

GRANITE STATE POLL

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

GREGG'S SUPPORT STRONG, COUNTRY HEADED IN RIGHT DIRECTION

By: Andrew E. Smith, Ph.D. 603/862-2226
Dennis M. Junius, M.A.
UNH Survey Center www.unh.edu/survey-center

FOR RELEASE
July 23, 2003

DURHAM, NH -- A majority of New Hampshire residents feel the country is headed in the right direction.

Senator Judd Gregg still enjoys strong support from New Hampshirites, while Senator John Sununu and Representative Charlie Bass receive modest support from Granite Staters.

These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll**, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. The Granite State Poll is sponsored by the University of New Hampshire. Five hundred twenty (520) randomly selected adults were interviewed by telephone between June 17 and June 30, 2003. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-4.3 percent. (For more detailed results, visit the Survey Center web site at www.unh.edu/survey-center and click on Press Releases.)

Senatorial Favorability

With over a year until the November 2004 election, Republican Senator Judd Gregg continues to be viewed favorably in New Hampshire. Currently, 58 percent say they have a favorable opinion of Gregg, 16 percent have an unfavorable opinion, 10 percent are neutral, and 16 percent don't know enough about him to say. Gregg's net favorability rating, the percentage having a favorable opinion of him minus those having an unfavorable opinion, is a solid +42 percent. Gregg's favorability ratings have remained largely unchanged for the past two years. "Senator Gregg's high favorability ratings are good news for his re-election campaign," said Andrew Smith, Director of the UNH Survey Center. Senator Gregg receives solid support from both Democrats and Republicans.

Senator John Sununu, New Hampshire's junior Senator and also a Republican, has seen his favorability rating decline in recent months. Currently, 48 percent say they have a favorable opinion of Sununu, 29 percent have an unfavorable opinion of him, 11 percent are neutral, and 11 percent do not know enough about him to say. Sununu's net favorability rating has dropped to +19 percentage points from +32 percentage points in April, 2003. "Sununu's favorability ratings are only modest, largely due to political polarization. He receives overwhelming support from Republicans, but Democrats and liberals dislike him," stated Dr. Smith.

U.S. Representative Favorability

Second District Congressman, Republican Charlie Bass' personal favorability ratings have slipped somewhat, but he continues to receive modest support overall. Currently, 46 percent of New Hampshire adults say they have a favorable opinion of Bass, 15 percent have an unfavorable opinion, 17 percent are neutral, and 22 percent don't know enough about him to say. Bass fares better in the Second District where 54 percent have a favorable opinion of him, 15 percent have an unfavorable opinion, 14 percent are neutral, and 17 percent say they don't know enough about him to say. Bass' net favorability rating is at +31 percent, the lowest it has been since ratings began in October 2001. But his net favorability rating in the Second District continues to be a solid +39 percent.

In the First District, first term Republican Jeb Bradley's favorability ratings have remained relatively unchanged since his election and he is still relatively unknown, both in the First District and statewide. Thirty-seven percent of Granite Staters have a favorable opinion of Bradley, 14 percent are unfavorable, 20 percent are neutral, and 29 percent do not know enough about him to say. In the First District, 41 percent have a favorable opinion of Bradley, 14 percent have an unfavorable opinion, 23 percent are neutral and 22 percent don't know enough about him to say. Statewide, Congressman Bradley's net favorability rating is +23 percent, down from +29 percent in April. In the First District Bradley's net favorability rating is +27 percent, also down from +35 percent in April.

U.S. Right Track / Wrong Track

An important indicator of how people think the country is doing is the "right track - wrong track" question. In New Hampshire, more than half (56%) think the U.S. is headed in the right direction, 38 percent feel it is headed on the wrong track and 5 percent are unsure. New Hampshire adults are more confident about the direction of the U.S. than adults nationwide. In the *Cook Political Report Poll* conducted by Ipsos-Reid of 1,000 adults nationwide at the end of June, 46 percent believed the country to be headed in the right direction, 50 percent felt we were on the wrong track, and 4 percent weren't sure.

