2017

Politics, New President, Environment & Pope Francis

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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 politics, issues, Pope Francis, the new president, political engagement post 2016 election, a divided nation, the Supreme Court and views on potential 2018 political candidates in the state of Florida.

The research study included survey responses from 1073 respondents nationally and 507 respondents within Florida approximately proportional to state population contribution. The poll was conducted March 3 – 11, 2017. A pre-test occurred on March 3, 2017.

The national poll included the following areas for investigation:

➢ Job approval rating for President Trump, Vice-President Pence & Speaker Paul Ryan;
➢ Issues of concern;
➢ Job performance ratings for President Trump in 11 areas;
➢ Job performance ratings for Trump cabinet members and advisors;
➢ Impression of Pope Francis;
➢ Ratings of Pope France on several initiatives;
➢ Degree of political engagement following the 2016 election;
➢ Support for Judge Neil Gorsuch for the United States Supreme Court;
➢ Views on polarization and divisions in the United States;
➢ Concern over the environment;
➢ Views and impressions of climate change;
➢ Personal efforts at reducing carbon pollution;
➢ Support / opposition to the Paris Agreement adopted at the United Nations Climate Change Conference;
➢ Views on Florida 2018 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 1073 online surveys nationally and 507 among Florida residents.

Survey design input was provided by the membership of the Polling Institute Committee.

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 March 3 – 11, 2017.

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.

All facets of the study were completed by the Polling Institute's senior staff and researchers. These aspects include: survey design, pre-test, computer programming, fielding, coding, editing, verification, validation and logic checks, computer analysis, analysis, and report writing.

Statistically, a sample of 1073 completed surveys has an associated margin for error of +/- 3.0% at a 95% confidence level. A sample of 507 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 1073 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 3

ON POLITICS AND ISSUES…

President Trump's national job approval, in March, 2017, is 44.1%. Vice-President Pence has a slightly higher approval rating while U.S. House Speaker, Paul Ryan's is slightly lower – 45.5% and 42.4%, respectively.

The leading issues of concern among the 1073 national poll respondents continue to be jobs and the economy, healthcare, government spending/deficit, immigration, homeland security, education and terrorism.

Concern is trending lower for homeland security, terrorism, the economy and jobs, and the deficit. Concern is increasing over healthcare, immigration, education and global climate change.

ON POPE FRANCIS…

Pope Francis continues to enjoy a strong favorable opinion rating among Americans surveyed. His current favorable opinion rating is 70.5% -- up from 62.6% in November 2017. Among Catholics, nationally, the total favorable opinion is higher at 82.6%.

Ratings were also collected for how well the pope is doing on issues he has focused on over time. Among those with an opinion, the pope receives strong approval ratings (strongly and somewhat approve) for how he is doing on environmental issues, advancing the cause of the poor, and human rights – 83.7%, 88.4% and 84.6%, respectively. More moderate ratings were recorded for how he is doing on family issues, migration/immigration and marriage issues – 78.4%, 72.1% and 71.4%, respectively.

ON THE NEW PRESIDENT…

The SLU poll collected the opinions of Americans on President Trump's first weeks and months in office. He received approval (strongly and somewhat) ratings over 50% for his support for the troops (64.1%), protecting the United States from terrorism (54.1%), jobs and the economy (53.8%), and keeping his campaign promises (52.1%).

In other areas, his approval ratings were under 50% -- revamping Obamacare (46.7%), immigration decisions (44.0%), deciding to move ahead with the XL Pipeline (43.5%), relations with other nations (41.8%), cabinet appointments (40.4%), addressing racial/ethnic divisions (39.9%) and handling the media (35.4%).

Just one of President Trump's staff and cabinet appointments measured, received over 50% approval – General James Mattis, Secretary of Defense. Others received ratings of just over one-third – Jeff Sessions, Attorney General (38.0%), Jared Kushner, Senior Advisor (37.4%), Kellyanne Conway, Counselor to the President (37.3%), Steve Bannon, Chief Strategist (36.0%) and Betsy DeVos, Education Secretary (34.5%).

POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT…

Interestingly, 25.8%, of all national poll respondents indicated they have become more active since the November, 2016 presidential election. Another 24.5% reported being less active, but still engaged while 11.5% noted they are less active and almost not engaged. Some, 5.0% indicated they were no longer active and 26.3% noted they were never active or engaged in the 2016 election.

ON THE SUPREME COURT…

A slim majority of Americans surveyed, 50.4%, expressed support (strongly or somewhat) for the nomination of Judge Neil Gorsuch to the United States Supreme Court. Support is nearly two-to-one over opposition at 27.6% with one quarter undecided.

ON DIVISIONS IN THE U.S.…

Respondents were not very hopeful about political divisions and polarization in the nation today. Agreement (strongly and somewhat agree) was recorded for several statements about the divisiveness the country faces today…

- ✓ 82.1% agree we are more divided as a nation than ever before;
- ✓ 65.2% see democracy slipping away;
- ✓ 51.9% agree the new White House is moving the nation toward authoritarianism;
- ✓ 49.4% that despite a sense of division in their own communities, they are optimistic about reducing political discord;
- ✓ 48.4% have strong trust in the mainstream media to accurately cover politics;
- ✓ 37.3% want to hear celebrities voice their political views;
- ✓ 35.5% agreed that not all speed patterns should be protected;
- ✓ 32.5% trust the statements, releases and tweets from the White House;
- ✓ 17.5% agreed that, at times, physical violence during demonstrations is justified; and
- ✓ 14.3% agreed that, at times, property damage during demonstrations is justified.

ON THE ENVIRONMENT…

Three-quarters, 75.1%, of all national respondents indicated they were very or somewhat concerned over global climate change. This is unchanged from March, 2016 when the percentage was also recorded at 75.1%. Each is up slightly from 73.0% in 2015.

Most Americans surveyed, 59.5%, indicated that global climate change is caused by a combination of human activity and nature. This was followed by 16.3% who believed the change is caused entirely by human activity while 9.8% suggested that change is caused entirely by nature. A few, 4.1%, noted they don't believe climate change is occurring. And, some, 5.8% are unsure.

Over one-half, 59.2% of all respondents indicated they see warmer temperatures occurring in their state or region. This was followed by one-third, 32.3%, who noted seeing unusually severe weather while nearly one-quarter saw worsening droughts, beach erosion and worsened air quality – 23.9%, 23.3% and 21.2%, respectively.

More and more, Americans are suggesting that global climate change is responsible for environmental events including:

- ✓ Warmer temperatures – up to 75.4 from 69.0% in 2015 and 72.4% in 2016
- ✓ Ocean rising – up to 71.6% from 65.0% in 2015 and 69.9% in 2016
- ✓ Worsened drought conditions – up to 68.7% from 66.0% in 2015 and 66.2% in 2016
- ✓ Beach erosion – up to 64.6% from 62.0% in 2015 and 62.3 in 2016
- ✓ Stronger El Nino effects – up to 63.8% from 61.5% in 2016
- ✓ Inland flooding – up to 62.7% from 61.0% in 2016
- ✓ Increased polar oscillation – up to 61.7% from 58.7% in 2016
- ✓ Loss of habitats – up to 61.3% from 57.0% in 2015 and 55.2% in 2016
- ✓ Loss of species – up to 59.3% from 46.0% in 2015 and 54.0% in 2016
- ✓ Worsened air quality – up to 55.8% from 54.0% in 2015 and 52.9% in 2016

Just one decrease was recorded – Unusually severe weather/storms was down to 65.9% from 67.0% in 2015 but up from 65.5% in 2016.

