

**ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY
SURVEY
STATEWIDE SURVEY OF MINNESOTA
ADULTS
FALL 2007**

BEST IF VIEWED WITH INTERNET EXPLORER

NOTE: DUE TO GRAPHICS SOME PAGES MAY LOAD SLOWLY

Substantive Findings

**Annual St. Cloud State University Survey
Fall Statewide Survey**

**Direction of the State
Most Important Problem**

Which Party Can Better Fix the Problem
Roads, Bridges and Taxes
Immigration
Global warming
Minnesota Smoking Ban
Minnesota Vikings
Feeling Thermometer

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<http://web.stcloudstate.edu/scsusurvey>.

Roads, Bridges and Taxes

Table 4

Next we are going to ask you to rate the responses of different people and organizations to the 35W bridge collapse. After each choice, please respond with one of the following: Excellent, Pretty Good, Poor or Unacceptable. (questions randomly rotated)

The first responders, such as police, fire fighters, divers and hospital emergency people?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Excellent	477	78
Pretty Good	110	18
Poor	6	1
Unacceptable	0	0
Don't Know	18	3
Total	609	100%

Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Excellent	98	16
Pretty Good	329	54
Poor	85	14
Unacceptable	41	7
Don't Know	56	9
Total	608	100%

Minnesota Transportation Commissioner Carol Molnau?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Excellent	40	7
Pretty Good	202	33
Poor	148	25
Unacceptable	80	13
Don't Know	135	22
Total	604	100%

Federal Agencies such as the Department of Transportation and the National Transportation Safety Board?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Excellent	69	11
Pretty Good	333	55
Poor	104	17
Unacceptable	31	5
Don't Know	70	12
Total	607	100%

<p>Table 5</p> <p>Generally speaking, do you think the condition of bridges in Minnesota is a major problem, minor problem or not a problem at all?</p>		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Major Problem	221	36
Minor Problem	303	50
Not a Problem at all	48	8
Don't Know	39	6
Total	611	100%

Bridge Question Evaluations

By
Trevor Lynch

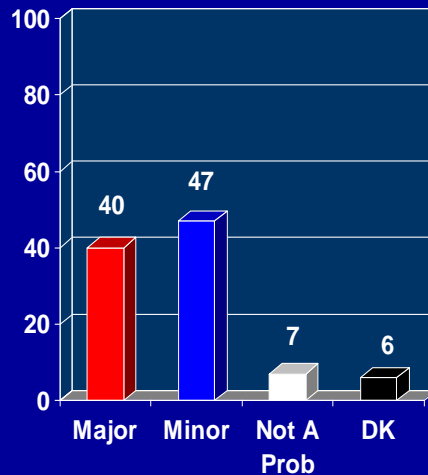
Source: SCSU Survey
11/07 Overall n=612

Respondents ratings of
group/person response to 35W/
Bridge

1

Condition of Bridges

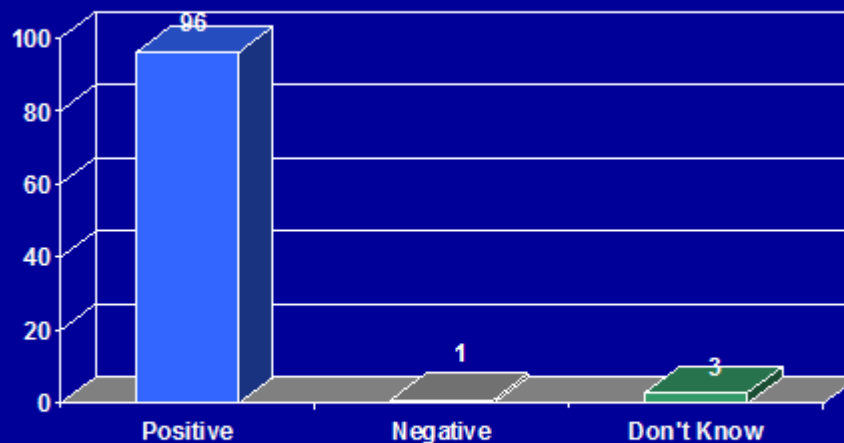
- Generally speaking, do you think the condition of bridges in Minnesota is a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all?



Source: SCSU Survey
11/07 Overall n=612

2

The first responders, such as police, fire fighters, divers and hospital emergency people?

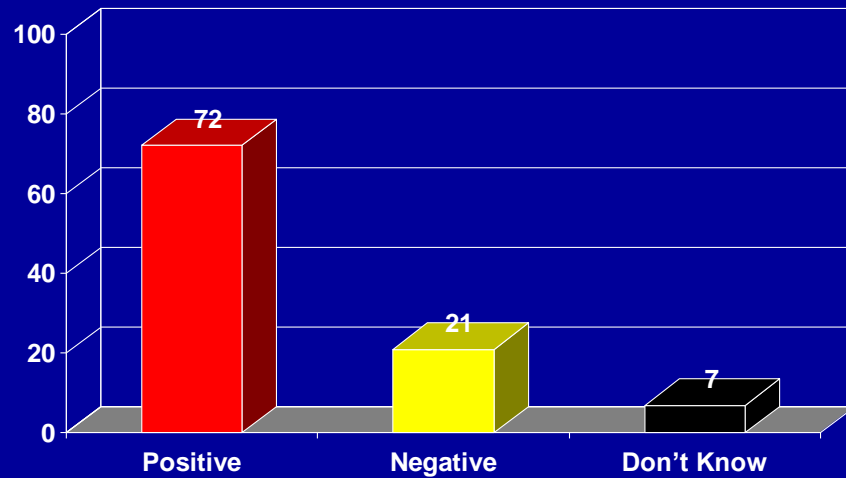


Source: SCSU Survey
11/07 Overall n=612

Respondents ratings of
group/person response to 35W
Bridge

3

MN Governor Tim Pawlenty

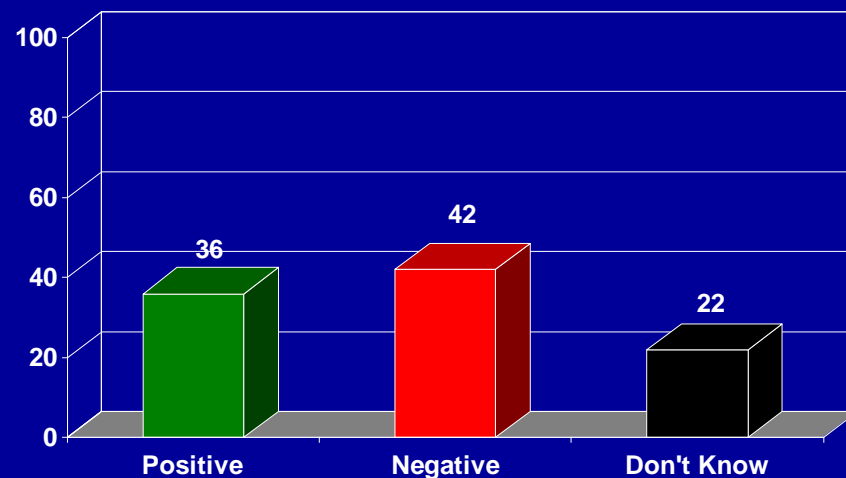


Source: SCSU Survey
11/07 Overall n=612

Respondents ratings of
group/person response to 35W/
Bridge

4

Minnesota Transportation Commissioner Carol Molnau

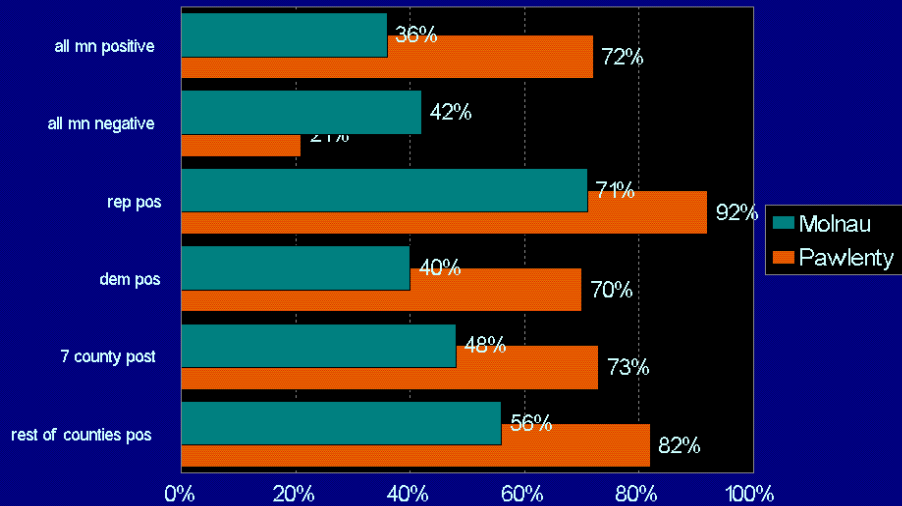


Source: SCSU Survey
11/07 Overall n=612

Respondents ratings of
group/person response to 35W/
Bridge

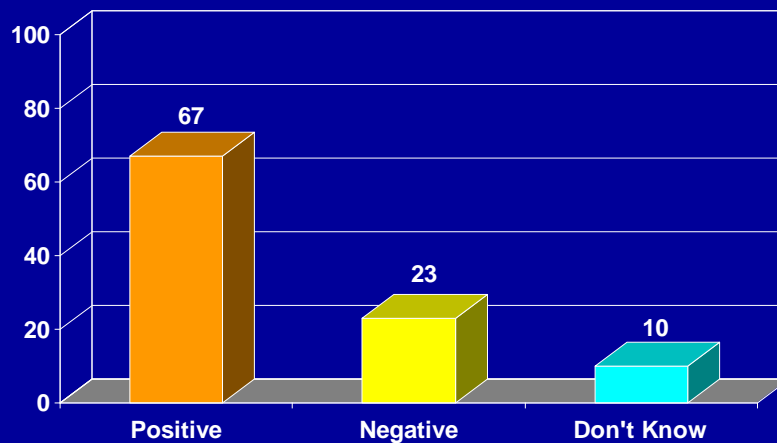
5

MN Evaluation Governor Pawlenty's and Commissioner Molnau Response to 1-35 Bridge Collaspe



Source: SCSU Survey 11-07 N=612 Rep/Dem are combined always vote and usually vote Rep or Dem

Federal Agencies such as the Department of Transportation and the National Transportation Safety Board?



