

Kansas Policy Survey: Spring 2001 Survey Results

**Prepared by
Chad J. Kniss**

**with
Donald P. Haider-Markel and Steven Maynard-Moody**

December 2001

Report: 266A

**Policy Research Institute
University of Kansas
Steven Maynard-Moody, Interim Director**

Executive Summary

The Kansas Policy Survey, Spring 2001 (KPS-Spring01) consisted of over 80 questions that were constructed by the Director and Manager of the SRC as well as from consultation with others in the Policy Research Institute at the University of Kansas. While the survey is not inclusive of all policy and political issues affecting Kansas, it represents a breadth of issues and concerns from the 2000 Presidential election, to current and future economic expectations, policy preferences for Kansas state services, and the recent decision by the Kansas Board of Education to re-emphasize evolution in science curriculum.

The results of the survey reveal interesting and important information about Kansans' perspectives on the various issues. For the most part, Kansans are satisfied with how things are going in the state. However, there are small to sizable minorities that feel that substantial change is needed. *One of the most notable distinctions is that Kansans are fairly concerned about the state of public education in the state.* The following list shows the most important and interesting findings from the Kansas Policy Survey: Spring 2001.

- Education was the primary concern among voters in all regions of the state regardless of the congressional district or region. Education in public schools (K-12) was the only state program area to receive majority support for *increased spending levels*. Nearly *two-thirds* of respondents statewide said they felt state spending for public education should be increased.
- Most Kansans consider evolution to be an important aspect of science curriculum for public schools in the state. More over, most Kansans have resolved the religious beliefs about creation to reflect the influence of evolution theory.
- Roughly 44 percent of respondents statewide said that the Kansas economy was about the same as a year ago, while nearly 40 percent thought it was worse off then a year ago. Nearly 74 percent of respondents thought the state's economy would be about the same or better off in a year, compared to the 18 percent who believed it would be worse.
- A majority of respondents thought that they paid about the right of state income and sales taxes, while a majority thought they paid too much in property taxes.
- Most respondents trust their state government in Topeka to do the right thing most of the time or just about always (48%). Further Kansans place more trust in their state government to do the right thing most of the time or just about always (48%) than trust the federal government to do the right thing most of the time or just about always (37%).
- A substantial majority of respondents believe that their drinking water at home is safe to drink (69%). When asked how important is it to you that Kansas clean its waterways to help ensure the quality of drinking water, *over three-fourths* of respondents said that it was *very important*.
- About 45 percent of respondents were supportive, for increasing Kansas state taxes to help clean up and protect Kansas's water resources. The findings from the survey

suggest that Kansans feel that clean water is very important, however they are not sure how to achieve it or to pay for it.

- A majority of respondents (50%) felt that the state legislature should vote to keep the state lottery. A majority of respondents across all regions of the state supported continuing the lottery.
- Nearly two-thirds of respondents said they either support or strongly support election reforms. The most important reform in Kansan's minds is reform of the Electoral College with 35 percent of all respondents choosing saying that was the most important reform.

The survey was a random digit-dial survey of households regarding their views about a range of current social, political, economic, and policy views. The survey was conducted by the Survey Research Center of the Policy Research Institute at the University of Kansas, between March 5, 2001 and May 11, 2001. Of the households contacted 503 agreed to complete the survey for a cooperation rate of 39%. With the 503, we can have 95 percent confidence with a margin of error of +/- 2.7 percentage points. The margin of error reflects the interval in which the data collected by the Kansas Policy Survey would be within +/- 2.7% of the means in 95 out of 100 surveys conducted among adults in Kansas.

Interviews for the KPS-Spring01 were begun on March 5, 2001 with a survey format of approximately 71 questions. After completing 108 surveys, the survey was expanded to include additional topics such as the Kansas Board of Education's decisions to once again emphasize evolution in the science curriculum in public schools and on standardized tests. Thus, starting on March 13, 2001 the expanded survey instrument replaced the previous version. Then between March 13, 2001 and May 11, 2001 395 surveys were completed with new survey instrument of approximately 87 questions. The average interview length for the expanded survey was just over 25 minutes and respondents were free to discontinue at any time during the survey. As a result of a change in the survey instrument and respondent participation, not all questions will have the same number of respondents. The number of respondents is noted where statistics and data from the KPS-Spring01 are reported. For more information regarding the survey, the findings reported here, or the survey data contact the Survey Research Center at 785-864-9117.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	i
Section A: Economics, Public Concerns, and Efficacy in Government	1
Sub-section A-1: Problems Facing the State	1
Sub-section A-2: Economic Perceptions among Kansans	4
Sub-section A-3: Kansans' Efficacy in Government	7
Section B: State Policies and Spending Preferences	9
<i>Rating the Governor and State Legislature</i>	9
<i>Support for State Taxes</i>	10
<i>The State Lottery and Animal Welfare</i>	12
Sub-section B-1: Program Spending Preferences	14
Sub-section B-2: Water Quality and Resources	19
Sub-section B-3: Education Evolution in Kansas	28
Section C: Political Knowledge, Participation and the 2000 Election	33
Sub-section C-1: The 2000 Presidential Election	35
Sub-section C-2: The Importance of TV News	41
Section D: Political Attitudes Towards Institutions and Groups	43
Section E: Demographics	47
Sub-section E-1: Religion in the lives of Kansans	48
Sub-section E-2: Education and Household Income	50
Sub-section E-3: Party ID and Political Ideology	51
Conclusions	53
Appendix A: Map of Respondents through out Kansas	54
Appendix B: 2000 Census Demographic Comparisons	55
Appendix C: Survey Questions	56
References	65

A: Attitudes about Economics, Public Concerns, and Efficacy in Government

A-1: Problems Facing the State of Kansas

The Kansas Policy Survey: Spring 2001 (KPS-Spring01) asked respondents about their views of current economic, political and social issues in the state of Kansas, as well as about their level of trust in state government. These questions were sprinkled throughout the survey. One of the questions asked respondents about what they perceived to be the *most important* problem facing the state of Kansas today. Any answer that a respondent gave was accepted.

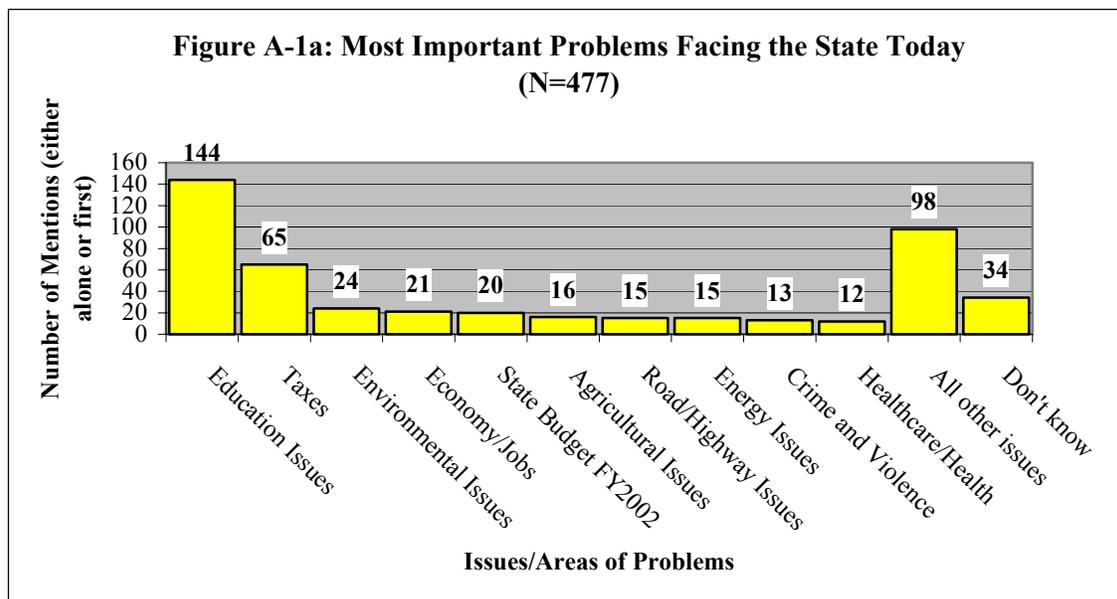


Figure A-1a lists the responses to the above question when an answer was given either by itself or was the first mentioned in a set of multiple problems mentioned by respondents. Of the 477 responses, the most mentioned issue was education (general/public education). Education was mentioned as either the most important problem or was tied for importance with another issue by 144 respondents statewide. This number represents just over 30 percent of all the answers recorded.

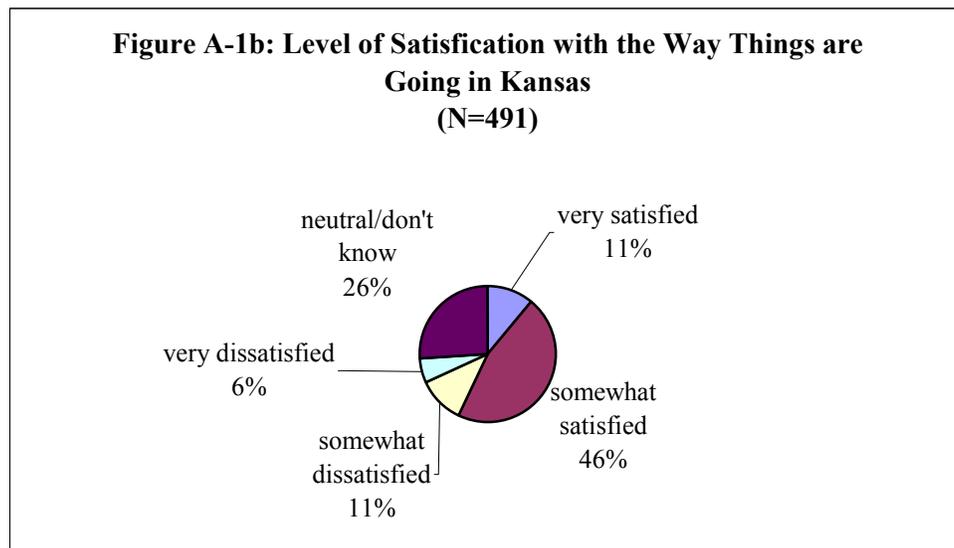
Additionally, education was a primary concern among respondents in all regions of the state regardless of the congressional district or metropolitan status of the county. Education made up at least 26 percent of all mentioned problems in each of the four congressional districts, with the Fourth being the lowest at 26 percent and the Third being the highest at 38 percent. About 28 percent of both the First and Second congressional district respondents were concerned about education. The Third District stands out from the rest of the state with a larger share of respondents feeling that education was *the most important* problem facing that state today.

Nearly equal percentages of both female and male respondents (30.4% and 30.1% respectively) thought education was the most important problem facing the state. Education is also the issue most mentioned across all levels of educational attainment by respondents.

However, there is a significant difference between those respondents holding at least a four-year college degree and those who do not. About 46 percent of Kansans who had attained at least a bachelor's degree mentioned education as the most important problem, while only 23 percent of those with only some college education mentioned it as most important, and even fewer respondents with a high school degree or less mentioned education (19%). Thus, it appears that the more education that respondents had achieved for themselves, the more likely they were to say that education was the most important problem facing the state.

After education no single issue or area received nearly as many mentions by respondents, as demonstrated by Figure A-1a. Only one other issue -- taxes -- made up more than five percent of all the problems mentioned. Taxes, mentioned either alone or as the first of a set of problems was given by roughly 14 percent of respondents statewide. Taxes were mentioned by roughly equal percentages of Kansans across the state and regardless of gender. However, respondents who had attained higher levels of education thought taxes were less of a problem facing the state. Only 9.6 percent of the respondents who at least held a bachelor's degree mentioned taxes as the most important issue, compared with 17.6 percent of those with some college education and 14.7 percent of those with only a high school education (or less).

The next eight issues or issue areas received between ten and 25 mentions each statewide and all eight combined would not equal the number of responses for education. The eight issue areas, in order, are the environment (including water and water quality concerns), the economy, passing the Kansas State Budget for Fiscal Year 2002, farming/agricultural concerns, roads/highways/transportation, energy issues (supplies, costs, and crises), crime, and, finally, health care. While the responses demonstrate that there are a wide variety of problems that face the state, education is by far the biggest area of concern throughout the state.



Respondents were also asked, in general, how satisfied they are with the way things are going in Kansas. Overall, respondents said they are fairly satisfied. Almost 57 percent of respondents statewide said they were somewhat satisfied or very satisfied, while about 17

percent said they were somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied, with just over a quarter of respondents saying they were in-between or neutral (see Figure A-1b). There were regional variations in how Kansans feel about how things are going in the state. The data show a sizable difference between respondents in the Second and Third congressional Districts (the eastern one-third of the state) and those in the First and Fourth Districts (the western two-thirds of the state).

In the Second and Third Districts, the percent of respondents saying they are either somewhat satisfied or very satisfied is 63 percent. These two districts also had the lowest neutral response rates, both under 22 percent. On the other hand, the First and Fourth Districts had substantially lower levels of satisfaction at only 53 percent and 46 percent respectively, and a higher rate of neutral responses (about 30 %). But it is the respondents in the Fourth congressional district that seem to have the least satisfaction with how things are going in Kansas. Respondents in the Fourth district only had a combined satisfaction level of 46 percent and they had the highest combined level of dissatisfaction at 22 percent, as well as the highest level of neutral responses (31%).

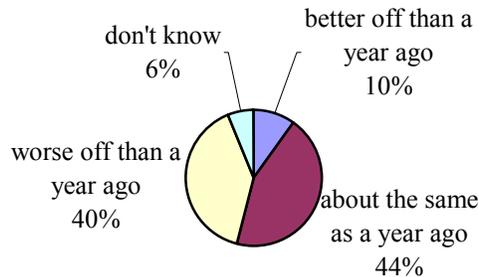
There was also a difference in the way that men and women felt about how things are going in the state. While about 63 percent of male respondents said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the way things are going in Kansas, only 55 percent of female respondents felt the same. The differences between the genders is found in that men were more likely to give a satisfied response, while women more likely to say they were in-between (18.6% versus 27.9%).

There were no substantial differences in the level of reported satisfaction regardless of educational attainment, but there tended to be an increasing percentage of respondents reporting to be satisfied to very satisfied with higher levels of income. Among respondents making under \$40,000 a year, about 53 percent said they were either somewhat or very satisfied, while among respondents making over \$60,000 a year about 65 percent said the same. Overall, although a majority of respondents (57%) felt at least satisfied by the way things are going in Kansas, nearly as many (46%) were *only* somewhat satisfied and *not* very satisfied. This suggests that there is room for change. Add this to the previous discussion, about what was the most important problem facing the state, and it seems that education and taxes are the primary issues that Kansans feel need to be addressed.

A-2: Economic Perceptions among Kansans

When asked about how the Kansas economy compares to one year ago, roughly 44 percent of respondents statewide said that it was about the same as a year ago, while nearly 40 percent thought it was worse than a year ago. Just over 10 percent of respondents thought that the Kansas economy was better off than a year ago (see Figure A-2a). The finding suggests that most respondents feel the economy is slowing, which reflects national trends in consumer confidence (Consumer Confidence Survey, May 2001).

Figure A-2a: The Kansas Economy Compared to a Year Ago
(N=471)

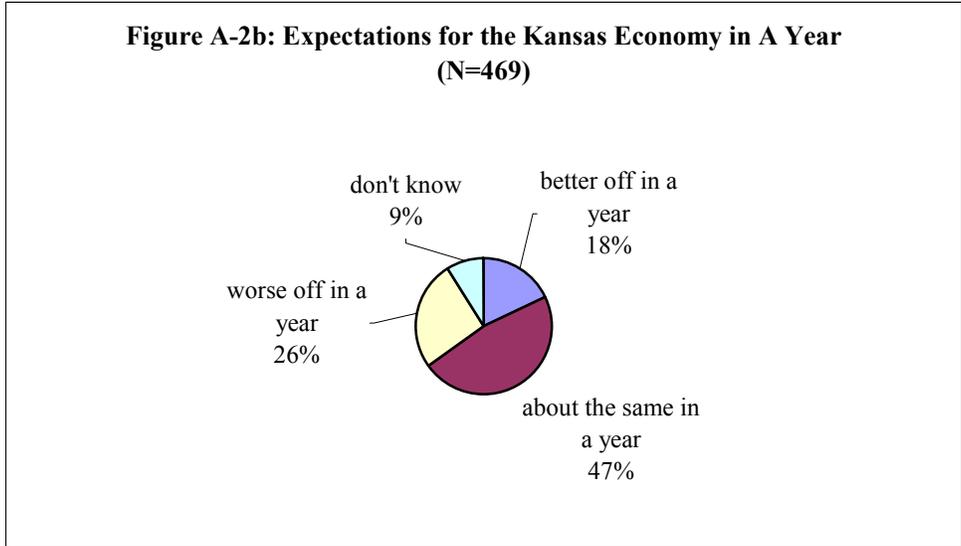


The regional breakdowns on this question look similar to those of the more general questions about how things are going in Kansas today. Both the Second and Third congressional Districts had the largest share of respondents stating that the Kansas economy was about the same as a year ago. A majority of respondents in the Third congressional district thought it was about the same, compared to only 33 percent and 43 percent respectively in the First and Fourth districts. In fact, a majority of First District residents responded that the Kansas economy was worse off than a year ago, reflecting the continued decline in the farming sector. Regional differences also exist that reflect the “two states of Kansas.” While 50 percent of metro county respondents thought that the Kansas economy was about the same as a year ago, only about 40 percent of non-metro county respondents thought so.

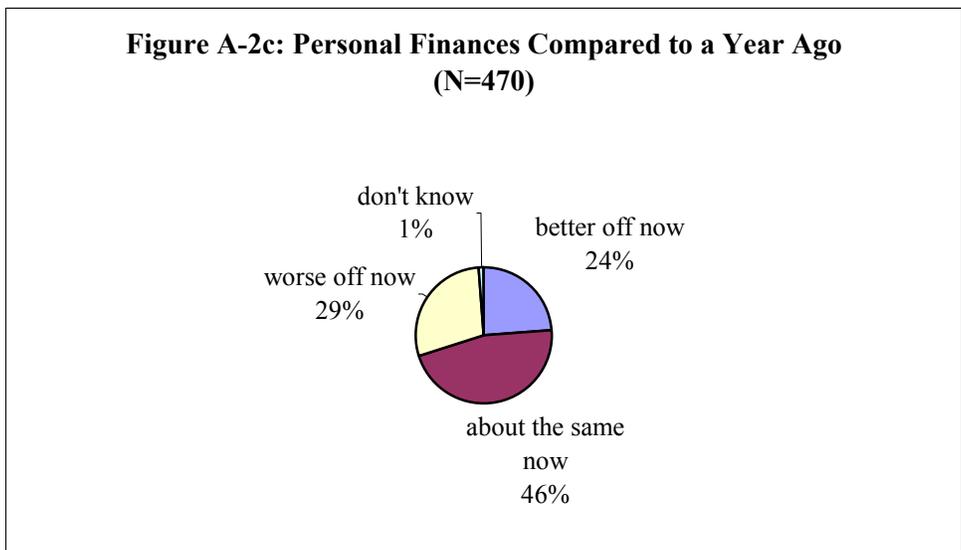
Reviewing the same answers through the lenses of gender reveals that women were more likely to say that the Kansas economy is about the same as a year ago than men (50% to 42%), while men were more likely to say the Kansas economy had become worse off from a year ago (48% to 39%). Respondents who had at least a four-year college degree were more likely to think the Kansas economy was worse off now (47%) than those respondents who did not have a college degree (40%). When looking at how respondents of various income levels answered this question, an interesting difference exists between their answers here and on the question of satisfaction with the way things are going in Kansas. While respondents with higher income levels were more likely to say they were satisfied with the way things in general are going in Kansas than those making less money, they were more likely to say that the Kansas economy has declined over the course of the last year.

