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McCrory holds lead over Dalton

Raleigh, N.C. – For all the negative ads and the threatened lawsuits over them in the last month, there has been essentially no change in the North Carolina gubernatorial race. Walter Dalton came out of his primary victory with a big bump, pulling to within six points of frontrunner Pat McCrory (46-40) when PPP polled the race in mid-May. Now he trails by seven (47-40).

There are signs, however, that Dalton has more room to grow than does McCrory. Dalton lagged by 23 points with independents in May, but only 16 points now. And the undecided lean Democratic. Two-thirds of them are women, they are more heavily minority than the overall electorate, and they voted 2:1 for President Obama over John McCain in 2008.

The continuing problem for Dalton is the defection of conservative Democrats. Dalton's 10% of the GOP vote is roughly what Bev Perdue got in 2008, but McCrory's 18% of Democrats is twice what he pulled four years ago. Obama has the same problem, so Dalton is not alone.

Dalton and Obama also both show weakness currently with black voters, but history suggests that, unlike with rural white Democrats, that will not be the case in November. Dalton gets only 68% to McCrory's 20% of African Americans, not much worse than Obama's own 76-20 lead over Romney. If Dalton had 95% of the black vote, as Perdue did, and the rest of voters fell proportionately to where they are now, McCrory would lead by less than a point.

McCrory's advantage continues to be built on name recognition. As Dalton has gotten better known to voters, his standing has increased, and it could only continue to do so. Among voters who have an opinion of both candidates right now, whether positive or negative, Dalton actually leads by four points.

“Pat McCrory remains the favorite but this race is closer than it was three months ago,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Walter Dalton's post-primary bounce has held up over the last month.”

PPP surveyed 810 North Carolina voters from June 7th to 10th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.4%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.



North Carolina Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Walter Dalton?

Favorable..... 28%
Unfavorable 28%
Not sure 44%

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

Favorable..... 44%
Unfavorable 30%
Not sure 26%

Q3 The candidates for Governor are Democrat Walter Dalton and Republican Pat McCrory. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Walter Dalton..... 40%
Pat McCrory..... 47%
Undecided..... 13%

Q4 Do you view Walter Dalton as being a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 29%
Moderate..... 34%
Conservative..... 9%
Not sure 28%

Q5 Do you view Pat McCrory as being a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 9%
Moderate..... 27%
Conservative..... 44%
Not sure..... 20%

Q6 The candidates for State Treasurer are Democrat Janet Cowell and Republican Steve Royal. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Janet Cowell..... 34%
Steve Royal 33%
Undecided..... 33%

Q7 The candidates for Agriculture Commissioner are Democrat Walter Smith and Republican Steve Troxler. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Walter Smith 31%
Steve Troxler..... 45%
Undecided..... 25%

Q8 The candidates for State Auditor are Democrat Beth Wood and Republican Debra Goldman. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Beth Wood..... 36%
Debra Goldman 36%
Undecided..... 29%

Q9 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 46%
Barack Obama..... 46%
Someone else/Don't remember 8%

Q10 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 13%
Somewhat liberal 13%
Moderate..... 26%
Somewhat conservative..... 28%
Very conservative 21%



