

# THE WMUR GRANITE STATE POLL

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SURVEY CENTER

May 3, 2011

### LYNCH REMAINS POPULAR IN NH, GROWING CONCERN ABOUT DIRECTION OF STATE

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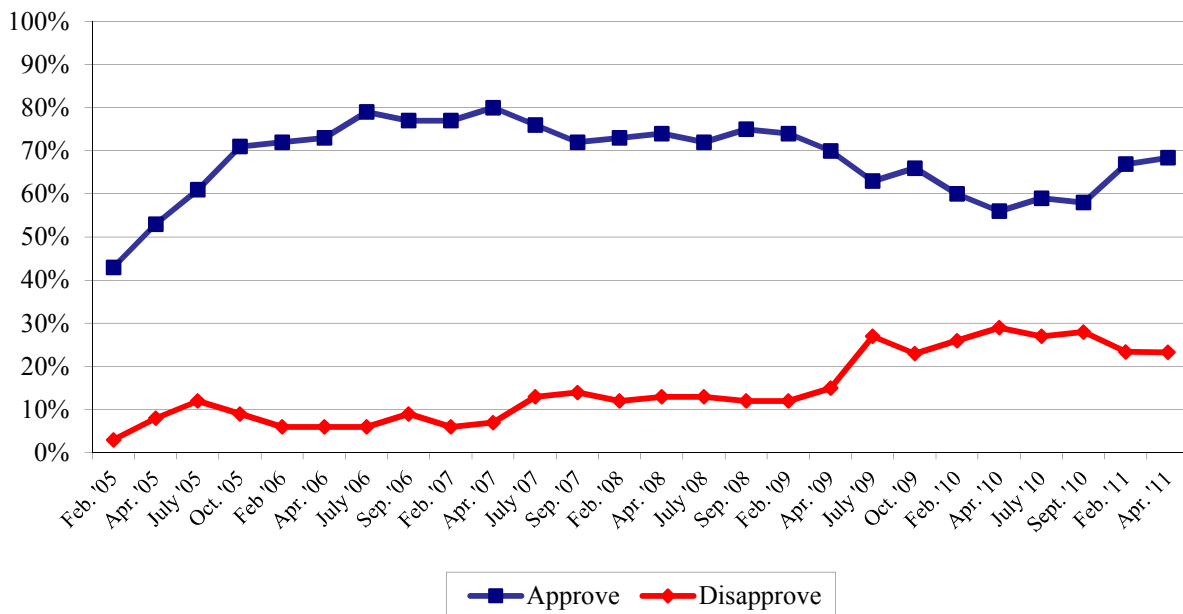
DURHAM, NH – Governor John Lynch remains very popular in New Hampshire. However, more people, particularly Democrats, are concerned about the direction the state is heading.

These findings are based on the latest **WMUR Granite State Poll**,\* conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred four (504) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between April 15 and April 26, 2011. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.4 percent.

#### Gubernatorial Approval

Governor John Lynch continues to enjoy strong approval for the job he is doing as governor. In the most recent Granite State Poll, 68% of NH adults say they approve of the way he is handling his job as governor, 23% disapprove, and 8% are neutral or don't know. Lynch continues to have strong support among Democrats (84% approve) and Independents (66%), and even receives majority support from Republicans (53%).

