

WMUR / UNH New Hampshire Tracking Poll

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TOO CLOSE TO CALL IN NH

Durham, NH – The race for President in New Hampshire and the race for New Hampshire governor are too close to call.

These findings are based on the final 2004 WMUR / UNH New Hampshire Tracking Poll, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. This survey is sponsored by WMUR-TV Manchester and the University of New Hampshire.* Nine hundred eighty-six (986) likely New Hampshire voters were interviewed between October 28 and November 1, 2004. The potential sampling error for the survey is $\pm 3.1\%$. (For more information about the NH Election Tracking Poll, go to www.unh.edu/survey-center/track04.html)

Presidential Election

The race for New Hampshire's 4 electoral votes is too close to call. In the final WMUR / UNH New Hampshire Tracking Poll, 49 percent of likely voters say they will vote for Kerry, 48 percent will vote for Bush, 1 percent will vote for Ralph Nader or some other candidate, and 1 percent remain undecided. When undecided voters are allocated to the candidate they are most likely to support, the final prediction is 50 percent for Kerry and 49 percent for Bush.

Kerry runs strongest among Democrats and in the North Country, the Connecticut Valley, and the NH Seacoast. Bush does best among Republicans and in the Massachusetts border towns and the Manchester area. Kerry leads among swing voters by 51 percent to 42 percent.

Gubernatorial Election

The race for New Hampshire Governor is also too close to call -- 47 percent of likely voters say they will vote for Benson, 46 percent say they will vote for Lynch, 1 percent favor some other candidate, and 5 percent are still undecided. When undecided voters are allocated to the candidate they are most likely to support, Benson ends up with 50 percent of the vote, 49 percent goes to Lynch, and 1 percent to some other candidate.

Benson and Lynch do well among their partisans, and they essentially tied among swing voters. Benson does best in Massachusetts border towns and in the Manchester area. Lynch runs strongest in the Connecticut Valley, the North Country, and in the Seacoast.

U.S. Senate

Incumbent Republican Senator Judd Gregg has maintained his wide lead over Democratic challenger "Granny D" Haddock. Sixty-three percent of likely voters prefer Gregg, 27 percent prefer Granny D, 1 percent favor some other candidate and 10 percent are still undecided. When undecided voters are allocated, Gregg gets 67 percent of the vote, Granny D gets 33 percent, and 1 percent prefer some other candidate.

U.S. Congress

In the race for U.S. Representative from New Hampshire's First Congressional district incumbent Republican Jeb Bradley leads Democrat Justin Nadeau by 55 percent to 36 with 1 percent favoring some other candidate, and 9 percent still undecided. After allocation of undecided voters, Bradley receives 59 percent with 41 percent going to Nadeau.

In the Second District, incumbent Republican Charlie Bass leads Democrat Paul Hodes 55 percent to 37 percent with 8 percent undecided. After allocation of undecided voters, Bass receives 58 percent with 42 percent going to Hodes.

FINAL PROJECTIONS

<u>President</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Projection</u>	<u>Governor</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Projection</u>
Kerry	49%	50%	Benson	47%	50%
Bush	48%	49%	Lynch	46%	49%
Other	1%	1%	Other	1%	1%
Undecided	1%		Undecided	5%	
(N=)	(963)	(963)	(N=)	(957)	(957)

* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as the *WMUR / UNH New Hampshire Tracking Poll*, sponsored by WMUR-TV and the University of New Hampshire.