It is interesting to compare the responses to the above questions with the responses to the question about how Kansans think that the Kansas economy will be a year from now. When respondents look forward a year, their outlook is slightly negative (see Figure A-2b). Although the largest response given was that the economy would be about the same in a year, the number who thought that the economy would be better off in a year was almost 18 percent and the

number who thought it would be worse was roughly 26 percent. Overall, a majority of respondents regardless of their gender, income, educational attainment, geographical location in the state or their partisan affiliation, expect that the Kansas economy will not substantially change in the next year.



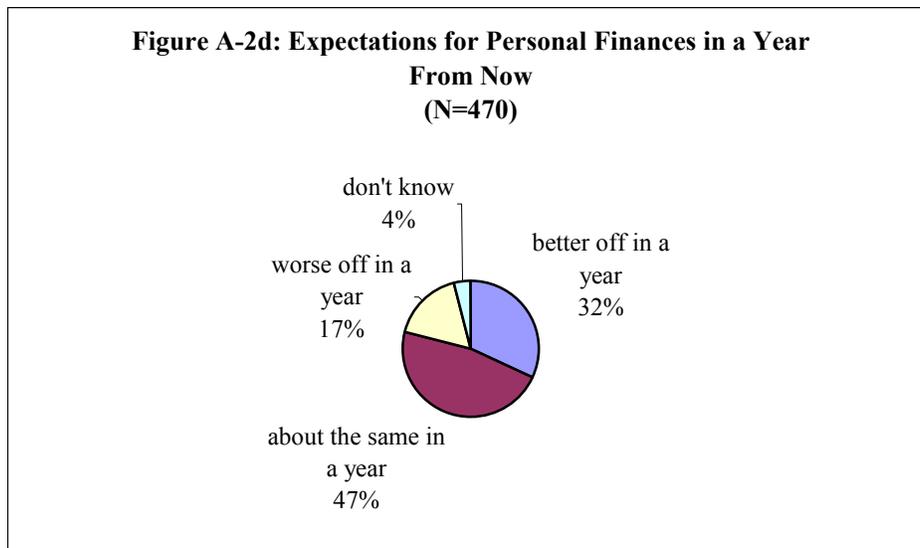
So how do the respondents' views about the Kansas economy compare with their own experiences? We examined this question through a set of matched questions that asked respondents how they are getting along financially these days and how they think they will be a year from now. When asked if they were financially getting along better, about the same, or worse than they were a year ago, about 45 percent of the respondents statewide said they were about the same, while just over 29 percent said they were worse off and about 25 percent said they were better off (see Figure A-2c).



Regional breakdowns show that respondents in the rural and western counties of the state were more likely to feel that they and members of their family living with them were worse off today compared to a year ago. Overall all about 29 percent of respondents statewide felt their family's finances were worse off. In the rural First Congressional District over 36 percent of respondents said they were worse off than a year ago, but only 20% said they were better off (roughly 44% said they were about the same). Comparing these results to those from the question about how the Kansas economy is fairing compared to a year ago, we can see that while respondents in the First and Fourth Districts think that the economy is worse off, not as many believe that their families are worse off from a year ago (by roughly 10%). The data also show that respondents in the First District have the most negative view of the economy, both overall and in terms of their personal finances.

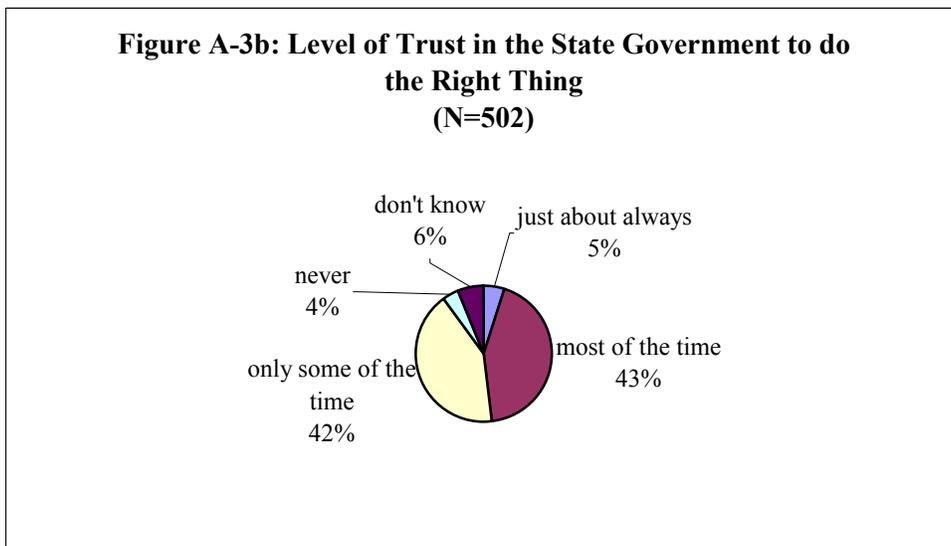
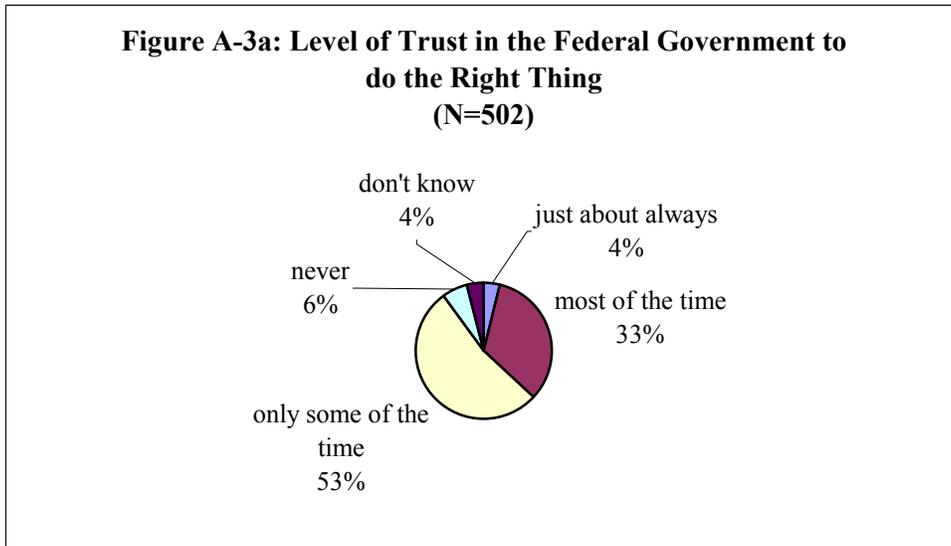
When respondents were asked where they thought their family's financial situation would be a year from now, we see that Kansans have a rosy prospective (see Figure A-2d). Nearly two times as many respondents thought that their family's financial situation would be better off in year than those who thought it would be worse off in a year (32% compared to 17%). However, nearly 47 percent of respondents statewide said that they thought it would be about the same in a year. Interestingly, the statewide pattern holds across all four congressional districts and between metro and non-metro counties. The pattern also holds regardless of gender and income.

However, optimism seems to run a bit stronger among respondents with at least a bachelor's degree. Only about 12 percent of those with a college degree thought their family's finances would get worse in the next year, while nearly 38 percent thought that it would get better. Those respondents without a college degree were more likely to say they expected their family's finances to be worse off in a year. Thus, Kansans hold little hope that the Kansas economy will improve, but they hold slightly greater expectations that their own family's finances will improve.



A-3: Efficacy in Government

Respondents were also asked about their trust in Kansas state government and in the federal government. The questions read “How much of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington D.C. to do the right thing” and “How much of the time do you think you can trust the state government in Topeka to do the right thing.” Results are presented in Figures A-3a and A-3b. A majority of respondents statewide (53%) said that they trusted the federal government to do the right thing only some of the time, while 37 percent said that they can trust the federal government most of the time or just about always.



More respondents trust their state government in Topeka to do the right thing most of the time or just about always (48%) than they trust the federal government (37%). Although this difference is significant, it is somewhat misleading. For both the state and federal government, Figures A-3a and A-3b show that the percent of respondents who report trusting each government to do the right thing just about always is about the same (approximately 4% to 5%). Additionally, the percent of those saying that they never trust the state or federal governments is about the same (6% for the federal and 4% for the state). The difference lies with the respondents who trust state government “most of the time” while trusting the federal government “only some of the time.”

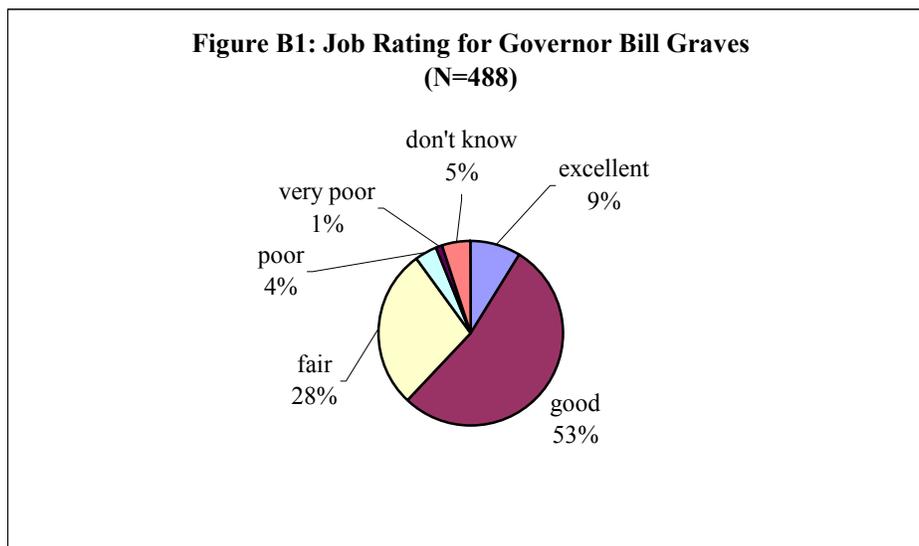
A brief examination of the data from the four congressional districts and the metro vs. non-metro counties shows similar results for both the federal and state governments. The First District is the most trusting of the state government with over 57 percent of respondents saying they trust the state government most of the time or just about always. And the two more “urban” districts -- the Third and the Fourth -- report the least amount of trust in the state government, similar to the findings for trust in the federal government. A similar finding holds for those respondents who did not identify themselves as either Democrats or Republicans. Independent respondents reported less trust in both the state and federal government to do the right thing, 70 percent of Independents said they trusted the federal government to do the right thing only some of the time and 50 percent of Independents said they trusted the state government to do the right thing only some of the time.

B: Attitudes toward state policies, taxes, and spending in Kansas

The previous section discussed the attitudes and concerns that Kansans have regarding the economy, the problems facing the state today and their trust in government. In this section we examine respondents' attitudes on certain state policies, taxes, and spending. The KPS-Spring01 contained a series of questions rating the performance of the governor and the state legislature. Respondents were also asked about their opinions on various state taxes and spending levels for various programs.

Rating the Governor and the State Legislature

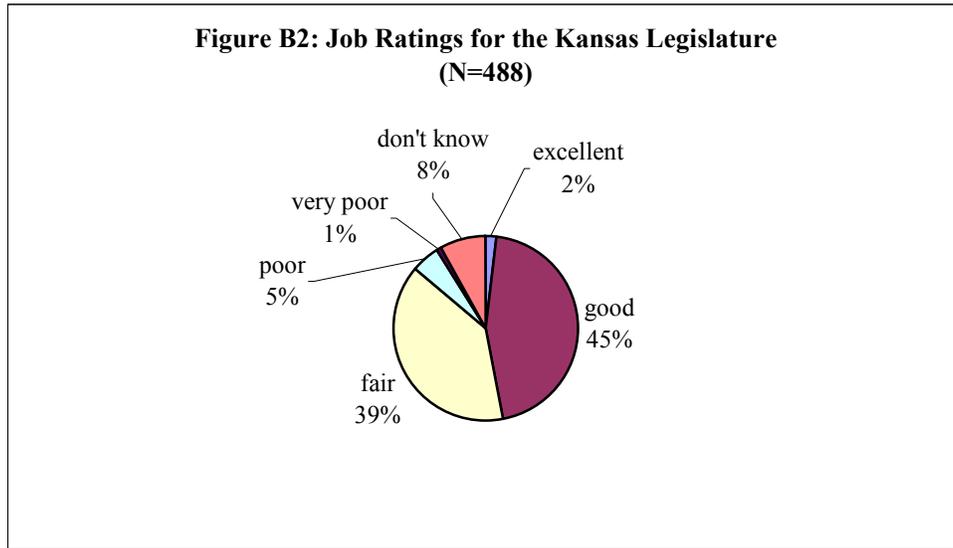
The survey results show that Kansans have a more favorable view of the job that Governor Graves is doing compared to the state legislature, although both received overwhelming support from the respondents. Nearly 63 percent of respondents felt that Governor Bill Graves does either an excellent or good job (see Figure B1), while only 47 percent of respondents felt the same about the job the state legislature does (see Figure B2).



Support for Governor Graves remains fairly constant across the state. However, support for the state legislature fluctuates across different areas of the state. The First District gave the most support to the legislature's performance with over 52 percent saying the legislature was doing a good to excellent job, while the Third District was the least supportive – only 40 percent said good to excellent, and nearly 9 percent said poor or very poor. Only 38 percent of respondents in metro counties said the legislature was doing a good to excellent job, while 42 percent said fair and nearly 9 percent said poor or very poor. However, respondents in the rural and less urban areas, were more approving of the legislature's performance (52% good or excellent versus only 4% poor or very poor).

There are no statistical differences between the way that men and women rated either the governor or the state legislature. However, respondents who had a four-year college degree were

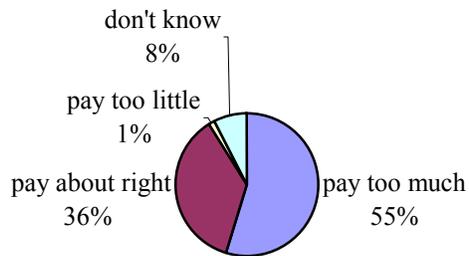
more likely to rate Governor Graves as good (59%) and less likely to rate him excellent (8%) or poor (2%) than those who did not have a four-year degree (52%, 10%, and 4% respectively). Educational attainment appears to have very little impact on respondents' assessment of the state legislature, but partisan identification does. Respondents who said they considered themselves to be Republicans were more likely to rate the state legislature as doing a good job (56%) than respondents who considered themselves to be Democrats (43%) and Independents (35%).



Public Support for State Taxes

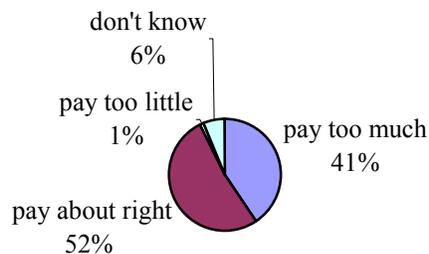
Respondents to the KPS-Spring01 were also asked to assess the amount of Kansas state property, income, and sales taxes. They were asked if they thought they paid too much, about the right amount, or too little for each. The results are reported in Figures B3, B4, and B5. A majority of respondents thought that they paid about the right amount of state income and sales taxes, while a majority thought they paid too much in property taxes. This finding fits with the existing literature and other survey results that demonstrate that the property tax is the least liked tax in America (Fisher 1996, see chapter 13). A majority of respondents in all four congressional districts and in both metro and non-metro counties felt they paid too much in property taxes, showing that Kansans' statewide are not fond of property taxation (see Figure B3).

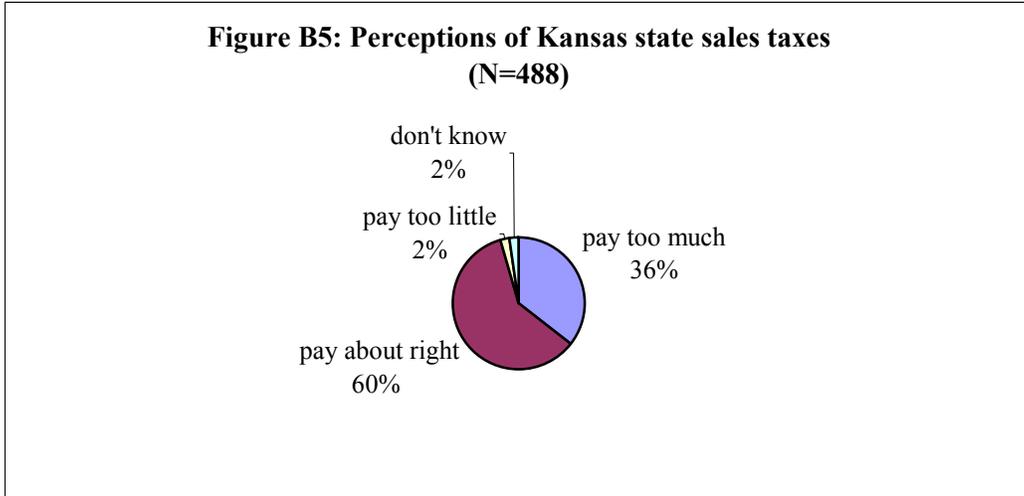
Figure B3: Perceptions of Kansas property taxes
(N=487)



Of the two remaining state taxes, state sales taxes – the most regressive and the least administratively costly to the average citizen – received the most support with 60 percent of respondents statewide saying they pay about the right amount and just about 36 percent saying they pay too much (see Figure B5). This pattern is fairly similar across the geographic regions of the state, with the exception of the Second District. In the Second District a substantially larger share of respondents said that they paid too much in sales taxes (43% compared to 36% statewide). Statewide a majority of respondents also felt that they paid about the right amount of state income taxes, although a large minority felt they paid too much (see Figure B4).

Figure B4: Perceptions of Kansas state income taxes
(N=486)



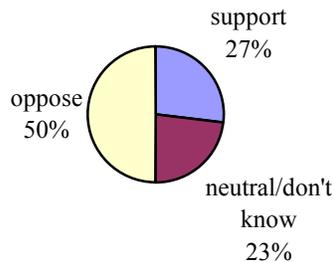


Policy Views on the Kansas Lottery and Animal Welfare

In terms of state programs and policies, the KPS-Spring01 included several questions related to state policies on the lottery, animal welfare, water resources, and on the role of evolution in education. The results about water resources and evolution in education are addressed in the following sub-sections. Here, briefly, we review the results about Kansans' support for continuing the state lottery and for animal welfare.

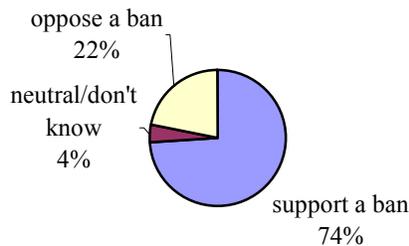
A bare majority of respondents to the KPS-Spring01 felt that the state legislature should vote to keep the state lottery, while a little over one quarter of respondents supported eliminating the lottery (Figure B6). A majority of respondents across three of the four congressional districts and in both metro and non-metro counties supported continuing the lottery. Only in the Second District did a majority of respondents fail to support keeping the lottery, yet only about 29 percent said they supported its elimination. Support to eliminate the state lottery was fairly consistent among both men and women as well as among all levels of education. However, opposition to eliminate the lottery was higher among male respondents (56%) than female respondents (47%). Opposition to eliminate the lottery was also higher among respondents who did not have a four-year college degree (52%) than those with a four-year degree (46%).