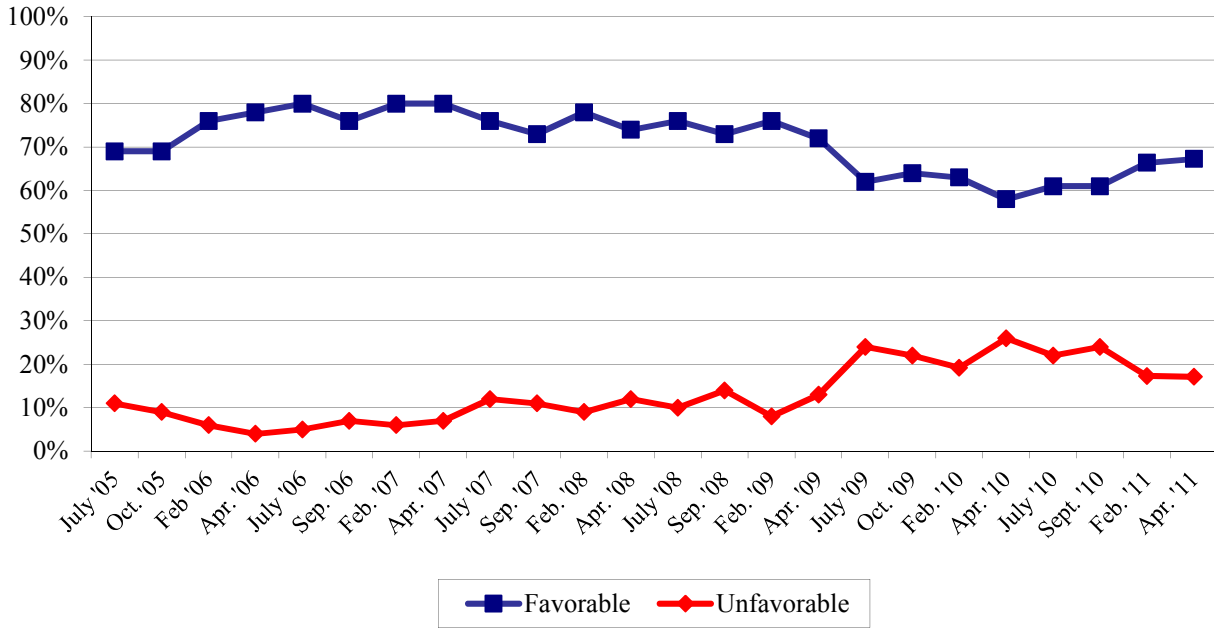
**NH Gubernatorial Approval – John Lynch**



Lynch's personal favorability ratings are also high. In the latest Granite State Poll, 67% of New Hampshire adults say they have a favorable opinion of Lynch, 17% have an unfavorable opinion, 9% are neutral, and 6% say they don't know enough about him to say. Lynch's net favorability rating, the percentage having a favorable opinion minus the percentage having an unfavorable opinion, is a very high +50%, up from +37% in September. Lynch receives a high net favorability from Democrats (+80%) as well as from Independents (+51%), and even receives positive net favorability ratings from Republicans (+18%).

\* 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.

