

THE WMUR GRANITE STATE POLL

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SURVEY CENTER

October 13, 2011

NH OPPOSED TO REPEAL OF GAY MARRIAGE

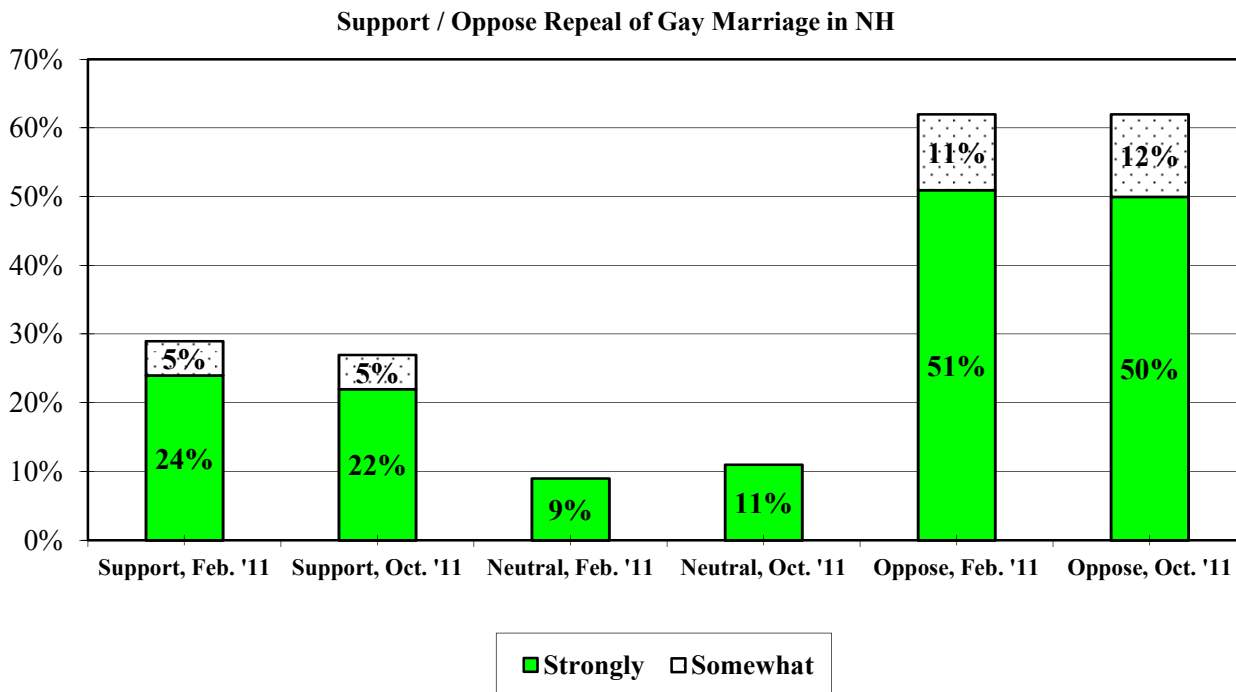
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DURHAM, NH – New Hampshire adults continue to oppose repealing the recently passed law that legalized same-sex marriage in New Hampshire. Few think legalizing gay marriage has had a major impact on New Hampshire or on their personal lives.

These findings are based on the latest **WMUR Granite State Poll**,* conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred (500) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between September 26 and October 2, 2011. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.4 percent.

