

TENNESSEE POLL FALL 2015

PRINCETON SURVEY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES INTERNATIONAL FOR
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

TOPLINE RESULTS
NOVEMBER 24, 2015

Total N=1,013 Tennessee registered voters¹

Margins of Error: ± 3.9 percentage points for results based on all Registered Voters [N=1,013]

Interviewing dates: November 11-23, 2015

Interview language: English only

Form split: approx. 50%/50%

LANDLINE INTRO:

Hello, my name is ____ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University. May I please speak with [INSERT NAME FROM SAMPLE]? [ACCEPT ONLY THE NAMED RESPONDENT – NO REPLACEMENTS]

ONCE TARGET RESPONDENT IS ON THE PHONE:

[IF RESPONDENT DID NOT ANSWER PHONE, REPEAT: Hello, my name is ____ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University.]

We are conducting an opinion poll of Tennessee voters on local and national issues and would like to include your opinions. You have been randomly selected to participate. Your answers will be kept completely confidential. [READ IF NECESSARY: This is not a sales call – we are only interested in your opinions.]

LANDLINE SCREENING INTERVIEW:

LLCELL. First I have to ask... Did I reach you on a cell phone?

[READ IF LLCELL=YES, CELL PHONE:] If you are now driving a car or doing any activity requiring your full attention, I need to call you back later.

[GO TO MAIN SCREENING INTERVIEW]

¹ Beginning in May 2015, polls used sample from the list of registered voters in Tennessee. All previous polls used RDD methodology with landline and cell phone samples.

CELL PHONE INTRO:

Hello, my name is ____ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University. May I please speak with [INSERT NAME FROM SAMPLE]? [ACCEPT ONLY THE NAMED RESPONDENT – NO REPLACEMENTS]

[VOICEMAIL MESSAGE: LEAVE ONLY ONCE – THE FIRST TIME A CALL GOES TO VOICEMAIL:] Hello, I am calling for Vanderbilt University. We are conducting an opinion poll of Tennessee voters on local and national issues. This is NOT a sales call. I am sorry we missed you today and we will try to reach you again. [SCHEDULE CALLBACK]

ONCE TARGET RESPONDENT IS ON THE PHONE:

[IF RESPONDENT DID NOT ANSWER PHONE, REPEAT: Hello, my name is ____ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University.]

We are conducting an opinion poll of Tennessee voters on local and national issues and would like to include your opinions. You have been randomly selected to participate. Your answers will be kept completely confidential. [READ IF NECESSARY: This is not a sales call – we are only interested in your opinions.]

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

CELL PHONE SCREENING INTERVIEW:

CPCELL. First I have to ask... Did I reach you on a cell phone?

[READ IF CPCELL=YES, CELL PHONE:] If you are now driving a car or doing any activity requiring your full attention, I need to call you back later.

[GO TO MAIN SCREENING INTERVIEW]

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.

RZIPCODE. Could you please tell me your zip code? [ENTER 5-DIGIT ZIP AND CONTINUE]

[IF DK/REFUSED, PROBE ONCE:] 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. Can you please tell me your zip code?

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? [CONTINUE IF RESPOND 'YES, REGISTERED']

TREND INFORMATION

May 2015 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “Tennessee Poll Spring 2015” conducted April 23 - May 9, 2015 among 1,001 registered voters in Tennessee, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

November 2014 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “Tennessee Poll Fall 2014” conducted November 10-20, 2014 among 1,201 Tennessee adults age 18+, including 989 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

May 2014 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “Tennessee Poll Spring 2014” conducted April 28 – May 14, 2014 among 1,505 Tennessee adults age 18+, including 1,245 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

December 2013 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “Tennessee Legislature Poll” conducted November 20-December 5, 2013 among 1,002 Tennessee adults age 18+, including 860 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

May 2013 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “End of Legislative Session 2013 Poll” conducted May 6-13, 2013 among 1,000 Tennessee adults age 18+, including 863 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

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+, including 893 registered voters, 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+, including 826 registered voters, 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%.*

Trends are based on all Registered voters unless otherwise indicated.

