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## The Winthrop/ETV Poll Findings

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Some people seem to follow what's going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there's an election or not. Others aren't that interested. How often would you say that you follow what is going on in government and public affairs: Most of the time, Some of the time, Only now and then, or Hardly at all?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Most of the time	66.7	65.5	67.7
Some of the time	22.8	24.8	21.2
Only now and then	6.9	6.5	7.1
Hardly at all	3.5	2.9	4
Don't know/ Refused	0.1	0.2	0

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president of the United States?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Approve	90.1	89	91
Disapprove	0.6	0.7	0.6
Not sure	9.1	9.8	8.5
Refused	0.2	0.5	0

Do you approve or disapprove of the way the United States Congress is handling its job?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Approve	35.9	34.4	37.1
Disapprove	43.6	44.3	43
Not sure	20	21.1	19.2
Refused	0.5	0.2	0.7

Thinking about the current path that our nation is taking, do you think our country is on the right track or headed in the wrong direction?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Right track	70	71.1	69.1
Wrong direction	16.2	15.8	16.5
Not sure	13.4	12.7	14
Refused	0.4	0.4	0.3

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Is your opinion of Michelle Obama favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Michelle Obama yet to have an opinion?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Favorable	74.9	73.1	76.3
Not favorable	0.1	0	0.2
Undecided	5.3	4.9	5.7
Haven't heard enough	18.8	21.1	17.1
Refused	0.8	1	0.7

When thinking about which party you trust more to handle the issues that you care about which of the following best describes you?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Trust Democrats more on all issues	65.4	62.6	67.5
Trust Democrats on some issues and Republicans on others	24.1	26.6	22.1
Trust Republicans more on all issues	3.4	3.4	3.4
Trust Neither [volunteered]	4.9	5.1	4.7
Don't know/Refused	2.3	2.3	2.3

What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today?

**\*\*Nothing else higher than 3.2 percent\*\***

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Economy/ Economic-Financial Crisis	51.4	49.9	52.2
Unemployment/ Jobs	20.9	21.1	20.8

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Do you feel that the Republican Party is currently working to attract African American voters?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Yes	30.4	31.4	29.7
No	56.2	52.5	59.1
Not sure	12.8	15.6	10.7
Refused	0.5	0.4	0.6

Do you think the Republican Party's efforts to attract African American voters is very effective, somewhat effective, not very effective, or not at all effective? \*\*Only asked of respondents who believed the Republican Party WAS currently working to attract African American voters\*\*

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Very effective	12.5	20.8	5.8
Somewhat effective	42.6	39.7	44.9
Not very effective	21.6	18.9	23.8
Not at all effective	16.7	13.7	19.2
Not sure	6.6	6.9	6.3
Refused	0	0	0

How much do you think Barack Obama cares about the needs and problems of people like yourself — a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
A lot	88.1	84.3	90.9
Some	9.6	12.7	7.2
Not much	0.8	0.7	0.9
Not at all	0.3	0.6	0
Don't know/ refused	1.3	1.7	0.9

Do you think Barack Obama says what he believes most of the time, or does he say what he thinks people want to hear?

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	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Says what believes	87.2	87.5	87
Says what he thinks people want to hear	7.3	7	7.5
Don't know/ refused	5.5	5.5	5.5

**How likely do you think it is that Barack Obama will be an effective commander-in-chief of the nation's military — would you say it is very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not likely at all?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Very likely	71.8	67.7	75
Somewhat likely	22.5	24.7	20.9
Not very likely	1.4	2.1	0.9
Not likely at all	0.6	0	1
Don't know/ refused	3.7	5.6	2.2

**How much confidence do you have in Barack Obama's ability to handle the issue of illegal immigration — a lot, some, not much, or none at all?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
A lot	59.6	56.9	61.7
Some	31.3	34.1	29.1
Not much	3.3	2.9	3.6
None at all	1.4	1.6	1.2
Don't know/ refused	4.5	4.5	4.5

