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Kansas Speaks 2013 Statewide Public Opinion Survey

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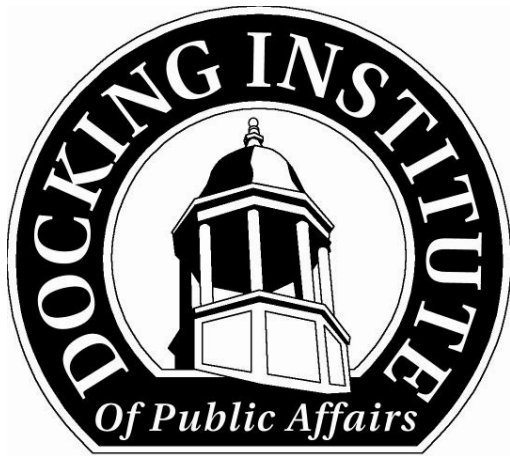


Kansas Speaks
2013
Statewide Public Opinion Survey

Prepared For
The Citizens of Kansas
By

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs
Fort Hays State University

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Mission:

To Facilitate Effective Public Policy Decision-Making.

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

Kansas Speaks 2013



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Prepared For:

The Citizens of Kansas
In pursuit of
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Executive Summary

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs at Fort Hays State University conducted the 2013 Kansas Speaks survey from May 23 to September 18, 2013. A random sample of adult residents of Kansas age 18 and older was surveyed by telephone to assess their attitudes and opinions regarding various issues of interest to Kansas citizens. The survey finds:

- The majority (87.4%) of respondents felt Kansas is at least a good place to live, and only 4.1% felt it is a poor or very poor place to live. The rating was higher among older, upper-educated, higher-income and Republican respondents and those who reported voting in 2012.
- More than half (53.4%) of respondents said Kansas economy was at least in good condition. Higher-income respondents tended to rate the state's economy more highly.
- Respondents were highly divided in their satisfaction with Governor Brownback's efforts to improve the Kansas economy, with 38% of respondents being satisfied and 40% dissatisfied. In general, satisfaction was higher among the less-educated and Republican respondents and those who did not vote in 2012.
- About one-third (33.2%) of respondents were "very" or "moderately satisfied" with Republican leaders' efforts to improve the Kansas economy, while 38.9% were "very" or "moderately dissatisfied." Dissatisfaction was higher among the older and Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012.
- Just under one-third (31.3%) of respondents were "very" or "moderately satisfied" with Democratic leaders' efforts to improve the Kansas economy, while 37% were "very" or "moderately dissatisfied." The rating was lower among Republicans and those who voted in 2012.
- More than sixty percent (61.3%) of respondents were "very" or "moderately concerned" that economic conditions in Kansas will threaten their families' welfare. Concerns tended to be higher among the older, less educated, female, and lower-income respondents.
- Respondents were most likely to favor keeping sales tax and income tax as is, with more favoring reductions in taxes than increases. The upper-educated and Democratic respondents were more likely to favor an income tax increase. The upper-educated and higher-income respondents were more likely to favor a sales tax increase.
- Almost half (46.4%) of respondents thought that property taxes should be "somewhat" or "significantly decreased," while 44.9% felt they should remain the same. Support for increasing property taxes was higher among respondents with higher levels of education.

- More than half of respondents favored increasing taxes on large corporations and top income earners. The younger, female, and Democratic respondents were more likely to support increased taxes on large corporations. Support for increasing taxes on top income earners was higher among the female, upper-educated, and Democratic respondents.
- Less than five percent of respondents favored increased taxes on the middle class and small businesses. Respondents with higher education levels or higher income were less likely to support decreasing taxes on the middle class. The upper-educated and Democratic respondents were more likely to favor increased taxes on small businesses.
- Less than one-third (27.2%) of respondents were “very” or “moderately satisfied” with the performance of the Kansas Legislature, while 40.6% were “very” or “moderately dissatisfied.” The ratings of the Kansas Legislature tended to be lower among the older and Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012.
- When asked to evaluate the performance of Governor Brownback, 35.1% of respondents were “very” or “moderately satisfied,” while 41.5% were “very” or “moderately dissatisfied.” The rating was lower among the upper-educated and Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012.
- A little more than 20% of respondents were “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with their state senators and representatives. The ratings of state senators were lower among the older and Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012. The ratings of state representatives were lower among Democratic and Independent respondents. Those who voted in 2012 were more likely to express satisfaction or dissatisfaction and less likely to stay neutral than those who did not vote.
- More than one-fourth of respondents expressed dissatisfaction with U. S. Senators Moran and Roberts. The upper-educated, Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012 were more likely to be “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with Senators Moran and Roberts.
- Almost one-third (30.3%) of respondents were “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with the performance of their U.S. Congresspersons. The satisfaction level was lower among upper-educated and Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012.
- About one-fourth (25.2%) of respondents favored increased Kansas government spending, 30.4% favored unchanged spending, and 44.5% wanted spending reduced. In general, the upper-educated and Democratic respondents were more likely to support spending increases.
- Almost three-fourths (74.1%) of respondents felt it was “extremely important” or “important” for Kansas to devote resources to the development of wind energy. The support level was

higher among the female respondents, those respondents who were Democrats, leaning Democrat and Independent, and those who voted in 2012.

- More than six in ten (62.5%) respondents felt it was “extremely important” or “important” for Kansas to devote resources to the development of oil energy, and 46.2% felt so for the development of coal. The support levels of oil and coal were higher among those lower-income, less educated and Republican respondents.
- Less than a third (31.7%) of respondents felt it was “extremely important” or “important” for Kansas to devote resources to the development of nuclear energy, while 35% felt it “not at all important.” The female and Democratic respondents were less likely to say developing nuclear energy was “extremely important” or “important.”
- More than six in ten (62.9%) respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that the economic benefits of oil production outweigh concerns about the impact on the environment, and 57.9% felt so regarding the economic benefits of coal production. Economic benefits of coal production were given heavier weight by the lower-income, less-educated and Republican respondents and those who did not voted in 2012. Republican respondents were also more likely to think the economic benefits of oil production outweigh the environmental concerns.
- Only 3% of respondents felt the drought and severe storms experienced in Kansas recently were due exclusively to the burning of fossil fuels, while 64% thought the erratic weather patterns were due “mostly” or “exclusively” to natural causes. In general, the less-educated and Republican respondents were more likely to feel the erratic weathers pattern were due exclusively or mostly to natural causes.
- Two-thirds (66.5%) of respondents thought state funding for grades kindergarten through high school (K-12) should be increased. Support for increased state funding was higher among the female, African American and Democratic respondents.
- Half (50.1%) of respondents thought that state funding for social services should be increased. Support for increased state funding was higher among the female, lower-income, African American, less-educated and Democratic and Independent respondents.
- About forty-five percent (45%) of respondents thought that state funding for state colleges and universities should be increased. The female and upper-educated respondents and those who were strong Democrats and Independent leaning Democrat were more likely to support increased funding.
- Six in ten (61%) respondents felt that Kansas school districts should be allowed to sue the state for failing to meet the constitutional mandate to provide adequate funding for elementary and

secondary public education. In general, the younger, upper-educated, Hispanic and Democratic respondents were more likely to support school districts suing the state.

- More than half (55.6%) of respondents “somewhat” or “strongly” opposed concealed weapons being allowed in Kansas schools, hospitals, and government buildings, while 32% supported it. Opposition was higher among the older, female, upper-educated and Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012.
- Less than half (44%) of respondents “strongly” or “somewhat” supported the legislation that prohibits federal agencies from enforcing gun laws pertaining to any weapons fully manufactured, sold and retained within the state borders, while a similar percentage (43.8%) “strongly” or “somewhat” opposed the legislation. The support level was generally lower among the older, upper-educated, and Democratic respondents.
- Less than half (44.2%) of respondents said that, “if the election was held today,” they would vote to retain Sam Brownback for Governor. Support of Governor Brownback was higher among those respondents who were 18 to 24 years old, those whose highest education levels were less than high school, those whose family incomes were below \$35,000, those who did not vote in 2012 and male respondents.
- Almost half (48.5%) of respondents said they would vote to retain Kris Kobach for Kansas Secretary of State “if the election were held today.” Support for Kobach was lower among Independent and Democratic respondents and those who had masters, law, or doctoral degree.
- More than four of five (83.6%) respondents reported that they had voted in the November 2012 election.
- Among respondents who indicated they did not vote in the November 2012, 51.7% said they were registered and had a government-issued ID, while 38.6% were not registered but had the proof of citizenship needed for registration. The remaining 9.6% of respondents who did not vote said they either did not have a proof of citizenship or did not have a photo ID, making them ineligible to participate in the 2012 election.
- Based on the self-reported survey data, it is estimated that approximately 14,000 Kansans do not have the required proof of citizenship to register, and that another 14,000 do not have the required photo ID to vote.

Introduction and Methods

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs at Fort Hays State University surveyed a random sample of adult residents of Kansas age 18 and older to assess attitudes and opinions regarding various issues of interest to Kansas citizens. The survey sample consists of random Kansas landline telephone numbers and cellphone numbers. From May 23 to September 18, 987 Kansas residents were contacted through landline telephone, and 716 of them completed the survey, resulting in a 72.5% response rate (716/987). In the same time period, 472 Kansas residents were contacted through cellphone, and 228 completed the survey, resulting a response rate of 48.3% (228/472). In total, 944 out of 1,459 Kansas residents completed the survey. The overall response rate was 64.7% (944/1,459). At a 95% confidence level, the margin of error for the full sample of 944 is 3.2%. A margin of error of 3.2% means that there is a 95% probability that findings among the sample vary no more than +/- 3.2% from the value that would be found if the entire population of interest (adult Kansas residents) were surveyed, assuming no response bias. Sample demographics were compared to known Census-based distributions (see Appendix A). The sample matches closely with all Census-based distributions except race, Hispanic origin and age. The survey had higher response rates among Kansas residents who are white, non-Hispanic and those over 55. Therefore, the overall population estimates are biased toward the opinions of white, non-Hispanic and older Kansans.

The following analysis contains seven sections:

- 1) **Overall Quality of Life in Kansas.** This section shows how Kansans generally feel about Kansas as a place to live.
- 2) **Economy.** This section shows results to questions addressing various economic concerns to citizens.
- 3) **Taxes.** This section shows results to opinion questions regarding fair and effective personal and business taxation policies.
- 4) **State Government and Politicians.** This section presents the results of citizens' ratings of the state government in general, as well as their state elected officials and politicians.
- 5) **Energy Policy.** A key component of this study is to assess the level of citizen support for public resources being devoted to developing various sources of energy production, including oil, coal, wind, and nuclear.

- 6) **Public Policy Issues.** This section looks at citizens’ opinions on several key policy issues, such as state funding for education, climate change, concealed weapons in public places and state autonomy regarding the regulations of firearms.
- 7) **Election.** This section presents citizens’ intended choice of the next Governor and Secretary of State of Kansas and their 2012 voting behavior as related to the new requirement of a government photo ID and proof of citizenship.

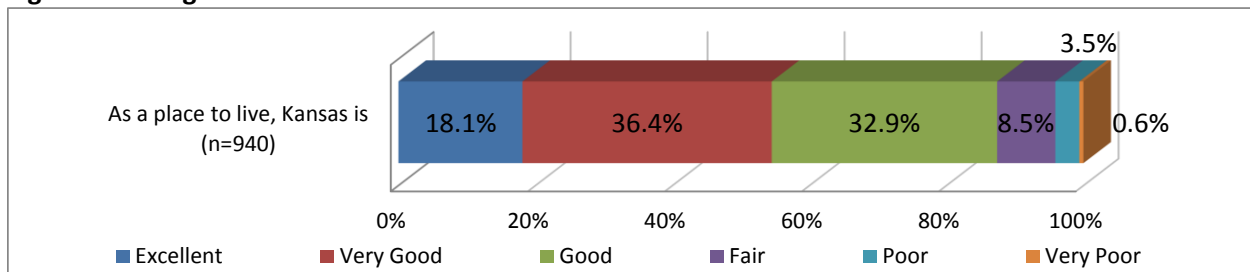
These sections present not only descriptive analyses of respondents’ answers to each question, but also statistically significant relationships with key demographic variables to see how citizens in various social categories differ in their opinions and policy preferences on various issues. Except for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

Analysis

Section 1: Overall Quality of Life in Kansas

Respondents were asked to rate Kansas generally as a place to live. Among those 940 respondents who provided valid answers to this question, 18.1% said Kansas was an “excellent” place to live, 36.4% felt Kansas was a “very good” place to live, and 32.9% believed Kansas was a “good” place to live. Only 3.5% of respondents said Kansas was a “poor” place to live, and 0.6% answered “very poor” (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Rating of Kansas as a Place to Live



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

Respondent’s opinions of the quality of life in Kansas were significantly related to respondent’s party affiliation. Compared with strong Democratic respondents and Independent voters leaning Democratic, Republican respondents were more likely to feel that Kansas was at least a “good” place to live. More than seventy percent (73.6%) of respondents who considered themselves strong Republicans

said that Kansas was an “excellent” or “very good” place to live in, while only 42.6% of respondents who considered themselves strong Democrats said so (Figure 2).

Respondents with different ages, education levels and incomes also varied significantly in their opinions on the quality of life. In general, the rating of Kansas as a place to live was higher among older, upper-educated and higher-income respondents (Figures 3, 4 and 5). Respondents who reported voting in November 2012 were also more likely to give higher rating than those who indicated that they did not vote in 2012. More than half (56.1%) of respondents who voted in 2012 said that Kansas was an “excellent” or “very good” place to live in. Only 46% of respondents who did not vote in 2012 said so (Figure 6).

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

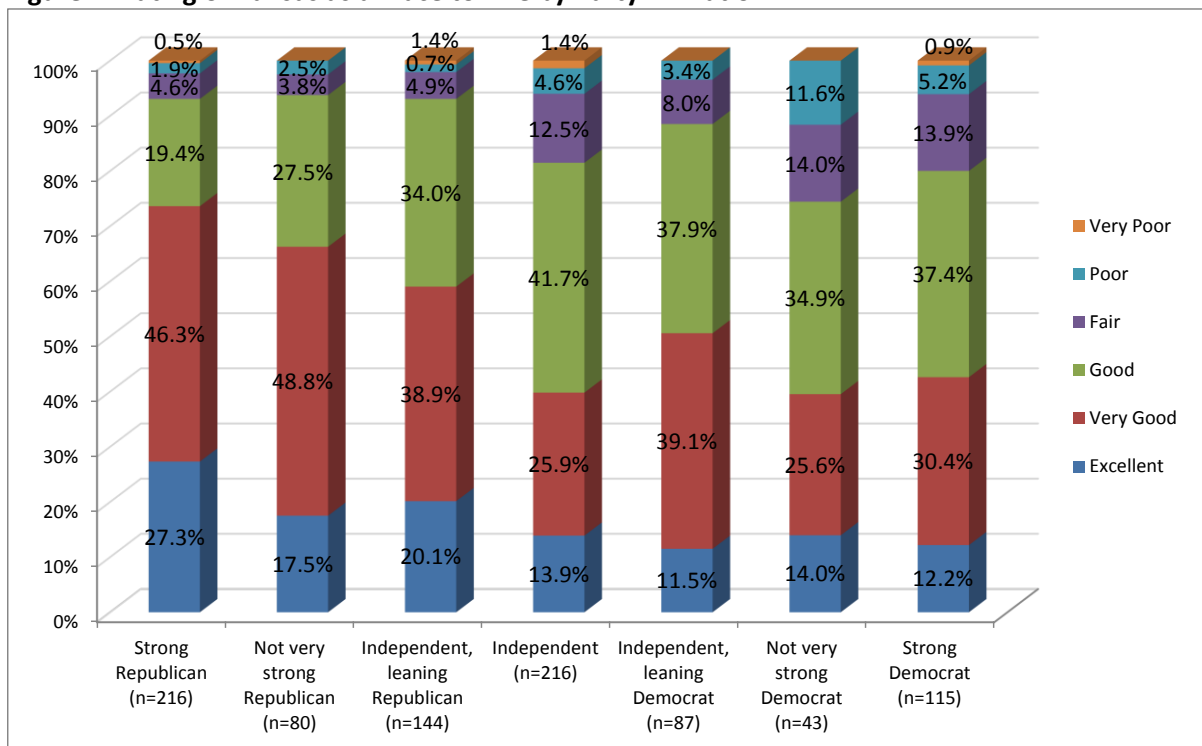


Figure 3: Rating of Kansas as a Place to Live by Age

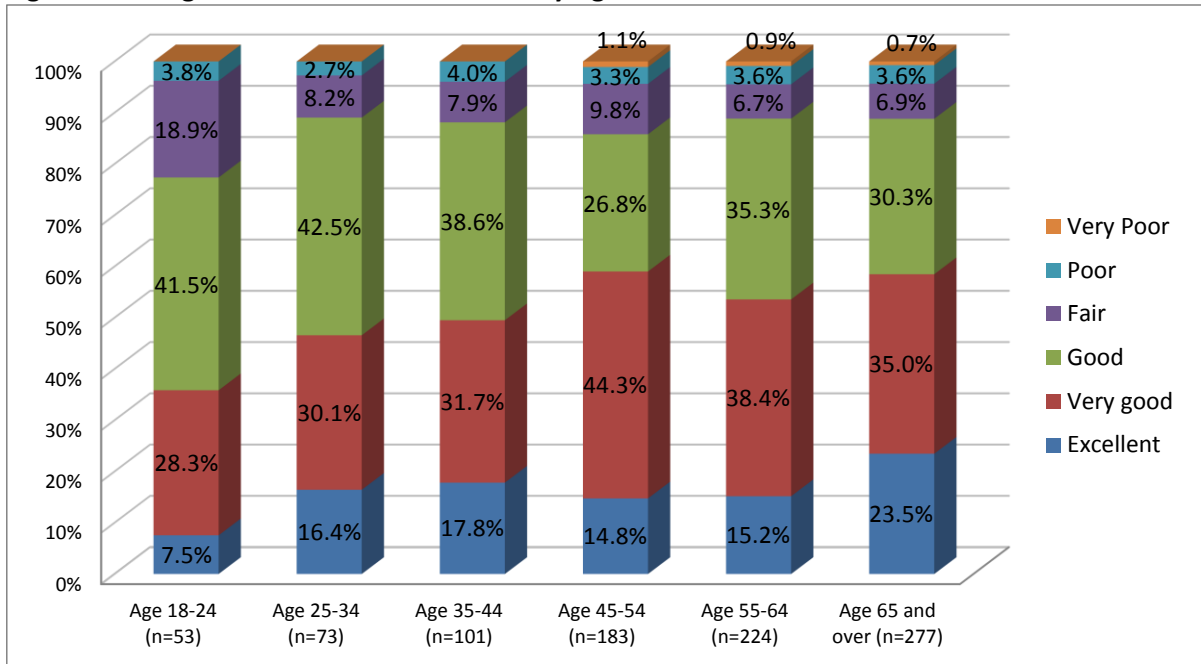


Figure 4: Rating of Kansas as a Place to Live by Education

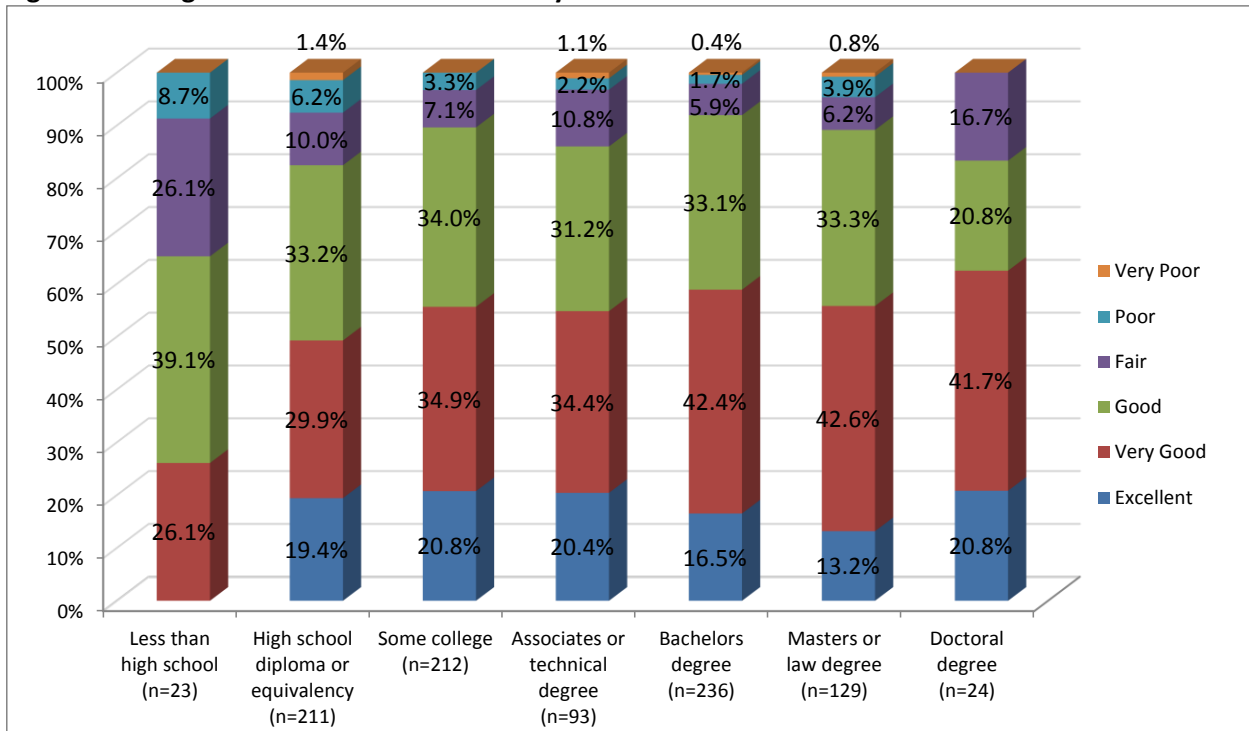


Figure 5: Rating of Kansas as a Place to Live by Income

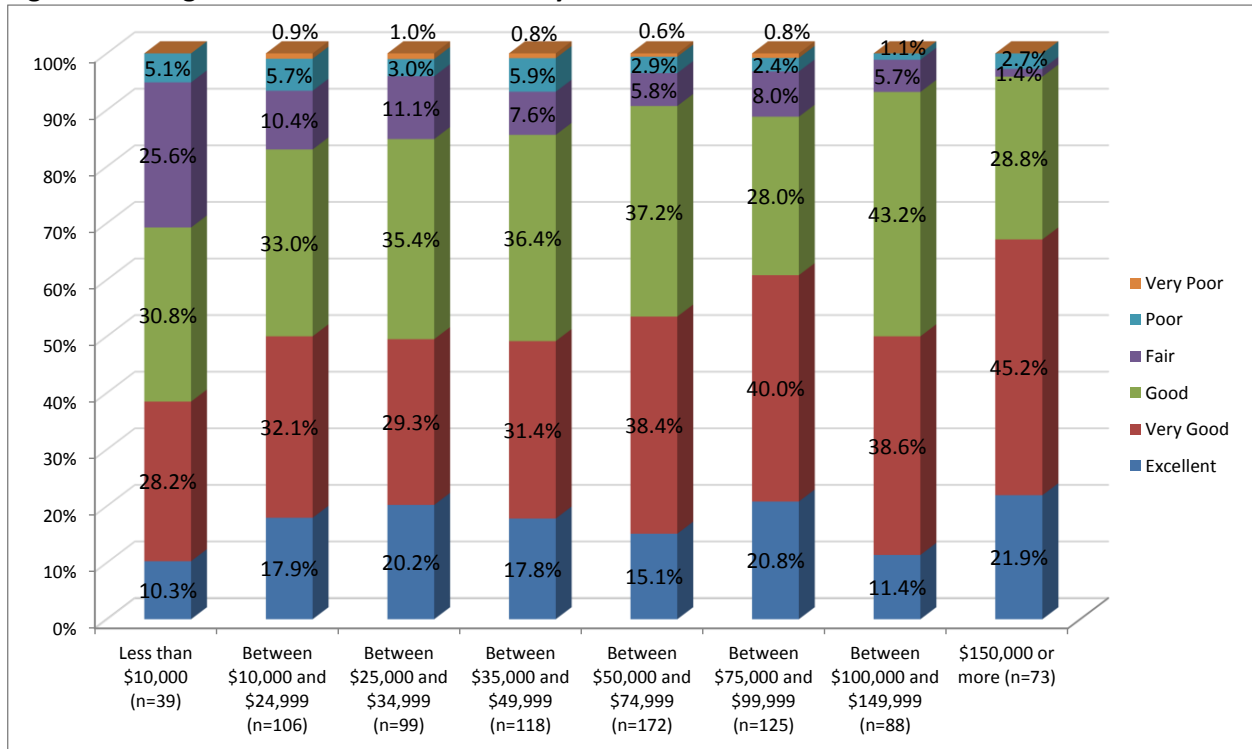
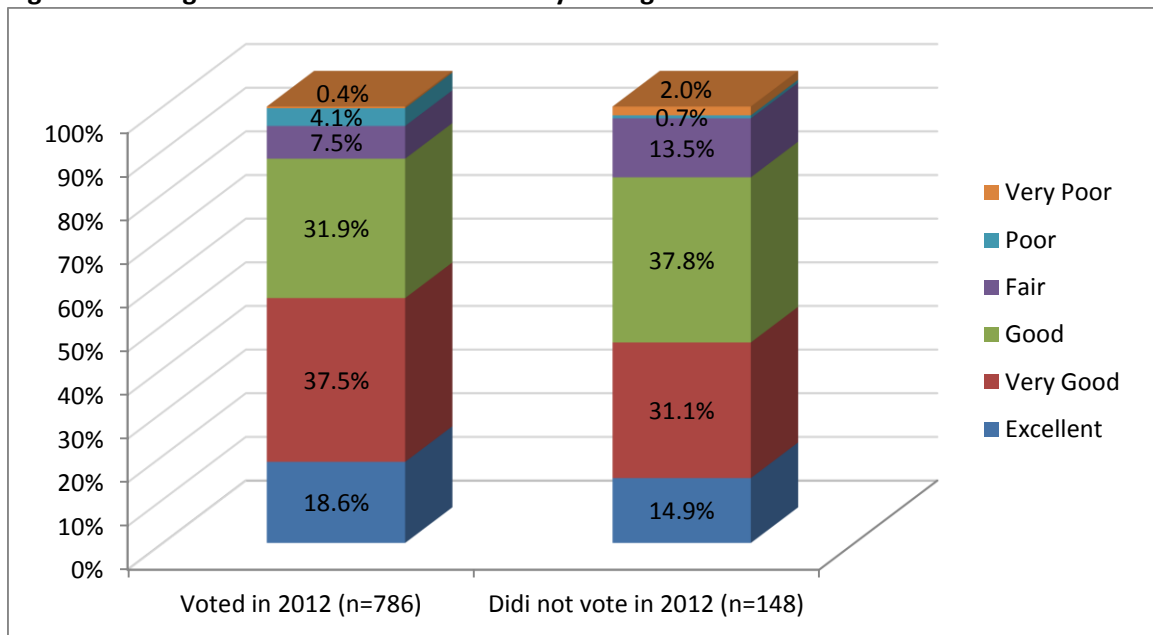


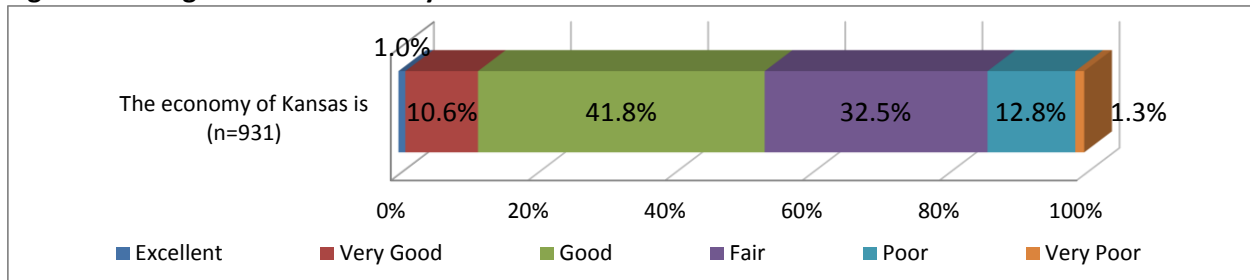
Figure 6: Rating of Kansas as a Place to Live by Voting Behavior



Section 2: Economy

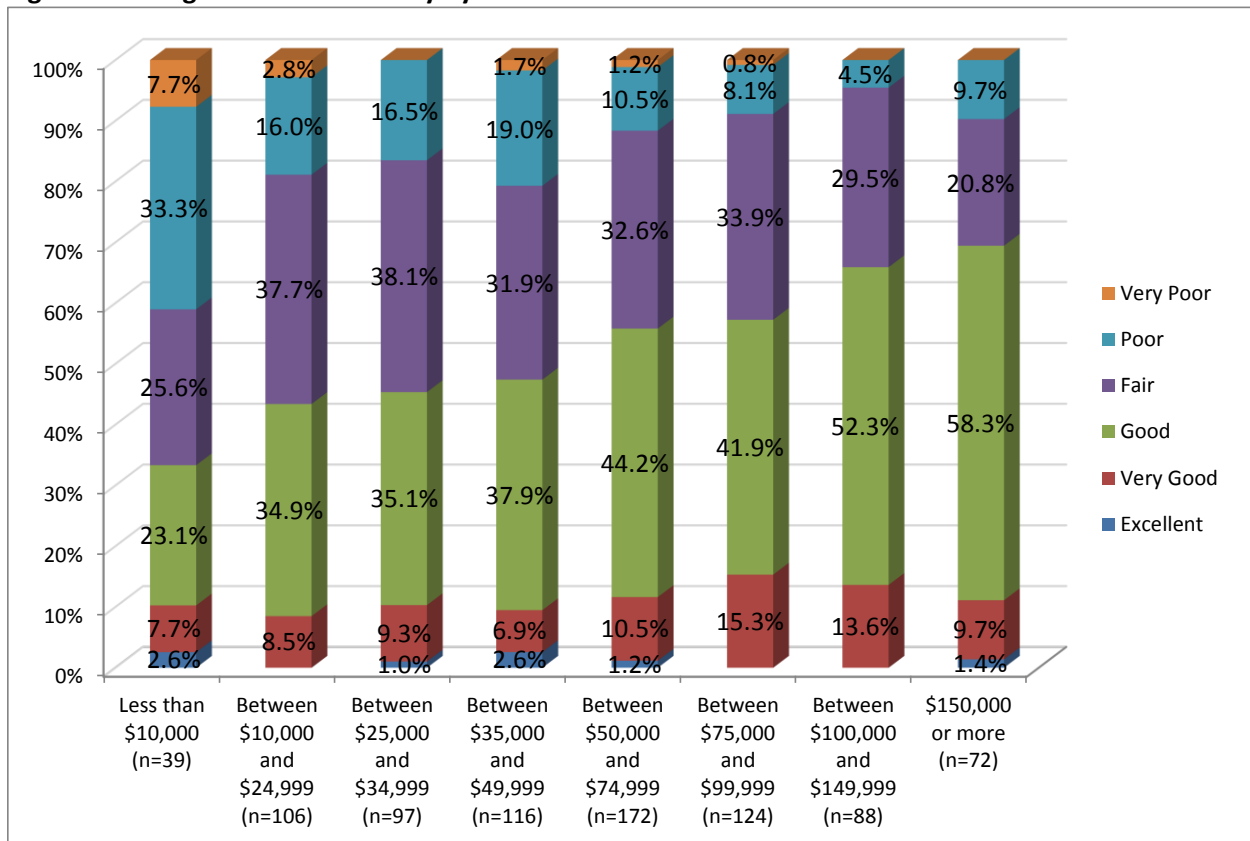
When asked to rate the Kansas economy, 53.4% of 931 respondents who provided valid answers said it was at least “good,” while 14.1% said Kansas had a “poor” or “very poor” economy (Figure 7). Ratings of the economy were significantly associated with respondent’s income level. Higher-income respondents tended to rate the state’s economy more highly. One-third (33.4%) of respondents whose family income was less than \$10,000 rated the Kansas economy as at least “good.” The percentage rises to 69.4% among those respondents whose family incomes were \$150,000 or higher (Figure 8).

Figure 7: Rating of Kansas Economy



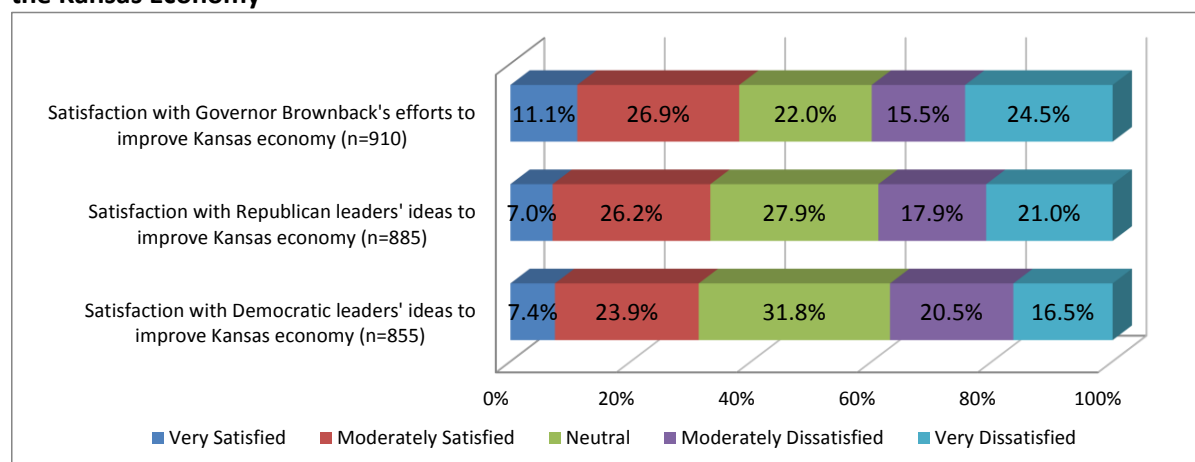
Question: *In general, how would you rate the Kansas economy?*

Figure 8: Rating of Kansas Economy by Income



The survey continued by asking respondents' satisfaction with Governor Brownback's and state party leaders' efforts to improve the health of the Kansas economy. Thirty-seven percent (38%) of respondents were "moderately" or "very satisfied" with Governor Brownback's efforts to improve the health of the Kansas economy (Figure 9).

Figure 9: Satisfaction Levels with Governor's and State Party Leaders' Efforts to Improve the Health of the Kansas Economy



Question: *How satisfied are you with Governor Brownback's and state party leaders' efforts to improve the health of the Kansas economy?*

Respondents' satisfaction with Governor Brownback's efforts to improve the health of the Kansas economy was related to education, party affiliation and voting behavior. Except for those who did not complete high school, respondents with higher education were more likely to be dissatisfied with Governor Brownback's efforts to improve the health of the Kansas economy. Only about one-fourth (28%) of respondents whose highest level of education was high school or equivalent felt "very dissatisfied" or "moderately dissatisfied" with Governor Brownback's efforts, whereas two thirds (66.7%) of respondents with doctoral degrees felt "very dissatisfied" or "moderately dissatisfied" (Figure 10). Respondents who were Republican or leaning Republican were more likely to feel "very satisfied" or "moderately satisfied" with Governor Brownback's efforts than those who were Democratic or leaning Democratic (Figure 11). Respondents who voted in 2012 were more likely to feel "very dissatisfied" or "moderately dissatisfied" with governor's efforts than those who did not vote (Figure 12).

Figure 10: Satisfaction Levels with the Governor’s Efforts to Improve the Health of the Kansas Economy by Education

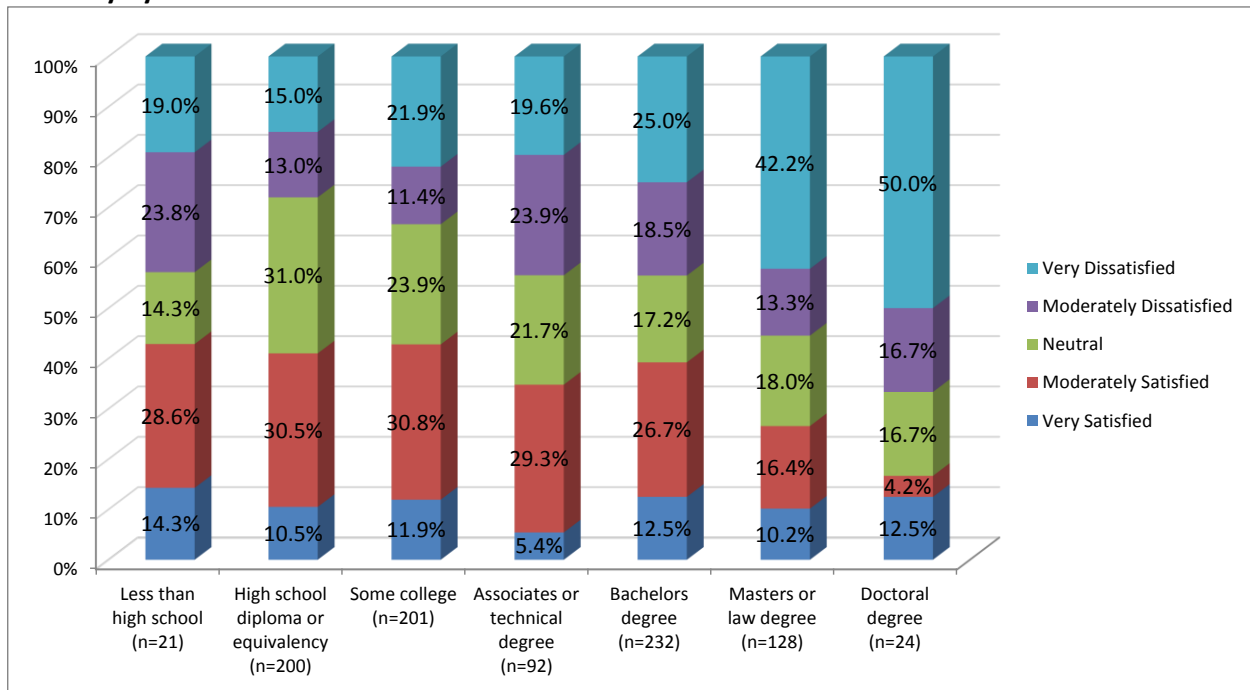


Figure 11: Satisfaction Levels with the Governor’s Efforts to Improve the Health of the Kansas Economy by Party Affiliation

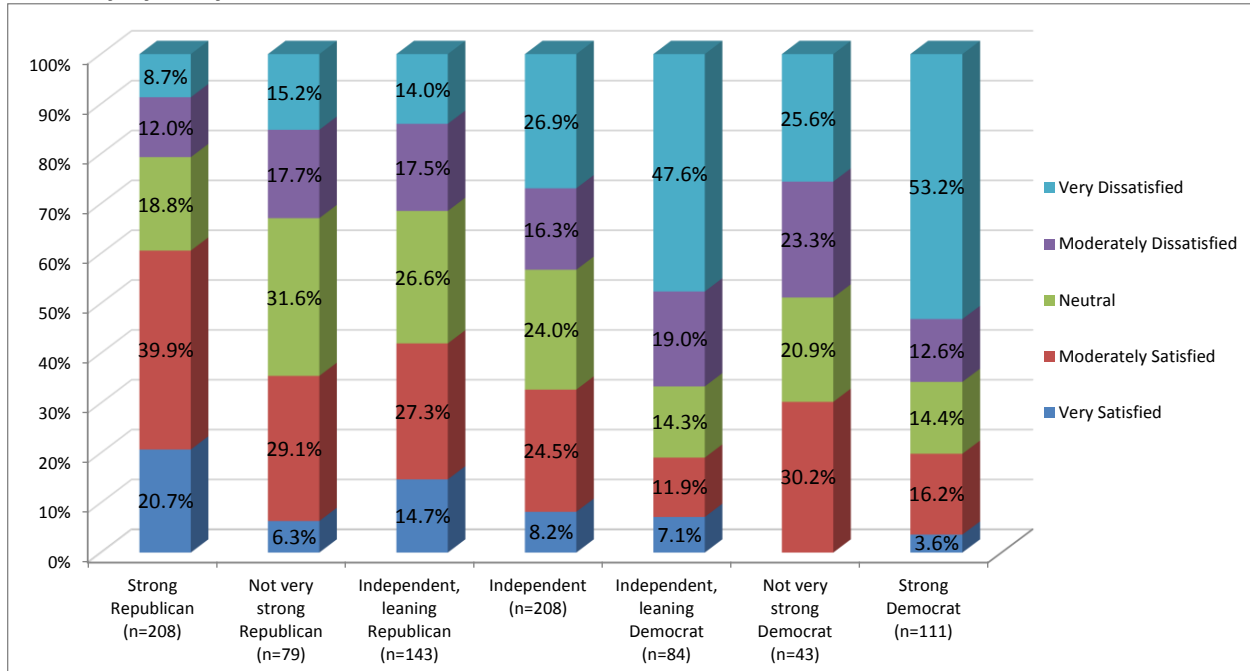
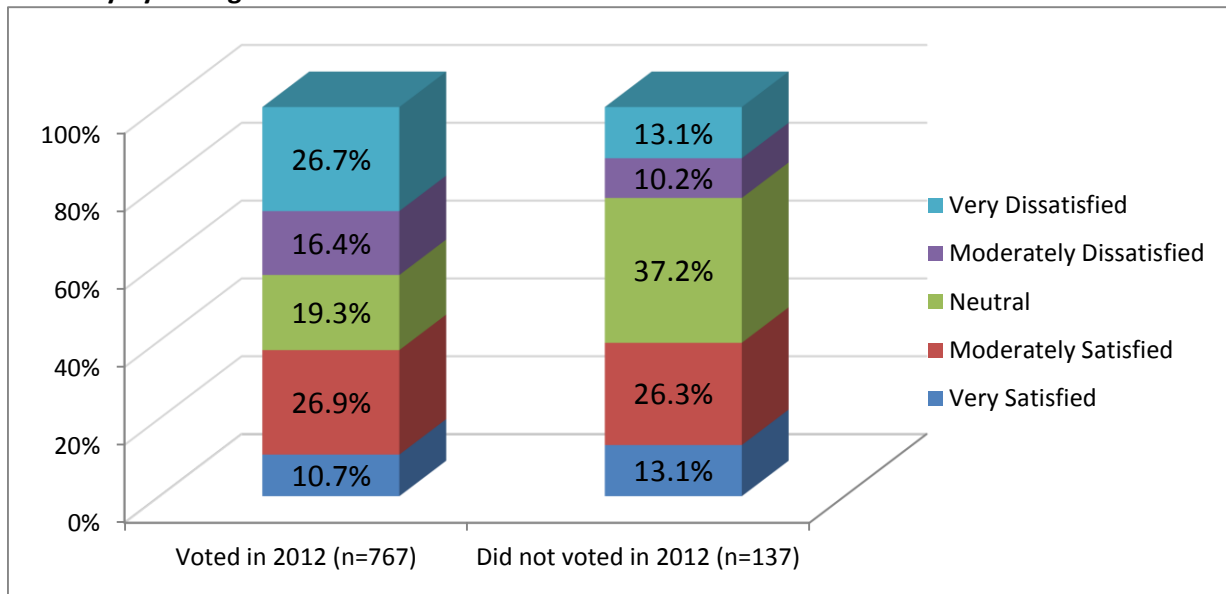


Figure 12: Satisfaction Levels with the Governor’s Efforts to Improve the Health of the Kansas Economy by Voting Behavior



Respondents’ satisfaction with Kansas Democratic Party leaders’ efforts to improve the health of the Kansas economy was significantly associated with party affiliation and voting behavior. Respondents who were Democratic or leaning Democratic were more likely to be “very” or “moderately satisfied” with Democratic Party leaders’ efforts than respondents who were Republican or leaning Republican (Figure 13). Respondents who voted in 2012 were more likely to be “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with Democratic Party leaders’ efforts (Figure 14).

