

The survey was fielded September 15 to 17, 2025. Potential respondents were randomly selected from a database of North Carolina voters and contacted via either a live-operator phone call or an SMS message that led to a web-based survey. The hyperlink in each SMS contained a nine-character alphanumeric unique identifier to ensure the survey could only be taken a single time by a single person using that link. Respondents were screened to ensure they were registered North Carolina Voters. Results were weighted using an iterative proportional fitting process to match the known attributes of the North Carolina registered electorate on the variables of gender, age, ethnicity, educational attainment, geographic area, and political party affiliation. This weighting model was created using data sourced from the North Carolina State Board of Elections as well as the United States Census Bureau American Community Survey Public Use Microdata. The final sample of qualified respondents is n=671 registered voters, and the survey has a margin of error of ±3.8% with 95% confidence. The survey was commissioned by Common Cause North Carolina.

DEMOGRAPHIC ATTRIBUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA REGISTERED ELECTORATE		
GENDER	Male	45.9%
	Female	53.1%
	Non-binary or Other	1.0%
AGE	18-34	27.6%
	35-44	15.5%
	45-54	14.8%
	55-64	16.3%
	65+	25.9%
REGION	Charlotte	27.8%
	Eastern	14.8%
	Greensboro	16.8%
	Raleigh	32.3%
	Western	8.2%
ETH	White or Caucasian	69.4%
	Black or African American	20.3%
	Other	10.3%
EDU	Attended high school but have not graduated, or a high school degree or equivalent	34.2%
	Attended some college, but have not earned a degree yet, or Earned an Associate's degree	31.5%
	Earned a Bachelor's degree	22.1%
	Earned a Master's degree, Doctoral degree, or professional degree beyond a Bachelor's degree	12.2%
PARTY	Democrat	30.5%
	Republican	30.4%
	Unaffiliated or Third Party	39.1%

TOPLINE SURVEY RESPONSES

REDISTRICTING CONFIDENCE

Every 10 years, North Carolina redraws its congressional and legislative districts based on population changes. These districts determine who represents you in Congress and the state legislature. Under North Carolina’s current system, whichever political party controls the legislature has the power to draw our state’s congressional and legislative voting districts. Knowing that one political party controls how these maps are drawn, how confident are you that North Carolina’s current congressional and legislative voting districts were drawn in a fair and transparent way?

Very Confident	7.2%
Somewhat Confident	18.2%
Not Too Confident	21.4%
Not At All Confident	39.5%
Unsure	13.6%
Net Confidence	-35.4%

FAIRNESS IMPORTANCE

How important is it to you that North Carolina’s voting districts fairly represent all communities and political viewpoints?

Very Important	83.9%
Somewhat Important	9.7%
Not Too Important	1.0%
Not At All Important	1.3%
Unsure	4.1%
Net Importance	91.2%

PUBLIC INPUT IMPORTANCE

How important is it to you that North Carolina’s voting maps are drawn with transparency and meaningful public input, including multiple public hearings held in communities across the state to allow people to comment on proposed districts?

Very Important	78.8%
Somewhat Important	11.2%
Not Too Important	3.4%
Not At All Important	1.5%
Unsure	5.1%
Net Importance	85.2%

CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION	<p>There are proposals to change the way North Carolina’s voting districts are drawn. One idea is to take redistricting authority away from politicians in the legislature and instead give the power to draw districts to a citizens redistricting commission made up of North Carolina voters with an equal number of registered Republicans, registered Democrats, and voters who are neither registered Republican or Democrat. The citizens redistricting commission would be required to draw voting districts that don’t discriminate based on race or political party. Would you support or oppose the creation of a citizens redistricting commission to draw North Carolina’s voting districts?</p>	
	Strongly Support	48.6%
	Somewhat Support	21.7%
	Somewhat Oppose	5.1%
	Strongly Oppose	7.3%
	Unsure	17.3%
	Net Support	57.9%

GUARD AGAINST DISCRIMINATION	<p>There have been multiple times in North Carolina’s history when courts have ruled that districts drawn by the legislature illegally discriminated against Black voters. Do you believe it’s important that courts help guard against this type of discrimination in the way North Carolina’s voting district maps are drawn?</p>	
	Yes	81.7%
	No	9.9%
	Unsure	8.4%
	Net Importance	71.9%

