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2016 NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE OF THE STATE POLL

For Immediate Release

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PRS Policy Brief 1516-08
May 4, 2016

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HANOVER, NH—The Nelson A. Rockefeller Center’s ninth annual NH State of the State Poll surveyed a sample of New Hampshire registered voters (N=362) from April 11-15, 2016 to assess their opinions on policy issues, elected officials, and the state of the economy in New Hampshire and in the United States. The sample error rate is +/- 5.15 percent at a 95 percent confidence interval. Sample demographics and polling methodology are summarized at the end of this report.

1. POLL HEADLINES

1. **State of the Economy:** New Hampshire voters are more optimistic about the state economy than they were last year—42.4 percent of respondents report that the state of the economy is “excellent” or “good,” up from 25.2 percent last year. However, they were more pessimistic about the national economy; only 24.1 percent thought the state of the national economy was “excellent” or “good,” down from 35.1 percent in 2015.
2. **Ayotte/Hassan Favorability:** Slightly more New Hampshire voters have a favorable opinion of Senator Kelly Ayotte than an unfavorable opinion, but the Senator’s ratings have dropped since last year. Overall, 35.0 percent of respondents reported a favorable opinion of Senator Ayotte—a decrease from 41.5 percent in 2015—while 30.0 percent had an unfavorable opinion—an increase from 23.2 percent in 2015. Roughly forty percent of respondents (40.6 percent) report having a favorable opinion of Governor Maggie Hassan (about the same as 41.6 percent in 2015 and up from 28.0 percent in 2014). Similarly, 20 percent of respondents have an unfavorable opinion of the governor, about the same as last year.
3. **Ayotte/Hassan Job Approval:** The percentage of respondents who approved of Senator Ayotte’s job performance was slightly higher than the percentage that disapproved this year. In 2016, 37.3 percent of respondents approve of Ayotte’s job performance, and 31.3 percent disapprove. This is a sharp contrast to last year’s numbers. In 2015, 43.2 percent of respondents approved of Ayotte’s job performance, and 19.6 percent disapproved. Consistent with poll results from the last two years, 48.6 percent of respondents approve of the job Governor Hassan is doing, while only 22.5 percent disapprove in 2016.
4. **Ayotte-Hassan Senate Race:** It is a close race between Hassan and Ayotte, with 37.3 percent of the respondents supporting Ayotte, 34.5 percent supporting Hassan, and 28.2 percent unsure. Both nominees enjoy majority support within their own parties with 68.9 percent of Democrats supporting Hassan, and 69.7 percent of Republicans for Ayotte. The independents are relatively evenly split with 27.1 percent supporting Ayotte, 31.0 percent supporting Hassan, and 41.9 percent unsure.
5. **Presidential Race: Clinton Match-ups:** In 2016, Clinton leads Cruz—34.3 percent to 32.6 percent, with 33.1 percent unsure—but she no longer holds a



- significant lead that she held in last year's poll. Clinton also has a slight lead over Trump—33.7 percent to 29.4 percent, with 36.8 percent of respondents unsure. In the Clinton-Kasich match-up, Kasich leads by more 27 points—52.7 percent to 25.7 percent, with 21.6 unsure.
6. **Presidential Race—Sanders Match-ups:** In the Sanders-Trump match-up, Sanders leads by more than 20 points—49.0 percent to 28.4 percent, with 22.7 unsure. Sanders also has a significant lead over Cruz—48.4 percent to 25.6 percent, with 26.0 percent unsure. The Kasich-Sanders match-up is a close one in New Hampshire with Kasich leading but within the margin of error on the poll—43.6 percent support Kasich versus 39.3 percent for Sanders, with 17.2 percent unsure.
 7. **Presidential Race—Paul Ryan Match-ups:** In the match-up between Clinton and Ryan, Ryan leads with 38.5 percent of the vote while Clinton garners 32.3 percent, and 29.2 percent of New Hampshire voters remain unsure. When Ryan and Sanders are matched, Sanders leads by about 12 points—44.4 percent to 32.2 percent, with 23.7 unsure.
 8. **Opioid Problem in NH:** A large majority of respondents (75.0 percent) thought that opioid problem in New Hampshire was “very serious.” Respondents were then asked how effective the state of New Hampshire has been in handling the opioid epidemic. A large plurality of respondents (45 percent) felt that New Hampshire has been “not at all effective.” Thirty-four percent of respondents felt the state has been “somewhat effective,” and only 2.4 percent felt the state had been “very effective.” Half of the respondents (50.1 percent) indicated that they did personally know someone affected by the opioid problem, while 47.5 indicated no personal connection.

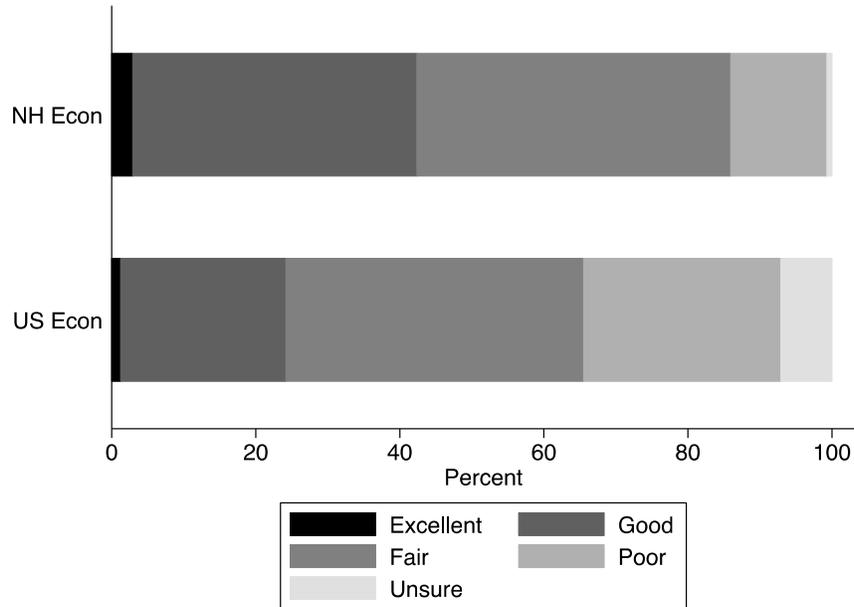


2. ECONOMY

2.1 State versus National Economy

Overall, New Hampshire voters are more optimistic about the state economy than they are about the national economy. More than 40 percent of the respondents (42.4 percent) report that the state economy is “excellent” or “good,” up from 25.2 percent last year. However, more they were more pessimistic about the national economy as only 24.1 percent of the respondent view the state of the national economy as “excellent” or “good,” down from 35.1 percent in 2015.

Figure 1: Perceptions of the New Hampshire and National Economy



Fewer respondents also indicated that the economy is “fair” (41.3 percent), as compared to last year (48.4 percent). More respondents described the national economy as “poor”—27.4 percent this year compared to 16.5 percent last year. Nonetheless, 2016 still represents an improvement over 2014 when no respondents described the national economy as “excellent” and only 16 percent indicated it was “good.”