Respondents’ satisfaction with Republican Party leaders’ efforts to improve the health of Kansas economy was related with party affiliation, age, and voting behavior. Respondents who were older, Democratic or leaning Democratic, and those who voted in 2012 were more likely to feel “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with Republican Party leaders’ efforts (Figures 15, 16 and 17).

Figure 13: Satisfaction Levels with Democratic Party Leaders' Efforts to Improve the Health of the Kansas Economy by Party Affiliation

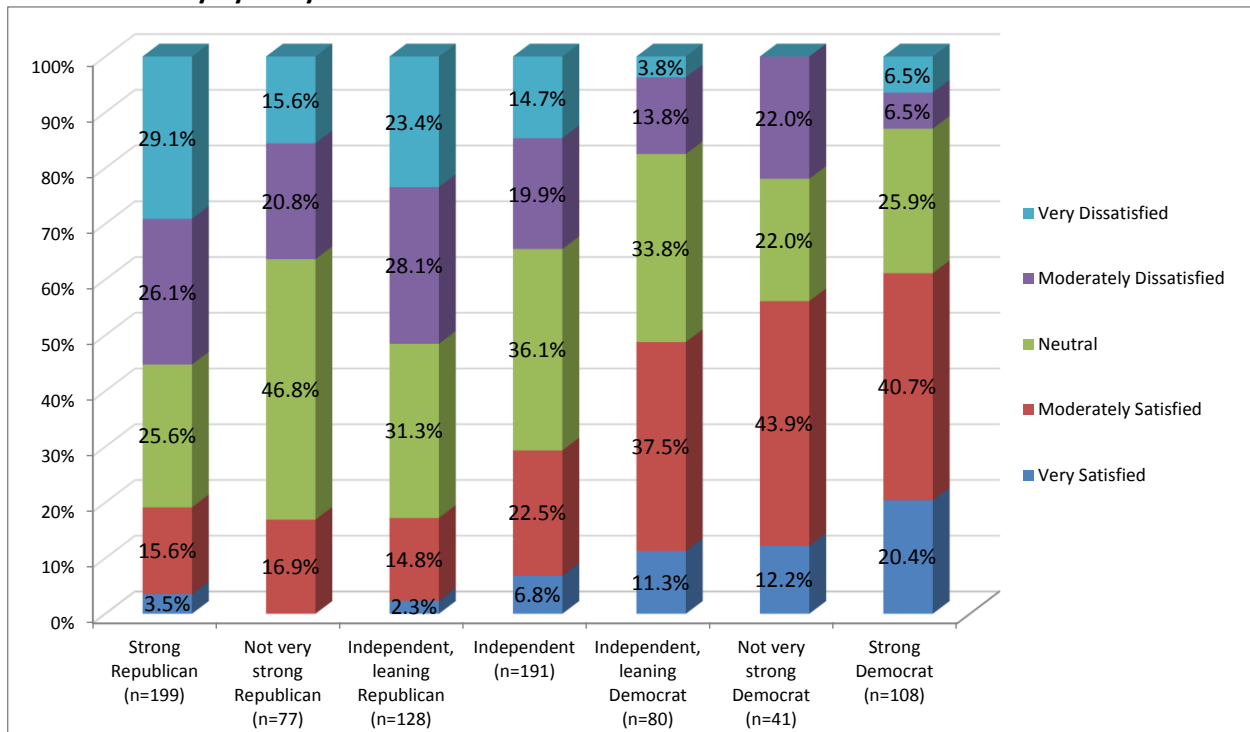


Figure 14: Satisfaction Levels with Democratic Party Leaders' Efforts to Improve the Health of the Kansas Economy by Voting Behavior

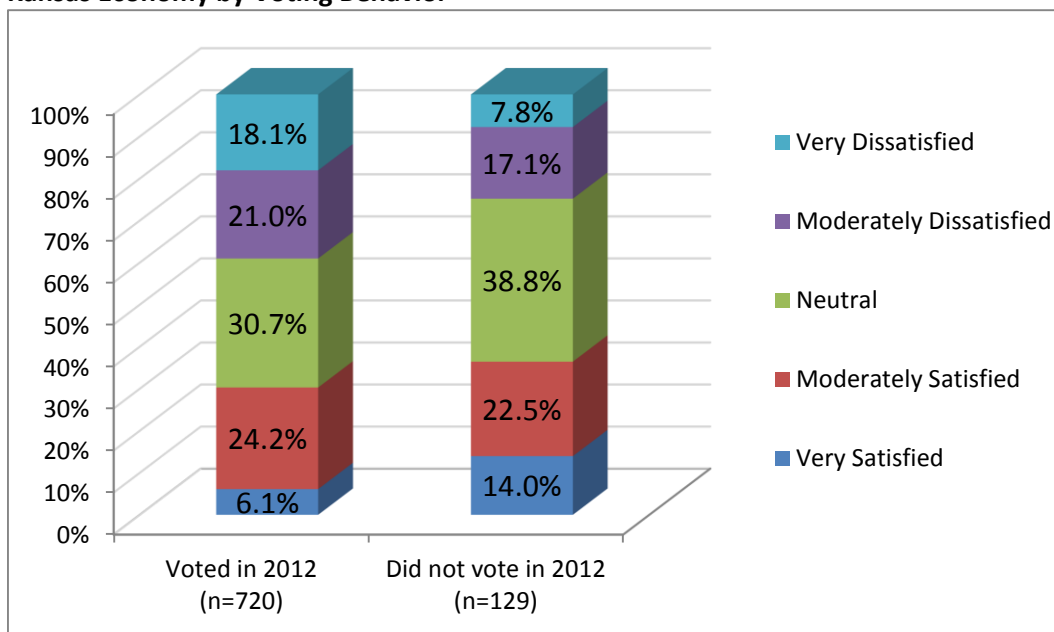


Figure 15: Satisfaction Levels with Republican Party Leaders' Efforts to Improve the Health of the Kansas Economy by Party Affiliation

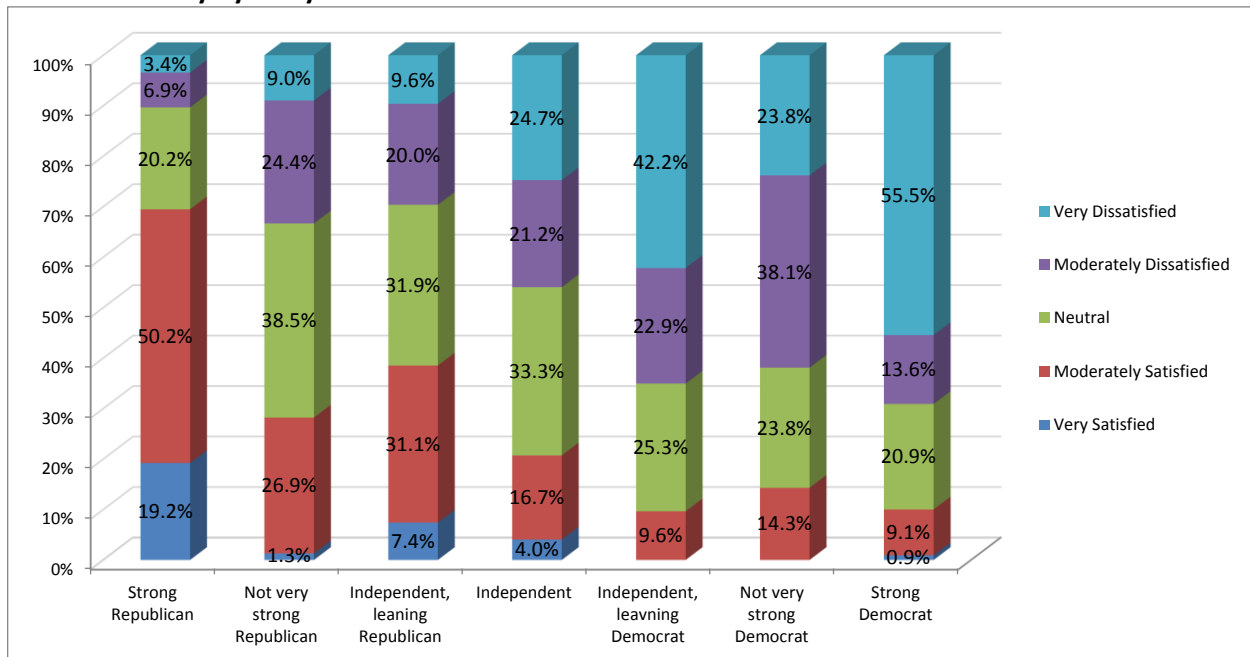


Figure 16: Satisfaction Levels with Republican Party Leaders' Efforts to Improve the Health of the Kansas Economy by Age

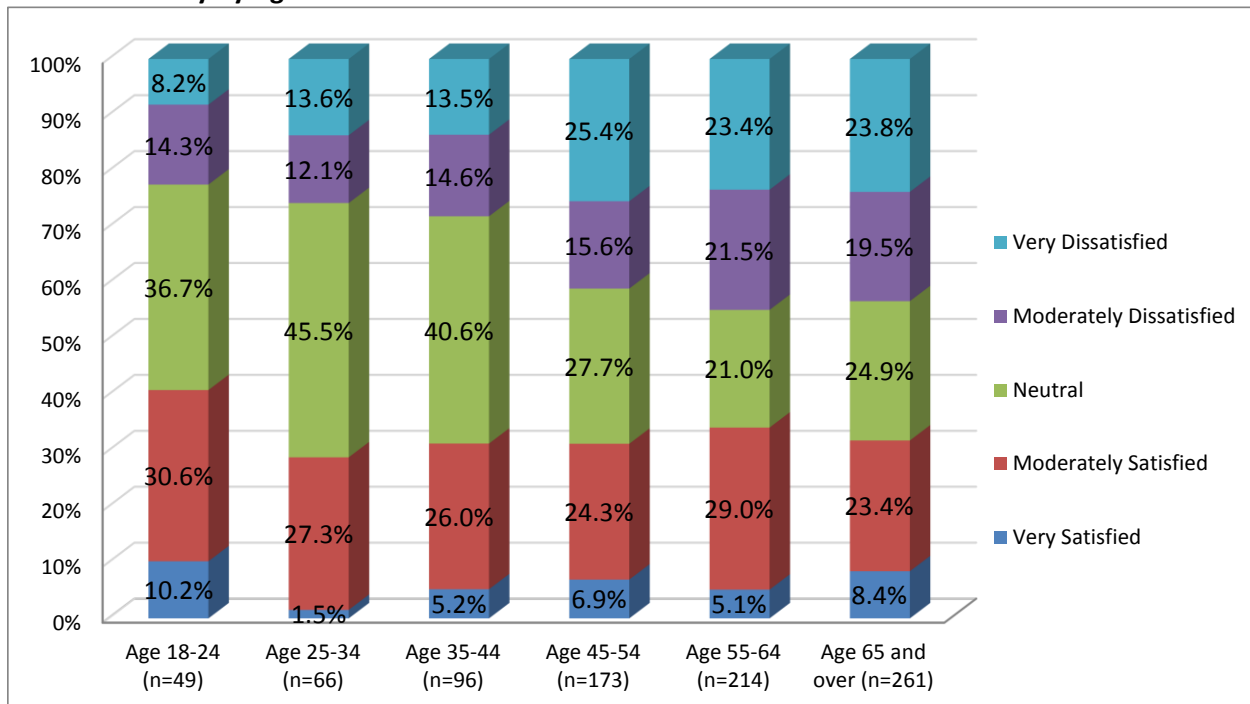
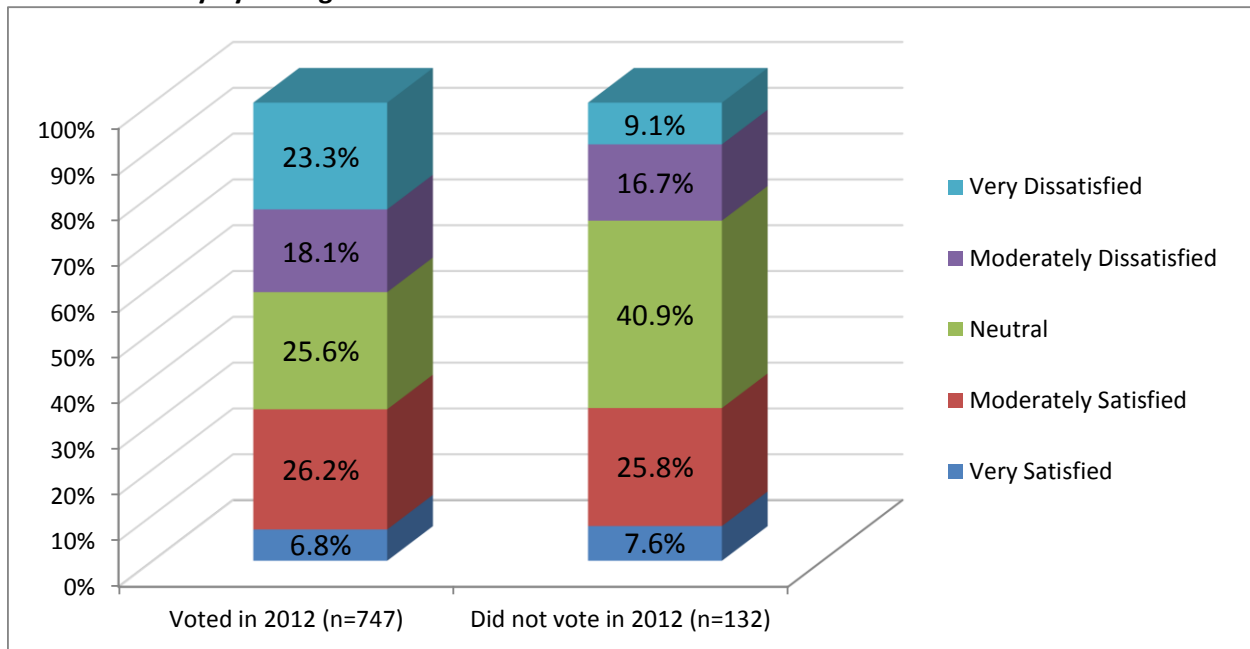
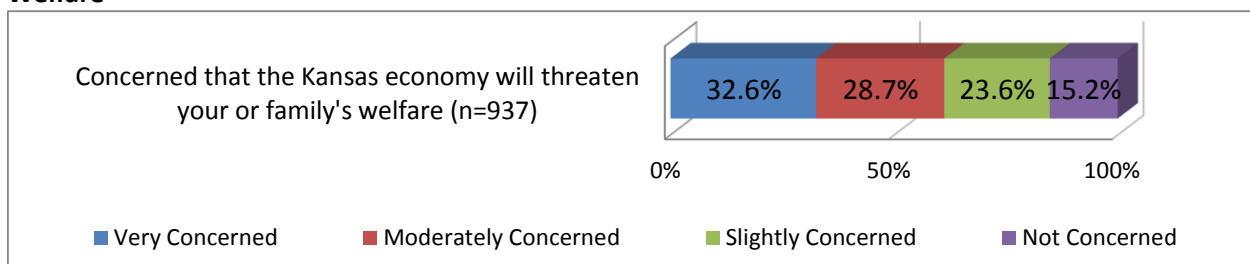


Figure 17: Satisfaction Levels with Republican Party Leaders' Efforts to Improve the Health of the Kansas Economy by Voting Behavior



Respondents were also asked how concerned they were that the Kansas economy would seriously threaten them or their families' welfare. More than sixty percent (61.3%) of respondents were either "very concerned" or "moderately concerned" (Figure 18). Respondent's concern was significantly associated with the age, education, gender, and family income. In general, concern tended to be higher among the older, less educated, female, and lower-income respondents (Figures 19, 20, 21 and 22).

Figure 18: Concern with the Threat from the Economic Conditions in Kansas to Individuals' or Families' Welfare



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

Figure 19: Concerns with the Threat from the Economic Conditions in Kansas to Individuals' or Families' Welfare by Age

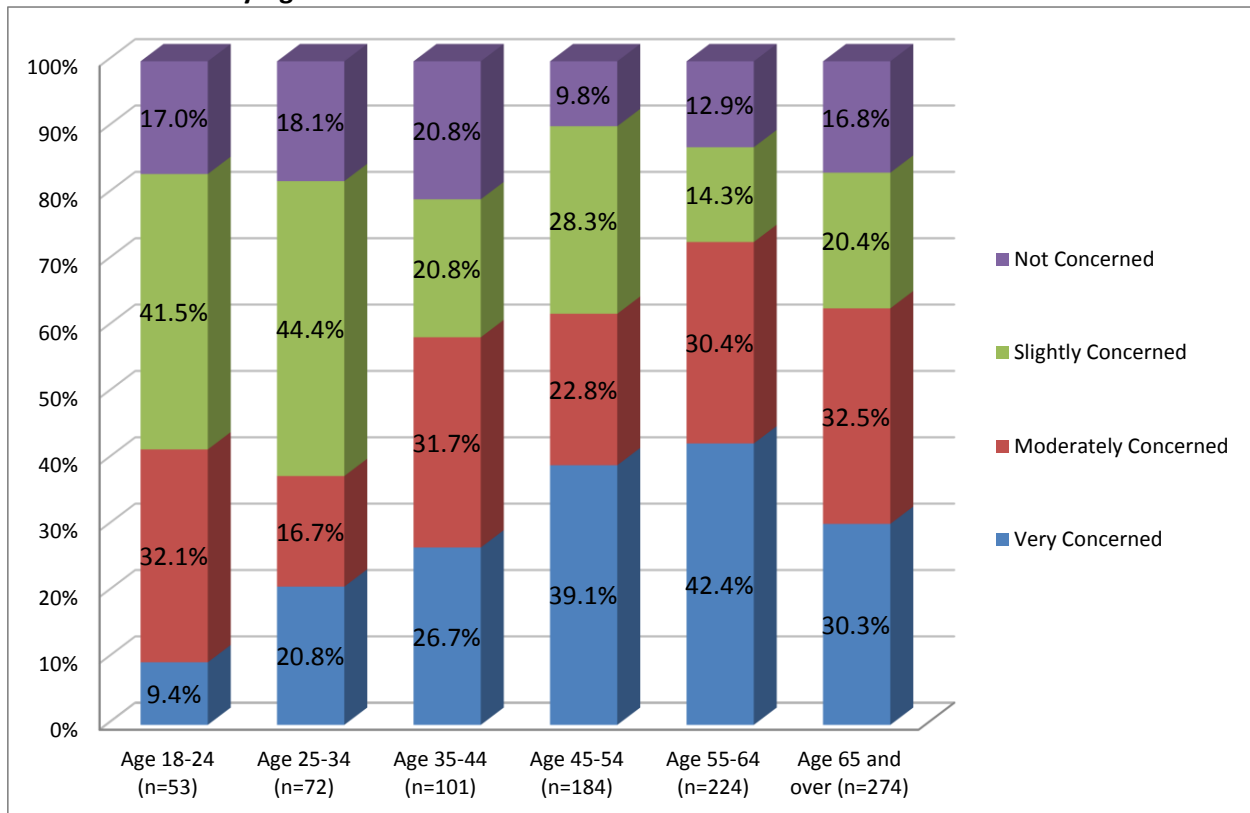


Figure 20: Concerns with the Threat from the Economic Conditions in Kansas to Individuals' or Families' Welfare by Education

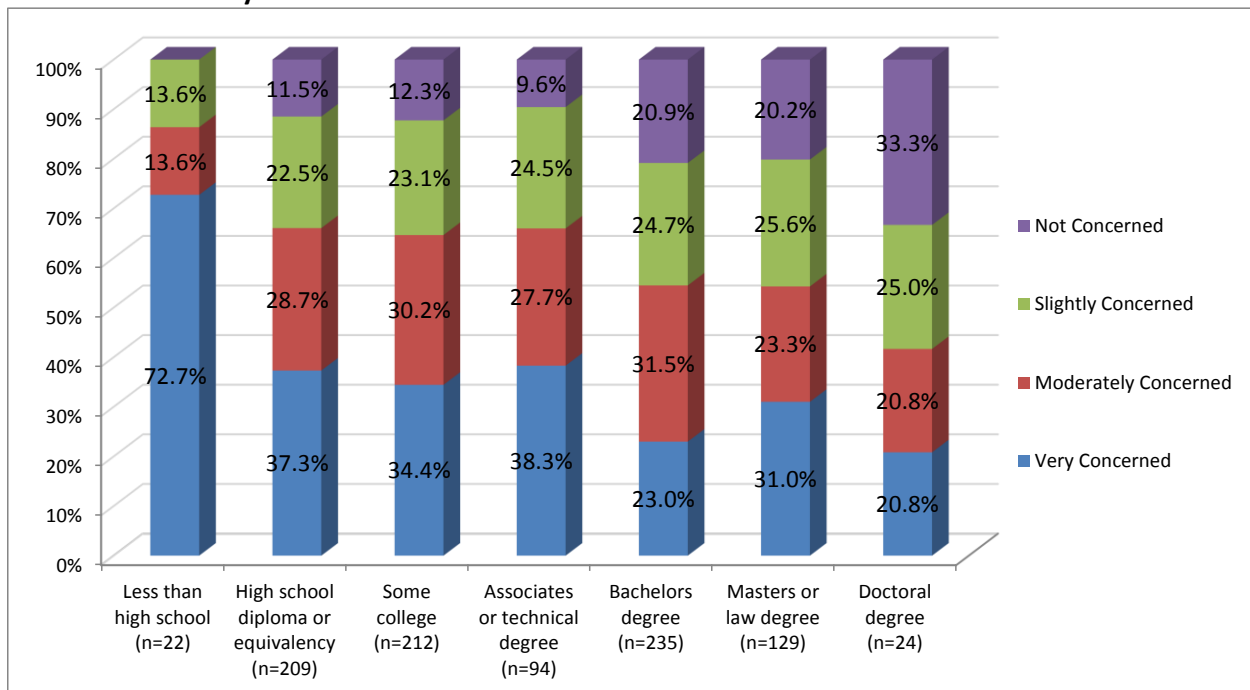


Figure 21: Concerns with the Threat from the Economic Conditions in Kansas to Individuals' or Families' Welfare by Gender

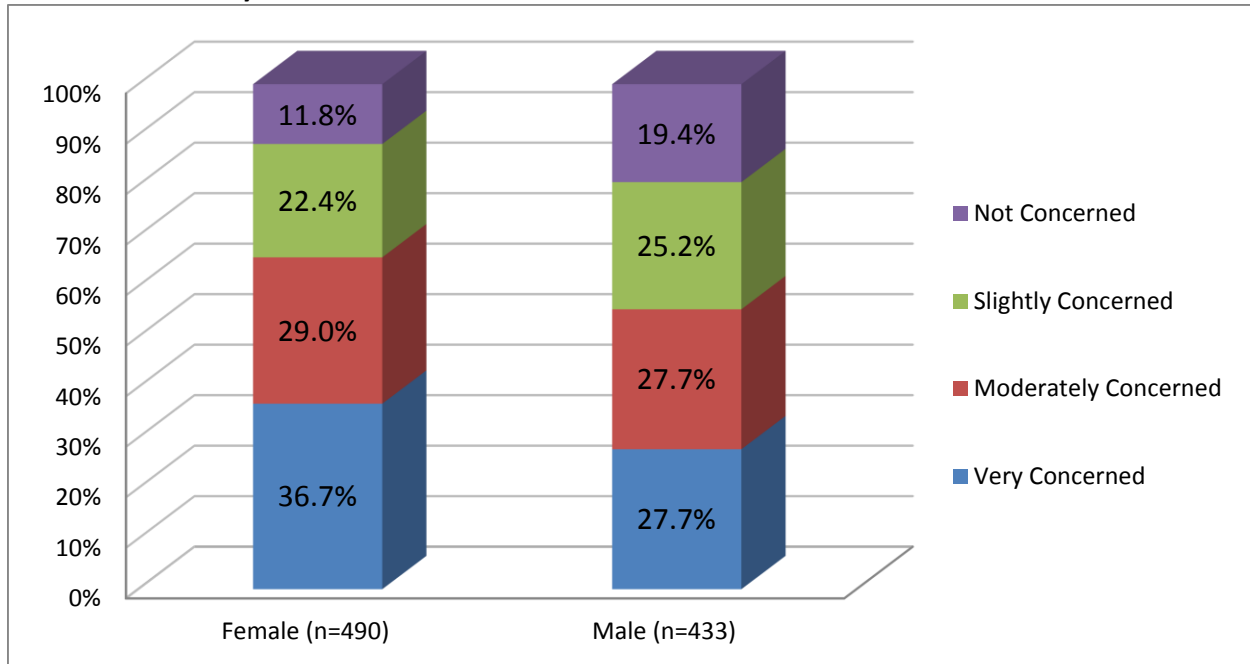
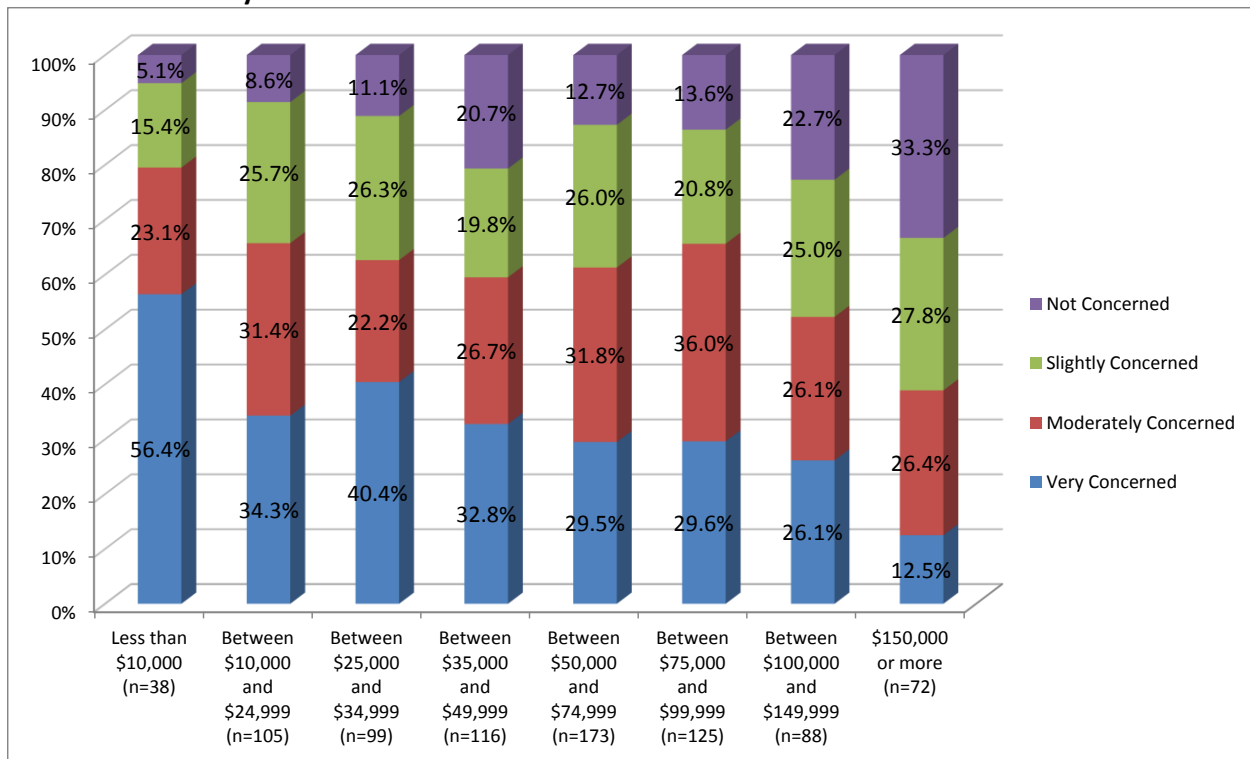


Figure 22: Concerns with the Threat from the Economic Conditions in Kansas to Individuals' or Families' Welfare by Income

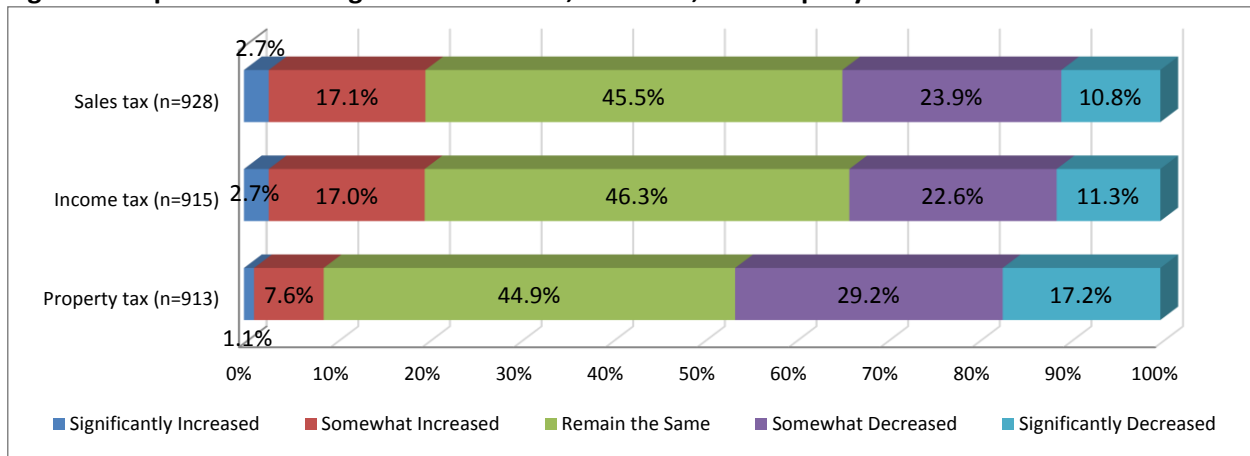


Section 3: Taxes

Kansas has three primary revenue sources: income tax, sales tax, and property tax. Although the most commonly expressed preference was to leave all tax rates at their current levels, almost twenty-percent of respondents thought that income tax and sales tax should be “significantly” or “somewhat increased.” Almost half (46.4%) of respondents thought that property tax should be “somewhat” or “significantly decreased” (Figure 23).

Respondents with different education and party affiliations varied in their opinions on income tax increase. Among those respondents who had some college or more education, the higher the respondent’s education level, the more likely he or she was to support income tax increase (Figure 24). Respondents who were Democrats or leaning Democrat were more likely to say the income tax should be “somewhat” or “significantly increased” than Republican respondents, those leaning Republican, and Independent voters (Figure 25).

Figure 23: Opinions on Changes of Income Tax, Sales Tax, and Property Tax



Question: *Kansas has three primary revenue sources: income tax, sales tax, and property tax. Thinking of the current Kansas economy, do you believe that each of the following taxes should be significantly increased, somewhat increased, remain the same, somewhat decreased, or significantly decreased?*

Figure 24: Opinions on Income Tax Change by Education

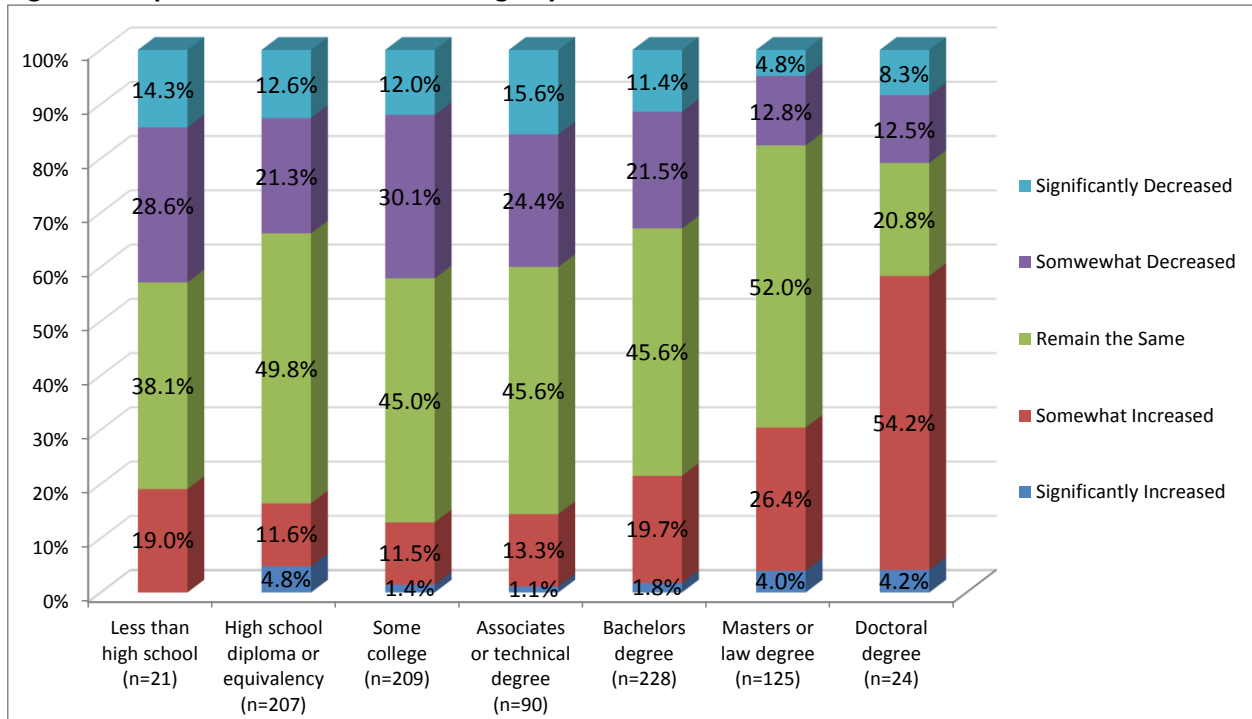
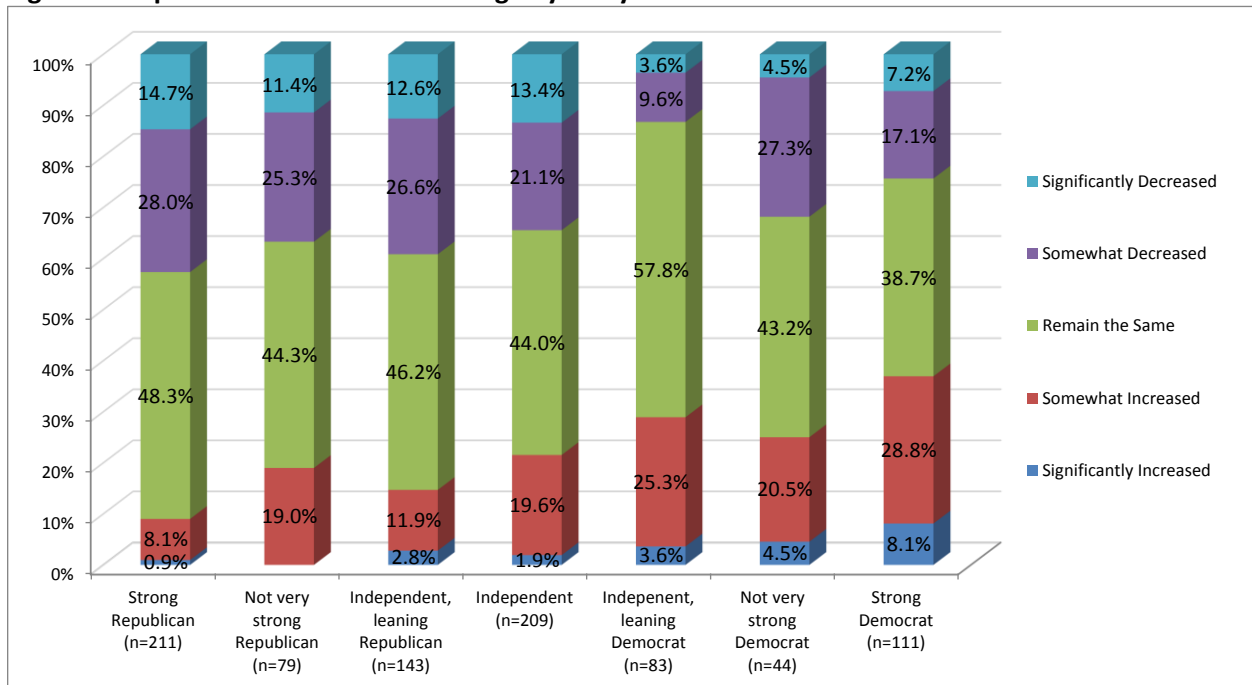


Figure 25: Opinions on Income Tax Change by Party Affiliation



Respondents' opinions on sales tax increase were significantly related to family income and education. In general, respondents with higher family income were more likely to support sales tax to be "somewhat increased" or "significantly increased" (Figure 26). Respondents with a bachelor's degree or higher were more likely to support increased sales tax than those with less education (Figure 27). Same pattern can be found for the support of increased property tax among those with different education. The support level for increased property tax was higher among respondents with a bachelor's or higher degree (Figure 28).

Figure 26: Opinions on Sales Tax Change by Income

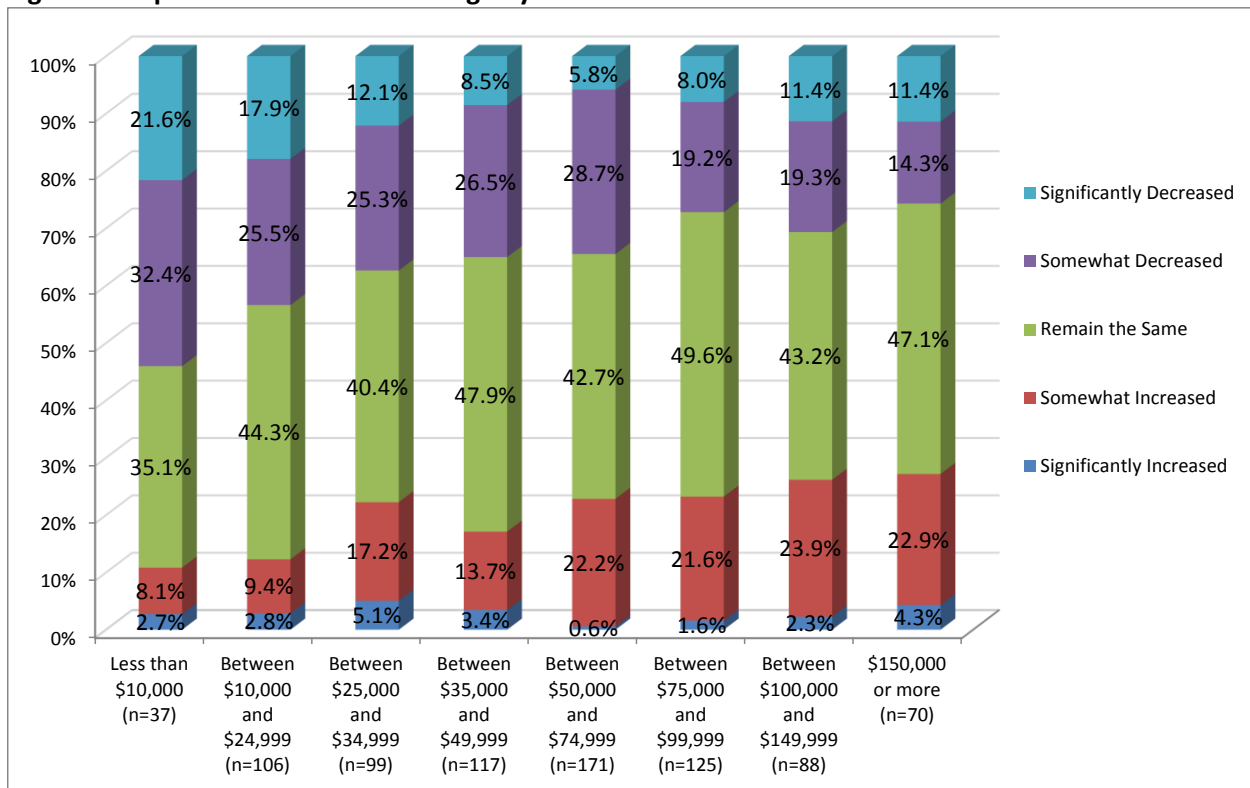


Figure 27: Opinions on Sales Tax Change by Education

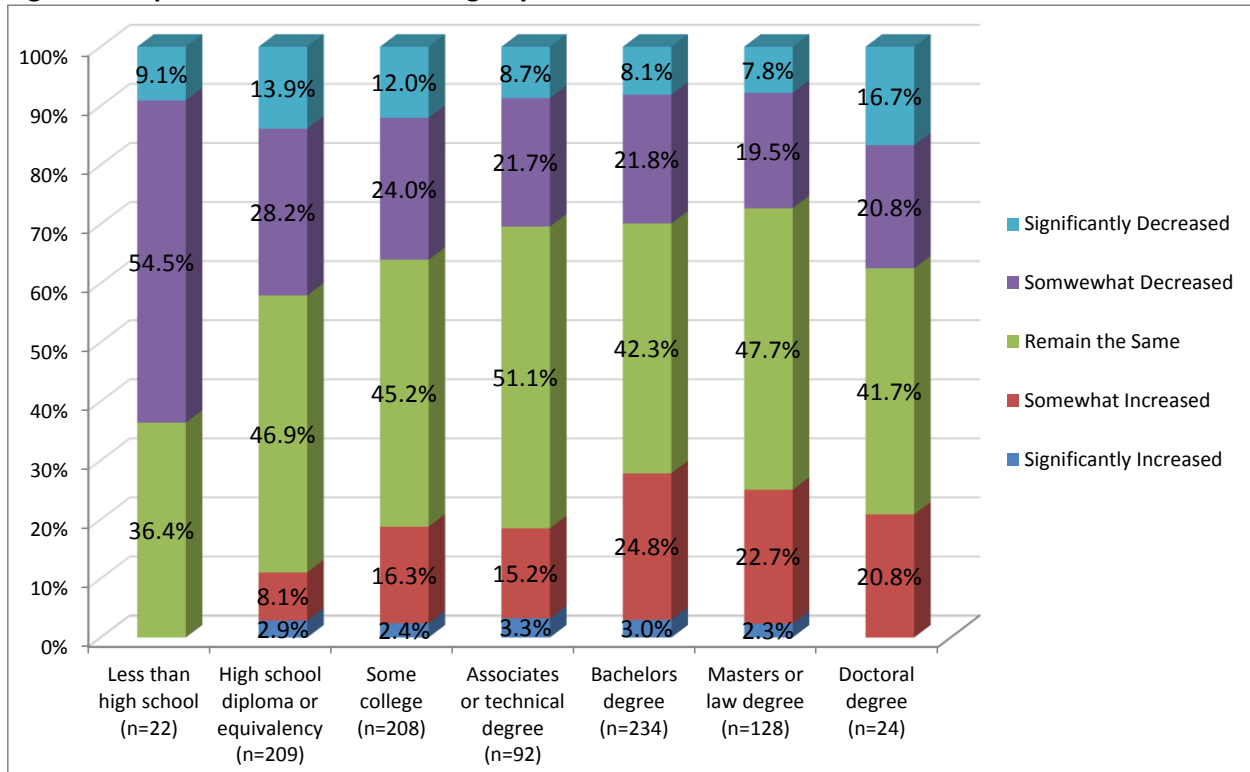
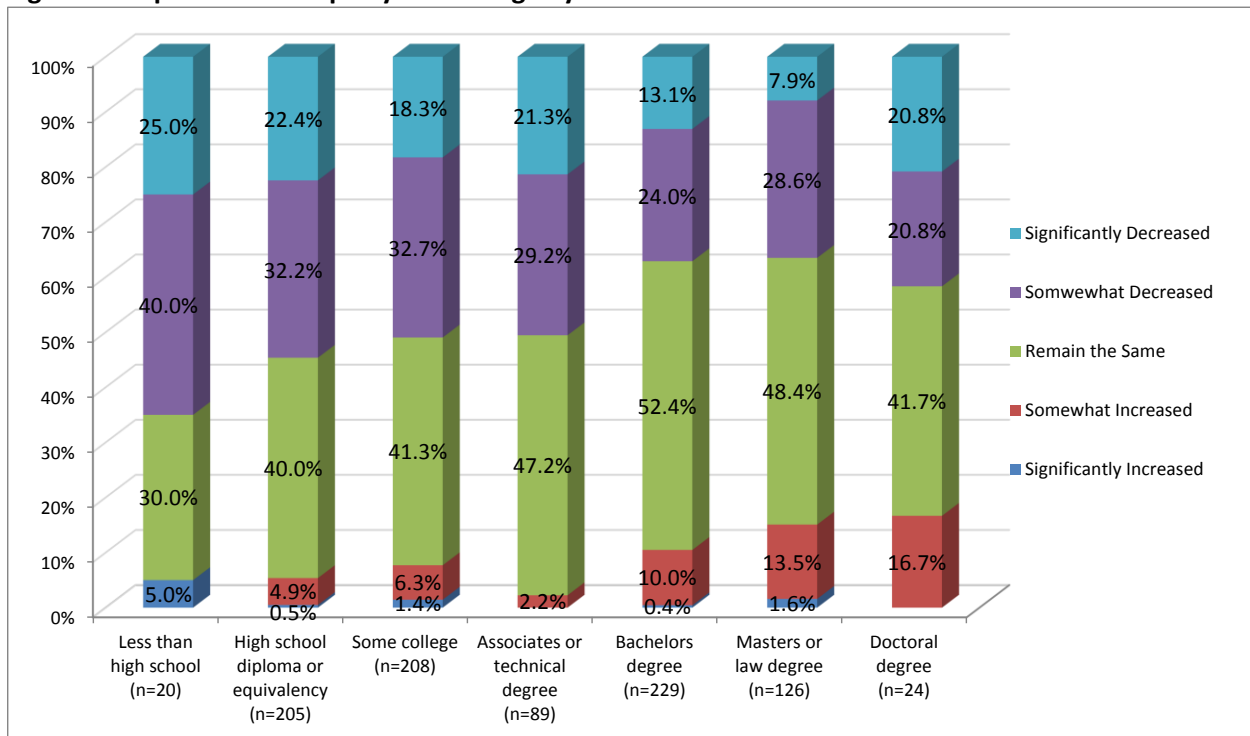
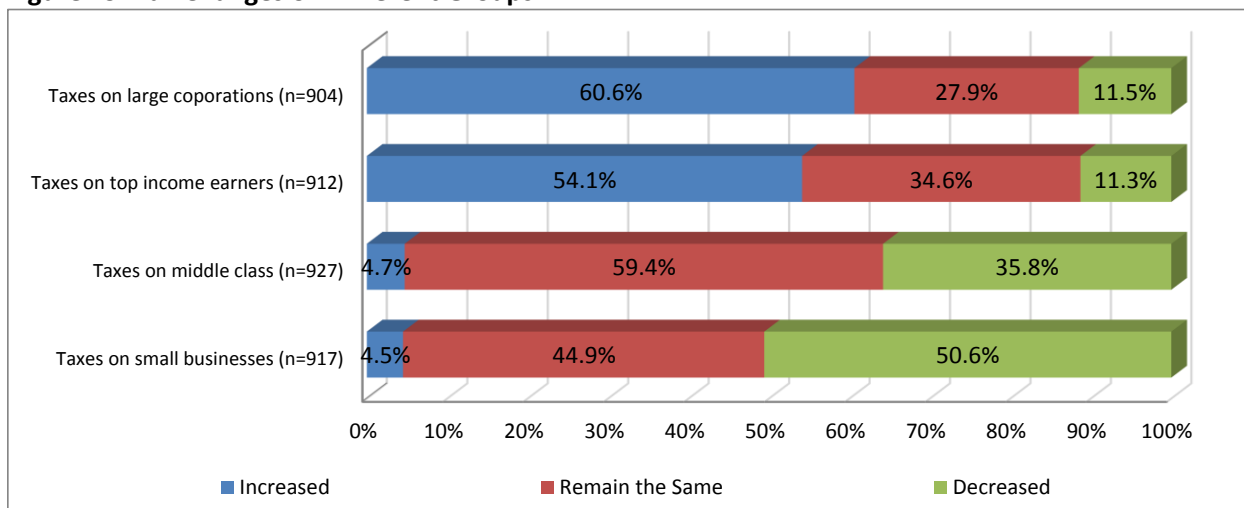


Figure 28: Opinions on Property Tax Change by Education



Tax increases and reductions can be targeted at different types of people or businesses. About half (50.6%) of respondents thought taxes on small businesses should be decreased. In contrast, 60.6% of respondents believed that taxes on large corporations should be increased. Only 4.7% of respondents thought that taxes on the middle class should be increased, while 54.1% said taxes on the top income earners should be increased (Figure 29).

