

# THE WMUR GRANITE STATE POLL

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SURVEY CENTER

July 18, 2012

### AFTER SUPREME COURT DECISION, HEALTHCARE REFORM STILL UNPOPULAR IN NH

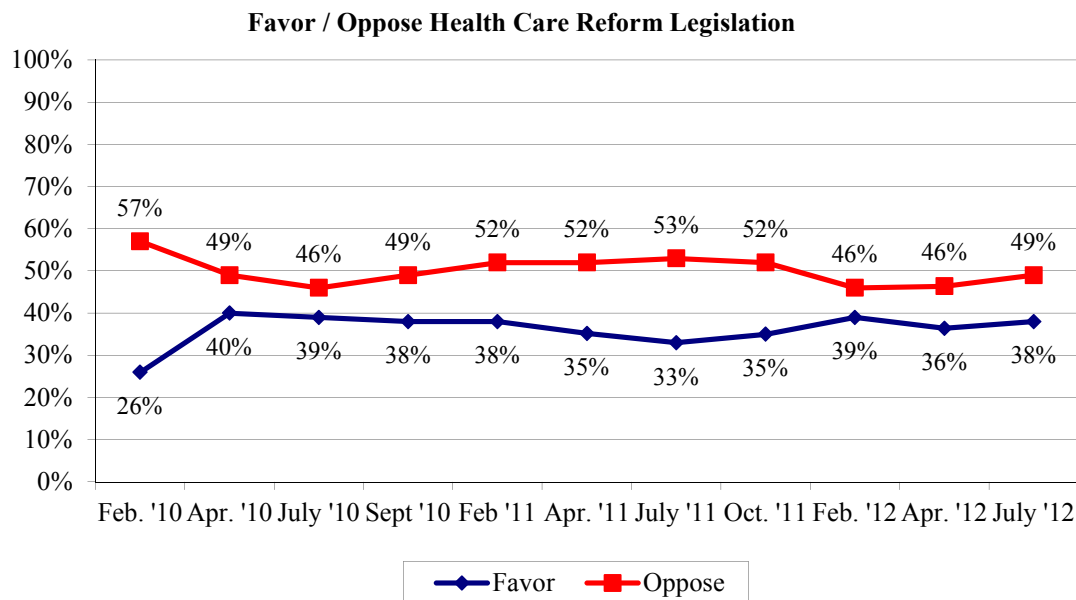
By: Andrew E. Smith, Ph.D.  
UNH Survey Center  
603/862-2226  
[www.unh.edu/survey-center](http://www.unh.edu/survey-center)

DURHAM, NH – Granite Staters are evenly split in their opinion of the Supreme Court’s ruling on the Affordable Care Act, however the law itself remains unpopular in New Hampshire.

These findings are based on the latest **WMUR Granite State Poll**,\* conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred twenty-one (521) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by landline and cellular telephone between July 5 and July 15, 2012. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.3 percent.

