

2023 North Carolina Energy Poll





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Methodology

This poll of 500 registered voters living in North Carolina was conducted via telephone by professional interviewers from April 29 – May 1, 2023. The survey included 50% landline interviews and 50% cell phone interviews. Interview selection was random within predetermined election units. These units were structured to correlate with actual voter participation from past midterm/Presidential General Election cycles.

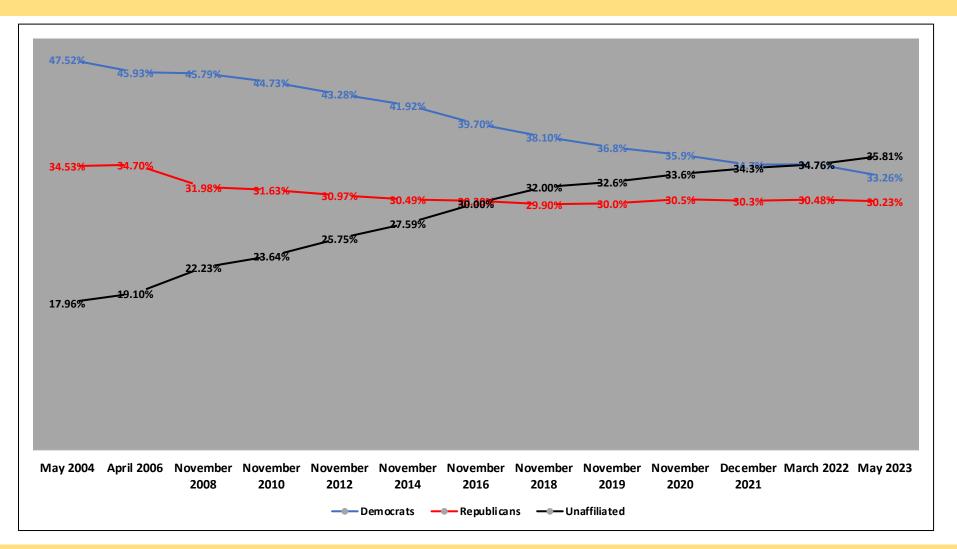
The poll of 500 likely general election voters has an accuracy of +/- 4% at a 95% confidence interval.

Paul Shumaker served as project manager and Hays Shumaker was the research coordinator.





NC Voter Registration Trends







10-Year Registration Trend

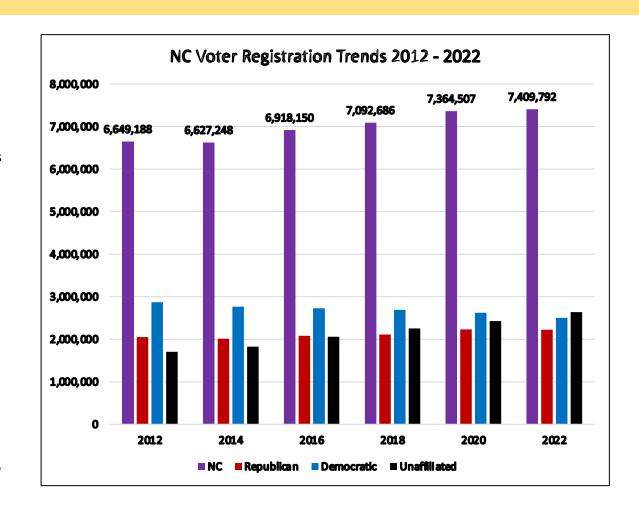
North Carolina is in a state of great political transition. This shift will have national implications in the battle on which Party controls the United States Senate.

Over the past ten years, the state has added just over 760,000 new voters, for a net voter registration growth of 11%. Democrats have had a net loss of over 370,000 registered voters, or -12.9% growth, while Republicans have had a net gain of 171,431 registered voters, or 8.4% growth.

Despite spending a combined total of over 147,000,000 dollars over the last ten years, both major parties have experienced a loss in their overall market share. Neither party is keeping pace with the explosion of registered Unaffiliated voters.

Voter registration growth is driven by voters choosing not to affiliate with either party. Over the last ten years, the state has added over 929,000 registered unaffiliated voters or a net growth of 54.4%.

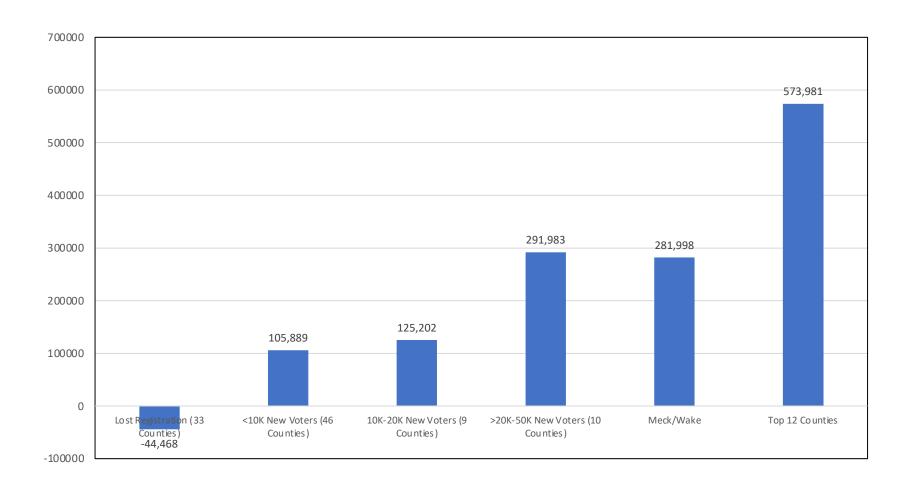
By the 2026 General Election, Unaffiliated voters will make up 40% of the voting universe, while Democrats and Republicans will be at parity, with each representing 30% of the total vote.







Ten-Year Trend Data by County Clusters





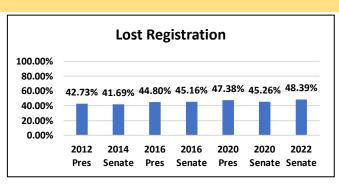


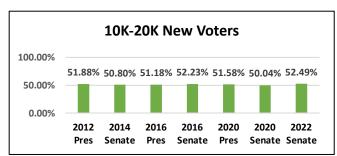
GOP Performance by Percentage of Votes Casted

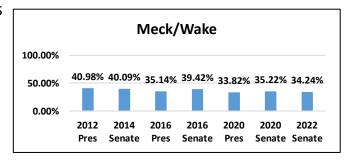
Statewide elections in North Carolina will only get closer unless GOP candidates improve their vote performance in the big 12 counties.

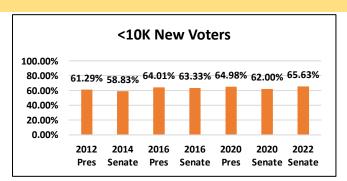
Over the last ten years, GOP federal candidates tended to do better in areas with little to no voter registration growth compared to the fastest-growing counties.

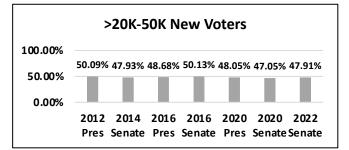
If left uncorrected, this diminishing return trend will spell big trouble for Republicans in the national fight to win a majority in the United States Senate.

