

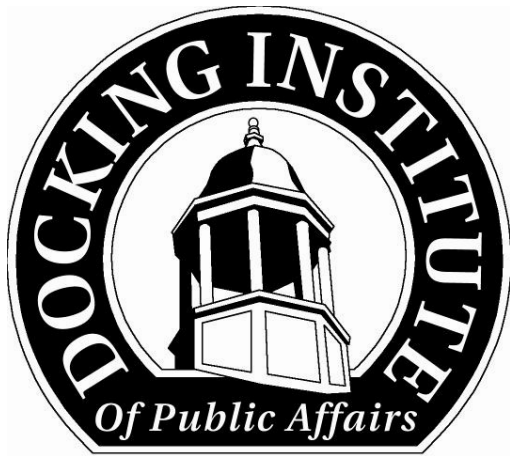


Kansas Speaks
2015
Statewide Public Opinion Survey

Prepared For
The Citizens of Kansas
By

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs
Fort Hays State University

Copyright © October 2015
All Rights Reserved



Fort Hays State University
600 Park Street
Hays, Kansas 67601-4099
Telephone: (785) 628-4197
FAX: (785) 628-4188
www.fhsu.edu/docking

Gary Brinker, PhD
Director

Michael S. Walker, MS
Assistant Director

Jian Sun, PhD
Research Scientist

Lynette Ottley
Administrative Specialist

Bradley Pendergast, MPA
Survey Center Manager

Mission:

To Facilitate Effective Public Policy Decision-Making.

The staff of the Docking Institute of Public Affairs and its University Center for Survey Research are dedicated to serving the people of Kansas and surrounding states.

Kansas Speaks 2015



Prepared By:

Jian Sun, Ph.D.
Research Scientist

Bradley Pendergast, MPA
Survey Center Manager

Gary Brinker, Ph.D.
Director

Chapman Rackaway, Ph.D.
Senior Policy Fellow

Michael Smith, Ph.D.
Policy Fellow

Ryan L. Swayne
Student Research Supervisor

Docking Institute of Public Affairs

Prepared For:

The Citizens of Kansas
In pursuit of
Fort Hays State University's Public Affairs Mission

Copyright © October 2015
All Rights Reserved

Table of Contents

List of Figures	ii
Executive Summary	1
Introduction and Methods	4
Analysis	5
Section 1: Overall Quality of Life in Kansas	5
Section 2: Economy	6
Section 3: Taxes.....	10
Section 4: State Government and Politicians.....	17
Section 5: Public Policy Issues	23
Section 6: Voting	35
Appendix A: Demographic Characteristics of the Sample	41
Appendix B: Survey Instrument.....	42

List of Figures

Figure 1: Rating of Kansas as a Place to Live.....	5
Figure 2: Rating of Kansas as a Place to Live by Party Affiliation.....	5
Figure 3: Location Planning to Live in 5 Years	6
Figure 4: Rating of Kansas Economy.....	6
Figure5: Rating of Kansas Economy by Party Affiliation	7
Figure 6: Concern Kansas Economy will Threaten Welfare	8
Figure 7: Concern Kansas Economy will Threaten Welfare by Gender	8
Figure 8: Concern Kansas Economy will Threaten Welfare by Income	9
Figure 9: Trend Analysis: Concern Kansas Economy will Threaten Welfare.....	9
Figure 10: Belief about Kansas Government Taxes and Spending	10
Figure 11: Belief about Kansas Government Taxes and Spending by Income.....	11
Figure 12: Belief about Kansas Government Taxes and Spending by Party Affiliation.....	11
Figure 13: Tax Changes on Various Groups	12
Figure 14: Tax Changes on Large Corporations by Party Affiliation	13
Figure 15: Tax Changes on Top Income Earners by Party Affiliation	13
Figure 16: Tax Changes on Small Businesses by Party Affiliation	14
Figure 17: Change in Tax Burden	14
Figure 18: Change in Tax Burden by Gender	15
Figure 19: Opinion on Kansas Tax Policy with Regard to Economic Growth	15
Figure 20: Opinion on Kansas Tax Policy with Regard to Economic Growth by Party Affiliation	16
Figure 21: Opinion on Kansas Tax Policy with Regard to Economic Growth by Gender	16
Figure 22: Preference of Sales Tax on Food and Groceries	17
Figure 23: Satisfaction with the Overall Performance of Elected Officials.....	18
Figure 24: Satisfaction with Kansas Legislature in General by Party Affiliation	19
Figure 25: Satisfaction with State Representative by Party Affiliation.....	19
Figure 26: Satisfaction with State Senator by Party Affiliation.....	20
Figure 27: Satisfaction with U.S. Senator Pat Roberts by Party Affiliation	20
Figure 28: Satisfaction with Governor Brownback by Party Affiliation	21
Figure 29: Satisfaction with President Obama by Party Affiliation.....	21
Figure 30: Satisfaction with U.S. Senator Jerry Moran by Party Affiliation	22
Figure 31: Knowledge of State Representative’s Name	22
Figure 32: Knowledge of State Senator’s Name	23
Figure 33: Impact of State Block Grant System on Education	23
Figure 34: Impact of State Block Grant System on Education by School Age Children	24
Figure 35: Financial Impact from Change of School Funding	24

Figure 36: Financial Impact from Change of School Funding by School Age Children.....	24
Figure 37: Opinion on Policies Regarding Undocumented Immigrants.....	25
Figure 38: Opinion on Policies Regarding Undocumented Immigrants by Party Affiliation	26
Figure 39: Opinion on Building a Wall on U.S./Mexico Border.....	26
Figure 40: Opinion on Building a Wall on U.S./Mexico Border by Party Affiliation	27
Figure 41: Penalties for Hiring Illegal Immigrants.....	27
Figure 42: Penalties for Hiring Illegal Immigrants by Party Affiliation.....	28
Figure 43: Opinion on Same-Sex Marriage	29
Figure 44: Opinion on Same-Sex Marriage by Income	29
Figure 45: Opinion on Same-Sex Marriage by Party Affiliation	30
Figure 46: Opinion on Private Businesses Serving Same-Sex	31
Figure 47: Opinion on Private Businesses Serving Same-Sex Couples by Gender	31
Figure 48: Opinion on Private Businesses Serving Same-Sex Couples by Party Affiliation	32
Figure 49: Opinion on Medicaid Expansion	32
Figure 50: Opinion on Medicaid Expansion by Party Affiliation	33
Figure 51: Opinion on Firearms on College Campuses	34
Figure 52: Opinion on Firearms on College Campuses by Party Affiliation	34
Figure 53: Opinion on Firearms on College Campuses by Gender	35
Figure 54: Voting Preference in Next Presidential Election.....	36
Figure 55: Voting Preference in Next Presidential Election by Party Affiliation	37
Figure 56: Opinion on Voter Fraud in Kansas	37
Figure 57: Opinion on Voter Fraud in Kansas by Party Affiliation	38
Figure 58: Opinion on Voter Fraud in Kansas by Income.....	38
Figure 59: Confidence in Voting Procedures	39
Figure 60: Confidence in Voting Procedures by Party Affiliation	39
Figure 61: Voting Behavior in 2014 Election.....	40
Figure 62: Voter Registration Status.....	40

Executive Summary

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs at Fort Hays State University conducted the 2015 Kansas Speaks survey from September 14 to October 5, 2015. A random sample of adult residents of Kansas age 18 and older was surveyed by telephone to assess their attitudes and opinions regarding various issues of interest to Kansas citizens. The survey finds:

- About three-quarters (76%) of respondents felt Kansas is at least a “good” place to live, and only 5% felt it is a “poor or “very poor” place to live. The ratings were higher among Republicans and independent voters leaning Republican.
- Three-quarters (75%) of respondents saw themselves still living in the same community they are in now in five years, 9% anticipate moving within Kansas, and 16% said they would likely relocate outside of Kansas.
- More than a third (37%) of respondents rated the Kansas economy at least “good”, 38% rated the economy as fair, and 26% rated the economy as “poor” or “very poor.” The rating was lower among Democrats and those leaning Democrat.
- Over half (51%) of respondents were at least “moderately concerned” that the Kansas economy would seriously threaten their or their family’s welfare over the next year, 27% of respondents were “slightly concerned” and 23% were “not concerned at all.” Female respondents tended to be more concerned than males. Concern was also higher among respondents with lower household incomes. Overall, respondents have been becoming less concerned since 2009.
- About three-fifths (61%) of respondents favor “somewhat lower” or “much lower” taxes and spending in Kansas, while 21% of respondents felt it should remain the same, and 19% of respondents favor “somewhat higher” and “much higher” taxes and spending. Respondents with lower incomes, Republicans, and those leaning Republican were more likely to favor lower taxes and spending.
- Over two-thirds (67%) of respondents felt taxes on large corporations should be increased, and only 9% felt they should be decreased. Democrats and those leaning Democrat were more likely to feel taxes on large corporations should increase.
- More than three-fifths (63%) of respondents felt taxes on top income earners should be increased, and 6% felt they should be decreased. Democrats and those leaning Democrat were more likely to feel taxes on top income earners should increase.
- Almost half (49%) of respondents felt taxes on the middle class should “remain the same,” 46% felt they should be decreased, and 5% of respondents felt they should be increased.
- Over half (55%) of respondents felt taxes on small businesses should be decreased, while 11% felt they should be increased. Republicans, those leaning Republican, and independent voters were more likely to feel taxes on small businesses should be “decreased.”
- Almost three-quarters (74%) of respondents felt what they paid in sales tax, property tax and state income tax compared to two years ago had “increased,” 22% felt it had “remained the same” and 5% felt it had “decreased.” Females were more likely to feel their taxes have “increased” compared to two years ago than males.
- Over three-fifths (61%) of respondents felt Governor Brownback’s tax policy has been “a failure” or “a tremendous failure” in terms of economic growth, 32% of respondents felt it was “neither a success nor failure,” and 7% felt it was at least “a success.” Only 0.2% felt it was “a tremendous success.” Male respondents, Republicans and those leaning Republican were less likely to say Brownback’s tax policy was a “failure” or “tremendous failure.”

- Over half (54%) of respondents felt “food and groceries should be exempt from sales tax,” 34% of respondents felt that “food and groceries should be taxed at a lower rate than non-food items,” and 12% felt they should be taxed “at the same rate as non-food items.”
- When asked about their satisfaction with the Kansas legislature, state senators and representatives, Governor Brownback, U.S. Senators, and President Obama, respondents expressed higher levels of satisfaction with their state senators and representatives, and Senator Jerry Moran, with more than 40% of them being “very” or “somewhat satisfied.” Only 28% percent of respondents were “very” or “somewhat satisfied” with President Obama, while even fewer (18%) were “very” or “somewhat satisfied” with Governor Brownback.
- Republicans and those leaning Republican had higher levels of satisfaction with the Kansas legislature, their state representatives and senators, Senators Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran, and Governor Brownback than Democrats, those leaning Democrat, and independent voters. Democrats and those leaning Democrat were more satisfied with President Obama than Republicans and those leaning Republican.
- More than half of respondents did not know the name of their state representative or senator.
- Almost two-thirds (64%) of respondents felt the state block grant system resulted in a lower quality of education for public school children in their school districts, 29% felt no change, and 7% felt the grant system resulted in a higher quality of education. Those respondents with school age children at home were more likely to think the grant system resulted a lower quality of education than those with no school age children.
- More than half (56%) of respondents felt the school funding system change resulted in them paying higher taxes and fees, 42% felt no change, and 2% felt the change led to lower costs. Those respondents with school age children at home were more likely to say the funding change led to higher costs than those with no school age children at home.
- More than half (53%) of respondents supported “a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants with no criminal record,” while 13% thought some undocumented immigrants should be deported, 7% supported “deporting most of undocumented immigrants,” and 27% support “deporting all undocumented immigrants.”
- Republicans and those leaning Republican were more likely to support “deporting all undocumented immigrants.” Democrats, those leaning Democrat, and independent voters were more likely to support “a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants with no criminal record.”
- Respondents’ opinions on building a wall on the U.S. and Mexico border were split, with 31% opposing a wall and 27% supporting a wall. Democrats, those leaning Democrat, and independent voters were more likely to oppose building a wall.
- More than a third (37%) of respondents preferred no penalty or a small fine for employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants, while 54% favored a significant fine, and 9% supported a prison sentence. Republicans and those leaning Republican were more likely to support a significant fine or prison sentence for knowingly hiring illegal immigrants.
- Almost half (47%) of respondents supported allowing same-sex couples to be legally married and have the full rights of heterosexual couples. Twenty-one percent favored civil unions that would give same-sex couples full spousal rights, but not marriage, and 32% opposed same-sex marriage in any form. Respondents with a family income of \$50,000 or more were less likely to oppose same-sex marriage than those with a family income of less than \$50,000. Republicans and those leaning Republican were more likely to oppose same-sex marriage than Democrats, those leaning Democrats, and independent voters.
- A little more than half (51%) of respondents felt that a private business owner should have to provide the same services to same-sex couples as they provide to heterosexual couples, 17% said a private business owner should be exempt if it involved direct participation in the marriage

ceremony, and 32% said a private business should be able to deny all services to same-sex couples when it would violate their religious beliefs. Females, Democrats, and those leaning Democrat were less likely to support denying services to same-sex couples.

- Almost two-thirds (62%) of respondents “strongly” or “somewhat” supported the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care, while 38% “somewhat” or strongly” opposed such expansion. Republicans and those leaning Republican were more likely to oppose the expansion of Medicaid.
- A majority (58%) of respondents were opposed to allowing firearms on college campuses in Kansas except by security personnel. Twenty-six percent favored certain restrictions from colleges on the open and concealed carry of firearms, and 16% supported open and concealed carry on college campuses. Females, Democrats, those leaning Democrat, and independent voters were more likely to support banning open and concealed carry of firearms on campuses.
- When asked who they would vote for in the next presidential election, 18% of respondents said they would vote for Donald Trump, 11% would vote for Hillary Clinton, 11% for Ben Carson, and 8% for Marco Rubio. Forty percent of respondents did not know who they would vote for. Donald Trump and Ben Carson received higher votes among Republicans and those leaning Republican. Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders received higher votes among Democrats and those leaning Democrat. Hillary Clinton also received much higher support among female respondents than male respondents.
- More than a third (35%) of respondents felt that voter fraud was not a problem at all in Kansas, 47% thought it was a minor problem, and 18% thought it was a major problem. Republicans and those leaning Republican were more likely to feel that voter fraud is a “major” or “minor” problem. In general, respondents with lower income were more likely to feel voter fraud was a problem in Kansas.
- Three-fourths (75%) of respondents were “very” or “somewhat confident” that the voting procedures in Kansas elections were transparent and verifiable, and 25% had “little” or “no confidence.” Republicans and those leaning Republican were more likely to express confidence than Democrats, those leaning Democrat, and independent voters.
- Eighty-five percent (85%) of respondents said that they voted in the 2014 election, and 15% said they did not. Among those who did not vote, 38% were not registered. No one respondent who said they did not vote or were not registered to vote said that they had been denied or discouraged to vote or register due to lack of a government photo ID or proof of citizenship.

Introduction and Methods

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs at Fort Hays State University surveyed a random sample of adult residents of Kansas age 18 and older to assess attitudes and opinions regarding various issues of interest to Kansas citizens. The survey sample consists of random Kansas landline telephone numbers and cellphone numbers. From September 14th to October 5th, a total of 1,252 Kansas residents were contacted through either landline telephone or cellphone, and 638 of them completed the survey, resulting in a 50.9% cooperation rate (638/1,252). At the 95% confidence level, the margin of error for the full sample of 638 is 3.9%. A margin of error of 3.9% means that there is a 95% probability that findings among the sample vary no more than +/- 3.9 % from the value that would be found if the entire population of interest (all adult Kansas residents) were surveyed, assuming no response bias. Sample demographics were compared to known Census-based distributions (see Appendix A) and suggest a sample highly representative of the population.

The following analysis contains seven sections:

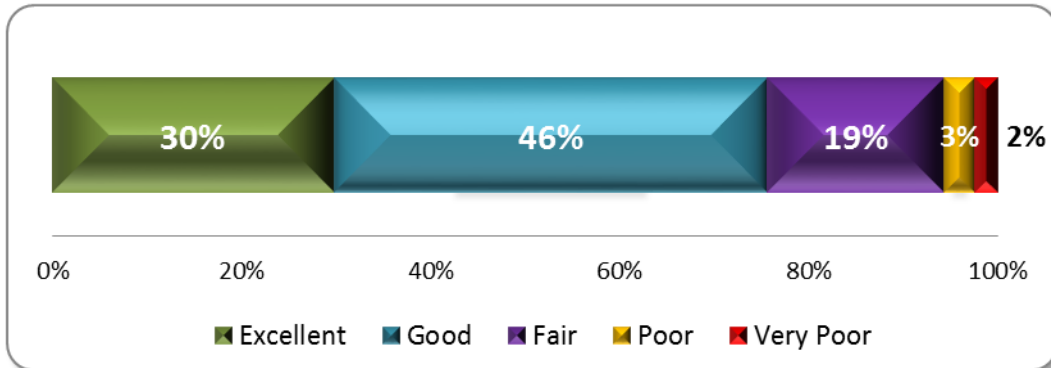
- 1) **Overall Quality of Life in Kansas.** This section shows how Kansans generally feel about Kansas as a place to live.
- 2) **Economy.** This section shows results on questions addressing various economic concerns to citizens.
- 3) **Taxes and Spending.** This section shows results on opinion questions regarding fair and effective personal and business taxation policies.
- 4) **State Government and Politicians.** This section presents the results of citizens' ratings of the state government in general, as well as their state elected officials.
- 5) **Public Policy Issues.** This section looks at citizens' opinions on several key policy issues, such as Kansas school funding, open/conceal carrying weapons on college campuses, and illegal immigration.
- 6) **Voting.** This section presents citizens' voting choices for the next presidential election, their voting behavior and voter registration status in 2014.

These sections present not only descriptive analyses of respondents' answers to each question, but also statistically significant relationships with key demographic variables to see how citizens in various social categories differ in their opinions and policy preferences on various issues. Except for the questions asking about respondents' demographic information, all of the survey questions are displayed verbatim under those graphs presenting descriptive analyses.

Analysis

Section 1: Overall Quality of Life in Kansas

Figure 1: Rating of Kansas as a place to live (n=634)



Question: *In general, how would you rate Kansas as a place to live?*

Respondents were asked to rate Kansas generally as a place to live. Among those 638 respondents who provided valid answers to this question, 76% rated Kansas as a “good” or “excellent” place to live. Only 5% rated Kansas as a “poor” or “very poor” place to live (Figure 1). Rating Kansas as a place to live was related to respondent’s political affiliation. Republicans and independent voters leaning Republican were more likely to rate Kansas as at least an “excellent” place to live than independent voters, those leaning Democrat and Democrats (Figure 2). These relationships are statistically significant.

Figure 2: Rating of Kansas as a Place to Live By Party Affiliation

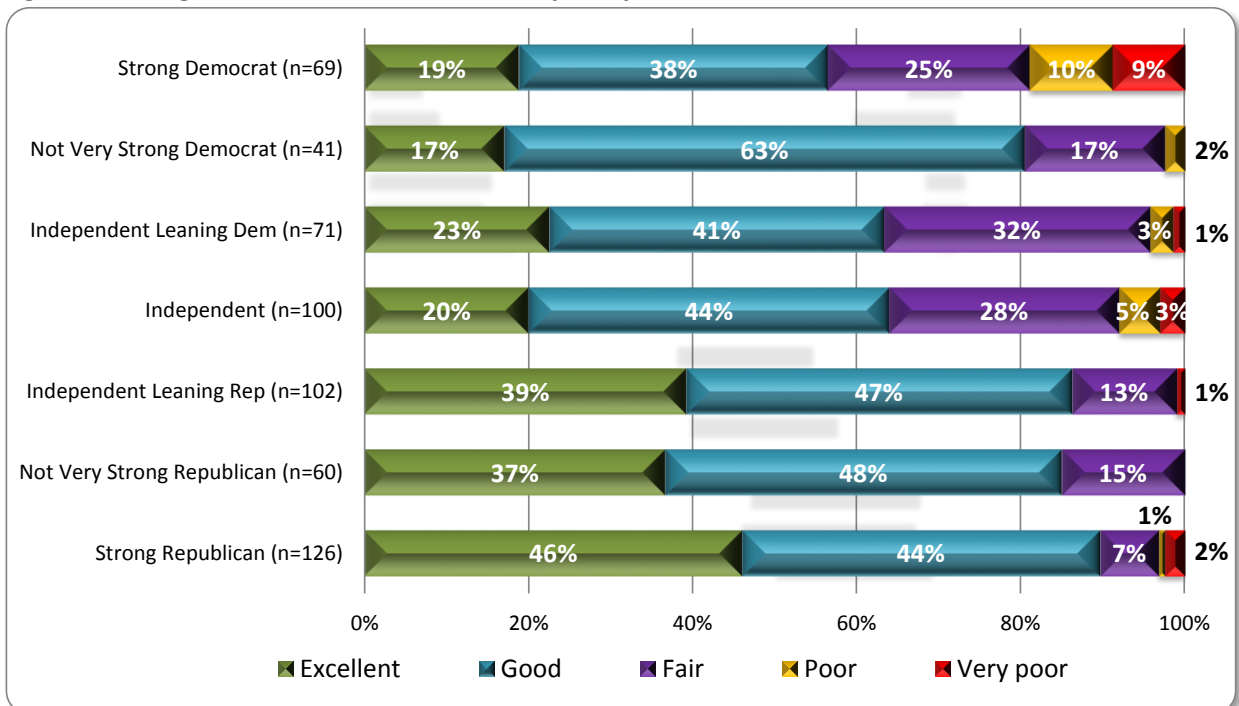
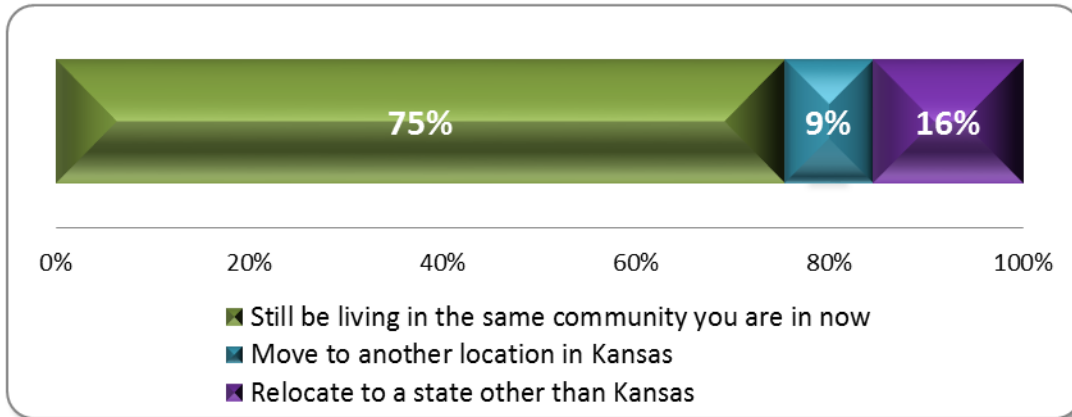


Figure 3: Location Planning to Live in 5 Years (n=586)



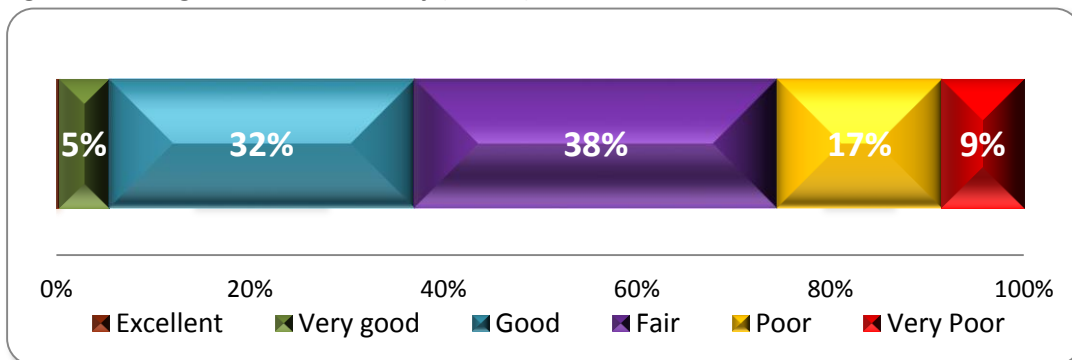
Question: *By your best guess, where will you be in 5 years? Are you likely to: still be living in the community you are now; move to another location in Kansas; or relocate to a state other than Kansas?*

Respondents were asked where they think they will be in 5 years. Among those who responded, three-quarters (75%) said they would be living in the same community they are now. Only 9% said they would move to another location in Kansas, and 16% of respondents said they would relocate to a state other than Kansas (Figure 3).

