2016

Politics / Issues, Law Enforcement, Immigration, National Anthem

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INTRODUCTION

The Saint Leo University Polling Institute is pleased to present the results of a national poll of Americans.

The poll was designed to assess public views regarding the 2016 presidential election, issues of concern, views on the 2016 election; support for the Electoral College, impressions of Pope Francis, impressions of law enforcement nationwide, views on immigration issues, and views on observing the national anthem.

The research study included survey responses from 1,103 respondents nationally and 502 within Florida. The poll was conducted September 10 - 16, 2016. A pre-test occurred on September 9, 2016.

The national poll included the following areas for investigation:

- Job approval rating for President Obama;
- Issues of concern;
- Impressions of presidential candidates;
- Support for presidential candidates;
- Views on the 2016 election;
- Impression of Pope Francis;
- Support for the Electoral College;
- Rating law enforcement departments and officers;
- Views and impressions of law enforcement strategies;
- Trust and confidence in the law enforcement and the judicial system;
- Views on law enforcement issues;
- Support and opposition to gun control;
- Feelings of safety in the presence of firearms;
- Immigration views;
- Positions on observing the national anthem;
- Florida specific issues and U.S. Senate candidates;
- Demographics.

Section II of this report discusses the Methodology used in the study, while Section III includes Highlights derived from an analysis of the quantitative research. Section IV is a Summary of Findings from the online survey.

Section V is an Appendix to the report containing the composite aggregate data, cross tabulations and the survey instrument employed.

METHODOLOGY

Using a quantitative research design, the Saint Leo University Polling Institute completed 1,103 online surveys nationally and 502 among Florida residents.

Survey design is a careful, deliberative process to ensure fair, objective and balanced surveys. Staff members, with years of survey design experience, edit out any bias. Further, all scales used by the Institute (either numeric, such as one through ten, or wording such as strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly agree) are balanced evenly. Additionally, placement of questions is carefully accomplished so that order has minimal impact.

This survey was conducted September 10-16, 2016.

Respondents qualified for the survey if they were a resident of the United States and 18 years of age or older. Responses were approximately proportional to each state's population.

Statistically, a sample of 1103 completed surveys has an associated margin for error of +/- 3.0% at a 95% confidence level. A sample of 502 Florida respondents has an associated margin for error of +/-4.5% at a 95% confidence level.

Results throughout this report are presented for composite results – all 1103 cases. Throughout, composite results are presented side-by-side with Florida specific results. On political candidate preferences and on current issues, columns of data also hold results of just likely voters – those indicating they vote either all the time or most of the time in elections.

Readers of this report should note that any survey is analogous to a snapshot in time and results are only reflective of the time period in which the survey was undertaken. Should concerted public relations or information campaigns be undertaken during or shortly after the fielding of the survey, the results contained herein may be expected to change and should be, therefore, carefully interpreted and extrapolated.

Furthermore, it is important to note that all surveys contain some component of "sampling error". Error that is attributable to systematic bias has been significantly reduced by utilizing strict random probability procedures. This sample was strictly random in that selection of each potential respondent was an independent event based on known probabilities.

Each qualified online panel member within the United States had an equal chance for participating in the study. Statistical random error, however, can never be eliminated but may be significantly reduced by increasing sample size.

HIGHLIGHTS

ON POLITICS, CAMPAIGNS, ELECTIONS AND ISSUES…

Throughout most of his final full year in office, President Obama has maintained an approval rating above 50%. In the September, 2016 Saint Leo University Poll, President Obama enjoys a 51.4% job approval rating among likely voters nationwide. This is statistically unchanged from 51.3% and 53.1% in March and June, 2016, respectively.

Jobs and the economy, remains the single most important issue facing the nation today according to poll respondents (25.6%). This is followed by government spending (14.3%) and healthcare (10.2%). Combined, terrorism (9.2%) and homeland security (7.9%) are important to 17.1% of the respondents.

Favorability ratings for both Donald Trump (38.7%) and Hillary Clinton (40.1%), among likely voters, remain low. The current ratings represents a slight improvement for Trump (+2.1%) and a decline for Clinton (-4.2%).

The favorable ratings for presidential candidates Gary Johnson and Jill Stein remain low, 23.4% and 14.9%, respectively, as most continue to report they don't know enough about each to provide a rating. The same holds for Clinton and Trump running mates, Tim Kaine and Mike Pence at 27.8% and 34.2% favorable, respectively.

Nationally, in a head-to-head, ballot question, Hillary Clinton garners 42.0% of the vote among likely voters to 36.5% for Donald Trump – a 5.5% lead. Gary Johnson and Jill Stein receive 7.6% and 2.5%, respectively.

When unsure/undecided respondents are asked who they currently learn toward, the percentages were reported as Clinton (46.2%), Trump (41.0%) Johnson (9.3%) and Stein (3.6%) – a 5.2% lead for Clinton.

Decision-making issues were probed within the poll. The issues respondents report as most important as they select candidates in November, 2016 included: jobs and the economy (62.7%), health care (47.4%), terrorism (44.7%), immigration (34.1%), and education (28.1%).

When asked about their "first loyalty" in voting this November, the largest group of respondents, 28.0%, noted it was "To the nation". This "first loyalty" was followed by "My family's well-being" (23.6%) and "My own political philosophy" (19.6%). Others also reported "Our continued freedom" (15.0%), "My chosen political party" (8.1%) and "My chosen candidate(s)" (3.9%).

Just 65.5% of all likely voters surveyed could report they are very or somewhat satisfied with their respective political party's nominee for president in 2016. Democrats were only somewhat more satisfied (very and somewhat) at 68.5% than their Republican peers at 62.5%).

Similarly, just over one-half of Democrats (55.0%) could say they will proudly cast their ballot for their preferred presidential candidate. Among Republicans, the percentage was lower at 44.4%.

Some likely voters are switching presidential candidate loyalties: 4.1%, of former Clinton supporters have switched to Trump while 4.3% of Trump supporters have made the switch to Clinton. Clinton and Trump have both lost support to third-party candidates – 2.7% and 2.3%, respectively. The largest group, 69.7%, has not changed their minds from an original choice.

Views on the 2016 elections…

✓ 34.7% agree that they will split their vote between parties. Among Independents, the percentage is 51.5% and higher among Republicans (28.4%) than among Democrats (21.5%)

✓ 23.9% will split their vote to ensure one party does not control the House, Senate and White House

✓ 60.3% want to see Libertarian, Gary Johnson, on the debate state with Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump

✓ 53.4% want to see Green Party nominee, Jill Stein, on the debate stage

✓ 43.0% have confidence those sponsoring the upcoming debates will do their job independently, objectively and fairly

✓ 60.5% believe voter fraud and manipulation of November election results will occur

✓ 54.5% believe voter suppression is a real concern

✓ 38.3% and 20.5% support making voting mandatory and support fines for those that don't vote, respectively

✓ **41.9% agreed that they see the 2016 election as frustrating and have wondered if they will vote at all**

✓ **40.4% have faith in Americans to make the right decisions in the November election**

The primary reasons offered for not having faith in Americans to make the right decisions in the November election centered on media bias (68.8%), not paying attention (60.8%), poor education or lack of education (51.2%), candidates lie about their record (45.6%), Americans don't attempt to see other points of view (40.4%) and polarization (21.4%).

Just under three-quarters of all Americans surveyed, 71.2%, suggest they understand the Electoral College very or somewhat well. By better than a two-to-one margin, respondents prefer a move to popular vote (58.1%) over retaining the Electoral College (22.6%) for deciding presidential election outcomes.

The survey finds 35.8% of all likely voters plan to support all or mostly establishment candidates while 13.9% plan to support all or mostly outsider candidates. Over one-third, 34.1%, remain unsure.

ON POPE FRANCIS…

Pope Francis continues to enjoy a high favorability rating – 65.4% in the current poll. This is down somewhat from June at 68.9%. The unfavorable rating is 17.7% with 14.6% unsure and 2.3% who are unaware of the pope. Among Catholics the rating is 84.2% -- down slightly from 87.5% in June, 2016.

ON LAW ENFORCEMENT…

In tracking questions from an October 2015 Saint Leo University Poll, ratings of law enforcement overall have improved over the past year.

The overall positive rating of community police departments moved to 60.7% from 54.3% in October, 2015. Similarly, ratings of community police officers moved to 60.9% from 53.6%.

Support for "Stop and Frisk" moved to 54.9% from 50.7% in October, 2016. And, support increased for transfer of donated, used military hardware, ammunition, and equipment to community police departments – up to 63.6% from 60.4%.