Figure B6: Support and Opposition to Eliminating the State Lottery
(N=481)



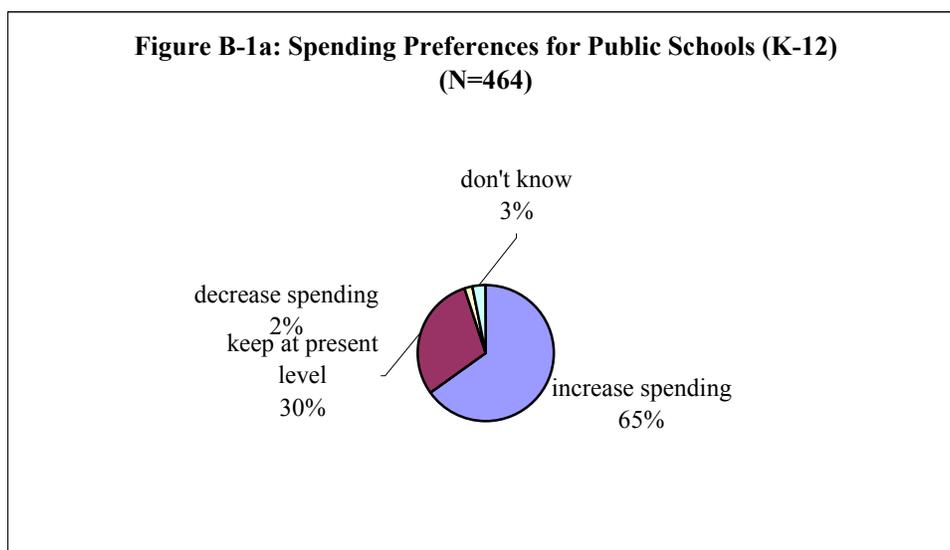
When asked about their support or opposition to a law banning animal fighting, such as cockfighting, or humans wrestling with bears, an overwhelming majority of respondents said they supported such a law (see Figure B7). About three-quarters of respondents statewide supported such a law to some degree, with almost 60 percent saying they would *strongly* support such a law. Support remains similar across all regions of the state. Female respondents were more supportive of such a law (77%) than male respondents (69%), but in both groups total support is over 65 percent and strong support is over 50 percent (51% among men and 62% among women). Kansans overwhelmingly support the banning of animal fighting in the state.

Figure B7: Support and Opposition to Banning Animal Fighting in the State
(N=377)



B-1: Program Spending Preferences

The KPS-Spring01 also asked Kansans about eight policy areas or programs on which the state spends money: public schools (K-12), state colleges and universities, help to low income families, job training programs for the unemployed, environmental protection, programs for crime (including state prisons and correctional facilities), state highways and roads, and economic development programs. For each of the eight program areas the respondents were asked if they thought state spending should be increased, kept at the present level, decreased, or spent differently. For only one program did a majority of respondents think that spending levels ought to be increased – public schools (K-12). Nearly two-thirds of respondents statewide said they felt state spending for public education should be increased, while less than two percent thought that it should be decreased (see Figure B-1a).

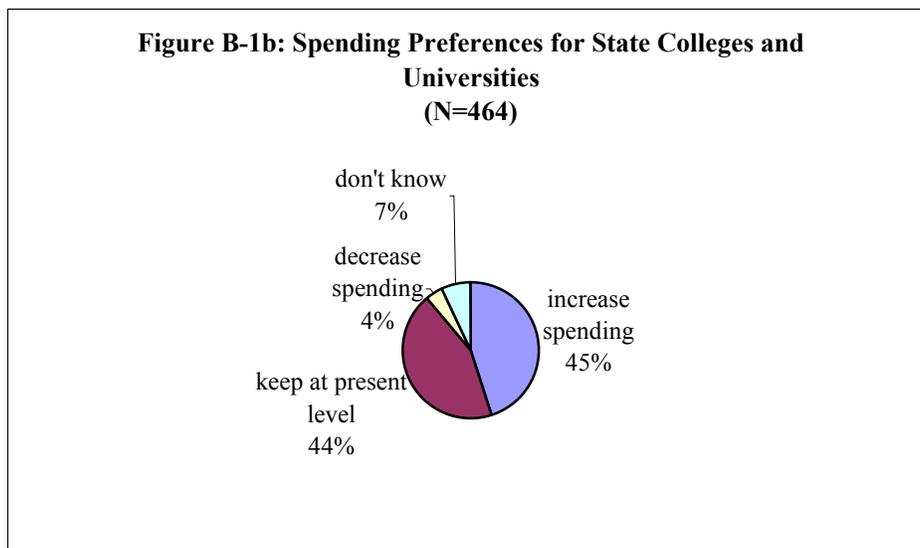


Recall that education was also the most-mentioned concern when respondents were asked what was the most important problem facing the state today. It seems that Kansans believe the state needs to do and *spend* more to improve public primary and secondary education. Furthermore, this view is fairly constant across the state. In none of the four congressional districts does the support for increasing state spending on education fall below 60 percent (also recall that educational concerns were the most-mentioned problem facing the state today in all four districts as well).

Increased spending for public schools (k-12) was the preference for both male and female respondents (both over 60%), as well as for overwhelming majorities of respondents with each level of educational attainment. The only major difference was that 72 percent of respondents with a four-year degree (or more) preferred increasing state spending, while only 62 percent of respondents without a four-year degree preferred more state spending. A large majority of respondents, regardless of partisan identification, feel that state spending for public K-12 schools should be increased -- 59 percent of Republicans, 68 percent of Independents, and 70 percent of Democrats said they preferred increased state spending on public education.

Overwhelming, a clear majority of Kansans feel that the state should spend more on public primary education.

Only one other program area that received plurality support for increased state spending was state colleges and universities. Again, education rises to the top of Kansans' policy concerns, with about 45 percent of respondents statewide saying state spending should be increased to state colleges and universities, while 44 percent wanted the present level of spending and only about four percent wanted a decrease in spending (see Figure B-1b). The pattern for spending preferences for state colleges and universities is highly constant across the state's regions. However, there are differences between the spending preferences for male respondents (50% increase) and female respondents (42% increase), with more men preferring more state spending. Additionally, respondents who had a four-year college degree were more likely to prefer increased state spending on state colleges and universities (48% increase) than those respondents without a four-year degree (42% increase).



Spending preferences for the remaining six programs/areas follow. All six had a majority or plurality of respondents reply that spending for each should be kept at the present level. Interestingly, the only program area included in the survey where more than ten percent of the respondents felt that a decrease in spending was necessary were programs for economic development (17%) (see Figure B-1h). The overall results about Kansans' spending preferences suggest that Kansans are happy or at least comfortable with the status quo, with one exception, public education, where they feel more state money is needed.

Figure: B-1c: Spending Preferences for Help to Low-income Families with Children
(N=461)

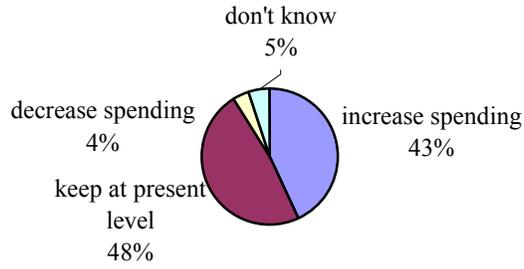


Figure B-1d: Spending Preferences for Job Training Programs for the Unemployed
(N=461)

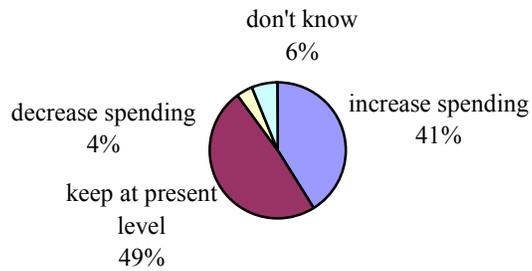


Figure B-1e: Spending Preferences for Environmental Protection Programs (N=464)

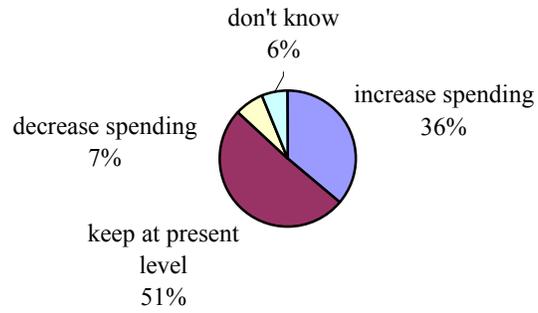


Figure B-1f: Spending Preferences for Crime Prevention Programs (including state prisons and correctional facilities) (N=464)

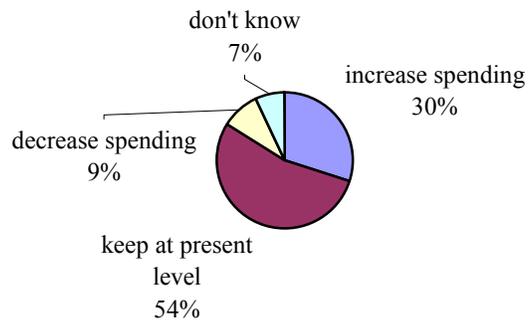


Figure B-1g: Spending Preferences for State Highways and Roads (N=464)

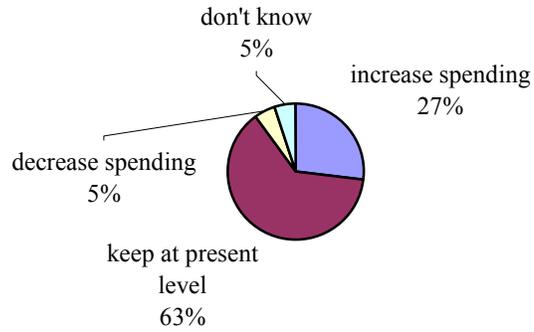
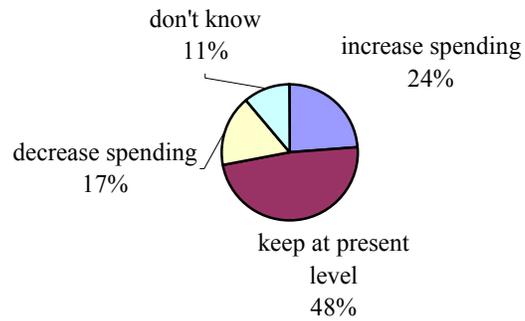


Figure B-1h: Spending Preferences for Economic Development Programs (N=463)



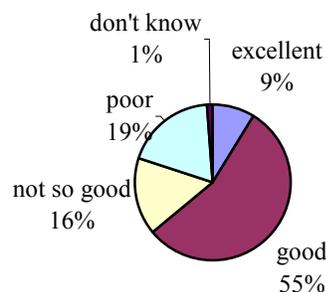
B-2: Water Quality and Resources

The KPS-Spring01 survey contained 13 questions relating to water resources and water quality in Kansas. These questions range from asking the respondents to rate the water quality of the drinking water in their house to questions regarding their support for proposed state water resource policies. Overall, the results from the survey indicate that a majority of respondents believe that their drinking water is safe to drink. A majority also said that quality drinking water is important to them, and that they would be willing to support *some* stronger policies to ensure and further protect water resources in Kansas.

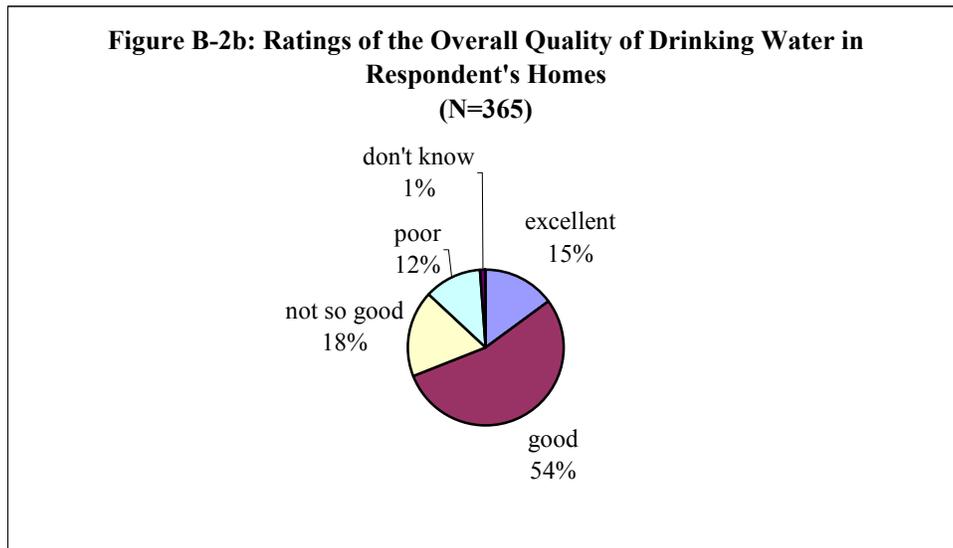
When respondents were asked to rate the overall quality of the drinking water in their county, nearly two-thirds rated it as either good or excellent, while one-third rated it as not so good or poor (see Figure B-2a). In each of the four congressional districts and in both metro and non-metro counties a majority of respondents rated the overall quality of their county's drinking water as good or excellent. However, the rated quality of water is not constant across the regions of the state. In both the First and Fourth congressional Districts, or roughly the western two-thirds of the state, over 40 percent of respondents rated the drinking water in their county as either not so good or as poor, in the Second District only 33 percent of respondents gave the same two rating options, where as in the Third District only 14 percent of respondents thought that their county's drinking water was not so good or poor.

In fact, the perceived water quality seems to be the best in the Third District, which is primarily urban and more affluent. It had a combined good-to-excellent rating of nearly 85 percent. The differences between the districts are also reflected in the metro versus non-metro county distinction. While over 72 percent of metro county respondents rated the county water as good to excellent, only about 60 percent of non-metro county respondents did, and non-metro county respondents were significantly more likely to rate the county's water quality as poor.

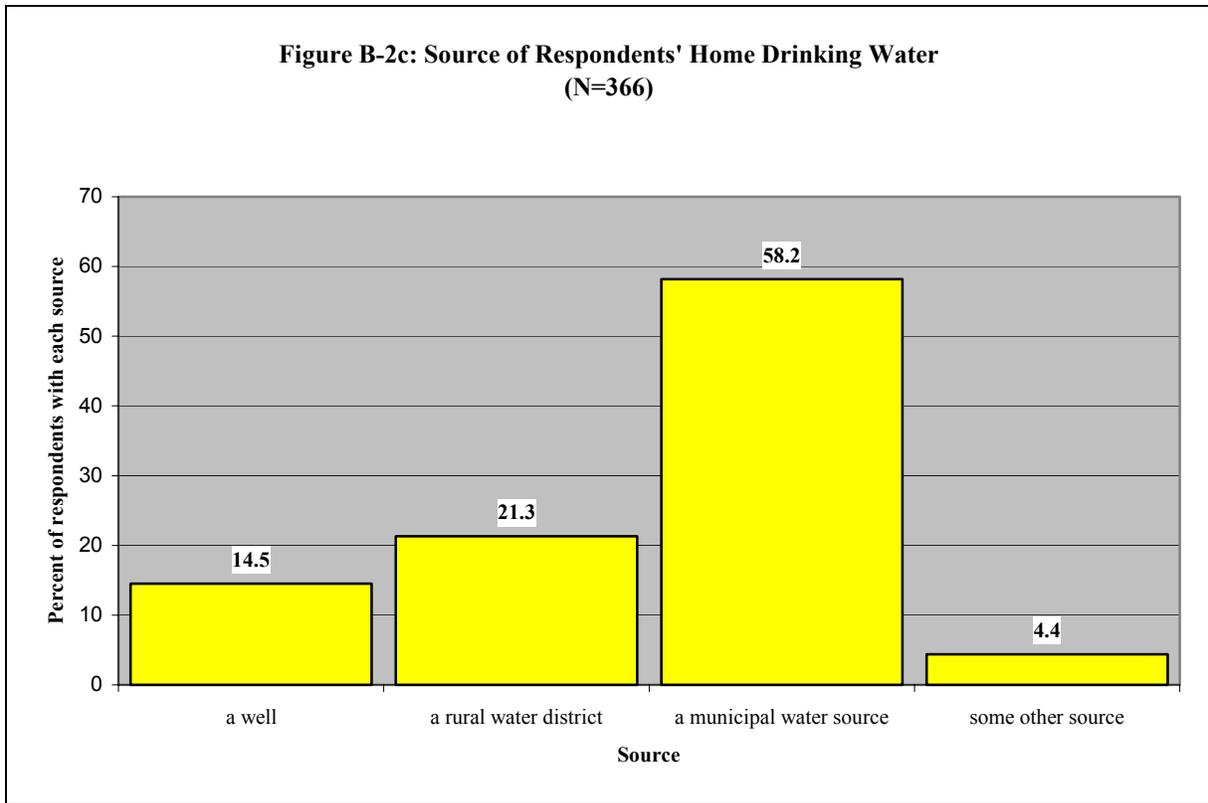
Figure B-2a: Overall Quality of Drinking Water Ratings for the Respondents' County of Residence (N=376)



We also asked respondents to rate the overall quality of the drinking water in their home. The results are shown in Figure B-2b. Over two-thirds of respondents rated their home drinking water as good-to-excellent, while only about 13 percent rated it as poor. Much the same pattern appears in the responses to this question as did to the question about the overall quality of the county drinking water. Across all geographic regions of the state a majority of respondents rate their home drinking water as good-to-excellent, except in the Fourth congressional District, where only 49 percent of respondents gave a good-or-excellent rating. Again the highest rated water quality was in the Third District with over 81 percent saying good or excellent. Similar to the quality rating of county drinking water, home drinking water was not rated good-to-excellent by as large a share of non-metro county respondents, and more of them rated their home drinking water as poor (over 14%).



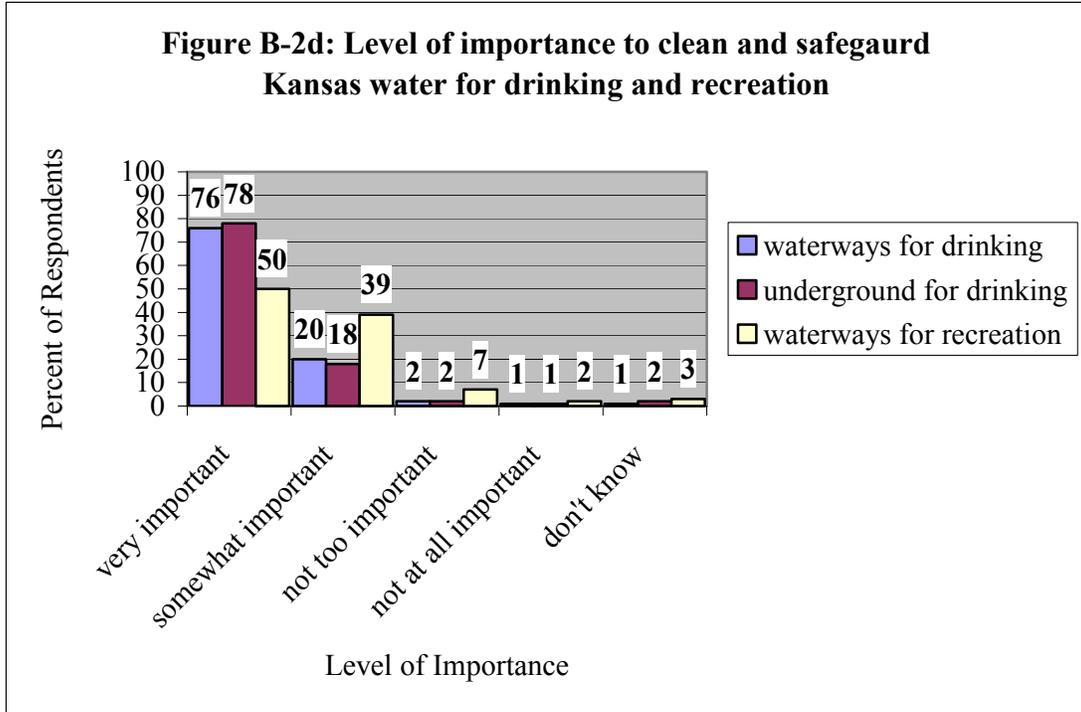
The water that respondents statewide reported drinking in their home most often came from a municipal water source (58%), with rural water districts accounting for just over 20 percent of home drinking water and wells about 15 percent (see Figure B-2c). As one might expect, in each of the four congressional districts, except the First, a majority of respondents reported their home water as coming from a municipal water source. When we breakdown the reported water quality by the source of home drinking water, about 25 percent of well-drinking water respondents reported not so good or poor while about 33 percent of municipal home drinking water respondents ranked their water not so good or poor. Majorities of both well users and municipal water users appear to be fairly happy with the drinking water they receive.