Section 2: Economy

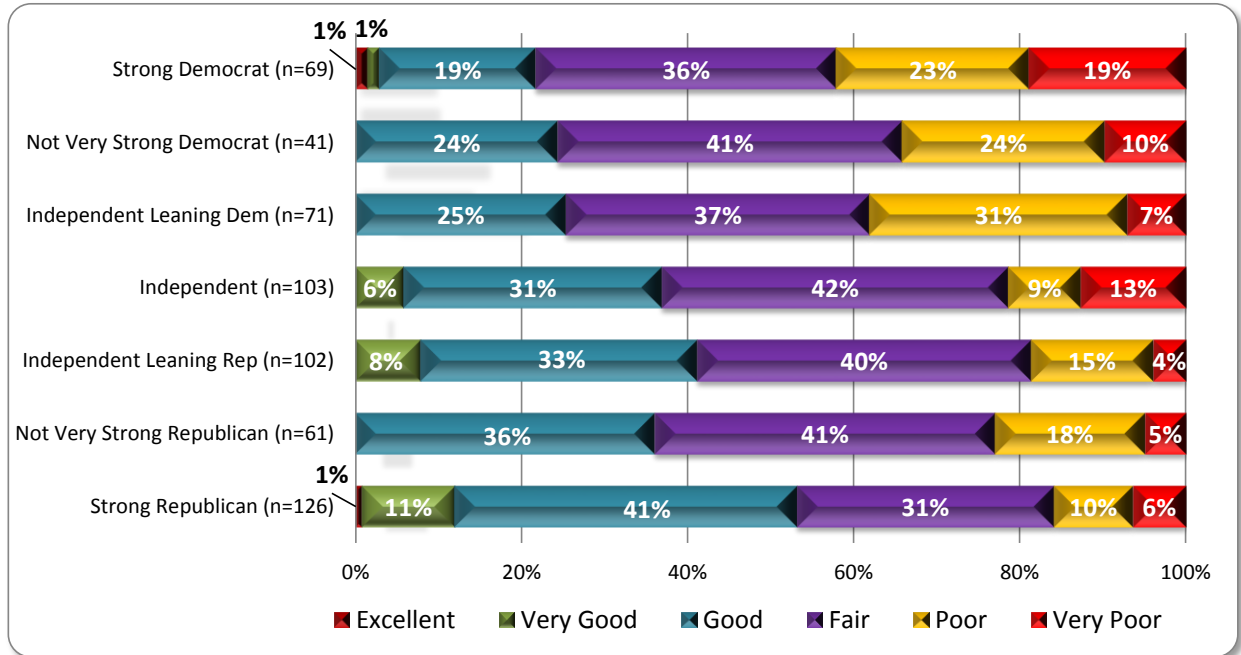
When asked to rate the Kansas economy, 37% of respondents who provided valid answers said it was at least “good,” 38% said it was “fair,” and 26% said Kansas had a “poor” or “very poor” economy (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Rating of Kansas Economy (n=624)



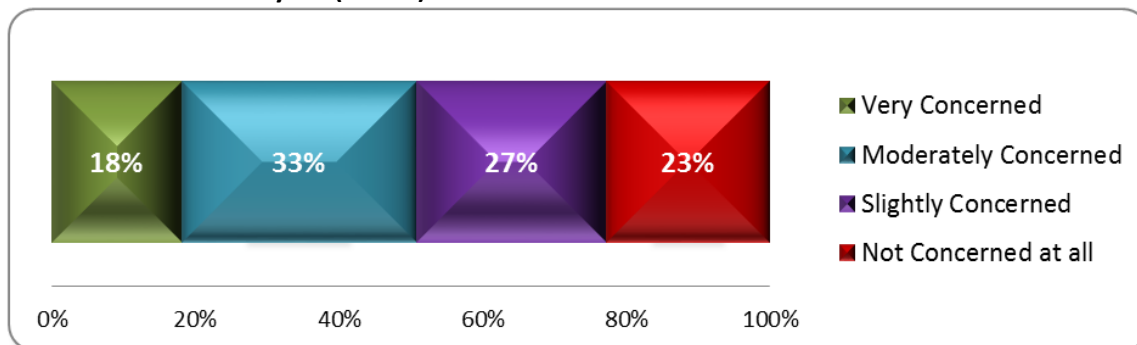
Question: *In general, how would you rate the Kansas economy?*

Figure 5: Rating of Kansas Economy by Party Affiliation



Rating of the economy was significantly associated with respondent’s party affiliation. Republicans, those leaning Republican and independent voters were more likely to rate the Kansas economy “good” or better than Democrats and those leaning Democrat (Figure 5).

Figure 6: Level of Concern that the Kansas Economy will seriously threaten individuals’ or families’ welfare over the next year (n=621)



Question: *How concerned are you that the Kansas economy will seriously threaten you or your family’s welfare in the coming year?*

Respondents were asked how concerned they were that the Kansas economy would seriously threaten their or their family’s welfare over the next year. Over half (51%) of respondents were at least “moderately concerned,” 27% were “slightly concerned,” and 23% were “not concerned at all” (Figure 6). Concern about the Kansas economy was significantly associated with gender. Females were more likely to be at least “moderately concerned” than males, whereas males were more likely to be “slightly concerned” or “not concerned at all” (Figure 7). Concern about the Kansas economy was also significantly associated with income. Respondents with a household income under \$50,000 were more

likely to be at least “moderately concerned” (Figure 8). This question has been asked in previous Kansas Speaks, and overall, Kansans are becoming less concerned about the Kansas economy seriously threatening their family’s welfare (Figure 9).

Figure 7: Level of Concern that the Kansas Economy will seriously threaten individuals’ or families’ welfare over the next year by Gender

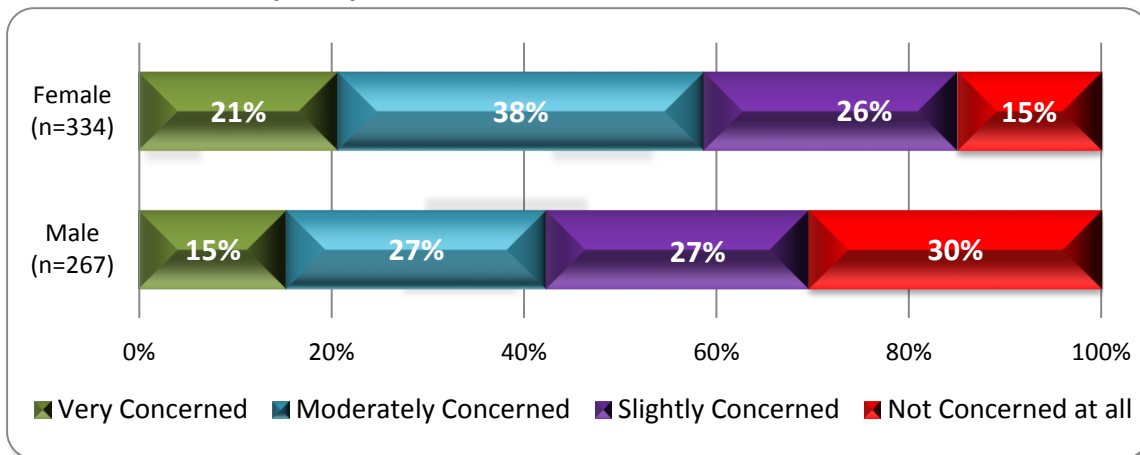


Figure 8: Level of Concern that the Kansas Economy will seriously threaten individuals’ or families’ welfare over the next year by Income

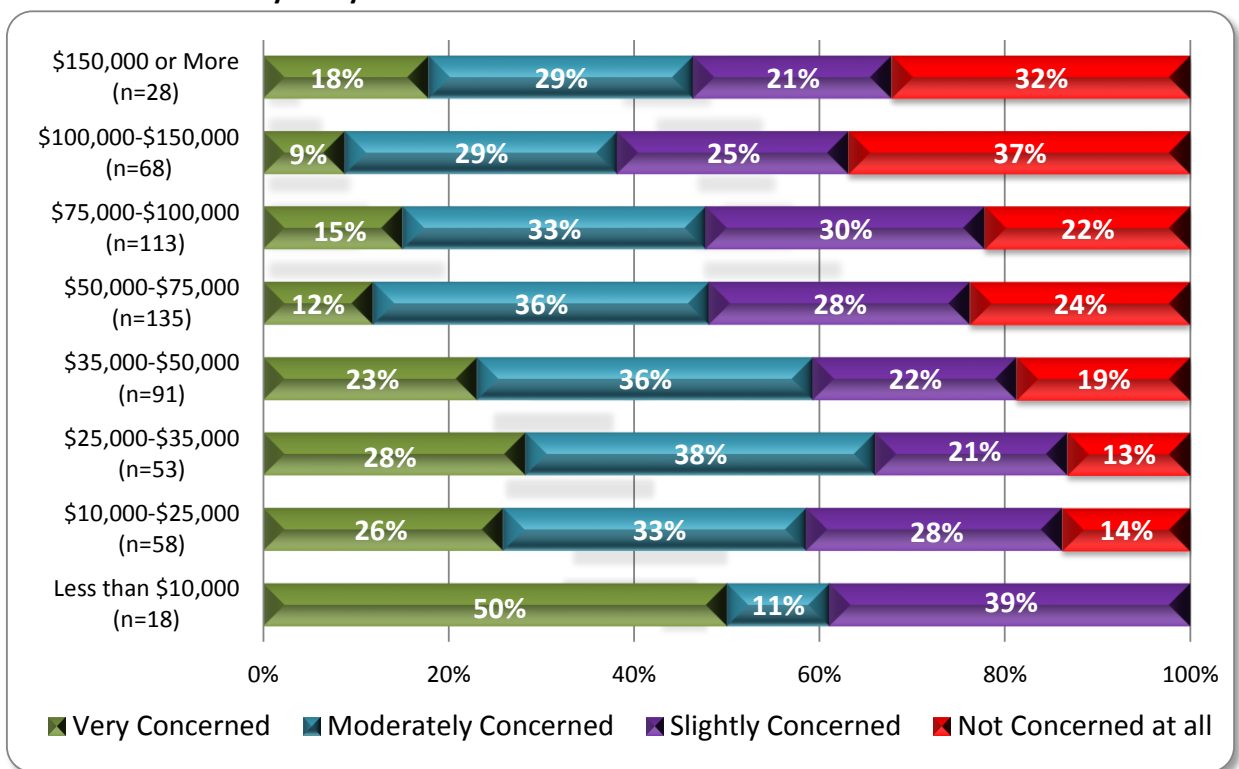
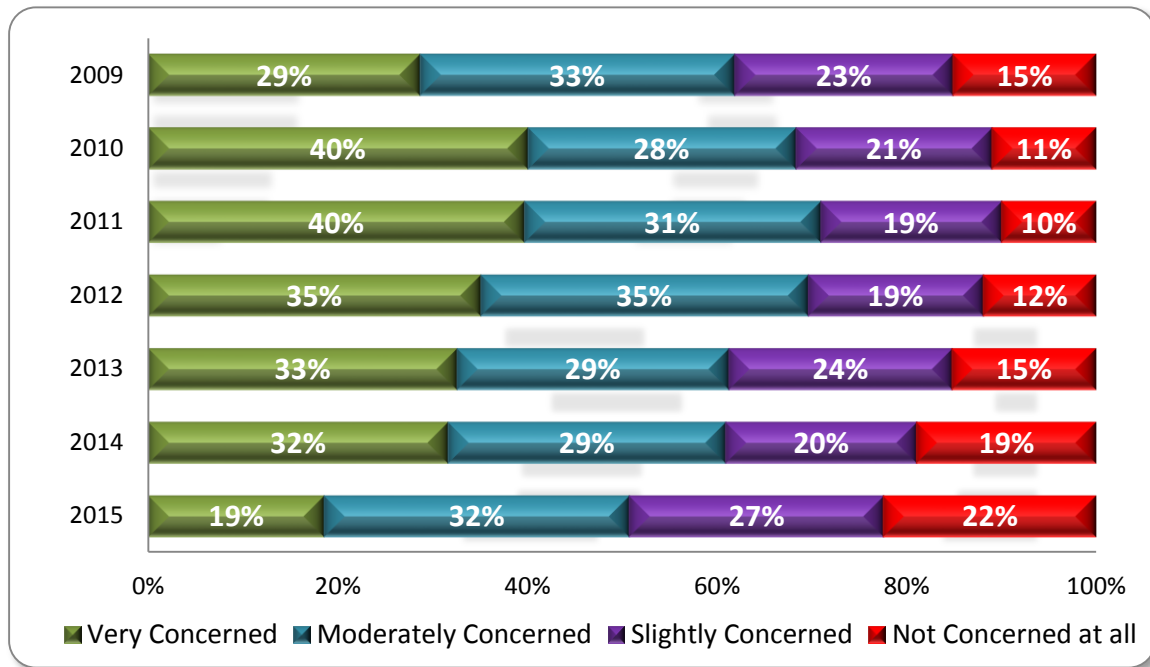


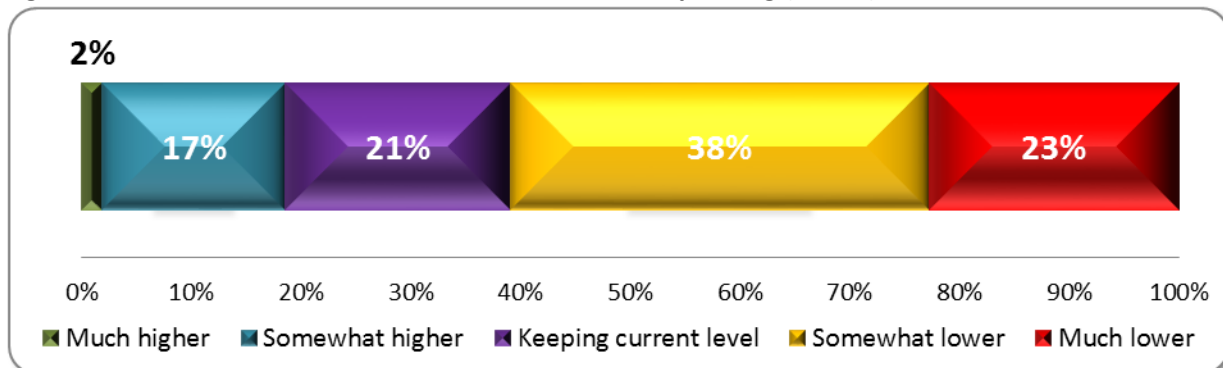
Figure 9: Trend Analysis: Level of Concern that the Kansas Economy will seriously threaten individuals' or families' welfare over the next year



Section 3: Taxes and Spending

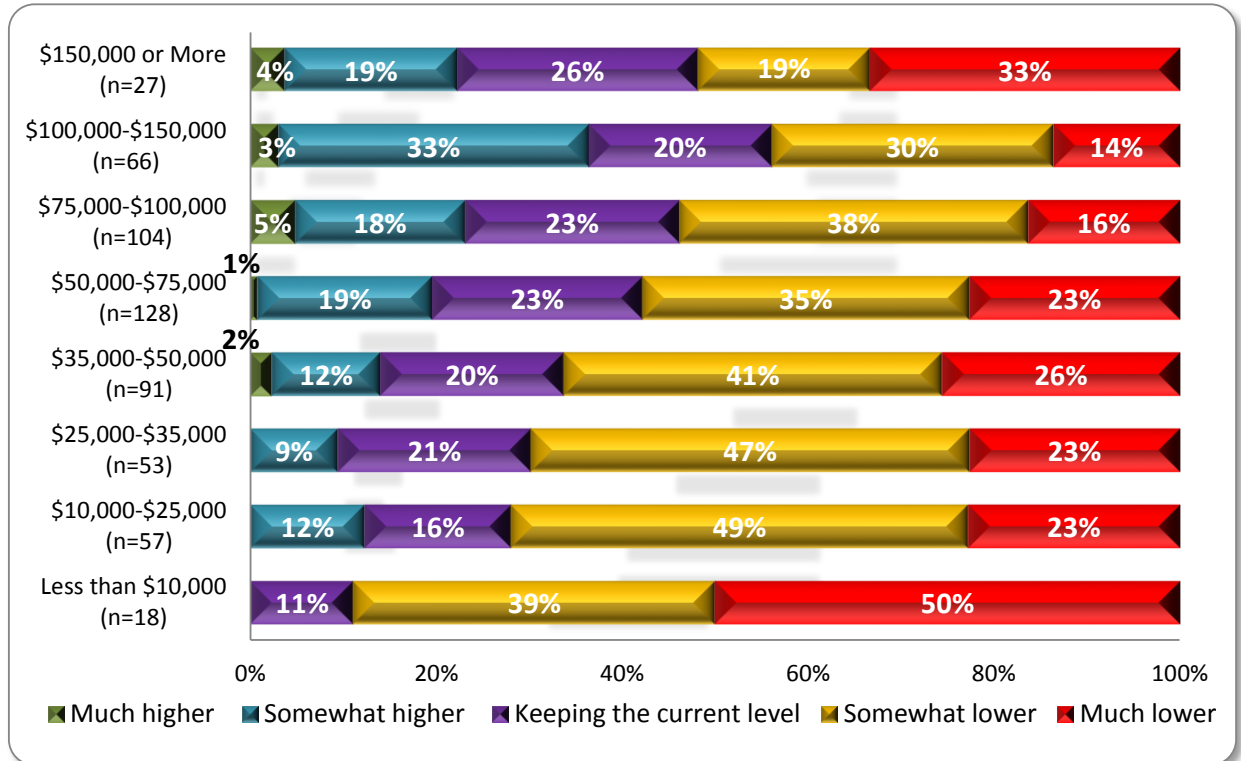
When asked about Kansas government taxes and spending, about three-fifths (61%) of respondents favor “somewhat lower” or “much lower” taxes and spending. About one-fifth (19%) said they favor “somewhat higher” or “much higher” taxes and spending, and 21% favored no change in taxes and spending (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Belief about Kansas Government Taxes and Spending (n=588)



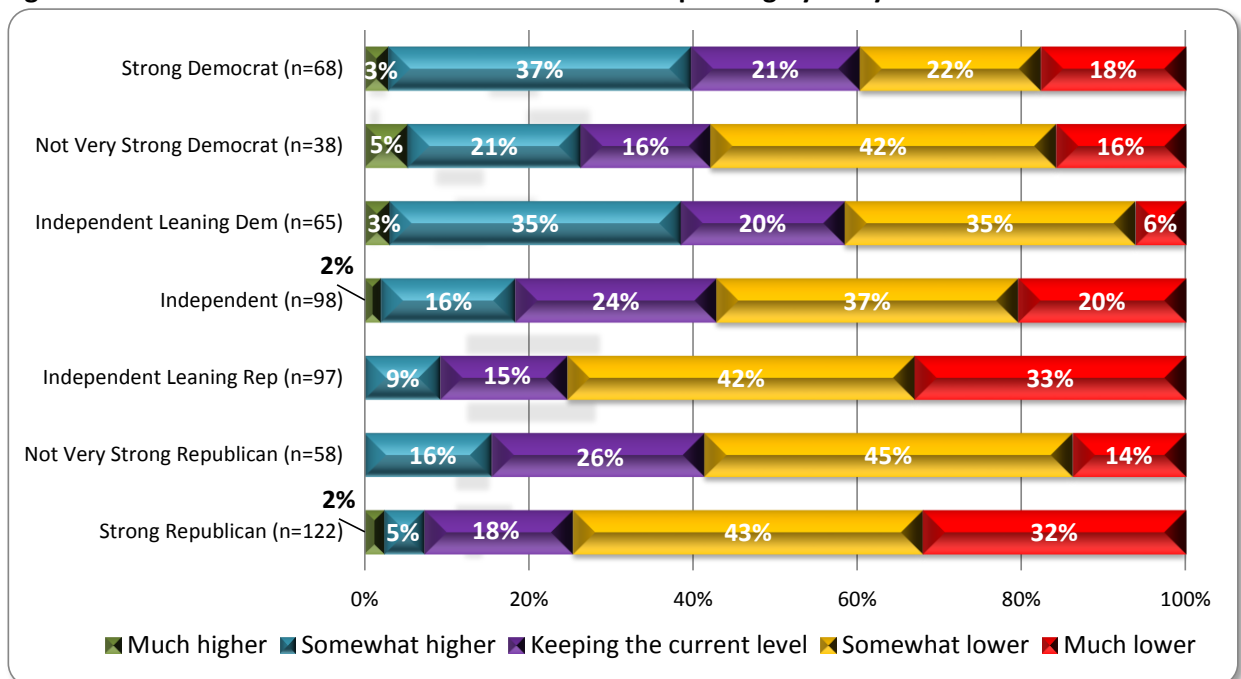
Question: *Kansas Government has to produce tax revenue for every dollar it spends. Some people prefer the government to have lower taxes and less spending. Others favor higher taxes and more government spending. Which of the following do you prefer?*

Figure 11: Belief about Kansas Government Taxes and Spending by Income



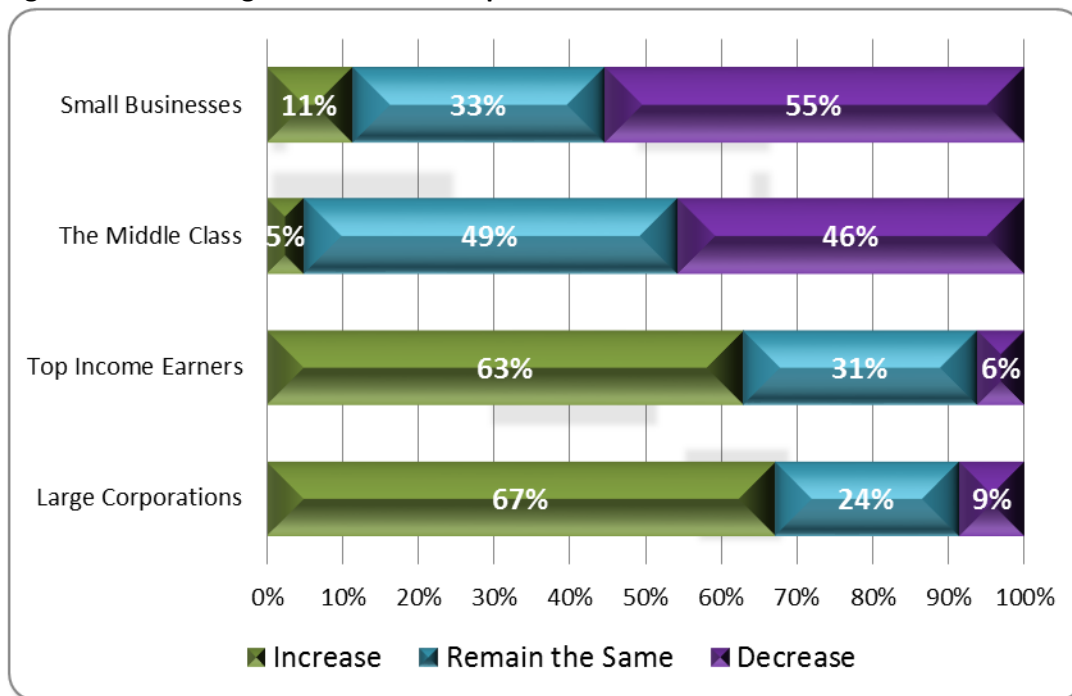
Preference of Kansas Government taxes and spending was significantly associated with income. Respondents with higher household incomes were more likely to favor “somewhat higher” or “much higher” taxes and spending than those with lower income (Figure 11).

