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OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

Perdue closes in on McCrory

Raleigh, N.C. – Wednesday’s PPP release showed North Carolina voters standing overwhelmingly with North Carolina Governor Bev Perdue on her budget priorities and giving legislative Democrats a lead in the generic legislative ballot for the first time in over a year. Now, Perdue herself has carved into her persistent deficit to 2008 foe and likely 2012 opponent Pat McCrory.

Last month, McCrory led the governor by 11 points, 49-38. His advantage is still seven points in this month’s poll, 46-39. But that represents Perdue’s best showing in the early head-to-head matchup since January, when it was an identical seven points. Just two months ago, she was down twice that.

McCrory has had a marginal decline with Republicans, but is still earning considerably more of their support than Perdue is from her own party because he continues to get more than twice as much crossover support as the incumbent does. Where Perdue has really improved by leaps and bounds is with independents, from a 25-57 approval-disapproval spread to only 40-49—better than her overall 35-49, the same as last month. She has also leaped from losing 30-49 to McCrory to just 37-41.

“The increasing unpopularity of the Republican legislature is the best thing that’s happened for Bev Perdue’s reelection prospects since she took office,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “She continues to be pretty unpopular but now some folks are deciding she’s better than the alternative.”

McCrory enjoys at least a slightly more positive image than his partymates at the helm of the General Assembly. Voters are essentially split over who they prefer to run the state between them and the governor. 41% choose the legislative Republicans and 40% the governor. Independents side 39-36 with the GOP, but while 23% of Democrats plan to vote for McCrory, only 14% side with the Republicans on this question.

PPP surveyed 835 North Carolina voters from May 12th to 15th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.4%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.



North Carolina Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Bev Perdue's job performance?

Approve..... 35% Not sure 16%
Disapprove..... 49%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Pat McCrory?

Favorable..... 31%
Unfavorable 24%
Not sure 45%

Q3 If the candidates for Governor next year were Democrat Bev Perdue and Republican Pat McCrory, who would you vote for?

Bev Perdue..... 39%
Pat McCrory..... 46%
Undecided..... 15%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Richard Burr's job performance?

Approve 38% Not sure 29%
Disapprove..... 33%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Kay Hagan's job performance?

Approve 41% Not sure 21%
Disapprove..... 38%

Q6 Do you have more faith in Governor Perdue or Legislative Republicans to lead the state?

Governor Perdue 40%
Legislative Republicans 41%
Not sure 19%

Q7 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 46%
Barack Obama..... 48%
Someone else/Don't remember 6%

Q8 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 10%
Somewhat liberal 15%
Moderate..... 31%
Somewhat conservative..... 26%
Very conservative 18%

Q9 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q10 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 48%
Republican..... 36%
Independent/Other..... 16%

Q11 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 73%
African-American 23%
Other..... 4%

Q12 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 12%
30 to 45..... 30%
46 to 65..... 38%
Older than 65..... 20%



