

# END OF LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2013

## PRINCETON SURVEY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES INTERNATIONAL FOR VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

FINAL TOPLINE  
5/14/2013

Total N=1,000 Tennessee adults, age 18+

Landline – 600

Cell Phone – 400

Margins of Error:  $\pm 4$  percentage points for results based on Total [N=1,000]

$\pm 4$  percentage points for results based on Registered voters [N=863]

Interviewing dates: May 6-13, 2013

Interview language: English only

Form Split 1/2: approx. 50%-50%

PSRA Job#: 33014

### **LANDLINE INTRO:**

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University. We're conducting a survey about some important issues today, and would like to include your household.

[READ IF NECESSARY: Your phone number has been randomly selected to complete the survey. We are not selling anything.]

### LANDLINE SCREENING INTERVIEW:

S1 May I please speak with the adult, age 18 or older, who had the most recent birthday AND is currently at home? [CONTINUE WITH MAIN SCREENING INTERVIEW IF CURRENT RESPONDENT; GO TO R2 IF NEW RESPONDENT BROUGHT TO THE PHONE]

R2 [ASK IF S1=NEW RESPONDENT BROUGHT TO THE PHONE] Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University. We're conducting a survey about some important issues today, and would like to include your household. [READ IF NECESSARY: Your phone number has been randomly selected to complete the survey. We are not selling anything.] [CONTINUE WITH MAIN SCREENING INTERVIEW]

**CELL PHONE INTRO:**

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University. We're conducting a survey about some important issues today. I know I am calling you on a cell phone. This is not a sales call.

[IF R SAYS DRIVING/UNABLE TO TAKE CALL: Thank you. We will try you another time...]

VOICEMAIL MESSAGE [LEAVE ONLY ONCE -- THE FIRST TIME A CALL GOES TO VOICEMAIL]: I am calling for Vanderbilt University. We are conducting a short survey of cell phone users. This is NOT a sales call. We will try to reach you again.

**CELL PHONE SCREENING INTERVIEW:**

S2 Are you under 18 years old, OR are you 18 or older? [CONTINUE IF 18 OR OLDER]

READ TO ALL CELL PHONE RESPONDENTS: CELL INTRODUCTION TO MAIN SCREENING INTERVIEW: We're interested in learning more about people with cell phones. If you are now driving a car or doing any activity requiring your full attention, I need to call you back later.

**MAIN SCREENING INTERVIEW (LANDLINE AND CELL)**

[READ TO ALL:] To begin, I need to ask you a few questions to make sure that you qualify for the survey.

RSTATE Do you currently live in Tennessee? [CONTINUE IF RESPOND 'YES']

RCOUNTY And in what county do you live? [CONTINUE IF VALID TN COUNTY GIVEN]

READ IF NECESSARY: This question helps us to accurately determine what part of the state people who complete the survey live in and is used only for classification purposes. You cannot be contacted based on this information.

**TREND INFORMATION**

December 2012 trends are from the Vanderbilt University "Tennessee Looks to 2013 Poll" conducted November 27 – December 9, 2012 among 1,001 Tennessee adults age 18+, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

May 2012 trends are from the Vanderbilt University "2012 Tennessee Legislature Poll" conducted May 2-9, 2012 among 1,002 Tennessee adults age 18+, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

February 2012 trends are from the Vanderbilt University "2012 Tennessee Presidential Primaries Survey" conducted February 16-22, 2012 among 1,508 **registered voters** in Tennessee, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

*Notes: Because percentages are rounded, they may not total 100%.  
An asterisk (\*) indicates less than 0.5%.*

**MAIN INTERVIEW**

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. (First,) Do you approve or disapprove of [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]?<sup>1</sup>

	APPROVE	DIS- APPROVE	(VOL.) I NEED TO WAIT AND SEE / TOO EARLY TO TELL	(VOL.) DK <sup>2</sup>	(VOL.) REF <sup>3</sup>
<b>a. The job Barack Obama is doing as President</b>					
Current Total	40	53	2	4	1
Current RVs <sup>4</sup>	40	56	1	3	1
December 2012 Total	47	49	1	3	1
May 2012 Total	43	50	1	5	2
February 2012 RVs	41	53	1	4	2
<b>b. The job the U.S. Congress is doing</b>					
Current Total	23	66	1	8	2
Current RVs	21	71	1	6	2
December 2012 Total	23	65	2	9	1
May 2012 Total	28	61	1	9	1
<b>c. The job the Tennessee State Legislature is doing</b>					
Current Total	51	28	4	15	2
Current RVs	51	30	4	14	1
December 2012 Total	52	27	2	18	1
May 2012 Total	49	32	1	17	1
February 2012 RVs	49	33	2	15	2
<b>d. The job Bill Haslam is doing as Governor</b>					
Current Total	60	22	3	13	1
Current RVs	63	23	2	11	1
December 2012 Total	65	20	2	12	1
May 2012 Total	61	22	2	15	1
February 2012 RVs	61	21	3	13	1
<b>e. The job Lamar Alexander is doing as U.S. Senator</b>					
Current Total	52	26	2	18	2
Current RVs	53	28	1	15	2
December 2012 Total	54	24	2	20	1
May 2012 Total	52	24	2	20	1

