

**RESULTS OF JANUARY 2011 VANDERBILT POLL**  
**ALL FREQUENCIES ARE WEIGHTED.**

**Q1**

(I'd like your views on some government officials. As I read each name, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job.) Barack Obama as President?

N = .....	669	100%
Approve.....	284	42.4%
Disapprove.....	347	51.9%
I need to wait and see .....	18	2.8%
Don't know/Missing.....	20	3.0%

**Q2**

(I'd like your views on some government officials. As I read each name, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job.) The U.S. Congress?

N = .....	669	100%
Approve.....	160	23.9%
Disapprove.....	397	59.4%
I need to wait and see .....	55	8.2%
Don't know/Missing.....	57	8.5%

**Q3**

(I'd like your views on some government officials. As I read each name, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job.) The Tennessee State Legislature?

N = .....	669	100%
Approve.....	382	57.1%
Disapprove.....	149	22.3%
I need to wait and see .....	51	7.7%
Don't know/Missing.....	86	12.9%

**Q4**

(I'd like your views on some government officials. As I read each name, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job.) Bill Haslam as Governor?

N = .....	669	100%
Approve .....	349	52.2%
Disapprove.....	99	14.9%
I need to wait and see .....	179	26.7%
I don't know who that is .....	26	3.9%
Don't know/Missing .....	16	2.4%

**Q5**

(I'd like your views on some government officials. As I read each name, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job.) Lamar Alexander as US Senator?

N = .....	669	100%
Approve .....	381	57.0%
Disapprove.....	180	26.9%
I don't know who that is .....	40	6.0%
Don't know/Missing .....	67	10.1%

**Q6**

(I'd like your views on some government officials. As I read each name, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job.) Bob Corker as US Senator?

N = .....	669	100%
Approve .....	371	55.4%
Disapprove.....	177	26.5%
I don't know who that is .....	40	5.9%
Don't know/Missing .....	81	12.2%

**Q7**

What do you think should be the top priority of the Tennessee state government? (READ LIST)

N = .....	669	100%
Health Care.....	116	17.4%
Guns .....	13	1.9%
Immigration .....	25	3.7%
The economy, including jobs.....	377	56.3%
Education.....	135	20.3%
Missing/Don't Know.....	3	0.5%

**Q8**

Turning to the topic of immigration, how should we deal with illegal immigrants currently in the United States?

N = .....	669	100%
Arresting them and forcing them to leave .....	233	34.8%
Creating a way for them to become citizens if they meet certain requirements .....	408	61.0%
Granting citizenship without setting requirements .....	8	1.3%
Missing/Don't Know.....	19	2.9%

**Q9**

Would you support or not support fining employers who hire illegal immigrants?

N = .....	669	100%
Support .....	507	75.8%
Not Support .....	140	20.9%
Missing/Don't Know.....	22	3.3%

**Q10**

Would you support or not support sending employers to jail for hiring illegal immigrants?

N = .....	669	100%
Support .....	403	60.2%
Not Support .....	246	36.8%
Missing/Don't Know.....	20	3.0%

**Q11**

These days elections are very expensive. Do you think each of the following is an acceptable or unacceptable way for candidates in Tennessee to raise money for an election campaign? Contributions made by corporations located in the United States? Are they:

N = .....	669	100%
Acceptable.....	374	55.9%
Not Acceptable .....	249	37.2%
Missing/Don't Know.....	46	6.9%

**Q12**

Contributions made by labor unions? Are they:

N = .....	669	100%
Acceptable.....	275	41.2%
Not Acceptable .....	362	54.1%
Missing/Don't Know.....	32	4.8%

**Q13**

Contributions made by individuals who live in countries outside the United States?  
Are they:

N = .....	669	100%
Acceptable .....	59	8.8%
Not Acceptable .....	594	88.7%
Missing/Don't Know.....	16	2.5%

**Q14**

Contributions made by individuals corporations with headquarters located outside  
the United States? Are they:

N = .....	669	100%
Acceptable .....	76	11.3%
Not Acceptable .....	575	85.9%
Missing/Don't Know.....	19	2.8%

**Q15**

Which statement comes closer to your view on this topic?

