I. Survey Methodology

The Elon University Poll is conducted using a stratified random sample of households with telephones 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.

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 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. Because exchanges and numbers are randomly selected by the computer, unlisted as well as listed 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 of the population, stratified by exchange.

Procedures Used for Conducting the Poll

The survey was conducted Sunday, February 22nd through Thursday, February 26th of 2009. During this time calls were made from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm EST, Monday through Thursday, and from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm EST, on Sunday. 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 the household. Only individuals in households 18 years or older were interviewed; those reached at business or work numbers were not interviewed. Within each household, one adult is generally selected based on whether s/he is the oldest or youngest adult in the home. Interviews, which are conducted by live interviewers, are completed with adults from households in the target population as specified. Interviews for this survey were completed with 758 adults from households in North Carolina. For a sample size of 758, there is a 95 percent probability that our survey results are within plus or minus 3.6 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 per question 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. Similarly, to protect against question order effects (where specific questions may 'prime' or influence a respondent's answers to subsequent questions), question order is randomized during administration. For groups of questions in which a standard, set order of administration can influence responses to subsequent questions, questions are administered randomly during the survey; this technique protects against question order effects. 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 (Hunter Bacot, Director & Mileah Kromer, Assistant Director), which is a constituent part of the Institute for Politics and Public Affairs (George Taylor, Director); both these organizations are housed in the department of political science at Elon University. These academic units are part of Elon College, the College of Arts and Sciences at Elon University, which is under the direction of Dr. Steven House (Dean). 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. Dr. Hunter Bacot, a professor in the department of political science, directs the Elon University Poll. 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 758 adults from households in the North Carolina. For a sample size of 758, there is a 95 percent probability that our survey results are within plus or minus 3.6 percentage points (the margin of sampling error) of the actual population distribution for any given question. Data are weighted to reflect the adult population in terms of 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"?"

Now, changing topics to some other issues. . .

OFFSHORE OIL
The first issue that I'd like to ask about is offshore oil drilling off the North Carolina Coast. . . so, just to make sure we are talking about the same thing, when referring to "offshore drilling" we are talking about the federal government leasing the rights to explore, develop, and produce oil and gas in waters off the U.S. coast, an area between 3 and 200 miles offshore.
. . .So, with this in mind, do you [support or oppose] offshore drilling for oil and gas off the coast of North Carolina? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	13.6
	OPPOSE	15.2
	SUPPORT	35.3
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	30.8
	DON T KNOW (v)	4.6
	REFUSED (v)	.5
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

USE OF CELL PHONES WHILE DRIVING
Now I would like to ask you some questions about highway safety and the use of cell phones while driving. Just to make sure that we are talking about the same thing, when I talk about highway safety, I'm talking about avoiding accidents or injury while driving.
. . . do you feel that using a cell phone while driving [increases, decreases, or has not effect on highway safety]?

		Percent
	DECREASES HIGHWAY SAFETY	79.7
	HAS NO EFFECT ON HIGHWAY SAFETY	2.8
	INCREASES HIGHWAY SAFETY	13.0
	ALL CELL PHONES SHOULD BE BANNED (v)	2.3
	SHOULD NOT BAN CELL PHONES	.7
	DON T KNOW (v)	1.1
	REFUSED (v)	.4
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Do you own a cell phone?

		Percent
	NO	12.1
	YES	87.6
	REFUSED (v)	.2
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

(if "no", "don't know", or "refused", skip next two questions and go to last cell phone question)

Do you use your cell phone while driving?

		Percent
	NO	45.0
	YES	54.0
	DON T KNOW (v)	.9
	REFUSED (v)	.1
	Total (N=665; +/-3.9%)	100.0

(if "no", "don't know", or "refused", skip to last cell phone question)

When using a cell phone while driving, do you use a hands free device? (open ended) (*asked of those answering "yes" to previous question*)

		Percent
	NO, DO NOT USE A HANDS FREE DEVICE	56.2
	SOMETIMES USE A HANDS FREE DEVICE	11.5
	YES, USE A HANDS FREE DEVICE	31.8
	DON T USE CELL PHONE WHILE DRIVING	.2
	DON T KNOW (v)	.2
	Total (N=359; +/-5.3%)	100.0

With the exception of an emergency, should using a cell phone while driving be [legal or illegal]?

