Political Questions

Total respondents may not always add up to due to skip patterns imbedded in some questions.

Do you think things in the state are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten off on the wrong track?		
Direction of State	**Frequency**	**Percent**
RIGHT DIRECTION	293	53.2
NEUTRAL - [VOLUNTEERED]	73	13.3
WRONG TRACK	154	28.0
DON'T KNOW	25	4.5
REFUSED	6	1.1
TOTAL	551	100.0

For historical interest, below are the findings from the "right direction-wrong track" question for the past 12 years.													
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Right Direction	38%	48%	50%	46%	41%	46%	42%	43%	26%	26%	35%	46%	53%
Neutral	14%	8%	8%	9%	9%	11%	12%	9%	12%	14%	9%	11%	13%
Wrong Track	42%	36%	36%	39%	44%	37%	39%	44%	56%	55%	48%	38%	28%
Don't Know	6%	8%	6%	6%	6%	6%	7%	4%	6%	5%	8%	5%	5%

Nice steady upward trend since the recession ended; as good as it was before the recession

Minnesota voters are significantly more optimistic about the direction of their state than are American voters about the state of the country. The Real Clear Politics average of all polls for the last half of October show a 27.8-66.0 split in the right direction-wrong track question nationwide (http://www.realclearpolitics.com/epolls/other/direction_of_country-902.html). The election results for Dayton and Franken likely reflect the higher level of satisfaction Minnesota voters feel about the direction of the state compared with the rest of the nation.

Next table shows more Democrats than Republicans think the state is going in the right direction...as we would expect...with a DFL Governor, two US Senators, both Mn houses held by DFL. But, what we don't see is a 'bottom out" of GOP views on right direction-wrong track.

While Democratic confidence in the state's outlook comes as little surprise, with the DFL controlling the governor's mansion, both US Senate seats, and the Minnesota state legislature (at least until January), the outlook of the state GOP is nearly evenly split between "right direction" and "wrong track." These results paint a picture of an opposition party that is not unified or cohesive in its view of the direction of the state, which is, again, consistent with the strong showing for the incumbent Democrats in the statewide races this year.

Party by Direction of State Cross-tabulation 2014

Party		RIGHT DIRECTION	NEUTRAL	WRONG TRACK	DON'T KNOW	REFUSED	Total
DEMOCRAT	Count	120	14	18	8	0	160
	% within	75.0%	8.8%	11.3%	5.0%	.0%	100.0%
REPUBLICAN	Count	41	18	45	6	0	110
	% within	37.3%	16.4%	40.9%	5.5%	.0%	100.0%
LIBERTARIAN	Count	0	1	5	0	0	6
	% within	.0%	16.7%	83.3%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
GREEN	Count	0	0	1	0	0	1
	% within	.0%	.0%	100.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
INDEPENDENCE PARTY	Count	10	2	10	0	0	22
	% within	45.5%	9.1%	45.5%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
TEA PARTY	Count	0	3	11	0	0	14
	% within	.0%	21.4%	78.6%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
OTHER PARTY	Count	2	0	3	0	0	5
	% within	40.0%	.0%	60.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
INDEPENDENT,	Count	103	36	55	5	3	202
	% within	51.0%	17.8%	27.2%	2.5%	1.5%	100.0%
NOT POLITICAL	Count	8	0	3	3	0	14
	% within	57.1%	.0%	21.4%	21.4%	.0%	100.0%
DON'T KNOW	Count	8	0	1	1	0	10
	% within	80.0%	.0%	10.0%	10.0%	.0%	100.0%
REFUSED	Count	1	0	3	0	2	6
	% within	16.7%	.0%	50.0%	.0%	33.3%	100.0%
Total	Count	293	74	155	23	5	550
	% within	53.3%	13.5%	28.2%	4.2%	.9%	100.0%

What do you think is the single most important problem facing the State of Minnesota today?		
Choice	Frequency	Percent
ABORTION	1	.1
AGRICULTURE-GENERAL	1	.2
BRIDGES/ROADS	**24**	**4.4**
BUDGET/DEFICIT	**29**	**5.3**
CRIMES/DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	8	1.4
DRUGS USE	13	2.4
EDUCATION	**54**	**9.8**
ENVIRONMENT/GLOBAL WARMING	**72**	**13.0**
FAMILY ISSUES	17	3.2
FINANCIAL ISSUES-MORTGAGE	3	.6
GAMBLING	4	.6
GAS PRICES-ENERGY	5	1.0
GUNS	4	.7
HEALTH CARE/INSUR/OBAMACARE	**52**	**9.4**
HOUSING (AFFORD/FORECLOSURE)	2	.4
IMMIGRATION	6	1.0
NATURAL DISASTERS	6	1.2
POLITICS/PARTIES DON'T GET ALONG	**26**	**4.8**
POVERTY/ POOR	13	2.4
RELIGIOUS/MORAL ISSUES	4	.7
SENIOR ISSUES/ELDERLY	1	.2
SPORTS ISSUES/STADIUMS	1	.1
STATE SERVICE CUTS	3	.5
TAXES	**45**	**8.2**
TERRORISM/SECURITY/PRIVACY	3	.5
UNEMPLOYMENT/NO JOB	**26**	**4.7**
WELFARE ISSUES	21	3.8
OTHER	38	7.0
NO PROBLEM FACING STATE	4	.8
DON'T KNOW	60	10.9
REFUSED	4	.8
TOTAL	551	100.0

Findings this year are consistent with past years, when the top five problems usually included taxes, economy, health care insurance, unemployment, education, and the budget.

