



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2011

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312

IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE

Budget unpopular with North Carolina voters

Raleigh, N.C. – The budget passed by the North Carolina General Assembly last week is very unpopular- not just with voters statewide but also with the constituents of Speaker Thom Tillis and Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger.

Only 23% of voters across the state support the budget to 41% who are opposed and 36% with no opinion. It is only marginally more popular in Tillis' district, where 24% of voters favor it to 41% opposed, and in Berger's district, where 27% support it with 44% in opposition.

The reason the budget's so unpopular is that Democrats and independents are strongly opposed to it, while Republicans are pretty evenly divided. Statewide Democrats are against it by a 36 point margin (15/51) and independents are by an 18 point spread (23/41) while Republicans support it by only 6 points (33/27).

Cuts to education are at the center of voter opposition to the budget. Statewide only 36% of voters think that it's most important to end the temporary one cent sales tax compared to 50% who think it's more vital to minimize cuts to education spending. The numbers are similar in Berger's district where 53% of voters think it's more important to protect education vs. 36% who think it's more important to roll back the sales tax and in Tillis' where 51% side with education to 41% for reducing the sales tax.

“Governor Perdue’s veto of the budget is likely to be a political winner for her,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Voters agree with her that it’s more important to protect education than make a small reduction in the sales tax.”

PPP surveyed 563 North Carolina voters from June 8th to 11th and also interviewed 576 voters in Thom Tillis’ district and 527 voters in Phil Berger’s on June 11th and 12th. The margin of error for the statewide and Tillis polls is +/-4.1% and for the Berger poll it’s +/-4.3%.

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

Governor Perdue 42%
Legislative Republicans 40%
Not sure 18%

Q2 Do you support or oppose the budget that the General Assembly passed last week?

Support 23%
Oppose 41%
Not sure 36%

Q3 Do you support or oppose a 5.8% cut in funding to the public schools in North Carolina?

Support 25%
Oppose 62%
Not sure 12%

Q4 Do you support or oppose a 12% cut in funding to the UNC system?

Support 30%
Oppose 49%
Not sure 22%

Q5 What do you think is more important: ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase or minimizing cuts to education spending?

Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important 36%
Minimizing cuts to education spending 50%
Not sure 14%

Q6 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal 9%
Somewhat liberal 17%
Moderate 31%
Somewhat conservative 27%
Very conservative 17%

Q7 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 54%
Man 46%

Q8 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 47%
Republican 36%
Independent/Other 16%

Q9 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 71%
African-American 23%
Other 6%

Q10 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 10%
30 to 45 28%
46 to 65 42%
Older than 65 20%