Q11 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 54%

Man..... 46%

Q12 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 44%

Republican..... 36%

Independent/Other..... 20%

Q13 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 73%

African-American 22%

Other..... 4%

Q14 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..... 14%

30 to 45..... 28%

46 to 65..... 38%

Older than 65..... 20%

Q15 Area Code

252..... 11%

336..... 21%

704..... 20%

828..... 12%

910..... 14%

919..... 23%



Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Dalton Favorability				
Favorable	28%	13%	46%	14%
Unfavorable	28%	39%	18%	27%
Not sure	44%	48%	36%	59%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
McCrory Favorability				
Favorable	44%	68%	22%	31%
Unfavorable	30%	10%	50%	35%
Not sure	26%	22%	28%	34%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Dalton/McCrory				
Walter Dalton	40%	11%	69%	35%
Pat McCrory	47%	81%	15%	35%
Undecided	13%	8%	16%	30%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Is Dalton Lib/Mod/Con?				
Liberal	29%	46%	14%	19%
Moderate	34%	19%	50%	27%
Conservative	9%	9%	9%	3%
Not sure	28%	25%	27%	52%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Is McCrory Lib/Mod/Con?				
Liberal	9%	7%	11%	6%
Moderate	27%	34%	23%	14%
Conservative	44%	44%	45%	37%
Not sure	20%	15%	22%	43%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Cowell/Royal				
Janet Cowell	34%	14%	57%	21%
Steve Royal	33%	55%	11%	26%
Undecided	33%	31%	32%	53%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Smith/Troxler				
Walter Smith	31%	10%	55%	15%
Steve Troxler	45%	72%	18%	36%
Undecided	25%	18%	27%	49%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Wood/Goldman				
Beth Wood	36%	14%	59%	22%
Debra Goldman	36%	59%	14%	24%
Undecided	29%	27%	27%	53%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Dalton Favorability						
Favorable	28%	45%	39%	39%	19%	8%
Unfavorable	28%	19%	17%	28%	34%	35%
Not sure	44%	36%	44%	33%	46%	57%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
McCrorry Favorability						
Favorable	44%	20%	18%	39%	58%	63%
Unfavorable	30%	51%	46%	39%	19%	10%
Not sure	26%	29%	36%	22%	22%	27%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Dalton/McCrorry						
Walter Dalton	40%	77%	70%	51%	21%	9%
Pat McCrorry	47%	15%	19%	34%	64%	79%
Undecided	13%	8%	12%	15%	15%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Is Dalton Lib/Mod/Con?						
Liberal	29%	25%	10%	17%	37%	49%
Moderate	34%	37%	62%	44%	24%	16%
Conservative	9%	12%	2%	8%	11%	8%
Not sure	28%	25%	26%	31%	28%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Is McCrory Lib/Mod/Con?						
Liberal	9%	22%	7%	7%	7%	6%
Moderate	27%	11%	21%	33%	32%	28%
Conservative	44%	46%	50%	40%	38%	50%
Not sure	20%	20%	22%	20%	23%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cowell/Royal						
Janet Cowell	34%	62%	56%	42%	21%	11%
Steve Royal	33%	13%	12%	20%	46%	56%
Undecided	33%	26%	32%	38%	33%	33%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Smith/Troxler						
Walter Smith	31%	66%	50%	36%	15%	11%
Steve Troxler	45%	11%	22%	31%	62%	74%
Undecided	25%	23%	28%	33%	23%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Wood/Goldman						
Beth Wood	36%	65%	58%	45%	22%	10%
Debra Goldman	36%	11%	13%	23%	46%	67%
Undecided	29%	24%	29%	32%	32%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dalton Favorability			
Favorable	28%	30%	25%
Unfavorable	28%	25%	32%
Not sure	44%	44%	43%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCrory Favorability			
Favorable	44%	41%	48%
Unfavorable	30%	33%	27%
Not sure	26%	26%	25%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dalton/McCrory			
Walter Dalton	40%	42%	38%
Pat McCrory	47%	42%	53%
Undecided	13%	16%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Is Dalton Lib/Mod/Con?			
Liberal	29%	23%	36%
Moderate	34%	31%	37%
Conservative	9%	9%	8%
Not sure	28%	36%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Is McCrory Lib/Mod/Con?			
Liberal	9%	9%	8%
Moderate	27%	24%	32%
Conservative	44%	41%	47%
Not sure	20%	26%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cowell/Royal			
Janet Cowell	34%	37%	31%
Steve Royal	33%	29%	37%
Undecided	33%	34%	32%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Smith/Troxler			
Walter Smith	31%	32%	29%
Steve Troxler	45%	40%	50%
Undecided	25%	28%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Wood/Goldman			
Beth Wood	36%	37%	34%
Debra Goldman	36%	32%	40%
Undecided	29%	31%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dalton Favorability				
Favorable	28%	45%	10%	22%
Unfavorable	28%	19%	41%	27%
Not sure	44%	36%	49%	50%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCrorry Favorability				
Favorable	44%	24%	67%	48%
Unfavorable	30%	49%	10%	25%
Not sure	26%	27%	24%	27%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dalton/McCrorry				
Walter Dalton	40%	68%	10%	31%
Pat McCrorry	47%	18%	83%	47%
Undecided	13%	14%	7%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Is Dalton Lib/Mod/Con?				