**Q1 continued...**

<sup>1</sup> February 2012 question wording was slightly different: "I'd like your views on some government officials. As I read each, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job. (First,) Do you approve or disapprove of [INSERT ITEMS IN ORDER]?"

<sup>2</sup> The abbreviation DK stands for "Don't know"

<sup>3</sup> The abbreviation REF stands for "Refused"

<sup>4</sup> The abbreviation RVs stands for "Registered voters"

## Q1 continued...

	APPROVE	DIS- APPROVE	(VOL.) I NEED TO WAIT AND SEE / TOO EARLY TO TELL	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
f. The job Bob Corker is doing as U.S. Senator					
Current Total	53	28	2	16	1
Current RVs	55	30	1	13	1
December 2012 Total	56	23	2	17	1
May 2012 Total	48	28	1	22	1
g. The job your representative to the U.S. House is doing					
Current Total	52	28	2	18	1
Current RVs	52	30	1	15	1

Q2. We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. On a five-point scale that goes from very liberal to very conservative, where would you place each of the following? (First,) how about [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]? [READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN AS NECESSARY: Would you consider (ITEM) very liberal, somewhat liberal, neither liberal nor conservative, somewhat conservative or very conservative?]

	VERY LIB.	SOME- WHAT LIB.	NEITHER LIB. NOR CONS.	SOME- WHAT CONS.	VERY CONS.	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
a. Yourself							
Current Total	8	13	18	27	28	4	2
Current RVs	8	14	18	27	28	3	2
b. Governor Haslam							
Current Total	4	11	10	42	15	16	2
Current RVs	4	10	10	44	16	12	2
c. The Tennessee State Legislature							
Current Total	5	11	12	35	19	15	2
Current RVs	5	12	13	36	20	13	3
d. Fellow citizens in Tennessee							
Current Total	5	10	8	43	22	9	2
Current RVs	5	10	8	44	23	7	3
e. Senator Alexander							
Current Total	5	12	10	37	16	18	2
Current RVs	4	12	9	40	17	15	2
f. President Obama							
Current Total	42	25	8	7	8	7	2
Current RVs	46	27	8	6	6	5	2

- Q3. Which of the following do you think should be the TOP priority of the Tennessee state government? Do you think it should be... [READ AND RANDOMIZE RESPONSE CATEGORIES 1-6; RESPONSE CATEGORY 'SOMETHING ELSE' ALWAYS LAST]<sup>5</sup>

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE*

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012	MAY 2012
49	50	The economy, including jobs	59	57
19	18	Education	19	22
14	15	Health Care	10	14
6	6	Immigration	5	4
4	4	Social issues like abortion and gay rights (OR)	4	n/a
2	3	Guns	1	*
4	4	Something else (SPECIFY)	1	1
2	1	(VOL.) Don't know	1	1
1	*	(VOL.) Refused	1	1
[N=506]	[N=437]		[N=1,001]	[N=1,002]

- Q4. Which of the following do you think was the TOP priority of the Tennessee state legislature during the past legislative term? Do you think it was... [READ AND RANDOMIZE RESPONSE CATEGORIES 1-6; RESPONSE CATEGORY 'SOMETHING ELSE' ALWAYS LAST]

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION*

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
29	31	The economy, including jobs
18	16	Guns
13	12	Education
11	12	Health Care
7	8	Social issues like abortion and gay rights (OR)
3	3	Immigration
6	7	Something else (SPECIFY)
9	8	(VOL.) Don't know
3	3	(VOL.) Refused
[N=494]	[N=426]	

<sup>5</sup> Trends were asked of Total respondents.

