



November 7, 2011

I. Survey Methodology

The Elon University Poll is conducted using a stratified random sample of households with telephones and wireless telephone numbers in the population of interest – in this case, citizens in North Carolina. The sample of telephone numbers for the survey is obtained from Survey Sampling International, LLC. Methodological information is also available at: <http://www.elon.edu/e-web/elonpoll/methodology.xhtml>.

Selection of Households

To equalize the probability of telephone selection, sample telephone numbers are systematically stratified according to subpopulation strata (e.g., a zip code, a county, a state, etc.), which yields a sample from telephone exchanges in proportion to each exchange's share of telephone households in the population of interest. Estimates of telephone households in the population of interest are generally obtained from several databases. Samples of household telephone numbers are distributed across all eligible blocks of numbers in proportion to the density of listed households assigned in the population of interest according to a specified subpopulation stratum. Upon determining the projected (or preferred) sample size, a sampling interval is calculated by summing the number of listed residential numbers in each eligible block within the population of interest and dividing that sum by the number of sampling points assigned to the population. From a random start between zero and the sampling interval, blocks are systematically selected in proportion to the density of listed household "working blocks." A *block* (also known as a *bank*) is a set of contiguous numbers identified by the first two digits of the last four digits of a telephone number. A working block contains three or more working telephone numbers. Exchanges are assigned to a population on the basis of all eligible blocks in proportion to the density of working telephone households. Once each population's proportion of telephone households is determined, then a sampling interval, based on that proportion, is calculated and specific exchanges and numbers are randomly selected. The methodology for the wireless component of this study starts with the determining which area code-exchange combinations in North Carolina are included in the wireless or shared Telcordia types. Similar to the process for selecting household telephone numbers, wireless numbers involve a multi-step process in which blocks of numbers are determined for each area code-exchange combination in the Telcordia types. From a random start within the first sampling interval, a systematic n th selection of each block of numbers is performed and a two-digit random number between 00 and 99 is appended to each selected n th block stem. The intent is to provide a stratification that will yield a sample that is representative both geographically and by large and small carrier. From these, a random sample is generated. Because exchanges and numbers are randomly selected by the computer, unlisted as well as listed household telephone numbers are included in the sample. Thus, the sample of telephone numbers generated for the

population of interest constitutes a random sample of telephone households and wireless numbers of the population.

Procedures Used for Conducting the Poll

The survey was conducted Sunday, October 30th, through Wednesday, November 2nd, of 2011. During this time calls were made from 1:00pm to 6:00pm on Sunday and 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Monday through Wednesday. The Elon University Poll uses CATI system software (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing) in the administration of surveys. For each working telephone number in the sample, several attempts were made to reach each number. Only individuals 18 years or older were interviewed; those reached at business or work numbers were not interviewed. For each number reached, one adult is generally selected based on whether s/he is the oldest or youngest adult. Interviews, which are conducted by live interviewers, are completed with adults from the target population as specified. Interviews for this survey were completed with 529 adults from North Carolina. For a sample size of 529, there is a 95 percent probability that our survey results are within plus or minus 4.26 percentage points (the margin of sampling error) of the actual population distribution for any given question. For sub-samples (a subgroup selected from the overall sample), the margin of error is higher depending on the size of the subsample. When we use a subsample, we identify these results as being from a subsample and provide the total number of respondents and margin of error for that subsample. In reporting our results, we note any use of a subsample where applicable. Because our surveys are based on probability sampling, there are a variety of factors that prevent these results from being perfect, complete depictions of the population; the foremost example is that of margin of sampling error (as noted above). With all probability samples, there are theoretical and practical difficulties estimating population characteristics (or parameters). Thus, while efforts are made to reduce or lessen such threats, sampling error as well as other sources of error – while not all inclusive, examples of other error effects are non-response rates, question order effects, question wording effects, etc. – are present in surveys derived from probability samples.

Questions and Question Order

The Elon University Poll provides the questions as worded and the order in which these questions are administered (to respondents). Conspicuous in reviewing some questions is the “bracketed” information. Information contained within brackets ([]) denotes response options as provided in the question; this bracketed information is rotated randomly to ensure that respondents do not receive a set order of response options presented to them, which also maintains question construction integrity by avoiding respondent acquiescence based on question composition. Some questions used a probe maneuver to determine a respondent’s intensity of perspective. Probe techniques used in this questionnaire mainly consist of asking a respondent if their response is more intense than initially provided. For example, upon indicating whether s/he is satisfied or dissatisfied, we asked the respondent “would you say you are very ‘satisfied’/‘dissatisfied’”. This technique is employed in some questions as opposed to specifying the full range of choices in the question. Though specifying the full range of options in questions is a commonly accepted practice in survey research, we sometimes prefer that the respondent determine whether their perspective is stronger or more intense for which the probe technique used. Another method for acquiring information from respondents is to ask an “open-ended” question. The open-ended question is a question for which no response options are provided, i.e., it is entirely up to the respondent to provide the response information.

