



Badger Poll™ #15, Release #5
University of Wisconsin Survey Center
University of Wisconsin Madison
May 18, 2004

NOTE: When using material from this release please cite the Badger Poll™ conducted by the University of Wisconsin Survey Center, paid for by private funds at the University. The Capital Times (Madison) and the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel are the poll's media sponsors.

PERCEPTIONS OF WISCONSIN'S JUNIOR SENATOR
by G. Donald Ferree, Jr.

Just under half of state residents rate junior Senator Russ Feingold's handling of his job as either excellent (8%) or good (40%), contrasted with about one in three who believe he deserves a grade of fair (27%) or poor (9%). This leaves about one in six who do not rate his performance. Respondents differ in their assessment based on their partisanship: Democrats are twice as likely to give Feingold one of the two higher ratings as to give him a lower score, the opposite is true for Republicans.

Feingold's overall ratings are similar to those received by the state's other Senator, Herb Kohl (excellent 5%, good 42%, fair 30%, poor 5%). Partisan patterns are stronger, however, for Feingold than for Kohl.

Both Senators do better individually than "the US Congress" as an institution. Just under one in three residents gave Congress a grade of excellent (2%) or good (29%), while almost two in three felt that fair (52%) or poor (12%) was more like it. Republicans rate Congress more highly than do Democrats, and among the former group Congress is more positively evaluated than either Senator. Democrats on balance take the opposite stance.

Feingold's ratings are also on a rough par with those given Bush (excellent 15%, good 35%, fair 25%, poor 23%). But this disguises the fact that individuals and groups view the two men differently. Thus, more than eight in ten Democrats rate Bush no more highly than fair, contrasted with the more than eight in ten Republicans who rate him at least as good. (This means not only that the partisan pattern for the President is stronger than that for Feingold, but that the direction is, not surprisingly, reversed).

At the individual level, one can also compare the ratings, remembering that a number fail to rate one, the other, or both. Results are shown in the detailed tables following this summary for a series of "constructed variables" relating job performances.

Roughly one in six did not rate either (or both) Bush and Feingold. One in four (23%) rated them the same (e.g. both good, both fair, and so forth). This leaves six residents in every ten who gave the two men different ratings, split roughly between the 27% who rated Bush higher than Feingold (e.g. excellent compared to good or lower, good compared to fair or lower, fair compared to poor) and the 33% who rated Feingold higher than Bush. Comparative ratings related strongly to partisanship.

Compared to Congress, one in three awarded the same grade. Among those rating both Congress overall and Feingold those who gave Feingold the higher grade outnumbered those rating Congress more positively by about two to one. Both Democrats and Independents tended strongly -- if there was a discrepancy -- to give Feingold the higher grade. Republicans, less strongly, displayed the opposite tendency.

The picture is very different when it comes to Kohl's job performance compared to his junior colleague's. Almost a quarter failed to rate one or the other, but half of all respondents rated them identically, and the one in four who did differ in their ratings split evenly.

Another measure of the public's perception is whether residents have a favorable view of the person, an unfavorable view, or don't know enough to make up their minds (either because they literally don't know much or because what they do know does not let them comfortably come down on one side or the other). Overall, just under two in three rate Feingold, with the balance favorable by about five to two (46%-18%). His favorability declines as one moves across the partisan spectrum, but even Republicans view him favorably on balance, albeit narrowly.

His colleague is slightly more familiar (or at least less ambiguous) AND somewhat more favorably viewed. Specifically, almost six in ten (57%) have a favorable view of Kohl. On the other hand, about one in six (15%) come down on the unfavorable side. Kohl's favorability also displays a partisan pattern, but among all three groups, the Senior Senator does at least as well as Feingold does.

President Bush is more broadly familiar to state residents than is Feingold, with more than nine in ten willing and able to come down on one side or the other. But the balance of views is more closely divided for Bush. His favorability ratio is about three to two (56%-36%) compared to Feingold's five to two (46%-18%). Partisan patterns are considerably weaker for Feingold than they are for Bush.