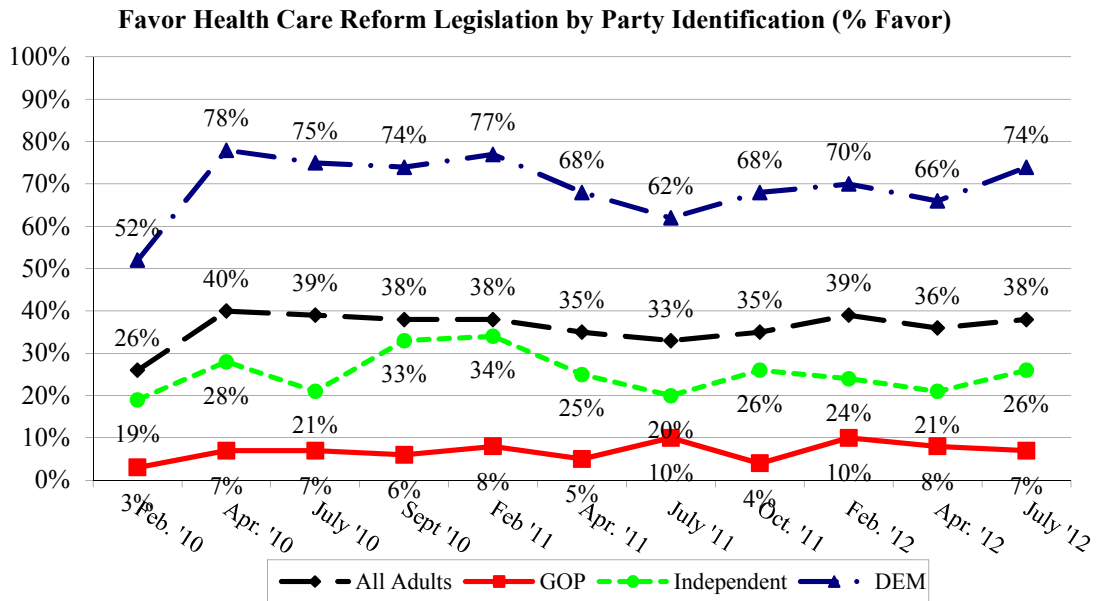
#### Health Care Reform

The U.S. Supreme Court recent decision affirming most of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has not increased its popularity in New Hampshire. In the most recent Granite State Poll, 38% of New Hampshire adults favor the legislation, 49% oppose it, and 13% are neutral or don’t know enough about it to say.

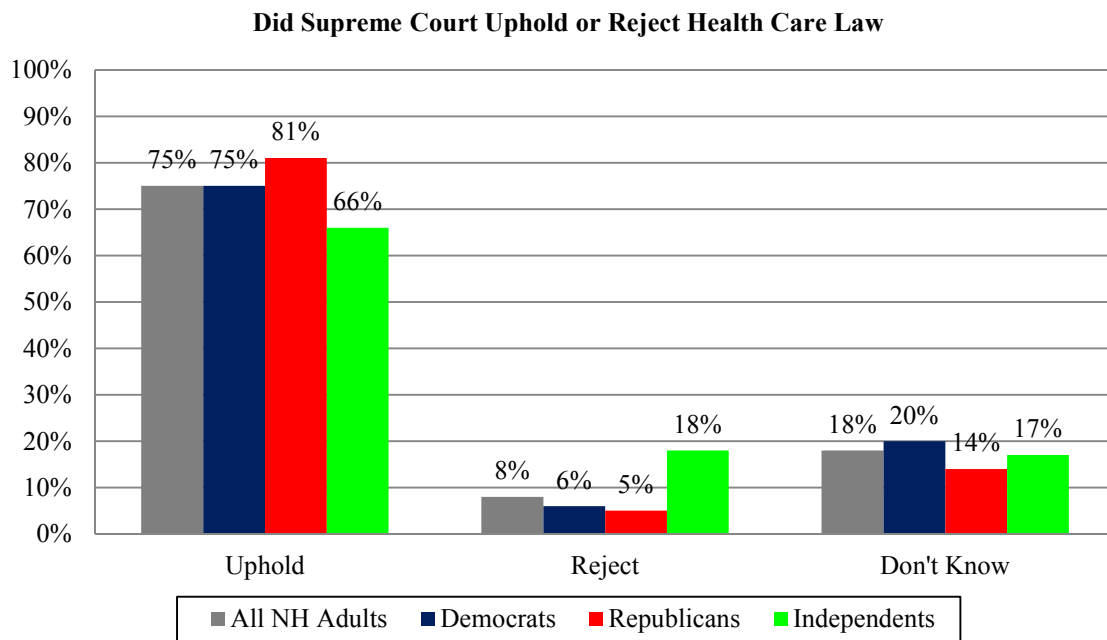


Support for the health care reform law is very low among independents and Republicans but is more popular among Democrats, increasing from 66% in April to 74% currently. However, only 26% of political independents now favor the ACA (up from 21% in April) and only 7% of Republicans (unchanged from 8% in April).

\* 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.