### Favorability Ratings – NH Governor John Lynch

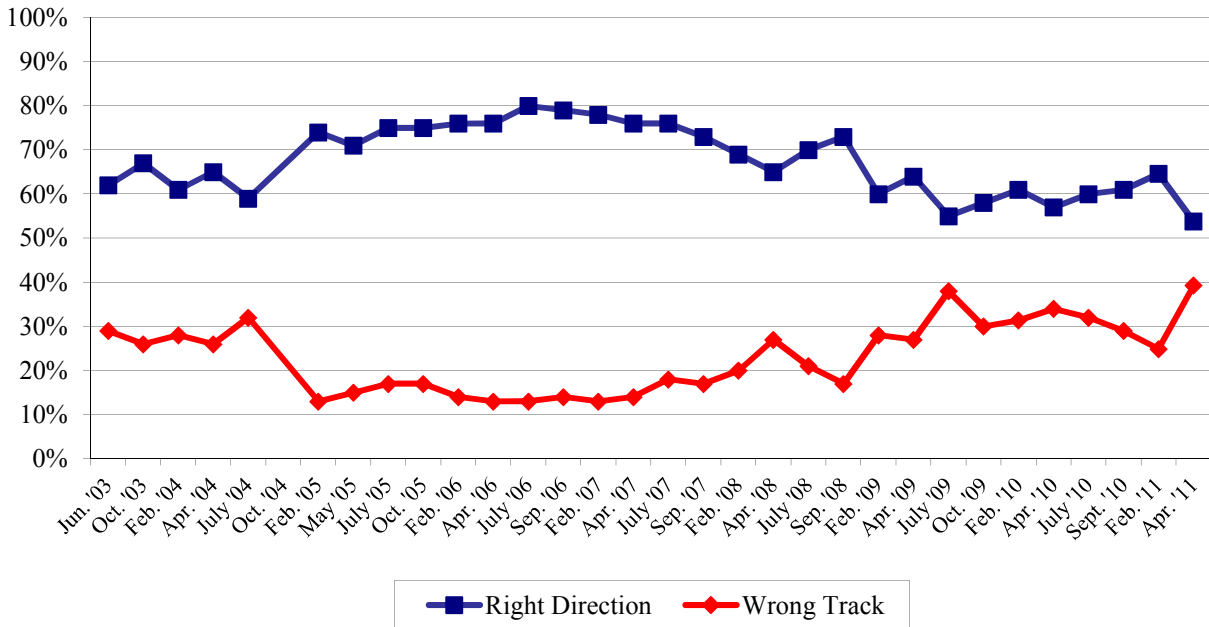


### Right Direction or Wrong Track?

Although a majority of New Hampshire residents continue to think the state is headed in the right direction, there has been a sharp increase in concern about the direction of the state. Currently, 54% of New Hampshire adults feel the state is heading in the right direction, 39% think the state is seriously off on the wrong track, and 7% don't know. In February, 65% believed the state was heading in the right direction, while 25% thought it was off on the wrong track.

The increase in people who say the state is headed down the wrong track came largely from Democrats. In February, only 20% of Democrats thought the state was headed down the wrong track, this increased to 45% in the latest poll. Similarly, the percentage of Independents saying the state was headed down the wrong track increased from 25% in February to 37%.

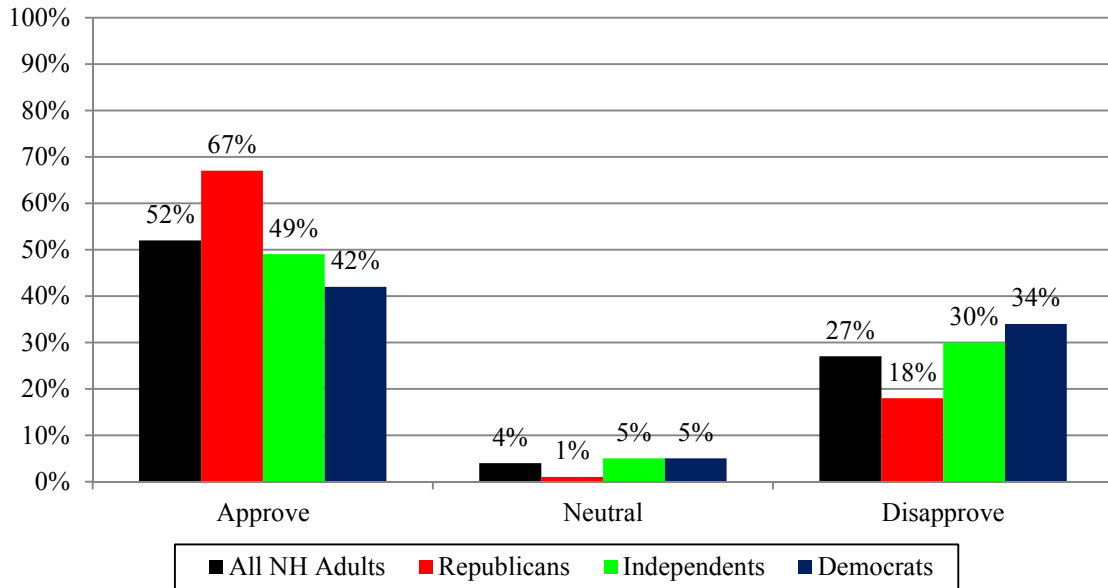
### NH Heading in Right Direction or On Wrong Track?



## Nuclear Power

Despite the recent earthquake and subsequent radiation leakage at a damaged nuclear power plant in Japan, a slim majority of New Hampshire adults (52%) approve of the use of nuclear energy in the United States, only 27% disapprove, 4% are neutral, and 17% are unsure. Republicans, newspaper readers, men, and upper income residents are most supportive of using nuclear power.

## Nuclear Power



## 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 four (504) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between April 15 and April 26, 2011. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.4 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.

## Gubernatorial Approval

“GENERALLY SPEAKING, do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Lynch is handling his job as governor?”

