

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312

IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE

Back in session, GOP legislators find disfavor with NC voters

Raleigh, N.C. – Almost every time the North Carolina General Assembly goes back into session, the Republicans' popularity slips, and the Democrats' goes up by comparison. That is the case again in PPP's latest poll of the state. Already less popular than their Democratic counterparts before, the GOP majority is now only seen favorably by 29% of Tar Heel voters and unfavorably by 48%, three points worse on the margin than the 34-50 measured in late October. More of their own voters see them negatively (17%) than Democrats see them positively (13%). Democrats are also far more down on them (70%) than Republicans positive (57%). Independents fall at 22-44.

Legislative Democrats are also unpopular, but not nearly as much as the Republicans in charge. Their favorability spread is 36-41, 14 points better than the GOP and up two points from the previous poll's 37-44. In her re-election bid, Gov. Bev Perdue may be able to employ a mirror strategy as President Obama, who plans to run against a do-nothing Congress. 44% of voters trust her more to lead the state, while 40% trust legislative Republicans more. That is up from a 43-42 lead for the GOP in the last poll.

Voters frown on the Republican leadership without even knowing who the man in charge of the lower chamber is. Speaker Thom Tillis is a non-entity to 81% of voters, and those who say they do have an opinion on him personally fall at 5% favorable and 14% unfavorable. In a look three years down the road to the 2014 Senate race, if Tillis were to challenge freshman Kay Hagan, he would fall to her by 12 points if the election were right now (46-34). With so few voters familiar with him, and even 22% not sure how they feel about Hagan's job performance, Tillis essentially serves as a generic Republican and Hagan as somewhat of a generic Democrat. More Republicans are undecided than Democrats, and 11% of each party crosses over for the other candidate. Hagan has a 37-34 lead with independents. Hagan's approval spread stands at 40-37 now, seven points better than her recently re-elected senior colleague Richard Burr (33-37).

PPP surveyed 865 North Carolina voters from December 1st to 4th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.3%. 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.....44% *Not sure*.....12%
Republican.....44%
- Q2** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Richard Burr's job performance?
Approve33% *Not sure*.....29%
Disapprove.....37%
- Q3** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Kay Hagan's job performance?
Approve40% *Not sure*.....22%
Disapprove.....37%
- Q4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Democrats in the North Carolina Legislature?
Favorable.....36%
Unfavorable41%
Not sure.....22%
- Q5** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Republicans in the North Carolina Legislature?
Favorable.....29%
Unfavorable48%
Not sure.....23%
- Q6** Do you have more faith in Governor Perdue or Legislative Republicans to lead the state?
Governor Perdue44%
Legislative Republicans40%
Not sure15%
- Q7** Do you support or oppose the Racial Justice Act?
Support.....23%
Oppose.....23%
Not sure.....54%
- Q8** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Thom Tillis?
Favorable.....5%
Unfavorable14%
Not sure.....81%
- Q9** If the candidates for Senate in 2014 were Democrat Kay Hagan and Republican Thom Tillis, who would you vote for?
Kay Hagan.....46% *Undecided*.....19%
Thom Tillis34%
- Q10** Who did you vote for President in 2008?
John McCain.....46%
Barack Obama.....48%
Someone else/Don't remember6%
- Q11** Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?
Very liberal.....9%
Somewhat liberal17%
Moderate.....30%
Somewhat conservative.....24%
Very conservative19%
- Q12** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.
Woman52%
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.

<i>Democrat</i>	47%
<i>Republican</i>	35%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	18%

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

<i>White</i>	75%
<i>African-American</i>	20%
<i>Other</i>	4%

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.

<i>18 to 29</i>	12%
<i>30 to 45</i>	30%
<i>46 to 65</i>	38%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%