Source: SCSU Survey
11/07 Overall n=612

Respondents ratings of
group/person response to 35W
Bridge

TAXES

<p>Table 6</p> <p>Would you support or oppose a “five cent-ten cent” increase in the state’s gas tax if it is used solely to increase the building and maintenance of roads and bridges in your area of the state?</p>				
	Five Cent		Ten Cent	
Response	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Support	326	53	169	28
Oppose	258	42	418	68
Don't Know	28	5	24	4
Total	612	100%	611	100%

<p>Table 7</p> <p>Do you support or oppose a one-half cent increase in the Twin Cities metro areas sales tax for expanding Light Rail in the Twin Cities metro area?</p>		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Support	330	54
Oppose	222	36
Don't Know	59	10
Total	610	100%

Table 8

Several counties in Minnesota charge a five dollar fee, called a wheelage tax, to help pay for building and maintaining their county roads and bridges. This fee is collected when you pay your vehicle license tabs.

Do you support or oppose your county charging a wheelage tax of five dollars a year to build and maintain your county roads and bridges?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Support	391	64
Oppose	196	32
Don't Know	24	4
Total	610	100%

Table 9

Which of the following Minnesota state or local government taxes do you believe is the least fair?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Sales Tax	65	11
Property taxes on home, businesses and apartments	263	43
Income Tax	222	37
Don't Know	55	9
Total	605	100%

Table 10

Do you feel you pay more than your fair share in state income taxes, less than your fair share, or is the amount you pay about right?

Response	Frequency	Percent
More Than Fair Share	252	42
Less Than Fair Share	19	3
Pay About Right	312	52
Don't Know	22	4
Total	605	100%

<p>Table 11</p> <p>Do you support or oppose an income tax increase on the highest 2% of Minnesota's income earners if the increase was used for property tax relief?</p>		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Support	350	57
Oppose	224	37
Don't Know	37	6
Total	610	100%

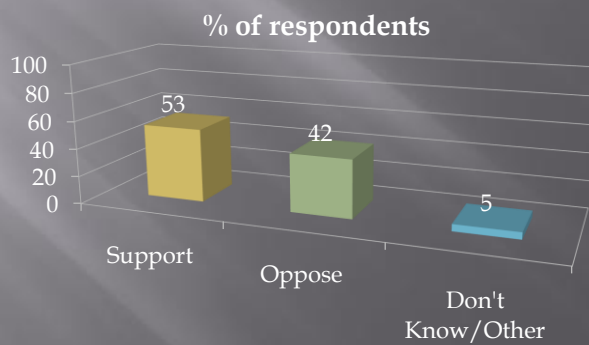
<p>Table 12</p> <p>Some states tax food and clothing but allow lower income families to completely deduct their tax payments on food and clothing.</p> <p>If lower income families could deduct their tax payments, do you support or oppose a sales tax on CLOTHING in Minnesota if the increase in revenue was used for property tax relief?</p>		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Support	194	32
Oppose	384	63
Don't Know	32	5
Total	611	100%
<p>If lower income families could deduct their tax payments, do you support or oppose a sales tax on FOOD in Minnesota if the increase in revenue was used for property tax relief?</p>		
Support	163	27
Oppose	425	70
Don't Know	22	3
Total	611	100%

<p>Table 13</p> <p>Do you support or oppose holding constant property taxes on the homes of low income disabled and retired individuals?</p>		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Support	361	60
Oppose	194	32
Don't Know	47	8
Total	604	100%

TAXES

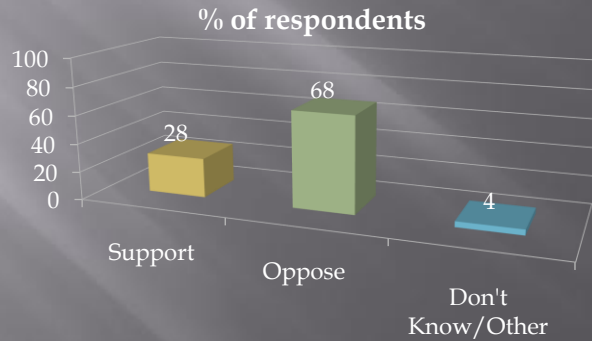
Fall '07 Survey
Rhonda Otteson
Tyler Rittmaster

Would you support or oppose a five cent increase in the state's gas tax if it is used solely to increase the building and maintenance of roads and bridges in your area of the state?



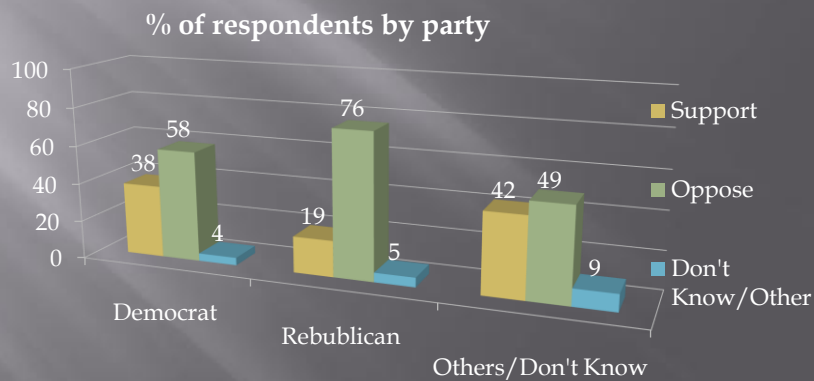
Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Would you support or oppose a ten cent increase in the state's gas tax if it is used solely to increase the building and maintenance of roads and bridges in your area of the state?



Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

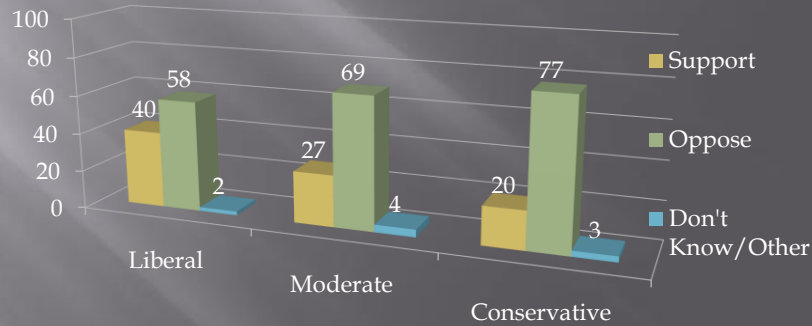
Would you support or oppose a ten cent increase in the state's gas tax if it is used solely to increase the building and maintenance of roads and bridges in your area of the state?



Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Would you support or oppose a ten cent increase in the state's gas tax if it is used solely to increase the building and maintenance of roads and bridges in your area of the state?

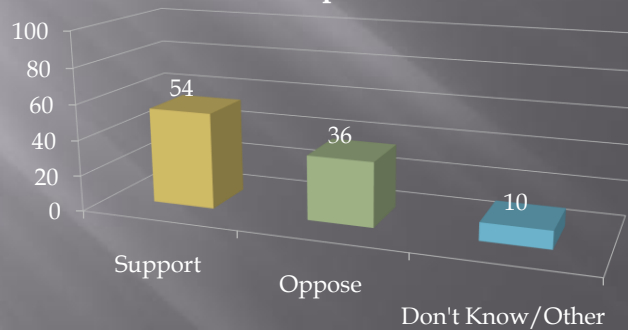
% of respondents between Liberals, Moderates, and Conservatives



Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Do you support or oppose a one-half cent increase in the Twin Cities metro areas sales tax for expanding Light Rail in the Twin Cities metro area?

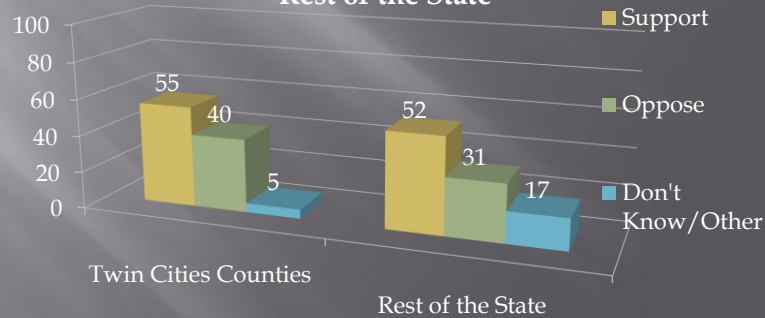
% of respondents



Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Do you support or oppose a one-half cent increase in the Twin Cities metro areas sales tax for expanding Light Rail in the Twin Cities metro area?

% of respondents between the Twin Cities and the Rest of the State

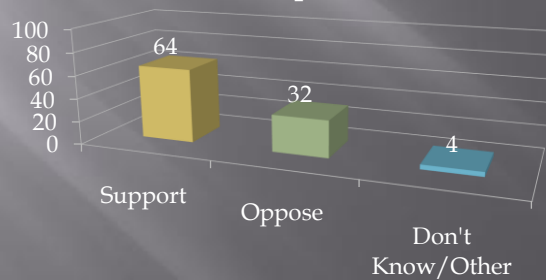


Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Several counties in Minnesota charge a five dollar fee, called a wheelage tax, to help pay for building and maintaining their county roads and bridges. This fee is collected when you pay for your vehicle license tabs.

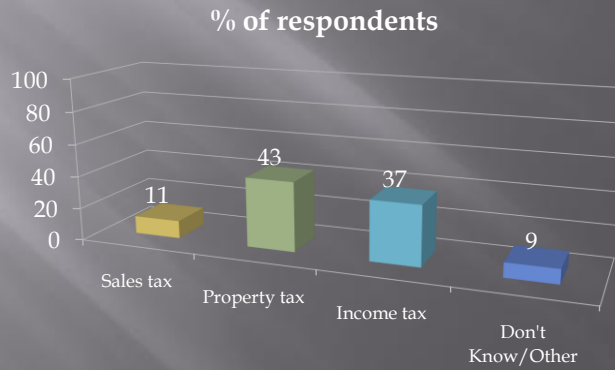
Do you support or oppose your county charging a wheelage tax of five dollars a year to build and maintain your county roads and bridges?

% of respondents



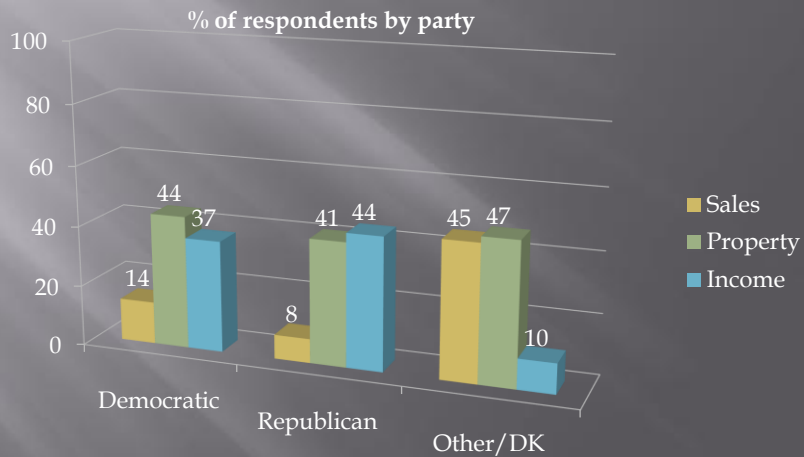
Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Which of the following Minnesota state or local government tax do you believe is the least fair?