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Neutral/DK</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
Apr. '11	68%	8%	23%	(497)
Feb. '11	67%	10%	23%	(514)
Sept. '10	58%	14%	28%	(512)
July '10	59%	15%	27%	(497)
Apr. '10	56%	15%	29%	(507)
Feb. '10	60%	14%	26%	(489)
Oct. '09	66%	11%	23%	(495)
July '09	63%	11%	27%	(553)
Apr. '09	70%	15%	15%	(496)
Feb. '09	74%	14%	12%	(612)
Sep. '08	75%	13%	12%	(539)
July '08	72%	15%	13%	(512)
Apr. '08	74%	13%	13%	(496)
Feb. '08	73%	14%	12%	(547)
Sept. '07	72%	14%	14%	(501)
July '07	76%	11%	13%	(501)
Apr. '07	80%	12%	7%	(514)
Feb. '07	77%	16%	6%	(531)
Sept. '06	77%	14%	9%	(504)
July '06	79%	15%	6%	(498)
Apr. '06	73%	21%	6%	(489)
Feb. '06	72%	22%	6%	(491)
Oct. '05	71%	20%	9%	(495)
July '05	61%	26%	12%	(490)
Apr. '05	53%	39%	8%	(480)
Feb. '05	43%	51%	6%	(524)

### Favorability Ratings – Governor John Lynch

“Next, I'd like to get your overall opinion of some people in the news. As I read each name, please say if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person - or if you have never heard of him or her. Governor John Lynch.”

	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>NET</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
<b>Apr. '11</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>+50%</b>	<b>(503)</b>
<b>Feb. '11</b>	66%	12%	17%	4%	+49%	(519)
<b>Sept. '10</b>	61%	9%	24%	7%	+37%	(513)
<b>July '10</b>	61%	9%	22%	8%	+39%	(504)
<b>Apr. '10</b>	58%	10%	26%	6%	+32%	(509)
<b>Feb. '10</b>	63%	9%	19%	9%	+44%	(496)
<b>Oct. '09</b>	64%	8%	22%	5%	+42%	(500)
<b>July '09</b>	62%	8%	24%	6%	+38%	(557)
<b>Apr. '09</b>	72%	7%	13%	8%	+59%	(500)
<b>Feb. '09</b>	76%	10%	8%	7%	+68%	(617)
<b>Sep. '08</b>	73%	6%	14%	8%	+59%	(522)
<b>July '08</b>	76%	8%	10%	6%	+66%	(517)
<b>Apr. '08</b>	74%	11%	12%	4%	+62%	(499)
<b>Feb. '08</b>	78%	11%	9%	3%	+69%	(554)
<b>Sept. '07</b>	73%	10%	11%	6%	+62%	(506)
<b>July '07</b>	76%	8%	12%	5%	+64%	(505)
<b>Apr. '07</b>	80%	9%	7%	4%	+73%	(515)
<b>Feb. '07</b>	80%	9%	6%	5%	+74%	(536)
<b>Sept. '06</b>	76%	11%	7%	5%	+69%	(511)
<b>July '06</b>	80%	8%	5%	7%	+75%	(505)
<b>Apr. '06</b>	78%	10%	4%	8%	+74%	(503)
<b>Feb. '06</b>	76%	12%	6%	6%	+70%	(499)
<b>Oct. '05</b>	69%	13%	9%	8%	+60%	(508)
<b>July '05</b>	69%	9%	11%	11%	+58%	(500)
<b>Oct. '04</b>	34%	13%	12%	40%	+22%	(573)
<b>July '04</b>	17%	8%	6%	69%	+11%	(508)
<b>Feb. '04</b>	7%	9%	6%	77%	+1%	(509)

### NH - Right Direction or Wrong Track

“Do you think things in New Hampshire are generally going in the right direction or are they seriously off on the wrong track?”