At the individual level, also shown in "constructed variables" below, almost four in ten won't (or can't) rate either or both. One in four are either favorable to both or unfavorable to both. This leaves about one in seven (14%) who view Bush more favorably, and one in four (23%) whose view of Feingold is more favorable.

A final question asked "as of now, do you think you would like to see Senator Feingold re-elected in 2004, or would you rather see someone else in the Senate instead?" This, as noted repeatedly on earlier surveys is not a "vote intention question" per se, but taps into the sentiment whether or not the incumbent has done a good enough job presumptively to deserve another term. If he or she has, it is hard for challengers to make the case that it is "worth it" to get to know them, or that they would make acceptable alternatives.

On the most recent survey, half of all residents (50%) said they would like to have Feingold re-elected. Three in ten (29%) would like SOME (emphasis added) alternative. At this stage, both Democrats and Independents incline to returning Feingold, Republicans (less onesidedly are against it).

The comparable question for George Bush netted an even split (47% for re-election, 48% against). This followed partisan lines even more clearly. As one might expect, predisposition for re-electing one did not necessarily go with predisposition for re-electing the other. Those who wanted Feingold re-elected

would prefer to replace Bush by a margin of two to one (62% want someone else, 32% want Bush in the White House). On the other hand, among those who do NOT want Feingold re-elected an eight to three (70%-27%) majority want Bush back in the White House.

The detailed tables shown the results for all other questions discussed related to predisposition to re-elect Feingold. On virtually every question, those who want Feingold take a clearly more pro-Democratic, anti-Bush, position. This includes preference at the presidential level, where support for Bush runs about twice as high among those who want Feingold replaced as it does among those who would re-elect the Senator.

An accompanying table shows what earlier Polls found when these questions were put, beginning in February of last year (not every question was on every survey).

Federal Officeholders at Six Points in Time

	April	March	January	October	May	Feb'ry
Rating of George W. Bush						
EXCELLENT	15%	16%	11%	15%	25%	19%
GOOD	35	30	37	35	35	39
FAIR	25	24	29	27	25	25
POOR	23	30	22	21	14	16
TOO SOON TO TELL (vol)	--	--	--	--	*	--
DON'T KNOW	1	1	1	1	1	1
REFUSED	1	*	--	*	1	1
Rating of US Congress						
EXCELLENT	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
GOOD	29	25	31	34	34	37
FAIR	52	56	52	48	46	45
POOR	12	14	14	15	15	12
DON'T KNOW	5	4	2	2	4	5
REFUSED	*	*	--	--	1	*
Rating of Herb Kohl						
EXCELLENT	5%	7%	7%	8%	6%	6%
GOOD	42	43	42	42	39	40
FAIR	30	28	32	31	32	30
POOR	5	10	7	9	9	7
DON'T KNOW	18	12	11	10	14	16
REFUSED	--	1	*	*	1	1
Rating of Russ Feingold						
EXCELLENT	8%	12%	10%	10%	7%	8%
GOOD	40	36	36	38	38	40
FAIR	27	28	31	29	30	27
POOR	9	11	7	11	11	10
DON'T KNOW	15	14	15	12	15	15
REFUSED	--	*	--	--	*	1

Favorability/Unfavorability

	April	March	January	October
Impression of Bush				
FAVORABLE	56%	52%	54%	60%
UNFAVORABLE	36	41	39	34
DON'T KNOW ENOUGH	7	7	6	5
DK	1	1	1	2
REFUSED	*	*	--	--
Impression of Feingold				
FAVORABLE	46%	47%	46%	41%
UNFAVORABLE	18	19	16	23
DON'T KNOW ENOUGH	35	34	36	35
DK	1	*	2	1
REFUSED	*	*	--	*
Impression of Kohl				
FAVORABLE	57%	54%	58%	50%
UNFAVORABLE	15	18	16	19
DON'T KNOW ENOUGH	28	29	25	30
DK	1	*	1	1
REFUSED	*	*	--	*