Q13

252.....	12%
336.....	23%
704.....	15%
828.....	13%
910.....	14%
919.....	23%



Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Perdue Approval				
Approve	35%	15%	57%	21%
Disapprove	49%	73%	26%	48%
Not sure	16%	12%	18%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
McCrory Favorability				
Favorable	31%	47%	17%	23%
Unfavorable	24%	15%	34%	14%
Not sure	45%	38%	50%	63%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Perdue/McCrory				
Bev Perdue	39%	11%	68%	21%
Pat McCrory	46%	78%	15%	46%
Undecided	15%	11%	16%	33%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Burr Approval				
Approve	38%	64%	15%	29%
Disapprove	33%	13%	52%	31%
Not sure	29%	23%	33%	40%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hagan Approval				
Approve	41%	12%	72%	22%
Disapprove	38%	67%	9%	45%
Not sure	21%	21%	19%	33%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?				
Governor Perdue	40%	9%	73%	17%
Legislative Republicans	41%	74%	8%	44%
Not sure	19%	17%	18%	39%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Perdue Approval						
Approve	35%	61%	56%	42%	23%	8%
Disapprove	49%	29%	26%	40%	60%	79%
Not sure	16%	10%	18%	17%	18%	13%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
McCrorry Favorability						
Favorable	31%	26%	16%	26%	38%	45%
Unfavorable	24%	32%	41%	24%	17%	12%
Not sure	45%	42%	43%	50%	44%	43%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Perdue/McCrory						
Bev Perdue	39%	70%	66%	50%	20%	8%
Pat McCrory	46%	23%	20%	31%	65%	80%
Undecided	15%	7%	13%	19%	16%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Burr Approval						
Approve	38%	22%	15%	26%	55%	65%
Disapprove	33%	49%	63%	34%	21%	14%
Not sure	29%	29%	21%	41%	25%	21%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Hagan Approval						
Approve	41%	71%	74%	49%	20%	12%
Disapprove	38%	11%	14%	26%	57%	70%
Not sure	21%	18%	12%	25%	23%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?						
Governor Perdue	40%	68%	74%	49%	21%	8%
Legislative Republicans	41%	12%	14%	27%	59%	77%
Not sure	19%	20%	12%	24%	20%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue Approval			
Approve	35%	38%	32%
Disapprove	49%	44%	54%
Not sure	16%	18%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCrory Favorability			
Favorable	31%	25%	38%
Unfavorable	24%	24%	23%
Not sure	45%	51%	39%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Perdue/McCrory			
Bev Perdue	39%	41%	37%
Pat McCrory	46%	43%	49%
Undecided	15%	16%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Burr Approval			
Approve	38%	32%	45%
Disapprove	33%	32%	34%
Not sure	29%	36%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hagan Approval			
Approve	41%	46%	36%
Disapprove	38%	31%	46%
Not sure	21%	24%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?			
Governor Perdue	40%	43%	38%
Legislative Republicans	41%	35%	46%
Not sure	19%	22%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue Approval				
Approve	35%	52%	11%	40%
Disapprove	49%	32%	71%	49%
Not sure	16%	17%	17%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCroy Favorability				
Favorable	31%	23%	42%	32%
Unfavorable	24%	29%	16%	26%
Not sure	45%	48%	42%	42%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Perdue/McCrory				
Bev Perdue	39%	63%	10%	37%
Pat McCrory	46%	23%	78%	41%
Undecided	15%	15%	12%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Burr Approval				
Approve	38%	21%	60%	38%
Disapprove	33%	44%	18%	35%
Not sure	29%	35%	22%	27%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hagan Approval				
Approve	41%	65%	11%	37%
Disapprove	38%	13%	70%	41%
Not sure	21%	22%	19%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?				
Governor Perdue	40%	65%	10%	36%
Legislative Republicans	41%	14%	76%	39%
Not sure	19%	20%	14%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue Approval				
Approve	35%	30%	50%	48%
Disapprove	49%	55%	31%	42%
Not sure	16%	16%	18%	10%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
McCrory Favorability				
Favorable	31%	36%	15%	37%
Unfavorable	24%	20%	36%	25%
Not sure	45%	44%	49%	38%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Perdue/McCrory				
Bev Perdue	39%	32%	63%	47%
Pat McCrory	46%	55%	20%	32%
Undecided	15%	14%	17%	21%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Burr Approval				
Approve	38%	46%	16%	22%
Disapprove	33%	27%	48%	55%
Not sure	29%	27%	36%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Hagan Approval				
Approve	41%	33%	68%	51%
Disapprove	38%	45%	17%	29%
Not sure	21%	22%	16%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?				
Governor Perdue	40%	32%	65%	48%
Legislative Republicans	41%	49%	16%	28%
Not sure	19%	19%	19%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue Approval					
Approve	35%	42%	31%	37%	33%
Disapprove	49%	40%	53%	49%	49%
Not sure	16%	18%	16%	14%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCrory Favorability					
Favorable	31%	30%	29%	30%	37%
Unfavorable	24%	26%	20%	28%	20%
Not sure	45%	44%	51%	42%	43%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Perdue/McCrory					
Bev Perdue	39%	42%	39%	42%	33%
Pat McCrory	46%	40%	48%	41%	56%
Undecided	15%	18%	13%	17%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Burr Approval					
Approve	38%	34%	39%	35%	44%
Disapprove	33%	40%	32%	36%	25%
Not sure	29%	26%	29%	29%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hagan Approval					
Approve	41%	44%	43%	43%	33%
Disapprove	38%	36%	35%	38%	44%
Not sure	21%	20%	22%	19%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?					
Governor Perdue	40%	44%	40%	43%	34%
Legislative Republicans	41%	34%	39%	39%	50%
Not sure	19%	22%	21%	18%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue Approval							
Approve	35%	38%	32%	36%	30%	32%	41%
Disapprove	49%	45%	55%	46%	49%	55%	43%
Not sure	16%	16%	13%	19%	20%	13%	16%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
McCrorry Favorability							
Favorable	31%	27%	26%	58%	23%	28%	27%
Unfavorable	24%	27%	20%	24%	18%	23%	29%
Not sure	45%	46%	53%	19%	59%	49%	44%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Perdue/McCrory							
Bev Perdue	39%	48%	34%	36%	37%	37%	45%
Pat McCrory	46%	36%	51%	51%	42%	52%	41%
Undecided	15%	16%	15%	14%	21%	11%	14%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Burr Approval							
Approve	38%	27%	42%	30%	38%	43%	41%
Disapprove	33%	32%	37%	28%	26%	32%	38%
Not sure	29%	41%	21%	41%	36%	25%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Hagan Approval							
Approve	41%	58%	39%	32%	28%	33%	52%
Disapprove	38%	24%	45%	42%	41%	44%	31%
Not sure	21%	18%	16%	26%	31%	23%	17%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?							
Governor Perdue	40%	46%	36%	36%	40%	34%	49%
Legislative Republicans	41%	33%	46%	45%	37%	50%	33%
Not sure	19%	21%	18%	18%	22%	16%	19%

