

THE CNN / WMUR GRANITE STATE POLL

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SURVEY CENTER

EDUCATION FUNDING MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM FACING NH, LYNCH APPROVAL STILL HIGH

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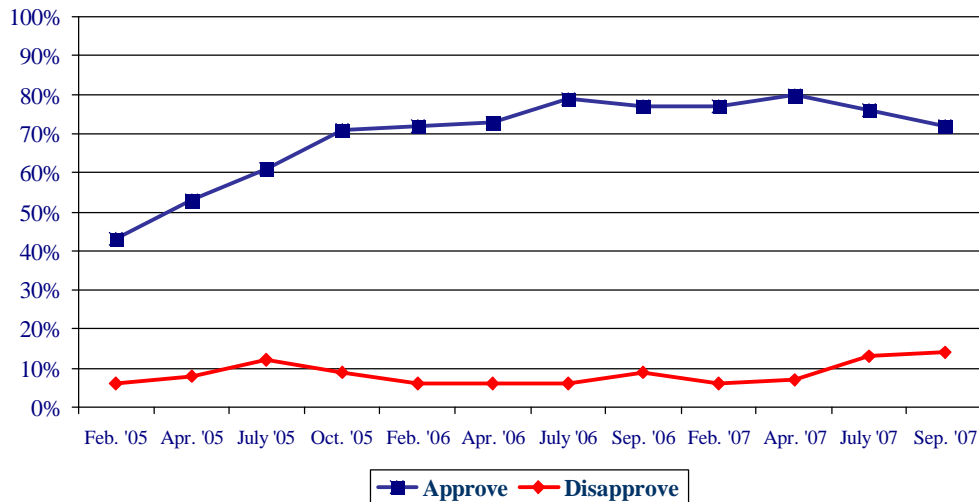
DURHAM, NH – Figuring out a way to fund the state’s education system continues to be the most important problem facing the New Hampshire. Governor John Lynch still has extremely high job approval.

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 eight (508) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between September 17 and September 24, 2007. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-4.4 percent.

Gubernatorial Approval

John Lynch’s approval rating as New Hampshire Governor have been at remarkably high levels since he first took office and they continue to stay high. In the most recent Granite State Poll, 72 percent of New Hampshire adults say they approve of the job Lynch has done as governor, 14 percent disapprove, and 14 percent are neutral. While his job approval ratings have slipped somewhat in recent months, they are still at levels which are likely to cause prospective Republican challengers in 2008 to think twice before they jump into the race.

NH Gubernatorial Approval – John Lynch

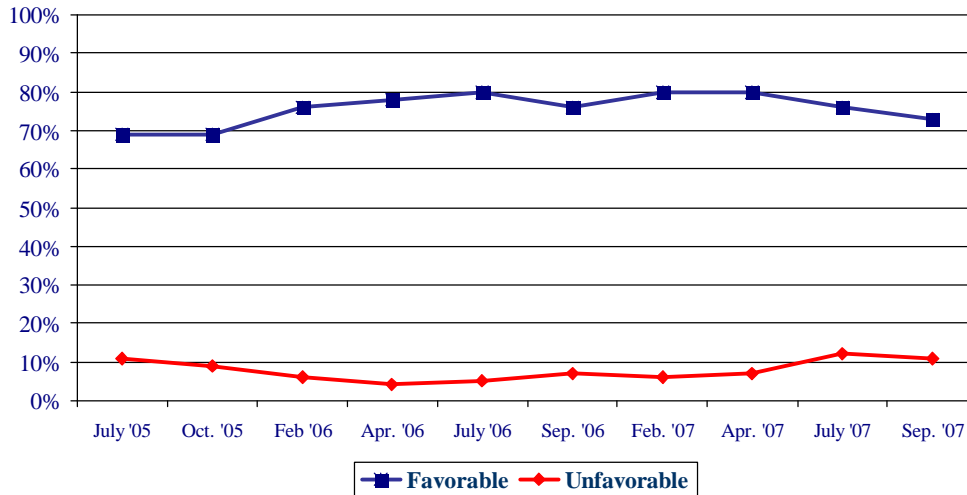


Lynch gets high job approval ratings from all political groups – 78 percent of Democrats approve of the job Lynch is doing as governor, 64 percent of Republicans approve, as do 76 percent of Independents. “Heading into 2008, Lynch is in an excellent position to win his third term as governor,” said Andrew 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, 73 percent of New Hampshire residents say they have a favorable opinion of Lynch, only 11 percent have an unfavorable opinion, 10 percent are neutral, and 6 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 +62 percent.