Figure 29: Tax Changes on Different Groups



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

Respondents with different education and family income levels differed in their opinions of tax changes on the middle class. In general, respondents with higher education or higher income were less likely to support decreased taxes on the middle class (Figures 30 and 31).

Respondent's opinion of tax change on large corporations was significantly related with age, gender and party affiliation. In general, the younger and female respondents were more likely to support increased taxes on large corporations (Figures 32 and 33). Respondents who were Democrats, leaning Democrat, and Independent were more likely to support increased taxes for large corporations than those who were Republican or leaning Republican (Figure 34).

Figure 30: Tax Change on Middle Class by Education

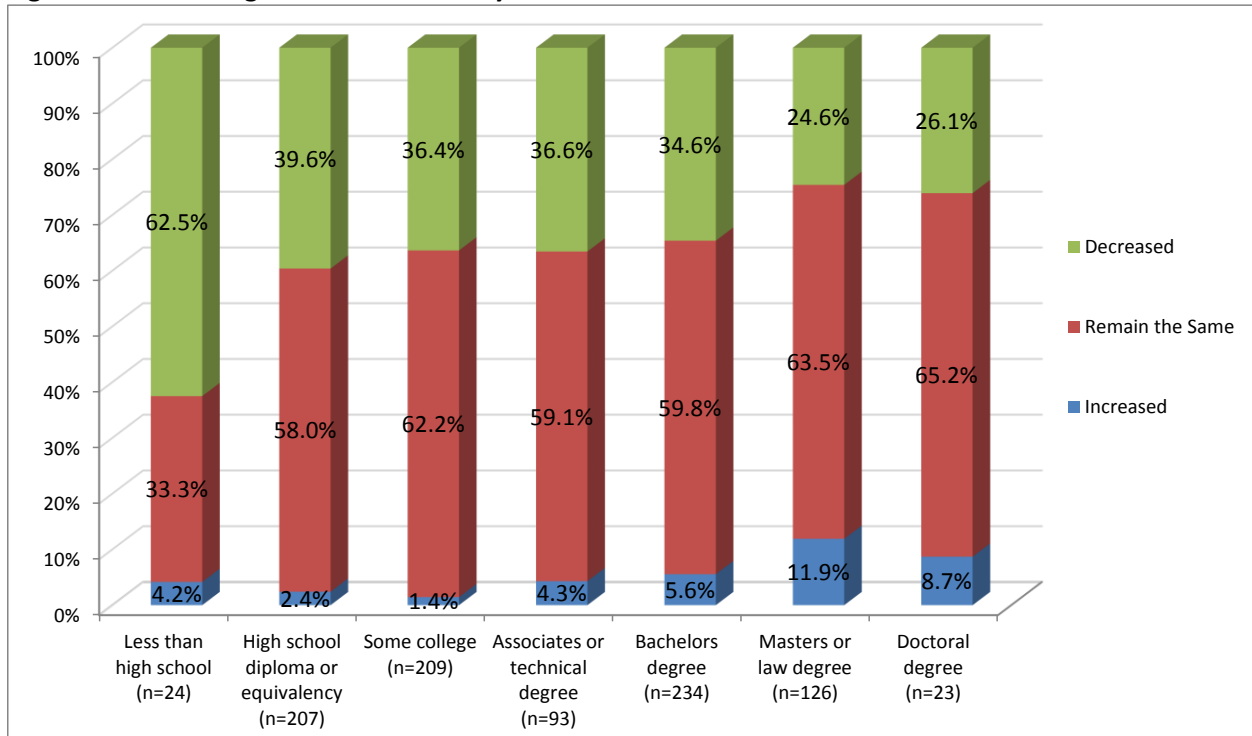


Figure 31: Tax Change on Middle Class by Income

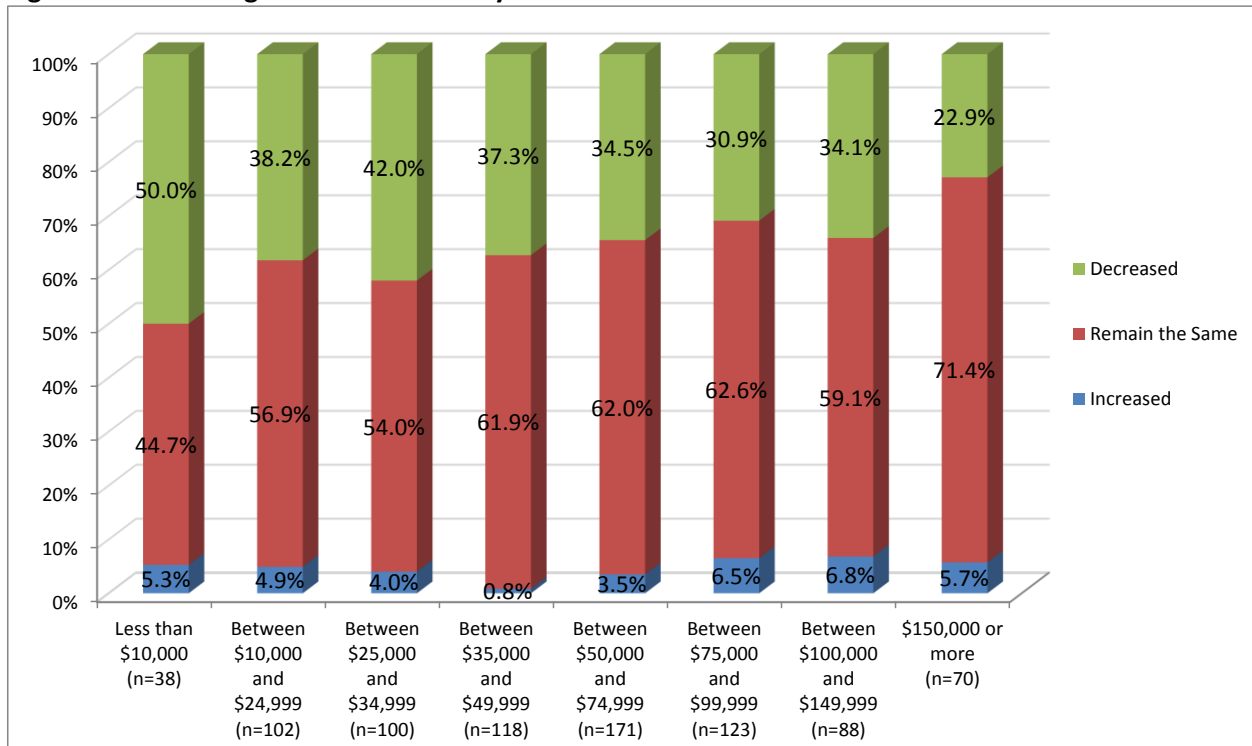


Figure 32: Tax Change on Large Corporation by Age

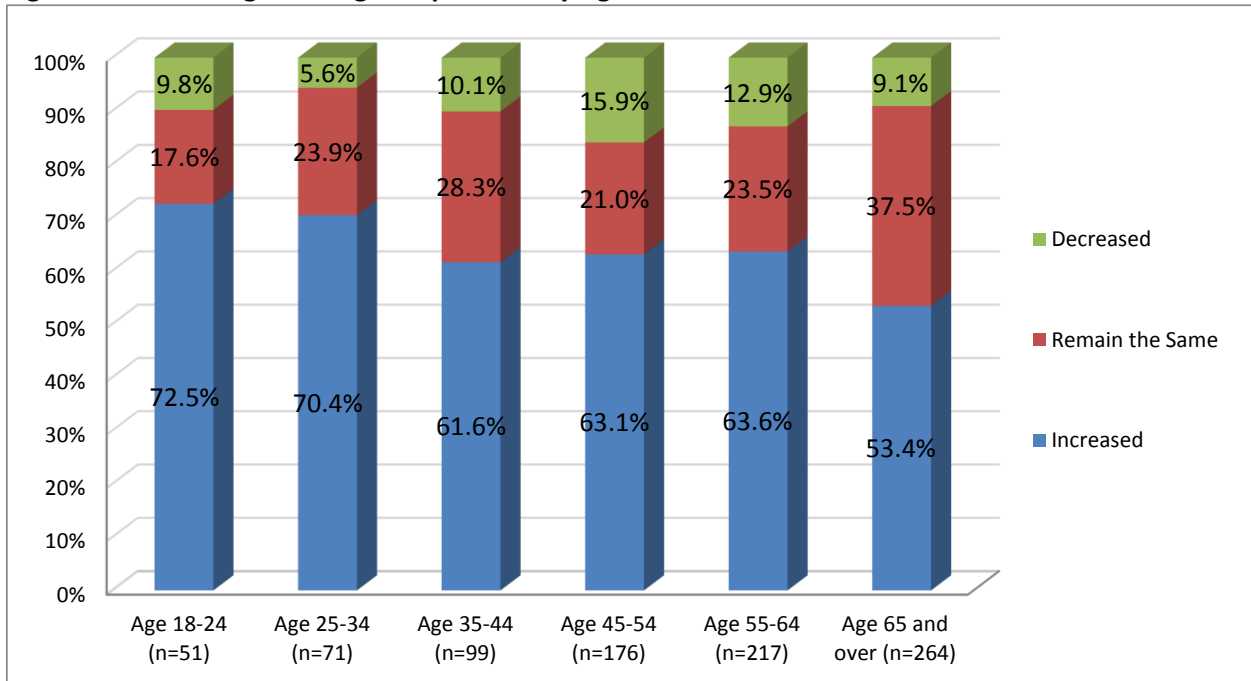


Figure 33: Tax Change on Large Corporation by Gender

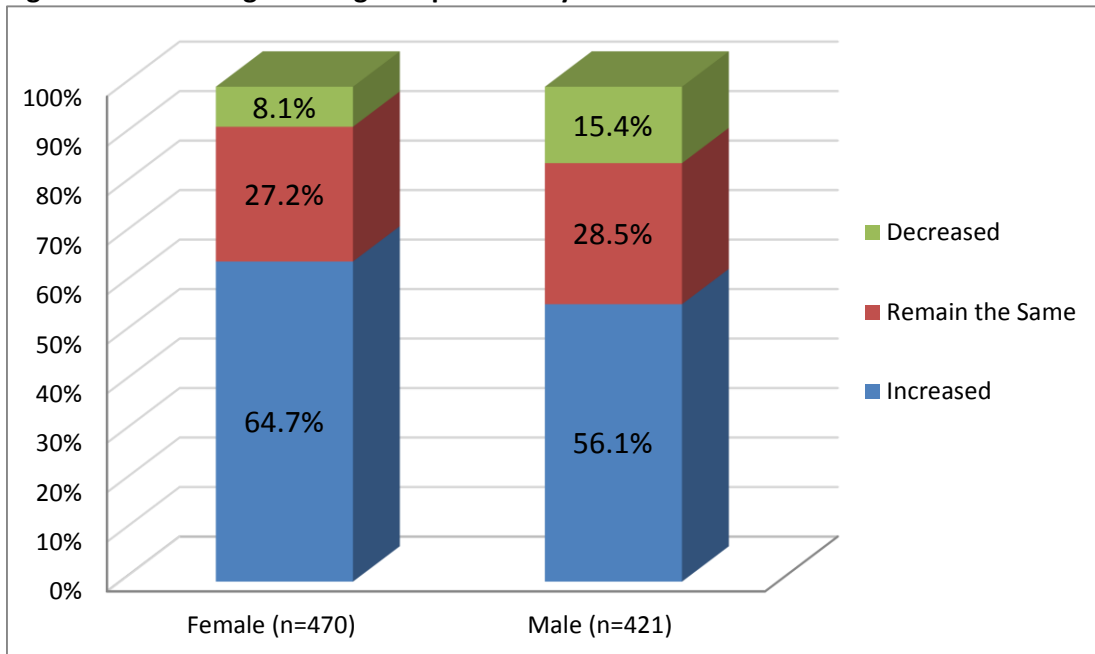
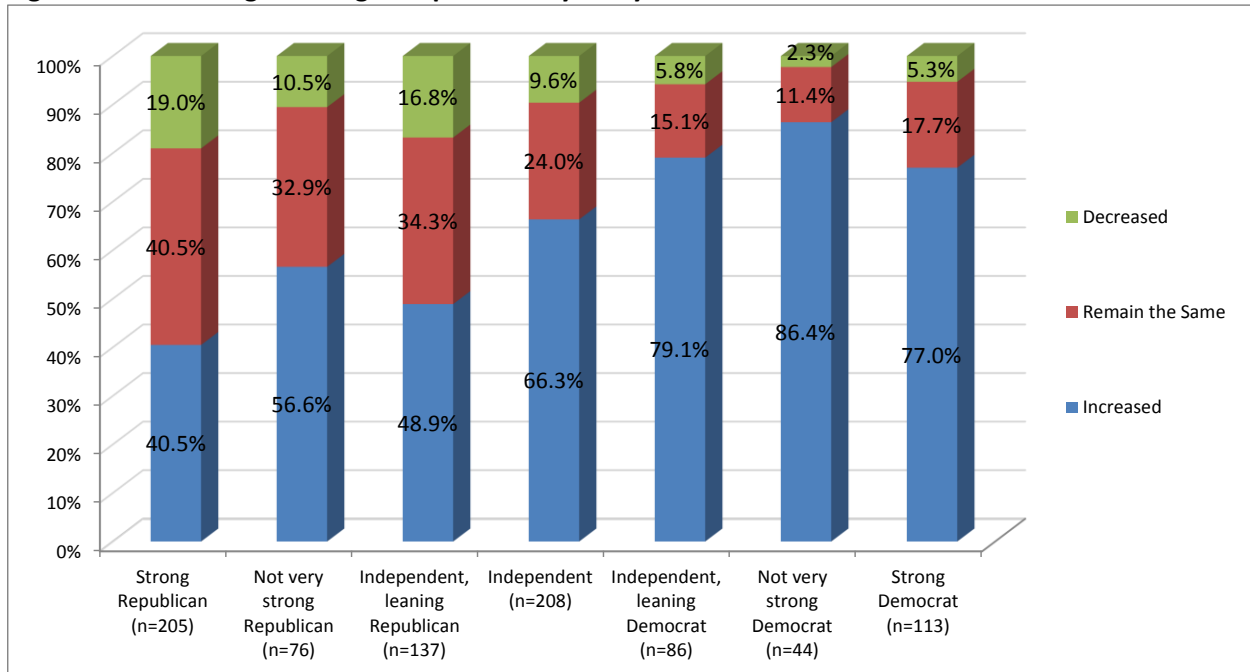


Figure 34: Tax Change on Large Corporation by Party Affiliation



Respondents with different gender, education and party affiliations varied in their opinions of tax changes on top income earners. The female, upper-educated, and Democratic respondents were more likely to favor increased taxes on top income earners (Figures 35, 36 and 37). Respondent's opinion of tax change on small businesses varied with education and party affiliation. The upper-educated and Democratic respondents were more likely to favor increased taxes on small businesses (Figures 38 and 39).

Figure 35: Tax Change on Top Income Earners by Gender

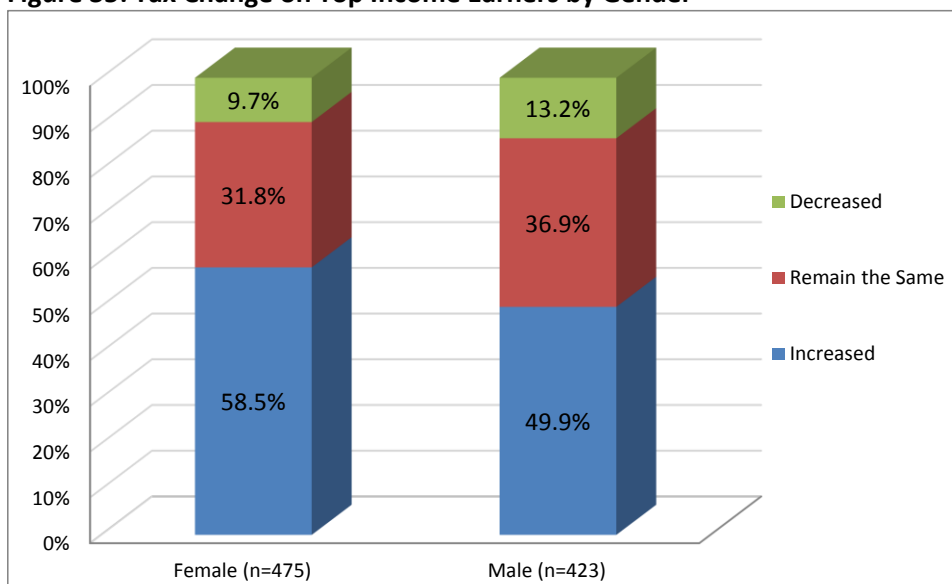


Figure 36: Tax Change on Top Income Earners by Education

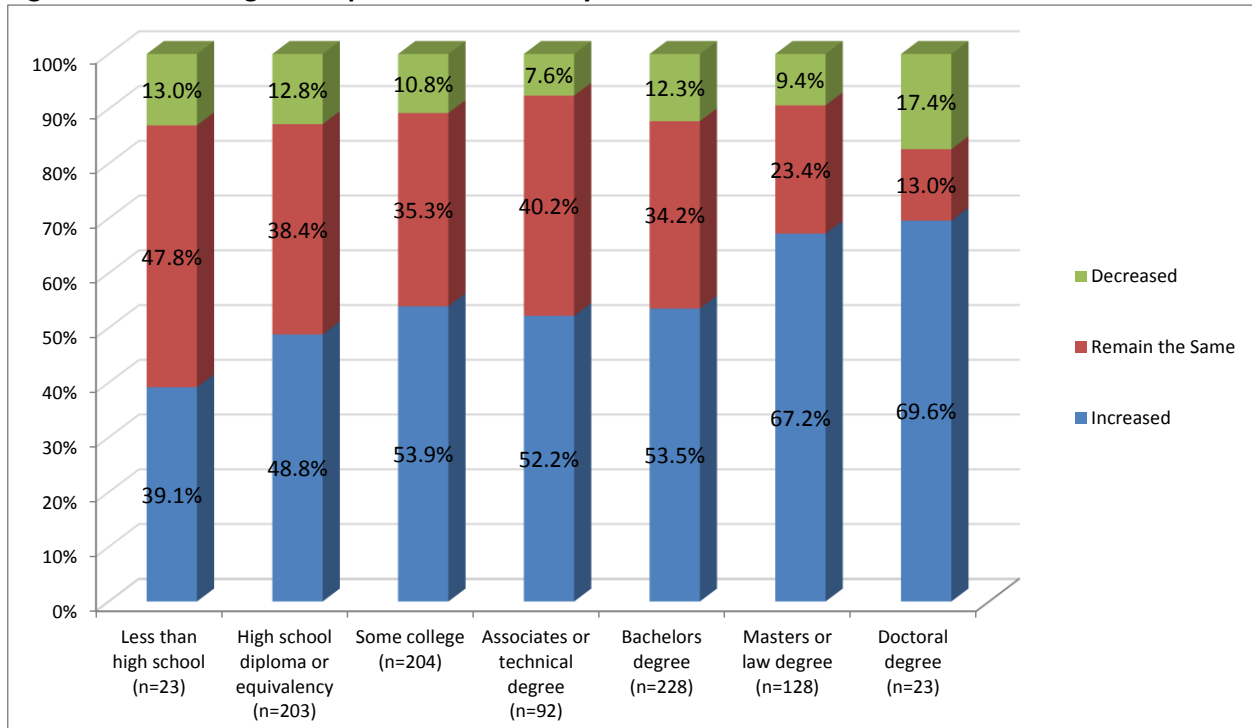


Figure 37: Tax Change on Top Income Earners by Party Affiliation

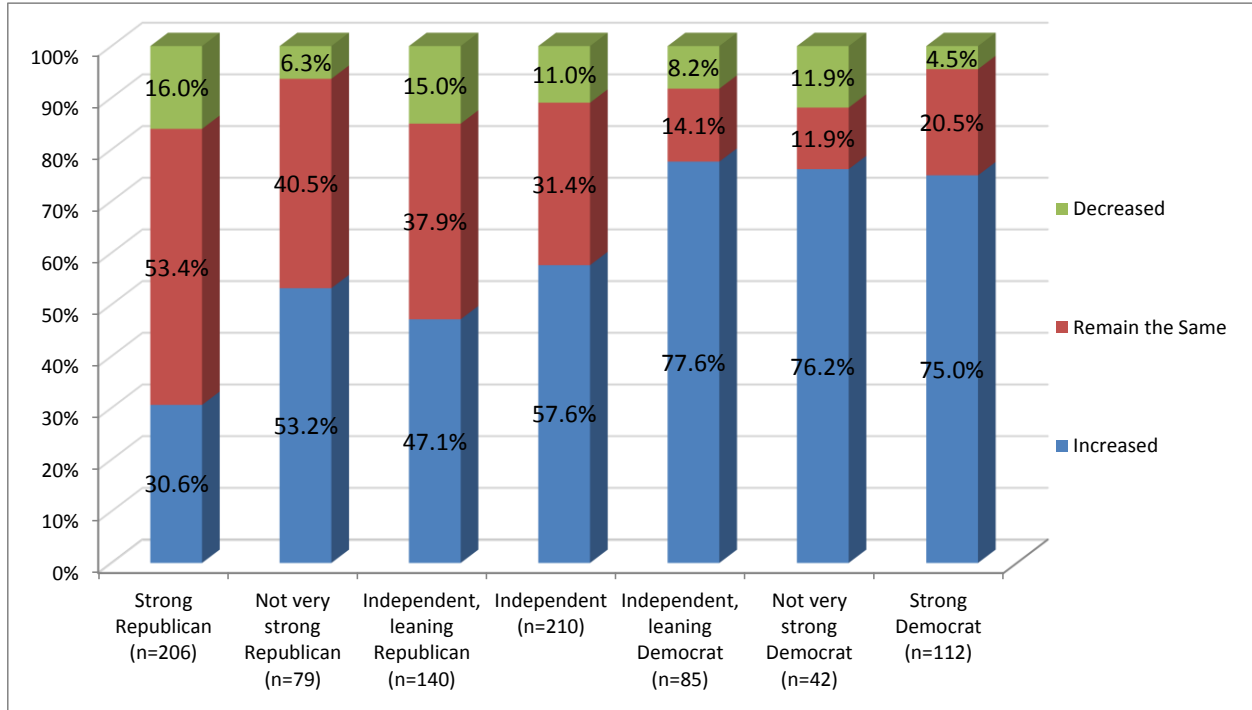


Figure 38: Tax Change on Small Businesses by Education

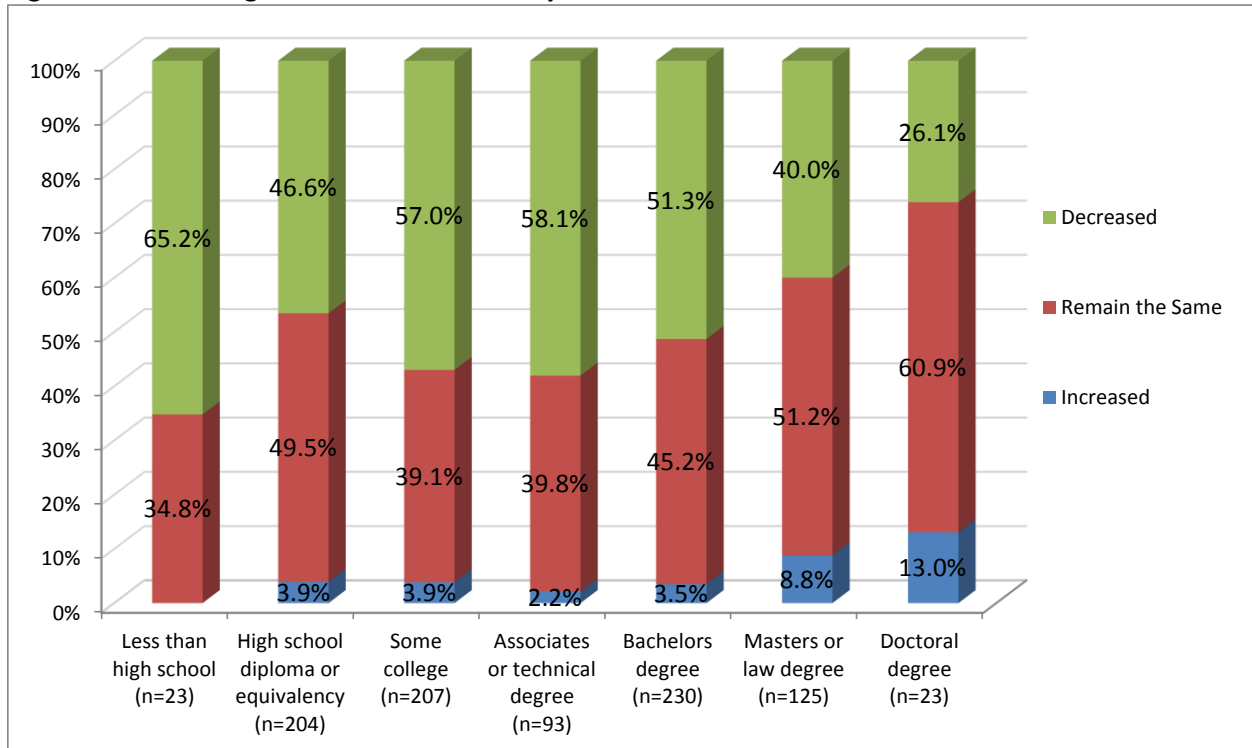
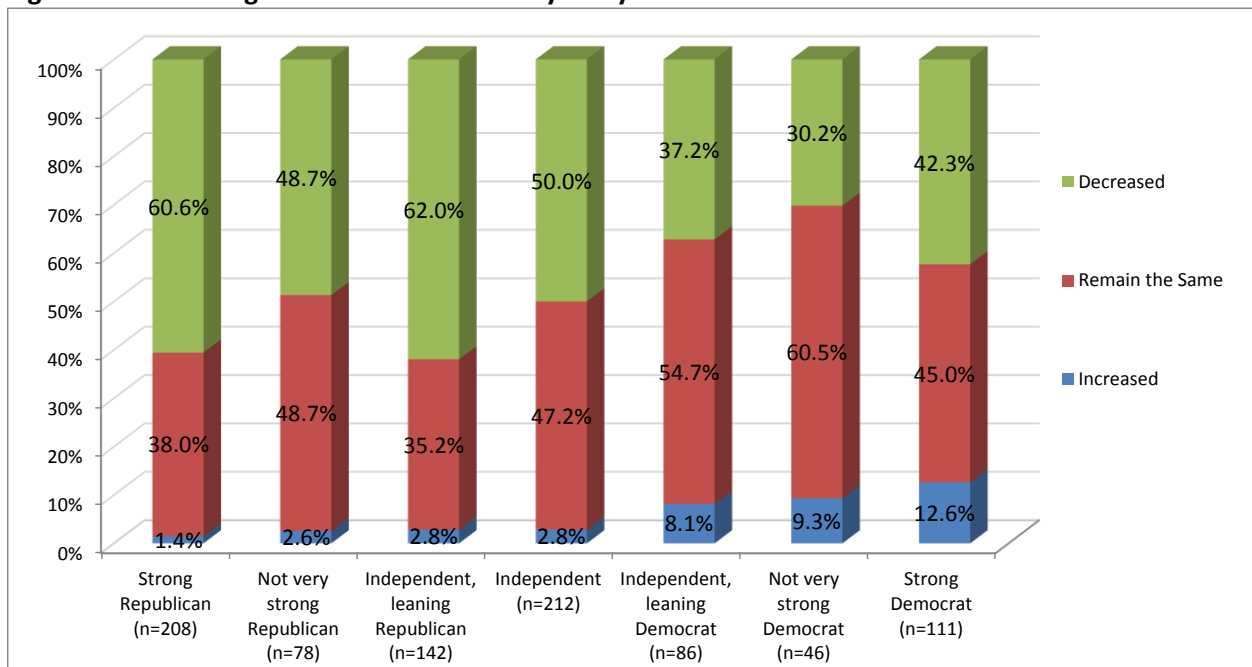


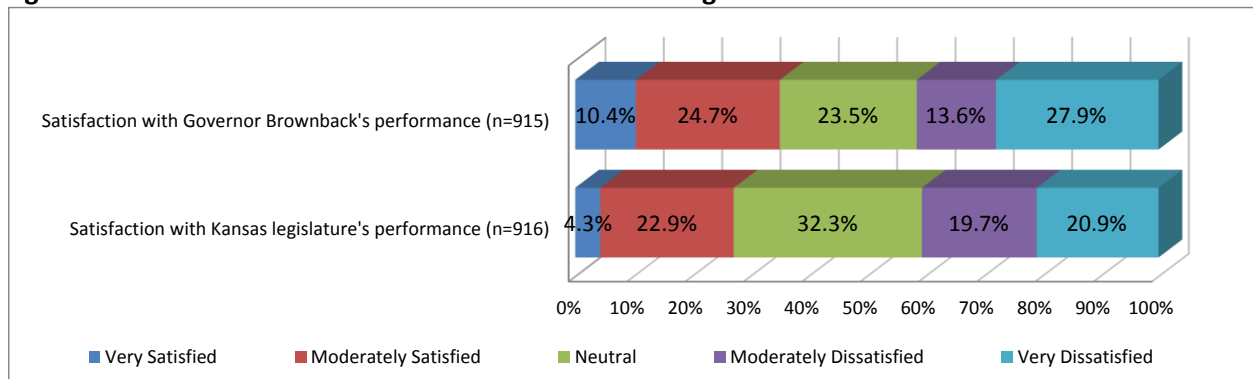
Figure 39: Tax Change on Small Businesses by Party Affiliation



Section 4: State Government and Politicians

When asked to evaluate the performance of the Kansas Legislature, 4.3% of respondents were “very satisfied,” 22.9% were “moderately satisfied,” and 40.6% were “very” or “moderately dissatisfied.” More than one-third (35.1%) of respondents were “very” or “moderately satisfied” with the performance of Governor Brownback (Figure 40). Respondent’s satisfaction with the Kansas Legislature was significantly related to age, party affiliation, and voting behavior. The ratings of the Kansas Legislature tended to be lower among the older and Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012 (Figures 41, 41 and 43).

Figure 40: Satisfaction with Performance of the Kansas Legislature and Governor



Question: How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the Kansas Legislature and Governor Brownback?

Figure 41: Satisfaction with Performance of the Kansas Legislature by Age

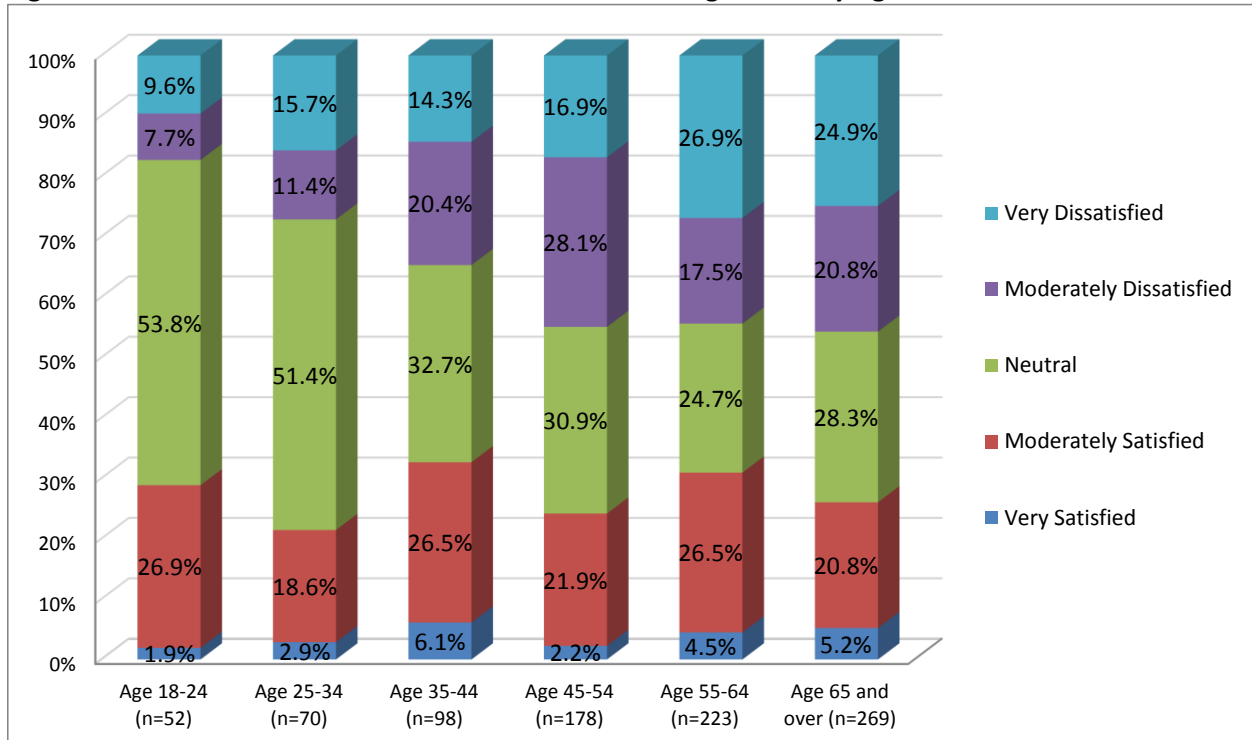


Figure 42: Satisfaction with Performance of the Kansas Legislature by Party Affiliation

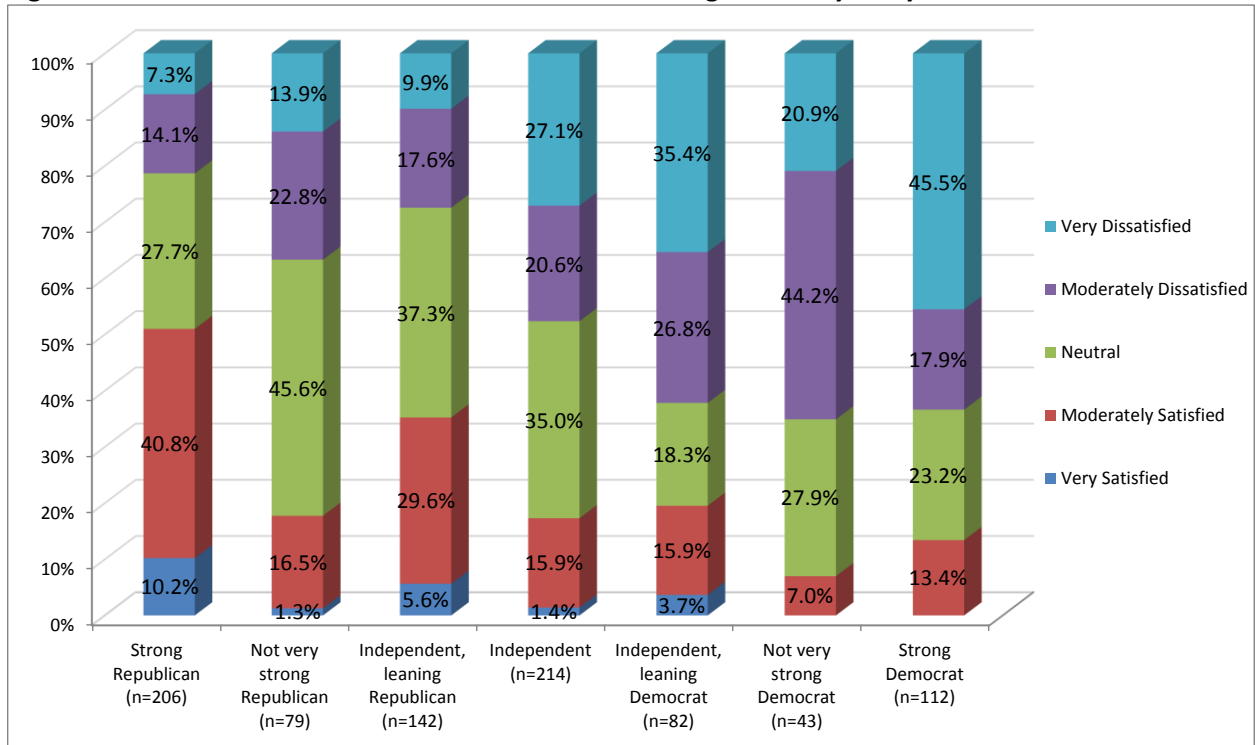
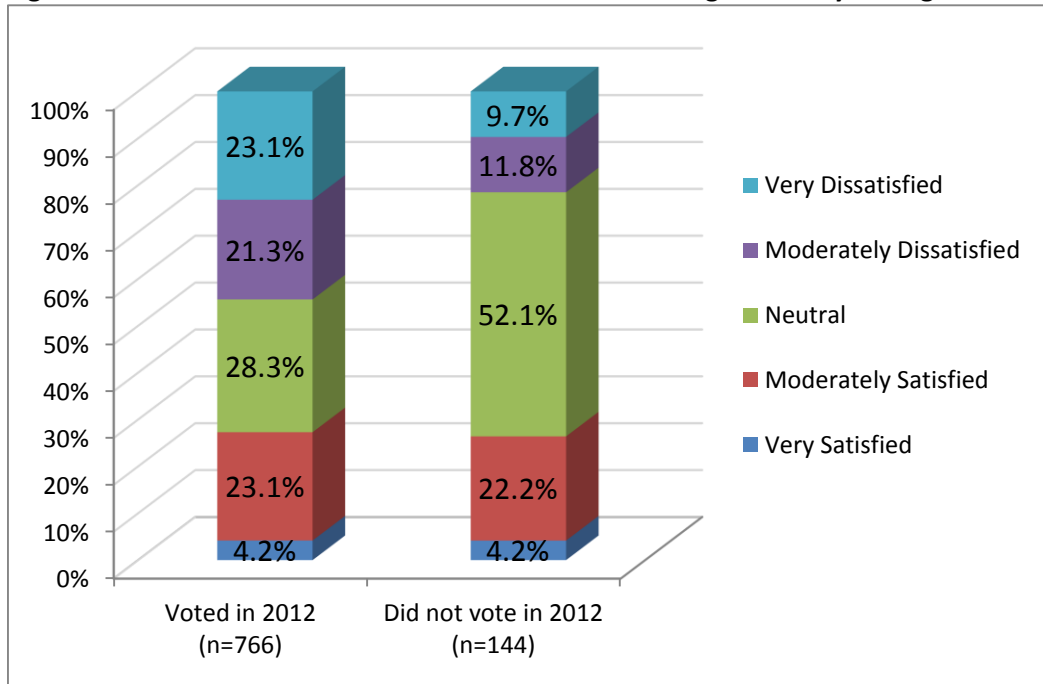


Figure 43: Satisfaction with Performance of the Kansas Legislature by Voting Behavior



Respondent’s satisfaction with Governor Brownback was associated with the education, party affiliation, and voting behavior variables. Respondents with higher education were more likely to be “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with Governor Brownback (Figure 44). Republican respondents and Independent voters were more likely to be “very” or “moderately satisfied” with Governor Brownback than Democratic respondents and those leaning Democrat (Figure 45). More than forty percent (45.5%) of respondents who voted in 2012 felt “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with Governor Brownback, 26.3% higher than those who did not vote (Figure 46).

