



All questions are for release after 6PM/ET Wednesday, July 29, 2026.

NORTH CAROLINA SENATE

Methodology

Conducted July 23-27, 2026 under the joint direction of Beacon Research (D) and Shaw & Company Research (R), this Fox News Poll includes interviews with a sample of 1,005 North Carolina registered voters randomly selected from a statewide voter file. Respondents spoke with live interviewers on landlines (115) and cellphones (654) or completed the survey online by following a link received via text message (236).

Telephone numbers were randomly selected from a statewide voter file of registered North Carolina voters using a probability proportionate to size method, which means phone numbers are proportionally representative to the number of voters in all regions across the state. Telephone fieldwork conducted by Braun Research, Inc. of Princeton, NJ.

Results based on the full sample have a margin of sampling error of ± 3 percentage points. Sampling error associated with subgroup results is higher. In addition to sampling error, question wording and order can influence results. Results among subgroups are only shown when the sample size is at least N=100.

When necessary, weights are generally applied to age, race, education, and area variables to ensure the demographics of survey respondents are representative of the registered voter population. Sources for developing weight targets include the most recent American Community Survey, Fox News Voter Analysis, and voter file data.

Results are of registered voters, unless otherwise noted.

Web-based survey wording may differ slightly from telephone wording for improved clarity.

An asterisk () is used for percentages of less than one-half percent. A dash (-) represents a value of zero.*

Some percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. In the same way, percentages in "total" columns may be one point more or less than the sum of their parts due to rounding.

1. How interested are you in the 2026 midterm elections? Are you:

	-----Interested-----			-----Not interested-----			(Don't know)
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Not very</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	
23-27 July 26	77%	45	32	23	18	5	1

For reference: How interested are you in the 2024 presidential election? Are you:

	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	(Don't know)
24-28 Oct 24	68%	19	11	2	*
20-24 Sep 24	65%	20	13	2	*
8-12 Feb 24	49%	26	19	6	*
29 Aug-1 Sep 20	59%	24	13	3	1
10-13 Nov 19	54%	26	16	4	1
18-20 Sep 16	45%	32	17	6	1

2. There are a range of reasons why people do or do not vote. Thinking about November's election for senate and other offices, please tell me how likely it is that you will vote on a scale from zero to 10, where 10 means you're certain you will vote and zero means there is no chance you will vote.

	<u>23-27 July 26</u>
10 – Certain to vote	63%
9	5
8	8
7	5
6	3
5	6
4	2
3	2
2	1
1	1
0 – No chance will vote	4
(Don't know / Refused)	*

3. How motivated are you to vote in the November election? Are you:

	-----Motivated-----			-----Not motivated-----			(Don't know)
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Not very</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	
23-27 July 26	80%	51	29	20	16	4	*

For reference: How motivated do you feel about voting in the presidential election? Are you:

	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	(Don't know)
23-26 Aug 24	67%	16	13	3	*
20-23 June 20	66%	18	11	4	1

4. If the North Carolina election for U.S. Senator were today, would you vote for: **[IF DON'T KNOW: Do you lean closer to one candidate?] [RANDOMIZE NAMES]**

23-27 July 26

Democrat Roy Cooper	53%
Republican Michael Whatley	44
(Other)	*
(Wouldn't vote)	*
(Don't know)	2

[SKIP IF OTHER, WOULDN'T VOTE, OR DON'T KNOW IN Q4 AND CODE AS DON'T KNOW. SKIP IF LEAN TOWARD CANDIDATE IN Q4 AND CODE AS MAY CHANGE MIND.] [COOPER SUPPORTERS $\pm 4\%$, WHATLEY SUPPORTERS $\pm 4.5\%$]

5. Are you certain to support **[Q4 ANSWER: Cooper / Whatley]**, or do you think you may change your mind and support someone else? **[IF DON'T KNOW: Re-read question and probe for answer.]**

	<u>Certain to support</u>	<u>May change mind</u>	<u>(Don't know)</u>
23-27 July 26	77%	19	3
Cooper supporters	81%	18	2
Whatley supporters	77%	23	*

6. **[IF COOPER IN Q4]** Would you describe your vote as mainly FOR Roy Cooper or AGAINST Michael Whatley?