2.2 Personal Finances

When asked to compare their current personal economic situation to their economic situation one year ago, 20.3 percent of respondents believe they are “better off” than one year ago, up from 15.6 percent in 2015. Down from 68.9 percent last year, 64.4 percent

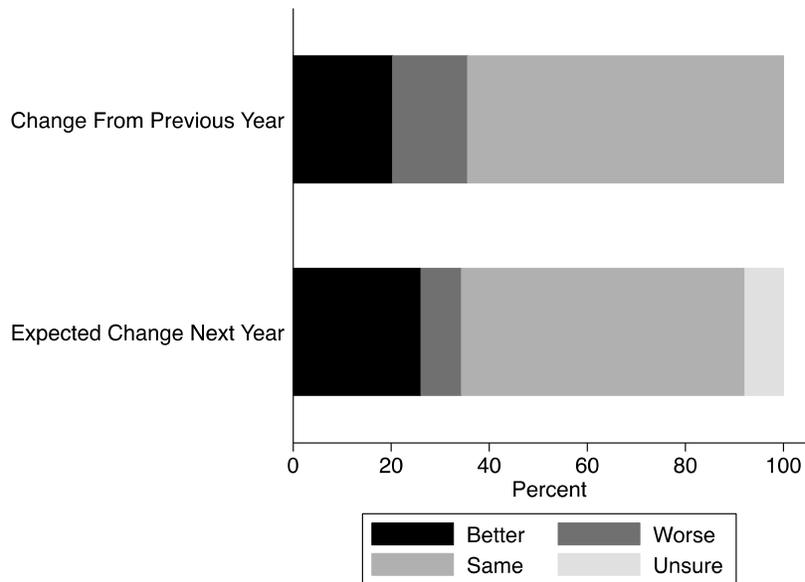


of respondents say they are “about the same.” In this poll, 15.3 percent reported they are “worse off” economically, a number almost identical to last year’s 15.6 percent.

This marks the leveling off of a trend observed in the State of the State polls since 2010. Since 2010, the percentage of respondents who perceive their personal finances to be “worse off” this year than the last has been decreasing. In 2010, 38 percent of New Hampshire voters believed themselves to be “worse off,” falling to 34 percent in 2011, 29 percent in 2012, 24 percent in 2013, and 20 percent in 2014.

When respondents were asked whether their expected financial situation will be better, worse, or about the same one year from now, the majority of respondents (57.8 percent) believed it would be “about the same” and 26.0 percent believed that it would be “better.” Both figures are consistent with previous years.

Figure 2: Statement of Personal Finances



3. CURRENT OFFICE HOLDERS

As the 2016 election season intensifies, our poll asked New Hampshire voters about their opinions on President Barack Obama, Senator Kelly Ayotte, and Governor Maggie Hassan. Poll results found more favorable opinions for state office holders as compared to opinions on national officeholders.

3.1 Favorability

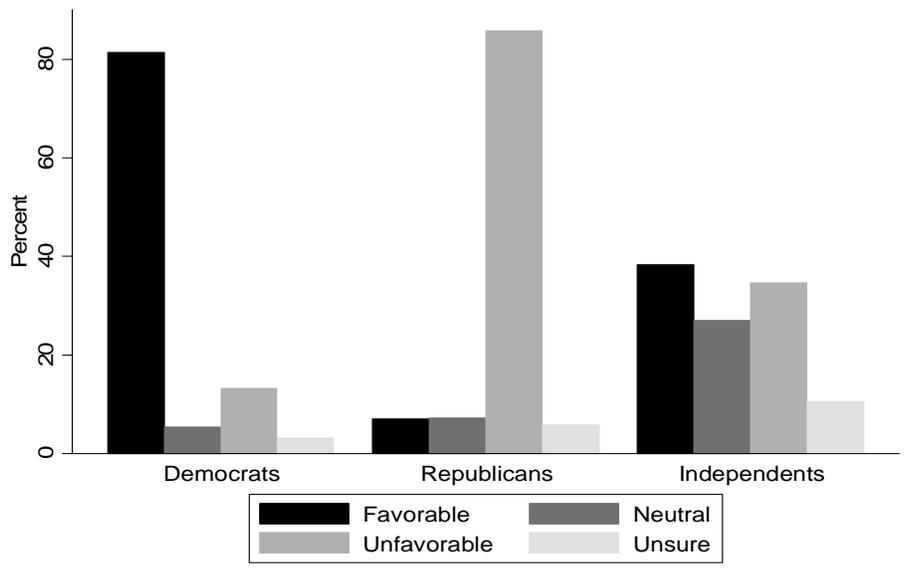
3.1.1 Obama Favorability

For President Barack Obama, more respondents in New Hampshire had an unfavorable opinion (43.9 percent) of him than favorable opinion (37.8 percent). However, opinions



split largely down party lines, as seen in Figure 3 below. Consequently, 78.9 percent of registered Democrats had a favorable opinion of the President compared to only 6.6 percent of registered Republicans. On the other hand, 81.8 percent of registered Republicans in New Hampshire had an unfavorable opinion of the President, while only 12.8 percent of Democrats did. A slightly higher percentage of independents in New Hampshire held a favorable opinion (34.6 percent) of President Obama than an unfavorable opinion (31.3 percent).

Figure 3: President Obama’s Favorability in 2016 by Party Identification



3.1.2 Ayotte Favorability

Slightly more New Hampshire voters have a favorable opinion of Senator Kelly Ayotte than an unfavorable opinion, but the Senator’s ratings have dropped since last year. Overall, 35.0 percent of respondents reported a favorable opinion of Senator Ayotte—a decrease from 41.5 percent in 2015—while 30.0 percent had an unfavorable opinion—an increase from 23.2 percent in 2015.

3.1.3 Hassan Favorability

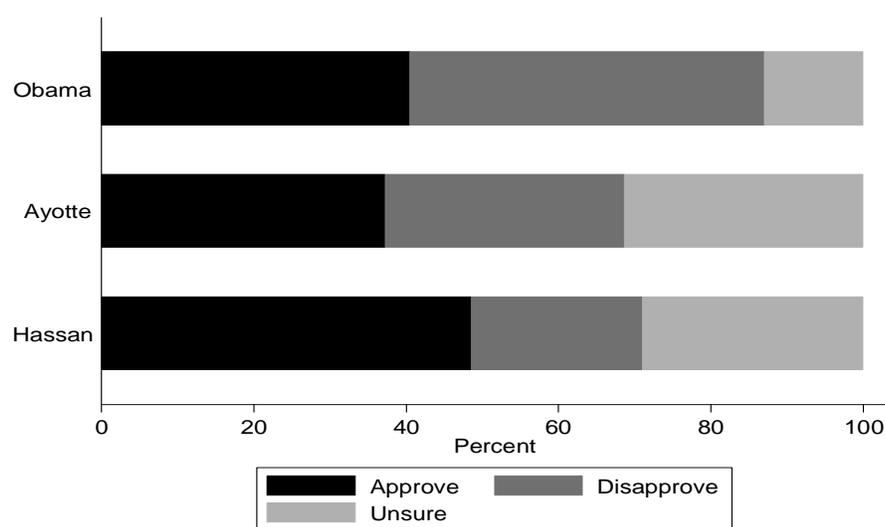
Roughly forty percent of respondents (40.6 percent) report having a favorable opinion of Governor Maggie Hassan (about the same as 41.6 percent in 2015 and up from 28.0 percent in 2014). Similarly, 20 percent of respondents have an unfavorable opinion of the governor, about the same as last year.



3.2 Job Approval

President Obama, Senator Ayotte, and Governor Hassan all have an approval rating of approximately 40 percent. While about a third of respondents are unsure about how they feel about their senator's and governor's job performances, only 13 percent are unsure about how they think Obama has performed. Disapproval ratings range widely between 22 and 45 percent.