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]?²

	APPROVE	DIS- APPROVE	(VOL.) NEED TO WAIT AND SEE / TOO EARLY TO TELL	(VOL.) DK ³	(VOL.) REF ⁴
a. The job Barack Obama is doing as President					
November 2015 RVs	36	62	*	1	1
May 2015 RVs ⁵	35	60	*	4	*
November 2014 RVs	34	63	*	3	1
May 2014 RVs	39	57	1	3	1
December 2013 RVs	28	69	1	2	*
May 2013 RVs	40	56	1	3	1
December 2012 RVs	45	51	1	2	1
May 2012 RVs	42	55	*	2	1
February 2012 RVs	41	53	1	4	2
b. The job the U.S. Congress is doing					
November 2015 RVs	23	72	1	3	1
May 2015 RVs	23	70	1	5	1
November 2014 RVs	23	70	1	5	1
May 2014 RVs	22	69	1	7	1
December 2013 RVs	17	78	1	3	0
May 2013 RVs	21	71	1	6	2
December 2012 RVs	21	68	2	8	1
May 2012 RVs	27	66	1	5	1
c. The job the Tennessee State Legislature is doing					
November 2015 RVs	54	31	3	10	1
May 2015 RVs	55	30	2	12	1
November 2014 RVs	55	34	1	10	1
May 2014 RVs	49	34	2	13	2
December 2013 RVs	53	32	6	9	1
May 2013 RVs	51	30	4	14	1
December 2012 RVs	53	28	3	15	1
May 2012 RVs	51	33	1	14	1
February 2012 RVs	49	33	2	15	2

Q1 continued...

² 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]?"

³ The abbreviation DK stands for "Don't know"

⁴ The abbreviation REF stands for "Refused"

⁵ The abbreviation RVs stands for "Registered voters"

Q1 continued...

	APPROVE	DIS- APPROVE	(VOL.) NEED TO WAIT AND SEE / TOO EARLY TO TELL	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
d. The job Bill Haslam is doing as Governor					
November 2015 RVs	65	25	3	6	1
May 2015 RVs	67	21	2	10	*
November 2014 RVs	70	23	1	5	1
May 2014 RVs	58	31	2	9	2
December 2013 RVs	61	27	4	7	1
May 2013 RVs	63	23	2	11	1
December 2012 RVs	68	19	2	9	1
May 2012 RVs	64	22	2	10	1
February 2012 RVs	61	21	3	13	1
e. The job Lamar Alexander is doing as U.S. Senator					
November 2015 RVs	52	33	3	11	1
May 2015 RVs	49	36	3	12	1
November 2014 RVs	51	34	1	12	2
May 2014 RVs	49	33	2	14	1
December 2013 RVs	49	35	5	11	1
May 2013 RVs	53	28	1	15	2
December 2012 RVs	55	24	2	18	1
May 2012 RVs	56	26	2	14	1
f. The job Bob Corker is doing as U.S. Senator					
November 2015 RVs	51	34	3	11	1
May 2015 RVs	53	32	2	13	1
November 2014 RVs	52	31	2	13	2
May 2014 RVs	49	32	3	15	1
December 2013 RVs	52	33	5	9	*
May 2013 RVs	55	30	1	13	1
December 2012 RVs	59	23	2	14	1
May 2012 RVs	52	31	1	16	1

Q2. Which of the following do you think should be the TOP priority of the Tennessee state government? [RANDOMIZE: (Health care), (Guns), (Immigration), (The economy, including jobs), (Education), (The gap between the rich and everyone else)] or something else?⁶

	ECON- OMY	EDUCA- TION	HEALTH CARE	IMMI- GRATION	GAP	GUNS	SOCIAL ISSUES	OTHER (SPECIFY)	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
Nov 2015 RVs	31	24	17	13	5	3	n/a	5	1	*
May 2015 RVs	44	24	19	7	n/a	3	n/a	2	1	*
Nov 2014 RVs	40	27	20	6	n/a	2	n/a	4	*	1
May 2014 RVs	48	27	18	3	n/a	1	n/a	2	1	*
Dec 2013 RVs	48	28	17	2	n/a	2	n/a	2	1	*
May 2013 RVs	50	18	15	6	n/a	3	4	4	1	*
Dec 2012 RVs	60	18	10	4	n/a	1	4	1	1	*
May 2012 RVs	60	21	12	4	n/a	*	n/a	1	*	1

Q3. Which of the following do you think should be the SECOND highest priority of the Tennessee state government? [RANDOMIZE AND EXCLUDE RESPONSE GIVEN IN PREVIOUS QUESTION IF CODES 1-6: (Health care), (Guns), (Immigration), (The economy, including jobs), (Education), (The gap between the rich and everyone else)] or something else?⁷