Respondents were asked how important several state water policies were to them. When asked how important it was to them that Kansas clean its waterways to help ensure the quality of drinking water, *over three-fourths* of respondents said that it was very important (see Figure B-2d). The percentage saying that this is very important to them remained between 70 percent and 80 percent across all four congressional districts as well as both metro and non-metro counties.

Similarly a large share of respondents also said that it was very important to them that Kansas take steps to protect underground water supplies to ensure the quality of drinking water (see Figure B-2d). Over two-thirds of both male and female respondents said it is very important to them to clean Kansas' waterways and its underground aquifers to ensure safe drinking water. When asked about the importance of cleaning waterways for recreational use, however, just over a majority of respondents said it is very important to them. Men were more likely to say it was very important (56%) than were women (47%). Further, respondents who did not have a four-year college degree more often said it is very important (52%) than did those with at least a four-year degree (46%).

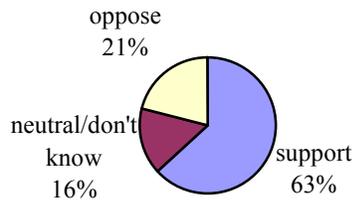
Figure B-2d: Level of importance to clean and safeguard Kansas water for drinking and recreation



Fewer respondents said that cleaning Kansas’ waterways to ensure water quality for recreational purposes was as important. While about 75 percent of respondents said it was very important for the state to clean its waterways to ensure help ensure quality drinking water, only 50 percent thought it was very important to clean water ways to ensure clean water for recreation purposes (see Figure B-2d). Further, it was only in the more urban or metropolitan areas of the state that a majority of respondents said that clean waterways for recreation was very important to them. It appears that rural residents of the state are less concerned about higher quality waterways for recreational activities.

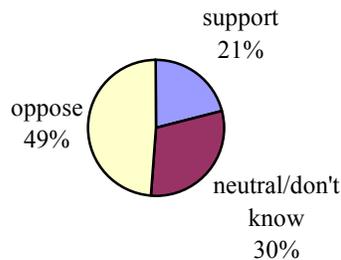
We probed a bit deeper and asked how strongly respondents support or oppose some fairly specific policies to improve or maintain drinking quality water in the state. While over 75 percent of respondents said it was very important to them that Kansas clean its waterways to help ensure the quality of drinking water, just over 63 percent said that they would support a proposal to require farmers in Kansas to reduce the amount of runoff from farmland. Additionally, nearly 21 percent said they would oppose such a proposal (see Figure B-2e). While the majority of respondents said they support requiring farmers to reduce the amount of runoff from farmland, Democratic (68% support) and Independent (70% support) respondents were more likely to support such a requirement than were Republican respondents (55% support).

Figure B-2e: Support and Opposition to Require Farmers in Kansas to Reduce the Amount of Runoff from Farmland (N=365)

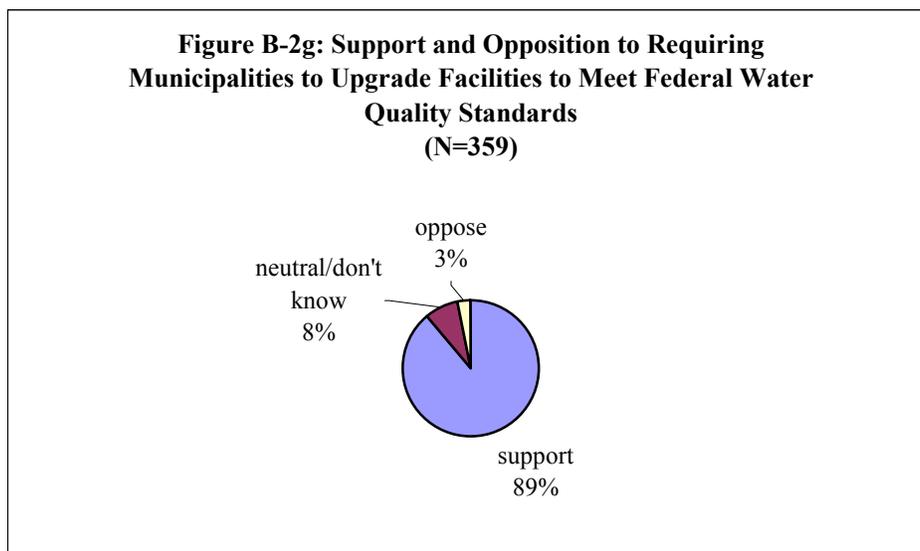


A similar pattern can also be seen in the responses to a question about support or opposition to Governor Graves' proposal to reduce water use from the state's largest water aquifer. In fact, when you contrast the data from the question about how important it is that Kansas take steps to protect underground water supplies with support for Governor Graves' proposal, it seems that Kansans may not be sure about how to handle underground water supplies. Earlier we saw that 78 percent of respondents statewide said it was very important for the state to protect underground water supplies (see Figure B-2d), but only about 21 percent said they supported Governor Graves plan to reduce water usage in the aquifer (see Figure B-2f). On the flip side, nearly 49 percent said they opposed the governor's plan and this lack of support remains fairly constant across the regions of the state. It is only in the First congressional District, where the largest water aquifer in Kansas (the High Plains Aquifer) is located, that support for the governor's plan is over 20 percent.

Figure B-2f: Support and Opposition to Governor Graves' Proposal to Reduce Water Use from the High Plains Aquifer (N=463)



The two above policies do not receive the level of support that one might expect given how very important it is to a large number of respondents that Kansas clean its waterways. However, when asked how strongly would they support or oppose a proposal to require municipalities in Kansas to upgrade their facilities to meet or exceed federal water quality standards, nearly 55 percent of respondents statewide said they strongly supported it and an additional 34 percent said they would support it. Thus, just over 89 percent would support or strongly support upgrading municipal water facilities (see Figure B-2g). It seems that Kansans favor cleaning the water that municipalities return to the watershed systems in the state, at least in theory. What remains to be seen is if Kansans will support higher standards for municipalities with greater funds to upgrade their municipal water facilities.



A majority of respondents statewide also think that it is more important for government to have the ability to regulate residential and commercial use of land to protect water quality for the common good, rather than the ability of individuals to do what they want with their land (see Figure B-2h). This finding holds across all regions of the state, except in the Second District where both options received support by 46 percent of respondents. If we look at respondents' responses grouped by their partisan identification, 67 percent of Democrats said it was more important for government to regulate residential land to protect water than for individual landowners to do whatever they want with their land, while only 50 percent of Republicans and 44 percent of Independents said the same. However, a substantial majority (65%) also believe that if government chooses to regulate the private use of private property in the public interest that the government should compensate the landowner for losses regardless of the respondents' location in the state, gender, or partisan identification (see Figure B-2i).

Figure B-2h: Support for Government Regulation of Private Land to Protect Water Quality (N=358)

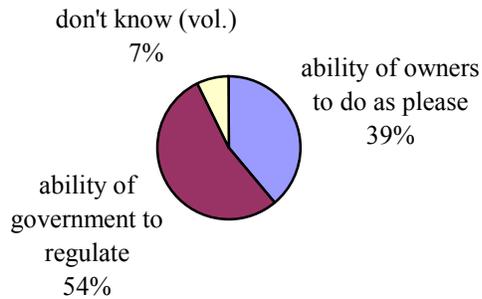
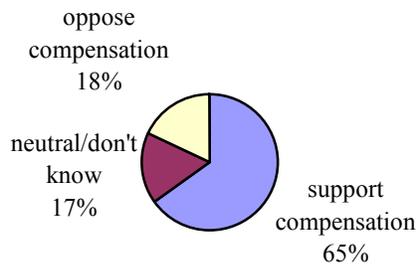
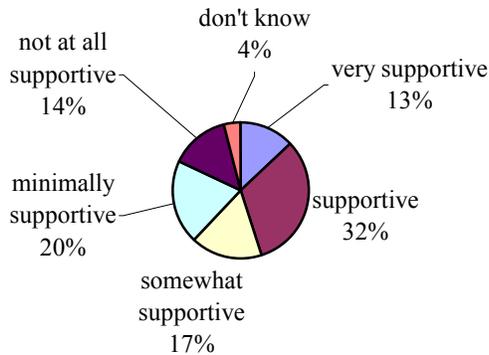


Figure B-2i: Support and Opposition to Government Compensation to Private Land Owners Should it Choose to Regulate Their Use of Their Property (N=358)



When asked how supportive they would be of increases in Kansas taxes to help clean-up and protect the quality of Kansas' water resources, roughly 62 percent of respondents said they were somewhat to very supportive, while over one-third were not supportive or not at all supportive (see Figure B-2j). Support for increased taxes to pay for cleaning and safeguarding Kansas' water resources was higher among respondents with at least a four-year college degree (69%) than those without a four-year degree (58%). Support was fairly equal among both male and female respondents as well as throughout the state's four congressional districts and among respondents of all partisan identifications.

Figure B-2j: Level of Support for Increased Taxes to Help Clean and Protect the Quality of Kansas' Water Resources (N=356)

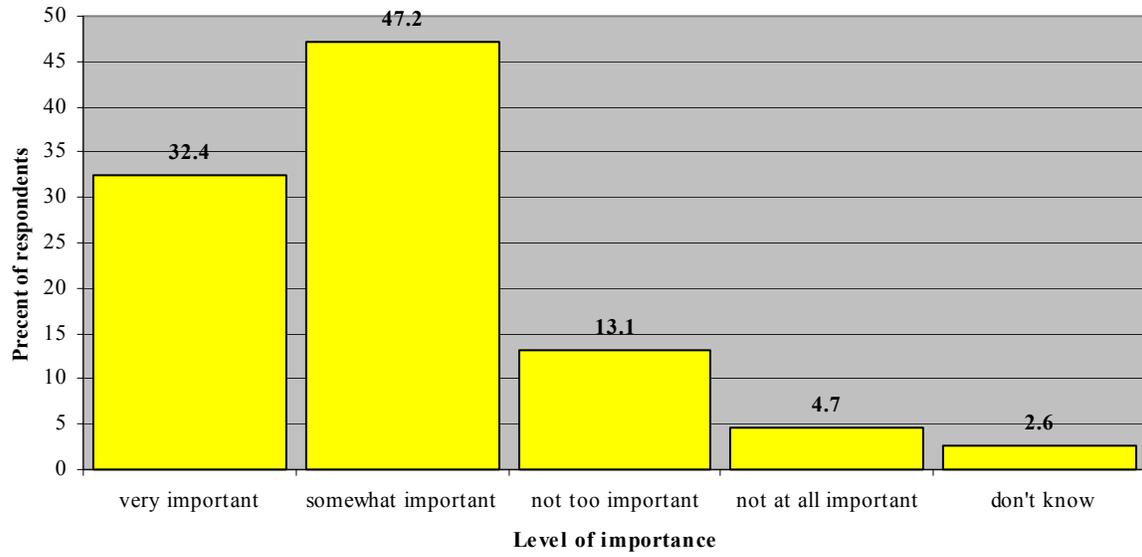


Recall that when asked what was the most important problem facing the state today, only 24 respondents mentioned environmental issues (many with a concern specifically for water). In terms of importance it seems that environmental and water issues are significantly lower on the list behind education and taxes. This is also reflected in the responses to a question about how important environmental issues are in determining the respondent's vote for local and state political offices. On this question just under one-third of the respondents statewide said that environmental issues are very important to their vote choices, while approximately 47 percent said they were only somewhat important, and nearly 18 percent said they were either not too important or not at all important (see Figure B-2k).

This response pattern holds fairly constant across the state. However, a higher percentage of respondents with at least a four-year degree said environmental issues were very important to their vote choices (39%) than those without a four-year degree (28%). Respondents who identified themselves as Democrats were more likely to say that candidates' positions on environmental issues was very important in determining their vote for state and local office (40%).

With the results from these questions about specific policies, it seems that Kansans have bought into the idea that having clean water is important, but that when it comes to policies that require specific action or changes by individuals (mainly farmers and/or themselves) their level of support declines. Yet, when they are presented with a policy that on the perimeter looks like it has no individual cost for a public good (municipal water facility upgrades) they overwhelmingly support it. The findings from the survey suggest that Kansans feel that clean water is very important; however, they are not sure about how to achieve it or may not be as willing to pay for it with tax dollars.

Figure B-2k: Level of Political Candidates' Positions on Environmental Issues in Determining the Respondents' Vote for Local and State Offices (N=358)



B-3: Education Evolution in the State of Kansas

This section reviews the data from a series of questions in the KPS-Spring01 about the more than a year of debate about the teaching and the emphasizing of evolution in the Kansas science curriculum. The KPS-Spring01 contained four questions that specifically asked about the Board of Education's re-emphasizing evolution in science classes and exams. It also asked respondents about their individual beliefs about evolution and how they thought other Kansans and Americans, in general, feel about evolution.

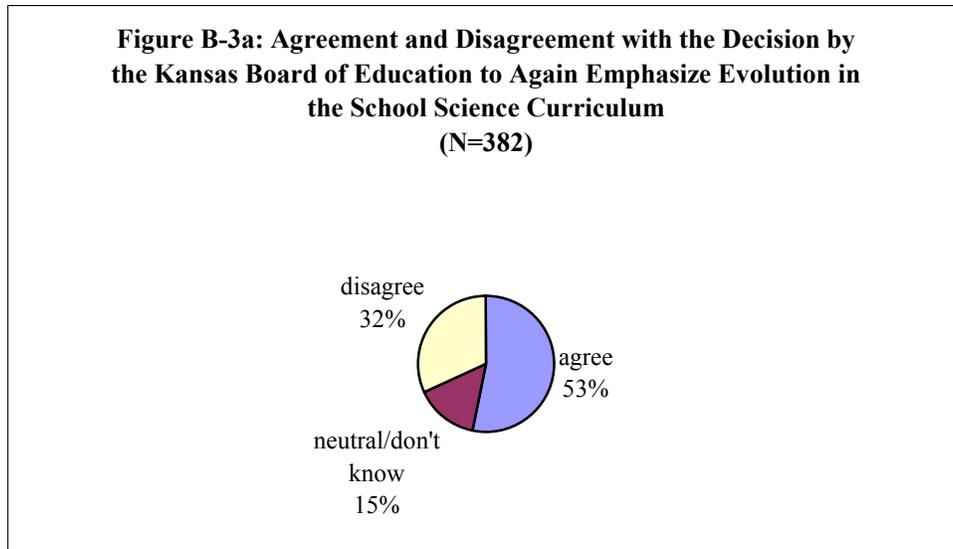


Figure B-3a shows the results from the question about how strongly respondents agreed or disagreed with the most recent decision by the Kansas Board of Education to again *emphasize* evolution in the school curriculum. Of the 382 respondents who gave an answer to this question, nearly one-third said that they strongly agreed with the decision and more than 52% agreed at any level. The number of respondents saying they either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the decision was 20 percentage points less than those who said they strongly agreed or agreed with the decision.

The pattern of support for the change back toward an emphasis on evolution is not evenly supported through out the entire state. There is a significant difference between respondents in the more populated/urban counties and those in the rest of the state. About 59 percent of metro county respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the Board's decision, while slightly less than a majority of non-metro county respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the decisions.

Additionally, over 33 percent of respondents in the 79 non-metro counties represented in the survey, either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the decision. If we look at respondents' responses based on partisan identifications, Democrats (60%) and Independents (60%) were substantially more likely to agree with the Board's decision to re-emphasize evolution than Republicans (42%). These findings suggest that overall Kansas feel that evolution is an important part of school science curriculum. However, there is a substantial minority across the

state -- especially in the rural areas and those with conservative political leaning -- who favored the Board's first decision to de-emphasize evolution.

When asked about their own beliefs on evolution, respondents placed themselves into two primary camps. The first camp consisted of about 42 percent of the respondents who agreed with the statement that "God created man pretty much in our present form all at one time within the last 10,000 years." The other large group is composed of the roughly 49 percent of respondents who felt that "human beings developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life, but God guided the process" (see Figure B-3b). A regional breakdown reveals that respondents in the Third congressional district, as well as the metro counties were more likely to agree with the statement that "human beings developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life, but God guided the process." Additionally, respondents with at least a four-year college degree were not only more likely to agree with the decision (70%), but also more likely to *strongly* agree with the decision to again emphasize evolution (48%) than those without a four-year degree (45% and 24% respectively).

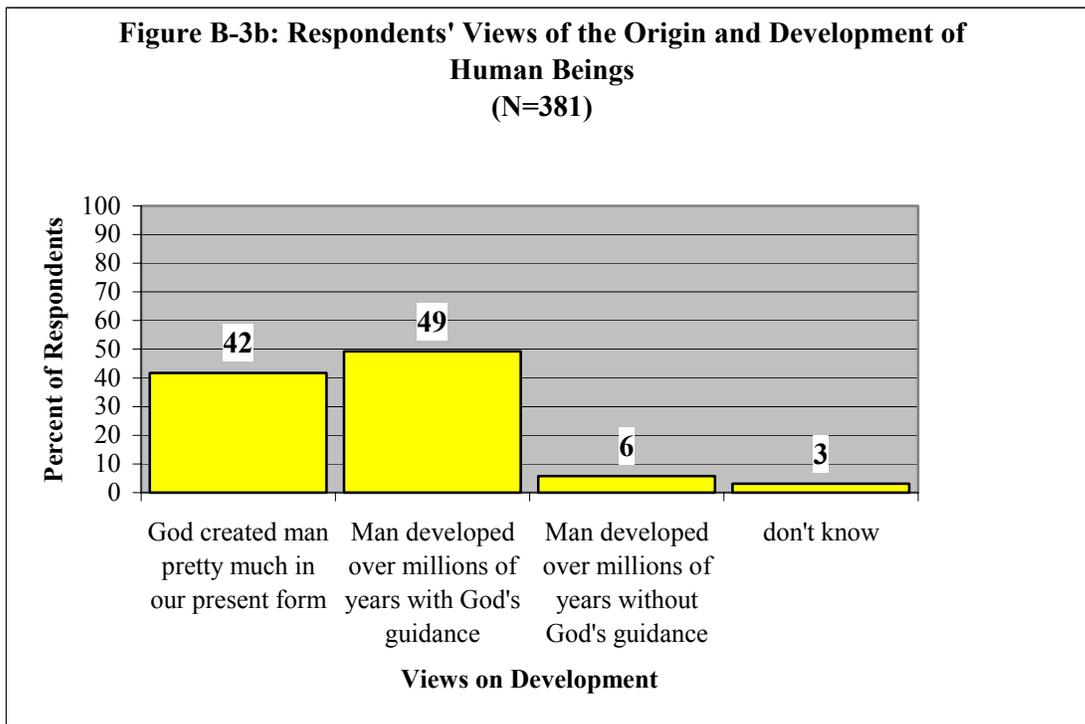
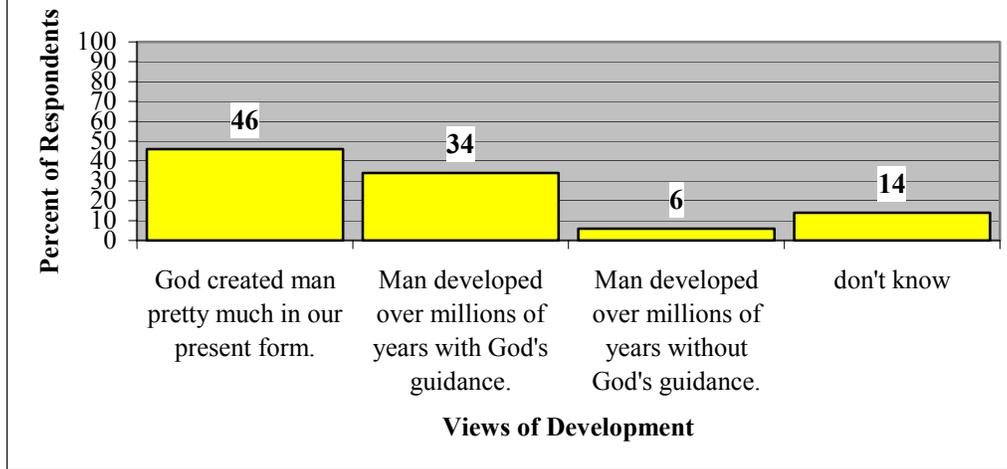


Figure B-3c: Respondents' Views on Most Kansans' Views on the Origin and Development of Human Beings (N=379)



We also asked the respondents which statement they thought *most Kansans* would choose to believe in. Again, most respondents divided between the same two statements as before; however, there is a clear shift. More respondents thought that *most Kansans* believe or would choose to believe that “God created man pretty much in our present form all at one time in the last 10,000 years” (46%), while only about one-third of respondents thought most Kansans would choose development of millions of years guided by God (see Figure B-3c). About the same number of respondents said that most Kansans would choose “human beings developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life, but that God had no part in the process” – approximately five to six percent each – similar to their expressed beliefs. The number of respondents who said that they did not know increased dramatically, from three percent when asked about their personal views to 14 percent when asked about most Kansans.

