

# TENNESSEE POLL SPRING 2016

PRINCETON SURVEY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES INTERNATIONAL FOR  
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

TOPLINE RESULTS  
MAY 12, 2016

Total N=1,001 Tennessee registered voters<sup>1</sup>

Margins of Error:  $\pm 4.2$  percentage points for results based on all Registered Voters [N=1,001]

Interviewing dates: April 25-May 11, 2016

Interview language: English only

Form split: approx. 50%/50%

## LANDLINE INTRO:

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University. May I please speak with [INSERT NAME FROM SAMPLE]? [ACCEPT ONLY THE NAMED RESPONDENT – NO REPLACEMENTS]

ONCE TARGET RESPONDENT IS ON THE PHONE:

[IF RESPONDENT DID NOT ANSWER PHONE, REPEAT: Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University.]

We are conducting an opinion poll of Tennessee voters on local and national issues and would like to include your opinions. You have been randomly selected to participate. Your answers will be kept completely confidential. [READ IF NECESSARY: This is not a sales call – we are only interested in your opinions.]

LANDLINE SCREENING INTERVIEW:

LLCELL. First I have to ask... Did I reach you on a cell phone?

[READ IF LLCELL=YES, CELL PHONE:] If you are now driving a car or doing any activity requiring your full attention, I need to call you back later.

[GO TO MAIN SCREENING INTERVIEW]

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<sup>1</sup> Beginning in May 2015, polls used sample from the list of registered voters in Tennessee. All previous polls used RDD methodology with landline and cell phone samples.

**CELL PHONE INTRO:**

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University. May I please speak with [INSERT NAME FROM SAMPLE]? [ACCEPT ONLY THE NAMED RESPONDENT – NO REPLACEMENTS]

[VOICEMAIL MESSAGE: LEAVE ONLY ONCE – THE FIRST TIME A CALL GOES TO VOICEMAIL:] Hello, I am calling for Vanderbilt University. We are conducting an opinion poll of Tennessee voters on local and national issues. This is NOT a sales call. I am sorry we missed you today and we will try to reach you again. [SCHEDULE CALLBACK]

ONCE TARGET RESPONDENT IS ON THE PHONE:

[IF RESPONDENT DID NOT ANSWER PHONE, REPEAT: Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University.]

We are conducting an opinion poll of Tennessee voters on local and national issues and would like to include your opinions. You have been randomly selected to participate. Your answers will be kept completely confidential. [READ IF NECESSARY: This is not a sales call – we are only interested in your opinions.]

[IF R SAYS DRIVING/UNABLE TO TAKE CALL:] Thank you. We will try you another time...

CELL PHONE SCREENING INTERVIEW:

CPCELL. First I have to ask... Did I reach you on a cell phone?

[READ IF CPCELL=YES, CELL PHONE:] If you are now driving a car or doing any activity requiring your full attention, I need to call you back later.

[GO TO MAIN SCREENING INTERVIEW]

**MAIN SCREENING INTERVIEW (LANDLINE AND CELL)**

[READ TO ALL:] To begin, I need to ask you a few questions to make sure that you qualify for the survey.

RSTATE. Do you currently live in Tennessee? [CONTINUE IF RESPOND 'YES']

RCOUNTY. And in what county do you live? [CONTINUE IF VALID TN COUNTY GIVEN]

READ IF NECESSARY: This question helps us to accurately determine what part of the state people who complete the survey live in and is used only for classification purposes. You cannot be contacted based on this information.

RZIPCODE. Could you please tell me your zip code? [ENTER 5-DIGIT ZIP AND CONTINUE]

[IF DK/REFUSED, PROBE ONCE:] This question helps us to accurately determine what part of the state people who complete the survey live in and is used only for classification purposes. You cannot be contacted based on this information. Can you please tell me your zip code?

REGIST. These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far? [CONTINUE IF RESPOND 'YES, REGISTERED']

**TREND INFORMATION**

November 2015 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “Tennessee Poll Fall 2015” conducted November 11-23, 2015 among 1,013 registered voters in Tennessee, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

May 2015 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “Tennessee Poll Spring 2015” conducted April 23 - May 9, 2015 among 1,001 registered voters in Tennessee, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

November 2014 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “Tennessee Poll Fall 2014” conducted November 10-20, 2014 among 1,201 Tennessee adults age 18+, including 989 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

May 2014 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “Tennessee Poll Spring 2014” conducted April 28 – May 14, 2014 among 1,505 Tennessee adults age 18+, including 1,245 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

December 2013 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “Tennessee Legislature Poll” conducted November 20-December 5, 2013 among 1,002 Tennessee adults age 18+, including 860 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

May 2013 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “End of Legislative Session 2013 Poll” conducted May 6-13, 2013 among 1,000 Tennessee adults age 18+, including 863 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