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO SELECTED A TOP PRIORITY IN THE PREVIOUS QUESTION

	ECON- OMY	EDUCA- TION	HEALTH CARE	IMMI- GRATION	GAP	GUN	SOCIAL ISSUES	OTHER (SPECIFY)	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
Nov 2015 RVs [N=985]	30	23	19	11	6	5	n/a	4	1	*
May 2015 RVs [N=989]	27	31	22	13	n/a	4	n/a	2	1	*
Nov 2014 RVs [N=977]	31	28	26	9	n/a	3	n/a	2	1	*
May 2014 RVs [N=1,232]	28	29	27	7	n/a	4	n/a	3	2	*
Dec 2013 RVs [N=853]	32	29	23	7	n/a	4	n/a	4	1	0
Dec 2012 RVs [N=883]	25	30	28	6	6	3	6	1	1	*
May 2012 RVs [N=817]	24	30	33	9	n/a	2	n/a	1	1	*

⁶ "The gap between the rich and everyone else" was a new category introduced in the November 2015 poll. May 2013 trend was asked of a random half sample [N=506, including N=437 RVs]. "Social issues like abortion and gay rights" was a category offered in the May 2013 and December 2012 polls.

⁷ "Social issues like abortion and gay rights" was a category offered in the December 2012 poll.

Q4. How would you rate the condition of the United States economy these days? Is it: [READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-4 / HALF 4-1]⁸

	VERY GOOD	FAIRLY GOOD	FAIRLY BAD	VERY BAD	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
Nov 2015 RVs [N=1,013]	4	40	35	20	*	*
May 2015 RVs [N=1,001]	4	44	31	21	*	*
Nov 2014 RVs [N=989]	3	36	36	23	1	1
May 2014 RVs [N=573]	3	29	37	31	1	*
Dec 2013 RVs [N=431]	1	31	37	31	*	0
May 2013 RVs [N=453]	1	30	37	30	1	*
Dec 2012 RVs [N=467]	2	31	35	30	0	1
May 2012 RVs [N=826]	1	22	39	37	1	1
Feb 2012 RVs [N=1,508]	3	21	36	38	1	1

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 IN SAME ORDER AS Q4]⁹

	VERY GOOD	FAIRLY GOOD	FAIRLY BAD	VERY BAD	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
Nov 2015 RVs [N=1,013]	6	55	28	10	1	*
May 2015 RVs [N=1,001]	7	60	23	8	1	*
Nov 2014 RVs [N=530]	8	56	24	10	2	*
May 2014 RVs [N=672]	4	56	28	9	2	1
Dec 2013 RVs [N=429]	4	62	24	9	1	0
May 2013 RVs [N=410]	5	47	33	12	2	1
Dec 2012 RVs [N=426]	3	50	30	13	3	*
May 2012 RVs [N=826]	2	42	34	19	1	1

Q6. Some people say they are basically content with the way the political system is working in this country today, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which of these best describes how you feel? [READ CATEGORIES IF NECESSARY]

NOV 2015 RVs	
9	Basically content
66	Frustrated
23	Angry
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

⁸ Trends were sometimes asked of all respondents or random half samples. Unless otherwise indicated, all respondents were asked this question. Past polls May 2014, December 2013, May 2013 and December 2012 trends were each asked of a random half sample [May 2014 N=700 including N=573 RVs / December 2013 N=502 including N=431 RVs / May 2013 N=532 including N=453 RVs / December 2012 N=532 including N=467 RVs].

⁹ Trends were sometimes asked of all respondents or random half samples. Unless otherwise indicated, all respondents were asked this question. Past polls November 2014, May 2014, December 2013, May 2013 and December 2012 trends were each asked of a random half sample [November 2014 N=561 including N=530 RVs / May 2014 N=805 including N=672 RVs / December 2013 N=500 including N=429 RVs / May 2013 N=468 including N=410 RVs / December 2012 N=469 including N=426 RVs].

