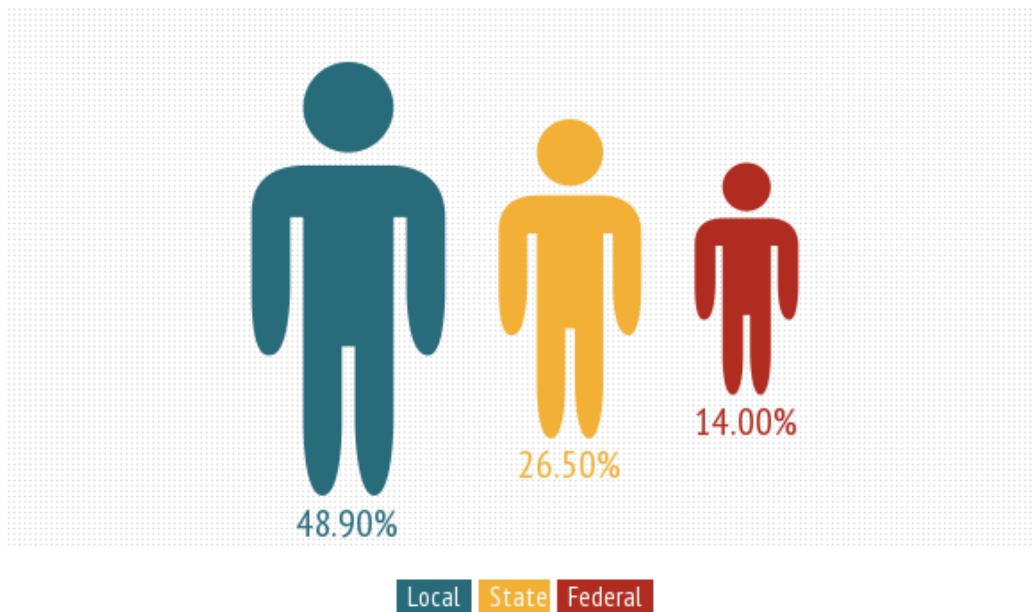


November 15-18, 2013 Open Government Survey

Do NC Residents Trust Government?

% saying they trust this level of government most of the time or just about always.



Source: Elon Poll, Nov. 15-18, 2013. 732 NC Residents. ±3.62

For more information and full questions visit: elon.edu/elonpoll

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Elon University Poll conducted a live-caller, dual frame (landline and cell phone) survey of 732 residents of North Carolina on November 15-18, 2013. The survey has a margin of error of 3.62 percentage points and asks a battery of questions related to open government and transparency.

Trust in Government

Respondents trust their local governments more than the state government and the federal government. Forty-nine percent said they trust their local government to do what is right most of the time or just about always, compared to 26.5% for state government and 14% for the federal government. Democrats (22%) were more likely to trust the federal government to do what is right, compared to 10% of Independents and 12% of Republicans. Republicans were more likely to trust the state government (42%), compared to 27% of Independents and 15% of Democrats. African Americans were less likely to trust state and local governments to do what is right than whites.

Open Government and Transparency

Most respondents were not aware that North Carolina has sunshine laws that make public documents, records, information, and meetings available and accessible to citizens. More respondents (41%) also felt the state government in North Carolina is less open and transparent than it was five years ago. Democrats (56%) were more likely to say state government is now less open and transparent than Republicans (30%). Younger (18-30 years old) respondents were also more likely to say state government is now less open than older respondents.

Requesting Public Records

Thirty-eight percent of respondents said they had attempted to obtain some type of public documents, records, or information. Eighty-seven percent of those respondents said they were successful in obtaining that information. The most common type of record requested was related to real estate (18%), followed by birth certificates (17%), followed by criminal or

police records (11%). Over half of respondents (51%) felt there should be no fee for requesting public information. Respondents were asked what they felt would be a reasonable amount for the fee. Of those respondents who believe there should be a fee, the average response was 14 dollars, but ranged from \$1 to \$90.

