

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY SURVEY STATEWIDE SURVEY OF MINNESOTA ADULTS 2004

REPORTS LAST REVISED 10/27/04

V. Substantial Findings¹

Table 12: The Direction of the State										
	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004	
Response	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Right Direction	436	70	334	56	232	38	291	48	339	50
Neutral	61	10	66	11	83	14	48	8	54	8
Wrong Track	102	16	165	27	260	42	220	36	242	36
Don't Know	27	4	35	6	35	6	44	8	37	6

Table 13: The Most Important Problem Facing the State

¹ Exact wording for each question can be found in section V of this document, which provides the text of the questionnaire.

	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004	
Rank	Problem	Perc ent	Probl em	Perc ent	Problem	Perc ent	Probl em	Perc ent	Probl em	Perc ent
1	Education	21	Educ ation	25	Education	23	Educ ation Fundi ng	25	Educ ation Fundi ng	19
2	Taxes	18	Welf are	12	Budget/S urplus	14	Budg et Defic it	16	Healt h Issue s	11
3	Health	7	Taxes	11	Economic Issues	13	Taxes	11	Taxes	10
4	Crime	7	Econ omic Issue s	7	Taxes	10	Econ omic Issue s	9	Econ omic Issue s Jobs & Wage s	9
5	Environme nt/Roads	3	Mora l/ Relig ious Issue s	7	Roads/Hi ghways	7	Healt h Issue s	6	Budg et Defec it	5

Table 14: Which Party Can Better Fix Problem		
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Republican	170	29
Democratic	239	42
Reform	26	4
Independence Party	10	2
Other- Volunteered	20	3
Neither	47	8
Don't Know	59	10
Refused	15	2
Total	571 ²	100%

² Asked only of those respondents who identified a problem in the preceding question.

Table 15: Policy Questions³ (Set #1) ⁴

Question	Agree-Frequency	Agree-Percent	Disagree-Frequency	Disagree-Percent
Concern of Politicians	340	51	234	35
Minnesota American Indian Casinos	219	32	349	52
State Casinos	209	31	157	23
Private Casinos	151	22	218	32
Slot Machines	168	25	417	62
Prescription Drugs from Canada	515	77	76	11
Iraq Policy	258	38	309	46

Table 16: Contact Politician

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Yes	296	44
No	319	47
Don't Know	2	1
Refused/Missing	56	8
Total	673	100%

Table 17: Policy Questions⁵ (Set #2) ⁶

Question	Right-Frequency	Right-Percent	Wrong-Frequency	Wrong-Percent
Smoking Ban	321	48	247	37
Same Sex Marriage	218	32	321	48
Same Sex Couple Adoption	327	49	234	35
Iraq War	244	36	305	45
Do Not Call Registry	189	28	369	55

³ Does not include refused or missing categories.

⁴ Exact wording for each question can be found in section V which provides the text of the questionnaire.

⁵ Does not include refused or missing categories.

⁶ Exact wording for each question can be found in section V which provides the text of the questionnaire.

Table 18: Overall Rating of President Bush's Performance

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Excellent	74	11
Pretty Good	219	33
Only Fair	156	23
Poor	220	33
Don't Know/ Refused/ Missing	4	0
Total	673	100%

Table 19: Feeling Thermometer

“Please think of a thermometer that has a range of 0 to 100 degrees. I’d like you to rate your feelings toward some of our political leaders and other people who are in the news. Ratings on the thermometer between 50 and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm toward the person. Ratings between 0 and 50 mean that you do not feel too favorable toward the person. If we come to a person whose name you don’t recognize, you don’t need to rate that person. Just tell me and we will move on to the next one. If you do recognize the name, but do not feel particularly warm or cold toward the person, you would rate that person at the 50 degree mark.”

Person	Mean Response 2001	Mean Response 2002	Mean Response 2003	Mean Response 2004
George W. Bush	70	60	51	48
Mike Hatch	Na	56	55	57
Hillary Rodham Clinton	Na	Na	46	Na
Laura Bush	Na	Na	60	60
Tim Pawlenty	54	50	56	58
Arnold Schwarzenegger	Na	Na	43	Na
Jesse Ventura	49	47	41	Na
Norm Coleman	58	53	55	52
Mary Pawlenty	Na	Na	52	Na
Mark Dayton	56	50	56	50
Rush Limbaugh	Na	Na	31	Na
Al Franken	Na	Na	42	41
Michael Moore	Na	Na	44	39
Mark Kennedy	Na	Na	Na	48
John Kerry	Na	Na	Na	52
Bill O’Reilly	Na	Na	Na	44
Patty Wetterling	Na	Na	Na	60
Dan Rather	Na	Na	Na	50
Dick Cheney	Na	Na	Na	45
Theresa Heinz Kerry	Na	Na	Na	48
John Edwards	Na	Na	Na	53