- Q5. How would you rate the condition of the Tennessee state economy these days? Is it... [READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-4/HALF 4-1]<sup>6</sup>

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012	MAY 2012
6	5	Very good	2	3
47	47	Fairly good	46	40
33	33	Fairly bad (OR)	33	35
12	12	Very bad	15	20
2	2	(VOL.) Don't know	3	1
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	1	1
[N=468]	[N=410]		[N=469]	[N=1,002]

- Q6. How would you rate the condition of the United States economy these days? Is it [READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-4/HALF 4-1]<sup>7</sup>

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012	MAY 2012	FEB 2012 RVS
2	1	Very good	2	2	3
30	30	Fairly good	32	21	21
37	37	Fairly bad (OR)	37	40	36
29	30	Very bad	29	36	38
1	1	(VOL.) Don't know	0	1	1
*	*	(VOL.) Refused	1	1	1
[N=532]	[N=453]		[N=532]	[N=1,002]	[N=1,508]

- Q7. Thinking about education in the state of Tennessee, specifically school vouchers, which are government-funded scholarships that support students attending private or religious schools... Would you favor a statewide voucher program, would you favor a limited voucher program for low-income families in poor performance schools, or would you oppose a voucher program altogether?

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
30	31	Favor statewide program
38	35	Favor limited program
24	26	Oppose program altogether
7	7	(VOL.) Don't know
1	1	(VOL.) Refused
[N=543]	[N=468]	

<sup>6</sup> In May 2012, question was asked of Total respondents.

<sup>7</sup> In May 2012, question was asked of Total respondents. In February 2012, question was asked of Total respondents, that is, all registered voters.

- Q8. Thinking about education in the state of Tennessee... Would you favor or oppose opening more charter schools? Charter schools are public, and function independently of the local district as long as they meet certain standards set by the state government.

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012
64	66	Favor	64
24	24	Oppose	26
10	8	(VOL.) Don't know	7
2	2	(VOL.) Refused	3
[N=457]	[N=395]		[N=492]

- Q9. Which comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right? Teachers and counselors in Tennessee public elementary and middle schools should be prohibited from providing any information or material that mentions sexual orientation other than heterosexuality. Or, teachers and counselors should be allowed to mention other sexual orientations.<sup>8</sup>

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012	MAY 2012
38	38	Only allowed to mention heterosexuality	39	41
47	48	Be allowed to mention other sexual orientations	47	48
8	8	(VOL.) Don't know	7	7
7	7	(VOL.) Refused	6	3

- Q10. Thinking about state and local taxes in Tennessee, how do you think the amount of taxation in the state compares to that of other states in the U.S.? Do you think Tennessee is...[READ]

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
10	10	One of the most heavily taxed states
25	23	Above average
37	38	About average
15	15	Below average
10	11	One of the least taxed states
3	3	(VOL.) Don't know
*	*	(VOL.) Refused

<sup>8</sup> May 2012 question wording was slightly different: "Which comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right? Teachers and counselors in Tennessee public elementary and middle schools should be prohibited from providing any information that mentions sexual orientation other than heterosexuality... or should they be allowed to mention other sexual orientations?"

- Q11. As things stand now, when Tennesseans buy things online from out-of-state retailers like Amazon.com, they are not charged sales tax, whereas if they buy the same things from an in-state retail store, sales tax would be charged. Do you think it is a good policy or a bad policy for Tennesseans to be charged sales tax for things they purchase online?

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE*

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>	<u>CURRENT RVS</u>	
36	38	Good policy
58	55	Bad policy
5	5	(VOL.) Don't know
1	1	(VOL.) Refused
[N=515]	[N=438]	

- Q12. As things stand now, when Tennesseans buy things online from out-of-state retailers like Amazon.com, they are not charged sales tax, whereas if they buy the same things from an in-state retail store, sales tax would be charged. Do you think charging sales tax for things Tennesseans purchase online is fair or unfair to local businesses in Tennessee?

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION*

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>	<u>CURRENT RVS</u>	
49	47	Fair
45	47	Unfair
5	4	(VOL.) Don't know
2	2	(VOL.) Refused
[N=485]	[N=425]	

- Q13. Have you heard or read anything about the ongoing investigation into Tennessee's Department of Children's Services?

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>	<u>CURRENT RVS</u>	
37	40	Yes, have heard or read
62	60	No, have not heard or read
1	*	(VOL.) Don't know
0	0	(VOL.) Refused



- Q14. Recently, the Tennessee government passed a law requiring employers to allow their employees to keep a gun in their vehicle if they have the required permits. Do you support or oppose this law?<sup>9</sup>

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012
69	69	Support	54
28	28	Oppose	42
2	2	(VOL.) Don't know	3
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	1

- Q15. The U.S. Congress has been considering various measures designed to reduce gun violence. Do you favor or oppose each of the following measures? (First,) Do you favor or oppose [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]? [IF 'DEPENDS', PROBE ONCE WITH: OVERALL, do you favor or oppose this measure?]