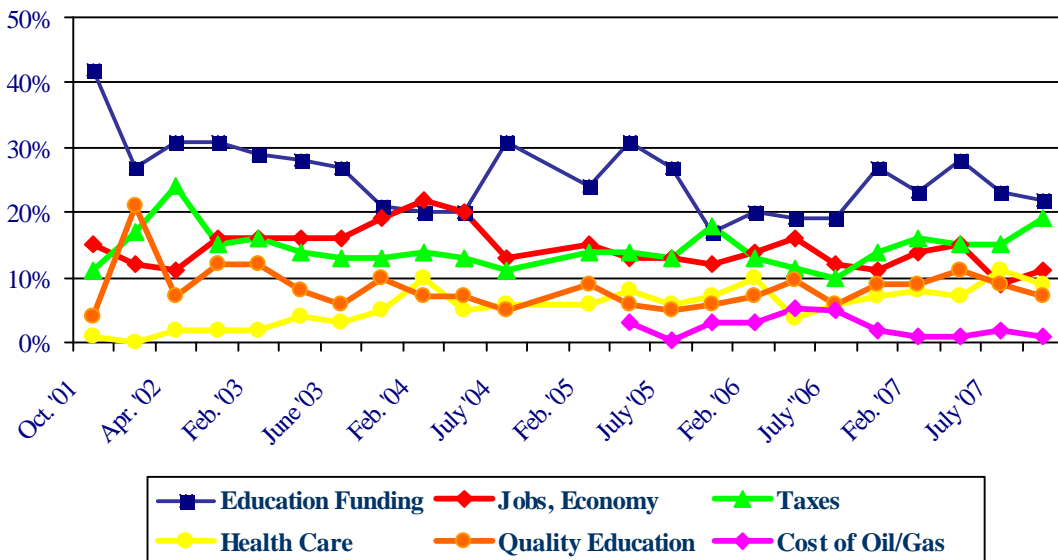
Favorability Ratings – NH Governor John Lynch



Most Important Problem Facing New Hampshire

Since 2001, New Hampshire residents have said the most important problem facing the state is how to deal with the NH Supreme Court's "Claremont" decisions. These cases require the state to provide adequate funding for primary and secondary education in the state. In the latest Granite State Poll, 22 percent of New Hampshire adults said education funding is the most important problem facing the state, followed by high taxes and desires to change the tax system (19%), jobs and the economy (11%), health care issues (9%), and the quality of education (7%).