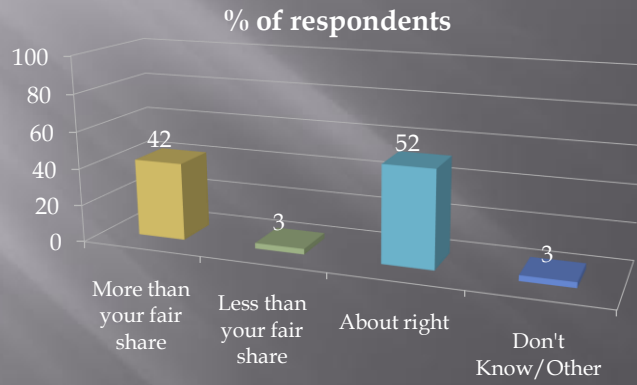
Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Which of the following Minnesota state or local government tax do you believe is the least fair?



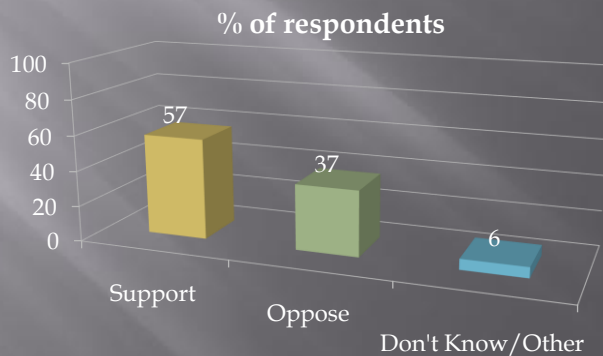
Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Do you feel you pay more than your fair share in state income taxes, less than your fair share, or is the amount you pay about right?



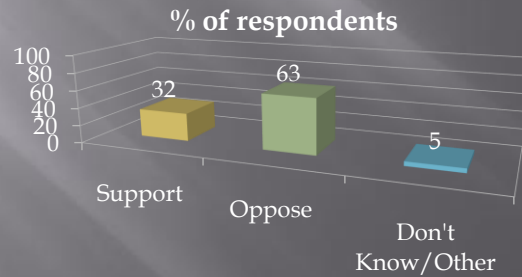
Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Do you support or oppose an income tax increase on the highest 2% of Minnesota's income earners if the increase was used for property tax relief?



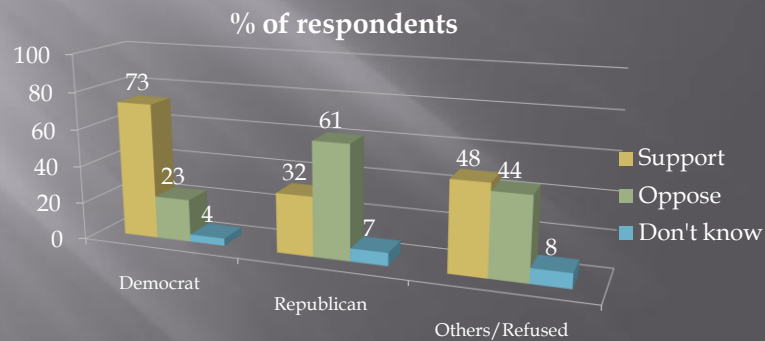
Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Some states tax food and clothing but allow lower income families to completely deduct their tax payments on food and clothing. If lower income families could deduct their tax payments, do you support or oppose a sales tax on clothing in Minnesota if the increase in revenue was used for property tax relief?



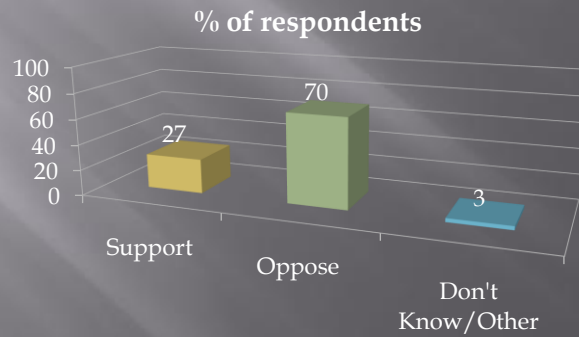
Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Do you support or oppose an income tax increase on the highest 2% of Minnesota's income earners if the increase was used for property tax relief?



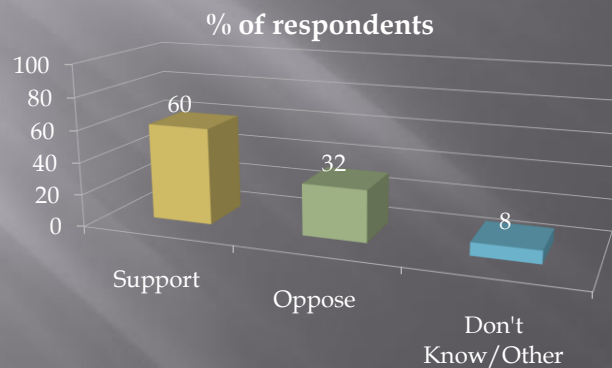
Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

If lower income families could deduct their tax payments, do you support or oppose a sales tax on food in Minnesota if the increase in revenue was used for property tax relief?



Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Do you support or oppose holding constant property taxes on the homes of low income disabled and retired individuals?



Source: SCSU Survey, Statewide Survey, Fall 2007
N=612

Immigration

Table 14
For you personally, what, if any, are the benefits from allowing immigrants into the United States?
(Answer Options Read; Multiple Responses Allowed)

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
No Benefit-volunteered	48	3%
The provide cultural diversity	249	17%
They take jobs Americans don't want	172	17%
They are low cost labor	153	10%
They are hard working	254	17%
They strengthen the economy	139	9%
The history of this county is based on immigration	243	16%
They appreciate America	177	12%
Other	17	1%
Don't Know	35	3%
Total	1,489	100%

Table 15
For you personally, what, if any, are the negative consequences from allowing immigrants into the United States?
(Answer Options Read; Multiple Responses Allowed)

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
No Negative impact-volunteered	69	4%
They work for low wages so wages of Americans are lowered	159	10%
They take jobs from Americans	127	8%
They cause crime	145	9%
They use government welfare	232	15%
They increase diversity	118	8%
They don't speak English	230	15%
They don't pay taxes	210	13%
They threaten our national security	109	7%
They crowd our schools	123	8%
Other	26	2%
Don't Know	37	2%

Total	1,585	100%
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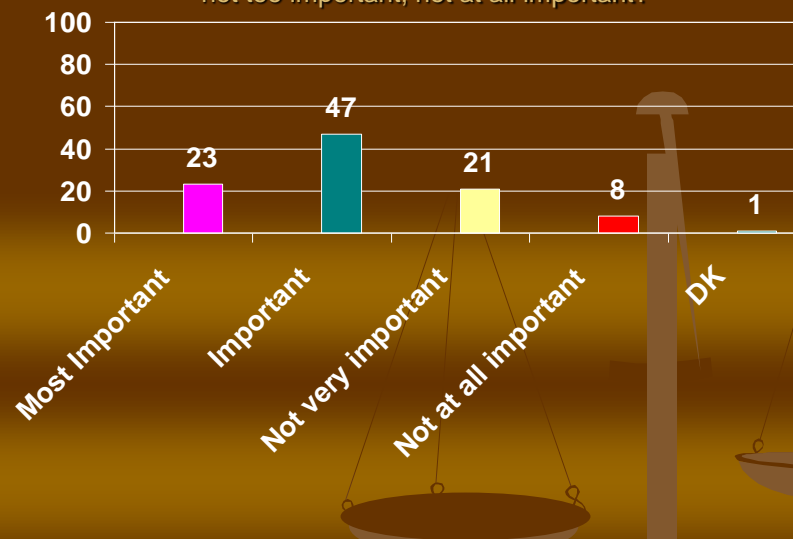
<p>Table 16</p> <p>How important is the issue of illegal immigrants to you? Is it extremely important, very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?</p>		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Extremely Important	142	23
Very Important	287	47
Not Too Important	133	22
Not At All Important	45	7
Don't Know	5	1
Total	612	100%

<p>Table 17</p> <p>In terms of illegal immigration in the United States, what actions would you like to see happen? (Answer Options Read; Multiple Responses Allowed)</p>		
RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
Nothing-volunteered	26	2%
Building a wall or fence along the Mexican border	118	9%
Building a wall or fence along the Canadian border	54	4%
Use military to stop illegal immigrants at the border	169	13%
Fine those who hire illegal workers	298	23%
File criminal charges against those who hire illegal workers	209	16%
Capture and send back all illegal immigrants	191	15%
Allow illegal immigrants to stay but pay a fine	133	10%
Other	39	3%
Don't Know	42	3%
Total	1,280	100%

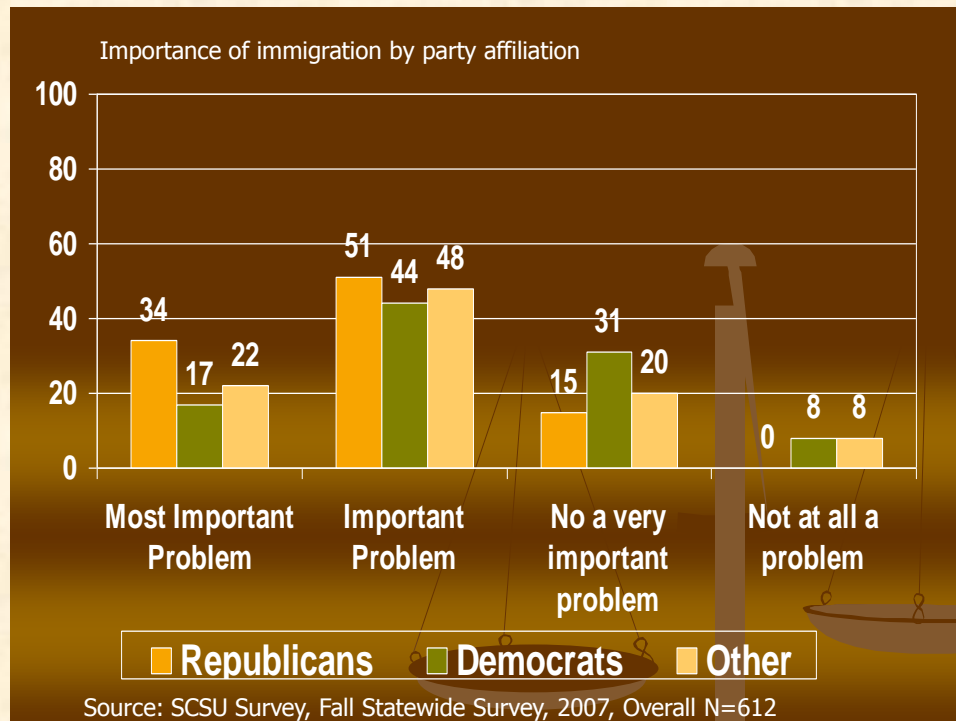
Immigration

Mike Loehlein and Luke Hofstad

How important is the issue of illegal immigration to you?
Is it extremely important, very important, somewhat important,
not too important, not at all important?



