

Spring, 2016 NCSU Pack Poll: “Scalia” Toplines Report

February 23-24

N=771 (Completed) 860 (partial)

Completed Response Rate= 22% Partial= 25%

Margin of sampling error for completed response rate and questions asked of the full sample +/- 3.5%

These are the results for this semester’s first “Flash Poll” about the politics of replacing Justice Scalia (February 23-24, 2016). The survey was administered over the internet to a random sample of 3,500 NCSU undergraduates, generating a 22% response rate. We only report opinions for students who completed the entire survey (860 began the survey, for a partial response rate of 25%). The margin of sampling error for questions in which all respondents answered is +/- 3.5% (sampling error is larger for question that were split among respondents, or when examining the opinions of subgroups such as just Democrats). In addition to sampling error, other forms of error occur in surveys, such as confusion about question wording or the order of questions, but these are not precisely quantifiable. We do not apply post-stratification sample weights to adjust for possible demographic imbalances in our sample because we did not measure known population characteristics such as students’ year in school, race or gender.

Q1: Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of former Supreme Court justice, Antonin Scalia?

Very Favorable	9%	Favorable	23%
Favorable	14%	Unfavorable	20%
Unfavorable	13%	No Opinion	57%
Very Unfavorable	7%		
No opinion	57%		

[RANDOM ASSIGNMENT TO Q2A or Q2B]

Q2A As you may know, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia recently passed away. Would you like to see the next Supreme Court justice appointed by President Obama before the election in November or appointed by the President who will be elected in November?

Strongly believes next president	23%	Next President	40%
Next president chooses	17%	Obama	60%
Obama chooses	25%		
Strongly believes Obama	36%		

Q2B As you may know, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia recently passed away. Would you like to see the next Supreme Court justice appointed by President Obama before the election in November or appointed by the President who will be elected in November, or do you not have an opinion one way or another?

Strongly Believes next president	21%	Next President	34%
Next president chooses	13%	Obama	51%
Obama chooses	16%	No Opinion	16%
Strongly believes Obama	35%		

No opinion 16%

Q3 How likely is it that the next president after Barack Obama will be a Republican?

Very Likely	8%	Likely	38%
Likely	30%	Unlikely	32%
Unlikely	25%	Unsure	31%
Very Unlikely	7%		
Unsure	31%		

[RANDOM ASSIGNMENT TO Q4A or Q4B]

Q4A Who is the Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court? **Remember, this is NOT a class quiz, so please don't look up the answer if you don't know it!** / Q4B Who is the Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court?

	Q4A	Q4B
Clarence Thomas	8%	12%
John Roberts	34%	49%
Harry Reid	4%	3%
Samuel Alito	2%	2%
I don't know	48%	40%
Correct	34%	49%
Incorrect	14%	17%
Don't Know	48%	40%

Q5A In politics, as of today, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, and Independent, or something else? [Q5B/Q5C "Do you consider yourself to be strongly [B = Democratic / C = Republican] or not strongly? / Q5D "What party is closer to your beliefs?"]

Strongly Democrat	16%		
Democrat	11%		
Leans Democrat	17%	Democrat	44%
Independent/Other	11%	Independent	11%
Leans Republican	12%	Republican	44%
Republican	12%		
Strongly Republican	18%		