GERRYMANDERING LEGALITY	<p>In 2023, the North Carolina Supreme Court ruled that voters cannot challenge voting district maps in court on the basis of partisan gerrymandering. In other words, it is now legal in North Carolina for the legislature to draw district maps that favor one political party over another, which is known as partisan gerrymandering. Which of these statements best represents your view on this decision?</p>	
	Partisan gerrymandering SHOULD be legal in North Carolina	8.7%
	Partisan gerrymandering SHOULD NOT be legal in North Carolina	76.3%
	Unsure	15.0%
	Net Legality	-67.6%

PARTISAN GERRYMANDERING

North Carolina has a long history of both Democrats and Republicans drawing district maps that favor their party when they are in power. When politicians draw voting districts to help their own party win more seats, which of these statements best represents your view?

It is always acceptable — it's part of politics	7.0%
It is only acceptable if the other party does it first	2.2%
It is never acceptable — districts should be drawn neutrally	83.8%
Unsure	7.1%
Net Acceptability	-74.6%

		REDISTRICTING																																				
		REDISTRICTING CONFIDENCE					FAIRNESS IMPORTANCE					PUBLIC INPUT IMPORTANCE					CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION					GUARD AGAINST DISCRIMINATION			GERRYMANDERING LEGALITY			PARTISAN GERRYMANDERING										
		7%	18%	21%	40%	14%	-35%	84%	10%	1%	1%	4%	91%	79%	11%	3%	1%	5%	85%	49%	22%	5%	7%	17%	58%	82%	10%	8%	72%	9%	76%	15%	-68%	7%	2%	84%	7%	-75%
		VERY CONFIDENT	SOMEWHAT CONFIDENT	NOT TOO CONFIDENT	NOT AT ALL CONFIDENT	UNSURE	MARGIN	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT TOO IMPORTANT	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	UNSURE	MARGIN	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT TOO IMPORTANT	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	UNSURE	MARGIN	STRONGLY SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	STRONGLY OPPOSE	UNSURE	MARGIN	YES	NO	UNSURE	MARGIN	SHOULD BE LEGAL	SHOULD NOT BE LEGAL	UNSURE	MARGIN	ALWAYS ACCEPTABLE	ONLY IF OTHERSIDE FIRST	NEVER ACCEPTABLE	UNSURE	MARGIN
	n=																																					
	DEMOCRAT	210																																				
	REPUBLICAN	214																																				
	UNAFFILIATED OR 3P	247																																				
	18-34 YEARS OLD	129																																				
	35-44	101																																				
	45-54	116																																				
	55-64	140																																				
	65+	185																																				
	CHARLOTTE	180																																				
	EASTERN	101																																				
	GREENSBORO	128																																				
	RALEIGH	188																																				
	WESTERN	74																																				
	HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS	88																																				
	SOME COLL / ASSOC	242																																				
	BACHELOR'S	194																																				
	MASTERS +	147																																				
	WHITE	543																																				
	BLACK	59																																				
	OTHER	69																																				
	MALE	350																																				
	FEMALE	316																																				
	NON-BINARY / OTHER	5																																				

From: Opinion Diagnostics – Brian Wynne, President

Date: September 24, 2025

RE: **Survey of North Carolina Registered Voters**

METHODOLOGY:

The survey was fielded September 15 to 17, 2025. Potential respondents were randomly selected from a database of North Carolina voters and contacted via either a live-operator phone call or an SMS message that led to a web-based survey. The hyperlink in each SMS contained a nine-character alphanumeric unique identifier to ensure the survey could only be taken a single time by a single person using that link. Respondents were screened to ensure they were registered North Carolina Voters. Results were weighted using an iterative proportional fitting process to match the known attributes of the North Carolina registered electorate on the variables of gender, age, ethnicity, educational attainment, geographic area, and political party affiliation. This weighting model was created using data sourced from the North Carolina State Board of Elections as well as the United States Census Bureau American Community Survey Public Use Microdata. The final sample of qualified respondents is n=671 registered voters, and the survey has a margin of error of $\pm 3.8\%$ with 95% confidence. The survey was commissioned by Common Cause North Carolina.