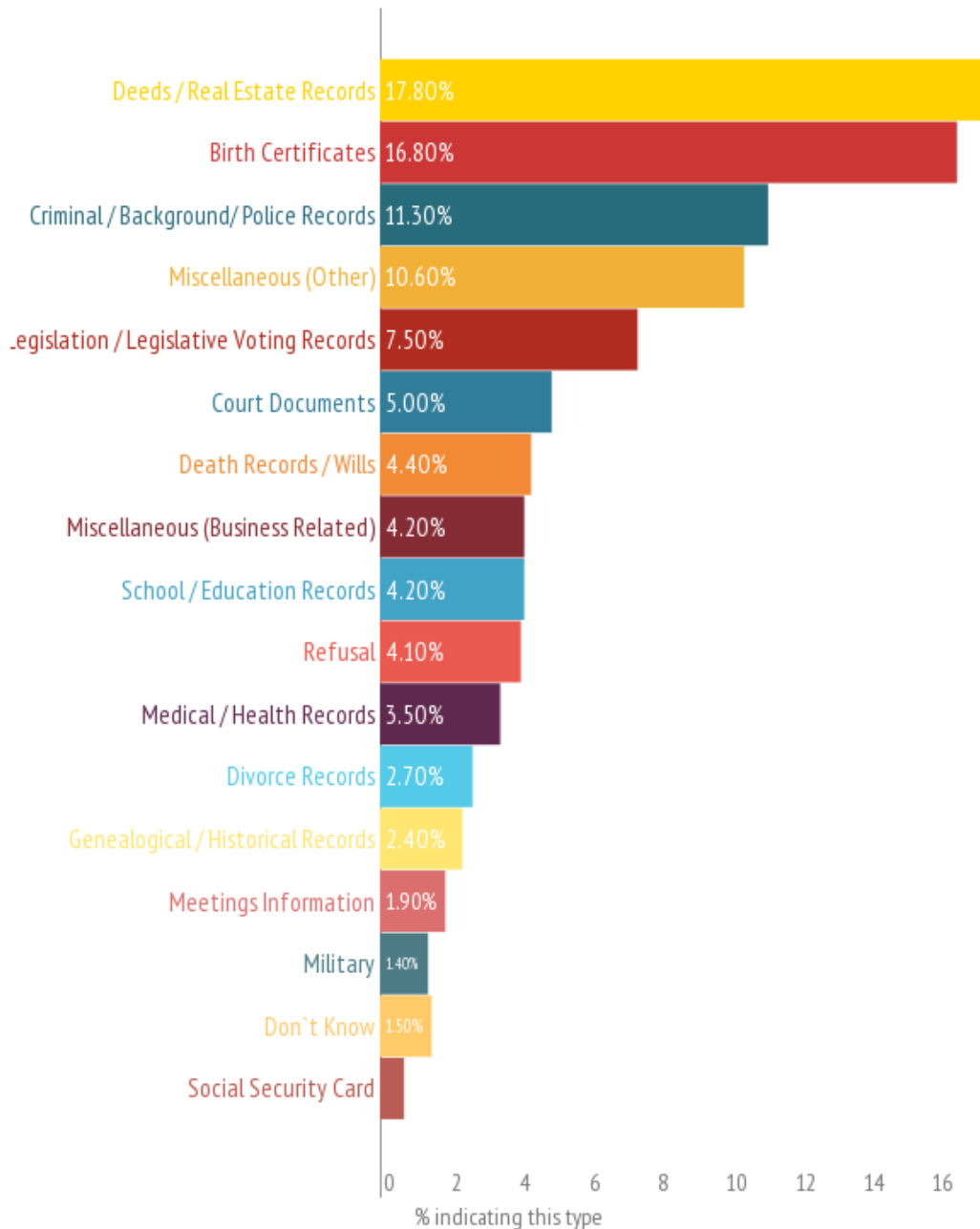
Access to Information

Almost 60% of respondents agree with the statement “it’s important to be able to get any document you want from government,” but 63% also agree that sometimes government officials are justified in keeping some information a secret. Over 70% of North Carolinians said they would support an amendment to the North Carolina constitution that makes all public business of any government in North Carolina open and available to the public. When asked about specific type of records, most respondents felt it was important to be able to access government meetings, and information on campaign contributions, government expense accounts, location of hazardous material, salaries of public employees, criminal records, property tax records, and gun permits. But most respondents did not believe members of the public should have access to government employee email messages, public utilities of individuals, a voter’s party affiliation or how often they voted.

Dr. Kenneth E. Fernandez and Dr. Jason A. Husser

Types of Public Records Requests by North Carolinians

Do you remember what type of document you tried to request? [OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE]



Source: Elon Poll, Nov. 15-18, 2013. 732 NC Residents. ±3.62

For more information visit elon.edu/elonpoll

TOPLINE

Trust: Federal Government

How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

Just about always.....	20.....	2.70%
Most of the time	83.....	11.30%
Some of the time	489.....	66.80%
None of the time [don't read]	130.....	17.80%
Don't know	9.....	1.20%
Refused	1.....	0.10%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Trust: State Government

How much of the time do you think you can trust the state government in Raleigh to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

Just about always.....	25.....	3.40%
Most of the time	169.....	23.10%
Some of the time	452.....	61.70%
None of the time [don't read]	73.....	10.00%
Don't know	12.....	1.70%
Refused	1.....	0.10%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Trust: Local Government

How much of the time do you think you can trust the local government in your community to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

Just about always.....	61.....	8.30%
Most of the time	297.....	40.60%
Some of the time.....	310.....	42.30%
None of the time [don't read]	50.....	6.90%
Don't know	14.....	1.90%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Open Government Introduction

Now, I'd like to ask you some questions about the accessibility and availability of public documents and information. . .

Sunshine

Most states have laws called "Sunshine Laws" that make public documents, records, information, and meetings available and accessible to citizens. . . are you [aware or not aware] if North Carolina has these laws?

Aware.....	223.....	30.50%
Not Aware	473.....	64.60%
I don't know/Not sure.....	36.....	4.90%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Comparison

Compared to five years ago, would you say the state government in North Carolina is now more open and transparent, less open and transparent, or is the level of openness and transparency about the same?

More open	239.....	32.60%
Less open	303.....	41.40%
About the same [volunteered].....	57.....	7.80%
Don't know	130.....	17.80%
Refused	3.....	0.40%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Request

Have you ever tried to get any public documents, records, and information?

Yes	276.....	37.70%
No.....	450.....	61.40%
Don't Know.....	6.....	0.80%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Success [If Request = 1]

Were you generally successful in getting the documents, records, or information that you tried to?

Yes	240.....	87.00%
No.....	32.....	11.60%
Don't Know.....	3.....	1.10%
Refused	1.....	0.30%

N=276..... 100.00%

Type [If Request = 1]

Do you remember what type of document you tried to request?

[OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE]

Deeds / Real Estate Records	49	17.80%
Birth Certificates	46	16.80%
Criminal/Background/Police Records.....	31	11.30%
Miscellaneous (Other).....	29	10.60%
Legislation/Legislative Voting Records.....	21	7.50%
Court Documents.....	14	5.00%
Death Records/Wills	12	4.40%
Miscellaneous (Business Related).....	12	4.20%
School / Education Records.....	12	4.20%
Medical / Health Records	10	3.50%
Divorce Records.....	7	2.70%
Genealogical / Historical Records.....	7	2.40%
Meetings Information.....	5	1.90%
Military	4	1.40%
Don't Know.....	4	1.50%
Social Security Card.....	2	0.70%
Refusal	11	4.10%
N=	267	100.00%

Costs

Should there be a fee for requesting a government document to help cover the costs involved in retrieving that record?