	<u>Right Direction</u>	<u>Wrong Track</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
<b>Apr. '11</b>	54%	39%	7%	(491)
<b>Feb. '11</b>	65%	25%	11%	(517)
<b>Sept. '10</b>	61%	29%	10%	(511)
<b>July '10</b>	60%	32%	9%	(496)
<b>Apr. '10</b>	57%	34%	9%	(503)
<b>Feb. '10</b>	61%	31%	8%	(490)
<b>Oct. '09</b>	58%	30%	12%	(496)
<b>July '09</b>	55%	38%	7%	(557)
<b>Apr. '09</b>	64%	27%	9%	(497)
<b>Feb. '09</b>	60%	28%	12%	(605)
<b>Sept. '08</b>	73%	17%	10%	(535)
<b>July '08</b>	70%	21%	9%	(514)
<b>Apr. '08</b>	65%	27%	8%	(491)
<b>Feb. '08</b>	69%	20%	11%	(547)
<b>Sept. '07</b>	73%	17%	10%	(507)
<b>July '07</b>	76%	18%	6%	(500)
<b>Apr. '07</b>	76%	14%	9%	(506)
<b>Feb. '07</b>	78%	13%	8%	(524)
<b>Sept. '06</b>	79%	14%	7%	(509)
<b>July '06</b>	80%	13%	8%	(497)
<b>Apr. '06</b>	76%	13%	11%	(501)
<b>Feb. '06</b>	76%	14%	10%	(495)
<b>Oct. '05</b>	75%	17%	9%	(502)
<b>July '05</b>	75%	17%	8%	(494)
<b>May '05</b>	71%	15%	13%	(488)
<b>Feb. '05</b>	74%	13%	13%	(535)
<b>July '04</b>	59%	32%	9%	(503)
<b>Apr. '04</b>	65%	26%	9%	(530)
<b>Feb. '04</b>	61%	28%	11%	(500)
<b>Oct. '03</b>	67%	26%	7%	(485)
<b>Jun. '03</b>	62%	29%	9%	(510)

### Nuclear Power

"Generally speaking, do you approve or disapprove of using nuclear energy to produce electric power in the United States, or don't you know enough about this issue to say?"

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N)</u>
<b>Apr. '11</b>	52%	4%	27%	17%	(501)

## Gubernatorial Approval

STATEWIDE	<u>Approve</u> 68%	<u>Neutral</u> 8%	<u>Disapprove</u> 23%	<u>(N=)</u> 497
Registered Democrat	85%	3%	12%	128
Registered Undeclared	65%	12%	22%	200
Registered Republican	59%	4%	37%	135
Democrat	84%	7%	10%	203
Independent	66%	10%	24%	92
Republican	53%	8%	38%	194
Liberal	77%	8%	15%	109
Moderate	77%	7%	16%	188
Conservative	56%	9%	35%	183
Support Tea Party	44%	11%	46%	148
Neutral	70%	8%	22%	145
Oppose Tea Party	86%	7%	8%	187
McCain/Palin Voter	52%	10%	38%	220
Obama/Biden Voter	85%	5%	10%	226
Other	60%	20%	19%	16
Did Not Vote in 2008	68%	18%	14%	24
Union household	82%	5%	12%	75
Non union	65%	9%	26%	414
Read Union Leader	61%	6%	33%	152
Read Boston Globe	89%	3%	8%	68
Watch WMUR	75%	4%	21%	294
Listen to NHPR	82%	5%	13%	122
10 yrs or less in NH	59%	12%	29%	90
11 to 20 years	61%	7%	31%	77
More than 20 years	73%	8%	20%	325
18 to 34	64%	16%	21%	57
35 to 49	63%	7%	31%	123
50 to 64	70%	9%	21%	190
65 and over	74%	6%	21%	109
Male	67%	8%	25%	243
Female	70%	9%	22%	254
High school or less	65%	12%	22%	96
Some college	67%	11%	22%	109
College graduate	68%	5%	27%	165
Post graduate	73%	8%	20%	122
Less than \$30K	58%	17%	24%	52
\$30K to \$60K	65%	7%	28%	78
\$60K to \$75K	70%	11%	19%	51
\$75K to \$100K	71%	6%	23%	65
\$100K or more	77%	3%	20%	109
Attend services 1 or more/week	57%	10%	33%	126
1 2 times a month	66%	1%	33%	41
Less often	69%	9%	23%	144
Never	77%	8%	15%	163
North Country	62%	5%	34%	39
Central / Lakes	66%	6%	28%	81
Connecticut Valley	75%	13%	12%	70
Mass Border	67%	10%	22%	130
Seacoast	79%	9%	12%	97
Manchester Area	58%	5%	38%	79
First Cong. Dist	69%	7%	24%	241
Second Cong. Dist	68%	10%	22%	256