There is a significant partisan gap in where New Hampshirites feel the country is headed. Republicans and conservatives feel very strongly that the U.S. is on the right track, whereas Democrats and liberals are very uneasy about the path the country is on.

Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the most recent Granite State Poll conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center from June 17 to June 30, 2003. A random sample of 520 New Hampshire adults was interviewed by telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to plus or minus 4.3 percent. Results reported for other subgroups have potential for somewhat larger variation than those for the entire population.

The data have been weighted to adjust for numbers of adults and telephone lines within households, respondent sex, and region of the state. In addition to potential sampling error, all surveys have other potential sources of non-sampling error including question order effects, question wording effects, and non-response.

Favorability Rating - Senator Judd Gregg

"Next, I'd like to get your overall opinion of some people in the news. As I read each name, please say if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person - or if you have never heard of him or her. Senator Judd Gregg."

	Oct. 2001	Feb. 2002	Apr. 2002	June 2002	Feb. 2003	Apr. 2003	June 2003
Favorable	62%	62%	60%	58%	58%	61%	58%
Neutral	9	9	6	10	8	8	10
Unfavorable	13	15	16	17	18	13	16
Don't Know	16	14	18	15	16	18	16
(N)	(679)	(724)	(691)	(638)	(652)	(507)	(514)

Favorability Rating - Senator John Sununu

"Next, I'd like to get your overall opinion of some people in the news. As I read each name, please say if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person - or if you have never heard of him or her. Senator John Sununu." (Respondents were asked about U.S. REPRESENTATIVE John Sununu from October 2001 to June 2002. He was elected Senator in November 2002.)

	Oct. 2001	Feb. 2002	Apr. 2002	June 2002	Feb. 2003	Apr. 2003	June 2003
Favorable	63%	57%	55%	52%	55%	55%	48%
Neutral	8	9	7	10	9	9	11
Unfavorable	17	21	24	24	29	23	29
Don't Know	12	13	14	14	8	12	11
(N)	(681)	(724)	(693)	(639)	(651)	(507)	(513)

Favorability Rating - U.S. Representative Charlie Bass

"Next, I'd like to get your overall opinion of some people in the news. As I read each name, please say if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person - or if you have never heard of him or her. U.S. Representative Charlie Bass."

STATEWIDE	Oct. 2001	Feb. 2002	Apr. 2002	June 2002	Feb. 2003	Apr. 2003	June 2003
Favorable	52%	52%	50%	46%	53%	50%	46%
Neutral	12	10	11	13	12	11	17
Unfavorable	13	15	14	14	15	11	15
Don't Know	24	23	25	26	21	29	22
(N)	(681)	(722)	(692)	(639)	(647)	(507)	(513)

2 nd C.D.	Oct. 2001	Feb. 2002	Apr. 2002	June 2002	Feb. 2003	Apr. 2003	June 2003
Favorable	56%	59%	52%	53%	59%	49%	54%
Neutral	13	9	11	15	7	11	14
Unfavorable	15	16	18	18	19	13	15
Don't Know	17	17	19	15	16	27	17
(N)	(353)	(265)	(333)	(306)	(318)	(238)	(241)

Favorability Rating - U.S. Representative Jeb Bradley

"Next, I'd like to get your overall opinion of some people in the news. As I read each name, please say if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of this person - or if you have never heard of him or her. U.S. Representative Jeb Bradley."

STATEWIDE	Feb. 2003	Apr. 2003	June 2003
Favorable	39%	38%	37%
Neutral	14	11	20
Unfavorable	9	9	14
Don't Know	38	42	29
(N)	(649)	(507)	(514)

1st C.D.	Feb. 2003	Apr. 2003	June 2003
Favorable	44%	44%	41%
Neutral	15	11	23
Unfavorable	10	9	14
Don't Know	31	37	22
(N)	(331)	(269)	(273)

Net Favorability Ratings

	Oct. 2001	Feb. 2002	Apr. 2002	June 2002	Feb. 2003	Apr. 2003	June 2003
Bass (Statewide)	+39%	+37%	+36%	+36%	+38%	+39%	+31%
Bass (2 nd Dist.)	+41	+43	+34	+37	+40	+36	+39
Bradley (Statewide)	--	--	--	--	+30	+29	+23
Bradley (1 st Dist.)	--	--	--	--	+34	+35	+27
Gregg	+49	+47	+44	+40	+40	+48	+42
Sununu	+46	+36	+31	+27	+26	+32	+19

Right Track - Wrong Track

"Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction or are they seriously off on the wrong track?"