Q11

252.....	11%
336.....	19%
704.....	19%
828.....	16%
910.....	16%
919.....	19%



Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?						
Governor Perdue	42%	65%	78%	56%	17%	9%
Legislative Republicans	40%	12%	8%	23%	64%	81%
Not sure	18%	23%	14%	21%	19%	11%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose GA Budget						
Support	23%	8%	22%	10%	32%	40%
Oppose	41%	52%	52%	52%	30%	20%
Not sure	36%	39%	26%	38%	38%	40%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut						
Support	25%	13%	11%	20%	30%	47%
Oppose	62%	74%	80%	68%	59%	35%
Not sure	12%	13%	9%	12%	11%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut						
Support	30%	33%	6%	21%	38%	55%
Oppose	49%	52%	81%	53%	37%	24%
Not sure	22%	15%	13%	26%	24%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?						
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	36%	42%	20%	31%	45%	43%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	50%	49%	68%	56%	40%	34%
Not sure	14%	9%	12%	13%	15%	23%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?			
Governor Perdue	42%	41%	43%
Legislative Republicans	40%	36%	45%
Not sure	18%	23%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose GA Budget			
Support	23%	20%	26%
Oppose	41%	37%	45%
Not sure	36%	43%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut			
Support	25%	19%	32%
Oppose	62%	66%	59%
Not sure	12%	15%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut			
Support	30%	24%	36%
Oppose	49%	47%	50%
Not sure	22%	28%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?			
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	36%	31%	41%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	50%	52%	47%
Not sure	14%	17%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?				
Governor Perdue	42%	68%	9%	40%
Legislative Republicans	40%	11%	79%	37%
Not sure	18%	21%	12%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose GA Budget				
Support	23%	15%	33%	23%
Oppose	41%	51%	27%	41%
Not sure	36%	34%	40%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut				
Support	25%	16%	36%	29%
Oppose	62%	75%	49%	55%
Not sure	12%	9%	15%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut				
Support	30%	19%	44%	30%
Oppose	49%	59%	35%	49%
Not sure	22%	22%	22%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?				
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	36%	33%	39%	36%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	50%	57%	41%	46%
Not sure	14%	10%	19%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African- American	Other
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?				
Governor Perdue	42%	35%	60%	62%
Legislative Republicans	40%	50%	14%	24%
Not sure	18%	16%	25%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose GA Budget				
Support	23%	24%	19%	27%
Oppose	41%	40%	45%	40%
Not sure	36%	37%	36%	33%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut				
Support	25%	26%	17%	45%
Oppose	62%	61%	73%	36%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut				
Support	30%	34%	20%	22%
Oppose	49%	46%	58%	40%
Not sure	22%	20%	22%	37%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?				
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	36%	36%	35%	34%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	50%	50%	50%	43%
Not sure	14%	14%	15%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?					
Governor Perdue	42%	38%	49%	39%	41%
Legislative Republicans	40%	29%	35%	44%	43%
Not sure	18%	33%	16%	17%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose GA Budget					
Support	23%	10%	29%	21%	25%
Oppose	41%	38%	43%	43%	34%
Not sure	36%	52%	29%	36%	40%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut					
Support	25%	29%	22%	25%	28%
Oppose	62%	38%	74%	65%	53%
Not sure	12%	33%	4%	10%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut					
Support	30%	24%	27%	33%	30%
Oppose	49%	24%	61%	49%	42%
Not sure	22%	52%	12%	18%	27%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?					
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	36%	33%	30%	42%	34%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	50%	43%	61%	46%	44%
Not sure	14%	24%	9%	12%	22%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
More Faith in Perdue or Leg. GOP?							
Governor Perdue	42%	35%	40%	42%	45%	41%	49%
Legislative Republicans	40%	35%	38%	39%	40%	46%	40%
Not sure	18%	30%	22%	19%	15%	13%	11%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Support/Oppose GA Budget							
Support	23%	26%	22%	20%	16%	23%	30%
Oppose	41%	40%	41%	39%	47%	40%	39%
Not sure	36%	34%	36%	41%	37%	37%	31%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut							
Support	25%	30%	24%	24%	26%	18%	30%
Oppose	62%	52%	68%	54%	69%	72%	59%
Not sure	12%	18%	8%	22%	6%	10%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut							
Support	30%	35%	37%	27%	27%	18%	35%
Oppose	49%	38%	44%	48%	52%	56%	50%
Not sure	22%	27%	18%	25%	21%	25%	16%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?							
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	36%	49%	34%	39%	26%	31%	39%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	50%	30%	54%	45%	56%	54%	52%
Not sure	14%	21%	12%	17%	18%	14%	8%





North Carolina 98th House District Survey Results

- Q1** Do you support or oppose the budget that the General Assembly passed last week?
- Support* 24%
 - Oppose* 41%
 - Not sure* 35%
- Q2** Do you support or oppose a 5.8% cut in funding to the public schools in North Carolina?
- Support* 31%
 - Oppose* 60%
 - Not sure* 9%
- Q3** Do you support or oppose a 12% cut in funding to the UNC system?
- Support* 36%
 - Oppose* 49%
 - Not sure* 15%
- Q4** What do you think is more important: ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase or minimizing cuts to education spending?
- Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important* 41%
 - Minimizing cuts to education spending* 51%
 - Not sure* 8%
- Q5** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.
- Woman* 52%
 - Man* 48%
- Q6** 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* 33%
 - Republican* 35%
 - Independent/Other* 31%
- Q7** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.
- White* 77%
 - African-American* 16%
 - Other* 7%
- Q8** 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* 10%
 - 30 to 45* 30%
 - 46 to 65* 42%
 - Older than 65* 18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose GA Budget			
Support	24%	18%	30%
Oppose	41%	43%	39%
Not sure	35%	39%	32%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut			
Support	31%	26%	37%
Oppose	60%	65%	55%
Not sure	9%	9%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut			
Support	36%	28%	44%
Oppose	49%	55%	42%
Not sure	15%	17%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?			
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	41%	34%	49%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	51%	54%	47%
Not sure	8%	12%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose GA Budget				
Support	24%	18%	26%	29%
Oppose	41%	47%	33%	42%
Not sure	35%	35%	41%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut				
Support	31%	17%	45%	31%
Oppose	60%	75%	43%	62%
Not sure	9%	7%	12%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut				
Support	36%	19%	49%	40%
Oppose	49%	68%	32%	46%
Not sure	15%	13%	19%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?				
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	41%	29%	54%	40%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	51%	61%	36%	56%
Not sure	8%	10%	10%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose GA Budget				
Support	24%	24%	20%	27%
Oppose	41%	42%	39%	34%
Not sure	35%	34%	40%	40%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut				
Support	31%	33%	26%	23%
Oppose	60%	57%	69%	68%
Not sure	9%	9%	6%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut				
Support	36%	37%	34%	33%
Oppose	49%	48%	54%	47%
Not sure	15%	15%	12%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?				
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	41%	42%	41%	37%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	51%	51%	49%	57%
Not sure	8%	8%	10%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose GA Budget					
Support	24%	31%	17%	26%	26%
Oppose	41%	31%	43%	43%	36%
Not sure	35%	38%	39%	31%	38%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut					
Support	31%	42%	26%	32%	33%
Oppose	60%	46%	66%	62%	53%
Not sure	9%	12%	8%	7%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut					
Support	36%	35%	37%	38%	32%
Oppose	49%	46%	48%	50%	50%
Not sure	15%	19%	16%	13%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?					
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	41%	65%	41%	36%	39%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	51%	27%	56%	53%	50%
Not sure	8%	8%	3%	11%	10%