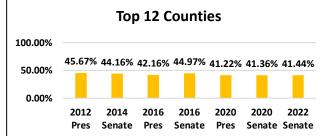








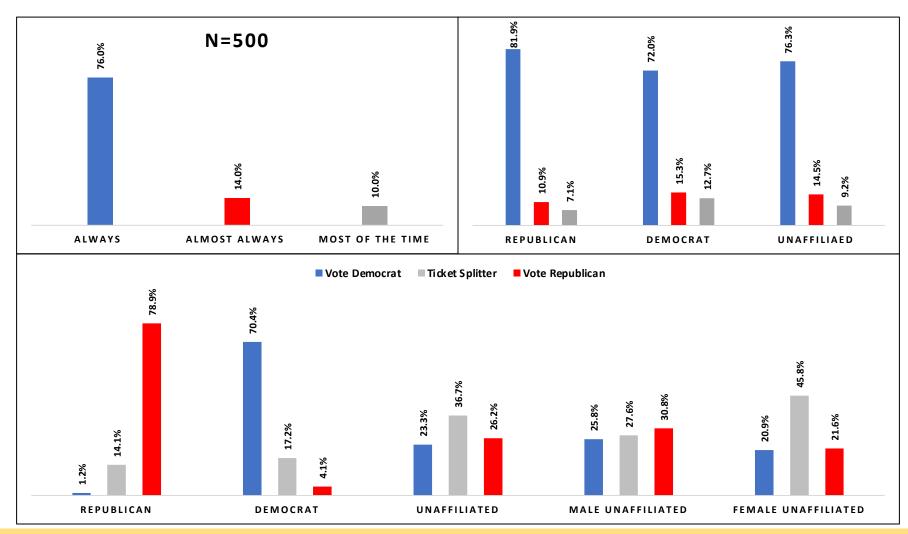








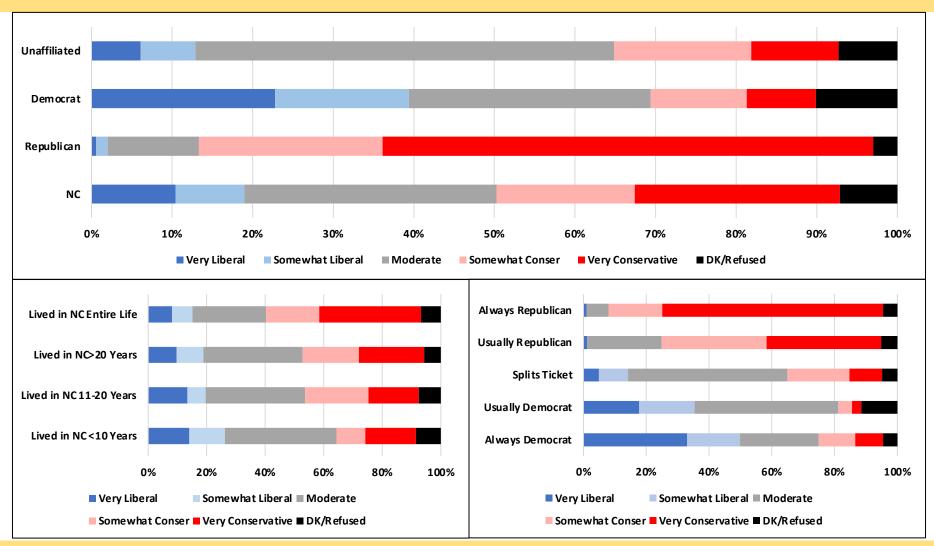
Voter Intensity & Voter Profile







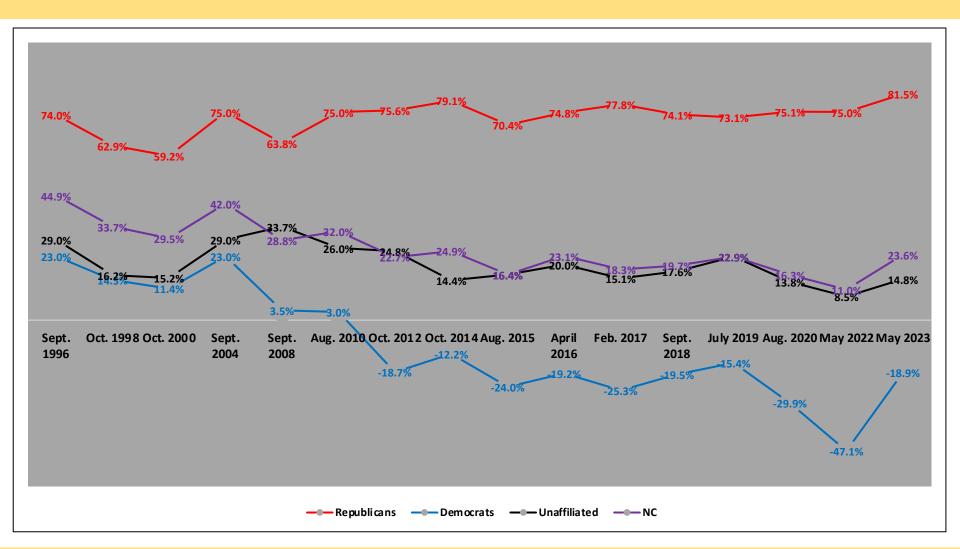
Ideological Intensity Profile N=500







NC Ideological Trends

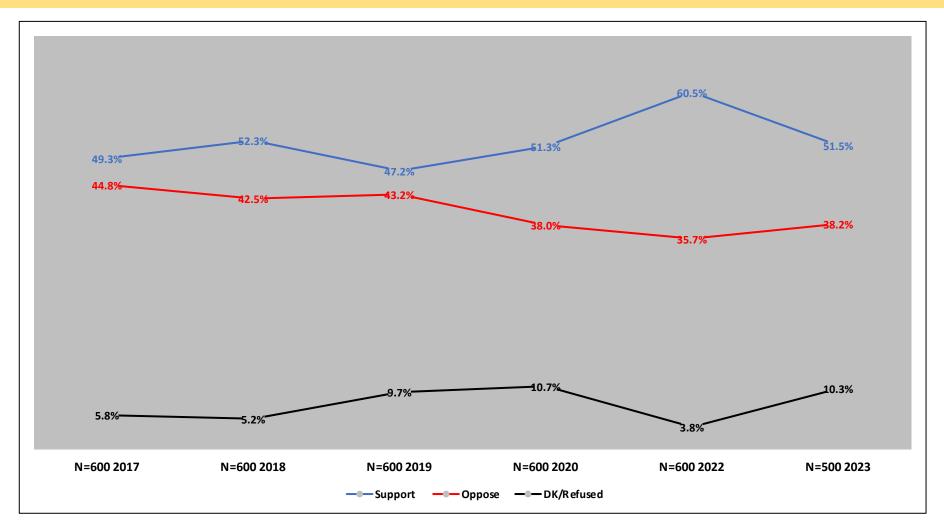






Would you be more likely to support or oppose a lawmaker or candidate who supports policies that encourage the development of more fossil fuel energy from coal and natural gas?

6 Year Trend Data







Would you be more likely to support or oppose a lawmaker or candidate who supports policies that encourage the development of more fossil fuel energy such as coal and natural gas?

2023 Data Set

	N=	More Likely	Much More Likey	Somewhat More Likely	Less Likely	Somewhat Less Likely	Much Less Likely	Don't Know		N=	More Likely	Much More Likely	Somewhat More Likely	Less Likely	Somewhat Less Likely	Much Less Likely	Don't Know
Republican	154	78.3%	56.0%	22.3%	12.5%	5.9%	6.6%	9.2%	Rural	194	53.3%	36.2%	17.1%	34.2%	10.6%	23.6%	12.5%
Democrat	175	34.7%	17.6%	17.1%	55.4%	17.6%	37.8%	10.0%	Lived in NC < 10 Years	87	47.4%	29.7%	17.7%	48.4%	15.6%	32.8%	4.1%
Unaffiliated	164	45.3%	30.0%	15.3%	43.1%	15.9%	27.2%	11.6%	11-20 Years	59	45.1%	25.2%	20.0%	47.3%	15.1%	32.2%	7.5%
Male Unaffiliated	82	46.1%	34.1%	12.0%	46.5%	22.7%	23.9%	7.3%	Lived in NC>20 Years	162	49.4%	33.2%	16.2%	38.0%	14.2%	23.8%	12.5%
Female Unaffiliated	82	44.4%	25.7%	18.7%	39.7%	9.1%	30.6%	15.9%	Lived in NC Entire Life	171	57.5%	38.2%	19.2%	30.9%	10.7%	20.2%	11.6%
Liberal	94	19.2%	12.1%	7.1%	76.4%	12.5%	63.9%	4.5%	Vote Democrat	165	27.0%	13.1%	13.9%	64.9%	18.5%	46.3%	8.2%
Moderate	156	35.7%	16.5%	19.2%	51.6%	24.0%	27.6%	12.7%	Splits Ticket	114	44.8%	28.3%	16.6%	46.2%	17.4%	28.8%	9.0%
Conservative	213	80.3%	57.1%	23.2%	11.0%	4.5%	6.5%	8.7%	Vote Republican	174	81.6%	57.6%	23.9%	10.7%	5.4%	5.3%	7.7%
Support More Fossil	258	100.0%	65.2%	34.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	Male Less College Grad.	106	58.0%	41.4%	16.6%	30.6%	11.2%	19.4%	11.4%
Oppose More Fossil	191	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	35.0%	65.0%	0.0%	Male College Grad.	112	48.2%	34.3%	13.8%	48.6%	14.7%	33.9%	3.2%
Support Renewables	364	42.7%	24.9%	17.9%	47.3%	17.1%	30.3%	9.9%	Female Less College Grad.	119	59.6%	35.5%	24.1%	26.8%	9.1%	17.7%	13.6%
Oppose Renewables	110	80.9%	60.2%	20.7%	15.8%	4.0%	11.8%	3.3%	Female College Grad.	132	44.1%	25.7%	18.4%	45.2%	16.4%	28.8%	10.6%
Ubran	97	46.8%	27.5%	19.3%	41.2%	17.2%	24.0%	12.0%	Male	235	53.2%	38.1%	15.1%	39.7%	13.8%	26.0%	7.1%



