

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY POLL
MAY 2014

Total N=1,505 Tennessee adults, age 18+

Landline, N=753

Cell phone, N=752

Margins of Error: \pm 3.0 percentage points for results based on Total [N=1,505]

\pm 3.4 percentage points for results based on Registered voters [N=1,245]

\pm 4.4 percentage points for results based on Form 1 [N=736]

\pm 4.2 percentage points for results based on Form 2 [N=769]

\pm 4.9 percentage points for results based on Form 1 Registered voters [N=608]

\pm 4.6 percentage points for results based on Form 2 Registered voters [N=637]

Interviewing dates: April 28 – May 14, 2014

Interview language: English only

Q1. I'd like your views on some government organizations and elected officials. As I read each, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job. Do you approve or disapprove of?

- a. The job Barack Obama is doing as President
- b. The job the U.S. Congress is doing
- c. The job the Tennessee State Legislature is doing
- d. The job Bill Haslam is doing as Governor
- e. The job Lamar Alexander is doing as U.S. Senator
- f. The job Bob Corker is doing as U.S. Senator

CATEGORIES

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 3 **(VOL.)** Need to wait and see/Too early to tell
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q2. Which of the following do you think should be the TOP priority of the Tennessee state government?

- 1 Health Care
- 2 Guns
- 3 Immigration
- 4 The economy, including jobs
- 5 Education
- 6 Or something else? **(SPECIFY)**
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q3. Which of the following do you think should be the SECOND highest priority of the Tennessee state government?

- 1 Health Care
- 2 Guns
- 3 Immigration
- 4 The economy, including jobs
- 5 Education
- 6 Or something else? (**SPECIFY**)
- 8 (**VOL.**) Don't know
- 9 (**VOL.**) Refused

Q4. Now I am going to mention the names of some people in the news. For each one, please tell me whether you have a generally favorable or unfavorable impression of that person. First, how about

- a. Joe Carr
- b. Lamar Alexander
- c. George Flynn
- d. Bill Haslam
- e. Mark Brown
- f. John Jay Hooker
- g. Koch Brothers

CATEGORIES

- 1 Favorable
- 2 Unfavorable
- 3 (**VOL.**) Never heard of
- 8 (**VOL.**) Don't know/Can't rate
- 9 (**VOL.**) Refused

Q5. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the size and power of each of the following types of government? First, how about

- a. The federal government
- b. The Tennessee state government
- c. Your local county government

CATEGORIES

- 1 Very satisfied
- 2 Somewhat satisfied
- 3 Somewhat dissatisfied
- 4 Very dissatisfied
- 8 (**VOL.**) Don't know
- 9 (**VOL.**) Refused

Q6. Do you think things in the state of Tennessee are generally headed in the right direction, or do you feel that things are off on the wrong track?

- 1 Right Direction
- 2 Wrong Track
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q7. How would you rate the condition of the United States economy these days? Is it:

- 1 Very good
- 2 Fairly good
- 3 Fairly bad, OR
- 4 Very bad?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q8. How would you rate the condition of the Tennessee state economy these days? Is it:

- 1 Very good
- 2 Fairly good
- 3 Fairly bad, OR
- 4 Very bad?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

REGIST. These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?

- 1 Yes, registered
- 2 No, not registered
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q9. How likely would you say you are to vote in Tennessee's primary elections for state and federal offices this year? Would you say

- 1 Absolutely certain
- 2 Very likely
- 3 Somewhat likely, OR
- 4 Not too likely?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q10. In the primary elections for offices like Governor and Senate this year, are you likely to vote in the Republican Primary, the Democratic Primary, or neither one?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democratic
- 3 Neither one
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q11. If your 2014 Tennessee State House election were held today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate in your district where you live?

