

**INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312****IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL [information@publicpolicypolling.com](mailto:information@publicpolicypolling.com), OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

## **NC against gay marriage but also marriage amendment**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – 61% of North Carolinians want same-sex marriage to remain illegal, as it is now by statutory law, and only 31% want it to be legal. But 55% also would vote against the Republicans' proposed constitutional amendment prohibiting marriage, civil unions, and domestic partnerships for gay couples. Only 30% would vote for the amendment.

63% of Democrats and 52% of independents would reject the amendment, and even a 47% plurality of Republicans would. Only 37% of them would vote for it. Mirroring an Elon University poll, 61% of African Americans would vote against the amendment. They would be joined by 78% of those under the age of 30 and majorities of every age group, including those over 65, 71% of whom are against gay marriage.

Part of the reason for this opposition to both same-sex marriage and an amendment banning it could be that North Carolina voters are in favor of gay couples receiving the same legal rights as married couples do. When given the option of civil unions, 29% want them, and a quarter still favor full marriage rights, for 54% in support of legal equality, similar to the 55% who oppose the amendment. That includes 63% of independents and 68% of Democrats.

“It’s pretty simple: North Carolinians don’t support gay marriage but they also don’t think this constitutional amendment is necessary,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “And they also think this particular proposal goes too far by targeting civil unions, which many voters in the state support.”

Legislative Republicans remain far less popular than their Democratic counterparts. Only a third see them favorably, and half unfavorably. For Democrats, the spread is 12 points closer, but still negative, 38-43. The generic legislative ballot is virtually tied this month with 46% of voters leaning toward the GOP and 45% to the Democrats.

PPP surveyed 520 North Carolina voters from September 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.3%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.



## North Carolina Survey Results

**Q1** If there was an election for the state legislature today, would you vote Democratic or Republican?

*Democratic*..... 45%  
*Republican*..... 46%  
*Undecided*..... 10%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Democrats in the North Carolina Legislature?

*Favorable*..... 38%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 43%  
*Not sure*..... 19%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Republicans in the North Carolina Legislature?

*Favorable*..... 33%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 50%  
*Not sure*..... 17%

**Q4** Do you have more faith in Governor Perdue or Legislative Republicans to lead the state?

*Governor Perdue* ..... 42%  
*Legislative Republicans* ..... 40%  
*Not sure*..... 18%

**Q5** State legislators have proposed an amendment to the North Carolina Constitution that would prohibit the recognition of marriage, civil unions, or domestic partnerships for gay and lesbian couples. If the election was held today, would you vote for or against this amendment?

*Would vote for it*..... 30%  
*Would vote against it* ..... 55%  
*Not sure*..... 15%

**Q6** Do you think same-sex marriage should be legal or illegal?

*Legal*..... 31%  
*Illegal* ..... 61%  
*Not sure*..... 8%

**Q7** 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* ..... 25%  
*Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry* ..... 29%  
*There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship* ..... 43%  
*Not sure*..... 3%

**Q8** Who did you vote for President in 2008?

*John McCain*..... 47%  
*Barack Obama*..... 48%  
*Someone else/Don't remember* ..... 5%

**Q9** Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

*Very liberal*..... 11%  
*Somewhat liberal* ..... 16%  
*Moderate*..... 28%  
*Somewhat conservative*..... 22%  
*Very conservative* ..... 22%

**Q10** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 54%  
*Man*..... 46%





**Q11** 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* ..... 46%  
*Republican*..... 34%  
*Independent/Other*..... 19%

**Q12** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

*White* ..... 75%  
*African-American* ..... 21%  
*Other*..... 4%

**Q13** 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*..... 28%  
*46 to 65*..... 42%  
*Older than 65*..... 20%

**Q14**

252..... 10%  
 336..... 19%  
 704..... 19%  
 828..... 12%  
 910..... 15%  
 919..... 23%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Generic Leg. Ballot</b>				
Democratic	45%	6%	83%	26%
Republican	46%	84%	8%	53%
Undecided	10%	9%	9%	21%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Leg. Dem Favorability</b>				
Favorable	38%	6%	72%	15%
Unfavorable	43%	75%	12%	44%
Not sure	19%	19%	16%	41%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Leg. GOP Favorability</b>				
Favorable	33%	60%	6%	33%
Unfavorable	50%	17%	82%	52%
Not sure	17%	23%	12%	15%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?</b>				
Governor Perdue	42%	8%	77%	21%
Legislative Republicans	40%	73%	8%	40%
Not sure	18%	18%	16%	39%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Marriage Amendment</b>				
Would vote for it	30%	43%	17%	36%
Would vote against it	55%	43%	68%	54%
Not sure	15%	14%	15%	11%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Same-Sex Marriage Legal/Illegal</b>				
Legal	31%	11%	50%	36%
Illegal	61%	83%	40%	58%
Not sure	8%	7%	10%	6%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition</b>				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	25%	7%	41%	36%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	29%	29%	31%	15%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	43%	62%	24%	50%
Not sure	3%	2%	4%	-