U.S. President - Bush vs. Kerry vs. Nader

"Now, suppose the 2004 presidential election were being held TODAY. If you had to choose between George W. Bush, the Republican ... John Kerry, the Democrat ... or Ralph Nader, the Independent, who would you vote for?" (ROTATE CANDIDATES)

	George W. Bush	John Kerry	Other/ Nader	Undecided	(N=)
October 25-27	46%	50%	1%	3%	746
October 26-28	47%	49%	1%	3%	823
October 27-29	46%	50%	1%	3%	834
October 28-30	48%	49%	2%	2%	700
October 28-31 - FINAL	48%	49%	1%	1%	963
Democrat	7	92	0	1	407
Independent	41	48	7	4	124
Republican	91	8	0	1	420
Registered Democrat	10	90	0	0	255
Undeclared	37	59	3	2	334
Registered Republican	90	9	0	1	326
Not registered	49	43	5	3	45
Core GOP	96	3	1	1	370
Swing Voter	42	51	3	4	238
Core Dem.	3	97	0	0	355
Male	51	45	2	2	458
Female	46	53	0	1	505
18 to 34	43	54	3	0	170
35 to 49	54	44	1	1	361
50 to 64	44	54	1	1	299
65 and over	47	51	0	2	119
North Country	33	66	1	0	87
Central / Lakes	49	46	3	2	161
Connecticut Valley	41	58	0	1	130
Mass Border	57	41	2	1	258
Seacoast	34	65	0	1	161
Manchester Area	61	35	1	2	165
Approve Bush as Pres.	91	7	1	1	489
Neither	59	31	5	6	16
Disapprove of Bush	2	96	1	0	451
1st Cong. District	48	49	1	1	505
2nd Cong. District	48	50	1	1	458
1st E.C. District	40	59	0	0	196
2nd E.C. District	48	49	2	2	186
3rd E.C. District	44	56	0	0	212
4th E.C. District	61	35	2	2	177
5th E.C. District	50	47	1	2	183

NH Governor: Benson vs. Lynch

"Now, suppose the 2004 gubernatorial election was being held today and the candidates were Craig Benson, the Republican and John Lynch, the Democrat. Who would you vote for ... Craig Benson or John Lynch?" (ROTATE CANDIDATES)

	<u>Craig Benson</u>	<u>John Lynch</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
October 25-27	47%	44%	1%	9%	747
October 26-28	47%	42%	1%	9%	816
October 27-29	47%	44%	1%	8%	825
October 28-30	45%	47%	2%	7%	696
October 28-31 - FINAL	47%	46%	1%	5%	957
Democrat	15	80	1	4	407
Independent	44	43	3	9	122
Republican	79	15	1	5	419
Registered Democrat	13	84	1	2	252
Undeclared	40	51	1	7	331
Registered Republican	82	13	1	4	326
Not registered	36	44	0	20	44
Core GOP	88	8	1	4	371
Swing Voter	42	45	2	11	232
Core Dem.	8	87	1	3	354
Male	51	43	1	5	452
Female	44	50	1	5	505
18 to 34	35	53	1	11	170
35 to 49	53	41	0	5	358
50 to 64	45	51	2	2	297
65 and over	51	44	0	5	119
North Country	28	60	0	12	85
Central / Lakes	44	50	2	4	163
Connecticut Valley	40	53	0	6	129
Mass Border	56	36	2	6	255
Seacoast	40	57	0	3	160
Manchester Area	59	36	0	5	166
Approve Bush as Pres.	77	16	1	6	486
Neither	35	56	0	9	17
Disapprove of Bush	16	79	1	4	450
1st Cong. District	49	44	1	6	501
2nd Cong. District	45	49	1	5	456
1st E.C. District	39	52	0	9	194
2nd E.C. District	44	54	0	2	186
3rd E.C. District	47	47	1	5	209
4th E.C. District	65	29	1	5	176
5th E.C. District	44	49	1	6	181

U.S. Senate Race: Gregg vs. Haddock

"Suppose the election for U.S. Senate were being held TODAY and the candidates were Judd Gregg, the Republican and Doris "Granny D" Haddock, the Democrat. Who would you vote for ... Judd Gregg or "Granny D" Haddock?" ROTATE CANDIDATES

