Fall 2018 - Vanderbilt University Poll

November 19 – December 6, 2018

John G. Geer & Joshua D. Clinton, Co-Directors

December 13, 2018

1,004 registered voters in Tennessee

MoE: +/- 4.0 percentage points
Approval of State Leaders by Party ID

- Haslam: 61% Total, 69% Republicans, 56% Democrats, 62% Independents
- Alexander: 48% Total, 65% Republicans, 34% Democrats, 45% Independents
- Corker: 45% Total, 47% Republicans, 47% Democrats, 47% Independents
Opinion of Gov. Elect Lee by Party ID

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion Level</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Favorable</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mostly Favorable</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mostly Unfavorable</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Unfavorable</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Vanderbilt University
Opinion of Sen-Elect Blackburn & Gov. Bredesen

- Very or Mostly Favorable:
  - Marsha Blackburn: 45%
  - Phil Bredesen: 55%

- Very or Mostly Unfavorable:
  - Marsha Blackburn: 50%
  - Phil Bredesen: 34%
Approval of President Trump Over Time

- May-17: Total 52%, Republican 86%, Democrat 10%, Independent 10%
- Dec. 2017: Total 48%, Republican 83%, Democrat 9%, Independent 9%
- May-18: Total 53%, Republican 89%, Democrat 12%, Independent 8%
- Dec-18: Total 52%, Republican 92%, Democrat 8%, Independent 8%
Opinion on How Pres. Trump is Changing Washington Over Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For the better</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For the worse</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stayed the same</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Views on Pres. Trump’s Truthfulness Over Time

Overall, how much of the time do you think President Trump tells the truth?

- All of the time
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- Rarely
- Never

Dec-17: 9% 7% 14%
May-18: 30% 32% 30%
Dec-18: 25% 23% 17%

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Vanderbilt University
Attitudes Toward Partisan Compromise Over Time

Prefer legislators to work with out-party members

Prefer legislators to pursue own values and priorities

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Vanderbilt University
Which of the following comes closest to your view, even if neither is exactly right? (1) 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... (2) 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

**Preferences for Partisan Compromise by Party ID**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work with members of the other party even if it means compromising on values and priorities</th>
<th>Pursue own values and priorities even if it means they are unwilling to work with the other party</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Republicans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Top 3 Priorities of TN State Government Over Time

Which of the following do you think should be the top priority of the Tennessee state government?
Top Four Priorities For Tennessee State Government by Party ID

Total: 21% Education, 16% Economy, 30% Health Care, 15% Infrastructure
Republican: 18% Education, 21% Economy, 19% Health Care, 17% Infrastructure
Democrat: 20% Education, 15% Economy, 19% Health Care, 11% Infrastructure
Independent: 21% Education, 7% Economy, 51% Health Care, 19% Infrastructure

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Top Four Priorities For Tennessee State Government by Region

- **Education**
  - East: 21%
  - Nashville: 19%
  - Central: 23%
  - Memphis/West: 21%

- **Economy**
  - East: 18%
  - Nashville: 11%
  - Central: 18%
  - Memphis/West: 18%

- **Health Care**
  - East: 32%
  - Nashville: 29%
  - Central: 26%
  - Memphis/West: 32%

- **Infrastructure**
  - East: 12%
  - Nashville: 22%
  - Central: 17%
  - Memphis/West: 9%
Feelings About Tennessee State Government Over Time

Some people say they are basically content with the way state government works today, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which of these best describes how you feel?
Feelings About National Government Over Time

Some people say they are basically content with the way the National government works today, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which of these best describes how you feel?
Perceptions of the Economy

% “VERY GOOD” OR “FAIRLY GOOD”

TN economy
U.S. economy

24% | 23% | 33% | 31% | 32% | 60% | 64% | 67% | 61% | 66% | 73% | 71% | 80% | 82% | 78%
Opinions on Tariffs by Party ID

As you may know, the Trump administration recently increased tariffs or fees on imported goods from a number of countries. In response, some of these countries, including China and Canada, have increased tariffs on American goods. Overall, do you think these increased tariffs between the U.S. and its trading partners will be good or bad for the United States?

82% for Good
8% for Bad

47%
42%
47%
13%

87%
49%
Opinions on Tariffs by Income

As you may know, the Trump administration recently increased tariffs or fees on imported goods from a number of countries. In response, some of these countries, including China and Canada, have increased tariffs on American goods. Overall, do you think these increased tariffs between the U.S. and its trading partners will be good or bad for the United States?
Views on Priorities for Tennessee K-12 Schools

Which do you think is a more important priority for Tennessee k-12 public schools, providing the knowledge and skills needed for pursuing a vocational or technical career, or preparing students for a four-year college?