December 2012 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “Tennessee Looks to 2013 Poll” conducted November 27 – December 9, 2012 among 1,001 Tennessee adults age 18+, including 893 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

May 2012 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “2012 Tennessee Legislature Poll” conducted May 2-9, 2012 among 1,002 Tennessee adults age 18+, including 826 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

February 2012 trends are from the Vanderbilt University “2012 Tennessee Presidential Primaries Survey” conducted February 16-22, 2012 among 1,508 registered voters in Tennessee, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

*Notes: Because percentages are rounded, they may not total 100%.*

*An asterisk (\*) indicates less than 0.5%.*

*Trends are based on all Registered voters unless otherwise indicated.*

**MAIN INTERVIEW**

Q1. I'd like your views on some government organizations and elected officials. As I read each, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job. (First,) Do you approve or disapprove of [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]?<sup>2</sup>

	APPROVE	DIS- APPROVE	(VOL.) NEED TO WAIT AND SEE / TOO EARLY TO TELL	(VOL.) DK <sup>3</sup>	(VOL.) REF <sup>4</sup>
a. The job Barack Obama is doing as President					
May 2016 RVs	41	56	1	2	*
November 2015 RVs	36	62	*	1	1
May 2015 RVs <sup>5</sup>	35	60	*	4	*
November 2014 RVs	34	63	*	3	1
May 2014 RVs	39	57	1	3	1
December 2013 RVs	28	69	1	2	*
May 2013 RVs	40	56	1	3	1
December 2012 RVs	45	51	1	2	1
May 2012 RVs	42	55	*	2	1
February 2012 RVs	41	53	1	4	2
b. The job the U.S. Congress is doing					
May 2016 RVs	22	72	1	5	1
November 2015 RVs	23	72	1	3	1
May 2015 RVs	23	70	1	5	1
November 2014 RVs	23	70	1	5	1
May 2014 RVs	22	69	1	7	1
December 2013 RVs	17	78	1	3	0
May 2013 RVs	21	71	1	6	2
December 2012 RVs	21	68	2	8	1
May 2012 RVs	27	66	1	5	1

**Q1 continued...**

<sup>2</sup> February 2012 question wording was slightly different: "I'd like your views on some government officials. As I read each, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job. (First,) Do you approve or disapprove of [INSERT ITEMS IN ORDER]?"

<sup>3</sup> The abbreviation DK stands for "Don't know"

<sup>4</sup> The abbreviation REF stands for "Refused"

<sup>5</sup> The abbreviation RVs stands for "Registered voters"

## Q1 continued...

	APPROVE	DIS- APPROVE	(VOL.) NEED TO WAIT AND SEE / TOO EARLY TO TELL	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
c. The job the Tennessee State Legislature is doing					
May 2016 RVs	52	36	2	10	1
November 2015 RVs	54	31	3	10	1
May 2015 RVs	55	30	2	12	1
November 2014 RVs	55	34	1	10	1
May 2014 RVs	49	34	2	13	2
December 2013 RVs	53	32	6	9	1
May 2013 RVs	51	30	4	14	1
December 2012 RVs	53	28	3	15	1
May 2012 RVs	51	33	1	14	1
February 2012 RVs	49	33	2	15	2
d. The job Bill Haslam is doing as Governor					
May 2016 RVs	63	28	2	6	1
November 2015 RVs	65	25	3	6	1
May 2015 RVs	67	21	2	10	*
November 2014 RVs	70	23	1	5	1
May 2014 RVs	58	31	2	9	2
December 2013 RVs	61	27	4	7	1
May 2013 RVs	63	23	2	11	1
December 2012 RVs	68	19	2	9	1
May 2012 RVs	64	22	2	10	1
February 2012 RVs	61	21	3	13	1
e. The job Lamar Alexander is doing as U.S. Senator					
May 2016 RVs	48	33	2	15	1
November 2015 RVs	52	33	3	11	1
May 2015 RVs	49	36	3	12	1
November 2014 RVs	51	34	1	12	2
May 2014 RVs	49	33	2	14	1
December 2013 RVs	49	35	5	11	1
May 2013 RVs	53	28	1	15	2
December 2012 RVs	55	24	2	18	1
May 2012 RVs	56	26	2	14	1

Q1 continued...