The most trusted sources for information about global climate change continued to be (in declining order): non-governmental scientists and educators, the mainstream media, environmental groups, Scientist and Cosmos TV series host Neil deGrasse Tyson, and Fox News.

The federal government was perceived by the largest group of respondents (32.2%) as best able to deal with the problems associated with global climate change. This was followed by international bodies (21.2%) and the private sector (12.2%).

The federal government and international bodies were both named as the most effective in dealing with problems associated with global climate change – 26.6% and 24.2%, respectively.

Three-fifths of Americans surveyed, 61.0%, noted the federal government was responsible for dealing with problems associated with global climate change. Another 46.6% cited international bodies while 41.4% also cited state governments. Just over one-third named the private sector (36.5%) and local governments (34.4%).

Respondents reported engaging in several activities designed to reduce carbon pollution. The most frequently cited included purchasing higher efficiency appliances (50.2%), planting a tree (31.5%), buying a smaller car (28.1%), adding insulation (25.8%) and carpooling (25.5%).

Two-thirds of Americans surveyed, 65.8%, indicated they strongly or somewhat support the United States continuing as a participating nation in the Paris Agreement following the December, 2015 United National Climate Change Conference.

There exists strong agreement (strongly or somewhat), 75.6%, with Pope Francis that protecting the environment is the responsibility of all Christians. This is up from 72.7% recorded in 2016 and down from 77.0% in 2015.

Over one-third of respondents, 37.0%, indicated they believed that environment protections were critical no matter what. Another 33.0% suggested the protections are important even when they negatively impact the economy while 31.5% noted the protections create new economic opportunities. Others, 16.9% favored not pursuing protections if they negatively impacted the economy. Some, considered protections as harmful to the economy or not an important issue – 5.7% and 5.4%, respectively.

SUMMARY **4** OF FINDINGS

Readers are reminded that the narrative throughout this report refers to national composite aggregate data – the 1073 completed surveys as well as the supplemental sample of 507 Florida respondents. Text throughout this report presents national composite results while many graphs and tables also present results among Florida respondents.

POLITICS AND ISSUES

Respondents nationally and within Florida were asked to provide job approval ratings for President Trump, Vice-President Pence and House Speaker, Paul Ryan. The cumulative favorable job approval rating (strongly and somewhat approve) is displayed within the following table.

How would you rate…..	National Approval	Florida Approval
The job Donald Trump is doing as President	44.1	48.7
The job Mike Pence is doing as Vice President	45.5	50.5
The job Congressman Paul Ryan is doing as Speaker of the House	42.4	47.5

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, healthcare, government spending, immigration, homeland security and education. Results are presented in the following table in declining order by importance based on the composite national data for March, 2017.

Issues Most Important National Results	National June 2016	National September 2016	National November 2016	National March 2017
Jobs and the economy	31.0	25.6	29.7	26.4
Healthcare	8.3	10.2	14.6	17.4
Government spending and the federal budget deficit	12.9	14.3	12.2	10.2
Immigration	5.2	5.5	5.2	8.5
Homeland security and anti-terror policy	8.1	7.6	6.0	6.0
Education	5.1	3.6	3.9	5.7
Terrorism	8.7	8.9	5.2	4.8
Global climate change	3.1	2.6	4.5	4.0
Declining U.S. status worldwide	2.8	3.3	3.2	3.4
Don't know / not sure	2.4	3.2	2.2	3.0
Some other issues	1.9	3.1	4.8	2.6
Gun violence	2.7	5.4	3.0	2.5
Foreign affairs	1.4	1.4	1.1	2.0
Crime	2.9	2.8	1.5	1.7
Gun control / Second Amendment rights	2.6	1.7	1.5	0.8
Internet / data security	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6
Energy policy	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.6
International trade imbalance	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.2

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

Issues Most Important Florida Results	Florida June 2016	Florida September 2016	Florida November 2016	Florida March 2017
Jobs and the economy	29.8	26.6	33.0	27.2
Healthcare	8.6	9.8	12.8	19.9
Immigration	4.2	5.2	6.2	9.1
Homeland security and anti-terror policy	9.2	11.8	8.4	6.9
Government spending and the federal budget deficit	12.6	12.0	9.2	6.7
Terrorism	10.4	7.4	8.2	6.7
Education	4.4	3.2	3.0	3.6
Some other issues	2.0	1.8	2.2	3.6
Declining U.S. status worldwide	3.0	3.4	3.2	3.0
Gun violence	4.6	7.0	3.8	2.6
Global climate change	1.8	2.0	1.4	2.6
Crime	1.4	2.4	2.0	2.4
Foreign affairs	1.2	1.0	1.0	2.4
Gun control / Second Amendment rights	3.6	3.0	2.2	1.2
Don't know / not sure	2.2	2.8	3.0	1.2
Energy policy	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4
Internet / data security / ID theft	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.4
International trade imbalance	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.4

POPE FRANCIS

All March, 2017 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 70.5%.

In Florida, Pope Francis currently enjoys a 69.0% favorability rating (up from 67.8% in November, 2016 and 63.4% in September, 2016).

Among Catholics nationally, the pope's current favorable opinion is 82.6% (down slightly from 85.8% in November, 2016 and 84.2% in September, 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

	15-Sep	15-Oct	15-Dec	16-Mar	16-Jun	16-Sep	16-Nov	17-Mar
Value	75.8	66.4	70	68.4	68.9	65.4	62.6	70.5