		Percent
	SHOULD BE ILLEGAL; SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED	65.7
	SHOULD BE LEGAL; SHOULD BE ALLOWED	29.5
	DON T KNOW (v)	4.4
	REFUSED (v)	.4
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES

Next, I'd like to ask you some questions about smoking policies in North Carolina. I'm interested in what you think about smoking and second-hand smoke in North Carolina. Second-hand smoke, which, as you are likely aware, is smoke released in the air by someone else's cigarette, cigar, or pipe.

Would you [support or oppose] a statewide law in North Carolina that would not allow smoking in public places, which includes public buildings, offices, restaurants, and bars? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	14.0
	OPPOSE	15.6
	SUPPORT	29.2
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	37.5
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME (v)	.9
	I DON'T THINK SMOKING SHOULD BE PROHIBITED (v)	.8
	DON T KNOW (v)	1.9
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Would you [support or oppose] letting North Carolina local governments pass laws that do not allow smoking in public places, which includes public buildings, offices, restaurants, and bars? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	11.0
	OPPOSE	16.6
	SUPPORT	38.6
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	31.0
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME (v)	.6
	I DON'T THINK SMOKING SHOULD BE PROHIBITED (v)	.4
	DON T KNOW (v)	1.4
	REFUSED (v)	.5
	Total(N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Since I'm talking about not allowing smoking in public places, do you think it is:
 [(#1) the government's responsibility to make sure smoking is not allowed in these places, or
 (#2) is it the business owners decision to not allow smoking in their place of business?]

		Percent
	STATEMENT #1 -- THE GOVERNMENT S RESPONSIBILITY	35.2
	STATEMENT #2 -- THE BUSINESS OWNER'S DECISION	60.7
	I DON T LIKE EITHER (v)	1.3
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME (v)	.8
	DON T THINK SMOKING SHOULD BE PROHIBITED (v)	.2
	DON T KNOW (v)	1.5
	REFUSED (v)	.2
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Which statement best represents your views for not allowing smoking in public places:
[(#1) This is a decision that should be made by elected officials, or
(#2) This is a decision that should be made by individual business owners]

		Percent
	STATEMENT #1 -- ELECTED OFFICIALS	37.4
	STATEMENT #2 -- INDIVIDUAL BUSINESS OWNERS	58.2
	I DON T LIKE EITHER (v)	1.0
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME (v)	.4
	DON T THINK SMOKING SHOULD BE PROHIBITED (v)	.1
	DON T KNOW (v)	2.1
	REFUSED (v)	.7
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

(if answer is statement #2, go to next question; other answers skip the next question)

Since you feel this is a decision that should be made by individual business owners, would you [support or oppose] the state government ensuring that businesses provide a smoke free workplace for employees? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	8.5
	OPPOSE	22.2
	SUPPORT	45.6
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	17.1
	HAVE NOT GIVEN IT MUCH THOUGHT (v)	.8
	DON T KNOW (v)	5.9
	Total (N=441; +/-4.8%)	100.0

(go to next question)

Do you [agree or disagree] that employees in North Carolina should be able to work in a smoke-free environment? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY DISAGREE (p)	1.3
	DISAGREE	5.0
	AGREE	47.2
	STRONGLY AGREE (p)	39.7
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME (v)	2.4
	DON'T THINK SMOKING SHOULD BE PROHIBITED (v)	2.4
	DON T KNOW (v)	1.3
	REFUSED (v)	.7
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Do you [agree or disagree] that all restaurants and bars should not allow smoking? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY DISAGREE (p)	10.2
	DISAGREE	33.3
	AGREE	29.2
	STRONGLY AGREE (p)	21.5
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME (v)	.9
	DON T THINK SMOKING SHOULD BE PROHIBITED (v)	1.6
	DON T KNOW (v)	2.6
	REFUSED (v)	.6
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Do you think that second-hand smoke [is a threat or is not a threat] to your health or have you given it any thought? (p)

		Percent
	NO, IT IS NOT A THREAT	9.8
	IT IS A THREAT	43.9
	IT IS A SERIOUS THREAT (p)	38.6
	HAVE NOT GIVEN IT ANY THOUGHT	5.1
	DON'T KNOW	2.0
	REFUSED	.6
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

DEATH PENALTY

Next I would like to know your opinion about punishments for certain crimes in North Carolina.   To make sure that we are talking about the same thing, when we refer to "first-degree murder", we are talking about an unlawful killing that is willful or deliberate and premeditated or planned.