Predisposition to Re-Elect Incumbents

	April	March	January	October	May
Like Feingold re-elected					
LIKE TO SEE FEINGOLD	50%	51%	52%	50%	42%
LIKE SOMEONE ELSE	29	29	26	30	33
DON'T KNOW	21	19	22	20	24
REFU\ED	*	1	*	*	1
Like Bush re-elected					
LIKE TO SEE BUSH	47%	45%	42%	46%	52%
LIKE SOMEONE ELSE	48	50	49	45	43
DON'T KNOW	5	4	9	9	4
REFUSED	1	1	*	*	1

As may be seen, there has been a good deal of stability, and results for Feingold tend to show less movement than those for Bush. Feingold's job rating, for instance has always been within a few points for each category. Favorable mentions of him have been in the low to mid 40's consistently.

Overall, then, six months prior to the election, Senator Feingold is in a relatively good position. His ratings, while not stellar, are moderately strong. He is not universally known, but tends to be seen favorably. One key is that there tends to be a clear relationship between perceptions of Bush and Feingold, whereby people taking a stand more positive for one tend to be more negative about the other. What impact this could have, particularly as the Presidential campaign gains the kind of intensity many expect, remains to be seen.

Statewide Marginals and Percentages for Key Groups

What follows is the exact question wording for each of the items referred to in the release. All results shown are for the basic sample of state residents. The first column is the percentage of the entire sample giving each response. The second and third reports the percentages for men and women separately. The fourth, fifth, and sixth columns show self-described Democrats, Independents, and Republicans. Columns seven through ten group respondents by age.

Q01. INTERVIEWER: (DO NOT ASK) Enter respondent's gender

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
MALE	49%	100%	--%	41%	61%	51%	41%	54%	49%	45%	49%	51%
FEMALE	51	--	100	59	39	49	59	46	51	55	51	49

Q02. How would you rate the job George W. Bush is doing as President?
Excellent, good, fair or poor?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
EXCELLENT	15%	17%	12%	2%	9%	34%	14%	13%	12%	21%	6%	29%
GOOD	35	35	34	13	34	54	35	35	37	31	30	43
FAIR	25	25	25	34	27	11	25	33	24	17	32	12
POOR	23	20	26	49	27	1	22	16	26	27	30	14
TOO SOON TO TELL(VOL.)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
DON'T KNOW	1	--	2	1	*	*	4	1	*	1	*	1
REFUSED	1	2	1	1	2	*	--	2	1	3	2	1

VOTE03. I'm going to read you a list of people in public life. For each of them, please tell me if you have a favorable impression of them, an unfavorable impression, or don't know enough to make up your mind. George W. Bush

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
FAVORABLE	56%	61%	51%	21%	47%	94%	60%	63%	53%	51%	44%	75%
UNFAVORABLE	36	33	39	70	42	3	29	30	42	38	47	21
DON'T KNOW ENOUGH	7	5	8	8	9	2	9	6	5	7	8	2
DON'T KNOW	1	*	2	*	2	*	1	--	*	4	1	1
REFUSED	*	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--	--

VOTE06. Russ Feingold (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
FAVORABLE	46%	48%	43%	54%	52%	36%	30%	37%	56%	53%	70%	16%
UNFAVORABLE	18	21	15	10	15	29	10	20	17	22	5	50
DON'T KNOW ENOUGH	35	29	41	35	32	34	60	41	26	23	24	34
DON'T KNOW	1	2	1	1	1	1	--	2	1	2	1	1
REFUSED	*	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--	--

VOTE07. Herb Kohl (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
FAVORABLE	57%	58%	55%	71%	57%	46%	38%	51%	65%	62%	71%	42%
UNFAVORABLE	15	18	12	5	11	25	12	16	13	18	5	36
DON'T KNOW ENOUGH	28	24	33	23	32	27	50	34	23	17	24	21
DON'T KNOW	1	--	1	--	--	2	--	--	--	2	*	1
REFUSED	*	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--	--