CATEGORY 1
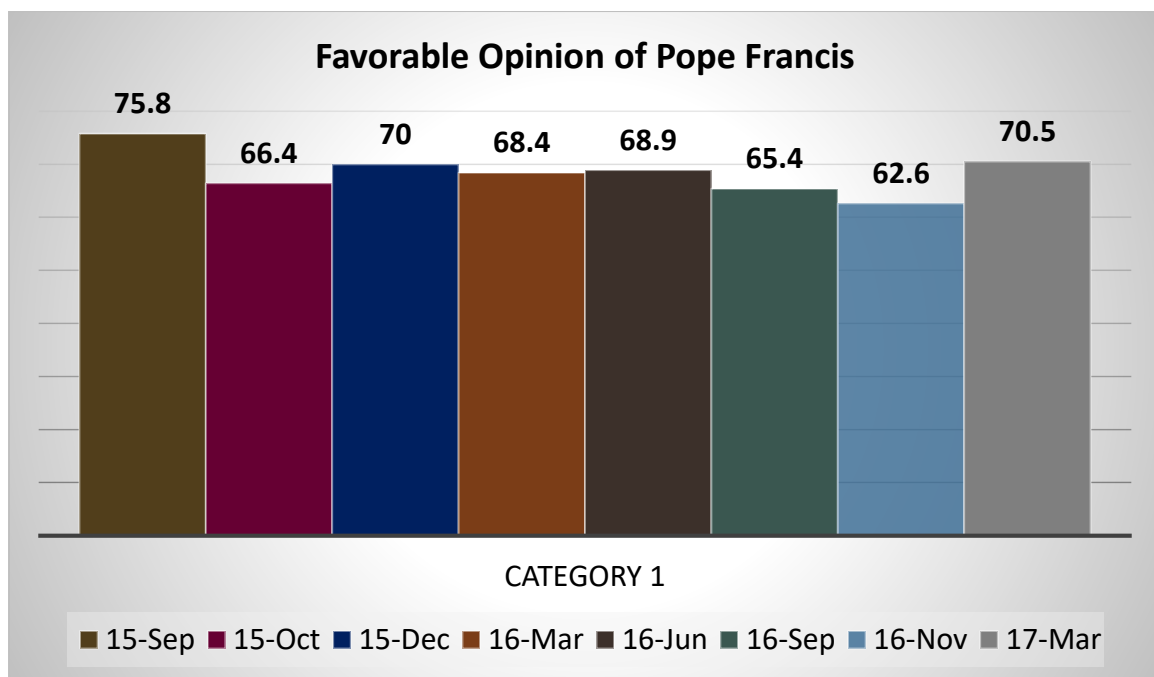
Note: The September, 2015 poll was timed to coincide with the pope's visit to the United States.

Respondents were asked to think about several of the issues the pope is addressing and to provide their opinion on how he is doing. The following table holds the cumulative totals for strongly and somewhat approve, for somewhat and strongly disapprove and the percentage for those unsure or don't know. Results are displayed in declining order by approval columns. The shaded column holds the approval after removing "don't know" respondents from the data.

National Results:

How would you rate the job Pope Francis is doing on…	Strongly & Somewhat Approve	Approval without "don't know"	Somewhat & Strongly Disapprove	Unsure / Don't Know
Advancing the cause of the poor	70.8	88.4	9.4	19.9
Human rights	68.7	84.6	12.5	18.8
Family issues	62.2	78.4	17.1	20.8
Environmental issues	60.0	83.7	11.6	28.3
Migration / Immigration	54.4	72.1	21.1	24.5
Marriage issues	53.9	71.4	21.5	24.6

Florida Results:

How would you rate the job Pope Francis is doing on…	Strongly & Somewhat Approve	Approval without "don't know"	Somewhat & Strongly Disapprove	Unsure / Don't Know
Advancing the cause of the poor	70.2	85.2	12.2	17.6
Human rights	68.4	83.2	13.8	17.8
Family issues	65.3	79.6	16.8	17.9
Environmental issues	60.7	82.8	12.6	26.6
Marriage issues	57.4	73.1	21.1	21.5
Migration / Immigration	53.8	69.8	23.2	22.9

THE NEW PRESIDENT…

Closing in on the first 100 days in office, the SLU poll collected the opinions of Americans on the new President's first weeks and months in office. President Trump's national, overall job approval was measured at 44.1% earlier in the survey. The following are approval ratings in specific areas.

The cumulative totals for strongly & somewhat approve are presented here in declining order by approval nationally.

President Trump bests his national overall job approval rating (44.1%) in areas such as support for the military, protecting the U.S. from terrorism, jobs and the economy, keeping campaign promises and revamping Obamacare.

How would you rate the job Donald Trump is doing on…	National: Strongly & Somewhat Approve	Florida: Strongly & Somewhat Approve
support for the troops and the military	64.1	69.4
protecting the United States from terrorism	54.1	57.6
jobs and the economy	53.8	59.4
keeping his campaign promises	52.1	57.0
revamping Obamacare / Affordable Care Act	46.7	51.1
immigration decisions	44.0	46.9
deciding to move ahead with the XL Pipeline	43.5	47.3
relations with other nations	41.8	45.4
his Cabinet appointments	40.4	46.4
addressing racial/ethnic divisions in the nation	39.9	44.0
handling of the media	35.4	40.6

Respondents also rated President Trump's staff and cabinet appointments. General Mattis enjoys a positive approval rating above 50% while Betsy DeVos holds the lowest rating at 34.5%. The cumulative totals for strongly and somewhat approve, somewhat and strongly disapprove and the percentage for unsure are displayed in the following tables. Each is in declining order by approval rating columns.

National Results:

Staff and Cabinet Appointments	Strongly & Somewhat Approve	Somewhat & Strongly Disapprove	Unsure/Don't Know
General James Mattis, Secretary of Defense	54.0	29.5	16.5
Jeff Sessions, Attorney General	38.0	47.7	14.3
Jared Kushner, Senior Advisor	37.4	43.9	18.7
Kellyanne Conway, Counselor to the President	37.3	49.6	13.0
Steve Bannon, Chief Strategist and Senior Counsel	36.0	46.2	17.9
Betsy DeVos, Education Secretary	34.5	52.3	13.2

Florida Results:

Staff and Cabinet Appointments	Strongly & Somewhat Approve	Somewhat & Strongly Disapprove	Unsure/Don't Know
General James Mattis, Secretary of Defense	58.0	28.2	13.8
Jeff Sessions, Attorney General	45.4	43.0	11.8
Jared Kushner, Senior Advisor	45.0	38.0	17.0
Kellyanne Conway, Counselor to the President	43.6	44.9	11.4
Steve Bannon, Chief Strategist and Senior Counsel	42.4	42.8	14.8
Betsy DeVos, Education Secretary	41.6	46.3	12.0

POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT...

The poll sought to determine how active and engaged respondents remain following the contentious 2016 presidential election. Respondents reported if they were more active following the election of Donald Trump, less active but still engaged, less active or almost not engaged, no longer active, or perhaps were never engaged in the campaign.

Results are displayed here.

Political Engagement Post-Election

	More Active	Less Active, But...	Less Active,...	No Longer Active	Was Never...	Unsure
National	25.8	24.5	11.5	5	26.3	6.8
Florida	28.2	26	10.5	6.1	23.3	5.9
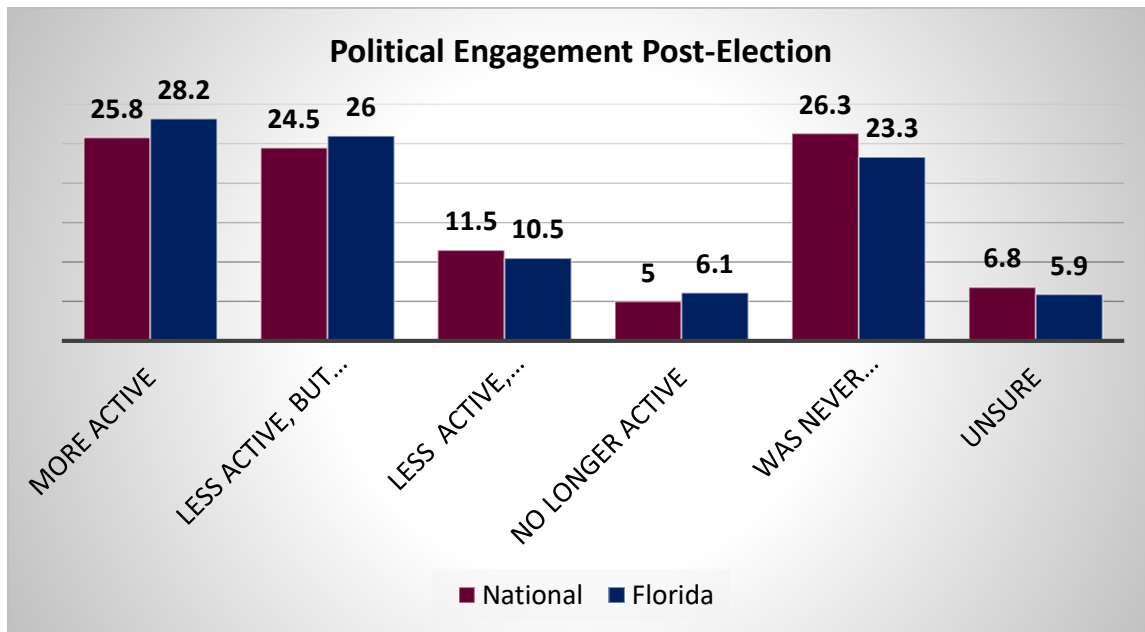
THE SUPREME COURT…

