	13%	11%	13%
<b>Challengers</b>	31%	29%	26%	34%	33%	35%	28%
<b>Not Sure</b>	56%	58%	58%	52%	54%	53%	59%