**Table 20: 2004 U.S. Presidential Election
All Respondents**

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
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Definitely Bush	244	36
Leaning Bush	37	6
Definitely Kerry	276	41
Leaning Kerry	36	5
Nader (Both Definite and Leaning)	18	3
Other Candidate	14	2
Won't Vote	6	1
Don't Know	26	4
Refused	16	2
Total	673	100%
All Bush	281	42%
All Kerry	317	46%

Table 21: 2004 U.S. Presidential Election Likely Voters⁷		
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Definitely Bush	184	36
Leaning Bush	29	6
Definitely Kerry	223	44
Leaning Kerry	25	5
Nader (Both Definite and Leaning)	12	2
Other Candidate	7	2
Don't Know	16	3
Refused	12	2
Total	508	100%
All Bush	213	42%
All Kerry	248	49%

Table 22: Reasons for Presidential Candidate Choice		
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY⁸	PERCENT OF ALL RESPONSES
Abortion Position	14	2
Budget Deficit Position	9	1
Crime Position	3	.4
Don't Like Opposition	57	8
Education Position	16	2
Environmental Position	6	1
Good Track Record- Experience	33	5
Gun/Hunting Position	2	.3
Health Care Position	19	3
Economic Plan	21	3
Character/Like Them as a Person	64	9
No Particular Reason	20	3
Not a Typical Candidate/Politician	8	1
Position on Terrorism	44	6
Same Political Ideology	61	8
Same Political Party	27	4
Senior Issues Positions	6	1

⁷ A likely voter is one who is registered to vote or planning to register to vote, voted in 2000 or had a good reason not to vote (such as illness or not being 18 years of age), and indicate that they are very interested or somewhat interested in this election. This screened out approximately 24% of the respondents. Therefore, 76% of the respondents were considered likely voters

⁸ Multiple Responses Accepted

Social Security Position	15	2
Somebody Different	39	5
Taxes	16	2
Time for a Change	45	6
Position on Iraq	87	12
Other	101	14
Don't Know	7	1
Total Responses in Category	719	Na
Total Respondents Answering	475	70%

Table 23: Registered to Vote		
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Yes	627	94
No	36	5
Don't Know	5	.5
Refused	5	.5
Total	673	100%

Table 24: Voted in 2002		
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Yes	479	71
No	122	18
No- but with good reason such as not being 18 at the time	56	9
Don't Know	8	1
Refused	7	1
Total	673	100%

Table 25: Will Vote in 2004		
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Almost Certain	576	86
Probably Vote	34	5
50-50	26	4
Won't Vote	23	3
Don't Know	5	1
Refused	9	1
Total	673	100%

Table 26: Religion		
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Catholic	202	30
Baptist	18	3
Lutheran	170	25
Presbyterian	17	3
Methodist	23	3

Episcopalian	6	1
Other Christian (Mormon, Jehovah Witness, etc.)	56	8
Jewish	5	1
None	67	10
Other	46	7
Don't Know	14	2
Refused	49	7
Total	673	100%

Table 27: Religion- Born Again		
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Yes- Born Again	133	27
Not Born Again	341	70
Other	6	1
Don't Know	7	1
Refused	5	1
Total	492	100%

Table 29: Political Ideology		
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Very Liberal	48	7
Somewhat Liberal	144	21
Moderate	222	33
Somewhat Conservative	167	25
Very Conservative	63	9
Don't Know	18	3
Refused	11	2
Total	673	100%

VI. Crosstabulation Results

Table 30: Demographics and Presidential Candidate Support Among Likely Voters ⁹			
Candidate →	Bush	Kerry	Nader
Demographic Characteristic ↓			
Gender- Male	50	44	2
Female	36	56	2
Age- 18-24	11	78	11
25-34	54	41	2
35-44	57	34	2
45-54	48	44	1
55-65	43	55	0
65+	29	64	5
Employment- Working Now	48	46	2
Laid Off	38	50	13
Unemployed	50	50	0
Retired	32	62	3
Disabled	46	46	0
Household Manager	65	26	0
Student	0	78	22
Income- Under \$10,000	17	83	0
\$10,001-\$15,000	36	43	21
\$15,001-\$20,000	23	77	0
\$20,001-\$25,000	0	100	0
\$25,0001-\$30,000	31	54	8
\$30,001-\$40,000	37	59	2
\$40,001-\$50,000	39	61	0
\$50,001-\$100,000	48	48	1
\$100,000+	54	39	2
Party Affiliation- Democrat	10	87	1
Republican	90	6	1
Green	22	56	22

⁹ A likely voter is one who is registered to vote or planning to register to vote, voted in 2000 or had a good reason not to vote (such as illness or not being 18 years of age), and indicate that they are very interested or somewhat interested in this election. This screened out approximately 24% of the respondents. Therefore, 76% of the respondents were considered likely voters.

