

# THE CNN / WMUR GRANITE STATE POLL

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SURVEY CENTER

### LYNCH JOB APPROVAL HITS RECORD HIGH

April 11, 2007

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www.unh.edu/survey-center  
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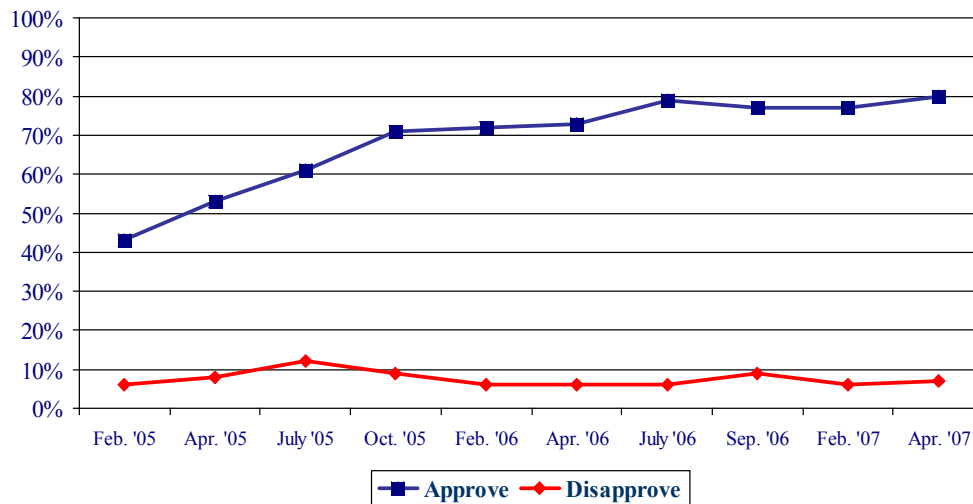
DURHAM, NH – New Hampshire Governor John Lynch continues to enjoy extremely high job approval. There is modest support to change the term of New Hampshire’s governor from two years to four years.

These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll**,\* conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. The Granite State Poll is sponsored by CNN and WMUR-TV, Manchester. Five hundred fifteen (515) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between March 27 and April 1, 2007. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-4.3 percent.

### Gubernatorial Approval

John Lynch’s approval rating as New Hampshire Governor has reached a record high and for the past two years, Lynch has had staggeringly high job approval ratings. In the most recent Granite State Poll, 80 percent of New Hampshire adults say they approve of the job Lynch has done as governor, only 7 percent disapprove, and 12 percent are neutral.

NH Gubernatorial Approval – John Lynch

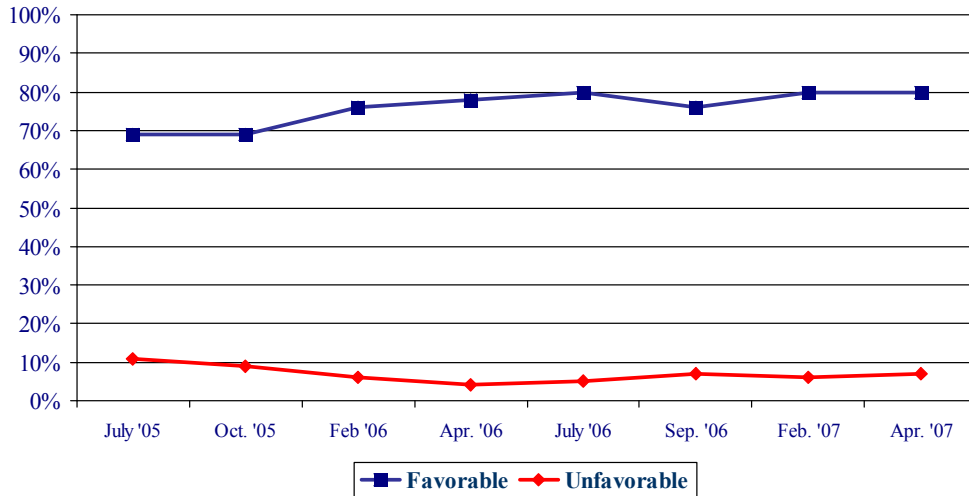


Lynch gets high job approval ratings from all political groups – 86 percent of Democrats approve of the job Lynch is doing as governor, 74 percent of Republicans approve, and 78 percent of Independents. “Lynch’s approval ratings were a major factor in the Democratic takeover of the State Legislature in 2006 and if they stay high, this will help Democrats in 2008 as well,” said Andrew Smith, Director of the UNH Survey Center.

\* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the Granite State Poll*, sponsored by CNN and WMUR-TV.

Lynch's personal favorability rating is also very high. In the latest Granite State Poll, 80 percent of New Hampshire residents say they have a favorable opinion of Lynch, only 7 percent have an unfavorable opinion, 9 percent are neutral, and 4 percent 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 +73 percent.

**Favorability Ratings – NH Governor John Lynch**



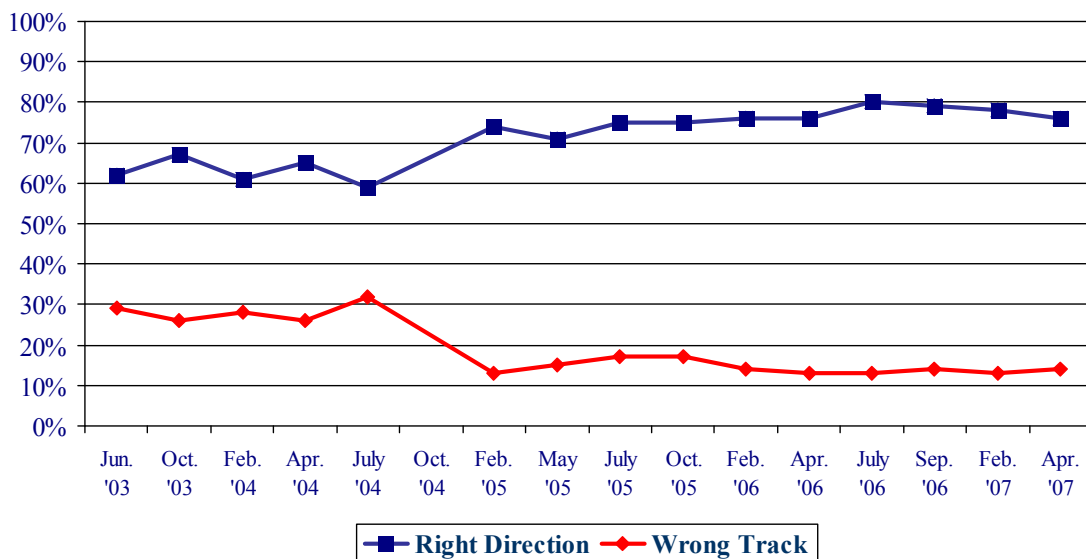
**A 4-Year Term?**

Currently, only New Hampshire and Vermont have 2-year terms for their governors. Recently, there was a proposal in the New Hampshire Legislature that would have extended a governor's term to 4 years. And while this proposal was defeated, a solid majority of New Hampshire adults, 58 percent, favor a 4-year term for governor, 32% oppose, and 9% are neutral or don't know.

**Right Direction or Wrong Track?**

Granite Staters are also extremely optimistic about the future of New Hampshire. Seventy-six percent think things in New Hampshire are generally going in the right direction, only 14 percent think things are seriously off on the wrong track, and 9 percent say they don't know. This indicator of optimism about the state has remained at very high levels over the past two years. By comparison, only 37% of New Hampshire adults believe the United States is headed in the right direction.

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



### Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll**, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. The Granite State Poll is sponsored by CNN and WMUR-TV, Manchester. Five hundred fifteen (515) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between March 27 and April 1, 2007. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to plus or minus 4.2 percent. Results reported for other subgroups have potential for somewhat larger variation than those for the entire population.