DEMOGRAPHICS:

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APPROVAL RATINGS:

As is the case at the federal level, North Carolina's chief executive has a higher approval rating than the legislative branch.

Governor Josh Stein is viewed positively, with 54 percent approving and 23 percent disapproving (net +31).
Partisan Margins: Democrats +69, Republicans -2, Unaffiliated +26.

The North Carolina Legislature earns 31 percent approval and 39 percent disapproval (net -9).
Partisan Margins: Democrats -31, Republicans +26, Unaffiliated -18.

The North Carolina Supreme Court is more mixed, with 32 percent favorable and 38 percent unfavorable (net -6).
Partisan Margins: Democrats -49, Republicans +48, Unaffiliated -15.

- Of the 26% who “strongly approve” of Governor Stein, the Supreme Court has a net -45 favorability rating.

PARTISAN GERRYMANDERING

Seventy-six percent say partisan gerrymandering should not be legal, compared to 9 percent who say it should.
Partisan Margins: Democrats -68, Republicans -56, Unaffiliated -76.

- Over 40% of those who disapprove of Governor Stein's job performance also say partisan gerrymandering should not be legal

On political gerrymandering acceptability, 84 percent say partisan gerrymandering is never acceptable.
Partisan Margins: Democrats -80, Republicans -65, Unaffiliated -78.

- Of those who believe the Voting Rights Act should be partially or fully repealed, over 70% say partisan gerrymandering is “never acceptable.”
- 52% of those who “strongly oppose” a redistricting commission also say partisan gerrymandering is “never acceptable.”
- 73% of those who have a “very favorable” view of the state Supreme Court also say partisan gerrymandering is “never acceptable.”
- Both those who approve and disapprove of Josh Stein say partisan gerrymandering is never acceptable, one of the few areas of agreement within the Josh Stein approval rating crosstabulation.

VOTING RIGHTS ACT:

Eighteen percent support repealing some or all protections in the Voting Rights Act, while 59 percent oppose any repeal (net -41).

Partisan Margins: Democrats -65, Republicans +2, Unaffiliated -55.

- The only group in which support for repealing some or all of the Voting Rights Act is higher than opposition to any repeal is those who hold a “very favorable” view of the N.C. Supreme Court (+4).

CONFIDENCE IN MAPS:

A quarter of voters (25 percent) are confident districts for Congress and state legislature were drawn fairly; 61 percent are not confident (net -35).

Partisan Margins: Democrats -58, Republicans -6, Unaffiliated -41.

- White voters (-37) and black voters (-41) both express low confidence in fairness of the maps.
- Those who “strongly disapprove” of Governor Stein’s job performance also have a net -21 confidence the Congressional and legislative maps were drawn fairly.
- The only group that has net positive confidence that maps are drawn fairly is those who have a “very favorable” view of the N.C. Supreme Court – by 9 points. Those who hold a “very unfavorable” view of the Court are not confident by 73 points.

FAIR REPRESENTATION

Ninety-four percent say it’s important that North Carolina voting districts fairly represent all communities and political viewpoints, including 84 percent who say it is very important. This is one of the few questions in current political polling in which all parties agree at about the same level.

Partisan Margins: Democrats +93, Republicans +89, Unaffiliated +91.

TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC INPUT

Ninety percent say transparency and public input, including public hearings in communities across the state is important, 79 percent very important.

Partisan Margins: Democrats +92, Republicans +77, Unaffiliated +86.

CITIZENS’ REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Seventy-one percent support creating a citizens’ redistricting commission, while 13 percent oppose (net +58).

Partisan Margins: Democrats +74, Republicans +37, Unaffiliated +62.

- 55% of those who “strongly disapprove” of Governor Stein’s job performance also support an independent redistricting commission.

COURTS AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Eighty-two percent say courts should guard against racial discrimination in redistricting, while 10 percent say they should not.

Partisan Margins: Democrats +90, Republicans +47, Unaffiliated +77.

CONCLUSION

North Carolina voters across parties want fair maps, transparency, and independent oversight. Support for a citizens' commission and for courts to act as a backstop is strong. Partisan gerrymandering is widely rejected, including by majorities of Republicans as well as Democrats and unaffiliateds.