The Winthrop Poll Findings

General Politics (Approval, Right Track/ Wrong Direction)

Data represent responses from 694 randomly sampled South Carolinians over the age of 18. Data using all respondents has a Margin of Error of +/- 3.72%. As is true with all survey data, subsets that do not utilize all respondents (e.g. breakdown by political party) have a slightly higher margin of error. Data were collected between Feb. 7 and Feb. 28, 2007.

Q.2 Some people seem to follow what's going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there's an election or not. Others aren't that interested. How often would you say that you follow what is going on in government and public affairs: Most of the time, Some of the time, Only now and then, or Hardly at all?

- Most of the time 63.0%
- Some of the time 21.3%
- Only now and then 7.9%
- Hardly at all 7.2%
- Don't Know/Refused 6%

Q.3 How often do you discuss politics or political issues with your friends--Often, Occasionally, or Rarely if ever?

- Often 38.9%
- Occasionally 39%
- Rarely if ever 21.4%
- Don't know/Refused 0.4%

Q.7 Thinking about the current path that our nation is taking, do you think our country is on the right track or headed in the wrong direction?

- Right Track 27.4%
- Wrong Direction 59.4%
- Don't Know / Refused 13.2%

Q.8 Now, thinking about the current path that South Carolina is taking, do you think our state is on the right track or headed in the wrong direction?

- Right Track 54.6%
- Wrong Direction 29.0%
- Don't Know / Refused 16.4%

Q.9 Do you Approve or Disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

- Approve 41.3%
- Disapprove 52.5%
- Don't Know / Refused 6.2%

For further information on the Winthrop Poll, please contact Dr. Scott Huffman at 803/323-4669.
Q.10 Do you Approve or Disapprove of the way the United States Congress is handling it's job?

Approve 28.8%
Disapprove 57.5%
Don't Know ? Refused 13.7%

Q.11 Do you Approve or Disapprove of the way Mark Sanford is handling his job as Governor of South Carolina ?

Approve 68.9%
Disapprove 18.7%
Don't Know ? Refused 12.4%

Q.12 Do you Approve or Disapprove of the way the South Carolina State Legislature is handling its job?

Approve 52.9%
Disapprove 27.9%
Don't Know / Refused 19.1%

Q.13 Next, I'm going to read some aspects of life in America today. For each one, please say whether you are -- Very satisfied, Somewhat satisfied, Somewhat dissatisfied, or Very dissatisfied. How about -- The size and power of the federal government?

Very satisfied 7.2%
Somewhat satisfied 37.2%
Somewhat dissatisfied 29.2%
Very dissatisfied 21.5%
Don't Know / Refused 4.9%

Q.15 How about --The size and influence of major corporations in the nation?

Very satisfied 5.0%
Somewhat satisfied 26.7%
Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied 4.7%
Somewhat unsatisfied 29.0%
Very unsatisfied 28.8%
Don't know/Refused 5.8%

Q.16 How about --The role the U.S. plays in world affairs?

Very satisfied 7.5%
Somewhat satisfied 34.0%
Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied 4.3%
Somewhat unsatisfied 26.7%
Very unsatisfied 24.3%
Don't Know / Refused 3.2%
Q.26 Next, I’m going to read some aspects of life in South Carolina today. For each one, please say whether you are -- Very satisfied, Somewhat satisfied, Somewhat dissatisfied, or Very dissatisfied. How about -- The overall quality of life in South Carolina?

- Very satisfied 30.8%
- Somewhat satisfied 47.1%
- Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied 3.6%
- Somewhat unsatisfied 9.9%
- Very unsatisfied 6.6%
- don't know/ refused 2.0%

Q.27 How about -- The quality of public education in South Carolina?

- Very satisfied 10.5%
- Somewhat satisfied 30.9%
- Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied 2.6%
- Somewhat unsatisfied 24.8%
- Very unsatisfied 27.6%
- don't know/ refused 3.6%

[For the following questions, please answer whether you Strongly Agree, Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Disagree, or Strongly Disagree with each statement]

Q.32 While there are always exceptions, most people on welfare are simply lazy.

- Strongly Agree 8.5%
- Agree 23.5%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree 8.3%
- Disagree 42.5%
- Strongly Disagree 14.1%
- Don't Know / Refused 3.1%

[Next we’re going to ask you your opinion about some individuals and groups. You may or may not be familiar will all of these individuals or groups. If we come to someone you are not familiar with, tell me and we'll move on.

For each person or group, I’d like for you to tell me whether your opinion of them is Very Favorable, Somewhat Favorable, Neither Favorable Nor Unfavorable, Somewhat Unfavorable, or Very Unfavorable.]
Q.57 Now I’d like to ask you opinion of several groups. What is your opinion of Members of Congress as a whole?

[if they don’t answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

- very favorable 5.2%
- somewhat favorable 36.6%
- neither favorable nor unfavorable 13.6%
- somewhat unfavorable 24.5%
- very unfavorable 12.9%
- not familiar 2.1%
- don’t know/ refused 5.1%

Q.59 What is your opinion of the NAACP?

[if they don’t answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

- very favorable 24.2%
- somewhat favorable 30.5%
- neither favorable nor unfavorable 13.3%
- somewhat unfavorable 14.0%
- very unfavorable 13.2%
- not familiar 2.2%
- don’t know/ refused 2.5%

Q.61 What is your opinion of Hispanics?

[if they don’t answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

- very favorable 21.8%
- somewhat favorable 40.3%
- neither favorable nor unfavorable 19.6%
- somewhat unfavorable 7.8%
- very unfavorable 3.8%
- not familiar 2.3%
- don’t know/ refused 4.3%

Q.63 What is your opinion of Whites?

[if they don’t answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

- very favorable 40.7%
- somewhat favorable 37.8%
- neither favorable nor unfavorable 17.4%
- somewhat unfavorable 1.1%
- very unfavorable .40%
- not familiar 0.10%
- don’t know/ refused 2.5%

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Q.65 What is your opinion of the Confederate Flag?

[if they don't answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

very favorable 21.5%
somewhat favorable 23.8%
neither favorable nor unfavorable 21.5%
somewhat unfavorable 10%
very unfavorable 18.6%
not familiar 1.4%
don't know/refused 3.2%

Q.68 What is your opinion of Blacks?

[if they don't answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

very favorable 38.7%
somewhat favorable 38.0%
neither favorable nor unfavorable 19.1%
somewhat unfavorable 1.2%
very unfavorable 0.6%
don't know/refused 2.4%

Q.70 What is your main source for news?

- television 62.9%
- newspapers 17.6%
- radio 4.9%
- internet 11%
- friends or family 2.3%
dk/r 1.3%

Q.104 How would you describe your political views: Very conservative, Conservative, Moderate, Liberal, or Very Liberal?

- Very conservative 14.4%
- Conservative 35.1%
- Moderate 32.0%
- Liberal 10.4%
- Very liberal 5.0%
- Don't know/Refused 3.2%