



# **GEORGIA VOTER POLL**

## **STATE FLAG ISSUES**

**CONDUCTED FOR:  
GEORGIA DIVISION  
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**

**JANUARY 2005**

**This survey is a statistically valid statewide sampling of registered Georgia voters conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, Inc. Questions about the poll and/or poll methodology can be directed to Brad Coker, Managing Director of Mason-Dixon, at (904) 261-2444.**

**HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED**

This poll was commissioned by Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and was conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, Inc. of Washington, D.C. from January 27 through January 31, 2005. A total of 625 registered voters were interviewed statewide by telephone. All stated that they vote regularly in state elections.

Those interviewed were selected from a randomly generated telephone sample drawn from a complete list of registered Georgia voters. Quotas were assigned to reflect voter turn-out by county.

The margin for error, according to standards customarily used by statisticians, is no more than plus or minus 4 percentage points. This means that there is a 95 percent probability that the "true" figure would fall within that range if the entire population were sampled. The margin for error is higher for any subgroup, such as a regional or racial grouping.

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**-SAMPLE FIGURES:**

|                  |                  |               |
|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Men 309 (49%)    | Women 316 (51%)  |               |
| Whites 453 (72%) | Blacks 157 (25%) | Other 15 (2%) |

**REGION**

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| DeKalb/Fulton Counties | 116 interviews |
| Atlanta Suburbs        | 121 interviews |
| North Georgia          | 135 interviews |
| Central Georgia        | 130 interviews |
| South Georgia          | 123 interviews |

## REGIONAL GROUPINGS

DEKALB/FULTON: Voters in Fulton and DeKalb Counties.

ATLANTA SUBURBS: Voters in Cobb, Gwinnett, Clayton, and Rockdale Counties.

NORTH GEORGIA: Voters in Dade, Walker, Catoosa, Whitfield, Murray, Fannin, Gilmer, Pickens, Gordon, Chattooga, Floyd, Bartow, Dawson, Hall, Lumpkin, Union, Towns, Rabun, White, Habersham, Banks, Stephens, Franklin, Hart, Elbert, Madison, Jackson, Lincoln, Wilkes, Ogelthorpe, Clarke, Oconee, Carroll, Haralson, Douglas, Polk, Paulding, Cherokee and Forsyth Counties.

CENTRAL GEORGIA: Voters in Richmond, Columbia, Burke, Jefferson, Glascock, McDuffie, Warren, Taliaferro, Greene, Morgan, Bibb, Twiggs, Houston, Bleckley, Telfair, Laurens, Washington, Baldwin, Hancock, Putnam, Jasper, Monroe, Jones, Upson, Crawford, Wilkinson, Johnson, Peach, Henry, Fayette, Spalding, Coweta, Heard, Troup, Meriwether, Pike, Walton, Barrow, Newton, Butts and Lamar Counties.

SOUTH GEORGIA: Voters in Chatham, Bryan, Effingham, Bulloch, Evans, Candler, Tattnall, Toombs, Jenkins, Emanuel, Montgomery, Treutlin, Wheeler, Telfair, Jeff Davis, Appling, Bacon, Ware, Charlton, Camden, Pierce, Brantley, Glynn, Wayne, Long, Liberty, McInstosh, Screven, Coffee, Atkinson, Clinch, Echols, Muscogee, Chattahoochee, Stewart, Webster, Sumter, Dooly, Pulaski, Dodge, Macon, Schley, Marion, Taylor, Talbot, Harris, Dougherty, Lee, Crisp, Wilcox, Ben Hill, Turner, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Berrien, Cook, Tift, Worth, Colquitt, Thomas, Grady, Decatur, Seminole, Miller, Baker, Mitchell, Early, Clay, Calhoun, Terrell, Randolph, Quitman, and Brooks Counties.

**QUESTION: The Georgia legislature is presently considering holding a referendum to permit the voters to choose between the current State Flag and the 1956-2001 State Flag, which contained the Confederate battle emblem. Do you believe that the people of Georgia should be allowed to say which State Flag represents them, or not?**

|              | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| <b>STATE</b> | 79%        | 15%       | 6%              |

| <u>REGION</u>          | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| DeKalb/Fulton Counties | 73%        | 17%       | 10%             |
| Atlanta Suburbs        | 76%        | 14%       | 9%              |
| North Georgia          | 81%        | 15%       | 5%              |
| Central Georgia        | 83%        | 15%       | 2%              |
| South Georgia          | 83%        | 13%       | 4%              |

| <u>SEX</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Men        | 79%        | 16%       | 5%              |
| Women      | 79%        | 14%       | 7%              |

| <u>RACE</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| White       | 80%        | 15%       | 5%              |
| Black       | 75%        | 16%       | 9%              |

**QUESTION: If another referendum were held, which Flag would you choose: (ORDER ROTATED)**

- The present State Flag, or
- The 1956-2001 Flag with the Confederate battle emblem?

