



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NC barely bullish on GOP majority, more positive on Perdue

Raleigh, N.C. – A month and a half after giving Republicans control of both houses of the North Carolina General Assembly for the first time in well over a century, voters in the state are tepidly optimistic things will get better once the GOP majority takes charge. 41% think the state will be better off with Republicans in the majority, while 37% think it will be worse off, and 20% think the status quo will continue. Independents are not unexpectedly cynical, with 34% thinking things will improve, 31% thinking things will get worse, and 30% thinking nothing will change. Republicans are, of course, looking forward to the switch in control, with 82% thinking things will be rosier then.

At the same time, voters' views of Governor Bev Perdue's job performance have ticked up slightly, and her numbers are the best they have been since April of 2009, three months after she took office. Her job approval rating now stands at 35-44, with slight improvements across the board since last month. Reflected in those better numbers could be that North Carolinians overwhelmingly approve of her recently proposed austerity measures. 50% support the government reorganization plan, to only 23% who oppose it. At 45-26, independents are actually the least supportive, but at 50-21 and 52-22, respectively, Democrats and Republicans are united in support.

Despite their slim preference for how things might turn out with Republicans at the helm, voters do not like the GOP legislators any more than their Democratic counterparts, nor do they like either group much better than the Governor. The Democrats have a 38-45 favorability margin, and the Republicans a 33-41. Republicans do, however, perform considerably better with independents and better with Democrats than Democrats do with Republicans.

“Voters support the reorganization of state government that Bev Perdue outlined a couple weeks ago and her overall job performance numbers are improving as a result,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “She still has a ways to go but she's not nearly as unpopular as she was at the end of 2009.”

Perdue finished 2009 with a 27/53 approval rating, for a -26 spread. The -9 spread in her current numbers represents a 17 point improvement in the last year.

PPP surveyed 520 North Carolina voters from December 17th to 19th. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.3%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

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North Carolina Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Bev Perdue's job performance?

Approve..... 35% *Not sure* 20%

Disapprove..... 44%

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

Favorable..... 38%

Unfavorable 45%

Not sure 17%

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

Favorable..... 33%

Unfavorable 41%

Not sure 26%

Q4 Do you think North Carolina will be better off, worse off, or about the same with Republicans in control of the Legislature?

Better off 41%

Worse off 37%

About the same..... 20%

Not sure 1%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Easley?

Favorable..... 19%

Unfavorable 52%

Not sure 29%

Q6 Last week Governor Perdue proposed a reorganization of state government that would merge agencies and implement a hiring freeze for state employees among other cost cutting measures. Do you support or oppose her proposal?

Support 50%

Oppose 23%

Not sure 28%

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

Liberal..... 17%

Moderate..... 40%

Conservative..... 43%

Q8 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 55%

Man..... 45%

Q9 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 21%

Q10 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 73%

African-American 23%

Other..... 4%





Q11 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.....	12%
30 to 45.....	30%
46 to 65.....	38%
Older than 65.....	20%