Figure 12: Belief about Kansas Government Taxes and Spending by Party Affiliation



Preference for taxes and spending was also significantly associated with political affiliation. Democrats and those leaning Democrat were more likely to favor higher taxes and spending than Republicans and those leaning Republican (Figure 12).

Figure 13: Tax Changes on Various Groups



Question: *Tax increases and reductions can be targeted at different people or businesses. Please tell us whether you think taxes on the following groups should increase, remain the same, or decrease.*

Tax increases and reductions can be targeted at different people or businesses. Respondents were asked their opinions about tax increases and reductions targeted at large corporations, top income earners, the middle class, and small businesses. Over two-thirds (67%) of respondents believed that taxes on large corporations should be increased, and 63% believed that taxes on top income earners should be increased. In contrast, a majority (55%) of respondents felt taxes on small businesses should be decreased, and 49% thought taxes on the middle class should remain the same (Figure 13). Taxes preferences on corporations, top income earners and small businesses was significantly associated with party affiliation. Democrats and those leaning Democrat were more likely to support increasing taxes on large corporations and top income earners (Figures 14 and 15). Republicans, those leaning Republican, and independent voters were more likely to favor decreasing taxes on small businesses (Figure 16).

Figure 14: Tax Changes on Large Corporations by Party Affiliation

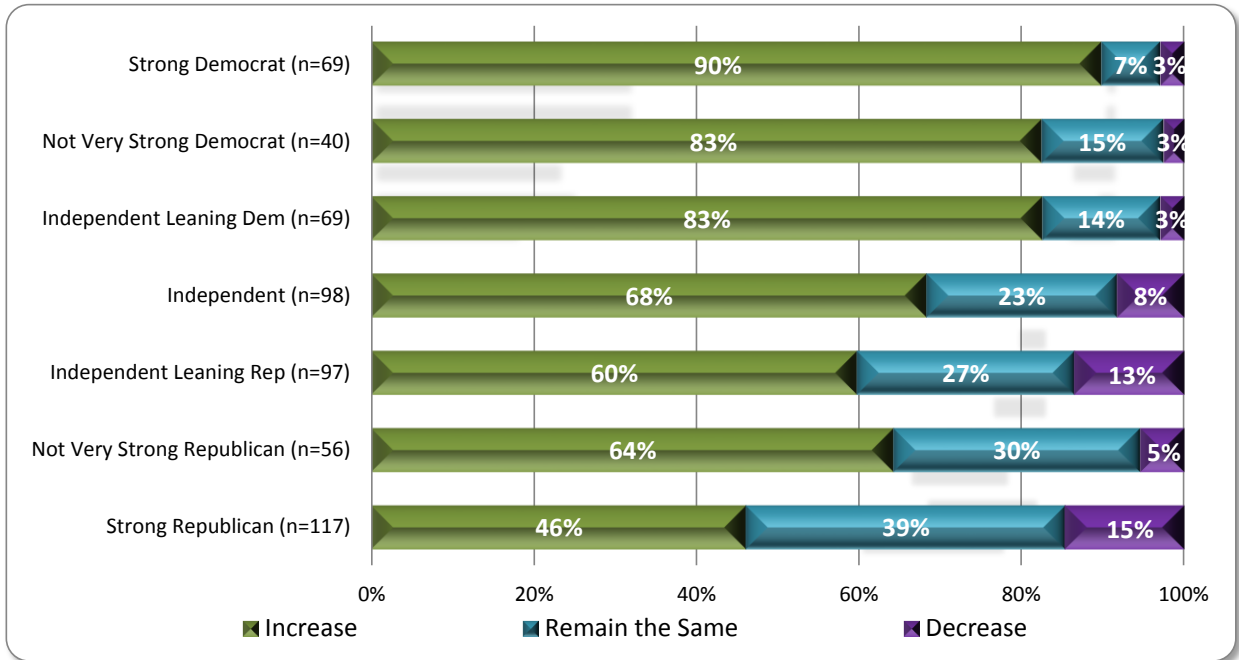


Figure 15: Tax Changes on Top Income Earners by Party Affiliation

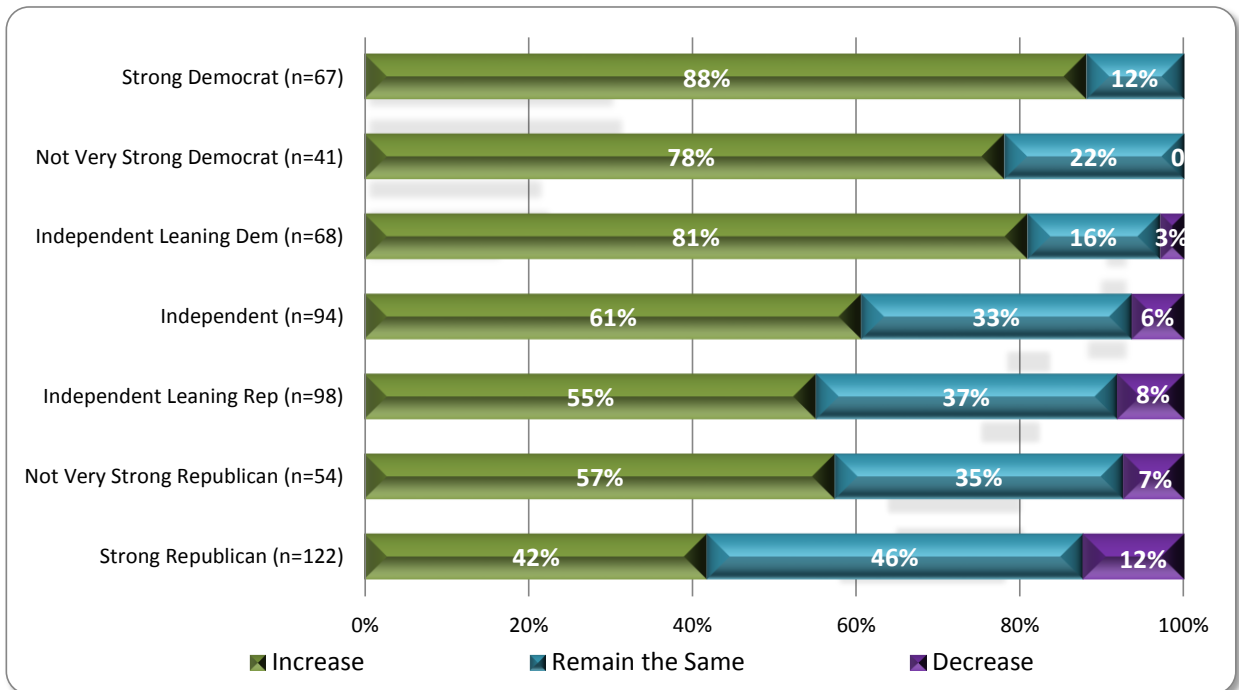


Figure 16: Tax Changes on Small Businesses by Party Affiliation

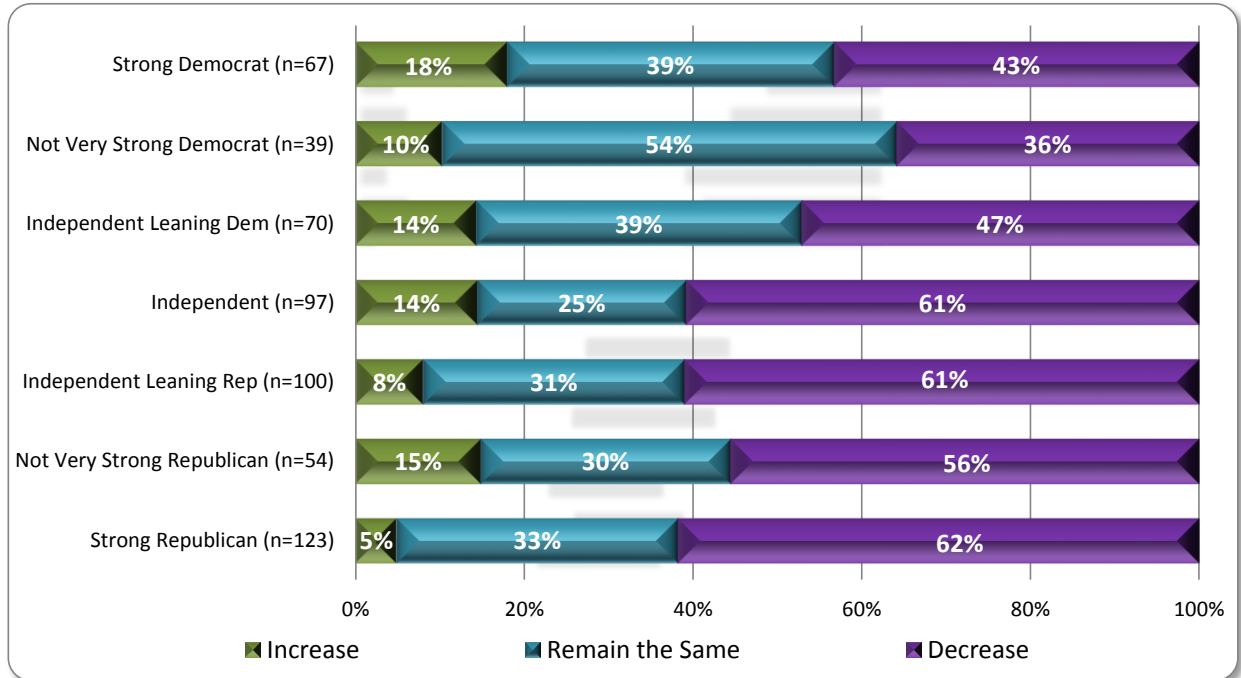
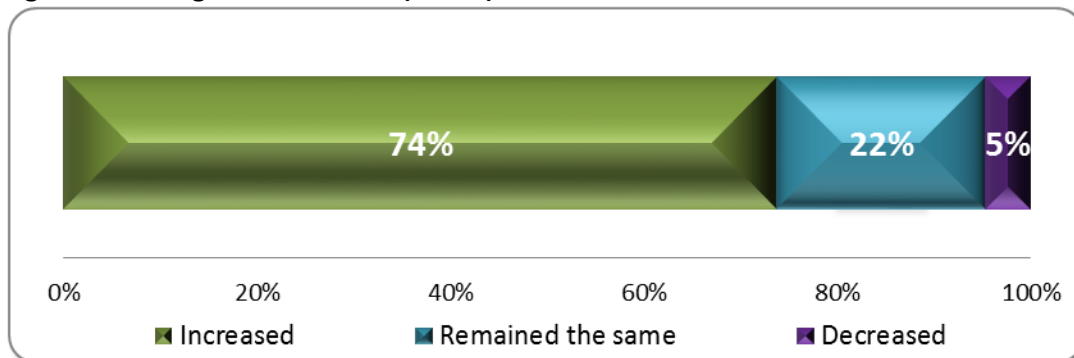


Figure 17: Change in Tax Burden (n=570)



Question: *Thinking about what you paid in sales tax, property tax and state income tax together, compared to two years ago, the amount you pay in state taxes has increased, remained the same or decreased?*

Respondents were asked to compare what they paid in sales tax, property tax and state income tax two years ago to the amount that they currently pay. About three-quarters (74%) of respondents felt that their tax burden had increased, 22% felt no change, and 5% felt their tax burden had decreased compared to two years ago (Figure 17). Change in tax burden was significantly associated with gender. Females were more likely to feel their tax burden had increased than males (Figure 18).

Figure 18: Change in Tax Burden by Gender

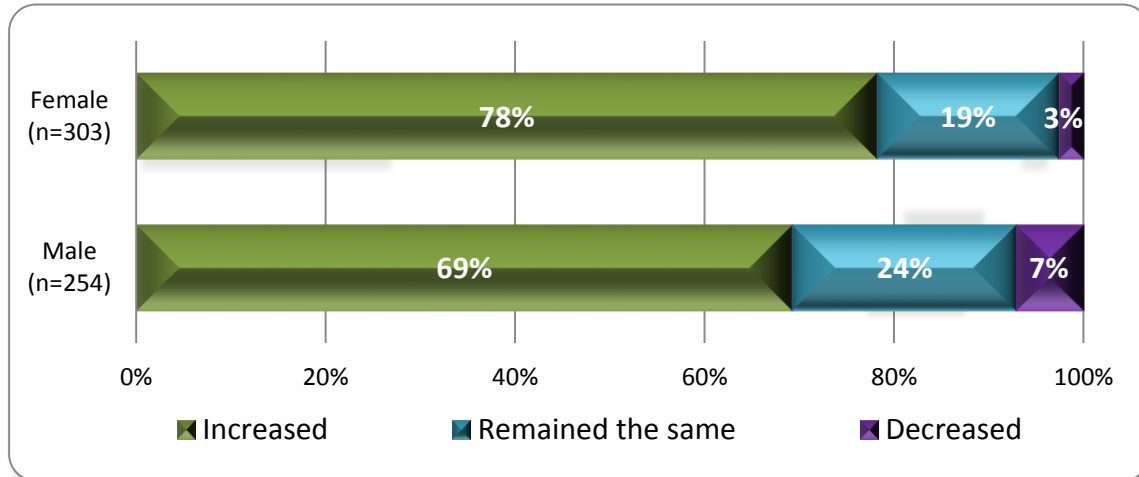
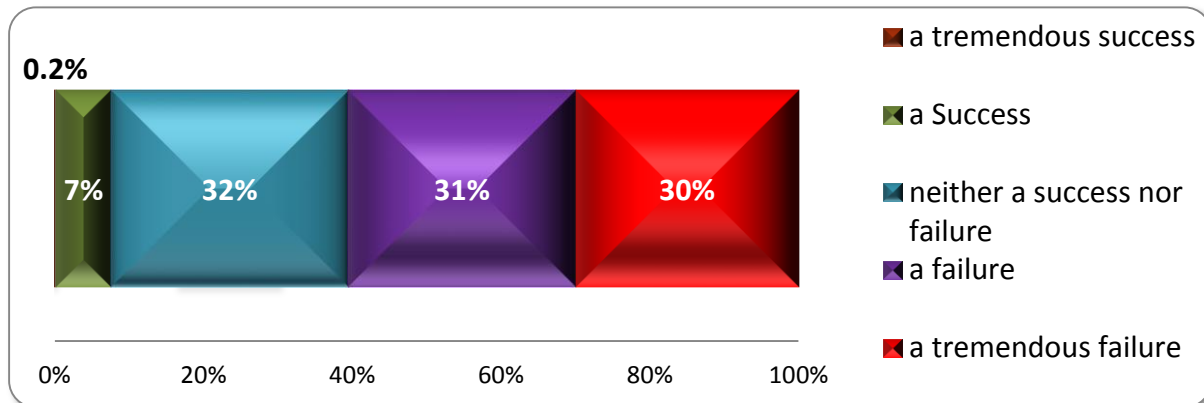


Figure 19: Opinion on Kansas Tax Policy with Regard to Economic Growth (n=543)



Question: *Governor Brownback is now widely known for leading an effort to reform the Kansas tax policy. With regard to economic growth, would you say this new tax policy has been a tremendous success, a success, neither a success nor failure, a failure or a tremendous failure?*

Respondents were asked their opinion on Governor Brownback’s tax policy reform in regard to economic growth. Over three-fifths (62%) of respondents felt that it was “a failure” or “a tremendous failure, 32% felt it was “neither a success nor failure,” 7% felt it was “a success,” and 0.2% felt it was “a tremendous success” (Figure 19). Opinions on Governor Brownback’s tax policy were significantly associated with political affiliation and gender. Republicans and those leaning Republican were less likely to feel the Governor’s tax policy was a failure (Figure 20). Females were more likely to feel the Governor’s tax policy was a failure than males (Figure 21).

Figure 20: Opinion on Kansas Tax Policy with Regard to Economic Growth by Party Affiliation

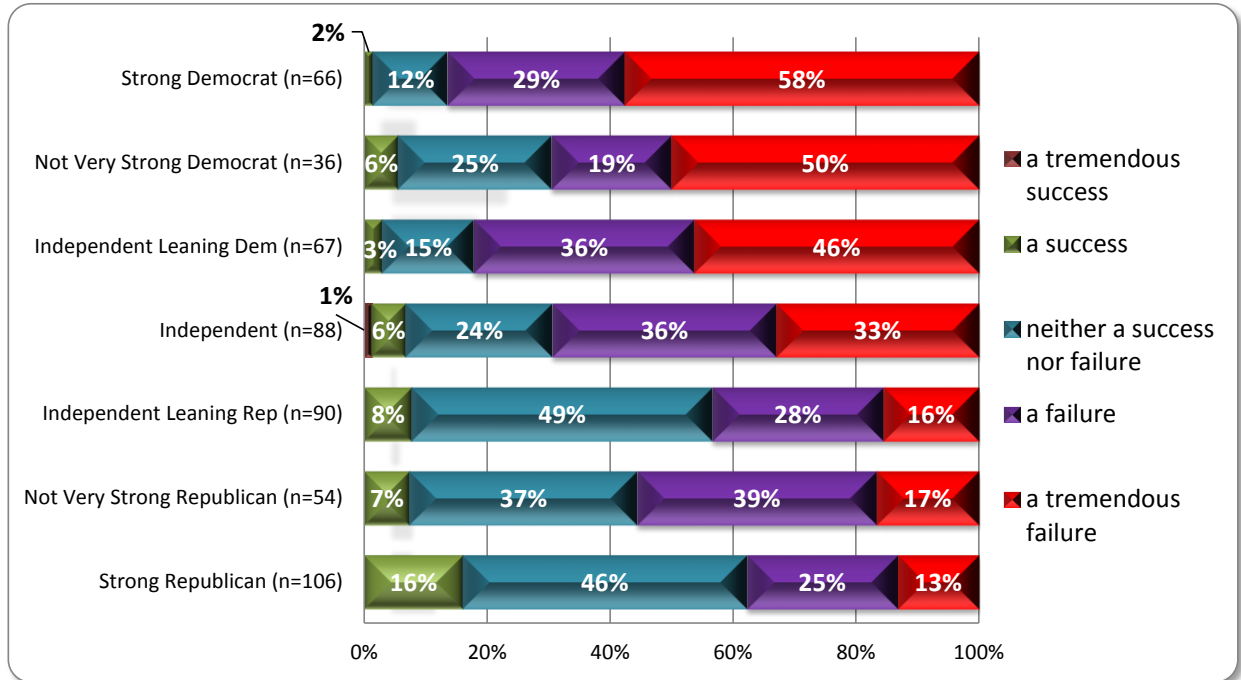
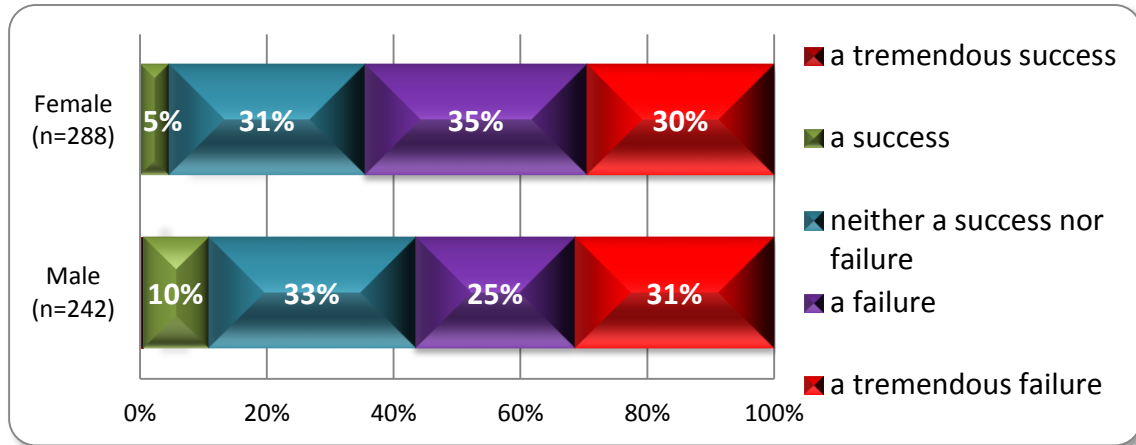
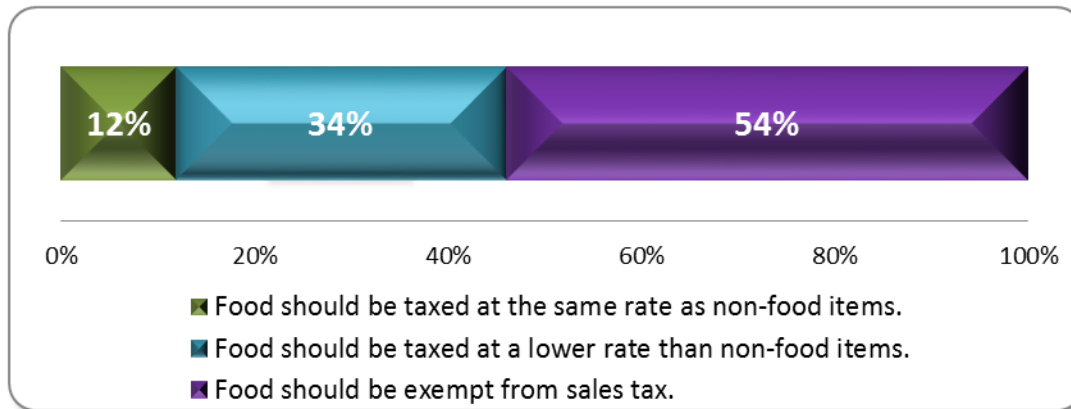


Figure 21: Opinion on Kansas Tax Policy with Regard to Economic Growth by Gender



Respondents were asked their policy preference regarding sales tax on food and groceries. Only 12% of respondents felt “food should be taxed at the same rate as non-food items.” About one-third (34%) of respondents felt “food should be taxed at a lower rate than non-food items.” Over half (54%) of respondents felt “food should be exempt from sales tax” (Figure 22).

