



2010 NCGOP State House District Polling Summary

Polling conducted by independent groups [Carolina Strategy Group](#) and [Civitas Institute](#) have shown strong positions for several Republican challengers in Democrat held or open seats. Seven of nine districts in play showed Republicans leading in the head-to-head ballot question and nine of nine districts showed Republicans leading in the generic ballot question. The following is summary of head-to-head and generic ballot survey results.

Click the [UNDERLINED](#) text below to see the survey details. See page 5 of this document for a table/summary.

HD 3: Underhill vs Sanderson (New Bern / Craven-Pamlico Counties)

Date/Source: April 2010 by Carolina Strategy Group [CSG](#)

Democratic Incumbent Alice Underhill: 37
Republican Challenger Norman Sanderson: 49

Carolina Strategy Group polled HD 3 in April and reported that our candidate Norm Sanderson leads the Democratic incumbent 49 to 37 percent. However, on the generic ballot, the Republican candidate for State House leads by 23 points, 53 to 30 percent. This is a re-match of 2008 between both candidates and Sanderson is well poised to take the seat for Republicans. Underhill will have problems with overcoming her voting record for increased spending and tax increases in the 2009-2010 budget.

HD 6: Williams vs Cook (Washington / Beaufort-Pitt Counties)

Date/Source: July 2010 by Civitas Institute [Civitas](#)

Democratic Incumbent Arthur Williams 41
Republican Challenger Bill Cook 43

Civitas polled HD 6 in July and is reporting a dead heat for the first-time challenger Bill Cook against the four time incumbent in what has historically been viewed as a safe district for Williams. On the generic ballot, the Republican candidate for State House leads by 12 points, 51 to 39 percent. Williams' record on the 2009-2010 business-unfriendly budget and an increasingly liberal-leaning voting record in his conservative-leaning district will cause problems for him in November.

HD 10: Braxton vs LaRoque (Kinston / Greene-Lenoir-Wayne Counties)

Date/Source: May 2010 by Carolina Strategy Group [CSG](#)

Democratic Incumbent Van Braxton: 37
Republican Challenger Stephen Laroque: 45

Carolina Strategy Group polled HD 10 in May and reported that our candidate Stephen Laroque leads the Democratic incumbent 45 to 37 percent. However, on the generic ballot, the Republican candidate for State House leads by 24 points, 54 to 30 percent. Even a third of Democrats (33%) favor the Republican candidate and among Independents, the difference is 63 to 37. This is a re-match of 2008 between both candidates and LaRoque is well poised to take the seat for Republicans.



HD 25: Stewart vs Collins (Rocky Mount / Nash County)

Date/Source: July 2010 by Civitas Institute [Civitas](#)

Democratic Incumbent Randy Stewart: 33
Republican Challenger Jeff Collins: 52

Civitas polled HD 25 in July and reported that our candidate Jeff Collins leads the Democratic incumbent 52 to 33 percent among those who say they are definitely voting in November. Among Independents Collins lead is 47 to 20. Stewart has a long track record for voting in favor of business-**unfriendly** legislation, such as HB 813 (bad tort reform) and worker's compensation measures that would increase cost for businesses.

HD 51: Love vs Stone (Sanford / Lee-Harnett Counties)

Date/Source: July 2010 by Civitas Institute [Civitas](#)

Democratic Incumbent Jimmy Love: 43
Republican Challenger: Mike Stone: 47

Civitas polled HD 51 in July and reported that GOP candidate Mike Stone leads the Democratic incumbent 47 to 43 percent. On the generic ballot, the Republican candidate leads by 23 points, 50 to 37 percent. Stone is a local business owner with close ties in Sanford (currently Mayor Pro Tem...highest vote getter on the council in the 2009 election). Love has demonstrated an increasing trend towards voting with the most liberal elements of the Democratic caucus on anti-business (HB 813, worker's comp, etc.) legislation and several liberal social measures, something likely to alienate his base in November.

HD 81: Holliman vs Brown (Lexington / Davidson County)

Date/Source: May 2010 by Carolina Strategy Group [CSG](#)

Democratic Incumbent and Majority Leader Hugh Holliman: 39
Republican Challenger Rayne Brown: 45

Carolina Strategy Group polled HD 81 in May and reported that our candidate Rayne Brown leads the Democratic incumbent 45 to 39 percent. Among Independent voters, the lead grew to 20 points, 44 to 24 over the Democratic Majority Leader. This is a re-match of 2008 between both candidates and Brown is well poised to take the seat for Republicans. Holliman has problems with several organizations that have already appear to be active in his district due to positions he has taken with the 2009-2010 budget, annexation, and a variety of other issues. Brown is one of the hardest working grass roots campaigners on the November ballot.