	<u>Judd Gregg</u>	<u>Doris Haddock</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
October 25-27	62%	23%	1%	13%	738
October 26-28	63%	22%	1%	14%	815
October 27-29	63%	23%	1%	13%	820
October 28-30	63%	24%	1%	11%	695
October 28-31 - FINAL	63%	27%	1%	10%	957
Democrat	33	55	1	11	399
Independent	66	14	2	18	127
Republican	90	4	0	6	422
Registered Democrat	34	56	1	9	247
Undeclared	56	29	2	13	333
Registered Republican	94	3	0	2	327
Not registered	40	27	0	33	46
Core GOP	96	1	0	3	372
Swing Voter	66	14	1	18	234
Core Dem.	25	63	1	10	350
Male	65	26	1	8	454
Female	61	27	1	11	503
18 to 34	53	34	1	12	166
35 to 49	64	24	0	12	365
50 to 64	63	30	1	7	293
65 and over	73	21	0	6	119
North Country	51	31	1	16	88
Central / Lakes	64	31	0	5	160
Connecticut Valley	58	36	0	6	130
Mass Border	69	20	1	10	250
Seacoast	47	34	2	17	161
Manchester Area	78	17	0	5	168
Approve Bush as Pres.	88	5	0	6	490
Neither	67	7	0	26	17
Disapprove of Bush	35	52	1	12	445
1st Cong. District	64	24	1	11	504
2nd Cong. District	62	29	0	8	452
1st E.C. District	55	34	1	11	195
2nd E.C. District	64	28	0	7	186
3rd E.C. District	54	29	2	15	212
4th E.C. District	76	17	1	6	177
5th E.C. District	68	25	0	8	174

NH 1st Congressional District: Bradley vs. Nadeau

"Suppose the election for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY and the candidates in your district were Jeb Bradley, the Republican and Justin Nadeau (NED – O), the Democrat. Who would you vote for ... Jeb Bradley or Justin Nadeau?"
 ROTATE CANDIDATES

	<u>Jeb Bradley</u>	<u>Justin Nadeau</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
October 25-27	60%	26%	0%	14%	383
October 26-28	60%	26%	0%	14%	399
October 27-29	57%	31%	1%	12%	417
October 28-30	55%	33%	1%	11%	357
October 28-31 - FINAL	55%	36%	1%	9%	492
Democrat	17	75	0	8	197
Independent	47	27	4	22	62
Republican	90	4	0	7	230
Registered Democrat	14	75	0	11	119
Undeclared	46	41	2	11	170
Registered Republican	93	5	0	3	173
Not registered	41	29	0	30	27
Core GOP	96	1	0	3	195
Swing Voter	53	23	2	23	128
Core Dem.	8	85	0	6	169
Male	58	30	1	11	222
Female	52	40	0	8	270
18 to 34	51	35	0	13	96
35 to 49	63	27	0	10	181
50 to 64	49	44	2	5	153
65 and over	46	40	0	13	56
Northern NH	46	48	0	7	46
Central/Lakes	68	28	0	4	53
Hillsborough County	62	30	0	7	117
Seacoast	50	37	1	12	275
Approve Bush as Pres.	85	5	1	9	262
Neither	45	17	0	38	6
Disapprove of Bush	19	72	0	8	221

NH 2nd Congressional District: Bass vs. Hodes

"Suppose the election for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY and the candidates in your district were Charlie Bass, the Republican and Paul Hodes, the Democrat. Who would you vote for ... Charlie Bass or Paul Hodes?" ROTATE CANDIDATES