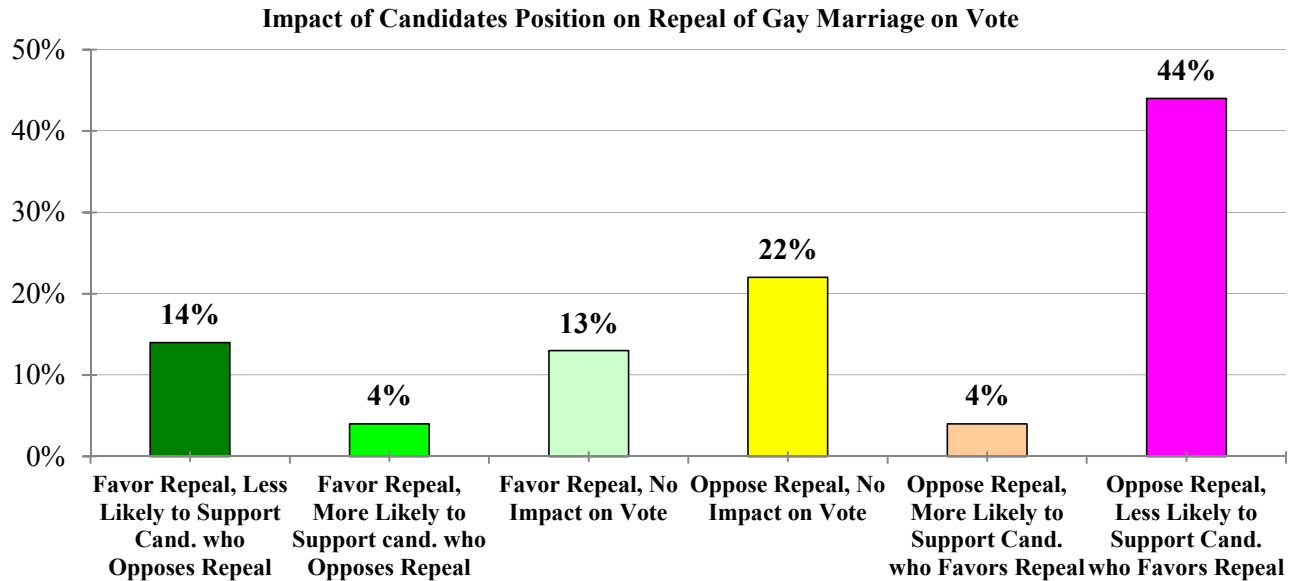
Republicans in the New Hampshire Legislature are scheduled to take up the issue of gay marriage when they reconvene in January. In June, 2009, the then Democratic legislature passed, and Governor Lynch signed, legislation that legalized marriage between gay and lesbian couples in New Hampshire. But after the Republicans retook the legislature with veto proof majorities in both Houses, legislation was introduced to repeal this law

There is strong opposition to a bill that would repeal same-sex marriage in New Hampshire – only 27% of New Hampshire adults support the repeal of the 2009 law that legalized same-sex marriage in New Hampshire (22% strongly support and 5% support somewhat), 50% strongly oppose repeal, 12% somewhat oppose repeal, and 11% are neutral or don't know. These figures are unchanged since February 2011. "Strong opponents of repealing same-sex marriage continue outnumber strong proponents by more than 2 to 1," said Andrew Smith, Director of the UNH Survey Center. "The New Hampshire public is not showing any strong desire to repeal this law."



* 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.

