



TN SCORE

Democratic Gubernatorial Primary Survey

Fielded July 12 – July 16, 2017

Among 503 registered voters likely to vote in the 2018 Tennessee Gubernatorial Democratic Primary

Screener Questions

Are you over 18 and registered to vote in Tennessee?

Yes	100
No	0

Do you or does anyone in your household work for a newspaper, a television station, a radio station, or a market research company?

Yes/Don't Know/Refused	0
No	100

In politics today, do you consider yourself to be a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

Republican	3
Democrat	74
Independent	20
Other	0
Don't know/Refused	2

As you may be aware, very few people actually vote in primary elections. How likely is it that you will vote in NEXT year's DEMOCRATIC primary for Governor? Would you say that you will definitely vote in the primary, probably vote in the primary, are about a 50-50 chance to vote, probably not vote in the primary, or definitely not vote in the primary?

Definitely vote in the DEMOCRATIC primary for Governor	87
Probably vote in the DEMOCRATIC primary for Governor	13
50-50 chance to vote in the primary	0
Probably NOT vote in primary	0
Definitely NOT vote in primary	0
Don't know/Refused	0
WILL VOTE	100
WILL NOT VOTE	0

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Governor Bill Haslam is doing?

Strongly approve	14
Somewhat approve	49
Somewhat disapprove	16
Strongly disapprove	15
Don't know/Refused	6
APPROVE	63
DISAPPROVE	31

And, do you approve or disapprove of the job the Tennessee State Legislature is doing in Nashville?

Strongly approve	7
Somewhat approve	29
Somewhat disapprove	22
Strongly disapprove	32
Don't know/Refused	10
APPROVE	36
DISAPPROVE	54

All other things being equal, would you be MORE likely or LESS likely to support a candidate for Governor who pledged to continue Governor Haslam's Education Reforms and policies? If it would have no impact on your vote, just say so.

Much more likely to support	12
Somewhat more likely to support	23
Somewhat less likely to support	11
Much less likely to support	16
Have no impact	35
Don't know/Refused	4
MORE LIKELY TO SUPPORT	34
LESS LIKELY TO SUPPORT	26

And turning to issues... Which ONE of the following issues do you believe should be the top priority for the Governor?

Making healthcare more accessible and affordable	39
Improving the quality of public education	21
Improving the economy and creating jobs	11
Investing in infrastructure like roads and bridges	10
Keeping our streets and communities safe from crime	9
All of the above	7
Lowering taxes	2
None of the above	1
Reducing government regulation	0
Don't know	0
Refused	0

Education

Generally speaking, would you say that public education in grades K through twelve here in Tennessee is getting better, getting worse or has it stayed about the same?

Getting better	20
Getting worse	30
Stayed about the same	43
Don't know	7
Refused	0

Now more specifically, would you say that public education in grades K through twelve here in your local community is getting better, getting worse or has it stayed about the same?

Getting better	26
Getting worse	27
Stayed about the same	41
Don't know	6
Refused	0

If you knew the following were true about a candidate for Governor, would it make you MORE LIKELY or LESS LIKELY to support that candidate. If it would have no impact on your vote, just say so.

	Much More Likely to Supp	Smwt More Likely	Smwt Less Likely	Much Less Likely to Supp	No Impact	Don't know/Refused	TOTAL MORE LIKELY TO SUPP	TOTAL LESS LIKELY TO SUPP	NO IMPACT/DK
Supports increasing teacher pay	67	21	2	1	7	2	88	3	9
Favors increasing education funding	66	23	3	2	6	1	89	5	6
Favors improving early learning opportunities	63	27	2	1	6	1	90	3	7
Favors expanding early workforce training programs	58	30	3	0	8	1	88	3	9
Supports higher academic standards for public schools	54	31	4	2	7	2	85	6	9
Has a program designed to recruit young people to become teachers	50	33	3	1	12	2	83	4	13
Favors teacher evaluations that measure multiple factors	41	32	7	4	13	3	73	10	17
Favors expanding the options of parents to choose the school they send their children to.	30	25	15	15	13	2	55	30	15
Supports tougher statewide testing that mirrors what is taught in the classrooms	28	28	13	13	14	3	56	26	17

Switching gears... In your opinion, when it comes to having sufficient academic knowledge and skills, do you believe graduates of Tennessee's public high schools are very prepared, somewhat prepared, somewhat unprepared or very unprepared - to meet the expectations they face as they take the next steps after high school?