51.7%

Suburban

17.5%

42.6%

14.2%

28.5%



5.7%

Female

50.0%

20.5%

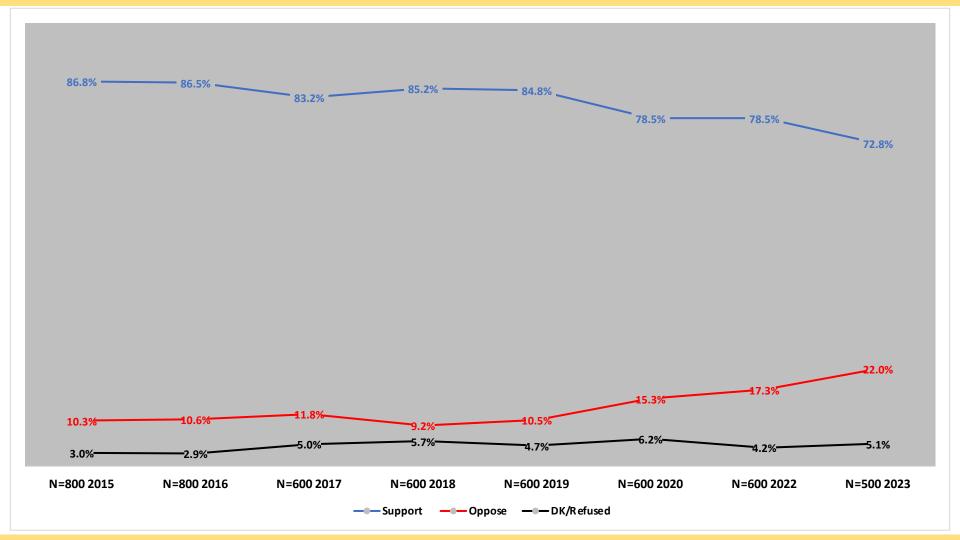
36.9%

13.0%

23.8%

Would you be more likely to support or oppose a lawmaker or candidate who supports policies that encourage renewable energy options such as wind, solar, and waste to energy technologies?

8 Year Trend Data







Would you be more likely to support or oppose a lawmaker or candidate who supports policies that encourage renewable energy options such as wind, solar, and waste to energy technologies? 2023 Data Set

	N=	More Likely		Somewhat More Likely		Somewhat Less Likely	Much Less Likely	Don't Know		N=	More Likely	Much More Likely	Somewhat More Likely	Less Likely	Somewhat Less Likely	Much Less Likely	Don't Know
Republican	154	55.9%	25.8%	30.2%	37.3%	14.2%	23.1%	6.8%	Rural	194	67.6%	37.3%	30.3%	27.2%	8.9%	18.2%	5.2%
Democrat	175	90.9%	66.0%	24.9%	6.0%	1.1%	4.8%	3.1%	Lived in NC < 10 Years	87	78.3%	57.4%	20.9%	20.7%	4.9%	15.9%	0.9%
Unaffiliated	164	69.2%	43.6%	25.6%	25.7%	7.8%	17.8%	5.1%	11-20 Years	59	74.8%	50.7%	24.1%	19.3%	9.0%	10.4%	5.8%
Male Unaffiliated	82	65.6%	41.4%	24.2%	31.5%	12.9%	18.5%	2.9%	Lived in NC>20 Years	162	77.3%	46.5%	30.8%	20.7%	7.6%	13.2%	2.0%
Female Unaffiliated	82	72.8%	45.8%	27.0%	19.9%	2.7%	17.1%	7.4%	Lived in NC Entire Life	171	68.4%	40.7%	27.7%	24.0%	7.0%	17.0%	7.6%
Liberal	94	95.5%	75.5%	20.0%	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%	1.3%	Vote Democrat	165	96.3%	72.8%	23.5%	3.4%	0.0%	3.4%	0.3%
Moderate	156	81.0%	50.9%	30.1%	14.4%	4.1%	10.3%	4.6%	Splits Ticket	114	81.9%	51.6%	30.2%	15.1%	3.0%	12.1%	3.0%
Conservative	213	56.7%	31.7%	25.0%	36.8%	14.3%	22.5%	6.5%	Vote Republican	174	49.2%	22.4%	26.8%	43.9%	16.8%	27.7%	6.9%
Support More Fossil	258	60.4%	34.4%	26.0%	34.6%	13.4%	21.1%	5.0%	Male Less College Grad.	106	73.0%	44.5%	28.5%	23.6%	10.4%	13.1%	3.4%
Oppose More Fossil	191	90.3%	69.2%	21.0%	9.1%	1.0%	8.1%	0.6%	Male College Grad.	112	74.6%	55.2%	19.4%	54.8%	9.9%	14.8%	0.6%
Support Renewables	364	100.0%	63.6%	36.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	Female Less College Grad.	119	69.1%	40.7%	28.4%	25.0%	5.8%	19.2%	5.9%
Oppose Renewables	110	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	33.4%	66.6%	0.0%	Female College Grad.	132	80.8%	50.2%	30.7%	13.1%	2.7%	10.4%	6.1%
Urban	97	81.6%	57.1%	24.5%	13.9%	3.5%	10.4%	4.6%	Male	235	71.9%	47.5%	24.4%	25.5%	10.7%	14.8%	2.7%



Suburban

181

77.5%

52.3%

25.1%

19.1%

7.1%

12.0%



3.4%

Female

265

73.7%

45.2%

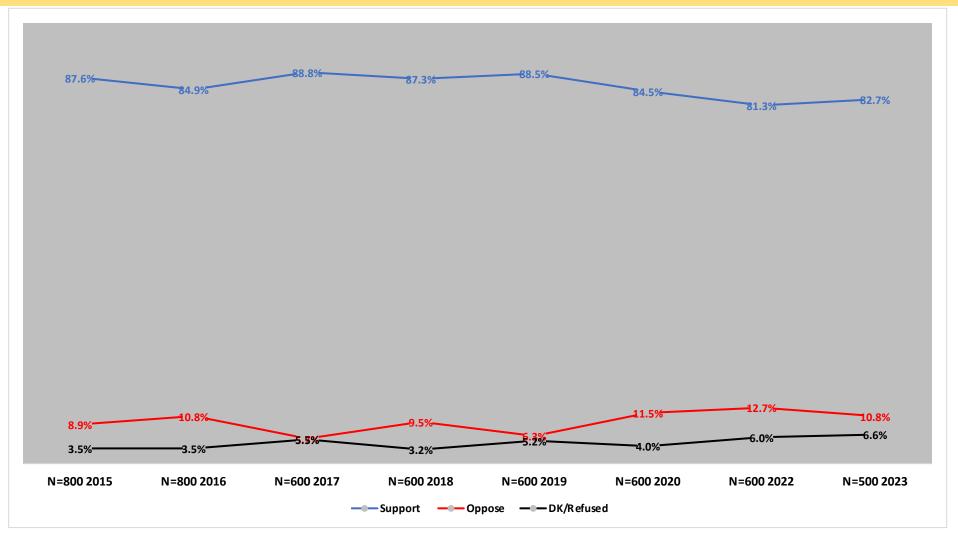
28.5%

19.0%

14.6%

Would you be more likely to support or oppose a lawmaker or candidate who supports legislation that would provide additional ways for home or business owners to finance energy efficiency upgrades such as improved insulation, lighting, or windows?

8 Year Trend Data







Would you be more likely to support or oppose a lawmaker or candidate

Lived in

NC>20 Years

Lived in NC

Entire Life Vote

Democrat

Splits Ticket

Vote

Republican

Male Less

College Grad.

Male College

Grad.

Female Less

College Grad.

Female

College Grad.

Male

Female

86.1%

79.1%

97.8%

87.0%

67.8%

82.9%

83.0%

83.5%

83.1%

82.4%

82.9%

55.9%

53.8%

75.9%

55.2%

41.4%

59.1%

64.6%

46.1%

59.6%

60.3%

53.5%

30.2%

25.3%

21.8%

31.8%

26.4%

23.8%

18.3%

37.4%

23.6%

22.1%

29.5%

9.5%

13.2%

0.9%

7.0%

23.8%

13.5%

12.9%

11.6%

6.1%

13.2%

8.6%

5.1%

4.6%

0.6%

1.8%

9.5%

4.0%

3.9%

3.2%

5.3%

3.7%

4.5%

162

171

165

174

106

112

119

132

235

265

Don't Know

8.7% 5.1%

8.6%

4.4%

7.8%

1.4%

6.0%

8.4%

3.6%

4.1%

4.9%

10.8%

4.4%

8.4%

4.5%

8.6%

0.3%

5.3%

14.3%

9.5%

9.0%

8.4%

0.8%

9.5%

4.2%

O		•	•	•			ncy u _l	pgra			titional ways for home or business as improved insulation, lighting, or 2023 Data Set More Likely More Likely Somewhat Less Likely Less Likely Less Likely Likely K 80.6% 56.7% 24.0% 10.7% 4.4% 6.2% 8 83.9% 65.5% 18.4% 11.0% 3.7% 7.4% 5													
	N=	More Likely	Much More Likely	Somewhat More Likely		Somewhat Less Likely		Don't Know		N=							C							
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6.6%