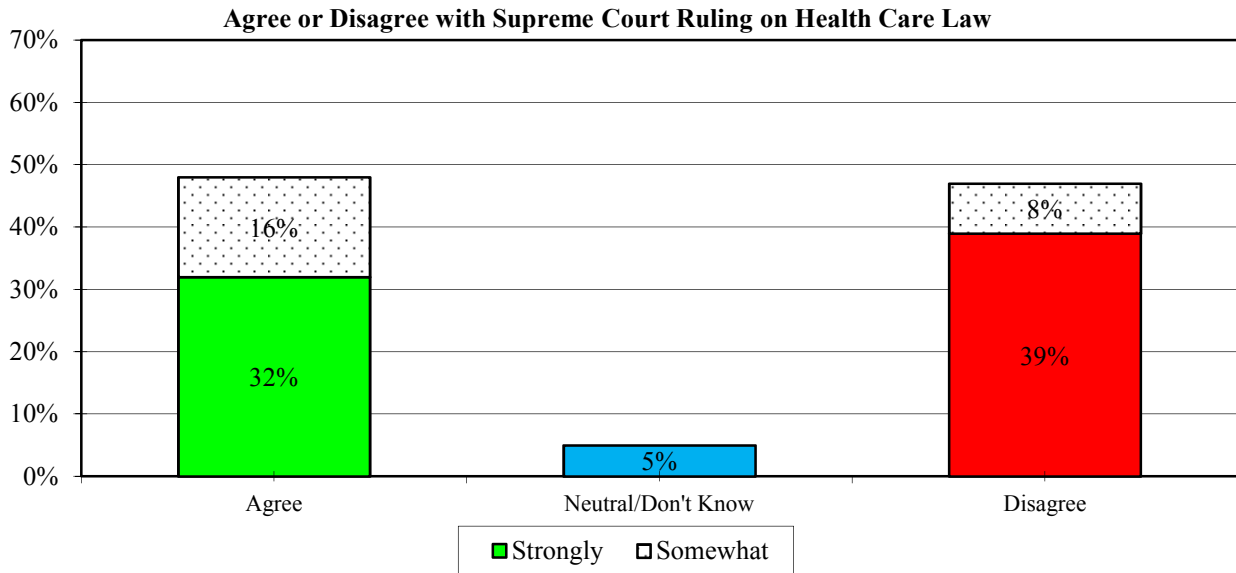


While the Supreme Court decision received a lot of publicity both nationally and in New Hampshire, one-quarter of New Hampshire adults are either unaware how the Supreme Court ruled or incorrectly believe it rejected the law. Seventy-five percent of Granite Staters correctly said that the Supreme Court upheld the ACA, 8% incorrectly said that the Court rejected the law, and 18% were unsure.



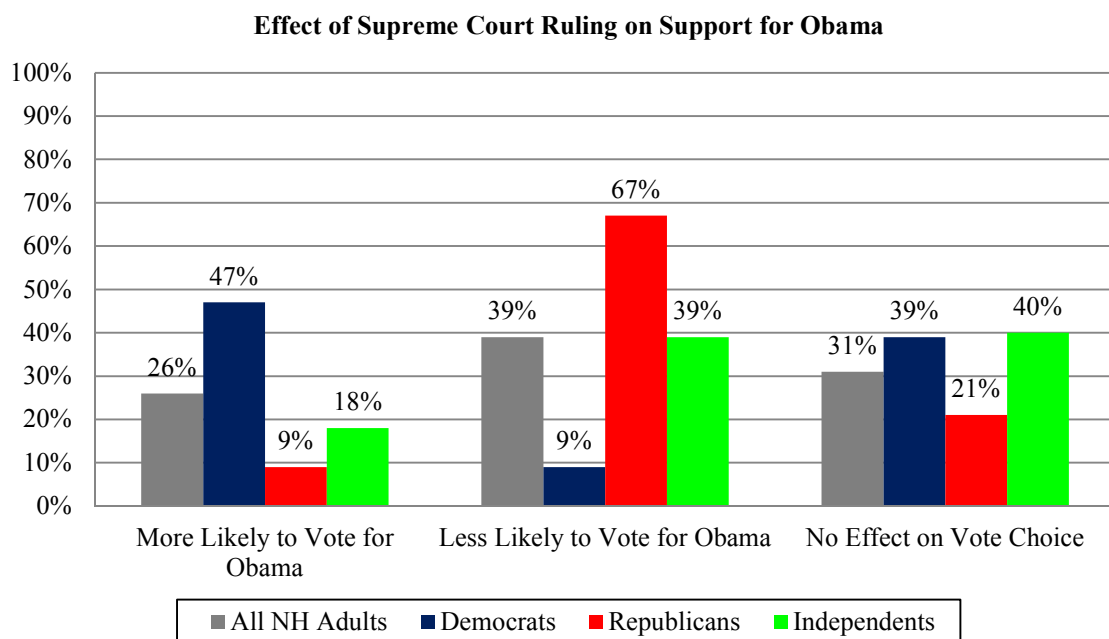
Despite their negative view on the ACA, New Hampshire adults are split in their opinion of the Court's decision with 48% either somewhat or strongly agreeing with the decision, 47% either somewhat or strongly disagreeing with the ruling, and 5% neutral or unsure.