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>
<b>Apr. '07</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>(514)</b>
<b>Feb. '07</b>	77	16	6	(531)
<b>Sept. '06</b>	77	14	9	(504)
<b>July '06</b>	79	15	6	(498)
<b>Apr. '06</b>	73	21	6	(489)
<b>Feb. '06</b>	72	22	6	(491)
<b>Oct. '05</b>	71	20	9	(495)
<b>July '05</b>	61	26	12	(490)
<b>Apr. '05</b>	53	39	8	(480)
<b>Feb. '05</b>	43	51	6	(524)

### Favorability Ratings – Governor (Businessman) 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 (Hopkinton businessman) John Lynch."

	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>NET</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
<b>Apr. '07</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>+73%</b>	<b>(515)</b>
<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)

#### 4-Year Term for NH Governor?

“There has been a lot of discussion recently about changing the term of office for the governor of New Hampshire from 2 years to 4 years. Do you favor or oppose changing the length of the governor’s term of office from 2 years to 4 years?” “Is that strongly or just somewhat?”

	<u>April '07</u>
Strongly Favor	39%
Favor Somewhat	19
Neutral / Don't Know	9
Oppose Somewhat	14
Strongly Oppose	18
	<b>(515)</b>

#### 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. '07</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>(506)</b>
<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)

**Gubernatorial Approval**

<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b><u>Approve</u></b> <b>80%</b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b> <b>12%</b>	<b><u>Disapprove</u></b> <b>7%</b>	<b><u>(N)</u></b> <b>514</b>
Registered Democrat	88%	9%	3%	112
Undeclared	81%	10%	9%	205
Registered Republican	78%	10%	11%	140
Not registered	66%	32%	2%	52
Democrat	86%	11%	3%	234
Independent	78%	14%	8%	95
Republican	74%	13%	13%	174
Liberal	85%	11%	3%	100
Moderate	84%	11%	6%	249
Conservative	74%	12%	14%	137
Union household	86%	9%	4%	82
Non-union	79%	13%	8%	431
5 years or less in NH	63%	30%	7%	39
6 to 10 years	72%	22%	7%	57
11 to 20 years	81%	16%	3%	77
More than 20 years	83%	8%	9%	338
18 to 34	72%	23%	5%	69
35 to 49	76%	13%	11%	174
50 to 64	85%	8%	7%	167
65 and over	86%	10%	4%	90
Male	76%	16%	9%	247
Female	85%	9%	6%	266
High school or less	79%	17%	3%	118
Some college	78%	12%	10%	118
College graduate	79%	11%	9%	164
Post-graduate	86%	8%	6%	110
Less than \$30K	80%	16%	4%	42
\$30K to \$60K	72%	16%	12%	81
\$60K to \$75K	97%	0%	3%	46
\$75K to \$100K	90%	8%	2%	44
More than \$100K	76%	14%	10%	108
Married	82%	11%	7%	359
Divorced/separated	77%	14%	9%	82
Never married	75%	16%	8%	69
Protestant	82%	10%	8%	186
Catholic	82%	9%	9%	178
Other	76%	19%	5%	135
Attend services 1 or more/week	78%	13%	9%	133
1-2 times a month	85%	8%	7%	76
Less often	80%	10%	10%	147
Never	81%	15%	4%	150
North Country	70%	18%	12%	44
Central/Lakes	83%	9%	8%	90
Connecticut Valley	79%	17%	4%	72
Mass Border	79%	13%	8%	152
Seacoast	84%	8%	7%	85
Manchester Area	83%	10%	7%	70
1st Cong. District	83%	11%	6%	258
2nd Cong. District	78%	13%	9%	256