GBRF2. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of Bush favorability to Feingold

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
BUSH HIGHER	14%	18%	9%	1%	10%	29%	8%	15%	13%	17%	3%	40%
BOTH SAME	25	26	24	18	21	34	17	25	29	25	29	21
FEINGOLD HIGHER	23	23	22	43	31	2	14	15	30	27	40	3
ONE/BOTH DK	39	33	45	38	38	35	61	45	28	32	28	35

HKRF2. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of Kohl favorability to Feingold

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
KOHL HIGHER	7%	7%	7%	7%	5%	10%	5%	10%	8%	6%	3%	20%
BOTH SAME	43	49	38	49	47	37	17	34	51	58	58	34
FEINGOLD HIGHER	4	4	4	1	4	7	5	3	6	4	3	6
ONE/BOTH DK	46	40	51	42	44	46	74	53	36	32	37	40

VOTE12. John Kerry (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
FAVORABLE	36%	34%	38%	63%	41%	14%	47%	29%	35%	38%	49%	19%
UNFAVORABLE	36	41	31	9	29	68	21	36	37	44	23	63
DON'T KNOW ENOUGH	27	24	30	27	29	17	31	33	28	15	27	17
DON'T KNOW	1	1	2	*	2	1	1	2	*	3	1	2
REFUSED	*	*	--	--	--	*	--	--	--	*	--	--

VOTE24. This November, the ballot for President will probably be George W. Bush as a Republican, John Kerry as a Democrat, and Ralph Nader as an Independent. As of now, which one, if any, do you plan to vote for?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
GEORGE W. BUSH	45%	50%	40%	8%	35%	87%	44%	47%	47%	43%	29%	70%
JOHN KERRY	33	30	36	74	35	2	34	29	35	33	46	14
RALPH NADER	4	5	3	3	8	2	8	3	4	2	4	4
NONE OF THEM	5	6	4	4	8	2	1	7	3	7	5	5
INSISTS ON "OTHER"	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
WILL NOT VOTE	1	1	2	2	1	1	3	1	1	*	1	*
DON'T KNOW	10	8	12	9	12	5	11	10	9	12	13	4
REFUSED	2	1	2	--	2	2	--	2	1	3	1	2

VOTE25. (IF DID NOT NAME ONE OF THREE) If you had to make up your mind among these three, as of now who would you prefer?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
NOT ASKED	82%	84%	80%	85%	78%	91%	86%	79%	86%	78%	80%	89%
GEORGE W. BUSH	5	6	5	2	7	6	4	7	5	4	5	4
JOHN KERRY	6	5	6	8	6	2	10	6	5	4	6	2
RALPH NADER	2	3	1	--	6	1	1	2	--	5	3	1
NONE OF THEM	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
INSISTS ON "OTHER"	1	*	2	2	--	--	--	2	2	1	2	1
DON'T KNOW	3	2	4	2	2	1	--	1	2	7	3	2
REFUSED	1	1	2	1	1	1	--	2	1	2	1	1

VOTE26. (UNLESS NAMED BUSH/KERRY IN VOTE24. OR VOTE25.) Suppose you were choosing just between Bush and Kerry? Which would you prefer?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
NOT ASKED	89%	90%	88%	92%	83%	95%	91%	89%	91%	84%	87%	91%
GEORGE W. BUSH	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	3	3
JOHN KERRY	4	4	5	4	11	--	5	4	5	5	6	3
NONE OF THEM	2	2	2	2	1	1	--	2	--	5	1	3
INSISTS ON "OTHER"	*	*	--	--	*	--	--	*	--	--	*	--
DON'T KNOW	2	1	3	1	2	1	2	1	1	4	3	1
REFUSED	*	--	1	--	--	1	--	1	1	--	--	--