What do you think is the most appropriate punishment for first-degree murders? (open ended)

		Percent
	DEATH PENALTY	47.8
	LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE (LIFE IN PRISON)	38.9
	IT DEPENDS ON THE EVIDENCE	8.2
	DON'T KNOW (v)	4.2
	REFUSED (v)	.9
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Do you [support or oppose] the death penalty for people found guilty of first-degree murder? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	10.7
	OPPOSE	17.5
	SUPPORT	29.9
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	28.4
	IT DEPENDS (v)	9.8
	DON T KNOW (v)	2.8
	REFUSED (v)	.9
	Total(N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Do you [support or oppose] life in prison without the possibility of parole for people found guilty of first-degree murder? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	8.1
	OPPOSE	13.2
	SUPPORT	45.8
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	25.9
	NEITHER SUPPORT OR OPPOSE (v)	2.9
	DON T KNOW (v)	2.8
	REFUSED (v)	1.2
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

What, if any other crimes, should be punishable by the death penalty? (open ended)

		Percent
	CHILD MOLESTATION	26.4
	RAPE	20.2
	MURDER	15.0
	OPPOSE DEATH PENALTY	9.1
	TERRORISTISM	4.4
	OTHER	8.5
	DON'T KNOW	14.6
	REFUSED	1.8
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

As you are likely aware, North Carolina currently has a moratorium on the death penalty, meaning that executions have been stopped while the state's death penalty system is reviewed. . .
Do you [agree or disagree] with the death penalty moratorium? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY DISAGREE (p)	16.8
	DISAGREE	27.9
	AGREE	35.1
	STRONGLY AGREE (p)	11.5
	DON T KNOW (v)	7.5
	REFUSED (v)	1.2
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

ANNEXATION

Now, switching topics again, I'd like to ask you some questions about annexation . . .

As you may know there are annexation laws in North Carolina that guide how cities or towns
can bring nearby areas or residents into a city or town's limits . . . so just to make sure we are talking about the same thing, when talking about annexation, I'm talking about the way that a city or town council can vote to expand their city limits to get these nearby areas into their city or town . . .

With this in mind, do you [agree or disagree] with the process for annexation in North Carolina, or have you not given it much thought? (p)

QANNEX1.0		Percent
	STRONGLY DISAGREE (p)	16.8
	DISAGREE	23.7
	AGREE	11.0
	STRONGLY AGREE (p)	2.9
	HAVE NOT GIVEN IT MUCH THOUGHT	40.1
	DON T KNOW (v)	4.3
	REFUSED (v)	1.2
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Would you [support or oppose] a law requiring cities or towns to have a one year waiting period on annexations, or have you not given it much thought? (p)

QANNEX2.0		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	1.5
	OPPOSE	5.4
	SUPPORT	36.0
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	14.3
	HAVE NOT GIVEN IT MUCH THOUGHT	38.5
	DON T KNOW (v)	3.1
	REFUSED (v)	1.2
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Would you [support or oppose] changing the annexation process in North Carolina to one where citizens ask to be annexed into the city or town limits, or have you not given it much thought? (p)

QANNEX3.0		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	1.7
	OPPOSE	5.0
	SUPPORT	31.2
	STRONGLY (p)	17.9
	HAVE NOT GIVEN IT MUCH THOUGHT	40.0
	DON T KNOW (v)	3.6
	REFUSED (v)	.5
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Based on where you live now, are you in the city limits?

QANNEX4.0		Percent
	NO	47.7
	YES	49.6
	DON T KNOW (v)	2.2
	REFUSED (v)	.5
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

if answer is "yes", go to QANNEX4.1 (next question)
If answer is "no", go to question QANNEX5.0
if "don't know" or "refused" go to question QANNEX6.0

Have you always lived in this city, or were you annexed into this city? *(asked only of those answering "yes" to QANNEX4.0 (previous question)*

QANNEX4.1		Percent
	I ALWAYS LIVED IN THIS CITY	79.9
	I WAS ANNEXED INTO THIS CITY	14.6
	DON T KNOW (v)	5.0
	REFUSED (v)	.5
	Total (N=376; +/-5.2%)	100.0

if answer is "I always lived in this city", "don't know", or "refused", go to QANNEX6.0
if answer is "I was annexed in this city", go to QANNEX4.2 (next question)

Were you annexed into this city since the year 2000? *(asked only of those answering "I was annexed into this city" to QANNEX4.1)*

QANNEX4.2		Percent
	NO	38.7
	YES	59.7
	DON T KNOW (v)	1.6
	Total (N=55; +/-13.5%)	100.0

skip to QANNEX6.0

Has any city or town tried to annex you since the year 2000?