**Favorability Rating - John Lynch**

	<u>Favorable</u> 67%	<u>Neutral</u> 9%	<u>Unfavorable</u> 17%	<u>Don't Know</u> 6%	<u>(N=)</u> 503
<b>STATEWIDE</b>					
Registered Democrat	87%	2%	9%	2%	128
Registered Undeclared	66%	12%	15%	7%	204
Registered Republican	56%	9%	31%	5%	135
Democrat	85%	2%	5%	7%	207
Independent	66%	14%	15%	5%	94
Republican	49%	14%	31%	6%	194
Liberal	77%	4%	11%	8%	108
Moderate	79%	9%	10%	2%	190
Conservative	51%	12%	28%	9%	186
Support Tea Party	42%	18%	35%	5%	148
Neutral	69%	9%	17%	5%	150
Oppose Tea Party	86%	3%	5%	6%	189
McCain/Palin Voter	51%	13%	30%	6%	221
Obama/Biden Voter	84%	3%	6%	6%	230
Other	65%	8%	23%	4%	16
Did Not Vote in 2008	56%	29%	0%	15%	26
Union household	81%	13%	3%	3%	76
Non union	65%	8%	20%	7%	420
Read Union Leader	58%	12%	23%	6%	153
Read Boston Globe	90%	2%	5%	3%	68
Watch WMUR	72%	8%	17%	3%	296
Listen to NHPR	83%	5%	7%	5%	122
10 yrs or less in NH	59%	8%	24%	10%	92
11 to 20 years	58%	14%	20%	7%	77
More than 20 years	72%	9%	14%	5%	329
18 to 34	56%	14%	17%	13%	59
35 to 49	61%	8%	27%	3%	123
50 to 64	72%	9%	13%	6%	193
65 and over	70%	9%	13%	7%	110
Male	63%	12%	19%	6%	246
Female	72%	7%	15%	6%	257
High school or less	57%	16%	15%	12%	97
Some college	62%	11%	19%	7%	112
College graduate	72%	5%	19%	4%	165
Post graduate	74%	8%	13%	4%	125
Less than \$30K	50%	18%	9%	24%	55
\$30K to \$60K	63%	8%	24%	5%	79
\$60K to \$75K	70%	10%	18%	2%	51
\$75K to \$100K	79%	2%	16%	2%	66
\$100K or more	73%	8%	16%	3%	109
Attend services 1 or more/week	60%	12%	25%	3%	127
1 2 times a month	68%	10%	22%	0%	41
Less often	65%	11%	16%	8%	145
Never	75%	5%	11%	9%	166
North Country	70%	7%	20%	3%	39
Central / Lakes	65%	10%	18%	6%	83
Connecticut Valley	71%	12%	12%	5%	71
Mass Border	67%	7%	20%	6%	133
Seacoast	77%	9%	6%	8%	99
Manchester Area	53%	10%	29%	9%	79
First Cong. Dist	67%	10%	17%	6%	244
Second Cong. Dist	68%	8%	17%	7%	259



### Are Things in NH on Right/Wrong Track

	<b><u>Right</u></b> <b><u>Direction</u></b> <b>54%</b>	<b><u>Wrong</u></b> <b><u>Track</u></b> <b>39%</b>	<b><u>Don't</u></b> <b><u>Know</u></b> <b>7%</b>	<b><u>(N=)</u></b> <b>491</b>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>				
Registered Democrat	43%	51%	7%	128
Registered Undeclared	54%	39%	7%	196
Registered Republican	62%	30%	8%	131
Democrat	49%	45%	6%	205
Independent	59%	37%	5%	88
Republican	57%	33%	10%	188
Liberal	43%	50%	8%	109
Moderate	59%	36%	6%	184
Conservative	56%	36%	9%	178
Support Tea Party	54%	37%	9%	142
Neutral	62%	33%	6%	145
Oppose Tea Party	46%	49%	5%	188
McCain/Palin Voter	57%	35%	8%	214
Obama/Biden Voter	52%	43%	5%	226
Other	29%	53%	18%	15
Did Not Vote in 2008	64%	26%	10%	26
Union household	52%	43%	5%	73
Non union	54%	39%	8%	410
Read Union Leader	56%	37%	7%	148
Read Boston Globe	51%	46%	3%	67
Watch WMUR	56%	38%	6%	287
Listen to NHPR	52%	43%	6%	118
10 yrs or less in NH	65%	30%	5%	89
11 to 20 years	51%	48%	1%	76
More than 20 years	51%	40%	9%	320
18 to 34	62%	31%	7%	58
35 to 49	60%	35%	4%	122
50 to 64	48%	44%	9%	187
65 and over	53%	39%	8%	107
Male	53%	40%	7%	243
Female	55%	38%	7%	248
High school or less	49%	40%	12%	93
Some college	54%	38%	8%	107
College graduate	55%	39%	6%	163
Post graduate	54%	42%	5%	123
Less than \$30K	48%	40%	12%	54
\$30K to \$60K	51%	39%	9%	74
\$60K to \$75K	55%	33%	12%	51
\$75K to \$100K	55%	42%	3%	64
\$100K or more	63%	33%	4%	106
Attend services 1 or more/week	47%	42%	11%	125
1 2 times a month	67%	33%	0%	39
Less often	55%	39%	6%	144
Never	56%	39%	5%	160
North Country	63%	31%	6%	36
Central / Lakes	39%	47%	14%	83
Connecticut Valley	51%	43%	6%	68
Mass Border	55%	38%	7%	131
Seacoast	63%	35%	3%	96
Manchester Area	55%	39%	5%	76
First Cong. Dist	59%	36%	5%	238
Second Cong. Dist	49%	42%	9%	253