	June 2003
Right Direction	56
Wrong Track	38
Don't know	5
(N=)	(511)

Favorability Rating - Judd Gregg

STATEWIDE	<u>Favorable</u> 58%	<u>Neutral</u> 10%	<u>Unfavorable</u> 16%	<u>Don't Know</u> 16%	<u>(N)</u> 514
Registered Democrat	43	9	40	7	97
Undeclared	56	13	18	14	159
Registered Republican	79	4	5	12	151
Not registered	44	14	8	33	100
Democrat	39	14	31	17	196
Independent	56	12	14	18	84
Republican	77	5	5	13	222
Liberal	44	11	36	9	90
Moderate	57	12	13	18	231
Conservative	71	4	12	13	154
Union household	56	9	28	7	61
Non-union	59	10	15	17	453
5 Years or less in NH	33	19	9	39	66
6 to 10 years	46	15	12	27	39
11 to 20 years	60	7	17	16	104
More than 20 years	65	8	18	9	304
18 to 34	52	8	13	27	121
33 to 49	57	11	15	17	175
50 to 64	62	13	14	11	113
65 and over	63	5	25	7	97
Male	60	8	18	14	251
Female	57	12	14	18	263
High school or less	58	7	14	21	150
Some college	55	13	14	18	124
College graduate	65	7	13	16	147
Post-graduate	53	16	27	4	94
Less than \$30K	51	12	17	20	79
\$30K to \$60K	54	7	23	15	128
\$60K to \$75K	63	12	15	10	75
\$75K to \$100K	60	10	16	15	61
More than \$100K	65	15	15	5	55
Married	62	9	16	14	317
Divorced/separated	51	12	20	17	94
Never married	53	11	15	22	103
Protestant	62	11	11	16	204
Catholic	67	5	15	14	165
Other	39	14	28	19	130
Attend 1 or more/week	67	9	11	13	121
1-2 times a month	68	2	16	15	61
Less often	59	8	16	16	165
Never	45	16	21	18	155
Northern NH	55	9	16	20	68
Western NH	46	11	30	13	49
Central/Lakes	64	7	17	12	81
Hillsborough County	62	10	11	17	154
Seacoast	57	10	17	15	162
1st Cong. District	58	10	16	15	272
2nd Cong. District	58	9	16	16	242
1st E.C. District	55	8	19	18	106
2nd E.C. District	65	9	14	12	119
3rd E.C. District	51	13	19	17	102
4th E.C. District	61	7	18	14	94
5th E.C. District	58	12	11	19	93