	FAVOR	OPPOSE	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
a. Requiring mental health checks on all potential gun buyers				
Current Total	82	17	1	*
Current RVs	82	17	1	*
b. Banning high-capacity ammunition clips that hold dozens of bullets				
Current Total	43	55	2	*
Current RVs	43	55	2	*
c. Requiring criminal background checks on all gun buyers, including those buying at gun shows and private sales				
Current Total	88	10	1	*
Current RVs	88	11	1	*
d. Putting armed guards in schools				
Current Total	72	25	3	*
Current RVs	71	26	3	*
e. Allowing teachers and other school personnel to carry guns while on school property				
Current Total	46	50	3	1
Current RVs	46	50	3	1
f. Banning assault weapons				
Current Total	45	51	2	1
Current RVs	45	51	3	1

<sup>9</sup> December 2012 question was asked while the state legislature was still debating the measure. December question wording was: "Recently, the Tennessee state legislature has been debating whether individuals with handgun carry permits should be allowed to keep guns in their vehicles while on their employer's private property. On one hand, if workers are not permitted to keep a gun in their vehicle, then they will not be able to exercise their right to carry guns on their commute to work. On the other hand, employers have a right to determine whether or not to allow guns on their property. Do you think employers should be required by the state to allow their employees to keep a gun in their vehicle if they have the required permits... or should employers not be required by the state to allow this?" 'Support' percentage reflects trend category 'Should be required to allow' and 'Oppose' percentage reflects trend category 'Should not be required to allow.'

- Q16. 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?<sup>10</sup>

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012	MAY 2012
24	25	Governor chooses	26	25
48	48	Voters choose	44	48
26	26	Haven't thought much about it	29	25
1	1	(VOL.) Don't know	1	1
1	*	(VOL.) Refused	*	*

- Q17. Currently, Tennessee residents are allowed to vote in primary elections where they choose their party's nominee for statewide offices like U.S. Senate. Do you think the state should change the rules so that members of the State Legislature are allowed to choose the party's nominees for Senate, or should people be able to vote in primaries to choose their parties' nominees?

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
6	5	Yes, change the rules/allow Legislature to choose nominees
92	93	No, rules should be left how they are/people vote in primaries
2	1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q18. Tennessee has been providing scholarships to all young people who have a certain minimum grade-point-average, or GPA, and who attend college in the state using profits from the state lottery. A debate has arisen over how to hand out these scholarships. In your opinion, should scholarships be given to the very best students who attend college in Tennessee, regardless of need and even if they are from high-income families... or should scholarships be given only to students from low-income and middle-income families who maintain a certain GPA so that they can afford to attend college in Tennessee?

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
33	34	Give scholarships to very best students regardless of need
64	62	Give scholarships to students from low-income and middle-income families who maintain a certain GPA
2	2	(VOL.) Don't know
1	1	(VOL.) Refused

<sup>10</sup> In May 2012, question was asked of Form 1 respondents [N=518] and wording was slightly different: "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 convention. The State Legislature is currently debating whether Tennessee voters elect state judges. Some support this change because citizens rather than the governor would choose judges. Others oppose this change because judges would have to campaign for election and it might politicize the political process. Which do you think – should state judges be chosen by the governor or by voters, or haven't you thought much about it?"

- Q19. The Tennessee State Legislature debated a bill that would allow grocery stores to sell wine. The legislature decided to take the bill up again next year. Should grocery stores be allowed to sell wine, or not?

*BASED ON A RANDOM ONE-THIRD SAMPLE*

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>	<u>CURRENT RVS</u>	
69	68	Yes
27	28	No
3	3	(VOL.) Don't know
1	1	(VOL.) Refused
[N=318]	[N=281]	

- Q20. The Tennessee State Legislature debated a bill that would allow grocery stores to sell wine. Opponents argue that it would benefit large chain stores while hurting small locally-owned businesses. Should grocery stores be allowed to sell wine, or not?

*BASED ON A RANDOM ONE-THIRD SAMPLE NOT ASKED Q19 OR Q21*

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>	<u>CURRENT RVS</u>	
61	61	Yes
38	37	No
2	2	(VOL.) Don't know
0	0	(VOL.) Refused
[N=332]	[N=282]	

- Q21. The Tennessee State Legislature debated a bill that would allow grocery stores to sell wine. Supporters argue that it would give consumers lower prices and more choices. Should grocery stores be allowed to sell wine, or not?