(follow-up question if yes) If it took a government employee a half hour to obtain a record for you, what do you think would be a reasonable fee for that document?

[OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE CATEGORIZED]

Nothing.....	373.....	50.90%
\$1 to \$5	81	11.10%
\$6 to \$10.....	70	9.60%
\$11 to \$20	54	7.40%
More than \$20	42	5.40%
Don't Know.....	112.....	15.30%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Agree/Disagree Questions

Now I want to read you some statements about the availability & accessibility of public documents, records, information, & meetings, in connection with how government operates. Please tell me whether you [agree or disagree] with each statement.

Access

It's important to be able to get any document you want from government

Agree	437.....	59.70%
Disagree.....	250.....	34.20%
Neither agree or disagree	24.....	3.30%
Don't Know.....	20.....	2.70%
Refused	1	0.10%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Secret

Sometimes government officials are justified in keeping some information a secret

Agree	463.....	63.30%
Disagree.....	230.....	31.40%
Neither agree or disagree	25.....	3.40%
Don't Know.....	13.....	1.70%
Refused	1	0.20%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Contributions

It is important to know who elected officials get their campaign contributions from

Agree	576.....	78.70%
Disagree.....	140.....	19.10%
Neither agree or disagree	13.....	1.80%
Don't Know.....	3.....	0.40%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Hearings

All government meetings should be open to the public

Agree	500.....	68.30%
Disagree.....	216.....	29.50%
Neither agree or disagree (volunteered)	12.....	1.60%
Don't Know.....	3.....	0.40%
Refused	1	0.10%

N= 732..... 100.00%

Should/Should Not Questions

Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information.

Expenses

Records of government officials' expense accounts.

Should	619.....	84.60%
Should NOT	106.....	14.50%
Don't know	6	0.80%
Refused	1	0.10%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Hazards

Government records that identify the type, amount, and location of hazardous chemicals.

Should	634.....	86.60%
Should NOT	92	12.60%
Don't know	6	0.80%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Salaries

The annual salaries of public employees.

Should	547.....	74.70%
Should NOT	169.....	23.10%
Don't know	16	2.20%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Criminal

Records detailing someone's criminal past.

Should	569.....	77.70%
Should NOT	126.....	17.20%
Don't know	34	4.70%
Refused	3	0.40%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Email

Government employees work e-mail messages

Should	268.....	36.60%
Should NOT	424.....	58.00%
Don't know	38	5.20%
Refused	2	0.20%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Property

Property tax records of individuals, including the value of a person's home and how much was paid in property taxes.

Should	391	53.40%
Should NOT	318.....	43.40%
Don't know	21	2.90%
Refused	2	0.20%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Utilities

Public utility records, which include how much water a person uses.

Should	258.....	35.20%
Should NOT	454.....	62.00%
Don't know	20	2.80%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Party affiliation records

Records on a voter's political party affiliation

Should	282.....	38.50%
Should NOT	422.....	57.70%
Don't know	24	3.30%
Refused	4	0.50%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Voting records

Records on how often someone voted

Should	252	34.40%
Should NOT	464	63.30%
Don't know	13	1.80%
Refused	3	0.40%
N=	732	100.00%

Gun Permits

Records on who has applied for a gun permit

Should	436	59.60%
Should NOT	279	38.10%
Don't know	16	2.20%
Refused	1	0.10%
N=	732	100.00%

Amendment

Would you [support or oppose] an amendment to the North Carolina constitution that makes all public business of any government body in North Carolina open and available to the public.

Support	515	70.40%
Oppose	157	21.40%
Don't Know	57	7.80%
Refused	3	0.40%
N=	732	100.00%

Channel

How [interested or uninterested] are you in a new state government television channel that would broadcast North Carolina legislative sessions and committee hearings? Would you say you are: [not at all interested, somewhat interested, or very interested]?

Very interested	186	25.40%
Somewhat interested	401	54.80%
Not at all interested	141	19.30%
Don't know	4	0.50%
N=	732	100.00%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Income

Is your annual household income more or less than \$50,000?

(If = Under \$50,000) Is it more or less than \$25,000?

(If = Over \$50,000) Is it more or less than \$75,000?

Less than \$25,000.....	132.....	18.10%
\$25,000 to \$50,000	175.....	23.90%
\$50,000 to \$75,000	124.....	16.90%
More than \$75,000.....	210.....	28.70%
Don't Know.....	49.....	6.70%
Refused	42.....	5.70%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Age

How old are you?

18-30.....	167.....	22.80%
31-40	132.....	18.00%
41-50.....	106.....	14.40%
51-65	210.....	28.70%
65+.....	118.....	16.10%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Race

For statistical purposes only, could you please tell me your race or ethnic background?

White	527.....	72.10%
Black.....	153.....	20.90%
Other.....	52.....	7.10%
N=	732.....	100.00%

Gender

Was the person male or female?

