North Carolina Opinion Poll

Crime and law enforcement, National Guard deployment, impact of Charlie Kirk assassination

Poll dates: September 23-October 1, 2025

KEY FINDINGS

Poll dates: September 23-October 1, 2025
Margin of error: +/- 4.24%

Areas of highest safety concerns

61% Outdoor areas with crowds

59% Public transportation

53% Public places like shopping malls

49% K-12 schools

Use of National Guard in U.S. cities for law enforcement

47% Oppose

42% Support

Deploying National Guard to NC cities

	Oppose	Support
Greensboro	**49%**	**38%**
Raleigh	**48%**	**40%**
Winston-Salem	**48%**	**38%**
Charlotte	**47%**	**43%**
Durham	**46%**	**41%**

Job loss for those who celebrate killing of Charlie Kirk

45% Oppose

34% Support

Icons courtesy: Flaticon and NCNG

TOPIC: Crime and law

How concerned are you about your personal safety from crime when you think about spending time in each of the following spaces?

	Very/somewhat concerned	Only a little/ not at all concerned
Outdoor areas with large crowds	61%	40%
Public transportation	59%	41%
Public places, such as shopping malls	53%	47%
K-12 schools	49%	51%
Churches or places of worship	32%	68%
Your own home	21%	78%

Source: Elon University Poll of N.C. adults, Sept. 23-Oct. 1, 2025
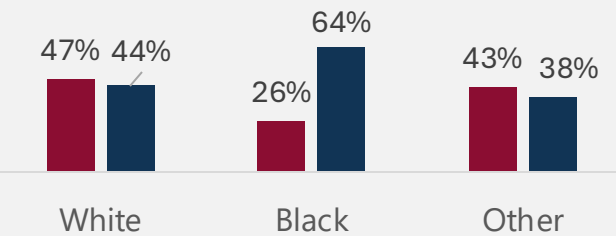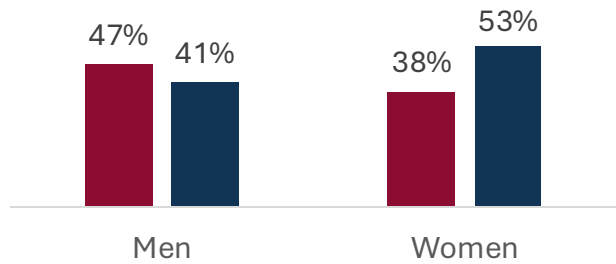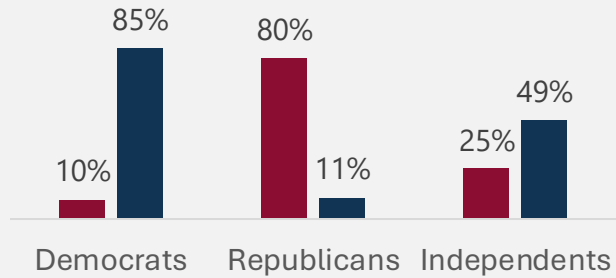
TOPIC: Crime and law

How concerned are you about your personal safety from crime if you were to spend time in each of the following North Carolina cities?

	Very/somewhat concerned	Only a little/ not at all concerned	Unsure
Charlotte	49%	45%	5%
Durham	49%	43%	8%
Winston-Salem	42%	48%	10%
Raleigh	41%	52%	6%
Greensboro	41%	50%	9%

TOPIC: Crime and law

Yes **No**

Democrats
- Yes: 10%
- No: 85%

Republicans
- Yes: 80%
- No: 11%

Independents
- Yes: 25%
- No: 49%

Men
- Yes: 47%
- No: 41%

Women
- Yes: 38%
- No: 53%

White
- Yes: 47%
- No: 44%

Black
- Yes: 26%
- No: 64%

Other
- Yes: 43%
- No: 38%

Do you support or oppose President Trump's proposals to send the National Guard to some U.S. cities in a law enforcement capacity?

Support	42%
Oppose	47%
Unsure	11%

Source: Elon University Poll of N.C. adults, Sept. 23-Oct. 1, 2025

TOPIC: Crime and law

Would you support or oppose President Trump sending the National Guard to the following North Carolina cities for law enforcement purposes?