*BASED ON A RANDOM ONE-THIRD SAMPLE NOT ASKED Q19 OR Q20*

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>	<u>CURRENT RVS</u>	
67	65	Yes
32	33	No
1	1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	*	(VOL.) Refused
[N=350]	[N=300]	

## COMBINED Q19-Q21

- Q19. The Tennessee State Legislature debated a bill that would allow grocery stores to sell wine. The legislature decided to take the bill up again next year. Should grocery stores be allowed to sell wine, or not?
- Q20. The Tennessee State Legislature debated a bill that would allow grocery stores to sell wine. Opponents argue that it would benefit large chain stores while hurting small locally-owned businesses. Should grocery stores be allowed to sell wine, or not?
- Q21. The Tennessee State Legislature debated a bill that would allow grocery stores to sell wine. Supporters argue that it would give consumers lower prices and more choices. Should grocery stores be allowed to sell wine, or not?

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
66	65	Yes
32	32	No
2	2	(VOL.) Don't know
*	*	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL:] Now on a different subject...

- Q22. Recently, Tennessee declined to expand Medicaid to provide health insurance to more low-income uninsured adults, including adults with no children whose incomes are below about \$16,000 per year. The federal government would have initially paid the entire cost of this expansion, and after several years, Tennessee would pay 10 percent and the federal government would pay 90 percent. Because Tennessee chose not to expand Medicaid, uninsured individuals will likely continue to receive most of their medical treatment in emergency rooms which increases health care costs for the insured. The Supreme Court ruled that states may choose whether or not to participate in this expansion. Do you support or oppose Tennessee's decision not to expand Medicaid?<sup>11</sup>

## BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012
31	34	Support decision not to expand	42
58	57	Oppose decision not to expand	51
10	8	(VOL.) Don't know	5
2	1	(VOL.) Refused	2
[N=511]	[N=446]		[N=1,001]

<sup>11</sup> December 2012 question was asked while the proposal was still being debated. December question was asked of Total respondents and question wording was: "There are currently proposals being discussed to expand Medicaid to provide health insurance to more low-income uninsured adults, including adults with no children whose incomes are below about \$16,000 per year. The federal government will initially pay the entire cost of this expansion, and after several years, states will pay 10 percent and the federal government will pay 90 percent. If Tennessee chooses not to expand Medicaid, uninsured individuals will likely continue to receive most of their medical treatment in emergency rooms which increases health care costs for the insured. The Supreme Court ruled that states may choose whether or not to participate in this expansion. Which of the following two options is closest to your view even if neither is exactly right? [READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS] (Keep Medicaid as it is today, with no new funding from the federal government and no change in who will be covered by the program.) Or, (Expand Medicaid to cover more low-income uninsured people, with the federal government initially paying the entire cost of the expansion and Tennessee eventually paying ten percent.)." 'Support decision not to expand' percentage reflects trend category 'Keep Medicaid as is' and 'Oppose decision not to expand' percentage reflects trend category 'Expand Medicaid.'

- Q23. Recently, Tennessee declined to expand Medicaid to provide health insurance to more low-income uninsured adults, including adults with no children whose incomes are below about \$16,000 per year. Do you support or oppose Tennessee's decision not to expand Medicaid?<sup>12</sup>

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012
32	31	Support decision not to expand	42
62	63	Oppose decision not to expand	51
5	5	(VOL.) Don't know	5
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	2
[N=489]	[N=417]		[N=1,001]

COMBINED Q22-Q23

- Q22. Recently, Tennessee declined to expand Medicaid to provide health insurance to more low-income uninsured adults, including adults with no children whose incomes are below about \$16,000 per year. The federal government would have initially paid the entire cost of this expansion, and after several years, Tennessee would pay 10 percent and the federal government would pay 90 percent. Because Tennessee chose not to expand Medicaid, uninsured individuals will likely continue to receive most of their medical treatment in emergency rooms which increases health care costs for the insured. The Supreme Court ruled that states may choose whether or not to participate in this expansion. Do you support or oppose Tennessee's decision not to expand Medicaid?
- Q23. Recently, Tennessee declined to expand Medicaid to provide health insurance to more low-income uninsured adults, including adults with no children whose incomes are below about \$16,000 per year. Do you support or oppose Tennessee's decision not to expand Medicaid?<sup>13</sup>

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012
32	33	Support decision not to expand	42
60	60	Oppose decision not to expand	51
7	7	(VOL.) Don't know	5
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	2

<sup>12</sup> Footnote for Q22 also applies here.