The Elon University Poll

The Elon University Poll is conducted under the auspices of the Center for Public Opinion Polling (Dr. Mileah Kromer, Assistant Director), which is housed in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Elon University. These academic units are part of Elon College, the College of Arts and Sciences at Elon University. The Elon University administration, led by Dr. Leo Lambert, President of the university, fully support the Elon University Poll as part of its service commitment to state, regional, and national constituents. Elon University students administer the survey as part of the University's commitment to experiential learning where "students learn through doing."

II. Survey Instrument and Percent Distributions by Question

Interviews were completed with 529 adults from households in the North Carolina. For a sample size of 529, there is a 95 percent probability that our survey results are within plus or minus 4.26 percentage points (the margin of sampling error) of the actual population distribution for any given question. The questions are presented in the order in which these appear on the survey instrument. Due to rounding, column totals may not equal 100 percent as indicated. Data are weighted to reflect the adult population in terms of gender, age, and race.

About the Codes appearing in Questions and Responses	
Response Options not offered	Response options are <u>not</u> offered to the person taking the survey (respondent), but are included in the question as asked (and usually denoted by brackets, []). Response options are generally offered only for demographic questions (background characteristic, e.g., age, education, income, etc.).
v = volunteered response	Respondents volunteer response option. As response options are <u>not</u> offered to those taking the survey, some respondents offer or volunteer response options. Though not all volunteered options can be anticipated, the more common options are noted.
p = probed response	Respondents self-place in this option or category. A probe maneuver is used in questions to allow the respondent to indicate whether her/his response is more intense than initially provided for in the choices appearing in the question. For example, on probe questions the interviewer, upon a respondent indicating that she/he is satisfied (or dissatisfied), is instructed to ask him/her "Would you say you are "very satisfied"?"

Q: SAMESEX1

Now, switching topics, I'd like to ask you about same sex marriages. . .

I'm going to read you three statements, and, after I read all three, I'd like for you to tell me which statement comes closest to your position on this issue.

1. #1 OPPOSE ANY LEGAL RECOGNITION FOR SAME SEX COUPLES
2. #2 SUPPORT CIVIL UNIONS OR PARTNERSHIPS FOR SAME SEX COUPLES, BUT NOT FULL RIGHTS
3. #3 FULL MARRIAGE RIGHTS FOR SAME SEX COUPLES

	NOV 2011	SEPT 2011	FEB 2011
OPPOSE ANY LEGAL RECOGNITION FOR SAME SEX COUPLES	34.5	34.4	35.0
SUPPORT CIVIL UNIONS OR PARTNERSHIPS FOR SAME SEX COUPLES, BUT NOT FULL RIGHTS	26.4	28.6	29.0
FULL MARRIAGE RIGHTS FOR SAME SEX COUPLES	33.0	33.0	27.8
SOME OTHER OPINION(v)	2.9	2.2	6.0
DON T KNOW (v)	2.5	1.7	1.1
REFUSED (v)	0.6	0.2	1.1
Total	100.0 N=529 +/- 4.26	100.0 N=594 +/-4.02	100.0 N=467 +/- 4.60

Q: SAMESEX2

Would you [support or oppose] an amendment to the North Carolina constitution that would prevent any same sex marriages?

	NOV 2011	SEPT 2011	FEB 2011
STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	32.1	30.4	21.8
OPPOSE	24.9	25.3	34.0
SUPPORT	14.7	17.6	21.6
STRONGLY SUPPORT(p)	21.8	21.5	16.3
THERE IS ALREADY A LAW THAT PROHIBITS SAME SEX MARRIAGE (v)	0.4	0.9	--
DON T KNOW (v)	5.6	3.9	4.8
REFUSED (v)	0.5	0.3	1.1
Total	100.0 N=529 +/- 4.26	100 N=594 +/-4.02	100.0 N=467 +/- 4.60

Q: FRACK

How much attention—[a great deal, some, not very much, none at all]-have you paid to the news about “fracking” in North Carolina?

	Percent
A GREAT DEAL	6.1
SOME	14.3
NOT VERY MUCH	14.6
NONE AT ALL	38.3
DON'T KNOW (v)	26.7
Total (N=529 +/- 4.26%)	100.0

Q: OWS1

I want to ask you a few questions about the Occupy Wall Street movement.

To begin, are you [familiar or unfamiliar] with the "Occupy Wall Street" movement?

	Percent
NOT AT ALL FAMILIAR	20.8
SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR	45.9
VERY FAMILIAR	31.1
DON'T KNOW (v)	2.3
Total (N=529 +/- 4.26%)	100.0

IF "Not at all familiar" or "Don't Know" SKIP TO T_PRTY1

Q: OWS2

Do you have a [favorable or unfavorable] view of the Occupy Wall Street movement?