There is a deep partisan divide in how people view the Supreme Court's decision with 81% of Democrats agreeing with the Court and 73% of Republicans disagreeing with the decision. Independents also are more likely to disagree with the decision – only 42% agree with the decision while 58% disagree.



More importantly, this decision is likely to have an impact on the Presidential election in November. Not surprisingly, 85% of Obama supporters agree with the decision and 77% of Romney supporters disagree with the decision. But the few voters who say they are undecided are much more likely to disagree (67%) than agree (17%) with the decision.

When asked directly how the decision will impact their vote, 26% of New Hampshire adults say it makes them more likely to vote for President Obama, 39% say it makes them less likely to vote for Obama, while 35% said it will have no impact on their vote or are unsure. Among political independents, 39% say it makes them less likely to vote for Obama while only 18% say it makes them more likely to vote for the President.



## 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 twenty-one (521) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by landline and cellular telephone between July 5 and July 15, 2012. 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.

### Favor / Oppose Health Care Reform Legislation Passed in Congress

“Let me ask you a question about healthcare. The U.S. House and Senate passed legislation in March of 2010 that will overhaul the nation’s health care system. Based on what you have seen or heard, do you favor or oppose the health care legislation that was passed in Congress, or don’t you have an opinion?”

(ASKED IN FEB ’10) “Let me ask you a question about healthcare. The U.S. House and Senate have just passed legislation that would overhaul the nation’s health care system. Based on what you have seen or heard, do you favor or oppose the health care legislation that is going through Congress, or don’t you have an opinion?”

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Neutral/DK</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(N)</u>
<b>July ‘12</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>(518)</b>
<b>Apr. ‘12</b>	36%	18%	46%	(534)
<b>Feb. ‘12</b>	39%	15%	46%	(524)
<b>Oct. ‘11</b>	35%	13%	52%	(554)
<b>July ‘11</b>	33%	14%	53%	(513)
<b>Apr. ‘11</b>	35%	12%	52%	(504)
<b>Feb. ‘11</b>	38%	10%	52%	(519)
<b>Sept. ‘10</b>	38%	13%	49%	(513)
<b>July ‘10</b>	39%	15%	46%	(502)
<b>Apr. ‘10</b>	40%	10%	49%	(512)
<b>Feb. ‘10</b>	26%	16%	57%	(498)

### Did Supreme Court Uphold or Reject Health Care Law

“From what you've read and heard, did the Supreme Court uphold or reject most of the provisions in the health care law?”  
ROTATE RESPONSES

	<u>July ‘12</u>
UPHOLD	75%
REJECT	8%
DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE	18%
(N=)	(518)

### Agree or Disagree with Supreme Court Ruling on Health Care Law

“As you may know, the U.S. Supreme Court has recently upheld the entire 2010 healthcare law, declaring it constitutional. Would you say you agree or disagree with this decision?” IF AGREE/DISAGREE: “Is that strongly or just somewhat?”

	<u>July ‘12</u>
STRONGLY AGREE	32%
SOMEWHAT AGREE	16%
NEITHER / NEUTRAL	1%
SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	8%
STRONGLY DISAGREE	39%
DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE	4%
(N=)	(514)

### Effect of Supreme Court Ruling on Support for Obama

“Does the Supreme Court decision on the 2010 healthcare law make you more or less likely to vote for President Obama this November?”

