



# Annual Minnesota Statewide Survey Fall 2013

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Findings Report-JOB APPROVAL AND THE  
FEELING THERMOMETER

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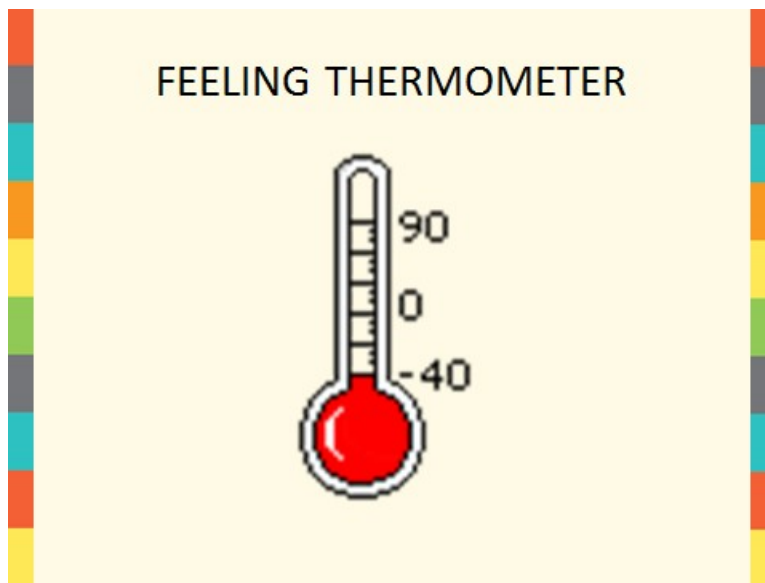
ST. CLOUD, Minn. – The SCSU Survey at St. Cloud State University has completed its annual fall statewide survey and is releasing results beginning Wednesday 11/27.

Today (11/27/13) we are releasing a series of questions relating to job approvals of Barack Obama, Mark Dayton, Al Franken, and Amy Klobuchar. Also results from the annual “Feeling Thermometer” will include the four above named individuals, plus Congressperson Michelle Bachmann and four political parties (Democrat Party, Republican Party, Libertarian Party and the Tea Party).

*In conjunction with each release the results will be posted on the Survey’s website at [www.stcloudstate.edu/scsusurvey](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/scsusurvey). There may be a delay in posting. For more information on these results contact Dr. Steve Frank at [sfrank@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:sfrank@stcloudstate.edu) or 320-308-4131 (quicker response by email contact).*

The 629 (626 after weighting and data cleaning) randomly chosen adult Minnesotans were interviewed Oct. 20-27th via live interviewers and random phone bank digit dialing to reach landlines and cell phones. Interviews were conducted by about 48 trained St. Cloud State students who were supervised by faculty and student directors. About 35% of the respondents were cell phone users. The sample is an almost exact match to the state’s population 18+. Slight weighting was done for Hennepin County and age. The county was slightly overrepresented and younger respondents slightly underrepresented. A more complete methodology section is available but some work on that section is occurring. The overall margin of error is about 4.5% but can vary with subsamples and variation of the results. .