Concern over the environment appears to be surging, with this issue now cited by the largest percentage of respondents in the state as the most important problem. The economic recovery may have dropped the salience of unemployment as an issue for many respondents, as this issue is now rated by respondents as roughly on par with partisan polarization in importance.

In Minnesota, which political party, if any, do you think can do a better job of handling the problem you have just mentioned - the Republicans, the Democrats, the Tea Party, the Minnesota Independence Party, the Libertarian Party, or the Green Party?

Party	Frequency	Percent
REPUBLICANS	134	27.9
DEMOCRATS	144	30.0
TEA PARTY	16	3.2
MN INDEPENDENCE PARTY	21	4.3
LIBERTARIAN PARTY	8	1.6
GREEN PARTY	12	2.5
PARTIES ALL THE SAME/NO DIFFERENCE-[VOLUNTEERED]	30	6.2
NONE-[VOLUNTEERED]	42	8.8
DON'T KNOW	60	12.5
.REFUSED	14	2.9
TOTAL	482	100.0

Historically, we have found cross-tabulation analysis to show more respondents than not think the Republicans will better handle problems such as taxes and the budget but Democrats (DFL) will better handle issues such as the economy, education, health insurance and unemployment.

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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. 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 the person at the 50-degree mark.

Name	2014 Mean	2013 Mean	2012 Mean	2011 Mean	2010 Mean	2014 Standard Deviation	2014 % of Respondents who didn't know/couldn't judge
Barack Obama	45.24	46	54	50	49	32.11	.01%
Steve Carlson	45.57	NA	NA	NA	NA	16.72	66.12%
Mike McFadden	44.10	NA	NA	NA	NA	22.64	27.95%
Jeff Johnson	48.44	NA	NA	NA	NA	24.94	36.48%
Mark Dayton	52.05	49	55	52	48	27.24	.06%
Al Franken	52.06	51	49	NA	43	30.43	.04%
Amy Klobuchar	59.88	NA	64	60	56	27.47	.08%

Yes, I think there are two important points here: (1) The re-election of Dayton and Franken reflects fairly strong approval among Minnesotans, and (2) the president seems to be faring better in Minnesota than he is nationwide (though no one else seems to be doing the feeling thermometer in a nationwide poll, so this may be comparing apples to oranges), which also helps explain the strong DFL performance in this election. We might also note that Klobuchar seems to be in a strong position early in her second term as senator.

Ratings of Several Elected Officials

How would you rate the overall performance of Barack Obama as President? Would you rate his performance as excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?		
Rating	**Frequency**	**Percent**
EXCELLENT	42	7.7
PRETTY GOOD	163	29.6
Combined excellent and pretty good	205	37.2
ONLY FAIR	158	28.6
POOR	176	32.0
Combined only fair and poor	334	60.6
DON'T KNOW	4	.7
REFUSED	8	1.4
TOTAL	551	100.0
In 2012, President Obama's combined positive score (excellent and pretty good) was 46%. In 2011, it was 41% and in 2010 it was 38%.		

President Obama's rating about the same as it was in 2010 and about the average across the country; look for a repeat of 2006 midterms with Bush and GOP hold (then loss) of both congressional chambers. Perhaps it is worth noting that the low approval rating of the president did not hurt his party's candidates for Senate and Governor, and I don't think there was much turnover in the House races, either. Democrats did lose the MN House, but as was the case with the Congress, it was more a case of reversion to the mean (i.e., Democrats losing marginal seats they gained from the Obama wave of 2012) than a surprising rebuke by the voters.

How would you rate the overall performance of Mark Dayton as Governor? Would you rate his performance as excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?		
Rating	Frequency	Percent
EXCELLENT	53	9.5
PRETTY GOOD	231	41.9
Combined excellent and pretty good	284	51.5
ONLY FAIR	175	31.9
POOR	54	9.8
Combined only fair and poor	229	41.5
DON'T KNOW	28	5.1
REFUSED	10	1.8

| TOTAL | 551 | 100.0 |

In 2012, Governor Dayton's positive rating (combined excellent and pretty good scores) was at 53% and in 2011 it was 45%.

Dayton is doing well and thus should have been re-elected. And doing significantly better than the president.

How would you rate the overall performance of Al Franken as U.S. Senator? Would you rate his performance as excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?		
Rating	**Frequency**	**Percent**
EXCELLENT	62	11.2
PRETTY GOOD	214	38.8
Combined excellent and pretty good	276	50.0
ONLY FAIR	132	24.0
POOR	103	18.7
Combined only fair and poor	235	42.6
DON'T KNOW	31	5.7
REFUSED	9	1.6
TOTAL	551	100.0

Franken is doing well and thus should have been re-elected.

US Senate Horserace

If the 2014 election for the US SENATE was held today with Al Franken as the Democratic Party candidate, Mike McFadden as the Republican Party Candidate, and Steve Carlson as the Independence Party Candidate, who would you vote for?

(ALL RESPONDENTS)

Candidate	Frequency	Percent
Al Franken (DEMOCRAT PARTY)	227	41.2
Mike McFadden (REPUBLICAN PARTY)	165	29.9
Steve Carlson (MN INDEPENDENCE PARTY)	35	6.4
OTHER CANDIDATE [VOLUNTEERED]	11	2.0
NOT SURE	38	6.9
WON'T VOTE	25	4.5
DON'T KNOW	38	6.9
REFUSED	12	2.2
TOTAL	551	100.0

Although you are not sure, would you say you lean more toward Al Franken, Mike McFadden, Steve Carlson or a candidate of another party?