Figure 22: Preference of Sales Tax on Food and Groceries

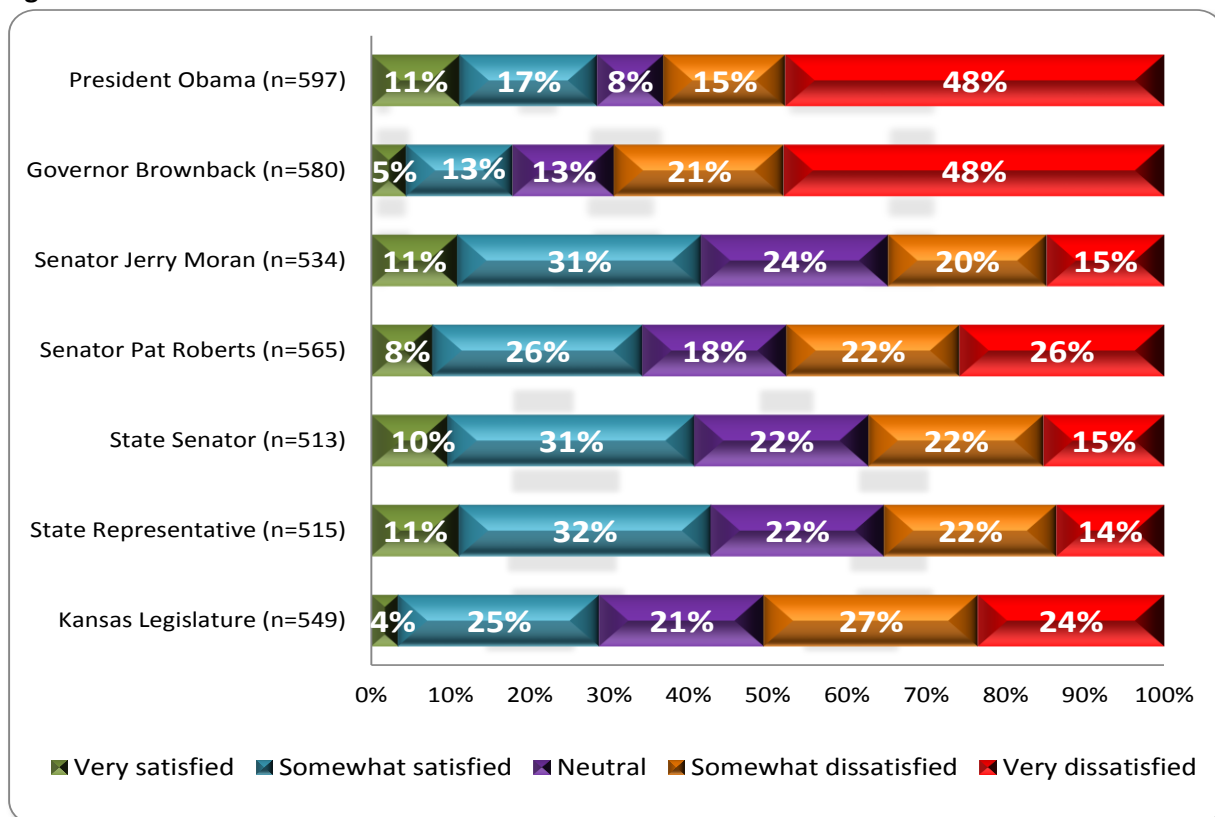


Question: Which of the following would you prefer regarding sales tax on food and groceries?

Section 4: Government and Politicians

When asked about their satisfaction with some elected governmental officials and the Kansas legislature, respondents were most satisfied with the performance of their state representatives and senators (Figure 23).

Figure 23: Satisfaction with the Overall Performance of Elected Officials



Question: How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the Kansas Legislature? state representative in your district? state senator? Senator Pat Roberts? Senator Jerry Moran? Governor Brownback? President Obama?

Respondents' satisfaction is highly correlated with party affiliation. The satisfaction levels of Republicans and those leaning Republican with the Kansas legislature, their state representatives and senators, Senators Roberts and Moran, and Governor Brownback were generally higher than the satisfaction levels of Democrats, those leaning Democrat, and independent voters. Democrats and those leaning Democrat were more likely to express satisfaction with President Obama than Republicans and those leaning Republican. (Figures 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30)