Trust and confidence also moved somewhat higher…

- ✓ Trust in police officers – to 60.5% from 54.7%
- ✓ Trust in police departments – to 59.6% from 53.1%
- ✓ Trust in the judicial system – to 45.1% from 40.3%
- ✓ In a new question for 2016, trust in juries to do the right thing – 46.4%

Strong agreement (strongly and somewhat) was found for a number of statements on police and policing…

- ✓ 89.0% agree with requiring police to wear body cameras (up from 86.8%)
- ✓ 81.2% agree that the U.S. Department of Justice investigations of controversial police department incidents (up from 79.0%)
- ✓ 81.0% agree to a focus on mental health instead of gun controls (up from 70.4%)

Other findings were less pronounced…

- ✓ 65.8% agree the killing of police officers is inflaming racial tensions (down from 71.0%)
- ✓ 58.0% have had positive interactions with police officers unrelated to law enforcement issues (down slightly from 59.7%)
- ✓ 68.3% agree they know a police office in their own community (up from 50.6%)
- ✓ 46.9% agree gun violence would decrease with more controls (up slightly from 46.0%)
- ✓ 32.0% know someone who has experienced abuse by police officers (down from 35.7%)
- ✓ In a new question for 2016, 38.4% support the Black Lives Matter movement

Gun ownership remains mostly unchanged from 2015. While two-thirds, 64.5% suggest they do not own any firearms (down from 66.7% in October 2015), respondents continue to own handguns (25.2%), rifles (18.3%), assault weapons (4.0%), and shotguns (16.6%).

Positions on gun control were measured in the current poll. A minority, 8.1% continue to believe that firearms should not be owned privately (similar to 8.5% in October, 2015). Others, 74.9% believe there should be some limited licensing or permitting (up slightly from 73.2% in October 2015) and 12.6% believe there should be no regulations or controls (down slightly from 12.8% in October 2015).

<u>Given recent mass shootings nationwide…</u>

- ✓ 27.2% continue to support gun ownership rights under the 2nd Amendment without exception and believe mass shootings would be less horrific if more citizens were armed (up from 26.5% in October 2015);
- ✓ 16.3% continue to support gun ownership rights under the 2nd Amendment without exception but don't believe in an effort to arm more citizens (up from 15.9%);
- ✓ 42.6% continue to support gun ownership rights but are open to more exceptions, regulations and restrictions (up from 40.7%);
- ✓ 7.2% continue to oppose private ownership of firearms (down from 9.2%).

The perception that increased funding of and emphasis on mental health treatment would help toward reducing the severity and frequency of mass shootings has increased somewhat over the past year – from 75.2% to 76.9%.

Some believe the president has weighed in "too little" on the issue of gun control (25.4%) while others believe he has weighed in "too much" (33.1%) and others see his input as "just enough" (27.0%).

In a series of new 2016 questions, 49.8% noted they would feel safer in public if they had a firearm with them. Three-quarters, 72.0%, reported they would feel unsafe if police were unarmed and 32.0% would feel safer if others, around them in a public place, would be armed.

Concern (very and somewhat concerned) over terrorism in a public place jumped to 65.1% from 55.6% in 2015.

ON IMMIGRATION…

Just under one-half of all Americans surveyed, 45.2%, indicated they strongly or somewhat agreed that the nation has an obligation to accommodate refugees when possible.

Nearly one-half, 49.0%, strongly or somewhat agreed the U.S. should assign preferences or priorities in admitting persecuted refugee groups such as Christians, children and women.

Two-thirds, 64.8%, strongly and somewhat agreed that children born on U.S soil should have a birthright to U.S. citizenship.

Over one-half, 55.1%, agreed that immigrants who come to the U.S. illegally and have obeyed laws should be allowed a path to citizenship.

ON OBSERVING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM…

Given recent protests by major sports figures in football and soccer by kneeling or sitting during the pre-game singing of our National Anthem, respondents were asked for their own views. Each was asked if they strongly supported, somewhat supported, somewhat opposed or strongly opposed protests, in the manner of kneeling or sitting, during the Anthem for various reasons/causes. By nearly a two-to-one margin, 58.2% were opposed while 34.1% supported such protests.

ON FLORIDA ISSUES…

In the race for United States Senate from Florida, Marco Rubio continues to lead Patrick Murphy 44.2% to 34.7% among likely voters. Some, 21.1% remain undecided.

Concern over the Zika virus (very or somewhat concerned), at 77.4% is similar to 79.3% in August, 2016. However, concern has moved higher since June, 2016 (71.3%).

All four November Florida ballot measures have strong majority support as shown in the following table.

Florida Ballot Measures	June 2016 Support	August 2016 Support	September 2016 Support
Grants Florida residents the right to own or lease equipment that produces solar energy for personal use – Amendment 1	77.3	81.4	84.0
Grants the right to use marijuana for the treatment of certain ailments when recommended by a physician – Amendment 2	65.1	67.8	68.8
Provides property tax exemptions for first responders disabled in the line of duty – Amendment 3	71.5	76.7	76.8
Locks home values in place for senior citizens eligible for property tax breaks – Amendment 5	65.8	70.7	77.1

SUMMARY 4 OF FINDINGS

Readers are reminded that the narrative throughout this report refers to national composite aggregate data – the 1,103 completed surveys as well as the supplemental sample of 502 Florida respondents. Text throughout this report presents national composite results while many graphs and tables also present results among Florida respondents. On political questions such as candidate preferences or current issues of importance, the data for likely voters is also presented. The counts for composite data (national and Florida) and for likely voters (national and Florida) are presented in the following table.

National Composite	National Likely Voters (LV)	Florida Composite	Florida Likely Voters (LV)
1103	1005	502	475

POLITICS, CAMPAIGNS, ELECTIONS AND ISSUES

All respondents were asked to rate the job Barack Obama has been doing as President. Just over one-half of likely voters, 51.3% (down slightly from 53.1% in June, 2016), suggested they strongly or somewhat approve. Results are presented within the following tables for March, 2016 as well as June, 2016.

President's Job Approval Rating National Results	National March 2016	National LV March 2016	National June 2016	National LV June 2016	National September 2016	National LV September 2016
Strongly approve	19.9	21.3	23.6	24.3	24.3	25.2
Somewhat approve	29.1	30.0	28.9	28.8	26.2	26.2
Total: Strongly and somewhat approve	**49.0**	**51.3**	**52.5**	**53.1**	**50.5**	**51.4**
Somewhat disapprove	14.9	14.0	15.2	14.9	13.4	12.2
Strongly disapprove	32.4	33.3	30.6	31.1	33.9	35.3
Total: Strongly and somewhat disapprove	**47.3**	**47.3**	**45.8**	**46.0**	**47.3**	**47.5**
Unsure	3.6	1.4	1.8	0.9	2.3	1.1

President's Job Approval Rating Florida Results	Florida March 2016	Florida LV March 2016	Florida June 2016	Florida LV June 2016	Florida September 2016	Florida LV September 2016
Strongly approve	26.2	27.1	28.0	29.6	26.2	26.9
Somewhat approve	28.1	27.7	28.6	26.4	29.4	29.3
Total: Strongly and somewhat approve	**54.3**	**54.8**	**56.6**	**56.0**	**55.6**	**56.2**
Somewhat disapprove	12.2	11.4	13.0	12.9	9.8	9.7
Strongly disapprove	31.4	32.8	29.4	30.3	32.2	32.4
Total: Strongly and somewhat disapprove	**43.6**	**44.2**	**42.4**	**43.2**	**42.0**	**42.1**
Unsure	2.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	2.4	1.7

All respondents were asked to name <u>the most important issue</u> facing the nation today. The most important issues were reported to be jobs and the economy, government spending, healthcare and terrorism. Together, terrorism and homeland security held 17.1% (up somewhat from 16.7% in June, 2016). Results are presented in the following table in declining order by importance based on the composite national data for September, 2016.

Issues Most Important National Results	National March 2016	National LV March 2016	National June 2016	National June LV 2016	National September 2016	National September LV 2016
Jobs and the economy	28.8	28.3	31.0	31.4	25.6	25.7
Government spending and the federal budget deficit	13.1	13.9	12.9	13.1	14.3	14.6
Healthcare	10.2	9.9	8.3	8.3	10.2	10.3
Terrorism	7.9	8.2	8.7	8.5	8.9	9.2
Homeland security and anti-terror policy	8.7	9.2	8.1	8.2	7.6	7.9
Immigration	5.3	5.5	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.4
Gun violence	3.7	3.8	2.7	2.8	5.4	5.3
Education	3.4	3.3	5.1	4.9	3.6	3.7
Declining U.S. status worldwide	2.5	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.3
Don't know / not sure	3.1	1.6	2.4	1.6	3.2	2.5
Some other issues	2.6	2.7	1.9	1.9	3.1	3.0
Crime	2.4	2.3	2.9	3.0	2.8	2.7
Global climate change	4.4	4.7	3.1	3.1	2.6	2.7
Gun control / Second Amendment rights	1.9	1.8	2.6	2.5	1.7	1.8
Foreign affairs	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Internet / data security	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Energy policy	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
International trade imbalance	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2

The issue most important to Florida residents is presented in the following table. The table is presented in declining order, based on issue importance, for the composite data from September, 2016.