**Favorability Rating - John Lynch**

	<u>Favorable</u> <b>80%</b>	<u>Neutral</u> <b>9%</b>	<u>Unfavorable</u> <b>7%</b>	<u>Don't Know</u> <b>4%</b>	<u>(N)</u> <b>515</b>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>					
Registered Democrat	94%	4%	1%	1%	112
Undeclared	81%	9%	9%	1%	205
Registered Republican	75%	8%	11%	6%	141
Not registered	61%	21%	3%	15%	52
Democrat	87%	8%	2%	2%	234
Independent	79%	9%	6%	6%	95
Republican	71%	10%	14%	5%	175
Liberal	86%	9%	4%	1%	100
Moderate	85%	7%	5%	3%	249
Conservative	70%	12%	12%	6%	138
Union household	88%	6%	5%	1%	82
Non-union	79%	9%	7%	4%	432
5 years or less in NH	65%	23%	4%	8%	39
6 to 10 years	69%	9%	10%	12%	57
11 to 20 years	80%	10%	4%	7%	77
More than 20 years	84%	7%	8%	1%	339
18 to 34	71%	12%	10%	6%	69
35 to 49	75%	11%	10%	5%	174
50 to 64	85%	9%	4%	2%	168
65 and over	90%	2%	4%	4%	90
Male	78%	11%	7%	4%	247
Female	83%	7%	7%	4%	268
High school or less	81%	7%	5%	8%	118
Some college	76%	9%	10%	4%	118
College graduate	79%	12%	7%	3%	166
Post-graduate	87%	6%	6%	1%	110
Less than \$30K	75%	15%	5%	5%	42
\$30K to \$60K	83%	5%	7%	5%	81
\$60K to \$75K	94%	5%	1%	0%	46
\$75K to \$100K	92%	4%	4%	0%	44
More than \$100K	76%	10%	8%	6%	108
Married	83%	8%	6%	2%	359
Divorced/separated	80%	8%	8%	5%	84
Never married	67%	14%	9%	10%	69
Protestant	80%	11%	7%	3%	187
Catholic	81%	8%	8%	3%	178
Other	81%	8%	6%	5%	135
Attend services 1 or more/week	74%	11%	12%	4%	133
1-2 times a month	89%	1%	7%	3%	76
Less often	82%	8%	7%	3%	148
Never	80%	11%	3%	6%	150
North Country	71%	8%	14%	7%	44
Central/Lakes	83%	2%	9%	5%	90
Connecticut Valley	80%	13%	4%	3%	72
Mass Border	74%	15%	6%	5%	152
Seacoast	85%	5%	8%	2%	85
Manchester Area	90%	6%	4%	0%	71
1st Cong. District	83%	8%	6%	3%	259
2nd Cong. District	77%	10%	8%	5%	256

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

	<b><u>Right Direction</u></b> 76%	<b><u>Wrong Track</u></b> 14%	<b><u>Don't Know</u></b> 9%	<b><u>(N)</u></b> 506
<b>STATEWIDE</b>				
Registered Democrat	78%	10%	12%	110
Undeclared	80%	15%	6%	202
Registered Republican	76%	16%	8%	139
Not registered	59%	21%	20%	50
Democrat	79%	11%	10%	230
Independent	80%	13%	6%	95
Republican	72%	19%	9%	171
Liberal	77%	10%	13%	100
Moderate	81%	12%	7%	243
Conservative	67%	23%	10%	136
Union household	82%	10%	9%	81
Non-union	75%	15%	10%	424
5 years or less in NH	73%	15%	12%	39
6 to 10 years	73%	20%	7%	56
11 to 20 years	79%	13%	9%	74
More than 20 years	77%	14%	9%	335
18 to 34	86%	8%	6%	69
35 to 49	77%	18%	5%	172
50 to 64	79%	9%	12%	167
65 and over	66%	23%	11%	86
Male	73%	17%	10%	242
Female	79%	12%	9%	264
High school or less	75%	16%	9%	115
Some college	74%	17%	9%	118
College graduate	76%	11%	12%	161
Post-graduate	80%	13%	7%	108
Less than \$30K	65%	16%	19%	40
\$30K to \$60K	76%	17%	7%	79
\$60K to \$75K	82%	10%	8%	46
\$75K to \$100K	79%	13%	8%	44
More than \$100K	75%	17%	8%	108
Married	78%	14%	8%	352
Divorced/separated	71%	18%	11%	82
Never married	77%	12%	11%	69
Protestant	76%	15%	9%	186
Catholic	76%	16%	9%	173
Other	78%	12%	10%	134
Attend services 1 or more/week	72%	14%	14%	130
1-2 times a month	84%	13%	4%	73
Less often	76%	15%	9%	145
Never	77%	15%	8%	150
North Country	68%	18%	14%	44
Central/Lakes	90%	7%	3%	90
Connecticut Valley	69%	21%	9%	72
Mass Border	73%	15%	13%	148
Seacoast	81%	10%	9%	84
Manchester Area	72%	20%	8%	67
1st Cong. District	80%	12%	9%	254
2nd Cong. District	73%	17%	10%	253