- 1 Democratic candidate
- 2 Republican candidate
- 3 **(VOL.)** Other candidate
- 4 **(VOL.)** Neither/Would not vote
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q12. Which political party do you think has a majority of seats in the Tennessee state house?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democrat
- 3 Neither
- 8 Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

- Q13. What political party is your Representative in the Tennessee House of Representatives affiliated with?
- 1 Republican
 - 2 Democrat
 - 3 Independent
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q14. On the issue of abortion, where PRO-CHOICE means you support a woman's right to choose an abortion and PRO-LIFE means you support restricting access to abortion, would you say you are...
- 1 Definitely pro-choice
 - 2 Somewhat pro-choice
 - 3 Somewhat pro-life, OR
 - 4 Definitely pro-life?
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q15. Do you think abortion should be...
- 1 Legal in all cases
 - 2 Legal only in cases of rape, incest, or when the life of the mother is in jeopardy, OR
 - 3 Illegal in all cases?
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q16. This fall, Tennessee residents will be asked to vote on an amendment to the state constitution that would give the state legislature more power to regulate abortions. Do you favor giving the state legislature the constitutional authority to regulate abortions, or do you oppose this?
- 1 Favor
 - 2 Oppose
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q17. Do you favor or oppose allowing Tennessee residents to have firearms in public parks if they have carry-permits?
- 1 Favor
 - 2 Oppose
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

- Q18. Do you favor or oppose allowing Tennessee residents to have a gun without having a background check and gun owners only being required to get a permit if they planned to conceal their weapons?
- 1 Favor
 - 2 Oppose
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q19. The Common Core State Standards are a set of education standards for math and English Language Arts that were developed with the goal of preparing public school students for college or the workforce. Do you support implementing the Common Core standards in Tennessee public schools, or do you oppose it?
- 1 Support
 - 2 Oppose
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q20. A new state law called the "Tennessee Promise" was recently passed, making tuition at all community and technical colleges in Tennessee free for graduating high school seniors in the state. The program will be funded by the Tennessee Lottery. Do you support or oppose this law?
- 1 Support
 - 2 Oppose
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q21. Have you heard or read anything about plant workers at the Volkswagen factory in Chattanooga deciding not to join the United Auto Workers union?
- 1 Yes, have heard or read
 - 2 No, have not heard or read
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q22. Overall, do you think that women in America have equal job opportunities as men, or not?
- 1 Yes
 - 2 No
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q23. Since 1970, judges on the Tennessee Supreme Court have been chosen by the Governor from a list of qualified candidates put forward by a nominating commission. The State Legislature has been debating whether Tennessee voters should elect these judges. Some support this change because citizens, rather than the governor, would choose judges. Others oppose the change because judges would have to campaign for election, which might politicize the judicial process. What do you think? Should judges be appointed by the governor, or elected by voters, or haven't you thought much about it?

- 1 Judges should be appointed by the governor
- 2 Judges should be elected by voters
- 3 Haven't thought much about it
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q24. Which comes closer to your view about the use of marijuana by adults?

- 1 It should be legal for personal use
- 2 It should be legal only for medicinal use, OR
- 3 It should not be legal?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q25. Please tell me how much you favor or oppose each of the following. (First,) how about

- a. Amending the U.S. Constitution to allow voluntary prayer in public schools
- b. Posting the Ten Commandments in the lobby of a public courthouse

CATEGORIES

- 1 Strongly favor
- 2 Somewhat favor
- 3 Neither favor nor oppose
- 4 Somewhat oppose
- 5 Strongly oppose
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q26. Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are currently working in the U.S.? They should be allowed to stay in the country and to eventually apply for U.S. citizenship...They should be allowed to stay in the country only as temporary guest workers, but not to apply for U.S. citizenship... or, They should be required to leave the country.

- 1 Stay and apply for citizenship
- 2 Stay as temporary guest workers
- 3 Required to leave the U.S.
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