Issues Most Important Florida Results	Florida March 2016	Florida March LV 2016	Florida June 2016	Florida June LV 2016	Florida September 2016	Florida LV September 2016
Jobs and the economy	30.0	29.9	29.8	29.4	26.6	26.9
Government spending and the federal budget deficit	14.1	14.9	12.6	13.5	12.0	12.4
Homeland security and anti-terror policy	7.6	7.9	9.2	9.8	11.8	12.0
Healthcare	9.8	9.4	8.6	8.1	9.8	10.1
Terrorism	7.0	6.9	10.4	10.9	7.4	7.6
Gun violence	3.5	3.9	4.6	4.6	7.0	7.2
Immigration	5.7	6.3	4.2	4.1	5.2	4.8
Declining U.S. status worldwide	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.1	3.4	3.4
Education	4.1	3.5	4.4	4.6	3.2	3.2
Gun control / Second Amendment rights	2.0	2.0	3.6	3.9	3.0	3.2
Don't know / not sure	1.9	1.0	2.2	0.9	2.8	2.3
Crime	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.1	2.4	2.1
Global climate change	3.7	4.1	1.8	1.7	2.0	1.7
Some other issues	3.1	2.9	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.9
Foreign affairs	2.0	2.0	1.2	1.3	1.0	0.4
Energy policy	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Internet / data security / ID theft	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2
International trade imbalance	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0

The survey included a question on favorability for the 2016 election year candidates for president and vice-president. The following tables display the cumulative totals for very and somewhat favorable.

Candidates	National Composite June 2016	National LV Composite June 2016	National Composite September 2016	National LV Composite September 2016
Donald Trump	35.1	36.6	37.1	38.7
Hillary Clinton	43.6	44.3	39.2	40.1
Gary Johnson	15.7	13.0	22.3	23.4
Jill Stein	---	---	14.1	14.9
Mike Pence	---	---	32.4	34.2
Tim Kaine	---	---	26.9	27.8

Candidates	Florida Composite June 2016	Florida LV Composite June 2016	Florida Composite September 2016	Florida LV Composite September 2016
Donald Trump	30.6	32.2	39.6	39.4
Hillary Clinton	46.0	46.4	44.6	45.9
Gary Johnson	12.2	12.0	14.6	14.9
Jill Stein	---	---	11.0	11.2
Mike Pence	---	---	34.0	34.7
Tim Kaine	---	---	27.0	28.0

National respondents were presented with the head-to-head vote questions as follows:

If the Presidential election was held today between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, Gary Johnson and Jill Stein, which candidate would you support?

National	Hillary Clinton	Donald Trump	Gary Johnson	Jill Stein	Unsure
National Composite	41.0	34.6	7.5	2.4	14.5
National Likely Voters	42.0	36.5	7.6	2.5	11.5

Those undecided or unsure were asked which candidate they are leaning toward. The following table includes these leaning respondents.

National	Hillary Clinton	Donald Trump	Gary Johnson	Jill Stein
National Composite	46.2	39.8	9.9	4.1
National Likely Voters	46.2	41.0	9.3	3.6

Florida respondents were presented with the head-to-head questions as follows:

If the Presidential election was held today between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, Gary Johnson and Jill Stein, which candidate would you support?

Florida	Hillary Clinton	Donald Trump	Gary Johnson	Jill Stein	Unsure
Florida Composite	43.4	39.0	4.2	1.4	12.0
Florida Likely Voters	44.6	39.6	4.0	1.5	10.7

Those undecided or unsure were asked which candidate they are leaning toward. The following table includes these leaning respondents.

Florida	Hillary Clinton	Donald Trump	Gary Johnson	Jill Stein
Florida Composite	49.2	42.8	5.9	2.0
Florida Likely Voters	49.4	43.6	5.7	1.7

All respondents were asked to think about this November's national election for U.S. Congress and president and report which issues will be most important as they select candidates to support. Each was asked to indicate all that apply. The following table presents results on a composite basis along with results among likely voters – nationally and among Florida respondents. Results are shown in declining order by national likely voters.

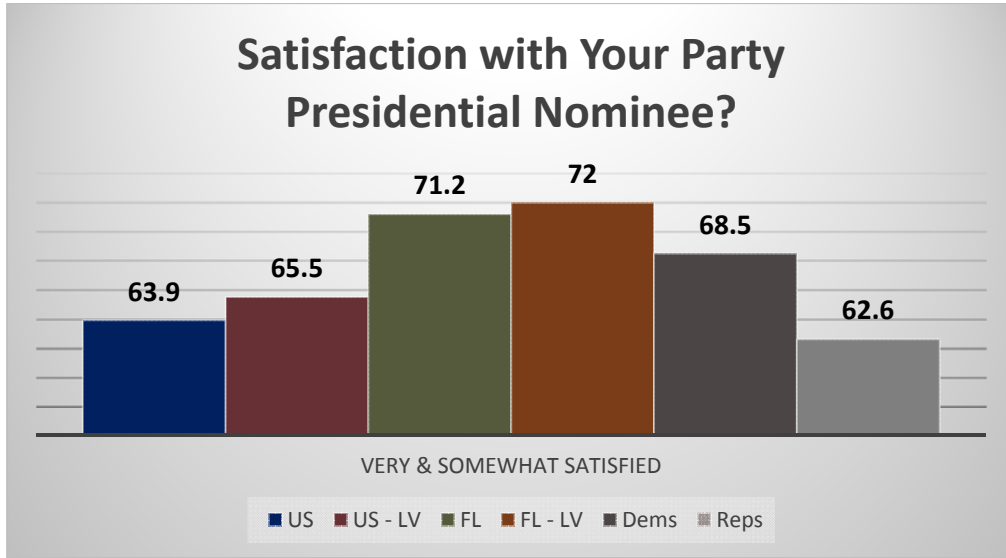| Issues	National Composite	National LV Composite	Florida Composite	Florida LV Composite
Jobs and Economy	62.6	62.7	66.6	67.2
Health Care	46.8	47.4	48.4	49.5
Terrorism	44.0	44.7	50.8	51.2
Immigration	33.0	34.1	38.6	38.9
Education	28.3	28.1	28.4	28.6
Foreign Policy	22.7	23.7	31.8	32.2
Filling U.S. Supreme Court vacancies	21.3	22.5	21.6	22.1
Social issues such as abortion	13.5	14.0	11.2	11.2
Climate Change	13.0	13.2	13.6	13.5
Other	4.9	4.3	3.0	2.5

All respondents were asked to finish this sentence…

"My loyalty, in my vote decision-making, is first and foremost to…"

Over one-quarter, 28.0%, report their first loyalty is to their nation. Results are displayed in declining order by national likely voter composite.

My loyalty is first and foremost to…	National Composite	National LV Composite	Florida Composite	Florida LV Composite
The nation	27.2	28.0	26.3	26.3
My family's well being	25.6	23.6	26.9	26.1
My own political philosophy	18.8	19.6	16.8	17.3
Our continued freedom	14.8	15.0	15.6	16.0
My chosen political party	7.4	8.1	6.4	6.3
My chosen candidate(s)	3.7	3.9	5.8	5.9
Other	2.4	1.9	2.2	2.1

Self-identified Republicans and Democrats were asked how satisfied they were with their respective political party's final, selected presidential nominee. Overall, among all Republicans and Democrats surveyed, just 65.5% of likely voters reported being very (29.4%) or somewhat satisfied (36.1%). Results are presented in the following graph.

Satisfaction with Your Party Presidential Nominee?

VERY & SOMEWHAT SATISFIED

US: 63.9 | US - LV: 65.5 | FL: 71.2 | FL - LV: 72 | Dems: 68.5 | Reps: 62.6

All respondents were also asked if they will cast their presidential ballot proudly, only somewhat proudly, somewhat reluctantly, or very reluctantly. Just over one-half of Democrats, 55.0%, and under one-half of Republicans, 44.4%, will cast their ballots proudly. Results among Democrats and Republicans are presented in the following graph.

How Proudly Will You Cast Your Presidential Ballot in 2016?