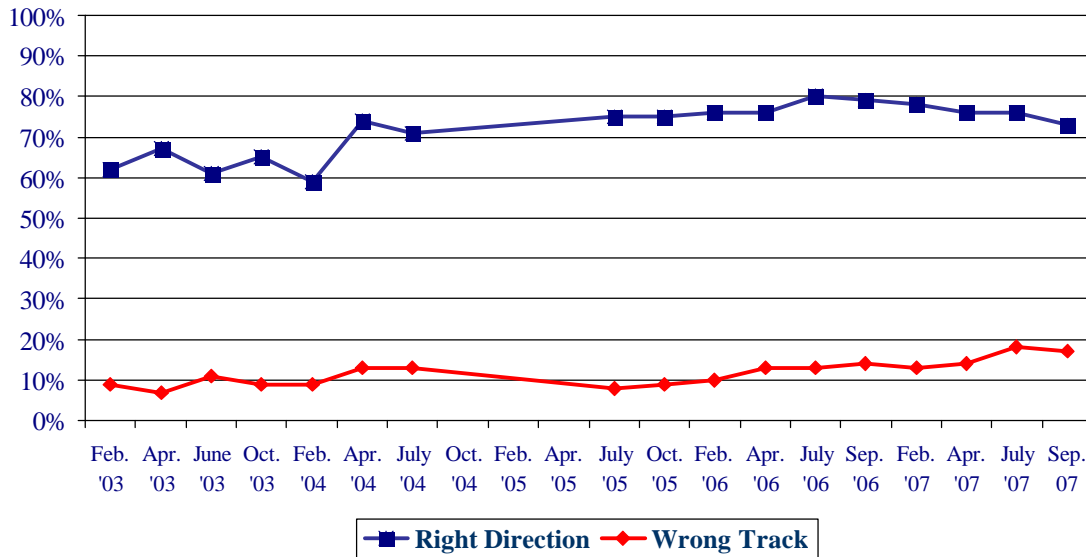
Most Important Problem Facing NH



Right Direction or Wrong Track?

Granite Staters remain very optimistic about the future of New Hampshire. Seventy-three percent think things in New Hampshire are generally going in the right direction, 17 percent think things are seriously off on the wrong track, and 10 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 30% 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 twenty-four (508) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between September 17 and September 24, 2007. 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>
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)

"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>
Sept. '07	73%	10%	11%	6%	+62%	(506)
July '07	76	8	12	5	+64%	(505)
Apr. '07	80	9	7	4	+73%	(515)
Feb. '07	80	9	6	5	+74%	(536)
Sept. '06	76	11	7	5	+69%	(511)
July '06	80	8	5	7	+75%	(505)
Apr. '06	78	10	4	8	+74%	(503)
Feb. '06	76	12	6	6	+70%	(499)
Oct. '05	69	13	9	8	+60%	(508)
July '05	69	9	11	11	+58%	(500)
Oct. '04	34	13	12	40	+22%	(573)
July '04	17	8	6	69	+11%	(508)
Feb. '04	7	9	6	77	+1%	(509)

Most Important Problem Facing New Hampshire

"Let's turn to the State of New Hampshire ... There are many problems facing the STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE today. In general, what do you think is the most IMPORTANT problem facing the STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE today?"

	<u>Jobs, the Economy</u>	<u>Education Funding</u>	<u>Taxes</u>	<u>Health Care</u>	<u>Quality Educ.</u>	<u>Growth/Sprawl</u>	<u>State Budget</u>	<u>Cost of Gas/Oil</u>	<u>Other/DK</u>	<u>(N=)</u>
Sept. '07	11%	22%	19%	9%	7%	1%	2%	1%	28%	(499)
July '07	9	23	15	11	9	2	1	2	29	(488)
Apr. '07	15	28	15	7	11	2	1	1	20	(501)
Feb. '07	14	23	16	8	9	2	1	1	26	(527)
Sept. '06	11	27	14	7	9	3	2	2	26	(499)
July '06	12	19	10	6	6	3	1	5	38	(490)
Apr. '06	16	19	11	4	10	3	2	5	30	(501)
Feb. '06	14	20	13	10	7	3	1	3	29	(498)
Oct. '05	12	17	18	7	6	5	2	3	30	(503)
July '05	13	27	13	6	5	4	2	*	28	(496)
Apr. '05	13	31	14	8	6	3	5	3	18	(487)
Feb. '05	15	24	14	6	9	2	2	*	28	(541)
July '04	13	31	11	6	5	4	2	0	28	(504)
Apr. '04	20	20	13	5	7	3	4	0	29	(536)
Feb. '04	22	20	14	10	7	2	5	0	21	(502)
Oct. '03	19	21	13	5	10	3	6	0	23	(490)
June '03	16	27	13	3	6	1	9	0	25	(513)
Apr. '03	16	28	14	4	8	2	6	0	22	(497)
Feb. '03	16	29	16	2	12	2	2	0	21	(644)
June '02	16	31	15	2	12	1	5	0	18	(424)
Apr. '02	11	31	24	2	7	2	1	0	22	(684)
Feb. '02	12	27	17	0	21	1	3	0	19	(312)
Oct. '01	15	42	11	1	4	2	*	0	25	(519)