- Q7. Which of the following comes closest to your view, even if neither is exactly right? [READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS] (I would prefer my legislators work with members of the other political party even if it means they have to compromise on some of their values and priorities) ...OR... (I would prefer my legislators pursue their own values and priorities even if it means they are unwilling to work with members of the other political party).¹⁰

NOV 2015 RVS		MAY 2015 RVS	NOV 2014 RVS	DEC 2013 RVS	DEC 2012 RVS
70	Work with members of other party	70	77	74	74
26	Pursue own values and priorities	26	19	22	21
2	(VOL.) Don't know	3	1	3	3
1	(VOL.) Refused	1	2	*	2

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Next I'd like to get your views on some issues that are being discussed today.

- Q8. 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?¹¹

	GENERALLY FAVORABLE	GENERALLY UNFAVORABLE	HAVEN'T HEARD ENOUGH	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
Nov 2015 RVs	24	50	25	1	*
May 2015 RVs	26	44	29	1	0
Nov 2014 RVs	20	44	35	1	*
May 2014 RVs	21	41	37	n/a	1
Dec 2013 RVs	15	51	33	n/a	*
May 2013 RVs	16	40	43	1	*
Dec 2012 RVs	18	28	52	1	1

¹⁰ Unless otherwise indicated, trends were asked of Total respondents. November 2014 trend was asked of a random half sample [N=580 including 477 RVs]. In December 2012, the phrase "opposing political party" was used in place of the current wording "other political party."

¹¹ Unless otherwise indicated, trends were asked of Total respondents. May 2015 trend was asked of a random half sample [N=513 RVs]. In May 2013, question was asked separately, each of independent random half samples in different placements in the survey; combined trend results are shown here. In December 2012, question was asked separately of Form 1 and Form 2 respondents in different placements in the survey; combined trend results are shown here.

- Q9. Which comes closer to your view about the use of marijuana by adults? [READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-3 / HALF 3-1]¹²

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS

NOV 2015 RVS		MAY 2015 RVS	NOV 2014 RVS	MAY 2014 RVS
26	It should be legal for personal use	24	29	32
48	It should be legal only for medicinal use, OR	48	42	44
25	It should not be legal?	25	26	22
1	(VOL.) Don't know	2	1	2
*	(VOL.) Refused	*	2	*
[N=511]		[N=488]	[N=495]	[N=637]

- Q10. If a person has a disease that cannot be cured and is living in pain, do you think doctors should be allowed to assist the patient by some painless means to end their life if the patient and his or her family request it?

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION

NOV 2015 RVS		MAY 2015 RVS
59	Yes	55
35	No	38
5	(VOL.) Don't know	5
1	(VOL.) Refused	1
[N=502]		[N=519]

- Q11. How much do you support or oppose allowing same-sex couples to legally marry? Would you say you [READ]¹³

NOV 2015 RVS		MAY 2015 RVS	NOV 2014 RVS
21	Strongly support	16	15
12	Somewhat support	10	7
14	Neither support nor oppose	14	23
8	Somewhat oppose, OR	7	7
44	Strongly oppose?	52	47
1	(VOL.) Don't know	*	1
*	(VOL.) Refused	*	1

¹² May 2014 trend was asked of all Form 2 respondents [N=769, including N=637 RVs].

¹³ May 2015 and November 2014 trends were asked of a random half sample [May 2015 N=517 RVs / Nov 2014 N=499 RVs]. November 2014 question wording was slightly different: "How much do you favor or oppose allowing same-sex couples to legally marry? Would you say you strongly favor, somewhat favor, neither favor nor oppose, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose?"

- Q12. Next... Do you think that government workers should or should not be required to enforce a law if it conflicts with their religious beliefs?

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=528]

NOV 2015
RVS

56	Should be required
37	Should not be required
7	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q13. Next... Do you think that government workers should or should not be required to enforce a law if it conflicts with their personal beliefs?

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=485]

NOV 2015
RVS

59	Should be required
37	Should not be required
3	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q14. Which one of the following comes closer to your own view – even if neither is exactly right? (Muslims in this country have the constitutional right to practice their religion peacefully anywhere, just as all other religions can)... OR do you think (There should be laws passed that restrict the ability of Muslims to practice their religion in this country)? [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=481]

NOV 2015
RVS

75	Muslims have the right to practice freely
19	There should be laws that restrict the ability of Muslims to practice their religion
5	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q15. When it comes to drug policy, should the government focus more on (prosecuting) people who use illegal drugs, or do you think it should focus more on (providing treatment for) people who use drugs? [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=532]

NOV 2015 RVS	
33	Prosecuting those who use illegal drugs
57	Providing treatment for those who use illegal drugs
8	(VOL.) Neither/Both
2	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Now turning to issues that are being discussed in Tennessee...

