

The North Carolina  
INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP  
Affiliated with the University of North Carolina-Greensboro  
Greensboro, North Carolina

Conducted in association with AOS Research Inc., Wilmington, NC

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
Survey of Registered Voters (New Hanover County)  
Conducted April 1, 2011

FOR RELEASE: April 2, 2011

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This survey conforms to the standards of the National Council on Public Polls and  
the American Association for Public Opinion Research

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## Survey Methodology

The questionnaire was designed by the Fellows of the Institute (Spring, 2011 Class) with the assistance of Dr. Robert H. “Robin” Dorff, IOPL Executive Director, Sue Bulluck of IOR&C, and Dr. Walter DeVries of DeVries & Associates, Inc. and Executive Director Emeritus of IOPL.

The random sample was drawn of New Hanover County registered voters by Sue Bulluck of IOR&C/Am Ltd. and AOS Research, Inc. of Wilmington, North Carolina. AOS Research, Inc., represented by President, Peter Higgins and VP Operations, Christine Strahley, did the questionnaire programming and provided CATI (computer assisted telephone interview) instructions to the Fellows. Laurie Grubb, Director of Data Processing for AOS, generated the cross-tabulations and tables used in the analysis. It should be noted that New Hanover County is a “bellwether” county (along with about 10 other North Carolina counties) for statewide voting, i.e., as New Hanover County votes, so votes the state.

After training, the Fellows of the Institute completed 313 interviews with New Hanover County registered voters. The telephone interviews were conducted on Friday evening, April 1, 2011 from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

The data were collated by AOS Research, Inc. who computer processed the data and prepared the frequency and cross-tab tables using CFMC. The analysis and Executive Summary were written by Dr. Walter DeVries and Sue Bulluck

This survey has a +/-5.0% margin of error at a 95 percent level of confidence. Sub-samples have higher margins of error.

A copy of the questionnaire is appended to this report. This analysis and report follow the exact order in which the questions were administered by the interviewers.

### Sample Verification

Registered voters (New Hanover County) = 146,495 (March 26, 2011)

	<u>Political Party</u>		<u>Gender</u>			<u>Race</u>		
	<u>Poll</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Poll</u>	<u>Actual</u>		<u>Poll</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
Democrats	40.6 %	37.0%	Female	51.3%	53%	White	78.3%	83.0%
Republicans	33.2	34.0	Male	49.7	45	A-A	10.9	13.5
Unaffiliated	24.6	28.9	Undesignated	0	2	Hispanic	1.9	.1
Libertarian	1.6	.1				Other/Refused/	8.9	3.4

\* = Includes American Indian, Hispanic, Other & Refused.

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The Institute of Political Leadership has conducted 47 public opinion polls with over 11,800 registered voters in New Hanover since February, 1988.



**Most Important Issue Question 2**

“What do you think is the most important issue facing New Hanover County that the County can do something about?”

<u>Issue:*</u>	<u>Spring 10</u> <u>(N=368)</u>	<u>Fall, 2010</u> <u>(N=405)</u>	<u>Spring 11</u> <u>(N=313)</u>
Traffic/road problems	8.2%	5.9	7.7
Education/general quality	4.6	10.6	14.7
Education/teachers pay	1.4	-	-
Growth/planning/uncontrolled growth	1.9	2.2	1.0
Crime/Violence	1.1	1.2	1.9
Taxes too high	18.8	12.8	12.1
Environment/land use	1.6	1.2	1.3
Economic Crisis	6.2	10.2	5.8
Jobs/diversity of jobs	10.1	17.0	15.0
County Commissioners	0.3	0.7	0.3
Storm water control/flooding	0.3	-	-
Health Care	2.3	0.5	1.0
Affordable housing	-	0.2	0.6
Election issues/Gov. Corruption	-	2.0	1.9
Water Quality	0.8	2.5	1.3
Not sure	11.1	12.8	16.0
Too many	-	4.2	3.5
Other	22.3	15.1	16.0
Refused/no answer	3.3	-	-

\* =columns may not add to 100% because of multiple responses

Only 3.6% of the voters were concerned about growth/planning/uncontrolled growth/water/sewer/water quality and/or environment/land use problems. Traffic problems remain high, as they have over the years, at 7.7%. But there has been a huge shift away from environmental problems during the past two years. Now, when you combine jobs and the economic crisis responses, they represent 20.8% of the sample. Taxes as a concern are still at 12.1% and education remains a top concern at 14.7%.