* Less than 1%

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>
Sept. '07	73%	17%	10%	(507)
July '07	76	18	6	(500)
Apr. '07	76	14	9	(506)
Feb. '07	78	13	8	(524)
Sept. '06	79	14	7	(509)
July '06	80	13	8	(497)
Apr. '06	76	13	11	(501)
Feb. '06	76	14	10	(495)
Oct. '05	75	17	9	(502)
July '05	75	17	8	(494)
July '04	71	15	13	(488)
Apr. '04	74	13	13	(535)
Feb. '04	59	32	9	(503)
Oct. '03	65	26	9	(530)
June '03	61	28	11	(500)
Apr. '03	67	26	7	(485)
Feb. '03	62	29	9	(510)

Gubernatorial Approval

STATEWIDE	<u>Approve</u> 72%	<u>Neutral</u> 14%	<u>Disapprove</u> 14%	<u>(N)</u> 501
Registered Democrat	86%	9%	5%	128
Undeclared	75%	11%	13%	176
Registered Republican	59%	15%	26%	113
Not registered	60%	26%	14%	79
Democrat	78%	15%	7%	232
Independent	76%	15%	9%	79
Republican	64%	11%	25%	175
Liberal	78%	18%	4%	120
Moderate	81%	12%	7%	195
Conservative	56%	10%	34%	149
Union household	73%	14%	13%	74
Non-union	72%	14%	14%	425
5 years or less in NH	64%	28%	8%	56
6 to 10 years	70%	19%	11%	48
11 to 20 years	71%	15%	14%	76
More than 20 years	73%	11%	16%	308
18 to 34	74%	21%	5%	68
35 to 49	69%	12%	19%	133
50 to 64	70%	18%	12%	191
65 and over	74%	5%	21%	90
Male	69%	16%	15%	242
Female	75%	12%	13%	259
High school or less	61%	16%	23%	119
Some college	64%	19%	17%	123
College graduate	81%	11%	8%	152
Post-graduate	80%	9%	11%	100
Less than \$30K	65%	17%	18%	45
\$30K to \$60K	69%	14%	17%	74
\$60K to \$75K	68%	15%	17%	46
\$75K to \$100K	79%	10%	10%	76
More than \$100K	70%	14%	16%	101
Married	73%	13%	14%	355
Divorced/separated	67%	11%	22%	90
Never married	75%	23%	2%	52
Protestant	71%	10%	18%	173
Catholic	70%	14%	15%	162
Other	73%	20%	7%	132
Attend services 1 or more/week	68%	9%	24%	134
1-2 times a month	75%	15%	9%	52
Less often	75%	10%	15%	113
Never	71%	21%	8%	172
North Country	67%	18%	15%	42
Central/Lakes	73%	10%	17%	83
Connecticut Valley	68%	19%	12%	79
Mass Border	70%	20%	10%	144
Seacoast	83%	5%	11%	82
Manchester Area	70%	7%	24%	70
1st Cong. District	76%	9%	15%	227
2nd Cong. District	69%	17%	13%	274