Figure 4: Comparison of President Obama's, Senator Ayotte's, and Governor Hassan's Job Approval Ratings



3.2.1 Obama Job Approval

When asked to evaluate the way President Obama is handling his job, 46.5 percent of the respondents disapprove of his handling of the job, and 40.5 percent approve. These numbers have converged since last year when 50.4 percent of respondents disapproved and only 34.1 percent approved of Obama's job performance. President Obama enjoys support among Democrats with 77.6 percent of respondents approving of his job performance, up from 64.9 percent last year. His approval rating among New Hampshire independents has increased to 40.5 percent compared to 30.2 percent last year, and it has fallen among Republicans to 8.0 percent, down from 13.4 percent last year.

3.2.2 Ayotte Job Approval

The percentage of respondents who approved of Senator Ayotte's job performance was similar to the percentage that disapproved. In 2016, 37.3 percent of respondents approve of Ayotte's job performance, and 31.3 percent disapprove. This is a sharp



contrast to last year's numbers. In 2015, 43.2 percent of respondents approved of Ayotte's job performance, and 19.6 percent disapproved.

3.2.3 Hassan Job Approval

Consistent with poll results from the last two years, 48.6 percent of respondents approve of the job Governor Hassan is doing, while only 22.5 percent disapprove.

4. 2016 ELECTIONS

4.1 Presidential Elections

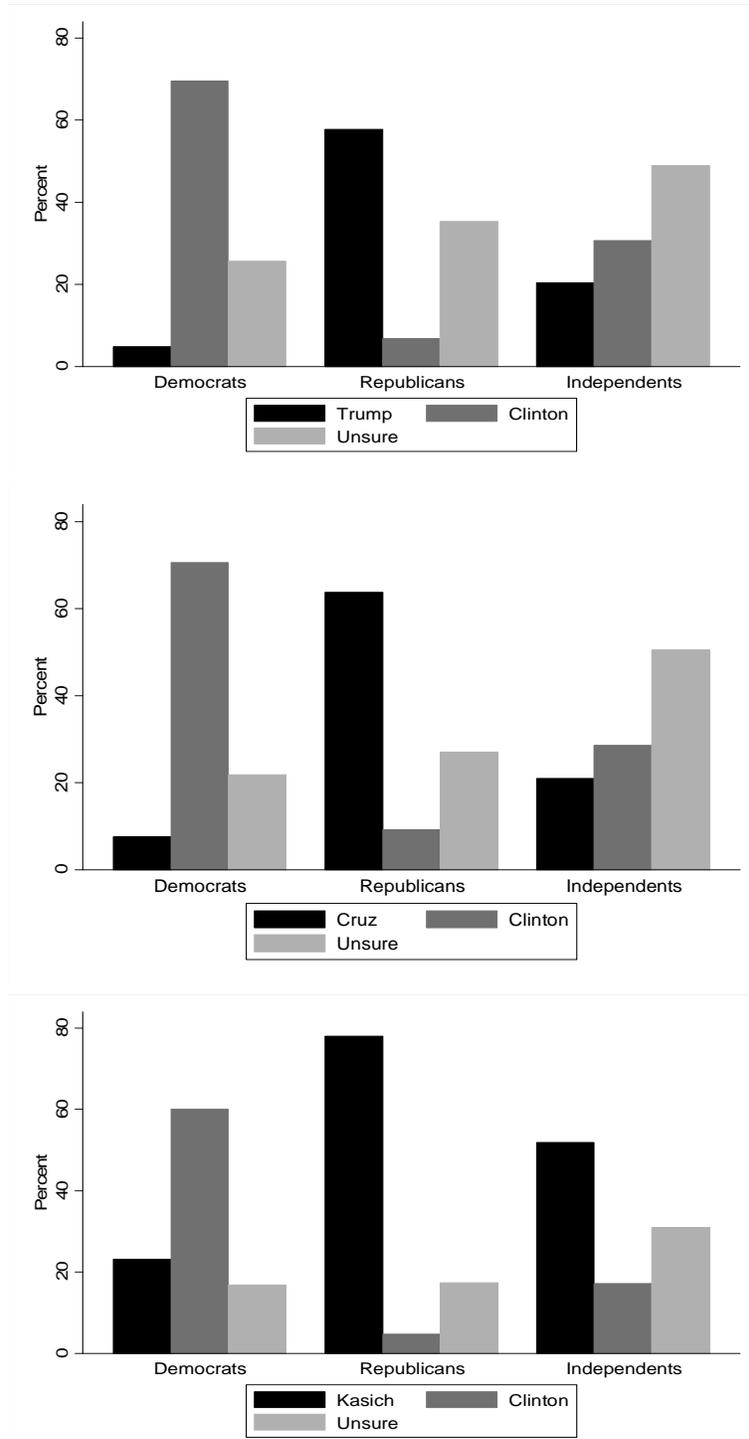
New Hampshire voters were asked a barrage of questions about potential matchups between potential Democratic nominees Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, and potential Republican nominees Donald Trump, Ted Cruz, and John Kasich for the upcoming 2016 election. Also included is a match-up of the two Democratic candidates against Republican Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, which represents the case of an election where a new candidate emerges from a brokered Republican convention. The survey went into the field prior to Rep. Ryan's announcement regarding his potential candidacy. New match-ups this year show a competitive race in New Hampshire. The results are presented in the figures below.

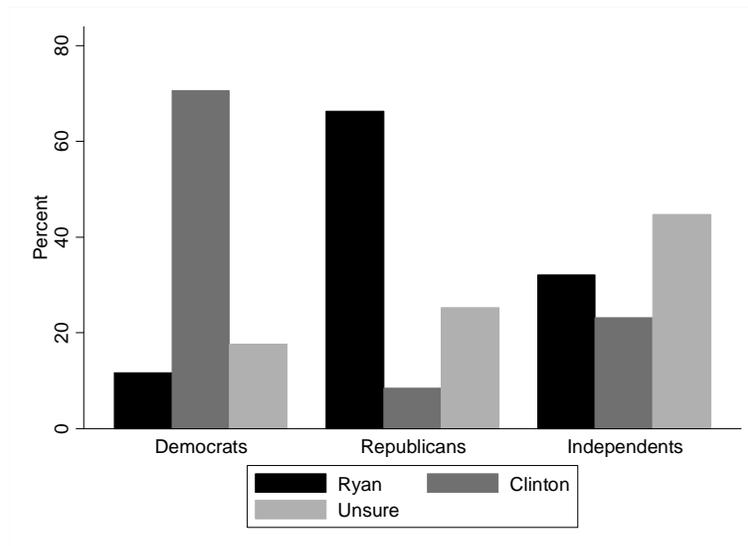
4.1.1 Clinton versus Republican Candidates

Of the candidate match-ups presented in the 2016 State of the State Poll, one of these match-ups was tested in the 2015 poll—the Clinton-Cruz pairing. In the 2015 match-up between Clinton and Cruz, Clinton led by more than ten points—39.6 percent to 28.7 percent, with 31.7 percent unsure. **In 2016, Clinton remains ahead of Cruz, but she no longer holds a significant lead—34.3 percent to 32.6 percent, with 33.1 percent unsure.** The other match-ups with Clinton include those against Republican candidates Donald Trump and John Kasich. **Clinton has a slight lead over Trump—33.7 percent to 29.4 percent, with 36.8 percent of respondents unsure. In the Clinton-Kasich match-up, Kasich leads by more 27 points—52.7 percent to 25.7 percent, with 21.6 unsure.** This lead by Kasich over Clinton is well outside the margin of error for the survey. Kasich does the best of the three Republican candidates with Republican voters against Clinton, with close 80 percent support, as well as with Undeclared/independent voters, capturing more than half of these voters. Kasich also draws support from more than 20 percent of registered Democrats.