Liberal	29%	17%	47%	26%
Moderate	34%	45%	20%	35%
Conservative	9%	11%	7%	7%
Not sure	28%	27%	26%	33%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Is McCrory Lib/Mod/Con?				
Liberal	9%	13%	6%	3%
Moderate	27%	16%	34%	41%
Conservative	44%	46%	46%	35%
Not sure	20%	25%	15%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cowell/Royal				
Janet Cowell	34%	58%	7%	29%
Steve Royal	33%	12%	60%	28%
Undecided	33%	30%	32%	43%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Smith/Troxler				
Walter Smith	31%	53%	5%	26%
Steve Troxler	45%	19%	79%	40%
Undecided	25%	28%	16%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Wood/Goldman				
Beth Wood	36%	58%	10%	32%
Debra Goldman	36%	13%	65%	33%
Undecided	29%	29%	26%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Dalton Favorability				
Favorable	28%	24%	40%	36%
Unfavorable	28%	31%	20%	24%
Not sure	44%	45%	40%	40%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
McCrory Favorability				
Favorable	44%	51%	26%	24%
Unfavorable	30%	26%	44%	37%
Not sure	26%	24%	30%	39%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Dalton/McCrory				
Walter Dalton	40%	31%	68%	39%
Pat McCrory	47%	57%	20%	23%
Undecided	13%	12%	13%	38%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Is Dalton Lib/Mod/Con?				
Liberal	29%	31%	26%	14%
Moderate	34%	35%	35%	18%
Conservative	9%	8%	7%	24%
Not sure	28%	26%	32%	45%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Is McCrory Lib/Mod/Con?				
Liberal	9%	7%	14%	12%
Moderate	27%	29%	22%	24%
Conservative	44%	47%	35%	39%
Not sure	20%	17%	29%	25%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Cowell/Royal				
Janet Cowell	34%	28%	53%	42%
Steve Royal	33%	37%	21%	12%
Undecided	33%	35%	25%	46%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Smith/Troxler				
Walter Smith	31%	22%	59%	38%
Steve Troxler	45%	53%	21%	31%
Undecided	25%	26%	20%	31%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Wood/Goldman				
Beth Wood	36%	29%	55%	43%
Debra Goldman	36%	41%	23%	8%
Undecided	29%	30%	21%	49%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dalton Favorability					
Favorable	28%	21%	28%	29%	30%
Unfavorable	28%	23%	26%	31%	31%
Not sure	44%	55%	45%	40%	39%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCrorry Favorability					
Favorable	44%	33%	42%	47%	48%
Unfavorable	30%	29%	28%	32%	30%
Not sure	26%	38%	29%	21%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dalton/McCrorry					
Walter Dalton	40%	49%	36%	39%	39%
Pat McCrorry	47%	35%	48%	50%	49%
Undecided	13%	16%	16%	11%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Is Dalton Lib/Mod/Con?					
Liberal	29%	33%	27%	29%	30%
Moderate	34%	33%	33%	37%	32%
Conservative	9%	12%	6%	9%	8%
Not sure	28%	22%	34%	25%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Is McCrory Lib/Mod/Con?					
Liberal	9%	22%	7%	6%	7%
Moderate	27%	27%	32%	26%	26%
Conservative	44%	31%	41%	50%	46%
Not sure	20%	20%	20%	19%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cowell/Royal					
Janet Cowell	34%	39%	33%	34%	33%
Steve Royal	33%	31%	29%	35%	34%
Undecided	33%	31%	38%	31%	33%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Smith/Troxler					
Walter Smith	31%	39%	33%	27%	30%
Steve Troxler	45%	35%	42%	50%	46%
Undecided	25%	27%	25%	23%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Wood/Goldman					
Beth Wood	36%	39%	33%	36%	36%
Debra Goldman	36%	33%	36%	35%	39%
Undecided	29%	29%	32%	29%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Dalton Favorability							
Favorable	28%	28%	25%	22%	34%	27%	34%
Unfavorable	28%	34%	32%	24%	16%	23%	35%
Not sure	44%	38%	43%	53%	50%	50%	31%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
McCrorry Favorability							
Favorable	44%	27%	42%	62%	36%	42%	44%
Unfavorable	30%	41%	32%	24%	25%	24%	35%
Not sure	26%	32%	25%	15%	38%	34%	21%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Dalton/McCrory							
Walter Dalton	40%	50%	37%	32%	44%	37%	44%
Pat McCrorry	47%	34%	50%	55%	43%	47%	46%
Undecided	13%	16%	13%	13%	13%	16%	10%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Is Dalton Lib/Mod/Con?							
Liberal	29%	25%	34%	27%	25%	29%	31%
Moderate	34%	29%	38%	30%	41%	28%	37%
Conservative	9%	13%	6%	6%	9%	5%	13%
Not sure	28%	33%	22%	37%	25%	38%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Is McCrory Lib/Mod/Con?							
Liberal	9%	8%	11%	4%	9%	11%	9%
Moderate	27%	16%	20%	41%	25%	22%	32%
Conservative	44%	45%	51%	36%	44%	40%	45%
Not sure	20%	30%	18%	19%	22%	27%	14%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Cowell/Royal							
Janet Cowell	34%	47%	34%	26%	36%	28%	38%
Steve Royal	33%	22%	37%	34%	29%	34%	34%
Undecided	33%	31%	30%	40%	35%	38%	27%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Smith/Troxler							
Walter Smith	31%	41%	27%	27%	30%	34%	31%
Steve Troxler	45%	34%	48%	41%	38%	47%	51%
Undecided	25%	25%	25%	32%	32%	19%	18%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Wood/Goldman							
Beth Wood	36%	41%	32%	26%	41%	36%	41%
Debra Goldman	36%	26%	37%	39%	33%	35%	38%
Undecided	29%	33%	31%	35%	26%	29%	21%