Additionally, we asked respondents which statement they thought *most Americans* would choose. Respondents feel that most Americans hold different views from their own. Over 40 percent of respondents statewide said that most Americans would choose that humans developed over millions of years with guidance from God in the process, only 28 percent said that God created man pretty much in our present form in the last 10,000 years. Nearly 15 percent thought most Americans believed that God had no part in a long evolutionary process, and about the same number said they did not know what most Americans would pick (16%) (see Figure B-3d).

Again, as with their own views, respondents in the Third District and the metro counties were more likely to say that most Kansans and most Americans would choose to believe that man developed over millions of years with guidance from God, rather than the other two options of strict creationism or strict evolution. For all three questions respondents in the Third District said they believed or that Kansans and Americans would believe that human beings developed over millions of years with guidance from God by at least 11 percent more than the statewide average. Similar results are found among respondents who at least had a four-year college

degree – they said they themselves (63%) and most Kansans (44%) and most Americans (49%) would pick the combination of human development over millions of years with God’s guidance.

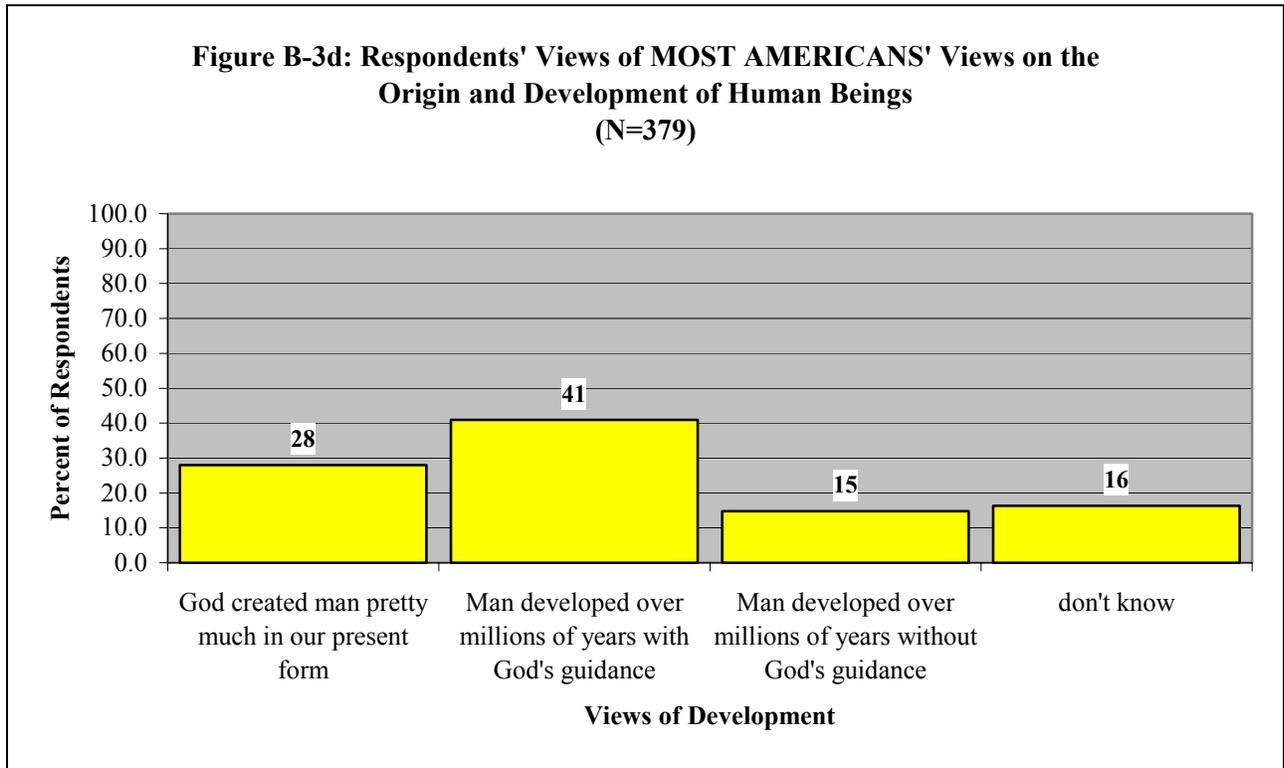
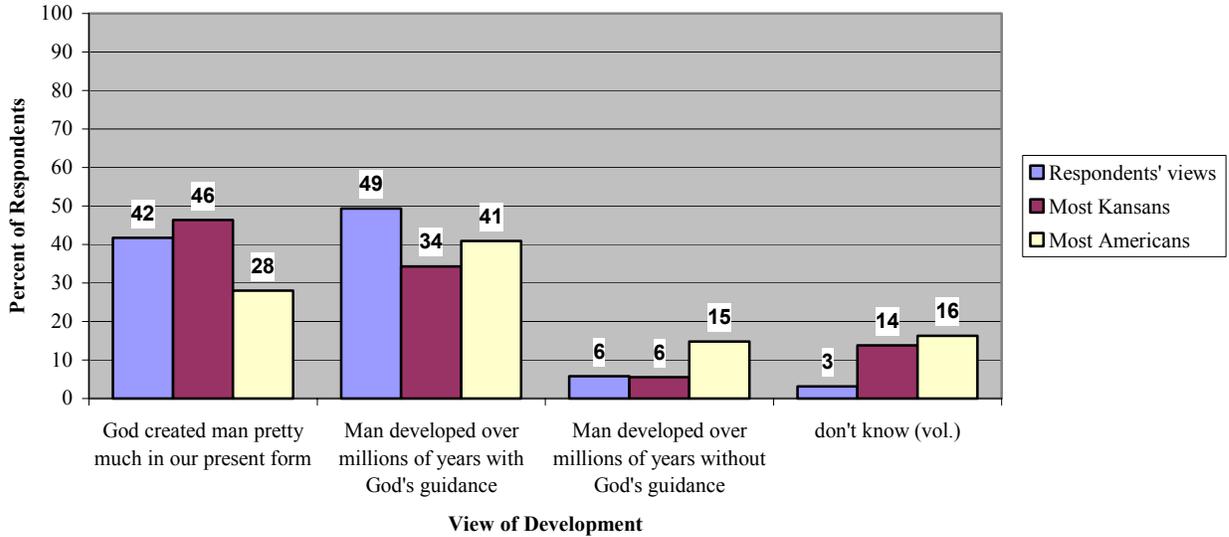


Figure B-3e: Respondents' Views and Their Beliefs of Others' Views on the Origin and Development of Human Beings (N=379)



Overall, the KPS-Spring01 data suggest that most Kansans consider evolution to be an important aspect of science curriculum for public schools in the state. More over, most Kansans have resolved the religious beliefs about creation to reflect the influence of evolution theory. Moreover, most respondents felt that most Kansans are more conservative then they are on this issue, while they feel that most Americans are slightly more liberal or likely to believe in the evolution theory than they are.

C: Political Knowledge, Participation, and the 2000 election

The KPS-Spring01 began with a series of political knowledge questions. Statewide, 72 percent of the respondents correctly identified Dick Cheney's current job as the Vice President of the United States, while 26 percent said they didn't know and two percent named some other position (Figure C1). When asked whose job it is to determine if a law is constitutional or not 58 percent of respondents correctly identified the U.S. Supreme Court, 23 percent said they did not know, 12 percent said it was the job of Congress, while three percent thought that it is the job of the President (Figure C2).

Similarly, most respondents knew what majority is required in the U.S. Senate and House to override a presidential veto and which party has the most members in the House of Representatives in Washington D.C. (see Figures C3 and C4). On both of the last two questions, at least 20 percent of the respondents reported that they did not know the answer. For all four questions at least a majority of Kansans could give the current response, suggesting that they pay some attention to what goes on in the federal government.

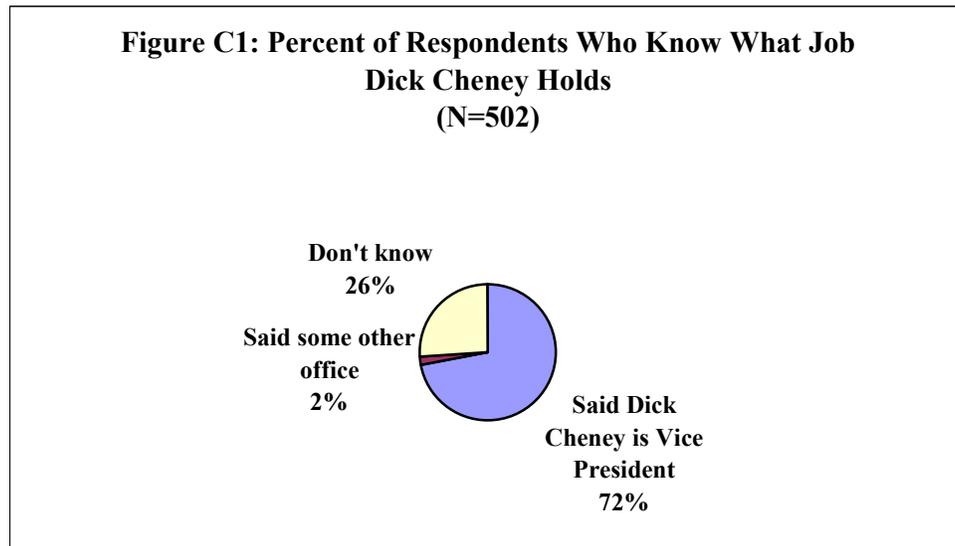


Figure C2: Percent of Respondents Who Thought Each Branch was Responsible for Determining if a Law is Constitutional or Not (N=503)

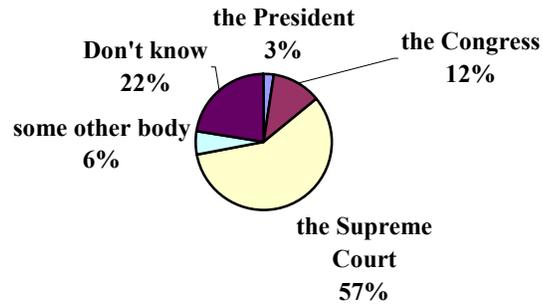


Figure C3: Percent of Respondents Who Thought Each Majority was Required to Override a Presidential Veto (N=502)

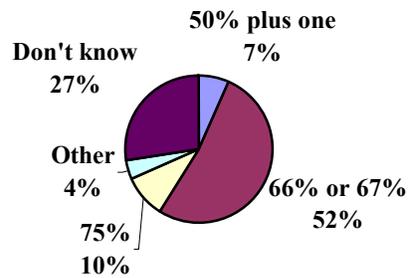
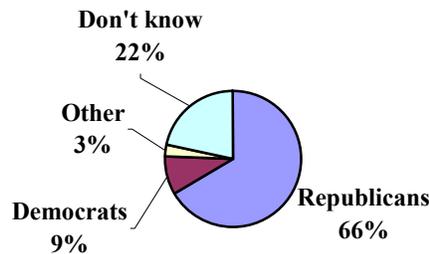
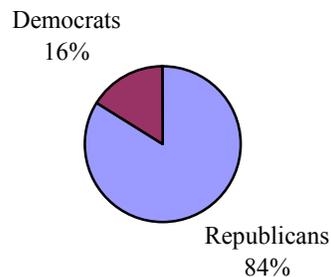


Figure C4: Percent of Respondents Who Said Which Party had the Most Members in the U.S. House of Representatives (N=502)



When asked if the respondents thought that one of the parties is more conservative than the other on the national level, 75 percent said yes (N=378), while 13 percent said no and 11 percent volunteered that they did not know. Of those 75 percent who said that one party is more conservative on the national level, about 84 percent said that the Republican party was the more conservative party, while roughly 16 percent said the Democratic party (Figure C5).

Figure C5: Percent of Respondents Who Said that Each Party was the More Conservative Party at the National Level (N=378)

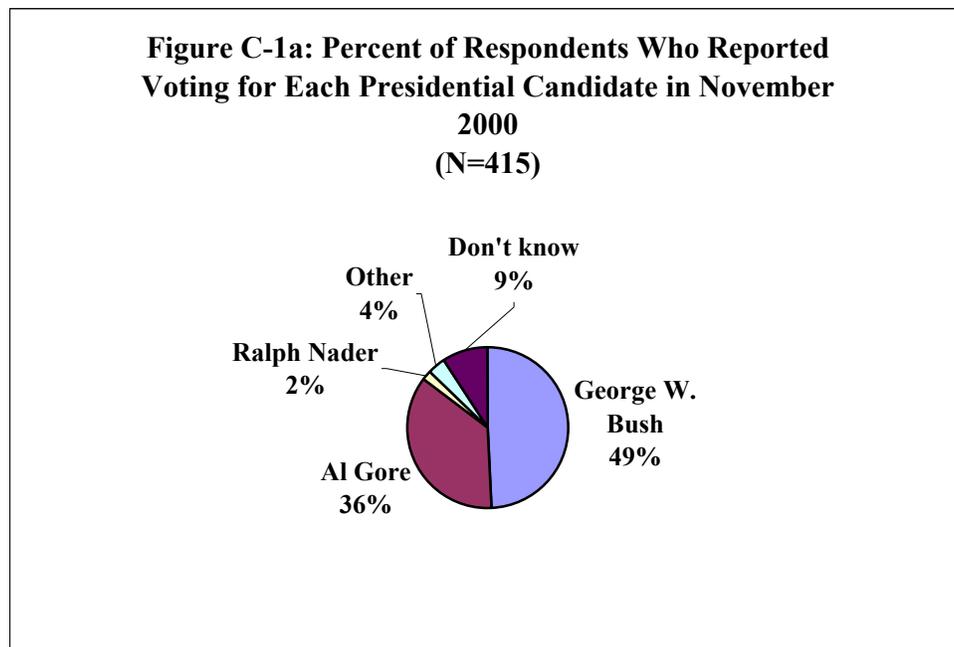


C-1: The 2000 Presidential Election

The survey also asked respondents about their participation in the 2000 presidential election in November, as well as their opinions about the outcome of the election. When asked if they voted in the 2000 presidential election, 83 percent of the respondents said yes (N=413). While it is possible that the survey over-sampled persons who voted, the self-reported 83% is

significantly higher than the official state count of voter turnout in the presidential election contest. The official voter turnout from the Kansas Secretary of State's Office is 67 percent of all registered voters statewide (<http://www.kssos.org/elewelc.html>, June 8 2001).

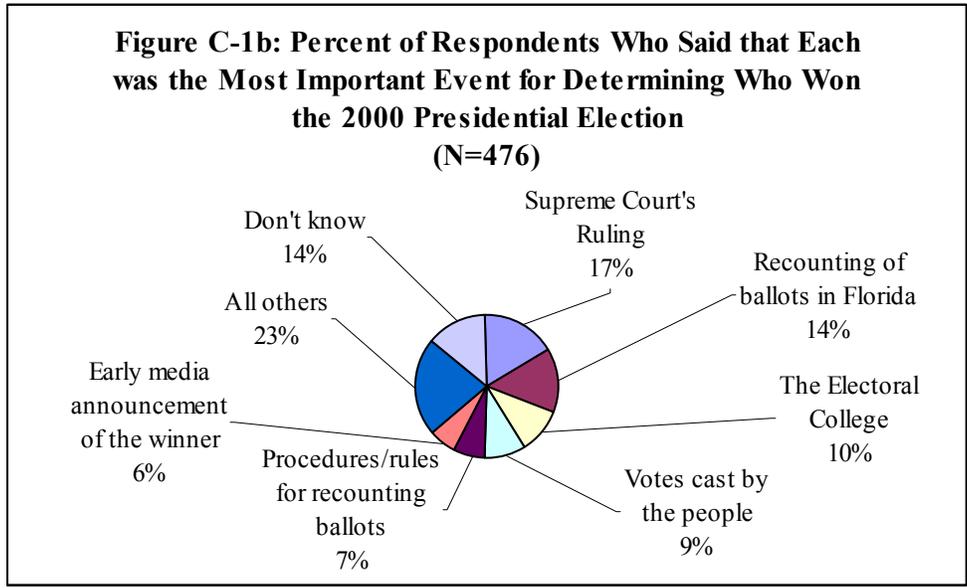
Of the 83 percent of respondents who reported that they voted, 49 percent reported that they voted for George W. Bush, 36 percent reported that they voted for Al Gore, two percent said Ralph Nader, four percent said some other candidate and just over nine percent volunteered that they didn't know. Compared to the official state returns, the respondents to the KPS-Spring01 were less likely to have voted for George W. Bush than those who cast votes in November 2000. Nearly an equal percent of respondents said they voted for Gore as the total share of votes he received (36% of respondents versus 37% of the total votes cast). Nader/Green Party voters are also under represented, making up only two percent of respondents but nearly four percent in the general election (Figure C-1a).



When asked what the respondents thought was *the most important* event or circumstance for determining who won the 2000 presidential election, 476 respondents gave an opinion. The most common response was the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling ending the recount in Florida (18% of all responses mentioned). The next most mentioned response was the actual recounting of the ballots in Florida, with 15 percent of respondents. Only four other responses each account for at least five percent of all mentions. They are in descending order: votes cast by the people (47 mentions), the Electoral College or electoral votes (45 mentions), the procedures or rules for recounting election ballots (31 mentions), and media attention/early announcement of the winner (26 mentions).

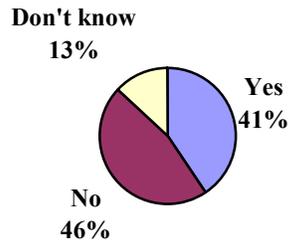
Out of the 476 verbal responses given and recorded, 13 percent of respondents said that they did not know or had no opinion (see Figure C-1b). The follow up question was how certain are you about your memory of the most important factor in determining who became our next

president. Over 52 percent responded that they were either certain or very certain about the responses they gave to what was the most important event or circumstance determining who won the 2000 presidential election.



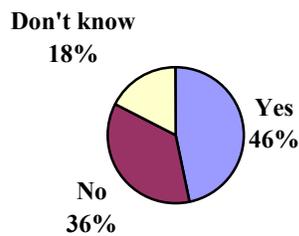
Two other questions were asked regarding the public support for Al Gore's challenge to the election outcome in Florida and the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on the legality of the recount in Florida. The results are shown in Tables C-1c and C-1d. When asked if the majority of the public supported the Gore campaign team's decision to challenge the outcome of the election in Florida, 46 percent of respondents statewide said no, while just over 41 percent said yes, and 13 percent volunteered that they did not know. The correct answer was yes a majority of the public did support the initial challenge. On the question of how certain they were about their memory of whether or not a majority of the public supported the challenge, nearly 55 percent of respondents said that they were either certain or very certain about their memory.