Figure 44: Satisfaction with Performance of Governor Brownback by Education

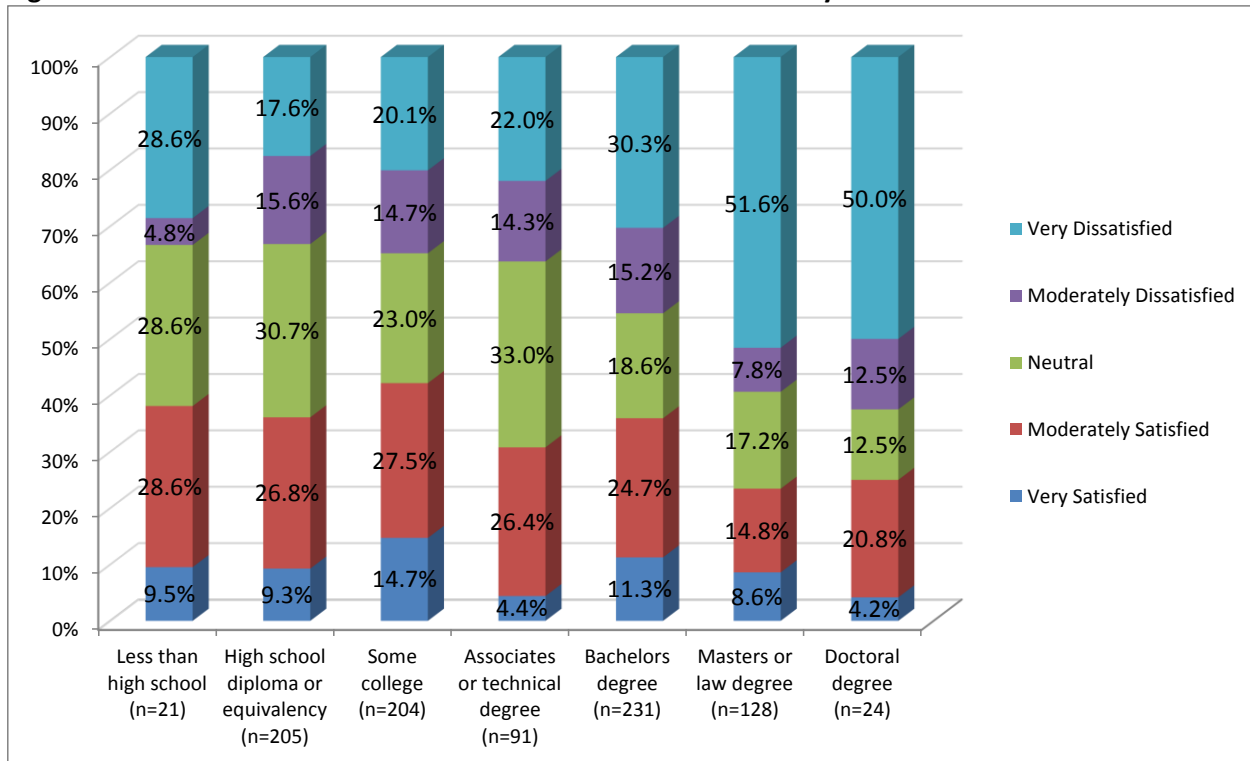


Figure 45: Satisfaction with Performance of Governor Brownback by Party Affiliation

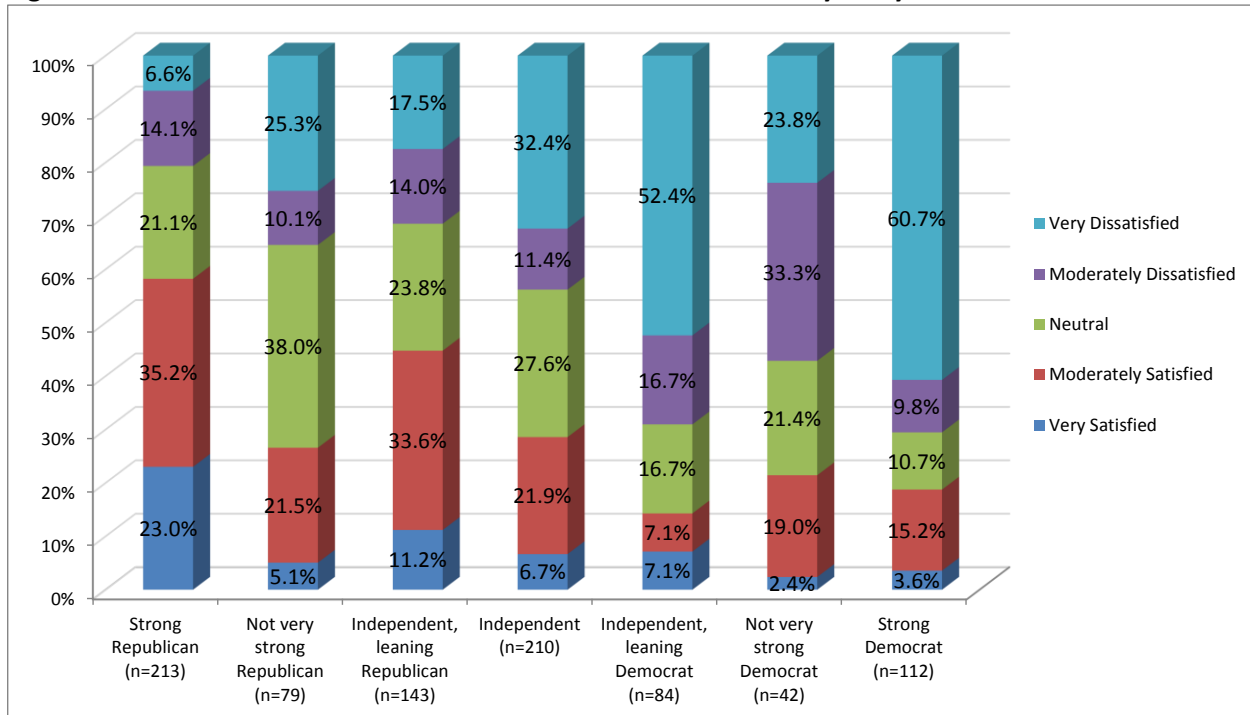
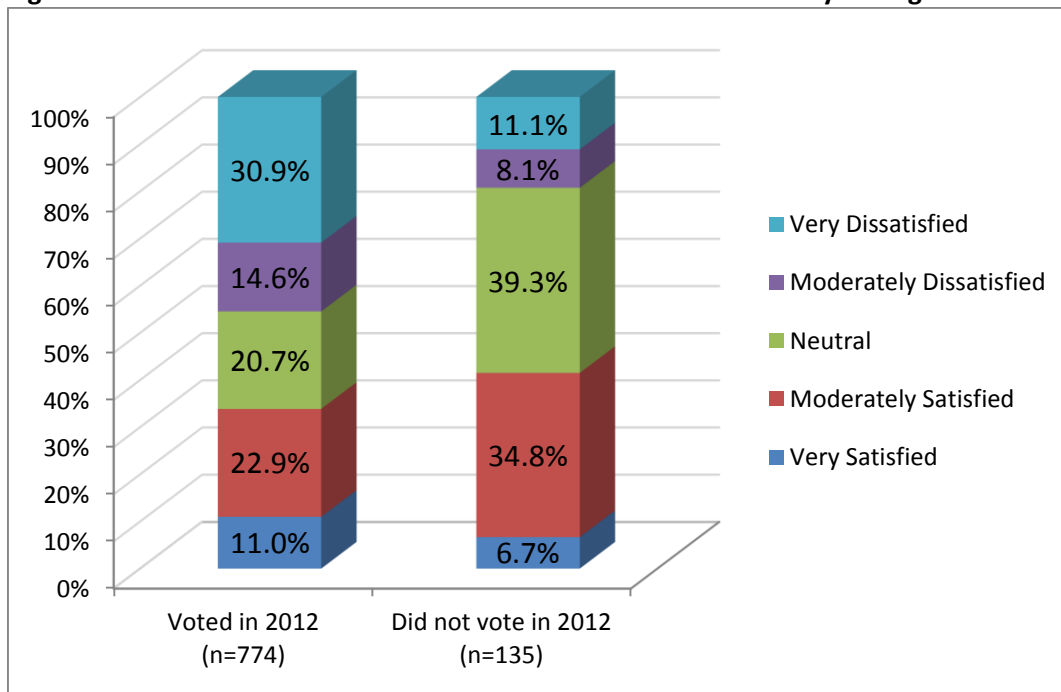


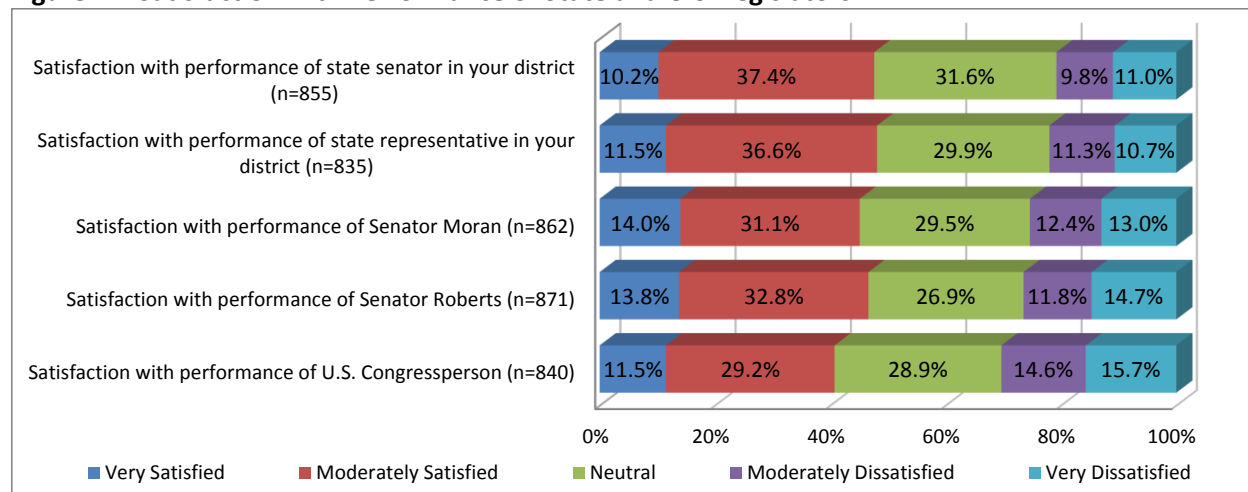
Figure 46: Satisfaction with Performance of Governor Brownback by Voting Behavior



When asked about satisfaction with the overall performance of their state and U.S. legislators, respondents tended to have slightly higher levels of satisfaction with the performance of state legislators than that of U.S. senators and Congresspersons. A little more than twenty percent of respondents were “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with state senators and representatives in their

districts. More than one-fourth of respondents expressed dissatisfaction with Senators Moran and Roberts. About thirty percent (30.3%) were “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with the performance of their U.S. Congresspersons (Figure 47).

Figure 47: Satisfaction with Performance of State and U.S. Legislators



Question: *How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the state senator in your district, the state representative in your district, U.S. Senator Moran, U.S. Senator Roberts, and U.S. Congressperson?*

In general, older respondents and those who voted in 2012 were more likely to express satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the performance of their state senators, while younger respondents and those who did not vote in 2012 were more likely to stay neutral (Figures 48 and 50). Republican respondents were less likely to be “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with the performance of their state senators than Independent voters and Democratic respondents (Figure 49).

Respondents who were Democrats, leaning Democratic and Independent were more likely to be “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” with the performance of their state representatives than those who were Republican or leaning Republican (Figure 51). Those respondents who voted in 2012 were more likely to express satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the performance of their state representatives, while those who did not vote in 2012 were more likely to stay neutral (Figure 52).

Regarding respondent’s satisfaction with U.S. Senators Moran and Roberts, in general, upper-educated, Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012 were more likely to be “very” or “moderately dissatisfied” (Figures 53, 54, 55, 56, 57 and 58). The satisfaction level with U.S. Congressperson was also lower among upper-educated, Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012 (Figures 59, 60, and 61).

Figure 48: Satisfaction with Performance of State Senator by Age

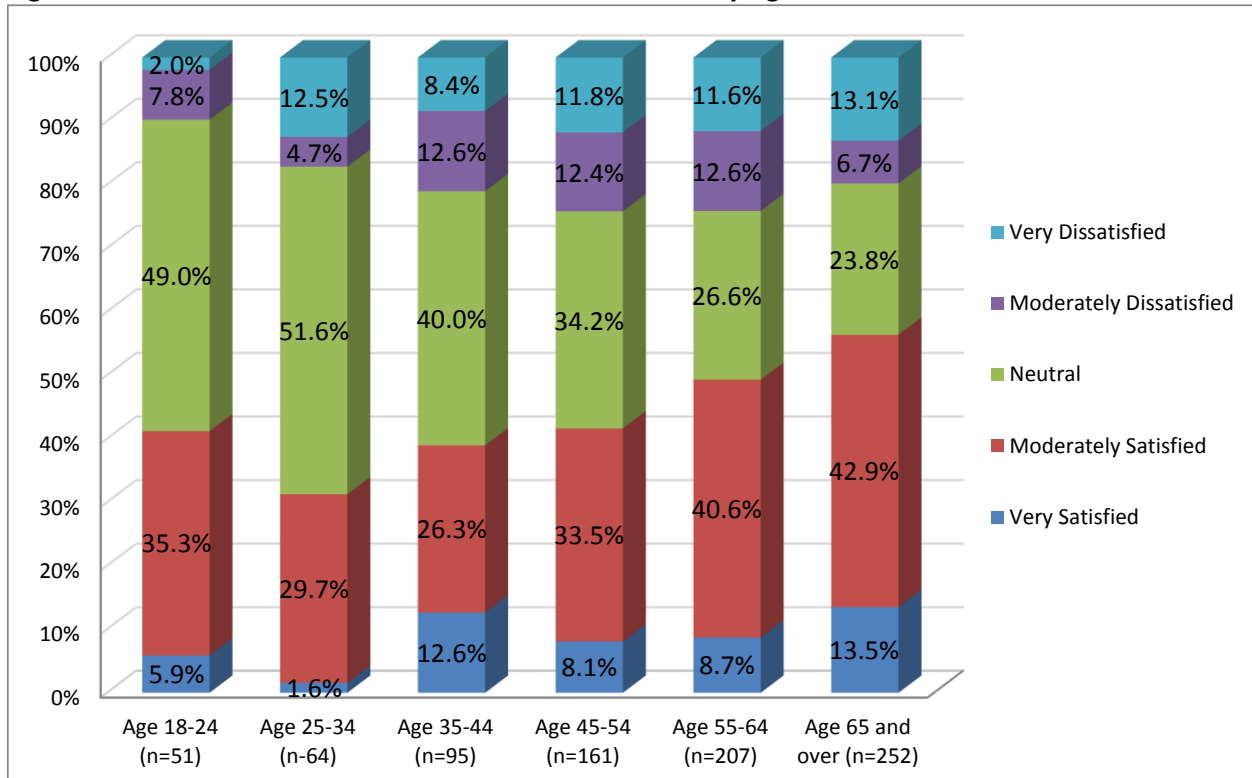


Figure 49: Satisfaction with Performance of State Senator by Party Affiliation

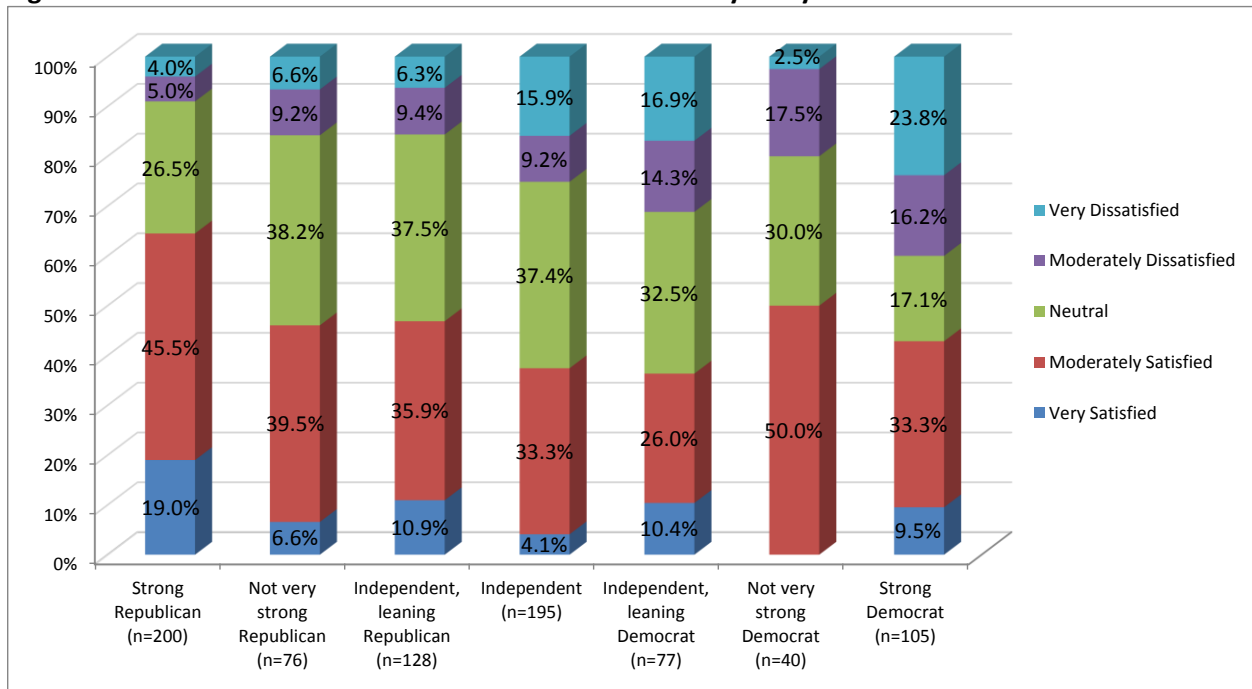


Figure 50: Satisfaction with Performance of State Senator by Voting Behavior

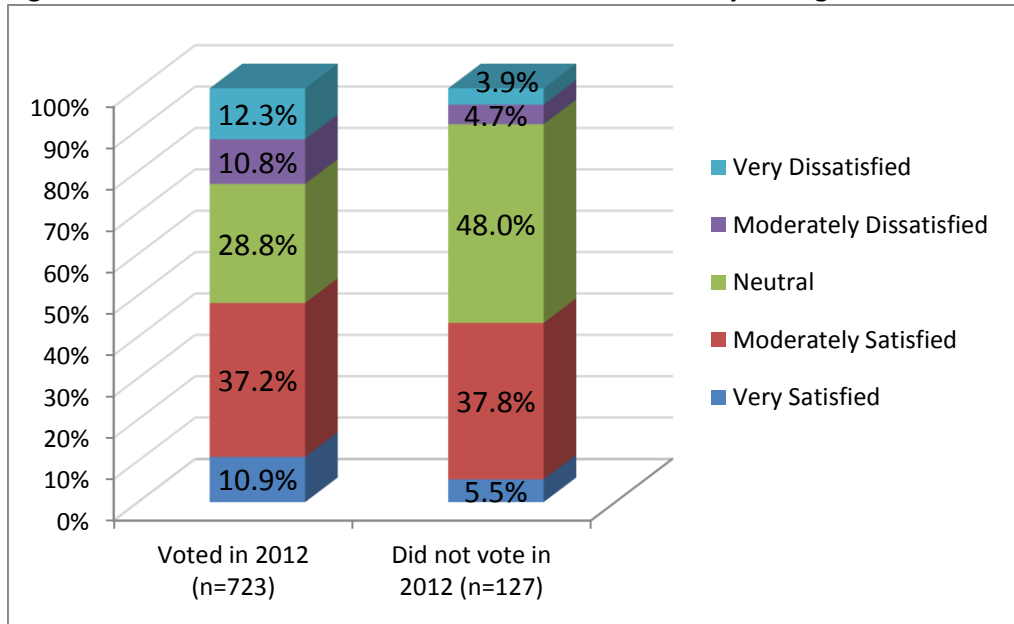


Figure 51: Satisfaction with Performance of State Representative by Party Affiliation

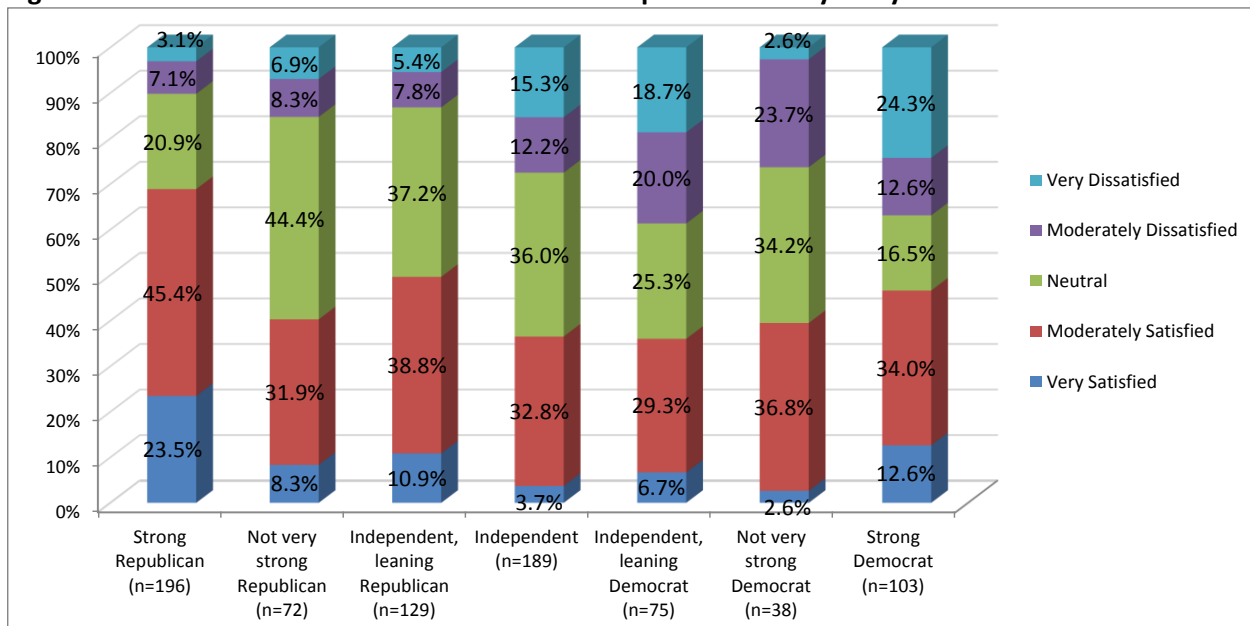


Figure 52: Satisfaction with Performance of State Representative by Voting Behavior

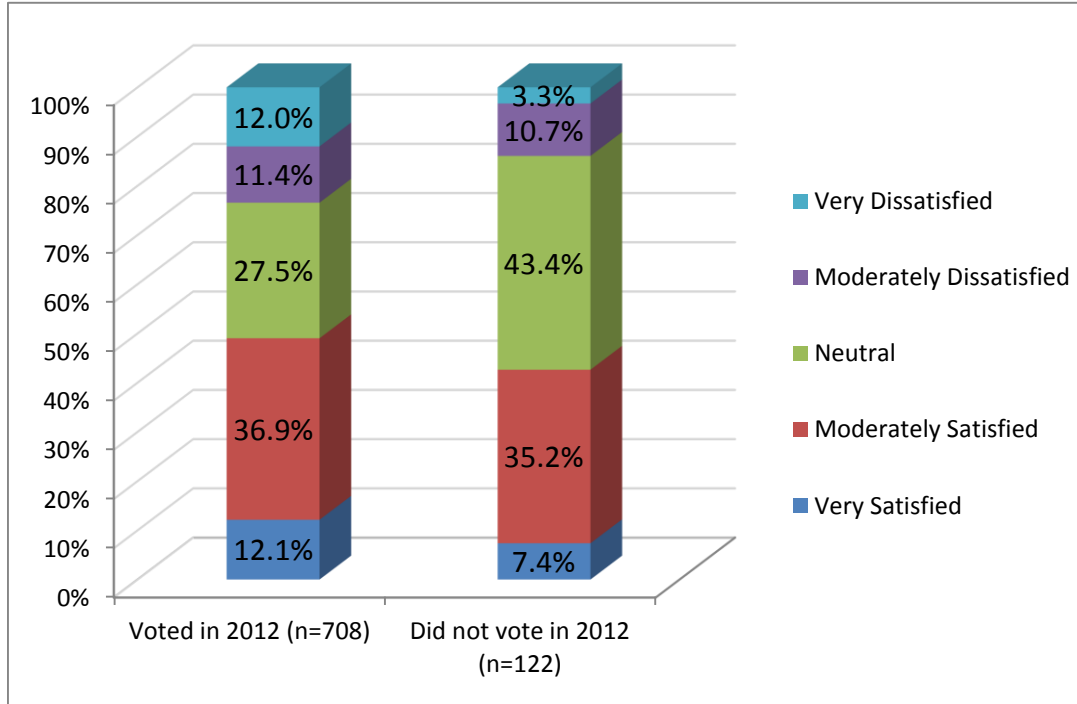


Figure 53: Satisfaction with Performance of U.S. Senator Moran by Education

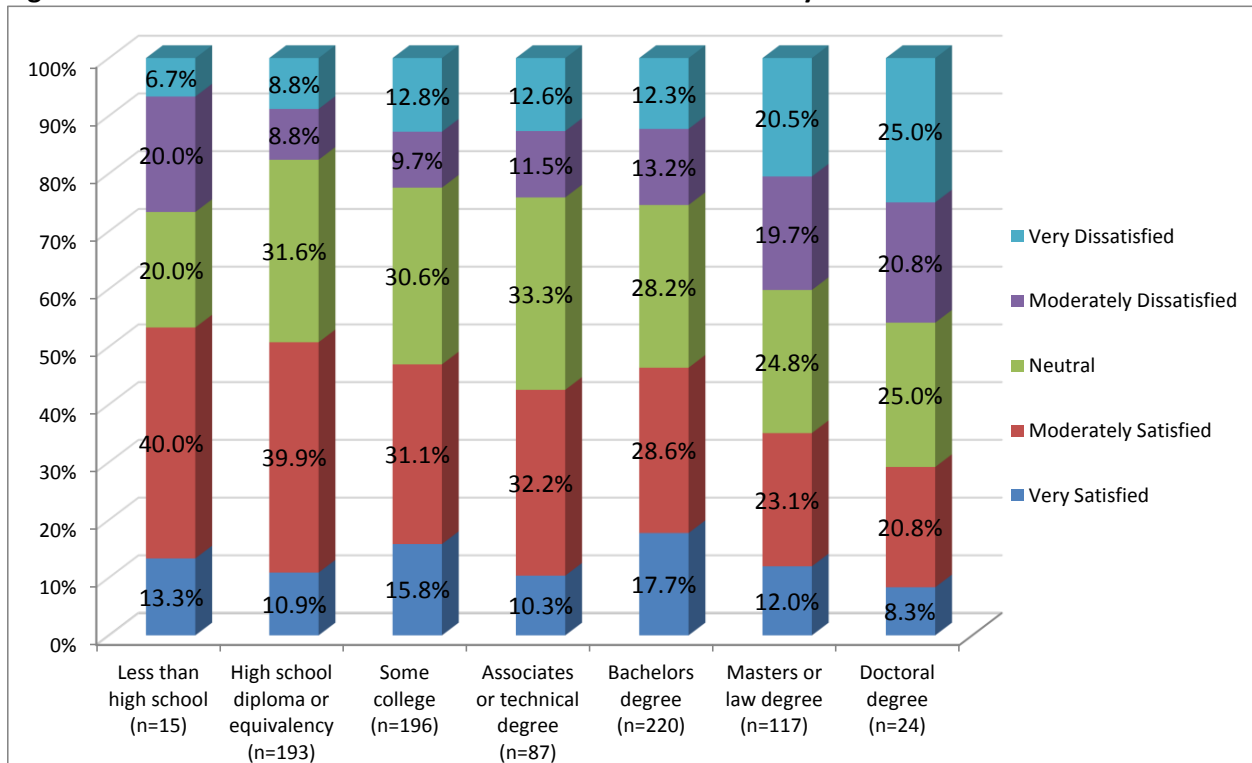


Figure 54: Satisfaction with Performance of U.S. Senator Moran by Party Affiliation

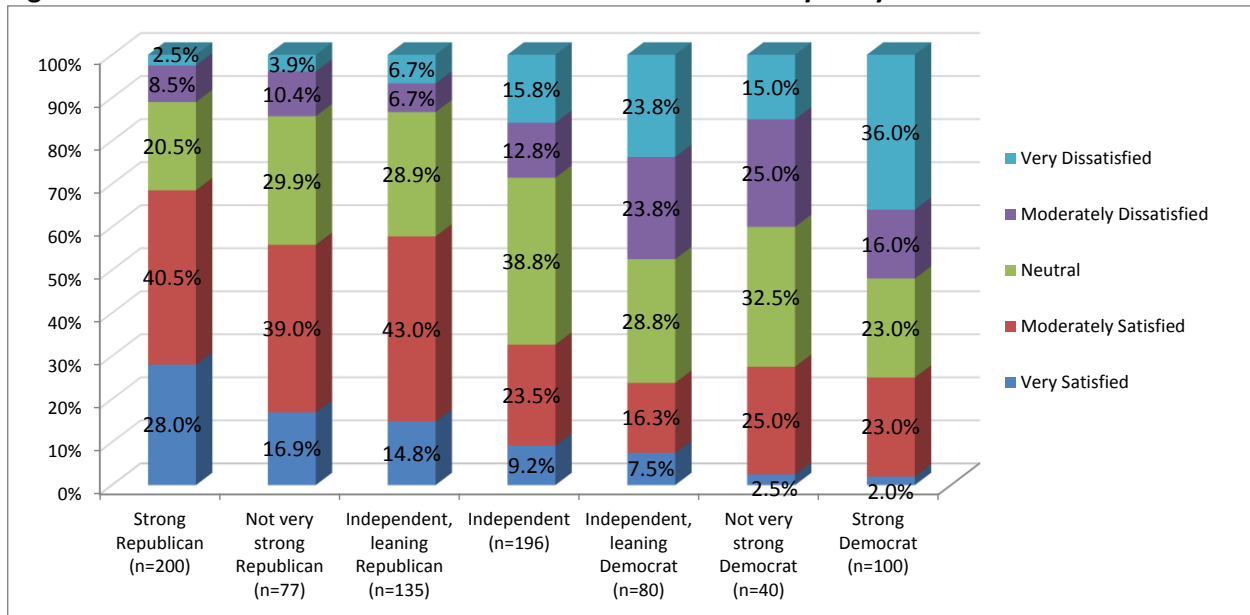


Figure 55: Satisfaction with Performance of U.S. Senator Moran by Voting Behavior

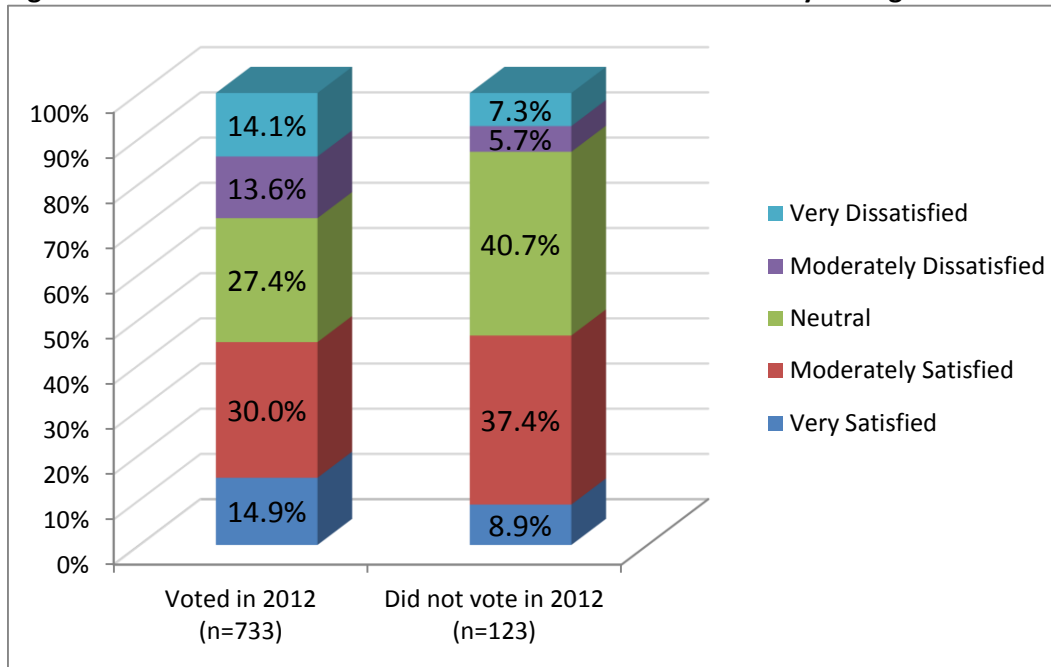


Figure 56: Satisfaction with Performance of U.S. Senator Roberts by Education

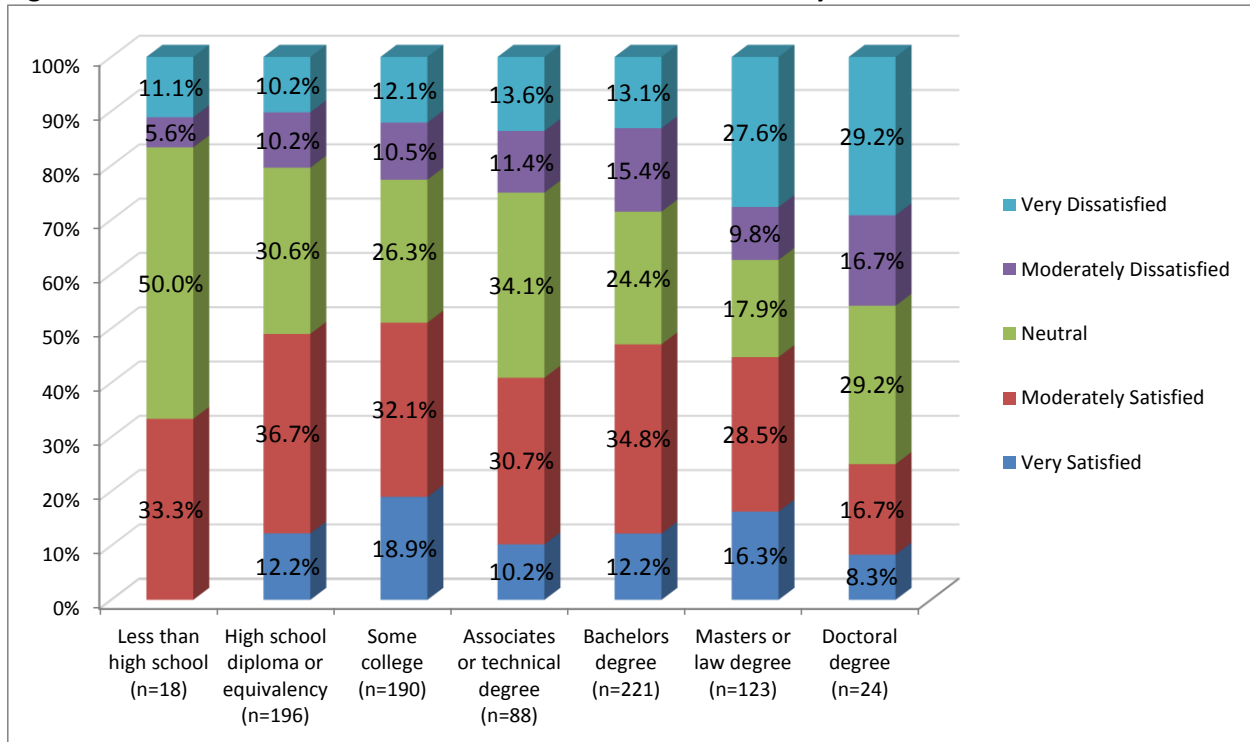


Figure 57: Satisfaction with Performance of U.S. Senator Roberts by Party Affiliation

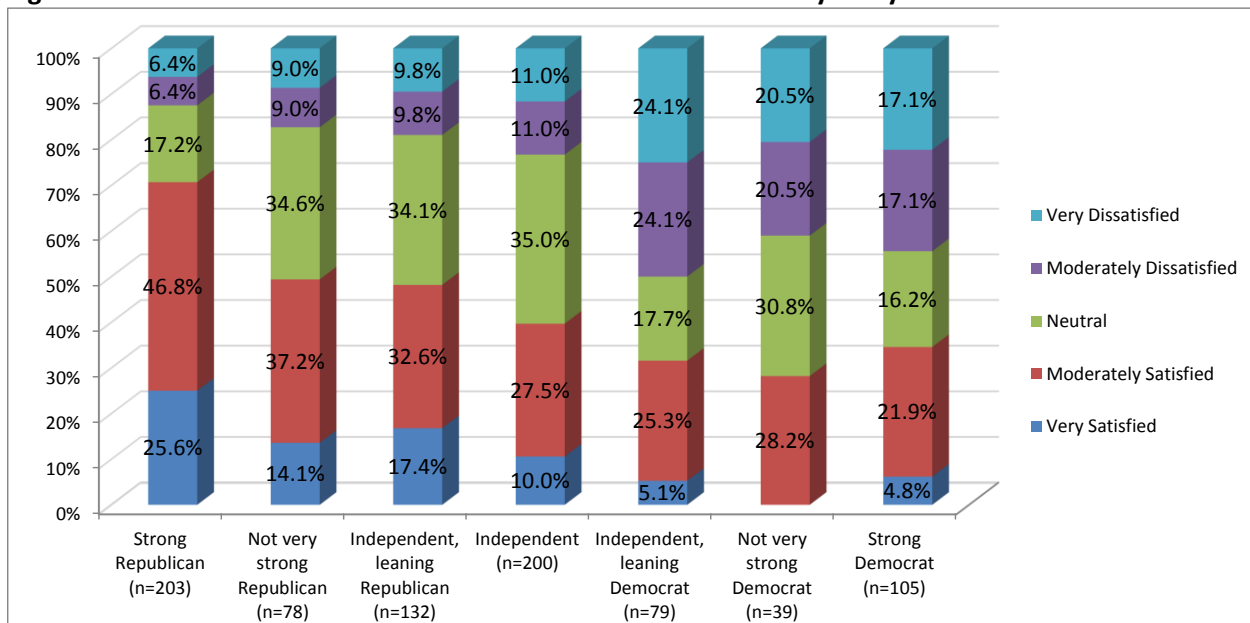


Figure 58: Satisfaction with Performance of U.S. Senator Roberts by Voting Behavior

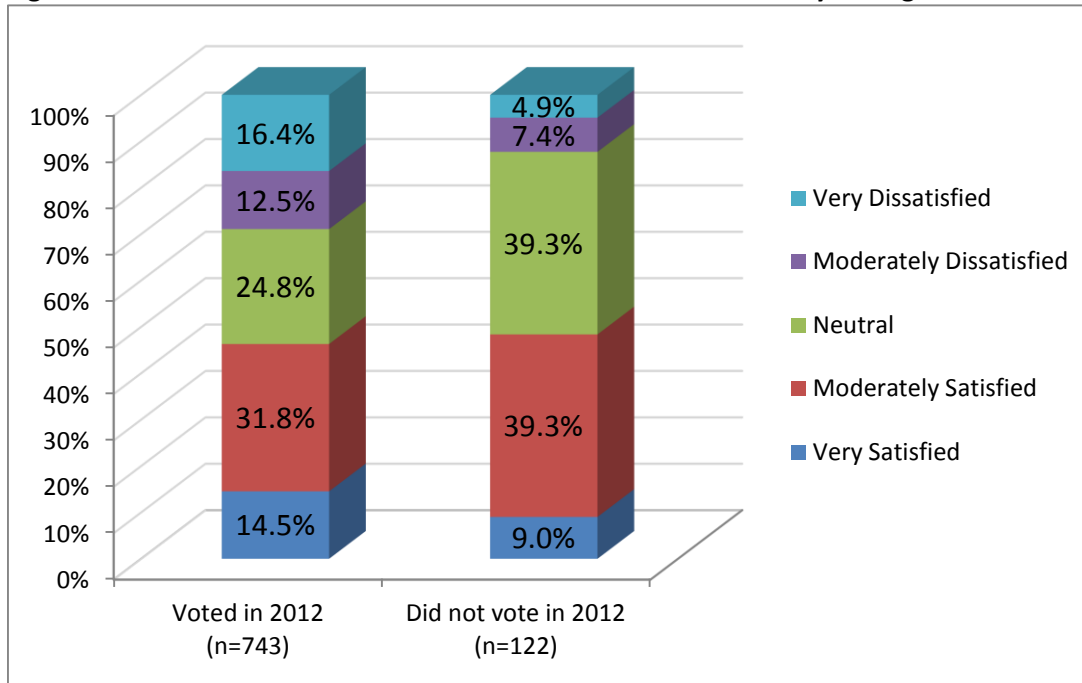


Figure 59: Satisfaction with Performance of U.S. Congressperson by Education

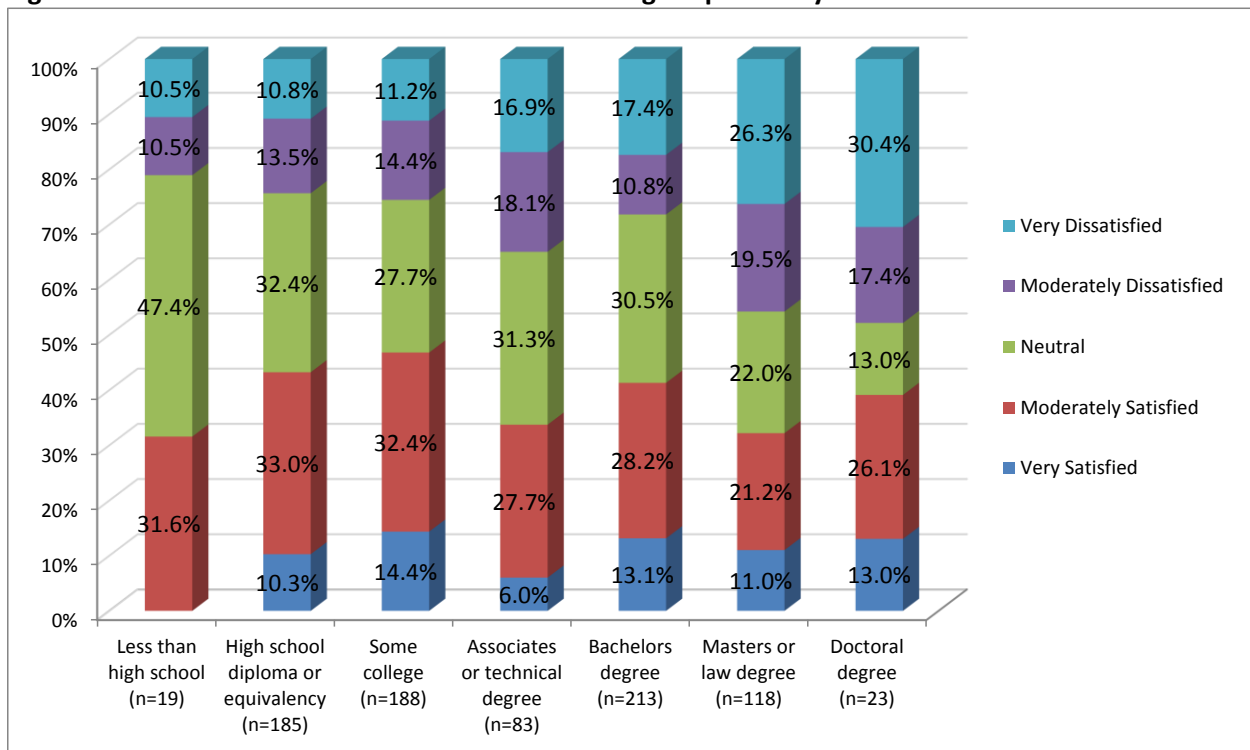


Figure 60: Satisfaction with Performance of U.S. Congressperson by Party Affiliation