Q16

252.....	11%
336.....	19%
704.....	24%
828.....	12%
910.....	16%
919.....	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	44%	9%	82%	17%
Republican	44%	81%	7%	43%
Not sure	12%	10%	11%	40%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Burr Approval				
Approve	33%	54%	14%	26%
Disapprove	37%	17%	59%	24%
Not sure	29%	29%	26%	50%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hagan Approval				
Approve	40%	14%	67%	33%
Disapprove	37%	65%	12%	26%
Not sure	22%	21%	21%	41%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Leg. Dems Favorability				
Favorable	36%	10%	64%	12%
Unfavorable	41%	73%	13%	38%
Not sure	22%	18%	23%	50%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Leg. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	29%	52%	10%	19%
Unfavorable	48%	22%	73%	38%
Not sure	23%	26%	18%	43%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP to Lead NC?				
Governor Perdue	44%	12%	75%	38%
Legislative Republicans	40%	77%	9%	25%
Not sure	15%	11%	16%	37%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Support/Oppose Racial Justice Act				
Support	23%	9%	38%	13%
Oppose	23%	36%	11%	19%
Not sure	54%	55%	51%	68%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Tillis Favorability				
Favorable	5%	7%	4%	3%
Unfavorable	14%	8%	18%	13%
Not sure	81%	84%	78%	85%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hagan/Tillis				
Kay Hagan	46%	12%	77%	47%
Thom Tillis	34%	67%	6%	22%
Undecided	19%	21%	17%	31%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Generic Leg. Ballot						
Democratic	44%	84%	83%	53%	15%	13%
Republican	44%	8%	9%	27%	72%	82%
Not sure	12%	8%	9%	20%	13%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Burr Approval						
Approve	33%	16%	18%	23%	50%	50%
Disapprove	37%	67%	61%	42%	18%	19%
Not sure	29%	16%	21%	35%	32%	31%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hagan Approval						
Approve	40%	69%	66%	51%	22%	11%
Disapprove	37%	11%	14%	25%	55%	67%
Not sure	22%	19%	21%	23%	24%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Leg. Dems Favorability						
Favorable	36%	73%	67%	43%	12%	10%
Unfavorable	41%	10%	13%	30%	65%	73%
Not sure	22%	17%	20%	28%	23%	17%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Leg. GOP Favorability						
Favorable	29%	5%	12%	16%	47%	55%
Unfavorable	48%	79%	72%	57%	25%	23%
Not sure	23%	15%	16%	27%	27%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP to Lead NC?						
Governor Perdue	44%	84%	78%	55%	18%	9%
Legislative Republicans	40%	6%	8%	24%	69%	77%
Not sure	15%	11%	14%	20%	13%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose Racial Justice Act						
Support	23%	46%	45%	24%	11%	8%
Oppose	23%	9%	15%	16%	31%	37%
Not sure	54%	44%	41%	60%	59%	56%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Tillis Favorability						
Favorable	5%	3%	3%	4%	10%	4%
Unfavorable	14%	24%	21%	16%	6%	6%
Not sure	81%	73%	76%	80%	84%	90%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hagan/Tillis						
Kay Hagan	46%	84%	75%	54%	22%	15%
Thom Tillis	34%	3%	8%	23%	59%	66%
Undecided	19%	13%	17%	23%	19%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Leg. Ballot			
Democratic	44%	50%	38%
Republican	44%	36%	52%
Not sure	12%	14%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Burr Approval			
Approve	33%	26%	41%
Disapprove	37%	38%	37%
Not sure	29%	36%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hagan Approval			
Approve	40%	46%	35%
Disapprove	37%	28%	48%
Not sure	22%	27%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Leg. Dems Favorability			
Favorable	36%	39%	33%
Unfavorable	41%	34%	50%
Not sure	22%	27%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Leg. GOP Favorability			
Favorable	29%	26%	33%
Unfavorable	48%	48%	47%
Not sure	23%	26%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP to Lead NC?			
Governor Perdue	44%	48%	40%
Legislative Republicans	40%	33%	49%
Not sure	15%	19%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose Racial Justice Act			
Support	23%	27%	19%
Oppose	23%	14%	32%
Not sure	54%	59%	49%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tillis Favorability			
Favorable	5%	4%	7%
Unfavorable	14%	11%	16%
Not sure	81%	85%	77%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hagan/Tillis			
Kay Hagan	46%	52%	40%
Thom Tillis	34%	26%	44%
Undecided	19%	23%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	44%	79%	4%	31%
Republican	44%	11%	91%	37%
Not sure	12%	9%	5%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Burr Approval				
Approve	33%	19%	54%	31%
Disapprove	37%	56%	16%	32%
Not sure	29%	25%	31%	36%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hagan Approval				
Approve	40%	65%	12%	31%
Disapprove	37%	17%	64%	38%
Not sure	22%	18%	24%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Leg. Dems Favorability				
Favorable	36%	63%	5%	22%
Unfavorable	41%	17%	76%	43%
Not sure	22%	20%	19%	35%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Leg. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	29%	13%	57%	22%
Unfavorable	48%	70%	17%	44%
Not sure	23%	17%	26%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP to Lead NC?				
Governor Perdue	44%	72%	9%	35%