PUSH3WAY. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM FROM VOTE24, VOTE25) ADDING IN LEANERS If you had to make up your mind among these three, as of now

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
GEORGE W. BUSH	50%	55%	45%	10%	42%	92%	48%	54%	52%	47%	35%	74%
JOHN KERRY	38	35	42	82	41	3	44	35	39	36	53	16
RALPH NADER	6	7	5	3	14	3	9	5	4	6	7	6
NONE OF THEM	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
INSISTS ON "OTHER"	1	*	2	2	--	--	--	2	2	1	2	1
DON'T KNOW	3	2	4	2	2	1	--	1	2	7	3	2
REFUSED	1	1	2	1	1	1	--	2	1	2	1	1

PUSH2WAY. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM, COMBINING VOTE24-25) Choice between Bush and Kerry

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
GEORGE W. BUSH	53%	58%	48%	11%	45%	94%	50%	56%	54%	49%	37%	77%
JOHN KERRY	43	39	47	87	51	3	48	39	44	42	58	19
NONE OF THEM	2	2	2	2	1	1	--	2	--	5	1	3
INSISTS ON "OTHER"	*	*	--	--	*	--	--	*	--	--	*	--
DON'T KNOW	2	1	3	1	2	1	2	1	1	4	3	1
REFUSED	*	--	1	--	--	1	--	1	1	--	--	--

BUSH06. As of now, do you think you would like to see President Bush reelected in 2004, or would you rather see someone else in the White House?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
LIKE BUSH RE-ELECTED	47%	50%	43%	10%	40%	87%	43%	50%	47%	45%	32%	70%
LIKE SOMEONE ELSE	48	44	51	87	54	8	54	47	48	43	62	27
DON'T KNOW	5	4	5	3	2	4	2	2	4	10	5	2
REFUSED	1	2	*	--	4	1	--	2	1	2	1	2

RATE03. Thinking more generally of politics, how would you rate the job the US Congress is doing? Excellent, good, fair, or poor?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
EXCELLENT	2%	2%	2%	2%	*%	3%	6%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%
GOOD	29	26	32	19	24	42	32	33	20	31	29	30
FAIR	52	54	50	60	59	42	46	51	59	51	53	53
POOR	12	14	10	13	12	9	10	10	15	10	13	12
DON'T KNOW	5	4	6	6	4	5	5	5	4	5	2	4
REFUSED	*	--	*	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	*	--

RATE04. How would you rate the job Herb Kohl is doing as Senator from Wisconsin? (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
EXCELLENT	5%	5%	5%	9%	2%	2%	4%	2%	5%	8%	8%	1%
GOOD	42	39	44	45	51	34	43	39	40	46	54	27
FAIR	30	32	29	29	28	32	30	32	31	28	26	42
POOR	5	7	4	2	5	8	1	6	4	8	1	16
DON'T KNOW	18	17	18	15	14	23	22	20	21	9	10	14
REFUSED	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

RATE05. How about the job Russ Feingold is doing as US Senator from Wisconsin? (PROMPT FOR CATEGORIES AS NECESSARY).

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
EXCELLENT	8%	9%	8%	14%	13%	3%	8%	3%	14%	8%	16%	--%
GOOD	40	37	43	47	47	27	42	35	39	48	64	10
FAIR	27	26	28	24	21	36	21	33	27	24	18	47
POOR	9	14	4	3	7	15	7	7	9	12	--	30
DON'T KNOW	15	13	17	12	11	18	22	22	11	8	3	12
REFUSED	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

GBRF1. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of Bush rating with Feingold rating

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
BUSH HIGHER	27%	31%	23%	5%	24%	52%	18%	26%	25%	35%	11%	64%
BOTH SAME	23	23	22	22	20	25	31	22	24	17	28	16
FEINGOLD HIGHER	33	31	36	61	42	5	29	28	39	37	56	8
ONE/BOTH DK	17	15	18	13	14	19	22	24	12	11	5	12