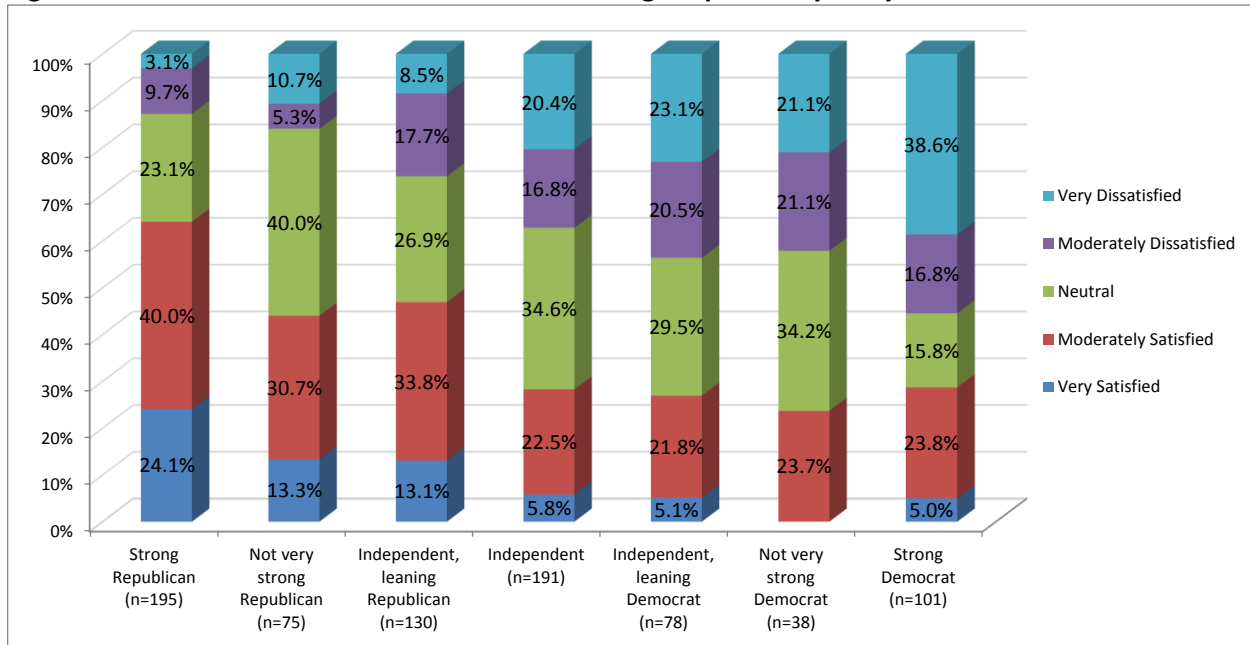
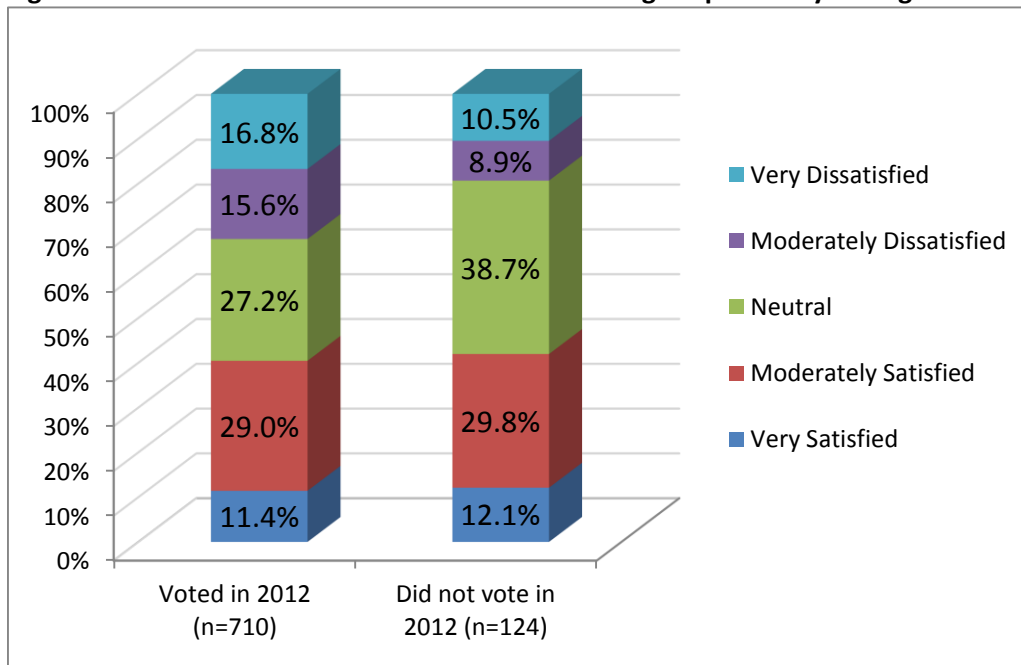


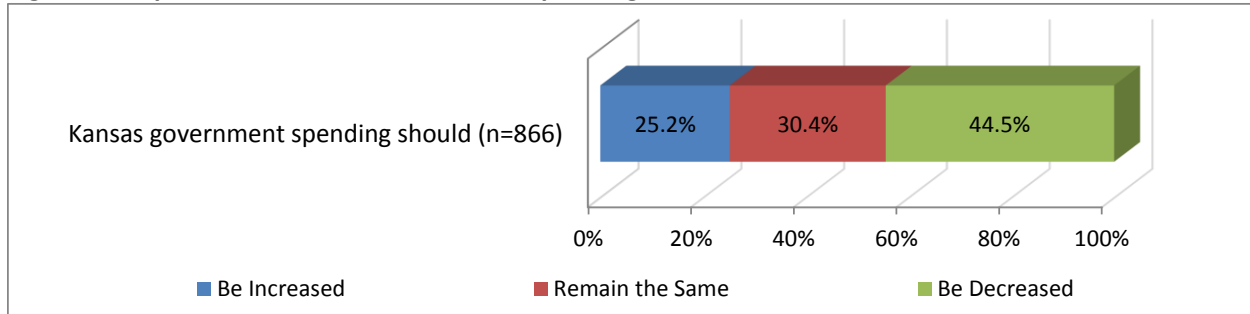
Figure 61: Satisfaction with Performance of U.S. Congressperson by Voting Behavior



When asked about Kansas government spending, 25.2% of respondents thought it should be “increased,” 30.4% thought it should “remain the same,” and 44.5% thought it should be “decreased” (Figure 62). Respondent’s opinion on Kansas government spending was associated with the education and party affiliation variables. Except for respondents whose highest education level was “less than high

school,” the higher a respondent’s education level, the more likely he or she was to support increase of government spending (Figure 63). Respondents who were Democrats or leaning Democratic were more likely to support spending increases than Republican respondents and those who were leaning Republican and Independent (Figure 64).

Figure 62: Opinion on Kansas Government Spending



Question: Do you believe that Kansas government spending should be increased, remain the same, or decreased?

Figure 63: Opinion on Kansas Government Spending by Education

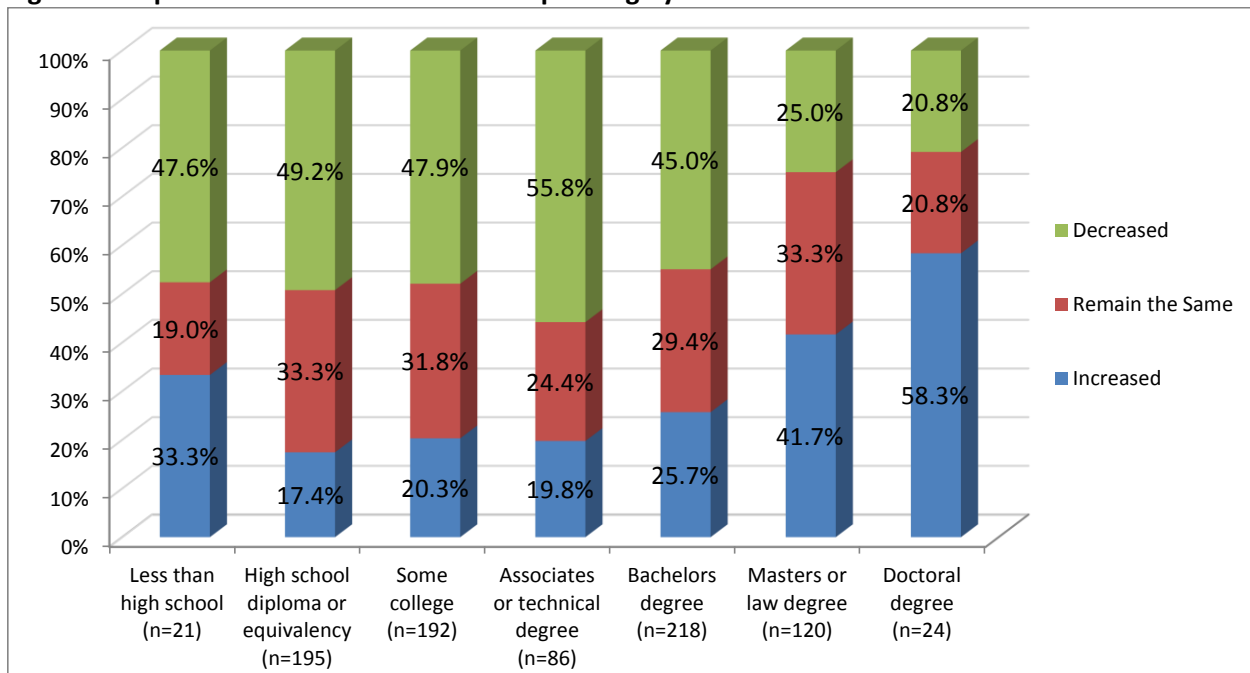
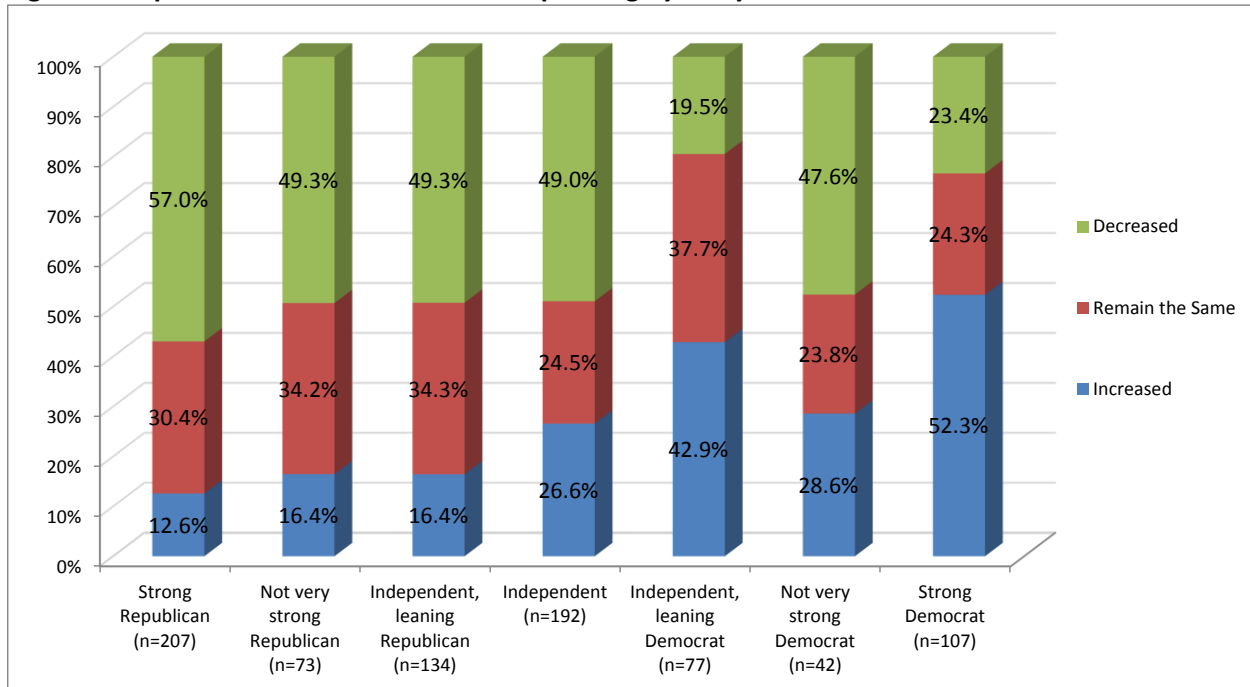


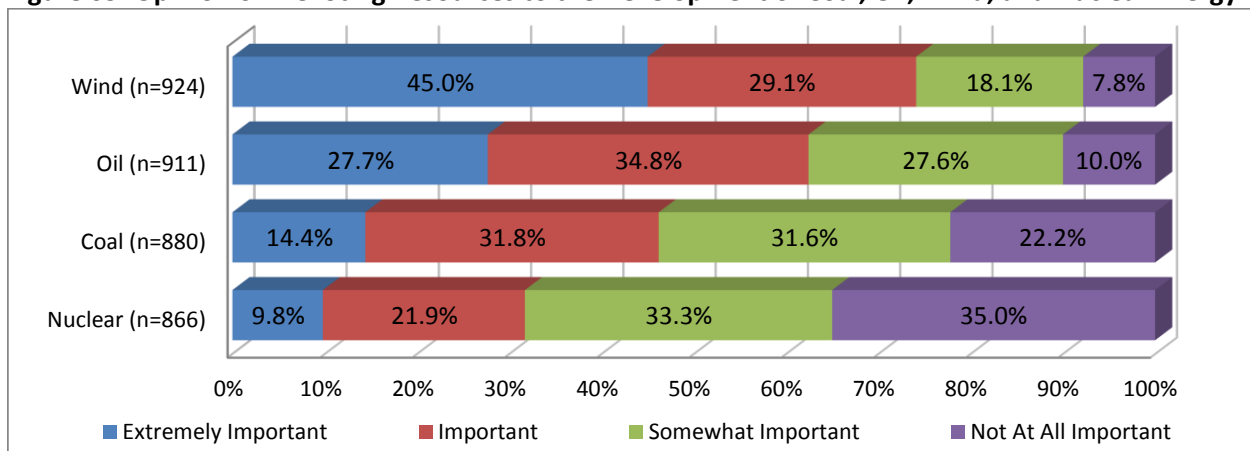
Figure 64: Opinion on Kansas Government Spending by Party Affiliation



Section 5: Energy Policy

The survey asked about the importance for Kansas to develop coal, oil, wind, and nuclear energy. Respondents’ support for the development of wind energy was very high. Almost three-fourths (74.1%) of respondents thought it was “extremely important” or “important” for Kansas to develop wind energy. Support for developing oil energy ranked second. Support for developing nuclear energy was the lowest. Less than one-third (31.7%) of respondents felt it was “extremely important” or “important” to develop nuclear energy, and 35% felt developing nuclear was “not at all important” (Figure 65).

Figure 65: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Coal, Oil, Wind, and Nuclear Energy



Question: How important is it for Kansas to devote resources to the development of the following energy sources?

Respondents with different education levels, income levels and party affiliations varied in their opinion on the development of coal and oil. In general, higher-income, and upper-educated respondents and those who were Democrats, leaning Democrat, and Independent were more likely to say developing coal and oil was “not at all important” (Figures 66, 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71). The female respondents, those respondents who were Democrats, leaning Democrat, and Independent, and those who voted in 2012 were more likely to think developing wind energy was “extremely important” or “important” (Figures 72, 73 and 74). The female and Democratic respondents were less likely to say developing nuclear energy was “extremely important” or “important” (Figures 75 and 76).

Figure 66: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Coal by Education

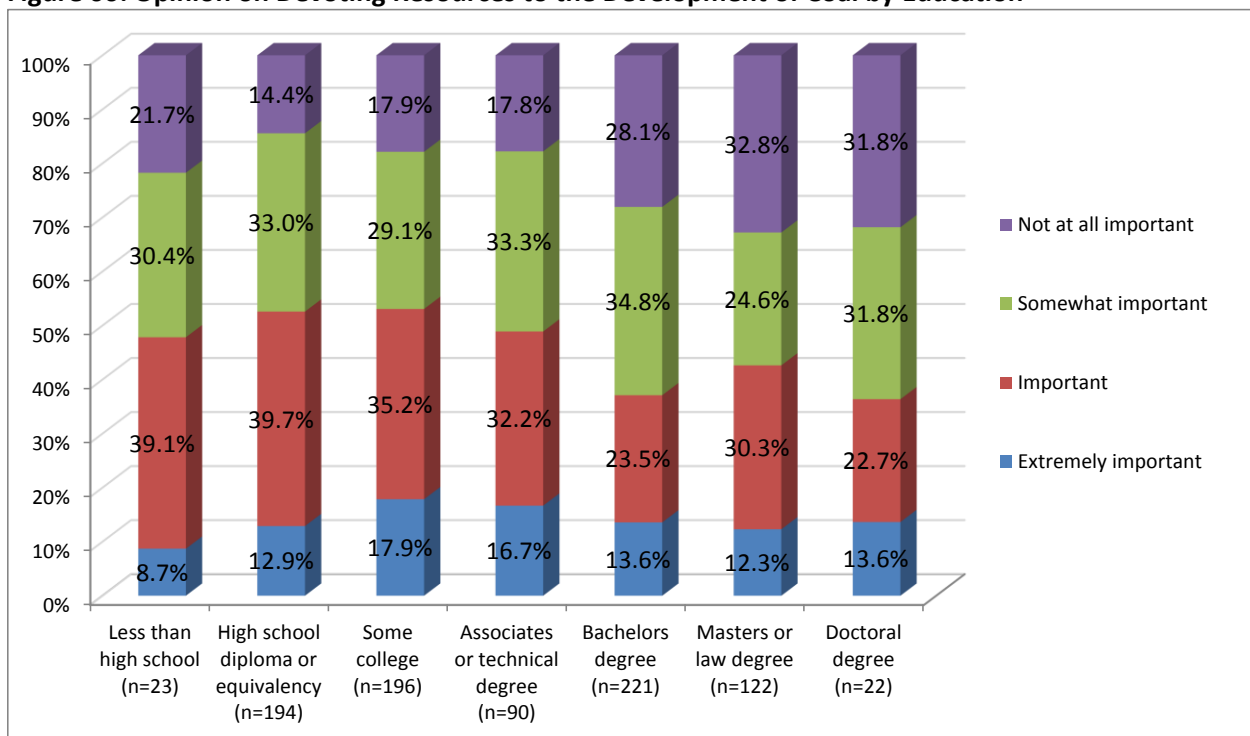


Figure 67: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Coal by Income

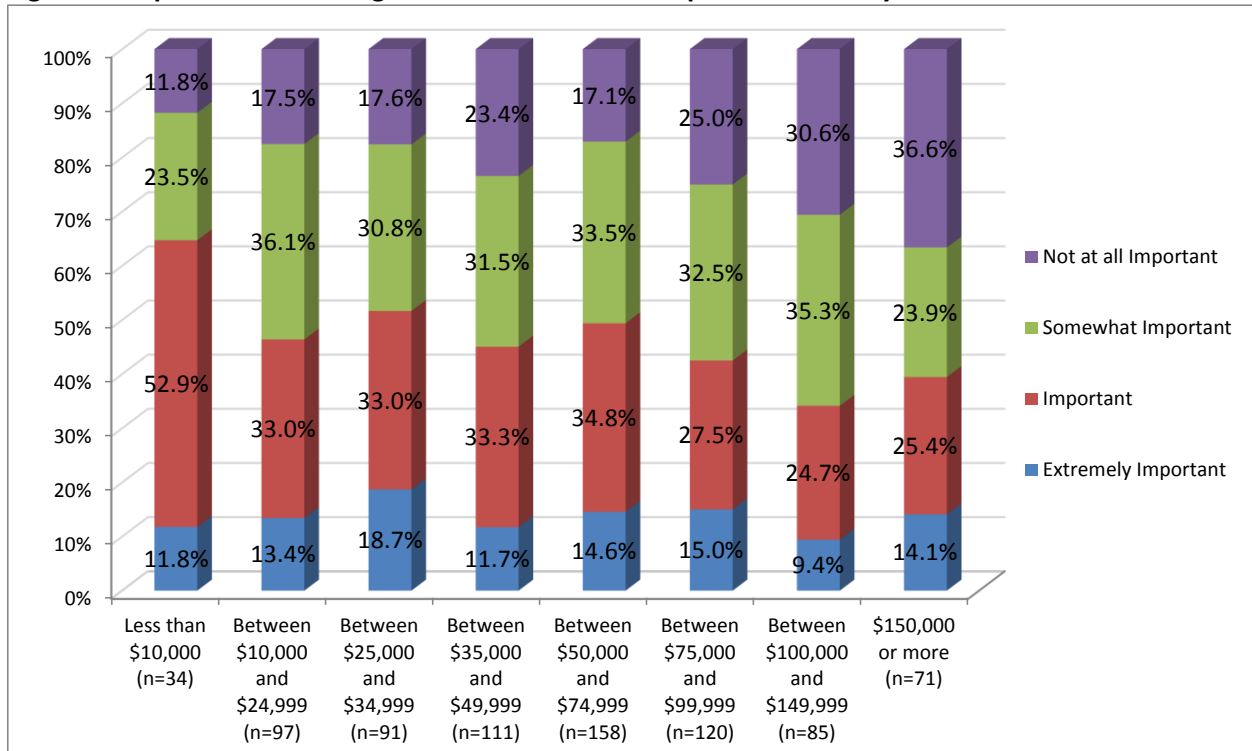


Figure 68: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Coal by Party Affiliation

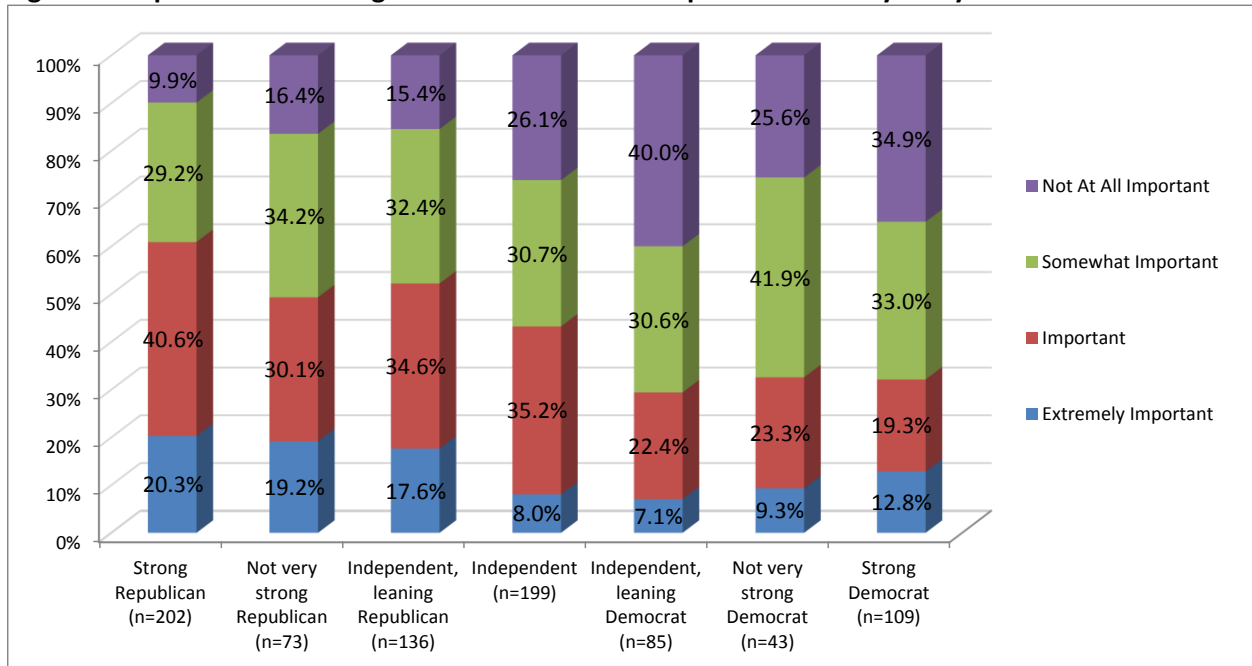


Figure 69: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Oil by Education

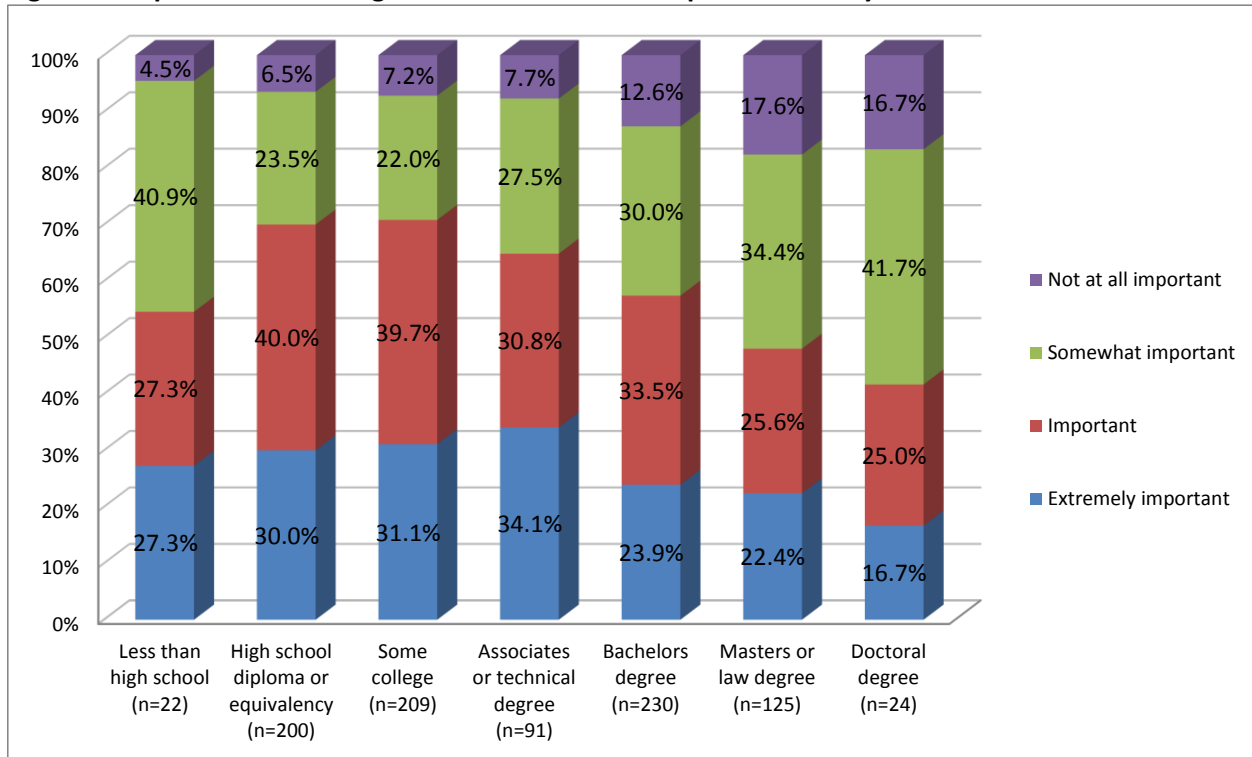


Figure 70: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Oil by Income

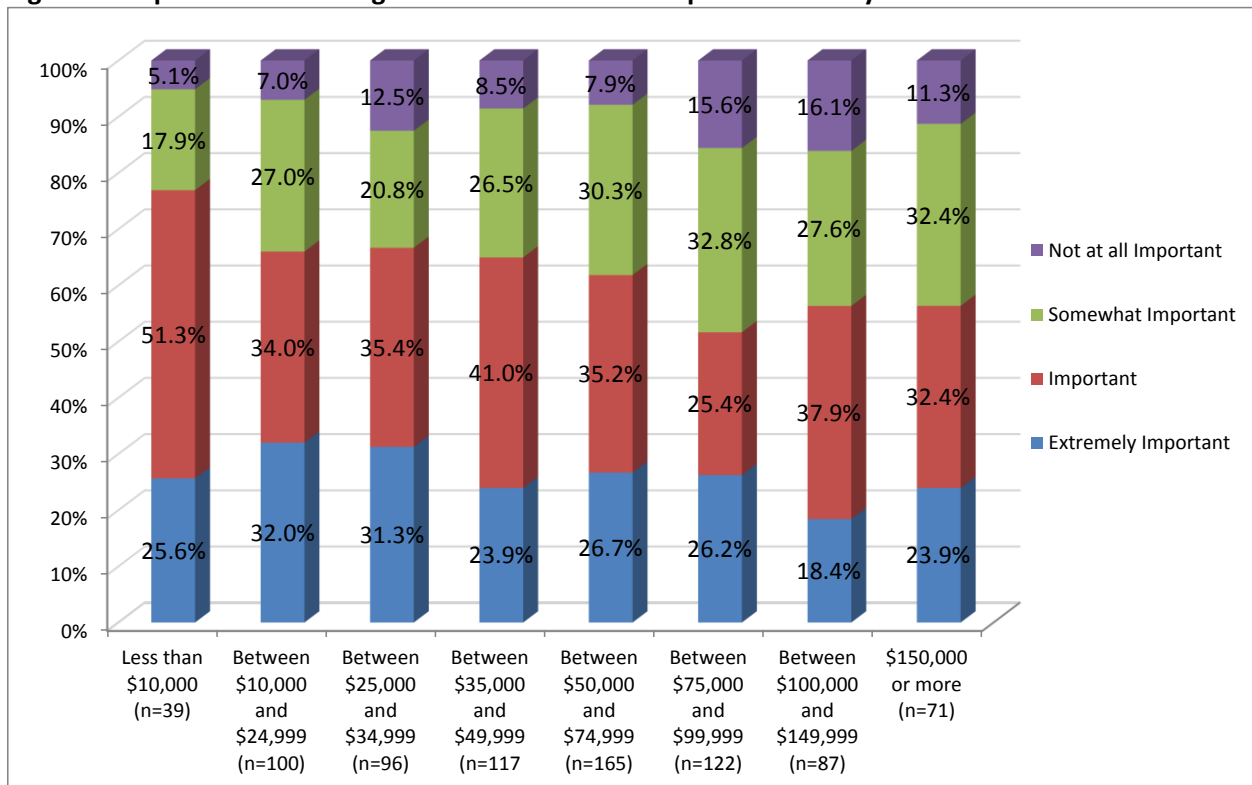


Figure 71: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Oil by Party Affiliation

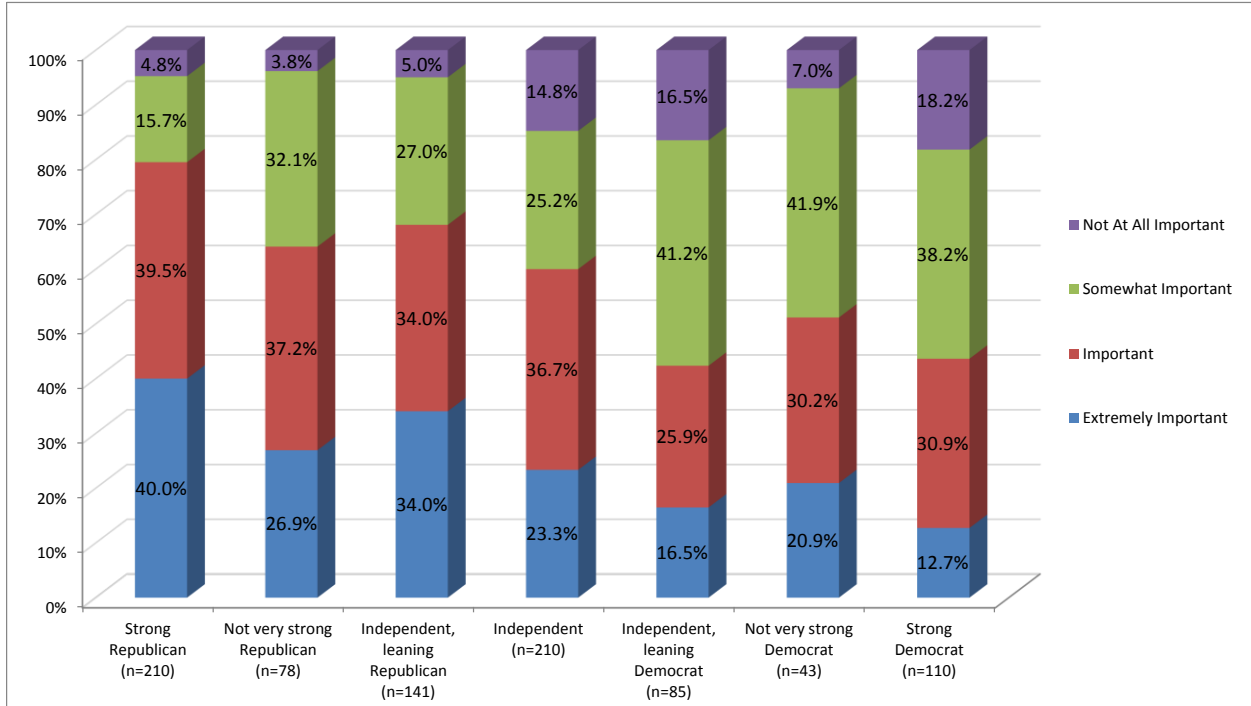


Figure 72: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Wind Energy by Gender

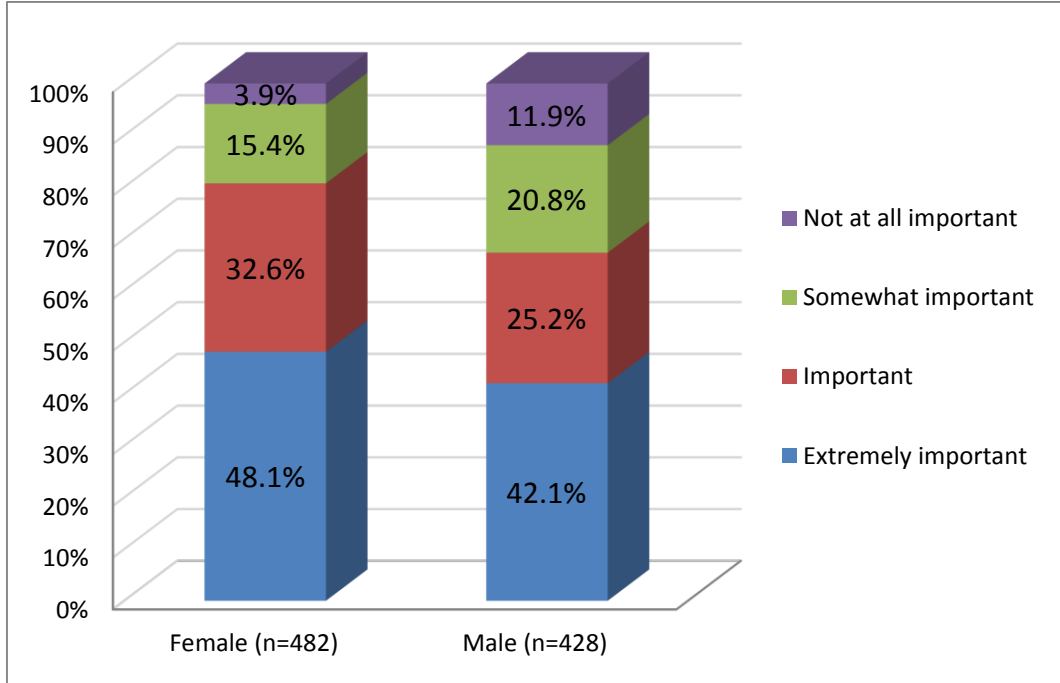


Figure 73: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Wind Energy by Party Affiliation

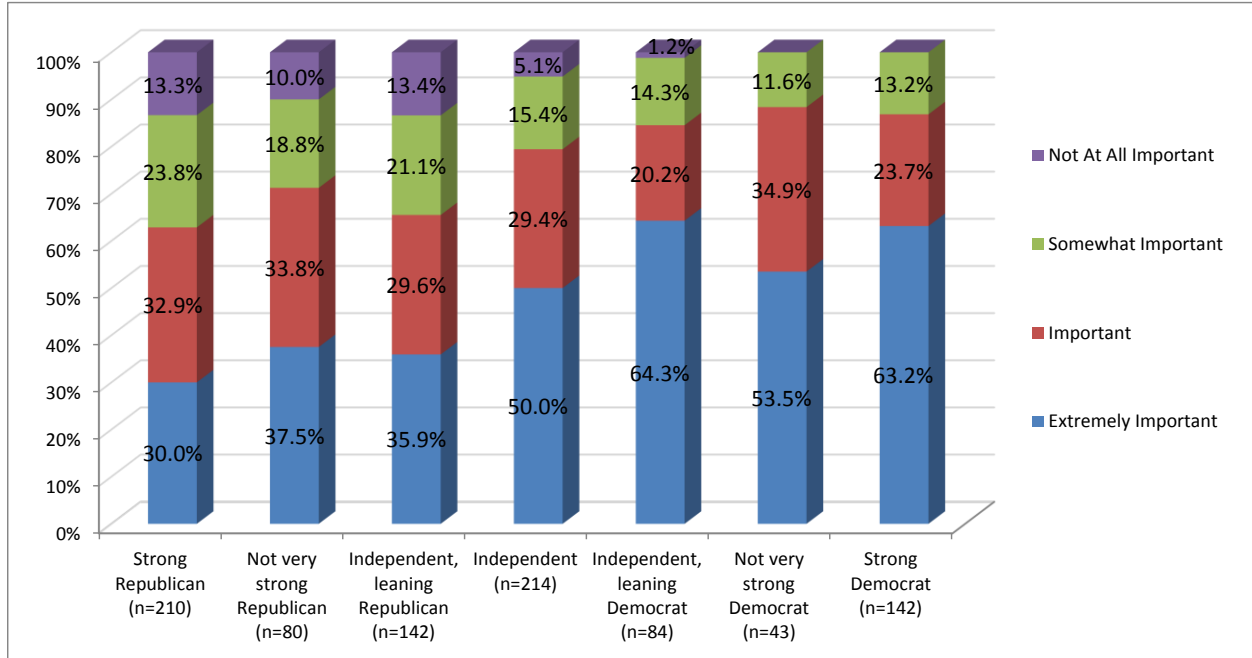


Figure 74: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Wind Energy by Voting Behavior

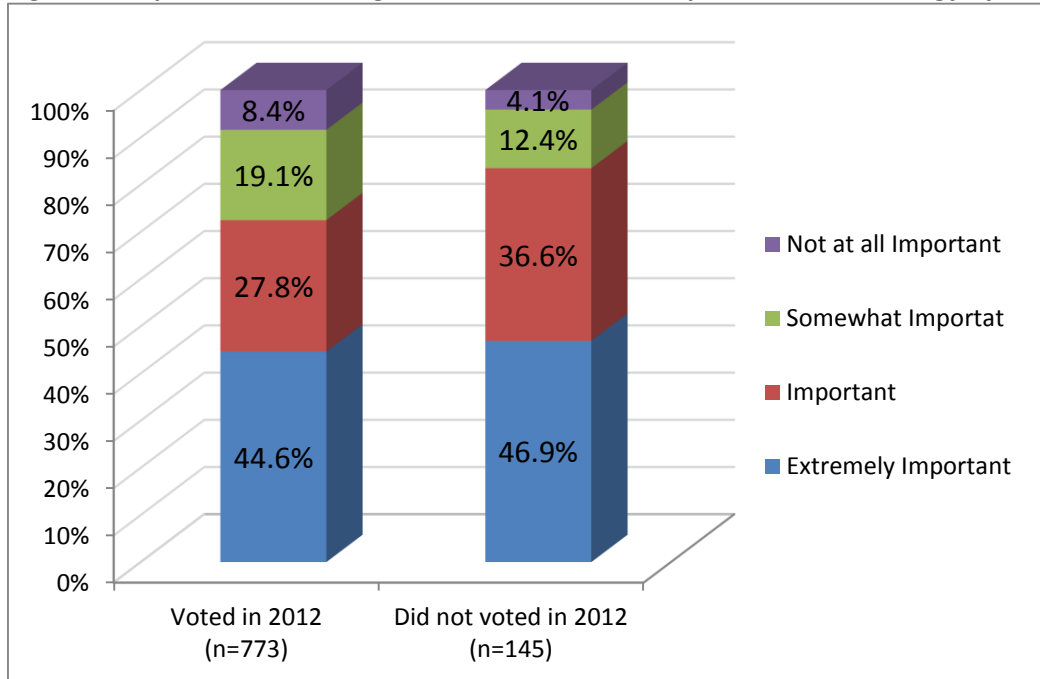


Figure 75: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Nuclear Energy by Gender