	PROUDLY	ONLY SOMEWHAT PROUDLY	SOMEWHAT RELUCTANTLY	VERY RELUCTANTLY	UNSURE
US Dems	55	20.9	18.2	4	2
US Reps	44.4	24.6	20.1	8	2.9
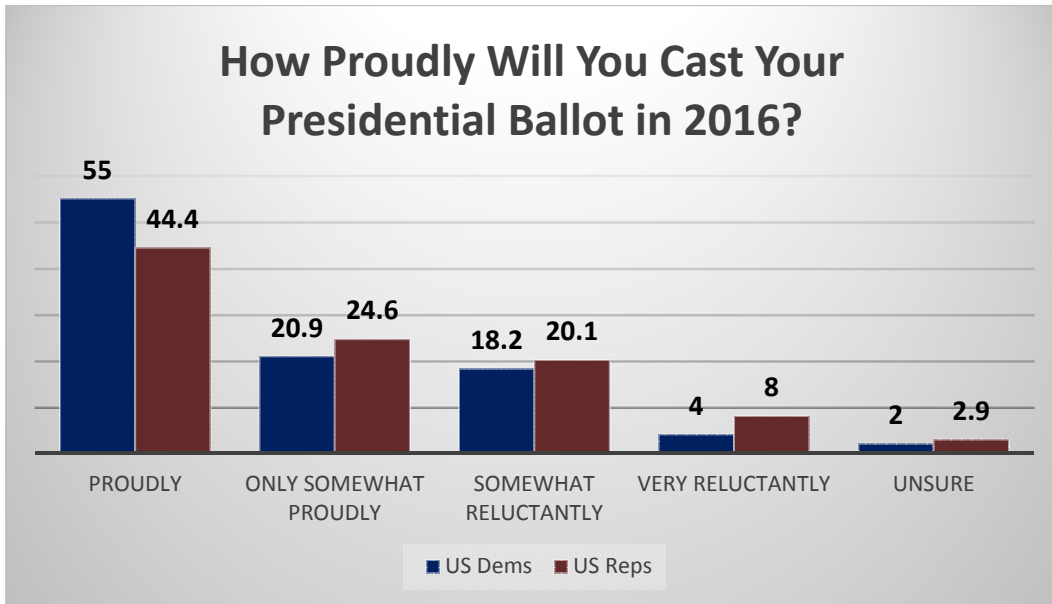
In an effort to determine the degree voters are switching allegiances between presidential candidates, respondents were asked to report movement. The following table presents the results collected.

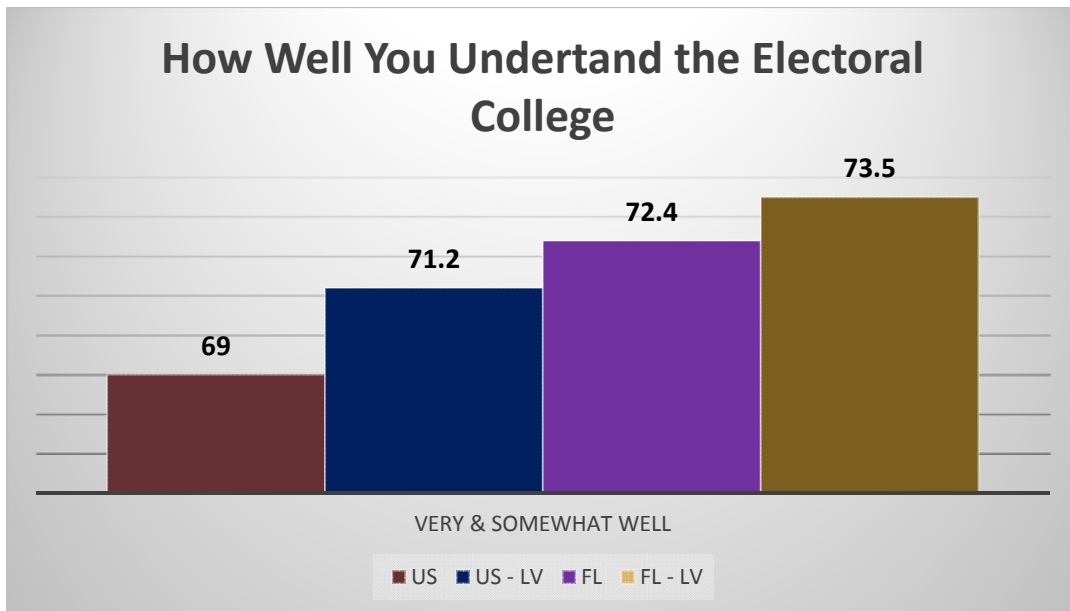| Since the conventions, have you changed your mind on a presidential choice?	National Composite	National LV Composite	Florida Composite	Florida LV Composite
Yes, from Clinton to Trump	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.2
Yes, from Trump to Clinton	4.2	4.3	2.4	2.5
Yes, from Clinton to a third-party candidate	2.5	2.7	2.0	1.9
Yes, from Trump to a third-party candidate	2.5	2.3	1.6	1.7
Yes from a third-party to Trump	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1
Yes from a third-party to Clinton	1.8	2.0	1.4	1.1
No, have not changed my mind	66.6	69.7	74.3	75.4
Still undecided	15.6	13.9	13.0	12.0
Not registered to vote	1.6	0.0	0.4	0.2

Respondents were presented with a number of statements about the 2016 November election including the process, the system and some issues the candidates have raised. Each was asked to indicate if they strongly agreed, somewhat agreed, somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statements. The following table presents the cumulative totals for those strongly and somewhat agreeing with each statement. Columns are included for results among Democrats, Independents and Republicans.

Statements	US	US-LV	FL	FL-LV	Dem	Ind	Rep
I plan to split my votes in November between political parties	33.4	34.7	29.8	30.5	21.5	51.5	28.4
I will likely split my November votes between political parties to ensure one party does not control the House, Senate and White House	23.8	23.9	21.0	21.1	19.5	30.2	20.4
Third party candidate, Libertarian Gary Johnson, and his running mate, William Weld, should be allowed to participate in upcoming presidential debates	58.3	60.3	52.2	53.3	51.0	67.9	60.7
Third party candidate, Green Party, Jill Stein and her running mate, Ajamu Baraka, should be allowed to participate in the upcoming presidential debates	51.8	53.4	46.8	48.4	50.7	56.8	51.8
I have confidence those sponsoring the upcoming presidential debates will do their job independently, objectively and fairly	41.8	43.0	47.0	47.6	54.0	37.4	39.3
Voter fraud and manipulation of November results is a real concern and likely to occur	58.8	60.5	55.2	55.4	50.7	56.2	75.7
Voter suppression and efforts to keep eligible voters from the polls is a real concern and likely to occur	52.9	54.5	54.8	55.6	59.3	54.6	49.8
I would support making voting in the U.S. mandatory	36.6	38.3	42.2	43.2	46.3	33.5	34.8
I would support fines for those eligible who do not vote in elections in the U.S.	19.9	20.5	24.2	24.6	22.8	19.4	19.2
This election, more than any I've experienced, has me frustrated and wondering if I'll even vote at all	43.0	41.9	36.8	36.6	35.1	43.2	45.0
I have faith in Americans to make the right decisions in this November's election	38.6	40.4	47.2	48.6	52.0	33.2	38.7

Respondents, 49.6%, who disagreed with the statement: "I have faith in Americans to make the right decisions in this November's election" were asked to indicate reasons for their opinion. The most frequently named reason for lack of faith was media bias. The following are the results as collected. Multiple reasons were accepted. Results are displayed in declining order by national likely voters.

Reasons for not having faith.	National Composite	National LV Composite	Florida Composite	Florida LV Composite
Media bias	67.8	68.8	65.7	66.5
Many don't pay attention to the issues / candidate stands	60.3	60.8	65.2	66.0
Poor education or lack of education	51.5	51.2	52.9	52.3
Candidates lie about their records and people believe them	46.7	45.6	53.3	52.8
Don't attempt to see other points of view	40.7	40.4	35.2	36.0
Polarization	20.5	21.4	20.0	19.3
Other / unsure	5.7	5.4	5.7	4.6

All respondents were asked how well they understood the Electoral College. Just under three-quarters, 71.2%, of likely voters suggested they understood the Electoral College very (25.0%) or somewhat well (44.1%). Results are displayed in the following graph.