10.3%

0.0%

8.1%

6.5%

3.0%

4.3%

4.0%

2.9%

5.5%

Strategic Partners Solutions, LLC

Republican
Democrat
Unaffiliated
Male Unaffiliated

Female

Unaffiliated

Liberal

Moderate

Conservative

Support More

Fossil

Oppose More

Fossil

Support

Renewables

Oppose

Renewables

Urban

Suburban

CleanEnergy

82

82

94

156

213

258

191

364

110

97

181

75.2%

79.7%

98.9%

86.8%

74.1%

75.9%

94.2%

91.2%

63.0%

84.9%

83.4%

49.1%

59.8%

77.0%

59.8%

47.4%

48.4%

70.4%

65.9%

35.1%

59.8%

56.7%

26.1%

19.9%

21.9%

27.0%

26.7%

27.5%

23.8%

25.3%

27.9%

25.1%

26.7%

18.3%

10.1%

1.1%

7.6%

17.8%

17.6%

2.7%

4.5%

33.0%

12.2%

11.1%

2.7%

6.4%

0.0%

2.7%

7.6%

7.2%

0.5%

1.8%

11.6%

5.4%

3.7%

15.6%

3.7%

1.1%

4.9%

10.1%

10.5%

2.2%

2.7%

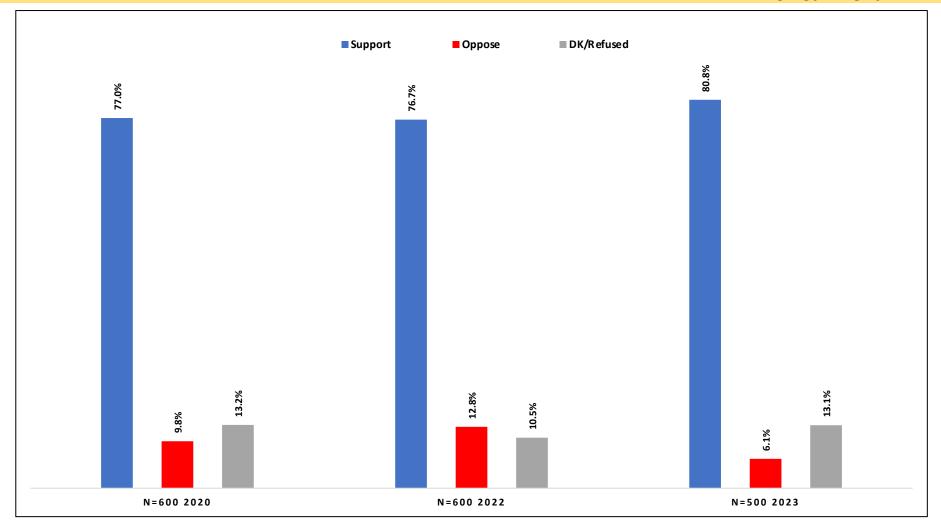
21.3%

6.8%

7.4%

Would you be more likely to support or oppose a lawmaker or candidate who wants to change North Carolina's regulatory policies to allow for more competition and consumer choice?

3 Year Trend







Would you be more likely to support or oppose a lawmaker or candidate who wants to change North Carolina's regulatory policies to allow for more competition and consumer choice?

2023 Data Set

	N=	More Likely	Much More Likely	Somewhat More Likely	Less Likely	Somewhat Less Likely	Much Less Likely	Don't Know		N=	More Likely	Much More Likely	Somewhat More Likely	Less Likely	Somewhat Less Likely	Much Less Likely	Don't Know
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Democrat	175	77.2%	50.0%	27.2%	10.7%	5.8%	4.8%	12.2%	Lived in NC < 10 Years	87	81.4%	56.3%	25.0%	11.0%	8.0%	3.0%	7.6%
Unaffiliated	164	84.1%	56.6%	27.5%	3.8%	1.7%	2.1%	12.1%	11-20 Years	59	85.9%	58.5%	27.5%	2.4%	0.7%	1.7%	11.7%
Male Unaffiliated	82	84.9%	61.5%	23.4%	4.4%	2.0%	2.4%	10.7%	Lived in NC>20 Years	162	78.0%	49.6%	28.4%	5.0%	2.7%	2.2%	17.1%
Female Unaffiliated	82	83.3%	51.7%	31.6%	3.2%	1.5%	1.7%	13.5%	Lived in NC Entire Life	171	81.4%	53.4%	28.0%	5.7%	2.6%	3.1%	12.9%
Liberal	94	82.3%	49.6%	32.7%	5.1%	1.3%	3.8%	12.5%	Vote Democrat	165	80.0%	45.9%	34.1%	6.7%	3.2%	3.6%	13.3%
Moderate	156	83.2%	51.6%	31.6%	4.5%	2.3%	2.2%	12.3%	Splits Ticket	114	82.6%	60.8%	21.8%	7.2%	4.6%	2.6%	10.2%
Conservative	213	81.3%	55.3%	26.0%	6.2%	3.9%	2.4%	12.5%	Vote Republican	174	83.3%	53.3%	27.0%	4.6%	3.2%	1.4%	12.1%
Support More Fossil	258	85.0%	57.4%	27.6%	5.5%	3.5%	2.0%	9.4%	Male Less College Grad.	106	81.6%	54.0%	27.5%	9.1%	5.5%	3.6%	9.3%
Oppose More Fossil	191	81.2%	51.4%	29.8%	7.3%	3.2%	4.1%	11.4%	Male College Grad.	112	83.3%	59.8%	23.5%	4.7%	2.7%	2.0%	12.0%
Support Renewables	364	82.2%	53.3%	28.9%	6.3%	3.5%	2.8%	11.5%	Female Less College Grad.	119	80.1%	46.3%	33.8%	3.2%	2.5%	0.7%	16.7%
Oppose Renewables	110	81.6%	56.4%	25.2%	6.9%	3.1%	3.8%	11.5%	Female College Grad.	132	79.7%	54.0%	25.7%	6.7%	2.4%	4.3%	13.7%
Urban	97	79.3%	45.1%	34.2%	9.7%	8.3%	1.5%	11.0%	Male	235	82.8%	55.8%	27.1%	7.3%	4.3%	3.0%	9.9%



Suburban

181

81.1%

55.7%

25.4%

3.0%

3.2%



12.7%

Female

79.0%

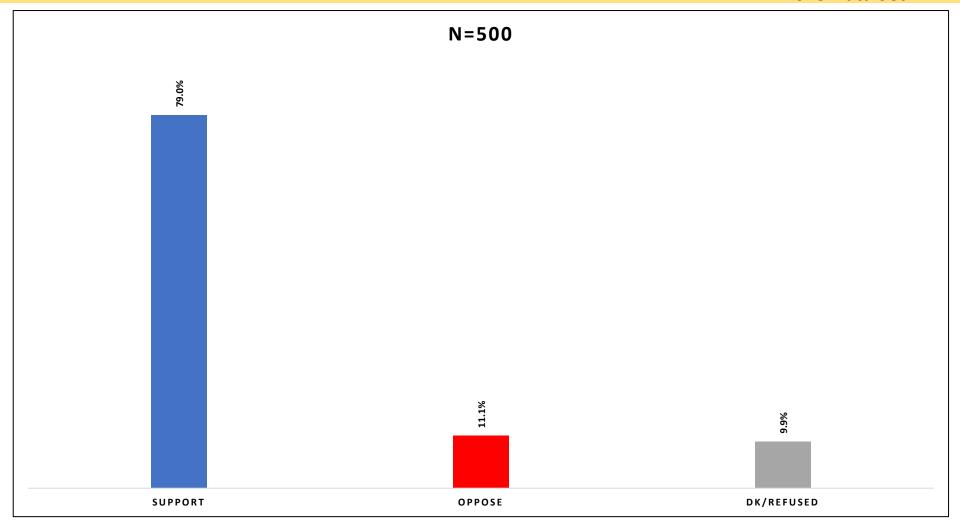
28.1%

5.2%

2.3%

15.9%

Would you be more likely to support or oppose a lawmaker or candidate who supports legislation requiring state agencies to implement energy efficient measures to reduce energy costs, thereby providing a savings to the taxpayer and less burden to our energy grid?