	Oppose	Support	Unsure
Charlotte	47%	43%	10%
Durham	46%	41%	13%
Raleigh	48%	40%	12%
Greensboro	49%	38%	13%
Winston-Salem	48%	38%	14%

Source: Elon University Poll of N.C. adults, Sept. 23-Oct. 1, 2025
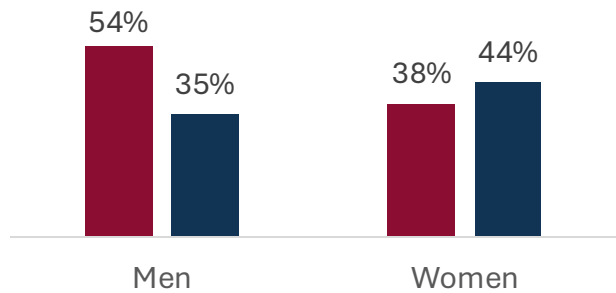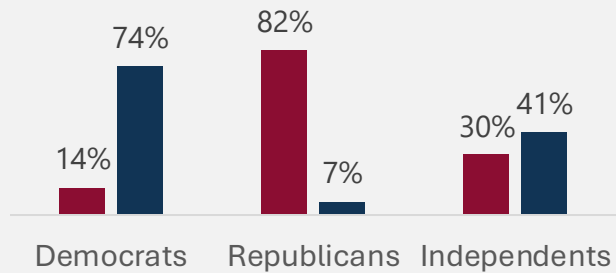
Elon University Poll

Why do you think President Trump wants to deploy National Guard troops to U.S. cities? For each potential reason below, please indicate whether you think it is a major motivation, minor motivation, or not a motivation for President Trump?

	Major motivation	Minor motivation	Not a motivation
To further efforts on immigration enforcement	48%	28%	14%
To reduce crime by supplementing local law enforcement	42%	21%	28%
To distract attention from other issues	39%	15%	36%
To set precedent on using the military for law enforcement	38%	23%	26%
To embarrass political opponents in those cities	35%	21%	32%

Source: Elon University Poll of N.C. adults, Sept. 23-Oct. 1, 2025

Elon University Poll

TOPIC: Crime and law

Yes **No**

Democrats: Yes 14%, No 74%
Republicans: Yes 82%, No 7%
Independents: Yes 30%, No 41%

Men: Yes 54%, No 35%
Women: Yes 38%, No 44%

White: Yes 51%, No 38%
Black: Yes 28%, No 47%
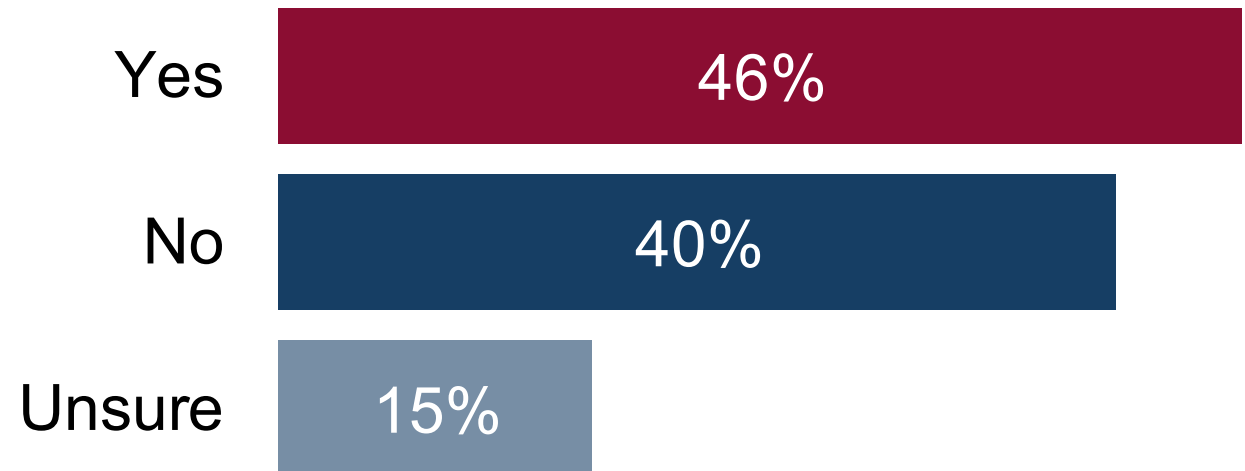Other: Yes 47%, No 36%
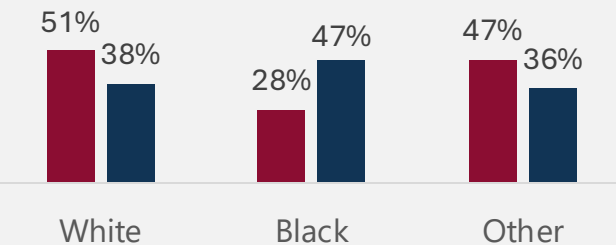
Should state, county and local law enforcement agencies and officers assist federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers in enforcing federal immigration laws?