- Q16. Many public officials in Tennessee are considering implementing "Insure Tennessee," a program proposed by Governor Haslam that would expand health insurance coverage to 280,000 low-income people without health insurance in the state. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose expanding health care coverage for low-income people in the state through "Insure Tennessee?"¹⁴

NOV 2015 RVS		MAY 2015 RVS
37	Strongly support	35
27	Somewhat support	29
16	Neither support nor oppose	13
8	Somewhat oppose, OR	9
8	Strongly oppose?	10
3	(VOL.) Don't know	3
*	(VOL.) Refused	1

¹⁴ May 2015 trend wording was slightly different: "Many public officials in Tennessee are considering implementing "Insure Tennessee," a program proposed by Governor Haslam that would expand health insurance coverage to 280,000 low-income people without health insurance in the state. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose expanding health care coverage for low-income people in the state?"

Q17. In 2014, Tennesseans voted in favor of Amendment 1, which allows the state legislature to make laws regulating abortion within the state. As I read this list, please tell me whether you would favor or oppose each of the following in Tennessee. (First,) what about a state law that would [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]? [READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN AS NECESSARY: Do you favor, neither favor nor oppose, or oppose this?]¹⁵

	FAVOR	NEITHER	OPPOSE	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
a. Require women seeking abortions to wait two days after an in-person consultation before having the procedure					
November 2015 RVs	60	11	27	2	*
May 2015 RVs	60	10	28	2	*
November 2014 RVs	55	12	30	2	1
b. Prohibit private health insurance plans from covering abortion costs					
November 2015 RVs	27	18	53	2	*
May 2015 RVs	33	16	48	2	1
November 2014 RVs	25	18	53	2	1
c. Require second trimester abortions to be performed in a hospital					
November 2015 RVs	40	15	42	3	1
May 2015 RVs	45	14	38	2	1
November 2014 RVs	49	15	32	3	1
d. Require women seeking abortions to have an ultrasound before having the procedure					
November 2015 RVs	53	13	32	2	1
May 2015 RVs	52	13	33	2	*
November 2014 RVs	47	17	34	2	1
e. Outlaw abortion altogether, even in cases of rape, incest, and when the mother's life is in danger					
November 2015 RVs	19	9	69	2	1
May 2015 RVs	25	10	63	2	1
November 2014 RVs	21	10	67	1	1

¹⁵ November 2014 question wording specified "On Election Day." May 2015 wording was changed to "Last November."

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Thinking about education in the state of Tennessee...

- Q18. 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.¹⁶

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS

NOV 2015 RVS		MAY 2015 RVS	DEC 2013 RVS	MAY 2013 RVS	DEC 2012 RVS
64	Favor	67	70	66	64
27	Oppose	26	27	24	26
8	(VOL.) Don't know	6	4	8	7
1	(VOL.) Refused	1	*	2	3
[N=500]		[N=1,001]	[N=432]	[N=395]	[N=435]

- Q19. As you may know, charter schools are public, and function independently of the local district as long as they meet certain standards set by the state government. Please tell me which of these statements comes closer to your own view. [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=513]

NOV 2015 RVS	
48	There should be more charter schools opened in Tennessee, OR
39	There are already enough charter schools in Tennessee?
12	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q20. How important is it for public school students in grades 3 to 12 to take tests each school year to know if they are meeting the state's education standards in reading, writing, and math? [READ]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=499]

NOV 2015 RVS	
52	Very important
33	Somewhat important
10	Not too important, OR
4	Not important at all?
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

¹⁶ Unless otherwise indicated, trends were asked of Total respondents. November 2015, December 2013, May 2013 and December 2012 trends were each asked of a random half sample [November 2015 N=500 RVs / December 2013 N=501 including 432 RVs / May 2013 N=457 including N=395 RVs / December 2012 N=492 including N=435 RVs]. December 2013 question wording was: "Thinking about education in the state of Tennessee... Would you favor or oppose opening more charter schools in the state? Charter schools are public, and function independently of the local district as long as they meet certain standards set by the state government."