Would you be more likely to support or oppose a lawmaker or candidate

	who supports legislation requiring state agencies to implement energy efficient measures to reduce energy costs, thereby providing a savings to the taxpayer and less burden to our energy grid? 2023 Data Set																
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5.6%

7.6%

6.8%

8.4%

2.6%

7.9%

10.6%

11.9%

9.3%

1.7%

6.4%

9.9%

4.3%

9.7%

10.7%

6.8%

11.5%

4.5%

6.5%

12.9%

10.8%

10.0%

6.2%

9.9%

11.4%

8.7%

			Likely												
Republican	154	68.3%	42.4%	25.9%	16.6%	7.0%	9.5%	15.1%	Rural	194	79.5%	55.0%	24.5%	11.4%	5.7%
Democrat	175	92.3%	69.1%	23.2%	3.0%	7.0%	2.3%	4.7%	Lived in NC < 10 Years	87	82.0%	55.0%	27.1%	8.3%	2.8%
Unaffiliated	164	75.7%	45.0%	30.6%	14.3%	5.1%	9.2%	10.0%	11-20 Years	59	79.0%	49.8%	29.2%	10.4%	2.8%
Male Unaffiliated	82	67.8%	36.4%	31.4%	19.0%	4.6%	14.4%	13.2%	Lived in NC>20 Years	162	81.0%	55.5%	25.5%	12.2%	5.3%
Female Unaffiliated	82	83.6%	53.7%	29.9%	9.6%	5.6%	4.0%	6.9%	Lived in NC Entire Life	171	76.0%	48.6%	27.5%	12.4%	4.0%
Liberal	94	89.8%	66.0%	23.8%	6.6%	3.4%	3.2%	3.6%	Vote Democrat	165	91.8%	67.9%	23.9%	3.7%	1.1%

8.7%

12.2%

10.5%

6.1%

6.8%

12.4%

9.5%

8.3%

Strategic Partners Solutions, LLC

Splits Ticket

Vote

Republican

Male Less

College Grad.

Male College

Grad.

Female Less

College Grad.

Female College

Grad.

Male

Female

114

174

106

112

119

132

235

265

82.1%

69.1%

74.3%

77.0%

86.7%

79.2%

75.3%

82.3%

49.1%

42.0%

44.5%

54.1%

63.1%

49.4%

49.1%

56.1%

33.0%

27.1%

29.8%

23.0%

23.6%

29.8%

26.2%

26.2%

11.4%

17.9%

14.8%

12.9%

7.1%

10.9%

13.3%

9.0%

3.5%

7.3%

2.9%

3.6%

5.4%

4.6%

3.4%

4.7%

7.2%

9.1%

8.7%

5.3%

3.8%

18.8%

7.0%

5.3%

156

213

258

191

364

110

181

Moderate

Conservative

Support More

Fossil

Oppose More

Fossil

Support

Renewables

Oppose

Renewables

Urban

Suburban

CleanEnergy

81.9%

72.8%

74.8%

86.6%

86.4%

60.7%

83.2%

80.1%

53.3%

47.9%

47.9%

60.4%

59.6%

34.5%

58.7%

53.7%

28.5%

24.9%

26.9%

26.2%

26.8%

26.2%

24.5%

26.5%

9.4%

15.0%

14.8%

7.3%

6.7%

26.8%

7.3%

11.5%

2.2%

5.9%

6.1%

2.0%

2.9%

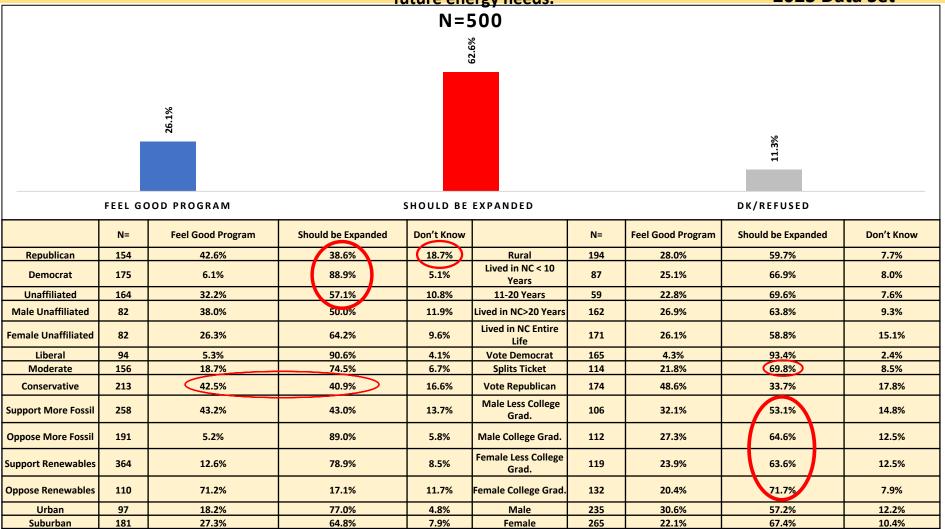
8.0%

0.2%

6.2%

Which of the following two statements best represents your view on renewable energy sources such as solar and wind?

- 1. Solar and wind bring very little benefit to our energy supply and are just feel-good programs promoted by politicians.
- 2. Solar and wind represent advances in energy production and should be expanded to help meet future energy needs. 2023 Data Set







Which of the following do you think is the best way to ensure a stable supply of electricity to meet all our state's energy needs?

- 1. The current system is doing the job; we must invest more money in public utilities like Duke Energy.
 - 2. We need to modernize the current system by relying more on competition and customer choice.

 2023 Data Set

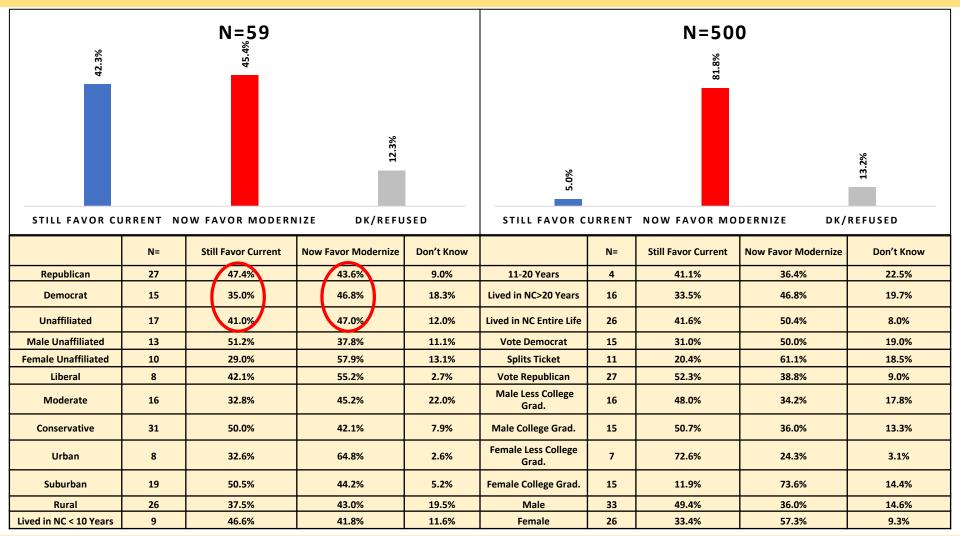
N = 50076.5% DOING THE JOB MODERNIZE DK/REFUSED N= Doing the Job Modernize Don't Know Doing the Job Modernize Don't Know N= 71.7% 11-20 Years Republican 154 17.3% 10.9% 59 7.6% 71.8% 20.6% 175 8.9% 81.1% 10.0% Lived in NC>20 Years 10.0% Democrat 162 81.2% 8.8% Unaffiliated 164 10.1% 75.3% 14.5% Lived in NC Entire Life 171 15.0% 74.2% 10.8% 79.5% Male Unaffiliated 82 11.0% 9.5% Vote Democrat 165 9.0% 80.2% 10.7% 78.1% **Female Unaffiliated** 82 9.3% 71.1% 19.6% Splits Ticket 114 9.5% 12.4% 74.8% Liberal 94 8.1% 73.2% 18.7% Vote Republican 174 15.5% 9.7% Male Less College Grad. 76.9% Moderate 156 10.6% 78.4% 11.1% 106 15.1% 8.0% Conservative 213 14.4% 77.0% 8.6% Male College Grad. 112 13.4% 76.0% 10.6% 97 Urban 8.3% 83.8% 7.9% Female Less College Grad. 119 5.6% 81.3% 13.1% Suburban 181 10.5% 73.5% 16.0% Female College Grad. 132 11.6% 75.4% 13.0% Rural 194 13.3% 77.5% 9.2% Male 235 14.0% 76.5% 9.5% Lived in NC < 10 Years 9.9% 77.9% 12.2% **Female** 265 9.8% 76.5% 13.7%





Would you still favor investing more money into our current system or would you now favor modernizing the system if you knew hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians were without power this past Christmas Eve due to Duke Energy's inability to keep up with current demand loads due to cold weather?