- Q27. Given what you know about the Affordable Care Act that passed in 2010, do you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable view of it, or have you not heard enough about it to form an opinion?
- 1 Generally favorable
 - 2 Generally unfavorable
 - 8 Haven't heard enough about it
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q28. As you may know, as part of its efforts to investigate terrorism, a federal government agency obtained records from larger U.S. telephone and Internet companies in order to compile telephone call logs and Internet communications. Based on what you have heard or read about the program, would you say you approve or disapprove of this government program?
- 1 Approve
 - 2 Disapprove
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q29. The Tennessee State Legislature passed a law that allows for the use of the electric chair on death row inmates if drugs used for lethal injection are not available. Do you support or oppose using the electric chair for state executions?
- 1 Support
 - 2 Oppose
 - 3 **(VOL.)** Oppose the death penalty altogether
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused
- Q30. In thinking about the issue of climate change, which comes closest to your own view?
- 1 Climate change is not occurring
 - 2 Climate change is occurring mostly because of human activities, OR
 - 3 Climate change is occurring mostly because of natural changes in the environment?
 - 4 **(VOL.)** Climate change is occurring equally because of human activities and natural changes
 - 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 - 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q31a. Thinking about how your current belief about climate change compares to what you thought five years ago, are you more or less certain about your views about climate change, or has your opinion stayed the same in the last five years?

- 1 More certain
- 2 Less certain
- 3 Opinion has stayed the same
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q31b. Many scientists say that climate change is making extreme weather events like hurricanes, tornadoes and tsunamis more common than they have been in the past. IN GENERAL, do you agree or disagree?

- 1 Agree
- 2 Disagree
- 3 **(VOL.)** Neither
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q32. Suppose FOX NEWS released a report claiming that climate change is related to human activities... What impact, if any, would this have on your opinion? Would you be:

- 1 More likely to believe that climate change is related to human activities
- 2 Less likely, OR
- 3 Would this have no impact on your opinion?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q33. Suppose CNN released a report claiming that climate change is related to human activities... What impact, if any, would this have on your opinion? Would you be:

- 1 More likely to believe that climate change is related to human activities
- 2 Less likely, OR
- 3 Would this have no impact on your opinion?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

Q34. Suppose CEOs of major American companies such as Ford, Apple, or GE released a report claiming that climate change is related to human activities... What impact, if any, would this have on your opinion? Would you be:

- 1 More likely to believe that climate change is related to human activities
- 2 Less likely, OR
- 3 Would this have no impact on your opinion?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

TP1. Do you think of yourself as part of the Tea Party movement?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 **(VOL.)** Never heard of Tea Party
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

TP2. In general, do you support the Tea Party movement's ideas?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 **(VOL.)** Don't know what the Tea Party movement's ideas are
- 4 **(VOL.)** Never heard of Tea Party
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

PARTY. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a:

- 1 Democrat
- 2 Republican
- 3 Independent, OR
- 4 Something else?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF DEMOCRAT (PARTY=1)

PTYSTRDEM. Would you call yourself a:

- 1 Strong Democrat, OR
- 2 Not a Strong Democrat?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF REPUBLICAN (PARTY=2)

PTYSTRREP. Would you call yourself a:

- 1 Strong Republican, OR
- 2 Not a Strong Republican?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF INDEPENDENT/SOMETHING ELSE/DK/REF (PARTY=3-9)

PARTYLN. Do you think of yourself as closer to the:

- 1 Republican Party, OR
- 2 Democratic Party?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

AGE. What is your age?

- _____ years
- 97 97 or older
- 98 Don't know
- 99 Refused

HH1. How many adults, age 18 and over, currently live in your household, INCLUDING YOURSELF?

- _____
- 6 6 or greater
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

LIVE. About how many years have you lived in Tennessee?

- 0 Less than 1 year
 97 97 years or more
 98 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 99 **(VOL.)** Refused

HISP. Are you, yourself, of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

- 1 Yes
 2 No
 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

RACE. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race?

- 1 White
 2 Black or African-American
 3 Asian or Pacific Islander
 4 Mixed race
 5 Native American/American Indian
 6 Other (SPECIFY)
 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

IDEO. We hear a lot of talk these days about conservatives and liberals. How would you generally describe your views on most political matters? Are you:

- 1 Conservative
 2 Moderate, OR
 3 Liberal?
 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

EDUC2. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

- 1 Less than high school (Grades 1-8 or no formal schooling)
- 2 High school incomplete (Grades 9-11 or Grade 12 with NO diploma)
- 3 High school graduate (Grade 12 with diploma or GED certificate)
- 4 Some college, no degree (includes some community college)
- 5 Two year associate degree from a college or university
- 6 Four year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)
- 7 Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree
- 8 Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical or law degree (e.g., MA, MS, PhD, MD, JD)
- 98 Don't know
- 99 Refused

ATTEND. How often do you attend church, mosque, synagogue or other place of worship?