## Approve/Disapprove of Using Nuclear Energy in the United States

	<u>Approve</u> 52%	<u>Neutral</u> 4%	<u>Disapprove</u> 27%	<u>Don't Know</u> 17%	<u>(N=)</u> 501
<b>STATEWIDE</b>					
Registered Democrat	42%	5%	33%	20%	129
Registered Undeclared	51%	3%	31%	15%	201
Registered Republican	64%	3%	18%	15%	135
Democrat	42%	5%	34%	19%	206
Independent	49%	5%	30%	15%	93
Republican	67%	1%	18%	14%	194
Liberal	41%	5%	37%	17%	109
Moderate	55%	3%	27%	15%	188
Conservative	57%	2%	23%	17%	185
Support Tea Party	67%	1%	20%	11%	148
Neutral	53%	3%	23%	21%	147
Oppose Tea Party	43%	6%	36%	15%	189
McCain/Palin Voter	64%	3%	19%	15%	221
Obama/Biden Voter	43%	4%	36%	18%	229
Other	56%	0%	25%	20%	16
Did Not Vote in 2008	41%	13%	25%	20%	26
Union household	53%	7%	26%	14%	76
Non union	52%	3%	27%	17%	418
Read Union Leader	61%	3%	23%	14%	151
Read Boston Globe	66%	4%	23%	7%	67
Watch WMUR	53%	5%	27%	15%	294
Listen to NHPR	41%	5%	37%	16%	121
10 yrs or less in NH	56%	4%	24%	16%	91
11 to 20 years	57%	4%	25%	15%	78
More than 20 years	50%	4%	28%	17%	328
18 to 34	52%	6%	24%	18%	59
35 to 49	55%	2%	24%	18%	122
50 to 64	54%	3%	29%	14%	193
65 and over	49%	5%	26%	19%	111
Male	68%	3%	20%	9%	246
Female	37%	5%	35%	23%	255
High school or less	41%	6%	25%	28%	98
Some college	52%	5%	29%	14%	112
College graduate	55%	3%	28%	14%	164
Post graduate	59%	1%	26%	14%	123
Less than \$30K	36%	3%	37%	25%	55
\$30K to \$60K	39%	4%	35%	23%	78
\$60K to \$75K	58%	5%	23%	14%	51
\$75K to \$100K	46%	3%	36%	16%	66
\$100K or more	69%	5%	16%	9%	109
Attend services 1 or more/week	50%	6%	24%	19%	128
1 2 times a month	61%	5%	22%	12%	41
Less often	58%	1%	25%	15%	145
Never	50%	4%	31%	16%	164
North Country	44%	10%	34%	12%	39
Central / Lakes	50%	2%	27%	22%	83
Connecticut Valley	48%	4%	34%	14%	70
Mass Border	59%	3%	23%	15%	131
Seacoast	56%	4%	22%	18%	99
Manchester Area	47%	4%	32%	17%	79
First Cong. Dist	56%	3%	24%	17%	245
Second Cong. Dist	48%	5%	31%	16%	257