Figure 5: Democratic Candidate Hillary Clinton versus Republican Candidates Donald Trump, Ted Cruz, and John Kasich and Speaker of the House Paul Ryan





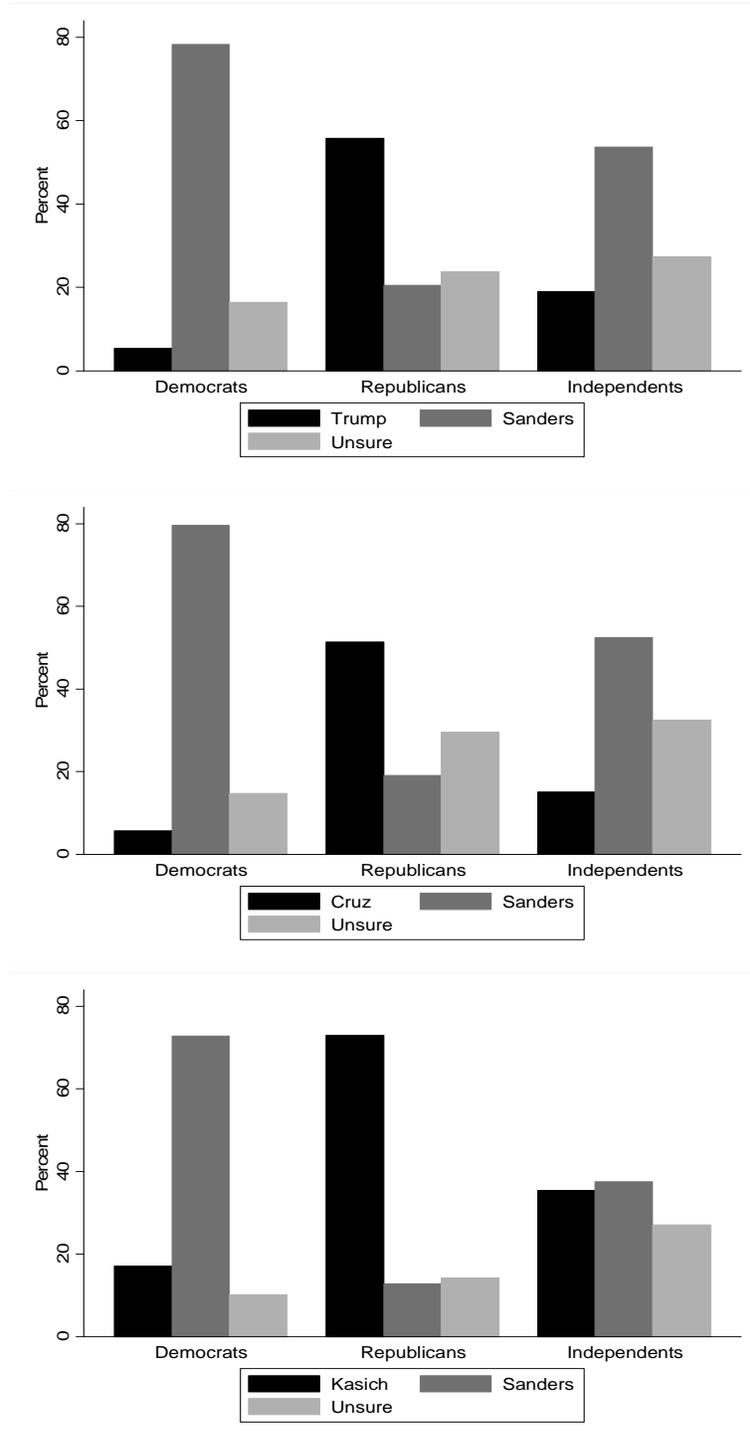
4.1.2 Sanders versus Republican Candidates

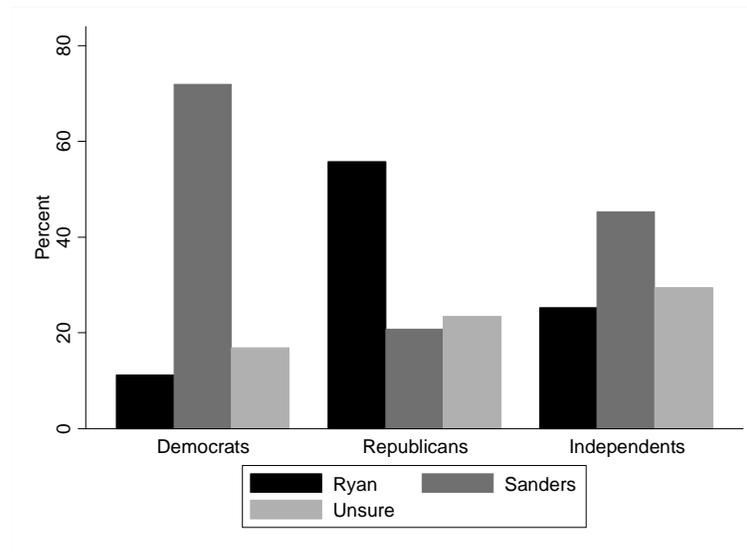
Bernie Sanders emerged as a potential Democratic nominee over the past year. In the 2015 State of the State Poll, he was not included as a candidate. **In the Sanders-Trump match-up, Sanders leads by more than 20 points—49.0 percent to 28.4 percent, with 22.7 unsure. Sanders also has a significant lead over Cruz—48.4 percent to 25.6 percent, with 26.0 percent unsure. The Kasich-Sanders match-up is a close one in New Hampshire with Kasich leading but within the margin of error on the poll—43.6 percent support Kasich versus 39.3 percent for Sanders, with 17.2 percent unsure.**

It is noteworthy that about a third of independents would support either Ryan or Kasich, whereas Trump and Cruz both fail to win independents. Fewer than 20 percent of independents say they would vote for either Trump or Cruz in the general election in any of the match-ups below.



Figure 6: Democratic Candidate Bernie Sanders versus Republican Candidates Donald Trump, Ted Cruz, and John Kasich and Speaker of the House Paul Ryan





4.1.3 *Brokered Convention*

To gauge voter opinion on the possibility of a brokered Republican convention, respondents were asked about a hypothetical matchup between a new Republican candidate and each of the Democratic candidates. The hypothetical candidate was Speaker of the House Paul Ryan. **In the match-up between Clinton and Ryan, Ryan leads with 38.5 percent of the vote while Clinton earns 32.3 percent, and 29.2 percent of New Hampshire voters remain unsure. When Ryan and Sanders are matched, Sanders leads by about 12 points—44.4 percent to 32.2 percent, with 23.7 unsure.** Overall, support for Ryan, broken down by party affiliation, was comparable to any of the Republican candidates in the above match-ups.

4.1.4 *Voter Satisfaction and Likelihood to Vote*

In addition to the eight match-ups, respondents were asked about their satisfaction with the current choices for presidential candidates. **Only 8.0 percent of respondents were “very satisfied” with their choices.** The plurality of respondents were “somewhat satisfied” at 37.8 percent, 26.8 percent were “not very satisfied,” and 27.3 were “not at all satisfied.” **The unhappiest with their choices are independents, 38.6 of whom are “not at all satisfied.”** In contrast, nearly half of both the Republicans (at 45.3 percent) and the Democrats (at 47.7 percent), are somewhat satisfied with their choices.