## Q1 continued...

	APPROVE	DIS- APPROVE	(VOL.) NEED TO WAIT AND SEE / TOO EARLY TO TELL	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
f. The job Bob Corker is doing as U.S. Senator					
May 2016 RVs	48	35	2	15	1
November 2015 RVs	51	34	3	11	1
May 2015 RVs	53	32	2	13	1
November 2014 RVs	52	31	2	13	2
May 2014 RVs	49	32	3	15	1
December 2013 RVs	52	33	5	9	*
May 2013 RVs	55	30	1	13	1
December 2012 RVs	59	23	2	14	1
May 2012 RVs	52	31	1	16	1

Q2. Which of the following do you think should be the TOP priority of the Tennessee state government? [RANDOMIZE: (Health care), (Guns), (Immigration), (The economy, including jobs), (Education), (The gap between the rich and everyone else)] or something else?<sup>6</sup>

	ECON- OMY	EDUCA- TION	HEALTH CARE	IMMI- GRATION	GAP	GUNS	SOCIAL ISSUES	OTHER (SPECIFY)	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
May 2016 RVs	31	29	18	8	7	3	n/a	5	*	*
Nov 2015 RVs	31	24	17	13	5	3	n/a	5	1	*
May 2015 RVs	44	24	19	7	n/a	3	n/a	2	1	*
Nov 2014 RVs	40	27	20	6	n/a	2	n/a	4	*	1
May 2014 RVs	48	27	18	3	n/a	1	n/a	2	1	*
Dec 2013 RVs	48	28	17	2	n/a	2	n/a	2	1	*
May 2013 RVs	50	18	15	6	n/a	3	4	4	1	*
Dec 2012 RVs	60	18	10	4	n/a	1	4	1	1	*
May 2012 RVs	60	21	12	4	n/a	*	n/a	1	*	1

<sup>6</sup> "The gap between the rich and everyone else" was a new category introduced in the November 2015 poll. May 2013 trend was asked of a random half sample [N=506, including N=437 RVs]. "Social issues like abortion and gay rights" was a category offered in the May 2013 and December 2012 polls.

- Q3. Which of the following do you think should be the SECOND highest priority of the Tennessee state government? [RANDOMIZE IN SAME ORDER AS PREVIOUS QUESTION AND EXCLUDE RESPONSE GIVEN IN PREVIOUS QUESTION IF CODES 1-6: (Health care), (Guns), (Immigration), (The economy, including jobs), (Education), (The gap between the rich and everyone else)] or something else?<sup>7</sup>

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO SELECTED A TOP PRIORITY IN THE PREVIOUS QUESTION

	ECON- OMY	EDUCA- TION	HEALTH CARE	IMMI- GRATION	GAP	GUN	SOCIAL ISSUES	OTHER (SPECIFY)	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
May 2016 RVs [N=992]	30	24	17	11	8	6	n/a	3	1	*
Nov 2015 RVs [N=985]	30	23	19	11	6	5	n/a	4	1	*
May 2015 RVs [N=989]	27	31	22	13	n/a	4	n/a	2	1	*
Nov 2014 RVs [N=977]	31	28	26	9	n/a	3	n/a	2	1	*
May 2014 RVs [N=1,232]	28	29	27	7	n/a	4	n/a	3	2	*
Dec 2013 RVs [N=853]	32	29	23	7	n/a	4	n/a	4	1	0
Dec 2012 RVs [N=883]	25	30	28	6	6	3	6	1	1	*
May 2012 RVs [N=817]	24	30	33	9	n/a	2	n/a	1	1	*

- ECONUS. How would you rate the condition of the United States economy these days? Is it: [READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-4 / HALF 4-1]<sup>8</sup>

	VERY GOOD	FAIRLY GOOD	FAIRLY BAD	VERY BAD	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
May 2016 RVs [N=1,001]	4	45	30	21	*	*
Nov 2015 RVs [N=1,013]	4	40	35	20	*	*
May 2015 RVs [N=1,001]	4	44	31	21	*	*
Nov 2014 RVs [N=989]	3	36	36	23	1	1
May 2014 RVs [N=573]	3	29	37	31	1	*
Dec 2013 RVs [N=431]	1	31	37	31	*	0
May 2013 RVs [N=453]	1	30	37	30	1	*
Dec 2012 RVs [N=467]	2	31	35	30	0	1
May 2012 RVs [N=826]	1	22	39	37	1	1
Feb 2012 RVs [N=1,508]	3	21	36	38	1	1

<sup>7</sup> "Social issues like abortion and gay rights" was a category offered in the December 2012 poll.

<sup>8</sup> Trends were sometimes asked of all respondents or random half samples. Unless otherwise indicated, all respondents were asked this question. Past polls May 2014, December 2013, May 2013 and December 2012 trends were each asked of a random half sample [May 2014 N=700 including N=573 RVs / December 2013 N=502 including N=431 RVs / May 2013 N=532 including N=453 RVs / December 2012 N=532 including N=467 RVs].