Judge Neil Gorsuch enjoys nearly two-to-one support for the United States Supreme Court. Just over one-half, 50.4%, of all respondents, nationally, (and 54.2% in Florida) either strongly or somewhat support his nomination while 27.6% are somewhat or strongly opposed.

A large percentage remain unsure or undecided. Results are displayed here.

Support / Opposition to Judge Gorsuch

	STRONGLY SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	STRONGLY OPPOSE	UNSURE
National	26.7	23.7	14.9	12.7	22
Florida	30.4	23.9	13.4	11.2	21.1
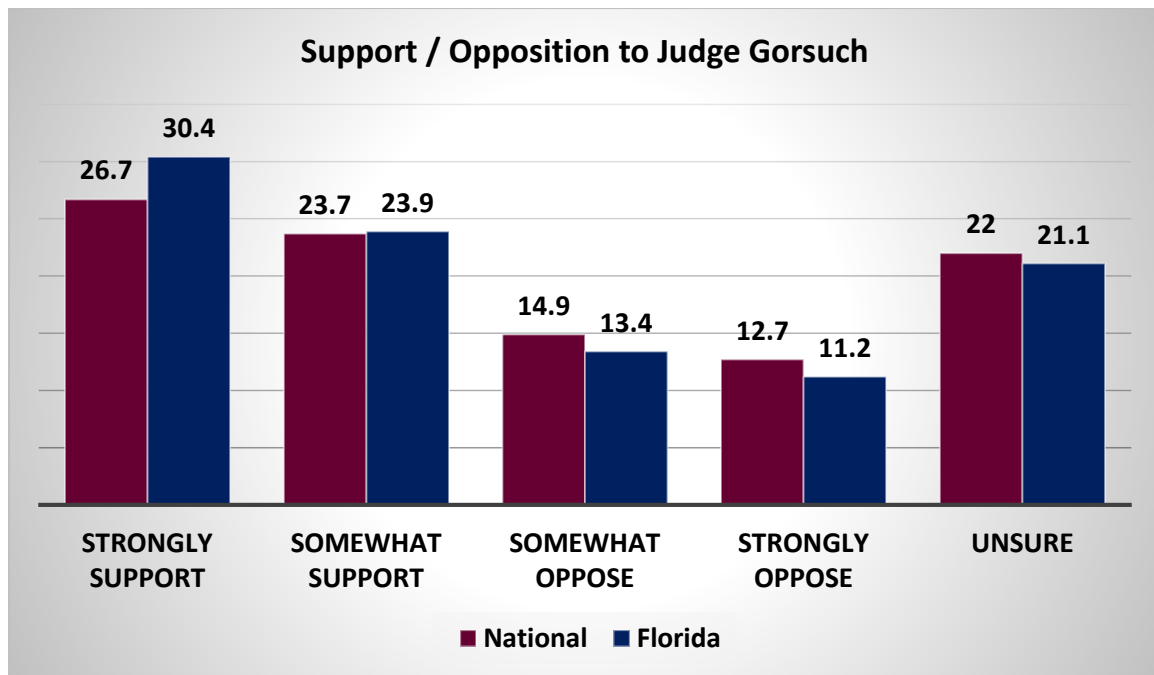
ON DIVISIONS IN THE U.S.…

Respondents were asked to think about the political divisions in the United States today. Several statements were presented. Respondents were asked if they strongly agreed, somewhat agreed, somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed with each statement.

The cumulative totals for those strongly or somewhat agreeing with each statement in the following table. Findings are displayed in declining order by agreement nationally.