## **THE FEELING THERMOMETER**

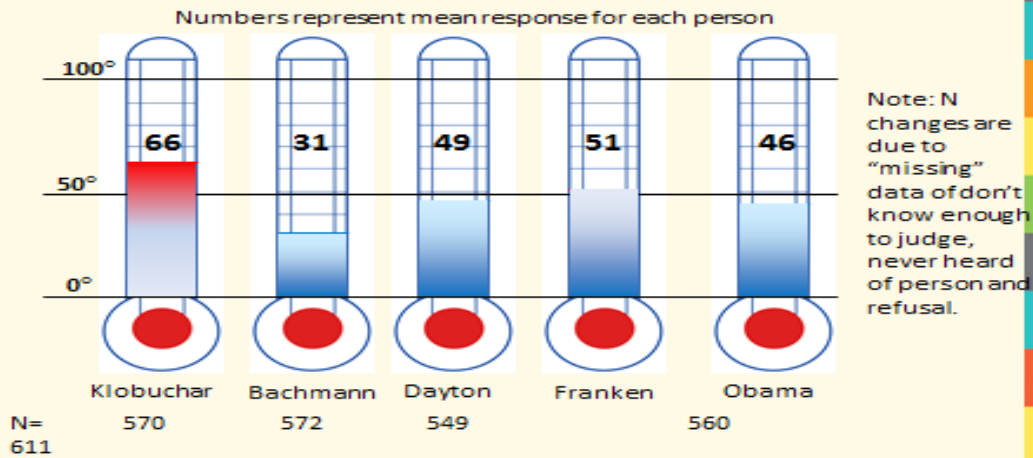


Every year we ask Minnesota Residents to rate their feelings of political figures on a scale of 100. This year we also included four political parties-Republican, Democrat, Libertarian and Tea Party. Ratings on the thermometer between 50 and 100 degrees meant the respondent felt favorable and warm toward the person. Respondent who said don't know or can't judge were excluded from computing the mean. Ratings between 0 and 50 meant the respondent did not feel too favorable toward the person.

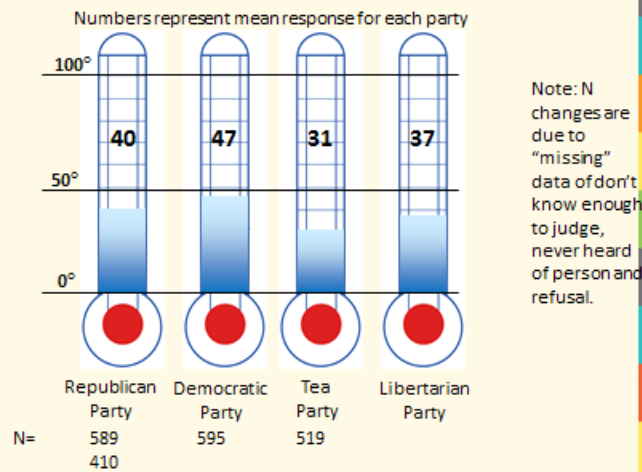
### Feeling Thermometer

Instructions: Please think of a thermometer that has a range of 0 to 100 degrees. I'd like you to rate your feelings toward some of our political leaders and political parties. Ratings on the thermometer between 50 and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm toward the person. Ratings between 0 and 50 mean that you do not feel too favorable toward the person. If we come to a person whose name you don't recognize, you don't need to rate that person. Just tell me and we will move on to the next one. If you do recognize the name, but do not feel particularly warm or cold toward the person, you would rate the person at the 50-degree mark.

## Political Leaders



## Political Parties



## THE FEELING THERMOMETER

Name	2012 RDN	2012 New	2011 New	2010 New	2012 % of Respondents with 2012 Issues/ seu12T judge	2011 % of Respondents with 2011 Issues/ seu11T judge
Barack Obama	46	54	50	49	1%	0
Michelle Bachmann	31	37	35	N/A	8	3
Mark Dayton	49	55	52	48	8	4
Amy Klobuchar		64	60	N/A	8	15
Den Sevenson		NA	47	N/A	N/A	74
Joe Anwood <sup>1</sup>		NA	47	N/A	N/A	85
Mitt Romney		42	48	N/A	9	11
Al Franken	31	49			N/A	
Harman Cain		NA	47	N/A	N/A	18
Kit Bills		47			59%	
Tea Party	31	NA	37	N/A	N/A	14
Wall Street		NA	37	N/A	N/A	5
Occupy Wall Street		NA	44	N/A	N/A	23

**2013 NEW** DEMOCRATIC PARTY 47 (N=589) REPUBLICAN PARTY 40 (N=589)  
LIBERTARIAN PARTY 37 (n=430) TEA PARTY (n=519)

**FROM LEFT** 2013 means 2012 means 2011 means 2010 means 2012 %  
 respondents who said don't know/can't judge/ 2011 % respondents who said don't  
 know/can't judge/

SOME OBSERVATIONS: These are fluid opinions and subject to change. When the second release is completed and released these will give a bit more context. One stable opinion is the widespread positive feelings for Senator Klobuchar and the low negative rankings for Congressperson Bachmann.