Figure C-1c: Percent of Respondents Who Said Whether a Majority of the Public Supported Al Gore's Challenge to the Outcome of the Election in Florida (N=500)



A large plurality of the survey respondents also said that a majority of the public agreed with the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on the legality of the Florida recount (47%), which was the correct answer. Regarding how certain respondents felt about their memory, again a majority felt either certain or very certain (55%). The data suggest that respondents' vote choice in November's election and their reported identification shaped their views of the events that decided the 2000 Presidential Election, after November 5, 2000.

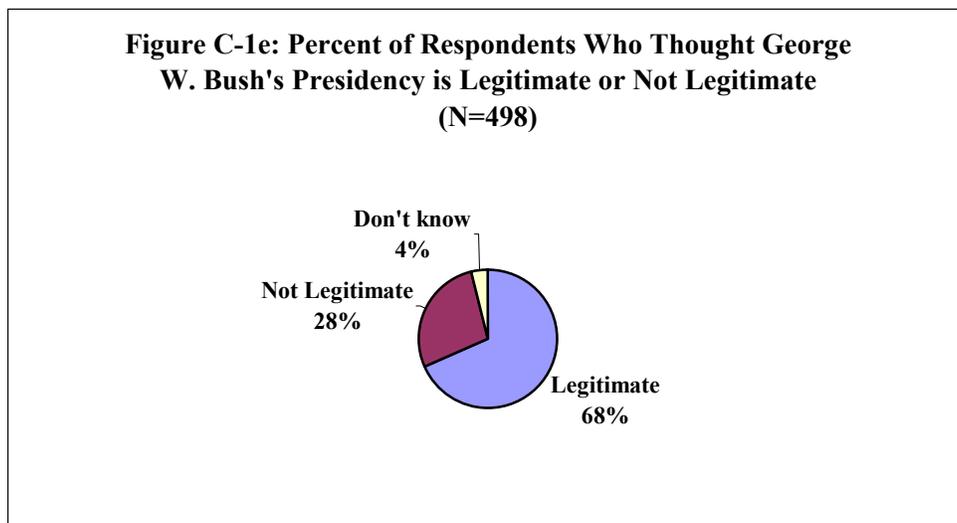
Figure C-1d: Percent of Respondents Who Said that a Majority of the Public Agreed with the U.S. Supreme Court's Ruling on the Legality of the Florida Recount (N=498)



Next, the survey asked respondents whether they considered George W. Bush's presidency legitimate or not legitimate. For the state overall, 68 percent of respondents said that Bush's presidency was legitimate, while only 28 percent thought it was not legitimate (see Figure C-1e). Examining the regional breakdowns, the First and Fourth congressional Districts

had the highest percent of respondents who thought that Bush's presidency was legitimate, and the Third District has the smallest percentage saying that it was legitimate. However, even in the Third District almost 60 percent of respondents thought Bush's presidency was legitimate.

Looking at the responses for metro and non-metro counties, persons in the non-metropolitan counties responded that they felt Bush's presidency was legitimate at a higher rate than did respondents in the metropolitan counties. However, a clear majority of respondents feel Bush's presidency to be legitimate regardless of where they resided in the state. There was one group of respondents that split on whether Bush's presidency is legitimate or not – respondents who identified themselves as Democrats. Democratic respondents were fairly evenly split on the legitimacy of Bush's presidency, while Republicans overwhelmingly thought it is legitimate (93%) as well as among Independents (60%). It appears that the outcome of the 2000 election and respondents' personal political leanings have shaped their perceptions of the legitimacy of the Bush presidency.

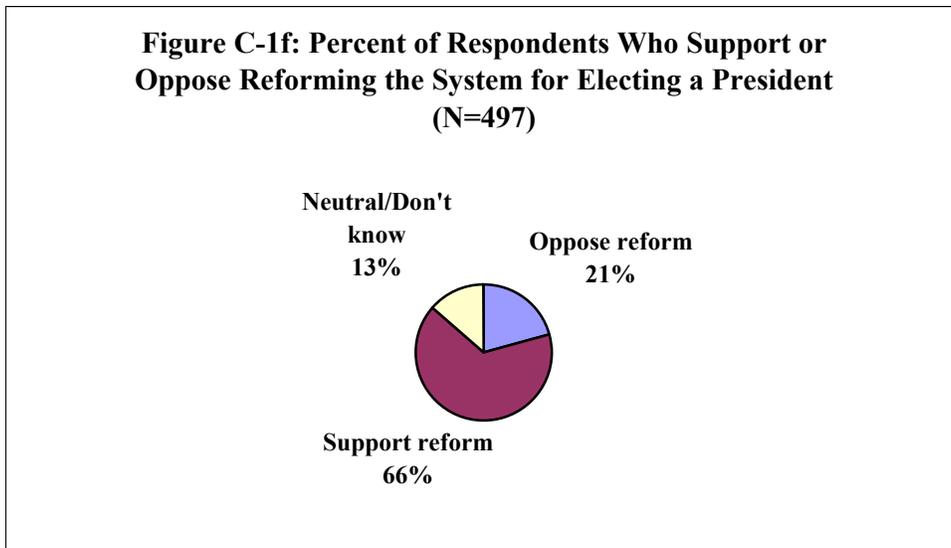


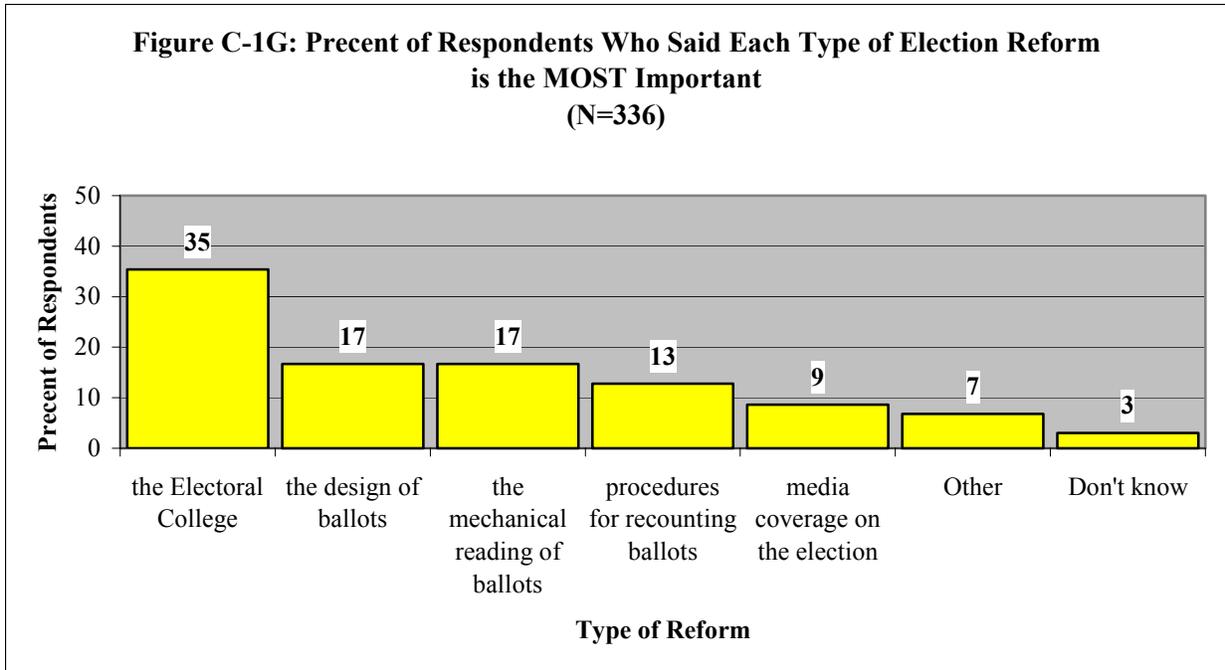
The last two questions dealing with the 2000 election asked about the respondents' views on reforming the system we use to elect a president. The results are shown in Figures C-1f and C-1g. When asked how strongly they opposed or supported reforming our system for electing a president, nearly two-thirds of respondents said they either support or strongly support reforms (see Table C-1f). This pattern holds across all four congressional districts and between metro and non-metro county residents. However, there are substantial differences among respondents based on their partisan identification. Among Democratic respondents 79 percent supported reforming the election system, while only 56 percent of Republicans supported reform (62% of Independents supported reforming the system).

Of those that said they supported reform (at any level) we next asked which type of reform they thought would be the most important. Table C-1g shows the list of reforms that respondents were given and the percent that chose each. By far the most important reform in Kansan's minds is reform of the Electoral College with 35 percent of all respondents choosing that option. Again, this pattern is constant across all four districts and metro county status. The

only substantial difference is between the First District where only about 30 percent of the respondents chose the Electoral College, and the Second District, where nearly 40 percent of respondents thought reforming the Electoral College was the most important. Reforming the Electoral College was the reform favored by the largest numbers of respondents regardless of their partisan identifications. Although many Democrats, Republicans, and Independents all thought the Electoral College should be reformed, Democrats were almost twice as likely as Republicans to say that reforming the Electoral College was the most important type of reform.

The next two most popular reform options were the design of ballots and the machines or type of technology used for reading ballots. Both received 17 percent of the respondents' choice for the most important reform. Finishing last of the five options was media coverage of elections, for which only 9 percent of the respondents statewide thought that was the most important reform.



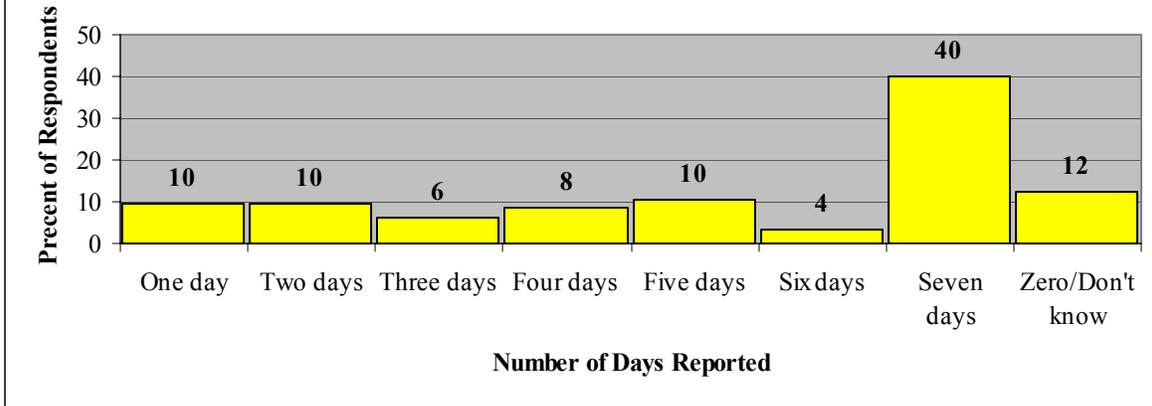


C-2: Importance of Television News

Most Kansans, as well as most Americans, glean political knowledge and information from television news programs. It is also probable that the national news provides information beyond their local scope and networks of family, friends and co-workers that likely impacts their knowledge of such things as the federal government in Washington D.C. as well as the 2000 presidential election. The KPS-Spring01 contained two questions about how often and how much attention Kansans pay to the national news on TV.

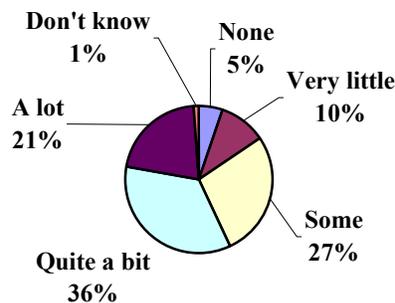
Just over 40 percent of respondents statewide said that they watched the national news on TV seven days a week. Over 54 percent said that they watch the national news at least five days a week, compared to only about a third of respondents who said that they watched the national news between once and four times a week. There is very little difference between respondents in the more urban areas of the state or in the rural areas (see Figure C-2a). Roughly 12 percent of respondents statewide volunteered that they did not know how much national news they watched on TV. Most respondents reported that they watched the national news on TV on a regular basis.

Figure C-2A: Percent of Respondents Who Reported Their Frequency of Watching the National News on TV
(N=463)



To probe further, we then asked how much attention respondents pay to the news on TV. A majority of respondents said that they either pay a lot or quite a bit of attention, while only 16% said they pay very little or no attention to the news. Another 27 percent said they pay some attention (see Figure C-2b). This pattern, of attention to the news on TV, holds fairly constant across the state's various regions. With a majority of Kansans watching the national news on TV at least five days a week, and a majority of them reporting that they pay quite a bit to a lot of attention to the news, one might expect that the content of the national news may help shape the world views that Kansans hold.

Figure C-2b: Percent of Respondents Who Reported Each Level of Attention to News on the T.V.
(N=463)

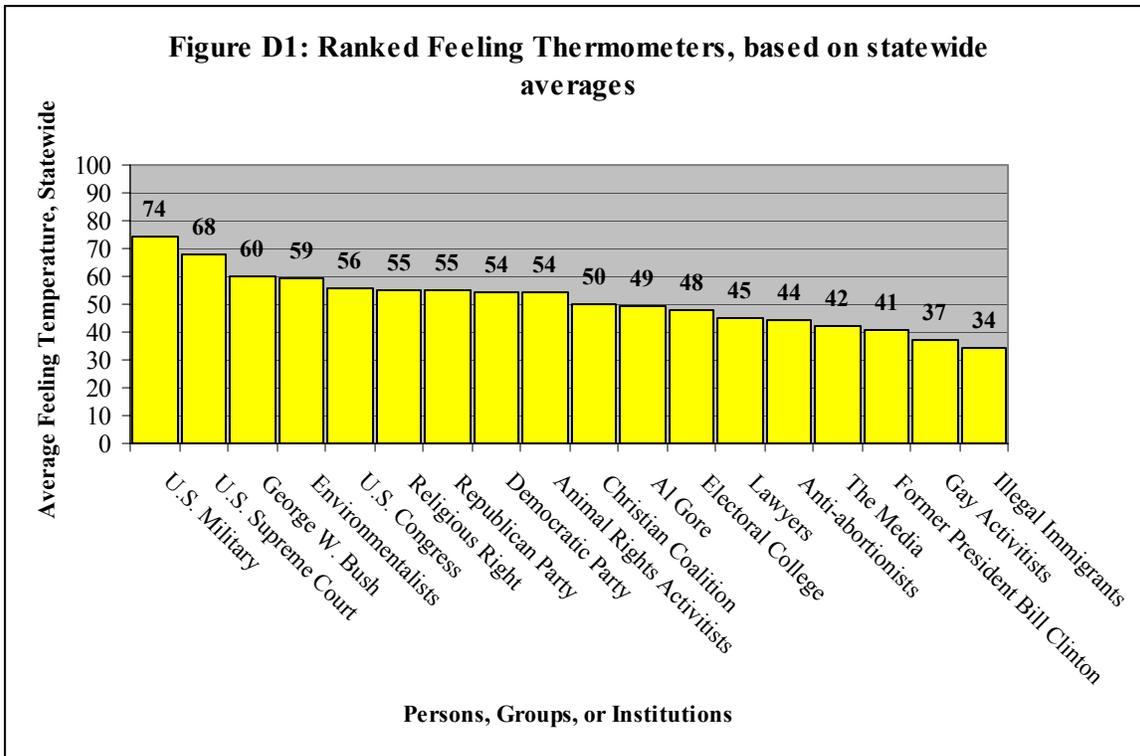


D: Political attitudes toward individuals, groups and institutions in society

Respondents were asked a series of questions to determine attitudes toward individuals, groups, and institutions in American society. For each individual, group or institution respondents were asked to rate their feelings toward that item on a scale of 0 to 100. The warmer/higher the number the more positive the feelings for each item, while the colder/lower the number the less favorable the respondents felt toward each item.

Figure D1 ranks the 18 items according to the feeling thermometer ratings that they were given by the respondents. Any items with an average temperature greater than 60 is fairly warm or perceived favorably by the respondents, any temperature between 40 and 60 is considered lukewarm or fairly neutral, and any temperature under 40 is fairly cold or an unfavorable perception in the minds of respondents. Respondents had the most positive feelings toward the U.S. Military with an average temperature of 74, while illegal immigrants were at the bottom of the list with an average temperature of 34.

Since the thermometer scale that was used to measure respondents' feelings was restricted to between 0 and 100, the rough mid point or neutral temperature is 50.5. The data in Figure D1 show that only three institutions or individuals received an average temperature statewide of 60 or greater – the U.S. Military, the U.S. Supreme Court and President George W. Bush. Only two groups had an average temperature below 40 – gay & lesbian activists and illegal immigrants – both of which come close to the freezing mark (32) suggesting that Kansans statewide do not view either group favorably. Figure D1 also shows that most of the items in the feeling thermometer list were perceived to be fairly neutral. In fact, 13 of the 18 items have an average temperature between 40 and 60, with six above 50 and seven below 50.



Of the four governmental institutions included in the list, two of them finished first and second in terms of favorable feelings among Kansans (the U.S. Military and the U.S. Supreme Court), while two received only lukewarm responses. The U.S. Congress received an average temperature of only 56, and after the election drama in November and December the Electoral College as an institution received an average temperature of only 48 – the lowest of the four governmental institutions. Of the two main party presidential candidates George Bush is the clear winner in terms of public feeling in Kansas, receiving an average temperature of just over 60, while Al Gore only received a temperature of just over 49 – roughly 11 points behind Bush. Interestingly enough, former President Bill Clinton received the third lowest average temperature statewide, at only 41.

Looking at the various groups that finished above 50 we see that Kansans have neutral to slightly favorable feelings toward environmentalists (59), the religious right (56), the Republican Party (55) and the Democratic Party (54), as well as animal rights activists (54). Given the fact that more respondents self-identified as Republicans and conservatives (see Section E on demographics) it is not to surprising to find the religious right and the Republican Party in the range of neutral to slightly warm feelings. However, it is surprising to see that respondents also felt slightly warm feelings toward environmentalists and animal rights activists. Also interesting is the fact that both the Republican and Democratic parties received nearly identical feeling temperatures (55 and 54 respectively).

The Christian Coalition came the closest to having neutral feelings by respondents with an average statewide temperature of just under 50. Examining the regional breakdowns of how respondents felt about the Christian Coalition, we see that some differences do exist, especially

between the First and Third congressional Districts. While the Third District respondents gave an average temperature of 40 – indicating a less than favorable feeling, the First District respondents gave an average of 53: over 13 points higher (although still fairly close to the neutral mark). Additionally, the mode temperature for the Christian Coalition across all regions was 50, indicating that most respondents felt neither particularly favorable or unfavorable. For most of the 18 items covered by the survey, a neutral feeling of 50 was the mode. In fact, only three of the 18 items had a statewide mode that was not 50. Two groups had a higher mode of 75 and they are the two most favorably ranked. The only person who received a mode less than 50 was former President Bill Clinton, who received the most ratings of zero.

Of the items that received an average temperature statewide less than 50, there are not many regional differences within the state's residents about their feelings toward them. There are three exceptions – Al Gore, gay & lesbian activists, and illegal immigrants. The first of these, Al Gore, also comes close to receiving a neutral feeling temperature across the state (49). However, there are some regional differences in support for Mr. Gore and they fall along the same lines as did the votes he received in the November 2000 election. The mode temperature across all regional breakdowns of the state is 50, but in terms of the average temperature received Al Gore received more favorable support in the Third District (that included both of the only two counties he carried in the state – Douglas and Wyandotte) and in metro counties. In the Third district, Al Gore received an average rating of 57 and this contrasts significantly with the average rating of 44 he received in the First District and the 46 rating he received in the Fourth district. Additionally, Mr. Gore received a more favorable rating in metro counties by over 8 points (again it should be noted that the six metro counties in the state include both of the counties Al Gore carried in the general election).