**Job Evaluations – Governmental Institutions and Officeholders**

**Question 3 (read):** “Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Wilmington City Council is doing its job?”

Wilmington City Council	Spring 2011 (N=313)
Approve	33.2%
Disapprove	27.8
Both Approve & Disapprove [Volunteered]	8.3
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove [Volunteered]	15.7
Not Sure/NA	15.0

Only one-third (33.2%) of the voters of New Hanover County approve of the way the Wilmington City Council is doing its job, 27.8% disapprove, 8.3% both approve and disapprove, 15.7% neither approve nor disapprove and 15.0% say they aren’t sure. This means that 39% of the sample are ambivalent or cannot make a judgment about the job the Wilmington City Council is doing.

New Hanover County Commission

**Question 4 (read):** “Do you approve or disapprove of the way the New Hanover County Commission is doing its job?”

	Spring 10 (N=368)	Fall, 2010 (N=405)	Spring, 2011 (N=313)
Approve	26%	28%	31.9%
Disapprove	32	39	29.1
Both Approve & Disapprove [volunteered]	17	15	7.7
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove [Volunteered]	-	-	10.5
Not Sure/NA	25	18	20.8

The approval rating for how the New Hanover County Commission is doing its job shows a slight improvement to 32% over the past year and the disapproval rating has declined 10 points to 29% from last fall. Ambivalence and indecision about the Commission is at 39%--the same for the Commission as the Wilmington City Council.

North Carolina State Legislature

**Question 5 (read):** “Do you approve or disapprove of the newly seated North Carolina State Legislature is doing its job?”

	Fall, 2010 (N=405)	Spring, 2011 (N=313)
Approve .....	24%	38.3%
Disapprove .....	48	28.8
Both Approve and Disapprove (volunteered) .....	12	4.2
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)	-	9.3
Not Sure .....	16	19.4

There has been an extraordinary shift in the perceptions of the North Carolina State Legislature since the October, 2010 IOPL Fellows poll. The approval rating has increased from 24% to 38%--a gain of 14 points. Disapproval has dropped 20 points from 48% to 28% and indecision about their job performance has increased slightly.

United States Congress

**Question 6 (read):** “Do you approve or disapprove of the way the United States Congress is doing its job?”

	Spring 2010 Poll (N=368)	Fall, 2010 Poll (N=405)	Spring, 2011 (N=313)
Approve	17%	14%	22.4%
Disapprove	72	71	62.6
Both approve and Disapprove	9	9	6.4
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove	-	-	4.2
Not Sure	2	6	4.4

New Hanover County voters continue their high disapproval (62.6%) ratings of the job the U.S. Congress is doing although that rating is down 8 points since October 2010 and the approval rating is up 8 points. There are very few undecided voters (4.4%) on these ratings which mean most voters have firmly made up their minds about the Congress.

President Barack Obama

**Question 7 (read):** “Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?”

	Spring 2009* (N=300)	Fall 2009 (N=289)	Spring 2010 (N=368)	Fall, 2010 (N=405)	Spring, 2011 (N=313)
Approve	50%	46%	36%	35%	40.6%
Disapprove	36.3	46	52	56	50.2
Both Approve & Disapprove	8.7	4	7	6	6.4
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove	-	-	-	-	1.6
Not Sure	5.0	4	5	3	1.2

Ninety-one % (91%) of the voters—an extraordinarily large number-- in New Hanover County have an opinion on how Barack Obama is doing his job as President. Half (50.2%) disapprove, 40.6% approve and 9.2% aren't certain how they feel. His approval ratings have gone up 5% since the 2010 election as the disapproval ratings have dropped 5 percentage points.

Congressman Mike McIntyre

**Question 8 (read):** Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mike McIntyre is doing his job as a US Congressman?