ECONTN. How would you rate the condition of the Tennessee state economy these days? Is it: [READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-4 / HALF 4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS ECONUS]<sup>9</sup>

	VERY GOOD	FAIRLY GOOD	FAIRLY BAD	VERY BAD	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
May 2016 RVs [N=1,001]	7	60	22	9	1	*
Nov 2015 RVs [N=1,013]	6	55	28	10	1	*
May 2015 RVs [N=1,001]	7	60	23	8	1	*
Nov 2014 RVs [N=530]	8	56	24	10	2	*
May 2014 RVs [N=672]	4	56	28	9	2	1
Dec 2013 RVs [N=429]	4	62	24	9	1	0
May 2013 RVs [N=410]	5	47	33	12	2	1
Dec 2012 RVs [N=426]	3	50	30	13	3	*
May 2012 RVs [N=826]	2	42	34	19	1	1

Q4. When you think about the future of the United States, which do you agree with more: [READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-2]

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=486]*

MAY 2016

RVS

40	The country's best days are ahead of us
55	The country's best days are behind us
5	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

Q5. When you think about the future of Tennessee, which do you agree with more: [READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-2]

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=515]*

MAY 2016

RVS

67	The state's best days are ahead of us
28	The state's best days are behind us
4	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

<sup>9</sup> Trends were sometimes asked of all respondents or random half samples. Unless otherwise indicated, all respondents were asked this question. Past polls November 2014, May 2014, December 2013, May 2013 and December 2012 trends were each asked of a random half sample [November 2014 N=561 including N=530 RVs / May 2014 N=805 including N=672 RVs / December 2013 N=500 including N=429 RVs / May 2013 N=468 including N=410 RVs / December 2012 N=469 including N=426 RVs].

- Q6. Which of the following comes closest to your view, even if neither is exactly right? [READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS] (I would prefer my legislators work with members of the other political party even if it means they have to compromise on some of their values and priorities) ...OR... (I would prefer my legislators pursue their own values and priorities even if it means they are unwilling to work with members of the other political party).<sup>10</sup>

	WORK WITH MEMBERS OF OTHER PARTY	PURSUE OWN VALUES AND PRIORITIES	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
May 2016 RVs [N=1,001]	71	25	2	1
Nov 2015 RVs [N=1,013]	70	26	2	1
May 2015 RVs [N=1,001]	70	26	3	1
Nov 2014 RVs [N=477]	77	19	1	2
Dec 2013 RVs [N=860]	74	22	3	*
Dec 2012 RVs [N=893]	74	21	3	2

- Q7. Some people say they are basically content with the way the NATIONAL GOVERNMENT works today, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which of these best describes how you feel? [READ CATEGORIES IF NECESSARY]

*BASED ON THE SAME RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS THAT WAS ASKED Q4 [N=486]*

MAY 2016

RVS

10	Basically content
64	Frustrated
24	Angry
2	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q8. To the extent that the NATIONAL government has failed to solve important problems, who do you think is MOST to blame? [READ] [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

*BASED ON THE SAME RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS THAT WAS ASKED Q4 [N=486]*

MAY 2016

RVS

14	Democrats
19	Republicans
64	Both equally
3	Neither
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

<sup>10</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, trends were asked of all respondents. November 2014 trend was asked of a random half sample [N=580 including 477 RVs]. In December 2012, the phrase "opposing political party" was used in place of the current wording "other political party."

- Q9. Some people say they are basically content with the way the STATE GOVERNMENT works today, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which of these best describes how you feel? [READ CATEGORIES IF NECESSARY]

BASED ON THE SAME RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS THAT WAS ASKED Q5 [N=515]

MAY 2016 RVS	
25	Basically content
63	Frustrated
10	Angry
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q10. To the extent that the STATE government has failed to solve important problems, who do you think is MOST to blame? [READ] [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

BASED ON THE SAME RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS THAT WAS ASKED Q5 [N=515]

MAY 2016 RVS	
11	Democrats
23	Republicans
60	Both equally
4	Neither
2	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Next I'd like to get your views on some issues that are being discussed today.

- Q11. Given what you know about the Affordable Care Act that passed in 2010, do you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable view of it, or have you not heard enough about it to form an opinion?<sup>11</sup>

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS

	GENERALLY FAVORABLE	GENERALLY UNFAVORABLE	HAVEN'T HEARD ENOUGH	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
May 2016 RVs [N=516]	24	49	27	*	*
Nov 2015 RVs [N=1,013]	24	50	25	1	*
May 2015 RVs [N=513]	26	44	29	1	0
Nov 2014 RVs [N=989]	20	44	35	1	*
May 2014 RVs [N=1,245]	21	41	37	n/a	1
Dec 2013 RVs [N=860]	15	51	33	n/a	*
May 2013 RVs [N=863]	16	40	43	1	*
Dec 2012 RVs [N=893]	18	28	52	1	1

<sup>11</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, trends were asked of all respondents. May 2015 trend was asked of a random half sample [N=513 RVs]. In May 2013, question was asked separately, each of independent random half samples in different placements in the survey; combined trend results are shown here. In December 2012, question was asked separately of Form 1 and Form 2 respondents in different placements in the survey; combined trend results are shown here.