	<b><u>July '12</u></b>
MORE LIKELY	26%
LESS LIKELY	39%
MAKES NO DIFFERENCE IN VOTE	31%
DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE	4%
(N=)	(513)

**Favor / Oppose Health Care Legislation Passed in Congress**

<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b><u>Favor</u> 38%</b>	<b><u>Neutral/DK</u> 13%</b>	<b><u>Oppose</u> 49%</b>	<b><u>(N=)</u> 518</b>
Registered Democrat	74%	12%	14%	116
Registered Undeclared	37%	15%	48%	189
Registered Republican	11%	7%	82%	147
Democrat	74%	12%	14%	212
Independent	26%	13%	61%	84
Republican	7%	12%	81%	210
Liberal	81%	8%	11%	111
Moderate	40%	19%	41%	191
Conservative	9%	8%	83%	181
Support Tea Party	4%	9%	87%	137
Neutral	25%	15%	61%	159
Oppose Tea Party	78%	9%	13%	187
McCain/Palin Voter	3%	11%	86%	193
Obama/Biden Voter	71%	12%	16%	232
Other	4%	14%	81%	15
Did Not Vote in 2008	31%	17%	52%	58
Union household	52%	10%	38%	67
Non union	35%	13%	52%	436
Read Union Leader	24%	14%	63%	130
Read Boston Globe	56%	7%	38%	64
Watch WMUR	37%	12%	51%	310
Listen to NHPR	67%	9%	25%	151
10 yrs or less in NH	30%	13%	57%	84
11 to 20 years	46%	13%	40%	101
More than 20 years	38%	12%	50%	317
18 to 34	39%	21%	39%	84
35 to 49	40%	7%	53%	96
50 to 64	40%	9%	52%	175
65 and over	35%	15%	51%	146
Male	36%	11%	53%	260
Female	40%	14%	45%	258
High school or less	27%	19%	54%	125
Some college	34%	12%	54%	106
College graduate	41%	12%	47%	170
Post graduate	50%	5%	44%	106
Less than \$30K	39%	17%	44%	62
\$30K to \$60K	40%	10%	50%	75
\$60K to \$75K	40%	11%	49%	44
\$75K to \$100K	32%	18%	50%	51
\$100K or more	49%	5%	46%	113
Attend services 1 or more/week	28%	15%	57%	122
1 2 times a month	35%	13%	53%	48
Less often	37%	10%	53%	143
Never	46%	12%	42%	188
North Country	47%	12%	41%	39
Central / Lakes	35%	13%	53%	89
Connecticut Valley	51%	19%	30%	84
Mass Border	31%	11%	58%	140
Seacoast	36%	13%	50%	93
Manchester Area	40%	8%	53%	73
First Cong. Dist	36%	9%	55%	262
Second Cong. Dist	41%	16%	43%	247
Cell phone	40%	13%	48%	124
Landline	38%	13%	50%	394

# Did Supreme Court Uphold or Reject Health Care Law

STATEWIDE	<u>Uphold</u> 75%	<u>Reject</u> 8%	<u>Don't Know</u> 18%	<u>(N=)</u> 518
Registered Democrat	77%	5%	18%	116
Registered Undeclared	73%	11%	16%	189
Registered Republican	86%	5%	10%	147
Democrat	75%	6%	20%	212
Independent	66%	18%	17%	84
Republican	81%	5%	14%	210
Liberal	79%	5%	16%	111
Moderate	76%	7%	17%	191
Conservative	79%	8%	14%	181
Support Tea Party	81%	7%	12%	137
Neutral	65%	12%	22%	159
Oppose Tea Party	87%	4%	10%	187
McCain/Palin Voter	81%	9%	9%	193
Obama/Biden Voter	81%	4%	15%	232
Other	68%	12%	20%	15
Did Not Vote in 2008	41%	12%	47%	58
Union household	78%	5%	18%	67
Non union	75%	8%	17%	436
Read Union Leader	77%	10%	13%	130
Read Boston Globe	88%	5%	7%	64
Watch WMUR	73%	9%	17%	310
Listen to NHPR	78%	8%	14%	151
10 yrs or less in NH	70%	7%	23%	84
11 to 20 years	78%	7%	16%	101
More than 20 years	76%	8%	16%	317
18 to 34	53%	16%	31%	84
35 to 49	78%	5%	17%	96
50 to 64	82%	6%	12%	175
65 and over	77%	6%	18%	146
Male	80%	7%	13%	260
Female	69%	8%	23%	258
High school or less	59%	9%	32%	125
Some college	73%	9%	18%	106
College graduate	83%	6%	11%	170
Post graduate	85%	6%	9%	106
Less than \$30K	49%	10%	40%	62
\$30K to \$60K	85%	9%	6%	75
\$60K to \$75K	72%	13%	15%	44
\$75K to \$100K	82%	4%	14%	51
\$100K or more	93%	1%	6%	113
Attend services 1 or more/week	78%	6%	16%	122
1 2 times a month	76%	6%	18%	48
Less often	73%	8%	19%	143
Never	75%	8%	16%	188
North Country	65%	8%	27%	39
Central / Lakes	73%	13%	15%	89
Connecticut Valley	73%	8%	18%	84
Mass Border	82%	5%	14%	140
Seacoast	71%	8%	21%	93
Manchester Area	75%	6%	19%	73
First Cong. Dist	76%	6%	18%	262
Second Cong. Dist	74%	9%	17%	247
Cell phone	69%	12%	19%	124
Landline	76%	6%	17%	394