	Percent
STRONGLY UNFAVORABLE (p)	22.9
UNFAVORABLE	22.1
FAVORABLE	25.6
STRONGLY FAVORABLE (p)	19.2
DON'T KNOW (v)	10.1
REFUSED (v)	0.2
Total (N=407 +/- 4.86%)	100.0

Q: OWS3

Do you consider yourself to be a [supporter of the Occupy Wall Street movement, an opponent of the Occupy Wall Street movement], or neither?

	Percent
STRONG OPPONENT (p)	14.5
OPPONENT	11.0
SUPPORTER	17.4
STRONG SUPPORTER (p)	14.4
NEITHER SUPPORTER NOR OPPONENT	40.3
DON'T KNOW (v)	2.3
Total (N=407 +/- 4.86%)	100.0

Q: OWS4

In your opinion, which political party is more closely aligned with the Occupy Wall Street movement—the [Democratic Party, the Republican Party] or neither party?

	Percent
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	52.6
REPUBLICAN PARTY	5.4
NEITHER PARTY	34.3
TEA PARTY (v)	0.4
DON'T KNOW (v)	7.2
Total (N=407 +/- 4.86%)	100.0

Q: T_PRTY1

Next, I want to ask you a few questions about the Tea Party. . .

Are you [familiar or unfamiliar] with the Tea Party?

	Percent
NOT AT ALL FAMILIAR	17.4
SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR	48.5
VERY FAMILIAR	32.8
DON'T KNOW (v)	1.2
Total (N=529 +/- 4.26%)	100.0

IF "Not at all familiar" or "Don't Know" SKIP TO UNC-TV1

Q: T_PRTY2

Do you have a [favorable or unfavorable] view of the Tea Party?

	Percent
STRONGLY UNFAVORABLE (p)	23.0
UNFAVORABLE	23.2
FAVORABLE	26.3
STRONGLY FAVORABLE (p)	15.5
DON'T KNOW (v)	11.9
REFUSED (v)	0.1
Total (N=431 +/- 4.72%)	100.0

Q: T_PRTY3

Do you consider yourself to be a [supporter or opponent] of the Tea Party, or neither?

	Percent
STRONG OPPONENT (p)	16.2
OPPONENT	12.6
SUPPORTER	17.2
STRONG SUPPORTER (p)	12.8
NEITHER SUPPORTER NOR OPPONENT	40.0
DON'T KNOW (v)	1.0
REFUSED (v)	0.1
Total (N=431 +/- 4.72%)	100.0

Q: T_PRTY4

Do you think the Tea Party is more focused on [social issues or economic issues]?

	Percent
ECONOMIC ISSUES	44.7
SOCIAL ISSUES	32.1
BOTH (v)	10.1
NEITHER (v)	6.3
DON'T KNOW (v)	6.2
REFUSED (v)	0.6
Total (N=431 +/- 4.72%)	100.0

Q: T_PRTY5

Who do you view as the head of the Tea Party?

OPEN-ENDED

	Percent
MICHELE BACHMANN (v)	5.1
SARAH PALIN (v)	14.2
REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS (v)	3.3
THERE IS NO TEA PARTY HEAD (v)	17.5
OTHER (v)	10.8
DON'T KNOW (v)	48.8
REFUSED (v)	0.1
Total (N=431 +/- 4.72%)	100.0

Q: UNCTV1

Next, I'm going to ask you a few questions about UNC-TV, North Carolina's public television network. As you may know, UNC-TV is a PBS member station that carries both local programming and PBS programming.

In your opinion, how [important or unimportant] is it that we have public television service in North Carolina?

	Percent
VERY UNIMPORTANT (p)	10.8
UNIMPORTANT	7.9
IMPORTANT	20.2
VERY IMPORTANT (p)	57.5
DON'T KNOW (v)	3.3
REFUSED (v)	0.2
Total (N=529 +/- 4.26%)	100.0

Q: UNCTV2

Are the news and public affairs programs that UNC-TV broadcasts [trustworthy or untrustworthy]?

	Percent
VERY UNTRUSTWORTHY (p)	4.3
UNTRUSTWORTHY	7.4
TRUSTWORTHY	41.4
VERY TRUSTWORTHY (p)	26.7
DON'T KNOW (v)	19.9
REFUSED (v)	0.3
Total (N=529 +/- 4.26%)	100.0

Q: UNCTV3

Thinking about a typical week, how often do you watch UNC-TV? Do you watch it [often, sometimes, rarely, or never]?

	Percent
NEVER	13.5
RARELY	25.7
SOMETIMES	38.8
OFTEN	21.0
DON'T KNOW (v)	0.9
Total (N=529 +/- 4.26%)	100.0

Q: UNCTV4

Do you [support or oppose] the use of state funding for UNC-TV, or do you not know enough about it to decide?

	Percent
STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	8.2
OPPOSE	5.0
SUPPORT	27.3
STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	22.1
DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT IT TO DECIDE	36.5
REFUSED (v)	0.9
Total (N=529 +/- 4.26%)	100.0