Male.....	351.....	48.00%
Female.....	381.....	52.00%
N=	732.....	100.00%

CROSS-TABULATIONS

Trust: Federal Government

How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

Federal Government Trust and Race							
	Just about always	Most of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
White	2	11	64	21	1	0	100
Black	4	10	75	9	2	0	100
Other	3	13	71	12	0	0	100
Total	3	11	67	18	1	0	100

Federal Government Trust and Party							
	Just about always	Most of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	3	19	67	10	1	0	100
Independents	3	7	70	19	1	0	100
Republicans	3	9	65	23	0	0	100
DK / Refused	5	3	35	48	9	0	100
Total	3	11	67	18	1	0	100

Federal Government Trust and Age							
	Just about always	Most of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	2	13	69	16	0	0	100
31-40	2	8	68	18	5	0	100
41-50	3	12	70	14	1	0	100
51-65	3	11	65	20	0	0	100
65+	4	12	63	19	2	0	100
Total	3	11	67	18	1	0	100

Trust: State Government

How much of the time do you think you can trust the state government in Raleigh to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

State Government Trust and Race							
	Just about always	Most of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
White	4	27	58	9	2	0	100
Black	2	7	79	12	0	0	100
Other	4	35	49	11	0	0	100
Total	3	23	62	10	2	0	100

State Government Trust and Party							
	Just about always	Most of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	3	12	74	10	1	0	100
Independents	3	24	58	12	3	0	100
Republicans	6	36	53	5	0	0	100
Don't Know / Refused	0	11	55	27	6	0	100
Total	3	23	62	10	2	0	100

State Government Trust and Age							
	Just about always	Most of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	3	25	61	10	1	0	100
31-40	2	19	68	6	4	0	100
41-50	3	26	62	7	2	0	100
51-65	4	21	61	12	1	0	100
65+	5	25	57	12	1	0	100
Total	3	23	62	10	2	0	100

Trust: Local Government

How much of the time do you think you can trust the local government in your community to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

Local Government Trust and Race						
	Just about always	Most of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
White	8	46	38	5	2	100
Black	7	20	60	11	3	100
Other	13	42	35	10	0	100
Total	8	41	42	7	2	100

Local Government Trust and Party						
	Just about always	Most of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	9	36	48	6	2	100
Independents	7	43	38	9	2	100
Republicans	10	45	41	3	1	100
Don't Know / Refused	0	16	49	29	6	100
Total	8	41	42	7	2	100

Local Government Trust and Age						
	Just about always	Most of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	10	43	41	6	2	100
31-40	7	34	45	8	5	100
41-50	6	45	40	8	1	100
51-65	10	39	44	7	1	100
65+	8	44	41	6	1	100
Total	8	41	42	7	2	100

Sunshine

Most states have laws called "Sunshine Laws" that make public documents, records, information, and meetings available and accessible to citizens: are you [aware or not aware] if North Carolina has these laws?

Sunshine Awareness and Race				
	Aware	Not Aware	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
White	34	61	5	100
Black	22	75	4	100
Other	24	73	3	100
Total	31	65	5	100

Sunshine Awareness and Income				
	Aware	Not Aware	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	16	82	3	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	28	68	4	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	30	63	6	100
More than \$75,000	43	51	6	100
Don't Know	29	66	5	100
Refused	27	69	4	100
Total	31	65	5	100

Sunshine Awareness and Party				
	Aware	Not Aware	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Democrats	28	68	5	100
Independents	34	62	4	100
Republicans	30	66	4	100
Don't Know / Refused	24	53	22	100
Total	31	65	5	100

Sunshine Awareness and Age				
	Aware	Not Aware	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
18-30	25	73	2	100
31-40	30	68	2	100
41-50	38	59	3	100
51-65	33	62	6	100
65+	29	59	12	100
Total	31	65	5	100

Comparison

Compared to five years ago, would you say the state government in North Carolina is now more open and transparent, less open and transparent, or is the level of openness and transparency about the same?

Openness over Time and Race						
	More open	Less open	About the same	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
White	33	37	9	20	1	100
Black	29	56	2	14	0	100
Other	38	43	10	10	0	100
Total	33	41	8	18	0	100

Openness over Time and Income						
	More open	Less open	About the same	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	32	50	4	14	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	33	45	6	15	1	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	31	39	6	23	1	100
More than \$75,000	36	35	12	17	0	100
Don't Know	24	46	7	23	0	100
Refused	30	32	12	24	1	100
Total	33	41	8	18	0	100

Openness over Time and Party						
	More open	Less open	About the same	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	23	56	5	16	1	100
Independents	32	38	9	20	1	100
Republicans	46	30	9	15	0	100
DK / Refused	35	33	14	18	0	100
Total	33	41	8	18	0	100

Openness over Time and Age						
	More open	Less open	About the same	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	23	51	6	20	1	100
31-40	32	35	8	26	0	100
41-50	40	36	10	14	0	100
51-65	36	43	7	13	1	100
65+	34	38	10	18	0	100

Total	33	41	8	18	0	100
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Request

Have you ever tried to get any public documents, records, and information?

Attempt to Access and Race				
	Yes	No	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
White	37	62	1	100
Black	39	61	0	100
Other	37	63	0	100
Total	38	61	1	100

Attempt to Access and Income				
	Yes	No	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	33	66	1	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	39	61	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	37	63	0	100
More than \$75,000	39	59	2	100
Don't Know	48	52	0	100
Refused	32	66	2	100
Total	38	61	1	100

Attempt to Access and Party				
	Yes	No	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Democrats	37	63	1	100
Independents	43	56	1	100
Republicans	31	68	1	100
Don't Know / Refused	37	63	0	100
Total	38	61	1	100

Attempt to Access and Age				
	Yes	No	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%
18-30	42	57	1	100
31-40	39	61	0	100
41-50	41	57	3	100
51-65	38	62	0	100
65+	26	72	1	100
Total	38	61	1	100

Success

Were you generally successful in getting the documents, records, or information that you tried to?