Gay and Lesbian activists are another group that received an average temperature below 50 statewide. In fact, it was below 40 indicating that the respondents felt rather unfavorably about them. Yet when we look at the mode the group received a 50, indicating respondents were generally neutral or indifferent toward gay and lesbian activists. However, when we examine the regional breakdowns, a significant difference exists in the state of Kansas about respondents' feelings. The statewide mode is 50, but when we break this down to the four congressional districts only one, the Third District, has a mode of 50. The other three have modes of zero. The same is true of metro versus non-metro counties -- the six metro county respondents gave a mode of 50, while non-metro respondents gave a mode of zero. The same pattern is reflected in the average temperatures across districts. The Third District gave an average of 49, or fairly close to neutral feelings, while the First and Second Districts gave averages of 32 and 33 respectively. The feeling thermometers in the First and Second Districts essentially hover around the freezing level (32) indicating fairly unfavorable feeling toward gay and lesbian activists. Looking at the metro/non-metro division of the state, we see the same pattern. In the six metro counties respondents gave an average temperature nearly ten points above the non-metro county respondents, who gave an average temperature of just above freezing (33). The findings suggest that although gay and lesbian activists are not seen in a favorable light in most of the state, they are more accepted in the state's larger cities and urban areas.

The last group below 50 is illegal immigrants. They received an average temperature of only 34 – just above freezing – and a mode of 50. While the mode of 50 is constant across the

regional breakdowns used in this analysis, the average temperature is not. Once again, the Third congressional District is the most favorable toward illegal immigrants. The average rating for the Third District is 42, about ten points higher than the other three districts. Both the First and the Second Districts gave an average temperature rating of approximately 31, while the Fourth district's average rating was 33.

E: Demographics

The demographic results of the KPS-Spring01 are listed in Appendix B, along with comparable data from the 2000 Census where available (second column). The sample drawn by the survey differs from the population as a whole in a few ways. First, 68 percent of respondents to the survey were women, while the general population of Kansas is composed of only 51 percent women, according to the 2000 Census. Additionally, 93 percent of respondents consider themselves to be white or Caucasian compared to 86 percent of the general population identifying as only white in the 2000 Census. Accordingly, the rest of the racial categories are under-represented in the Kansas Policy Survey compared to the general population, with the exception of Asians that make up nearly identical percentages.

The average age of respondents to the KPS-Spring01 was 51 years, while the median age was 49.5 years. The 2000 Census reported a median age of 35.2 years for Kansas residents. Respondents reported a higher-than-national average level of education attainment, with 37 percent reported having received a four year college degree or higher. This figure is about 10 percentage points higher than the 27 percent of Kansans who reported graduating from college in the 2000 Census. The average household also reported a combined household income range of \$40,000 to \$49,999 for the year 2000. Additionally, nearly two-thirds of respondents reported that they are married, while only 13 percent reported never having been married.

In terms of geographic representation, the respondents in KPS-Spring01 came from 85 of the state's 105 counties (see Appendix A). The largest numbers of respondents were in the most heavily populated counties – Sedgwick, Johnson, Shawnee, Douglas, and Wyandotte, with 57, 48, 36, 32, and 20 respondents respectively. Twenty-two counties are represented by only one respondent each, therefore scientific breakdowns at the county level are not available. However, given the distribution of respondents across the state, adequate breakdowns are available for each of the state's four congressional districts as well as a breakdown by metropolitan county status that allows us to look at regional variations across the state. However, these numbers must be interpreted with caution, as there are not enough respondents in each region to draw statistically reliable conclusions.

Out of the 503 agreements to complete the survey, 141 fall within the geographic boundaries of the First District covering roughly the western two-thirds of the state. One hundred and thirty-eight respondents were within the boundaries of the Second District, which stretches from the Nebraska boarder in the north to the Oklahoma State line in the south and includes the state's capital city. The Third District covers the majority of the Kansas City Metropolitan Area in Kansas, with the exception of Leavenworth County, and also includes most of Douglas County and all of the city of Lawrence; it produced 107 respondents to the KPS-Spring01. The Wichita Metro Area and most of the surrounding counties compose the Fourth congressional District that produced 108 respondents to the survey.

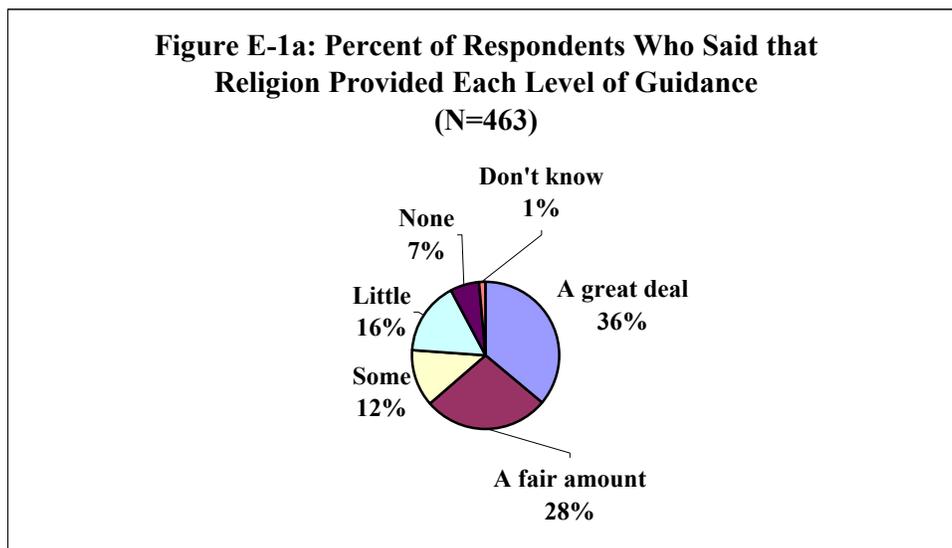
In addition, the data from the KPS-Spring01 were also divided between metropolitan and non-metropolitan counties in the state. Six counties were labeled as metropolitan – Douglas, Johnson, Leavenworth, Sedgwick, Shawnee, and Wyandotte. They are all included in the Census Bureau's definition of metropolitan areas and they are also the six largest counties in

population in the state. Taking all respondents who indicated that they resided in one of these six counties produces 210 “metropolitan county” respondents, and leaves 282 respondents from “non-metropolitan counties.” In the end, only 12 of the 503 respondents did not give their county of residence and therefore cannot be included in any breakdown (they are only present in the state-wide results).

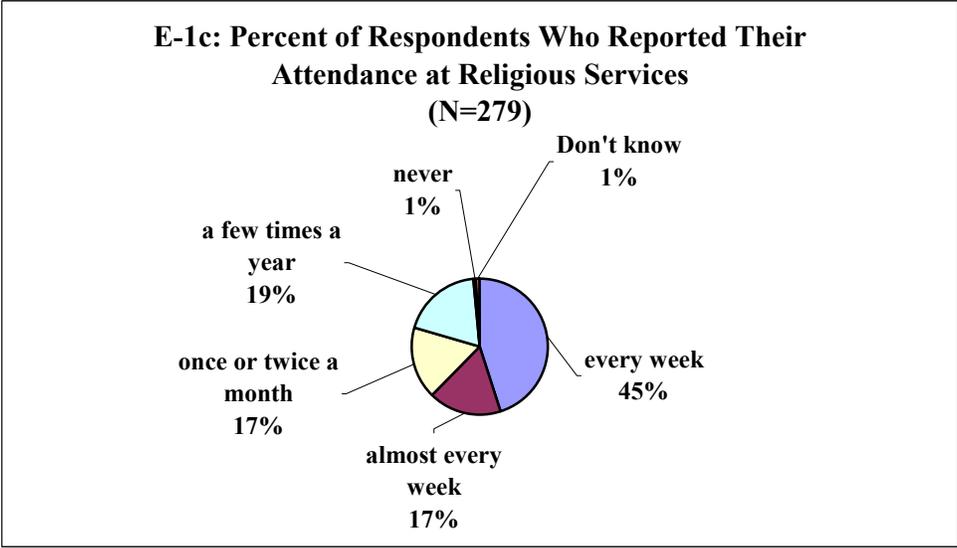
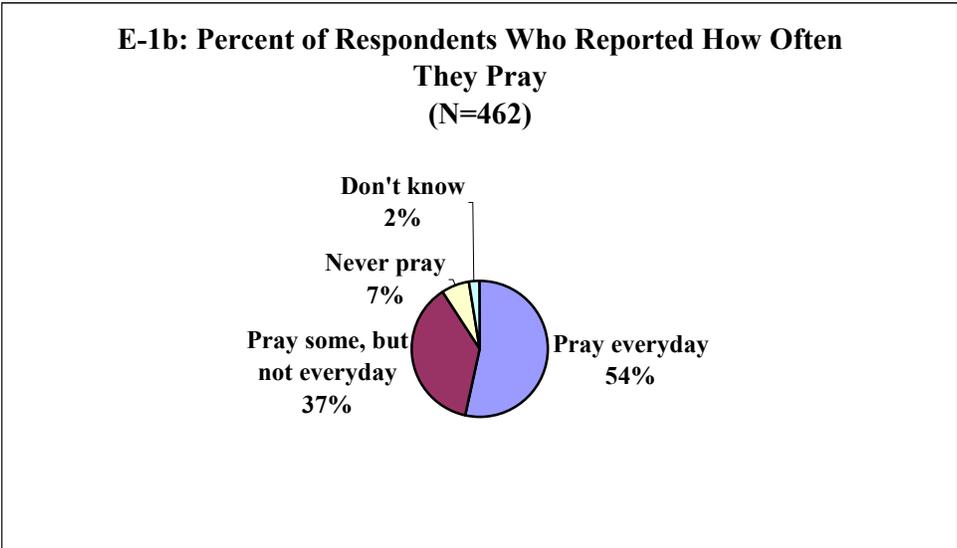
E-1: Religion in the lives of Kansans

To better understand on what ideas and knowledge respondents based many of their beliefs we asked several questions about the importance of religion in their lives. Starting with a simple question about whether or not religion is an important part of their lives, 83 percent of respondents said yes (N=386), while 15 percent said no. To better specify the impact of religion, we asked respondents how much guidance does religion provide in their lives. Respondents were asked to give a response on a scale of one to seven, with one meaning that religion provides a great deal of guidance and seven meaning that religion provides no guidance at all. The results can be seen in Figure E-1a.

For purposes of this analysis we consider one to equal “a great deal” of guidance, two and three equal “a fair amount”, four represents “some” guidance in respondents’ lives, five and six equal “little” guidance, and seven represents “no guidance at all.” The single most given answer by the 463 respondents was that religion provides a great deal of guidance in their lives – over 36 percent gave this answer. If we combine all the responses of two and three (they are all on the greater guidance side of moderate), we see that over one quarter of respondents felt that religion provides a fair amount of guidance in their lives. Doing the same for answers five and six, we see that less than 20 percent of respondents feel that religion provides little guidance in their lives.

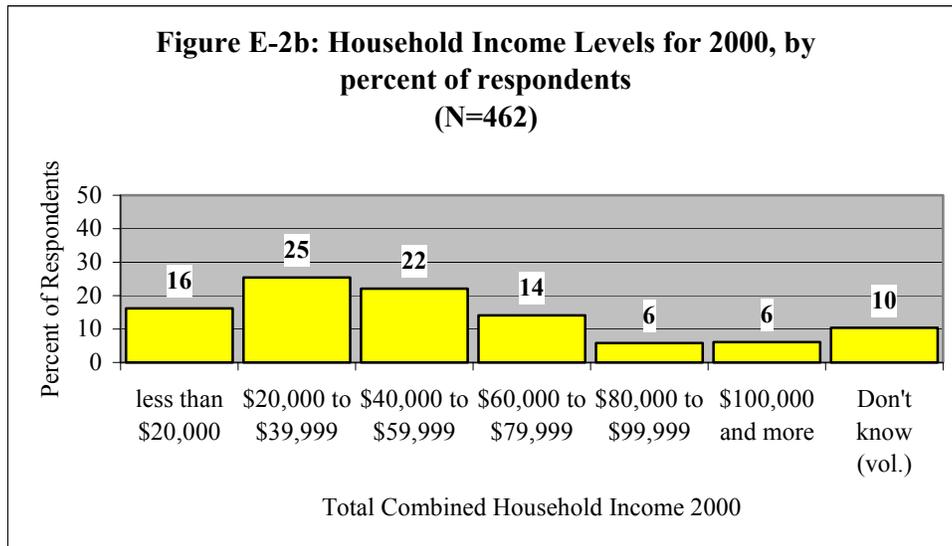
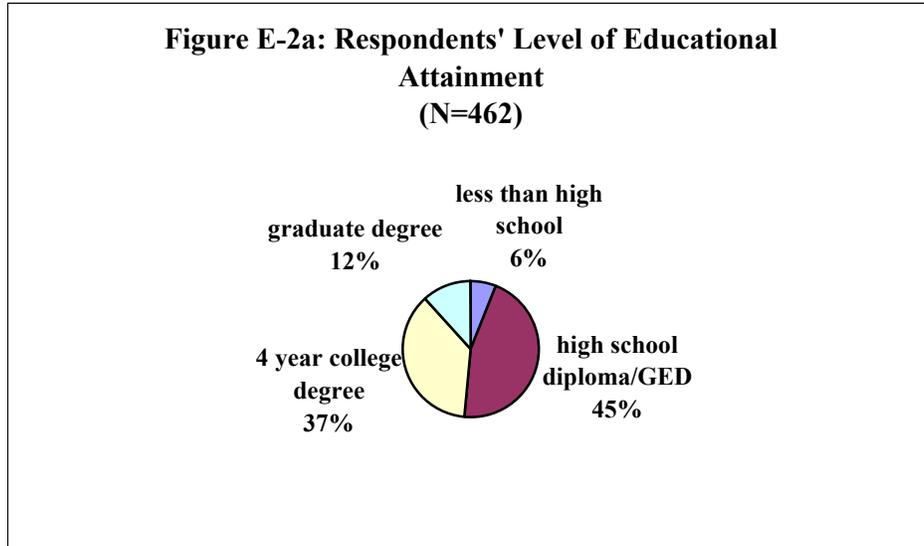


Respondents were asked how often they prayed -- more than 53 percent said they pray every day, while only about seven percent said they never pray (see Figure E-1b). Similar results are seen across the various regions of the state. Another measure of the importance of religion in people's lives is how often they attend religious services. More than three-quarters of respondents (N=358) to the KPS-Spring01 said that they attend religious services apart from the occasional wedding, baptism, or funeral. Of those who said that they attend religious services beyond weddings and the like, nearly 45 percent said that they attend religious services every week. And when this is combined with those saying they go "almost every week" 62 percent indicated they attend services regularly (see Figure E-1c). Most respondents felt that religion is important to their lives and they said they weave it into their daily and weekly routines. These findings suggest that religion plays a large role in the lives of Kansans and it likely helps to shape their views of the world as well as policies and politics.



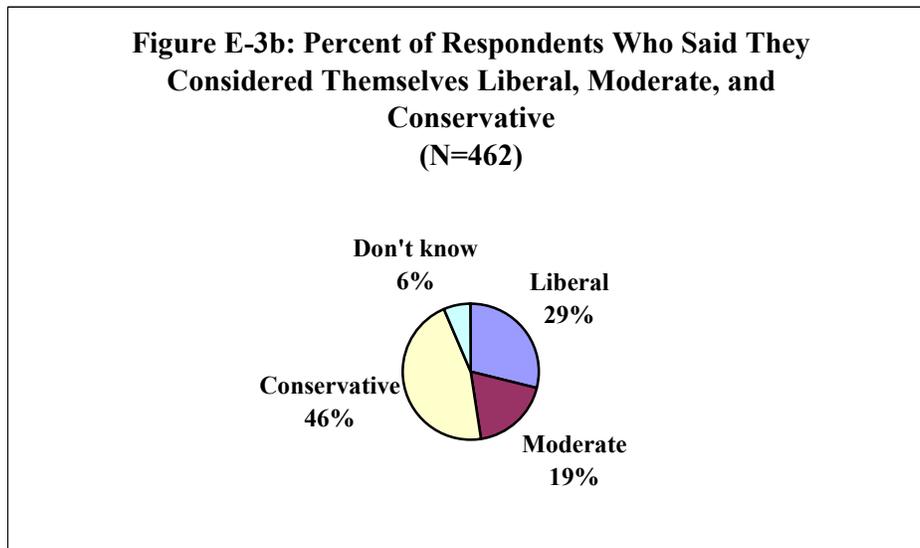
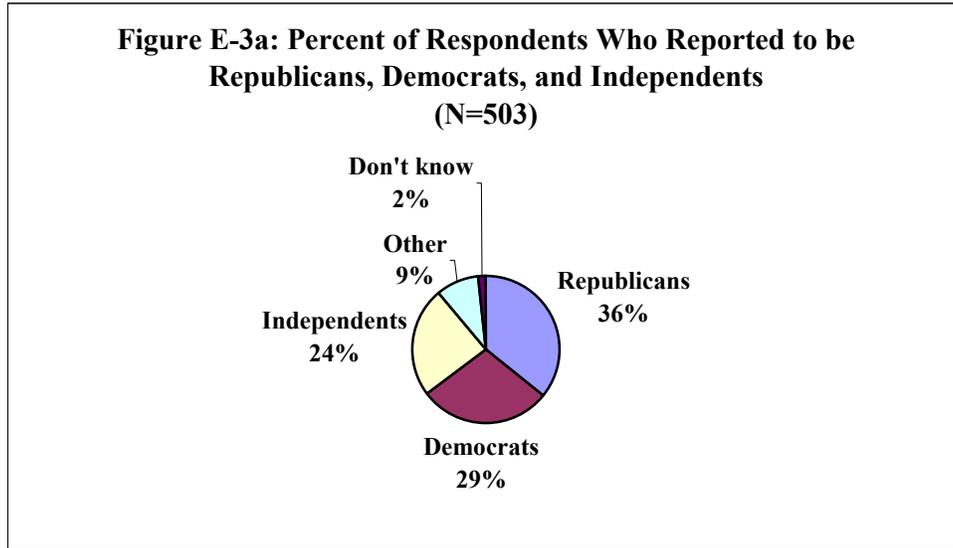
E-2: Educational Attainment and Household Income in Kansas

Tables E-2A and E-2B show the data about respondents' educational attainment and their household income for 2000.



E-3: Party Identification and Political Ideology among Kansans

The KPS-Spring01 also asked respondents two questions regarding their political orientations. We asked respondents about which party they most identify with and we also asked them to place themselves on a liberal to conservative continuum. The results can be seen in Figures E-3a and E-3b.



The Third District is the only congressional district to elect a Democratic representative and the only district where respondents to the KPS-Spring01 were more likely to identify themselves as Democrats (33%) rather than Republican (24%). This is also reflected in the percent who identify themselves as liberals versus conservatives (44%, versus 33% respectively with 21% calling themselves moderates). In fact, those identification numbers are nearly reversed from the

statewide identification on the liberal to conservative scale (46% conservative, 29% liberal, and 19% moderate).

Conclusions

The results of the survey reveal interesting and important information about Kansans' perspectives on the various issues. For the most part, Kansans are satisfied with how things are going in the state. However, there are small to sizable minorities that feel that substantial change is needed. *One of the most notable distinctions is that Kansans are fairly concerned about the state of public education in the state.* Education in public schools (K-12) was the only state program area to receive majority support for *increased spending levels*. Nearly *two-thirds* of respondents statewide said they felt state spending for public education should be increased. The findings regarding education suggest that most Kansans want to see change to improve education. Future surveys may want to focus in greater detail on the means that Kansans think are necessary to improve public primary education in the state.

Another area of focus for the Kansas Policy Survey: Spring 2001 was water issues and concerns about the safety and usage of water in Kansas. A majority of respondents believe that their drinking water at home is safe to drink (69%). When asked how important it is that Kansas clean its waterways to help ensure the quality of drinking water, *over three-fourths* of respondents said that it was *very important*. However, when asked how supportive they would be for increases in Kansas state taxes to help clean up and protect Kansas' water resources, 45 percent of respondents were supportive and only 13 percent said they were very supportive. The findings from the survey suggest that Kansans feel that clean water is very important; however they are not sure how to achieve it or to pay for it.