- Q21. Do you believe that students in Tennessee's public schools are given...[READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-3 / HALF 3-1]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=514]

NOV 2015
RVS

57	Too many standardized tests
24	About the right amount of standardized tests, OR
11	Not enough standardized tests?
8	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q22. Next, please tell me how much you agree or disagree with the following statement: "All students in my local community have equal access to high quality educational opportunities." Do you [READ]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=502]

NOV 2015
RVS

21	Strongly agree
35	Agree
9	Neither agree nor disagree
18	Disagree, OR
15	Strongly disagree?
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q23. As you may know, Governor Haslam has established an education initiative known as the Drive to 55, which aims to increase the number of college graduates in Tennessee to at least 55% by the year 2025. Thinking about the state's long-term economic future, how important would you say it is to meet this particular goal? Is Drive to 55 [READ]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=511]

NOV 2015
RVS

25	Extremely important
38	Very important
28	Somewhat important
4	Not too important, OR
3	Not important at all?
1	(VOL.) Don't know
0	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] On a different subject...

- Q24. All in all, do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea for the Tennessee state government to more strictly regulate the way local governments handle local matters such as affordable housing initiatives?

NOV 2015 RVS	
42	Good idea
50	Bad idea
8	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q25. In general, do you think laws in Tennessee should be changed to make it (easier) or (harder) to buy a gun, or should the laws for gun sales stay the same as they are now? [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=503]

NOV 2015 RVS	
5	Easier
40	Harder
54	Stay the same
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q26. How much, if at all, do you think stricter gun laws in Tennessee would help prevent gun violence in the state? Would stricter gun laws help a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=510]

NOV 2015 RVS	
16	A lot
16	Some
14	Not much
53	Not at all
*	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

Q27. Please tell me if you would favor or oppose the following proposals about gun policy. (First, [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]? What about [INSERT NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Would you favor or oppose (ITEM)?])

	FAVOR	OPPOSE	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
a. Laws to prevent people with mental illness from purchasing guns	84	14	2	1
b. Making private gun sales and sales at gun shows subject to background checks	84	15	1	*
c. A ban on assault-style weapons	51	46	2	*
d. Creating a federal government database to track all gun sales	62	37	1	*

NRA2. In general, do you support the ideas and policies of the National Rifle Association, also known as the N-R-A, or not?

NOV 2015 RVS	
56	Yes
31	No
9	(VOL.) Don't know what the NRA's ideas and policies are
1	(VOL.) Never heard of the NRA
3	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Next...

Q28. Elected officials in Tennessee are currently exploring the possibility of hiring private companies to manage the day-to-day operations of state institutions like prisons, hospitals, parks, and universities. Supporters believe this would increase efficiency, save money, and improve services. Opponents argue that this would not save money and would decrease the quality of services offered by these state organizations. What about you? Do you think the state should continue to manage these organizations or turn over day-to-day operations to private companies?

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=517]

NOV 2015 RVS	
63	State should continue to manage
28	State should turn over day-to-day operations to private companies
2	(VOL.) Neither/Both
*	(VOL.) Other arrangement (SPECIFY)
7	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q29. The Tennessee State Legislature is currently debating a proposal which would allow record keepers in the state to charge people a fee if they want to look at public records about government activities. Supporters say that charging a fee would allow the state to raise additional money for other programs. Opponents believe charging for access to public records would make it harder for news organizations and citizens to gather information about what their government is doing. Overall, do you think that state record keepers should be allowed to charge a fee to view or inspect public records, or not?

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=496]

NOV 2015	
RVS	
13	Yes
85	No
1	(VOL.) Depends on the fee amount
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q30. Do you feel that the distribution of money and wealth in the state of Tennessee is fair, or do you feel that the money and wealth should be more evenly distributed among more people?

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=503]

NOV 2015	
RVS	
39	Fair
50	Should be more even
8	(VOL.) Don't know
2	(VOL.) Refused

- Q31. Do you think the gap between the rich and everyone else is a problem that needs to be addressed now, a problem that does not need to be addressed now, or not a problem?

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=510]

NOV 2015	
RVS	
51	Addressed now
14	Not addressed now
33	Not a problem
2	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q32. To reduce crime in Tennessee, some people think more money and resources should be spent on better access to quality education and job training to help address social or economic differences. Others feel there would be less crime if more money and resources were spent on increasing the size of law enforcement with more prisons, police, and judges. Which comes closer to your view?