Access Success and Race					
	Yes	No	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	89	10	1	0	100
Black	81	18	1	0	100
Other	86	10	5	0	100
Total	87	11	1	0	100

Access Success and Income					
	Yes	No	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	79	19	2	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	81	18	2	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	94	5	0	1	100
More than \$75,000	92	7	1	0	100
Don't Know	85	15	0	0	100
Refused	100	0	0	0	100
Total	87	11	1	0	100

Access Success and Party					
	Yes	No	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	85	14	1	0	100
Independents	88	11	1	0	100
Republicans	90	9	2	0	100
DK / Refused	84	8	0	8	100
Total	87	11	1	0	100

Access Success and Age					
	Yes	No	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	98	2	0	0	100
31-40	82	18	0	0	100
41-50	95	5	0	0	100
51-65	80	17	2	0	100
65+	81	15	2	2	100
Total	87	11	1	0	100

Access

It's important to be able to get any document you want from government

Any Document and Race						
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
White	59	35	3	4	0	100
Black	59	36	4	1	0	100
Other	75	21	4	0	0	100
Total	60	34	3	3	0	100

Any Document and Income						
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	66	29	2	2	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	61	31	5	3	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	56	40	1	2	0	100
More than \$75,000	52	42	4	1	0	100
Don't Know	77	16	2	5	0	100
Refused	59	31	1	9	0	100
Total	60	34	3	3	0	100

Any Document and Party						
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	58	36	4	2	0	100
Independents	59	35	2	3	0	100
Republicans	61	33	3	3	0	100
DK / Refused	74	17	6	3	0	100
Total	60	34	3	3	0	100

Any Document and Age						
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	65	33	0	2	0	100
31-40	57	38	3	3	0	100
41-50	55	40	4	1	0	100
51-65	60	33	4	3	0	100
65+	60	29	5	5	0	100
Total	60	34	3	3	0	100

Secret

Sometimes government officials are justified in keeping some information a secret

Secrets Justified and Race

	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
White	62	32	3	2	0	100
Black	69	26	4	1	0	100
Other	54	42	4	0	0	100
Total	63	31	3	2	0	100

Secrets Justified and Income

	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	62	34	1	3	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	62	31	5	1	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	65	32	2	1	0	100
More than \$75,000	66	28	5	0	0	100
Don't Know	63	34	1	2	0	100
Refused	55	38	0	8	0	100
Total	63	31	3	2	0	100

Secrets Justified and Party

	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	70	27	2	1	0	100
Independents	62	31	5	1	0	100
Republicans	60	37	1	2	0	100
DK / Refused	24	39	26	11	0	100
Total	63	31	3	2	0	100

Secrets Justified and Age

	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	69	30	1	0	0	100
31-40	63	30	3	4	0	100
41-50	63	31	5	1	0	100
51-65	58	36	4	2	0	100
65+	64	28	4	2	1	100
Total	63	31	3	2	0	100

Contributions

It is important to know who elected officials get their campaign contributions from

Names Available and Race					
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	83	14	2	1	100
Black	61	36	2	0	100
Other	84	16	0	0	100
Total	79	19	2	0	100

Names Available and Income					
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	68	30	0	1	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	80	17	3	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	84	14	1	0	100
More than \$75,000	85	13	2	0	100
Don't Know	71	24	1	4	100
Refused	69	26	5	0	100
Total	79	19	2	0	100

Names Available and Party					
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	78	20	2	0	100
Independents	76	21	2	1	100
Republicans	84	14	1	0	100
Don't Know / Refused	66	23	9	3	100
Total	79	19	2	0	100

Names Available and Age					
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	69	30	1	0	100
31-40	77	20	2	1	100
41-50	85	14	1	0	100
51-65	82	16	2	0	100
65+	83	13	3	1	100
Total	79	19	2	0	100

All Meetings

All government meetings should be open to the public

All Meetings Open and Race						
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
White	68	29	2	1	0	100
Black	69	30	1	0	0	100
Other	69	31	0	0	0	100
Total	68	30	2	0	0	100

All Meetings Open and Income						
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	76	23	1	0	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	80	19	0	1	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	59	39	0	1	0	100
More than \$75,000	57	39	4	0	0	100
Don't Know	69	31	0	0	0	100
Refused	78	20	1	0	0	100
Total	68	30	2	0	0	100

All Meetings Open and Party						
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	67	31	1	0	0	100
Independents	69	31	1	0	0	100
Republicans	67	28	4	1	0	100
Don't Know / Refused	83	11	6	0	0	100
Total	68	30	2	0	0	100

All Meetings Open and Age						
	Agree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	75	25	0	0	0	100
31-40	65	33	2	0	0	100
41-50	67	30	3	0	0	100
51-65	66	31	2	1	0	100
65+	69	28	2	1	0	100
Total	68	30	2	0	0	100

ELON UNIVERSITY POLL

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Should/Should Not Questions: Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information.

Expenses

Records of government officials' expense accounts.

Expense Accounts and Race					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	90	9	1	0	100
Black	72	28	0	0	100
Other	72	28	0	0	100
Total	85	15	1	0	100

Expense Accounts and Income					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	73	25	2	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	86	14	0	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	90	10	0	0	100
More than \$75,000	90	9	1	0	100
Don't Know	78	22	0	0	100
Refused	84	16	0	0	100
Total	85	15	1	0	100

Expense Accounts and Party					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	79	20	0	0	100
Independents	85	14	0	0	100
Republicans	90	9	1	0	100
Don't Know / Refused	91	0	9	0	100
Total	85	15	1	0	100

Expense Accounts and Age					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	77	23	0	0	100
31-40	83	17	0	0	100
41-50	89	10	1	0	100
51-65	89	10	1	0	100
65+	87	11	2	1	100
Total	85	15	1	0	100

Hazards

Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information: Government records that identify the type, amount, and location of hazardous chemicals.