How Well You Undertand the Electoral College

VERY & SOMEWHAT WELL

US: 69
US - LV: 71.2
FL: 72.4
FL - LV: 73.5

■ US ■ US - LV ■ FL ■ FL - LV

Respondents were presented with the following question: *"There are 538 electors, equal to the number of members of Congress (plus three from Washington, D.C). These electors are pledged to the presidential candidate who wins the most votes in their respective states. The presidential candidate winning the majority of electors (270) wins. On four occasions, because of the Electoral College, a candidate who did not win the most popular votes in the nation was elected. Going forward, do you prefer to maintain the current Electoral College system or move to presidential elections by popular vote only?"*

Each was asked if they would like to maintain the Electoral College or move to presidential elections by popular vote. By more than a two-to-one margin, respondents preferred popular vote over the college – 22.1% to 57.2% respectively. Results are displayed here.
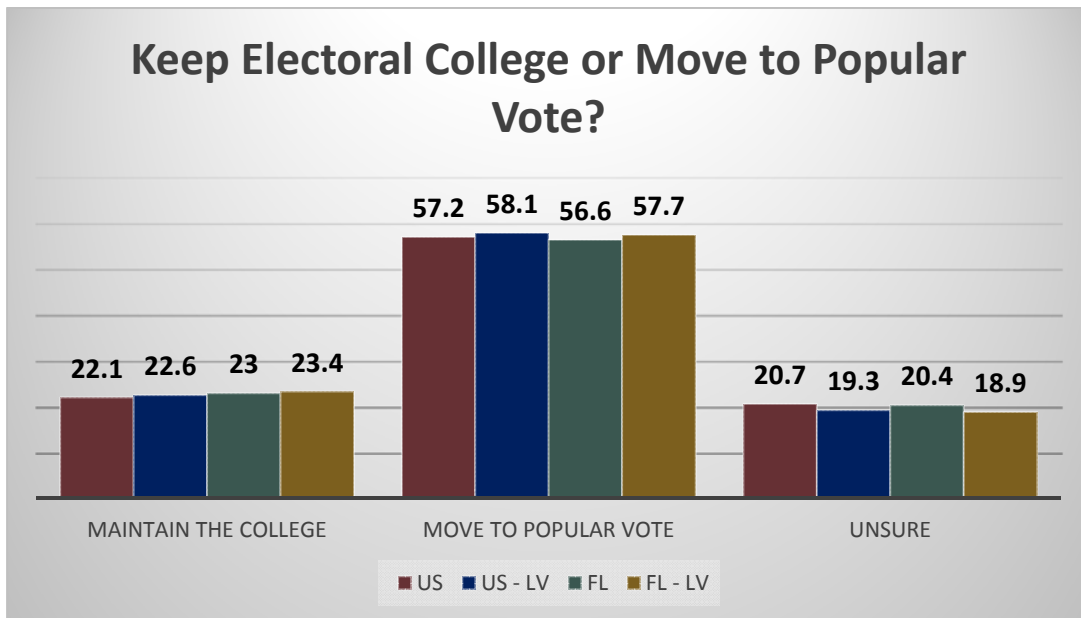
Respondents were asked where they fit in the debate over wanting establishment or outsider candidates elected in 2016.

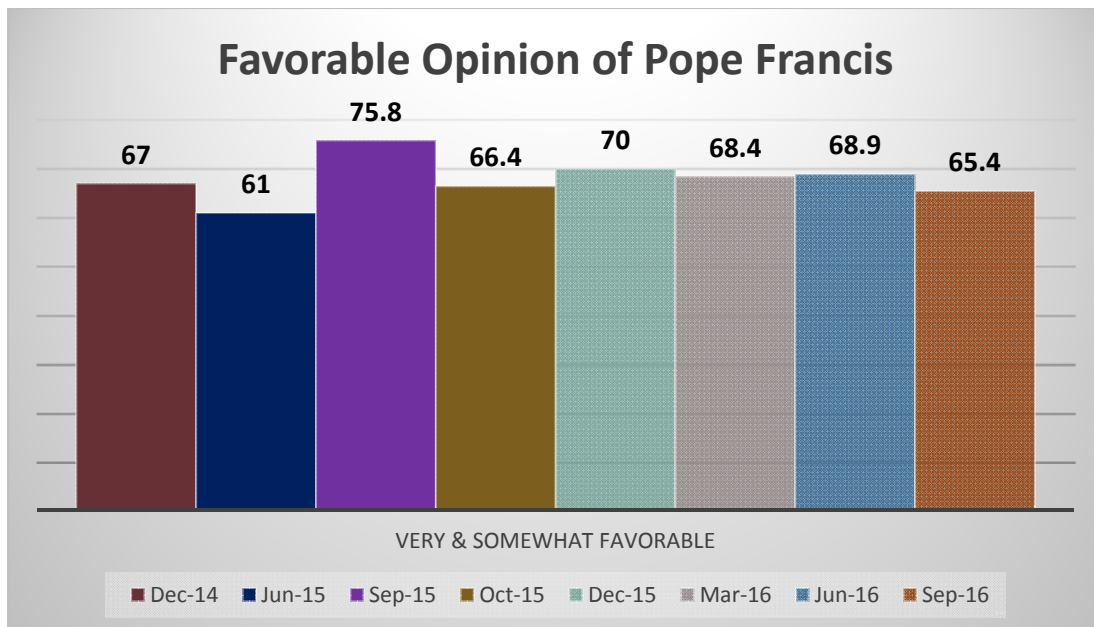| Establishment vs. the Outsider?	National Composite	National LV Composite	Florida Composite	Florida LV Composite
I plan to support only establishment candidates	13.9	14.6	15.0	15.2
I plan to support mostly establishment candidates	20.1	21.2	19.8	20.2
TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT	**34.0**	**35.8**	**34.8**	**35.4**
I plan to support mostly outsider candidates	10.8	11.4	10.6	10.9
I plan to support only outsider candidates	2.5	2.5	2.2	2.1
TOTAL OUTSIDER	**13.3**	**13.9**	**12.8**	**13.0**
I plan to support an even number of establishment and outsider candidates	15.6	16.1	14.8	15.2
Unsure	37.1	34.1	37.6	36.4

POPE FRANCIS

All September, 2016 respondents were asked if their opinion of Pope Francis was strongly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or not at all favorable. Results are presented here for the current and previous polls. Current favorability is 65.4%.

The September, 2015 poll was timed to coincide with the pope's visit to the United States.

In Florida, Pope Francis currently enjoys a 63.4% rating (down from 71.4% in June, 2016 and 70.4% in March, 2016).

Among Catholics nationally, the pope's current favorable opinion is 84.2% (down somewhat from 87.5% in June, 2016 and 88.1% in March, 2016).

National results for those holding a very or somewhat favorable opinion of Pope Francis are presented in the following graph.

Favorable Opinion of Pope Francis

Dec-14	Jun-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Dec-15	Mar-16	Jun-16	Sep-16
67	61	75.8	66.4	70	68.4	68.9	65.4

VERY & SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Respondents rated the quality and professionalism of policing departments and police officers in general within their own communities. Each used a scale of one to ten where one was very good and ten was very poor.

The following table presents the cumulative totals for ratings of one through four (good) and seven through ten (poor). Results are presented for September, 2016 and October, 2015 for comparison purposes.

Nationally, positive ratings improved significantly over the past year for both police departments and officers.

September, 2016 Results

Ratings	National Good 1-4	National Poor 7-10	Florida Good 1-4	Florida Poor 7-10
My community police department	60.7	20.5	53.3	22.6
The police officers in my community	60.9	20.6	54.1	22.0

October, 2015 Results

Ratings	National Good 1-4	National Poor 7-10	Florida Good 1-4	Florida Poor 7-10
My community police department	54.3	22.2	57.4	18.7
The police officers in my community	53.6	22.4	57.2	19.4

Respondents were presented with a couple of policing strategies – "Stop and Frisk" and use of military-grade equipment locally. Each was asked to indicate if they strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose each policing strategy. The following table presents the cumulative totals for those strongly and somewhat supporting each strategy and the cumulative totals for those strongly and somewhat opposing each. Results are presented for both the current poll – September, 2016 as well as October, 2015 for comparison purposes.

September, 2016

Policing Strategies	National Strongly & Somewhat Support	National Strongly and Somewhat Oppose	Florida Strongly & Somewhat Support	Florida Strongly & Somewhat Oppose
"Stop and Frisk" – permitting officers to stop suspicious individuals in public areas to check for weapons without a warrant	54.9	41.0	52.2	39.4
The transfer of donated, used military hardware, ammunition, and equipment to community police departments	63.6	27.9	63.2	24.8

October, 2015

Policing Strategies	National Strongly & Somewhat Support	National Strongly and Somewhat Oppose	Florida Strongly & Somewhat Support	Florida Strongly & Somewhat Oppose
"Stop and Frisk" – permitting officers to stop suspicious individuals in public areas to check for weapons without a warrant	50.7	43.8	52.3	42.6
The transfer of donated, used military hardware, ammunition, and equipment to community police departments	60.4	29.4	65.6	26.4

All respondents were asked to think for a moment about their own trust and confidence in police officers, police departments, and the judicial system. Each was asked to rate the following based on their own trust and confidence that they would be **treated in a fair, impartial and objective manner if involved with law enforcement**. Each used a scale of one to ten where one means they had strong trust and confidence and ten means they had no trust and confidence. The cumulative totals for one through four (strong trust/confidence) and seven through ten (little/no trust/confidence) are presented within the following table.

