

**Civitas Institute**  
**North Carolina Statewide Poll Results**  
*May 26 – 28, 2020*

*N=500 likely voters*  
*Method: Live Caller*

*Confidence Interval: 95%*  
*Margin of Error: +/- 4.38%*

**Q1.** Do you feel things in the United States are generally headed in the right direction or have things gotten off on the wrong track?

	<i>5/29/20</i>	<i>4/7/20</i>	<i>3/17/20</i>	<i>10/17/19</i>	<i>9/11/19</i>	<i>8/4/19</i>	<i>6/10/19</i>	<i>5/5/19</i>
Right direction	35%	43%	44%	37%	38%	39%	37%	39%
Wrong track	55%	45%	45%	54%	51%	53%	53%	52%
Unsure/Refused	10%	11%	11%	9%	10%	8%	9%	9%

  

	<i>3/17/19</i>	<i>2/13/19</i>	<i>11/19/18</i>	<i>10/21/18</i>	<i>9/7/18</i>
Right direction	34%	38%	41%	41%	41%
Wrong track	56%	53%	48%	50%	50%
Unsure/Refused	10%	10%	12%	9%	9%

**Q2.** And now just thinking about North Carolina... do you feel things in North Carolina are generally headed in the right direction or have things gotten off on the wrong track?

	<i>5/29/20</i>	<i>4/7/20</i>	<i>3/17/20</i>	<i>10/17/19</i>	<i>9/11/19</i>	<i>8/4/19</i>	<i>6/10/19</i>	<i>5/5/19</i>
Right direction	47%	56%	47%	37%	35%	37%	38%	41%
Wrong track	40%	30%	33%	47%	47%	46%	45%	38%
Unsure/Refused	13%	15%	20%	17%	18%	17%	17%	21%

  

	<i>3/17/19</i>	<i>2/13/19</i>	<i>11/19/18</i>	<i>10/21/18</i>	<i>9/7/18</i>
Right direction	39%	40%	43%	45%	43%
Wrong track	44%	39%	39%	41%	41%
Unsure/Refused	17%	21%	18%	15%	16%

**Q3. How likely are you to vote in the 2020 Presidential election?**

	<i>5/29/20</i>	<i>4/7/20</i>	<i>3/17/20</i>	<i>10/17/19</i>	<i>9/11/19</i>	<i>8/4/19</i>
Extremely likely	81%	74%	79%	77%	74%	73%
Very likely	17%	22%	19%	21%	22%	21%
Somewhat likely	3%	4%	2%	3%	3%	6%

**Q4. If the 2020 election for North Carolina State Legislature were held today, would you vote for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate?**

*(Note: October and September 2018 were asked in reference to pending 2018 election.)*

	<i>5/29/20</i>	<i>4/7/20</i>	<i>3/17/20</i>	<i>10/17/19</i>	<i>9/11/19</i>	<i>8/4/19</i>	<i>6/10/19</i>
Republican Candidate	41%	38%	42%	39%	36%	35%	36%
Democratic Candidate	39%	40%	41%	40%	41%	37%	36%
Neither/Other/Independent	4%	5%	4%	3%	7%	5%	8%
Undecided	15%	16%	14%	18%	17%	23%	19%

	<i>5/5/19</i>	<i>3/17/19</i>	<i>2/13/19</i>	<i>10/21/18</i>	<i>9/7/18</i>
Republican Candidate	39%	36%	37%	39%	36%
Democratic Candidate	37%	38%	37%	44%	42%
Neither/Other/Independent	6%	9%	4%	6%	6%
Undecided	18%	17%	22%	11%	16%

**Q5. And, regardless of how you would vote at the state level, if the 2020 election for United States Congress were held today, would you be voting for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate?**

*(Note: October and September 2018 were asked in reference to pending 2018 election.)*

	<i>5/29/20</i>	<i>4/7/20</i>	<i>3/17/20</i>	<i>10/17/19</i>	<i>9/11/19</i>	<i>8/4/19</i>	<i>6/10/19</i>
Republican Candidate	43%	41%	44%	40%	37%	39%	38%
Democratic Candidate	40%	42%	41%	41%	42%	37%	38%
Neither/Other/Independent	3%	3%	4%	3%	5%	5%	6%
Undecided	14%	14%	11%	17%	16%	19%	18%

	<i>5/5/19</i>	<i>3/17/19</i>	<i>2/13/19</i>	<i>10/21/18</i>	<i>9/7/18</i>
Republican Candidate	39%	37%	37%	39%	38%
Democratic Candidate	39%	40%	38%	43%	45%
Neither/Other/Independent	5%	7%	4%	6%	5%
Undecided	17%	15%	21%	12%	12%

**Q6.** Now please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of the job that Donald Trump is doing as President.