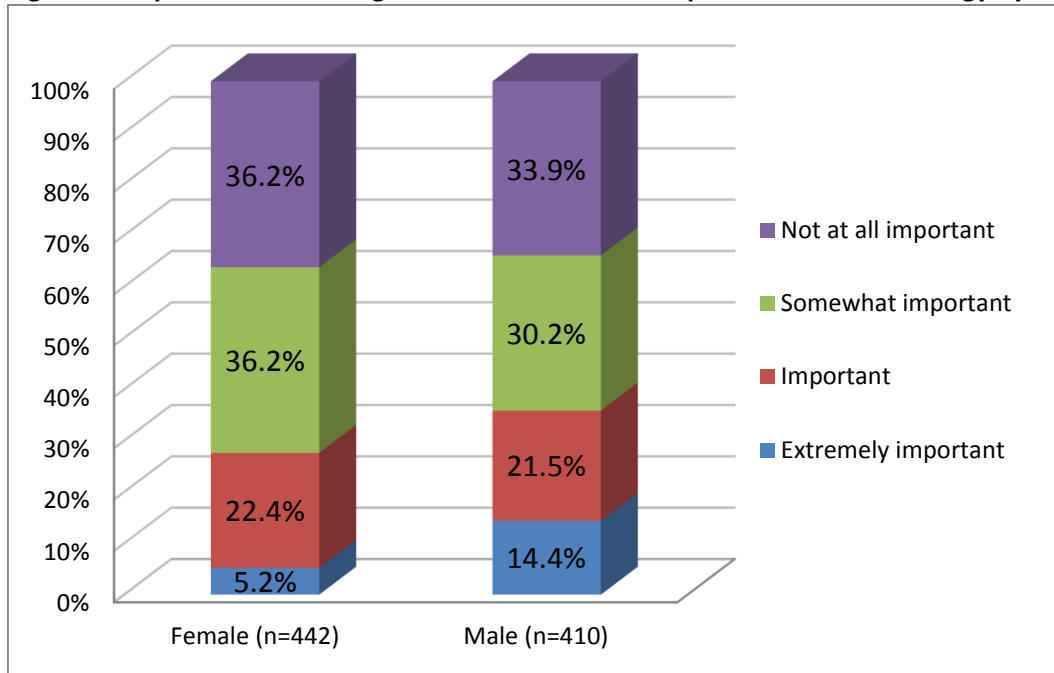
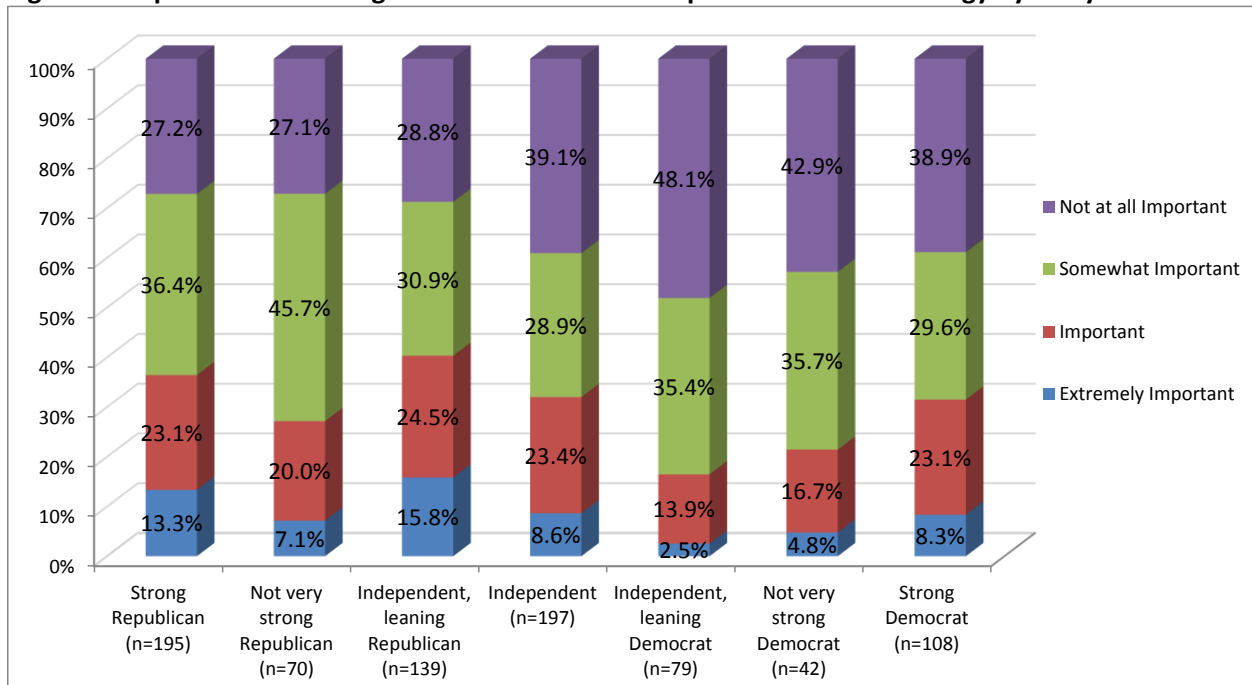
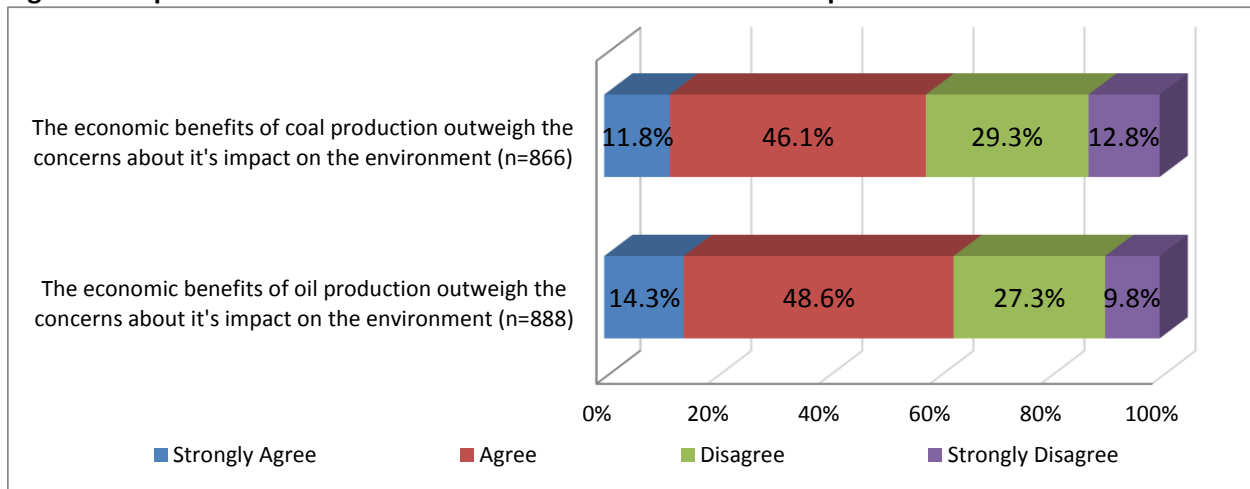


Figure 76: Opinion on Devoting Resources to the Development of Nuclear Energy by Party Affiliation



Respondents were asked about their opinions on whether the economic benefits of coal and oil production outweigh concerns about the environmental impact. More than six in ten (62.9%) respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that the economic benefits of oil production outweigh concerns about the impact on the environment, and 57.9% of respondents “agree” or “strongly agree” that the economic benefits of coal production outweigh concerns of the impact on the environment (Figure 77). In general, the lower-income, less-educated, and Republican respondents and those who did not voted in 2012 were less likely to “disagree” or “strongly disagree” that the economic benefits of coal production outweigh concerns about its impact on the environment (Figures 78, 79, 80 and 81). Republican respondents were also less likely to disagree that the economic benefits of oil production outweigh concerns about environmental impact (Figure 82).

Figure 77: Opinion on Coal and Oil Production vs. Environmental Impact



Question: Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements about coal and oil production? The economic benefits of **coal production** outweigh concerns some people may have about its impact on the environment. The economic benefits of **oil production** outweigh concerns some people may have about its impact on the environment.

Figure 78: Opinion on Coal Production vs. Environmental Impact by Education

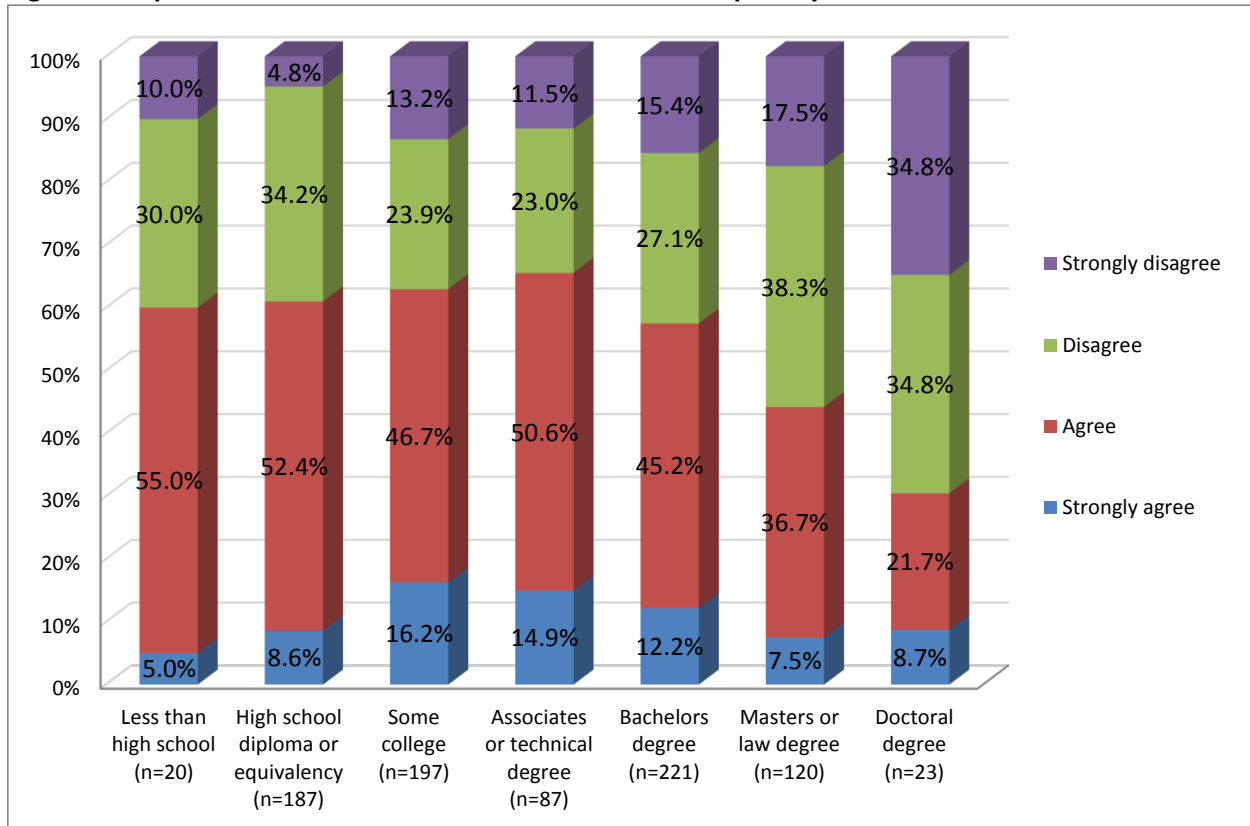


Figure 79: Opinion on Coal Production vs. Environmental Impact by Income

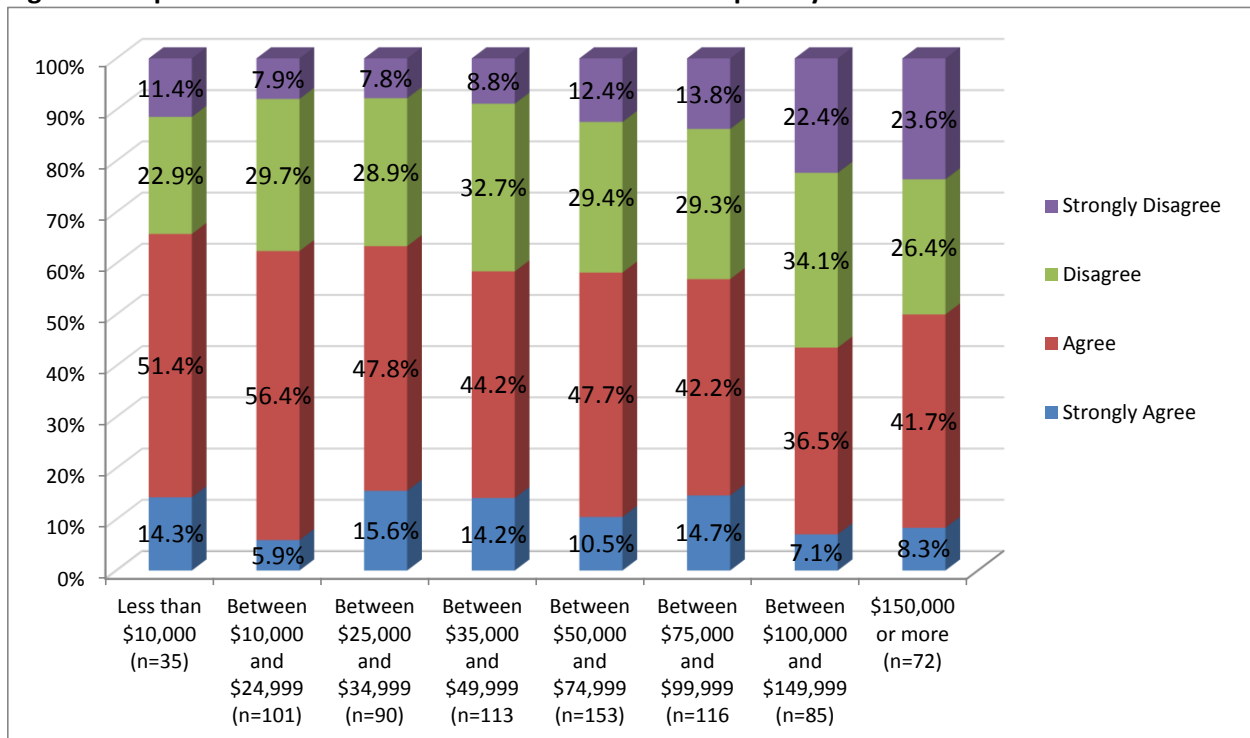


Figure 80: Opinion on Coal Production vs. Environmental Impact by Party Affiliation

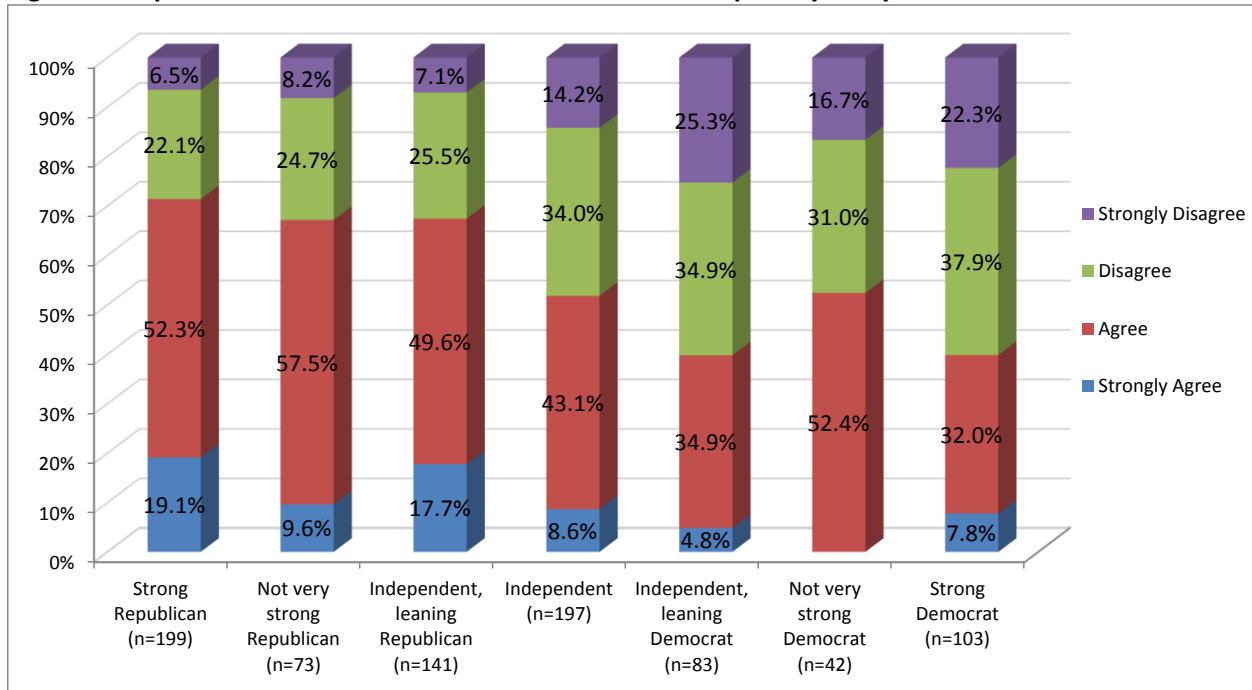


Figure 81: Opinion on Coal Production vs. Environmental Impact by Voting Behavior

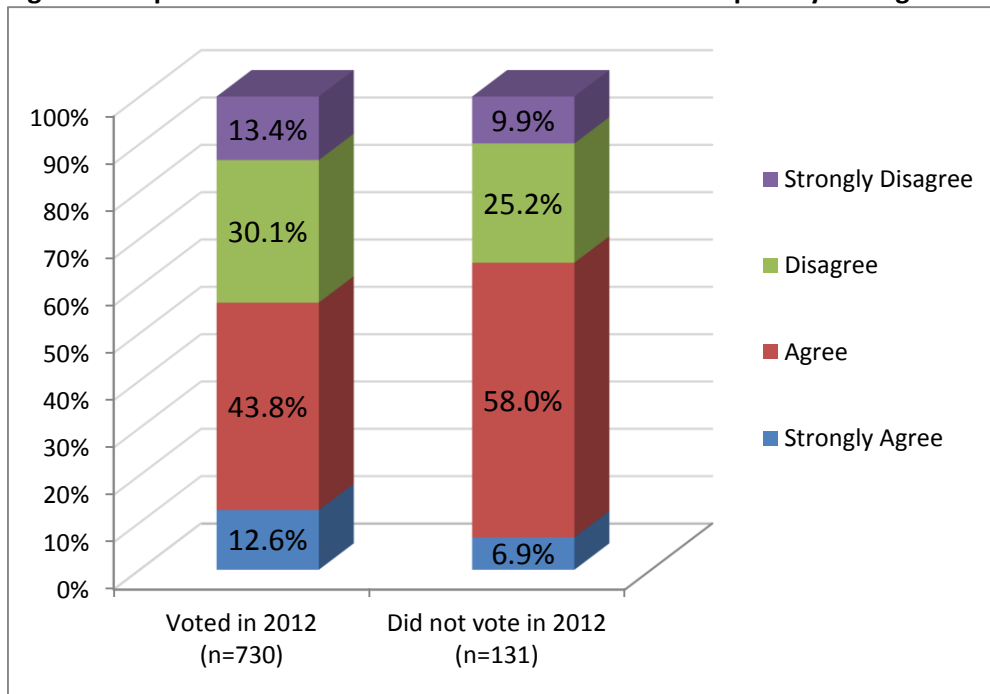
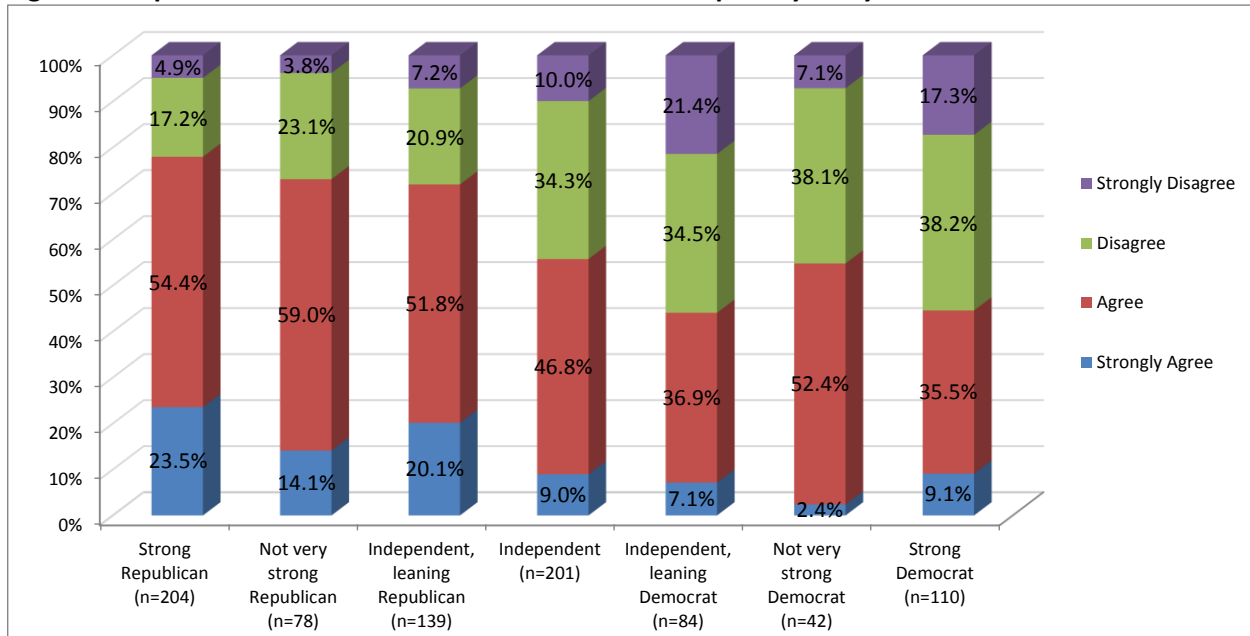
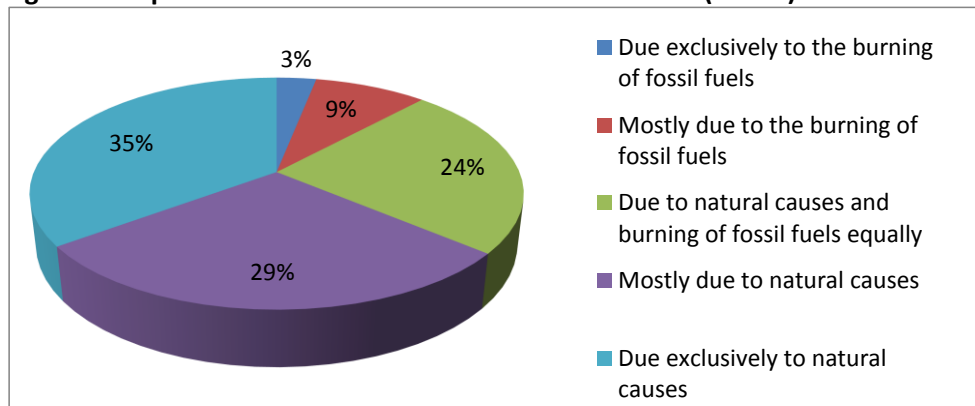


Figure 82: Opinion on Oil Production vs. Environmental Impact by Party Affiliation



Respondents were asked if they thought the drought and severe storms recently experienced in Kansas were results of natural causes or extensive burning of fossil fuels. Only 3% of respondents felt the erratic weather patterns were due exclusively to the burning of fossil fuels and 9% felt they were mostly due to the burning of fossil fuels. Almost two-thirds (64%) of respondents thought the erratic weather patterns were due “mostly” or “exclusively” to natural causes (Figure 83). In general, the less-educated and Republican respondents were more likely to believe the erratic weather patterns were due exclusively or mostly to natural cause (Figures 84 and 85).

Figure 83: Opinion on Cause of Erratic Weather in Kansas (n=883)



Question: Some people believe the drought and severe storms Kansas is experiencing are the result of natural causes. Others believe it is the result of extensive burning of fossil fuels. Do you believe this erratic weather pattern is due to the burning of fossil fuels or natural causes?

Figure 84: Opinion on Cause of Erratic Weather in Kansas by Education

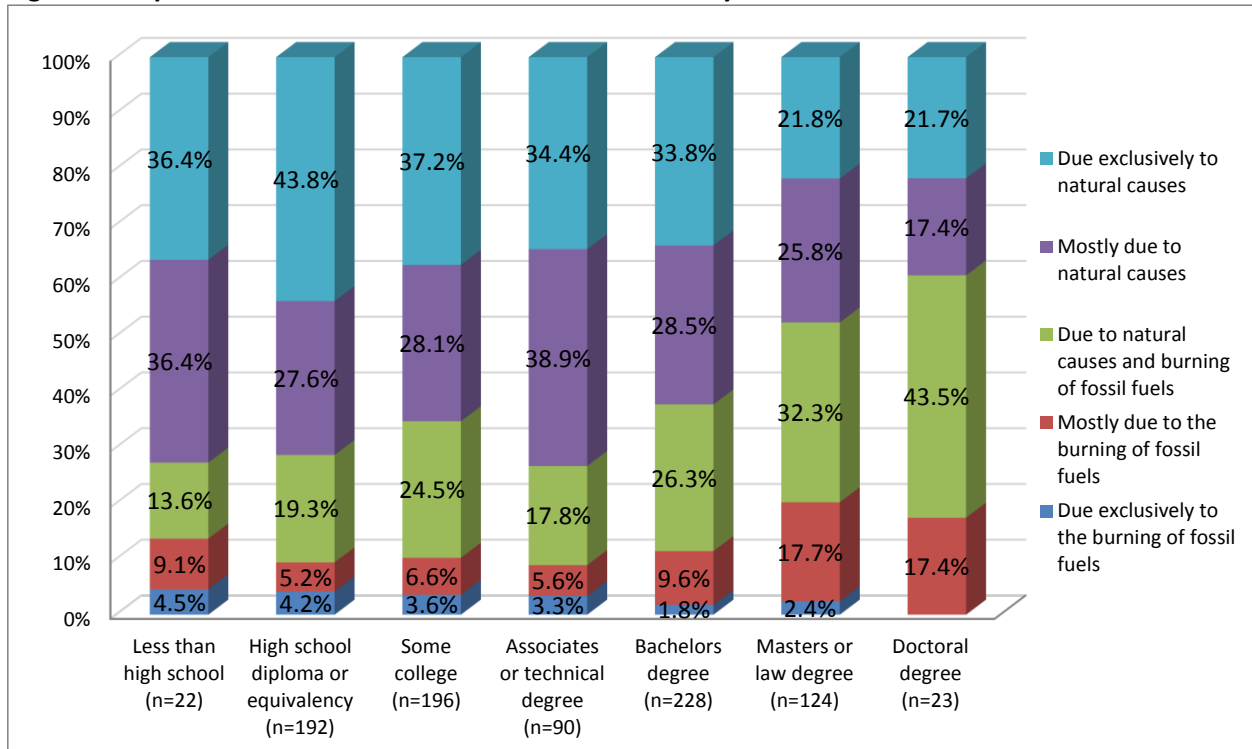
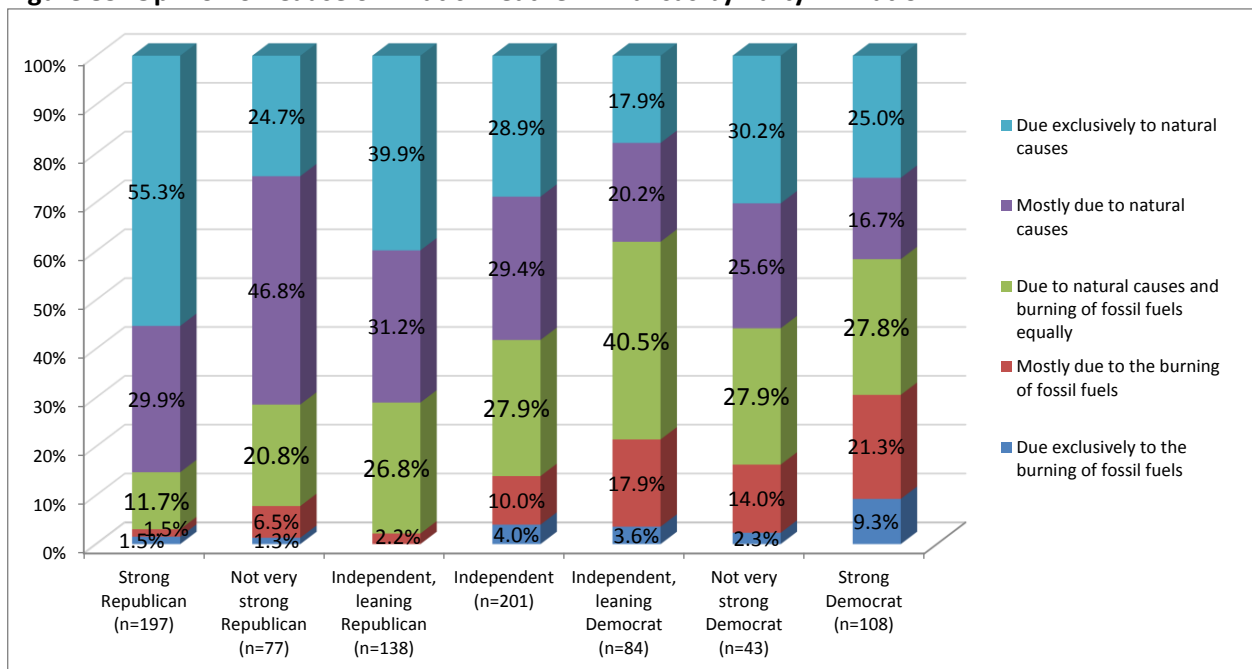


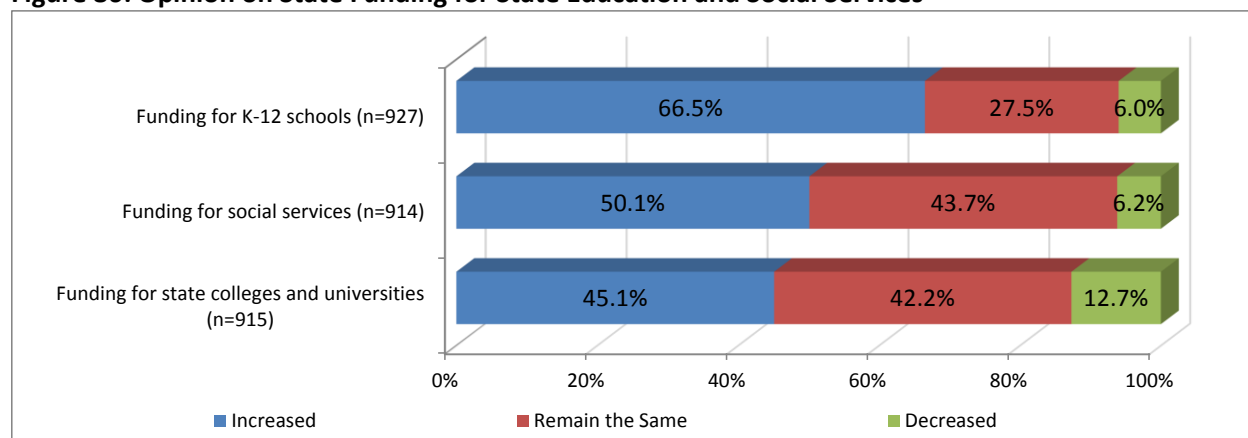
Figure 85: Opinion on Cause of Erratic Weather in Kansas by Party Affiliation



Section 6: Public Policy Issues

Respondents were asked if the current levels of state funding for grades kindergarten through high school (K – 12), state colleges and universities, and social services (such as senior and disability services) should be “increased,” “kept at the same level,” or “decreased.” As Figure 86 shows, 66.5% of respondents thought the state funding for K – 12 should be “increased.” About half (50.1%) of respondents thought the state funding for social services should be increased, and 45.1% supported increased funding for state colleges and universities.

Figure 86: Opinion on State Funding for State Education and Social Services



Question: *Think about the current level of state funding for grades kindergarten through high school, for state colleges and universities, and for social services, such as senior and disability services, would you say that the amount of funding should be increased, kept at the same level, or decreased?*

Respondent’s support for increased funding for K-12 schools was significantly related with gender, race, and party affiliation. The female, African American, and Democratic respondents were more likely to support increased funding for K-12 schools (Figures 87, 88 and 89). The female and upper-educated respondents and those who were strong Democrats and Independent leaning Democratic were more likely to support increased funding for state colleges and universities (Figures 90, 91 and 92). The support for increased funding for social services was higher among the female, lower-income, African American, less-educated, and Democratic and Independent respondents (Figures 93, 94, 95, 96 and 97).

Figure 87: Opinion on State Funding for Grades Kindergarten through High School by Gender

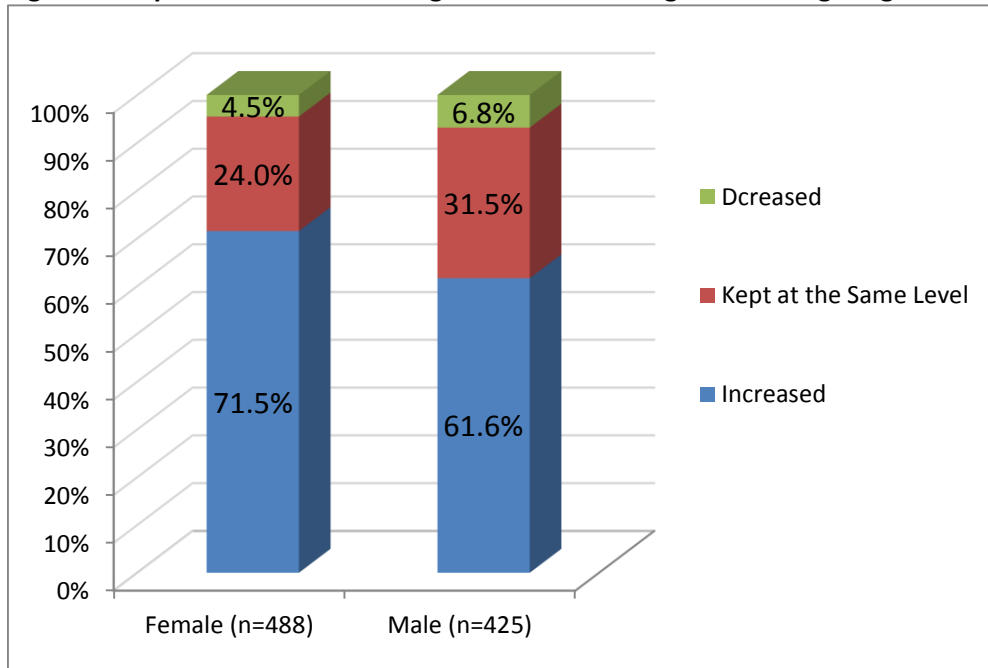


Figure 88: Opinion on State Funding for Grades Kindergarten through High School by Race

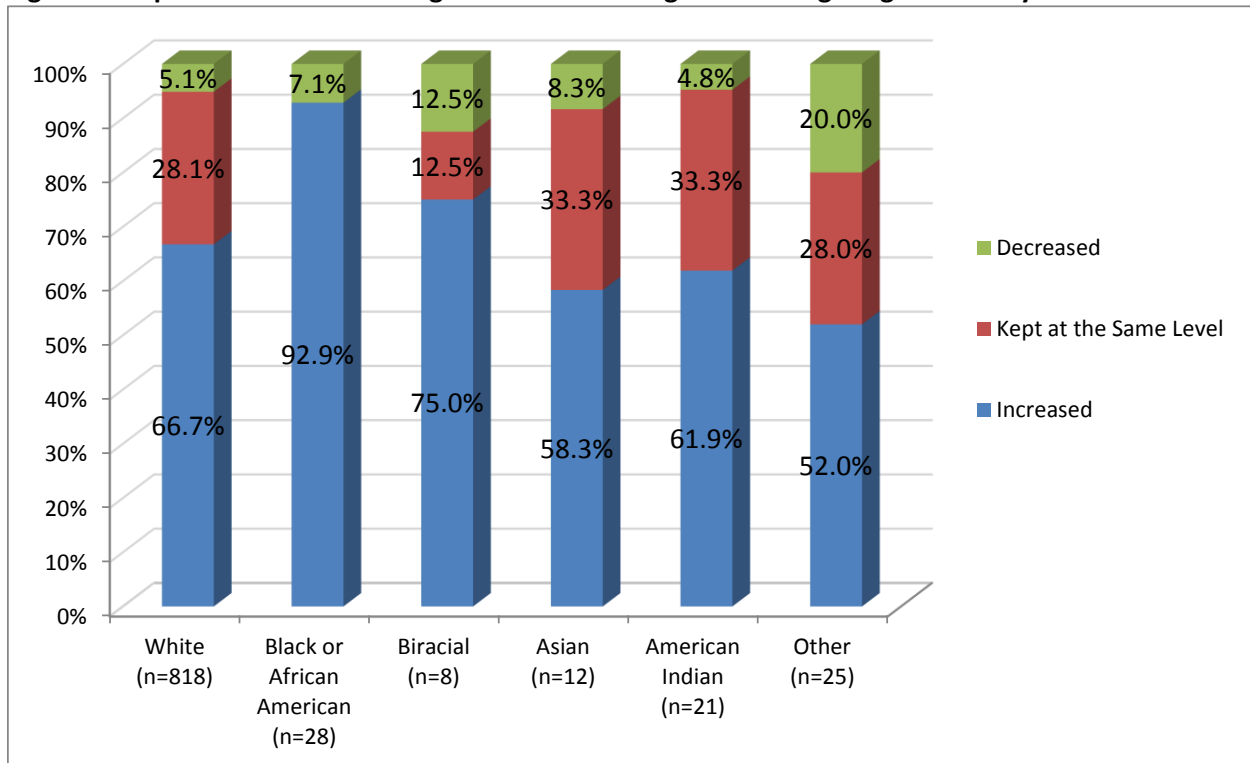


Figure 89: Opinion on State Funding for Grades Kindergarten through High School by Party Affiliation

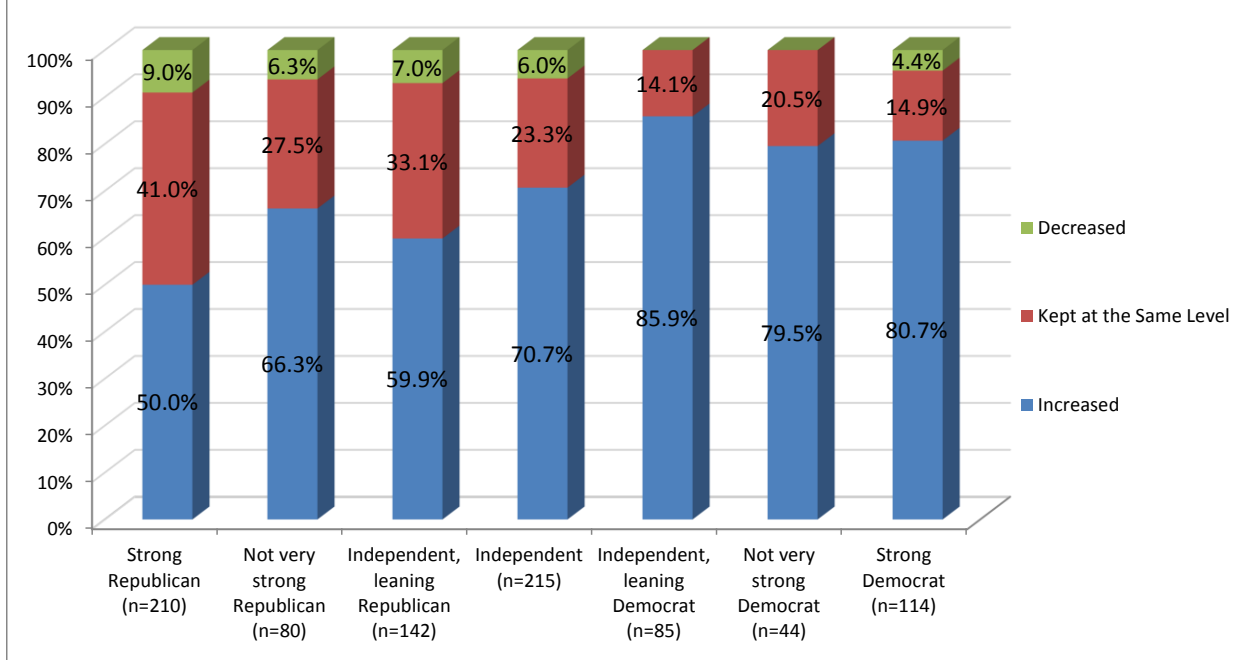


Figure 90: Opinion on State Funding for State Colleges and Universities by Gender

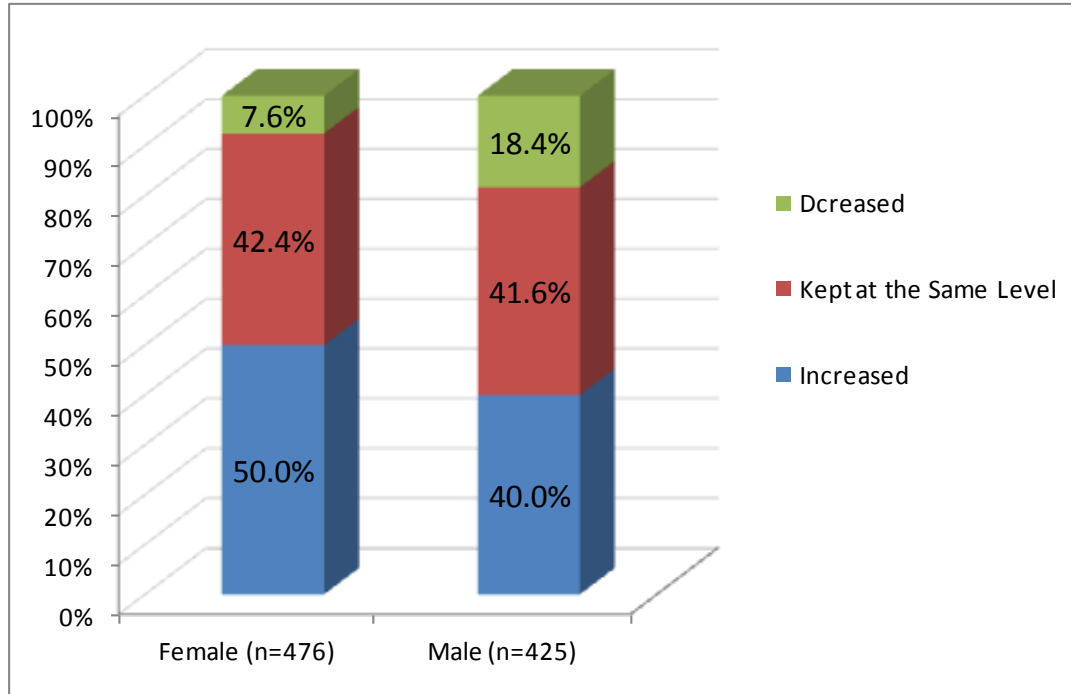


Figure 91: Opinion on State Funding for State Colleges and Universities by Education