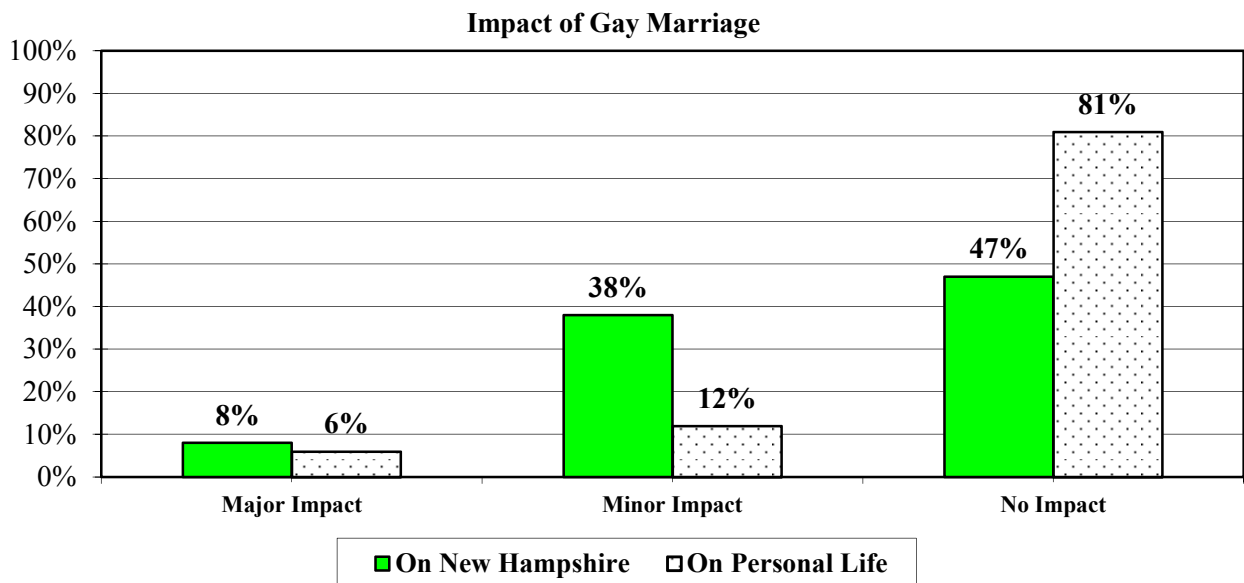
In order to better assess the political impact of support or opposition to repeal of New Hampshire's gay marriage law, supporters of repealing gay marriage were asked if they would be more or less likely to support a candidate for the state House or Senate who opposed repeal and opponents of repeal were asked if they would be more or less likely to vote for a legislative candidate who favored repeal. Opponents of repeal are far less likely than supporters of repeal to support a candidate for the Legislature who takes a position different than theirs on repeal – 44% of New Hampshire adults say they are more likely to vote against a candidate who favors repeal of gay marriage while only 14% say they will be less likely to support a candidate who opposes repeal.



Impact of Gay Marriage

Most New Hampshire adults believe that legalizing gay marriage has had no impact or only a minor impact on New Hampshire. Only 8% of Granite Staters believe that legalizing gay marriage has had a major impact on the state, 38% think it has had a minor impact, and 47% think it has had no impact on the state. Importantly, only 9% of Republicans and 11% of conservatives think it has had a major impact on the state.

When asked how legalizing gay marriage has impacted their own lives, the great majority of New Hampshire residents think it has had no impact. Only 6% think that legalizing gay marriage has had a major impact on their lives, 12% think it has had a minor impact, while 81% think it has had no impact. There are no significant demographic differences in how Granite Staters feel gay marriage has impacted their lives.



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 (500) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between September 26 and October 2, 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.

Repeal of Gay Marriage in New Hampshire

“On another topic ... As you may know, New Hampshire legalized marriage between gay and lesbian couples in 2009. Recently, there has been an effort in the State Legislature to repeal this law. Would you say you support or oppose the effort to repeal legalized gay marriage in New Hampshire?”

IF SUPPORT: “Do you strongly support this or just somewhat?”

IF OPPOSE: “Do you strongly oppose this or just somewhat?”

	<u>Feb. '11</u>	<u>Oct. '11</u>
Strongly Support	24%	22%
Somewhat Support	5%	5%
Neutral/Don't Know	9%	11%
Somewhat Oppose	11%	12%
Strongly Oppose	51%	50%
(N=)	(517)	(482)

IF SUPPORT REPEAL:

“Would you be more or less likely to vote for your state senator or representative if they voted AGAINST repealing legalized marriage between gay and lesbian couples in New Hampshire, or would it have no effect on your vote?”

	<u>Oct. '11</u>
More Likely to Support	14%
Less Likely to Support	44%
No Effect	37%
Don't Know / No Opinion	5%
(N=)	(131)

IF OPPOSE REPEAL:

“Would you be more or less likely to vote for your state senator or representative if they voted IN FAVOR of repealing legalized marriage between gay and lesbian couples in New Hampshire, or would it have no effect on your vote?”