- Providing the knowledge and skills needed for a vocational or technical career:
  - Total: 57%
  - Republicans: 58%
  - Democrats: 46%
  - Independents: 61%

- Preparing students for a four-year college:
  - Total: 33%
  - Republicans: 33%
  - Democrats: 48%
  - Independents: 24%
Support for Additional Vocational or Technical Education

Now thinking about education in Tennessee...Would you support or oppose more vocational or technical education in Tennessee public schools if it required a tax increase? Would you support or oppose more vocational or technical education in Tennessee public schools if it required cutting back on existing programs and classes and putting that money towards vocational education?

- A tax increase: 71% Support, 24% Oppose
- Cutting back on existing programs and classes and putting that money towards vocational education: 59% Support, 34% Oppose
Support for Additional Vocational or Technical Education by Party ID

Now thinking about education in Tennessee...Would you support or oppose more vocational or technical education in Tennessee public schools if it required a tax increase? Would you support or oppose more vocational or technical education in Tennessee public schools if it required cutting back on existing programs and classes and putting that money towards vocational education?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A tax increase</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutting back on</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>existing programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>and classes</td>
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<td>and putting that</td>
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<tr>
<td>money towards</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vocational education</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Views on School Vouchers - May-December 2018

As you may know, some states have programs that use state funds to help eligible, school-age children cover the cost of tuition at participating private or religious schools. This is sometimes called a voucher. Please tell me which one of these statements comes closer to your own view?

- 29% I support school vouchers
- 23% I have mixed feelings about school vouchers
- 33% I oppose school vouchers
- 16% I don’t know enough to have a clear opinion

May-18 to Dec. 2018

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Vanderbilt University
Views on the Future of The U.S. Health Care System

The ACA should be repealed and not replaced

The ACA should be repealed and replaced with a Republican sponsored alternative

Lawmakers should build on the ACA to improve affordability and access to care

The U.S. should establish guaranteed universal health coverage through a single government plan
Views on Future of U.S. Health Care System by Party ID

- ACA should be repealed and not replaced
  - Total: 17%
  - Republican: 24%
  - Democrat: 8%
  - Independent: 15%

- ACA should be repealed and replaced with a Republican sponsored alternative
  - Total: 41%
  - Republican: 21%
  - Democrat: 4%
  - Independent: 16%

- Lawmakers should build on the ACA to improve affordability and access to care
  - Total: 32%
  - Republican: 14%
  - Democrat: 39%
  - Independent: 44%

- U.S. should establish guaranteed universal health coverage through a single government plan
  - Total: 23%
  - Republican: 9%
  - Democrat: 40%
  - Independent: 23%
Tennessee is one of 14 states that has chosen not to expand Medicaid, which would allow more low-income uninsured adults to have health insurance. Overall, do you support or oppose Medicaid expansion in Tennessee?
Opinions on Medicaid Expansion by Income

Support
- Under $15,000: 77%
- $15,000-$29,999: 83%
- $30,000-$44,999: 75%
- $45,000-$74,999: 63%
- $75,000-$99,000: 63%
- $100,000 or more: 22%

Oppose
- Under $15,000: 18%
- $15,000-$29,999: 16%
- $30,000-$44,999: 22%
- $45,000-$74,999: 33%
- $75,000-$99,000: 38%
- $100,000 or more: 27%
Changes in Take Home Pay by Income

Thinking about your take home pay, that is, the amount of money in your paycheck... Since January this year, has your take home pay increased, decreased, stayed about the same, or don’t you get a regular paycheck?

- **Increased**
  - Under $15,000: 2%
  - $15,000-$29,999: 18%
  - $30,000-$44,999: 26%
  - $45,000-$74,999: 54%
  - $75,000-$99,000: 39%
  - $100,000 or more: 18%

- **Decreased**
  - Under $15,000: 5%
  - $15,000-$29,999: 3%
  - $30,000-$44,999: 2%
  - $45,000-$74,999: 4%
  - $75,000-$99,000: 31%
  - $100,000 or more: 4%

- **Stayed about the same**
  - Under $15,000: 31%
  - $15,000-$29,999: 38%
  - $30,000-$44,999: 46%
  - $45,000-$74,999: 30%
  - $75,000-$99,000: 31%
  - $100,000 or more: 28%

- **No regular paycheck**
  - Under $15,000: 49%
  - $15,000-$29,999: 24%
  - $30,000-$44,999: 21%
  - $45,000-$74,999: 11%
  - $75,000-$99,000: 39%
  - $100,000 or more: 49%

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VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
Views on Opioid Addiction in Tennessee Over Time

Do you think the opioid addiction in the state of Tennessee is a state of emergency, a major problem but not an emergency, a minor problem or not a problem at all?