Q12

252.....	9%
336.....	22%
704.....	17%
828.....	16%
910.....	15%
919.....	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Perdue Approval				
Approve	35%	60%	46%	16%
Disapprove	44%	18%	34%	64%
Not sure	20%	22%	20%	20%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
GA Dems Favorability				
Favorable	38%	74%	45%	17%
Unfavorable	45%	5%	35%	69%
Not sure	17%	21%	20%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
GA GOP Favorability				
Favorable	33%	8%	23%	52%
Unfavorable	41%	70%	47%	24%
Not sure	26%	23%	31%	24%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
NC Better/Worse Off w/ GOP Majority?				
Better off	41%	8%	27%	68%
Worse off	37%	75%	44%	16%
About the same	20%	17%	27%	16%
Not sure	1%	-	3%	1%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Easley Favorability				
Favorable	19%	28%	24%	11%
Unfavorable	52%	43%	50%	58%
Not sure	29%	29%	26%	31%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Perdue Gov't Reorg. Plan Support				
Support	50%	47%	57%	44%
Oppose	23%	22%	20%	25%
Not sure	28%	32%	23%	31%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue Approval			
Approve	35%	37%	34%
Disapprove	44%	39%	51%
Not sure	20%	25%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
GA Dems Favorability			
Favorable	38%	44%	29%
Unfavorable	45%	38%	53%
Not sure	17%	17%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
GA GOP Favorability			
Favorable	33%	29%	37%
Unfavorable	41%	41%	40%
Not sure	26%	30%	22%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
NC Better/Worse Off w/ GOP Majority?			
Better off	41%	39%	44%
Worse off	37%	45%	28%
About the same	20%	14%	28%
Not sure	1%	2%	0%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Easley Favorability			
Favorable	19%	18%	20%
Unfavorable	52%	46%	61%
Not sure	29%	36%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue Gov't Reorg. Plan Support			
Support	50%	38%	63%
Oppose	23%	25%	20%
Not sure	28%	37%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue Approval				
Approve	35%	55%	15%	26%
Disapprove	44%	25%	68%	49%
Not sure	20%	20%	17%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
GA Dems Favorability				
Favorable	38%	66%	7%	26%
Unfavorable	45%	17%	80%	50%
Not sure	17%	18%	13%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
GA GOP Favorability				
Favorable	33%	13%	63%	27%
Unfavorable	41%	63%	17%	32%
Not sure	26%	24%	21%	41%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
NC Better/Worse Off w/ GOP Majority?				
Better off	41%	15%	82%	34%
Worse off	37%	64%	5%	31%
About the same	20%	22%	13%	30%
Not sure	1%	0%	1%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Easley Favorability				
Favorable	19%	25%	12%	16%
Unfavorable	52%	46%	62%	51%
Not sure	29%	29%	26%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue Gov't Reorg. Plan Support				
Support	50%	50%	52%	45%
Oppose	23%	21%	22%	26%
Not sure	28%	28%	26%	29%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue Approval				
Approve	35%	32%	45%	47%
Disapprove	44%	51%	26%	34%
Not sure	20%	18%	29%	19%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
GA Dems Favorability				
Favorable	38%	27%	72%	49%
Unfavorable	45%	56%	9%	45%
Not sure	17%	18%	19%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
GA GOP Favorability				
Favorable	33%	41%	8%	19%
Unfavorable	41%	33%	66%	46%
Not sure	26%	26%	26%	35%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
NC Better/Worse Off w/ GOP Majority?				
Better off	41%	51%	13%	27%
Worse off	37%	27%	66%	51%
About the same	20%	20%	20%	22%
Not sure	1%	2%	0%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Easley Favorability				
Favorable	19%	18%	22%	19%
Unfavorable	52%	58%	34%	52%
Not sure	29%	24%	44%	29%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue Gov't Reorg. Plan Support				
Support	50%	54%	33%	57%
Oppose	23%	21%	30%	16%
Not sure	28%	25%	37%	27%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue Approval					
Approve	35%	33%	33%	34%	42%
Disapprove	44%	43%	44%	49%	37%
Not sure	20%	24%	22%	17%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
GA Dems Favorability					
Favorable	38%	45%	40%	35%	35%
Unfavorable	45%	40%	41%	49%	46%
Not sure	17%	15%	20%	15%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
GA GOP Favorability					
Favorable	33%	33%	32%	34%	30%
Unfavorable	41%	38%	44%	40%	39%
Not sure	26%	29%	23%	26%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
NC Better/Worse Off w/ GOP Majority?					
Better off	41%	43%	37%	44%	42%
Worse off	37%	43%	40%	35%	34%
About the same	20%	14%	22%	20%	22%
Not sure	1%	-	1%	1%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Easley Favorability					
Favorable	19%	10%	20%	22%	17%
Unfavorable	52%	52%	47%	52%	62%
Not sure	29%	38%	33%	26%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue Gov't Reorg. Plan Support					
Support	50%	19%	49%	55%	58%
Oppose	23%	33%	23%	24%	12%
Not sure	28%	48%	27%	21%	30%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue Approval							
Approve	35%	34%	32%	28%	36%	45%	39%
Disapprove	44%	46%	48%	45%	41%	43%	41%
Not sure	20%	20%	19%	27%	22%	11%	20%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
GA Dems Favorability							
Favorable	38%	35%	42%	31%	34%	29%	48%
Unfavorable	45%	54%	46%	51%	49%	52%	27%
Not sure	17%	10%	12%	18%	17%	19%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
GA GOP Favorability							
Favorable	33%	41%	36%	41%	35%	36%	15%
Unfavorable	41%	38%	44%	28%	47%	40%	46%
Not sure	26%	21%	21%	31%	18%	24%	39%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
NC Better/Worse Off w/ GOP Majority?							
Better off	41%	38%	44%	49%	48%	44%	26%
Worse off	37%	33%	34%	34%	33%	34%	50%
About the same	20%	29%	21%	15%	19%	20%	21%
Not sure	1%	-	1%	2%	-	2%	2%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Easley Favorability							
Favorable	19%	24%	19%	12%	22%	19%	20%
Unfavorable	52%	52%	58%	50%	43%	56%	53%
Not sure	29%	24%	23%	38%	35%	25%	27%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue Gov't Reorg. Plan Support							
Support	50%	49%	48%	43%	57%	58%	45%
Oppose	23%	25%	30%	21%	18%	18%	21%
Not sure	28%	27%	21%	36%	24%	24%	33%