Favorability Rating - John Sununu

STATEWIDE	<u>Favorable</u> 48%	<u>Neutral</u> 11%	<u>Unfavorable</u> 29%	<u>Don't Know</u> 11%	<u>(N)</u> 513
Registered Democrat	31	13	51	6	97
Undeclared	36	15	39	11	158
Registered Republican	75	7	8	11	151
Not registered	45	11	26	18	100
Democrat	25	14	49	12	195
Independent	41	14	35	11	84
Republican	71	8	11	10	222
Liberal	28	13	51	9	89
Moderate	47	12	29	12	231
Conservative	65	8	18	9	154
Union household	45	13	37	5	61
Non-union	49	11	28	12	452
5 Years or less in NH	45	7	25	22	66
6 to 10 years	47	10	36	7	39
11 to 20 years	44	9	32	14	104
More than 20 years	51	13	29	8	303
18 to 34	52	8	26	13	120
33 to 49	44	13	31	11	175
50 to 64	49	14	25	12	113
65 and over	51	8	33	8	97
Male	50	9	33	8	251
Female	47	13	26	14	262
High school or less	43	11	29	17	150
Some college	48	11	30	11	124
College graduate	61	9	21	9	147
Post-graduate	37	14	43	6	93
Less than \$30K	46	10	33	11	79
\$30K to \$60K	45	9	34	12	128
\$60K to \$75K	44	14	30	12	75
\$75K to \$100K	56	13	21	11	60
More than \$100K	61	14	20	6	55
Married	51	13	25	11	316
Divorced/separated	41	11	40	8	94
Never married	46	6	32	16	103
Protestant	56	13	22	9	204
Catholic	49	10	28	13	164
Other	37	11	44	9	130
Attend 1 or more/week	65	7	20	8	121
1-2 times a month	50	16	22	12	60
Less often	47	8	33	11	165
Never	37	16	33	13	155
Northern NH	46	17	28	9	67
Western NH	44	11	34	10	49
Central/Lakes	47	7	35	12	81
Hillsborough County	49	16	23	13	154
Seacoast	51	6	32	10	162
1st Cong. District	53	9	29	10	272
2nd Cong. District	43	13	30	13	241
1st E.C. District	45	18	30	8	105
2nd E.C. District	47	10	29	14	119
3rd E.C. District	44	8	39	8	102
4th E.C. District	56	8	23	12	94
5th E.C. District	50	11	25	14	93

Favorability Rating - Charlie Bass

STATEWIDE	<u>Favorable</u> 46%	<u>Neutral</u> 17%	<u>Unfavorable</u> 15%	<u>Don't Know</u> 22%	<u>(N)</u> 513
Registered Democrat	33	19	32	16	97
Undeclared	48	20	14	19	159
Registered Republican	62	15	7	17	151
Not registered	30	15	12	43	99
Democrat	31	20	27	23	194
Independent	57	14	8	21	84
Republican	58	15	6	21	222
Liberal	25	19	26	30	90
Moderate	47	17	14	22	230
Conservative	58	15	12	15	154
Union household	54	9	19	18	61
Non-union	45	18	14	23	452
5 Years or less in NH	34	24	3	40	65
6 to 10 years	50	14	12	24	39
11 to 20 years	40	20	19	21	104
More than 20 years	51	15	16	18	304
18 to 34	43	13	14	30	121
33 to 49	42	19	16	24	174
50 to 64	49	21	14	15	113
65 and over	54	15	14	17	97
Male	50	17	17	16	251
Female	43	17	13	28	262
High school or less	39	11	19	31	150
Some college	45	16	13	25	123
College graduate	52	15	12	20	147
Post-graduate	50	30	13	7	94
Less than \$30K	38	15	12	34	79
\$30K to \$60K	43	19	11	27	128
\$60K to \$75K	54	16	17	13	75
\$75K to \$100K	53	11	15	21	61
More than \$100K	55	27	7	11	53
Married	48	19	14	19	315
Divorced/separated	45	14	17	24	94
Never married	44	13	15	28	103
Protestant	55	17	8	20	203
Catholic	47	14	18	21	165
Other	35	21	19	26	130
Attend 1 or more/week	57	17	13	14	121
1-2 times a month	44	11	21	24	61
Less often	48	13	16	23	165
Never	39	25	11	25	153
Northern NH	46	15	7	32	68
Western NH	54	16	21	8	49
Central/Lakes	58	18	11	14	81
Hillsborough County	49	15	19	17	152
Seacoast	35	19	15	31	162
1st Cong. District	39	19	15	27	272
2nd Cong. District	54	14	15	17	241
1st E.C. District	49	17	10	24	106
2nd E.C. District	52	17	9	22	119
3rd E.C. District	33	22	15	30	102
4th E.C. District	38	16	24	22	94
5th E.C. District	59	12	17	12	92