	<u>Oct. '11</u>
More Likely to Support	6%
Less Likely to Support	63%
No Effect	29%
Don't Know / No Opinion	2%
(N=)	(296)

"What kind of impact do you think that legalizing marriage between gay and lesbian couples has had in New Hampshire ... do you think it has had a major impact on the state ... a minor impact ... or no impact at all?"

	<u>Oct. '11</u>
Major Impact	8%
Minor Impact	38%
No Impact At All	47%
Don't Know / No Opinion	7%
(N=)	(489)

"Now thinking about your personal life... do you think that legalizing marriage between gay and lesbian couples has had a major impact on YOU ... a minor impact ... or no impact at all?"

	<u>Oct. '11</u>
Major Impact	6%
Minor Impact	12%
No Impact At All	81%
Don't Know / No Opinion	1%
(N=)	(490)

Support/Oppose Repeal of NH Gay Marriage Law

	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Somewhat Support</u>	<u>Neutral / DK</u>	<u>Somewhat Oppose</u>	<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
STATEWIDE – Feb. ‘11	24%	5%	10%	11%	51%	517
STATEWIDE – Oct. ‘11	22%	5%	11%	12%	50%	482
Likely GOP Primary Voter	32%	7%	14%	10%	37%	244
Registered Democrat	8%	3%	5%	15%	68%	103
Registered Undeclared	22%	4%	9%	10%	55%	205
Registered Republican	35%	10%	16%	11%	28%	131
Democrat	6%	2%	5%	11%	76%	182
Independent	20%	5%	18%	15%	42%	91
Republican	36%	9%	14%	12%	29%	191
Liberal	4%	0%	5%	13%	78%	95
Moderate	12%	4%	11%	14%	59%	204
Conservative	42%	11%	16%	10%	21%	150
Support Tea Party	41%	10%	18%	10%	20%	143
Neutral	18%	5%	9%	13%	55%	160
Oppose Tea Party	8%	2%	4%	14%	73%	159
McCain/Palin Voter	37%	7%	17%	11%	28%	195
Obama/Biden Voter	7%	2%	4%	12%	74%	219
Other	21%	6%	22%	17%	35%	21
Did Not Vote in 2008	21%	12%	21%	12%	33%	27
Union household	18%	2%	12%	10%	58%	82
Non-union	22%	6%	11%	13%	49%	389
Read Union Leader	26%	8%	14%	10%	41%	136
Read Boston Globe	5%	7%	10%	11%	67%	64
Watch WMUR	23%	7%	11%	12%	48%	292
Listen to NHPR	15%	3%	5%	11%	66%	168
10 yrs. or less in NH	15%	6%	14%	17%	48%	80
11 to 20 years	23%	1%	10%	18%	47%	75
More than 20 years	22%	6%	10%	10%	52%	316
18 to 34	12%	3%	10%	11%	63%	40
35 to 49	14%	7%	11%	20%	48%	122
50 to 64	23%	6%	11%	8%	52%	190
65 and over	27%	2%	12%	12%	47%	113
Male	26%	5%	14%	10%	44%	236
Female	17%	6%	8%	14%	55%	246
High school or less	32%	3%	17%	13%	35%	82
Some college	23%	8%	18%	9%	42%	110
College graduate	20%	8%	8%	14%	51%	150
Post graduate	14%	3%	5%	13%	65%	130
Protestant	27%	7%	11%	11%	45%	176
Catholic	25%	5%	14%	16%	40%	141
Other	10%	3%	7%	10%	70%	139
Attend services 1 or more/week	43%	2%	14%	9%	32%	117
1 2 times a month	16%	9%	9%	12%	53%	67
Less often	14%	10%	9%	15%	51%	132
Never	11%	2%	12%	12%	64%	139
North Country	19%	6%	10%	16%	50%	38
Central / Lakes	24%	3%	10%	14%	49%	85
Connecticut Valley	16%	6%	9%	5%	63%	75
Mass Border	22%	6%	14%	13%	45%	133
Seacoast	18%	5%	10%	16%	52%	78
Manchester Area	31%	7%	10%	9%	43%	74