Source: SCSU Survey, Fall Statewide Survey, 2007, Overall N=612



MULTIPLE RESPONSE-RESPONDENTS COULD RESPOND TO EACH OF THE CATEGORIES

For you personally, what, if any, are the benefits from allowing immigrants into the United States?

Benefits	Number of responses	Percent of responses	Percent of respondents
They are Hard Working	252	40%	17%
They Provide Cultural Diversity	249	40%	16%
The History of the US is based on immigration	243	40%	16%
They Appreciate America	177	30%	12%
Take jobs Americans don't want	172	30%	11%
They Provide Low Cost Labor	153	25%	10%
They Strengthen the Economy	139	25%	10%
No Benefit	50	9%	4%
Other/DK	52	9%	4%

Source: SCSU Survey, Fall Statewide Survey, 2007, Overall N=612

MULTIPLE RESPONSE-RESPONDENTS COULD RESPOND TO EACH OF THE CATEGORIES

For you personally, what if any, are the negative consequences of allowing immigrants into the United States?

Consequences	Number of Responses	Percent of responses	Percent of Respondents
They Use Government Welfare	232	40%	14%
They Don't Speak English	229	40%	14%
The Don't Pay Taxes	209	33%	13%
Work for Lower Wages so Wages of Americans are Lowered	158	25%	10%
They Cause Crime	145	25%	9%
Take Jobs from Americans	127	25%	8%
They Crowd Our School	123	20%	8%
They Increase Diversity	118	20%	8%
They Threaten our National Security	109	20%	7%
No negative consequence	69	12%	5%
Other/DK	61	10%	4%

Source: SCSU Survey, Fall Statewide Survey, 2007, Overall N=612

MULTIPLE RESPONSE-RESPONDENTS COULD RESPOND TO EACH OF THE CATEGORIES

In terms of illegal immigration in the United States,
what actions would you like to see happen?

Response to immigration	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses	Percent of Respondents
Fine those who hire illegal workers	298	50%	23%
File criminal charges against those who hire illegal works	208	35%	17%
Capture and send back all illegal immigrants	191	30%	15%
Use military to stop illegal immigrants at the boarder	169	25%	13%
Allow illegal immigrants to stay but pay a fine	133	25%	11%
Build a wall or fence along the Mexican border	118	20%	10%
Build a wall or fence along the Canadian border	54	9%	4%
Other/DK	80	14%	7%

Source: SCSU Survey, Fall Statewide Survey, 2007, Overall N=612

Global warming

Table 18

What do you think is causing global warming? Do you think it is caused more by human activities, such as driving cars and burning fuel, or is it caused more by natural changes in the climate, or both?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Human Activities	194	32
Natural Changes	91	15
Both Human and Natural Changes	282	47
Not a Problem-volunteered	11	2
Don't Know	29	5
Total	608	100%

Table 19

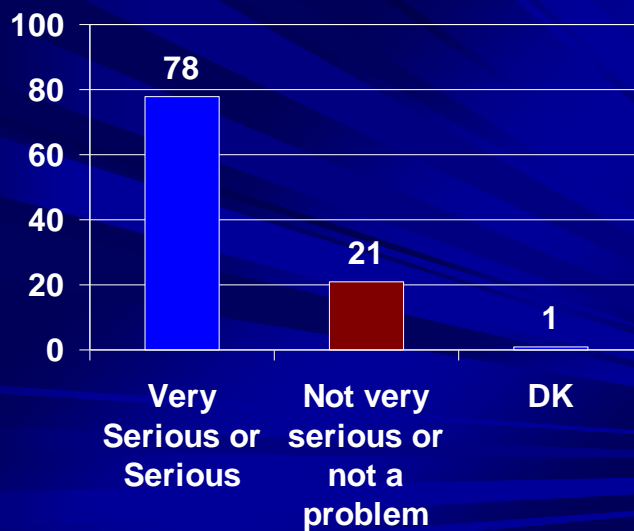
In your view, is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious or not at all a problem?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very Serious	262	44
Somewhat Serious	203	34
Not Too Serious	81	14
Not at all a Problem	44	7
Don't Know	7	1
Total	597	100%

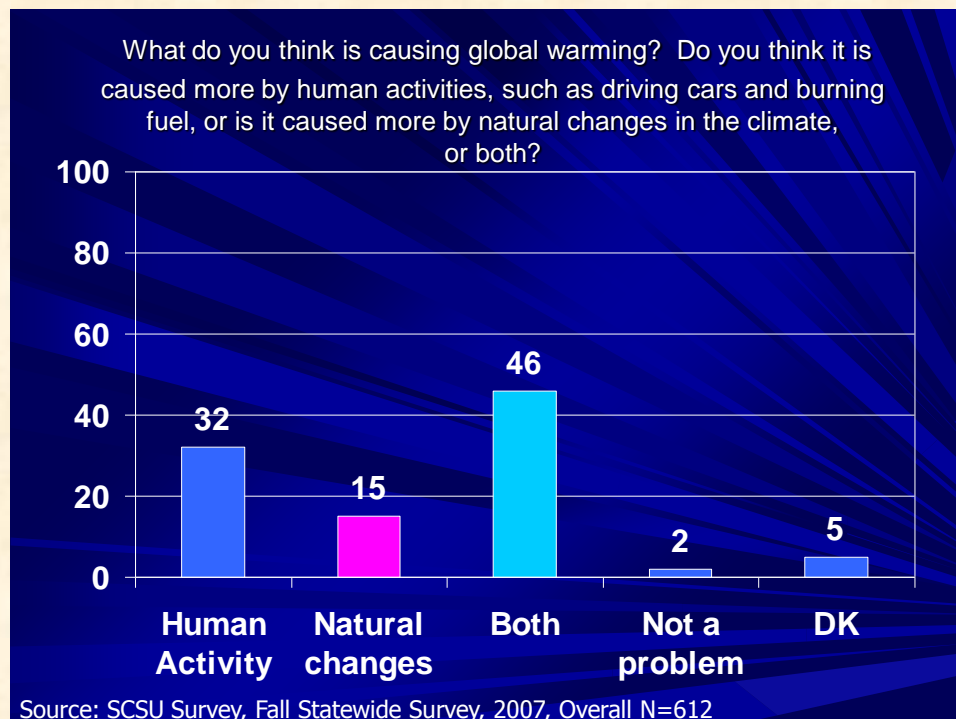
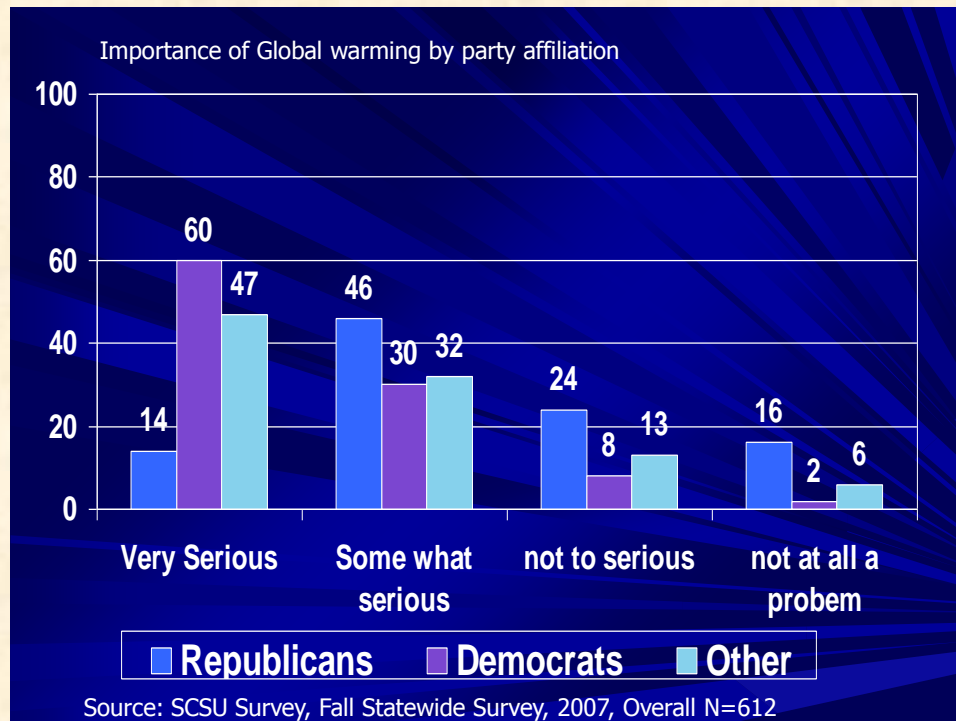
Global Warming

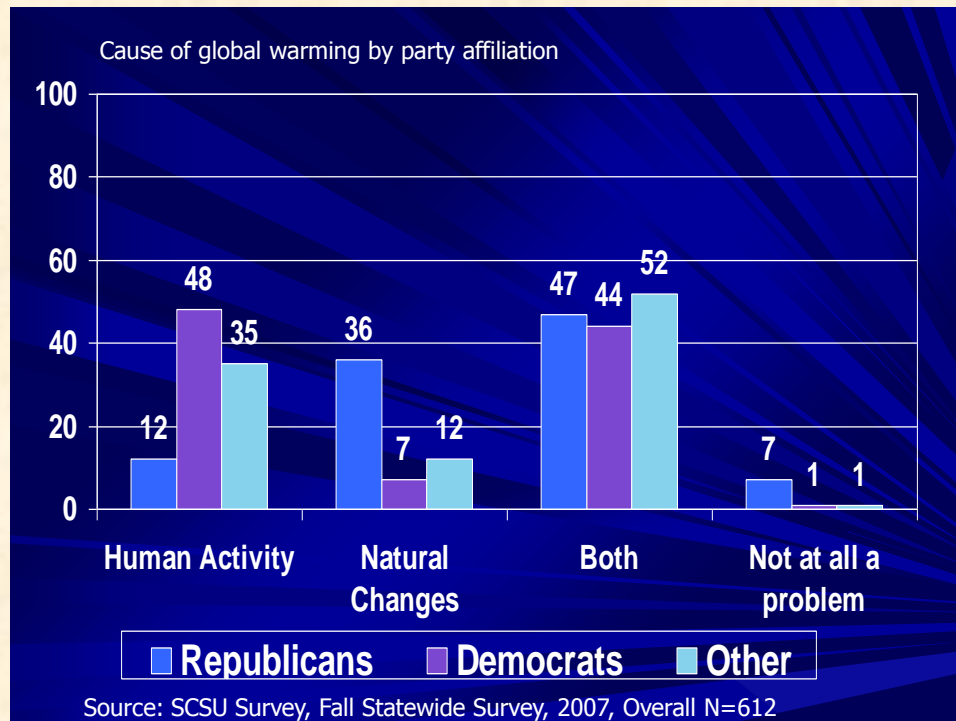
Mike Loehlein

In your view, is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious or not at all a problem?