Figure 24: Satisfaction with Kansas Legislature in General by Party Affiliation

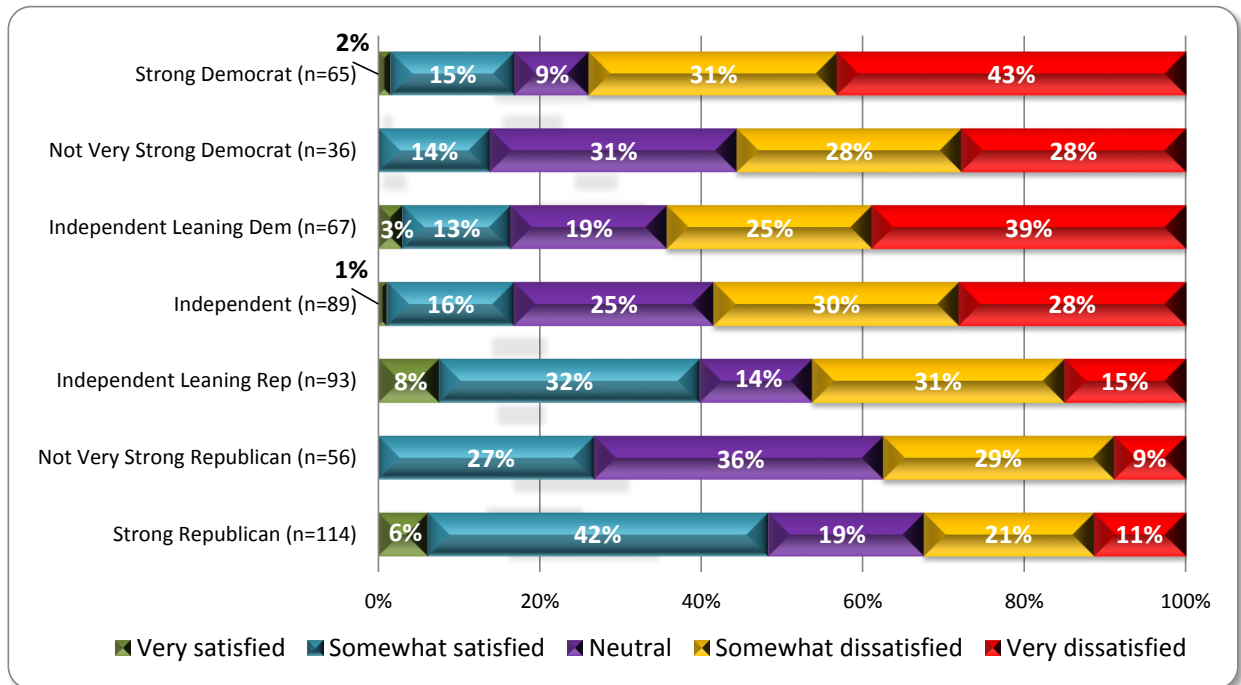


Figure 25: Satisfaction with State Representative by Party Affiliation

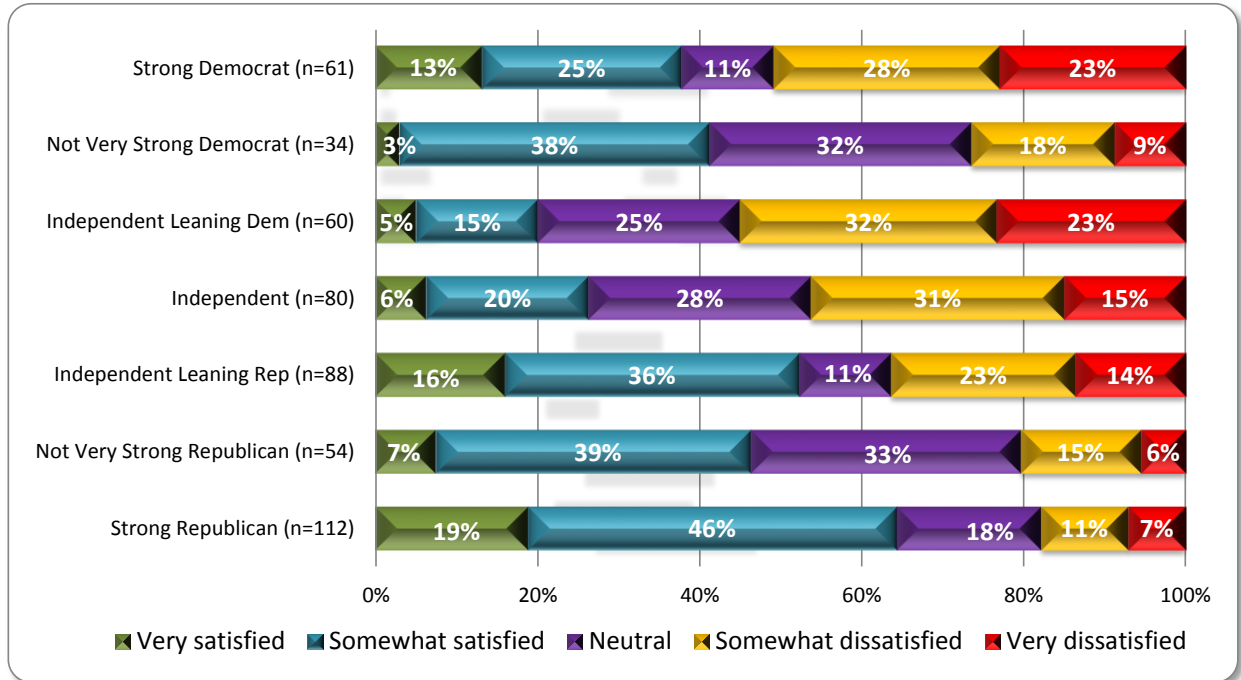


Figure 26: Satisfaction with State Senator by Party Affiliation

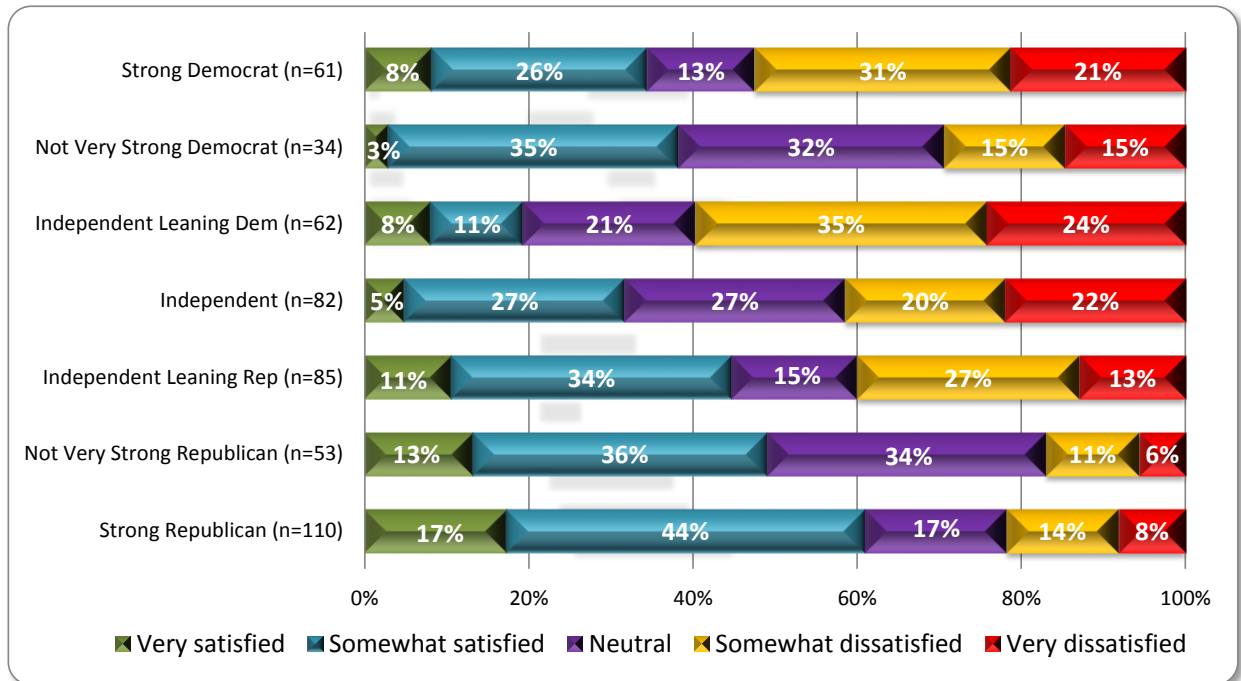


Figure 27: Satisfaction with U.S. Senator Pat Roberts by Party Affiliation

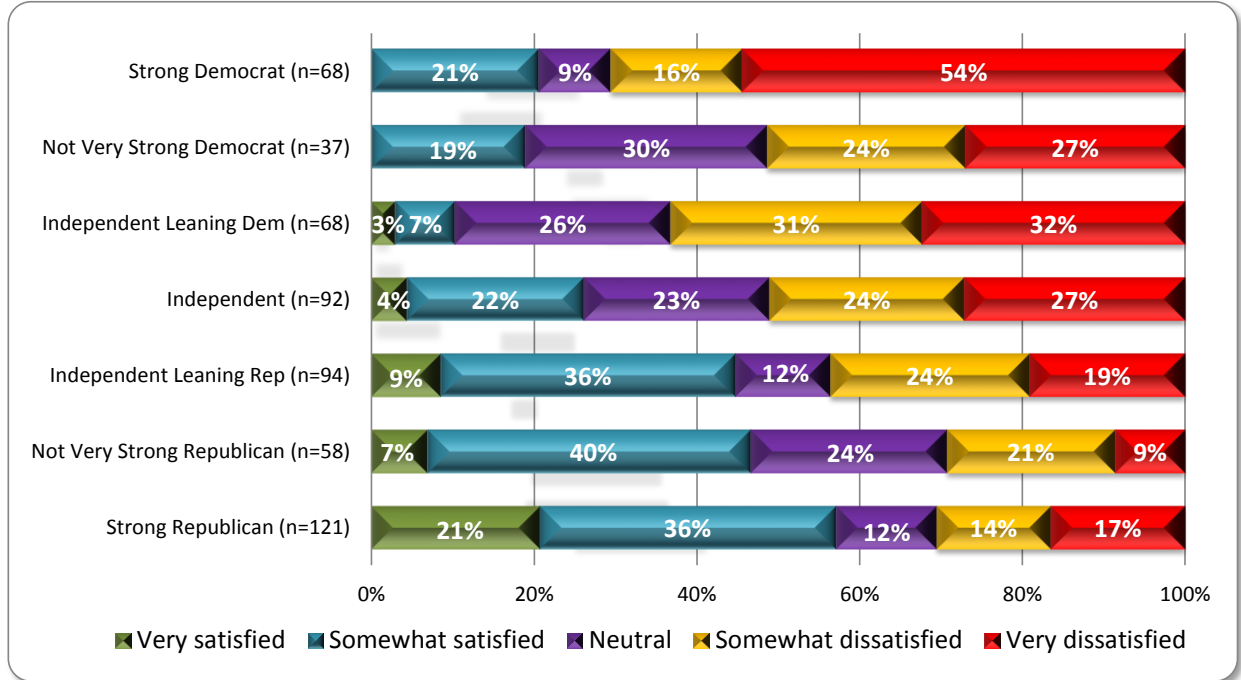


Figure 28: Satisfaction with U.S. Senator Jerry Moran by Party Affiliation

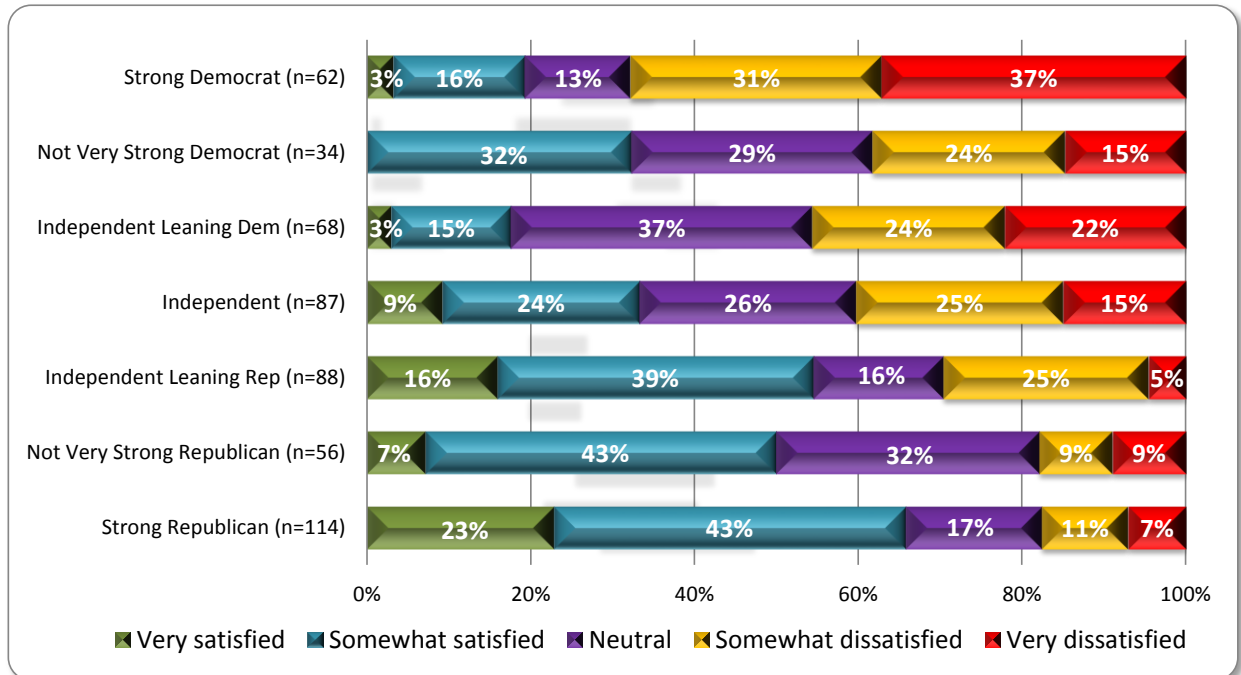


Figure 29: Satisfaction with Governor Brownback by Party Affiliation

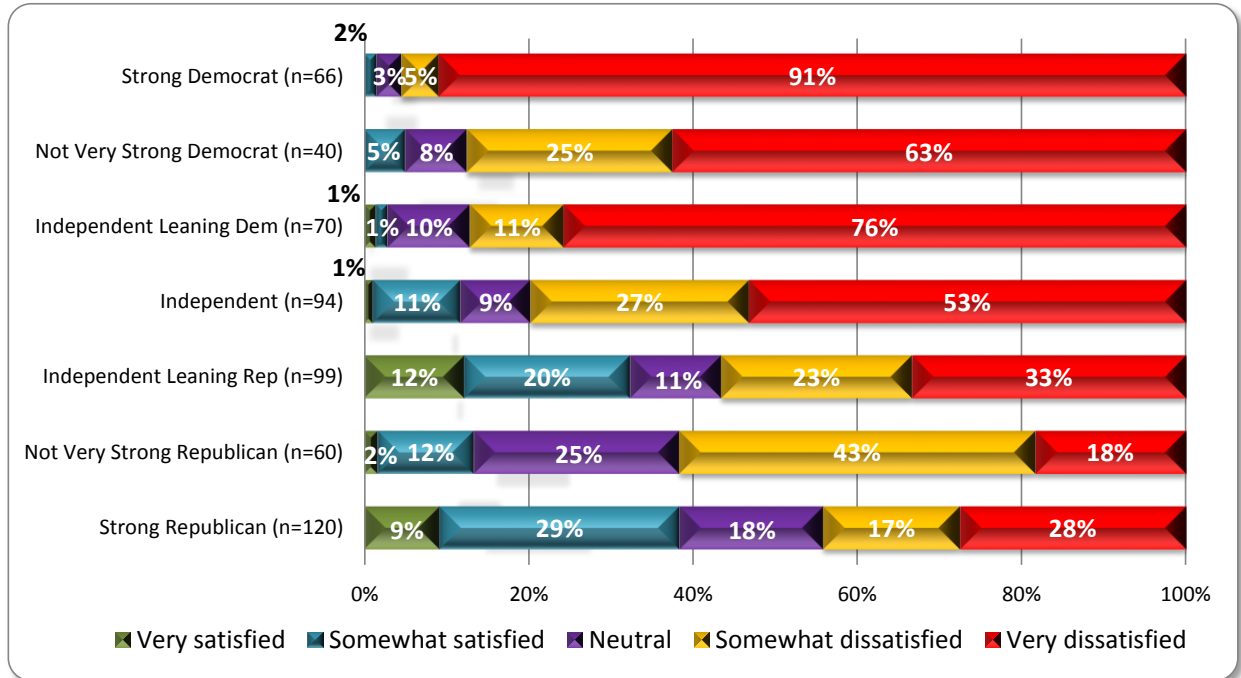


Figure 30: Satisfaction with President Obama by Party Affiliation

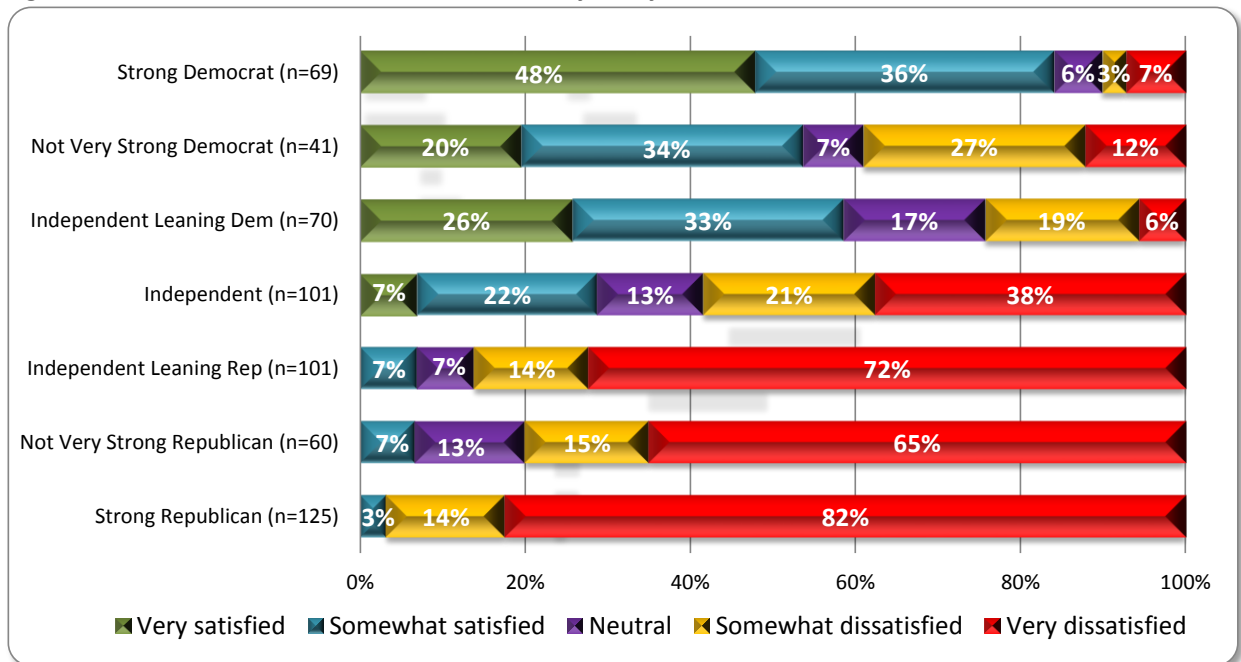
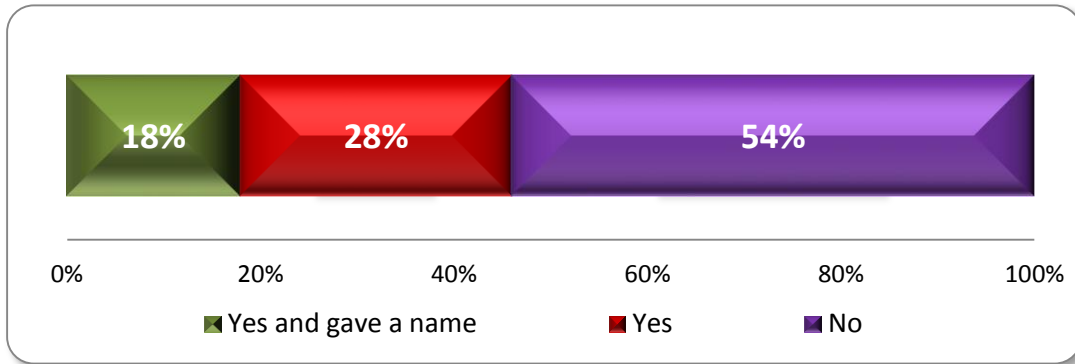


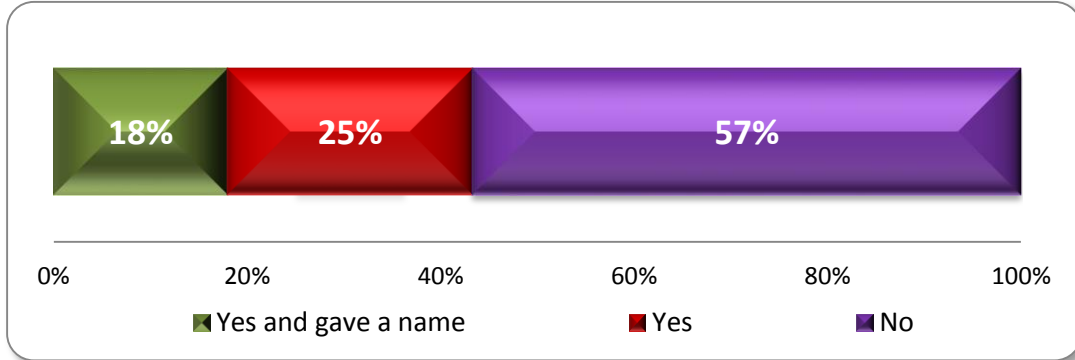
Figure 31: Knowledge of State Representative (n=605)



Question: *Do you know the name of your state representative?*

The survey asked if respondents knew the name of their state representatives and senators. More than half of respondents did not know the name of their representatives or senators. Twenty-eight percent of respondents knew their state representative's name, and 18% knew and were able to give the names of their representatives (Figure 31). One-fourth (25%) of respondents knew the name of their state senators, and 18% knew the names of their senators (Figure 32).

Figure 32: Knowledge of State Senator (n=605)

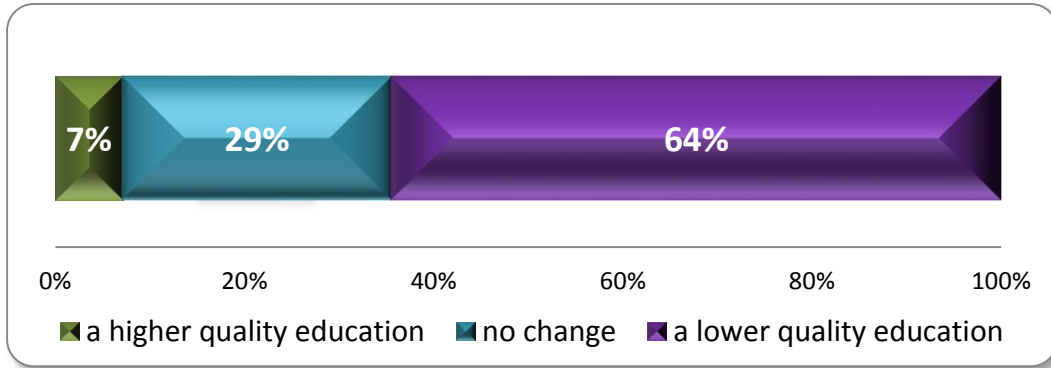


Question: *Do you know the name of your state senator?*

Section 5: Public Policy Issues

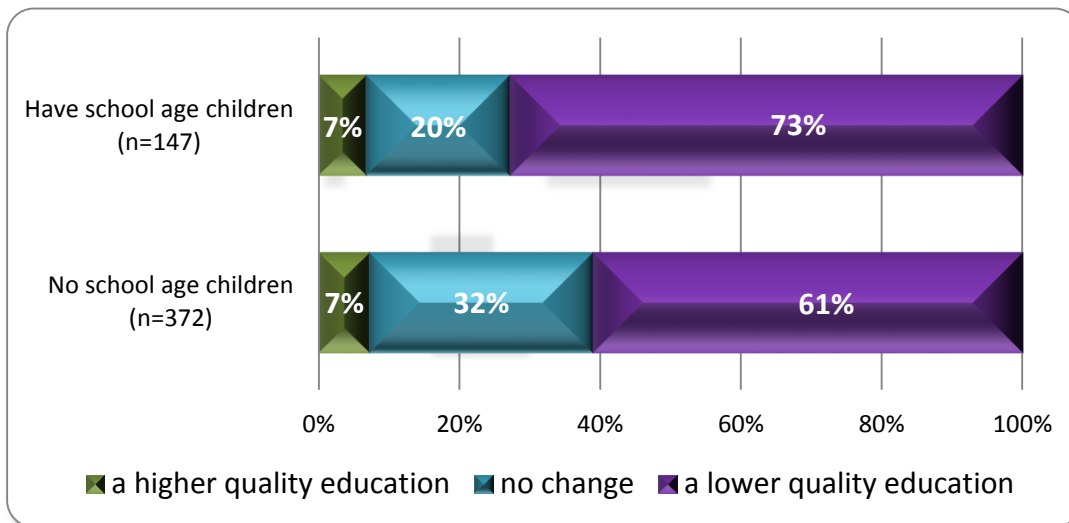
Respondents were asked about the impact of the state block grant system on education quality. Almost two-thirds (64%) of respondents felt that the block grant system resulted in a lower quality of education for public school children in their school districts, 29% felt there was no change in the quality of education, and 7% felt the block grant system resulted in a higher quality of education (Figure 33).

Figure 33: Impact of State Block Grant System on Education (n=519)



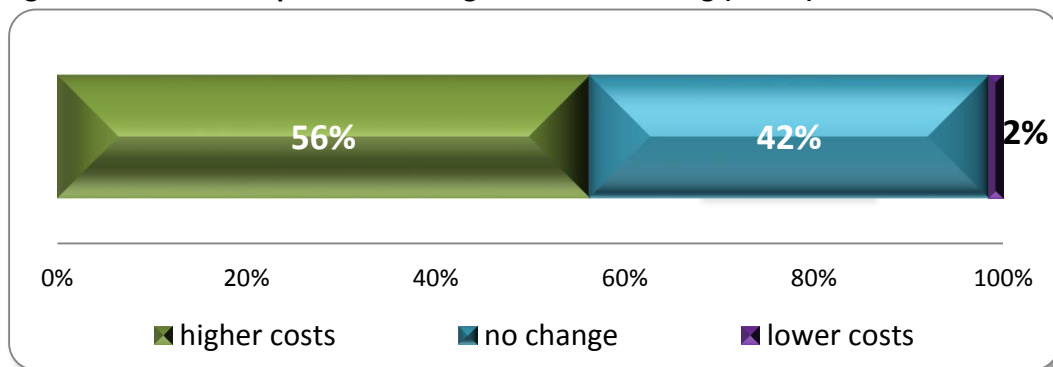
Question: *School funding has undergone some changes in the last couple of years. In your opinion, is the new system the State has for distributing money to the various school districts around Kansas resulted in: a higher quality of education, no change in the quality of education, or a lower quality of education for public school children in your area?*

Figure 34: Impact of State Block Grant System on Education by School Age Children



Those respondents who had school-age children at home were more likely to feel that the block grant resulted in a lower quality of education, with 73% of them expressing this opinion (Figures 34).

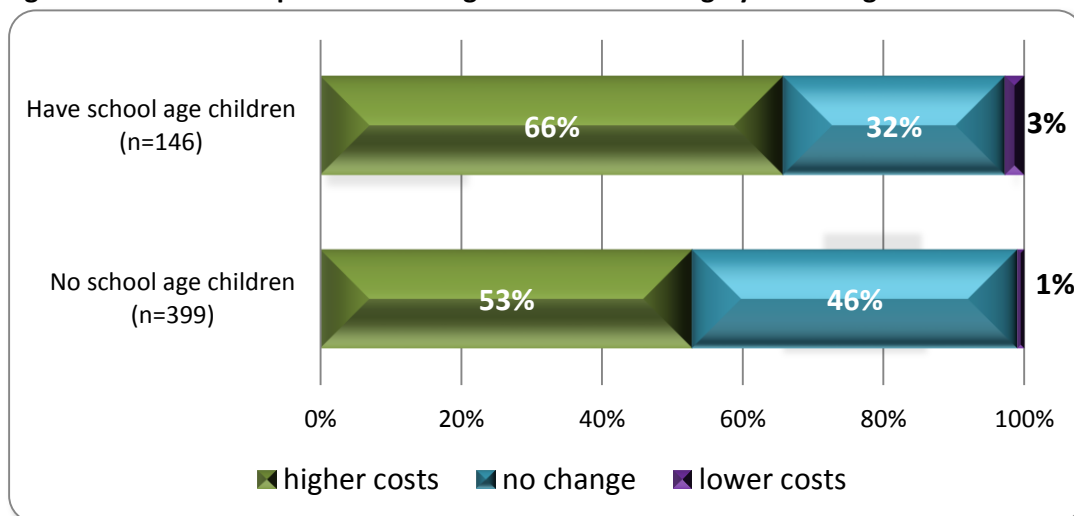
Figure 35: Financial Impact from Change of School Funding (n=545)



Question: *How do you feel the change in the school funding system has affected you financially? Has it resulted in: Higher costs in your taxes and fees, no change in the costs of your taxes and fees, or lower costs in your taxes and fees?*

When asked how the school funding system change affected them financially, 56% of respondents felt the change resulted in them paying higher taxes and fees, 42% felt no change, and 2% felt the change led to lower costs (Figure 35).

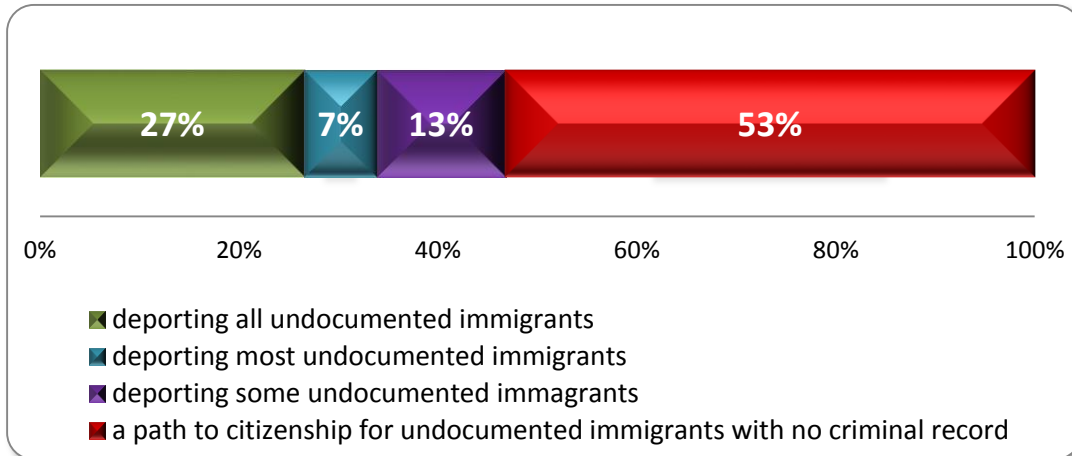
Figure 36: Financial Impact from Change of School Funding by School Age Children



Those respondents who had school-age children were more likely to feel the funding system change led to higher costs on them (Figure 36).

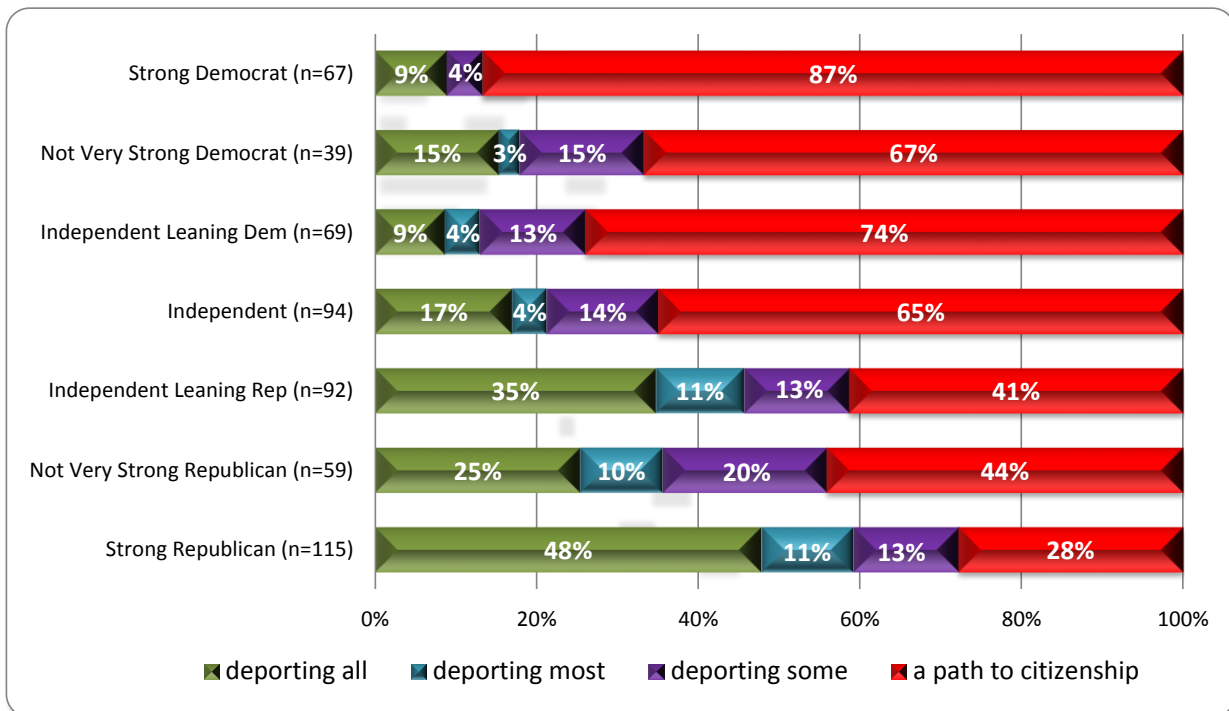
Respondents were asked about their opinion on policies regarding undocumented immigrants. More than half (53%) of respondents supported “a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants with no criminal record.” More than one-fourth (27%) of respondents thought all undocumented immigrants should be deported, and 20% support deporting some or most undocumented immigrants (Figure 37).

Figure 37: Opinion on Policies Regarding Undocumented Immigrants (n=591)



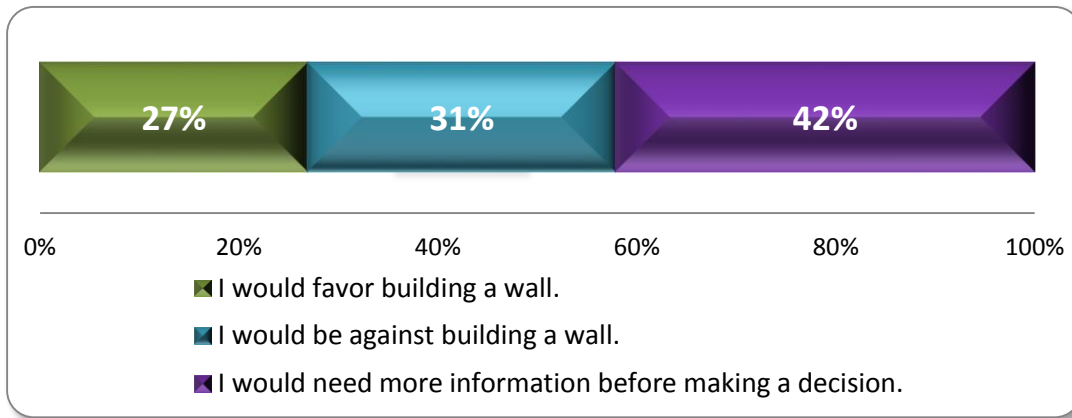
Question: Which of the following best describes your opinion on policies regarding undocumented immigrants? Would you support: deporting all undocumented immigrants, deporting most undocumented immigrants, deporting some undocumented immigrants, or would you support a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants with no criminal record?

Figure 38: Opinion on Policies Regarding Undocumented Immigrants by Party Affiliation



Political orientation was highly predictive of opinions regarding undocumented immigrants. The more strongly respondents associated with the Republican Party, the more likely they were to favor deporting illegal immigrants (Figure 38).

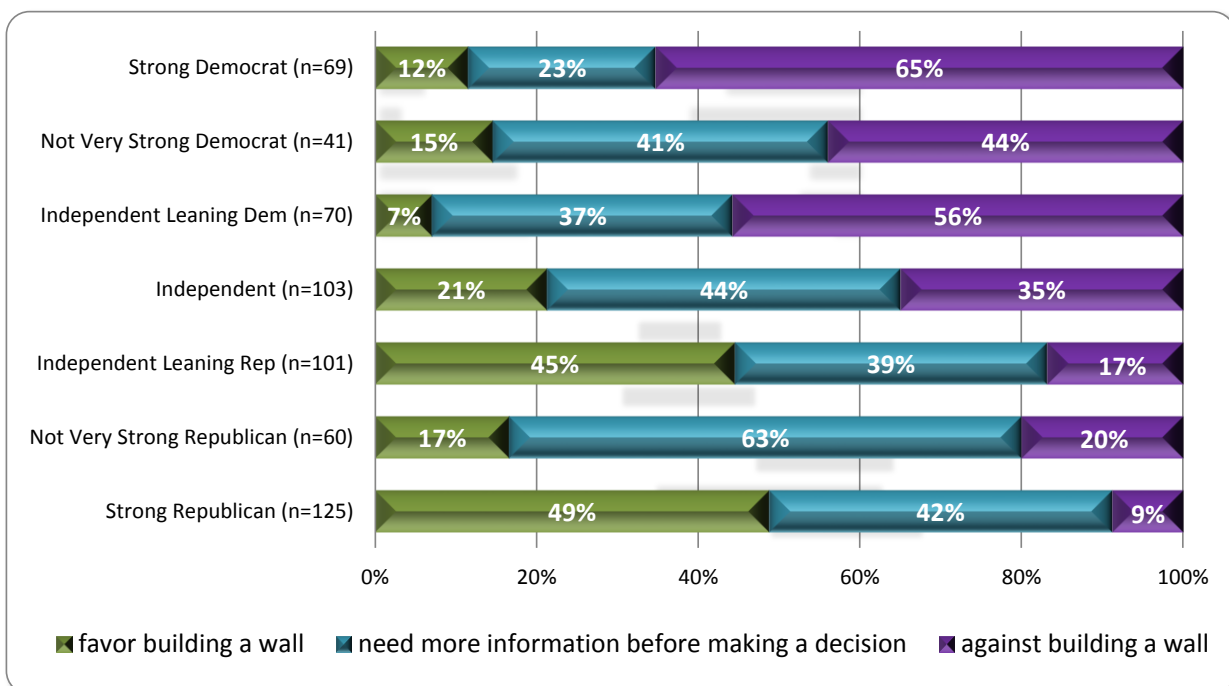
Figure 39: Opinion of Building a Wall on U.S./Mexico Border (n=632)



Question: *Some Americans favor building an impenetrable wall across the entire US/Mexico border. Which of the following options best matches your preference?*

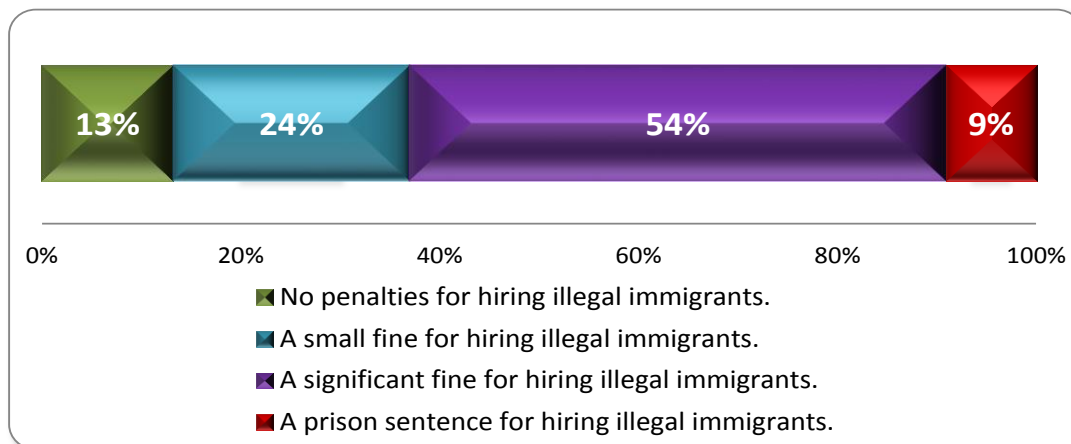
When asked about their opinion about deterring illegal immigration, 27% of respondents said they would favor building a wall on the U.S. and Mexico border, 31% opposed building a wall, and 42% needed more information before making a decision (Figure 39).