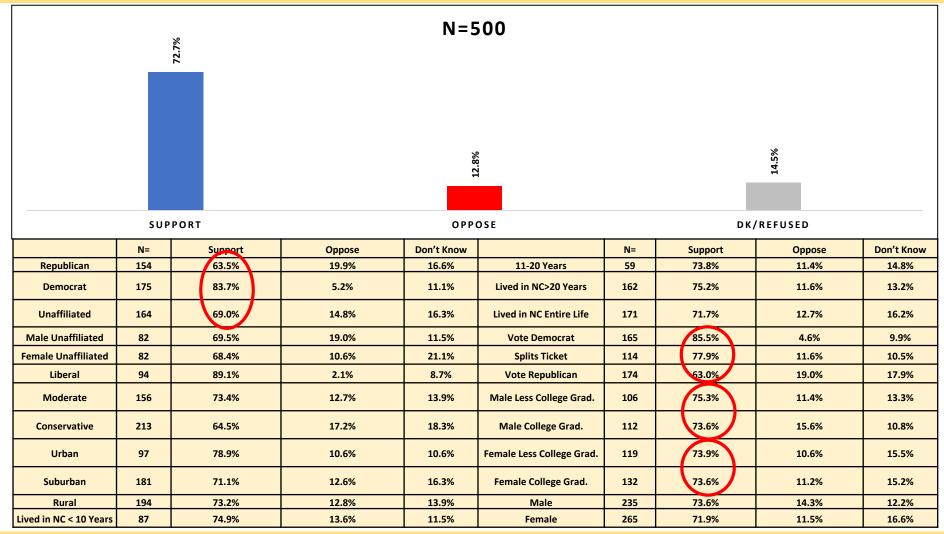
2023 Data Set







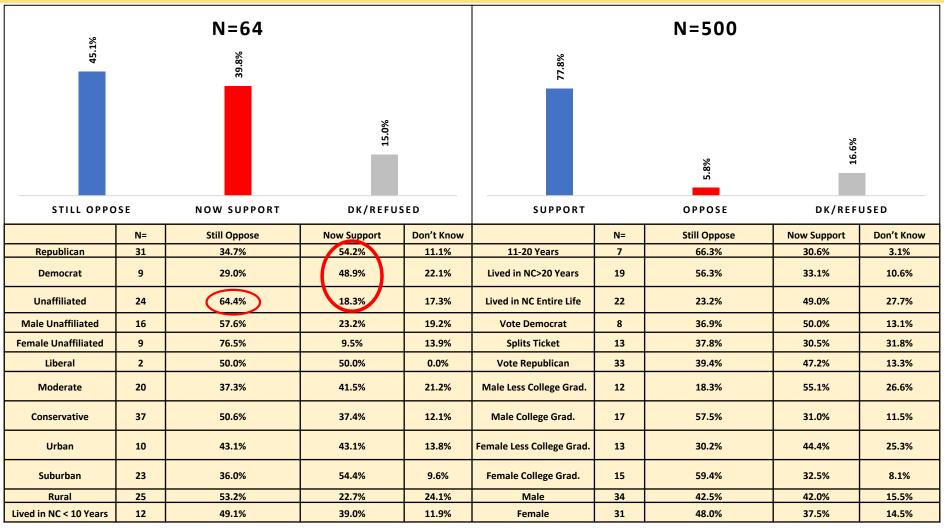
Would you support or oppose current legislation that would authorize a study to examine the public benefits of restructuring options for the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity in North Carolina? 2023 Data Set







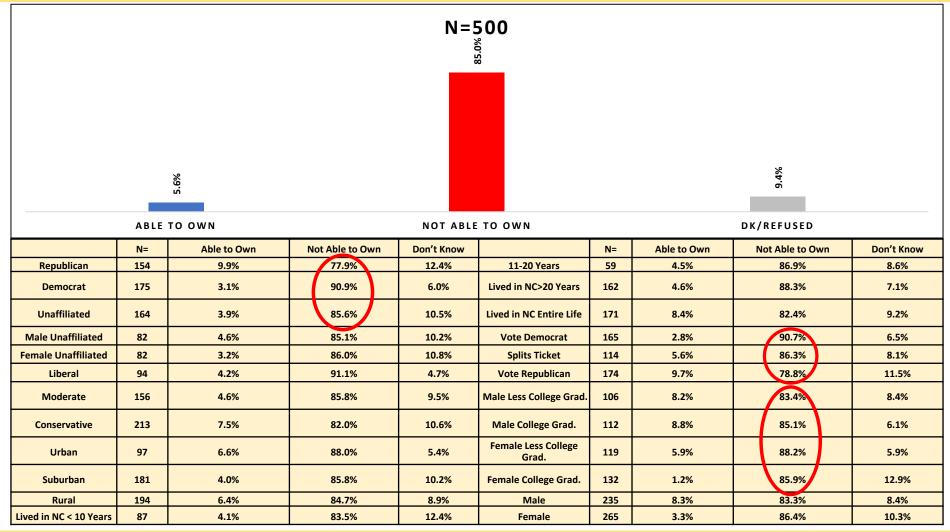
Would you still oppose this legislation if you knew the purpose of the study is to find more ways to modernize the current system to make electricity more reliable and provide consumers with more options on how they receive their electricity?







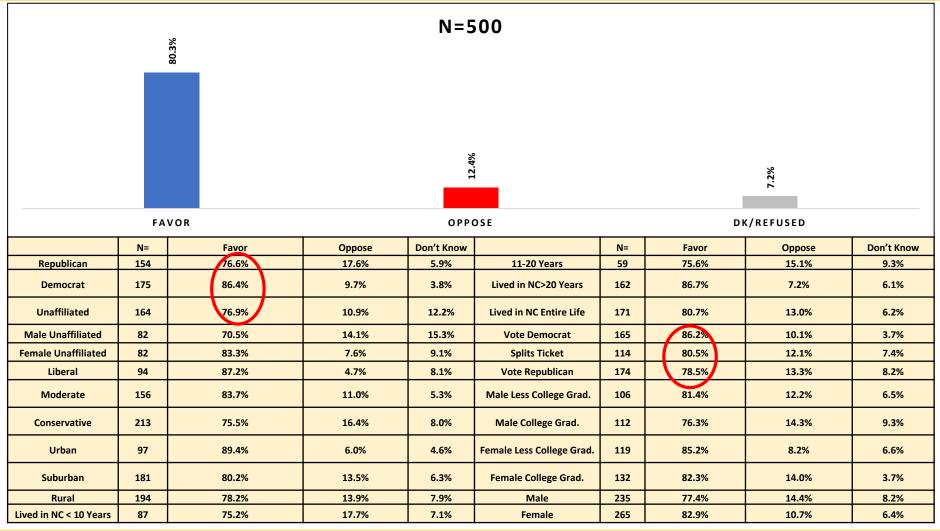
Do you believe that Duke Energy should be allowed to own all-new clean energy generation if other private energy businesses like solar, wind, or battery companies can provide these projects at a cheaper cost?







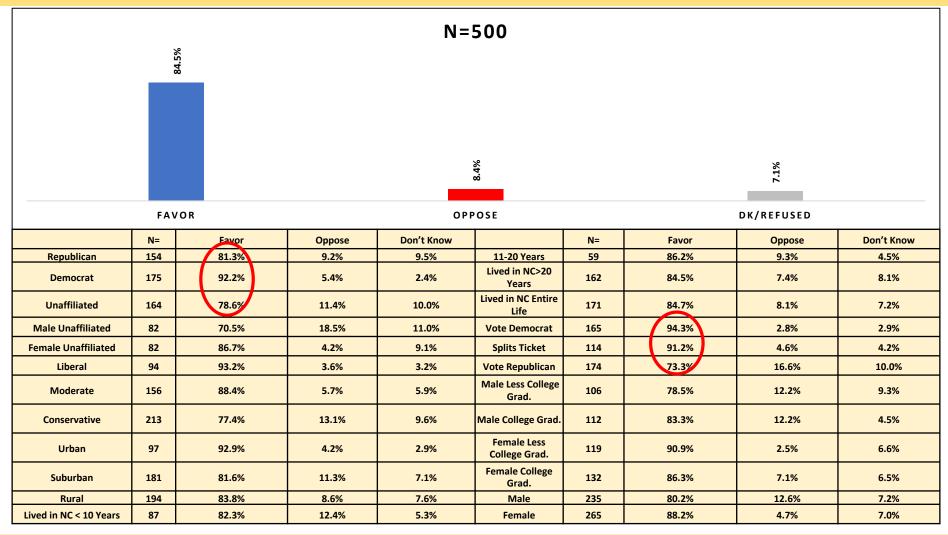
Do you favor or oppose legislation requiring a study to examine options for modernizing Duke Energy's monopoly to provide more competition and direct sales from other electricity producers to the consumer?