(Asked of all respondents who answered: Other candidate, not sure and don't know in previous question)

Candidate	Frequency	Percent
Leaning toward Steve Carlson	7	7.6
Leaning toward Mike McFadden	11	12.5
Leaning toward Al Franken	28	32.3
LEANING OTHER CANDIDATE	11	12.8
WON'T VOTE	2	2.0
DON'T KNOW	24	27.6
REFUSED	5	5.2
TOTAL	87	100.0

Numbers are not on McFadden or Carlson's side. The actual election results (53.17-42.93-2.40) are fairly consistent with our survey results. While Carlson did worse than our survey results suggested, it's not a big surprise given his position as

a minor party candidate. Voters who prefer the third party candidate often get cold feet and throw their support behind one of the 2 major party candidates on election day. I suspect the "likely voter" screen would reflect this.

If the 2014 election for the US SENATE was held today with Al Franken as the Democratic Party candidate, Mike McFadden as the Republican Party Candidate, and Steve Carlson as the Independence Party Candidate, who would you vote for? (LIKELY VOTERS)		
Candidate	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Al Franken	71	48.3
Mike McFadden	57	38.8
Steve Carlson	4	3.0
OTHER	4	2.7
NOT SURE	6	4.0
WON'T VOTE	4	2.5
DON'T KNOW	1	.7
Total	147	100.0

A ten point spread is about right and it's about where the votes fell….. Voila!

Although you are not sure, would you say you lean more toward Al Franken, Mike McFadden, Steve Carlson or a candidate of another party? (Asked of all respondents who answered: Other candidate, not sure and don't know in previous question) (LIKELY VOTERS)		
Candidate.0	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Leaning toward Mike McFadden	2	21.6
Leaning toward Al Franken	4	34.7
LEANING OTHER CANDIDATE	1	12.7
WON'T VOTE	1	9.2
DON'T KNOW	2	21.7
Total	11	100.0

U.S. Senate Race Why are you going to vote for this person? (ALL RESPONDENTS)		
Issue	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Social issues, ie, abortion	5	1.0
Background-profession, personal	26	5.3
Budget position	5	1.0
Character like them as a person	42	8.6
Crime position	1	.2
Don't like opposition	24	4.9
Economic plan	18	3.7
Education/schools	3	.6
Environmental position	9	1.8
Good track record experience	61	12.5
Gun/hunting position	1	.2
Health care - Obamacare position	8	1.6
Immigration position	7	1.4
Integrity-scruples	6	1.2
No particular reason	16	3.3
Not a typical candidate	6	1.2
Same political ideology	64	13.1
Same political party	61	12.5
Senior issue position	1	.2
Somebody different	18	3.7
Taxes	3	.6
Terrorism position	0	0
Time for a change	20	4.1
Same party as president candidate	10	2.1
Other	42	8.6
Don't know	21	4.3
Refused	5	1.0
No other position	4	.8
Total	487	100.0
System missing, refusals deleted		

U.S. Senate Race *Why are you going to vote for this person?* *(LIKELY VOTERS)*		
Issue	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Social issues, ie, abortion	3	2.3
Background-profession, personal	6	4.2
Budget position	1	1.1
Character like them as a person	11	7.6
Crime position	1	.4
Don't like opposition	7	5.2
Economic plan	4	3.1
Education/schools	1	.9
Environmental position	2	1.5
Good track record experience	23	16.5
Gun/hunting position	0	
Health care - Obamacare position	4	2.8
Immigration position	0	.3
Integrity-scruples	1	1.1
No particular reason	6	4.5
Not a typical candidate	2	1.5
Same political ideology	24	17.3
Same political party	13	9.4
Senior issue position	0	
Somebody different	5	3.6
Taxes	0	.3
Terrorism position	0	
Time for a change	8	6.0
Same party as president candidate	1	.9
Other	8	5.6
Don't know	6	4.2
Total	139	100.0

Why are you going to vote for this person by Senate candidate

Cross tabulation- all respondents-refusals/system missing

Why vote		Candidate						Total
		Al Franken	Mike McFadden	Steve Carlson	OTHER CANDIDATE	NOT SURE	DON'T KNOW	
Social Issues	Count	2	3	0	0	0	0	5
	% within	40.0%	60.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Background/ Personality	Count	16	4	0	0	0	1	21
	% within	76.2%	19.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	4.8%	100.0%
Budget	Count	1	1	0	1	1	0	4
	% within	25.0%	25.0%	.0%	25.0%	25.0%	.0%	100.0%
Character- like as person	Count	25	9	3	0	1	0	38
	% within	65.8%	23.7%	7.9%	.0%	2.6%	.0%	100.0%
Crime	Count	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	% within	.0%	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Don't like opposition	Count	4	12	9	0	0	0	25
	% within	16.0%	48.0%	36.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Economic plan	Count	12	8	0	0	0	0	20
	% within	60.0%	40.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Education	Count	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
	% within	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Environmental position	Count	4	2	0	0	4	1	11
	% within	36.4%	18.2%	.0%	.0%	36.4%	9.1%	100.0%
Good track record	Count	43	4	1	0	0	1	49
	% within	87.8%	8.2%	2.0%	.0%	.0%	2.0%	100.0%
Gun/hunting	Count	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	% within	.0%	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Health care/Obamacare	Count	4	1	0	1	2	0	8
	% within	50.0%	12.5%	.0%	12.5%	25.0%	.0%	100.0%
Immigration	Count	3	1	2	0	1	0	7
	% within	42.9%	14.3%	28.6%	.0%	14.3%	.0%	100.0%
Integrity	Count	2	3	0	0	0	0	5
	% within	40.0%	60.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
No particular reason	Count	9	5	0	0	0	0	14
	% within	64.3%	35.7%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Not a typical candidate	Count	1	1	2	0	0	0	4
	% within	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Same ideology	Count	32	24	4	3	1	5	69