	Spring, 2011 (N =313)
Approve	43.5%
Disapprove	25.2
Both Approve and Disapprove (Volunteered)	8.6
Neither Approve or Disapprove (Volunteered)	8.0
Not Sure / NA (Volunteered)	14.7

Four out of ten (43.5%) of New Hanover County’s registered voters approve of the job Mike McIntyre is doing his job as a U.S. Congressman, 25.2% disapprove, 8.6% volunteer they both approve and disapprove, 8.0% volunteer they neither approve or disapprove and 14.7% say they aren't sure.

Governor Beverly Perdue

**Question 9 (read):** “Do you approve or disapprove of the way Beverly Perdue is handling her job as Governor?”

	Fall 09 (N=289)	Spring 2010 (N=368)	Fall, 2010 (N=405)	Spring, 2011 (N=313)
Approve .....	36%	35%	32%	39.9%
Disapprove .....	44	38	45	40.3
Both Approve & Disapprove (volunteered) ...	8	10	11	7.7
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)	-	-	-	6.7
Not Sure/NA .....	12	17	12	5.4

Four out of ten (39.9%) of New Hanover County’s voters approve of the job Beverly Perdue is handling her job as governor and an equal number (40.3%) disapprove and the balance (about 20%) are ambivalent or aren’t sure how to rate her. There is a slight movement toward a better approval rating and a drop in her disapproval rating.

**Question 10 (read):** “ Since the City of Wilmington and New Hanover County have turned over the responsibility and formed the Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority do you approve or disapprove of how they are handling their new responsibilities?”

	Spring, 2011 (N=313)
Approve	23.0%
Disapprove	51.4
Both Approve & Disapprove [Volunteered]	2.6
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove [Volunteered]	7.0
Not Sure/NA	16.0

Only 23% of New Hanover County’s voters approve of how the Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority is handling their new responsibilities; half (51.4%) disapprove of what they are doing, 9.6% are ambivalent and 16% aren’t sure how to rate them.

**Question 11 (read):** “ Do you approve or disapprove of the proposal by the NHC School Board to close Virgo School located in downtown Wilmington and bus those children to Holly Ridge School near Hampstead.

	Spring, 2011 (N=313)
Approve	11.2%
Disapprove	67.1
Both Approve & Disapprove [Volunteered]	.3
Neither Approve Nor Disapprove [Volunteered]	4.2
Not Sure/NA	17.2

Two-thirds (67.1%) of New Hanover County’s voters disapprove of the proposal by the New Hanover School Board to close Virgo School located in downtown Wilmington and bus those children to Holly Ridge School near Hampstead. Only 11.2% say they approve of the proposal and about 20% have mixed feelings or aren’t sure what should be done.

Statistical Data

**Question 12 ( read):** Regardless of how you are registered to vote, do you think of yourself more as a: Republican, Democrat or Independent?

<u>Self-Perceptions</u>	<u>Fall 09 (N=289)</u>	<u>Spring 2010 (N=368)</u>	<u>Fall 2010 (N=405)</u>	<u>Spring, 2011 (N=313)</u>
Republican .....	32%	30.7%	24%	27.5%
Democrat .....	25	21.5	24	26.5
Independent (Unaffiliated).....	41	44.0	43	36.4
Won't Say/Not Sure .....	1	1.5	2	6.4
Other.....	1	2.3	7	3.2

The major group of self-identified voters in New Hanover County is the Unaffiliated (Independents) with 36% followed by the Republicans at 27.5% and the Democrats at 26.5% and about 9% won't say or are unsure..

Note: In this poll, 40.6% say they are registered as Democrats (26.5% self-identify that way); 33.2% say they are registered as Republicans (27.5% self-identify that way) and 24.6% say they are registered as Unaffiliated (36.4% self-identify that way).