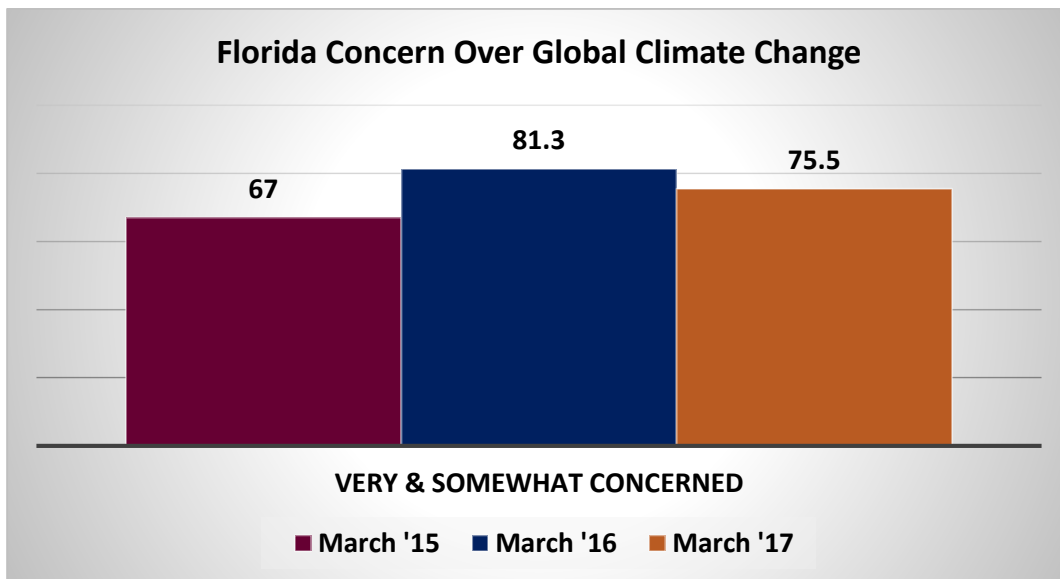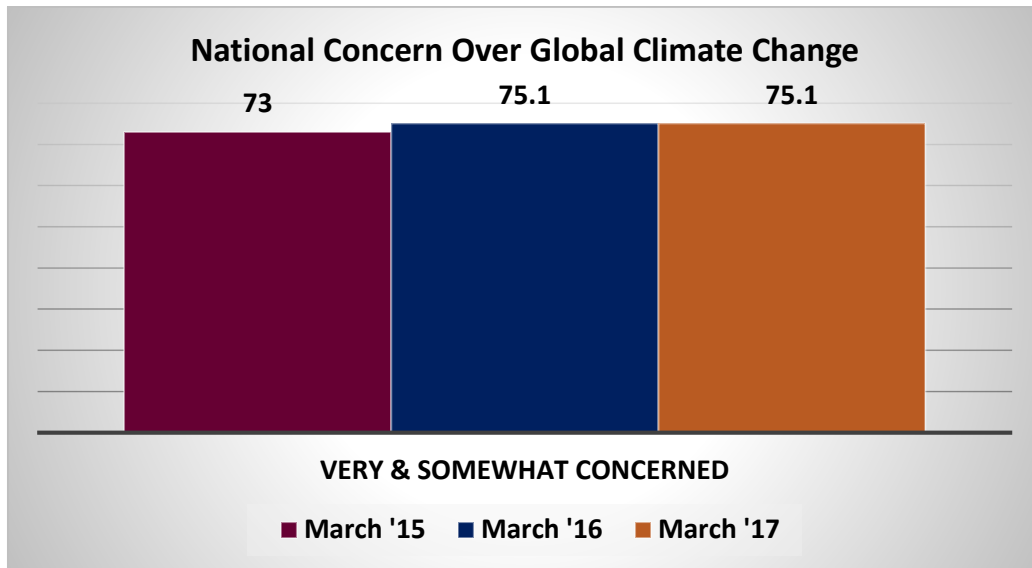| Statements	National: Strongly & Somewhat Agree	Florida: Strongly & Somewhat Agree
We are more divided as a nation than ever before	82.1	80.5
I see democracy slipping away in the United States	65.2	64.1
The new White House administration appears to be moving us toward authoritarianism	51.9	50.3
Despite the sense of division, in my own community, I am very optimistic about reducing political discord	49.4	47.9
I have strong trust in the mainstream news media (such as U.S. newspapers, broadcasters, and online media such as CBS, ABC, NBC, CNN, Associated Press,, Washington Post, New York Times) to accurately cover politics in this nation	48.4	47.7
I want to hear celebrities voice their political views	37.3	37.5
Not all free speech patterns should be protected	35.5	41.4
I trust the statements, releases and tweets from the new White House administration	32.5	38.5
At times, physical violence during demonstrations is justified	17.5	18.7
At times, property damage during demonstrations is justified	14.3	16.0

ENVIRONMENT

All respondents were asked a number of questions about the environment and global climate change. Each was initially asked how concerned they were about global climate change. Results are shown for results collected in the month of March, 2015, 2016, and 2017.

National Concern Over Global Climate Change

73   75.1   75.1

VERY & SOMEWHAT CONCERNED

■ March '15   ■ March '16   ■ March '17

Florida Concern Over Global Climate Change

67   81.3   75.5

VERY & SOMEWHAT CONCERNED

■ March '15   ■ March '16   ■ March '17

Respondents were presented with the following question: "Some people believe global climate change is currently occurring due to human activities, while others believe global climate change is part of a natural cycle. Which of the following best reflects what you believe?"

Results are displayed in the following table.

Views on Global Climate Change	National March 2015	National March 2016	National March 2017	Florida March 2015	Florida March 2016	Florida March 2017
Global climate change is caused entirely by human activity	16.0	16.3	22.1	16.0	19.4	23.1
Global climate change is caused entirely by nature	14.0	9.8	10.1	14.0	8.7	13.2
Global climate change is caused by a combination of human activity and nature	61.0	64.0	59.5	57.0	62.4	54.0
I don't believe global climate change is occurring	4.0	4.1	3.4	8.0	3.7	5.7
Don't know / unsure	4.0	5.8	4.9	5.0	5.7	3.9

Each respondent was asked to indicate if they saw each of the following occurring in their state or region. Multiple responses were accepted. Results are presented in declining order based on March, 2017 national results.

Do You See Any of the Following Occurring in your State or Region?	National March 2015	National March 2016	National March 2017	Florida March 2015	Florida March 2016	Florida March 2017
Warmer temperatures	45.0	57.1	59.2	49.0	57.0	60.2
Unusually severe weather and/or storms	45.0	29.6	32.3	25.0	28.3	20.9
Worsened drought conditions	24.0	21.8	23.9	18.0	11.9	17.2
Beach erosion	22.0	19.3	23.3	56.0	57.2	48.3
Worsened air quality	25.0	19.2	21.2	19.0	10.6	14.8
Stronger El Nino effects	---	20.8	16.8	---	27.8	18.3
Inland flooding	---	11.3	16.3	---	11.1	15.2
Loss or threatened loss of habitats	15.0	8.9	15.6	29.0	20.4	25.0
Ocean rising or seacoast flooding	15.0	11.6	15.4	23.0	33.5	32.0
Loss or threatened loss of species	10.0	7.8	14.3	26.0	14.8	20.3
Increased polar oscillations (swings / fluctuations)	---	5.6	12.7	---	2.8	6.9

The poll included an opportunity for respondents to identify **how responsible global climate change was for environmental events**. For each of the following, respondents were asked if global climate change was very responsible, somewhat responsible, not very responsible or not at all responsible.

The table holds the cumulative totals for those suggesting global climate change was very or somewhat responsible for each environmental event. Results are displayed in declining order by national 2017 results.

Responsibility for Global Climate Change?	National March '15	National March '16	National March '17	Florida March '15	Florida March '16	Florida March '17
Warmer temperatures	69.0	72.4	75.4	68.0	77.4	75.5
Ocean rising or seacoast flooding	65.0	69.9	71.6	63.0	75.6	75.3
Worsened drought conditions	66.0	66.2	68.7	61.0	67.6	67.9
Unusually severe weather / storms	67.0	65.5	65.9	59.0	68.3	66.5
Beach erosion	62.0	62.3	64.6	60.0	67.4	70.4
Stronger El Nino effects	---	61.5	63.8	---	64.8	63.7
Inland flooding	---	61.0	62.7	---	61.1	60.9
Increased polar oscillations (swings or fluctuations)	---	58.9	61.7	---	58.3	60.2
Loss or threatened loss of habitats	57.0	55.2	61.3	54.0	59.6	62.9
Loss or threatened loss of species	46.0	54.0	59.3	44.0	59.4	60.7
Worsened air quality	54.0	52.9	55.8	51.0	53.3	59.8

Survey respondents were asked which entities, media, or individuals they **considered trustworthy** for information about global climate change. Multiple responses were accepted. The table includes the results as collected in declining order by March, 2017 national results.