Despite such high levels of dissatisfaction, the majority of respondents, regardless of party affiliation, said that they would vote in the fall even if their preferred candidate does not win the nomination. Approximately 70 percent of all Democrats, Republicans, and independents surveyed said they are likely to still vote.

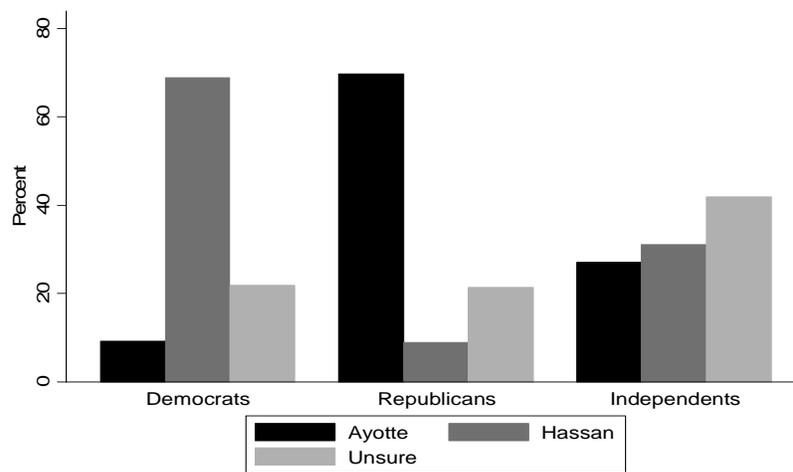


4.2 2016 New Hampshire Senate Race

In 2016, there is also a Senate seat up for election. Respondents were asked to choose between the incumbent U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte as the Republican nominee and New Hampshire Governor Maggie Hassan as the Democratic nominee.

It is a close race for Hassan and Ayotte, with 37.3 percent of the respondents supporting Ayotte, 34.5 percent supporting Hassan, and 28.2 percent unsure. These numbers remain consistent with results from the 2015 poll, and show that respondents are largely divided down party lines. **Both nominees enjoy majority support within their party with 68.9 percent of Democrats supporting Hassan, and 69.7 percent of Republicans for Ayotte.** The independents are relatively evenly split with 27.1 percent supporting Ayotte, 31.0 percent supporting Hassan, and 41.9 percent unsure.

Figure 7: Republican Candidate Ayotte versus Democratic Candidate Hassan



4.3 2016 New Hampshire Gubernatorial Race

The poll asked New Hampshire voters about their opinions on each of the seven gubernatorial candidates. The Republican candidates include Executive Councilor Christopher Sununu, Mayor Ted Gatsas, State Representative Frank Edelblut, and State Senator Jeanie Forrester. The Democratic candidates are Executive Councilor Colin Van Ostern, Deputy Secretary of State Mark Connolly, and Mayor Steve Marchand.

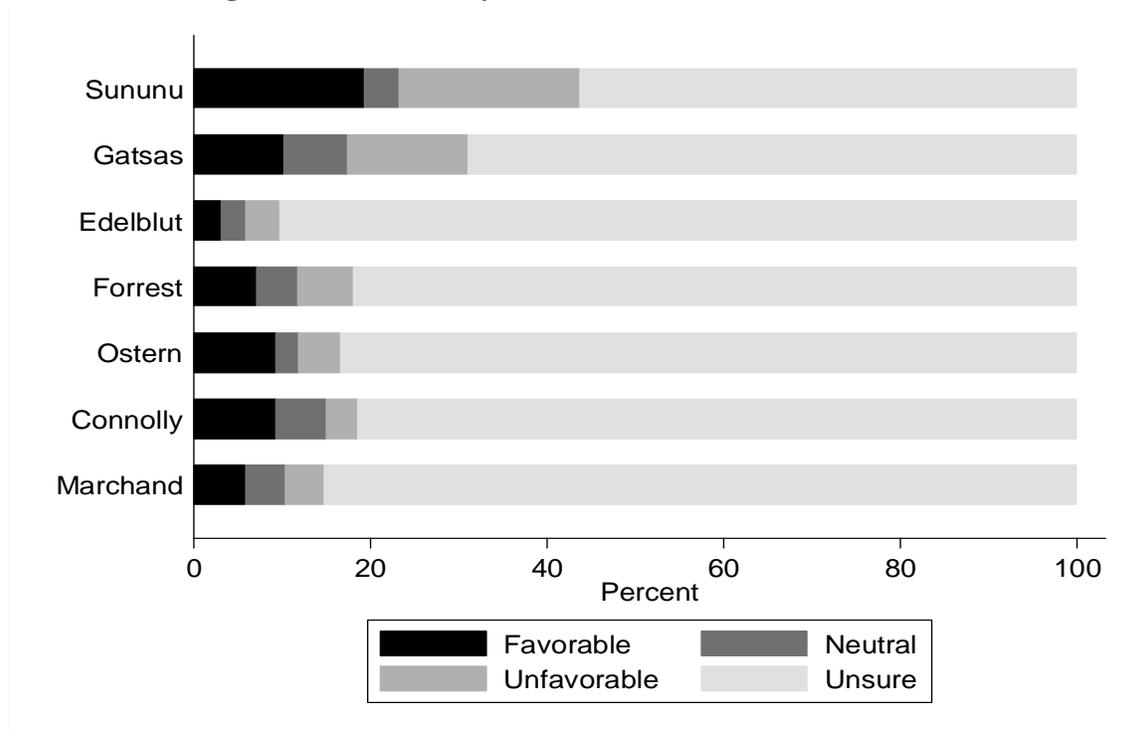
4.3.1 Gubernatorial Candidates' Favorability

As seen in Figure 8, most New Hampshire voters remain unsure or neutral in their opinion on each of the gubernatorial candidates. With 56.3 percent of the respondents unsure, Sununu is the only candidate with notable favorability ratings. Similar numbers of respondents had a favorable opinion of Sununu (19.4 percent) as had an unfavorable



opinion (20.3 percent). Here again, the vote splits down party lines as 35.3 percent of Republicans voice a favorable opinion of Sununu, yet 36.7 percent of Democrats hold an unfavorable opinion. Public Policy Polling results find higher rates of name recognition (ranging from 16 to 67 percent) for gubernatorial candidates as well as high rates of support (typically upwards of 30 percent) for candidates in head-to-head match-ups. However, these results may reflect voting cues of partisan affiliation rather than true name recognition of the candidates, considering the fact that the results of this poll indicate much lower rates of name recognition among the respondents than seen in the Public Policy Polling results in which questions emphasized party affiliation of the candidates.

Figure 8: Favorability of the Gubernatorial Candidates



5. OPIOIDS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

A series of questions was asked to assess public perception of different facets of the opioid epidemic in New Hampshire. Questions were constrained to address New Hampshire alone.