Favorability Rating - John Lynch

STATEWIDE	<u>Favorable</u> 73%	<u>Neutral</u> 10%	<u>Unfavorable</u> 11%	<u>Don't Know</u> 6%	<u>(N)</u> 506
Registered Democrat	86%	7%	4%	2%	130
Undeclared	76%	8%	12%	4%	177
Registered Republican	60%	11%	22%	7%	114
Not registered	58%	18%	8%	17%	81
Democrat	82%	9%	4%	4%	236
Independent	74%	5%	13%	8%	79
Republican	60%	14%	20%	6%	176
Liberal	77%	10%	2%	10%	123
Moderate	82%	8%	7%	3%	195
Conservative	57%	12%	26%	5%	151
Union household	80%	7%	12%	0%	73
Non-union	71%	10%	11%	7%	432
5 years or less in NH	59%	21%	4%	16%	58
6 to 10 years	72%	11%	6%	10%	48
11 to 20 years	77%	6%	11%	6%	75
More than 20 years	73%	9%	14%	4%	311
18 to 34	71%	10%	5%	13%	71
35 to 49	71%	11%	14%	4%	133
50 to 64	73%	10%	10%	7%	190
65 and over	69%	10%	18%	4%	92
Male	66%	13%	13%	8%	245
Female	78%	7%	10%	5%	261
High school or less	64%	9%	19%	8%	120
Some college	64%	15%	12%	9%	123
College graduate	82%	8%	7%	3%	154
Post-graduate	77%	8%	10%	6%	102
Less than \$30K	68%	8%	17%	8%	45
\$30K to \$60K	73%	10%	14%	3%	74
\$60K to \$75K	64%	20%	12%	4%	49
\$75K to \$100K	77%	10%	9%	4%	74
More than \$100K	78%	6%	11%	5%	101
Married	74%	11%	11%	5%	357
Divorced/separated	70%	7%	19%	3%	90
Never married	69%	10%	3%	19%	55
Protestant	70%	8%	14%	7%	175
Catholic	71%	9%	13%	6%	163
Other	73%	16%	5%	6%	135
Attend services 1 or more/week	70%	11%	16%	3%	136
1-2 times a month	74%	6%	9%	11%	54
Less often	74%	8%	12%	6%	113
Never	72%	13%	7%	8%	174
North Country	66%	21%	13%	0%	42
Central/Lakes	73%	9%	15%	3%	83
Connecticut Valley	72%	8%	6%	14%	79
Mass Border	70%	15%	7%	8%	146
Seacoast	82%	4%	10%	4%	86
Manchester Area	70%	5%	22%	3%	70
1st Cong. District	76%	7%	13%	4%	230
2nd Cong. District	70%	12%	10%	8%	276

Are Things in NH on Right/Wrong Track

	<u>Right</u> <u>Direction</u> 73%	<u>Wrong</u> <u>Track</u> 17%	<u>Don't</u> <u>Know</u> 10%	<u>(N)</u> 507
STATEWIDE				
Registered Democrat	82%	14%	4%	129
Undeclared	74%	16%	10%	178
Registered Republican	60%	29%	11%	114
Not registered	76%	7%	17%	82
Democrat	81%	12%	7%	236
Independent	60%	17%	23%	79
Republican	68%	24%	8%	178
Liberal	77%	16%	7%	123
Moderate	85%	8%	7%	196
Conservative	56%	32%	12%	151
Union household	78%	18%	3%	74
Non-union	72%	17%	11%	431
5 years or less in NH	77%	9%	14%	58
6 to 10 years	80%	15%	5%	48
11 to 20 years	77%	13%	10%	76
More than 20 years	70%	20%	10%	312
18 to 34	77%	10%	13%	71
35 to 49	75%	16%	10%	133
50 to 64	67%	22%	11%	191
65 and over	76%	17%	7%	92
Male	74%	16%	10%	245
Female	73%	17%	10%	262
High school or less	67%	24%	8%	120
Some college	71%	15%	14%	125
College graduate	77%	14%	9%	154
Post-graduate	78%	16%	6%	102
Less than \$30K	66%	24%	10%	45
\$30K to \$60K	73%	19%	9%	73
\$60K to \$75K	77%	16%	8%	49
\$75K to \$100K	80%	13%	7%	76
More than \$100K	75%	15%	10%	101
Married	73%	16%	11%	358
Divorced/separated	69%	26%	5%	90
Never married	82%	8%	10%	54
Protestant	67%	23%	10%	175
Catholic	75%	15%	9%	164
Other	77%	12%	12%	135
Attend services 1 or more/week	64%	25%	11%	136
1-2 times a month	81%	11%	8%	54
Less often	77%	15%	8%	114
Never	75%	14%	11%	174
North Country	69%	18%	14%	42
Central/Lakes	74%	16%	10%	83
Connecticut Valley	64%	20%	16%	79
Mass Border	71%	21%	8%	147
Seacoast	89%	4%	7%	86
Manchester Area	73%	21%	5%	70
1st Cong. District	77%	15%	8%	230
2nd Cong. District	70%	19%	11%	277