- Q12. Which of the following comes closest to your view of the future of the U.S. health care system?  
[READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-4 / HALF 4-1]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=485]

MAY 2016  
RVS

21	The health care law should be repealed and NOT replaced
17	The health care law should be repealed and replaced with a Republican-sponsored alternative
35	Lawmakers should build on the existing health care law to improve affordability and access to care
18	The U.S. should establish guaranteed universal health coverage through a single government plan
4	(VOL.) None of these/Something else
4	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q13. Many public officials in Tennessee are considering implementing "Insure Tennessee," a program proposed by Governor Haslam that would expand health insurance coverage to 280,000 low-income people without health insurance in the state. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose expanding health care coverage for low-income people in the state through "Insure Tennessee?"<sup>12</sup>

MAY 2016 RVS		NOV 2015 RVS	MAY 2015 RVS
31	Strongly support	37	35
32	Somewhat support	27	29
12	Neither support nor oppose	16	13
12	Somewhat oppose	8	9
9	Strongly oppose	8	10
3	(VOL.) Don't know	3	3
1	(VOL.) Refused	*	1

<sup>12</sup> May 2015 trend wording was slightly different: "Many public officials in Tennessee are considering implementing "Insure Tennessee," a program proposed by Governor Haslam that would expand health insurance coverage to 280,000 low-income people without health insurance in the state. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose expanding health care coverage for low-income people in the state?"

- Q14. How much do you support or oppose allowing same-sex couples to legally marry? Would you say you [READ]<sup>13</sup>

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS

MAY 2016 RVS		NOV 2015 RVS	MAY 2015 RVS	NOV 2014 RVS
23	Strongly support	21	16	15
7	Somewhat support	12	10	7
14	Neither support nor oppose	14	14	23
8	Somewhat oppose	8	7	7
46	Strongly oppose	44	52	47
1	(VOL.) Don't know	1	*	1
*	(VOL.) Refused	*	*	1
[N=511]		[N=1,013]	[N=517]	[N=499]

- Q15. The Tennessee State Legislature recently considered TRYING TO reverse the Supreme Court's decision legalizing same-sex marriage in all states in order to make same-sex marriage ILLEGAL in Tennessee. If this legislation were passed, the state could lose roughly \$8.5 billion in federal aid. Would you support, neither support nor oppose, or oppose the efforts of the state legislature to make same-sex marriage illegal, even if the state were to lose a substantial amount of federal funding? [IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE: Would that be strongly or somewhat (support/oppose)?]

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=490]

MAY 2016 RVS	
30	Strongly support
9	Somewhat support
10	Neither support nor oppose
8	Somewhat oppose
42	Strongly oppose
*	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

<sup>13</sup> May 2015 and November 2014 trends were asked of a random half sample [May 2015 N=517 RVs / Nov 2014 N=499 RVs]. November 2014 question wording was: "How much do you favor or oppose allowing same-sex couples to legally marry? Would you say you strongly favor, somewhat favor, neither favor nor oppose, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose?"

- Q16. Should a business that provides services or products be allowed to refuse those services to same-sex couples for religious reasons, or should it be required to provide those services as it would to all other customers?<sup>14</sup>

MAY 2016 RVS		MAY 2015 RVS
49	Allowed to refuse services	57
45	Required to provide services	38
4	(VOL.) Don't know	4
1	(VOL.) Refused	1

- Q17. How much do you support or oppose a temporary ban on all Muslims traveling to the United States? Do you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose a temporary ban?

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=485]*

MAY 2016 RVS	
24	Strongly support
15	Somewhat support
11	Neither support nor oppose
20	Somewhat oppose
28	Strongly oppose
2	(VOL.) Don't know
0	(VOL.) Refused

- Q18. How much do you support or oppose additional law enforcement patrols of Muslim neighborhoods in the state of Tennessee? Do you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this?

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=516]*

MAY 2016 RVS	
23	Strongly support
21	Somewhat support
22	Neither support nor oppose
10	Somewhat oppose
22	Strongly oppose
2	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

<sup>14</sup> May 2015 question wording was: "If a business provides wedding services or products, such as catering or flowers, should it be allowed to refuse those services to same-sex couples for religious reasons, or should it be required to provide those services as it would to all other customers?"