Figure 40: Opinion of Building a Wall on U.S./Mexico Border by Party Affiliation



Political party also correlated with opinions on building a wall on the Mexican/American border. Republican respondents tended to favor the wall, while Democratic respondents tended to oppose it (Figure 40).

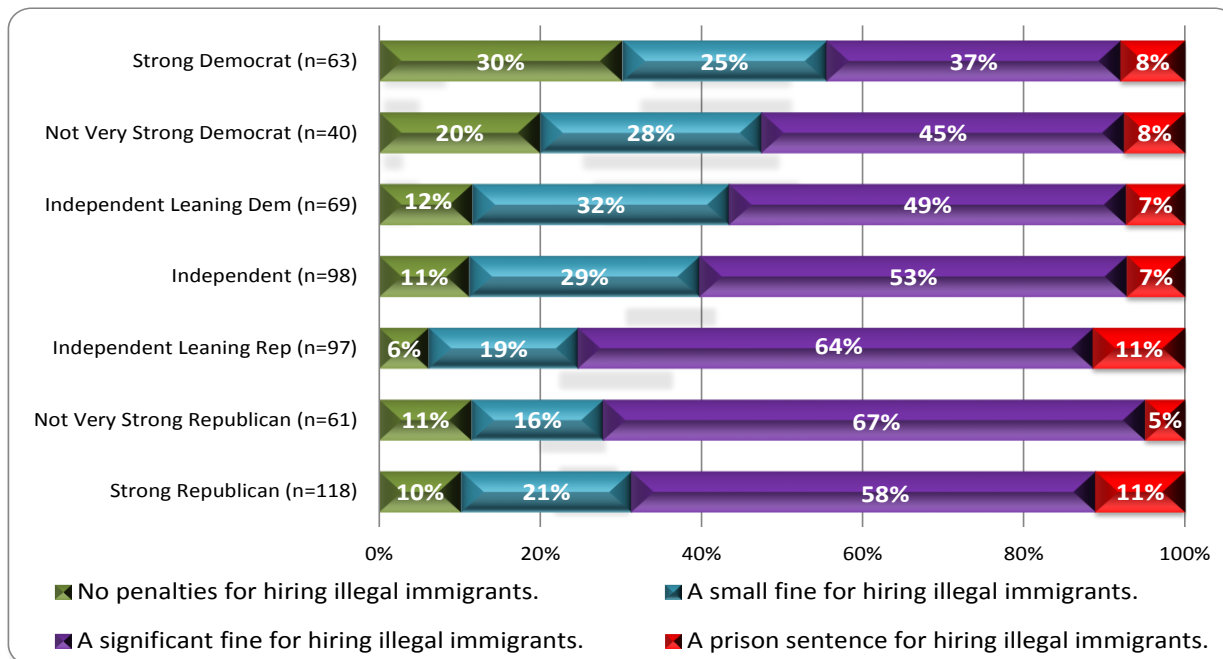
Figure 41: Penalties for Hiring Illegal Immigrants (n=605)



Question: *What would be your policy preference for employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants? No penalties for hiring illegal immigrants, a small fine for hiring illegal immigrants, a significant fine for hiring illegal immigrants, or should employers be given a prison sentence for hiring illegal immigrants?*

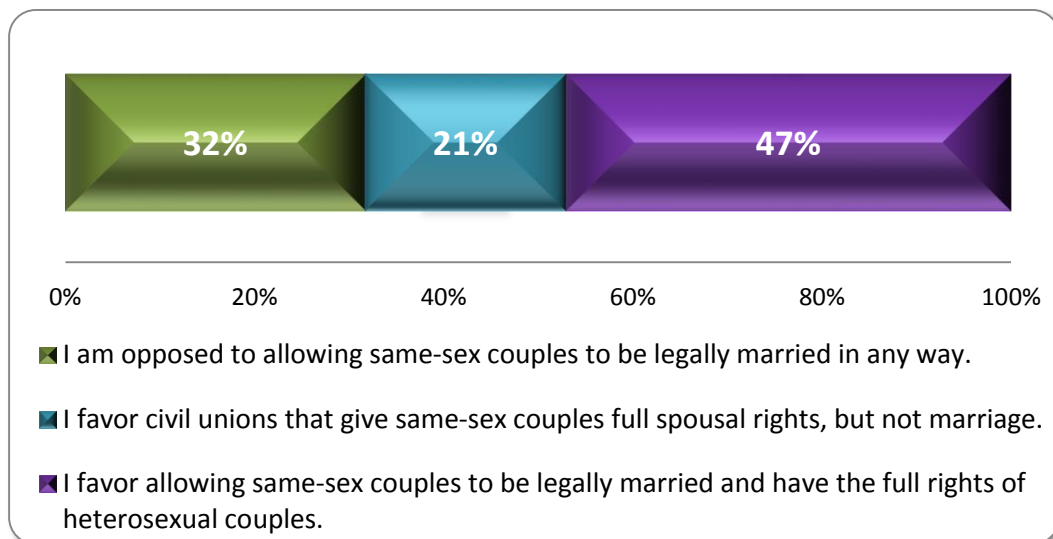
Regarding penalties on employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants, a majority (54%) of respondents supported a significant fine for knowingly hiring illegal immigrants, 24% supported a small fine, and 13% supported no penalties. Only 9% of respondents supported a prison sentence for hiring illegal immigrants (Figure 41).

Figure 42: Penalties for Hiring Illegal Immigrants by Party Affiliation



In general, Democrats, those respondents leaning Democrats, and independent voters were more likely to support a path for undocumented immigrants to citizenship, oppose building a wall across the U.S. and Mexico border, and oppose severe penalties for knowingly hiring illegal immigrants (Figures 38, 40, 42).

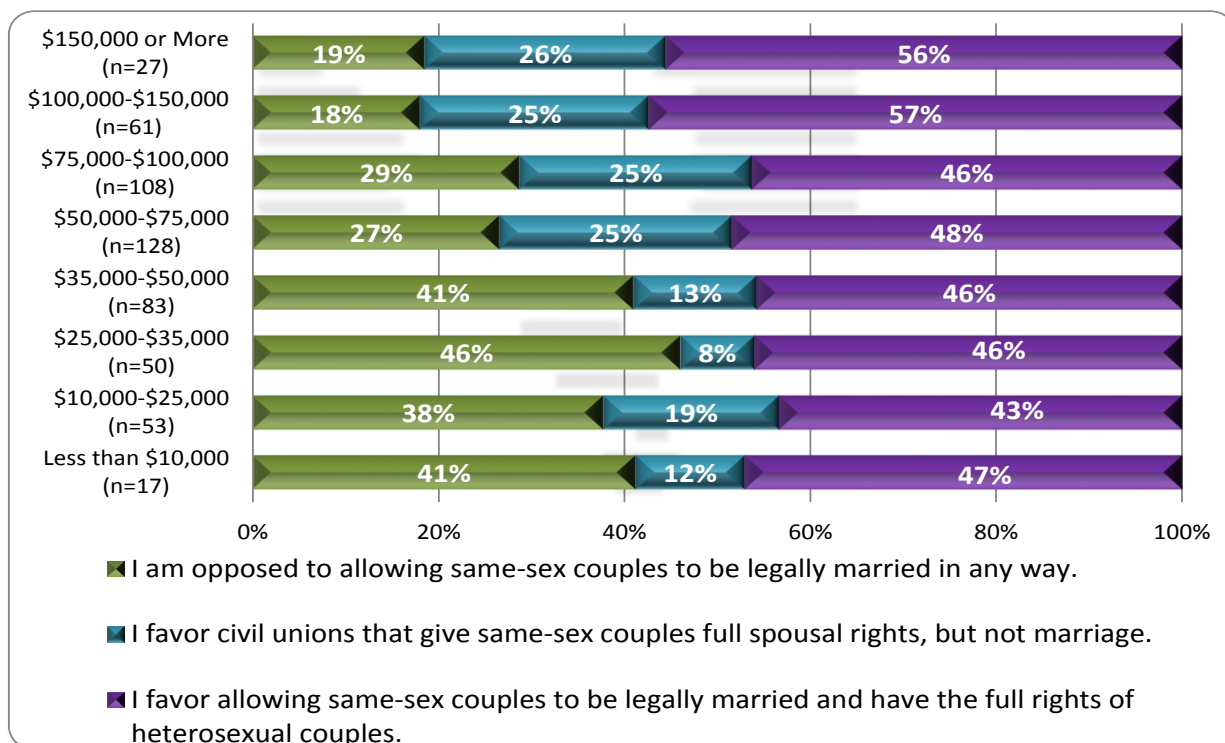
Figure 43: Opinion on Same-Sex Marriage (n=590)



Question: *Gay marriage was recently made legal in all states by a U.S. Supreme Court decision. Which policy best fits your preference for same-sex marriage?*

When asked about their opinion on same-sex marriage, almost half (47%) of respondents favored allowing same-sex couples to be legally married and have the full rights of heterosexual couples, 21% of respondents favored civil unions that give same-sex couples full spousal rights, but not marriage, and 32% opposed same-sex marriage in any way (Figure 43).

Figure 44: Opinion on Same-Sex Marriage by Income



Respondents with higher income, Democrats, those leaning Democrat, and independent voters were more likely to support same-sex marriage than respondents with lower income, Republicans and those leaning Republican (Figures 44, 45).

Figure 45: Opinion on Same-Sex Marriage by Party Affiliation

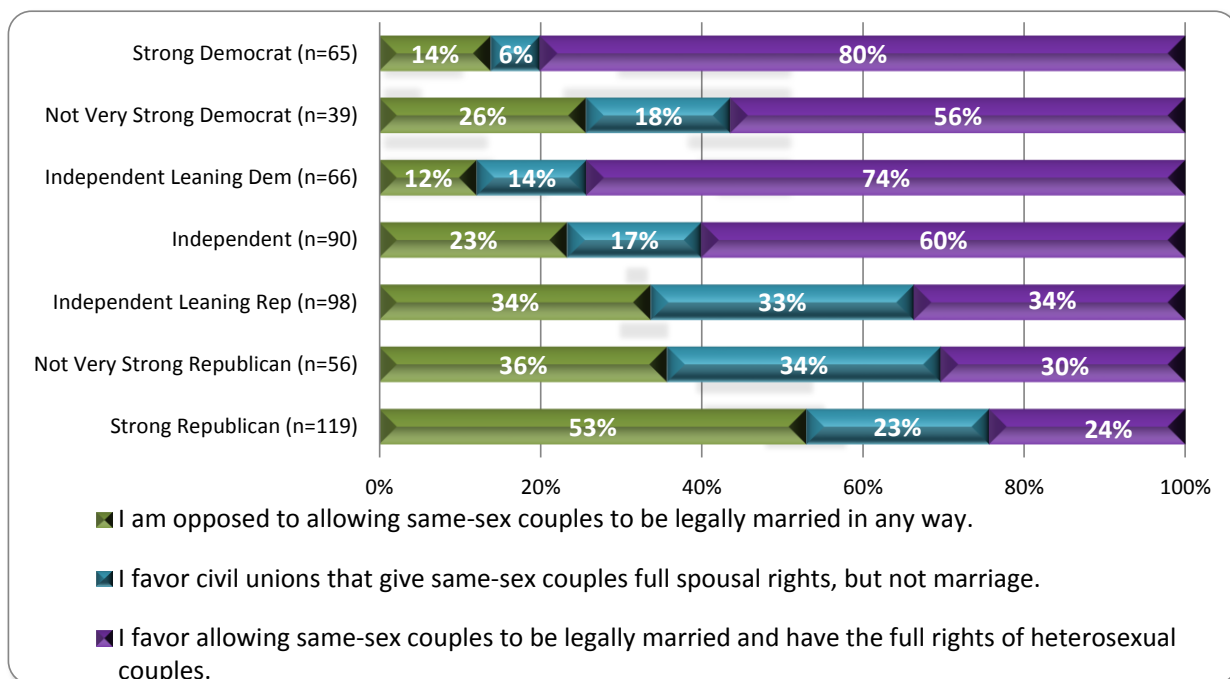
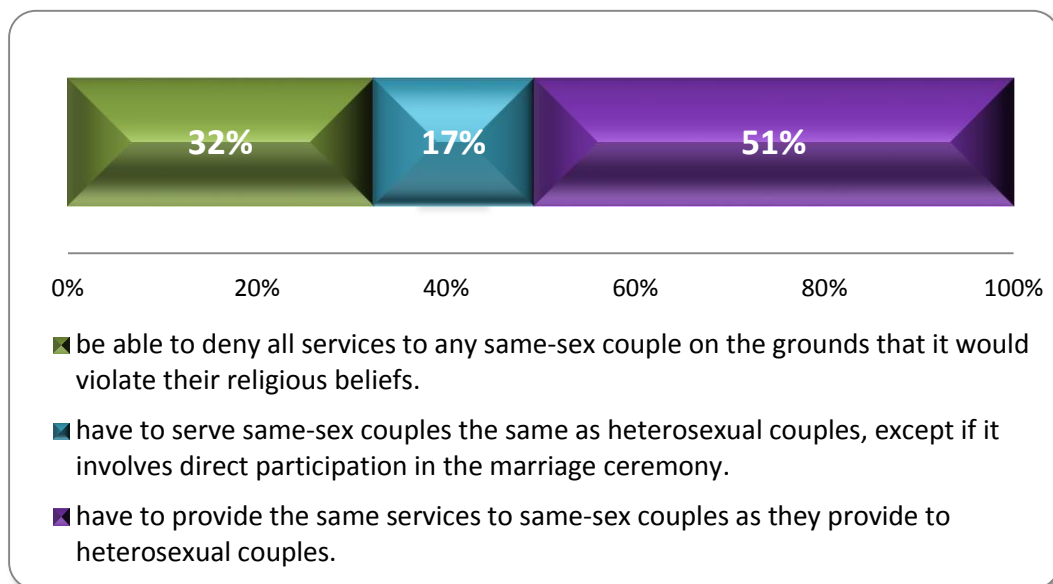


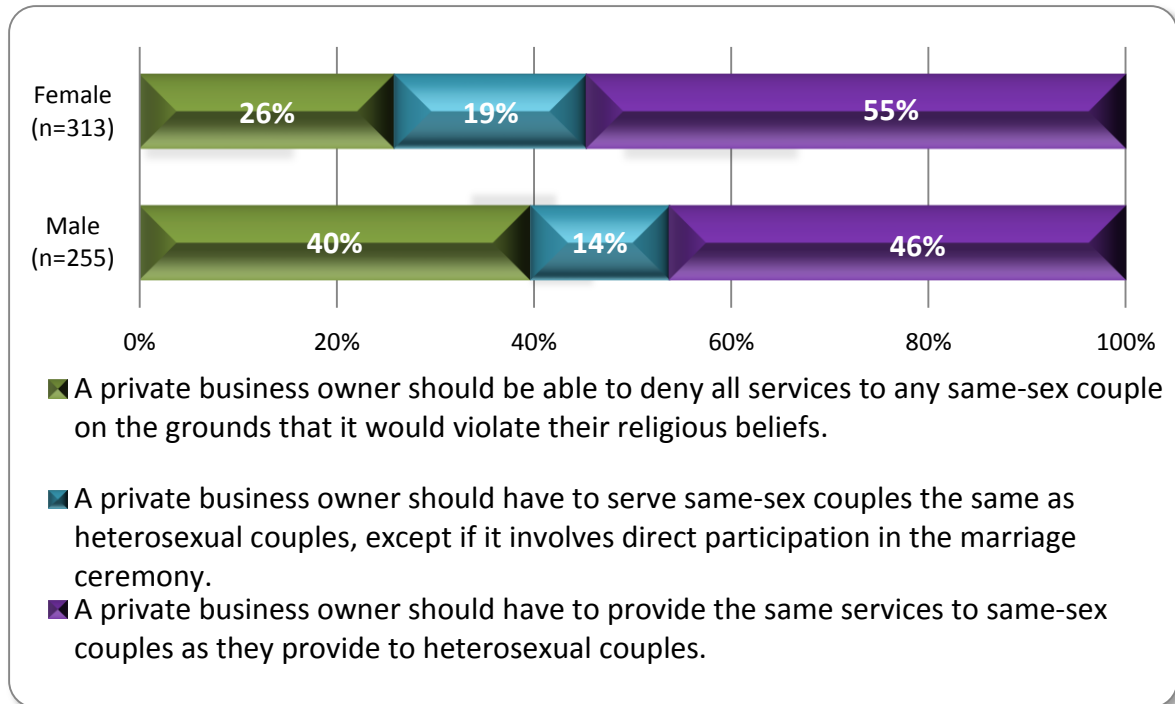
Figure 46: Opinion on Private Business Serving Same-Sex Couples (n=600)



Question: Which of the following best describes your preference for private businesses serving gay couples? A private business owner should be able to deny all services to any gay couple on the grounds that it would violate their religious beliefs. A private business owner should have to serve gay couples the same as heterosexual couples, except if it involves direct participation in the marriage ceremony. A private business owner should have to provide the same services to gay couples as they provide to heterosexual couples.

The survey also asked whether private businesses should deny services to same-sex couples. More than half (51%) of respondents said that private businesses should have to provide the same services to the same-sex couples as they provide to the heterosexual couples. Almost a third (32%) of respondents said that a private business owner should be able to deny all services to any same-sex couple on the grounds that it would violate their religious beliefs, and 17% said a private business owner should have to serve same-sex couples the same as heterosexual couples, except if it involves direct participation in the marriage ceremony (Figure 46).

Figure 47: Opinion on Private Business Serving Same-Sex Couples by Gender



Male respondents, Republicans, and those leaning Republican were more likely to support denying services to same-sex couples (Figures 47, 48)

Figure 48: Opinion on Private Business Serving Same-Sex Couples by Party Affiliation

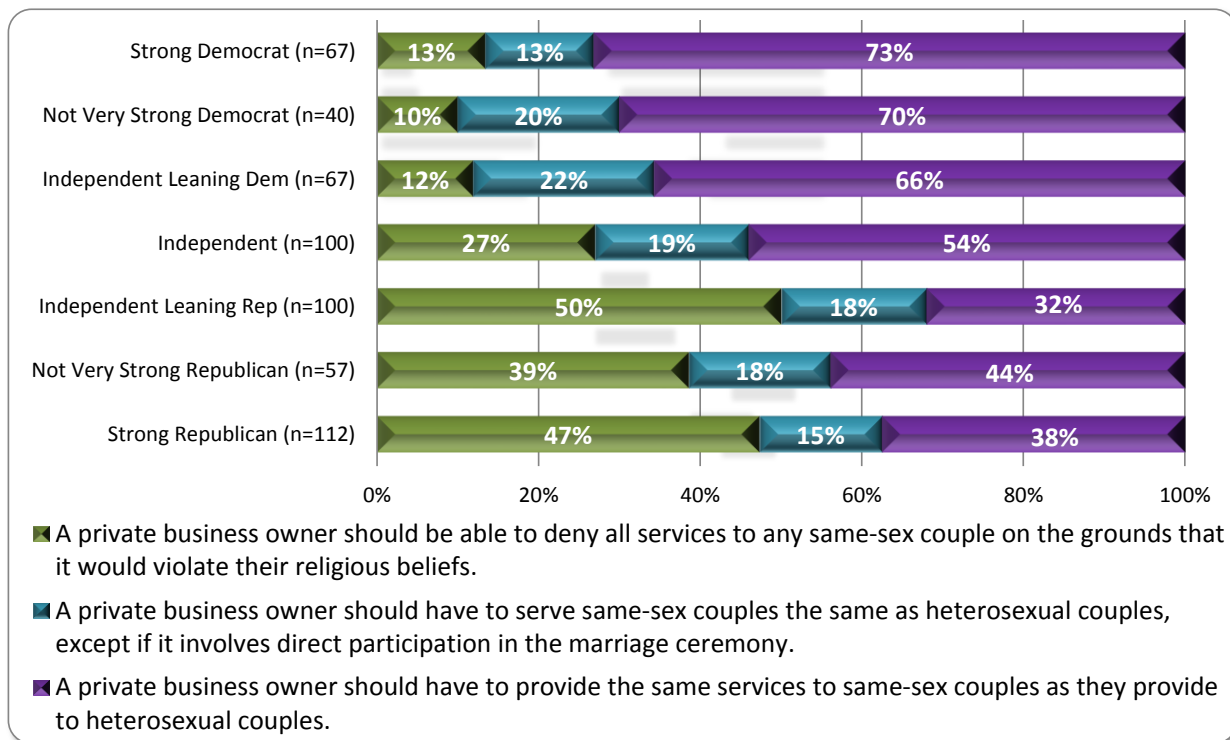
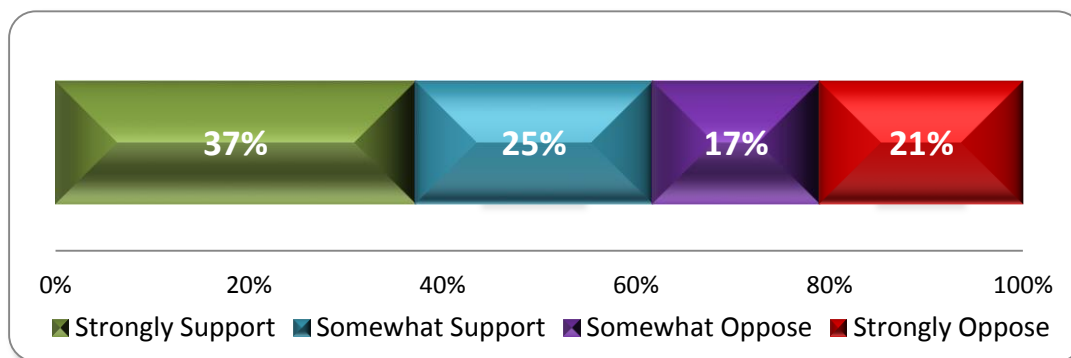