<sup>13</sup> Footnote for Q22 also applies here.

- Q24. 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?<sup>14</sup>

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE*

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012	MAY 2012
13	15	Generally favorable	17	27
25	27	Generally unfavorable	25	55
60	57	Haven't heard enough about it	56	n/a
1	1	(VOL.) Don't know	1	16
0	0	(VOL.) Refused	*	2
[N=492]	[N=423]		[N=1,001]	[N=484]

- Q25. In the coming months, more parts of the Affordable Care Act will go into effect. As you may know, part of the law creates a health insurance exchange which offers a set of health insurance plans from which individuals can choose. Recently, Tennessee decided to allow the federal government to run the health exchange in the state. Do you support or oppose this decision?<sup>15</sup>

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE ALSO ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION*

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012
42	44	Support decision, federal government should run exchange	33
45	44	Oppose decision, state government should run exchange	51
12	11	(VOL.) Don't know	13
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	2
[N=492]	[N=423]		[N=1,001]

<sup>14</sup> In December 2012, question was asked separately asked of Form 1 and Form 2 respondents in different placements in the survey; combined trend results are shown here. In May 2012, question was asked of Form 2 respondents and wording was: "As you may know, a health care reform bill was signed into federal law in 2010. Given what you know about the health care reform law, do you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable opinion of it?"

<sup>15</sup> In December 2012, question was asked separately asked of Form 1 and Form 2 respondents in different placements in the survey; combined trend results are shown here. December 2012 question was asked while the state officials were still debating what entity should run the exchange and question wording was: "In the coming months, more parts of the Affordable Care Act will go into effect. As you may know, part of the law creates a health insurance exchange which offers a set of health insurance plans from which individuals can choose. Would you rather have the State of Tennessee create and run its own health care exchange system, or would you rather have the state use the health care exchange system created by the federal government?" 'Support decision, federal government should run exchange' percentage reflects trend category 'Federal government should run exchange system' and 'Oppose decision, state government should run exchange' percentage reflects trend category 'State should run exchange system.'

- Q26. Given what you know about the Affordable Care Act, also known as ObamaCare 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?<sup>16</sup>

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE NOT ASKED Q24/Q25

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012	MAY 2012
17	17	Generally favorable	17	27
50	52	Generally unfavorable	25	55
32	29	Haven't heard enough about it	56	n/a
1	1	(VOL.) Don't know	1	16
*	*	(VOL.) Refused	*	2
[N=508]	[N=440]		[N=1,001]	[N=484]

- Q27. In the coming months, more parts of ObamaCare will go into effect. As you may know, part of the law creates a health insurance exchange which offers a set of health insurance plans from which individuals can choose. Recently, Tennessee decided to allow the federal government to run the health exchange in the state. Do you support or oppose this decision?<sup>17</sup>

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE ALSO ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012
38	37	Support decision, federal government should run exchange	33
50	49	Oppose decision, state government should run exchange	51
11	12	(VOL.) Don't know	13
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	2
[N=508]	[N=440]		[N=1,001]

COMBINED Q24 AND Q26

- Q24. 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?
- Q26. Given what you know about the Affordable Care Act, also known as ObamaCare 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?<sup>18</sup>

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012	MAY 2012
15	16	Generally favorable	17	27
37	40	Generally unfavorable	25	55
46	43	Haven't heard enough about it	56	n/a
1	1	(VOL.) Don't know	1	16
*	*	(VOL.) Refused	*	2
[N=1,000]	[N=863]		[N=1,001]	[N=484]

<sup>16</sup> Footnote for Q24 also applies here.

<sup>17</sup> Footnote for Q25 also applies here.

<sup>18</sup> Footnote for Q24 also applies here.

## COMBINED Q25 AND Q27

Q25. In the coming months, more parts of the Affordable Care Act will go into effect. As you may know, part of the law creates a health insurance exchange which offers a set of health insurance plans from which individuals can choose. Recently, Tennessee decided to allow the federal government to run the health exchange in the state. Do you support or oppose this decision?