	% within	46.4%	34.8%	5.8%	4.3%	1.4%	7.2%	100.0%
Same party	Count	27	27	2	1	3	2	62
	% within	43.5%	43.5%	3.2%	1.6%	4.8%	3.2%	100.0%
Senior issues	Count	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	% within	.0%	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Somebody different	Count	1	10	4	0	0	0	15
	% within	6.7%	66.7%	26.7%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Taxes	Count	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	% within	.0%	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Terrorism position	Count	1	16	3	0	3	0	23
	% within	4.3%	69.6%	13.0%	.0%	13.0%	.0%	100.0%
Time for a change	Count	6	2	0	0	0	0	8
	% within	75.0%	25.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Same party as president	Count	14	21	1	0	0	3	39
	% within	35.9%	53.8%	2.6%	.0%	.0%	7.7%	100.0%
Other	Count	8	4	4	0	4	6	26
	% within	30.8%	15.4%	15.4%	.0%	15.4%	23.1%	100.0%
Don't Know	Count	2	3	0	0	0	0	5
	% within	40.0%	60.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
No response	Count	4	0	0	0	1	0	5
	% within	80.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	20.0%	.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	224	165	35	6	21	19	470
	% within	47.7%	35.1%	7.4%	1.3%	4.5%	4.0%	100.0%

		Al Franken	Mike McFadden	Steve Carlson	OTHER	NOT SURE	WON'T VOTE	DON'T KNOW	REFUSED	Total
										Senate Vote by Party
DEMOCRAT	Count	133	5	5	5	5	1	6	1	161
	% within	82.6%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	.6%	3.7%	.6%	100%
REPUBLICAN	Count	8	95	2	0	4	1	1	0	111
	% within	7.2%	85.6%	1.8%	.0%	3.6%	.9%	.9%	.0%	100%
LIBERTARIAN	Count	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	6
	% within	16.7%	50.0%	16.7%	16.7%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100%
GREEN	Count	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	% within	.0%	.0%	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100%
MN INDEPEN. PARTY	Count	10	5	2	2	2	1	0	0	22
	% within	45.5%	22.7%	9.1%	9.1%	9.1%	4.5%	.0%	.0%	100%
TEA PARTY	Count	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
	% within	.0%	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100%
OTHER PARTY	Count	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
	% within	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100%
INDEPENDENT NO PARTY	Count	74	40	19	3	22	17	20	8	203
	% within	36.5%	19.7%	9.4%	1.5%	10.8%	8.4%	9.9%	3.9%	100%
NOT POLITICAL [VOLUNTEERED]	Count	0	2	1	0	0	5	5	1	14
	% within	.0%	14.3%	7.1%	.0%	.0%	35.7%	35.7%	7.1%	100%
DON'T KNOW	Count	0	0	2	0	4	0	4	0	10
	% within	.0%	.0%	20.0%	.0%	40.0%	.0%	40.0%	.0%	100%
REFUSED	Count	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	5
	% within	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	20.0%	.0%	40.0%	40.0%	100%
Total	Count	227	164	35	11	38	25	38	12	550
	% within	41.3%	29.8%	6.4%	2.0%	6.9%	4.5%	6.9%	2.2%	100%

As expected, Democrats support Franken and Republicans support McFadden, who might have had hoped independents would support him but there was not enough, even if he obtained all not sure and don't know respondents, to overtake the lead shown for Franken.

Who are you going to vote for by Gender					
Cross tabulation- all respondents-refusals/system missing					
Candidate					
Gender		**Al Franken**	**Mike McFadden**	**Steve Carlson**	**ALL OTHERS**	**Total**
Male	Count	103	86	15	57	261
	% within	39.5	32.9	5.7	21.8	100.0%
Female	Count	124	75	20	66	285
	% within	43.5	26.3	7.0	23.1	100.0%
Total	Count	228	165	35	11	546
	% within	41.7	30.2	6.4	2.0	100.0%

Is this enough of a difference to suggest Democratic efforts to reach women voters were successful?

Who are you going to vote for by Education Level					
Cross tabulation- all respondents-refusals/system missing					
Candidates					
Education		**Al Franken**	**Mike McFadden**	**Steve Carlson**	**All OTHER]**	**Total**
less than 12 years	Count	16	7	1	9	33
	% within	48.5%	21.2%	3.0%	27.0%	100.0%
high school graduate	Count	47	41	9	32	129
	% within	36.4%	31.8%	7.0%	25%	100.0%
some college	Count	67	50	15	57	189
	% within	35.4%	26.5%	7.9%	30.7%	100.0%
Bachelor's degree	Count	52	52	6	19	129
	% within	40.3%	40.3%	4.7%	16.0%	100.0%
graduate experience	Count	41	10	3	5	59
	% within	69.5%	16.9%	5.1%	9.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	223	160	34	122	539
	% within	41.4%	29.7%	6.3%	21.9%	100.0%

So, Franken's support was strong across all educational levels, though his biggest advantage was among those with graduate experience. Not sure if this is interesting enough to mention.