5.1 *Seriousness of Opioid Epidemic and Effectiveness of State Response*

New Hampshire voters were asked how serious they thought the opioid problem in New Hampshire was. **A large majority of respondents (75.0 percent) thought that opioid problem in New Hampshire was “very serious.”** This was consistent across party lines

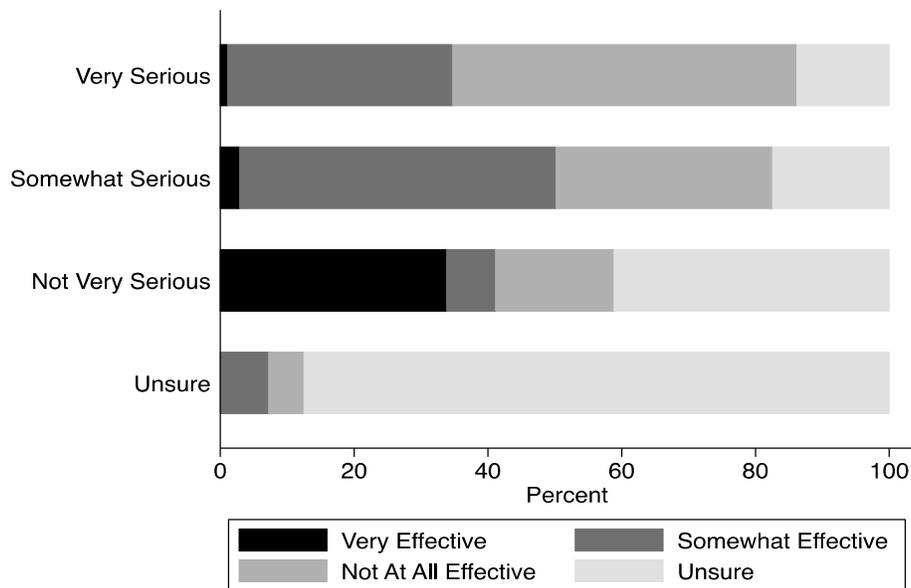


with 77.9 percent of Democrats, 74.6 percent of Republicans, and 73.0 percent of independents indicating that the opioid epidemic is a “very serious” problem.

Respondents were then asked how effective New Hampshire has been in handling the opioid epidemic. A large plurality of respondents (45 percent) felt that New Hampshire has been “not at all effective.” Thirty-four percent of respondents felt the state has been “somewhat effective,” and only 2.4 percent felt the state had been “very effective.”

When state effectiveness and seriousness of the epidemic are combined, the trend is especially stark. Of the 75.0 percent of respondents who felt the opioid problem in New Hampshire was “very serious,” 51.5 percent felt the state had been “not at all effective” in its response, and only 1.1 percent felt the state had been “very effective.” Respondents who were unsure about the severity of the opioid crisis (4.4 percent) were similarly unsure about New Hampshire’s effectiveness with 87.0 percent indicating they were unsure about how effective New Hampshire has been.

Figure 9: Opinion on the Seriousness of the Opioid Epidemic and the Effectiveness of New Hampshire’s State Response



5.2 Personal Connection and Insurance Coverage

New Hampshire voters were then asked whether they personally knew someone who has ever abused or been addicted to opioids, such as prescription pain killers, heroin, or fentanyl. **Half of the respondents (50.1 percent) indicated that they did personally know someone affected, while 47.5 indicated no personal connection.**

Respondents’ responses showed a positive relationship between knowing someone who

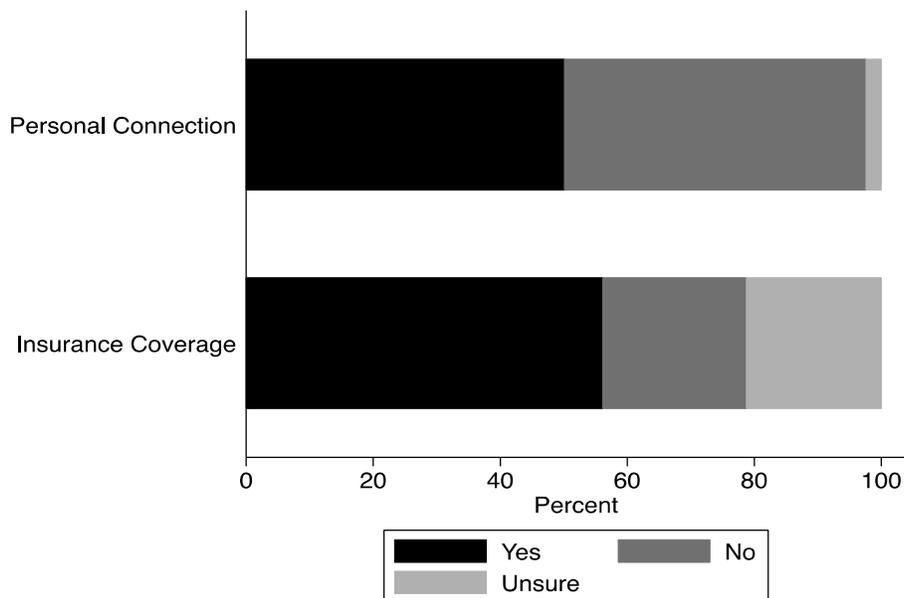


had abused or been addicted to opioids and a stronger evaluation of the seriousness of the opioid crisis; of those with a personal connection, 84.4 percent of respondents indicated that the opioid problem was “very serious.” This response is higher than the overall response of 75.0 percent of respondents indicating that the opioid problem was “very serious.”

Respondents were also asked if private health insurers should be required to provide coverage for drug treatment programs for those addicted to opioids. **A majority of respondents (56.2 percent) thought drug treatment programs should be covered by private insurers, 22.6 percent disagreed, and 21.2 percent were unsure.**

Personal connection did not have a significant effect on whether respondents believed private insurance should cover addiction treatment. Of the respondents with a personal connection, 57.6 percent believed private health insurers be required to provide coverage. Similarly, 54.4 percent of the respondents who did not have a personal connection still believed that private insurance should cover addiction treatment.

Figure 10: Personal Connection to the Opioid Epidemic and Opinion on Insurance Coverage for Addiction Treatment



5.3 *Addiction as a Disease and Insurance Coverage*

New Hampshire voters were asked whether they agreed with the statement that addiction is a disease. **Over three-fourths of respondents (79.0 percent) either “strongly agreed” or “somewhat agreed” that addiction is a disease.** Eight percent somewhat disagreed, and 9.2 percent strongly disagreed. Regardless of party affiliation, the majority of respondents agree with this statement. Democrats show the highest level of agreement, with 91.1 percent saying that they “strongly agree” or “somewhat agree” addiction is a



disease. Of Republicans, 69.3 percent answered the same, and 78.0 percent of independents strongly or somewhat agree as well.

When asked if private insurance should cover addiction treatment, respondents who believed addiction is a disease were more likely to agree to insurance coverage. Respondents who answered that they “strongly agree” addiction is a disease were the most likely to support coverage for drug treatment programs, with 70.2 percent of respondents in this category supporting coverage, as compared to 56.2 percent in the general pool of respondents. On the other hand, respondents who “strongly disagreed” with the statement that addiction is a disease were the least likely group to support private insurance coverage. Of respondents who disagreed that addiction was a disease, a majority (55 percent) oppose requiring private health insurers to provide coverage for drug treatment programs.

6. POLICY ISSUES

New Hampshire voters were asked a series of questions to assess their views on a variety of issues including refugees and immigration, gun control laws, causes of mass shootings, and the death penalty.