QANNEX5.0		Percent
	NO	82.7
	YES	10.5
	DON T KNOW (v)	6.8
	Total (N=362; +/-5.3%)	100.0

(go to next question)

Have you ever moved to avoid being annexed by a city or town?

QANNEX6.0		Percent
	NO	94.7
	YES	4.1
	DON T KNOW (v)	.7
	REFUSED (v)	.5
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

HEALTH CARE

Now, I'd like to ask you some questions about health care in the United States. Are you generally [satisfied or dissatisfied] with the quality of health care in this country? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY DISSATISFIED (p)	19.7
	DISSATISFIED	25.1
	SATISFIED	41.5
	STRONGLY SATISFIED (p)	10.2
	DON T KNOW (v)	2.8
	REFUSED (v)	.6
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Would you [support or oppose] a national insurance plan paid for by the federal government that pays all medical and hospital costs for all citizens? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	16.3
	OPPOSE	21.4
	SUPPORT	31.7
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	23.8
	DON T KNOW (v)	6.2
	REFUSED (v)	.6
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Which of the following do you prefer:
[(#1) the current health insurance system in the U.S., in which most people have private health insurance, and some people have no insurance, or
(#2) a universal health insurance program, in which everyone is covered under a program that's run by the government]?

		Percent
	THE CURRENT SYSTEM	37.2
	A UNIVERSAL HEALTH INSURANCE SYSTEM	49.9
	I DON T CARE AS LONG AS GOVERNMENT IS NOT INVOLVED (v)	1.8
	IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME (v)	1.3
	DON T KNOW (v)	9.1
	REFUSED (v)	.6
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

TRANSPORTATION
The next issue I'd like to talk about is transportation . . .

Would you [support or oppose] the state of North Carolina collecting tolls on North Carolina highways? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	21.6
	OPPOSE	29.4
	SUPPORT	33.2
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	9.7
	DON T KNOW (v)	5.8
	REFUSED (v)	.2
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Do you [support or oppose] the state making commuter rail available in urban areas? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	2.2
	OPPOSE	15.0
	SUPPORT	54.4
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	22.1
	DON T KNOW (v)	6.0
	REFUSED (v)	.2
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Would you [support or oppose] having a regional rail system in your area? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	5.6
	OPPOSE	18.6
	SUPPORT	51.5
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	17.8
	DON T KNOW (v)	6.2
	REFUSED (v)	.4
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Now, I'm going to ask you some questions about funding for transportation in North Carolina. When talking about transportation, it includes road building, road maintenance, public transportation, highway safety, and other issues related to transportation.

Would you [support or oppose] charging a registration fee based on the number of miles a person drives each year? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	33.2
	OPPOSE	41.0
	SUPPORT	16.4
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	4.0
	DON T KNOW (v)	5.3
	REFUSED (v)	.2
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Would you [support or oppose] increasing the cost of the yearly driver's license renewal fee? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	16.5
	OPPOSE	38.1
	SUPPORT	36.2
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	5.8
	DON T KNOW (v)	3.3
	REFUSED (v)	.2
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Would you [support or oppose] a 2 billion dollar statewide bond referendum to fund work on bridges and roads as well as other transportation projects? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	6.5
	OPPOSE	18.2
	SUPPORT	53.2
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	14.2
	DON T KNOW (v)	7.5
	REFUSED (v)	.5
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0

Would you [support or oppose] giving local governments the option to use a half-cent sales tax specifically for funding their own bus and passenger rail service? (p)

		Percent
	STRONGLY OPPOSE (p)	6.9
	OPPOSE	28.0
	SUPPORT	49.0
	STRONGLY SUPPORT (p)	8.2
	DON T KNOW (v)	7.3
	REFUSED (v)	.6
	Total (N=758; +/-3.6%)	100.0