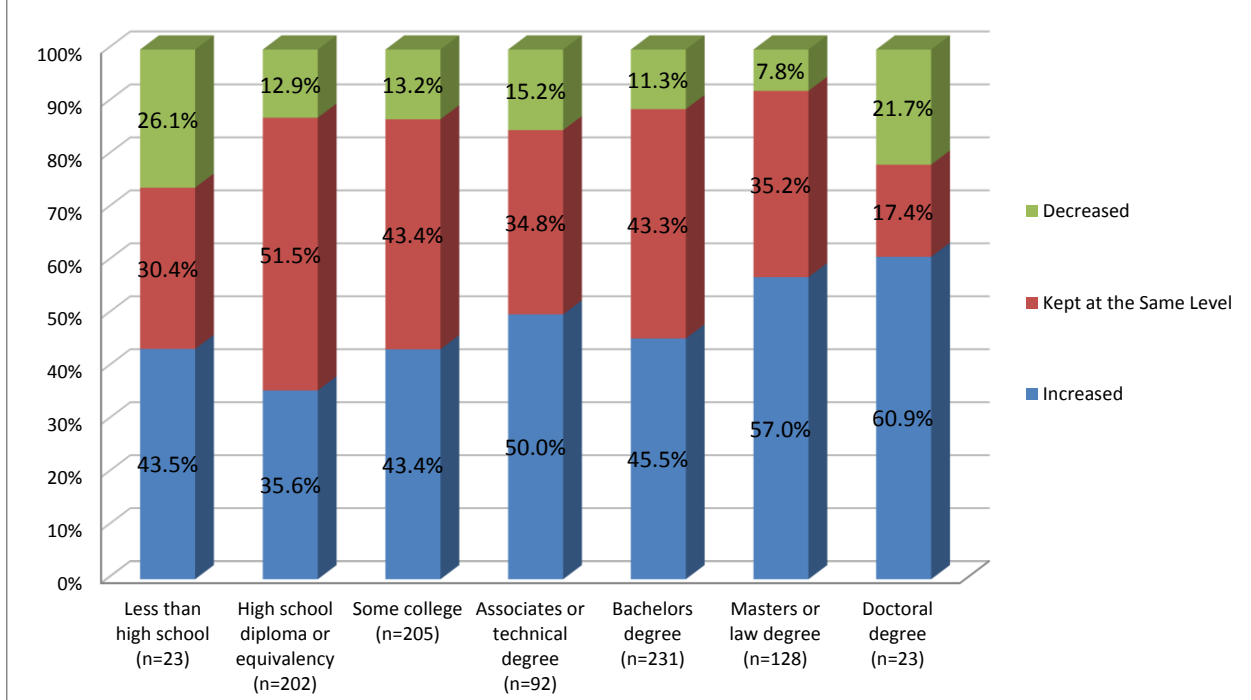


Figure 92: Opinion on State Funding for State Colleges and Universities by Party Affiliation

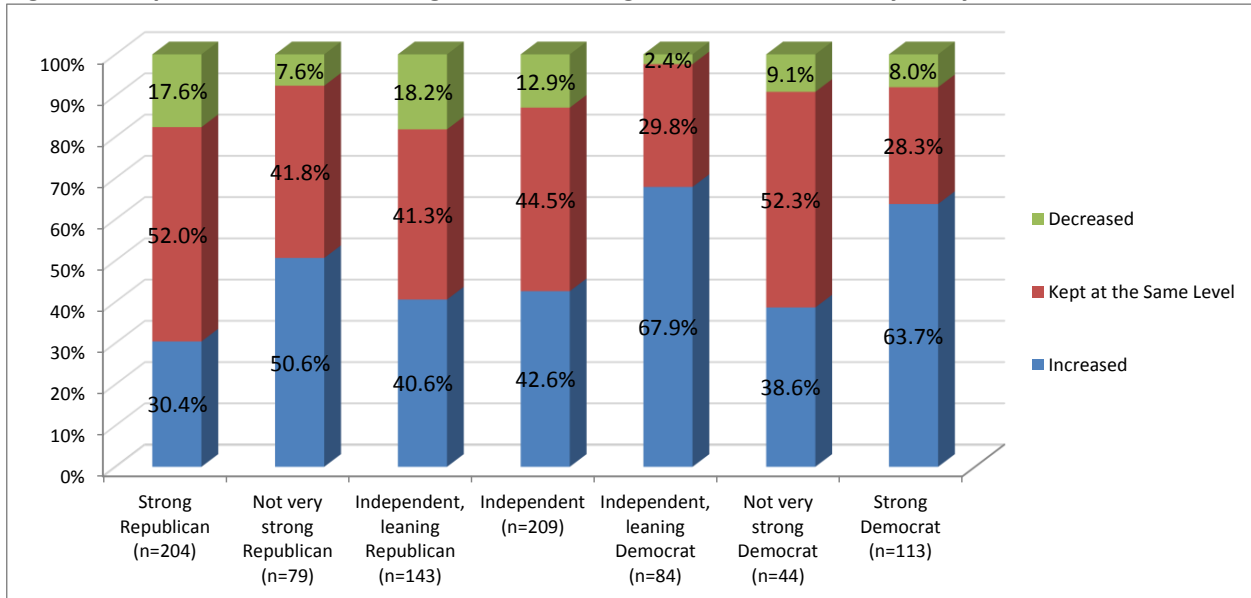


Figure 93: Opinion on State Funding for Social Services by Gender

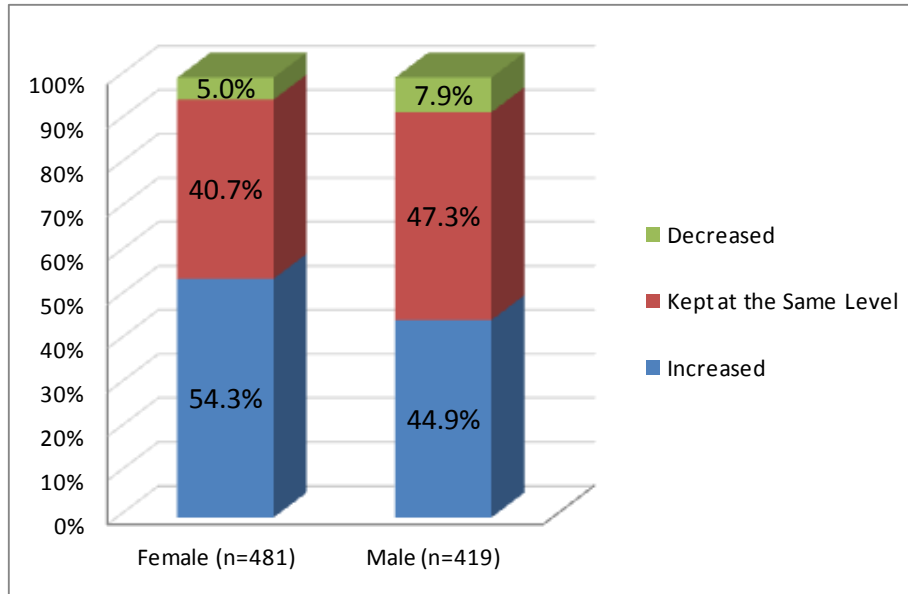


Figure 94: Opinion on State Funding for Social Services by Education

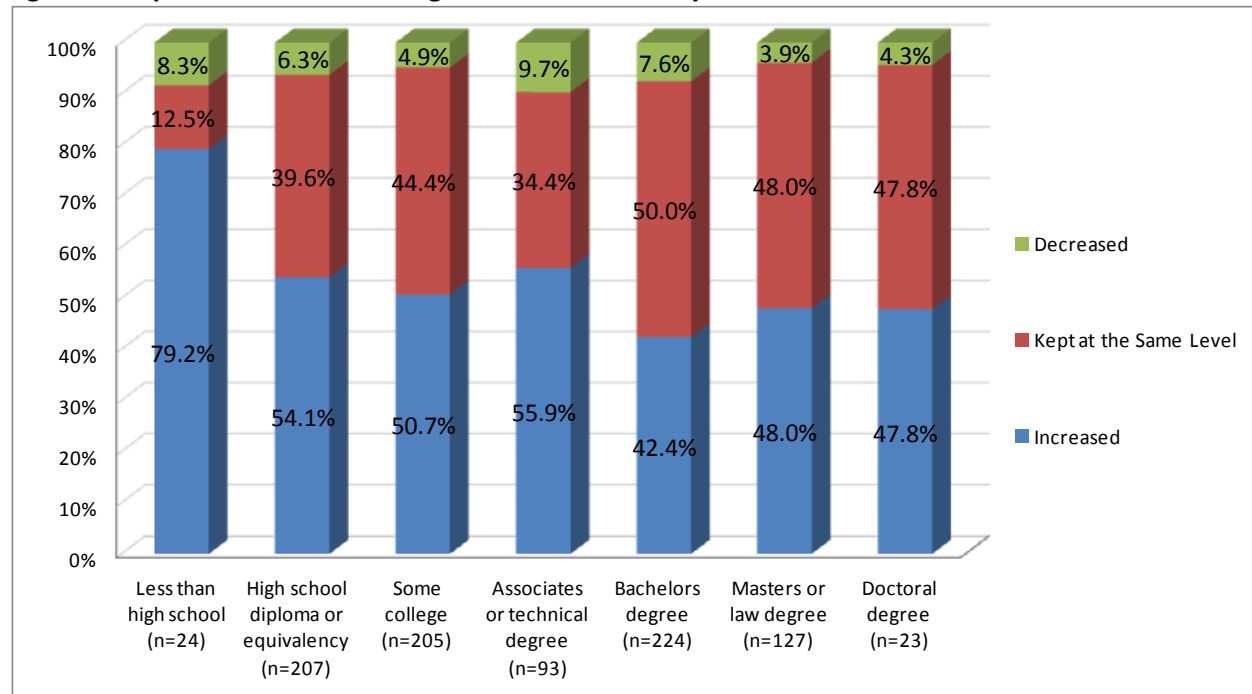


Figure 95: Opinion on State Funding for Social Services by Income

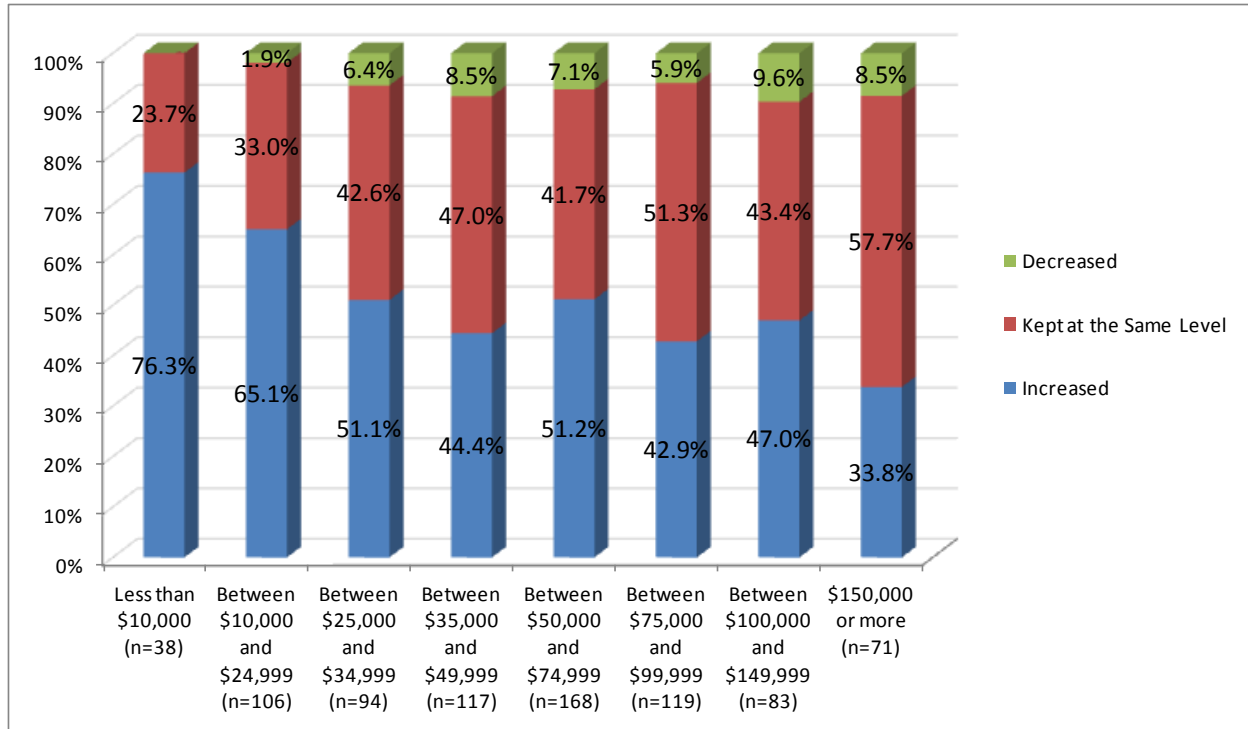


Figure 96: Opinion on State Funding for Social Services by Race

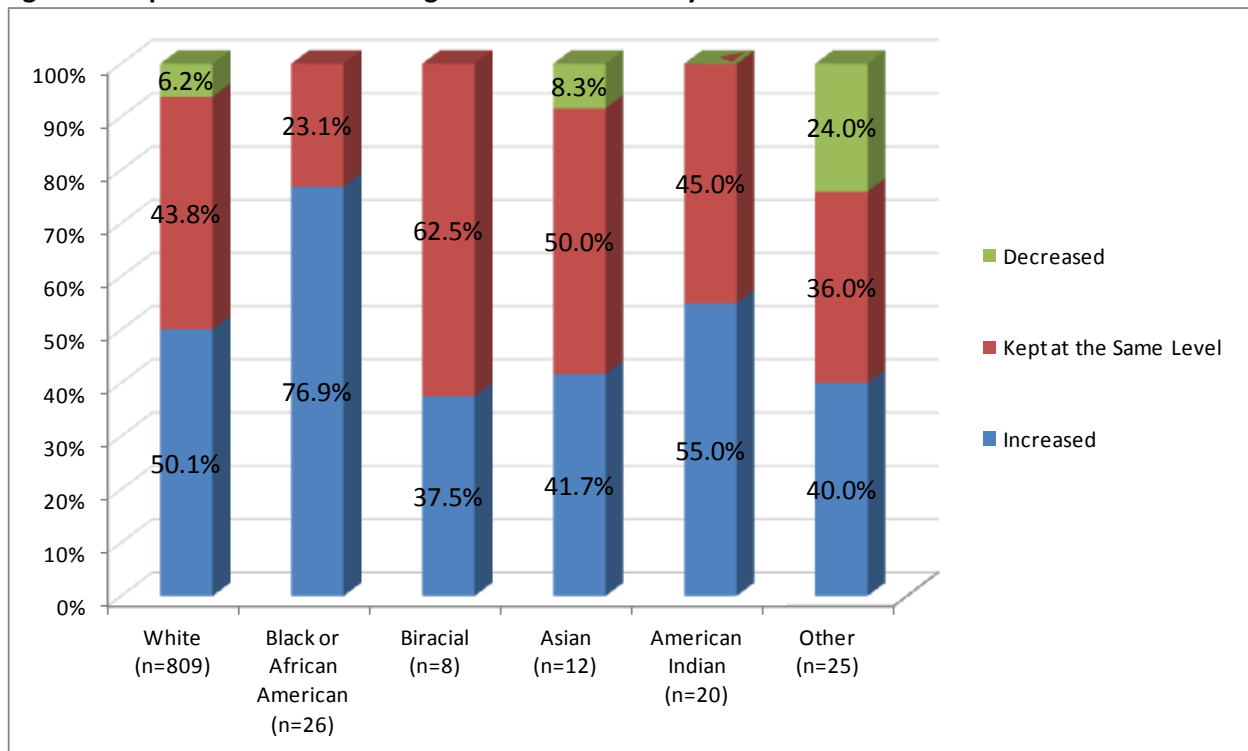
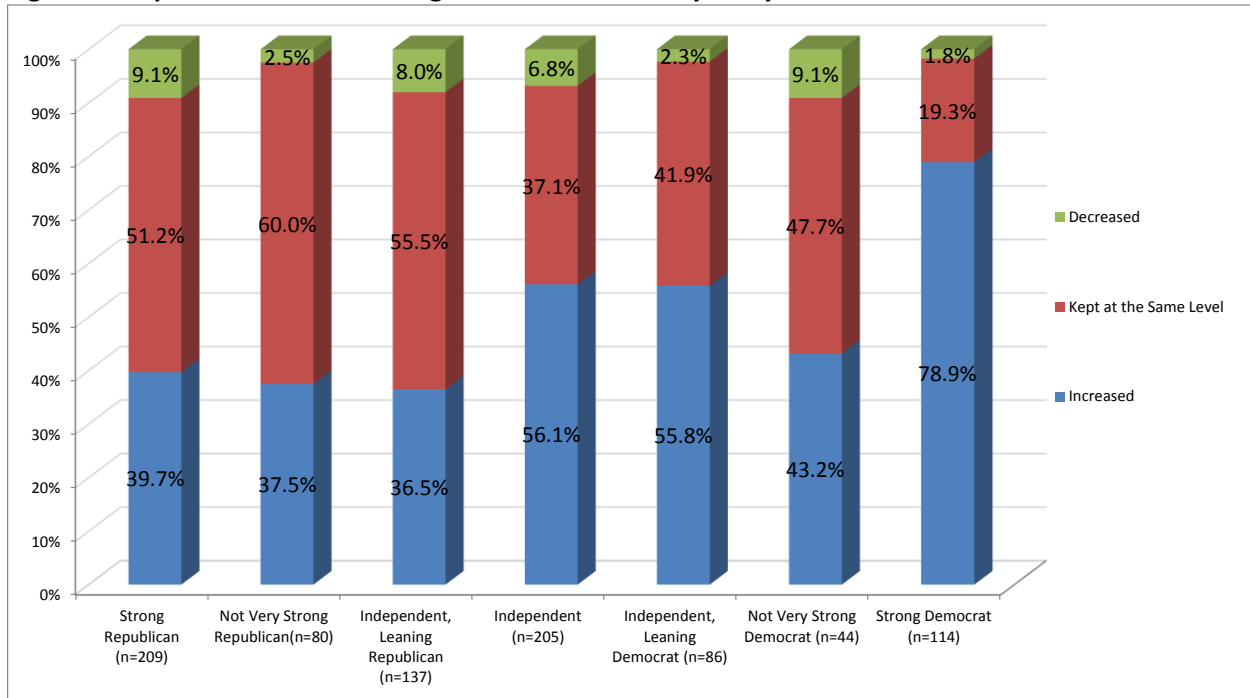
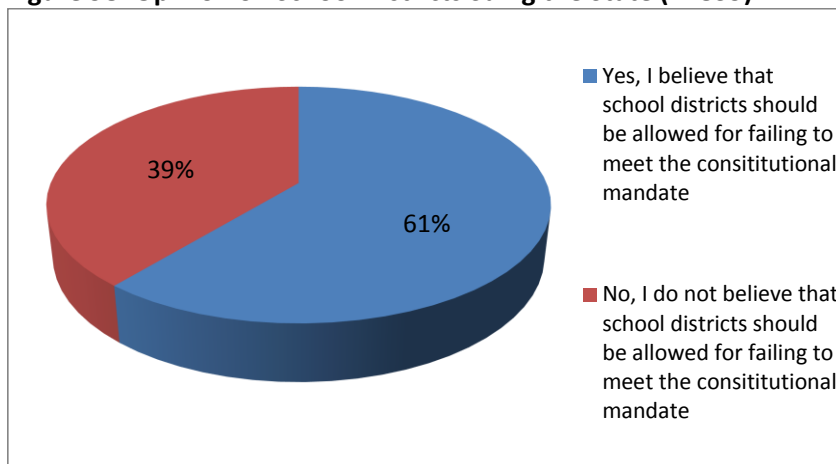


Figure 97: Opinion on State Funding for Social Services by Party Affiliation



Respondents were asked if Kansas school districts should be allowed to sue the state for failing to meet the constitutional mandate to provide adequate funding for elementary and secondary public education. Among those who answered this question, 61% supported a school district’s right to sue the state and 39% opposed this policy (Figure 98). In general, the younger, upper-educated, Hispanic and Democratic respondents were more likely to support permitting school districts to sue the state (Figures 99, 100, 101 and 102).

Figure 98: Opinion on School Districts Suing the State (n=839)



Question: *Do you believe that Kansas school districts should be allowed to sue the state for failing to meet the constitutional mandate that the state “adequately fund” elementary and secondary public education?*

Figure 99: Opinion on School Districts Suing the State by Age

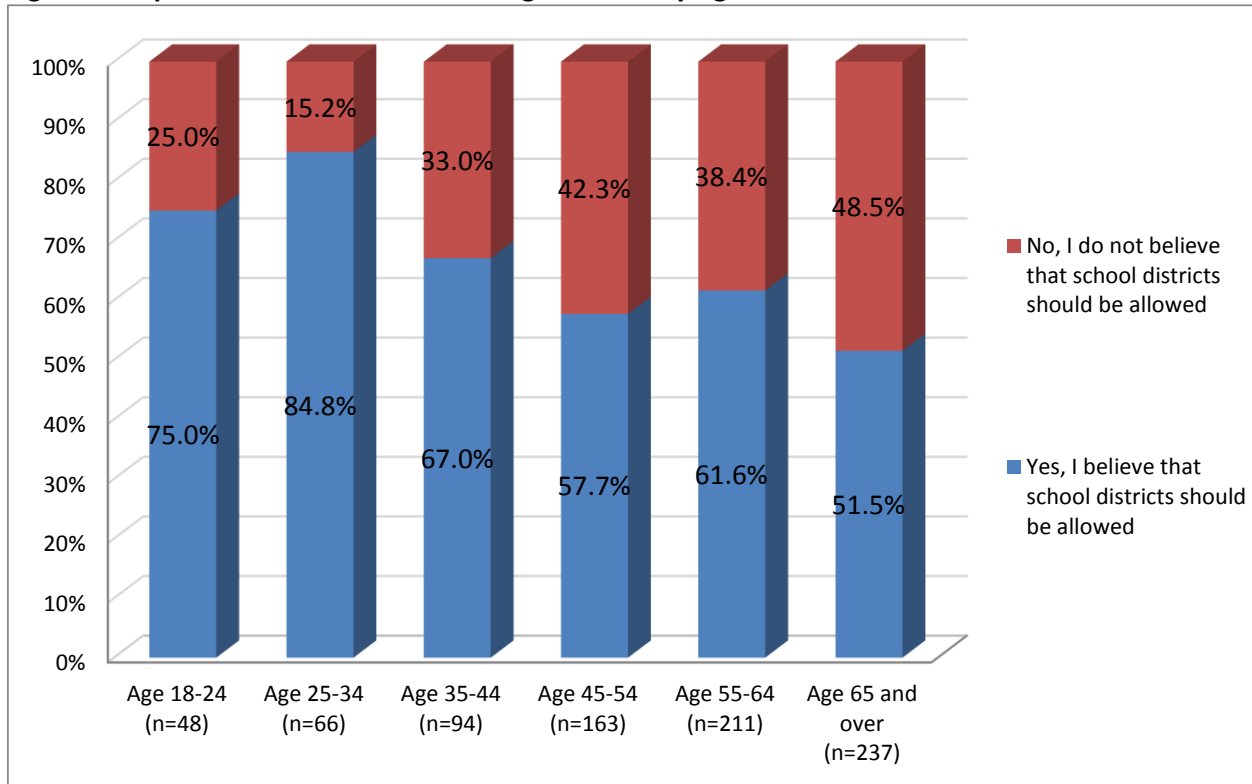


Figure 100: Opinion on School Districts Suing the State by Education

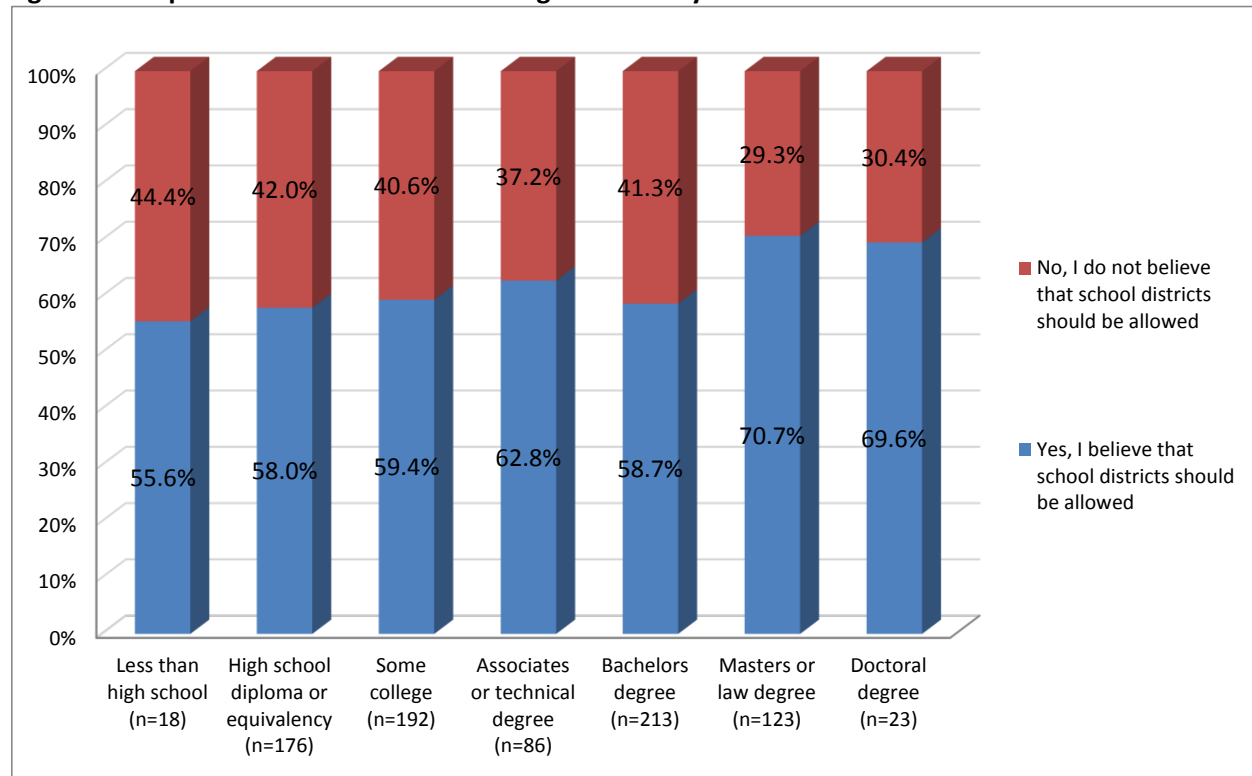


Figure 101: Opinion on School Districts Suing the State by Hispanic Origin

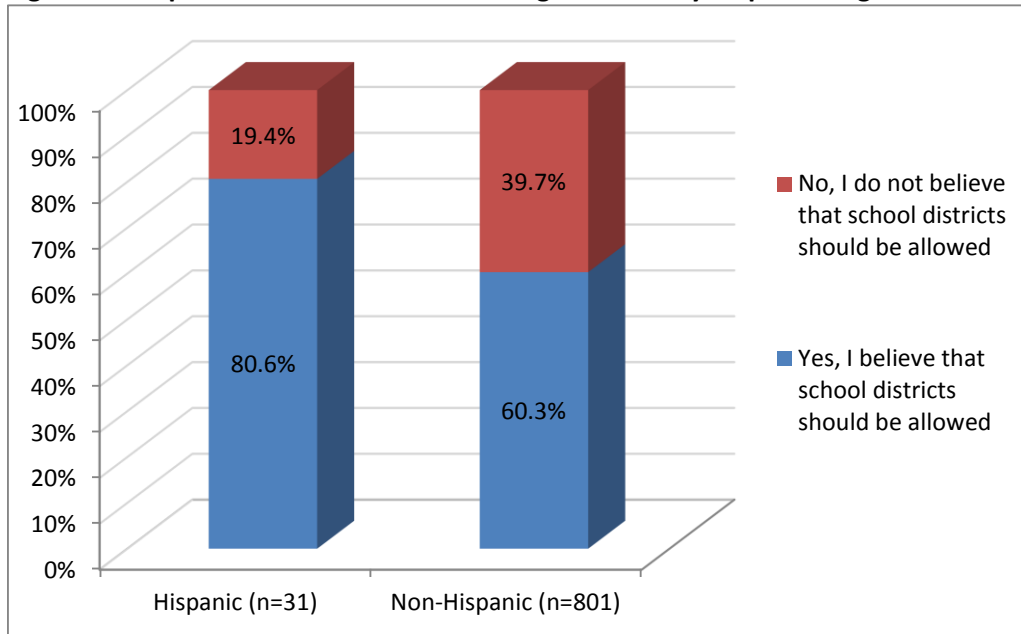
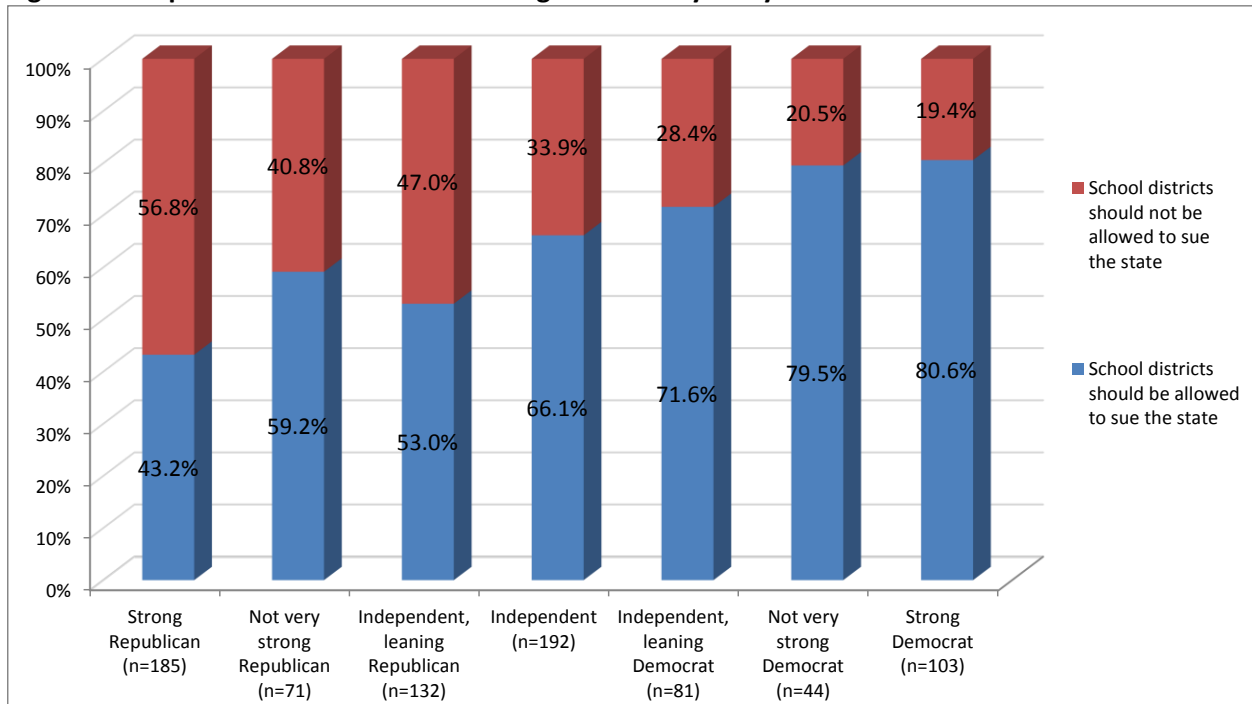
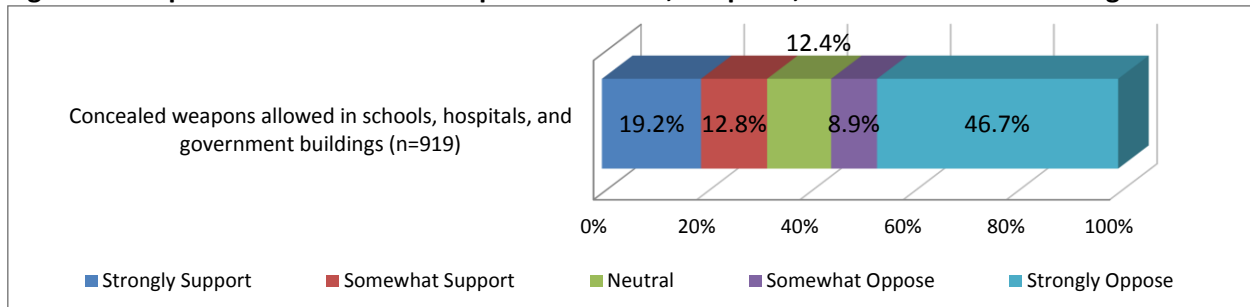


Figure 102: Opinion on School Districts Suing the State by Party Affiliation



Currently Kansas citizens who are certified may carry concealed weapons in most public places except for schools, hospitals, and governmental buildings. When asked if concealed weapons should be allowed in schools, hospitals, and government buildings, 46.7% expressed strong opposition and 8.9% said “somewhat oppose.” Almost one-third (32%) of respondents “somewhat” or “strongly” supported concealed weapons being allowed in schools, hospitals, and government buildings (Figure 103). Generally, opposition was higher among the older, female, upper-educated and Democratic respondents and those who voted in 2012 (Figures 104, 105, 106, 107 and 108).

Figure 103: Opinion on Concealed Weapons in Schools, Hospitals, and Government Buildings



Question: *Currently Kansas citizens who are certified may carry concealed weapons in most public places. Currently, concealed weapons are not allowed in schools, hospitals, and government buildings. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose allowing concealed weapons in schools, hospitals, and government buildings?*

Figure 104: Opinion on Concealed Weapons in Schools, Hospitals, and Government Buildings by Age

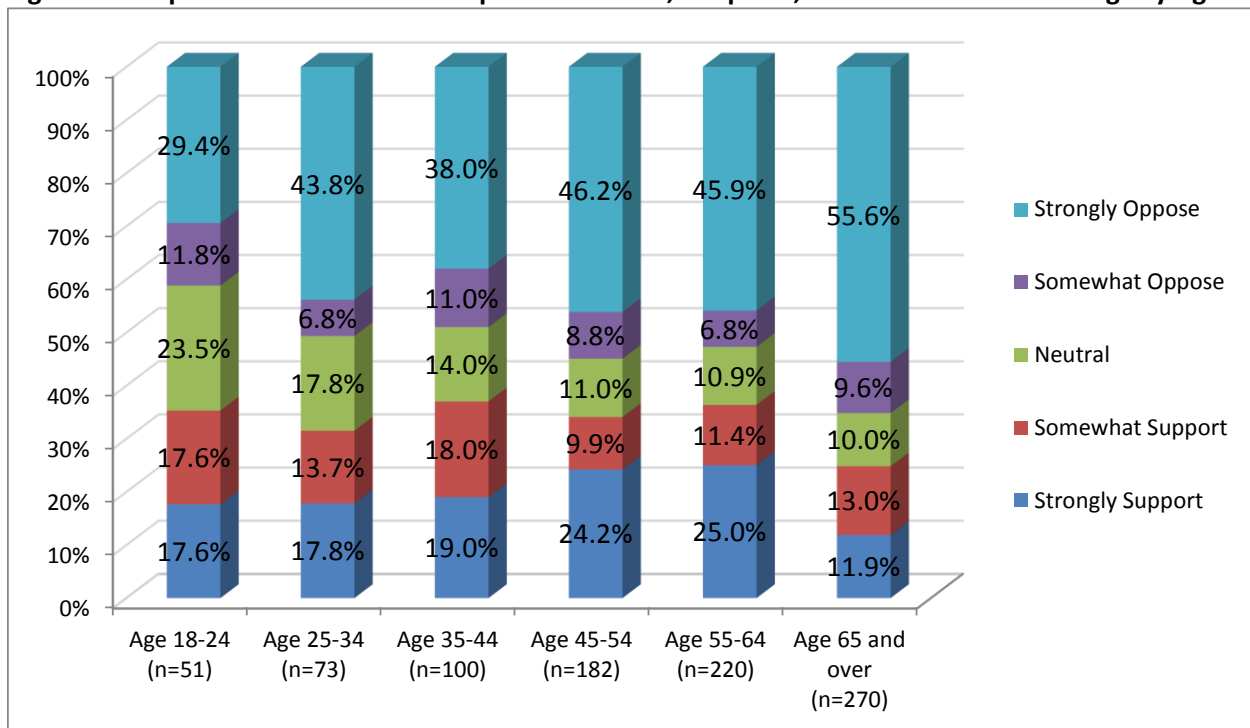


Figure 105: Opinion on Concealed Weapons in Schools, Hospitals, and Government Buildings by Gender

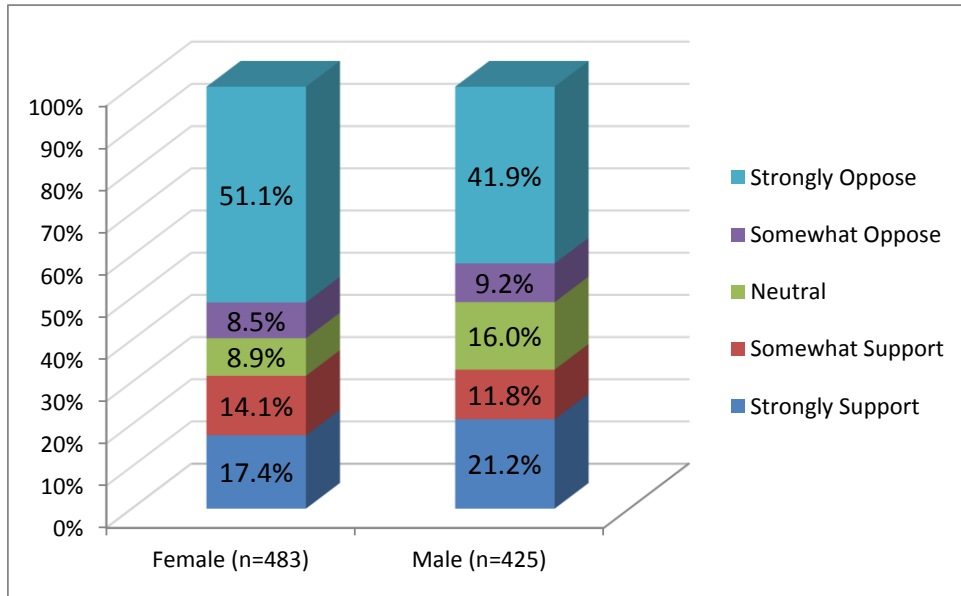


Figure 106: Opinion on Concealed Weapons in Schools, Hospitals, and Government Buildings by Education

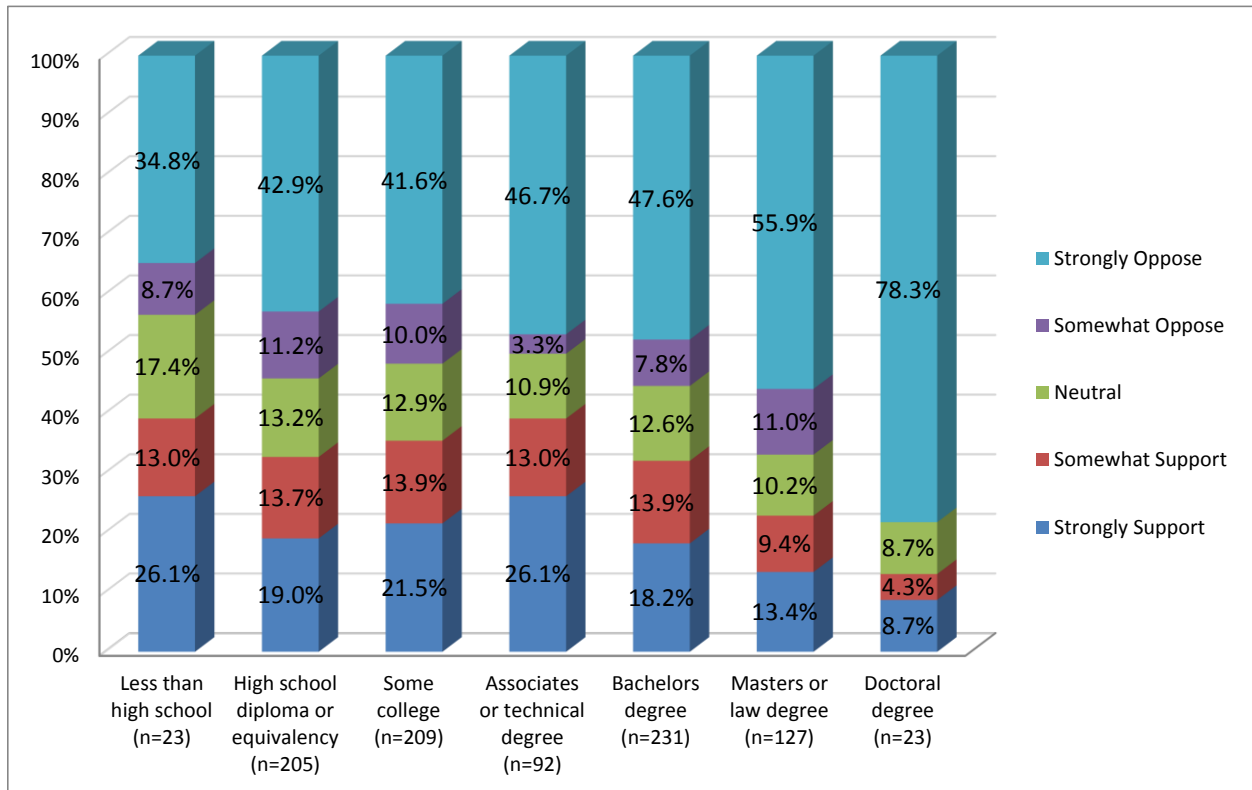


Figure 107: Opinion on Concealed Weapons in Schools, Hospitals, and Government Buildings by Party Affiliation