6.1 *Refugees*

Respondents were asked two questions about refugees. First, whether they support the resettlement of refugees in New Hampshire as part of a larger resettlement plan, and second whether they support the United States accepting refugees. As seen in figure 11, a not-in-my-backyard problem emerges. **A plurality of New Hampshire voters (38.9 percent) opposes resettlement of refugees in New Hampshire, compared to 35.2 percent who support resettlement in the state.** However, when the question was posed as whether the United States as a whole should accept refugees, a larger number of New Hampshire voters (47.1 percent) support accepting refugees, with only 29.5 percent in opposition. Among the respondents who are unsure whether New Hampshire should accept refugees (28.6 percent of the general pool), 42.3 percent support accepting refugees as a country, and 44.8 percent are against it.

Each of these issues was strongly partisan with over a 30-point gap between respondents with clear party affiliations for each of the issues. **For the United States accepting refugees as a whole, the issue divides starkly along party lines: 69.0 percent of Democrats agree versus 22.6 percent of Republicans.** This is a 46.4 point gap between the two parties. Additionally, 54.2 percent of independents also support accepting refugees.

On the topic of resettling refugees in New Hampshire specifically, 49.6 Democrats are in support as compared to only 13.0 percent of Republicans and 38.5 percent of independents.

Figure 11: Support for Accepting Refugees in the United States by Party Identification

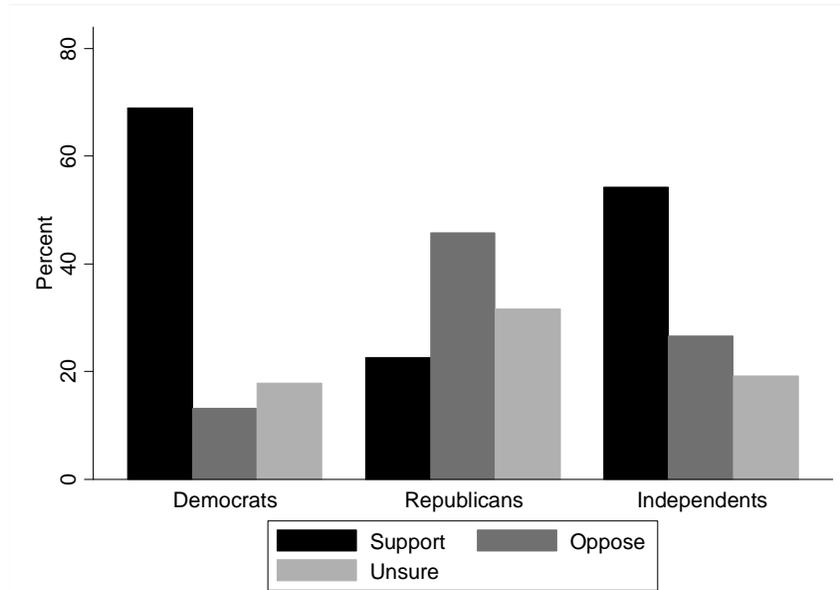
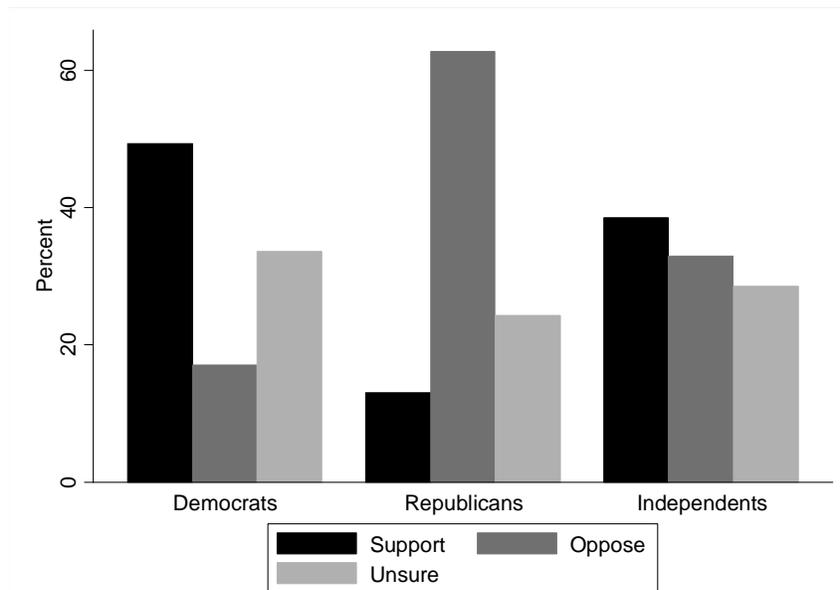


Figure 12: Support for the Resettlement of Refugees in New Hampshire by Party Identification



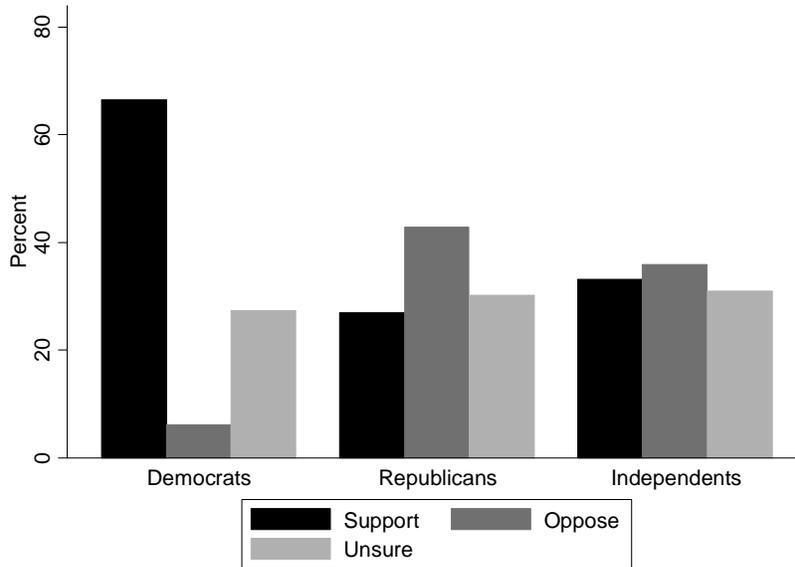
6.2 Immigration

When asked about immigration, a plurality of respondents (41.2 percent) support a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, 29.3 percent do not support, and 29.5 percent remain unsure. For pathway to citizenship, 66.5 percent of Democrats



support it whereas only 30.0 percent of Republicans do, and 33.2 independents do as well.

Figure 13: Support for a Pathway to Citizenship by Party Identification

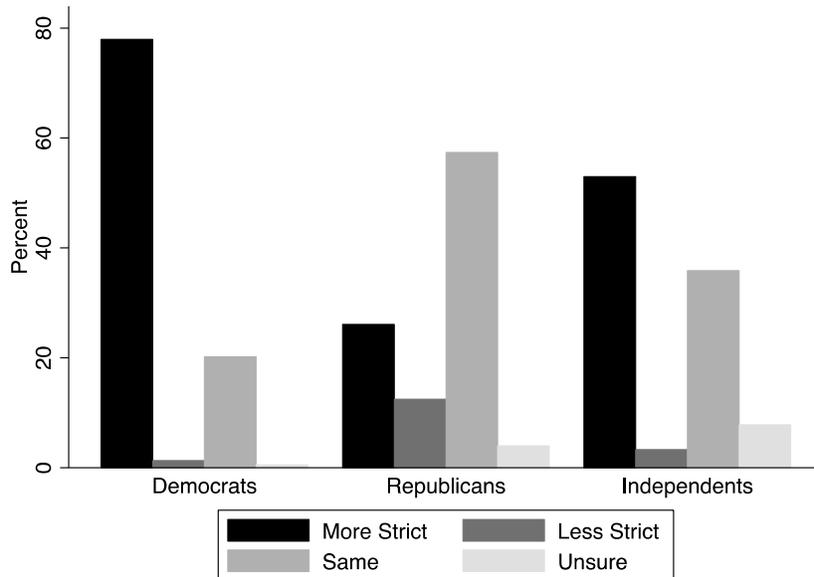


6.3 Gun laws

Respondents were asked whether laws regarding the sale of guns should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are. **Overall, a majority of respondents (50.7 percent) thought laws regarding the sale of guns should be more strict, 39 percent expressed that they should remain the same, and only 6.1 percent said that they should be less strict.**