- Q19. Which of the following statements about America comes closer to your view – even if neither is exactly right? [READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-2]<sup>15</sup>

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS*

MAY 2016 RVS		NOV 2014 RVS
61	The United States is a country where anyone, regardless of their background, can work hard, succeed, and be comfortable financially	49
35	The widening gap between the incomes of the wealthy and everyone else is undermining the idea that every American has the opportunity to move up to a better standard of living	47
2	(VOL.) Both	1
*	(VOL.) Neither	2
1	(VOL.) Don't know	2
*	(VOL.) Refused	1
[N=500]		[N=989]

- Q20. To reduce crime in Tennessee, some people think more money and resources should be spent on better access to quality education and job training to help address social or economic differences. Others feel there would be less crime if more money and resources were spent on increasing the size of law enforcement with more prisons, police, and judges. Which of the following comes closer to what you think the state should do to reduce crime? [READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS 1-2]<sup>16</sup>

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION*

MAY 2016 RVS		NOV 2015 RVS
69	Provide better access to quality education and job training to address social and economic differences	69
25	Increase law enforcement	26
4	(VOL.) Don't know	3
2	(VOL.) Refused	1
[N=501]		[N=1,013]

<sup>15</sup> November 2014 trend was asked of all respondents [N=1,201 including N=989 RVs].

<sup>16</sup> November 2015 trend was asked of all respondents [N=1,013 RVs]. November 2015 response options were read in order and question wording was: "To reduce crime in Tennessee, some people think more money and resources should be spent on better access to quality education and job training to help address social or economic differences. Others feel there would be less crime if more money and resources were spent on increasing the size of law enforcement with more prisons, police, and judges. Which comes closer to your view?"

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Thinking about education in the state of Tennessee...

- Q21. How important is it for public school students in grades 3 to 12 to take tests each school year to know if they are meeting the state's education standards in reading, writing, and math? [READ]<sup>17</sup>

MAY 2016 RVS		NOV 2015 RVS
49	Very important	52
32	Somewhat important	33
11	Not too important	10
7	Not important at all	4
1	(VOL.) Don't know	1
*	(VOL.) Refused	*
[N=1,001]		[N=499]

- Q22. How important is it for students in Tennessee to attend a school that is racially diverse? [READ]

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=520]*

MAY 2016 RVS	
42	Very important
36	Somewhat important
12	Not too important
9	Not important at all
2	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q23. How important is it for students in Tennessee to attend a school that is economically diverse? [READ]

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=481]*

MAY 2016 RVS	
38	Very important
33	Somewhat important
16	Not too important
9	Not important at all
3	(VOL.) Don't know
2	(VOL.) Refused

<sup>17</sup> November 2015 trend was asked of a random half sample [N=499 RVs].



[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] On a different subject...

- Q24. All in all, do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea for the Tennessee state government to more strictly regulate the way local governments handle local matters such as affordable housing initiatives, parks and recreation, or public works?<sup>18</sup>

MAY 2016 RVS		NOV 2015 RVS
40	Good idea	42
53	Bad idea	50
6	(VOL.) Don't know	8
2	(VOL.) Refused	1

- Q25. In general, do you think laws in Tennessee should be changed to make it (easier) or (harder) to buy a gun, or should the laws for gun sales stay the same as they are now? [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES]<sup>19</sup>

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS

MAY 2016 RVS		NOV 2015 RVS
4	Easier	5
35	Harder	40
56	Stay the same	54
3	(VOL.) Don't know	1
1	(VOL.) Refused	*
[N=505]		[N=503]

- Q26. Which comes closer to your view about the use of marijuana by adults? [READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-3 / HALF 3-1]<sup>20</sup>

BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION

MAY 2016 RVS		NOV 2015 RVS	MAY 2015 RVS	NOV 2014 RVS	MAY 2014 RVS
31	It should be legal for personal use	26	24	29	32
45	It should be legal only for medicinal use	48	48	42	44
22	It should not be legal	25	25	26	22
1	(VOL.) Don't know	1	2	1	2
1	(VOL.) Refused	*	*	2	*
[N=496]		[N=511]	[N=488]	[N=495]	[N=637]

<sup>18</sup> November 2015 question wording was: "All in all, do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea for the Tennessee state government to more strictly regulate the way local governments handle local matters such as affordable housing initiatives?"

<sup>19</sup> November 2015 trend was asked of a random half sample [N=503 RVs].

<sup>20</sup> Past polls November 2015, May 2015, November 2014 trends were each asked of a random half sample [November 2015 N=511 RVs / May 2015 N=488 RVs / November 2014 N=589 including 495 RVs]. May 2014 trend was asked of all Form 2 respondents [N=769, including N=637 RVs].

- Q27. The State Legislature has been considering a bill that would allow full-time employees of public colleges and universities to carry handguns on campus with a valid permit. Guns would be blocked from disciplinary meetings or school-sponsored events like sports games but allowed in other places like classrooms. In general, do you support allowing full-time employees of public colleges and universities to carry guns on campus with a valid permit, or do you oppose it?

MAY 2016  
RVS

59	Support
39	Oppose
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Next...

- Q28. As you may know, Governor Haslam recently vetoed a bill passed by the State Legislature that sought to make the Bible the official state book. In general, do you think that recognizing the Bible as the official state book would or would not have violated the Constitution and the separation of church and state?