	<i>5/29/20</i>	<i>4/7/20</i>	<i>3/17/20</i>	<i>10/17/19</i>	<i>9/11/19</i>	<i>8/4/19</i>	<i>6/10/19</i>
Strongly Approve	36%	38%	40%	37%	37%	35%	34%
Somewhat Approve	15%	14%	12%	11%	11%	14%	13%
Strongly Disapprove	43%	36%	39%	45%	42%	40%	42%
Somewhat Disapprove	5%	9%	5%	5%	8%	8%	9%
Unsure/Refused	2%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
<b>Total Approve</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>Total Disapprove</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>51%</b>

	<i>5/5/19</i>	<i>3/17/19</i>	<i>2/13/19</i>	<i>11/19/18</i>	<i>10/21/18</i>	<i>9/7/18</i>
Strongly Approve	36%	33%	38%	36%	37%	31%
Somewhat Approve	11%	14%	11%	12%	11%	14%
Strongly Disapprove	39%	44%	42%	44%	38%	45%
Somewhat Disapprove	8%	5%	5%	5%	9%	8%
Unsure/Refused	5%	4%	4%	3%	4%	2%
<b>Total Approve</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>45%</b>
<b>Total Disapprove</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>53%</b>

**Q7.** Now please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of the job that Roy Cooper is doing as Governor.

	<i>5/29/20</i>	<i>4/7/20</i>	<i>3/17/20</i>	<i>10/17/19</i>	<i>9/11/19</i>	<i>6/10/19</i>
Strongly Approve	32%	34%	29%	25%	23%	21%
Somewhat Approve	31%	36%	33%	26%	31%	32%
Strongly Disapprove	20%	12%	16%	21%	21%	21%
Somewhat Disapprove	13%	12%	13%	14%	12%	13%
Unsure/Refused	5%	7%	9%	15%	13%	13%
<b>Total Approve</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>53%</b>
<b>Total Disapprove</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>34%</b>

	<i>5/5/19</i>	<i>3/17/19</i>
Strongly Approve	22%	22%
Somewhat Approve	34%	36%
Strongly Disapprove	19%	17%
Somewhat Disapprove	10%	12%
Unsure/Refused	15%	12%
<b>Total Approve</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>58%</b>
<b>Total Disapprove</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>29%</b>

**Q8.** If the Presidential election were held today, which of the following candidates would you vote for: Republican Donald Trump OR Democrat Joe Biden?

	<i>5/29/20</i>	<i>4/7/20</i>	<i>8/4/19</i>
Definitely Trump	43%	47%	41%
Probably Trump	4%	2%	4%
Definitely Biden	36%	39%	33%
Probably Biden	8%	3%	11%
Undecided	9%	9%	11%
<b>Total Trump</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>45%</b>
<b>Total Biden</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>44%</b>

**Q9.** If the US Senate election were held today, which of the following candidates would you vote for: Republican Thom Tillis, Democrat Cal Cunningham, Libertarian Shannon Bray, or Constitution Party candidate Kevin Hayes?

	<i>5/29/20</i>	<i>4/7/20</i>
Definitely Tillis	30%	30%
Probably Tillis	8%	8%
Definitely Cunningham	28%	29%
Probably Cunningham	8%	5%
Bray	3%	2%
Hayes	2%	3%
Undecided	21%	23%
<b>Total Tillis</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Total Cunningham</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>34%</b>

**Q10.** If the election for North Carolina Governor were held today, which of the following candidates would you vote for: Republican Dan Forest, Democrat Roy Cooper, Libertarian Steven DiFiore, or Constitution Party candidate Al Pisano?

	<i>5/29/20</i>	<i>4/7/20</i>	<i>10/17/19</i>	<i>8/4/19</i>
Definitely Forest	31%	28%	31%	30%
Probably Forest	6%	5%	5%	6%
Definitely Cooper	38%	43%	39%	41%
Probably Cooper	11%	7%	7%	7%
DiFiore	<1%	1%	NA	NA
Pisano	1%	1%	NA	NA
Undecided	13%	16%	19%	15%
<b>Total Forest</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>36%</b>
<b>Total Cooper</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>48%</b>

Thinking now about the coronavirus pandemic...

**Q11.** North Carolina entered Phase 2 of Governor Cooper’s economic reopening plan on Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Meanwhile, other southeastern states have opened sooner, such as South Carolina and Florida, which began broadly reopening on May 4<sup>th</sup>. In your opinion, has Governor Cooper’s economic re-opening been too fast, too slow, or about right?

Too fast	19%
Too slow	26%
About right	51%
Unsure/Refused	3%

**Q12.** Phase 2 of Governor Cooper’s economic reopening plan allows restaurants, salons and pools to open at 50 percent capacity. However, other venues such as gyms, movie theaters, museums, and playgrounds must remain closed through at least June 26<sup>th</sup>. Do you believe that this phase of the economic re-opening is too restrictive, not restrictive enough, or about right?