Legislative Republicans	40%	15%	78%	40%
Not sure	15%	13%	13%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose Racial Justice Act				
Support	23%	38%	8%	14%
Oppose	23%	15%	33%	25%
Not sure	54%	48%	59%	61%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tillis Favorability				
Favorable	5%	4%	7%	7%
Unfavorable	14%	19%	8%	9%
Not sure	81%	77%	85%	84%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hagan/Tillis				
Kay Hagan	46%	73%	11%	37%
Thom Tillis	34%	11%	69%	34%
Undecided	19%	15%	20%	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Leg. Ballot				
Democratic	44%	34%	86%	29%
Republican	44%	53%	9%	45%
Not sure	12%	13%	5%	26%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Burr Approval				
Approve	33%	38%	15%	37%
Disapprove	37%	33%	57%	31%
Not sure	29%	29%	28%	32%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Hagan Approval				
Approve	40%	34%	64%	48%
Disapprove	37%	45%	13%	20%
Not sure	22%	21%	23%	32%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Leg. Dems Favorability				
Favorable	36%	28%	69%	30%
Unfavorable	41%	51%	8%	36%
Not sure	22%	21%	23%	34%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Leg. GOP Favorability				
Favorable	29%	33%	13%	34%
Unfavorable	48%	42%	70%	37%
Not sure	23%	25%	16%	29%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP to Lead NC?				
Governor Perdue	44%	36%	77%	31%
Legislative Republicans	40%	50%	8%	27%
Not sure	15%	14%	15%	42%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose Racial Justice Act				
Support	23%	19%	41%	27%
Oppose	23%	26%	12%	9%
Not sure	54%	55%	47%	64%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Tillis Favorability				
Favorable	5%	6%	3%	6%
Unfavorable	14%	11%	25%	3%
Not sure	81%	83%	71%	91%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Hagan/Tillis				
Kay Hagan	46%	39%	73%	38%
Thom Tillis	34%	41%	10%	35%
Undecided	19%	20%	17%	27%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Leg. Ballot					
Democratic	44%	51%	43%	47%	37%
Republican	44%	35%	45%	42%	51%
Not sure	12%	15%	12%	11%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Burr Approval					
Approve	33%	31%	34%	33%	35%
Disapprove	37%	36%	43%	36%	33%
Not sure	29%	33%	23%	31%	32%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hagan Approval					
Approve	40%	51%	41%	38%	38%
Disapprove	37%	20%	43%	39%	37%
Not sure	22%	29%	17%	23%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Leg. Dems Favorability					
Favorable	36%	45%	39%	37%	27%
Unfavorable	41%	23%	45%	42%	45%
Not sure	22%	32%	16%	21%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Leg. GOP Favorability					
Favorable	29%	12%	31%	30%	35%
Unfavorable	48%	49%	50%	50%	40%
Not sure	23%	40%	19%	21%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP to Lead NC?					
Governor Perdue	44%	49%	45%	45%	39%
Legislative Republicans	40%	28%	44%	39%	45%
Not sure	15%	23%	11%	16%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose Racial Justice Act					
Support	23%	21%	21%	28%	19%
Oppose	23%	30%	25%	22%	16%
Not sure	54%	49%	54%	49%	65%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tillis Favorability					
Favorable	5%	5%	8%	3%	6%
Unfavorable	14%	14%	12%	14%	14%
Not sure	81%	81%	80%	83%	80%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hagan/Tillis					
Kay Hagan	46%	54%	45%	47%	42%
Thom Tillis	34%	12%	40%	36%	37%
Undecided	19%	34%	15%	17%	22%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Generic Leg. Ballot							
Democratic	44%	45%	45%	40%	33%	40%	59%
Republican	44%	47%	40%	52%	48%	46%	29%
Not sure	12%	8%	15%	8%	19%	14%	11%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Burr Approval							
Approve	33%	38%	41%	31%	35%	32%	25%
Disapprove	37%	27%	38%	40%	28%	32%	51%
Not sure	29%	35%	21%	29%	36%	36%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Hagan Approval							
Approve	40%	42%	37%	39%	33%	34%	55%
Disapprove	37%	32%	45%	41%	43%	35%	25%
Not sure	22%	25%	18%	20%	23%	31%	20%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Leg. Dems Favorability							
Favorable	36%	31%	34%	36%	32%	34%	48%
Unfavorable	41%	41%	43%	44%	43%	42%	35%
Not sure	22%	29%	22%	20%	24%	24%	17%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Leg. GOP Favorability							
Favorable	29%	23%	26%	33%	37%	34%	23%
Unfavorable	48%	39%	51%	48%	41%	37%	63%
Not sure	23%	38%	23%	20%	22%	28%	14%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP to Lead NC?							
Governor Perdue	44%	44%	42%	44%	38%	37%	58%
Legislative Republicans	40%	39%	43%	41%	49%	43%	29%
Not sure	15%	17%	15%	15%	14%	20%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Support/Oppose Racial Justice Act							
Support	23%	20%	25%	24%	19%	21%	29%
Oppose	23%	25%	25%	21%	19%	27%	19%
Not sure	54%	55%	50%	55%	62%	52%	52%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Tillis Favorability							
Favorable	5%	3%	4%	8%	1%	3%	8%
Unfavorable	14%	15%	11%	15%	15%	11%	16%
Not sure	81%	83%	85%	76%	84%	86%	76%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Hagan/Tillis							
Kay Hagan	46%	45%	45%	48%	39%	39%	57%
Thom Tillis	34%	31%	39%	38%	34%	39%	24%
Undecided	19%	24%	16%	15%	27%	22%	19%