Q27. In the coming months, more parts of ObamaCare will go into effect. As you may know, part of the law creates a health insurance exchange which offers a set of health insurance plans from which individuals can choose. Recently, Tennessee decided to allow the federal government to run the health exchange in the state. Do you support or oppose this decision?<sup>19</sup>

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012
40	41	Support decision, federal government should run exchange	33
47	46	Oppose decision, state government should run exchange	51
11	11	(VOL.) Don't know	13
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	2

There are no Q28 or Q29.

[READ TO ALL:] On a different topic...

Q30. As you may know, automatic spending cuts to military and domestic programs went into effect on March 1st because President Obama and Republicans in Congress could not agree on a plan to reduce the federal budget deficit. These automatic spending cuts are commonly referred to as the Sequester. Over the long run, do you think the spending cuts in the Sequester will be good for the country because they force the government to cut spending... will they be bad for the country because they cut important programs and services... or will these automatic spending cuts have no real impact on the country?

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
20	21	Good for the country
52	51	Bad for the country
18	20	No real impact
8	7	(VOL.) Don't know
1	1	(VOL.) Refused

<sup>19</sup> Footnote for Q25 also applies here.



- Q31. Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are currently working in the U.S.? They should be allowed to stay in their jobs and to eventually apply for U.S. citizenship... They should be allowed to stay in their jobs only as temporary guest workers, but not to apply for U.S. citizenship... or, They should be required to leave their jobs and leave the U.S.<sup>20</sup>

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE*

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>	<u>CURRENT RVS</u>		<u>DEC 2012</u>
41	43	Stay and apply for citizenship	46
17	16	Stay as temporary guest workers	14
38	37	Required to leave jobs and U.S.	34
3	3	(VOL.) Don't know	3
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	3
[N=522]	[N=446]		[N=1,001]

- Q32. 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.<sup>21</sup>

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION*

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>	<u>CURRENT RVS</u>		<u>DEC 2012</u>
45	44	Stay and apply for citizenship	46
18	20	Stay as temporary guest workers	14
32	31	Required to leave the U.S.	34
5	5	(VOL.) Don't know	3
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	3
[N=478]	[N=417]		[N=1,001]

<sup>20</sup> December 2012 question was asked of Total respondents.

<sup>21</sup> December 2012 question was asked of Total respondents, with slightly different question wording: "Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are currently working in the U.S.? They should be allowed to stay in their jobs and to eventually apply for U.S. citizenship... They should be allowed to stay in their jobs only as temporary guest workers, but not to apply for U.S. citizenship... or, They should be required to leave their jobs and leave the U.S."

## COMBINED Q31 AND Q32

- Q31. Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are currently working in the U.S.? They should be allowed to stay in their jobs and to eventually apply for U.S. citizenship... They should be allowed to stay in their jobs only as temporary guest workers, but not to apply for U.S. citizenship... or, They should be required to leave their jobs and leave the U.S.
- Q32. 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.

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012
43	43	Stay and apply for citizenship	46
17	18	Stay as temporary guest workers	14
35	34	Required to leave the U.S.	34
4	4	(VOL.) Don't know	3
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	3

- Q33. Do you think there should or should not be health insurance and other employee benefits for gay and lesbian domestic partners or spouses?

## BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
65	62	Should be employee benefits
28	31	Should not be employee benefits
5	4	(VOL.) Don't know
2	2	(VOL.) Refused
[N=520]	[N=449]	

- Q34. Which comes closest to your view about relationships of same-sex couples? Same-sex couples should be allowed to legally marry... Same-sex couples should be allowed to form civil unions, but not legally marry... Or, there should be no legal recognition of same-sex relationships.

## BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
31	32	Legally marry
18	17	Civil unions, not marriage
46	46	No legal recognition
3	3	(VOL.) Don't know
2	2	(VOL.) Refused
[N=480]	[N=414]	

Q35. Do you think abortion should be... [READ]<sup>22</sup>

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		MAY 2012
28	29	Legal in all cases	34
48	47	Legal only in cases of rape, incest, or when the life of the mother is in jeopardy (OR)	44
20	21	Illegal in all cases	16
3	3	(VOL.) Don't know	4
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	2
[N=535]	[N=454]		[N=518]

Q36. On the issue of abortion, would you say you are... [READ; RANDOMIZE HALF 1-4 / HALF 4-1]<sup>23</sup>

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		MAY 2012
21	22	Definitely pro-choice	23
16	17	Somewhat pro-choice	14
11	8	Somewhat pro-life (OR)	10
45	47	Definitely pro-life	45
5	3	(VOL.) Don't know	4
2	2	(VOL.) Refused	3
[N=465]	[N=409]		[N=484]

Q37. Thinking of your finances these days, would you say that you and your household are...[READ 1-3]

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012	MAY 2012
19	17	Better off financially than a year ago	15	18
29	30	Worse off financially (OR)	32	31
52	53	About the same as a year ago	53	50
*	*	(VOL.) Don't know	*	1
*	*	(VOL.) Refused	*	*

Q38. Do you think of yourself as part of the Tea Party movement?