Hazardous Material and Race				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
White	88	11	1	100
Black	78	21	1	100
Other	94	6	0	100
Total	87	13	1	100

Hazardous Material and Income				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	78	19	3	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	91	9	1	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	85	15	0	100
More than \$75,000	90	10	0	100
Don't Know	92	8	0	100
Refused	77	21	1	100
Total	87	13	1	100

Hazardous Material and Party				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Democrats	83	16	1	100
Independents	88	12	0	100
Republicans	90	8	2	100
Don't Know / Refused	82	18	0	100
Total	87	13	1	100

Hazardous Material and Age				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
18-30	85	15	0	100
31-40	83	17	0	100
41-50	93	7	0	100
51-65	87	11	1	100
65+	86	11	3	100
Total	87	13	1	100

Salaries

Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information: The annual salaries of public employees.

Public Employee Salaries and Race				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
White	82	16	2	100
Black	55	41	4	100
Other	59	40	1	100
Total	75	23	2	100

Public Employee Salaries and Income				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	68	30	3	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	74	24	2	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	74	24	2	100
More than \$75,000	83	14	3	100
Don't Know	55	44	1	100
Refused	84	16	0	100
Total	75	23	2	100

Public Employee Salaries and Party				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Democrats	73	26	1	100
Independents	75	23	3	100
Republicans	79	19	2	100
Don't Know / Refused	53	38	9	100
Total	75	23	2	100

Public Employee Salaries and Age				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
18-30	65	35	0	100
31-40	65	31	4	100
41-50	78	19	3	100
51-65	82	16	2	100
65+	83	14	3	100
Total	75	23	2	100

Criminal

Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information: Records detailing someone's criminal past.

Criminal Records and Race					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	81	13	6	1	100
Black	64	35	1	0	100
Other	86	12	1	0	100
Total	78	17	5	0	100

Criminal Records and Income					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	73	22	6	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	76	18	5	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	78	19	3	0	100
More than \$75,000	82	13	4	1	100
Don't Know	74	18	7	0	100
Refused	84	13	4	0	100
Total	78	17	5	0	100

Criminal Records and Party					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	72	23	4	1	100
Independents	78	17	5	0	100
Republicans	86	10	4	0	100
Don't Know / Refused	63	20	17	0	100
Total	78	17	5	0	100

Criminal Records and Age					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	78	22	0	0	100
31-40	75	18	6	0	100
41-50	81	12	7	0	100
51-65	78	15	6	1	100
65+	77	17	5	1	100
Total	78	17	5	0	100

Email

Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information: Government employees work e-mail messages

Public Employee Email and Race					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	38	56	6	0	100
Black	31	64	5	0	100
Other	36	64	0	0	100
Total	37	58	5	0	100

Public Employee Email and Income					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	38	55	8	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	31	63	5	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	36	61	3	0	100
More than \$75,000	41	54	4	0	100
Don't Know	34	62	4	0	100
Refused	37	55	8	0	100
Total	37	58	5	0	100

Public Employee Email and Party					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	35	57	7	0	100
Independents	39	58	3	0	100
Republicans	37	58	5	0	100
Don't Know / Refused	14	64	22	0	100
Total	37	58	5	0	100

Public Employee Email and Age					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	33	66	1	0	100
31-40	32	65	3	0	100
41-50	36	59	5	0	100
51-65	40	54	6	0	100
65+	42	45	12	1	100
Total	37	58	5	0	100

Property

Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information: Property tax records of individuals, including the value of a person's home and how much was paid in property taxes.

Property Tax Records and Race					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	58	39	3	0	100
Black	43	53	3	1	100
Other	35	63	2	0	100
Total	53	43	3	0	100

Property Tax Records and Income					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	47	49	4	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	51	46	3	1	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	54	45	1	0	100
More than \$75,000	67	30	3	0	100
Don't Know	37	62	1	0	100
Refused	37	58	5	0	100
Total	53	43	3	0	100

Property Tax Records and Party					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	53	44	3	0	100
Independents	57	41	1	0	100
Republicans	50	45	4	0	100
Don't Know / Refused	32	46	22	0	100
Total	53	43	3	0	100

Property Tax Records and Age					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	41	57	2	0	100
31-40	47	50	3	0	100
41-50	60	35	6	0	100
51-65	62	34	3	0	100
65+	57	41	1	1	100
Total	53	43	3	0	100

Utilities

Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information: Public utility records, which include how much water a person uses.

Public Utility Records and Race				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
White	32	64	3	100
Black	42	56	3	100
Other	44	56	0	100
Total	35	62	3	100

Public Utility Records and Income				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	41	54	5	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	33	65	2	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	37	60	3	100
More than \$75,000	30	68	2	100
Don't Know	44	50	6	100
Refused	34	64	2	100
Total	35	62	3	100

Public Utility Records and Party				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
Democrats	42	55	2	100
Independents	30	67	3	100
Republicans	36	62	2	100
Don't Know / Refused	16	63	21	100
Total	35	62	3	100

Public Utility Records and Age				
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%
18-30	44	56	0	100
31-40	32	65	3	100
41-50	29	68	3	100
51-65	33	64	2	100
65+	35	57	8	100
Total	35	62	3	100

Party affiliation records

Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information: Records on a voter's political party affiliation

Party Affiliation Records and Race					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	37	60	3	1	100
Black	35	57	7	0	100
Other	59	40	0	2	100
Total	38	58	3	1	100

Party Affiliation Records and Income					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	40	53	7	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	36	61	3	1	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	38	60	2	0	100
More than \$75,000	38	59	2	0	100
Don't Know	56	40	5	0	100
Refused	27	66	2	5	100
Total	38	58	3	1	100

Party Affiliation Records and Party					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	40	57	3	0	100
Independents	36	61	3	0	100
Republicans	43	52	3	2	100
Don't Know / Refused	19	60	18	3	100
Total	38	58	3	1	100

Party Affiliation Records and Age					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	35	60	3	1	100
31-40	39	59	2	0	100
41-50	32	65	3	0	100
51-65	41	56	3	0	100
65+	45	50	5	1	100
Total	38	58	3	1	100