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Do you think the policies of Barack Obama's administration will favor whites over blacks, favor blacks over whites, or would they treat both groups the same?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Whites over blacks	0.3	0.2	0.3
Blacks over whites	0	0	0
Treat both the same	96.2	94.9	97.1
Not sure	2.8	3.2	2.5
Refused	0.7	1.7	0

Do you think the policies of Barack Obama's administration will favor rich over poor, favor poor over rich, or would they treat both groups the same?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Rich over poor	1.8	1.2	2.3
Poor over rich	25.6	26.4	25
Treat both the same	66.7	65.7	67.5
Not sure	5.1	5	5.2
Refused	0.7	1.7	0

Do you think race relations in the South are generally good or generally bad?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Generally good	31.6	33.4	30.3
Generally bad	50.3	52.4	48.8
Not sure	16.7	12.4	19.9
Refused	1.4	1.7	1.1

Do you think race relations in the United States as a whole are generally good or generally bad?

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	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Generally good	48.4	48.3	48.4
Generally bad	37.1	35.7	38.2
Not sure	14	15.1	13.1
Refused	0.6	0.9	0.3

**In general, who do you think has a better chance of getting ahead in today's society — white people, black people, or do white people and black people have about an equal chance of getting ahead?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
White	41.6	37	45.1
Black	1.6	1.2	1.9
Equal	52	56.8	48.4
Not sure	4	4.4	3.8
Refused	0.8	0.7	0.8

**Do you think the election of Barack Obama will open up more opportunities for blacks in America?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Yes	73.9	71.9	75.4
No	15.1	15.3	14.9
Not sure	10.3	11.3	9.6
Refused	0.7	1.5	0

**In order to make up for past discrimination, do you favor or oppose programs which make special efforts to help minorities get ahead?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Favor	72.3	68.8	74.9
Oppose	16.2	17	15.5
Not sure	10	12	8.4
Refused	1.6	2.1	1.2

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Do you favor or oppose programs that make special efforts to help people get ahead who come from low-income backgrounds, regardless of their gender or ethnicity?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Favor	89.6	87.1	91.6
Oppose	5.4	7.9	3.5
Not sure	4.8	4.6	4.9
Refused	0.2	0.4	0

Some have indicated that Barack Obama plans on repealing the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy which prevents gays from openly serving in the military. Do you agree or disagree that this should be done?

Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Strongly agree	30.2	28.7	31.4
Somewhat agree	14.8	16.1	13.7
Somewhat disagree	15.2	17.9	13.2
Strongly disagree	21.6	20	22.9
Don't know/Refused	18.2	17.4	18.8

Several of Barack Obama’s cabinet appointments previously served in Bill Clinton’s administration. Which of the following comes closest to your view?

**\*\*Order in which options were read was rotated\*\***

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
It's good to have people with experience	86.5	85.5	87.2
This undercuts the message of change	8.4	8.3	8.5
Don't know/Refused	5.1	6.2	4.2

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**As Secretary of State, do you believe Hillary Clinton will project a positive image of America to the world, a negative image of America to the world, or make no difference in America's image to the world?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Positive	79.6	76.7	81.8
Negative	1.3	1.4	1.3
No difference	14.4	16.1	13.1
Not sure	4.2	4.8	3.8
Refused	0.5	1	0

**Do you think Barack Obama changed his position on any important issues in order to get elected, or not?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Strongly acceptable	15.8	13.2	17.7
Somewhat acceptable	8.2	10.3	6.6
Somewhat unacceptable	9.6	9.5	9.6
Strongly unacceptable	61.5	61.9	61.3
Don't know/Not sure	4.2	4.9	3.6
Refused	0.8	0.2	1.2

**I'm going to read a list of things that some people do. For each, thinking about your own values and morals, I'd like you to tell me whether you think it is acceptable or unacceptable.**

