

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

N.C. Voters Support Oil Drilling

Raleigh, N.C. – Barack Obama’s job approval among North Carolina voters remains unchanged overall from March, but his health care plan received a boost, and his executive order allowing oil exploration off the coast is overwhelmingly popular.

While his general approval rating is stagnant, at 46-50, Obama has dropped significantly in the eyes of independents, from 41-50 to 33-63. Independents have also brought Democrats down slightly in the generic Congressional ballot, from a statistical tie to a 42-46 deficit, by supporting Republicans 46-19, versus 38-29 last month.

Voters’ views of Obama’s health care reform plan have drastically improved since it became law, however. In February, North Carolinians were opposed to its passage, 38-53. They are still down on it, 42-50, but the bill’s support improved among Democrats (from 68-21 to 73-18).

Quite unlike health care, oil drilling receives majority support almost across the board, and is most popular with conservatives, Republicans, and McCain voters. In fact, while Democrats overall support oil exploration 52-33, liberals oppose it 38-46. In the split sample labeling drilling as Obama’s plan, that cue leans liberals to support it 55-27 and ups support among both Democrats and Obama voters.

“Partisans are predictably mirror opposites on everything but oil drilling, which seems to be one of the most popular things Obama has done in some time,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But independents remain a thorn in his side.”

PPP surveys in the last week found Bev Perdue and Richard Burr’s approval numbers on the decline, with Elaine Marshall continuing to hold a small lead in the Democratic primary. The next primary poll will be released the week of April 26th.

PPP surveyed 742 North Carolina voters from April 8th to 11th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.6%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

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North Carolina Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 46%
Disapprove..... 50%
Not Sure..... 4%

Q2 Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or do you not have an opinion? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you don't have an opinion, press 3.

Support 42%
Oppose 50%
No Opinion..... 7%

Q3 Do you support or oppose President Obama's plan to drill for oil off the coast of North Carolina? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Support 65%
Oppose 20%
Not Sure..... 15%

Q4 Do you support or oppose drilling for oil off the coast of North Carolina? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Support 61%
Oppose 26%
Not Sure..... 12%

Q5 If there was an election for Congress today, would you vote Democratic or Republican? If Democratic, press 1. If Republican, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Democratic..... 42%
Republican..... 46%
Undecided..... 12%

Q6 Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

McCain..... 49%
Obama 48%
Someone else/Don't remember 3%

Q7 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 17%
Moderate..... 39%
Conservative..... 44%

Q8 I am going to name 7 issues. Which of these is most important to you? The War in Iraq, education, the economy and jobs, taxes, moral or family values, health care, or immigration. If the War in Iraq is most important, press 1. If education, press 2. If the economy and jobs, press 3. If taxes, press 4. If moral and family values, press 5. If health care, press 6. If immigration, press 7. If some other issue is most important, press 8.

War in Iraq 6%
Education..... 12%
Economy and Jobs 57%
Taxes..... 3%
Moral and family values 12%
Health care 5%
Immigration..... 2%
Other..... 3%





Q9 Would you describe the community you live in as urban, suburban, rural, or a small town? If urban, press 1. If suburban, press 2. If rural, press 3. If a small town, press 4.

Urban..... 14%
Suburban..... 28%
Rural..... 28%
Small Town..... 30%

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

Woman 56%
Man..... 44%

Q11 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 47%
Republican..... 35%
Independent/Other..... 17%

Q12 If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White 75%
African-American 22%
Other..... 3%

Q13 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

18 to 29..... 8%
30 to 45..... 25%
46 to 65..... 45%
Older than 65..... 22%

Q14

252..... 15%
336..... 20%
704..... 24%
828..... 14%
910..... 11%
919..... 17%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	46%	4%	91%	18%
Disapprove	50%	93%	5%	63%
Not Sure	4%	3%	3%	18%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Health Care				
Support	43%	2%	86%	18%
Oppose	50%	92%	6%	63%
No Opinion	7%	6%	8%	18%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Off Shore Drilling Support				
Support	65%	66%	65%	57%
Oppose	20%	20%	21%	8%
Not Sure	15%	14%	13%	35%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Off Shore Drilling Support				
Support	62%	73%	51%	39%
Oppose	26%	18%	34%	61%
Not Sure	12%	9%	15%	-