**More/less likely to support candidate voting AGAINST repeal
(Supporters of Gay Marriage Repeal)**

	<u>More Likely To Support</u> 14%	<u>Less Likely To Support</u> 44%	<u>No Effect</u> 37%	<u>DK</u> 5%	<u>(N)</u> 131
STATEWIDE					
Likely GOP Primary Voter	18%	46%	31%	5%	96
Registered Democrat	9%	33%	51%	8%	12
Registered Undeclared	17%	44%	34%	5%	54
Registered Republican	13%	50%	34%	3%	58
Democrat	4%	45%	45%	6%	14
Independent	2%	24%	64%	10%	23
Republican	17%	51%	28%	3%	85
Liberal	27%	12%	50%	12%	4
Moderate	8%	24%	59%	9%	33
Conservative	16%	52%	28%	4%	79
Support Tea Party	13%	51%	34%	2%	74
Neutral	21%	41%	27%	11%	37
Oppose Tea Party	7%	26%	63%	3%	15
McCain/Palin Voter	15%	52%	28%	5%	86
Obama/Biden Voter	14%	18%	62%	7%	20
Other	0%	74%	26%	0%	6
Did Not Vote in 2008	0%	20%	78%	3%	9
Union household	27%	39%	34%	0%	17
Nonunion	11%	46%	38%	6%	108
Read Union Leader	11%	53%	30%	6%	47
Read Boston Globe	13%	29%	58%	0%	8
Watch WMUR	12%	39%	44%	4%	86
Listen to NHPR	14%	41%	39%	6%	30
10 yrs. or less in NH	18%	27%	40%	15%	17
11 to 20 years	6%	54%	33%	6%	19
More than 20 years	14%	45%	38%	3%	89
18 to 34	27%	18%	47%	8%	6
35 to 49	5%	44%	44%	6%	25
50 to 64	8%	54%	33%	6%	55
65 and over	23%	34%	38%	4%	33
Male	15%	52%	31%	1%	73
Female	13%	32%	45%	10%	57
High school or less	13%	33%	52%	1%	29
Some college	3%	59%	36%	3%	34
College graduate	17%	47%	26%	10%	41
Post graduate	21%	33%	41%	5%	22
Protestant	13%	45%	38%	3%	60
Catholic	17%	49%	33%	1%	42
Other	2%	36%	45%	18%	18
Attend services 1 or more/week	16%	55%	27%	2%	52
1 2 times a month	11%	50%	39%	0%	17
Less often	12%	32%	52%	4%	32
Never	8%	36%	41%	16%	18
North Country	11%	17%	66%	6%	9
Central / Lakes	27%	37%	33%	3%	23
Connecticut Valley	10%	31%	49%	10%	17
Mass Border	12%	53%	32%	3%	36
Seacoast	17%	37%	36%	9%	17
Manchester Area	7%	58%	32%	3%	28