Source: SCSU Survey, Fall Statewide Survey, 2007, Overall N=612





Minnesota Smoking Ban

Table 20 Do you approve of the statewide ban on smoking in all public places such as restaurants and bars?		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	429	70
No	174	28
Don't Know	10	2
Total	612	100%

Table 21 As a result of the smoking ban, do you think you'll be going out to restaurants and bars more often, less often or about the same?		
Response	Frequency	Percent
More Often	130	21
Less Often	63	10

About the Same	413	68
Don't Know	4	1
Total	611	100%

Table 22 Are you a smoker?		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	117	19
No	492	81
Total	609	100%
No answer respondents skipped next question		

Table 23 Do you think the effects of the law may: [choices read, only one response accepted]		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Force you to quit	6	5
Have no effect on your smoking	70	60
Reduce your smoking	34	30
Don't Know	6	5
Total	117	100%

Table 24 Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement, "The smoking ban is a violation of a smoker's rights to smoke"		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Agree	77	13
Agree	156	25
Disagree	225	37
Strongly Disagree	136	22
Don't Know	16	3
Total	610	100%

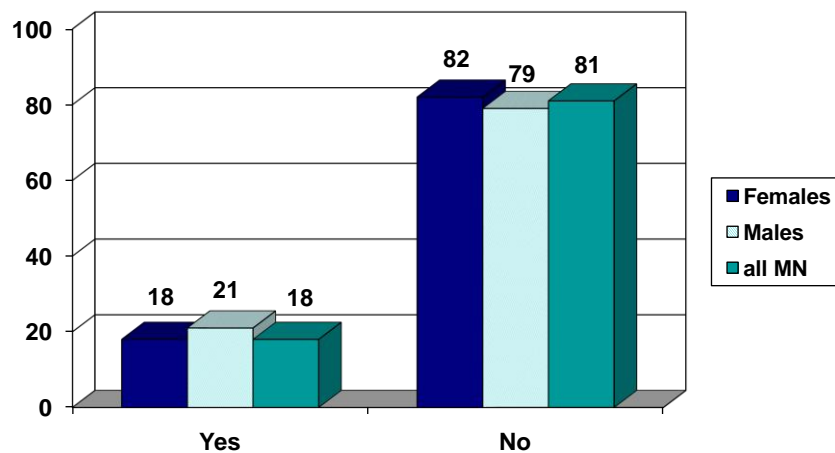
Smoking Ban Results



Fall 2007 Survey

FreeFoto.com

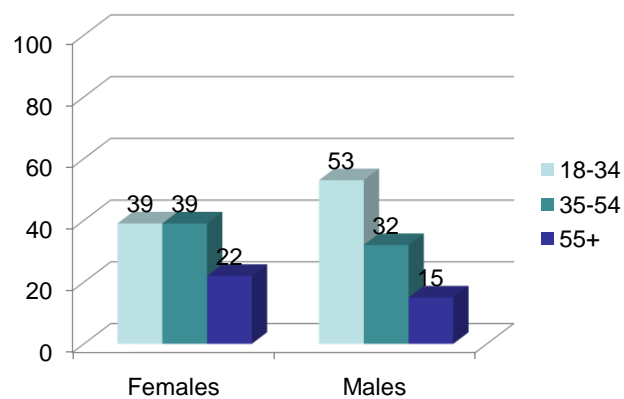
Are you a smoker?



Source: SCSU SURVEY ANNUAL FALL STATEWIDE SURVEY, 2007, OVERALL N=612

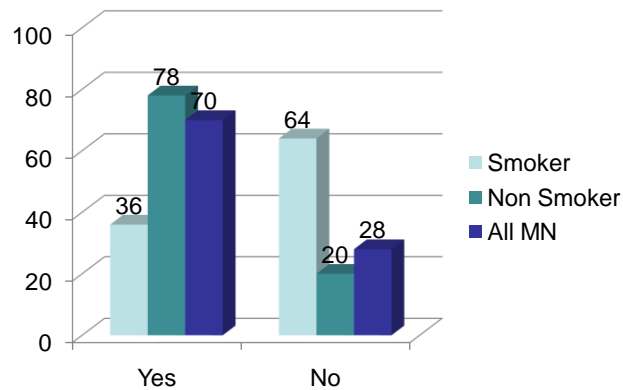
The percent of smokers (18 and above) in 2002 is relatively the same as found in 2007 with roughly 80% not smoking and 20% smoking.

Breakdown of Smokers by Age and Gender



Source: SCSU SURVEY ANNUAL FALL STATEWIDE SURVEY, 2007, OVERALL N 612

Do you approve of the statewide smoking ban on smoking in all public places such as restaurants and bars?

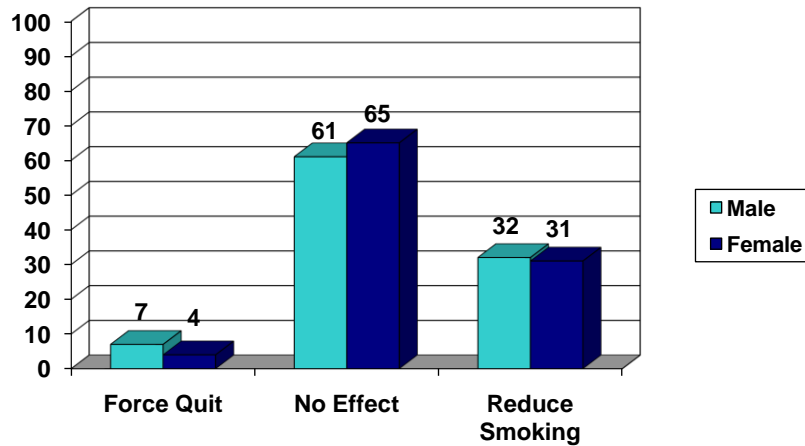


Source: SCSU SURVEY ANNUAL FALL STATEWIDE SURVEY, 2007, OVERALL N=612

- In the 2002 fall statewide survey when asked if they favor or oppose the smoking ban in restaurants 58% of MN residents favored it, while 31% opposed it.
- When asked if they favor or oppose the smoking ban in bars we found 33% favored it while 48% opposed it.

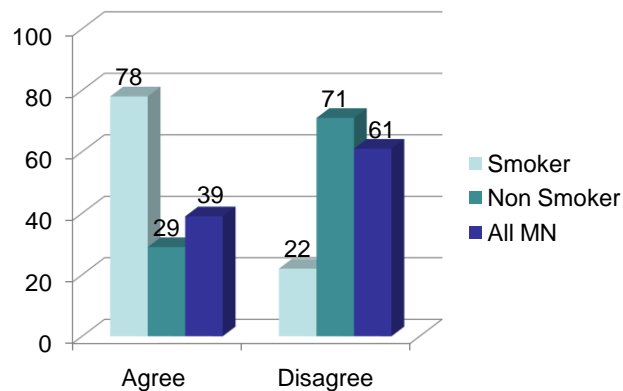
THIS QUESTION ASKED OF SMOKERS ONLY N=117

Do you think the effects of the law may:
force you to quit, have no effect on your
smoking or reduce your smoking?



Source: SCSU SURVEY ANNUAL FALL STATEWIDE SURVEY, 2007, OVERALL N=612

Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or
strongly disagree with the following
statement: "The smoking ban is a violation
of a smoker's rights to smoke."



Source: SCSU SURVEY ANNUAL FALL STATEWIDE SURVEY, 2007, OVERALL N=612

Minnesota Vikings

<p>Table 25</p> <p>How important is it to you personally to keep the Minnesota Vikings in Minnesota? Is it very important, somewhat important, not important, or not at all important?</p>		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Very Important	52	8
Somewhat Important	194	32
Not Important	194	32
Not at all Important	158	26
Don't Know	12	2
Total	611	100%

<p>Table 26</p> <p>It is widely suggested that the long-term presence of the Minnesota Vikings in Minnesota is not possible without a new football stadium. If a new stadium is built, do you personally think the stadium should be funded by: (choices read; only one response accepted)</p>		
Response	Frequency	Percent
The private sector only, such as the team owner	276	45
The State of Minnesota only	1	0
Local government only	6	1
A combination of private funds and state and local governments	192	32
The current stadium is fine	117	19
Don't Know	18	3
Total	609	100%

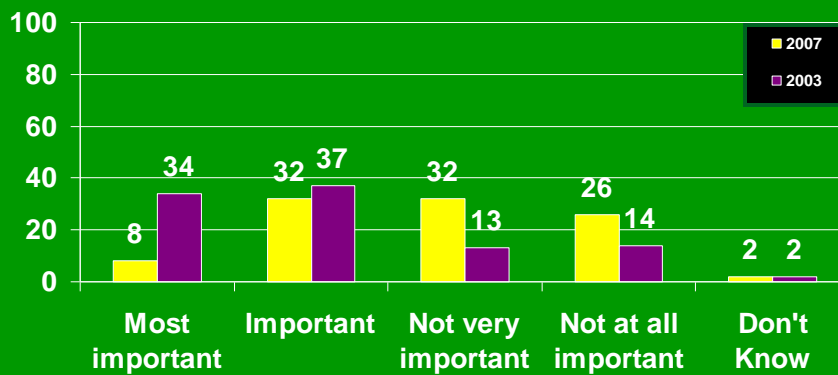


Vikings Stadium

Mike Nelson and Hofstad

How important is it to you to keep the Vikings in Minnesota?