**Question 13 (read):** “Generally speaking, do you consider yourself as a liberal or a conservative?”

	<u>Spring,2010</u>	<u>Fall,2010</u>	<u>Spring, 2011</u>
Liberal.....	27%	25%	28.8%
Conservative.....	53	55	53.4
Moderate/Middle of the road (VOLUNTEERED).....	16	14	14.1
None of these (VOLUNTEERED).....	3	2	2.6
Not sure.....	2	4	1.1

More than half (53.4%) of New Hanover County’s registered voters identify themselves as conservatives, 28.8% as liberals, 14.1% volunteer that they are moderates or middle of the road and 3.7% say they are none of these or aren't sure.

**Question 14 (read):** Which of these statements best describes how you have usually voted in past elections? (READ LIST, ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP.)

	<u>Fall 2010 (N=405)</u>	<u>Spring, 2011 (N=313)</u>
Straight Republican	4%	7.3%
Mostly Republican	2	23.3
A few more Rep. than Dem.	12	8.3
Independent / the person	33	16.6
A Few more Dem. than Rep.	5	8.0
Mostly Democratic	22	22.0
Straight Democratic	7	11.5
Not Sure/ Refused	6	1.2

Only 18.8% (7.3% Republicans and 11.5% Democrats) of New Hanover County’s voters perceive themselves as straight ticket voters. Thirty one point six (31.6%) of the Republicans split their tickets and 30% of the Democrats say they split their tickets. Among New Hanover County voters, Forty-one percent of the Republicans (Mostly and a few more Republican responses) split their tickets and 29% (mostly and a few more Democratic responses) say they split their tickets. Among New Hanover County voters, 78.2% perceive themselves as ticket-splitters and say they vote that way.

**Question 15 (read):** How long have you lived in New Hanover County?

0-1 year .....1.0      1-3 years....9.6      3-5 years....14.1      5-10 years.....20.4  
10-15 years .....8.6      15-20 years..12.8      More than 20 years .....32.3      Not Sure..1.2

**Question 16 (read):** What was the last grade you completed in school?

8<sup>th</sup> grade or less 0.6      9<sup>th</sup> to 11...2.2      High School Grad...13.7      Some College /Tech...25.6  
College graduate 33.9      Post graduate...22.0...      Refused...1.0

New Hanover County voters continue to appear as highly educated with 54% having college level or post graduate level educations.

**Question 17 (read):** And, what is your age?

18-29 =19.8      30-39 =14.1      40-49 =11.2      50-59 =16.3      60-69 =16.3      70-79 =13.1      80+  
7.0=      Won't say 2.2

**Question 18 (read):** In addition to being American, what do you consider to be your main ethnic background?

African American = 10.9      White =78.3      Hispanic/Latino =1.9      Other =2.6      Refused = 3.7

**Question 19 (read):** Please tell me your total household income within these ranges:

Under 30,000 dollars      = 22.7 %  
30,000 to 50,000      = 16.6  
50,000 to 80,000      = 16.9  
80,000 to 125,000      = 20.1  
125,000 to 250,0000      = 8.9  
Over 250,000      = 0.6  
Refused/ Not Sure      = 14.2

**Question 20(read):** Please tell me if you live in:

Wilmington      = 71.9%  
Wrightsville Beach      = 9.9  
Pleasure Island      = 3.8  
Unincorporated County = 12.1  
Refused/Not sure      = 2.3

**Question 21 (read):** Is your gender: male = 48.9%      or female = 51.1%

## IOPL Spring Poll 2011 Voter Profiles

### Q1 Voter Registration

Those voters who responded Republican are more likely to respond that they disapprove of the Wilmington City Council, or approve of the reconstituted NC General Assembly, or disapprove of the way President Obama is doing his job, or disapprove of the way Congressman McIntyre is doing his job, or approve of the NHC School Board proposal to close Virgo Middle School, or are Caucasian.

Those voters who responded Democrat are more likely to respond that they approve of the way City Council is doing their job, or disapprove of the way the newly reconstituted General Assembly is doing their job, or approve of the way President Obama is doing his job, or approve of the way Congressman McIntyre is doing his job, or approve of the job that Governor Beverly Perdue is doing her job, or come from voter groups with lower incomes, or from groups of voters who are African American.

### Q2 Most important problem

Those voters who say the most important problem is Education are more likely to come from groups who also respond Democrat to registration, or disapprove of the why the State Legislature is doing its job, or approve of the way President Obama is doing his job, or approve of the School Board proposal to close Virgo.