Age Categories		Al Franken	Mike McFadden	Steve Carlson	All Others	Total
Who are you going to vote for by Age Categories *Cross tabulation- all respondents-refusals/system missing*						
18 to 19	Count	5	11	2	2	20
	% within	25.0%	55.0%	10.0%	10.0%	100.0%
20 to 24	Count	12	11	5	17	45
	% within	26.7%	24.4%	11.1%	38.0%	100.0%
20 to 29	Count	18	8	5	19	50
	% within	36.0%	16.0%	10.0%	38.0%	100.0%
30 to 34	Count	20	16	4	9	49
	% within	40.8%	32.7%	8.2%	18.0%	100.0%
30 to 39	Count	19	14	1	7	41
	% within	46.3%	34.1%	2.4%	17.0%	100.0%
40 to 44	Count	17	12	2	15	46
	% within	37.0%	26.1%	4.3%	32.3%	100.0%
40 to 49	Count	21	12	4	13	50
	% within	42.0%	24.0%	8.0%	26.0%	100.0%
50 to 54	Count	22	18	5	7	52
	% within	42.3%	34.6%	9.6%	13.9%	100.0%
55 to 59	Count	22	15	2	10	49
	% within	44.9%	30.6%	4.1%	20.0%	100.0%
60 to 64	Count	18	15	0	8	41
	% within	43.9%	36.6%	.0%	19.4%	100.0%
65 to 69	Count	12	12	1	4	29
	% within	41.4%	41.4%	3.4%	13.4%	100.0%
70 to 74	Count	16	4	1	3	23
	% within	69.6%	17.4%	4.3%	8.6%	100.0%
75 to 79	Count	10	4	0	2	16
	% within	62.5%	25.0%	.0%	12.0%	100.0%
80 to 84	Count	7	3	1	2	13
	% within	53.8%	23.1%	7.7%	15.0%	100.0%
85 and up	Count	3	5	0	3	11
	% within	27.3%	45.5%	.0%	27.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	222	160	33	120	535
	% within	41.5%	29.9%	6.2%	22.9%	100.0%

These are pretty thin slices here, but it is interesting that Franken won most of the older cohorts that fueled the GOP wave on the national level (http://talkingpointsmemo.com/livewire/exit-polls-2014-electorate-old).

Income Categories		Al Franken	Mike McFadden	Steve Carlson	All Others	Total
under $15,000	Count	13	4	4	11	32
	% within	40.6%	12.5%	12.5%	35.0%	100.0%
$15,000 up to $24,999	Count	19	5	5	10	39
	% within	48.7%	12.8%	12.8%	26.0%	100.0%
$25,000 up to $34,999	Count	16	5	2	8	28
	% within	57.1%	17.9%	7.1%	17.1%	100.0%
$35,000 up to $49,999	Count	21	18	1	19	59
	% within	35.6%	30.5%	1.7%	32.0%	100.0%
$50,000 up to $74,999	Count	43	42	14	15	114
	% within	37.7%	36.8%	12.3%	14.0%	100.0%
$75,000 up to $99,999	Count	29	20	1	13	63
	% within	46.0%	31.7%	1.6%	19.0%	100.0%
$100,000 or more	Count	56	43	5	20	124
	% within	45.2%	34.7%	4.0%	17.2%	100.0%
DON'T KNOW	Count	12	9	2	16	39
	% within	30.8%	23.1%	5.1%	41.8%	100.0%
REFUSED	Count	19	18	2	14	53
	% within	35.8%	34.0%	3.8%	26.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	228	164	36	123	551
	% within	41.4%	29.8%	6.5%	23.0%	100.0%

Who are you going to vote for by Income Categories
Cross tabulation- all respondents-refusals/system missing

Maybe the overall story here is that DFL candidates performed well across most demographic categories? While the national Democratic party is very focused on rallying its core demographic groups (lower income, minority, and female voters), Minnesota Democrats did very well in 2014 across all demographic categories.

Gubernatorial Horserace

If the election for Governor was being held today, with Mark Dayton as the Democratic candidate, Jeff Johnson as the Republican candidate, and Hannah Nicholett as the Independence Party candidate, who would you vote for? *(ALL RESPONDENTS)*		
Candidate	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Mark Dayton	248	45.0
Jeff Johnson	152	27.6
Hannah Nicholett	39	7.0
OTHER CANDIDATE [VOLUNTEERED]	6	1.1
NOT SURE	37	6.7
WON'T VOTE	20	3.7
DON'T KNOW	36	6.6
REFUSED	13	2.4
TOTAL	551	100.0

Seems a bit high but leaners to Johnson will help narrow the race a bit. And, the likely voter screen would probably narrow the gap?

Although you are not sure, would you say you lean more toward Mark Dayton, Jeff Johnson, or Hannah Nicholett, or a candidate of another party? *(Asked of all respondents who answered: Other candidate, not sure and don't know in previous question)*		
Candidate	**Frequency**	**Percent**
LEANING toward Johnson	18	23.0
LEANING toward Dayton	8	9.8
LEANING OTHER CANDIDATE	16	20.9
DON'T KNOW	36	46.3
TOTAL	78	100.0

About ten points spread seems about right; result was less; could be partly due to Nicolett voters choosing a major party candidate on election day to avoid "wasting" their vote.