Most Trustworthy?	National March '15	National March '16	National March '17	Florida March '15	Florida March '16	Florida March '17
Non-government scientists and educators	45.0	45.0	42.2	47.0	45.0	39.8
Mainstream media such as U.S. newspapers, broadcasters, and online media such as CBS, ABC, NBC, CNN, Associated Press, New York Times, Washington Post	22.0	31.1	38.0	22.0	35.9	39.4
Environmental groups	33.0	30.7	33.3	35.0	38.5	36.9
Scientist and Cosmos TV series host Neil deGrasse Tyson	22.0	22.1	26.4	20.0	25.7	25.2
Don't know / not sure	14.0	18.4	15.9	12.0	17.2	14.6
Fox News	17.0	12.9	16.9	21.0	14.4	18.3
President Obama / President Trump*	11.0	12.2	9.2	12.0	17.2	9.3
U.S. Government	13.0	10.0	9.7	15.0	13.0	14.0
Social media	9.0	7.3	13.0	9.0	8.3	16.4
Family, friends, or co-workers	11.0	6.9	10.8	12.0	5.7	11.6
Radio commentators such as Sean Hannity and Rush Limbaugh	6.0	4.6	7.1	7.0	5.0	10.5
Utility companies	5.0	2.7	3.9	6.0	4.3	6.3
Business or industry groups	5.0	2.1	5.2	6.0	1.9	5.5
Entertainers and celebrities	3.0	1.3	2.6	3.0	1.1	3.7

*Note: President Obama in 2015 and 2016. President Trump in 2017.

Respondents were asked which **one** of several entities they **believed was best able to deal with the problems** associated with global climate change. Results are displayed in the following graphs in declining order based on March, 2016 national results.

Which one is most able to deal with global climate change problems?	National March 2015	National March 2016	National March 2017	Florida March 2015	Florida March 2016	Florida March 2017
Federal or national government	29.0	27.3	32.2	28.0	31.5	32.4
Don't know / not sure	18.0	25.5	20.2	19.0	20.9	18.0
International bodies	18.0	19.7	21.2	21.0	21.1	18.4
Private sector businesses or entrepreneurs	17.0	15.5	12.2	13.0	12.0	10.9
State Governments	12.0	6.7	8.8	12.0	9.6	12.3
Local Governments	7.0	5.3	5.4	9.0	4.8	8.1

As a follow-up, respondents were asked which of the same entities **had been effective** in dealing with problems attributed to global climate change. Multiple responses were accepted. Results are shown in the following table.

Which have been effective?	National March 2015	National March 2016	National March 2017	Florida March 2015	Florida March 2016	Florida March 2017
Don't know / not sure	39.0	51.3	40.2	36.0	47.2	34.9
Federal or national government	25.0	22.0	26.6	26.0	25.6	30.8
International bodies	13.0	16.7	24.2	19.0	20.7	23.1
State Governments	21.0	12.6	17.9	24.0	14.8	21.7
Private sector businesses or entrepreneurs	23.0	11.4	17.8	20.0	14.1	18.7
Local Governments	14.0	10.5	14.2	19.0	9.8	17.2

In addition, respondents indicated which of the same entities **they believed were responsible** for dealing with problems associated with global climate change. Multiple responses were allowed and presented here.

Who is responsible for dealing with the problems associated with climate change?	National March 2015	National March 2016	National March 2017	Florida March 2015	Florida March 2016	Florida March 2017
Federal or national government	56.0	55.7	61.0	53.0	62.2	59.2
International bodies	39.0	45.0	46.6	44.0	48.3	40.0
State Governments	43.0	42.5	41.4	43.0	44.1	44.4
Private sector businesses or entrepreneurs	40.0	37.0	36.5	36.0	39.6	33.1
Local Governments	38.0	36.4	34.4	39.0	38.9	38.1
Don't know / not sure	15.0	22.6	17.5	17.0	17.4	16.0

Americans surveyed were asked which of several activities **they may have engaged in** to help reduce carbon pollution. Multiple responses were accepted and are presented here in declining order by March, 2017 national results.
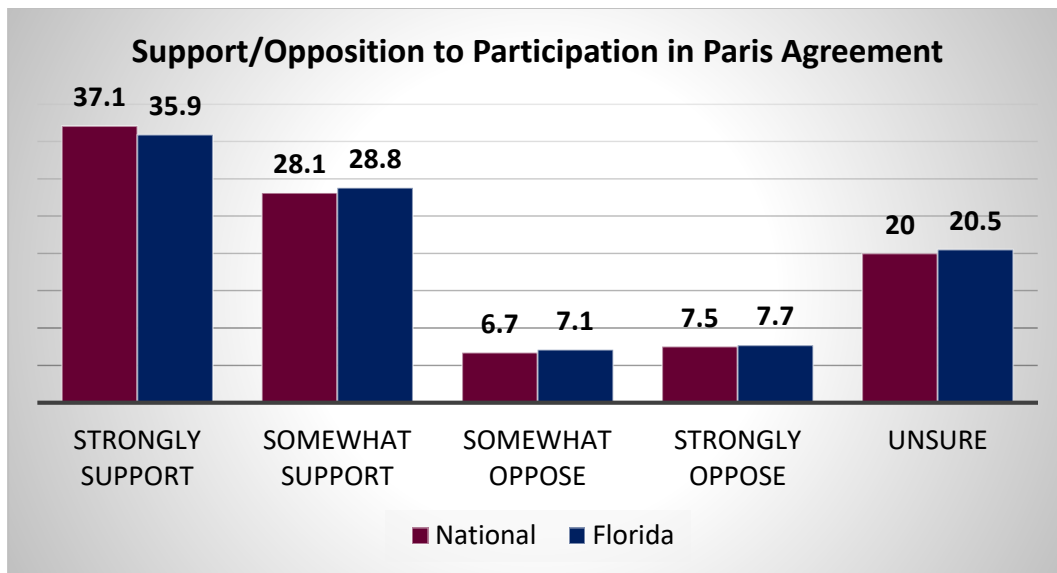
Activities undertaken to reduce carbon pollution?	National March 2015	National March 2016	National March 2017	Florida March 2015	Florida March 2016	Florida March 2017
Purchased higher efficiency appliances	---	48.9	50.2	---	54.6	46.7
Planted tree(s)	---	27.5	31.5	---	32.0	29.4
Bought a smaller or more fuel efficient car	33.0	30.0	28.1	34.0	34.6	29.4
Added insulation to my home	---	23.8	25.8	---	22.2	19.7
Car pool or use mass transit	22.0	20.6	25.5	24.0	15.9	21.1
Pay higher energy taxes to fund environmental efforts	11.0	10.6	17.1	11.0	6.9	15.2
Reduced or stopped eating meat	14.0	11.9	17.0	14.0	15.0	15.2
Installed or purchased alternative energy sources such as solar for my home	14.0	9.0	15.9	14.0	9.8	14.6
Pay higher taxes for the construction of mass transit infrastructure	8.0	9.3	14.7	12.0	4.1	8.9
None of these	28.0	17.5	13.5	27.0	16.7	12.8
Reduced or stopped eating dairy products	11.0	8.7	11.2	10.0	8.1	13.0
Don't know / not sure	7.0	5.5	4.9	7.0	5.9	5.7
Bought an electric car	6.0	2.5	4.7	6.0	2.4	5.7

As a follow-up, each respondent was asked which activities they would be **willing to do** to help reduce carbon pollution. Multiple responses were accepted and are presented in the following table in declining order based on March, 2016 national results.