NOV 2015
RVS

69	Better access to quality education and job training to address social and economic differences
26	Increase law enforcement
3	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q33. Would you say that roads and bridges in your area are mostly in good condition, in bad condition, or somewhere in between?

NOV 2015
RVS

33	Good condition
17	Bad condition
49	Somewhere in between
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q34. Which ONE of the following proposals is the best long-term solution to reducing traffic congestion in your area and across the state? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

NOV 2015
RVS

43	Improving public transportation options
33	Building new roads, OR
18	Developing communities where people can walk or bike more and do not have to drive as much?
2	(VOL.) Other (SPECIFY)
3	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] As you may know, Tennessee is a pay-as-you-go state when it comes to transportation projects like road maintenance. This method means the state does not take on debt for future transportation projects. Well-maintained roadways are important to economic growth and public safety but recently, state officials have said that current funding sources are not enough to maintain Tennessee's roads and bridges.

- Q35. Would you be willing or not willing to pay 2 cents more per gallon on gas if it meant that more could be spent on projects to improve roads and bridges to help ensure economic growth and public safety?

BASED ON A RANDOM ONE-THIRD SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=356]

NOV 2015	
RVS	
66	Yes, willing
33	No, not willing
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q36. Would you be willing or not willing to pay 8 cents more per gallon on gas if it meant that more could be spent on projects to improve roads and bridges to help ensure economic growth and public safety?

BASED ON A RANDOM ONE-THIRD SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED Q35 OR Q37 [N=310]

NOV 2015	
RVS	
54	Yes, willing
45	No, not willing
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q37. Would you be willing or not willing to pay 15 cents more per gallon on gas if it meant that more could be spent on projects to improve roads and bridges to help ensure economic growth and public safety?

BASED ON A RANDOM ONE-THIRD SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED Q35 OR Q36 [N=347]

NOV 2015	
RVS	
46	Yes, willing
53	No, not willing
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

Q38. As far as you know, about how much tax does the state of Tennessee currently charge on each gallon of gas? Please do not include federal gas taxes. Is it about: [READ]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF R SAYS 21.4 CENTS EXACTLY, ENTER AS "20 CENTS"]

NOV 2015	
RVS	
25	10 cents
30	20 cents (<i>correct</i>)
11	30 cents, OR
8	40 cents per gallon?
*	(VOL.) More than 40 cents per gallon
25	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] On a different subject...

Q39. Would you support or oppose the Tennessee state government providing any funding to an organization that offers the following medical services free of charge? First, what if an organization provided free [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE; RANDOMIZE b AND c AS A PAIR IN ORDER]? What about free [INSERT NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: If an organization provided this service for free, would you support or oppose the state government providing the organization with any funding?]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=501]

	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	(VOL.) NEITHER	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
a. Preventive care screenings, such as breast exams, colon cancer screenings or pap tests	84	15	*	*	*
b. HIV testing, counseling or treatment referrals	82	17	0	1	*
c. Testing or treatment of other sexually transmitted infections	78	21	0	*	1
d. Limited primary care, like flu shots	87	12	*	1	*
e. Pregnancy testing	73	26	1	*	*
f. Pregnancy counseling	82	16	1	*	1
g. Birth control or contraception	68	30	1	1	*

- Q40. Would you support or oppose the Tennessee state government funding Planned Parenthood in order to help it provide the following medical services free of charge? First, what if Planned Parenthood provided free [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE; RANDOMIZE b AND c AS A PAIR IN ORDER]? What about free [INSERT NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: If Planned Parenthood provided this service for free, would you support or oppose the state government providing Planned Parenthood with any funding?]

[IF OPPOSE PLANNED PARENTHOOD IN GENERAL: Even though you may oppose Planned Parenthood overall, we are interested in how you feel about funding for specific services.]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=512]

	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	(VOL.) NEITHER	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
a. Preventive care screenings, such as breast exams, colon cancer screenings or pap tests	81	19	*	*	*
b. HIV testing, counseling or treatment referrals	73	24	1	1	*
c. Testing or treatment of other sexually transmitted infections	70	28	1	1	*
d. Limited primary care, like flu shots	75	24	*	1	*
e. Pregnancy testing	71	28	*	1	*
f. Pregnancy counseling	77	22	1	*	*
g. Birth control or contraception	66	33	1	*	*

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Moving on...