# Agree or Disagree with Supreme Court Ruling on Health Care Law

	<b>Strongly <u>Agree</u> 32%</b>	<b>Somewhat <u>Agree</u> 16%</b>	<b><u>Neutral</u> 1%</b>	<b>Somewhat <u>Disagree</u> 8%</b>	<b>Strongly <u>Disagree</u> 39%</b>	<b>Don't <u>Know</u> 4%</b>	<b>(N=) 514</b>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>							
Registered Democrat	63%	19%	1%	6%	9%	3%	115
Registered Undeclared	32%	19%	2%	7%	32%	7%	186
Registered Republican	12%	8%	1%	10%	67%	1%	147
Democrat	60%	21%	1%	7%	8%	3%	209
Independent	25%	17%	0%	7%	51%	1%	83
Republican	8%	11%	2%	10%	63%	6%	211
Liberal	62%	21%	0%	6%	9%	1%	111
Moderate	34%	21%	3%	7%	32%	4%	190
Conservative	9%	9%	1%	10%	64%	6%	179
Support Tea Party	7%	6%	1%	7%	76%	4%	138
Neutral	19%	19%	2%	12%	44%	4%	157
Oppose Tea Party	64%	21%	1%	4%	9%	1%	186
McCain/Palin Voter	6%	9%	2%	9%	68%	6%	193
Obama/Biden Voter	57%	23%	1%	4%	12%	3%	230
Other	17%	6%	0%	7%	70%	0%	15
Did Not Vote in 2008	24%	13%	0%	20%	39%	5%	56
Union household	37%	23%	1%	11%	24%	5%	67
Non union	31%	15%	2%	8%	41%	4%	432
Read Union Leader	19%	17%	2%	10%	48%	4%	130
Read Boston Globe	39%	23%	3%	5%	28%	2%	64
Watch WMUR	31%	15%	1%	8%	41%	4%	308
Listen to NHPR	53%	19%	1%	6%	19%	2%	150
10 yrs or less in NH	33%	10%	2%	7%	43%	5%	82
11 to 20 years	37%	15%	1%	8%	34%	5%	101
More than 20 years	31%	17%	1%	7%	39%	4%	316
18 to 34	35%	20%	0%	11%	29%	5%	84
35 to 49	31%	12%	2%	10%	43%	2%	96
50 to 64	34%	15%	1%	7%	41%	2%	175
65 and over	28%	16%	3%	6%	40%	7%	143
Male	31%	19%	0%	7%	39%	4%	258
Female	34%	12%	2%	8%	38%	5%	256
High school or less	21%	15%	0%	8%	50%	6%	123
Some college	26%	12%	3%	13%	41%	6%	105
College graduate	35%	19%	1%	7%	34%	4%	171
Post graduate	44%	16%	2%	5%	32%	1%	105
Less than \$30K	32%	15%	0%	9%	38%	6%	60
\$30K to \$60K	35%	14%	2%	10%	37%	3%	74
\$60K to \$75K	34%	9%	2%	14%	36%	5%	42
\$75K to \$100K	34%	24%	0%	3%	38%	2%	51
\$100K or more	41%	16%	4%	5%	33%	1%	113
Attend services 1 or more/week	22%	15%	1%	6%	51%	5%	121
1 2 times a month	26%	16%	0%	9%	40%	9%	49
Less often	29%	16%	3%	10%	39%	3%	141
Never	41%	16%	1%	7%	31%	3%	187
North Country	45%	6%	2%	12%	34%	1%	38
Central / Lakes	28%	16%	2%	6%	44%	4%	87
Connecticut Valley	47%	12%	2%	10%	25%	5%	82
Mass Border	23%	17%	1%	11%	45%	2%	140
Seacoast	28%	17%	1%	6%	38%	10%	93
Manchester Area	36%	20%	1%	2%	39%	2%	73
First Cong. Dist	31%	15%	1%	5%	43%	5%	262
Second Cong. Dist	33%	17%	2%	10%	35%	3%	244
Cell phone	35%	21%	0%	8%	33%	4%	124
Landline	31%	14%	2%	8%	40%	4%	390