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Generic Leg. Ballot</b>						
Democratic	45%	76%	80%	63%	20%	4%
Republican	46%	15%	12%	22%	73%	88%
Undecided	10%	9%	8%	15%	7%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Leg. Dem Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	59%	70%	54%	19%	4%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	43%	19%	16%	26%	59%	80%
<b>Not sure</b>	19%	22%	14%	20%	22%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Leg. GOP Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	33%	9%	7%	16%	57%	63%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	50%	80%	82%	64%	27%	15%
<b>Not sure</b>	17%	10%	11%	20%	16%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?</b>						
<b>Governor Perdue</b>	42%	76%	69%	59%	21%	5%
<b>Legislative Republicans</b>	40%	6%	11%	22%	59%	83%
<b>Not sure</b>	18%	18%	20%	19%	20%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Marriage Amendment</b>						
<b>Would vote for it</b>	30%	26%	14%	21%	34%	51%
<b>Would vote against it</b>	55%	67%	73%	62%	49%	34%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	7%	13%	17%	17%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Same-Sex Marriage Legal/Illegal</b>						
<b>Legal</b>	31%	54%	61%	42%	11%	2%
<b>Illegal</b>	61%	42%	32%	44%	79%	94%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	3%	8%	13%	9%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition</b>						
<b>Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry</b>	25%	50%	49%	33%	8%	2%
<b>Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry</b>	29%	20%	41%	32%	32%	20%
<b>There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship</b>	43%	28%	11%	29%	57%	76%
<b>Not sure</b>	3%	2%	-	5%	4%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Generic Leg. Ballot</b>			
<b>Democratic</b>	45%	50%	38%
<b>Republican</b>	46%	40%	52%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	9%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Leg. Dem Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	42%	34%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	43%	35%	53%
<b>Not sure</b>	19%	23%	13%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Leg. GOP Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	33%	28%	39%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	50%	49%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	17%	22%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?</b>			
<b>Governor Perdue</b>	42%	45%	38%
<b>Legislative Republicans</b>	40%	34%	47%
<b>Not sure</b>	18%	21%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Marriage Amendment</b>			
<b>Would vote for it</b>	30%	25%	36%
<b>Would vote against it</b>	55%	53%	57%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	22%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Same-Sex Marriage Legal/Illegal</b>			
<b>Legal</b>	31%	32%	29%
<b>Illegal</b>	61%	57%	65%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	11%	5%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition</b>			
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	25%	28%	22%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	29%	27%	32%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	43%	41%	45%
Not sure	3%	4%	1%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Generic Leg. Ballot</b>				
Democratic	45%	83%	4%	25%
Republican	46%	8%	91%	54%
Undecided	10%	9%	4%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Leg. Dem Favorability</b>				
Favorable	38%	66%	8%	26%
Unfavorable	43%	15%	78%	49%
Not sure	19%	19%	14%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Leg. GOP Favorability</b>				
Favorable	33%	10%	61%	39%
Unfavorable	50%	76%	21%	39%
Not sure	17%	14%	19%	22%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?</b>				
<b>Governor Perdue</b>	42%	71%	6%	36%
<b>Legislative Republicans</b>	40%	10%	75%	49%
<b>Not sure</b>	18%	19%	18%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Marriage Amendment</b>				
<b>Would vote for it</b>	30%	23%	37%	35%
<b>Would vote against it</b>	55%	63%	47%	52%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	15%	16%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Same-Sex Marriage Legal/Illegal</b>				
<b>Legal</b>	31%	47%	7%	35%
<b>Illegal</b>	61%	44%	86%	55%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	9%	7%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition</b>				
<b>Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry</b>	25%	39%	5%	27%
<b>Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry</b>	29%	29%	26%	36%
<b>There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship</b>	43%	27%	68%	35%
<b>Not sure</b>	3%	5%	0%	2%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Generic Leg. Ballot</b>				
Democratic	45%	35%	79%	43%
Republican	46%	55%	12%	46%
Undecided	10%	10%	9%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Leg. Dem Favorability</b>				
Favorable	38%	32%	64%	27%
Unfavorable	43%	50%	13%	57%
Not sure	19%	18%	23%	16%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Leg. GOP Favorability</b>				