North Carolina 26th Senate District Survey Results

Q1 Do you support or oppose the budget that the General Assembly passed last week?

Support 27%
Oppose 44%
Not sure 29%

Q2 Do you support or oppose a 5.8% cut in funding to the public schools in North Carolina?

Support 34%
Oppose 57%
Not sure 8%

Q3 Do you support or oppose a 12% cut in funding to the UNC system?

Support 40%
Oppose 46%
Not sure 14%

Q4 What do you think is more important: ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase or minimizing cuts to education spending?

Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important 36%
Minimizing cuts to education spending 53%
Not sure 11%

Q5 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 50%
Man 50%

Q6 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 39%
Republican 37%
Independent/Other 24%

Q7 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 78%
African-American 16%
Other 6%

Q8 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 8%
30 to 45 24%
46 to 65 44%
Older than 65 24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose GA Budget			
Support	27%	14%	39%
Oppose	44%	54%	35%
Not sure	29%	32%	26%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut			
Support	34%	29%	40%
Oppose	57%	61%	54%
Not sure	8%	10%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut			
Support	40%	34%	46%
Oppose	46%	48%	44%
Not sure	14%	17%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?			
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	36%	30%	43%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	53%	57%	49%
Not sure	11%	14%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose GA Budget				
Support	27%	20%	35%	24%
Oppose	44%	49%	35%	52%
Not sure	29%	31%	30%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut				
Support	34%	26%	45%	32%
Oppose	57%	67%	44%	61%
Not sure	8%	7%	11%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut				
Support	40%	31%	49%	41%
Oppose	46%	54%	36%	47%
Not sure	14%	15%	14%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?				
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	36%	29%	45%	35%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	53%	59%	44%	54%
Not sure	11%	12%	10%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose GA Budget				
Support	27%	26%	26%	32%
Oppose	44%	45%	40%	44%
Not sure	29%	28%	34%	24%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut				
Support	34%	36%	22%	55%
Oppose	57%	56%	70%	42%
Not sure	8%	9%	8%	3%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut				
Support	40%	43%	24%	51%
Oppose	46%	44%	59%	35%
Not sure	14%	13%	17%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?				
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	36%	37%	30%	41%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	53%	53%	56%	39%
Not sure	11%	10%	14%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose GA Budget					
Support	27%	13%	32%	25%	28%
Oppose	44%	39%	40%	47%	47%
Not sure	29%	48%	27%	28%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose 5.8% K-12 Cut					
Support	34%	30%	39%	33%	35%
Oppose	57%	65%	58%	59%	50%
Not sure	8%	4%	3%	8%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose 12% UNC Cut					
Support	40%	30%	44%	42%	36%
Oppose	46%	61%	45%	45%	44%
Not sure	14%	9%	11%	13%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Important: Ending 1c Sales Tax or Minimizing Edu. Cuts?					
Ending the temporary one cent sales tax increase is more important	36%	39%	37%	36%	36%
Minimizing cuts to education spending	53%	52%	56%	54%	46%
Not sure	11%	9%	6%	10%	18%