Trust in police officers, departments and the judicial system has increased significantly since 2015.

September, 2016

Trust and Confidence in…	National Strong Trust 1-4	National Little/No Trust 7-10	Florida Strong Trust 1-4	Florida Little/No Trust 7-10
Trust in police officers	60.5	20.2	58.6	21.8
Trust in police departments	59.6	19.8	57.0	21.8
Trust in the judicial system including courts, prosecutors, and judges	45.1	25.0	47.2	24.2
Trust in juries to do the right thing*	46.4	22.9	45.6	24.4

*New question in 2016

October, 2015

Trust and Confidence in…	National Strong Trust 1-4	National Little/No Trust 7-10	Florida Strong Trust 1-4	Florida Little/No Trust 7-10
Trust in police officers	54.7	22.6	56.1	24.6
Trust in police departments	53.1	23.0	55.3	23.3
Trust in the judicial system including courts, prosecutors, and judges	40.3	29.8	43.2	29.7

Respondents were presented with a number of statements about police and policing. For each, respondents were asked if they strongly agreed, somewhat agreed, somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed. Strong agreement was found for requiring body cameras on officers, and U.S. Justice Department investigations of community police departments following controversial incidents.

The cumulative totals for those strongly or somewhat agreeing with each statement are presented within the following table. The statements are presented in declining order based on support levels.

Statements	2015 National Strongly & Somewhat Agree	2016 National Strongly & Somewhat Agree	2015 Florida Strongly & Somewhat Agree	2016 Florida Strongly & Somewhat Agree
Police officers should be required to wear body cameras to better assist in reviewing difficult incidents	86.8	89.0	88.1	90.2
The U.S. Department of Justice should continue to open investigations of community police departments following controversial incidents	79.0	81.2	77.3	81.8
The killing of police officers is inflaming racial tensions nationwide	71.0	65.8	73.6	65.0
We should focus on mental health supports instead of gun controls	70.4	81.0	69.6	74.4
I have had positive interactions or conversations with community police officers unrelated to law enforcement issues.	59.7	58.0	58.8	45.4
I personally know a police officer in my community	50.6	68.3	47.8	57.4
Gun violence would decrease with more controls and restrictions	46.0	46.9	46.4	50.0
I have, or I know someone who has, experienced abuse by police officers	35.7	32.0	33.7	33.8
I support the Black Lives Matter movement	---	38.4	---	40.4

Respondents were asked which firearms, if any they owned. While 64.5% indicated "none", the remainder had one or more types of firearms. Ownership of firearms, overall, appears to have increased somewhat over 2015. Results are displayed in the following table. Multiple responses were accepted.

Firearms Owned	2015 National	2016 National	2015 Florida	2016 Florida
Hand gun(s)	23.4	25.2	23.5	25.2
Rifle(s)	17.7	18.3	13.3	13.2
Assault weapon(s)	5.6	4.0	2.9	4.4
Shotgun(s)	15.9	16.6	12.7	12.6
None	66.7	64.5	69.0	67.0
Unsure	1.6	2.1	1.7	3.8

The survey included a question designed to collect personal positions and beliefs about gun control. Three-quarters, 74.9% (up slightly from 73.2% in 2015), of all respondents could see some limited licensing, permitting or some restrictions on certain arms. Results are presented in the following table.

Position on Gun Controls	2015 National	2016 National	2015 Florida	2016 Florida
There should be no regulations or controls on any firearms	12.8	12.6	9.8	9.6
There should be some limited licensing, permitting or some restrictions on certain arms such as assault weapons	73.2	74.9	72.4	76.2
Firearms should not be owned privately	8.5	8.1	12.5	7.8
Unsure	5.5	4.4	5.2	6.4

Respondents were asked which of several positions best reflected their own personal position toward gun ownership and gun regulation. Results are presented here.
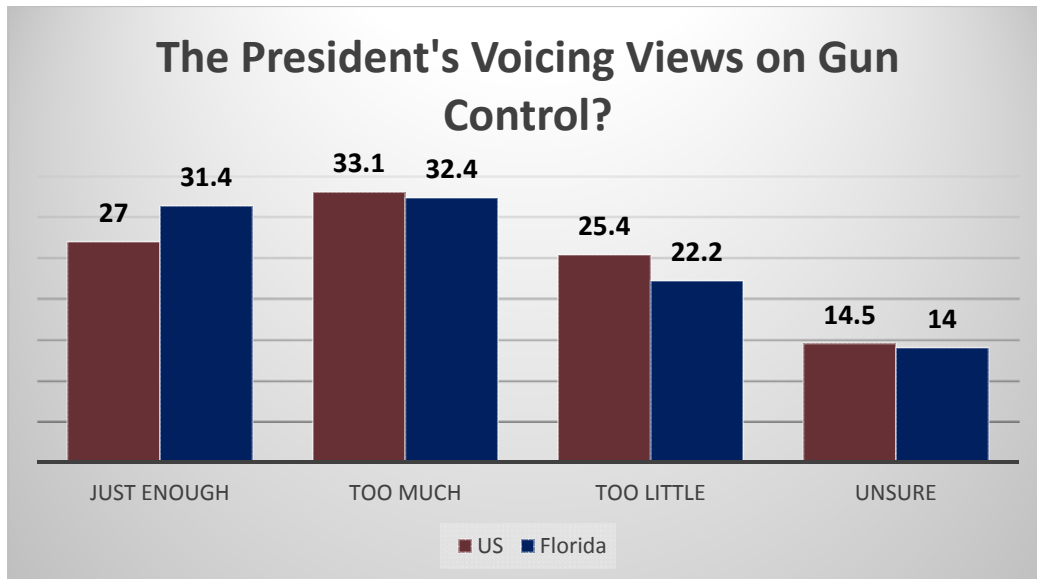
Given Recent Mass Shootings – Current Position	2015 National	2016 National	2015 Florida	2016 Florida
I continue to support gun ownership rights under the 2nd Amendment without exception and believe these mass shootings would be less frequent/horrific if more citizens were armed	26.5	27.2	21.6	25.0
I continue to support gun ownership rights under the 2nd Amendment without exception BUT don't believe in an effort to arm more citizens	15.9	16.3	18.9	13.2
I support gun ownership rights but am open to more exceptions, regulations and restrictions	40.7	42.6	41.8	47.2
I continue to oppose private ownership of firearms	9.1	7.2	12.9	8.6

The poll included the following question on funding and support for mental health treatment: "Government, on the state and federal levels, can increase funding and support for mental health treatment. How helpful would increased funding and emphasis on mental health treatment be toward reducing the severity and frequency of mass shootings? Would you say…" The cumulative totals for very and somewhat helpful and not very and not at all helpful are presented in the following graph.

Helpfulness of Mental Health Treatment Increases?

	National 2015	National 2016	Florida 2015	Florida 2016
VERY & SOMEWHAT HELPFUL	75.2	76.9	75.5	76.8
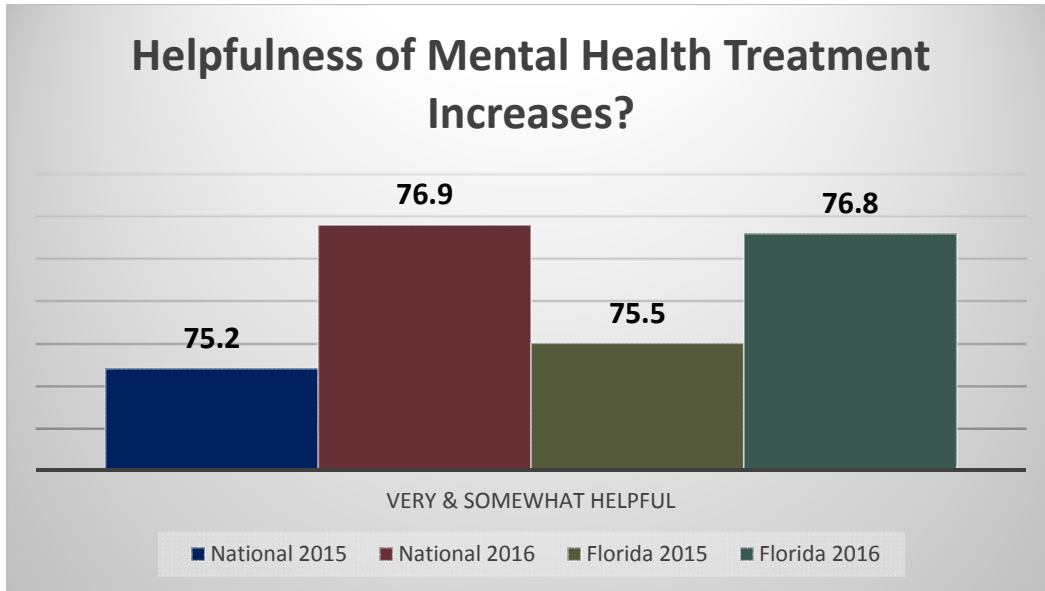
The survey included a question on whether President Obama has weighed in on the issue of gun control too little, too much or just enough. Results are presented here.

