



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Easley numbers tank

Raleigh, N.C. – Suffering from a recent drumbeat of bad publicity, Mike Easley’s poll numbers have now sunk into John Edwards territory.

Only 16% of North Carolinians say they have a favorable opinion of Easley, with 59% expressing a negative opinion of him. Last month PPP found a similar percentage of voters in the state- 15%- with a positive view of Edwards, although Edwards’ negatives at 72% are still a good deal higher than Easley’s. That’s because a lot more respondents offer no opinion about Easley than Edwards.

Majorities of Democrats, Republicans, and independents all express unfavorable feelings toward Easley. His numbers are best within his own party at 22/50, followed by a 16/60 spread with independents, and a 9/70 one with GOP voters.

Interestingly Easley’s numbers are at their worst level in the Triangle, despite it being the most Democratic part of the state. It’s also the section where Easley’s recent troubles have drawn the largest amount of attention and 71% of voters there have a dim view of the former Governor.

A majority of every demographic subgroup that PPP tracks with the exception of blacks, voters under 30, and folks who live in the mountains has a negative opinion of Easley.

“There is not a state in the country that likes its politicians less than North Carolina,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “The state’s voters give their sitting officials bad marks, but it’s nothing compared to how much they dislike their former ones like Easley and Edwards.”

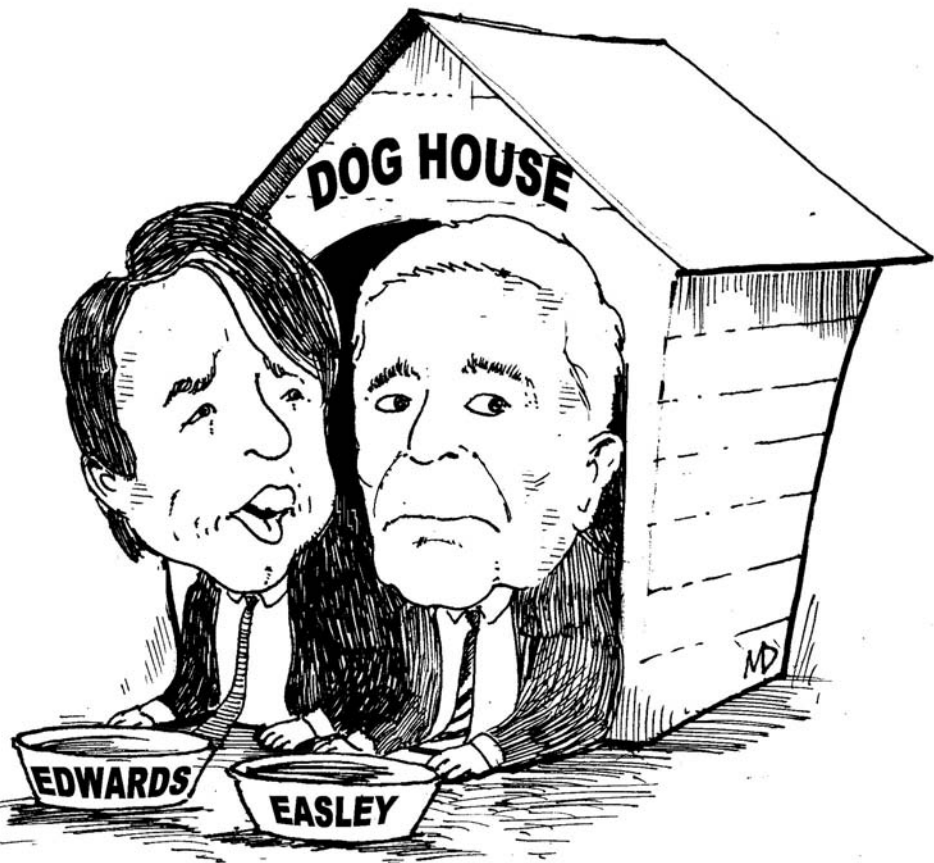
PPP surveyed 788 North Carolina voters from February 12th to 15th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.5%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

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North Carolina Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mike Easley? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable..... 16%
Unfavorable 59%
Not Sure..... 25%

Q2 Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

McCain..... 48%
Obama..... 48%
Someone else/Don't remember 4%

Q3 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 17%
Moderate..... 39%
Conservative..... 44%

Q4 Would you describe the community you live in as urban, suburban, rural, or a small town? If urban, press 1. If suburban, press 2. If rural, press 3. If a small town, press 4.

Urban..... 16%
Suburban 29%
Rural..... 27%
Small Town..... 28%

Q5 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%

Q6 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat..... 44%
Republican..... 38%
Independent/Other..... 18%

Q7 If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White 77%
African-American 20%
Other..... 3%

Q8 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

18 to 29..... 10%
30 to 45..... 25%
46 to 65..... 44%
Older than 65..... 21%

Q9

252..... 9%
336..... 21%
704..... 19%
828..... 16%
910..... 14%
919..... 21%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Easley Favorability				
Favorable	16%	9%	23%	13%
Unfavorable	59%	70%	49%	48%
Not Sure	25%	21%	28%	39%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Easley Favorability				
Favorable	16%	21%	19%	11%
Unfavorable	59%	50%	53%	68%
Not Sure	25%	29%	27%	22%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Easley Favorability					
Favorable	16%	24%	14%	12%	17%
Unfavorable	59%	55%	65%	60%	55%
Not Sure	25%	21%	22%	28%	28%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Easley Favorability			
Favorable	16%	17%	14%
Unfavorable	59%	56%	62%
Not Sure	25%	27%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Easley Favorability				
Favorable	16%	22%	9%	16%
Unfavorable	59%	50%	70%	60%
Not Sure	25%	28%	22%	25%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Easley Favorability				
Favorable	16%	14%	22%	21%
Unfavorable	59%	63%	45%	44%
Not Sure	25%	23%	33%	35%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Easley Favorability					
Favorable	16%	32%	16%	14%	12%
Unfavorable	59%	37%	55%	67%	57%
Not Sure	25%	31%	29%	19%	31%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Easley Favorability							
Favorable	16%	20%	15%	17%	18%	17%	12%
Unfavorable	59%	61%	55%	57%	48%	61%	71%
Not Sure	25%	19%	31%	26%	34%	22%	17%