	<u>For Cooper</u>	<u>Against Whatley</u>	<u>(Don't know)</u>
23-27 July 26	84%	13	3

7. **[IF WHATLEY IN Q4]** Would you describe your vote as mainly FOR Michael Whatley or AGAINST Roy Cooper?

	<u>For Whatley</u>	<u>Against Cooper</u>	<u>(Don't know)</u>
23-27 July 26	52%	46	2

[SKIP IF OTHER, WOULDN'T VOTE, OR DON'T KNOW IN Q4, $\pm 3\%$]

8. Would you say that your support for **[Q4 ANSWER: Cooper / Whatley]** is more about: **[ROTATE 1-2] [IF BOTH: Well, if you had to say...]**

	<u>Where he stands on the issues</u>	<u>Who he is as a person</u>	<u>(Both)</u>	<u>(Don't know)</u>
23-27 July 26	76%	20	2	2
Cooper supporters	71%	25	2	2
Whatley supporters	81%	14	2	2

[ROTATE NEXT TWO QUESTIONS]

9. Regardless of how you plan to vote, how concerned are you that Roy Cooper is too close to the Democratic establishment?

	-----Concerned-----			-----Not concerned-----			(Don't
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Not very</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>know</u>)
23-27 July 26	42%	23	19	56	30	26	2

10. Regardless of how you plan to vote, how concerned are you that Michael Whatley is too close to Donald Trump?

	-----Concerned-----			-----Not concerned-----			(Don't
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Not very</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>know</u>)
23-27 July 26	48%	30	18	51	23	27	1

11. Which one of the following issues will be the MOST important to your vote for Senate?
[IF DON'T KNOW / ALL / OTHER: Well, if you HAD to pick one...]
[RANDOMIZE LIST]

	<u>23-27 July 26</u>
Inflation and high prices	36%
Political divisions within the country	14
Healthcare	13
Immigration and border security	13
Jobs and unemployment	8
Crime	5
The conflict in Iran	5
Abortion	3
(Other)	*
(All/Mix)	2
(Don't know)	*

For reference: Which one of the following issues will be MOST important in deciding your vote for president? [IF DON'T KNOW / ALL / OTHER: Well, if you HAD to pick one ...] [RANDOMIZE]

	<u>23-26 Aug 24</u>
The economy	41%
Abortion	14
Immigration	14
Health care	8
Election integrity	7
Climate change	3
Crime	3
Guns	3
Foreign policy	2
(All / Other)	4
(Don't know)	*

Moving on...

12. Thinking about your personal financial situation, do you feel like you are getting ahead financially, holding steady, or falling behind?

	Getting <u>ahead</u>	Holding <u>steady</u>	Falling <u>behind</u>	(Don't know)
23-27 July 26	12%	49	38	0
24-28 Oct 24	12%	44	44	*
8-12 Feb 24	13%	42	44	1

13.-17. Please tell me if you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of the following. If you've never heard of one, please just say so. **[IF FAVORABLE / UNFAVORABLE: Is that strongly (favorable / unfavorable) or only somewhat?]**
[RANDOMIZE]

	-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(Can't	Never
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>say)</u>	<u>heard of</u>
Roy Cooper								
23-27 July 26	54%	31	23	44	15	29	1	1
The Republican Party								
23-27 July 26	44%	23	21	54	17	37	2	-
The Democratic Party								
23-27 July 26	42%	19	24	56	20	36	1	-
Donald Trump								
23-27 July 26	40%	24	16	58	13	46	1	-
24-28 Oct 24	47%	34	13	53	8	45	-	*
20-24 Sep 24	46%	34	13	53	8	45	*	*
23-26 Aug 24	48%	35	13	52	8	44	*	*
Michael Whatley								
23-27 July 26	40%	18	22	46	18	28	3	11

POLITICAL IDENTIFICATION

	-----Democrat-----			-----Republican-----			Independent /
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Solid</u>	<u>Lean</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Solid</u>	<u>Lean</u>	<u>Other</u>
23-27 July 26	42%	28	14	44	32	12	14
24-28 Oct 24	44%	34	10	44	36	8	12
20-24 Sep 24	43%	33	10	44	35	9	13
23-26 Aug 24	42%	32	10	44	34	10	14
8-12 Feb 24	42%	32	10	43	35	8	15
29 Aug-1 Sep 20	46%	39	7	43	37	6	11
20-23 June 20	44%	35	9	43	33	10	13
10-13 Nov 19	45%	38	7	41	33	8	15