The President's Voicing Views on Gun Control?

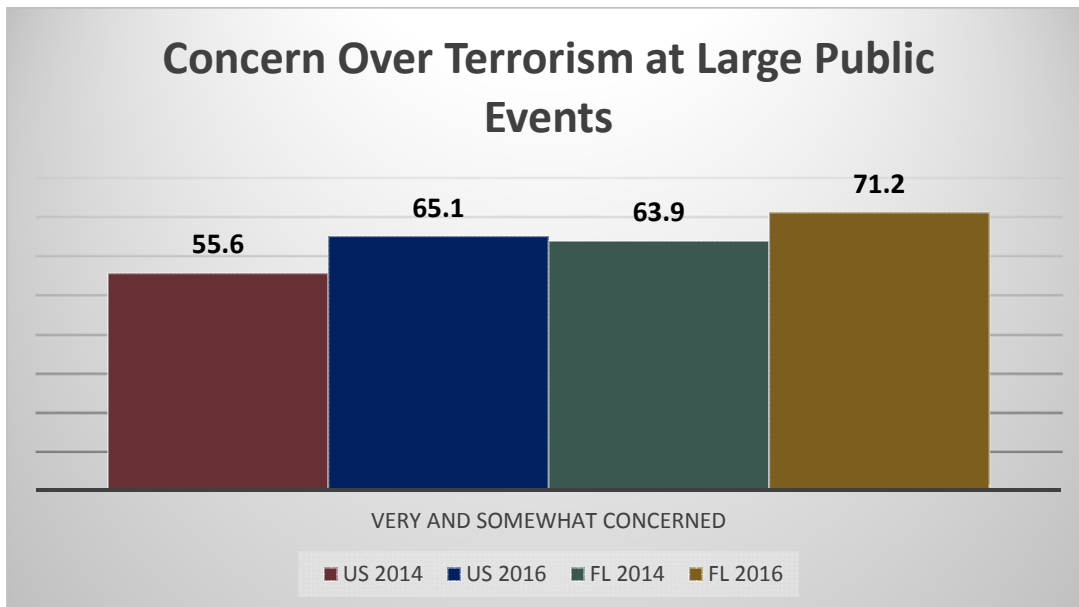|	JUST ENOUGH	TOO MUCH	TOO LITTLE	UNSURE
US	27	33.1	25.4	14.5
Florida	31.4	32.4	22.2	14

Respondents were asked how safe they might feel in a number of different situations. Each was asked to rate their perceived safety in each situation using a scale of one to ten where one was very safe and ten was not at all safe. The following table presents the cumulative totals for safe (ratings of 1-4) and the cumulative totals for unsafe (ratings of 7-10).

Three-quarters, 72.0%, noted they would feel unsafe if police were to be unarmed.

Firearm Situations	US Safe (1-4)	US Unsafe (7-10)	Florida Safe (1-4)	Florida Unsafe (7-10)
If you had a firearm with you in public	49.8	19.8	48.4	23.8
If police were not armed	13.9	72.0	15.8	69.2
If others, around you in a public place, were armed	32.0	44.1	32.8	40.0

In early 2014 and again, within this poll, respondents were asked how concerned they were about terrorism when attending large public events in the United States. Concern has increased significantly, from 55.6% to 65.1% as shown in the following graph.

Concern Over Terrorism at Large Public Events

VERY AND SOMEWHAT CONCERNED

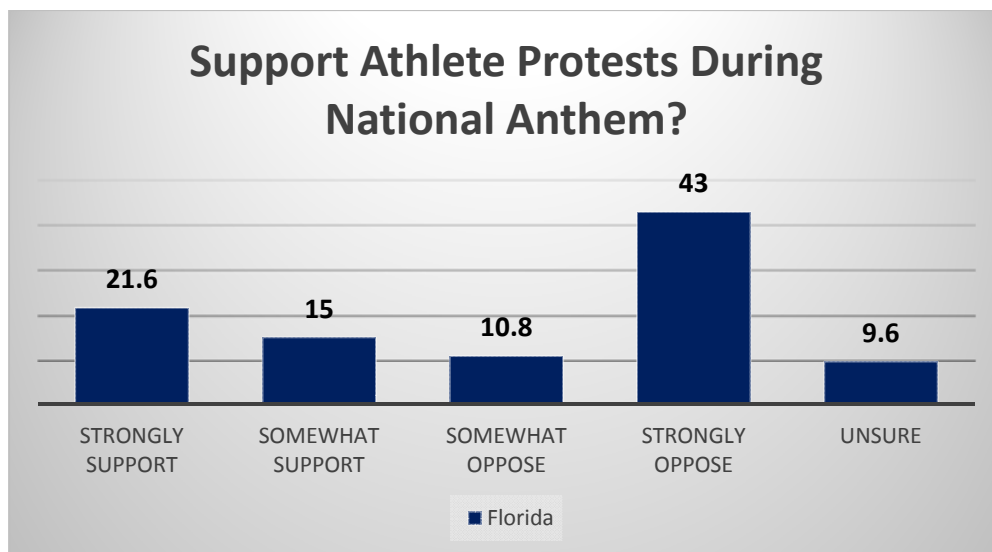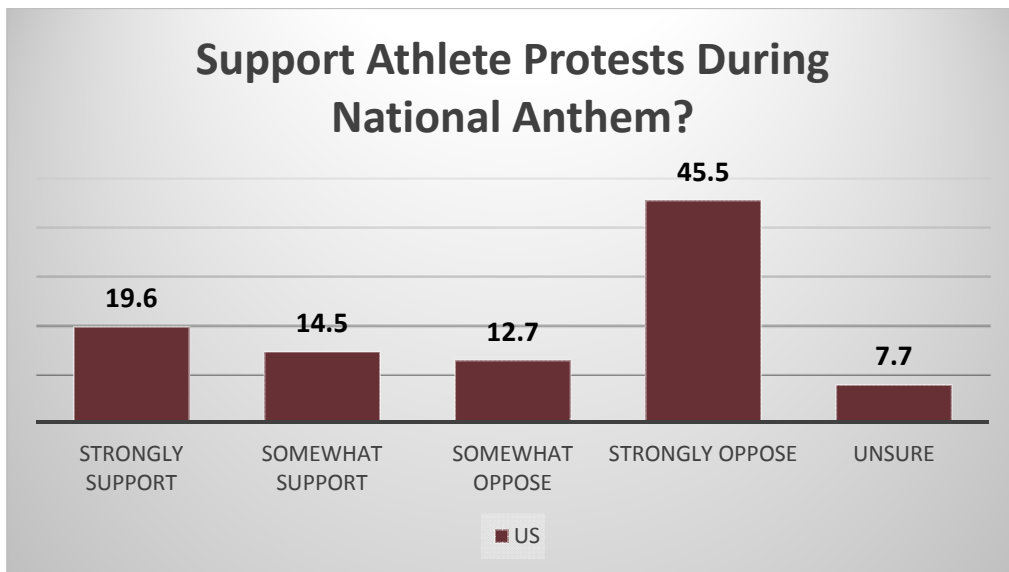US 2014: 55.6   US 2016: 65.1   FL 2014: 63.9   FL 2016: 71.2

IMMIGRATION

Respondents were presented with a number of statements about immigration. Respondents were asked if they strongly agreed, somewhat agreed, somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed with each statement. The following table presents the cumulative totals for those strongly and somewhat agreeing.