# Effect of Supreme Court Ruling on Support for Obama

	<u>More Likely To Vote For</u> 26%	<u>Less Likely To Vote For</u> 39%	<u>No Effect On Vote Choice</u> 31%	<u>DK</u> 4%	<u>(N)</u> 513
<b>STATEWIDE</b>					
Registered Democrat	47%	7%	42%	5%	116
Registered Undeclared	24%	37%	34%	5%	185
Registered Republican	14%	65%	21%	0%	147
Democrat	47%	9%	39%	5%	211
Independent	18%	39%	40%	2%	82
Republican	9%	67%	21%	4%	208
Liberal	44%	11%	43%	2%	111
Moderate	27%	33%	37%	2%	191
Conservative	11%	62%	19%	7%	178
Support Tea Party	7%	69%	20%	4%	135
Neutral	21%	48%	27%	4%	157
Oppose Tea Party	46%	11%	43%	0%	187
McCain/Palin Voter	5%	71%	23%	2%	190
Obama/Biden Voter	46%	8%	41%	5%	231
Other	0%	52%	40%	8%	14
Did Not Vote in 2008	23%	44%	24%	9%	58
Union household	28%	28%	40%	4%	67
Non union	26%	40%	30%	4%	431
Read Union Leader	20%	49%	30%	2%	127
Read Boston Globe	28%	26%	45%	1%	62
Watch WMUR	28%	40%	28%	3%	306
Listen to NHPR	34%	18%	47%	0%	150
10 yrs or less in NH	23%	46%	29%	2%	82
11 to 20 years	26%	36%	37%	2%	101
More than 20 years	28%	37%	30%	5%	315
18 to 34	32%	31%	30%	8%	84
35 to 49	21%	41%	36%	2%	96
50 to 64	24%	40%	33%	3%	171
65 and over	29%	39%	27%	5%	145
Male	23%	38%	34%	4%	256
Female	29%	39%	28%	4%	258
High school or less	29%	44%	22%	5%	123
Some college	25%	39%	28%	8%	105
College graduate	23%	37%	39%	1%	168
Post graduate	29%	35%	34%	2%	106
Less than \$30K	35%	33%	26%	6%	60
\$30K to \$60K	31%	33%	31%	5%	74
\$60K to \$75K	36%	40%	22%	2%	44
\$75K to \$100K	15%	42%	43%	0%	50
\$100K or more	23%	39%	38%	0%	112
Attend services 1 or more/week	26%	44%	25%	5%	122
1 2 times a month	28%	55%	15%	3%	49
Less often	23%	39%	32%	6%	140
Never	28%	30%	40%	2%	186
North Country	38%	35%	22%	5%	38
Central / Lakes	24%	42%	31%	4%	88
Connecticut Valley	41%	23%	26%	9%	84
Mass Border	21%	47%	30%	2%	139
Seacoast	18%	41%	34%	7%	93
Manchester Area	27%	34%	39%	0%	72
First Cong. Dist	23%	42%	30%	4%	259
Second Cong. Dist	29%	35%	32%	4%	246
Cell phone	28%	36%	32%	4%	122
Landline	26%	40%	31%	4%	391