- 1 Never
- 2 Rarely
- 3 Less than once a week
- 4 Once a week, OR
- 5 More than once a week?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

RELIG. What is your present religion, if any? Are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Mormon, Orthodox such as Greek or Russian Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, atheist, agnostic, something else, or nothing in particular?

- 1 Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah's Witness, etc.)
- 2 Roman Catholic (Catholic)
- 3 Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)
- 4 Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)
- 5 Jewish (Judaism)
- 6 Muslim (Islam)
- 7 Buddhist
- 8 Hindu
- 9 Atheist (do not believe in God)
- 10 Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)
- 11 Something else **(SPECIFY)**
- 12 Nothing in particular
- 13 **(VOL.)** Christian
- 14 **(VOL.)** Unitarian (Universalist)
- 98 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 99 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF CHRISTIAN (RELIG=1-4,13):

BORN. Would you describe yourself as a "born again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

- 1 Yes, would
- 2 No, would not
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT (RELIG=1 AND BORN=1)

Q35. Would you say Evangelical Protestants receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF NON-EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT (RELIG=1 AND BORN=2-9)

Q36. Would you say Non-Evangelical Protestants receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF CATHOLIC (RELIG=2)

Q37. Would you say Catholics receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF MORMON (RELIG=3)

Q38. Would you say Mormons receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF ORTHODOX (RELIG=4)

Q39. Would you say those who are Orthodox receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF JEWISH (RELIG=5)

Q40. Would you say Jews receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF MUSLIM (RELIG=6)

Q41. Would you say Muslims receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF BUDDHIST (RELIG=7)

Q42. Would you say Buddhists receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF HINDU (RELIG=8)

Q43. Would you say Hindus receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF ATHEIST (RELIG=9)

Q44. Would you say Atheists receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF AGNOSTIC (RELIG=10)

Q45. Would you say Agnostics receive too much respect, just the right amount of respect, or too little respect in this country?

- 1 Far too much
- 2 Somewhat too much
- 3 Just the right amount
- 4 Somewhat too little
- 5 Far too little
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

INS1. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or are you not covered at this time?

- 1 Yes, covered by health insurance
- 2 No, not covered by health insurance
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF INSURED (INS1=1):

INS2. Which of the following is your MAIN source of health insurance coverage? Is it a plan through your employer, a plan through your spouse's employer, a plan you purchased yourself either from an insurance company or a state or federal marketplace, are you covered by Medicare or Medicaid, or do you get your health insurance from somewhere else?

- 1 Plan through your employer
- 2 Plan through your spouse's employer
- 3 Plan you purchased yourself
- 4 Medicare
- 5 Medicaid
- 6 Somewhere else **(SPECIFY)**
- 7 **(VOL.)** Plan through your parents/mother/father
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

INC1. Before taxes, was your total household income in 2013 under \$45,000 or \$45,000 or over?

- 1 Under \$45,000
- 2 \$45,000 or over
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS UNDER \$45,000 (INC1=1)

INC2. Before taxes, was it:

- 1 Under \$15,000
- 2 \$15,000 to under \$30,000, OR
- 3 \$30,000 to under \$45,000?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS \$45,000 OR OVER (INC1=2)

INC3. Before taxes, was it: **[READ 1-3]**

- 1 \$45,000 to under \$75,000
- 2 \$75,000 to under \$100,000, OR
- 3 \$100,000 or more?
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF LANDLINE SAMPLE (SAMPLE=1)

QL1. Now thinking about your telephone use... Do you have a working cell phone?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF LANDLINE SAMPLE WITH NO CELL PHONE/DK/REF (QL1=2-9)

QL1a. Does anyone else in your household have a working cell phone?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused

ASK IF CELL PHONE SAMPLE (SAMPLE=2)

QC1. Now thinking about your telephone use... Is there at least one telephone **INSIDE** your home that is currently working and is not a cell phone?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 **(VOL.)** Don't know
- 9 **(VOL.)** Refused