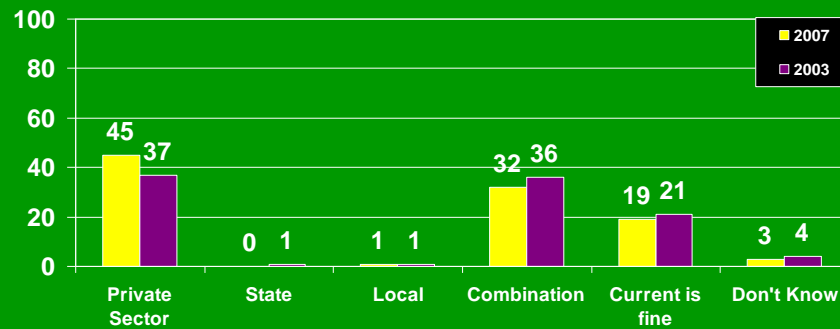
Percent of Respondents



Source: 2003 & 2007 SCSU Fall
Statewide Survey N=612

Who should fund the new stadium?

Percent of Respondents



Source: 2003 & 2007 SCSU Fall
Statewide Survey N=612

Demographics

This section shows the demographic information we collected from all respondents.

Table 30:
Gender

Response	Frequency	Percent
Male	304	50
Female	308	50
Total	612	100

Table 31:
Age

Response	Frequency	Percent
----------	-----------	---------

18-24	77	13
25-34	110	19
35-44	135	23
45-54	108	18
55-65	66	11
65+	96	16
Total	592	100

Table 32:
Employment

Response	Frequency	Percent
Working Now	390	65
Laid Off	10	2
Unemployed	17	3
Retired	98	16
Disabled	13	2
Household Manager	38	6
Student	36	6
Total	602	100

Table 33:
Combined Household Income

Response	Frequency	Percent
Under \$10,000	27	5
\$10,001-\$15,000	17	3
\$15,001-\$20,000	20	4
\$20,001-\$25,000	13	3
\$25,001-\$30,000	44	8
\$30,001-\$40,000	41	8
\$40,001-\$50,000	55	11
\$50,001-\$100,000	104	20
\$100,000+	167	32
Don't Know	29	6
Total	517	100

Table 34:
Do you own or rent your primary residence?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Own	446	74
Rent	145	24
Don't Know	10	2
Total	601	100

Table 35:
Telephone Area Code

Response	Frequency	Percent
218	109	18
320	69	11
507	76	13
612	45	7
651	113	18
763	118	19
952	82	14
Total	612	100

BREAKDOWN MY COUNTY AVAILABLE

**DIRECTION OF THE STATE
MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM
WHICH PARTY CAN BETTER FIX THE
PROBLEM
FEELING THERMOMETER
PARTISAN VOTING HISTORY
IDEOLOGY**

This section of the report shows the results of questions asked of all respondents at the beginning of the survey. As is our usual practice, we asked whether respondents think the State of Minnesota is heading in the right direction or has it gotten on the wrong track. We also asked all respondents to identify the most important problem they think the state is facing. Third, we asked which political party the respondent believes is better able to fix that problem. Fourth, as we have for many years, we have asked respondents to rate various individuals on our Feeling Thermometer. Fifth, again as we have asked for many years, we asked our respondents about how they tend to vote, that is, always or sometimes Democratic, Republican, Green, Independence, other or are apolitical. Finally, we asked our respondents to tell us if they are liberal, moderate or conservative.

The results (Table 1) show the possibility of an increase in the percent of respondents who think the state is heading in the right direction, ending a trend in the downward direction of recent years.

In terms of the most important problem facing the state (Table 3) and consistent with past findings, education is the clear problem-issue of the respondents. This is followed by taxes, health care, roads and highways and crime. An examination of the table shows these five problems are the same top problems almost every year in the past seven years.

Table 4 displays the results from the question, Which party can better fix the problem?, and shows, once again as it has in the past five years, more respondents

than otherwise, suggest the Democratic Party is best able to fix the respondent's problem. Clearly, moreover, the percentage this year is lower than last year and is more in line with the trends of the past five years.

Table 5 shows the current and recent past results of our Feeling Thermometer. For many years, we have asked respondents to rate various individuals on our Feeling Thermometer. The mean scores range from 0-100, with respondents rating individuals closer to 100 when they are favorable towards the individual. The historical data, plus the 2006 data, allows a number of conclusions.

President Bush's ratings have continued to decrease from his highest positive marks six years ago. Not shown in the table, President Bush's rating in 2001 was 70. He has lost about one-half of that over the years. Governor Tim Pawlenty has bounced back from his low point last year to his 2005 rating. Senator Coleman's rating stayed consistent from last year and remains lower by a few points of the past five years. Senator Klobuchar's rating is lower than last year by 10 "degrees" and is now just 5 points above Senator Coleman's rating.

Of the three Republican Party presidential contenders we asked about, Senator John McCain has the highest rating of a 50 but it is only two points higher than Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani and five points higher than Former Senator Fred Thompson. Both Rudy Giuliani and John McCain are well known by our respondents, with 87 percent recognizing Giuliani and 83% recognizing McCain. Fred Thompson, however, was only recognized by 61 percent of our respondents.

Of the three Democratic Party presidential contenders we asked about, Senator Barack Obama is the most favored. His rating is 53, while Senator Rodham Clinton and Former Senator Edwards are tied at 47. All three are well known, with 94 percent of our respondents recognizing Senator Clinton, 87 percent recognizing Senator Obama and 82 percent recognizing Former Senator Edwards.

In terms of the two contenders we asked about who are seeking the Democratic nomination to challenge Senator Coleman next year, Mike Ciresi has the better rating, at 42 while Al Franken is at 39. The difficulty Mike Ciresi may face as he seeks his party's nomination is found in his recognition numbers. Only 38 percent of our respondents recognized him, whereas 71 percent of our respondents recognized Al Franken. Mr. Franken's difficulty lies in his rating of 39 "degrees".

Consistent with our past findings, Table 6 shows more Minnesotans tend to vote Democratic than Republican. This is on par with others' findings in Minnesota and an increasing number of national surveys. Also consistent with our past findings, Table 7 shows more Minnesotans are conservative than they are liberal.

[illegible]

Table 2:
Most Important Problem Facing the State

	Problem and Percent Responding				
	Annual Ranking-Top Five Problems				
Survey Year	1	2	3	4	5
2000	Education 21%	Taxes 18%	Health 7%	Crime 7%	Environment/ Roads 3%
2001	Education 25%	Welfare 12%	Taxes 11%	Economic Issues 7%	Moral/Religious Issues 7%
2002	Education 23%	Budget Surplus 14%	Economic Issues 13%	Taxes 10%	Roads/ Highways 7%
2003	Education Funding 23%	Budget Deficit 16%	Taxes 11%	Economic Issues 9%	Health Issues 6%
2004	Education Funding 19%	Health Issues 11%	Taxes 10%	Economic Issues/Jobs and Wages 9%	Budget Deficit 5%
2005	Education 19%	Taxes 12%	Health Care 9%	Budget Deficit 8%	Politics and Politicians 5%
2006	Education 23%	Taxes 15%	Health Care 14%	Crime/ Gangs/ Violence 4%	Roads/ Highways 4%
2007	Education 16%	Taxes 13%	Health Care 10%	Roads/ Highways 6%	Crime/ Gangs/ Violence 5%

Table 3:
Which Party Can Better Fix Problem

[illegible]

Partisanship and Ideology

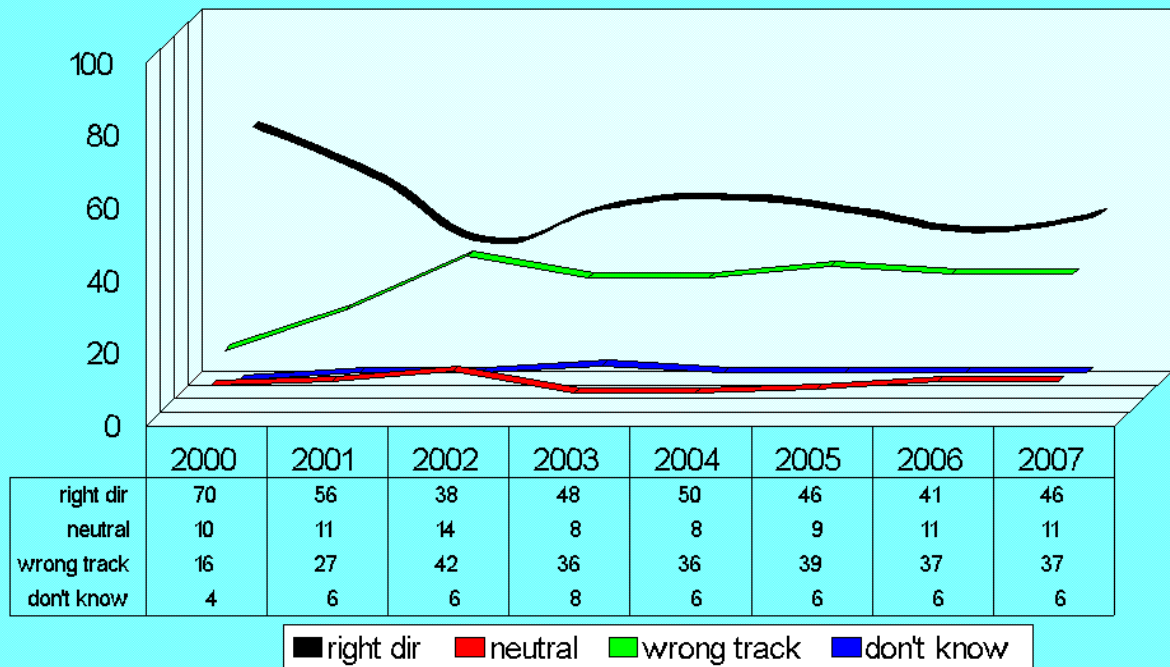
Table 28: Party Voting History		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Democratic (always, sometimes, independent but closer to Dem.)	267	44
Republican (always, sometimes, independent but closer to Rep.)	201	33
Green (always, sometimes, independent but closer to Green)	9	2
Minnesota Independence (always, sometimes, independent but closer to Mn. Ind.)	36	6
Other	45	7
Apolitical	23	4
Don't Know	18	3
Total	599	100

Table 29: Ideology		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Very-Somewhat Liberal	187	31
Moderate	157	26
Very-Somewhat Conservative	233	39
Don't Know	27	4
Total	604	100

DIRECTION OF THE STATE

MN Views On Direction of the State

Right Direction Wrong Track Neutral (volunteered)