Figure 49: Opinion on Medicaid Expansion (n=567)



Question: *Kansas officials have been reluctant to adopt Medicaid expansion, which would increase the number of Kansans eligible for this federal program. What is your preference regarding expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act? Would you say you: Strongly support, Somewhat support, Somewhat oppose, or Strongly oppose expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act?*

When asked about their opinion on Medicaid expansion, which would increase the number of Kansans eligible for Medicaid, 62% of respondents either “strongly” or “somewhat” supported the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and 38% opposed such expansion (Figure 49). Democrats, respondents leaning Democrat, and independent voters were more likely to support the expansion of Medicaid than Republicans and respondents leaning Republican (Figure 50)

Figure 50: Opinion on Medicaid Expansion by Party Affiliation

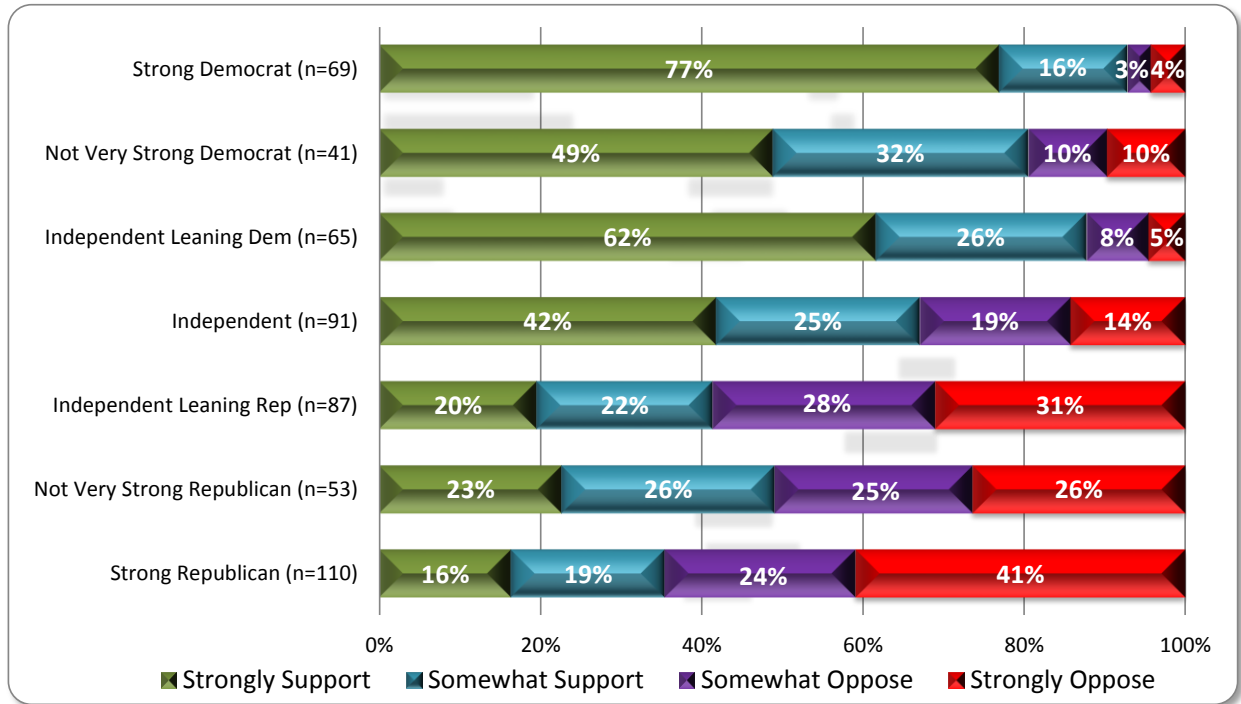
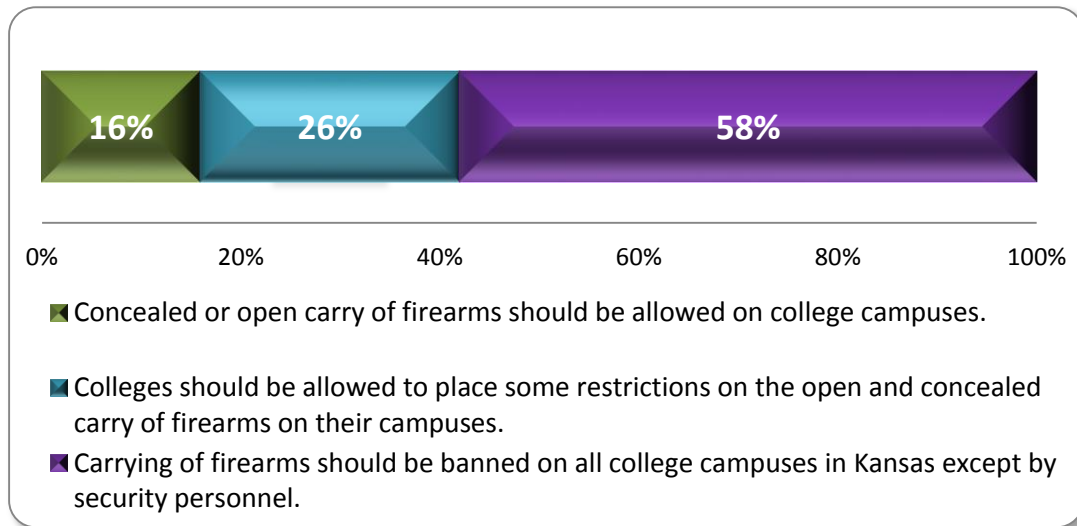


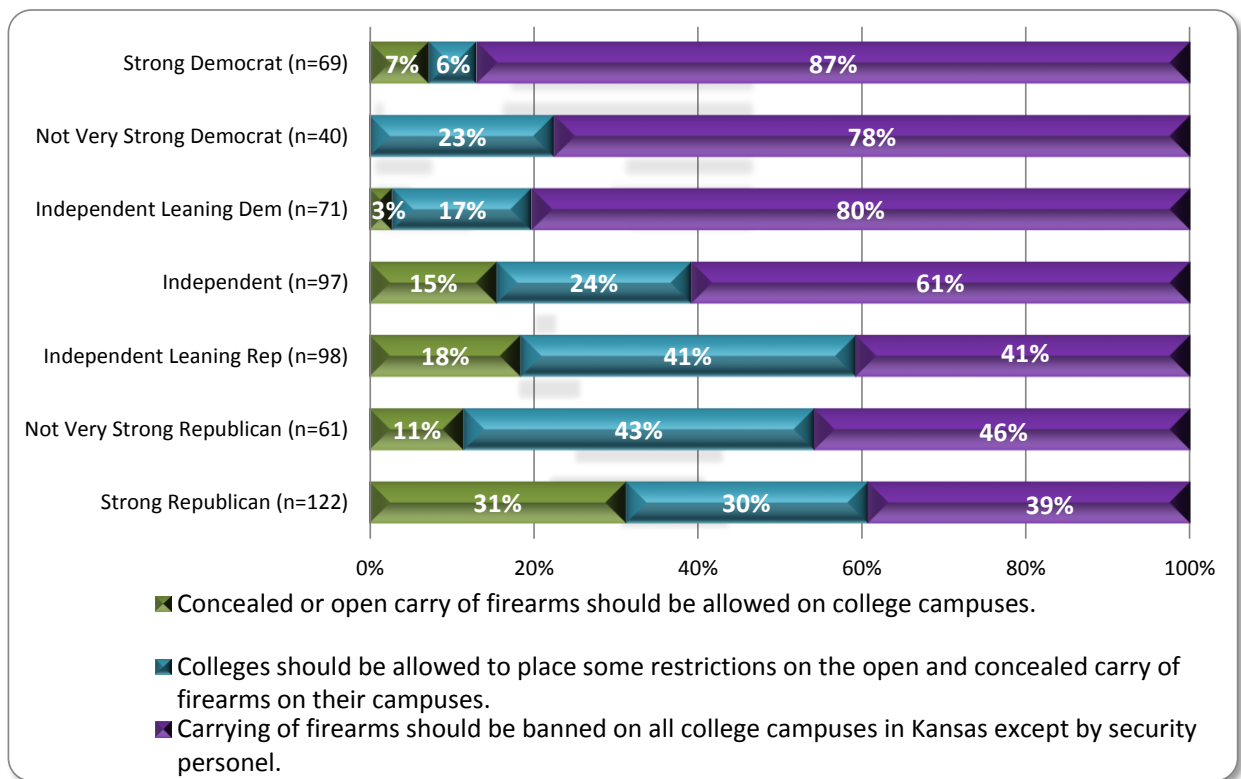
Figure 51: Opinion of Firearms on College Campuses (n=621)



Question: *In 2015 Kansas enacted a law allowing the public to openly carry or conceal firearms without a permit. Until 2017, colleges in Kansas can forbid the carrying of firearms onto their campuses. What is your policy preference regarding the possession of firearms on college campuses in Kansas? By current law, come July 1, 2017 Kansas colleges must allow the possession of firearms on campus. Concealed or open carry of firearms should be allowed on college campuses. Colleges should be allowed to place some restrictions on the open and concealed carry of firearms on their campuses. Carrying of firearms should be banned on all college campuses in Kansas except by security personnel.*

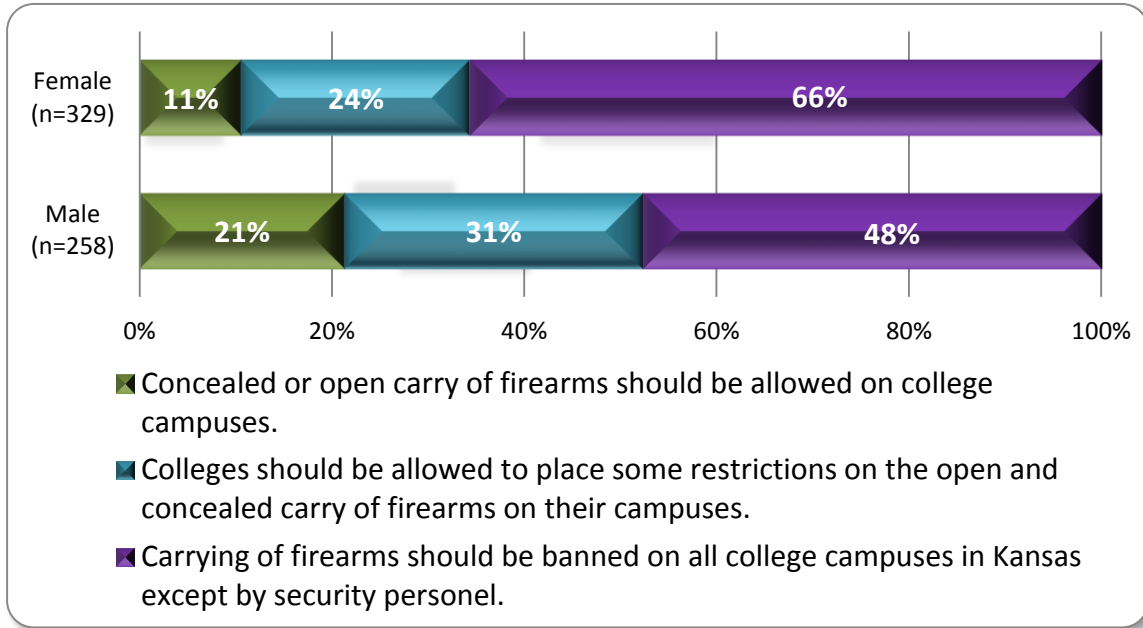
In 2015 Kansas enacted a law allowing the public to openly carry or conceal firearms without a permit. Until 2017, colleges in Kansas can forbid the carrying of firearms onto their campuses. The survey asked respondents' opinion on possession of firearms on college campuses in Kansas, and 58% of respondents were opposed to allowing firearms on college campuses in Kansas except by security personnel. More than a fourth (26%) of respondents favored certain restrictions from colleges on the open and concealed carry of firearms on campuses, and 16% support concealed or open carry on college campuses (Figure 51).

Figure 52: Opinion of Firearms on College Campuses by Party Affiliation



Support for banning concealed or open carry of firearms on campuses was much higher among Democrats, respondents leaning Democrat, and independent voters, as compared with Republicans and respondents leaning Republican (Figure 52).

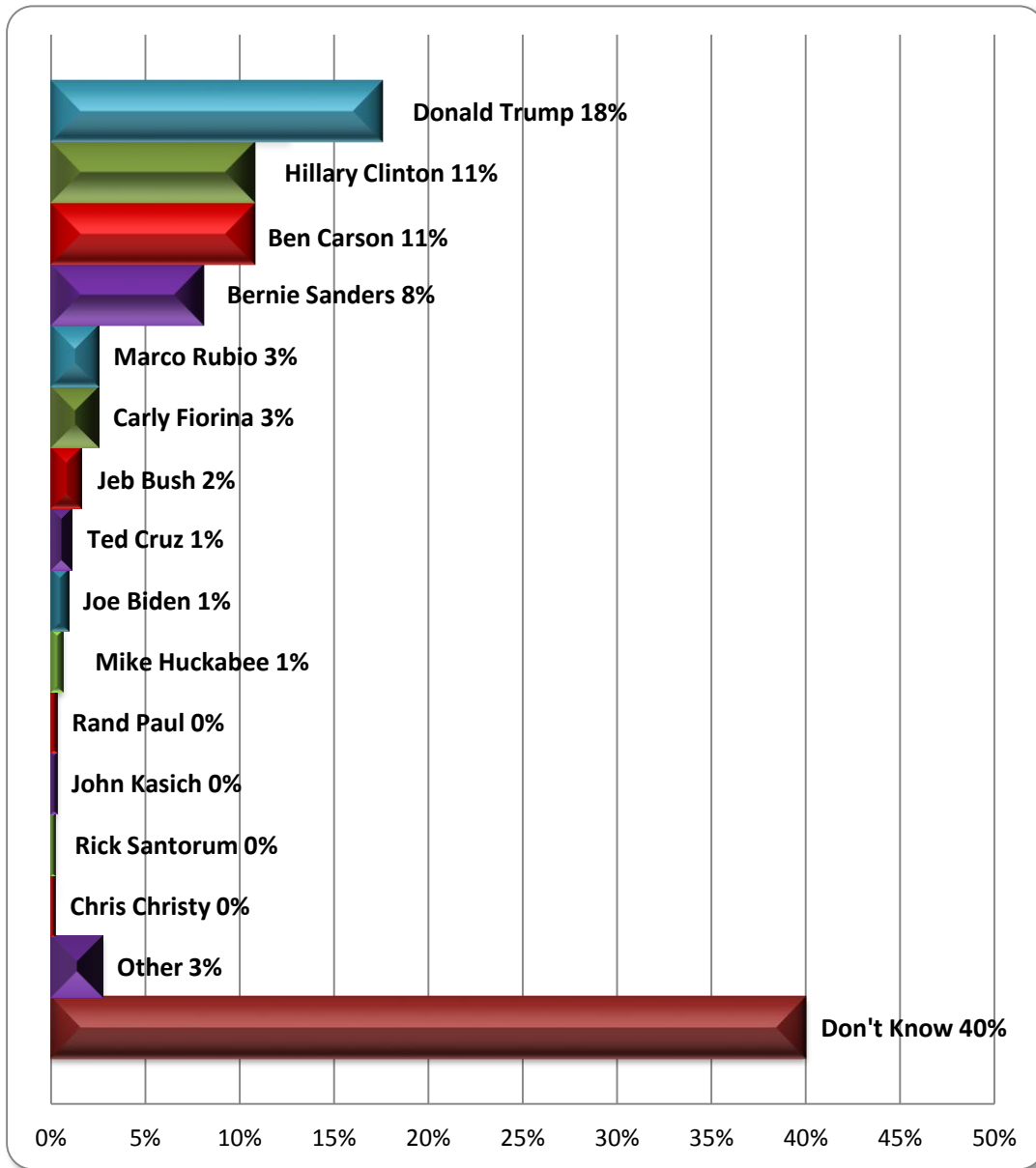
Figure 53: Opinion of Firearms on College Campuses by Gender



Female respondents were more likely to support banning firearms on campuses than male respondents (Figure 53).

Section 6: Voting

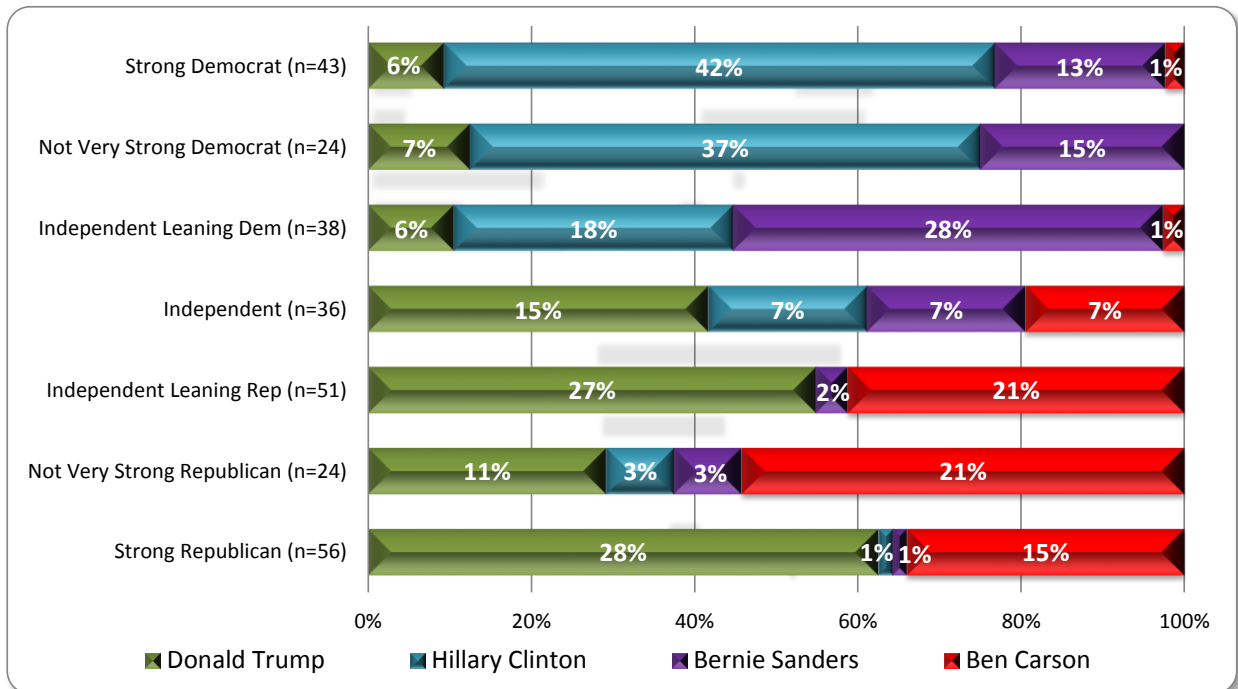
Figure 54: Voting Preference in Next Presidential Election (n=637)



Question: *If the election were held today, who would you vote for to be the next President of the United States?*

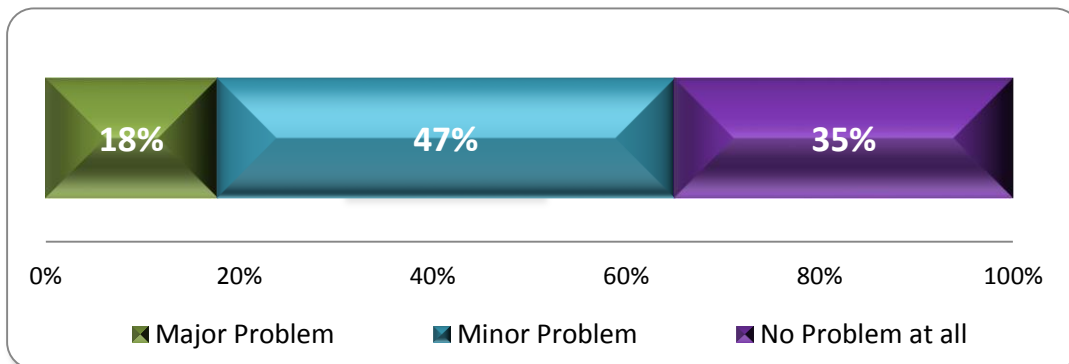
Respondents were asked who they would vote for in the next presidential election of the United States. Forty-percent of respondents did not know who they would vote for. Eight percent would vote for Donald Trump, 11% would vote for Hillary Clinton, 11% named Ben Carson, and 8% said they would vote for Bernie Sanders. The votes for other candidates were all below 5% (Figure 54).

Figure 55: Voting Preference in Next Presidential Election by Party Affiliation



Donald Trump and Ben Carson received higher votes among Republicans and those leaning Republican. Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders received higher votes among Democrats and those leaning Democrats (Figure 55). Hillary Clinton also received much higher support among female respondents than male respondents. Among those who would vote for Hillary Clinton, 70% were female and 30% were male.