Those voters who say that Taxes are the most important issue are more likely to come from groups who say that they disapprove of how Wilmington City Council is doing its job, or approve of the NHC School Boards decision to close Virgo Middle School.

### Q3 Approve or disapprove of Wilmington City Council performance

Those voters who say they approve of the way Wilmington City Council is doing its job are more likely to come from groups of voters who claim Democratic registration , or groups who approve of the way the county commission is doing its job, or approve of the job performance of President Obama, or approve of the performance of Mike McIntyre, or approve of the job being done by Gov. Bev. Perdue, or groups with incomes under 30,000, or from voters who live within Wilmington.

Those voter who disapprove of the way Wilmington City Council is doing its job are more likely to come from groups of voters who say they disapprove of the way the NHC Commission is doing its job, or from groups who disapprove or the performance of President Obama, or disapprove of Congressmen Mike McIntyre, or disapprove of the performance of Governor Bev Perdue, or disapprove of the performance of the CFPUA, or disapprove of the proposal of the NHC School Board to close Virgo Middle School.

### Q4 Approve or disapprove of the NHC County Commission performance

Those voters who say they approve of the way the NHC Commission is doing its job are more likely to come from groups who say they approve of the way the city council is doing its job, or from groups that approve of the way the state legislature is doing its job, or groups who approve of the way congressman is doing its job, or groups of voters who approve of the way Obama is doing his job, or McIntyre his job, or approve of the job being done by Beverly Perdue as governor.

Those voters who disapprove of the job being done by the county commission are more likely to come from groups of voters who say they also disapprove of the job being done by the City Council, or the State Legislature, or McIntyre or Perdue, or disapprove of the way the water and sewer authority is handling its job, or disapprove of the NHC School Boards proposal on Virgo School. They are more likely to come from groups who identify themselves as Caucasian, or groups who are 60 to 69 years of age.

#### Q5 Approve or disapprove of the newly seated NC State Legislature

Those voters who say they approve of the job that the newly seated legislature is doing are more likely to come from groups who identify themselves as Republicans, or groups approving of the performance of the City Council or approving of the performance of the County Commission, or disapprove of the performance of Pres. Obama, or approve of the job done by Mike McIntyre, or approve of the job done by the Water and Sewer Authority, or groups who have lived in NHC for more than 20 years.

Those who say they disapprove of the performance of the NC State Legislature are likely to come from groups who disapprove of the county commissions performance or of the way Mike McIntyre is doing his job.

#### Q6 Approve or disapprove of the performance of the US Congress

Those voters who say they approve of the Congresses performance are likely to come from voter groups who say they approve of the performance of City Council, or groups who say they approve of the performance of Congressman Mike McIntyre, or groups who disapprove of the performance of the Water and Sewer Authority, or groups who say they have some college or technical education.

Those voters who say they disapprove of the Congressional performance are more likely to come from voter groups who disapprove of the performance of City Council, or groups disapproving of the performance of Mike McIntyre.

#### Q7 Approve or disapprove of the performance of President Barack Obama

Those voters who say they are more likely to approve of his performance come from groups who say they are Democrats, or groups approving of the performances of City Council, or groups approving of the performance of County Commission or groups approving of Mike McIntyre's performance, or the groups approving of the performance of Gov. Bev Perdue, or groups approving of the performance of the Water and Sewer Authority, or groups identifying themselves as more liberal, or groups more likely to vote straight or mostly Democratic, or are from groups identifying themselves as African American, or groups with incomes under 80,000 dollars income.

Those voters who say they are more likely to disapprove of his performance are more likely to come from groups who are registered as Republicans or groups who disapprove of the performance of Mike McIntyre, or disapprove of Perdue's performance, or approve of the NHC School Boards proposal to close Virgo Middle School, or are from groups who are white.

#### Q8 Approve or disapprove of Mike McIntyre's performance

Those voters who approve of the congressman's performance are more likely to come from groups who say they approve of the performances of: City Council, or NHC Commission, or State Legislature, or US Congress, or approve of the performances of Gov. Perdue, or disapprove of the NHC School Boards proposal.