**The first is sex between two adults of the same sex. Is that acceptable or unacceptable? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Strongly acceptable	15.8	13.2	17.7
Somewhat acceptable	8.2	10.3	6.6
Somewhat unacceptable	9.6	9.5	9.6
Strongly unacceptable	61.5	61.9	61.3
Don't know/ not sure	4.2	4.9	3.6
Refused	0.8	0.2	1.2

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The next is marriages between blacks and whites. Is that acceptable or unacceptable? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Strongly acceptable	73.5	69.2	76.8
Somewhat acceptable	18.5	20.6	16.9
Somewhat unacceptable	1.8	2.6	1.3
Strongly unacceptable	2.8	3	2.7
Don't know/Not sure	2.8	3.8	2.1
Refused	0.5	0.8	0.3

The next is having a child without being married. Is that acceptable or unacceptable? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Strongly acceptable	27.1	24.2	29.3
Somewhat acceptable	28.8	28.1	29.4
Somewhat unacceptable	15.6	17.3	14.3
Strongly unacceptable	24.6	24.6	24.6
Don't know/Not sure	3.1	4.8	1.8
Refused	0.8	0.9	0.7

Blacks using the "N-word" in everyday conversation? Is that acceptable or unacceptable? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Strongly acceptable	7.1	5	8.7
Somewhat acceptable	7.8	6.9	8.5
Somewhat unacceptable	9.9	10.8	9.3
Strongly unacceptable	72.7	73.6	72.1
Don't know/Not sure	2	3	1.2
Refused	0.5	0.7	0.3

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**Whites using the “N-word” in everyday conversation? Is that acceptable or unacceptable? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Strongly acceptable	2.7	1.7	3.5
Somewhat acceptable	3.4	2.8	3.8
Somewhat unacceptable	6.3	6.3	6.2
Strongly unacceptable	85.2	85.5	85
Don't know/Not sure	1.9	2.9	1.1
Refused	0.5	0.7	0.3

**Which of the following best represents your feelings: What happens generally to black people in this country...**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Has a GREAT DEAL of impact on what happens in my own life	34.9	33.3	36.1
Has SOME IMPACT on what happens in my own life	52.3	52	52.4
Has ALMOST NO impact on what happens in my own life	12.9	14.7	11.5

**Do you think abortion should be legal under any circumstances, legal only under certain circumstances, or illegal in all circumstances?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Any	17.4	17.6	17.2
Certain	52.7	50	54.8
Illegal	25.3	27.8	23.3
Not sure	3.2	3.2	3.3
Refused	1.4	1.4	1.3

**Some people say that since the 1960s there has been a lot of real progress in getting rid of racial discrimination against blacks in the South. Others say that there hasn't been much real progress for blacks over that time. Which do you agree with more? Would you say there's been a lot of real progress getting rid of racial discrimination or hasn't there been much real progress?**

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	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
A lot of real progress	52.2	50.6	53.3
Hasn't been much real progress	40.5	44	37.8
Not sure	7.3	5.3	8.9
Refused	0	0	0

Now thinking about the country as a whole, some people say that since the 1960s there has been a lot of real progress in getting rid of racial discrimination against blacks in America. Others say that there hasn't been much real progress for blacks over that time. Which do you agree with more? Would you say there's been a lot of real progress getting rid of racial discrimination or hasn't there been much real progress?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
A lot of real progress	60.3	58.6	61.6
Hasn't been much real progress	33.7	33.9	33.5
Not sure	5.9	7.2	4.9
Refused	0.1	0.3	0

What about for other minority groups? Would you say there's been a lot of real progress getting rid of discrimination in America or hasn't there been much real progress?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
A lot of real progress	43.1	41	44.6
Hasn't been much real progress	43.7	46.6	41.5
Not sure	12.7	11.8	13.5
Refused	0.5	0.7	0.4

Do you think that the election of Barack Obama as president will lead to more real progress in getting rid of discrimination in America?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Yes	74.3	72.6	75.6
No	14.7	16.1	13.7
Not sure	11	11.4	10.7
Refused	0	0	0