Yes 46%
No 40%
Unsure 15%

Source: Elon University Poll of N.C. adults, Sept. 23-Oct. 1, 2025
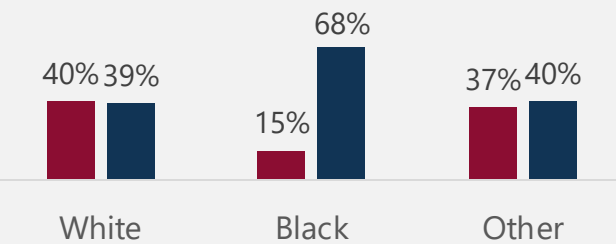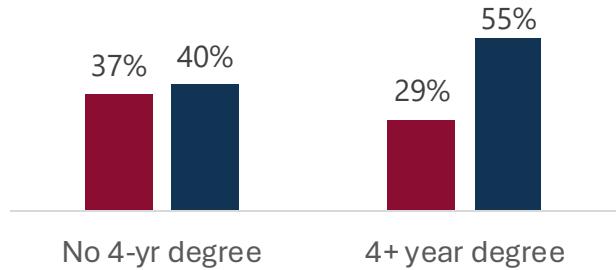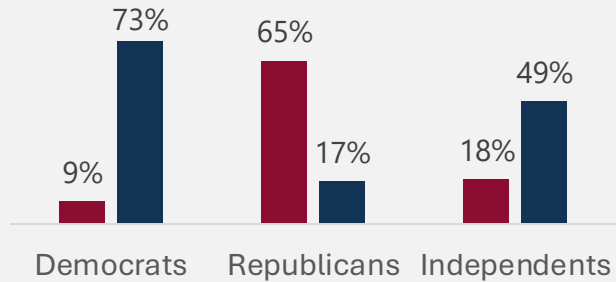
Thinking of potential consequences of the killing of Charlie Kirk and other events you have seen in the news recently, do you think the following will get better, get worse, or not change over the next year?

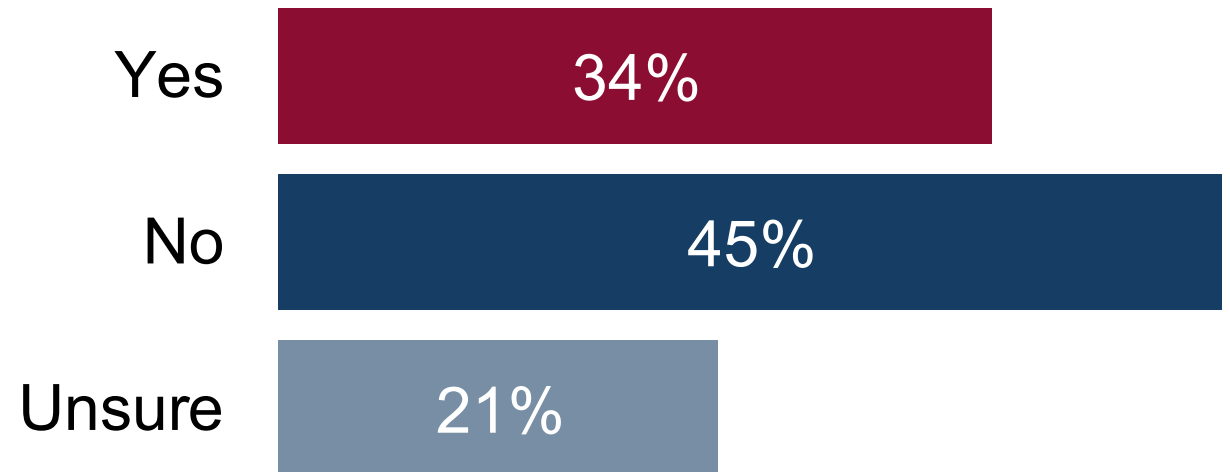|	Get better	Get worse	Unchanged
Political violence	7%	68%	25%
Relations between Democrats and Republicans	8%	61%	32%
Freedom of speech	17%	51%	33%
The average person's knowledge about politics	24%	28%	48%
Political disagreements among your own family and friends	9%	27%	64%

Source: Elon University Poll of N.C. adults, Sept. 23-Oct. 1, 2025

Elon University Poll

TOPIC: Crime and law

Yes **No**

73%
65%
49%
9% 17% 18%

Democrats Republicans Independents

37% 40% 55%
29%

No 4-yr degree 4+ year degree

40% 39% 68% 37% 40%
15%

White Black Other

Should people lose their jobs for making public statements that celebrate the killing of Charlie Kirk?