MAY 2016  
RVS

47	Would have
47	Would not have
1	(VOL.) Depends
4	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q29. And in general, do you think that recognizing the Bible as the official state book alongside other state symbols would or would not have made light of the Bible as sacred text?

MAY 2016  
RVS

38	Would have
49	Would not have
11	(VOL.) Don't know
2	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Moving on...

- Q30. The Tennessee State Legislature is currently considering a bill that would limit the number of liquor stores individuals can own within the state. Those who support a limit argue that it is necessary because alcohol is a substance that needs to be tightly controlled. Those who oppose the limit say that capping the number of liquor stores a person can own goes against Tennessee's free market business values. Which of the following statements comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right? [READ]

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS [N=521]*

MAY 2016	
RVS	
36	There should be limits on the number of liquor stores individuals can own
62	There should NOT be limits on the number of liquor stores individuals can own
2	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q31. Elected officials in Tennessee are currently considering an amendment to the state constitution that would allow Tennessee voters to vote for the position of State Attorney General. Some support this change because citizens, rather than the state Supreme Court, would choose who holds the position. Others oppose the change because candidates would have to campaign for election, which might bring politics into the judicial process. What do you think? Should attorney generals be appointed by the state Supreme Court, or elected by voters, or haven't you thought much about it?

*BASED ON A RANDOM HALF SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED PREVIOUS QUESTION [N=480]*

MAY 2016	
RVS	
24	Attorney general should be appointed by the state Supreme Court
37	Attorney general should be elected by voters
37	Haven't thought much about it
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Next...

- Q32. Elected officials in Tennessee are currently exploring the possibility of hiring private companies to manage the day-to-day operations of state institutions. Supporters believe this would increase efficiency, save money, and improve services. Opponents argue that this would not save money and would decrease the quality of services offered by these state organizations. What about you? In general, do you think the state should continue to manage these organizations or turn over day-to-day operations to private companies?<sup>21</sup>

MAY 2016 RVS		NOV 2015 RVS
68	State should continue to manage	63
24	State should turn over day-to-day operations to private companies	28
1	(VOL.) Neither/Both	2
*	(VOL.) Other arrangement (SPECIFY)	*
6	(VOL.) Don't know	7
1	(VOL.) Refused	*
[N=1,001]		[N=517]

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] As you may know, Tennessee is a pay-as-you-go state when it comes to transportation projects like road maintenance. This method means the state does not take on debt for future transportation projects. Well-maintained roadways are important to economic growth and public safety but recently, state officials have said that current funding sources are not enough to maintain Tennessee's roads and bridges.

- Q33. Would you be willing or not willing to pay 8 cents more per gallon on gas if it meant that more could be spent on projects to improve roads and bridges to help ensure economic growth and public safety?

*BASED ON A RANDOM ONE-THIRD SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED Q34 OR Q35*

MAY 2016 RVS		NOV 2015 RVS
46	Yes, willing	54
52	No, not willing	45
2	(VOL.) Don't know	1
*	(VOL.) Refused	*
[N=349]		[N=310]

<sup>21</sup> November 2015 trend was asked of a random half sample [N=517 RVs]. November 2015 question wording was: "Elected officials in Tennessee are currently exploring the possibility of hiring private companies to manage the day-to-day operations of state institutions like prisons, hospitals, parks, and universities. Supporters believe this would increase efficiency, save money, and improve services. Opponents argue that this would not save money and would decrease the quality of services offered by these state organizations. What about you? Do you think the state should continue to manage these organizations or turn over day-to-day operations to private companies?"

- Q34. Would you be willing or not willing to pay 12 cents more per gallon on gas if it meant that more could be spent on projects to improve roads and bridges to help ensure economic growth and public safety?

*BASED ON A RANDOM ONE-THIRD SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED Q33 OR Q35 [N=336]*

MAY 2016	
RVS	
<hr/>	
52	Yes, willing
46	No, not willing
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

- Q35. Would you be willing or not willing to pay 16 cents more per gallon on gas if it meant that more could be spent on projects to improve roads and bridges to help ensure economic growth and public safety?

*BASED ON A RANDOM ONE-THIRD SAMPLE OF REGISTERED VOTERS NOT ASKED Q33 OR Q34 [N=316]*

MAY 2016	
RVS	
<hr/>	
47	Yes, willing
51	No, not willing
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Thinking now about the 2016 presidential election...

