Vanderbilt University Poll

Nov 20 – Dec 5, 2013

1,002 Tennessee Residents
860 Tennessee Registered Voters
Obama Approval
Among TN Registered Voters

Jan 2011: 44%
June 2011: 44%
Nov 2011: 38%
Feb 2012: 41%
May 2012: 42%
Dec 2012: 45%
May 2013: 40%
Nov 2013: 28%

Full Sample
Obama Approval Among TN Registered Voters

Jan 2011: 10%
June 2011: 11%
Nov 2011: 4%
Feb 2012: 7%
May 2012: 5%
Dec 2012: 6%
May 2013: 8%
Nov 2013: 6%

Democrats
Independents
Republicans
Full Sample
Perception of Economy
Among TN Registered Voters

US Economy: Very or Fairly Good
TN Economy: Very or Fairly Good

15% 26% 17% 24% 23% 33% 31% 32% 44% 53% 52% 66%
Top Priority of the TN State Government
Among TN Registered Voters

- Economy
  - May 2012: 60%
  - Dec 2012: 60%
  - May 2013: 50%
  - Nov 2013: 48%

- Health Care
  - May 2012: 12%
  - Dec 2012: 10%
  - May 2013: 15%
  - Nov 2013: 17%
Opinions about Health Care

Affordable Care Act
- Favorable: 15%
- Unfavorable: 51%

Medicaid Expansion
- Expand: 63%
- Don't expand: 34%

N = 860; MoE: +/- 4.1%
Affordable Care Act

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?

- Generally favorable: 37%
- Not heard enough: 15%
- Generally unfavorable: 12%
- Other: 0%
- Total: 100%

Democrats: 37%
Independents: 12%
Republicans: 3%
Tea Party: 5%

Source: VU Poll
Nov 2013
N = 860; MoE: +/- 4.1%
Support for Medicaid Expansion

Some states like Kentucky have expanded Medicaid using money from the federal government to provide medical care for low-income people. Other states, like Georgia, have decided not to expand Medicaid. Tennessee has not yet decided whether or not to expand Medicaid. Do you think Tennessee should expand Medicaid coverage for low-income people in the state, or not?
Support for Medicaid Expansion

Source: VU Poll
Nov 2013
N = 860; MoE: +/- 4.1%

83% Liberal
73% Moderate
46% Conservative
As you may know, the federal government has set up online marketplaces for health insurance that people can use to compare plans and purchase health insurance. Have you visited any of these online health insurance exchanges, such as healthcare.gov, or haven’t you done this?

Yes 14%

No 85%
Government Shutdown

The Government Shutdown was a Crisis or Major Problem

- 67% Total
- 68% Democrats
- 58% Independents
- 49% Republicans
- 46% Tea Party

The Government should not be shut down to force a Budget Deal or Delay the ACA

- 97% Total
- 65% Democrats
- 50% Independents
- 50% Republicans
- 46% Tea Party
Willingness to Compromise

Which of the following comes closest to your view, even if neither is exactly right?
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.

Source: VU Poll
Nov 2013
N = 860; MoE: +/- 4.1%
Some over-the-counter cold medicines, such as Sudafed, contain an ingredient called pseudoephedrine that is used to make the illegal drug called “meth.” The Tennessee state legislature recently considered making pseudoephedrine a prescription drug to help reduce meth abuse. Do you support or oppose requiring people in Tennessee to get a doctor’s prescription for pseudoephedrine drugs?
Issues in the Tennessee Legislature

Next year, Tennessee residents will be asked to vote on an amendment to the state constitution that would allow the state legislature to pass laws that would make all abortions illegal. Do you favor giving the state legislature the constitutional authority to outlaw abortions under all circumstances, or do you oppose this?

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<th>Total</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Tea Party</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pro-Life</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pro-Choice</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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*Tennesseans' Abortion Views* *Average from last three VU Polls*
Electoral Reforms in Tennessee

Change from Open to Closed Party Primaries

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<tr>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Don't Change</th>
<th>Legislature Choose</th>
<th>Voters Choose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>93%</td>
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Party Nominees for U.S. Senate
(From May 2013 VU Poll)
Approval Ratings of Statewide Officials

- **Bill Haslam**
  - Total: 61%
  - Democrats: 48%
  - Independents: 49%
  - Republicans: 61%
  - Tea Party: 57%

- **Bob Corker**
  - Total: 52%
  - Democrats: 44%
  - Independents: 51%
  - Republicans: 64%
  - Tea Party: 42%

- **Lamar Alexander**
  - Total: 76%
  - Democrats: 45%
  - Independents: 48%
  - Republicans: 57%
  - Tea Party: 42%
Approval Ratings of Tennesseans

Source: VU Poll
Nov 2013
N = 860; MoE: +/- 4.1%

Joe Carr: Recognize | Approve*
James Franklin: Recognize | Approve*
Butch Jones: Recognize | Approve*
Carrie Underwood: Recognize | Approve*

*Approval Ratings only amongst those who recognized individual
Comparing Carr and Alexander

- Full Sample:
  - Carr Approval: 14%
  - Alexander Approval: 49%

- Republicans:
  - Carr Approval: 15%
  - Alexander Approval: 57%

- Tea Party:
  - Carr Approval: 19%
  - Alexander Approval: 42%

Carr Approval  Alexander Approval
Looking forward to 2016?
Recognition of Ted Cruz and Chris Christie

Ted Cruz

- Total: 51%
- Democrats: 43%
- Independents: 53%
- Republicans: 54%
- Tea Party: 67%

Chris Christie

- Total: 67%
- Democrats: 60%
- Independents: 71%
- Republicans: 74%
- Tea Party: 76%
Looking forward to 2016?

Approval of Ted Cruz and Chris Christie

Ted Cruz

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Chris Christie

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<td>44%</td>
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CSDI Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions

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