Would you favor or oppose new regulations requiring utility companies to expand weatherization and energy efficiency programs for people struggling to pay their utility bills, including seniors, veterans, and working families? 2023 Data Set

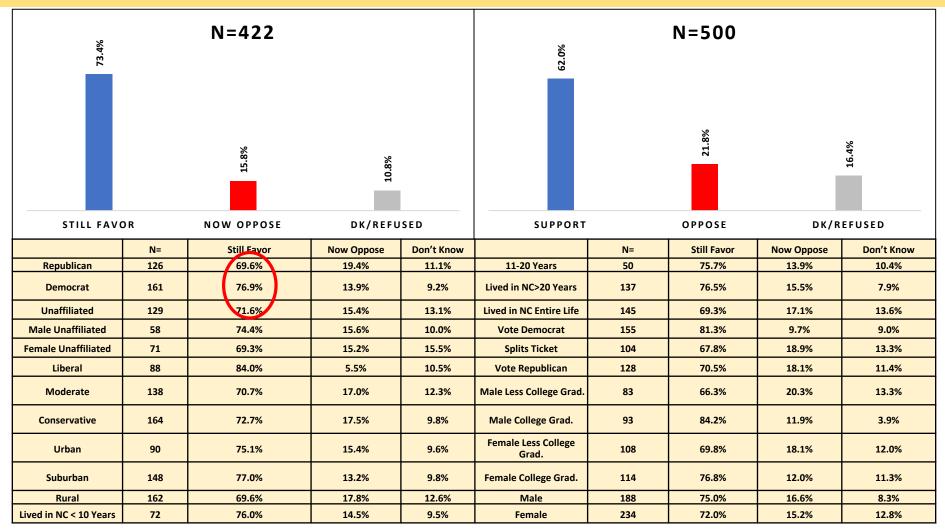






Would you still favor regulations requiring utility companies to expand weatherization and energy efficiency programs for people struggling to pay their utility bills if you knew the additional costs of these improvements would be passed on to other consumers, but they would benefit from long-term savings on their utility bills?

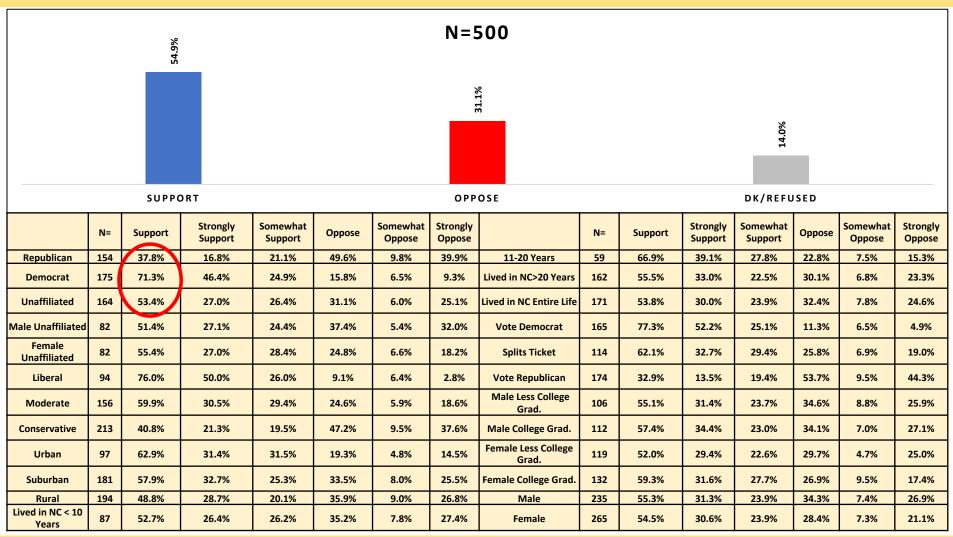
2023 Data Set







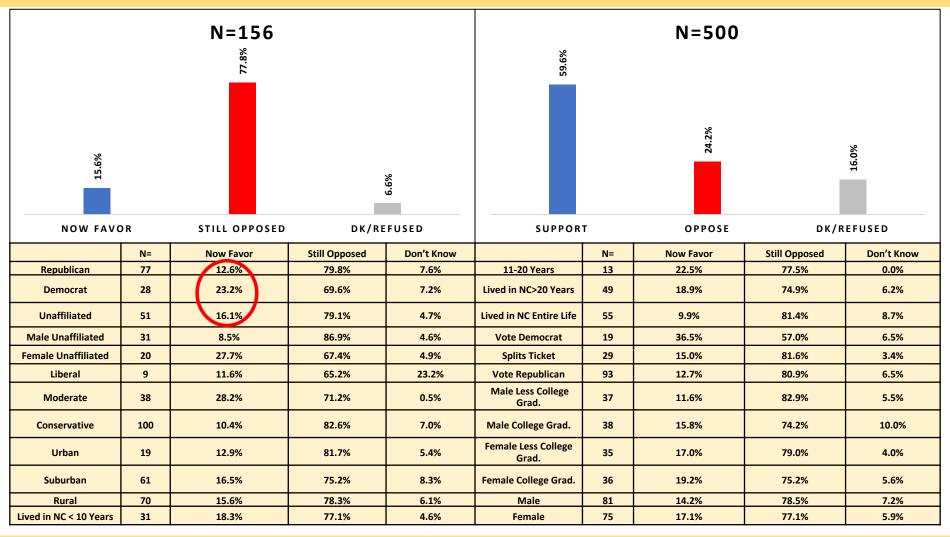
Do you support or oppose building wind energy turbines off the coast of North Carolina?







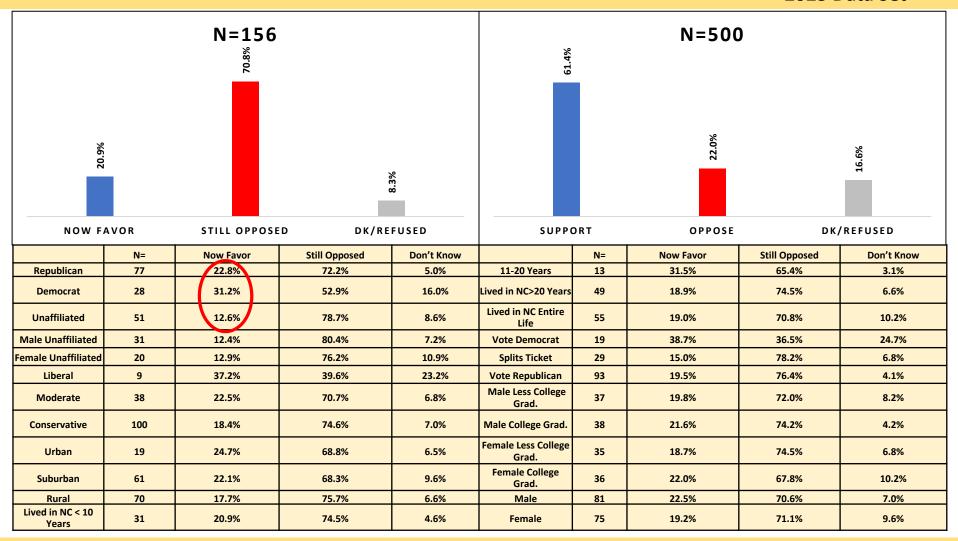
Would you still oppose building wind energy turbines off the coast of North Carolina if you knew the wind turbines would be 20 miles or more off the coastline and minimally visible from the shoreline?







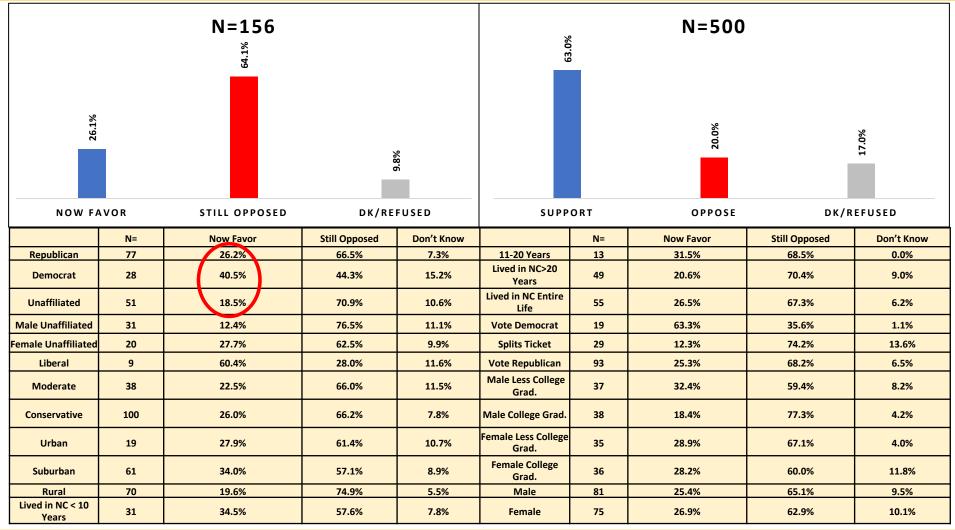
Would you still oppose building wind energy turbines off the coast of North Carolina if you knew that studies show that wind turbines provide an artificial reef structure that improves off-shore and crustacean habitats? 2023 Data Set