**SOME DEMOGRAPHICS AND PARTY BREAKDOWNS MEAN SCORES**

	<b>DEM</b>	<b>REP</b>	<b>MAL E</b>	<b>FEMA LE</b>	<b>REGIO N</b>	<b>INCOM E</b>
					10 COUN TY METR O	<b>GREATER MN</b>
<b>OBAMA</b>	71	27	42	51		
<b>DAYTON</b>	65	32	45	53		
<b>FRANKEN</b>	71	30	46	56		
<b>KLOBUCH AR</b>	78	48	57	68		
<b>BACHMAN N</b>	14	51	35	28		
<b>TEA PARTY</b>	15	46	34	27		

<b>REPUBLICAN</b>	28	60	42	39
<b>DEMOCRAT</b>	65	27	44	50
<b>LIBERTARIAN</b>	28	38	36	38

	<b>SOME AGE GROUPS</b>				<b>SOME EDUCATION</b>		
	<b>18-24</b>	<b>25-34</b>	<b>45-54</b>	<b>65-74</b>	<b>High school</b>	<b>College grad</b>	<b>Grad ed</b>
<b>OBAMA</b>	45	43	42	53	39	47	57
<b>DAYTON</b>	47	46	45	56	45	50	57
<b>FRANKEN</b>	53	49	49	57	46	49	60
<b>KLOBUCHAR</b>	51	54	63	73	61	61	72
<b>BACHMAN</b>	35	27	33	30	39	32	22
<b>TEA PARTY</b>	38	36	34	24	32	29	24
<b>REPUBLICAN</b>	47	39	41	36	45	41	34
<b>DEMOCRAT</b>	49	48	45	50	44	45	52
<b>LIBERTARIAN</b>	42	43	35	34	29	37	39

SOME CATEGORIES HAVE SMALL N'S





<b>Name</b>	<b>2011 Mean</b>	<b>2010 Mean</b>	<b>2011 Standard Deviation</b>	<b>% of Respondents who didn't know/couldn't judge</b>
Barack Obama	50	49	31	0
Michele Bachmann	33	N/A	26	3
Mark Dayton	52	48	24	4
Amy Klobuchar	60	N/A	25	15
Dan Severson	47	N/A	17	74
Joe Arwood*	47	N/A	12	85
Mitt Romney	48	N/A	21	11
Hermain Cain	47	N/A	23	18
Tea Party	37	N/A	28	14
Wall Street	37	N/A	24	8
Occupy Wall Street	44	N/A	28	25

\* Joe Arwood was added part way through the conduction of the survey N/A: person was not rated in 2010 survey.

## JOB APPROVAL BARACK OBAMA, MARK DAYTON , AMY KLOBUCHAR, AL FRANKEN

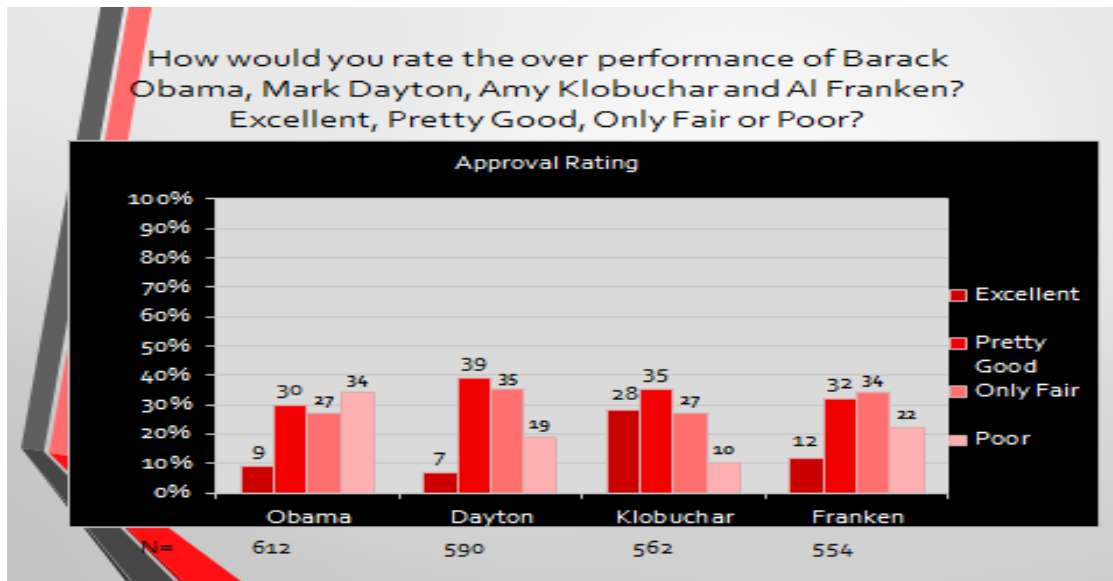
How would you rate the overall performance of Mark Dayton as Governor? Would you rate his performance as excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?