CNRF1. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of Congress rating with Feingold rating

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
CONGRESS HIGHER	15%	16%	13%	4%	11%	29%	13%	17%	11%	17%	4%	40%
BOTH SAME	34	35	34	35	29	34	45	31	36	33	35	40
FEINGOLD HIGHER	33	33	33	46	46	16	21	28	40	39	55	6
ONE/BOTH DK	18	15	20	15	13	21	22	24	14	11	5	14

HKRF1. (CONSTRUCTED ITEM) Comparison of Kohl rating with Feingold rating

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
KOHL HIGHER	14%	17%	12%	12%	11%	18%	9%	11%	15%	18%	8%	30%
BOTH SAME	49	47	52	51	51	46	54	51	43	55	58	48
FEINGOLD HIGHER	14	14	13	18	18	9	10	8	19	14	22	4
ONE/BOTH DK	23	22	24	19	19	28	27	29	22	14	12	19

FEING01. As of now, do you think you would like to see Senator Feingold re-elected in 2004, or would you rather see someone else in the Senate instead?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
LIKE TO SEE FEINGOLD	50%	50%	49%	62%	65%	29%	50%	48%	50%	53%	100%	--%
LIKE SEE SOMEONE ELSE	29	31	28	17	21	48	24	31	26	33	--	100
DON'T KNOW	21	19	23	21	15	23	26	22	23	14	--	--
REFUSED	*	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--	--

QD05. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else?

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
DEMOCRAT	29%	25%	34%	100%	--%	--%	27%	30%	29%	28%	37%	17%
REPUBLICAN	32	34	31	--	--	100	34	32	33	32	19	53
INDEPENDENT	23	29	18	--	100	--	22	18	27	26	31	17
OTHER	11	9	12	--	--	--	16	15	7	9	10	9
NONE	3	3	3	--	--	--	2	4	3	3	3	2
DON'T KNOW	1	*	1	--	--	--	--	1	--	1	--	1
REFUSED	1	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	--

QD11. In what year were you born? (ENTER FOUR-DIGIT YEAR) (Calculated and grouped as below)

	TOT	GENDER		PARTISANSHIP			AGE IN YEARS				ELECT	
		M	F	DEM	IND	REP	<30	<45	<60	60+	YES	NO
18-29	13%	11%	15%	12%	12%	14%	100%	--%	--%	--%	13%	11%
30-44	27	30	24	27	21	27	--	100	--	--	26	28
45-59	31	31	31	31	36	32	--	--	100	--	32	28
60 and over	26	24	28	25	29	26	--	--	--	100	28	30
DK/REFUSED	3	4	2	5	2	1	--	--	--	--	2	3

* denotes less than .5%

-- denotes 0%

HOW THE POLL WAS DONE

This BADGER POLL™ was conducted by the University of Wisconsin Survey Center as part of its ongoing program of research designed to benefit the research community and the people of Wisconsin, under the direction of G. Donald Ferree, Jr., Associate Director for Public Opinion Research of the Center. The media sponsors of the survey are the (Madison) Capital Times, and the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel. The BADGER POLL™ is intended to be a "poll of record" for the state, investigating matters of concern to Wisconsinites including politics, culture, and their daily lives, adhering to the highest standards of polling methodology and rigorous independence.

A total of 511 randomly chosen state residents were interviewed for this survey by telephone between April 20 and 28, inclusive. Telephone numbers were generated by computer in proportion to the number of adults living in each area of the state. Theoretically, results from this survey have a "margin of error" of a little over +/- 4%. This means that, had we asked every eligible resident in Wisconsin, exactly these questions at the time the survey was conducted, there is only a one in twenty chance that the answers would differ by more than that in either direction from what we report here. There could be differences because of changes in question wording, events occurring in the meantime, or any of the practical difficulties involved in taking a scientific survey. Results based on subgroups are subject to a larger "margin of error".