Too restrictive	33%
Not restrictive enough	15%
About right	47%
Unsure/Refused	5%

**Q13.** Phase 1 of Governor Cooper’s reopening plan lasted two weeks, while Phase 2 will last at least five weeks – or until June 26<sup>th</sup>. Do you think the length of Phase 2 is too short, too long, or about right?

Too short	9%
Too long	32%
About right	54%
Unsure/Refused	5%

**Q14.** As of May 22<sup>nd</sup>, there are 21,780 positive cases of coronavirus in North Carolina. Meanwhile, the number of unemployed workers in North Carolina increased by 357,000 in April to a total of 573,000. Knowing that both are a priority, which do you think should be the higher priority for state lawmakers – the health crisis or the economic crisis?

Health crisis	48%
Economic crisis	40%
Unsure/Refused	11%

**Q15.** On May 16<sup>th</sup>, a US district court judge ruled that Governor Roy Cooper’s executive order banning indoor worship services with more than 10 people is in violation of the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment to the US Constitution. The judge’s decision blocked the enforcement of these restrictions and allowed worship services to resume. Do you agree or disagree with the judge’s decision?

Strongly Agree	37%
Somewhat Agree	14%
Strongly Disagree	30%
Somewhat Disagree	13%
Unsure/Refused	6%
<b>Total Agree</b>	<b>51%</b>
<b>Total Disagree</b>	<b>43%</b>

**Q16.** The North Carolina state government is required to balance its budget every year. The current economic shutdown will make that very difficult, and it appears that the budget shortfall could be as high as \$4 billion, or 16 percent of the current budget. Which approach would you prefer the state take to balance its budget during the current crisis?

Spending cutbacks to non-health related state agencies	49%
Tax increases to attempt to raise more revenue	21%
Unsure/Refused	30%

**Q17.** Which of the following best describes how you plan on voting in the 2020 election in November?

In person on Election Day	40%
In person before Election Day	40%
By mail	14%
Unsure/Refused	6%

**Q18.** Due to concerns related to the coronavirus pandemic, some public policy groups have suggested that North Carolina change to a universal vote-by-mail system in 2020. This means that all active voters would be mailed a ballot, whether they requested a ballot or not. Do you approve or disapprove of this election policy change?

Strongly Approve	24%
Somewhat Approve	17%
Strongly Disapprove	46%
Somewhat Disapprove	10%
Unsure/Refused	4%
<b>Total Approve</b>	<b>41%</b>
<b>Total Disapprove</b>	<b>56%</b>

**Q19.** Do you believe a universal vote-by-mail system in North Carolina will increase or decrease the chances of voter fraud, or do you think it doesn't make a difference?

Increase voter fraud	58%
Decrease voter fraud	4%
No difference	32%
Unsure/Refused	5%

## Demographics

### Type of Phone

Cellphone	40%
Landline	60%

### Gender

Female	54%
Male	46%

### Age

18 to 34	15%
35 to 44	18%
45 to 54	19%
55 to 64	18%
65 to 74	16%
75 or older	14%

**Race**

White	72%
African American	20%
Another race or ethnicity	8%

**Party Registration**

Republican	31%
Democrat	37%
Unaffiliated voter	29%
Unsure/Refused	3%

**Ideology**

Very Conservative	19%
Somewhat Conservative	26%
Moderate	29%
Somewhat Liberal	12%
Very Liberal	9%
Unsure/Refused	5%

**Education Level**

High school graduate or below	13%
Some college or technical school but no four-year degree	33%
Four-year college graduate	27%
Post graduate or advanced degree	25%
Unsure/Refused	1%

**General Election Vote History**

0	10%
1	13%
2	18%
3	21%
4	38%

**2016 Vote**

Republican Donald Trump	45%
Democrat Hillary Clinton	43%
Someone else	7%
Did not vote	2%
Unsure/Refused	3%



**Media Market**

Charlotte	29%
Greensboro-H.Point-W.Salem	16%
Greenville-N. Bern + Norfolk	8%
Greenvll-Spart-Ashevll-And + Atlanta and Chattanooga	11%
Raleigh-Durham (Fayetvll)	31%
Wilmington + Myrtle Beach	5%

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*METHODOLOGY: The sample size for the survey is 500 likely general election voters in North Carolina and the margin of error is +/-4.38% at a 95% confidence interval, meaning that if this survey were repeated, results would not vary from the population by more than 4.38 percentage points 19 times out of 20. Responses were gathered via landline and mobile telephone interviews conducted by live callers at a professional call center. Demographics were adjusted to reflect the population from which the sample was drawn. The survey was conducted May 26 – 28, 2020 by Harper Polling. The total percentages of responses may not equal 100% due to rounding.*

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