

THE WMUR GRANITE STATE POLL

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SURVEY CENTER

April 11, 2014

GRANITE STATERS REMAIN DIVIDED ON NORTHERN PASS

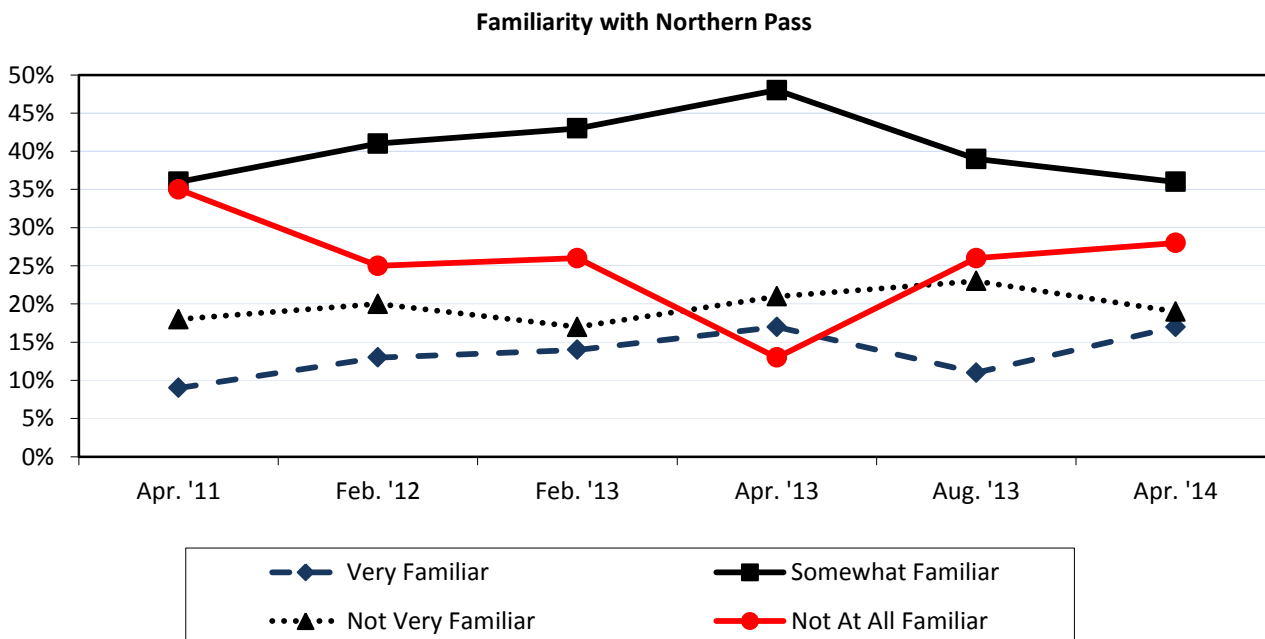
By: Andrew E. Smith, Ph.D.
 Zachary S. Azem, M.A.
 UNH Survey Center
www.unh.edu/survey-center
 603/862-2226

DURHAM, NH – Granite Staters are still largely divided over the Northern Pass. However, few New Hampshire residents are familiar with the project.

These findings are based on the latest **WMUR Granite State Poll**,* conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred and ten (510) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by landline and cellular telephone between March 24 and April 1, 2014. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.3 percent.

Familiarity With Northern Pass

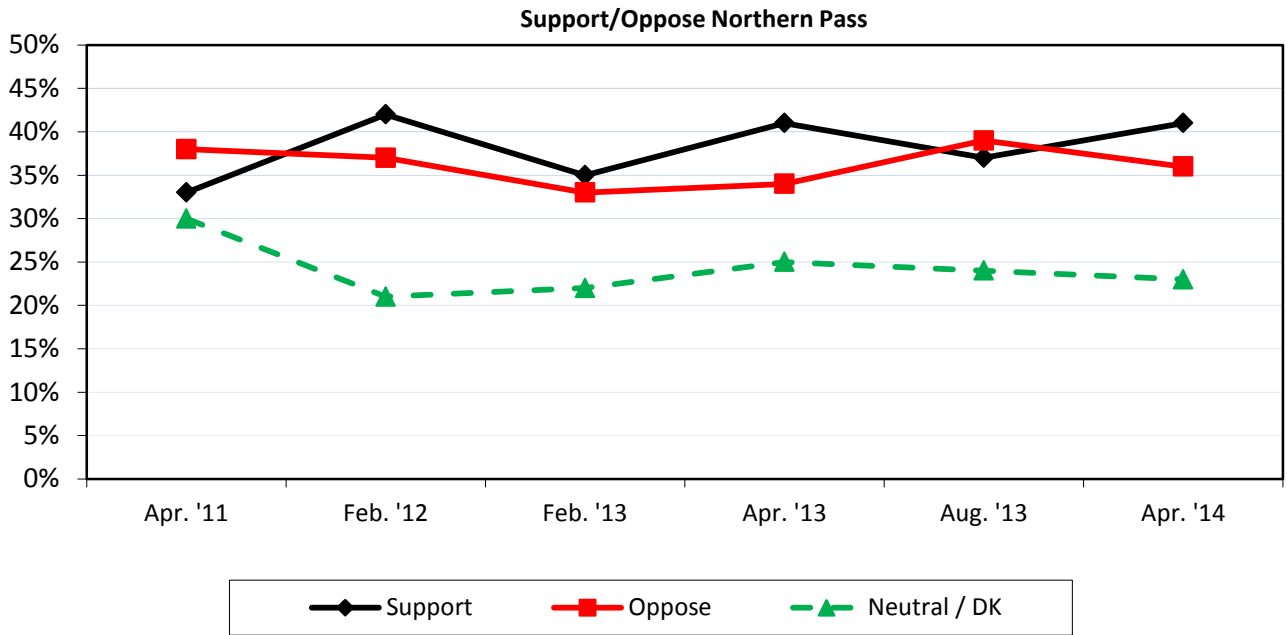
A controversial issue facing the state is the proposed “Northern Pass” project which would bring hydro-power electricity from Canada through New Hampshire on high tension wires. However, many New Hampshire residents, particularly those in the North Country, have expressed strong opposition to the project. Despite the publicity over Northern Pass, awareness of the project remains low. Only 17% of New Hampshire adults say they are very familiar with Northern Pass, 36% are somewhat familiar, 19% are not very familiar, and 28% are not familiar at all.



* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the Granite State Poll*, sponsored by WMUR-TV, and conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center.

Support/Oppose Northern Pass

When asked if they support or oppose Northern Pass, attitudes remain mixed. Currently, 41% of New Hampshire adults who are at least somewhat familiar with Northern Pass support the project (20% strongly and 21% somewhat), 36% oppose the project (25% strongly and 11% somewhat), 15% are neutral, and 8% don't know enough to say. Support and opposition of the Northern Pass has remained remarkably stable over the past three years. The strongest support for the project comes from Manchester area residents (53% support) while strongest opposition comes from North Country residents (74% oppose).



Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the latest WMUR Granite State Poll, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred and ten (510) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by landline and cellular telephone between March 24 and April 1, 2014. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.3 percent.

The data have been weighted to adjust for numbers of adults and telephone lines within households, respondent sex, and region of the state. In addition to potential sampling error, all surveys have other potential sources of non-sampling error including question order effects, question wording effects, and non-response.

Northern Pass

“How familiar are you with an electrical transmission project called the Northern Pass project? Would you say you are very familiar with it ... somewhat familiar ... not very familiar ... or not at all familiar?”

	<u>Apr. '11</u>	<u>Feb. '12</u>	<u>Feb. '13</u>	<u>Apr. '13</u>	<u>Aug. '13</u>	<u>Apr. '14</u>
Very Familiar	9%	13%	14%	17%	11%	17%
Somewhat Familiar	36%	41%	43%	48%	39%	36%
Not Very Familiar	18%	20%	17%	21%	23%	19%
Not At All Familiar	35%	25%	26%	13%	26%	28%
Don't Know / No Opinion	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
(N=)	(502)	(527)	(580)	(505)	(513)	(509)

“Based on what you have seen or heard, would you say you support or oppose the Northern Pass project?”

“Is that strongly or just somewhat?”

	<u>Apr. '11</u>	<u>Feb. '12</u>	<u>Feb. '13</u>	<u>Apr. '13</u>	<u>Aug. '13</u>	<u>Apr. '14</u>
Strongly Support	14%	16%	16%	16%	14%	20%
Somewhat Support	19%	26%	19%	25%	23%	21%
Neutral/Don't Know	30%	21%	22%	25%	24%	23%
Somewhat Oppose	15%	14%	18%	14%	18%	11%
Strongly Oppose	23%	23%	25%	20%	21%	25%
(N=)	(316)	(383)	(428)	(430)	(375)	(363)