	<u>Charlie Bass</u>	<u>Paul Hodes</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
October 25-27	57%	30%	2%	12%	346
October 26-28	57%	31%	1%	11%	412
October 27-29	58%	32%	1%	9%	400
October 28-30	56%	35%	0%	9%	340
October 28-31 - FINAL	55%	37%	0%	8%	464
Democrat	19	74	0	7	202
Independent	57	25	0	18	65
Republican	93	3	0	4	191
Registered Democrat	18	75	0	7	129
Undeclared	46	42	0	13	161
Registered Republican	96	2	0	2	154
Not registered	57	31	0	12	18
Core GOP	96	0	0	4	177
Swing Voter	56	26	1	17	105
Core Dem.	14	80	0	6	181
Male	59	35	0	6	233
Female	51	39	0	9	230
18 to 34	39	47	0	14	73
35 to 49	61	32	0	7	178
50 to 64	53	40	0	7	141
65 and over	58	37	1	5	65
Northern NH	54	40	0	7	82
Western NH	47	42	0	11	85
Central/Lakes	54	43	0	3	100
Hillsborough County	58	33	0	9	162
Seacoast	68	24	0	8	34
Approve Bush as Pres.	84	9	0	7	228
Neither	58	20	0	23	10
Disapprove of Bush	26	67	0	7	224

NH House of Representatives: Democrat vs. Republican

"Please think about the upcoming election for your representative to the New Hampshire House of Representatives. As of today ... do you plan to vote for the Democratic or Republican candidate for the New Hampshire House of Representatives ... or do you plan to skip the election for New Hampshire House of Representatives this time?" ROTATE PARTIES

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
October 25-27	41%	40%	3%	15%	686
October 26-28	41%	39%	3%	17%	766
October 27-29	41%	40%	1%	17%	771
October 28-30	42%	40%	1%	17%	661
October 28-31 - FINAL	43%	41%	2%	15%	917
Democrat	7	82	2	10	393
Independent	24	25	5	47	107
Republican	83	5	0	11	412
Registered Democrat	5	85	2	9	244
Undeclared	28	43	2	27	309
Registered Republican	88	4	1	7	321
Not registered	31	46	4	19	38
Core GOP	90	0	1	10	365
Swing Voter	28	33	3	36	206
Core Dem.	3	88	1	8	346
Male	49	35	2	14	436
Female	38	45	1	16	481
18 to 34	41	45	1	13	154
35 to 49	47	35	1	17	346
50 to 64	39	45	2	14	288
65 and over	44	39	3	14	116
North Country	36	46	0	18	83
Central / Lakes	46	42	2	10	155
Connecticut Valley	33	51	2	14	126
Mass Border	53	29	1	16	237
Seacoast	32	53	2	13	150
Manchester Area	47	33	1	18	165
Approve Bush as Pres.	74	8	1	17	467
Neither	29	56	3	12	16
Disapprove of Bush	10	76	2	12	428
1st Cong. District	45	41	1	13	473
2nd Cong. District	41	40	2	17	443
1st E.C. District	39	46	0	15	186
2nd E.C. District	38	44	3	16	181
3rd E.C. District	45	43	1	11	203
4th E.C. District	50	32	1	17	166
5th E.C. District	44	37	2	17	172

NH Senate: Democrat vs. Republican

"Please think about the upcoming election for your representative to the New Hampshire Senate. As of today ... do you plan to vote for the Democratic or Republican candidate for the New Hampshire Senate ... or do you plan to skip the election for New Hampshire Senate this time?" ROTATE PARTIES

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
October 25-27	45%	40%	3%	12%	691
October 26-28	44%	40%	2%	14%	762
October 27-29	42%	42%	1%	15%	767
October 28-30	42%	42%	0%	16%	662
October 28-31 - FINAL	44%	42%	0%	14%	920
Democrat	7	84	0	9	394
Independent	23	33	1	43	111
Republican	85	5	0	10	410
Registered Democrat	5	90	0	5	244
Undeclared	31	42	1	26	314
Registered Republican	88	5	0	7	319
Not registered	26	50	1	22	39
Core GOP	92	1	0	7	363
Swing Voter	28	35	1	37	210
Core Dem.	3	90	0	7	347
Male	49	37	0	14	433
Female	39	47	1	14	487
18 to 34	40	43	1	15	155
35 to 49	48	37	0	15	346
50 to 64	41	48	0	10	291
65 and over	41	43	1	15	117
North Country	35	49	0	16	83
Central / Lakes	42	44	0	14	155
Connecticut Valley	36	47	1	16	126
Mass Border	52	37	1	10	241
Seacoast	31	53	0	15	153
Manchester Area	55	32	0	13	163
Approve Bush as Pres.	75	10	0	15	466
Neither	31	57	3	10	16
Disapprove of Bush	10	77	0	12	434
1st Cong. District	46	41	0	13	480
2nd Cong. District	41	44	1	14	441
1st E.C. District	39	45	0	16	186
2nd E.C. District	37	44	0	19	181
3rd E.C. District	43	45	0	12	203
4th E.C. District	56	33	0	11	167
5th E.C. District	45	43	2	10	175