All independents	36	38	7
Ideology- Liberal	13	80	4
Moderate	31	61	1
Conservative	78	17	3
Religion- Catholic	39	51	5
Baptist	64	36	0
Lutheran	51	45	1
Presbyterian	64	36	0
Methodist	38	56	0
Episcopalian	40	60	0
Other Christian (Mormon, Jehovah Witness, etc.)	46	44	5
Jewish	0	100	0
None	21	66	0
Other			
Born Again- Yes	60	35	3
No	42	51	3

Table 31: Presidential Candidate Support by Reason for Voting for the Candidate

Candidate →	Bush	Kerry	Nader
Demographic Characteristic ↓			
Abortion Position	85	15	0
Budget Deficit Position	11	77	11
Crime Position	68	32	0
Don't Like Opposition	26	72	0
Education Position	25	75	0
Environmental Position	0	100	0
Good Track Record- Experience	79	19	3
Gun/Hunting Position	100	0	0
Health Care Position	5	95	0
Economic Plan	24	72	0
Character/Like Them as a Person	58	42	0
No Particular Reason	71	25	5
Not a Typical Candidate/Politician	12	26	49
Position on Terrorism	52	48	0
Same Political Ideology	51	46	2
Same Political Party	34	62	4
Senior Issues Positions	34	66	0
Social Security Position	35	66	0
Somebody Different	5	92	3
Taxes	44	56	0
Time for a Change	0	96	4
Position on Iraq	45	55	0
Other	48	45	3

Table 32: Demographics and Evaluation of President Bush

Candidate →	Excellent/ Pretty Good	Only Fair/ Poor
Demographic Characteristic ↓		
Gender- Male	49	51
Female	39	61
Age- 18-24	24	76
25-34	49	49
35-44	56	44
45-54	47	53
55-65	31	69
65+	44	56
Employment- Working Now	49	51
Laid Off	25	75
Unemployed	36	57
Retired	52	67
Disabled	47	53
Household Manager	63	37
Student	23	77
Income- Under \$10,000	20	80
\$10,001-\$15,000	33	67
\$15,001-\$20,000	25	75
\$20,001-\$25,000	5	95
\$25,001-\$30,000	28	72
\$30,001-\$40,000	41	59
\$40,001-\$50,000	44	56
\$50,001-\$100,000	51	49
\$100,000+	51	49
Party Affiliation- Democrat	14	86
Republican	86	14
Green	8	92
All independents	39	61
Ideology- Liberal	18	82
Moderate	35	64
Conservative	74	26
Religion- Catholic	45	55

Baptist	50	50
Lutheran	49	50
Presbyterian	56	44
Methodist	44	52
Episcopalian	33	67
Other Christian (Mormon, Jehovah Witness, etc.)	39	61
Jewish	0	100
None	24	76
Other	48	52
Born Again- Yes	58	42
No	43	57

Table 33: Demographics and Direction of State			
Candidate →	Right Direction	Neutral	Wrong Direction
Demographic Characteristic ↓			
Gender- Male	51	8	38
Female	56	7	28
Age- 18-24	41	8	40
25-34	62	9	24
35-44	57	4	35
45-54	53	9	35
55-65	51	5	40
65+	38	13	41
Employment- Working Now	53	7	35
Laid Off	33	8	42
Unemployed	36	29	29
Retired	46	10	39
Disabled	29	6	65
Household Manager	64	5	27
Student	100	0	0
Income- Under \$10,000	25	0	70
\$10,001-\$15,000	42	13	38
\$15,001-\$20,000	40	10	45
\$20,001-\$25,000	29	0	67
\$25,0001-\$30,000	41	10	33
\$30,001-\$40,000	41	9	46
\$40,001-\$50,000	53	9	29
\$50,001-\$100,000	63	7	28
\$100,000+	43	11	41
Party Affiliation- Democrat	34	6	55
Republican	71	7	6
Green	33	8	58
All independents	47	14	32
Ideology- Liberal	33	6	55
Moderate	48	11	37
Conservative	68	7	19