Familiarity With Northern Pass

	Very Familiar	Somewhat Familiar	Not Very Familiar	Not At All Familiar	Don't Know/ Not Sure	(N)
STATEWIDE	17%	36%	19%	28%	1%	509
Registered Democrat	16%	35%	19%	30%	0%	97
Registered Undeclared	19%	36%	21%	22%	1%	215
Registered Republican	15%	49%	11%	26%	0%	119
Democrat	16%	33%	21%	30%	0%	174
Independent	17%	36%	19%	26%	3%	107
Republican	17%	43%	17%	23%	0%	189
Liberal	16%	26%	16%	39%	3%	102
Moderate	17%	43%	18%	22%	0%	193
Conservative	18%	38%	21%	22%	0%	156
Support Tea Party	21%	38%	15%	27%	0%	98
Neutral	14%	33%	22%	30%	0%	196
Oppose Tea Party	19%	43%	15%	23%	0%	169
Union household	24%	27%	35%	15%	0%	58
Non-union	15%	38%	16%	30%	1%	440
Read Union Leader	25%	36%	15%	24%	0%	106
Read Boston Globe	28%	39%	9%	24%	0%	44
Watch WMUR	18%	41%	19%	22%	0%	314
Listen to NHPR	24%	39%	19%	17%	0%	156
10 yrs or less in NH	18%	27%	13%	41%	0%	75
11 to 20 years	8%	29%	19%	44%	0%	91
More than 20 years	19%	40%	20%	20%	1%	324
18 to 34	16%	20%	8%	56%	0%	127
35 to 49	13%	33%	28%	23%	2%	140
50 to 64	19%	47%	19%	16%	0%	137
65 and over	18%	46%	20%	17%	0%	85
Male	22%	36%	15%	26%	2%	251
Female	12%	36%	22%	30%	0%	258
High school or less	12%	34%	22%	32%	0%	102
Some college	17%	28%	17%	39%	0%	128
College graduate	13%	44%	16%	25%	2%	171
Post-graduate	27%	38%	23%	12%	0%	95
Attend services 1 or more/week	14%	38%	24%	25%	0%	111
1-2 times a month	19%	44%	16%	21%	0%	31
Less often	18%	34%	17%	31%	0%	138
Never	17%	36%	17%	29%	1%	202
North Country	31%	34%	10%	26%	0%	45
Central / Lakes	19%	43%	23%	15%	0%	83
Connecticut Valley	17%	37%	12%	34%	0%	71
Mass Border	12%	34%	20%	31%	3%	136
Seacoast	12%	33%	24%	31%	0%	98
Manchester Area	19%	38%	15%	28%	0%	75
First Cong. Dist	12%	36%	21%	31%	0%	250
Second Cong. Dist	21%	36%	17%	25%	2%	255

Support/Oppose Northern Pass

	Strongly Support 20%	Somewhat Support 21%	Neutral 15%	Somewhat Oppose 11%	Strongly Oppose 25%	Don't Know 8%	(N) 363
STATEWIDE							
Registered Democrat	11%	17%	17%	9%	41%	5%	67
Registered Undeclared	20%	19%	14%	16%	23%	8%	166
Registered Republican	27%	23%	17%	9%	18%	7%	88
Democrat	14%	14%	20%	12%	33%	7%	121
Independent	16%	22%	14%	19%	22%	7%	77
Republican	29%	23%	13%	8%	20%	8%	146
Liberal	16%	10%	12%	11%	43%	7%	59
Moderate	17%	22%	15%	15%	24%	6%	150
Conservative	28%	24%	15%	10%	19%	5%	121
Support Tea Party	31%	23%	14%	8%	20%	5%	72
Neutral	18%	23%	18%	12%	17%	11%	137
Oppose Tea Party	13%	16%	15%	13%	38%	5%	129
Union household	23%	21%	21%	6%	16%	12%	49
Non-union	20%	20%	14%	13%	26%	7%	305
Read Union Leader	27%	22%	15%	9%	26%	1%	80
Read Boston Globe	20%	13%	18%	14%	26%	9%	33
Watch WMUR	20%	20%	18%	11%	24%	7%	247
Listen to NHPR	17%	13%	14%	18%	35%	4%	129
10 yrs or less in NH	13%	19%	14%	20%	31%	4%	44
11 to 20 years	19%	20%	15%	22%	17%	8%	51
More than 20 years	23%	20%	16%	8%	26%	8%	256
18 to 34	17%	19%	18%	9%	34%	3%	56
35 to 49	20%	19%	21%	15%	15%	9%	105
50 to 64	22%	23%	12%	12%	23%	9%	116
65 and over	23%	17%	11%	10%	32%	7%	70
Male	24%	23%	12%	12%	23%	6%	183
Female	16%	19%	17%	11%	27%	9%	180
High school or less	14%	33%	8%	15%	20%	10%	69
Some college	15%	28%	23%	7%	25%	2%	78
College graduate	30%	14%	13%	13%	23%	7%	125
Post-graduate	16%	13%	18%	11%	32%	10%	83
Attend services 1 or more/week	20%	24%	11%	9%	27%	8%	84
1-2 times a month	43%	21%	7%	1%	21%	7%	25
Less often	17%	21%	19%	6%	30%	8%	95
Never	20%	18%	17%	18%	21%	7%	141
North Country	12%	2%	10%	21%	53%	2%	34
Central / Lakes	18%	25%	16%	3%	33%	5%	70
Connecticut Valley	13%	17%	8%	14%	35%	13%	47
Mass Border	23%	23%	9%	10%	22%	12%	90
Seacoast	25%	22%	23%	14%	11%	6%	68
Manchester Area	25%	28%	21%	13%	9%	5%	54
First Cong. Dist	26%	24%	18%	11%	16%	5%	173
Second Cong. Dist	15%	18%	12%	12%	32%	10%	187