Voting records

Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information: Records on how often someone voted

Voter Turnout Records and Race					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	35	62	2	0	100
Black	29	69	1	0	100
Other	40	56	1	4	100
Total	34	63	2	1	100

Voter Turnout Records and Income					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
\$25,000 to \$50,000	34	63	1	1	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	34	66	0	0	100
More than \$75,000	33	65	1	1	100
Don't Know	41	57	1	0	100
Refused	34	64	1	1	100
Total	34	63	2	1	100

Voter Turnout Records and Party					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	36	62	1	1	100
Independents	31	67	1	0	100
Don't Know / Refused	28	63	9	0	100
Total	34	63	2	1	100

Voter Turnout Records and Age					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
31-40	30	70	0	0	100
41-50	31	68	1	0	100
51-65	34	63	3	1	100
65+	39	56	4	1	100
Total	34	63	2	1	100

Gun Permits

Now I'm going to read a list of items and I would like for you to tell me if you believe ordinary citizens [should or should not] have access to this information: Records on who has applied for a gun permit

Gun Permits and Race					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	56	41	3	0	100
Black	65	34	1	0	
Other	77	23	0	0	
Total	60	38	2	0	100

Gun Permits and Income					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	64	33	3	1	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	62	36	2	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	59	39	2	0	100
Refused	49	50	1	0	100
Total	60	38	2	0	100

Gun Permits and Party					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	67	31	2	0	100
Independents	58	41	2	0	100
Republicans	55	42	2	1	100
Don't Know / Refused	41	50	9	0	100
Total	60	38	2	0	100

Gun Permits and Age					
	Should	Should NOT	Don't know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	63	35	1	0	100
31-40	54	46	0	0	100
41-50	52	44	4	0	100
51-65	58	39	3	0	100
65+	71	26	3	1	100
Total	60	38	2	0	100

Amendment

Would you [support or oppose] an amendment to the North Carolina constitution that makes all public business of any government body in North Carolina open and available to the public.

Open Amendment and Race					
	Support	Oppose	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	71	20	9	1	100
Black	67	29	4	0	100
Other	77	17	6	0	100
Total	70	21	8	1	100

Open Amendment and Income					
	Support	Oppose	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	65	23	11	0	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	69	23	7	1	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	79	15	5	0	100
More than \$75,000	70	22	7	0	100
Don't Know	58	28	14	0	100
Refused	80	16	4	0	100
Total	70	21	8	1	100

Open Amendment and Party					
	Support	Oppose	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	70	24	5	1	100
Independents	71	20	8	1	100
Republicans	69	20	10	0	100
Don't Know / Refused	71	16	13	0	100
Total	70	21	8	1	100

Open Amendment and Age					
	Support	Oppose	Don't Know	Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	67	22	10	1	100
31-40	68	26	6	0	100
41-50	76	15	8	0	100
51-65	71	21	7	1	100
65+	72	21	7	1	100
Total	70	21	8	1	100

Channel

How [interested or uninterested] are you in a new state government television channel that would broadcast North Carolina legislative sessions and committee hearings? Would you say you are: [not at all interested, somewhat interested, or very interested]?

TV Channel and Race					
	Very interested	Somewhat interested	Not at all interested	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
White	24	53	23	0	100
Black	26	64	9	1	100
Other	43	46	11	0	100
Total	25	55	19	1	100

TV Channel and Income					
	Very interested	Somewhat interested	Not at all interested	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	27	53	20	1	100
\$25,000 to \$50,000	32	54	13	0	100
\$50,000 to \$75,000	21	57	22	0	100
More than \$75,000	25	50	23	1	100
Don't Know	13	68	18	2	100
Refused	18	66	16	0	100
Total	25	55	19	1	100

TV Channel and Party					
	Very interested	Somewhat interested	Not at all interested	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Democrats	32	52	16	1	100
Independents	23	58	18	0	100
Republicans	21	54	25	0	100
DK/Refused	28	41	25	6	100
Total	25	55	19	1	100

TV Channel and Age					
	Very interested	Somewhat interested	Not at all interested	Don't know	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
18-30	28	56	16	0	100
31-40	20	59	21	0	100
41-50	25	55	19	1	100
51-65	26	53	21	1	100
65+	27	51	20	1	100

Total	25	55	19	1	100
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Basic Methodological Information

Mode:	Live Interviewer RDD Telephone Interviews (Dual Frame: Cell Phone and Landlines)
Population & Sample Area	North Carolina; Registered Voters
Dates in the field:	November 15- November 18, 2013
Sample Size	732
Margin of Error	±3.62
Confidence Level	95%
Weighting Variables	Age , Race, Gender, & Phone Ownership

The Elon University Poll uses a stratified random sample of households with telephones and wireless (cell) telephone numbers. Please direct questions about the Elon University Poll’s methodology to the Director of the Elon University Poll, Dr. Kenneth Fernandez at 336-278-6438 or kfernandez@elon.edu.

Procedures Used for Conducting the Poll

The Elon University Poll uses CATI system software (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing) for the administration of surveys. We attempt to reach each working telephone number in the sample up to five times. We only interview residents of North Carolina who are over 18. The Elon University Poll conducted the survey over a four-day period. Live interviewers called from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday (11/15); 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday (11/16); 2p.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday (11/17); and from 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Monday (11/18).

Additional Methodological Decisions

Branching Questions

For many questions with multiple response options, we program our surveys to branch into a secondary probing question.

“Don’t Know” & “Refused” Response Options

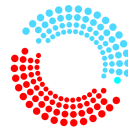
All questions include an option for respondents to volunteer “don’t know” or to refuse. In the vast majority of questions, interviewers do not prompt “don’t know” responses.