- State emergency
  - Dec. 2017: 39%
  - May-18: 34%
  - Dec. 2018: 34%

- Major problem but not an emergency
  - Dec. 2017: 45%
  - May-18: 52%
  - Dec. 2018: 52%

- Minor problem
  - Dec. 2017: 8%
  - May-18: 9%
  - Dec. 2018: 9%

- Not a problem at all
  - Dec. 2017: 3%
  - May-18: 3%
  - Dec. 2018: 2%
Views on Opioid Addiction in Tennessee by Region

Do you think the opioid addiction in the state of Tennessee is a state of emergency, a major problem but not an emergency, a minor problem or not a problem at all?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>View</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>Nashville Area</th>
<th>Central</th>
<th>Memphis/West</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State emergency</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major problem but not an emergency</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor problem</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not a problem at all</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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First Hand Knowledge of Person Affected by Opioids by Region

Do you know anyone who has been affected by opioid addiction in Tennessee?

- **Total:**
  - Yes: 43%
  - No: 71%

- **By Region:**
  - East:
    - Yes: 56%
    - No: 51%
  - Nashville Area:
    - Yes: 53%
    - No: 57%
  - Central:
    - Yes: 49%
    - No: 29%
  - Memphis/West:
    - Yes: 45%
    - No: 14%
Support for Making Betting on Sporting Events Legal in Tennessee by Party ID

Do you approve or disapprove of making betting on sporting events legal in Tennessee?

Approve:
- Total: 47%
- Republican: 38%
- Democrat: 49%
- Independent: 54%

Disapprove:
- Total: 56%
- Republican: 43%
- Democrat: 37%
- Independent: 36%
Support for Border Security/Building of Walls by Party ID

Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose significantly expanding border security, including the construction of walls, along the U.S. Mexico border?

- Strongly favor: 41% Total, 72% Republican, 35% Democrat, 10% Independent
- Favor: 14% Total, 21% Republican, 9% Democrat, 10% Independent
- Oppose: 19% Total, 5% Republican, 26% Democrat, 26% Independent
- Strongly Oppose: 24% Total, 1% Republican, 27% Democrat, 27% Independent
Views on Illegal Immigrants Over Time

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 eventually apply for U.S. citizenship...) (They should be allowed to stay in the country only as temporary guest workers, but not apply for U.S. citizenship...) or, (They should be required to leave the country).

CSDI
Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Views on Illegal Immigrants by Party ID

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 eventually apply for U.S. citizenship...) (They should be allowed to stay in the country only as temporary guest workers, but not apply for U.S. citizenship...) or, (They should be required to leave the country).

Stay and apply for citizenship: 81% (Total), 57% (Republican), 59% (Democrat), 40% (Independent)

Stay as temporary guest workers: 19% (Total), 19% (Republican), 23% (Democrat), 9% (Independent)

Required to leave the U.S.: 22% (Total), 22% (Republican), 22% (Democrat), 35% (Independent)
Opinions on Legal Immigration by Party ID

Would you say that people who move to the United States legally from other countries help the United States more than they hurt it, or hurt the United States more than they help it?

Help more than hurt:
- Total: 83%
- Republican: 69%
- Democrat: 70%
- Independent: 61%

Hurt more than help:
- Total: 25%
- Republican: 33%
- Democrat: 26%
- Independent: 13%
Views on Children of Undocumented Immigrants and In-State Tuition by Party ID

Yes, they should be eligible
- Total: 63%
- Republican: 33%
- Democrat: 86%
- Independent: 74%

No, they should not be eligible
- Total: 63%
- Republican: 34%
- Democrat: 10%
- Independent: 23%

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Views on Children of Undocumented Immigrants and In-State Tuition by Party ID – Over-Time

---|---|---|---
Republicans | Democrats | Independents
55% | 87% | 57% | 33%
66% | 84% | 65% | 74%
55% | 86% | 65% | 86%
Views on Children of Illegal Immigrants and In-State Tuition by Party ID

- Yes, they should be eligible:
  - Total: 63%
  - Republican: 43%
  - Democrat: 85%
  - Independent: 68%

- No, they should not be eligible:
  - Total: 33%
  - Republican: 53%
  - Democrat: 12%
  - Independent: 23%

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Views on Believability of News Media by Party ID

In general, how much of what you see, hear, or read, in the news media these days do you think you can believe?

![Chart showing views on believability of news media by party ID.](chart.png)
Opinion on Type of Community the Federal Government Helps Most by Party ID

More to help people living in and around large cities
- Total: 51%
- Republican: 53%
- Democrat: 57%
- Independent: 39%

More to help people living in rural areas and small towns
- Total: 38%
- Republican: 39%
- Democrat: 32%
- Independent: 45%

Helps both about equally
- Total: 11%
- Republican: 6%
- Democrat: 2%
- Independent: 5%
Opinion on Type of Community State Government Helps Most by Party ID

- More to help people living in and around large cities:
  - Total: 50%
  - Republican: 48%
  - Democrat: 48%
  - Independent: 57%

- More to help people living in rural areas and small towns:
  - Total: 6%
  - Republican: 6%
  - Democrat: 10%
  - Independent: 3%

- Helps both about equally:
  - Total: 32%
  - Republican: 33%
  - Democrat: 28%
  - Independent: 31%

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