N = .....	669	100%
Muslims should have the same rights as other groups to build houses of worship in local communities .....	392	58.6%
Or, Local communities should be able to prohibit construction of mosques if they do not want them.....	234	35.0%
Don't Know/Missing.....	43	6.4%

**Q16**

Which one of the following comes closest to what you would like to see  
lawmakers IN CONGRESS do with the 2010 health care reform--would you like  
lawmakers to:

N = .....	669	100%
Repeal the reform entirely .....	206	30.7%
Repeal parts of the reform .....	205	30.7%
Expand the reform.....	109	16.3%
Leave it as is .....	95	14.2%
I don't know enough about it to decide .....	45	6.8%
Don't Know/Missing.....	9	0.1%

**Q17**

Do you think the state of Tennessee should get rid of permits for carrying  
handguns in public?

N = .....	669	100%
Yes.....	169	25.2%
No.....	486	72.7%
Don't Know/Missing.....	14	2.0%

**Q18**

Thinking of your finances these days, would you say that you and your family in your home are: (READ LIST)

N = .....	669	100%
Better off financially.....	32	4.8%
Worse off financially .....	258	38.6%
or, about the same as you were a year ago?.....	378	56.5%
Don't Know/Missing.....	1	0.1%

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**Q19**

Looking ahead to the next year, do you think that a year from now, you and your family in your home will be: (READ LIST)

N = .....	669	100%
Better off financially.....	157	23.5%
Worse off financially .....	154	23.1%
About the same.....	337	50.4%
Don't Know/Missing.....	21	3.1%

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**Q20-21**

Thinking about education, should teachers whose students do well on tests get paid more than teachers whose students do poorly on those tests?

N = .....	669	100%
Yes.....	222	33.2%
No.....	415	62.0%
Don't Know/Missing.....	32	4.7%

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**Q22**

Do you support mandatory testing of students in public schools as the only method for determining how well schools are doing?

N = .....	669	100%
Yes.....	208	31.1%
No.....	431	64.4%
Don't Know/Missing.....	30	4.6%

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**Q23**

Currently Tennessee certifies teachers based on a teaching degree and coursework. Should Tennessee offer another way for teachers to get certified, like credit for their professional experience?

N = .....	669	100%
Yes.....	479	71.7%
No.....	145	21.6%
Don't Know/Missing.....	45	6.7%

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**Q24**

What grade would you give your local public schools?

N = .....	669	100%
A .....	81	12.1%
B .....	250	37.3%
C .....	188	28.1%
D .....	50	7.5%
Or, F .....	60	9.0%
Don't Know/Missing .....	40	6.0%

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**Q25**

Which groups do you think would be best at running public schools?

N = .....	669	100%
Teachers .....	206	30.9%
Trained Administrators .....	204	30.4%
Elected School Boards .....	136	20.3%
Mayors and other Elected Public Officials .....	17	2.6%
Or, Others .....	79	11.8%
Don't Know/Missing .....	26	3.9%

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**Q26**

When it comes to kindergarten through 12th grade education in Tennessee, please tell me whether you think our schools work:

N = .....	669	100%
Pretty well as they are now .....	64	9.6%
Some changes are needed .....	339	50.7%
Major changes are needed .....	152	22.8%
A complete overhaul is needed .....	86	12.8%
Don't Know/Missing .....	28	4.1%

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**Q27**

Let's say there is a consistently poor-performing school in your community. What do you believe would be the best solution?