HD 116: Whilden vs Moffitt (Asheville / Buncombe County)

Date/Source: June 2010 by Civitas [Civitas](#)

Democratic Incumbent Jane Whilden: 38
Republican Challenger Tim Moffitt: 45

Civitas polled HD 116 in June and reported that GOP candidate Tim Moffitt leads the Democratic incumbent 45 to 38 percent. The Republican candidate leads on the generic ballot 45 to 40 over the Democratic candidate. This is a re-match of 2008 between both candidates and Moffitt is well poised to take the seat for Republicans. Moffitt ran a strong campaign in 2008 and just barely lost in the worst environment for Republicans in decades. Moffitt is back with an even stronger campaign organization and fundraising base, while Whilden has contributed little in her first term and proven to be a “rubber stamp” for the left-leaning, business unfriendly elements of the democratic caucus. Whilden supported HB 813, worker’s compensation measures and other measures to increase regulatory requirements for businesses.

HD 36: Dollar vs Anderson (Raleigh / Wake County)

Date/Source: June 2010 by Civitas Institute

Republican Incumbent Nelson Dollar: 52
Democratic Challenger Robin Anderson: 30

HD 36 is one of three Republican seats, which have previously been targeted by the Democratic party. Civitas polled HD 36 in June and reported that Incumbent Nelson Dollar leads his challenger by 22 points. This seat will remain a safe GOP seat.

HD 77: Coates vs Warren (Salisbury / Rowan County)

Date/Source: June 2010 by Carolina Strategy Group

Democratic Incumbent Lorene Coates: 49
Republican Challenger Harry Warren: 33

Although the head to head numbers are not encouraging, the generic ballot is tied 41 to 41 with low name recognition for both. Therefore, Warren can help himself by boosting his name id and positives and could create a real competitive environment. The key to this race is to dispel the myth that Rep. Coates is a business-friendly conservative democrat. Coates voted for the trial-lawyer friendly/business **unfriendly** HB 813 (bad tort reform), she has killed efforts to prevent cities from competing with private businesses, and she has support severally initiatives led by the most socially liberal members of the democratic caucus.



HD 93: Tarleton vs Jordan (Blowing Rock / Ashe-Watauga Counties)

Date/Source: March 2010 by Carolina Strategy Group [CSG](#)

Democratic Incumbent Cullie Tarleton: 45
Republican Challenger Jonathan Jordan: 41

Carolina Strategy Group polled HD 93 in March and reported that our candidate Jonathan Jordan is in a statistical dead heat with Democratic incumbent Cullie Tarleton. The poll came back at 45 to 41 percent which is well within the survey's margin of error. However, on the generic ballot, the Republican candidate for State House leads 52 to 40 percent. Tarleton's real vulnerability is in his support for the tax increase and increased spending. On this matter, HD 93 voters are almost universally against (73%) tax increases and increased spending. Tarleton has also mounted a profoundly business **unfriendly** track record, which defies his recent appointment as Chair of the Commerce Committee, a step many believe was prompted by concerns with his voting record.

HD 103: Brawley vs Newman (Matthews-Charlotte / Mecklenburg County)

Date/Source: June 2010 by Civitas Institute

Republican Candidate Bill Brawley: 45
Democratic Candidate Ann Newman: 39

This is an OPEN seat previously held by a republican (Rep. Gulley). Civitas polled HD 103 in June and reported that our candidate Bill Brawley leads the Democratic candidate 45 to 39 percent. The Republican candidate leads on the generic ballot 45 to 40 over the Democratic candidate.



SUMMARY OF TARGETED SEATS

Red in the “District” column indicates that the republican candidate leads in the head-to-head ballot question. “Target” indicates rank/priority currently based on partisan voter index (PVI). “Candidate” names are **RED** for Republican candidates and **BLUE** for Democrat candidates. “Group” indicates the organization who published the poll. Click on the underlined name of the group and you will be directed to the poll details, which are available to the general public.

House District	Target	PVI	Candidates	Head to Head Ballot	Generic Ballot	Date	Group
3	3	7	Norm Sanderson	49	53	July	CSG
			Alice Underhill	37	30		
6	7	2	Bill Cook	43	51	July	Civitas
			Arthur Williams	41	39		
10	5	3	Stephen LaRoque	45	54	May	CSG
			Van Braxton	37	30		
25	8	2	Jeff Collins	52	47	July	Civitas
			Randy Stewart	33	40		
51	11	1	Mike Stone	47	50	July	Civitas
			Jimmy Love	43	37		
81	4	3	Rayne Brown	45	44	May	CSG
			Hugh Holliman	39	40		
116	9	2	Tim Moffitt	45	45	June	Civitas
			Jane Whilden	38	40		
77	13	0	Harry Warren	33	41	July	CSG
			Lorene Coates	49	41		
93	6	3	Jonathan Jordan	41	52	March	CSG
			Cullie Tarleton	45	40		