**More/less likely to support candidate voting FOR repeal
(Opponents of Gay Marriage Repeal)**

	<u>More Likely To Support</u> 6%	<u>Less Likely To Support</u> 63%	<u>No Effect</u> 29%	<u>DK</u> 2%	<u>(N)</u> 296
STATEWIDE					
Likely GOP Primary Voter	8%	53%	39%	0%	114
Registered Democrat	5%	77%	16%	2%	86
Registered Undeclared	2%	67%	29%	2%	132
Registered Republican	15%	36%	48%	1%	52
Democrat	5%	75%	18%	2%	159
Independent	4%	66%	27%	3%	52
Republican	9%	40%	51%	0%	78
Liberal	2%	79%	17%	2%	85
Moderate	4%	67%	29%	0%	148
Conservative	15%	30%	50%	5%	48
Support Tea Party	17%	36%	46%	0%	44
Neutral	3%	56%	40%	1%	107
Oppose Tea Party	5%	79%	14%	2%	137
McCain/Palin Voter	11%	40%	49%	0%	76
Obama/Biden Voter	4%	76%	18%	2%	190
Other	12%	9%	79%	0%	11
Did Not Vote in 2008	0%	72%	28%	0%	12
Union household	2%	67%	29%	2%	56
Non-union	6%	64%	29%	1%	236
Read Union Leader	8%	60%	31%	0%	68
Read Boston Globe	9%	67%	24%	0%	51
Watch WMUR	5%	62%	33%	0%	174
Listen to NHPR	3%	72%	23%	2%	130
10 yrs. or less in NH	6%	62%	28%	4%	52
11 to 20 years	0%	66%	33%	0%	48
More than 20 years	7%	64%	28%	1%	194
18 to 34	8%	72%	15%	5%	30
35 to 49	3%	64%	33%	0%	83
50 to 64	5%	62%	32%	1%	112
65 and over	8%	62%	27%	3%	66
Male	8%	60%	30%	2%	129
Female	4%	66%	29%	1%	167
High school or less	6%	51%	43%	0%	40
Some college	4%	59%	34%	3%	55
College graduate	8%	67%	23%	1%	96
Post graduate	3%	69%	26%	2%	101
Protestant	10%	58%	30%	2%	98
Catholic	7%	51%	42%	0%	77
Other	2%	76%	21%	2%	111
Attend services 1 or more/week	13%	53%	32%	2%	49
1 2 times a month	9%	54%	37%	0%	44
Less often	5%	65%	26%	3%	88
Never	2%	70%	28%	0%	103
North Country	9%	52%	39%	0%	24
Central / Lakes	4%	56%	37%	3%	54
Connecticut Valley	1%	81%	15%	3%	51
Mass Border	10%	62%	28%	0%	76
Seacoast	5%	59%	34%	2%	53
Manchester Area	8%	65%	27%	0%	38

Impact of Gay Marriage on New Hampshire

	<u>Major Impact</u> 8%	<u>Minor Impact</u> 38%	<u>No Impact</u> 47%	<u>DK</u> 7%	<u>(N)</u> 489
STATEWIDE					
Likely GOP Primary Voter	8%	42%	43%	7%	248
Registered Democrat	3%	35%	54%	8%	103
Registered Undeclared	8%	39%	49%	5%	209
Registered Republican	9%	43%	42%	7%	132
Democrat	3%	34%	59%	5%	182
Independent	12%	33%	44%	11%	95
Republican	9%	46%	38%	7%	193
Liberal	5%	29%	59%	7%	94
Moderate	6%	39%	48%	6%	206
Conservative	11%	44%	38%	8%	154
Support Tea Party	11%	45%	36%	8%	145
Neutral	7%	42%	45%	7%	164
Oppose Tea Party	5%	33%	58%	4%	160
McCain/Palin Voter	6%	46%	39%	9%	196
Obama/Biden Voter	6%	33%	56%	5%	220
Other	18%	26%	53%	2%	23
Did Not Vote in 2008	22%	27%	35%	15%	28
Union household	2%	36%	57%	6%	82
Non-union	9%	39%	45%	7%	395
Read Union Leader	10%	45%	36%	9%	138
Read Boston Globe	7%	29%	61%	3%	65
Watch WMUR	7%	41%	45%	7%	293
Listen to NHPR	6%	33%	58%	3%	169
10 yrs. or less in NH	3%	36%	45%	17%	82
11 to 20 years	9%	31%	55%	4%	76
More than 20 years	8%	42%	45%	5%	318
18 to 34	5%	43%	42%	11%	41
35 to 49	8%	34%	50%	8%	123
50 to 64	10%	44%	44%	2%	191
65 and over	4%	33%	51%	12%	114
Male	10%	31%	51%	8%	238
Female	6%	45%	43%	6%	251
High school or less	11%	37%	48%	4%	85
Some college	11%	37%	43%	9%	111
College graduate	6%	41%	48%	5%	151
Post graduate	4%	38%	49%	9%	130
Protestant	12%	41%	38%	9%	176
Catholic	5%	39%	48%	7%	144
Other	5%	37%	56%	2%	140
Attend services 1 or more/week	13%	41%	37%	9%	119
1 2 times a month	5%	43%	46%	5%	68
Less often	7%	42%	43%	8%	134
Never	5%	34%	58%	4%	139
North Country	12%	35%	44%	9%	38
Central / Lakes	6%	43%	48%	3%	85
Connecticut Valley	3%	34%	55%	8%	76
Mass Border	8%	35%	47%	10%	137
Seacoast	11%	38%	44%	6%	78
Manchester Area	8%	46%	42%	4%	75