- TP1. Do you think of yourself as part of the Tea Party movement?

	YES	NO	(VOL.) NEVER HEARD OF TEA PARTY	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
Nov 2015 RVs	15	77	3	5	1
May 2015 RVs	15	75	4	6	*
Nov 2014 RVs	14	79	3	3	*
May 2014 RVs	15	76	3	6	1
Dec 2013 RVs	16	76	5	3	*
May 2013 RVs	15	74	4	6	1
Dec 2012 RVs	14	72	6	7	1
May 2012 RVs	15	79	1	5	1
February 2012 RVs	14	80	4	2	*

TP2. In general, do you support the Tea Party movement's ideas?¹⁷

	YES	NO	(VOL.) DON'T KNOW WHAT THE TEA PARTY MOVEMENT'S IDEAS ARE	(VOL.) NEVER HEARD OF TEA PARTY	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
Nov 2015 RVs	33	50	8	4	5	1
May 2015 RVs	33	43	14	5	4	1
Nov 2014 RVs	34	50	8	4	3	2
May 2014 RVs	34	47	10	4	5	1
Dec 2013 RVs	40	43	8	6	2	*
May 2013 RVs	37	42	9	5	6	1
Dec 2012 RVs	31	46	11	6	5	2
May 2012 RVs	37	46	6	2	7	1

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

NOV 2015 RVS	
25	Democrat
35	Republican
27	Independent
12	Something else
1	(VOL.) Don't know
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 REGISTERED VOTERS WHO SELF-IDENTIFY AS DEMOCRATS [N=267]

NOV 2015 RVS	
62	Strong Democrat
38	Not a Strong Democrat
*	(VOL.) Don't know
0	(VOL.) Refused

¹⁷ 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 to combine all those who volunteered in either question that they have never heard of the Tea Party.

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

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO SELF-IDENTIFY AS REPUBLICANS [N=368]

NOV 2015
RVS

62	Strong Republican
37	Not a Strong Republican
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

PARTY. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Democrat, Republican, Independent or something else?

PARTYLN2. [IF INDEPENDENT/SOMETHING ELSE/DK/REFUSED, ASK:] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party, Democratic Party or neither?

NOV 2015
RVS

34	Democrat / Lean Democrat
48	Republican / Lean Republican
17	Neither
*	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

REP16. Turning now to the potential candidates for PRESIDENT in 2016... If the Republican presidential primary were to be held today in Tennessee, which of the following candidates would you vote for? [READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-6; 'SOMEONE ELSE' ALWAYS LAST]

BASED ON REPUBLICANS/LEAN REPUBLICAN [N=495]

NOV 2015
RVS

29	Donald Trump
25	Ben Carson
14	Ted Cruz
12	Marco Rubio
6	Jeb Bush
2	Carly Fiorina
*	Or someone else? (SPECIFY)
1	(VOL.) Chris Christie
1	(VOL.) Mike Huckabee
1	(VOL.) John Kasich
*	(VOL.) Rand Paul
1	(VOL.) None/Wouldn't vote
7	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

DEM16. Turning now to the potential candidates for PRESIDENT in 2016... If the Democratic presidential primary were to be held today in Tennessee, which of the following candidates would you vote for? [READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-3; 'SOMEONE ELSE' ALWAYS LAST]

BASED ON DEMOCRATS/LEAN DEMOCRAT [N=346]

NOV 2015 RVS	
48	Hillary Clinton
28	Bernie Sanders
3	Martin O'Malley
5	Or someone else? (SPECIFY)
4	(VOL.) None/Wouldn't vote
10	(VOL.) Don't know
2	(VOL.) Refused

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

IDEO3. How would you generally describe your views on most political matters? Are you: [READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-5 / HALF 5-1]

NOV 2015 RVS	
15	Very conservative
32	Conservative
31	Moderate
13	Liberal
6	Very liberal
3	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

THE REMAINING DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS AND QUESTIONS QL1, QL1A, QC1 ARE NOT REPORTED IN THIS TOPLINE.

THANK AND END INTERVIEW: THANK YOU again for sharing your thoughts and opinions! Have a nice rest of the day. [READ IF NECESSARY: This survey is being conducted by the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions at Vanderbilt University. If you have any questions about the survey, please feel free to contact CSDI at (XXX) XXX-XXXX.]