

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GOP Still Leads Dems in Legislative Ballot by 8

Raleigh, N.C. – Democrats control both houses of the North Carolina General Assembly, but they still trail generic Republican candidates, 50-42, essentially the same as last month's 49-41. As in the generic congressional ballot, undecided independents have moved toward the Democrats since August, but that improvement has been offset by a consolidation of the GOP and a decline in party unity among Democrats.

Governor Bev Perdue's approval rating has inched up to 35-51—still poor, but an improvement over August's 30-52. 56% of voters think Perdue has conducted her job in 2010 at about the same level as she did in her first year, but more, 27%, think she has done worse than the 18% who think she has improved. By a 48-36 margin, North Carolinians think the governor has been ineffective in communicating to them. Perdue continues to get tepid numbers from her own partymates, less than 60% of whom think she is doing a good job in office and letting Tar Heels know what she has done. More than 70% of Republicans and greater than 60% of independents are down on her.

Attorney General Roy Cooper, who had considered challenging Perdue in the 2008 Democratic gubernatorial primary, and who President Obama tried to recruit to face Richard Burr for U.S. Senate this year, is not very well known, but is pretty well liked by those who do have an opinion, with a 31-19 job approval mark.

“It's not a coincidence that Bev Perdue continues to be extremely unpopular and voters are generally leaning toward supporting Republicans for the Legislature,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “If voters don't like the person in the Governor's office that tends to make it hard on their party's candidates. But Democrats in North Carolina have a long history of winning in very tough districts and if that continues this year it will be very close as to which party gets control of the House and Senate.”

PPP surveyed 681 likely North Carolina voters from September 23rd to 26th. 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.

Complete results are attached, and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.



North Carolina Survey Results

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

Democratic..... 42%
Republican..... 50%
Undecided..... 8%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Bev Perdue's job performance?

Approve..... 35% *Not sure* 14%
Disapprove..... 51%

Q3 In her second year as Governor do you think Bev Perdue is doing a better job, a worse job, or about the same as she did last year?

Better 18% *About the same*..... 56%
Worse..... 27%

Q4 Do you think Bev Perdue has been effective or ineffective in communicating with the people of North Carolina during her time as Governor?

Effective 36% *Not sure* 16%
Ineffective..... 48%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of Attorney General Roy Cooper's job performance?

Approve..... 31% *Not sure* 49%
Disapprove..... 19%

Q6 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 53%
Barack Obama..... 44%
Someone else/Don't remember 3%

Q7 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 17%
Moderate..... 38%
Conservative..... 45%

Q8 Would you describe the community you live in as urban, suburban, rural, or a small town?

Urban..... 16%
Suburban 27%
Rural..... 27%
Small Town 29%

Q9 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%

Q10 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..... 35%
Independent/Other..... 18%

Q11 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 77%
African-American 19%
Other..... 4%

Q12 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..... 6%
30 to 45..... 24%
46 to 65..... 45%
Older than 65..... 25%