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How comfortable do you think most people feel when they do have conversations **ABOUT** race with someone **of another race** — very comfortable, somewhat comfortable, somewhat uncomfortable or very uncomfortable?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Very comfortable	11.4	10.7	12
Somewhat comfortable	34.5	34.6	34.3
Somewhat uncomfortable	37.9	38.8	37.3
Very uncomfortable	12.5	11.8	12.9
Don't know/Refused	3.7	4.1	3.4

Did the 2008 presidential election make it easier or more difficult to have conversations about race with people **of another race**?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Easier	57.8	56.3	59
More difficult	20.7	21.5	20.1
Don't know/Refused	21.4	22.1	20.9

How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Very good	1.8	1.4	2
Fairly good	10.7	12.4	9.3
Fairly bad	21.2	18.6	23.1
Very bad	63.8	64.6	63.2
Don't Know/Refused	2.5	2.9	2.2

How would you rate the condition of **your personal finances** these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?

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	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Very good	9.1	8.7	9.4
Fairly good	52.6	54.2	51.4
Fairly bad	21	19.1	22.5
Very bad	15.5	16.2	15
Don't know/Refused	1.8	1.8	1.8

**How important would you say religion is in your own life: Very important, fairly important, or not very important?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Very important	88.8	88.1	89.3
Fairly important	7.7	8.1	7.4
Not very important	2.8	3.5	2.3
Refused	0.7	0.2	1

**How would you describe your political beliefs: Very Liberal, Somewhat Liberal, Moderate, Somewhat Conservative, Very Conservative?**

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Very liberal	15.1	12.3	17.2
Somewhat liberal	18.8	16.6	20.6
Moderate	30.6	32.5	29.1
Somewhat conservative	16.6	19.9	14.2
Very conservative	11.8	10.8	12.6
Not sure	6	7.4	5
Refused	1	0.5	1.3

**Which of the following best describes your regional identity?**

**\*\*\*The order of the responses was rotated\*\*\***

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Non-southern	9.3	7.1	11

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Converted southerner	9.8	7.2	11.8
Native southerner	75.2	79.6	71.9
Not sure [volunteered]	4.5	4.6	4.4
Don't know/Refused	1.2	1.6	1

Regardless of how you voted in the last election, in general, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Democrat	80.1	74.5	84.3
Republican	2.1	2.2	2.1
Independent	12.3	17.5	8.3
Something else	3.4	3.1	3.6
Don't know/Refused	2.1	2.7	1.7

Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party is more likely to ensure a strong economy?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Republican	5	6.6	3.8
Democratic	79.8	73.1	85
Both [volunteered]	5	6.8	3.7
Neither [volunteered]	4.9	7.2	3.2
Don't know/Refused	5.2	6.3	4.4

Right now, do you think that economic conditions in the country as a whole are getting better or getting worse?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Getting better	20.1	20.9	19.5
Getting worse	69.2	67.8	70.3
Don't know/Refused	10.7	11.2	10.2

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How concerned are you about the possibility of losing your job in the next year? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned...

\*\*\*Among those who reported working outside the home\*\*\*

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Very concerned	38.7	39.6	38
Somewhat concerned	22.9	26.2	20.4
Not very concerned	12.1	12.1	12.2
Not at all concerned	26.3	22.2	29.4

Thinking about the economy, do you think things are better for blacks than other groups, about the same for blacks, or worse for blacks in the current economic environment?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Better	8.3	8.1	8.5
Same	48.5	53.2	45
Worse	38.7	34.6	41.8
Don't know/Refused	4.5	4.1	4.8

Right now do you think that your financial situation as a whole is getting better or getting worse?

	All	Deep South	Peripheral South
Better	39.1	37.7	40.2
Worse	43.3	44.9	42
Don't know/Refused	17.6	17.4	17.8

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