Very prepared	6
Somewhat prepared	51
Somewhat unprepared	28
Very unprepared	11
Don't know	4
Refused	0
PREPARED	57
UNPREPARED	40

More specifically, in your opinion, are Tennessee's high school graduates properly prepared for college or a job?

Definitely Yes	9
Probably Yes	42
Probably No	29
Definitely No	17
Don't know	3
Refused	0
YES	51
NO	46

Now, as you may know, Tennessee has a policy that uses the year to year academic growth of students in part to measure a teacher's achievement and use it as part of the teacher's annual review. Do you favor or oppose this policy?

Strongly favor	16
Somewhat favor	36
Somewhat oppose	19
Strongly oppose	22
Don't know/Not sure	7
Refused	0
FAVOR	52
OPPOSE	41

Now, if you knew that in a statewide survey of public school teachers in Tennessee, more than 65% said that teacher evaluations have led to improvements in student learning, would you favor or oppose the policy of using the year-to-year academic growth of students as a part of measuring a teacher's achievement?

Strongly favor	28
Somewhat favor	39
Somewhat oppose	15
Strongly oppose	13
Don't know/Not sure	5
Refused	0
FAVOR	67
OPPOSE	28

And, thinking for a moment about testing students in our state's public schools... How important is it to test students from grades three through eleven each year to know if they are meeting the state's education standards in reading, writing and math? Is it...

Very important	61
Somewhat important	27
Not too important	7
Not at all important	4
Don't know	1
Refused	0
IMPORTANT	88
NOT IMPORTANT	11

Thinking some more about standardized academic testing in Tennessee public schools, based on what you know, would you say that...

ALL the standardized tests in Tennessee public schools are chosen and administered by the state	44
SOME of the standardized tests in Tennessee public schools are chosen and administered by the state and some are chosen and administered by the local school district	33
Don't know/Refused	23

And, in general, do you believe that students in Tennessee's public schools are given...

Too many tests	37
About the right amount of tests	36
Not enough tests	10
Don't know	16
Refused	0

And, thinking some more about this... As you may know, Tennessee is using a new end of year test to better assess what a child learns in a school year. These new tests are called TN Ready and were designed to better match what is actually being taught in Tennessee classrooms. The TN Ready test is designed to measure problem solving, critical thinking, and other skills needed for 21st century careers. Knowing this, do you favor or oppose implementing these new tests?

Strongly favor	31
Somewhat favor	38
Somewhat oppose	12
Strongly oppose	10
Don't know/Not sure	8
Refused	0
FAVOR	70
OPPOSE	22

Among Voters that Favor TN Ready

Now, thinking some more about this new TN Ready test, it is likely when they are implemented that student test scores will drop significantly as students and teachers get used to the new tests. Knowing this, would you still favor or oppose implementing the new tests known as TN Ready?

Strongly favor	27
Somewhat favor	47
Somewhat oppose	13
Strongly oppose	6
Don't know/Not sure	7
Refused	0
FAVOR	74
OPPOSE	19

Would you favor or oppose allowing parents to opt their children out of the new English language, arts, and math end-of-the-year standardized tests, like the new TN Ready tests?

Strongly favor	13
Somewhat favor	18
Somewhat oppose	24
Strongly oppose	35
Don't know/Not sure	9
Refused	0
FAVOR	32
OPPOSE	59

And, on another topic... As you may know, charter schools are schools that receive public funding but operate independently of the traditional local public school system. Would you favor or oppose giving Tennessee parents a choice in where they send their kids to school, by expanding charter schools here in the state?

Strongly favor	20
Somewhat favor	18
Somewhat oppose	16
Strongly oppose	40
Don't know/Refused	7
FAVOR	37
OPPOSE	56