Favorability Rating - Jeb Bradley

STATEWIDE	<u>Favorable</u> 37%	<u>Neutral</u> 20%	<u>Unfavorable</u> 14%	<u>Don't Know</u> 29%	<u>(N)</u> 514
Registered Democrat	25	23	21	31	99
Undeclared	42	22	15	21	159
Registered Republican	49	19	7	24	151
Not registered	23	15	16	47	99
Democrat	24	18	23	34	194
Independent	37	21	15	26	84
Republican	49	20	7	25	222
Liberal	19	18	32	31	90
Moderate	40	22	10	28	230
Conservative	46	19	9	26	154
Union household	36	20	20	24	61
Non-union	37	20	14	30	452
5 Years or less in NH	35	26	9	30	65
6 to 10 years	39	11	9	41	39
11 to 20 years	40	9	19	32	104
More than 20 years	36	23	15	26	305
18 to 34	30	14	16	40	121
33 to 49	41	22	13	25	174
50 to 64	39	21	14	26	113
65 and over	38	21	14	26	99
Male	40	17	17	25	251
Female	34	22	12	32	263
High school or less	29	12	17	42	150
Some college	41	18	10	31	124
College graduate	49	21	10	20	147
Post-graduate	25	33	22	19	94
Less than \$30K	24	13	17	47	79
\$30K to \$60K	38	18	13	30	129
\$60K to \$75K	50	21	8	21	75
\$75K to \$100K	38	18	21	23	61
More than \$100K	48	29	7	15	53
Married	42	21	13	24	317
Divorced/separated	28	22	16	34	94
Never married	27	16	16	41	103
Protestant	43	20	10	28	203
Catholic	36	20	15	29	166
Other	29	20	20	31	130
Attend 1 or more/week	48	17	12	23	123
1-2 times a month	25	26	25	24	61
Less often	40	18	9	34	165
Never	29	23	18	31	153
Northern NH	34	19	12	35	68
Western NH	29	13	27	31	49
Central/Lakes	41	18	15	26	81
Hillsborough County	37	22	11	30	154
Seacoast	38	22	14	26	162
1st Cong. District	41	23	14	22	273
2nd Cong. District	32	17	14	36	241
1st E.C. District	35	18	15	32	106
2nd E.C. District	37	17	15	31	119
3rd E.C. District	37	24	13	26	102
4th E.C. District	40	20	15	25	96
5th E.C. District	35	21	13	30	92

U.S. On Right Track or Wrong Track

	Right Direction 56%	Wrong Track 38%	DK 5%	(N) 511
STATEWIDE				
Registered Democrat	36	57	7	99
Undeclared	48	47	5	156
Registered Republican	79	18	2	148
Not registered	56	36	8	99
Democrat	34	60	6	193
Independent	44	45	11	82
Republican	80	18	2	222
Liberal	34	60	6	89
Moderate	55	40	5	228
Conservative	73	23	4	152
Union household	57	38	5	61
Non-union	56	38	5	449
5 Years or less in NH	67	27	6	63
6 to 10 years	57	34	9	39
11 to 20 years	47	49	4	105
More than 20 years	58	37	5	303
18 to 34	58	39	4	120
33 to 49	58	36	7	172
50 to 64	53	43	4	112
65 and over	60	35	5	99
Male	58	39	3	248
Female	55	38	7	262
High school or less	50	40	10	151
Some college	60	37	3	122
College graduate	66	30	4	145
Post-graduate	47	49	4	93
Less than \$30K	51	37	12	79
\$30K to \$60K	52	43	5	127
\$60K to \$75K	46	48	6	74
\$75K to \$100K	60	40	0	57
More than \$100K	80	17	2	55
Married	59	38	3	314
Divorced/separated	52	37	10	93
Never married	51	42	7	102
Protestant	62	30	8	199
Catholic	59	38	3	166
Other	44	51	5	130
Attend 1 or more/week	61	34	5	119
1-2 times a month	66	29	5	61
Less often	60	34	6	164
Never	47	48	6	155
Northern NH	60	33	7	67
Western NH	48	45	7	48
Central/Lakes	49	46	6	81
Hillsborough County	60	36	5	152
Seacoast	58	37	5	162
1st Cong. District	60	35	5	269
2nd Cong. District	52	42	6	242
1st E.C. District	57	38	5	104
2nd E.C. District	53	42	6	119
3rd E.C. District	57	38	6	102
4th E.C. District	62	34	4	92
5th E.C. District	55	39	5	94