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democratic	42%	4%	82%	11%
Republican	46%	86%	6%	37%
Undecided	12%	10%	12%	51%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	46%	90%	64%	14%
Disapprove	50%	10%	30%	83%
Not Sure	4%	-	6%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Health Care				
Support	42%	83%	60%	11%
Oppose	50%	11%	32%	82%
No Opinion	7%	5%	8%	7%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Off Shore Drilling Support				
Support	65%	55%	65%	69%
Oppose	20%	27%	23%	15%
Not Sure	15%	18%	12%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Off Shore Drilling Support				
Support	61%	38%	58%	74%
Oppose	26%	46%	29%	15%
Not Sure	12%	16%	13%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democratic	42%	83%	57%	12%
Republican	46%	7%	28%	77%
Undecided	12%	10%	15%	11%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Obama Approval					
Approve	46%	56%	54%	36%	42%
Disapprove	50%	41%	42%	61%	51%
Not Sure	4%	3%	3%	3%	7%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Health Care					
Support	42%	50%	51%	32%	40%
Oppose	50%	41%	45%	59%	51%
No Opinion	7%	9%	4%	9%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Obama Off Shore Drilling Support					
Support	65%	66%	60%	68%	67%
Oppose	20%	21%	28%	15%	17%
Not Sure	15%	13%	13%	17%	17%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Off Shore Drilling Support					
Support	61%	57%	62%	68%	56%
Oppose	26%	32%	30%	23%	23%
Not Sure	12%	11%	8%	9%	21%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Generic Congressional Ballot					
Democratic	42%	48%	48%	32%	41%
Republican	46%	41%	41%	54%	46%
Undecided	12%	11%	11%	14%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	46%	51%	40%
Disapprove	50%	45%	56%
Not Sure	4%	4%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Health Care			
Support	42%	46%	38%
Oppose	50%	44%	59%
No Opinion	7%	10%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Off Shore Drilling Support			
Support	65%	59%	74%
Oppose	20%	20%	20%
Not Sure	15%	21%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Off Shore Drilling Support			
Support	61%	52%	73%
Oppose	26%	30%	21%
Not Sure	12%	17%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Congressional Ballot			
Democratic	42%	46%	35%
Republican	46%	39%	55%
Undecided	12%	14%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	46%	79%	8%	33%
Disapprove	50%	17%	88%	63%
Not Sure	4%	4%	4%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Health Care				
Support	42%	73%	6%	30%
Oppose	50%	18%	88%	63%
No Opinion	7%	9%	6%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Off Shore Drilling Support				
Support	65%	64%	66%	66%
Oppose	20%	21%	18%	23%
Not Sure	15%	15%	16%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Off Shore Drilling Support				
Support	61%	52%	73%	65%
Oppose	26%	33%	18%	23%
Not Sure	12%	15%	9%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democratic	42%	78%	3%	19%
Republican	46%	12%	92%	46%
Undecided	12%	9%	6%	35%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	46%	33%	89%	54%
Disapprove	50%	62%	9%	46%
Not Sure	4%	5%	2%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Health Care				
Support	42%	30%	85%	50%
Oppose	50%	63%	9%	50%
No Opinion	7%	8%	6%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Off Shore Drilling Support				
Support	65%	59%	82%	71%
Oppose	20%	25%	6%	21%
Not Sure	15%	16%	12%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Off Shore Drilling Support				
Support	61%	59%	71%	59%
Oppose	26%	29%	16%	18%
Not Sure	12%	12%	13%	23%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democratic	42%	30%	83%	32%
Republican	46%	57%	10%	38%
Undecided	12%	13%	7%	30%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	46%	71%	46%	47%	36%
Disapprove	50%	29%	49%	49%	61%
Not Sure	4%	-	5%	5%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Health Care					
Support	42%	71%	41%	44%	30%
Oppose	50%	26%	51%	50%	59%
No Opinion	7%	3%	8%	6%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Off Shore Drilling Support					
Support	65%	76%	63%	64%	66%
Oppose	20%	19%	27%	17%	18%
Not Sure	15%	5%	10%	20%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Off Shore Drilling Support					
Support	61%	70%	57%	60%	67%
Oppose	26%	10%	29%	32%	16%
Not Sure	12%	20%	14%	8%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Congressional Ballot					
Democratic	42%	61%	40%	43%	33%
Republican	46%	32%	45%	45%	54%
Undecided	12%	6%	15%	11%	13%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Obama Approval							
Approve	46%	40%	47%	49%	30%	52%	56%
Disapprove	50%	52%	51%	48%	68%	43%	39%
Not Sure	4%	9%	2%	3%	3%	5%	4%





Crosstabs

		Area Code						
		Base	252	336	704	828	910	919
Health Care								
	Support	42%	38%	40%	46%	25%	46%	56%
	Oppose	50%	54%	51%	48%	65%	48%	39%
	No Opinion	7%	8%	9%	7%	9%	7%	4%

		Area Code						
		Base	252	336	704	828	910	919
Obama Off Shore Drilling Support								
	Support	65%	64%	62%	74%	54%	63%	68%
	Oppose	20%	21%	27%	14%	22%	16%	22%
	Not Sure	15%	16%	11%	12%	24%	22%	10%

		Area Code						
		Base	252	336	704	828	910	919
Off Shore Drilling Support								
	Support	61%	64%	58%	59%	77%	55%	58%
	Oppose	26%	17%	34%	28%	17%	27%	29%
	Not Sure	12%	19%	8%	13%	6%	18%	13%

		Area Code						
		Base	252	336	704	828	910	919
Generic Congressional Ballot								
	Democratic	42%	43%	38%	41%	25%	48%	53%
	Republican	46%	48%	50%	45%	58%	44%	33%
	Undecided	12%	9%	12%	13%	16%	8%	14%