Most Important Problem Facing NH

	<u>Educ Funding</u> 22%	<u>Taxes</u> 19%	<u>Jobs/ Economy</u> 11%	<u>Quality Educ.</u> 7%	<u>Health Care</u> 9%	<u>Other</u> 24%	<u>Don't Know</u> 8%	<u>(N=)</u> 499
STATEWIDE								
Registered Democrat	24%	20%	8%	6%	14%	20%	8%	129
Undeclared	21%	17%	13%	9%	12%	25%	3%	175
Registered Republican	24%	22%	12%	3%	1%	33%	5%	113
Not registered	19%	16%	12%	13%	5%	13%	22%	77
Democrat	25%	18%	11%	8%	13%	18%	8%	232
Independent	20%	18%	11%	9%	10%	24%	8%	80
Republican	21%	21%	10%	6%	3%	32%	7%	175
Liberal	27%	22%	8%	7%	11%	18%	7%	120
Moderate	22%	16%	13%	12%	13%	19%	6%	194
Conservative	20%	19%	11%	3%	4%	33%	10%	149
Union household	27%	19%	5%	9%	12%	24%	5%	74
Non-union	22%	19%	12%	7%	8%	24%	8%	423
5 years or less in NH	8%	19%	11%	5%	8%	22%	26%	55
6 to 10 years	23%	9%	13%	14%	6%	29%	6%	48
11 to 20 years	30%	22%	7%	10%	3%	17%	10%	76
More than 20 years	23%	19%	11%	6%	11%	25%	5%	307
18 to 34	23%	14%	6%	11%	3%	21%	22%	71
35 to 49	25%	15%	15%	8%	14%	15%	8%	130
50 to 64	20%	24%	10%	7%	8%	28%	3%	190
65 and over	21%	17%	9%	5%	8%	31%	8%	88
Male	22%	20%	11%	6%	4%	29%	9%	244
Female	23%	17%	11%	9%	14%	19%	7%	255
High school or less	18%	20%	14%	3%	9%	26%	9%	117
Some college	17%	18%	12%	9%	11%	23%	10%	125
College graduate	26%	18%	8%	10%	8%	23%	7%	152
Post-graduate	29%	19%	9%	7%	8%	23%	5%	98
Less than \$30K	13%	4%	13%	8%	20%	36%	5%	43
\$30K to \$60K	23%	15%	15%	5%	12%	23%	9%	72
\$60K to \$75K	14%	33%	11%	13%	1%	21%	8%	49
\$75K to \$100K	23%	23%	8%	3%	9%	27%	8%	76
More than \$100K	23%	21%	11%	12%	5%	19%	8%	98
Married	25%	23%	10%	8%	7%	21%	7%	353
Divorced/separated	15%	11%	15%	3%	16%	36%	5%	87
Never married	20%	7%	14%	10%	9%	22%	18%	55
Protestant	22%	20%	7%	8%	9%	26%	7%	170
Catholic	19%	21%	15%	5%	9%	20%	10%	164
Other	25%	14%	12%	8%	10%	24%	7%	132
Attend services 1 or more/week	23%	18%	12%	6%	8%	22%	10%	136
1-2 times a month	24%	22%	10%	14%	9%	15%	6%	51
Less often	20%	19%	10%	7%	8%	28%	7%	113
Never	22%	19%	11%	6%	11%	23%	8%	169
North Country	7%	12%	19%	11%	13%	35%	4%	42
Central/Lakes	30%	23%	6%	6%	10%	19%	6%	82
Connecticut Valley	19%	27%	8%	5%	12%	19%	9%	79
Mass Border	27%	16%	12%	5%	4%	25%	13%	147
Seacoast	22%	16%	10%	14%	10%	24%	4%	82
Manchester Area	17%	18%	14%	7%	11%	28%	6%	67
1st Cong. District	21%	17%	13%	9%	8%	28%	4%	223
2nd Cong. District	23%	20%	9%	6%	9%	21%	11%	276