|              | <u>PRESENT FLAG</u> | <u>1956-2001 FLAG</u> | <u>UNDECIDED</u> |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>STATE</b> | <b>47%</b>          | <b>40%</b>            | <b>13%</b>       |

| <u>REGION</u>          | <u>PRESENT FLAG</u> | <u>1956-2001 FLAG</u> | <u>UNDECIDED</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| DeKalb/Fulton Counties | 70%                 | 18%                   | 12%              |
| Atlanta Suburbs        | 56%                 | 30%                   | 14%              |
| North Georgia          | 38%                 | 43%                   | 19%              |
| Central Georgia        | 38%                 | 49%                   | 13%              |
| South Georgia          | 36%                 | 56%                   | 8%               |

| <u>SEX</u> | <u>PRESENT FLAG</u> | <u>1956-2001 FLAG</u> | <u>UNDECIDED</u> |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Men        | 43%                 | 44%                   | 13%              |
| Women      | 51%                 | 36%                   | 13%              |

| <u>RACE</u> | <u>PRESENT FLAG</u> | <u>1956-2001 FLAG</u> | <u>UNDECIDED</u> |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| White       | 41%                 | 49%                   | 10%              |
| Black       | 63%                 | 14%                   | 23%              |

| <u>FLAG VIEW</u>     | <u>PRESENT FLAG</u> | <u>1956-2001 FLAG</u> | <u>UNDECIDED</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Pride & Heritage     | 26%                 | 64%                   | 10%              |
| Racism & Segregation | 87%                 | 4%                    | 9%               |
| Both/Not Sure        | 55%                 | 7%                    | 38%              |

**QUESTION: If another referendum were held, would you be satisfied with the Flag that received a majority of the votes regardless of the outcome, or not?**

|              | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| <b>STATE</b> | 70%        | 23%       | 7%              |

| <u>REGION</u>          | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| DeKalb/Fulton Counties | 53%        | 40%       | 7%              |
| Atlanta Suburbs        | 68%        | 27%       | 5%              |
| North Georgia          | 70%        | 23%       | 7%              |
| Central Georgia        | 75%        | 16%       | 9%              |
| South Georgia          | 81%        | 12%       | 7%              |

| <u>SEX</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Men        | 75%        | 19%       | 6%              |
| Women      | 65%        | 27%       | 8%              |

| <u>RACE</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| White       | 75%        | 20%       | 5%              |
| Black       | 55%        | 33%       | 12%             |

| <u>FLAG VOTE</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Present Flag     | 50%        | 41%       | 9%              |
| 1956-2001 Flag   | 92%        | 5%        | 3%              |
| Undecided        | 74%        | 13%       | 13%             |

QUESTION: Do you view the Confederate flag primarily as:  
 (ORDER ROTATED)

- A symbol of southern heritage and pride, or
- A symbol of segregation and racism?

|              | <u>PRIDE</u> | <u>RACISM</u> | <u>BOTH</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <b>STATE</b> | 60%          | 29%           | 4%          | 7%              |

| <u>REGION</u>          | <u>PRIDE</u> | <u>RACISM</u> | <u>BOTH</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| DeKalb/Fulton Counties | 38%          | 49%           | 6%          | 7%              |
| Atlanta Suburbs        | 53%          | 33%           | 4%          | 10%             |
| North Georgia          | 68%          | 25%           | 2%          | 5%              |
| Central Georgia        | 69%          | 22%           | 3%          | 6%              |
| South Georgia          | 71%          | 20%           | 3%          | 6%              |

| <u>SEX</u> | <u>PRIDE</u> | <u>RACISM</u> | <u>BOTH</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Men        | 63%          | 26%           | 3%          | 8%              |
| Women      | 57%          | 32%           | 5%          | 6%              |

| <u>RACE</u> | <u>PRIDE</u> | <u>RACISM</u> | <u>BOTH</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| White       | 74%          | 15%           | 3%          | 8%              |
| Black       | 18%          | 71%           | 7%          | 4%              |

**QUESTION: Do you believe the referendum held in March 2004, which did not include the 1956-2001 State Flag, was fair to the voters of Georgia, or not?**

|              | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| <b>STATE</b> | 33%        | 54%       | 13%             |

| <u>REGION</u>          | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| DeKalb/Fulton Counties | 46%        | 40%       | 14%             |
| Atlanta Suburbs        | 34%        | 51%       | 15%             |
| North Georgia          | 28%        | 57%       | 15%             |
| Central Georgia        | 28%        | 63%       | 9%              |
| South Georgia          | 31%        | 59%       | 10%             |

| <u>SEX</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Men        | 31%        | 58%       | 11%             |
| Women      | 35%        | 50%       | 15%             |

| <u>RACE</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>NOT SURE</u> |
|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| White       | 28%        | 60%       | 12%             |
| Black       | 47%        | 37%       | 16%             |