The top three issue areas that respondents mentioned in the KPS-Spring 2001 have some connections. Kansans clearly want to improve the state's public K-12 education; how remains to be seen. Likely it will involve some sort of funding change -- most of the respondents want the state to spend more money on public primary education. However, there is a trade off between spending more money for education and other public programs and services and taxes. Since the survey contained more questions about water quality concerns and willingness to support taxes to pay for "clean water," we can use it for comparison.

Support for policies and practices that clean the water in Kansas was consistently high, but when asked if they would be willing to support increased taxes for clean water resources support was only moderate. This is no real surprise – remember that the second most mentioned problem with the state today was taxes. It appears that while many Kansans want changes in education and water protection, they are not interested in paying increased taxes to give the state the means to enact changes. This paradox between policy desire and willingness to pay stands out for policy makers and citizens to keep in mind when working to improve the state of Kansas.

Appendix A

Geographical Location of Respondents to the Kansas Policy Survey: Spring 2001

**Kansas Policy Survey March 5 – May 11, 2001
Number of Respondents in Each County**

Cheyenne	Rawlins	Decatur	Norton	Phillips	Smith	Jewell	Republic	Washington	Marshall	Nemaha	Brown	Doniphan	
1	1		2			1	1	2	1	4	3	2	
Sherman	Thomas	Sheridan	Graham	Rooks	Osborne	Mitchell	Cloud	Clay	Riley	Pottawatomie	Jackson	Atchison	
2	2			3	1	3	3	1	8	6	5	5	
Wallace	Logan	Gove	Trego	Ellis	Russell	Lincoln	Ottawa	Dickinson	Gearly	Wabaunsee	Shawnee	Jefferson	Leavenworth
2		1		5	2		1	6	4	1	36	6	20
Greeley	Wichita	Scott	Lane	Ness	Rush	Barton	Ellsworth	Saline	Morris	Osage	Douglas	Johnson	
	1	1		3	2	6	3	10	1	2	32	48	
Hamilton	Kearny	Finney	Hodgeman	Pawnee	Stafford	Reno	Harvey	Butler	Greenwood	Woodson	Allen	Bourbon	
	1	4		2	2	17	6	12	3	1	5	5	
Stanton	Grant	Haskell	Ford	Edwards	Pratt	Kingman	Sedgwick	Elk	Wilson	Neosho	Crawford		
	1		8	1	2	2	57		3	3	8		
Morton	Stevens	Seward	Meade	Clark	Comanche	Barber	Harper	Sumner	Cowley	Chautauqua	Montgom.	Labette	Cherokee
1	1	2	1	1	2	3		8	7	1	9	3	4

For purposes of the data analysis in this report the following six counties were grouped together to examine the attitudes and responses of metropolitan residents in Kansas. The six counties (Douglas, Johnson, Leavenworth, Sedgwick, Shawnee, and Wyandotte) are all labeled being metropolitan or in a metropolitan area by the U.S. Census Bureau and they are the six most populated counties in the state. Together there were 209 respondents to the KPS-Spring01 Survey in these six counties, leaving 297 respondents who reported residing in the rest of the state.

Appendix B

Demographic Comparisons of the Kansas Policy Survey: Spring 2001 to the 2000 Census

Table ApxB-1: Demographic Comparisons KPS-SPRING01 and 2000 Census		
	KPS-SPRING01	2000 Census
Racial Identification		
White or Caucasian	93.3	86.1
Black or African American	1.5	5.7
Asian	1.5	0.9
Native American or some other race	0.4	1.7
	2.2	3.4
	(N=461)	
Ethnic Identification		
Hispanic/Latino	3.3	7.0
Non-Hispanic	95.7	93.0
	(N=461)	
Gender		
Female	67.9	50.6
Male	31.9	49.4
	(N=502)	
Median Age		
	49.5	35.2
	(N=458)	
Age Ranges		
18 to 24	8.7	7.1*
25 to 34	10.0	13.0
35 to 44	16.8	15.6
45 to 54	24.9	13.2
55 to 64	16.4	8.2
65 to 74	14.0	6.5
75 and over	9.2	6.7
	(N=458)	
<i>(* the comparable age range in the 2000 Census is 20-24)</i>		
Level of educational attainment		
less than a high school diploma	6.0	12.3
high school diploma/GED	93.6	87.7
four year college degree	36.8	26.9
	(N=462)	
Median Total Combined Household Income \$40,000-\$49,999		
		\$36,488
	(N=462)	
<i>Source: Kansas Policy Survey: Spring 2001 and 2000 Census.</i>		

Appendix C

Survey Questions Kansas Policy Survey: Spring 2001

Introduction: Hello. My name is _____. I'm calling from the Survey Research Center at the University of Kansas. We are conducting a survey of Kansas residents for the Policy Research Institute at the University of Kansas. The results of this annual survey will be used to inform Kansas policymakers. The survey will take 10 to 12 minutes to complete. Your answers to our questions will be completely confidential and will only be used in aggregate level analysis. You are free to discontinue at any time..

A. Would you take the time to answer my questions?

B. What county do you live in? (Record Verbatim)

Here are a few questions about the government in Washington, DC. Many people don't know the answers to these questions, so if there are some you don't know just tell me and we'll go on.

1. Do you happen to know what job or political office is now held by Dick Cheney?
2. Whose responsibility is it to determine if a law is constitutional or not... is it the President, the Congress, or the Supreme Court?
3. What majority is required for the U.S. Senate and House to override a presidential veto?
4. Do you happen to know which party has the most members in the House of Representatives in Washington?
5. Would you say that one of the parties is more conservative than the other at the national level?
6. Which party is more conservative?
 - Republican
 - Democrat
 - Independent
 - Other
8. How much of the time do you think you can trust national government in Washington, DC to do the right thing?
→ Just about always; Most of the time; Only some of the time, or Never.
9. How much of the time do you think you can trust state government in Topeka to do the right thing?
→ Just about always; Most of the time; Only some of the time, or Never.
10. Did you vote in the 2000 elections?
 - Yes
 - No
11. If yes, whom did you vote for in the 2000 presidential election?
 - Bush
 - Gore
 - Nader
 - Other

12. As you may recall, the winner of the 2000 presidential election was not determined until December 2000, about 34 days after Election Day. In our surveys, we have discovered that there are many factors that people consider as most important for determining who became our president. Searching your memory of the 2000 election, what do you consider the most important event or circumstance for determining who won the 2000 presidential election? (open – ended).

13. On a scale of one to five, with one being very uncertain and five being very certain, how certain are you about your memory of the most important factor in determining our next president?

→ 1-very uncertain, 2, 3 – neither certain nor uncertain, 4, 5 – very certain

14. When Al Gore’s campaign team decided to challenge the outcome of the election in Florida, did a majority of the public support the challenge?

Yes

No

15. On a scale from one to five, with one being very uncertain and five being very certain, how certain are you about the accuracy of your memory regarding public support for Al Gore’s challenge of the election outcome?

→ 1-very uncertain, 2, 3 – neither certain nor uncertain, 4, 5 – very certain

16. When the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on the legality of the Florida recount, did a majority of the public agree with this ruling?

Yes

No

17. On a scale from one to five, with one being very uncertain and five being very certain, how certain are you about your memory regarding public support for the Supreme Court’s ruling on the Florida recount?

→ 1-very uncertain, 2, 3 – neither certain nor uncertain, 4, 5 – very certain

18. If you define legitimacy as the will of the people, do you consider George W. Bush’s presidency legitimate or not legitimate?

Legitimate

Not Legitimate

19. Do you oppose or support reforming our system for electing a president? (1 oppose - 5 support)

1 Strongly Oppose

2

3 Neither

4

5 Strongly Support

19a. If you support (if 4 or 5 in above question), which type of reform would be *most important*?

Media coverage of elections

The Electoral College

The design of ballots

The machines or type of technology used for reading ballots

Procedures for recounting votes in contested elections

20. Feeling Thermometers

We would now like to get your feelings about a number of persons, groups and institutions in society. Please rate the following groups using a 0 – 100 feeling thermometer. The higher the number, the warmer or more favorable you feel toward the group. The lower the number, the colder or less favorable you feel toward that person, group, or institution.

Former President Clinton

The U.S. Congress

George W. Bush
The Republican Party
The U.S. Military
The Media (television, radio, movies)
The U.S. Supreme Court
Lawyers
The Democratic Party
The Electoral College
The Religious Right
Al Gore
Gay and Lesbian Activists
Environmentalists
Animal Rights Groups
The Christian Coalition
Anti-Abortion Activists
Illegal Immigrants

Now I'd like to ask you some questions about issues in Kansas.

21. I'd like to start out by asking how things are going. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Kansas? Are you satisfied, dissatisfied, or somewhere in-between?

Very Satisfied
Somewhat satisfied
In-between
Some Dissatisfied
Very Dissatisfied

22. There are many problems facing Kansas. What do you consider **the most** important problem facing the state today? (open-ended; record verbatim)

23. How would you rate the job the Kansas governor is doing? Would you say he is doing an excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor job?

→ Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor, or Very Poor

24. How would you rate the job the Kansas legislature is doing? Would you say it is doing an excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor job?

→ Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor, or Very Poor

25. How about Kansas taxes, do you pay too much or about the right amount for:

- a. Property taxes (1 – too much, 2 – about right, 3 – too little)
- b. State income tax (1 – too much, 2 – about right, 3 – too little)
- c. State sales tax (1 – too much, 2 – about right, 3 – too little)

26. In February of this year, the newly elected Kansas Board of Education reversed the August 1998 decision of the Board that had *de-emphasized* the role of teaching evolution in Kansas' public schools. How strongly do you agree or disagree with this most recent decision by the Kansas Board of Education to again *emphasize* evolution in the school curriculum?

→ strongly agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree, strongly disagree

27. Which of the following statements comes closest to describing your views about the origin and development of human beings?

1. God created man pretty much in our present form at one time within the last 10,000 years
2. Human beings developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life. God had no part in this process.

3. Human beings developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life, but God guided this process, including man's creation.

28. Of the statements I just mentioned, which do you think MOST KANSANS would choose or believe in? Would it be that be: (read statements again).

1. God created man pretty much in our present form at one time within the last 10,000 years
2. Human beings developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life. God had no part in this process.
3. Human beings developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life, but God guided this process, including man's creation.

29. Of the statements I just mentioned, which do you think MOST AMERICANS would choose or believe in? Would it be that be: (read statements again).

1. God created man pretty much in our present form at one time within the last 10,000 years
2. Human beings developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life. God had no part in this process.
3. Human beings developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life, but God guided this process, including man's creation.

30. Which of the following views comes closest to your opinion on the issue of school prayer?

1. By law, prayer should not be allowed in public schools.
2. The law should allow public schools to schedule time when children can pray silently if they want to.
3. The law should allow public schools to schedule time when children as a group can say a general prayer not tied to a particular religious faith.
4. By law, public schools should schedule a time when all children would say a chosen Christian prayer.

31. Which one of the following statements best agrees with your view of abortion?

1. By law, abortion should never be permitted
2. The law should permit abortion only in case of rape, incest, or when the woman's life is in danger.
3. The law should permit abortion for reasons other than rape, incest, or danger to the woman's life, but only after the need for the abortion has been clearly established.
4. By law, a woman should always be able to obtain an abortion as a matter of personal choice.

32. The Kansas lottery has faced a number of problems recently. Some suggest that revelations about what has been going on in the lottery shows it's time for it to end, while others argue that the lottery should be maintained because it provides weekly entertainment to thousands of people and it provides about \$60 million a year for government programs in Kansas. How strongly do you support or oppose proposals by the Kansas Legislature to eliminate the lottery?

→ Strongly support =1, 2, 3, Neutral=4, 5, 6, Strongly oppose=7

33. How strongly would you support or oppose a law in Kansas that would ban animal fighting contests, such as cockfighting or humans wrestling with bears?

→ Strongly oppose, Oppose, Neither oppose nor support, Support, Strongly support

Now I'd like to ask you a few questions relating to the environment

34. How would you rate the overall quality of the drinking water in your county?

- Poor
- Not so good
- Good
- Excellent

35. How would you rate the overall quality of your drinking water?

- Poor
- Not so good

Good
Excellent

36. Does your drinking water come from a well, a rural water district, a municipal water system, or some other source?

37. Recent studies have suggested that Kansas has some of the most polluted waterways in the nation. Although there are many sources of water pollution, one major source in Kansas is biological and chemical runoff from farmland. How strongly would you support or oppose a proposal that would require farmers in Kansas to reduce the amount of runoff from farmland?

Strongly oppose
Oppose
Somewhat oppose
Neither oppose nor support
Somewhat support
Support
Strongly Support

38. Another major source of water pollution are municipalities, largely through their operation of waste treatment plants. How strongly would you support or oppose a proposal that would require municipalities in Kansas to upgrade their facilities to meet or exceed federal water quality standards?

Strongly oppose
Oppose
Somewhat oppose
Neither oppose nor support
Somewhat support
Support
Strongly Support

39. How important is it to you that Kansas clean its waterways to help ensure the quality of drinking water?

very important
somewhat important
not too important
or not at all important

40. How important is it to you that Kansas takes steps to protect underground water supplies to ensure the quality of drinking water?

very important
somewhat important
not too important
or not at all important

41. How important is it to you that Kansas clean its waterways to help ensure the quality of water for recreational use?

very important
somewhat important
not too important
or not at all important

42. Recently scientists have been concerned about the depletion of water in the main aquifer of western Kansas. Some suggest water is being used at a rate faster than it can be replaced. How strongly do you support or oppose proposals by the Governor Graves to reduce water use from the aquifer?

→ Strongly support =1, 2, 3, Neutral=4, 5, 6, Strongly oppose=7

43. In general, how important are environmental issues in determining your vote for local and state political offices? Are a political candidate's positions on environmental issues very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important in determining your vote?

44. If you had to choose, which is more important; the ability of individuals to do what they want with land that they own, or the ability of government to regulate residential, agricultural, and commercial use of land to protect water quality for the common good?

45. If government chooses to regulate the private use of private property in the public interest, how strongly would you support or oppose government compensation of private landowners' losses?

- Strongly oppose
- Oppose
- Neither oppose nor support
- Support
- Strongly support

46. On a scale from 1 to 7, with one being not at all supportive and 7 being very supportive, how much support would you have for an increase in Kansas taxes to help clean-up and protect the quality of Kansas water resources?

47. We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days. Would you say that you (and your family living with you) are BETTER OFF, ABOUT THE SAME, or WORSE OFF financially than you were a year ago?

→ Better off now, About the same now, or Worse now

48. Now looking ahead--do you think that a year from now that you (and your family living with you) will be better off, about the same, or worse off financially than you are now?

→ Better off now, About the same now, or Worse now

49. In terms of the Kansas economy, do you think that the Kansas economy is better off, about the same, or worse off than it was a year ago?

→ Better off now, About the same now, or Worse now

50. Looking ahead, do you think that a year from now the Kansas economy will be better off, about the same, or worse off than it is now?

→ Better off now, About the same now, or Worse now

Now I'd like to ask you some questions about spending by the state government in Topeka. Please bear in mind that eventually all government spending comes out of the taxes that you and other Kansas residents pay. As I mention each program area, tell me whether you think the amount now being spent should be increased, kept at the present level, decreased, or spent differently.

51. First, programs for the state highway and road system? Should state spending be increased, kept at the present level, or decreased?

→ Increased, Present Level, Decreased, or Spent Differently

52. How about programs for public schools, grades K to 12? Should state spending be increased, kept at the present level, or decreased?

→ Increased, Present Level, Decreased, or Spent Differently

53. How about programs for state colleges and universities? Should state spending be increased, kept at the present level, or decreased?

→ Increased, Present Level, Decreased, or Spent Differently

54. Programs for environmental protection? Should state spending be increased, kept at the present level or decreased?

→ Increased, Present Level, Decreased, or Spent Differently

55. Programs to help low income families with children? Should state spending be increased, kept at the present level, or decreased?

→ Increased, Present Level, Decreased, or Spent Differently

56. State programs for crime, including state prisons and correctional facilities? Should state spending be increased, kept at the present level, or decreased?

→ Increased, Present Level, Decreased, or Spent Differently

57. Job training programs for the unemployed? Should state spending be increased, kept at the present level, or decreased?

→ Increased, Present Level, Decreased, or Spent Differently

58. And last, state programs for economic development, including programs to assist companies in the foreign export of their products. Should state spending be increased, kept at the present level, or decreased?

→ Increased, Present Level, Decreased, or Spent Differently

We are almost done. I'd just like to ask you a few questions about yourself for statistical purposes. Again, your answers will be completely confidential.

59. How many days in the past week did you watch national news on television?

→ 1 day, 2 days, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 days

60. How much attention do you pay to the news on TV?

- 0 None
- 1 Very Little
- 2 Some
- 3 Quite a bit
- 4 A lot

61. What is your religious affiliation? (open-ended, record verbatim)(can prompt with...Jewish, Baptist, Born again Christian, Buddhist, Catholic, Christian, Eastern Orthodox, Episcopal/Anglican, Evangelical Christian, Hindu, Jehovah's Witness, Lutheran, Mormon/Latter-Day Saints, Muslim/Islamic, Pentecostal, Protestant, Seventh Day Adventist, Unitarian or Universalist, Some Other Religion, or None)

62. Is religion an important part of your life?

- Yes
- No

63. On a scale of one to seven, with one being "a great deal" and seven being "none at all," how much guidance does religion provide in your life?

64. On a scale of one to seven, with one being "every day" and seven being "never," how often do you pray?

65. Lots of things come up that keep people from attending religious services even if they want to. Thinking about your life these days, do you ever attend religious services, apart from occasional weddings, baptisms or funerals?

- Yes
- No

66. (IF YES on 65) Do you go to religious services every week, almost every week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, or never?

67. What is your highest level of education?

- Less than 9th grade
- Some High School
- High School Degree or GED
- Some College
- 2-yr Degree
- 4-yr Degree
- Some Graduate School
- Graduate Degree

68. Which of the following income categories best describes your total combined household income for all of 1998? Please be sure to include income from welfare, Social Security, pensions, and investments, as well as any wages and salary, or any income from your own business.

- Under \$10,000
- \$10,000 - \$19,999
- \$20,000 - \$29,999
- \$30,000 - \$39,999
- \$40,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$59,999
- \$60,000 - \$69,999
- \$70,000 - \$79,999
- \$80,000 - \$89,999
- \$90,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 and over

69. Are you currently married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

- Married
- Widowed
- Divorced
- Separated
- Never Married
- Living Together

70. Some people consider themselves to be conservatives or liberals. Do you consider yourself as a: 1-7

- Strong Liberal
- Not so strong Liberal
- Moderate Liberal
- Moderate
- Moderate Conservative
- Not so strong Conservative
- Strong Conservative

71. In what year were you born? _____ (open-ended; record verbatim)

72. Do you consider yourself...

- White or Caucasian
- Black or African American
- Asian
- Native American
- or some other race?

73. Do you consider yourself, Hispanic or Latino? (Ask regardless of answer above)

- Yes
- No

That's all the questions I have for you. Thank you for taking the time to complete the annual Kansas Policy Survey. Have a good day!

For interviewer only.

X1. Your ID number

X2. Enter Case ID number

X3. Enter Gender of respondent (don't ask, enter even if the respondent refused to participate)

Female

Male

X4. Estimate length of survey in minutes (ignore if the respondent said no to survey).

References

Fisher, Ronald C. 1996. *State and Local Public Finance: Institutions, Theory Policy, 2nd Ed.* Chicago: IRWIN Publishers.

Conference Broad. 2001. *Consumer Confidence Survey, May 2001.* Washington D.C.

Kansas Secretary of State. 2001. <http://www.kssos.org/elewelc.html>

U.S. Census Bureau. 2001. *2000 Census.* Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of Commerce.