Yes 34%

No 45%

Unsure 21%

Source: Elon University Poll of N.C. adults, Sept. 23-Oct. 1, 2025

TOPIC: Crime and law

Yes   **No**

87%
4%
Democrats

16%
67%
Republicans

3%
69%
Independents

10%
70%
No 4-yr degree

5%
85%
4+ year degree

11%
75%
White

6%
79%
Black

4%
71%
Other
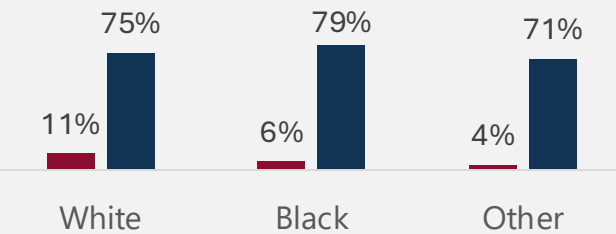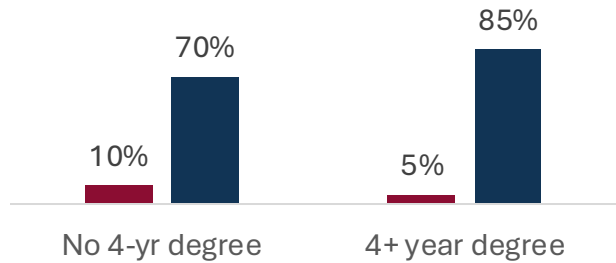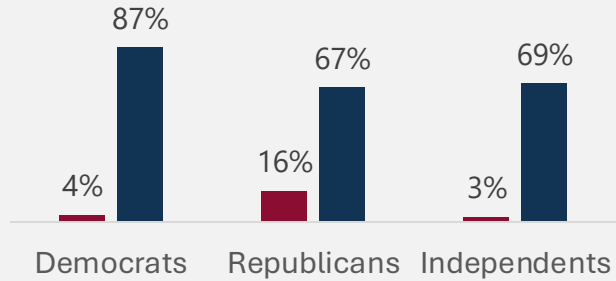
Should people lose their jobs for making public statements that criticize the political beliefs of Charlie Kirk if those statement do not celebrate the killing?

Yes 9%

No 75%

Unsure 16%

Source: Elon University Poll of N.C. adults, Sept. 23-Oct. 1, 2025

METHODOLOGY

Sponsoring organization and questionnaire design: Elon University Poll
Fieldwork: YouGov
Interview dates: Sept. 23-Oct 1, 2025
Target population: North Carolina adults, age 18 and older
Sample size: 800
Margin of error: +/-4.24 % (adjusted for weights)
Survey mode: Online, web-based survey, self-administered with online panels
Panelists: This poll utilizes a non-probability sample. All YouGov panelists have been active panelists for 30 days or longer.

YouGov interviewed 907 18+ year-old residents of North Carolina who were then matched down to a sample of 800 to produce the final dataset. The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race, and education. The sampling frame was constructed by stratified sampling from a North Carolina subset of the 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year sample with selection within strata by weighted sampling with replacements (using the person weights on the public use file).

The matched cases and the frame were combined and a logistic regression was estimated for inclusion in the frame. The propensity score function included age, gender, race/ethnicity, years of education, and home ownership. The propensity scores were grouped into deciles of the estimated propensity score in the frame and poststratified according to these deciles.

The weights were then post-stratified on home ownership, 2020 and 2024 presidential vote choice as well as a four-way stratification of gender, age (4-categories), race (4-categories), and education (4-categories), and a two-way stratification of race (4-categories), and education (4-categories), to produce the final weight.

*The demographic marginals and their interlockings were based on the sample frame.

The marginal distribution of 2020 presidential vote choice and its demographic interlockings were based on a politically representative "modeled frame" of US adults, using the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) public use microdata file,
public voter file records, the 2020 Current Population Survey (CPS) Voting and Registration supplements, the 2020 National Election Pool (NEP) exit poll, and the 2020 CES surveys, including demographics and 2020 presidential vote. The marginal
distribution of 2024 vote choice was based on official ballot counts compiled by the
University of Florida Election Labs and CNN. Demographic interlockings for 2024 vote
choice were based on CNN's 2024 Exit Polls.

Data Quality checks: We used three attention checks, one open end, one grid item and one multiple select. We used all three in combination when cleaning the data removing anyone who failed two or more attention checks. We also removed the top 2% of speeders and skippers from the data.

Critical Mass for Crosstabs: All crosstabs must have at least 60 unweighted respondents per column in order to report their results. Every crosstab result reported in the release appears in the crosstabs.

Transparency: The Elon University Poll is a charter member of the Transparency Initiative, a program created by the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) in 2014 to educate polling firms on ways to better share how they collect and interpret their information. The Elon Poll's voluntary participation in this initiative signifies a willingness to clearly state in its reports how questions were asked, in what order, who funded the poll and then conducted it, and a definition of the population under study, among other details.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional methodology and poll topline information is available on the Elon Poll website:

www.elon.edu/elonpoll

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