How would you rate the overall performance of Barack Obama as President? Would you rate his performance as excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?

How would you rate the overall performance of Amy Klobuchar as U.S. Senator? Would you rate her performance as excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?

How would you rate the overall performance of Al Franken as U.S. Senator? Would you rate his performance as excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?

[NOTE: EXCELLENT AND PRETTY GOOD COLLAPSED INTO POSITIVE, ONLY FAIR AND POOR COLLAPSED INTO NEGATIVE. MAY NOT EQUAL 100% DUE TO INCLUSION/EXCLUSION OF DON'T KNOWS AND ROUNDING]



	2013	2012	2011	2010
<b>OBAMA POSITIVE</b>	38%	47%	41%	38%
<b>OBAMA NEGATIVE</b>	61%	53	59	
<b>DAYTON POS</b>	44	53	45	
<b>DAYTON NEG</b>	52	42	59	
<b>FRANKEN POSITIVE</b>	39			
<b>FRANKEN NEGATIVE</b>	51			

**KLOBUCHA 57%**  
**R POSITIVE**

**KLOBUCHA 34%**  
**R**  
**NEGATIVE**

**RESULTS MAY NOT EQUAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING AND INCLUSION/EXCLUSION OF DON'T KNOWS.**

As noted in national surveys President Obama's performance rating has decreased from last year and returned to 2010 levels. In 2010, we found that not quite two out of every five (38%) of our respondents rated President Obama's performance as excellent and pretty good.

Residents were also asked to rate the performance of Governor Dayton. This year, slightly less than half (44%) of the respondents questioned rated Governor Dayton's performance as excellent and pretty good and a slight majority (52%) of the respondents rated Governor Dayton's performance as only fair or poor. Senator Franken has a low approval score while Senator Klobuchar has strong and widespread approval.

Some caution is warranted as these are fluid opinions. Republicans are not befitting from the decline in approval or positive feeling toward President Obama, etc. This will be demonstrated by examining the feeling thermometer and next week's data release.

**SOME DEMOGRAPHICS AND PARTY BREAKDOWNS MEAN SCORES**

	<b>DEM</b>	<b>REP</b>	<b>MAL</b>	<b>FEMA</b>	<b>REGIO</b>	<b>INCOM</b>
			<b>E</b>	<b>LE</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>
					10	<b>GREATER</b>
					COUN	<b>MN.</b>
					TY	
					METR	
					O	
<b>OBAMA</b>	70%	3%	33%	44%		
<b>POSITIVE</b>						
<b>OBAMA</b>						
<b>NEGATIVE</b>						

**DAYTON  
POSITIVE**      71%    19%    39      51

**DAYTON  
NEGATIVE**

**KLOBUCH  
AR  
POSITIVE**      80      46      57      67

**KLOBUCH  
AR  
NEGATIVE**

**FRANKEN  
POSITIVE**      70      11      38      47

**FRANKEN  
NEGATIVE**

**SOME  
AGE  
GROU  
PS**

**18-24    25-    45-    65-  
          34    54    74**

**SOME  
EDUCATI  
ON**

**High    Colleg    Grad  
school   e grad   ed**

**OBAMA**      34%    29%    29%    52%

31%      36%    49%

**POSITIVE**

**OBAMA  
NEGATIVE**

<b>DAYTON POSITIVE</b>	46	37	38	56	37	52	59
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**DAYTON  
NEGATIVE**