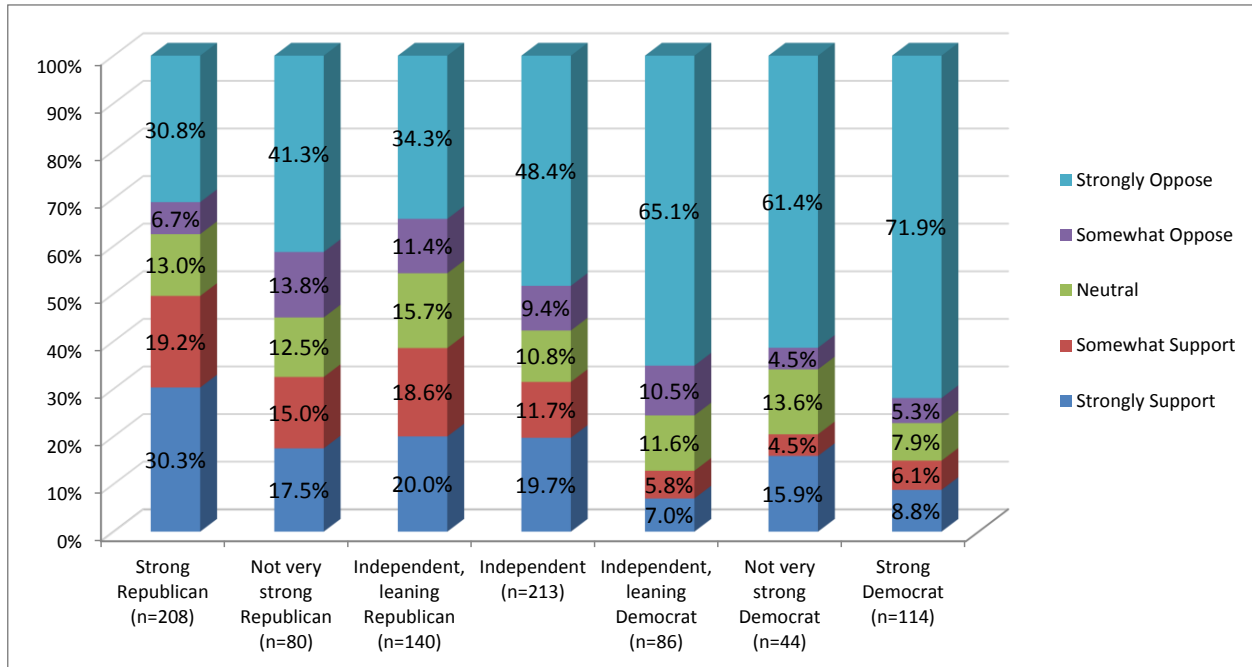
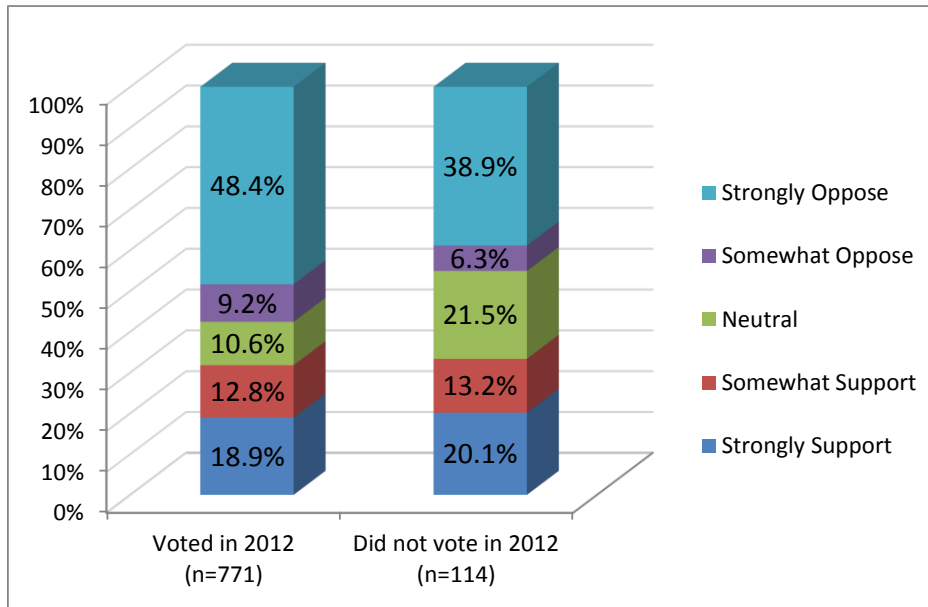
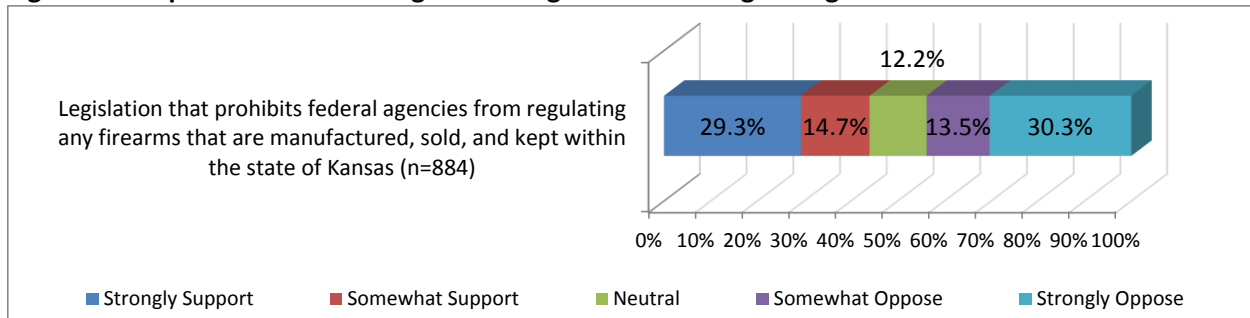


Figure 108: Opinion on Concealed Weapons in Schools, Hospitals, and Government Buildings by Voting Behavior



Respondents were highly divided on the recent legislation that prohibits federal agencies from enforcing federal gun laws pertaining to any weapons fully manufactured, sold and retained within the state borders. Figure 109 shows that 44% of respondents “strongly” or “somewhat” support the legislation. About the same percentage (43.8%) of respondents expressed strong or moderate opposition. Except for those respondents whose highest education levels were “less than high school,” the support level was generally lower among the upper-educated (Figure 111). The support level was also lower among the older and Democratic respondents (Figures 110 and 112)

Figure 109: Opinion on Prohibiting Federal Agencies from Regulating Kansas Firearms



Question: *Do you support or oppose the recent legislation that prohibits federal agencies from regulating any firearms that are manufactured, sold, and kept within the state of Kansas?*

Figure 110: Opinion on Prohibiting Federal Agencies from Regulating Kansas Firearms by Age

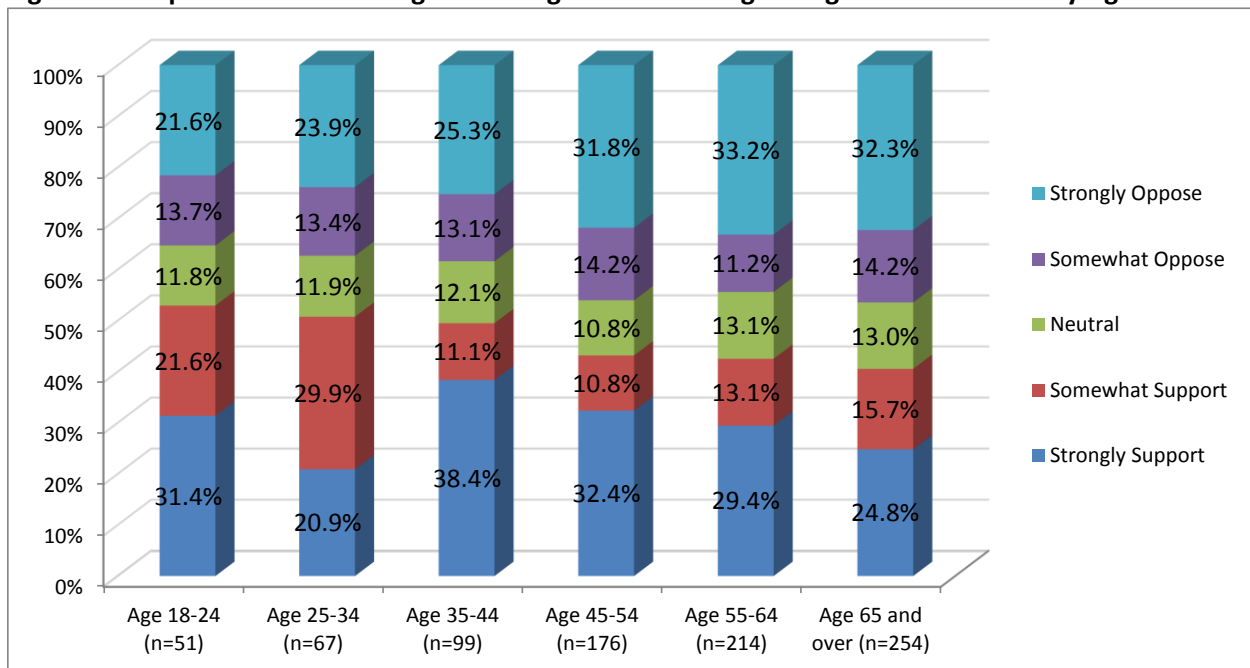


Figure 111: Opinion on Prohibiting Federal Agencies from Regulating Kansas Firearms by Education

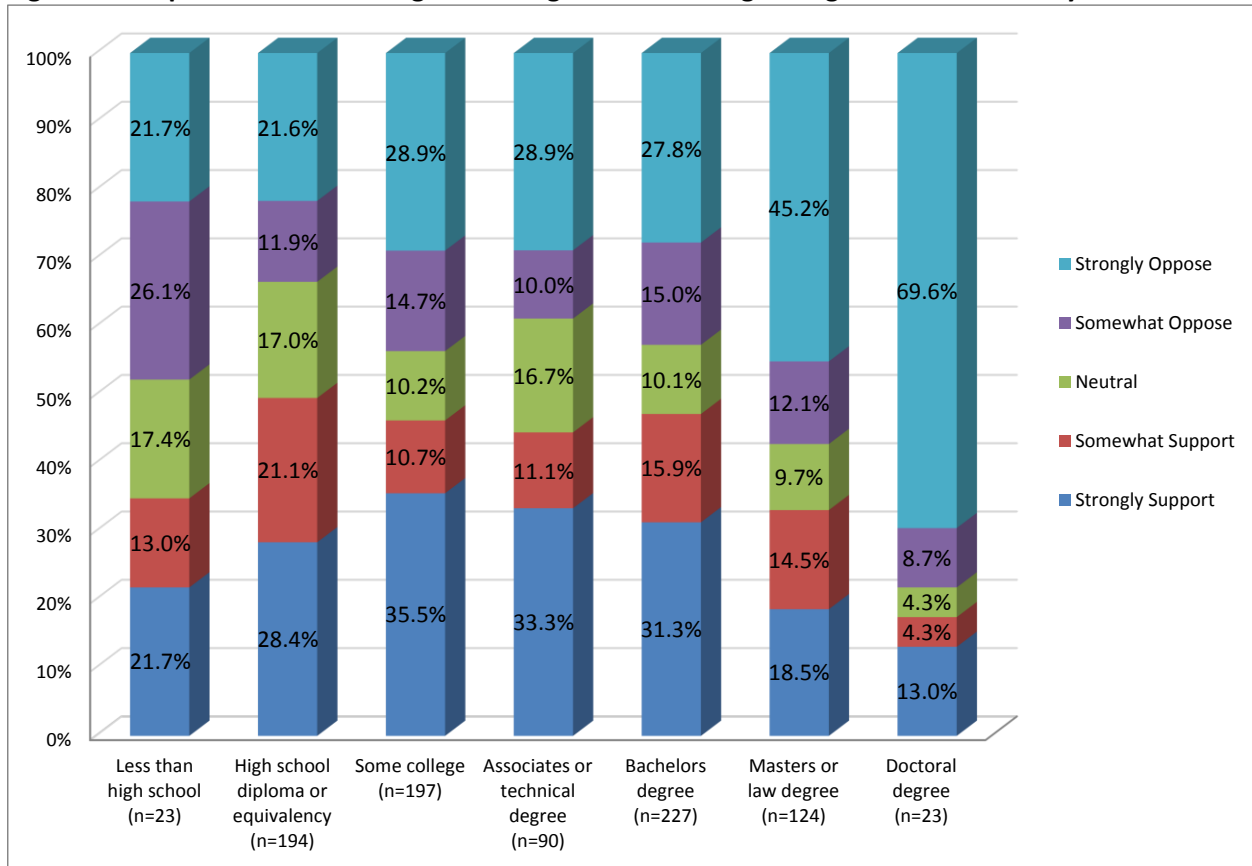
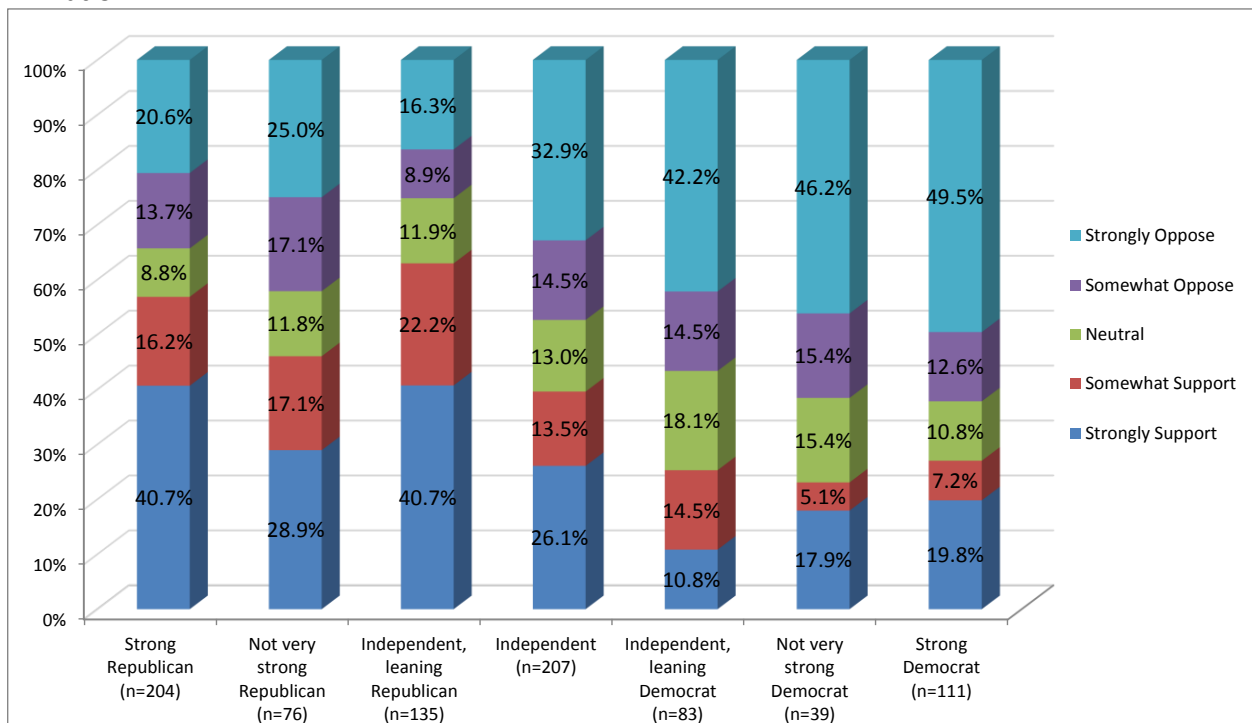


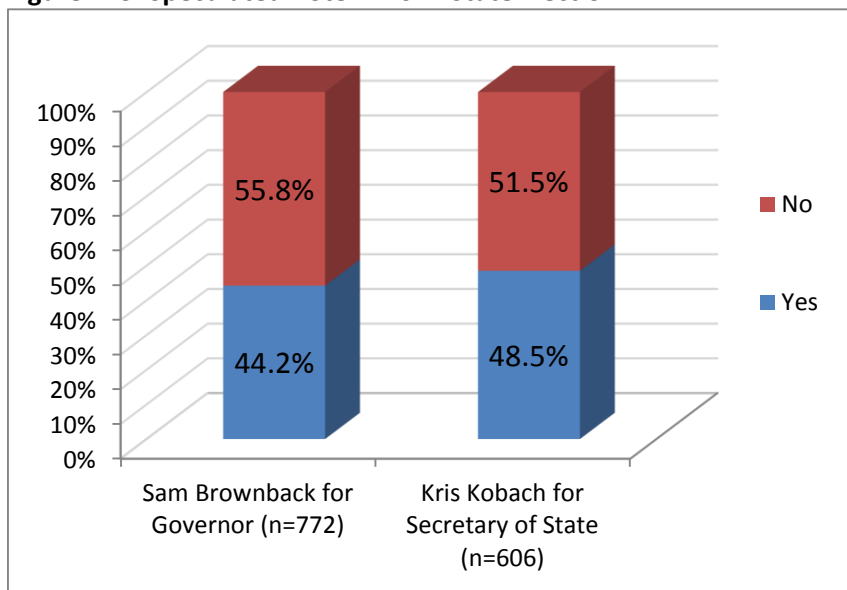
Figure 112: Opinion on Prohibiting Federal Agencies from Regulating Kansas Firearms by Party Affiliation



Section 7: Election

Respondents were asked to speculate on whether they would vote to retain two key incumbents in the upcoming 2014 state election; Governor Brownback and Secretary of State Kris Kobach. Among those expressing an opinion, 44.2% of respondents intended to vote for Sam Brownback for Governor and 48.5% would vote to retain Kris Kobach for Secretary of State (Figure 113). Governor Brownback received majority support among those respondents who were 18 to 24 years old (Figure 114), those whose highest education levels were less than high school (Figure 115), those whose family incomes were below \$35,000 last year (Figure 116), those who were Republican or Independent but leaning Republican (Figure 118) and those who did not vote in 2012 (Figure 119). Male respondents were more likely to vote for Governor Brownback than female respondents (Figure 117). Secretary of State Kobach received lower support among Independent voters and Democratic respondents and those who had master's, law, or doctoral degrees (Figures 120 and 121).

Figure 113: Speculated Vote in 2014 State Election



Questions: *If the November 2014 election were held today, would you vote for Sam Brownback for Governor? Would you vote for Kris Kobach for Secretary of State?*

Figure 114: Speculated Vote for Sam Brownback in 2014 State Election by Age

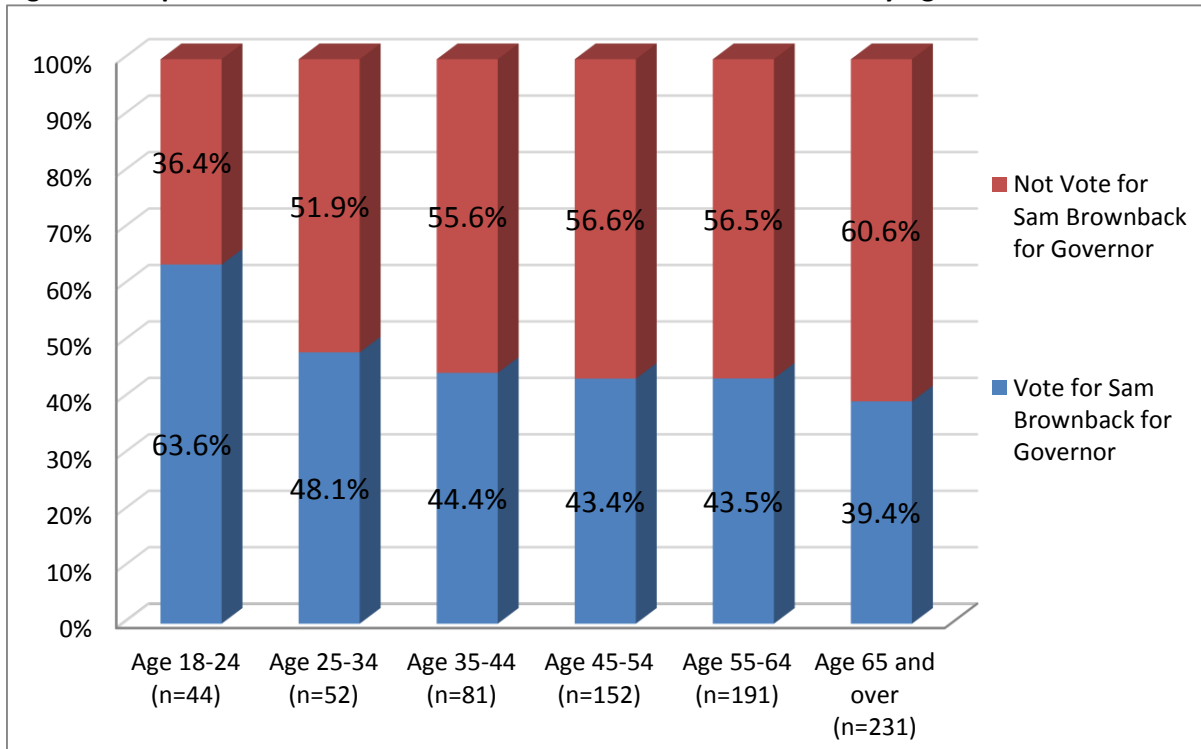


Figure 115: Speculated Vote for Sam Brownback in 2014 State Election by Education

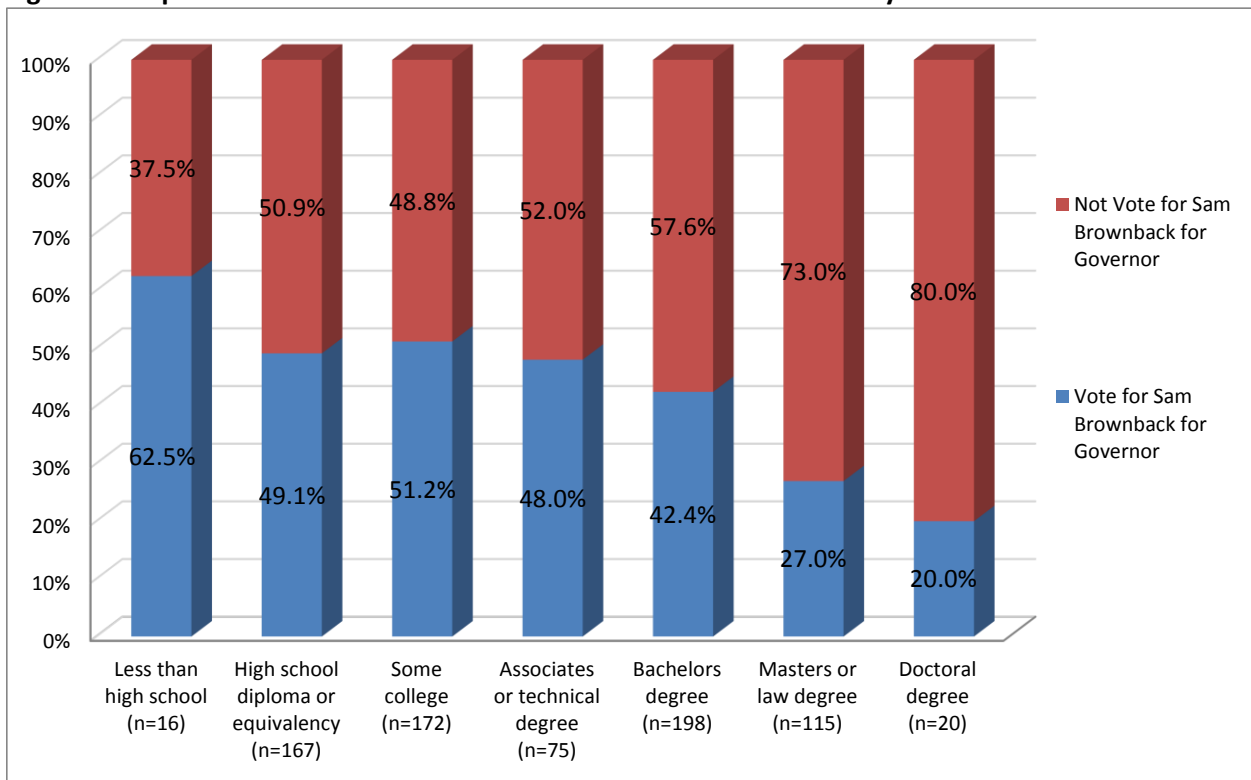


Figure 116: Speculated Vote for Sam Brownback in 2014 State Election by Income

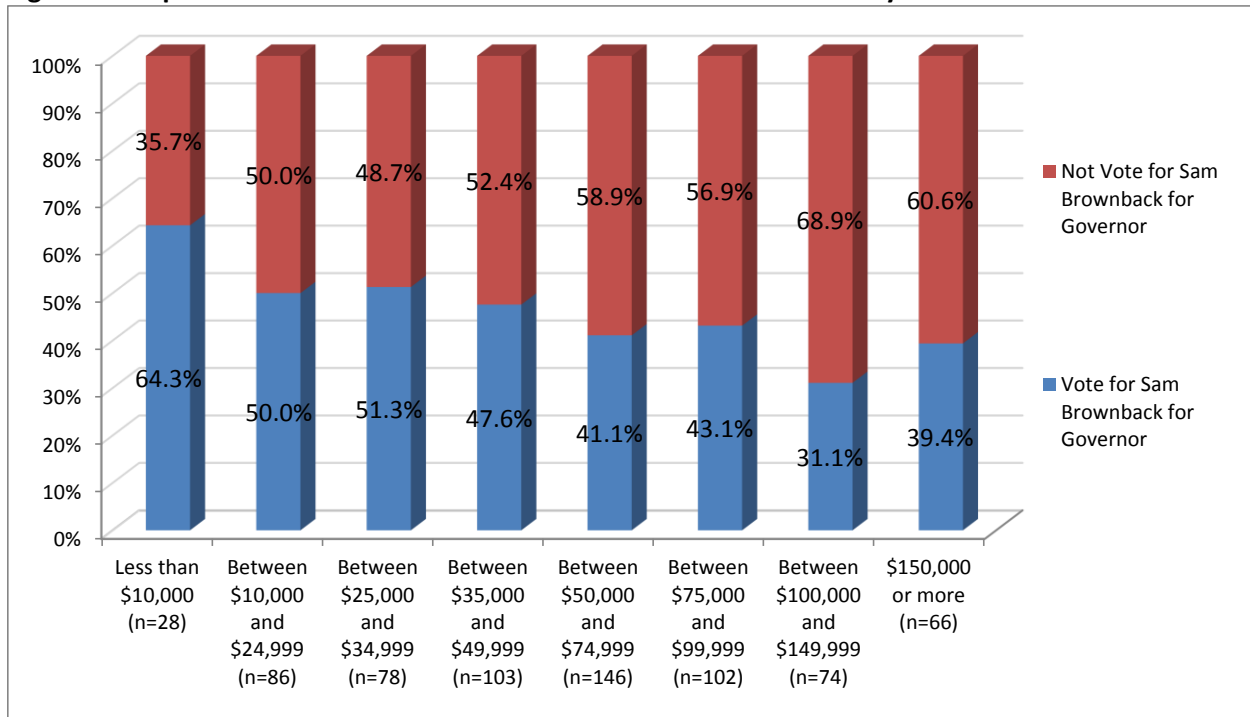


Figure 117: Speculated Vote for Sam Brownback in 2014 State Election by Gender

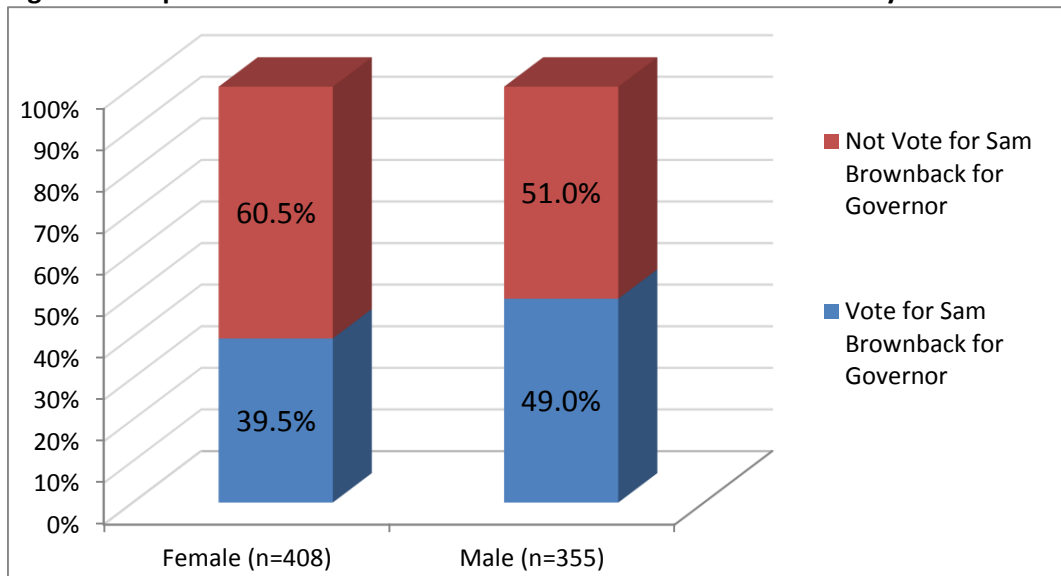


Figure 118: Speculated Vote for Sam Brownback in 2014 State Election by Party Affiliation

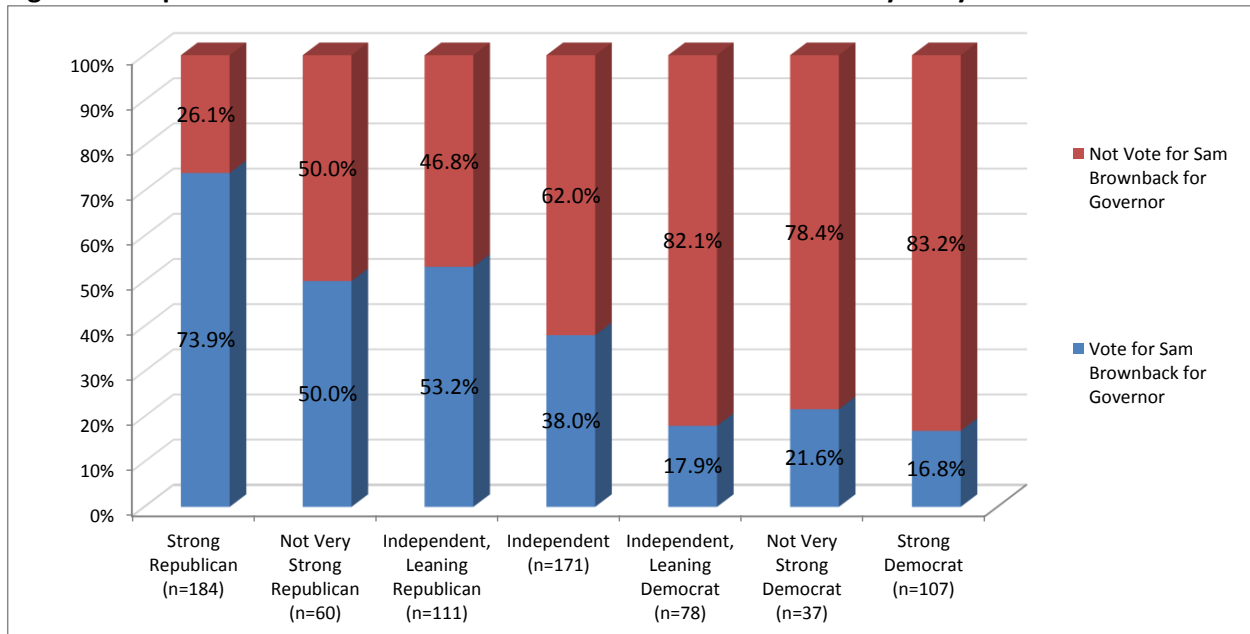


Figure 119: Speculated Vote for Sam Brownback in 2014 State Election by Voting Behavior

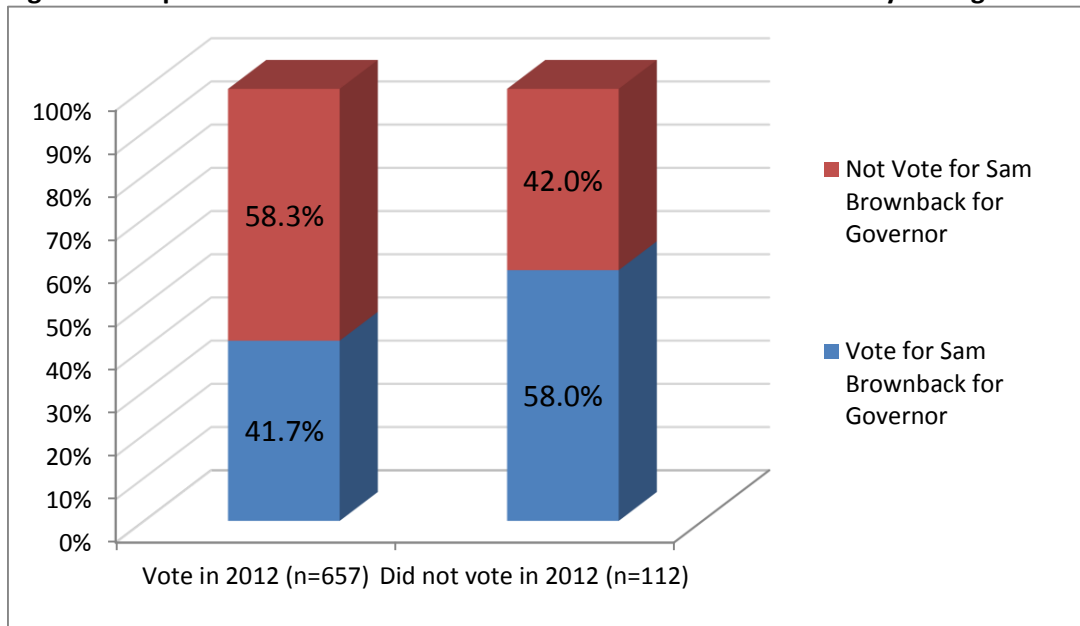


Figure 120: Speculated Vote for Kris Kobach in 2014 State Election by Education

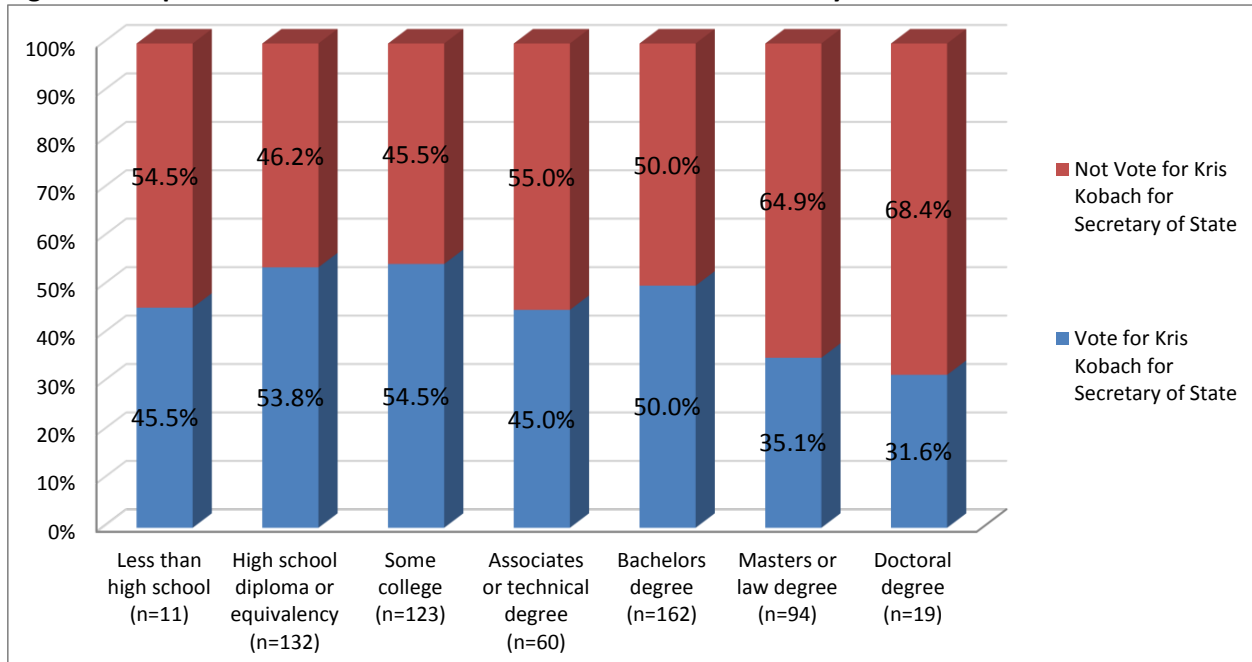
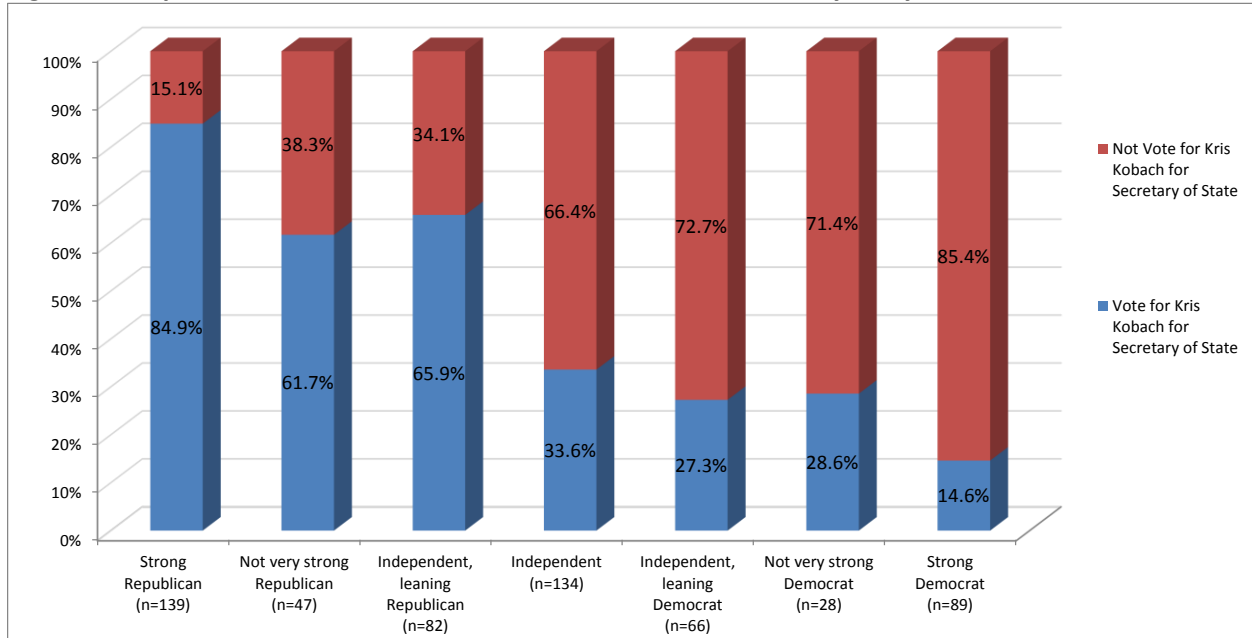
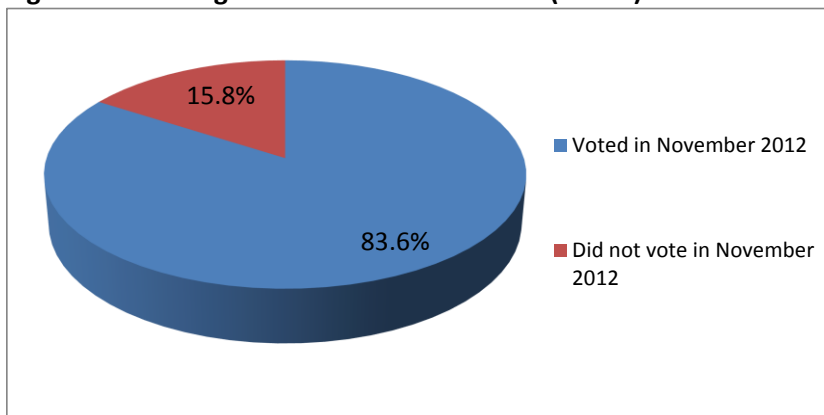


Figure 121: Speculated Vote for Kris Kobach in 2014 State Election by Party



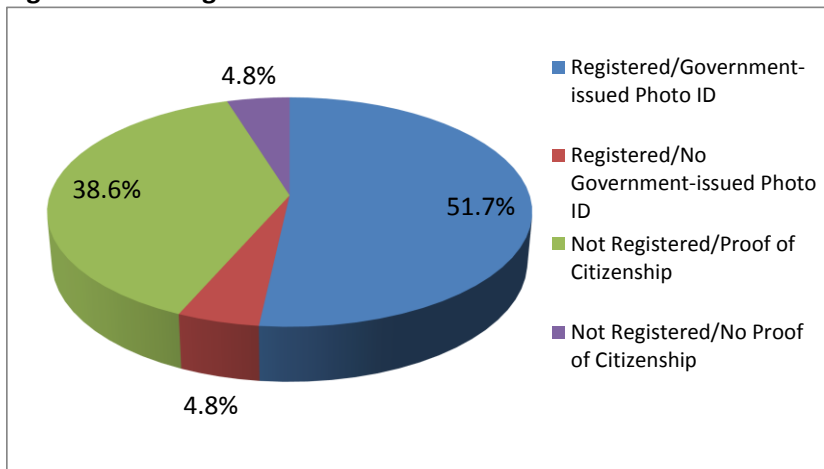
When asked if they had voted in the November 2012 election, 83.6% of respondents reported that they had voted, and 15.8% reported that they had not (Figure 122). The survey continued by asking those who did not vote if they were registered to vote. For those who reported that they were registered, the survey asked if lack of government-issued photo identification at the time of election was the reason they had not voted. For those who reported that they were not registered, the survey asked if lack of proof of citizenship at the time of the election was the reason had not been registered. Figure 123 shows that among those who did not vote, 51.7% were registered and had a government-issued ID, and that 38.6% were not registered but had the proof of citizenship needed to register. The remaining 9.6% of respondents who did not vote said they either did not have a proof of citizenship or did not have a photo ID, making them ineligible to participate in the 2012 election.

Figure 122: Voting Behavior in 2012 Election (n=938)



Question: *Did you vote in the November 2012 election?*

Figure 123: Categorization of Those Who Did Not Vote in 2012 Election (n=145)



Questions: *Are you registered to vote? Is the reason you did not vote because you did not have a government-issued photo identification at the time of the election? Is the reason you did not register because you did not have proof of citizenship at the time of the election?*

Among the entire survey sample, 0.7% of respondents said they did not have the required proof of citizenship, and additional 0.7% said they did not have the required photo ID. If the sample is representative of the Kansas adult population, the survey data suggest that approximately 14,000 Kansans do not have the required proof of citizenship to register, and another 14,000 do not have the required photo ID to vote. Although the sample sizes were too small for highly reliable cross tabulation, the data suggest that the photo ID requirement affected Democrats and Republicans equally, but the proof of citizenship requirement disproportionately affected Kansas Democrats.

Appendix A: Demographic Characteristics of the Sample

Social Indicators		Sample	Study Population*
Gender	Male	(n=934) 46.6%	49.6%
	Female	53.4%	50.4%
Hispanic Origin		(n=935) 3.6%	10.5%
Race	White	(n=928) 89.8%	83.8%
	Black or African American	3.0%	5.9%
	Biracial	0.9%	3.0%
	Asian	1.3%	2.4%
	American Indian	2.3%	1.0%
	Other	2.8%	3.9%
Household Income	Less than \$10,000	(n=823) 4.7%	7.0%
	\$10,000-\$24,999	13.0%	17.6%
	\$25,000- \$34,999	12.2%	11.5%
	\$35,000-\$49,999	14.3%	15.5%
	\$50,000-\$74,999	21.0%	19.9%
	\$75,000-\$99,999	15.2%	12.0%
	\$100,000-\$149,999	10.7%	10.8%
\$150,000 or more	8.9%	5.8%	
Education	Less Than High School	(n=932) 2.6%	10.8%
	High School Diploma	22.7%	27.8%
	Some College	22.9%	24.2%
	Associates or Technical Degree	10.1%	7.4%
	Bachelor's Degree	25.3%	19.3%
	Masters, Law Degree, or Doctoral Degree	16.4%	10.5%
Age	18-24 Years Old	(n=915) 5.8%	13.6%
	25-34 Years Old	8.0%	17.8%
	35-44 Years Old	11.0%	16.3%
	45-54 Years Old	20.1%	19.1%
	55-64 Years Old	24.6%	15.6%
	65 Years and Older	30.5%	17.7%

Appendix A (cont.): Demographic Characteristics of the Sample

Social Indicators		Sample	Study Population*
Political Party Affiliation		(n=904)	
	Strong Republican	23.9%	n/a
	Republican	8.8%	n/a
	Independent Leaning Republican	16.0%	n/a
	Independent	24.0%	n/a
	Independent Leaning Democrat	9.6%	n/a
	Democrat	4.9%	n/a
Strong Democrat	12.7%	n/a	
Years Living in Kansas		(n=939)	
	1 to 20 Years	21.8%	n/a
	21 to 40 Years	26.2%	n/a
	41 to 60 Years	31.0%	n/a
More Than 60 Years	21.0%	n/a	
Participation in 2012 Election		(n=938)	
	Voted	84.1%	n/a
Did Not Vote	15.9%	n/a	
Registered to Vote		(n=146)	
	Yes	54.8%	n/a
No	45.2%	n/a	

* Source: U.S. Census Bureau