If the election for Governor was being held today, with Mark Dayton as the Democratic candidate, Jeff Johnson as the Republican candidate, and Hannah Nicholett as the Independence Party candidate, who would you vote for? (LIKELY VOTERS)		
Candidate	Frequency	Percent
Mark Dayton	76	51.5
Jeff Johnson	55	37.0
Hannah Nicholett	6	3.7
OTHER CANDIDATE [VOLUNTEERED]	2	1.2
NOT SURE	5	3.1
WON'T VOTE	2	1.1
DON'T KNOW	3	2.4
Total	148	100

Although you are not sure, would you say you lean more toward Mark Dayton, Jeff Johnson, or Hannah Nicholett, or a candidate of another party? (Asked of respondents who answered: Other candidate, not sure and don't know in previous question) (LIKELY VOTER RESPONDENTS)		
Candidate	Frequency	Percent
LEANING toward Johnson	5	51.1
LEANING OTHER CANDIDATE	2	23.3
DON'T KNOW	2	25.6
Total	10	100

When you throw the leaners in, I get roughly 48-38 for Dayton, which is still a larger spread than the actual results. Throwing out dk/won't vote gets me 52-41, which is still bigger than the actual result. The actual result was 50.09-44.53 This may reflect statistical noise from the small sample of likely voters, and also the inherent overestimation of self-reported voting (which I think is typically 15% higher than the actual vote).

		Mark Dayton	Jeff Johnson	Hannah Nicholett	OTHER	NOT SURE	WON'T VOTE	DON'T KNOW	REFUSED	TOTAL
Gubernatorial Vote by Party Identification										
DEMOCRAT	Count	128	4	10	4	9	0	6	1	162
	% within	79.0%	2.5%	6.2%	2.5%	5.6%	.0%	3.7%	.6%	100%
REPUBLICAN	Count	19	79	2	0	6	1	4	0	111
	% within	17.1%	71.2%	1.8%	.0%	5.4%	.9%	3.6%	.0%	100%
LIBERTARIAN	Count	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	6
	% within	.0%	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100%
GREEN	Count	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	% within	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100%
MN INDEPENDENCE	Count	10	7	3	1	0	0	1	0	22
	% within	45.5%	31.8%	13.6%	4.5%	.0%	.0%	4.5%	.0%	100%
TEA PARTY	Count	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
	% within	.0%	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100%
OTHER PARTY	Count	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	4
	% within	25.0%	.0%	25.0%	.0%	.0%	25.0%	25.0%	.0%	100%
INDEPENDENT, NO PARTY	Count	87	45	19	0	16	13	15	6	201
	% within	43.3%	22.4%	9.5%	.0%	8.0%	6.5%	7.5%	3.0%	100%
NOT POLITICAL	Count	2	0	1	0	0	5	5	1	14
	% within	14.3%	.0%	7.1%	.0%	.0%	35.7%	35.7%	7.1%	100%
DON'T KNOW	Count	0	0	1	0	5	0	4	0	10
	% within	.0%	.0%	10.0%	.0%	50.0%	.0%	40.0%	.0%	100%
REFUSED	Count	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6
	% within	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%	100%
Total	Count	247	151	39	6	37	20	36	14	555
	% within	44.9%	27.5%	7.1%	1.1%	6.7%	3.6%	6.5%	2.5%	100%

As with the Senate race, Dayton, the Democrat has seemingly captured almost 50% of independents and it just leaves too few for Johnson.

Gubernatorial Race		
Why are you going to vote for this person? Asked of all respondents.		
Issue	Frequency	Percent
Social issues, ie abortion	5	1.1
Background personality	25	5.3
Budget	5	1.1
Character like them as person	37	7.8
Crime	0	0
Don't like opposition	31	6.5
Economic plan	21	4.4
Education	11	2.3
Environmental position	4	.8
Good track record/experience	80	16.8
Gun/hunting position	1	.2
Healthcare/Obamacare	0	0
Immigration position	4	.8
Integrity	0	0
No particular reason	8	1.7
Not a typical candidate	10	2.1
Same ideology	6	1.3
Same political party	67	14.1
Senior issue position	47	9.9
Somebody different	1	.2
Taxes	18	3.8
Terrorism position	4	.8
Time for a change	0	0
Same party as president candidate	33	6.9
Other	12	2.5
Don't know	42	8.8
Unknown	3	.6
Total	475	100.0
System missing, refusals deleted.		

Gubernatorial Race Why are you going to vote for this person? (LIKELY VOTERS)		
Issue	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Social issues, i.e., abortion	2	1.3
Background personality	8	5.4
Budget	0	0
Character like them as person	11	7.9
Crime	0	0
Don't like opposition	8	5.9
Economic plan	9	6.3
Education	3	2.4
Environmental position	2	1.3
Good track record/experience	25	17.8
Gun/hunting position	0	0
Healthcare/Obamacare	0	0
Immigration position	2	1.3
Integrity	0	0
No particular reason	2	1.2
Not a typical candidate	2	1.4
Same ideology	1	.7
Same political party	21	15.3
Senior issue position	12	8.6
Somebody different	0	0
Taxes	5	3.7
Terrorism position	1	.6
Time for a change	0	0
Same party as president candidate	10	7.3
Other	3	2.2
Don't know	13	9.3
Total	140	100.0