N = .....	669	100%
Close the school and reopen with a new principal .....	110	16.5%
Close the school and reopen as a public charter school .....	85	12.8%
Close the school and send the students to higher performing schools nearby .....	66	9.8%
Keep the school open with current teachers and principal and provide more support .....	356	53.2%
Don't Know/Missing .....	52	7.8%

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**Q28**

Of the following state education initiatives, which do you think is most important:

N = .....	669	100%
Developing demanding education standards .....	112	16.8%
Creating a better test to more accurately measure student achievement.....	79	11.8%
Improving the quality of our teachers.....	261	39.1%
Improving the state’s lowest performing schools .....	190	28.4%
Don't Know/Missing.....	27	4.0%

**Q29**

Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military?

N = .....	669	100%
Strongly Favor.....	88	13.2%
Favor.....	240	35.9%
Oppose Somewhat.....	164	24.5%
Strongly Oppose .....	135	20.2%
Don't Know/Missing.....	42	4.0%

**Q30**

What about allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally?

N = .....	669	100%
Strongly Favor.....	51	7.6%
Favor.....	128	19.1%
Oppose Somewhat.....	182	27.2%
Strongly Oppose .....	282	42.2%
Don't Know/Missing.....	26	3.8%

**Q31**

What about allowing gays and lesbians to adopt children?

N = .....	669	100%
Strongly Favor.....	71	10.7%
Favor.....	160	23.9%
Oppose Somewhat.....	176	26.3%
Strongly Oppose .....	232	34.7%
Don't Know/Missing.....	30	4.4%

**Q32**

The Tennessee state government currently faces budget problems, and cuts in spending for state programs are made often. For each of these programs, please tell me if there should be: no cuts, some cuts, or large cuts.

**Q33**

Healthcare:

N = .....	669	100%
No cuts.....	398	59.6%
Some cuts .....	192	28.7%
Strong cuts.....	58	8.6%
Don't Know/Missing.....	21	3.1%

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**Q34**

Tennessee's colleges and universities:

N = .....	669	100%
No cuts.....	360	53.9%
Some cuts .....	266	39.7%
Strong cuts.....	29	4.4%
Don't Know/Missing.....	13	2.0%

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**Q35**

Pre-kindergarten:

N = .....	669	100%
No cuts.....	431	64.5%
Some cuts .....	177	26.4%
Strong cuts.....	49	7.3%
Don't Know/Missing.....	12	1.8%

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**Q36**Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade:

N = .....	669	100%
No cuts.....	500	74.8%
Some cuts .....	135	20.2%
Strong cuts.....	21	3.2%
Don't Know/Missing.....	13	1.9%

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**Q37**

Unemployment assistance and job training programs:

N = .....	669	100%
No cuts.....	391	58.5%
Some cuts .....	211	31.5%
Strong cuts.....	49	7.3%
Don't Know/Missing.....	18	2.7%

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**Q38**

How would you rate the condition of the Tennessee economy these days? Is it:

N = .....	669	100%
Very Good .....	2	0.4%
Fairly Good.....	245	36.6%
Fairly Bad.....	279	41.8%
Very Bad .....	133	19.8%
Don't Know/Missing.....	9	1.4%

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**Q39**

If the presidential election were happened today, who would you vote for?

N = .....	669	100%
Barack Obama .....	272	40.7%
Sarah Palin.....	242	36.2%
Neither.....	137	20.4%
Don't Know/Missing.....	18	2.7%

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**Q40**

Do you think all children born on United States soil, regardless of where their parents are from, are American citizens?

N = .....	669	100%
Yes.....	376	56.2%
No.....	274	40.9%
Don't Know/Missing.....	19	2.9%

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**Q41**

Next, please tell me which of the following two statements comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right:

N = .....	669	100%
Today, immigrants strengthen our country because of their hard work and talents.....	178	26.5%
Today, immigrants are a burden on our country because they take our jobs and use up our tax dollars .....	439	65.6%
Don't Know/Missing.....	53	7.9%

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**Q42**

How would you rate the condition of the United States economy these days? Is it:

N = .....	669	100%
Very Good .....	4	0.6%
Fairly Good.....	98	14.7%
Fairly Bad.....	326	48.7%
Very Bad .....	239	35.7%
Don't Know/Missing.....	2	0.3%

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**Q43**

Please tell me how much you agree with this statement: Most elected officials care what people like me think. Do you...