Favorable	33%	40%	9%	27%
Unfavorable	50%	41%	77%	68%
Not sure	17%	19%	14%	5%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?</b>				
Governor Perdue	42%	35%	70%	23%
Legislative Republicans	40%	47%	13%	50%
Not sure	18%	18%	17%	27%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Marriage Amendment</b>				
<b>Would vote for it</b>	<b>30%</b>	31%	25%	39%
<b>Would vote against it</b>	<b>55%</b>	54%	61%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>15%</b>	15%	14%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Same-Sex Marriage Legal/Illegal</b>				
<b>Legal</b>	<b>31%</b>	30%	29%	57%
<b>Illegal</b>	<b>61%</b>	62%	60%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>8%</b>	8%	11%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition</b>				
<b>Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry</b>	<b>25%</b>	26%	19%	48%
<b>Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry</b>	<b>29%</b>	27%	40%	25%
<b>There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship</b>	<b>43%</b>	46%	34%	23%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>3%</b>	1%	8%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Generic Leg. Ballot</b>					
<b>Democratic</b>	<b>45%</b>	67%	41%	47%	35%
<b>Republican</b>	<b>46%</b>	33%	42%	46%	55%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	-	17%	7%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Leg. Dem Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>38%</b>	56%	32%	41%	32%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>43%</b>	19%	49%	41%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>19%</b>	26%	18%	18%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Leg. GOP Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>33%</b>	22%	27%	38%	38%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>50%</b>	63%	52%	50%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>17%</b>	15%	21%	13%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?</b>					
<b>Governor Perdue</b>	<b>42%</b>	52%	41%	45%	32%
<b>Legislative Republicans</b>	<b>40%</b>	19%	39%	42%	47%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>18%</b>	30%	20%	13%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Marriage Amendment</b>					
<b>Would vote for it</b>	<b>30%</b>	11%	32%	34%	27%
<b>Would vote against it</b>	<b>55%</b>	78%	51%	53%	56%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>15%</b>	11%	17%	13%	17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Same-Sex Marriage Legal/Illegal</b>					
<b>Legal</b>	31%	37%	39%	29%	19%
<b>Illegal</b>	61%	56%	54%	62%	71%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	7%	7%	9%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition</b>					
<b>Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry</b>	25%	33%	34%	23%	13%
<b>Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry</b>	29%	22%	31%	28%	33%
<b>There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship</b>	43%	37%	34%	46%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	3%	7%	1%	3%	2%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Generic Leg. Ballot</b>							
<b>Democratic</b>	45%	49%	44%	41%	48%	43%	46%
<b>Republican</b>	46%	39%	51%	47%	43%	46%	44%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	11%	6%	12%	9%	11%	10%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Leg. Dem Favorability</b>							
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	49%	37%	35%	29%	28%	48%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	43%	38%	46%	41%	44%	48%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	19%	12%	18%	24%	27%	24%	11%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Leg. GOP Favorability</b>							
<b>Favorable</b>	33%	34%	35%	32%	27%	33%	35%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	50%	46%	49%	51%	54%	43%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	17%	20%	16%	17%	20%	24%	11%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?</b>							
<b>Governor Perdue</b>	42%	48%	43%	42%	42%	32%	45%
<b>Legislative Republicans</b>	40%	28%	45%	41%	36%	44%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	18%	24%	13%	17%	22%	25%	14%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Marriage Amendment</b>							
<b>Would vote for it</b>	30%	30%	36%	32%	24%	23%	31%
<b>Would vote against it</b>	55%	52%	51%	52%	51%	62%	60%
<b>Not sure</b>	15%	18%	13%	15%	24%	15%	9%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Same-Sex Marriage Legal/Illegal</b>							
<b>Legal</b>	31%	15%	25%	31%	37%	29%	41%
<b>Illegal</b>	61%	76%	65%	55%	59%	64%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	9%	11%	14%	4%	6%	5%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition</b>							
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	25%	13%	13%	28%	31%	24%	36%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	29%	35%	29%	24%	28%	28%	32%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	43%	49%	54%	48%	40%	43%	28%
Not sure	3%	3%	3%	1%	2%	4%	4%