Most Important Issue in Vote for President

"Of the following list, which one of these will be the single most important issue in your vote for president this year ... the U.S. campaign against terrorism ... the war in Iraq ... the economy and jobs ... education ... health care ... Medicare and prescription drugs ... Social Security ... gas and oil prices ... or something else?" ROTATE RESPONSES

	<u>Jobs</u>	<u>Iraq</u>	<u>Terror</u>	<u>Educ.</u>	<u>Health Care</u>	<u>Medicare/ Rx Drugs</u>	<u>Social Security</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>All Equal</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
October 25-27	22%	22%	21%	3%	8%	2%	2%	11%	5%	3%	758
October 26-28	20%	24%	19%	3%	9%	2%	2%	12%	6%	2%	838
October 27-29	18%	25%	20%	4%	9%	3%	3%	11%	6%	1%	846
October 28-30	18%	25%	20%	4%	9%	3%	3%	12%	6%	1%	711
October 28-31 - FINAL	18%	23%	22%	3%	9%	3%	2%	11%	6%	1%	978
Democrat	25	34	5	4	13	4	2	8	6	1	414
Independent	15	19	16	2	11	1	7	15	12	0	130
Republican	13	14	42	3	6	2	2	14	4	2	420
Registered Democrat	25	32	3	4	11	5	3	8	7	0	259
Undeclared	20	25	17	4	11	1	3	11	7	1	340
Registered Republican	13	13	45	3	6	2	1	12	4	1	323
Not registered	7	38	10	1	10	4	1	21	3	5	52
Core GOP	12	11	46	2	5	2	1	16	3	1	370
Swing Voter	16	26	13	5	12	2	5	10	9	2	248
Core Dem.	26	34	5	3	12	4	2	8	6	0	361
Bush Voter	13	15	42	2	5	2	2	14	5	2	458
Kerry Voter	24	32	4	4	14	4	3	9	6	0	475
Male	19	22	24	2	8	2	3	13	6	1	460
Female	17	24	21	5	10	3	2	10	5	1	518
18 to 34	20	26	15	9	7	1	1	15	5	2	170
35 to 49	19	23	27	3	9	1	1	11	5	1	368
50 to 64	19	23	23	2	10	2	3	10	6	2	300
65 and over	16	22	17	1	9	11	6	10	7	0	126
North Country	23	23	13	3	14	2	1	12	6	2	90
Central / Lakes	16	25	19	1	6	2	3	17	8	1	159
Connecticut Valley	15	31	14	6	10	4	3	9	7	1	133
Mass Border	19	22	29	2	8	2	1	10	4	1	262
Seacoast	18	27	16	5	9	4	2	9	8	2	166
Manchester Area	18	13	33	4	11	2	4	12	3	0	168
Approve Bush as Pres.	13	16	39	2	5	2	1	14	5	1	492
Neither	21	28	12	4	8	11	12	1	5	0	17
Disapprove of Bush	23	31	5	5	13	3	3	9	6	1	461
1st Cong. District	20	21	22	4	8	3	3	13	6	1	513
2nd Cong. District	17	26	22	3	11	3	2	9	6	1	466
1st E.C. District	18	25	14	4	12	3	3	14	5	1	199
2nd E.C. District	18	24	22	1	12	1	3	10	7	2	185
3rd E.C. District	20	24	23	4	6	4	1	11	6	0	219
4th E.C. District	17	18	34	4	6	2	5	11	4	0	177
5th E.C. District	19	24	22	4	11	3	0	10	5	2	187