SCSU Survey 11/07 overall n=612

DATA AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING A FACULTY

DIRECTOR

Table 2: Demographics and Direction of State (row percent of all respondents)				
Direction →	Right Direction	Neutral	Wrong Direction	Don't Know
Demographic Characteristic ↓				
Gender- Male				
Female				
Age- 18-24				
25-34				

35-44				
45-54				
55-65				
65+				
Combined Household				
Income- Under \$10,000				
\$10,001-\$15,000				
\$15,001-\$20,000				
\$20,001-\$25,000				
\$25,0001-\$30,000				
\$30,001-\$40,000				
\$40,001-\$50,000				
\$50,001-\$100,000				
\$100,000+				
Party Affiliation- Democrat				
Republican				
Other Parties				
All				
independents				
Ideology- Liberal				
Moderate				
Conservative				
Area of the State				
Metro Counties				
Out State Counties				
Metro counties Include Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Washington				

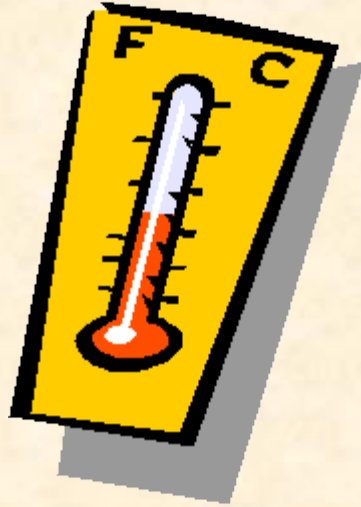
MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM FACING THE STATE

Table 3: Most Important Problem Facing the State					
	Problem and Percent Responding				
	Annual Ranking-Top Five Problems				
Survey Year	1	2	3	4	5
2000	Education 21%	Taxes 18%	Health 7%	Crime 7%	Environment/ Roads 3%
2001	Education 25%	Welfare 12%	Taxes 11%	Economic Issues 7%	Moral/Religious Issues 7%
2002	Education 23%	Budget Surplus 14%	Economic Issues 13%	Taxes 10%	Roads/ Highways 7%
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2004	Education Funding 19%	Health Issues 11%	Taxes 10%	Economic Issues/Jobs and Wages 9%	Budget Deficit 5%
2005	Education 19%	Taxes 12%	Health Care 9%	Budget Deficit 8%	Politics and Politicians 5%
2006	Education 23%	Taxes 15%	Health Care 14%	Crime/ Gangs/ Violence 4%	Roads/ Highways 4%
2007	Education 16%	Taxes 13%	Health Care 10%	Roads/ Highways 6%	Crime/ Gangs/ Violence 5%

WHICH PARTY CAN BEST HANDLE NAMED PROBLEM

Table 4:
Which Party Can Better Fix Problem

[illegible]



FEELING THERMOMETER

The feeling thermometer is used in a variety of academic and political surveys and is a useful measure of political attitudes or a predisposition to respond favorably or negatively. It is very strongly related to voter choice. Often people may lack knowledge of a candidate's party, ideology, and issue positions but do have a general sense if they like the person or not and this is a key factor in voting behavior. Breakdowns are available for age, general work status, sex, region, party, ideology, and combined household income. The best indicator of respondent's rating is their political party affiliation.

Some researchers believe a respondent is not perceived warmly until their ratings are into the 70's. No one has ever been in this range in the SCSU Survey since the survey began using this measure in the 1988 statewide survey. Steve Frank believes there may be a regional explanation for this. After all, any group of citizens who regard a 30 degree Fahrenheit temperature as warm probably believe when they give a 50 this is an expression of warmth.

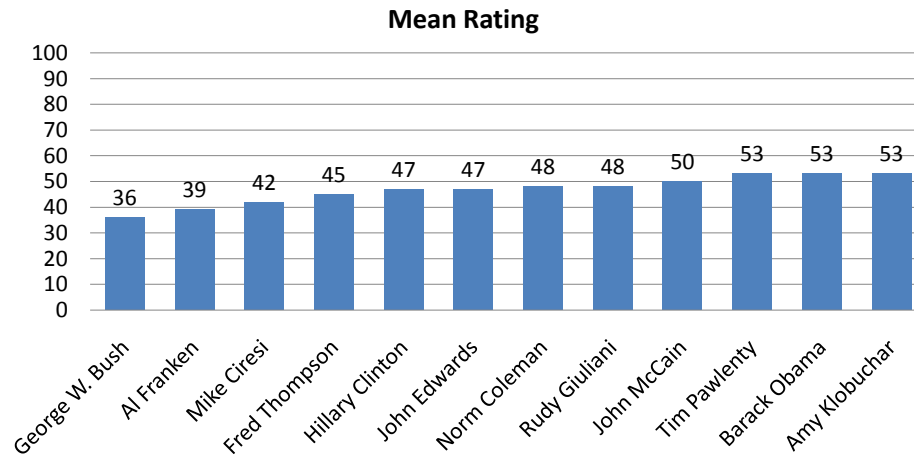
Table 5: Feeling Thermometer

“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.”

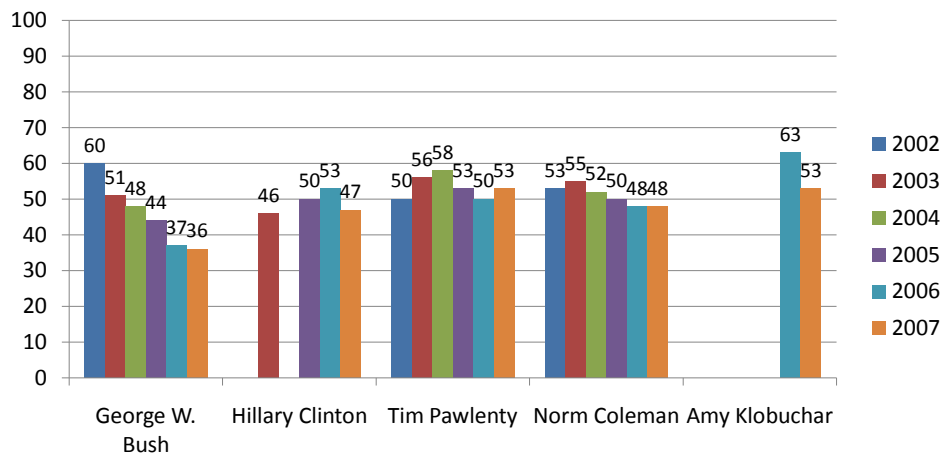
Person	Mean Response 2002	Mean Response 2003	Mean Response 2004	Mean Response 2005	Mean Response 2006	Mean Response 2007	Percent Recognized Response 2007	Percent Didn't Recognize/ Don't Know Response 2007
George W. Bush	60	51	48	44	37	36	94%	6
John Edwards	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na	47	82%	18%
Hillary Rodham Clinton	Na	46	Na	50	53	47	94%	6%
Tim Pawlenty	50	56	58	53	50	53	93%	7%
Norm Coleman	53	55	52	50	48	48	87%	13%
Rudy Giuliani	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na	48	87%	13%
Fred Thompson	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na	45	61%	39%
Barack Obama	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na	53	87%	13%
Amy Klobuchar	Na	Na	Na	Na	63	53	85%	15%
Mike Ciresi	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na	42	38%	62%
John McCain	Na	Na	Na	Na	Na	50	83%	17%
Al Franken	Na	42	Na	Na	Na	39	71%	29%

2007 Feeling Thermometer

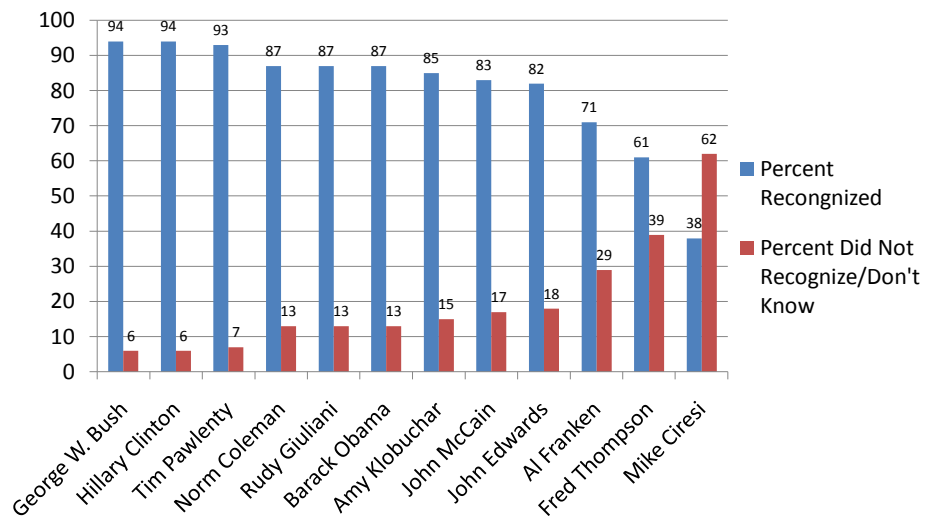
Fall Statewide Survey 2007, Overall n=612



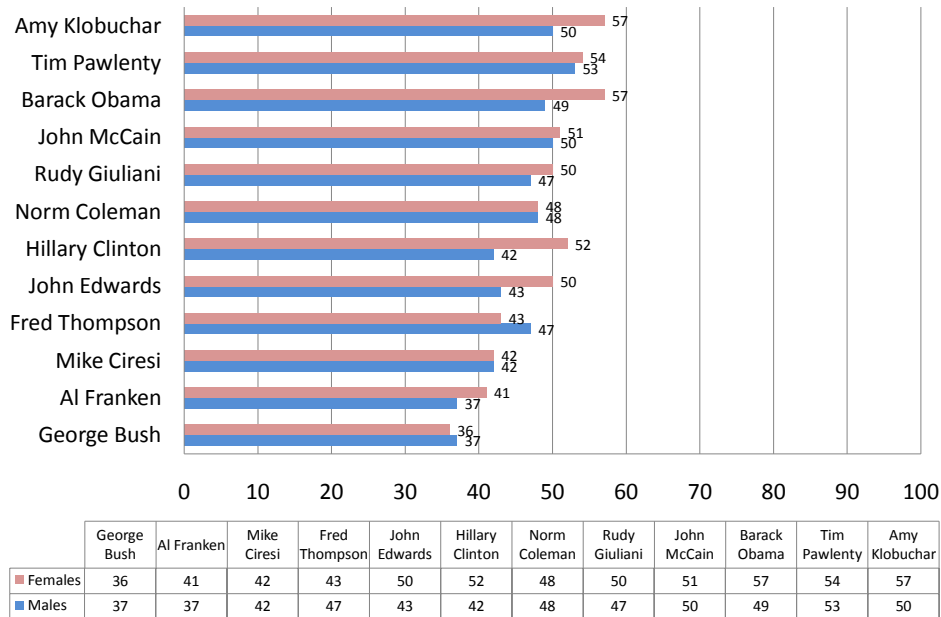
Feeling Thermometer: Longitudinal Findings