Activities undertaken to reduce carbon pollution?	National March 2015	National March 2016	National March 2017	Florida March 2015	Florida March 2016	Florida March 2017
Plant tree(s)	---	49.4	54.4	---	43.7	49.3
Purchase higher efficiency appliances	---	46.6	52.2	---	51.7	47.3
Add insulation to my home	---	34.7	40.8	---	30.6	35.5
Install or purchase alternative energy sources such as solar for my home	40.0	34.4	40.1	41.0	34.6	41.4
Buy a smaller or more fuel efficient car	42.0	32.1	39.0	40.0	35.6	35.1
Car pool or use mass transit	34.0	29.4	34.4	34.0	21.9	31.6
Buy an electric car	27.0	15.6	26.1	24.0	16.3	25.8
Pay higher energy taxes to fund environmental efforts	15.0	14.8	22.3	14.0	15.2	22.9
Pay higher taxes for the construction of mass transit infrastructure	13.0	11.6	19.7	15.0	13.5	18.5
Reduce or stop eating meat	16.0	11.1	19.7	15.0	15.2	20.1
Reduce or stop eating dairy products	14.0	9.1	16.2	13.0	11.3	17.8
Don't know / not sure	9.0	8.2	7.3	9.0	8.3	7.7
None of these	10.0	5.7	7.4	13.0	7.4	6.1

SLU Poll respondents were presented with the following question: **"In December, 2015 the United National Climate Change Conference concluded. Measures were adopted by 196 participating nations. How strongly do you support or oppose the United States continuing as a participating nation in the Paris Agreement by adopting its recommendations within the states here at home? Would you say…"**

Nearly two-thirds of all respondents, 65.8%, (64.7% among Floridians) indicated they strongly or somewhat supported the continuation as a participating nation as displayed in the following graph.

Support/Opposition to Participation in Paris Agreement

	National	Florida
STRONGLY SUPPORT	37.1	35.9
SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	28.1	28.8
SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	6.7	7.1
STRONGLY OPPOSE	7.5	7.7
UNSURE	20	20.5

Respondents were presented with the following question: "Pope Francis maintains that protecting the environment is the responsibility of all Christians. Would you say you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with his statement?" Results are shown for 2015, 2016 and 2017 in the following graphs.

National Results:

National: Agree with Pope Francis?

	STRONGLY & SOMEWHAT AGREE	SOMEWHAT & STRONGLY DISAGREE	UNSURE
2015	77	16	7
2016	72.7	14.5	12.8
2017	75.6	13.2	11.2

Florida Results:

Florida: Agree with Pope Francis

	STRONGLY & SOMEWHAT AGREE	SOMEWHAT & STRONGLY DISAGREE	UNSURE
2015	74	18	9
2016	71.7	20.5	10.7
2017	74.8	16.2	9.1
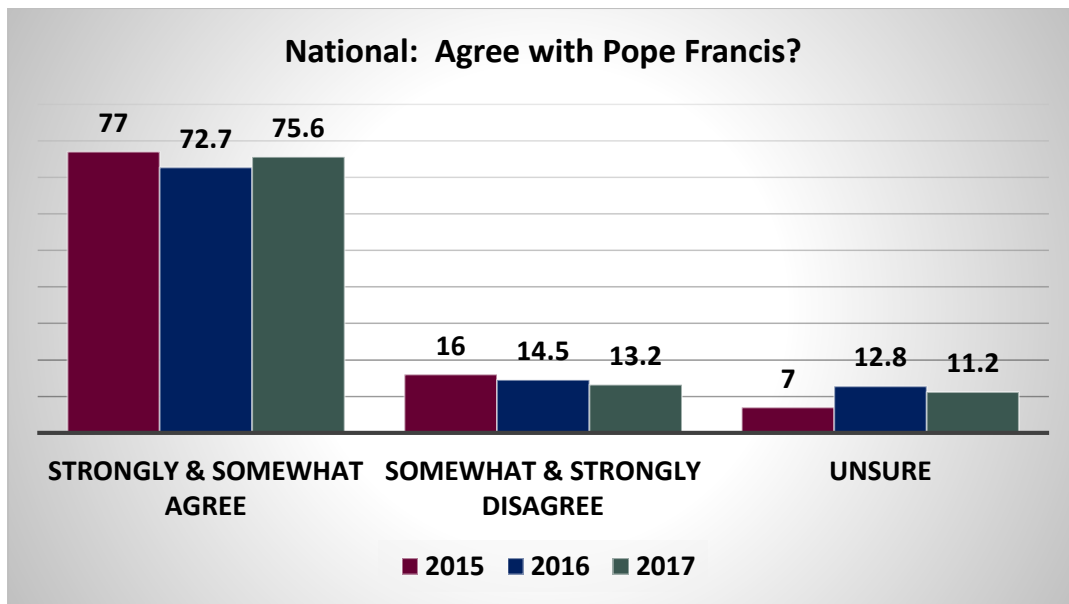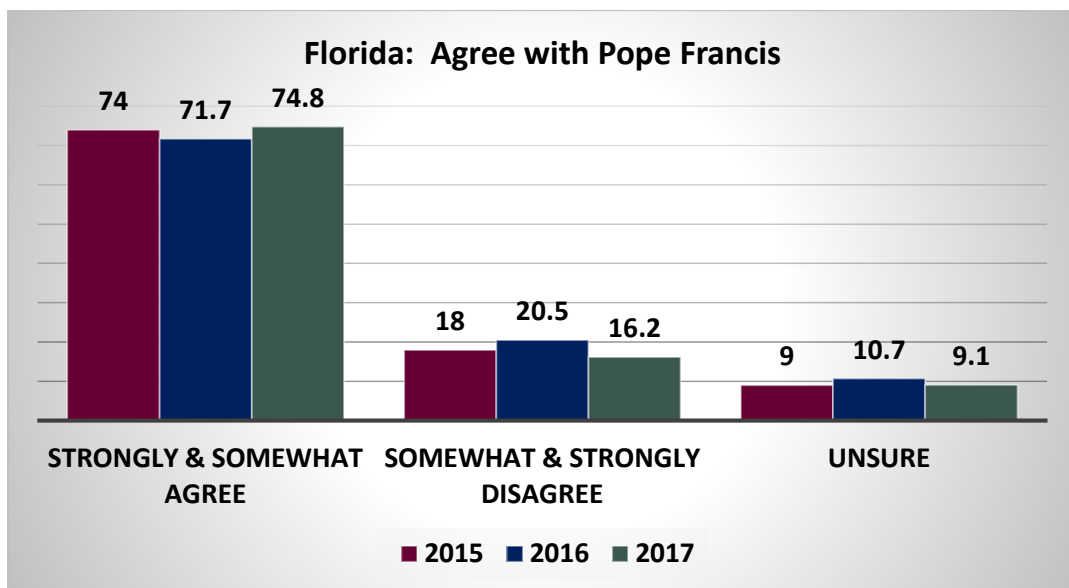
Poll respondents were presented with the following: ***"Some people see environmental protections negatively impacting the U.S. economy while others are committed to environmental protections. Which of the following reflects your own views on environmental protections?"***

The leading view was that environmental protections are "absolutely critical, no matter what". The following depicts the responses collected. Multiple responses were accepted.