This issue also divides starkly with party lines. For Democrats, 78 percent thought gun control laws should be stricter, 20.2 percent though they should remain the same, and 1.3 percent thought they should be less strict. In contrast, 26.1 percent of Republicans thought that gun laws should be stricter, 57.4 percent thought they should remain the same, and 12.5 percent thought they should be less strict. Independents were left-leaning, with 53 percent supporting stricter gun sale laws, 25.9 responding that gun laws should stay the same, and 3.3 percent voicing support for less strict laws. Across parties, a small minority supported less strict gun sale laws.

Figure 14: Need for Change to Gun Sale Laws by Party Identification

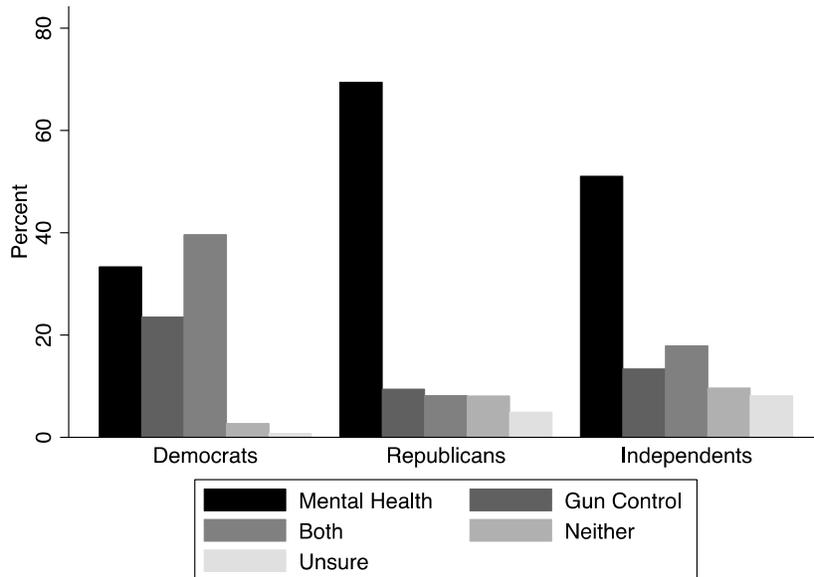


6.4 Mass Shootings

Respondents were asked whether they thought that mass shootings in the United States are a reflection of problems in identifying and treating people with mental health problems, inadequate gun control laws, both, or neither.

A majority of respondents (52.2 percent) thought mass shootings were primarily a reflection of problems in identifying and treating people with mental health problems. This was followed by 21 percent of respondents expressing the view that mass shootings were a reflection of both mental health and inadequate gun control laws, and 15.1 percent of respondents saying that mass shootings were only a reflection of inadequate gun control laws. Few respondents (6.9 percent) see neither mental health nor gun control as contributing to mass shootings.

Figure 15: Opinion on the Causes of Mass Shooting by Party Identification



This issue also breaks down along party lines, but not as starkly as either the gun law or immigration policy questions discussed above. For Democrats, 39.6 percent responded that mass shootings reflect both inadequate gun control and problems in identifying and treating people with mental health problems, 33.3 percent identify just mental health, and 23.5 percent identify inadequate gun control. In contrast, for Republicans, 69.4 percent responded that mass shootings reflect issues in identifying and treating people mental health problems. Only 9.4 percent responded that inadequate gun control is a problem, and 8.1 percent responded that both inadequate gun control and identifying and treating mental health problems are reflected in mass shootings. The distribution of responses for independents most closely aligned with the overall respondents. A majority (51.0 percent) responded that mass shootings most reflect mental health, 20.9 percent said both, and 17.9 percent thought it was a reflection of inadequate gun control.

6.5 *Death penalty*

Respondents were also asked about their support for the death penalty. **Almost half of the respondents (46.7 percent) support the death penalty, while 28.4 percent are opposed, and 24.9 percent are unsure.** When broken down by party, the results are far more polarized. Support varies sharply with only 31.7 percent of Democrats supporting the death penalty contrasted with 63.2 percent of Republicans voicing support for the death penalty. Accordingly, 45 percent of Democrats oppose the death penalty while only 15.7 percent of Republicans do. Independents mirror overall statistics with 42.5 percent supporting the death penalty and 26.7 percent opposing it.



7. SAMPLE DEMOGRAPHICS

The sample demographics are representative of registered voters in New Hampshire. There were slightly more men than women in the sample, 53.6 percent to 46.4 percent. The partisan distribution of respondents also reflects the current registered voter population in the state—28.1 percent Democrats, 30.6 percent Republicans, and 41.3 percent undeclared/independent registrants. There were slightly more respondents from the 2nd Congressional District than from the 1st Congressional District by a 55.9 percent to 44.1 percent margin. More than two-thirds of the respondents were married (70.6 percent) and about half of the respondents considered themselves to be moderates (49.6 percent), with 23.7 percent identifying as liberal and 27.1 percent identifying as conservative. The sample respondents were slightly older than the state voting age population; therefore the data were weighted to reflect state age demographics.

8. METHODOLOGY

During the week of April 11-16, 2016, students from The Nelson A. Rockefeller Center at Dartmouth College conducted a telephone survey of a sample of registered voters in New Hampshire. Drawn randomly from a statewide database of New Hampshire registered voters, including registered voters with only cell phones, the respondents were asked a range of questions relating to the political, economic, and social state of affairs in New Hampshire and the country. Additionally, respondents were asked to select candidates for president in trial heats of the 2016 election and for Senate in trial heats of the 2016 election. The 47-question survey took approximately ten minutes to complete. Calls were made between the hours of 6:30 pm and 9:00 pm on Monday through Friday evenings. Additional call-backs were made during daytime hours on Friday, April 16 when specified by respondents. Over the course of the week, callers made three attempts to contact each of the registered voters drawn in the sample. A total of 362 survey interviews were completed during the four-day calling period, yielding an error rate of +/- 5.15 percent at a 95 percent confidence interval.

8.1 Sample Weighting

The poll sample includes a larger share of older individuals than New Hampshire's registered voter population according to Census data. The poll sample is weighted to reflect the age distribution of New Hampshire registered voters in the Current Population Survey (CPS) Voting and Registration Supplement, November 2012. The categories used to construct the weight are for ages 18 to 39, 40 to 49, 50 to 59, 60 to 69, 70 to 75, and 76 and older. CPS estimates of the New Hampshire registered voter population are 28.2 percent (ages 18 to 39), 17.2 percent (ages 40 to 49), 25.6 percent (50 to 59), 17.0 percent (ages 60 to 69), 4.2 percent (ages 70 to 75), and 7.8 percent (76 and older). The poll sample is weighted to reflect these differences in age group distribution.