Weighting

We typically weight results from the Elon University Poll on multiple demographic characteristics: race, gender, household size, region, education, and age. Weighting rarely leads to substantial changes in results. We use iterative raking, adjusting one dimension at a time. We include detailed information about weighting of survey samples for each poll on both the Elon University Poll website and within released reports.

Within Household Randomization

For landlines, we use the common “oldest-youngest” technique to ensure within household randomization. We assume cellphones belong to an individual rather than a household. Thus, we do not conduct within-household randomization within our cellphone sample.



Completion Criteria

An interview is a complete only if a respondent progresses through the entire survey. Respondents who hang up before completing the last question or who refuse to more than 10 % of the questions are incompletes.

Support for Transparency

The Elon University Poll supports transparency in survey research and is a supporter of the American Association for Public Opinion Research Transparency Initiative, which is a program promoting openness and transparency about survey research methods and operations among survey research professionals and the industry. All information about the Elon University Poll that we released to the public conforms to reporting conventions recommended by the American Association for Public Opinion Research and the National Council on Public Polls.

Question Construction and Question Order

In releasing survey results, the Elon University Poll provides the questions as worded and the order in which respondents receive these questions. In some cases question ordering rotates to avoid biases. In an effort to provide neutral, non-biased questions, we attempt to observe conventional question wording and question order protocols in all of our polls. In order to avoid recency or primacy effects, we randomize candidate names and directional response options (e.g. support / oppose) within the text of each question. We pretest every questionnaire multiple times before entering the field.

Sampling

Survey Sampling International, LLC, provide samples of telephone numbers. To equalize the probability of telephone selection, sample telephone numbers are systematically stratified according to subpopulation strata (e.g., a zip code, a county, 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 selected systematically 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 wireless component of the study sample starts with 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, unlisted as well as listed numbers are included in the sample. Thus, the sample of numbers generated for the population of interest constitutes a random sample of telephone households and wireless numbers of the population.

Frequently Asked Questions about our Methodology

1. *Who pays for the Elon University Poll?*
Elon University fully funds the Elon University Poll.
2. *Does the Elon University Poll favor a certain party?*
The Elon University Poll is an academic, non-partisan survey. We do not engage or work with any political candidates or parties. We employ best practices to ensure the results are not biased.
3. *Where do you get your numbers?*
We obtain samples of randomized phone numbers from Survey Sample International.
4. *How many times do you call a number before giving up?*
We will attempt to call each working number up to five times before removing it from the sample.
5. *Do you call both cell phones and land lines?*
Yes. We use a mixed sample of both cell phones and landlines. We weight on phone ownership to adjust for the higher probability of selection of those who own both cell phones and landline phones.
6. *Does the Elon University Poll do IVR surveys or automated "robopolls"?*
No. Well-trained students at Elon University conduct all our interviewers.
7. *Do you report non-response rates?*
Yes. We report non-response rates based on AAPOR guidelines. The response rate for the November 2013 Poll was 9.3%, which approximates or exceeds the national average response rates of other high quality survey organizations. The response rate is

calculated using the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) formula RR4.

8. *Do you weight the data?*

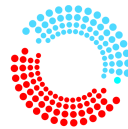
Yes. We apply weights to the data. An iterative proportional fitting algorithm generates weights based on Census parameters of residents in North Carolina.

9. *Do you randomize response options?*

Yes. We rotate the order of candidate names in all applicable questions. We also rotate order of text for other questions, such as those that include response options such as "more" and "less." Furthermore, we rotate the order of some questions themselves if we suspect the order of a question could bias results.

10. *Do you conduct within-household randomization?*

Yes. For landlines, we use the common "oldest-youngest" rotation to ensure within household randomization. We assume cellphones belong to an individual rather than a household. Thus, we do not conduct within-household randomization within our cellphone sample.



The Elon University Poll Team

[Dr. Kenneth Fernandez](#) is the Director of the Elon University Poll. Dr. Fernandez holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from University of California – Riverside. Dr. Fernandez is Assistant Professor of Political Science and Policy Studies at Elon University. He has published numerous articles in peer-reviewed social science journals.



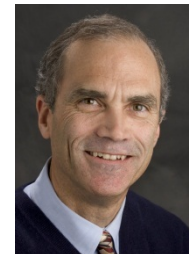
Fernandez

[Dr. Jason Husser](#) is the Assistant director. Dr. Husser holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Vanderbilt University. Dr. Husser is also Assistant Professor of Political Science and Policy Studies at Elon University. He recently published an article on public opinion in the *American Journal of Political Science*. He was previously the Associate Coordinator of the Vanderbilt University Poll.



Husser

John Robinson serves as Director of Communications for the Poll. He is a former newspaper editor, veteran journalist, and North Carolina native.



Robinson

Daniel Anderson is Vice President of Elon University Communications. Eric Townsend is Director of the Elon University News Bureau. Both work very closely with the directors in communicating results of the poll.

Faculty members in the Department of Political Science, chaired by Dr. Sharon Spray, are also involved in advising the directors.

The poll operates under the auspices of the College of Arts and Sciences at Elon University, led by Dean Alison Morrison-Shetlar. The Elon University administration, led by Dr. Leo Lambert, president of the university, fully supports the Elon University Poll as part of its service commitment to state, regional, and national constituents.

Elon University fully funds the Elon University Poll. Because of this generous support, the Elon University poll does not engage in any contract work. This permits the Elon University Poll to operate as a neutral, non-biased, non-partisan resource.

Elon University students administer the survey as part of the University's commitment to civic engagement and experiential learning where "students learn through doing." Student interviewers receive extensive training prior to engaging in interviewing. A team of student supervisors (led by Mary Young '14) assists the directors with quality control and monitoring.

For more information on the Elon University Poll, visit www.elon.edu/elonpoll

Or contact:

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