Impact of Environmental Protections	National March 2017	Florida March 2017
Environmental protections are absolutely critical, no matter what	37.0	40.8
Environmental protections are important even when they negatively impact the economy	33.0	35.5
Environmental protections create new economic opportunities	31.5	36.7
They should not be pursued if they negatively impact the economy	16.9	18.3
Unsure	14.4	11.8
Environmental protections are harmful to the economy	5.7	5.5
Environmental protection is not an important issue	5.4	7.3

FLORIDA ISSUES

Republicans only were asked: **"Please think for a moment about the potential candidates running for the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate from Florida in 2018. If the Republican primary for U.S. Senate was held today, which of the following would you support for the Republican nomination?"**

Republican Candidates	March 2017 N=175
Rick Scott	44.6
Unsure / Don't Know	26.3
Tom Rooney	9.7
Someone else	7.4
Ron DeSantis	6.9
David Jolly	4.6
Carlos Lopez-Cantera	0.6

Republicans only were asked: **"Please think for a moment about the potential candidates running for the Republican nomination for Florida governor in 2018. If the Republican primary for governor was held today, which of the following would you support for the Republican nomination?"**

Republican Candidates	March 2017 N=175
Unsure / Don't Know	33.7
Mike Huckabee	29.7
Adam Putnam	12.6
Someone else	8.0
Rick Baker	6.3
Richard Corcoran	5.1
Jack Latvala	2.9
Usha Jain	1.7

Democrats only were asked: ***"Please think for a moment about the list of candidates and potential candidates running for the Democratic nomination to run for Florida governor in 2018. If the Democratic primary for U.S. Senate was held today, which of the following would you support for the Democratic nomination?"***

Democratic Candidates	March 2017 N= 203
Unsure / don't know	39.5
Patrick Murphy	20.2
John Morgan	9.4
Buddy Dyer	5.9
Kathy Castor	4.9
Phil Levine	4.9
Gwen Graham	4.4
Andrew Gillum	3.9
Someone else	3.9
Bob Buckhorn	3.4
Jeremy Ring	2.0
Jack Seiler	1.5

If the 2018 election for Florida United States Senator was held today and the candidates were Bill Nelson and Rick Scott, which would you support?

Florida U.S. Senator?	March 2017
Bill Nelson	38.7
Rick Scott	34.3
Someone else	10.3
Undecided	16.8

If the 2018 election for Florida Governor was held today and the candidates were Adam Putnam and John Morgan, which would you support?

Election for Florida Governor?	March 2017
Adam Putnam	19.5
John Morgan	25.6
Someone else	12.6
Undecided	42.2

Would you say your opinion of the job Florida Governor Rick Scott is doing is…

Favorable Rating of Governor Rick Scott	March 2017
Very favorable	21.1
Somewhat favorable	34.7
Total: Very & Somewhat Favorable	**55.8**
Somewhat unfavorable	18.1
Not at all favorable	21.1
Total: Somewhat Unfavorable & Not at all Favorable	**39.2**
Unsure	4.9

NATIONAL SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS

Conservative/Moderate/Liberal	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016	November 2016	March 2017
Very conservative	8.9	14.1	13.8	11.8	12.0
Somewhat conservative	21.8	23.7	22.0	23.3	22.6
Moderate	35.2	33.9	34.8	33.5	33.4
Somewhat liberal	14.6	14.3	14.7	14.8	17.1
Very liberal	8.6	8.8	7.3	8.9	10.5
Unsure	10.9	5.3	7.4	7.7	4.5

Age	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016	November 2016	March 2017
18-25	8.2	9.2	7.1	3.6	6.3
26-35	19.8	21.4	18.1	18.1	20.3
36-45	17.6	15.3	16.7	18.1	19.7
46-55	19.0	16.1	20.8	13.8	18.5
56-65	17.3	18.9	21.9	18.9	20.0
Over 65	18.0	19.2	15.4	27.5	15.2

Income	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016	November 2016	March 2017
Less than $10,000	5.5	4.0	4.0	5.0	2.6
$10,000 to less than $40,000	24.8	19.8	23.3	21.3	18.0
$40,000 to less than $75,000	28.8	26.8	29.3	23.4	25.6
$75,000 to less than $100,000	15.5	16.8	16.0	18.7	20.5
$100,000 to less than $150,000	13.0	19.5	17.1	20.2	19.9
$150,000 to less than $200,000	6.0	6.2	5.4	5.9	6.5
$200,000 or more	4.0	6.1	3.8	3.5	5.8
Prefer not to disclose	2.4	0.9	1.2	3.5	1.0

Political Party Affiliation	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016	November 2016	March 2017
Republican	26.1	30.0	30.2	27.6	26.4
Democratic	32.7	30.5	28.7	26.6	34.8
Unaffiliated/Independent / Undeclared	32.0	36.7	37.0	39.2	35.0
Some other party	1.7	0.4	0.7	0.9	0.8
Unsure	7.5	2.5	3.5	5.7	3.0

Gender	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016	November 2016	March 2017
Male	46.0	47.8	45.6	50.4	49.1
Female	54.0	52.2	54.4	49.6	50.9

Education	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016	November 2016	March 2017
Less than High School	13.4	10.8	12.2	5.1	5.4
High School / GED	18.0	10.7	10.6	8.6	8.4
Associate Degree	9.2	6.9	6.8	11.6	10.5
Some college / technical school	23.6	19.0	35.1	32.1	21.5
College / technical school graduate	22.6	29.1	23.1	28.3	34.7
Postgraduate or professional degree	13.0	23.3	12.0	13.9	19.3
Prefer not to disclose	0.2	---	0.3	0.4	---

Hispanic, Latin American, Puerto Rican, Cuban or Mexican	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016	November 2016	March 2017
Yes	13.1	16.8	16.1	16.3	15.8

Ethnicity (Among Non-Hispanics)	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016	November 2016	March 2017
White	68.8	64.0	69.7	63.4	65.1
Black, African-American	11.0	13.0	11.6	12.8	12.5
Asian	5.8	5.0	0.7	5.0	5.8
Aleutian, Eskimo or American Indian	1.1	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.1
Other	0.7	0.2	0.7	---	0.6
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.6	0.2	0.2	1.1	0.4
Two or more races	---	---	---	---	----
Refused	---	---	---	---	---
Don't know/unsure	---	---	---	---	---

Religion Followed	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016	November 2016	March 2017
Catholic	21.4	23.2	24.3	22.6	29.9
Protestant (Baptist, Lutheran, Congregational, Presbyterian)	20.1	19.5	20.3	20.3	15.8
Christian (non-denominational)	24.2	23.5	25.2	20.7	22.0
Greek Orthodox	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.5	0.7
Jewish	2.6	2.9	1.8	2.4	2.9
Buddhist	1.6	0.6	0.3	0.9	0.8
Muslim	0.6	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.7
Latter Day Saints / Mormon	1.2	1.1	1.6	1.4	1.2
Other	4.1	3.8	2.6	4.5	3.9
No preference	22.3	22.6	21.4	23.9	20.0
Don't know / unsure	1.7	10.7	1.3	1.8	2.0

APPENDIX 5

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.