N =	669	100%
Completely Agree	6	0.8%
Mostly Agree	188	28.1%
Mostly Disagree	298	44.5%
Completely Disagree	167	25.0%
Don't Know/Missing	10	1.5%

**Q44**

How much school have you completed? (READ LIST ONLY IF ASKED)

N =	669	100%
Less than High School	63	9.5%
High School Diploma or GED	225	33.7%
Vocational or Technical School	51	7.7%
Some College	147	21.9%
College Graduate	111	16.6%
Post Graduate	71	10.6%

**Q45**

GENDER

N =	669	100%
Male	326	48.7%
Female	343	51.3%

**Q46**

Do you currently or have you ever served in the Armed Services for the United States?

N =	669	100%
Yes	96	14.4%
No	573	85.6%

**Q47**

How often do you attend church, mosque, synagogue or other place of worship? (READ LIST)

N =	669	100%
Never	83	12.4%
Rarely	125	18.6%
Less than once a week	99	14.8%
Once a week	185	27.6%
More than once a week	172	25.7%
Don't Know/Missing	6	0.9%

**Q48**

Would you call yourself a born-again Christian, that is, have you personally had a conversion experience related to Jesus Christ? (READ LIST ONLY IF ASKED)

N = .....	669	100%
Yes.....	471	70.4%
No.....	192	28.7%
Don't Know/Missing.....	6	0.9%

**Q49**

Which of the following racial or ethnic groups do you identify with?

N = .....	669	100%
Non-black.....	562	84.0%
Black.....	98	14.7%
Don't Know/Missing.....	8	1.3%

**Q50**

Before taxes, was your total household income in 2010:

N = .....	669	100%
Under \$15,000.....	114	17.0%
Between \$15,000-\$30,000.....	114	17.1%
Between \$30,000-\$45,000.....	87	13.0%
Between \$45,000-\$75,000.....	139	20.8%
Between \$75,000-\$100,000.....	85	12.8%
\$100,000+.....	73	10.9%
Don't know/Missing.....	56	8.4%

**Q51**

How old are you?

N = .....	669	100%
Less than 45.....	301	45.0%
Between 46-64.....	241	36.0%
65+.....	127	19.0%

**Q52**

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a: (READ LIST)

N = .....	669	100%
Democrat.....	177	26.5%
Republican.....	203	30.3%
Independent.....	216	32.3%
Something Else.....	54	8.0%
Don't know/Missing.....	19	2.8%

**Q53**

7-point Party Identification Measure:

N = .....	669	100%
Strong Republican .....	90	13.5%
Weak Republican .....	112	16.7%
Independent Lean Republican .....	91	13.5%
Independent/Other .....	54	8.0%
Independent Lean Democrat.....	92	13.7%
Weak Democrat.....	73	10.9%
Strong Democrat.....	103	15.4%
Don't know/Missing.....	55	8.2%

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**Q54**

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:

N = .....	669	100%
Conservative.....	306	45.7%
Moderate.....	244	36.5%
Liberal .....	75	11.2%
Don't know/Missing.....	44	6.6%

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**Q55**

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

N = .....	669	100%
Yes.....	98	14.6%
No.....	521	77.8%
Don't know what the Tea Party movement is .....	42	6.3%
Don't know/Missing.....	9	1.3%

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**Q56**

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

N = .....	669	100%
Yes.....	263	39.3%
No.....	282	42.1%
Don't know what the Tea Party movement is .....	91	13.6%
Don't know/Missing.....	33	4.9%

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**Q57**

Region of Tennessee of respondent

N = .....	669	100%
East Tennessee .....	250	37.3%
Middle Tennessee.....	243	36.3%
West Tennessee .....	176	26.3%