[RANDOMIZE Q36 AND Q37]

- Q36. If the 2016 presidential election were held today and the candidates were (Hillary Clinton, the Democrat,) and (Donald Trump, the Republican,) for whom would you vote? [ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES]

MAY 2016	
RVS	
<hr/>	
35	Hillary Clinton
44	Donald Trump
2	(VOL.) Other candidate
13	(VOL.) Neither/Would not vote
4	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q37. If the 2016 presidential election were held today and the candidates were (Hillary Clinton, the Democrat,) and (Ted Cruz, the Republican,) for whom would you vote? [ROTATE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES]<sup>22</sup>

MAY 2016	
RVS	
34	Hillary Clinton
44	Ted Cruz
1	(VOL.) Other candidate
16	(VOL.) Neither/Would not vote
4	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q38. Thinking about the presidential primaries so far, generally do you think they have been a good way of determining who the best qualified nominees are or not?

MAY 2016	
RVS	
33	Yes
63	No
3	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

- Q39. Now I'd like you to look ahead to this summer's Republican convention. Suppose none of the current Republican presidential candidates wins enough delegates in the primaries or caucuses to ensure the nomination. Which of the following do you think is the better way to decide the Republican nomination? [READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-2]

MAY 2016	
RVS	
54	The candidate with the most delegates should win the party's nomination, even if that candidate does not have a majority of delegates before the convention
37	The delegates at the party's national convention should get to pick any candidate to represent their party if no candidate has a majority of the delegates before the convention
7	(VOL.) Don't know
2	(VOL.) Refused

<sup>22</sup> Senator Ted Cruz suspended his campaign for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination on May 3, 2016.

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Moving on...

TP1. Do you think of yourself as part of the Tea Party movement?

	YES	NO	(VOL.) NEVER HEARD OF TEA PARTY	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
May 2016 RVs	14	78	2	4	*
Nov 2015 RVs	15	77	3	5	1
May 2015 RVs	15	75	4	6	*
Nov 2014 RVs	14	79	3	3	*
May 2014 RVs	15	76	3	6	1
Dec 2013 RVs	16	76	5	3	*
May 2013 RVs	15	74	4	6	1
Dec 2012 RVs	14	72	6	7	1
May 2012 RVs	15	79	1	5	1
February 2012 RVs	14	80	4	2	*

TP2. In general, do you support the Tea Party movement's ideas?<sup>23</sup>

	YES	NO	(VOL.) DON'T KNOW WHAT THE TEA PARTY MOVEMENT'S IDEAS ARE	(VOL.) NEVER HEARD OF TEA PARTY	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
May 2016 RVs	34	48	8	3	5	1
Nov 2015 RVs	33	50	8	4	5	1
May 2015 RVs	33	43	14	5	4	1
Nov 2014 RVs	34	50	8	4	3	2
May 2014 RVs	34	47	10	4	5	1
Dec 2013 RVs	40	43	8	6	2	*
May 2013 RVs	37	42	9	5	6	1
Dec 2012 RVs	31	46	11	6	5	2
May 2012 RVs	37	46	6	2	7	1

PARTY. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a: [READ]

MAY 2016 RVs	
27	Democrat
33	Republican
30	Independent
9	Something else
*	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

<sup>23</sup> For the current poll and trends, this question was asked of all respondents except those who said they have never heard of the Tea Party in the previous question. Results shown here have been recalculated to combine all those who volunteered in either question that they have never heard of the Tea Party.

PTYSTRDEM. Would you call yourself a Strong Democrat or Not a strong Democrat? [READ IF NECESSARY: Whatever strong means to you.]

*BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO SELF-IDENTIFY AS DEMOCRATS [N=273]*

MAY 2016  
RVS

63	Strong Democrat
36	Not a Strong Democrat
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

PTYSTRREP. Would you call yourself a Strong Republican or Not a strong Republican? [READ IF NECESSARY: Whatever strong means to you.]

*BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO SELF-IDENTIFY AS REPUBLICANS [N=350]*

MAY 2016  
RVS

51	Strong Republican
48	Not a Strong Republican
1	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

PARTY. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Democrat, Republican, Independent or something else?

PARTYLN2. [IF INDEPENDENT/SOMETHING ELSE/DK/REFUSED, ASK:] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party, Democratic Party or neither?

MAY 2016  
RVS

34	Democrat / Lean Democrat
48	Republican / Lean Republican
18	Neither
0	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused



[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] A few last questions for statistical purposes only...

IDEO3. How would you generally describe your views on most political matters? Are you: [READ AND RANDOMIZE HALF 1-5 / HALF 5-1]

MAY 2016  
RVS

14	Very conservative
32	Conservative
34	Moderate
12	Liberal
4	Very liberal
3	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

*THE REMAINING DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS AND QUESTIONS QL1, QL1A, QC1 ARE NOT REPORTED IN THIS TOPLINE.*

THANK AND END INTERVIEW: THANK YOU again for sharing your thoughts and opinions! Have a nice rest of the day. [READ IF NECESSARY: This survey is being conducted by the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions at Vanderbilt University. If you have any questions about the survey, please feel free to contact CSDI at (XXX) XXX-XXXX.]