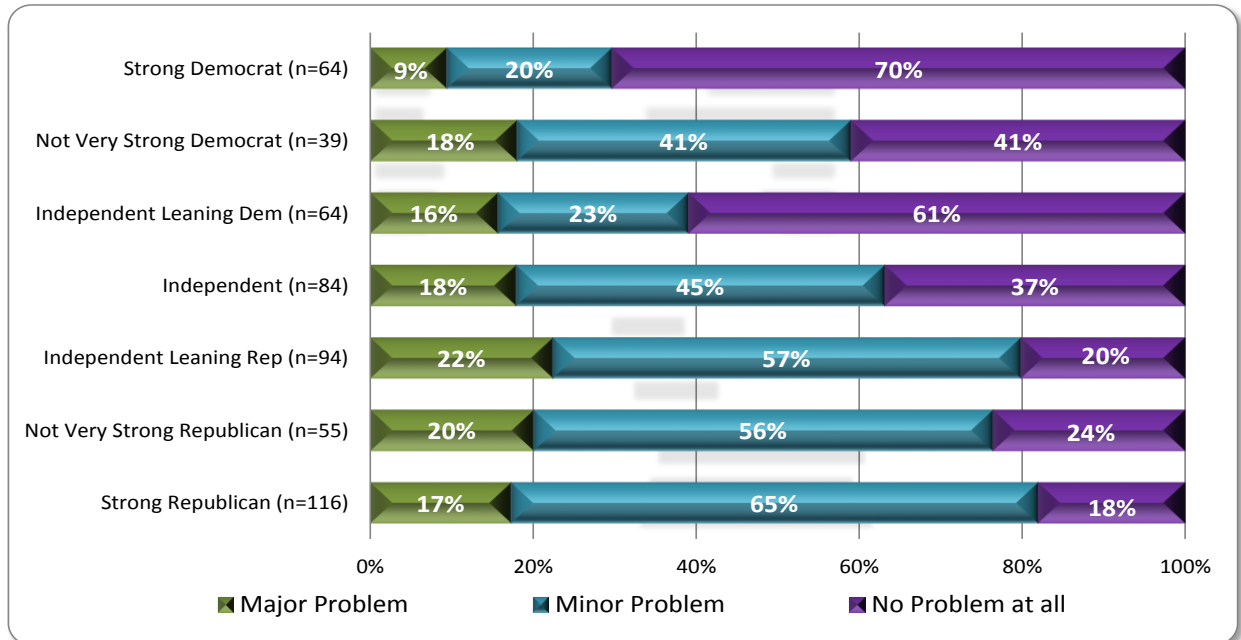
Figure 56: Opinion on Voter Fraud in Kansas (n=565)



Question: *Some Kansas citizens and policymakers are concerned that voter fraud is corrupting the election outcomes. In your opinion, how much of a problem is voter fraud in Kansas? Would you say that it is a: Major problem, Minor problem, or No problem at all?*

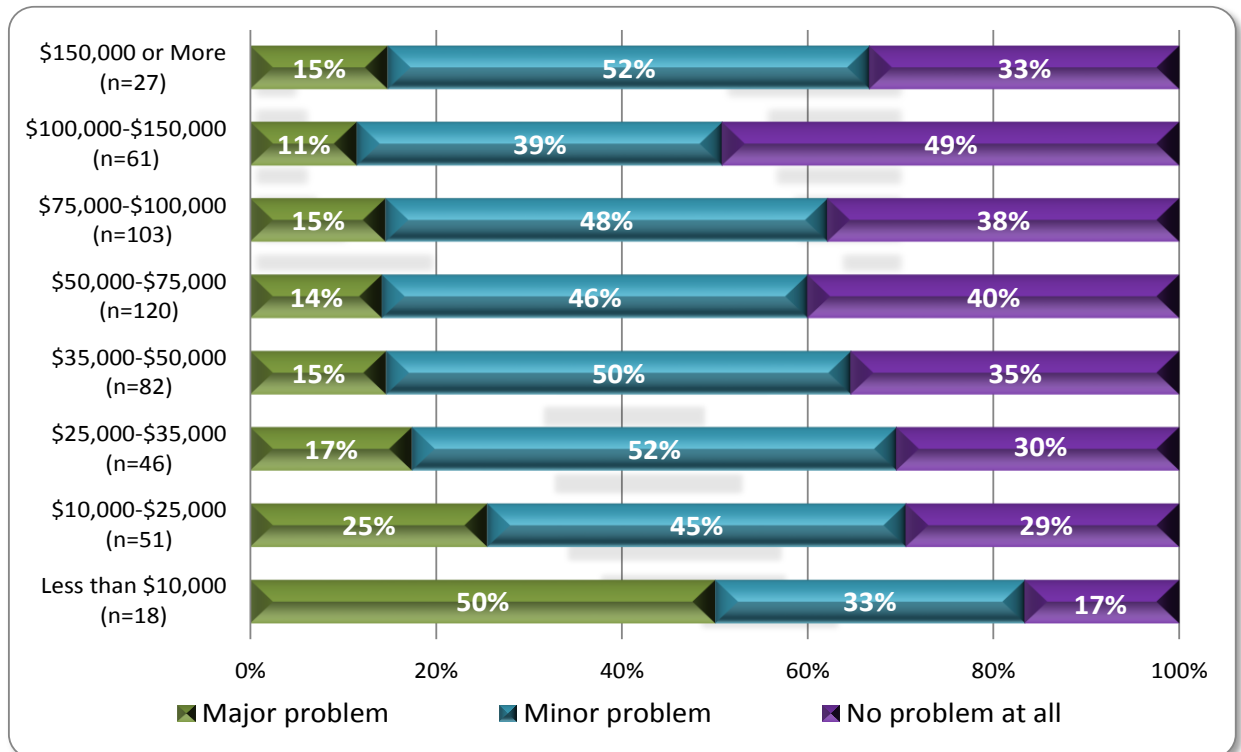
When asked about voter fraud, 35% of respondents felt it was “not a problem” at all in Kansas, 47% felt it was a “minor problem,” and 17% felt it was a “major problem” (Figure 56).

Figure 57: Opinion on Voter Fraud in Kansas by Party Affiliation



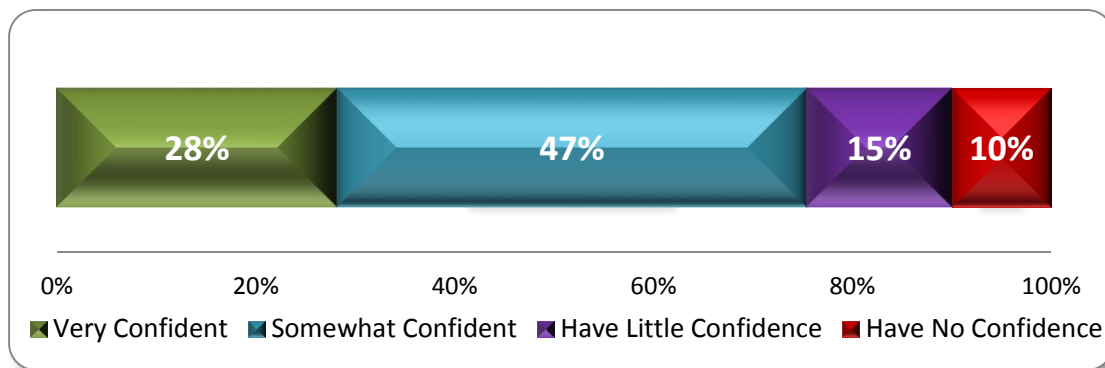
Republicans and those respondents leaning Republican were less likely to think voter fraud was “not a problem at all” as compared with Democrats, respondents leaning Democrat, and independent voters (Figure 57).

Figure 58: Opinion on Voter Fraud in Kansas by Income



Respondents with lower income were more likely to feel voter fraud was a “major problem” than those with higher income (Figure 58).

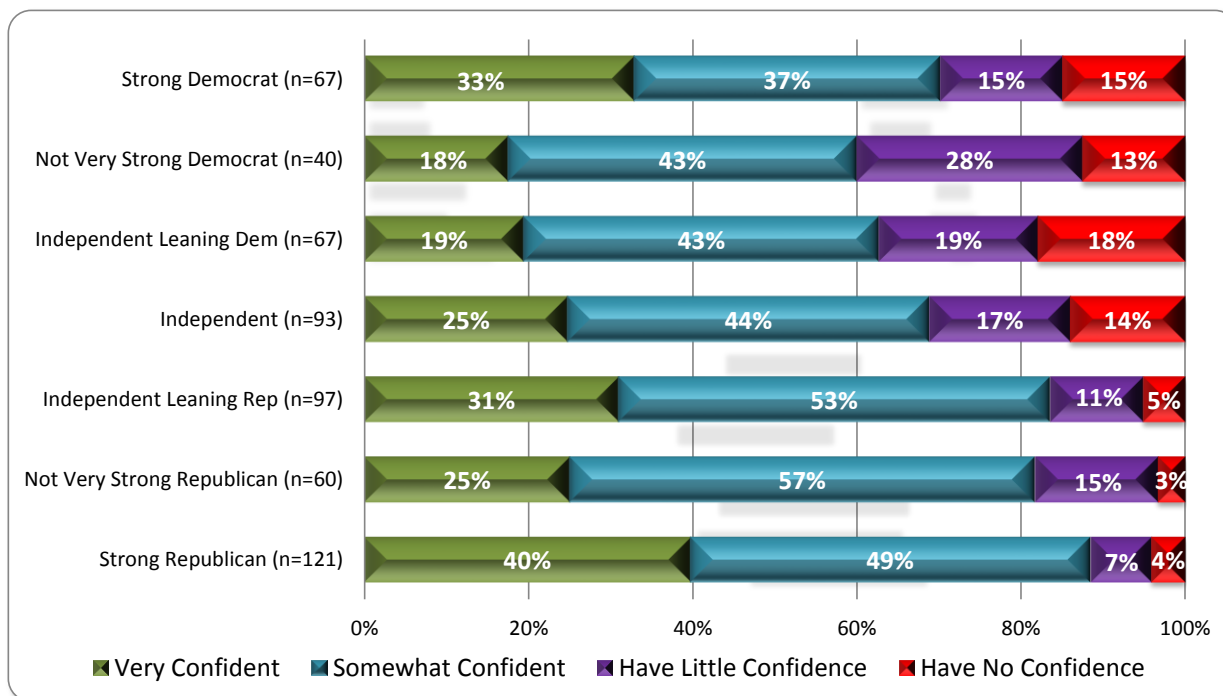
Figure 59: Confidence in Voting Procedures (n=602)



Question: *How would you describe your level of confidence that the voting procedures in Kansas elections are transparent and verifiable? Would you say you are: Very confident, Somewhat confident, Have little confidence, or Have no confidence at all that voting procedures in Kansas are transparent and verifiable?*

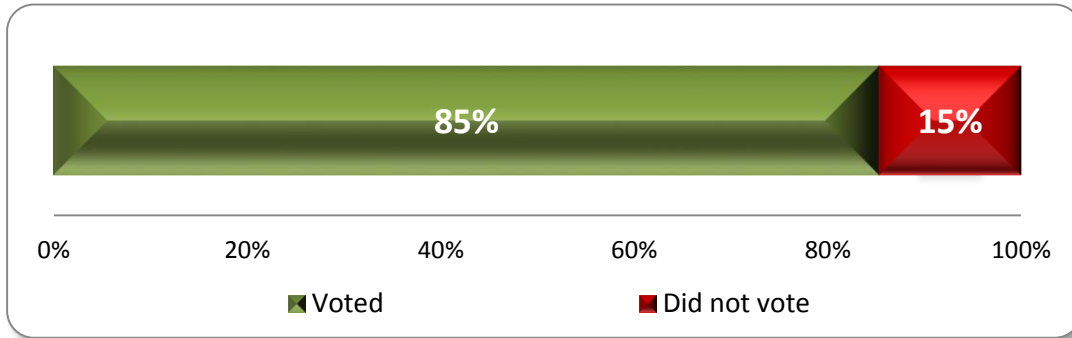
Regarding the voting procedures in Kansas elections, 28% of respondents felt “very confident” that the procedures were transparent and verifiable, 47% were “somewhat confident,” and 25% had “little” or “no confidence” (Figure 59).

Figure 60: Confidence in Voting Procedures by Party Affiliation



Republicans and those leaning Republican were more likely to express confidence in Kansas’ voting system than Democrats, respondents leaning Democrat, and independent voters (Figure 60).

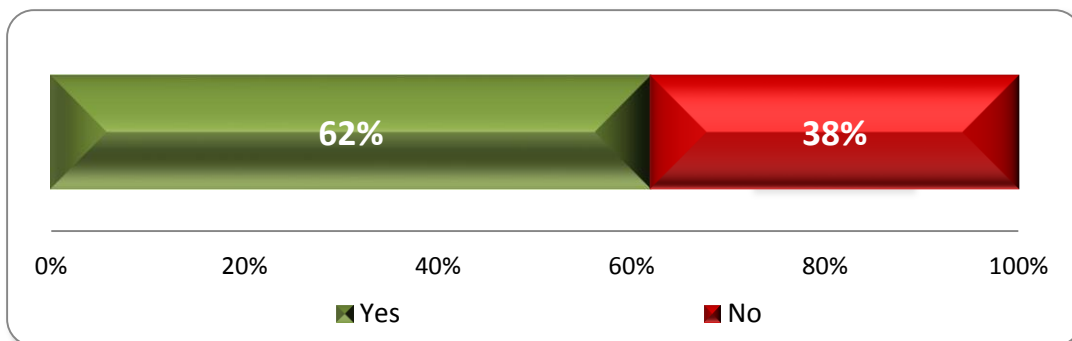
Figure 61: Voting Behavior in 2014 Election (n=605)



Question: *Did you vote in the November 2014 election?*

Among all the respondents, 85% said that they voted in the 2014 election, and 15% said they did not vote (Figure 61).

Figure 62: Voter Registration Status (n=604)



Question: *Are you registered to vote?*

Among those who did not vote, 38% were not registered (Figure 62). The survey continued asking those who did not vote or register if they had been denied or discouraged from voting or registering because they had not had a government photo ID or proof of citizenship. No one said they had been denied or discouraged to vote or register due to lack of a government photo ID or proof of citizenship.

Appendix A: Demographic Characteristics of the Sample

Social Indicators		Sample	Study Population*
Gender	Male	(n=567) 44.6%	49.6%
	Female	55.4%	50.4%
Household Income		(n=532)	
	Less than \$10,000	3.2%	7.0%
	\$10,000-\$24,999	10.4%	17.6%
	\$25,000- \$34,999	9.4%	11.5%
	\$35,000-\$49,999	16.1%	15.5%
	\$50,000-\$74,999	23.9%	19.9%
	\$75,000-\$99,999	20.0%	12.0%
	\$100,000-\$149,999	12.0%	10.8%
\$150,000 or more	5.0%	5.8%	
Political Party Affiliation		(n=539)	
	Strong Republican	22.0%	n/a
	Not Very Strong Republican	10.6%	n/a
	Independent Leaning Republican	17.8%	n/a
	Independent	18.0%	n/a
	Independent Leaning Democratic	12.4%	n/a
	Not Very Strong Democrat	7.2%	n/a
Strong Democrat	12.0%	n/a	

* Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Appendix B: Survey Instrument

- Qual First, are you currently residing in the State of Kansas?
- Yes
 - No
- Q1 Now we'd like to ask you to rate Kansas as a place to live. Would you say that Kansas is an:
- Excellent,
 - Good,
 - Fair,
 - Poor, or
 - Very poor place to live?
- Q2 Kansas school funding has undergone significant changes over the last four years. In your opinion, has the block grant system the State implemented to distribute money to the school districts of Kansas resulted in:
- a higher quality of education,
 - no change in the quality of education, or
 - a lower quality of education for public school children in your school district?
- Q3 How do you feel the school funding system change has affected you financially? Has it resulted in:
- Higher costs in your taxes and fees,
 - No change in your taxes and fees, or
 - Lower costs in your taxes and fees?
- Q4 Same-sex marriage was recently made legal in all states by a U.S. Supreme Court decision. Which policy best fits your preference for same-sex marriage?
- I am opposed to allowing same-sex couples to be legally married in any way.
 - I favor civil unions that give same-sex couples full spousal rights, but not marriage.
 - I favor allowing same-sex couples to be legally married and have the full rights of heterosexual couples.
- Q5 Which of the following best describes your preference for private businesses serving same-sex couples?
- A private business owner should be able to deny all services to any same-sex couple on the grounds that it would violate their religious beliefs.
 - A private business owner should have to serve same-sex couples the same as heterosexual couples, except if it involves direct participation in the marriage ceremony.
 - A private business owner should have to provide the same services to same-sex couples as they provide to heterosexual couples.

- Q6 Now I'd like to ask your opinion on immigration policy. Which of the following best describes your opinion on policies regarding undocumented immigrants? Would you support:
- Deporting all undocumented immigrants,
 - Deporting most undocumented immigrants,
 - Deporting some undocumented immigrants, or would you support
 - a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants with no criminal record?
- Q7 Some Americans favor building a wall across the entire US/Mexico border to deter illegal immigration. Which of the following options best matches your preference?
- I would favor building a wall.
 - I would be against building a wall.
 - I would need more information before making a decision.
- Q8 What would be your policy preference for employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants?
- No penalties for hiring illegal immigrants
 - A small fine for hiring illegal immigrants
 - A significant fine for hiring illegal immigrants,
 - Or should employers be given a prison sentence for hiring illegal immigrants?
- Q9 Kansas officials have been reluctant to adopt Medicaid expansion, which would increase the number of Kansans eligible for this federal program. What is your preference regarding expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act? Would you say you:
- Strongly support,
 - Somewhat support,
 - Somewhat oppose, or
 - Strongly oppose expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act?
- Q10 In 2015 Kansas enacted a law allowing the public to openly carry or conceal firearms without a permit. Until 2017, colleges in Kansas can forbid the carrying of firearms onto their campuses. What is your policy preference regarding the possession of firearms on college campuses in Kansas?
- Concealed or open carry of firearms should be allowed on college campuses.
 - Colleges should be allowed to place some restrictions on the open and concealed carry of firearms on their campuses.
 - Carrying of firearms should be banned on all college campuses in Kansas except by security personnel.
- Q11 Now some questions about one of our most important freedoms, voting. Some Kansans citizens and policymakers are concerned that voter fraud is corrupting the election outcomes. In your opinion, how much of a problem is voter fraud in Kansas? Would you say that it is a:
- Major problem
 - Minor problem, or
 - No problem at all?

- Q12 How would you describe your level of confidence that the voting procedures in Kansas elections are transparent and verifiable? Would you say you are:
- Very confident,
 - Somewhat confident,
 - Have little confidence, or
 - Have no confidence at all that voting procedures in Kansas are transparent and verifiable?
- Q13 If the election were held today, who would you vote for to be the next President of the United States?
- Donald Trump
 - Hillary Clinton
 - Jeb Bush
 - Bernie Sanders
 - Ben Carson
 - Joe Biden
 - Lincoln Chafee
 - Chris Christy
 - Ted Cruz
 - Carly Fiorina
 - Jim Gilmore
 - Lindsey Graham
 - Mike Huckabee
 - Bobby Jindal
 - John Kasich
 - Lawrence Lessig
 - Martin O'Malley
 - George Pataki
 - Rand Paul
 - Rick Perry
 - Marco Rubio
 - Rick Santorum
 - Scott Walker
 - Jim Webb
 - Other
- Q14 In general, how would you rate the Kansas economy? Would you say it is:
- Excellent
 - Very good
 - Good
 - Fair
 - Poor or
 - Very poor?

- Q15 How concerned are you that the Kansas economy will seriously threaten you or your family's welfare over the next year? Would you say:
- Very concerned,
 - Moderately concerned,
 - Slightly concerned, or
 - Not concerned at all?
- Q16 Now we have a few questions regarding your opinions on taxation and spending by the State of Kansas. I'm going to name four groups and ask you to tell me whether taxes on each group should be increased, remain the same or decreased.
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| 16a) Large corporations? | Increase | Remain the Same | Decrease |
| 16b) Top income earners? | Increase | Remain the Same | Decrease |
| 16c) The middle class? | Increase | Remain the Same | Decrease |
| 16d) Small businesses? | Increase | Remain the Same | Decrease |
- Q17 Thinking about what you paid in sales tax, property tax and state income tax together, compared to two years ago, has the amount you pay in state taxes:
- Increased
 - Remained the same, or
 - Decreased?
- Q18 Governor Brownback is now widely known for leading an effort to reform the Kansas tax policy. With regard to economic growth, would you say this new tax policy has been:
- A tremendous success,
 - A success,
 - Neither a success or failure,
 - A failure, or
 - A tremendous failure?
- Q19 Kansas Government has to produce tax revenue for every dollar it spends. Some people would prefer government to have lower taxes and less spending. Others favor higher taxes and more government spending. Which of the following do you favor?
- Much higher taxes and spending
 - Somewhat higher taxes and spending
 - Keeping the current level of taxes and spending
 - Somewhat lower taxes and spending
 - Much lower taxes and spending
- Q20 Which of the following taxes would you favor increasing? (Select all the apply)
- Sales Tax
 - Property Tax
 - Income Tax

- Q21 Which of the following taxes would you favor decreasing? (Select all the apply)
- Sales Tax
 - Property Tax
 - Income Tax
- Q22 Which of the following would you prefer regarding sales tax on food and groceries?
- Food should be taxed at the same rate as non-food items.
 - Food should be taxed at a lower rate than non-food items.
 - Food should be exempt from sales tax.
- Q23a Do you know the name of your **State** Representative?
- Yes
 - No
 - Yes and gave a name _____
- Q23b Do you know the name of your **State** Senator?
- Yes
 - No
 - Yes and gave a name _____
- Q23c Please indicate if you are "Very satisfied", "Somewhat satisfied", "Neutral", "Somewhat dissatisfied" or "Very dissatisfied" with the following elected officials.
- Q23c_1) First, the Kansas Legislature in general?
- Q23c_2) Your own state representative?
- Q23c_4) U.S. Senator Pat Roberts?
- Q23c_5) U.S. Senator Jerry Moran?
- Q23c_6) Governor Brownback?
- Q23c_7) President Barack Obama?
- Q24a Did you vote in the November 2014 election?
- Yes (Skip to Q25)
 - No
- Q24b Are you registered to vote?
- Yes
 - No
- Q24c Additional requirements for registering and voting were implemented a couple of years ago...
- Q24c_1) Have you been denied or discouraged from registering to vote because you could not provide proof of citizenship?
- Yes
 - No
- Q24c_2) Have you been denied or discouraged from voting because you did not have a government photo ID or proof of citizenship when you tried to vote or register to vote?
- Yes
 - No

- Q25 Great! Now I have just a few more questions about you. How many school age children do you have in your household?
- _____
- Q26 By your best guess, where will you be in 5 years? Are you likely to:
- Still be living in the same community you are in now
 - Move to another location in Kansas
 - Or relocate to a state other than Kansas?
- Q27 Do you consider yourself a:
- Strong Republican
 - Not Very Strong Republican
 - Independent..... Leaning Republican
 - Independent
 - Independent..... Leaning Democrat
 - Not Very Strong Democrat
 - Strong Democrat
- Q28 And finally, was your total household income for last year above or below \$50,000 a year?
- Less than 10,000
 - At least 10,000 but under 25,000
 - At least 25,000 but under 35,000
 - At least 35,000 but under 50,000
 - At least 50,000 but under 75,000
 - At least 75,000 but under 100,000
 - At least 100,000 but under 150,000
 - 150,000 or more
- Q29 That's our last question. Thank you for participating in this important research. The results will be released to the media in late October. Have a great _____. (Hang Up Was the respondent a...)
- Male
 - Female
 - Unsure