Q13

252.....	11%
336.....	18%
704.....	18%
828.....	13%
910.....	15%
919.....	25%



Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Legislative Ballot				
Democratic	42%	5%	87%	29%
Republican	50%	89%	6%	22%
Undecided	8%	6%	7%	49%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Perdue Approval				
Approve	35%	10%	65%	13%
Disapprove	51%	76%	20%	79%
Not sure	14%	14%	15%	8%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Perdue Better/Worse 2nd Year				
Better	18%	5%	33%	13%
Worse	27%	40%	11%	40%
About the same	56%	55%	57%	47%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Perdue Effective Communicator				
Effective	36%	18%	58%	16%
Ineffective	48%	69%	22%	68%
Not sure	16%	13%	20%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Cooper Approval				
Approve	31%	27%	38%	13%
Disapprove	19%	25%	12%	28%
Not sure	49%	48%	50%	59%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Legislative Ballot				
Democratic	42%	87%	59%	11%
Republican	50%	9%	30%	82%
Undecided	8%	4%	11%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Perdue Approval				
Approve	35%	63%	50%	11%
Disapprove	51%	18%	37%	76%
Not sure	14%	19%	13%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Perdue Better/Worse 2nd Year				
Better	18%	30%	23%	8%
Worse	27%	8%	20%	39%
About the same	56%	62%	56%	53%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Perdue Effective Communicator				
Effective	36%	60%	48%	16%
Ineffective	48%	19%	37%	69%
Not sure	16%	21%	15%	15%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Cooper Approval				
Approve	31%	36%	39%	24%
Disapprove	19%	14%	15%	25%
Not sure	49%	50%	47%	52%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Generic Legislative Ballot					
Democratic	42%	60%	43%	32%	42%
Republican	50%	35%	50%	57%	51%
Undecided	8%	5%	7%	11%	7%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Perdue Approval					
Approve	35%	53%	36%	24%	33%
Disapprove	51%	32%	51%	62%	52%
Not sure	14%	15%	12%	14%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Perdue Better/Worse 2nd Year					
Better	18%	27%	18%	10%	19%
Worse	27%	26%	24%	34%	23%
About the same	56%	47%	57%	56%	58%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Perdue Effective Communicator					
Effective	36%	52%	34%	27%	36%
Ineffective	48%	35%	47%	60%	46%
Not sure	16%	13%	18%	13%	18%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Cooper Approval					
Approve	31%	35%	30%	29%	33%
Disapprove	19%	24%	22%	18%	15%
Not sure	49%	41%	48%	53%	51%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Legislative Ballot			
Democratic	42%	47%	37%
Republican	50%	46%	54%
Undecided	8%	7%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue Approval			
Approve	35%	37%	31%
Disapprove	51%	46%	57%
Not sure	14%	16%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue Better/Worse 2nd Year			
Better	18%	19%	16%
Worse	27%	23%	30%
About the same	56%	58%	54%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue Effective Communicator			
Effective	36%	39%	33%
Ineffective	48%	44%	53%
Not sure	16%	17%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cooper Approval			
Approve	31%	30%	32%
Disapprove	19%	12%	27%
Not sure	49%	58%	40%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Legislative Ballot				
Democratic	42%	77%	2%	27%
Republican	50%	17%	95%	50%
Undecided	8%	6%	3%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue Approval				
Approve	35%	57%	8%	25%
Disapprove	51%	29%	76%	64%
Not sure	14%	14%	16%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue Better/Worse 2nd Year				
Better	18%	28%	6%	13%
Worse	27%	15%	39%	33%
About the same	56%	57%	54%	55%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue Effective Communicator				
Effective	36%	54%	15%	27%
Ineffective	48%	27%	71%	60%
Not sure	16%	19%	14%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cooper Approval				
Approve	31%	40%	22%	29%
Disapprove	19%	11%	26%	28%
Not sure	49%	49%	53%	44%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Legislative Ballot				
Democratic	42%	33%	81%	38%
Republican	50%	60%	9%	56%
Undecided	8%	7%	10%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue Approval				
Approve	35%	28%	64%	12%
Disapprove	51%	58%	21%	69%
Not sure	14%	14%	15%	18%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue Better/Worse 2nd Year				
Better	18%	13%	38%	7%
Worse	27%	29%	13%	48%
About the same	56%	58%	49%	45%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue Effective Communicator				
Effective	36%	31%	59%	6%
Ineffective	48%	53%	25%	74%
Not sure	16%	16%	17%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Cooper Approval				
Approve	31%	31%	35%	27%
Disapprove	19%	21%	11%	32%
Not sure	49%	49%	54%	40%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Legislative Ballot					
Democratic	42%	55%	38%	44%	40%
Republican	50%	41%	50%	49%	54%
Undecided	8%	5%	12%	7%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue Approval					
Approve	35%	41%	34%	34%	34%
Disapprove	51%	50%	56%	50%	49%
Not sure	14%	9%	10%	16%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue Better/Worse 2nd Year					
Better	18%	14%	16%	18%	20%
Worse	27%	18%	29%	28%	24%
About the same	56%	68%	55%	54%	57%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue Effective Communicator					
Effective	36%	36%	32%	38%	35%
Ineffective	48%	45%	59%	45%	45%
Not sure	16%	18%	10%	17%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cooper Approval					
Approve	31%	23%	29%	33%	34%
Disapprove	19%	14%	21%	22%	14%
Not sure	49%	64%	50%	45%	53%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Generic Legislative Ballot							
Democratic	42%	37%	46%	39%	48%	31%	48%
Republican	50%	59%	43%	51%	46%	60%	47%
Undecided	8%	4%	11%	10%	7%	10%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue Approval							
Approve	35%	32%	35%	36%	32%	30%	38%
Disapprove	51%	55%	55%	47%	52%	56%	47%
Not sure	14%	13%	10%	17%	16%	14%	14%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue Better/Worse 2nd Year							
Better	18%	20%	18%	17%	16%	14%	19%
Worse	27%	24%	34%	25%	30%	27%	21%
About the same	56%	55%	47%	58%	54%	59%	60%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue Effective Communicator							
Effective	36%	39%	39%	36%	27%	30%	39%
Ineffective	48%	46%	47%	43%	54%	56%	47%
Not sure	16%	15%	13%	21%	19%	14%	15%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Cooper Approval							
Approve	31%	28%	33%	24%	24%	31%	41%
Disapprove	19%	22%	12%	28%	15%	19%	19%
Not sure	49%	49%	55%	48%	62%	49%	40%