Why are you going to vote for gubernatorial candidate

Cross tabulation

Why vote		Candidate					Total
		Mark Dayton	Jeff Johnson	Hannah Nicholett	NOT SURE	DON'T KNOW	
Social issues	Count	2	2	0	0	0	4
	% within	50.0%	50.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Background/ Personality	Count	9	8	2	0	1	20
	% within	45.0%	40.0%	10.0%	.0%	5.0%	100.0%
Budget	Count	6	2	0	0	0	8
	% within	75.0%	25.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Character/ Like as a person	Count	21	5	9	1	1	37
	% within	56.8%	13.5%	24.3%	2.7%	2.7%	100.0%
Crime	Count	4	18	4	1	0	27
	% within	14.8%	66.7%	14.8%	3.7%	.0%	100.0%
Don't like opposition	Count	10	6	0	0	0	16
	% within	62.5%	37.5%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Economic plan	Count	5	2	0	1	0	8
	% within	62.5%	25.0%	.0%	12.5%	.0%	100.0%
Education	Count	3	0	1	0	0	4
	% within	75.0%	.0%	25.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Environmental position	Count	63	2	0	0	1	66
	% within	95.5%	3.0%	.0%	.0%	1.5%	100.0%
Good track record	Count	1	0	0	0	0	1
	% within	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Guns/hunting	Count	1	2	0	0	0	3
	% within	33.3%	66.7%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Health care/Obamacare	Count	4	2	0	0	0	6
	% within	66.7%	33.3%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Immigration	Count	9	1	1	0	0	11
	% within	81.8%	9.1%	9.1%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Integrity	Count	1	2	4	0	0	7
	% within	14.3%	28.6%	57.1%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
No particular reason	Count	32	29	4	1	1	67
	% within	47.8%	43.3%	6.0%	1.5%	1.5%	100.0%
Not a typical candidate	Count	29	20	1	2	0	52
	% within	55.8%	38.5%	1.9%	3.8%	.0%	100.0%

Political ideology	Count	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% within	.%	.%	.%	.%	.%	.%
Political party	Count	2	6	4	3	1	16
	% within	12.5%	37.5%	25.0%	18.8%	6.3%	100.0%
Senior issues	Count	0	2	0	0	0	2
	% within	.0%	100.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Somebody different	Count	2	21	5	1	1	30
	% within	6.7%	70.0%	16.7%	3.3%	3.3%	100.0%
Taxes	Count	6	3	0	0	0	9
	% within	66.7%	33.3%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Terrorism	Count	28	13	2	1	2	46
	% within	60.9%	28.3%	4.3%	2.2%	4.3%	100.0%
Time for a change	Count	5	4	0	2	6	17
	% within	29.4%	23.5%	.0%	11.8%	35.3%	100.0%
Same party as president	Count	1	1	1	0	0	3
	% within	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Other	Count	3	0	1	0	0	4
	% within	75.0%	.0%	25.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	247	151	39	13	14	464
	% within	53.2%	32.5%	8.4%	2.8%	3.0%	100.0%

No big surprises here – Democrats "own" the environment and education, while Republicans are seen as tough on crime. The terrorism one is a bit of a surprise, and the economy one might be regarded as a bit of a surprise, too, given the characterization of Democrats as "tax and spend" liberals; on the other hand, the high job approval of the incumbent may be fueling the economic evaluations of the respondents.

		Why are you going to vote for gubernatorial candidate Cross tabulation				
Gender		**Mark Dayton**	**Jeff Johnson**	**Hannah Nicholett**	**All Others**	**Total**
Male	Count	117	70	21	51	259
	% within	45%	27%	8%	19.7%	100.0%
Female	Count	127	81	15	61	287
	% within	44.2%	28.2%	5.2%	21.2%	100.0%
Total	Count	248	152	39	112	546
	% within	45.4%	27.8%	7.1%	20%	100.0%

Why are you going to vote for gubernatorial candidate Cross tabulation		Mark Dayton	Jeff Johnson	Hannah Nicholett	All Others]	Total
Age Categories						
18 to 19	Count	5	6	0	8	19
	% within	26.3%	31.6%	.0%	42.0%	100.0%
20 to 24	Count	16	8	5	15	44
	% within	36.4%	18.2%	11.4%	34.0%	100.0%
20 to 29	Count	21	12	1	16	50
	% within	42.0%	24.0%	2.0%	32.0%	100.0%
30 to 34	Count	15	15	5	14	49
	% within	30.6%	30.6%	10.2%	28.0%	100.0%
30 to 39	Count	21	12	1	8	42
	% within	50.0%	28.6%	2.4%	19.0%	100.0%
40 to 44	Count	24	10	0	12	46
	% within	52.2%	21.7%	.0%	26.0%	100.0%
40 to 49	Count	22	14	6	9	51
	% within	43.1%	27.5%	11.8%	18.0%	100.0%
50 to 54	Count	20	17	8	7	52
	% within	38.5%	32.7%	15.4%	14%	100.0%
55 to 59	Count	24	14	4	8	50
	% within	48.0%	28.0%	8.0%	16.0%	100.0%
60 to 64	Count	19	12	4	5	40
	% within	47.5%	30.0%	10.0%	12.5%	100.0%
65 to 69	Count	12	12	2	2	28
	% within	42.9%	42.9%	7.1%	7.2%	100.0%
70 to 74	Count	17	5	0	0	22
	% within	77.3%	22.7%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
75 to 79	Count	10	4	1	1	16
	% within	62.5%	25.0%	6.3%	6.3%	100.0%
80 to 84	Count	8	3	1	1	13
	% within	61.5%	23.1%	7.7%	7.7%	100.0%
85 and up	Count	6	5	0	0	11
	% within	54.5%	45.5%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	240	149	38	106	533
	% within	45.0%	28.0%	7.1%	20.8%	100.0%

Again, strong support for the DFL incumbent across multiple demographic groups, perhaps suggesting there is not as much "identity politics" occurring in MN as in other places in the country.