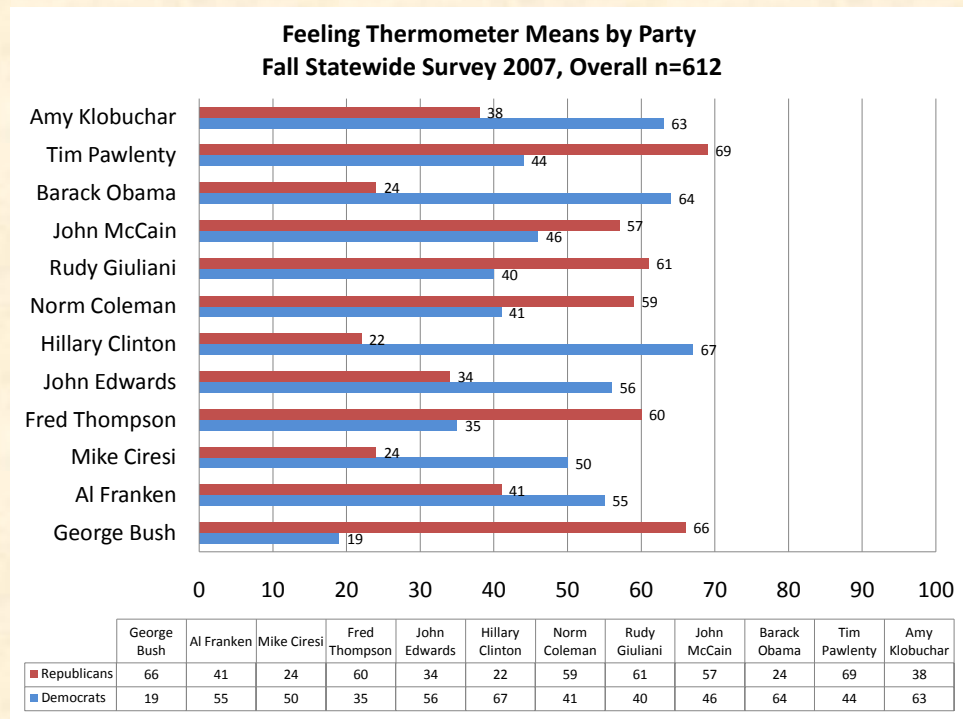


Feeling Thermometer: Name Recognition



Feeling Thermometer Means by Gender Fall Statewide Survey 2007, Overall n=612





PARTY IDENTIFICATION

Table 6: Party Voting History		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Democratic (always, sometimes, independent but closer to Dem.)	267	44
Republican (always, sometimes, independent but closer to Rep.)	201	33
Green (always, sometimes, independent but closer to Green)	9	2
Minnesota Independence (always, sometimes, independent	36	6

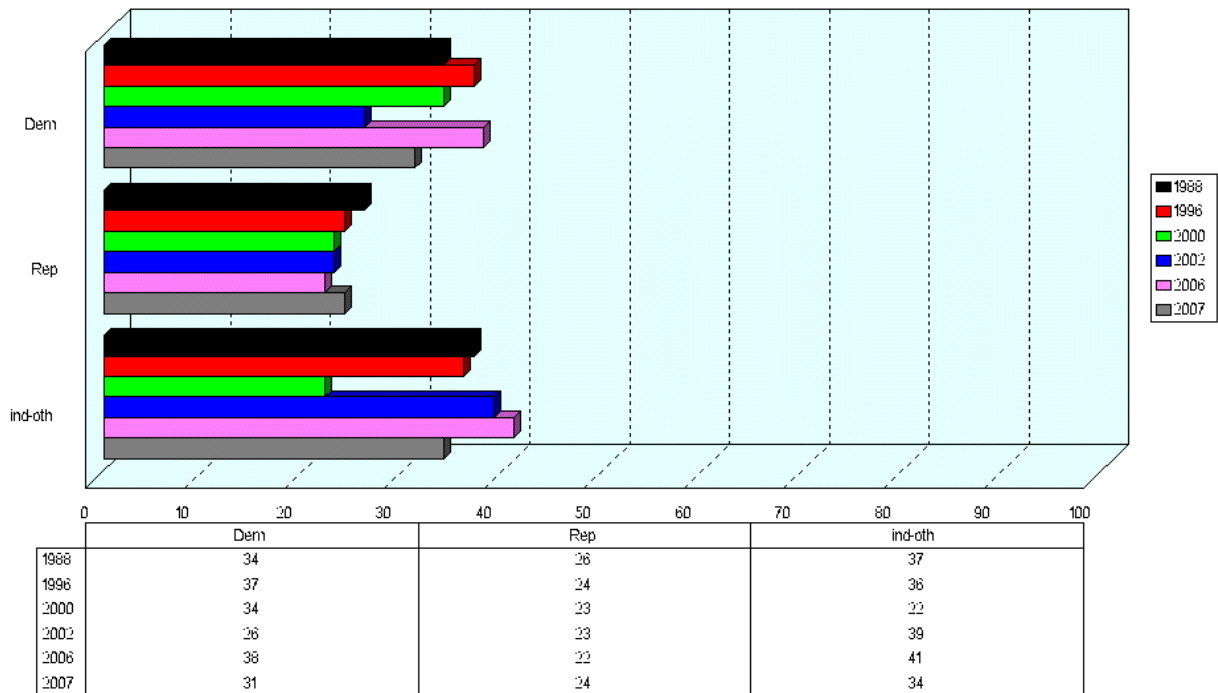
but closer to Mn. Ind.)		
Other	45	7
Apolitical	23	4
Don't Know	18	3
Total	599	100

OVERALL PARTY FREQUENCY-RAW

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid				
1 all dem	87	14.3	14.7	14.7
2 some dem	99	16.2	16.7	31.3
3 all rep	65	10.7	11.0	42.3
4 some rep	75	12.2	12.6	54.9
5 all green	1	.1	.1	55.0
6 some green	5	.8	.8	55.9
7 all Indepen	2	.3	.3	56.2
8 some Indepen	10	1.7	1.8	57.9
9 ind closer to Dem	74	12.2	12.5	70.5
10 ind closer to Rep	51	8.4	8.6	79.1
11 inde Green	3	.5	.5	79.7
12 ind MN	34	5.6	5.8	85.4
13 other	50	8.1	8.4	93.8
14 apol	12	2.0	2.1	95.9
15 dk	25	4.0	4.1	100.0
Total	594	97.1	100.0	
Missing				
16 ref	18	2.9		
Total	612	100.0		

PARTY AFFILIATION OF MN ADULTS 1988-2007

NOTE: REP AND DEMS are combined always vote Dem or Repub-independents who feel closer to Dems/Republicans and usually vote for that party are classified as independents with Greens, Independence Party, other (apolitical-don't knows are not included in this chart)



SCSU Statewide Surveys

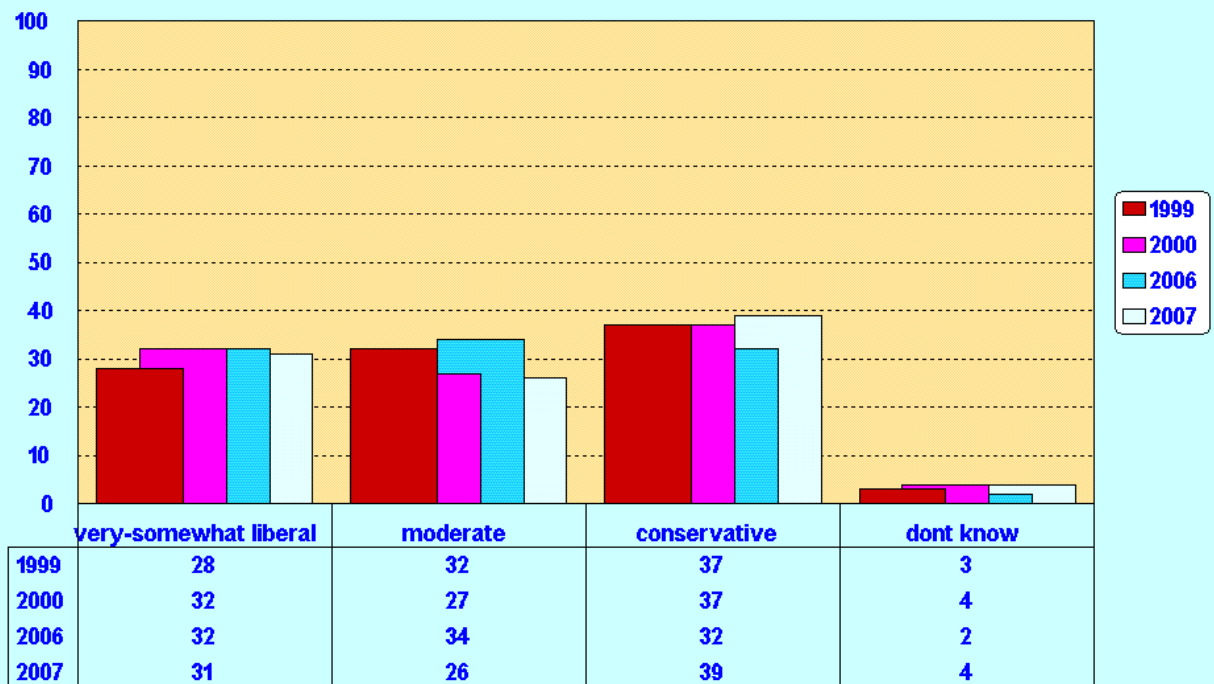
SELF DESCRIBED POLITICAL IDEOLOGY

Table 7: Ideology		
Response	Frequency	Percent
Very-Somewhat Liberal	187	31
Moderate	157	26
Very-Somewhat Conservative	233	39
Don't Know	27	4
Total	604	100

ideal IDEOL

		Frequenc y	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 very lib	63	10.3	10.4	10.4
		124	20.2	20.5	31.0
	2 some lib				
		157	25.6	26.0	57.0
	3 moderate				
		166	27.0	27.4	84.5
	4 some con				
		67	11.0	11.1	95.6
	5 very con				
		27	4.3	4.4	100.0
	8 dk				
		603	98.5	100.0	
Missin g	Total 9 ref miss oth	9	1.5		
Total		612	100.0		

Self Described Political Ideology of Minnesotans 1999-2007



Source: SCSU Fall Statewide Survey