Most Important Issue in Vote for Governor

"Of the following list, which one of these will be the single most important issue in your vote for New Hampshire governor this year ... education funding ... taxes ... ethics in government ... the cost of health insurance ... cuts in public services ... jobs and the economy ... health care ... or something else?" ROTATE RESPONSES

	<u>Educ.</u> <u>Funding</u>	<u>Taxes</u>	<u>Ethics</u> <u>in Govt.</u>	<u>Cost of</u> <u>Hlth Ins.</u>	<u>Cuts in</u> <u>Services</u>	<u>Jobs/</u> <u>Econ.</u>	<u>Health</u> <u>Care</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>All</u> <u>Equal</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
October 25-27	18%	28%	13%	7%	4%	15%	7%	3%	2%	3%	756
October 26-28	17%	29%	12%	7%	4%	13%	8%	4%	3%	3%	836
October 27-29	17%	29%	12%	7%	4%	14%	8%	4%	3%	2%	847
October 28-30	18%	31%	12%	5%	5%	13%	8%	4%	3%	2%	713
October 28-31 - FINAL	17%	31%	12%	6%	5%	13%	7%	4%	3%	2%	980
Democrat	22	16	16	6	10	11	9	5	3	2	414
Independent	17	35	17	4	0	10	8	3	5	0	131
Republican	12	45	6	6	3	15	5	4	2	2	420
Registered Democrat	21	15	14	4	12	13	9	4	4	3	259
Undeclared	18	28	16	6	3	10	9	5	2	1	340
Registered Republican	12	47	5	6	2	15	4	4	3	1	325
Not registered	11	31	16	8	6	7	7	4	3	7	52
Core GOP	11	48	4	6	2	16	5	5	2	1	370
Swing Voter	16	32	15	5	4	10	9	4	4	3	250
Core Dem.	23	14	17	6	10	11	9	4	3	3	360
Benson Voter	9	50	2	7	2	16	6	5	2	2	449
Lynch Voter	25	12	23	5	9	10	8	5	3	1	444
Male	17	35	10	5	5	11	6	5	4	3	463
Female	16	28	13	7	6	14	9	4	3	1	517
18 to 34	22	24	12	4	4	19	3	6	4	2	170
35 to 49	15	39	8	4	6	12	7	5	4	1	368
50 to 64	17	27	16	8	5	13	8	2	3	1	301
65 and over	15	26	13	9	9	5	12	6	2	4	126
North Country	17	18	14	9	10	18	11	0	2	2	90
Central / Lakes	13	31	14	6	5	10	5	8	6	1	162
Connecticut Valley	24	21	10	6	6	15	8	5	4	2	133
Mass Border	14	40	7	6	4	14	8	3	3	2	262
Seacoast	19	29	16	4	5	5	10	6	3	2	164
Manchester Area	16	35	13	6	6	15	4	3	2	2	168
Approve Bush as Pres.	12	45	6	5	2	14	5	4	3	2	495
Neither	21	23	11	8	11	8	13	0	5	0	17
Disapprove of Bush	22	17	17	6	8	11	9	5	3	2	459
1st Cong. District	16	33	12	6	5	12	7	4	3	2	514
2nd Cong. District	17	29	11	5	6	13	8	5	3	2	466
1st E.C. District	19	18	12	10	7	16	9	5	3	1	200
2nd E.C. District	15	28	14	4	6	12	6	7	4	3	187
3rd E.C. District	21	34	11	4	3	9	10	4	2	2	218
4th E.C. District	9	38	11	6	4	18	5	2	3	2	178
5th E.C. District	20	36	10	4	7	8	5	4	3	2	186