Those voters who say they disapprove of his performance are more likely to come from groups who say they disapprove of the City Councils handling of their job or from groups who say they disapprove of Gov. Beverly Perdue's performance.

#### Q9 Governor Beverly Perdue's approval or disapproval

Those voters who say they approve of Bev Perdue's performance are more likely to come from groups who are Democrats, or approve of City Councils performance, or the Congresses performance, or who approve of Obama's performance, or who approve of the performance of the water and sewer authority performance, or who say they are liberal, or vote mostly democratic or straight democratic, or are more likely to live within the city of Wilmington or more likely to be female.

Those who say they disapprove are more likely to be registered as Republican, or come from groups who disapprove of the performance of the NHC Commission, or groups who disapprove of the Obama performance or disapprove of Mike McIntyre's performance, or disapprove of the Water and Sewer Authority, or identify as conservatives, or groups that vote Republican or mostly Republican.

#### Q10 Approval or disapproval of the Cape Fear Utilities Authority

Those voters who say they approve of the performance of the Authority are more likely to come from groups who say they approve of the performance of the City Council, or the performance of the County Commission, or from groups who say they approve of the performance of Beverly Perdue, or who have lived in NHC less than three years, or groups who have some college or technical training or groups who are 18 to 29 years of age or groups with incomes from 30 to 50 thousand dollars income.

Those who say they disapprove are more likely to come from groups who disapprove of the performance of City Council or the County Commission or groups who disapprove of the performance of McIntyre or the performance of Bev Perdue or the NHC School Board proposal for closing Virgo.

#### Q11 Approve or Disapprove of the proposal to close Virgo and bus

Those who approve of the proposal to close Virgo and bus children to Holly Ridge are more likely to come from groups who are more likely to be registered as Republicans, or from groups who describe themselves as conservatives, or from groups who say they are more likely to vote Republican or from groups who have lived here less than 10 years, or groups who say they are college graduates, or are ages 18 to 29 or 40 to 49, or groups who say they are Caucasian, or say they live in the unincorporated areas of the county.

Those who say they are disapprove of the proposal are more likely to come from groups who say they approve of the performance of President Obama. The disapproval has no other uniqueness in the population.

Hello, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ from the Institute of Political Leadership, a non-profit organization. We are not selling anything and your answers are confidential. We are doing a survey of voters in New Hanover County—

1. Are you registered to vote in New Hanover County, NC as a Republican, Democrat, Libertarian or Unaffiliated (Independent)?  
1 ( ) Republican 2 ( ) Democrat 3 ( ) Libertarian 4 ( ) Unaffiliated  
9 ( ) Not sure (TERMINATE INTERVIEW)
  
2. What do you think is the most important issue facing New Hanover County that the county can do something about (DO NOT READ) (CHECK ANSWER)  
1 ( ) Traffic/road problems                      9 ( ) Stormwater control/flooding  
2 ( ) Water Quality                                10 ( ) Crime/violence  
3 ( ) Education/general quality                11 ( ) Environment/land use  
4 ( ) Jobs    12 ( ) Growth/planning/ uncontrolled growth  
5 ( ) Economic Crisis                            13 ( ) Affordable housing  
6 ( ) Taxes too high                              14 ( ) Political/Govt Corruption  
7 ( ) Health care                                 15 ( ) Campaign Violations  
8 ( ) County Commissioners  
    16 ( ) Not Sure  
    17 ( ) No Answer ("too many")  
    18 ( ) Other
  
3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Wilmington City Council is doing its job?  
1 Approve  
2 Disapprove  
3 Both Approve and Disapprove (**volunteered**)  
4 Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)  
9 Not Sure/NA (**volunteered**)
  
4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the New Hanover County Commission is doing its job?  
1 Approve  
2 Disapprove  
3 Both Approve and Disapprove (**volunteered**)  
4 Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)  
9 Not Sure/NA (**volunteered**)
  
5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the newly seated North Carolina State Legislature is doing its job?  
1 Approve  
2 Disapprove  
3 Both Approve and Disapprove (volunteered)  
4 Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)  
9 Not sure/NA (volunteered)
  