<b>KLOBUCH AR POSITIVE</b>	44	50	61	77	56	59	77
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**KLOBUCH  
AR  
NEGATIVE**

<b>FRANKEN POSITIVE</b>	39	25	42	54	34	37	58
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**FRANKEN  
NEGATIVE**

SOME CATEGORIES HAVE SMALL N'S

## JOB APPROVAL –OBAMA 2012

Q11OBAMA					
How would you rate the overall performance of Barack Obama as President? Would you rate his performance as excellent					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 1. EXCELLENT	56	9.3	9.4	9.4
	2 2. PRETTY GOOD	222	37.0	37.3	46.7
	3 3. ONLY FAIR	149	24.8	25.0	71.7
	4 4. POOR	165	27.5	27.7	99.4
	5 5. DON'T KNOW	3	.6	.6	100.0
	Total	596	99.2	100.0	
Missing	9 9. REFUSED	5	.8		
	Total	601	100.0		

**2010 -38% POSITIVE**  
**2011-41% POSITIVE**

## JOB APPROVAL –DAYTON 2012

Q10DAYTON					
How would you rate the overall performance of Mark Dayton as Governor? Would you rate his performance as excellent					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	EXCELLENT	45	7.4	7.5	7.5
	PRETTY GOOD	271	45.1	45.4	52.9
	ONLY FAIR	170	28.3	28.5	81.4
	POOR	79	13.2	13.3	94.7
	DON'T KNOW	32	5.3	5.3	100.0
	Total	597	99.3	100.0	
Missing	REFUSED	4	.7		
	Total	601	100.0		

**2011 POSITIVE 45%**



St. Cloud State is one of 690 leading U.S. colleges and universities, students, faculty and staff to receive this honor for 2013. The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll recognizes higher education institutions that reflect the values of exemplary community service and achieve meaningful outcomes in their communities. The St. Cloud State University Survey was 1 of 3 SCSU projects recognized this past year.

#### Pollster Accuracy and Bias, 2012 Presidential Election

Likely Voters Polls in Last 21 Days of Campaign

Pollster	# Polls	Avg. Error	Bias	Mode	Cell?
Columbus Dispatch	1	0.1	D +0.1	Mail	N/A
U. of Texas	1	0.2	R +0.2	Internet	N/A
St. Cloud State	1	0.3	D +0.3	Live Phone	Yes
Howey / DePaour	1	0.5	D +0.5	Live Phone	??
Strategies 360	1	0.6	R +0.6	Live Phone	Yes
Selzer	1	0.7	R +0.7	Live Phone	Yes
U. of Cincinnati / Ohio Poll	3	0.8	R +0.8	Live Phone	Yes
GQR / Democracy Corps	2	0.9	D +0.9	Live Phone	Yes
Research & Polling	1	0.9	R +0.9	Live Phone	Yes
IBO / TIPP	11	0.9	R +0.1	Live Phone	Yes
The New York Times / CBS News	2	1.1	R +1.1	Live Phone	Yes
Muhlenberg	2	1.1	R +1.1	Live Phone	??
Franklin & Marshall	1	1.1	R +1.1	Live Phone	Yes
National Research / Civitas	1	1.2	D +1.2	Live Phone	Yes
Keating Research	2	1.2	R +1.2	Live Phone	Yes
Lake Research Partners	3	1.2	R +1.1	Live Phone	Yes
Marquette University	1	1.3	D +1.3	Live Phone	Yes
Zogby (Telephone)	2	1.3	R +1.3	Live Phone	Yes
Pew Research	2	1.5	R +1.1	Live Phone	Yes
Google Consumer Surveys	12	1.6	R +1.0	Internet	N/A
Meltman	9	1.6	R +0.0	Live Phone	Yes

Nate Silver, former *New York Times* survey analyst and political writer ranked St. Cloud State University Survey number 3 for accuracy and bias control among polls that conducted fewer than 3 polls, 3 weeks prior to 2012 Presidential election survey. There were about 80 polls in this category  
 November 10, 2012, 8:38 pm Which Polls Fared Best (and Worst) in the 2012 Presidential Race  
 By [NATE SILVER](#)  
<http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/11/10/which-polls-fared-best-and-worst-in-the-2012-presidential-race/>