Gubernatorial Candidate choice-All Respondents						
Income		Mark Dayton	Jeff Johnson	Hannah Nicholett	Other Responses	Total
under $15,000	Count	10	4	8	19	34
	% within	29.4%	11.8%	23.5%	35%	100.0%
$15,000 up to $24,999	Count	20	4	2	12	38
	% within	52.6%	10.5%	5.3%	31%	100.0%
$25,000 up to $34,999	Count	19	4	2	3	28
	% within	67.9%	14.3%	7.1%	12%	100.0%
$35,000 up to $49,999	Count	21	16	5	18	60
	% within	35.0%	26.7%	8.3%	29%	100.0%
$50,000 to $74,999	Count	45	43	10	16	114
	% within	39.5%	37.7%	8.8%	15%	100.0%
$75,000 to $99,999	Count	32	17	3	11	63
	% within	50.8%	27.0%	4.8%	17%	100.0%
$100,000 or more	Count	65	37	5	16	123
	% within	52.8%	30.1%	4.1%	13%	100.0%
DON'T KNOW	Count	12	7	3	15	37
	% within	32.4%	18.9%	8.1%	42%	100.0%
REFUSED	Count	22	20	1	11	54
	% within	40.7%	37.0%	1.9%	21%	100.0%
Total	Count	246	152	39	114	551
	% within	44.6%	27.6%	7.1%	16%	100%

Gubernatorial Candidate choice-All Respondents					
Education		**Mark Dayton**	**Jeff Johnson**	**Hannah Nicholett**	**Other Responses**	**Total**
LESS THAN 12 YEARS	Count	18	7	0	9	34
	% within	52.9%	20.6%	.0%	27.0%	100.0%
12 YEARS/HIGH SCHOOL	Count	46	42	11	31	129
	% within	35.7%	32.6%	8.5%	23.8%	100.0%
POST HIGH-NO COLL	Count	11	16	3	4	35
	% within	31.4%	45.7%	8.6%	12%	100.0%
13-15 YEARS (SOME COLLEGE)	Count	68	27	17	43	155
	% within	43.9%	17.4%	11.0%	28%	100.0%
BACHELOR DEGREE GRAD	Count	61	46	7	15	129
	% within	47.3%	35.7%	5.4%	12%	100.0%
SOME GRAD EDUCATION	Count	11	4	0	3	18
	% within	61.1%	22.2%	.0%	18%	100.0%
COMPLETED GRAD PROG	Count	28	7	0	6	41
	% within	68.3%	17.1%	.0%	15%	100.0%
REFUSED	Count	5	3	0	0	8
	% within	62.5%	37.5%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	248	152	38	111	519
	% within	45.2%	27.7%	6.9%	21%	100%

Voter screen

Generally speaking, how much interest would you say you have in the November general election - a great deal, a fair amount, only a little, or no interest at all?		
	Frequency	Percent
GREAT DEAL	165	30.0
FAIR AMOUNT	207	37.6
ONLY A LITTLE	123	22.3
NO INTEREST AT ALL	53	9.6
REFUSED	3	.5
Total	551	100.0

Minnesota's voter turnout (51.3%) was significantly higher than the national average (36.6%), which is consistent with this result (http://www.electproject.org/2014g).

What are the chances of your voting in the upcoming November election? Are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or do you think you will not vote?		
	Frequency	Percent
ALMOST CERTAIN	374	67.9
PROBABLY VOTE	82	14.8
50-50	52	9.4
WON'T VOTE	40	7.3
REFUSED	3	.6
Total	551	100.0

Do you happen to recall if you voted in the 2012 Presidential election? [IF NO] Would you say COULD NOT vote for any reason, such as age or illness, or you DID NOT vote.		
	Frequency	Percent
YES VOTED IN 2012	464	84.2
No, I Could Not Vote (such as illness, age, etc.]	24	4.4
No, I Did Not Vote	56	10.1
DON'T KNOW	5	1.0
REFUSED	2	.4
Total	551	100.0

Party

Do you usually consider yourself to be a Democrat, Republican, Libertarian party member, Green party member, Minnesota Independence party member, Tea Party, another party, or are you an independent who is not a member of any party?		
	Frequency	Percent
DEMOCRAT	161	29.2
REPUBLICAN	111	20.1
LIBERTARIAN	6	1.0
GREEN	1	.2
MN INDEPENDENCE PARTY	22	4.0
TEA PARTY	13	2.4
OTHER PARTY	5	.8
INDEPENDENT, NOT A MEMBER OF ANY PARTY	202	36.7
NOT POLITICAL [VOLUNTEERED]	14	2.5
DON'T KNOW	10	1.9
REFUSED	6	1.1
Total	551	100.0

Ten point spread between DFL and GOP is about what we expected to see and fits well with past; independent split between DFL and GOP is what we expect.

Although you are an independent, do you usually consider yourself to be closer to the Republicans, Democrats, the Libertarian Party, the Green Party, the Tea Party, or the Minnesota Independence Party?		
	Frequency	Percent
REPUBLICAN	63	31.2
DEMOCRAT	61	30.0
LIBERTARIAN	12	6.1
GREEN	6	3.0
TEA PARTY	5	2.7
MN INDEPENDENCE PARTY	5	2.3
NOT CLOSE TO ANY PARTY [VOLUNTEERED]	40	19.7
DON'T KNOW	7	3.4
REFUSED	3	1.6
Total	202	100.0