**Favor / Oppose 4-Year Term for Governor**

	<b>Strongly Favor</b> <b>39%</b>	<b>Favor Somewhat</b> <b>19%</b>	<b>Neutral</b> <b>8%</b>	<b>Oppose Somewhat</b> <b>14%</b>	<b>Strongly Oppose</b> <b>18%</b>	<b>Don't Know</b> <b>1%</b>	<b>(N=)</b> <b>515</b>
<b>STATEWIDE</b>							
Registered Democrat	43%	25%	8%	10%	12%	2%	112
Undeclared	39%	17%	9%	15%	19%	1%	205
Registered Republican	42%	18%	4%	13%	23%	0%	141
Not registered	27%	17%	18%	19%	17%	2%	52
Democrat	43%	21%	11%	11%	12%	1%	234
Independent	39%	22%	7%	13%	18%	1%	95
Republican	35%	15%	5%	18%	26%	1%	175
Liberal	40%	29%	5%	13%	12%	1%	100
Moderate	43%	19%	9%	11%	17%	1%	249
Conservative	36%	13%	7%	17%	26%	0%	138
Union household	43%	17%	7%	11%	20%	1%	82
Non-union	39%	20%	9%	14%	18%	1%	432
5 years or less in NH	45%	21%	14%	14%	4%	1%	39
6 to 10 years	36%	19%	13%	22%	10%	0%	57
11 to 20 years	43%	18%	10%	10%	19%	0%	77
More than 20 years	38%	19%	7%	13%	21%	2%	339
18 to 34	24%	21%	13%	21%	20%	2%	69
35 to 49	41%	18%	9%	12%	18%	2%	174
50 to 64	45%	20%	6%	12%	16%	1%	168
65 and over	35%	21%	8%	18%	17%	0%	90
Male	39%	18%	7%	16%	20%	0%	247
Female	39%	20%	10%	12%	17%	2%	268
High school or less	35%	19%	8%	13%	24%	2%	118
Some college	38%	14%	9%	12%	25%	1%	118
College graduate	43%	21%	9%	17%	9%	1%	166
Post-graduate	41%	23%	7%	11%	17%	0%	110
Less than \$30K	34%	21%	10%	17%	18%	0%	42
\$30K to \$60K	43%	18%	4%	13%	21%	1%	81
\$60K to \$75K	46%	10%	7%	10%	26%	0%	46
\$75K to \$100K	39%	13%	7%	14%	26%	1%	44
More than \$100K	41%	23%	7%	14%	14%	0%	108
Married	40%	19%	9%	14%	17%	1%	359
Divorced/separated	40%	18%	3%	15%	22%	3%	84
Never married	32%	25%	10%	13%	20%	1%	69
Protestant	41%	15%	7%	18%	18%	1%	187
Catholic	40%	21%	6%	10%	21%	2%	178
Other	37%	23%	11%	12%	16%	0%	135
Attend services 1 or more/week	34%	21%	4%	13%	25%	2%	133
1-2 times a month	46%	10%	6%	22%	13%	3%	76
Less often	37%	20%	9%	14%	20%	0%	148
Never	43%	22%	12%	10%	13%	0%	150
North Country	43%	15%	4%	16%	20%	3%	44
Central/Lakes	44%	14%	12%	15%	12%	2%	90
Connecticut Valley	39%	19%	10%	13%	19%	1%	72
Mass Border	35%	20%	9%	12%	22%	1%	152
Seacoast	44%	22%	6%	17%	10%	1%	85
Manchester Area	34%	22%	7%	11%	25%	0%	71
1st Cong. District	40%	20%	9%	14%	16%	1%	259
2nd Cong. District	38%	18%	8%	14%	20%	1%	256