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS		DEC 2012	MAY 2012
14	15	Yes	14	13
71	74	No	70	76
8	4	(VOL.) Never heard of Tea Party	8	3
6	6	(VOL.) Don't know	8	7
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	1	1

<sup>22</sup> May 2012 question was asked of Form 1 respondents.

<sup>23</sup> May 2012 question was asked of Form 2 respondents.

Q39. In general, do you support the Tea Party movement's ideas?<sup>24</sup>

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>	<u>CURRENT RVS</u>		<u>DEC 2012</u>	<u>MAY 2012</u>
34	37	Yes	30	34
41	42	No	43	42
9	9	(VOL.) Don't know what the Tea Party movement's ideas are	13	8
9	5	(VOL.) Never heard of Tea Party	8	5
6	6	(VOL.) Don't know	5	9
1	1	(VOL.) Refused	1	1

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?

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>	<u>CURRENT RVS</u>	
81	100	Yes, registered
18	0	No, not registered
1	0	(VOL.) Don't know
0	0	(VOL.) Refused

*QUESTIONS QL1, QL1A, QC1 AND L2C2HH ARE NOT REPORTED IN THIS TOPLINE.*

<sup>24</sup> For the current poll and trends, this question was asked of all respondents except those who said they have never heard of the Tea Party in the previous question. Results shown here have been recalculated based on Total.

[READ TO ALL:] A few last questions for statistical purposes only...

PARTY. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a: [READ 1-4]

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
29	28	Democrat
30	32	Republican
29	30	Independent (OR)
9	7	Something else
2	1	(VOL.) Don't know
1	1	(VOL.) Refused

PTYSTRDEM. Would you call yourself a Strong Democrat or Not a strong Democrat? [READ IF NECESSARY: Whatever strong means to you.]

*BASED ON THOSE WHO SELF-IDENTIFY AS DEMOCRATS*

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
56	61	Strong Democrat
42	37	Not a Strong Democrat
2	1	(VOL.) Don't know
1	1	(VOL.) Refused
[N=287]	[N=245]	

PTYSTRREP. Would you call yourself a Strong Republican or Not a strong Republican? [READ IF NECESSARY: Whatever strong means to you.]

*BASED ON THOSE WHO SELF-IDENTIFY AS REPUBLICANS*

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
56	61	Strong Republican
43	38	Not a Strong Republican
1	1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	*	(VOL.) Refused
[N=316]	[N=290]	

PARTYLN. Do you think of yourself as closer to the: [READ 1-2]

*BASED ON THOSE WHO SELF-IDENTIFY AS INDEPENDENTS/SOMETHING ELSE/DK/REF*

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
44	46	Republican Party (OR)
29	29	Democratic Party
17	15	(VOL.) Don't know
11	10	(VOL.) Refused
[N=397]	[N=328]	

IDEO1. 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: [READ AND RANDOMIZE; HALF 1-3 / HALF 3-1]

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE*

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
42	45	Conservative
40	37	Moderate (OR)
11	12	Liberal
4	4	(VOL.) Don't know
2	2	(VOL.) Refused
[N=447]	[N=383]	

IDEO2. We hear a lot of talk these days about conservatives and progressives. How would you generally describe your views on most political matters? Are you...[READ AND RANDOMIZE; HALF 1-3/HALF 3-1]

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION*

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
41	44	Conservative
38	37	Moderate (OR)
16	15	Progressive
5	4	(VOL.) Don't know
*	*	(VOL.) Refused
[N=553]	[N=480]	

Q40. Do you personally know or work with someone who is gay or lesbian?

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
56	57	Yes
43	42	No
1	1	(VOL.) Don't know
1	*	(VOL.) Refused

Q41. Do you, or anyone in your household, own a gun?

CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT RVS	
55	59	Yes
42	38	No
*	*	(VOL.) Don't know
3	2	(VOL.) Refused

*THE REMAINING DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS ARE NOT REPORTED IN THIS TOPLINE.*

THANK AND END INTERVIEW: THANK YOU again for sharing your thoughts and opinions! This survey is being conducted by the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions at Vanderbilt University. Newspapers will report the results soon. Have a nice rest of the day.