- 6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the United States Congress is doing its job?**  
1 Approve  
2 Disapprove  
3 Both Approve and Disapprove (volunteered)  
4 Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)  
9 Not sure/NA (volunteered)
  
7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?  
1 Approve  
2 Disapprove

- 3 Both Approve and Disapprove (volunteered)
- 4 Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)
- 9 Not sure/NA (volunteered)

**8. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mike McIntyre is doing his job as US Congressman?**

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 3 Both Approve and Disapprove (volunteered)
- 4 Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)
- 9 Not sure/NA (volunteered)

9. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Beverly Perdue is handling her job as Governor?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 3 Both Approve and Disapprove (volunteered)
- 4 Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)
- 9 Not sure/NA (volunteered)

10. Since the City of Wilmington and New Hanover County have turned over the responsibility and formed the Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority do you approve or disapprove of how Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority is handing their new responsibilities:

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 3 Both Approve and Disapprove (volunteered)
- 4 Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)
- 9 Not sure/NA (volunteered)

11. Do you approve or disapprove of the proposal by the NHC School Board to close Virgo School located in downtown Wilmington and bus those children to Holley Ridge School near Hampstead.

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 3 Both Approve and Disapprove (volunteered)
- 4 Neither Approve Nor Disapprove (volunteered)
- 9 Not sure/NA (volunteered)

**READ: NOW, JUST A FEW QUESTIONS FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES TO MAKE CERTAIN WE HAVE AN ACCURATE SAMPLE:**

12. Regardless of how you are registered to vote, do you think of yourself more as a:

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democrat
- 3 Independent
- 4 Prefer Not to Say
- 5 Other
- 9 Not sure

13. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself as a liberal or a conservative? (ROTATE)

- 1( ) Liberal 2( ) Conservative 3( ) Moderate/Middle of the road (VOLUNTEERED)
- 4( ) None of these (VOLUNTEERED) 9( ) Not sure

14. Which of these statements best describes how you have usually voted in past elections? (READ LIST, ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP.)

- 1( )Straight Republican
- 2( )Mostly Republican
- 3( )A few more Republicans than Democrats
- 4( )INDEPENDENT/THE PERSON
- 5( )A few more Democrats than Republicans
- 6( )Mostly Democratic
- 7( )Straight Democratic
- 9( )Not Sure/Don't Know/Prefer Not to Say

15. How long have you lived in New Hanover County?

- 1 Less than 1 year
- 2 1 year to less than 3 years
- 3 3 years to less than 5 years
- 4 5 years to less than 10 years
- 5 10 years to less than 15 years
- 6 15 years to 20 years
- 7 More than 20 years
- 9 Prefer Not to Say

16. What was the last grade you completed in school?

- 1( )8<sup>th</sup> grade or less
- 2( )9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>
- 3( )High School graduate
- 4( )Some college/technical
- 5( )College graduate
- 6( )Post graduate
- 8( )Prefer Not to Say
- 9( )Not sure

17. And, what is your age?

- 1( )18-29
- 2( )30-39
- 3( )40-49
- 4( )50-59
- 5( )60-69
- 6( )70-79
- 7( )80+
- 8( )Prefer Not to Say

18. In addition to being American, what do you consider to be your main ethnic background?

- 1 Africian-American/Black
- 2 Causasian/White
- 3 Hispanic/Latino
- 4 Native American (Indian)
- 5 Other
- 9 Not Sure/Prefer Not to Say

19. Please tell me your total household income within these ranges: 1( )under 30,000 dollars  
 2( ) 30,000 to 50,000 3( ) more than 50,000 to 80,000 4( ) more than 80,000 to 125,000 5( )  
 more than125,000 to 250,000 6( ) over 250,000 9( ) Not sure/Prefer Not to Say

20. Please tell me if you live in: 1( ) Wilmington 2( )Wrightsville Beach 3( )Pleasure Island  
 4( )Unincorporated County 8( )Prefer Not to Say 9( )Not Sure

21. Is your gender 1( )male or 2( )female?

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!**