Immigration Statements	US	Florida
Our nation has an obligation to accommodate refugees when possible	45.2	48.4
The U.S. should assign preferences or priorities in admitting persecuted refugee groups such as Christians, children, and women	49.0	48.0
Children born on U.S. soil should have a birthright to U.S. citizenship	64.8	68.8
Immigrants who came to the U.S. illegally and have obeyed laws should be allowed a path to citizenship	55.1	59.2

OBSERVING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Respondents were presented with the following question about the national anthem: "Recently, sports figures such as football player Colin Kaepernick, and soccer player Megan Rapinoe, sat or kneeled during the pre-game/match National Anthem. In these instances, Colin Kaepernick and Megan Rapinoe were protesting the treatment of black Americans by police. From time-to-time, athletes express their views and protest in this manner. How strongly do you support or oppose such an action during the national anthem? Would you say…"

By nearly a two-to-one margin, opposition to such action during the National Anthem was stronger than support – 58.2% to 34.1%, respectively. Results are displayed in the following graphs.

Support Athlete Protests During National Anthem?

STRONGLY SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	STRONGLY OPPOSE	UNSURE
19.6	14.5	12.7	45.5	7.7

■ US

Support Athlete Protests During National Anthem?

STRONGLY SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	STRONGLY OPPOSE	UNSURE
21.6	15	10.8	43	9.6

■ Florida

FLORIDA ISSUES/CANDIDATES

The following tables hold the head-to-head results in the United States Senate race in Florida between Marco Rubio and Patrick Murphy.

September, 2016

US Senate	Marco Rubio	Patrick Murphy	Unsure
Composite	44.2	33.4	22.4
November LV	44.2	34.7	21.1

August, 2016

US Senate	Marco Rubio	Patrick Murphy	Unsure
Composite	44.7	36.8	18.5
November LV	46.2	38.1	15.7

Concern over the Zika virus remains constant from August, 2016 as shown in the following table.

Concern Over Zika	Florida June 2016	Florida August 2016	Florida September 2016
Very concerned	27.1	35.1	35.0
Somewhat concerned	44.2	44.2	42.4
Total: Very and somewhat concerned	**71.3**	**79.3**	**77.4**
Somewhat unconcerned	14.2	11.1	12.4
Not at all concerned	12.7	7.5	6.4
Total: Somewhat unconcerned and not at all concerned	**26.9**	**18.6**	**18.8**
Unsure/Don't know enough	1.9	2.1	3.8

The following measures were approved for the Florida November 8, 2016 ballots. Respondents were asked to indicate if they supported or opposed each.

Florida Composite

Florida Ballot Measures	June 2016 Support	August 2016 Support	September 2016 Support
Grants Florida residents the right to own or lease equipment that produces solar energy for personal use – Amendment 1	77.2	80.1	83.2
Grants the right to use marijuana for the treatment of certain ailments when recommended by a physician – Amendment 2	65.2	66.5	67.8
Provides property tax exemptions for first responders disabled in the line of duty – Amendment 3	71.4	75.2	75.4
Locks home values in place for senior citizens eligible for property tax breaks – Amendment 5	64.6	69.3	76.4

Florida Likely Voters

Florida Ballot Measures	June 2016 Support	August 2016 Support	September 2016 Support
Grants Florida residents the right to own or lease equipment that produces solar energy for personal use – Amendment 1	77.3	81.4	84.0
Grants the right to use marijuana for the treatment of certain ailments when recommended by a physician – Amendment 2	65.1	67.8	68.8
Provides property tax exemptions for first responders disabled in the line of duty – Amendment 3	71.5	76.7	76.8
Locks home values in place for senior citizens eligible for property tax breaks – Amendment 5	65.8	70.7	77.1

NATIONAL SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS

Conservative/Moderate/Liberal	December 2015	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016
Very conservative	14.5	8.9	14.1	13.8
Somewhat conservative	22.1	21.8	23.7	22.0
Moderate	31.0	35.2	33.9	34.8
Somewhat liberal	12.0	14.6	14.3	14.7
Very liberal	10.3	8.6	8.8	7.3
Unsure	10.0	10.9	5.3	7.4

Age	December 2015	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016
18-25	18.3	8.2	9.2	7.1
26-35	25.2	19.8	21.4	18.1
36-45	16.7	17.6	15.3	16.7
46-55	12.7	19.0	16.1	20.8
56-65	15.8	17.3	18.9	21.9
Over 65	11.3	18.0	19.2	15.4

Income	December 2015	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016
Less than $10,000	5.8	5.5	4.0	4.0
$10,000 to less than $40,000	35.8	24.8	19.8	23.3
$40,000 to less than $75,000	27.6	28.8	26.8	29.3
$75,000 to less than $100,000	13.5	15.5	16.8	16.0
$100,000 to less than $150,000	8.3	13.0	19.5	17.1
$150,000 to less than $200,000	2.8	6.0	6.2	5.4
$200,000 or more	1.9	4.0	6.1	3.8
Prefer not to disclose	4.3	2.4	0.9	1.2

Political Party Affiliation	December 2015	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016
Republican	25.9	26.1	30.0	30.2
Democratic	31.4	32.7	30.5	28.7
Unaffiliated/Independent / Undeclared	33.1	32.0	36.7	37.0
Some other party	1.5	1.7	0.4	0.7
Unsure	8.2	7.5	2.5	3.5

Gender	December 2015	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016
Male	49.4	46.0	47.8	45.6
Female	50.6	54.0	52.2	54.4

Education	December 2015	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016
Less than High School	11.7	13.4	10.8	12.2
High School / GED	16.5	18.0	10.7	10.6
Associate Degree	7.7	9.2	6.9	6.8
Some college / technical school	25.4	23.6	19.0	35.1
College / technical school graduate	26.7	22.6	29.1	23.1
Postgraduate or professional degree	11.0	13.0	23.3	12.0
Prefer not to disclose	0.9	0.2	---	0.3

Hispanic, Latin American, Puerto Rican, Cuban or Mexican	December 2015	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016
Yes	16.2	13.1	16.8	16.1

Ethnicity (Among Non-Hispanics)	December 2015	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016
White	65.2	68.8	64.0	69.7
Black, African-American	12.4	11.0	13.0	11.6
Asian	4.0	5.8	5.0	0.7
Aleutian, Eskimo or American Indian	1.0	1.1	0.5	0.8
Other	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.7
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	---	0.6	0.2	0.2
Two or more races	---	---	---	---
Refused	---	---	---	---
Don't know/unsure	---	---	---	---

Religion Followed	December 2015	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016
Catholic	21.2	21.4	23.2	24.3
Protestant (Baptist, Lutheran, Congregational, Presbyterian)	19.3	20.1	19.5	20.3
Christian (non-denominational)	29.4	24.2	23.5	25.2
Greek Orthodox	0.3	0.6	0.7	1.0
Jewish	2.7	2.6	2.9	1.8
Buddhist	0.9	1.6	0.6	0.3
Muslim	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.3
Latter Day Saints / Mormon	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.6
Other	5.2	4.1	3.8	2.6
No preference	17.4	22.3	22.6	21.4
Don't know / unsure	2.4	1.7	10.7	1.3

5

APPENDIX

INTERPRETATION OF AGGREGATE RESULTS

The computer-processed data for this survey are presented in the following frequency distributions. It is important to note that the wordings of the variable labels and value labels in the computer-processed data are largely abbreviated descriptions of the Questionnaire items and available response categories.

The frequency distributions include the category or response for the question items. Responses deemed not appropriate for classification have been grouped together under the "Other" code.

The "NA" category label refers to "No Answer" or "Not Applicable." This code is also used to classify ambiguous responses. In addition, the "DK/RF" category includes those respondents who did not know their answer to a question or declined to answer it. In many of the tables, a group of responses may be tagged as "Missing" – occasionally, certain individual's responses may not be required to specific questions and thus are excluded. Although when this category of response is used, the computations of percentages are presented in two (2) ways in the frequency distributions: 1) with their inclusion (as a proportion of the total sample), and 2) their exclusion (as a proportion of a sample sub-group).

Each frequency distribution includes the absolute observed occurrence of each response (i.e. the total number of cases in each category). Immediately adjacent to the right of the column of absolute frequencies is the column of relative frequencies. These are the percentages of cases falling in each category response, including those cases designated as missing data. To the right of the relative frequency column is the adjusted frequency distribution column that contains the relative frequencies based on the legitimate (i.e. non-missing) cases. That is, the total base for the adjusted frequency distribution excludes the missing data. For many Questionnaire items, the relative frequencies and the adjusted frequencies will be nearly the same. However, some items that elicit a sizable number of missing data will produce quite substantial percentage differences between the two columns of frequencies. The careful analyst will cautiously consider both distributions.

The last column of data within the frequency distribution is the cumulative frequency distribution (Cum Freq.). This column is simply an adjusted frequency distribution of the sum of all previous categories of response and the current category of response. Its primary usefulness is to gauge some ordered or ranked meaning.