Impact of Gay Marriage on personal life

	<u>Major Impact</u> 6%	<u>Minor Impact</u> 12%	<u>No Impact</u> 81%	<u>DK</u> 1%	<u>(N)</u> 490
STATEWIDE					
Likely GOP Primary Voter	7%	14%	78%	1%	248
Registered Democrat	6%	8%	86%	0%	104
Registered Undeclared	3%	11%	86%	1%	210
Registered Republican	10%	16%	72%	1%	131
Democrat	5%	8%	87%	0%	183
Independent	4%	8%	83%	5%	96
Republican	8%	16%	75%	0%	193
Liberal	10%	12%	79%	0%	95
Moderate	3%	9%	87%	1%	208
Conservative	9%	17%	72%	1%	154
Support Tea Party	9%	20%	69%	2%	145
Neutral	5%	9%	86%	0%	164
Oppose Tea Party	4%	9%	86%	0%	161
McCain/Palin Voter	7%	16%	75%	2%	197
Obama/Biden Voter	5%	9%	87%	0%	221
Other	13%	5%	82%	0%	23
Did Not Vote in 2008	4%	12%	77%	7%	28
Union household	2%	13%	85%	0%	82
Non-union	7%	12%	80%	1%	398
Read Union Leader	6%	15%	76%	2%	138
Read Boston Globe	1%	6%	94%	0%	65
Watch WMUR	5%	10%	84%	1%	294
Listen to NHPR	5%	7%	87%	1%	169
10 yrs. or less in NH	3%	7%	88%	1%	82
11 to 20 years	6%	12%	79%	3%	76
More than 20 years	6%	13%	80%	1%	320
18 to 34	9%	14%	73%	5%	41
35 to 49	3%	11%	85%	1%	123
50 to 64	8%	12%	80%	0%	191
65 and over	4%	12%	83%	1%	116
Male	7%	13%	78%	2%	239
Female	5%	12%	84%	0%	251
High school or less	4%	10%	83%	2%	85
Some college	8%	11%	79%	2%	111
College graduate	5%	14%	82%	0%	154
Post graduate	7%	12%	80%	1%	130
Protestant	6%	12%	81%	2%	178
Catholic	7%	12%	79%	1%	144
Other	4%	13%	83%	0%	140
Attend services 1 or more/week	9%	19%	70%	1%	119
1 2 times a month	1%	13%	86%	0%	68
Less often	8%	11%	80%	1%	136
Never	4%	6%	89%	1%	139
North Country	3%	12%	82%	3%	38
Central / Lakes	2%	11%	87%	0%	86
Connecticut Valley	7%	10%	80%	2%	76
Mass Border	8%	10%	80%	1%	139
Seacoast	8%	12%	80%	0%	77
Manchester Area	5%	19%	76%	0%	75