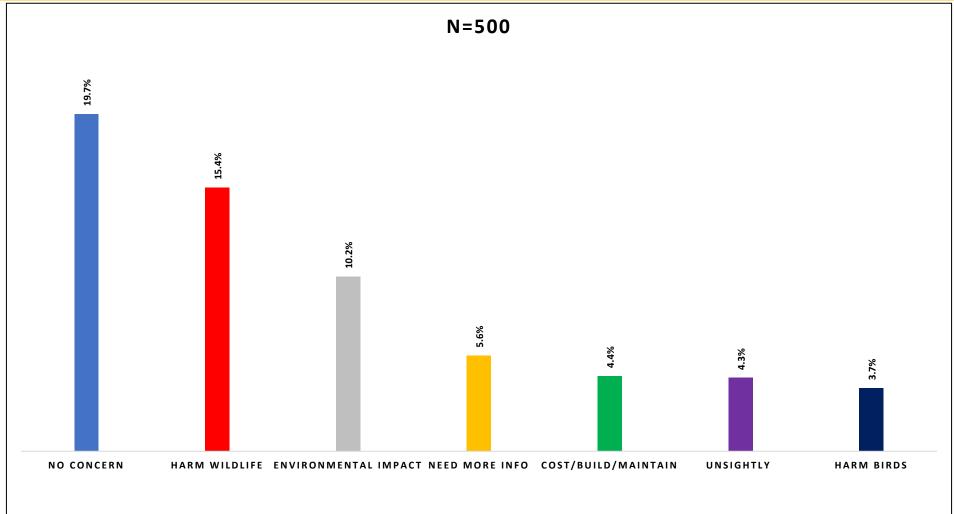
Would you still oppose building wind energy turbines off the coast of North Carolina if you knew if you knew off-shore wind projects provide millions of dollars to North Carolina's economy through supply-chain resources, workforce training, and new job creation? 2023 Data Set







Regardless of whether you favor or oppose wind turbines, what would you say concerns you most about allowing off-shore wind turbines off the coast of North Carolina? 2023 Data Set

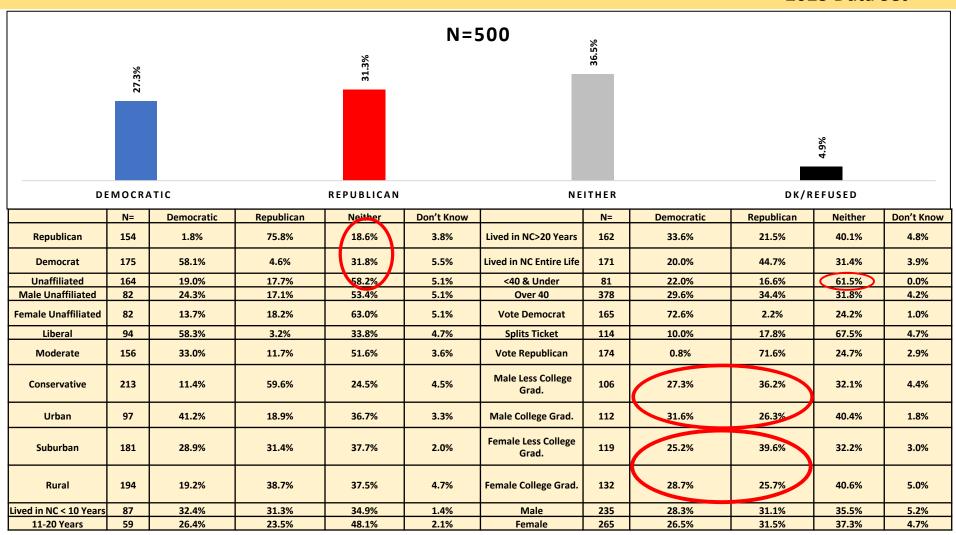






Which statements best describe your opinion about the Republican or Democratic party?

- 1. The Democratic Party best represents my political beliefs and values.
- 2. The Republican Party best represents my political beliefs and values.
- 3. I don't think either party represents my political beliefs and values.



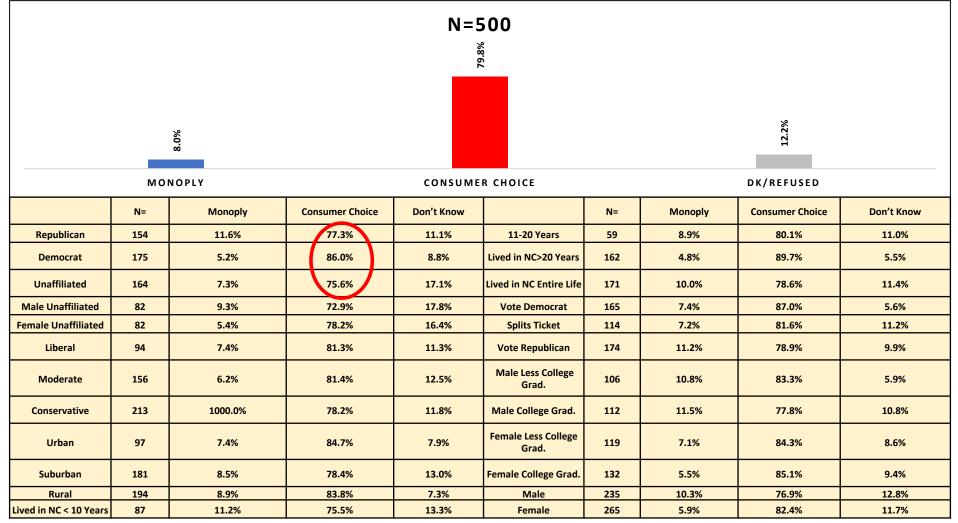




Please tell me which candidate you would be more likely to vote for based on their position regarding our energy policy:

- 1. Candidate A believes our system of having a state-sanctioned monopoly is the best way to ensure we have a steady supply of energy to heat, cool, & run our homes.
- 2. Candidate B believes that state should take measures to ensure that consumers have a reliable system for the transmission and delivery of electricity while allowing private companies to enter the marketplace and offer consumers a choice in where they purchase electricity.

 2023 Data Set





Key Findings

- Overall support for renewable energy options such as wind and solar remains high with all voters.
- ➤ Energy efficiency programs for homeowners, businesses, and state agencies have almost universal support.
- ➤ Voters clearly want more competition and choice when it comes to meeting their energy needs. Competition and choice bridge the partisan divide and have overwhelming support (84.1%) from Unaffiliated Voters.
- ➤ A clear majority of voters (62.6%) believe that renewable energy sources should be expanded to meet future energy needs. While conservative voters are divided between meeting the needs and the belief that some are just "feelgood" programs promoted by politicians, renewables provide an opening for candidates and legislators to build greater support with moderates and self-described ticket-splitters.



Key Findings

- ➤ Voters do not believe our current energy distribution system is doing the job and they believe more money needs to be invested with our public utilities. Only 11.8% said the current system was doing the job. 76.5% want to modernize the system by relying more on competition and customer choice.
- ➤ Voters do not favor having Duke Energy as a sole-source provider of all new clean energy generation. They favor private options if providers can do so at a low price point.
- On the initial question regarding offshore wind, more than half of North Carolina voters favor building offshore wind turbines. 14% are unsure or need more information, while 31.1% oppose it.
- ➤ Support for offshore wind grew to 59.6% when voters who initially said they opposed it were informed that the turbines would be located 20 miles or more from the shoreline.





Key Findings

- Voters' concerns about offshore wind are primarily founded on environmental and marine habitat concerns. However, when informed of the benefits to marine life and local economic impact, support for offshore wind expands to 63%.
- ➤ 58.6% of voters believe that either the Republican Party or the Democratic Party represents their political views or beliefs. 36.5% of all voters said neither Party does. 58.2% of Unaffiliated voters said neither as well as 67.5% of ticket splitters and 61.5% of voters under the age of 40.
- ➤ Given the broad base of support for renewables and the overwhelming support for competition in the energy generation and supply marketplace, candidates and lawmakers have a unique issue set to use as a foundation for building a winning coalition with those voters who feel neither party best represents their political views.

Demographic Overview of Survey (N=500)

19.4% Urban 36.2% Suburban 38.8% Rural

50% Cell Phone 50% Landline

34.1% Entire Life 32.4% + 20 Years 11.7% 11-20 Years 17.5% < 10 Years 66.9% White
20.1% Black
1.2% Hispanic
1.6% Asian
1.1% Other
9% Refused

19.2% Post-Graduate
29.6% College Degree
28% Some College
13.6%High School Degree
3.4% Some High School

32.9%Vote Democrat
16.5% Always Democrat
16.4% Usually Democrat
22.8% Splits Ticket
16.2% Usually Republican
18.6% Always Republican
34.8% Vote Republican

2.5% 65+ 13.7% 55-64 Yrs. Old 20.2% 41-54 Yrs. Old 13.7% 26-40 Yrs. Old 2.5% 18-25 Yrs. Old 30.9% Republican 35% Democratic 32.8% Unaffiliated 0% Other 1.3% DK/Refused



