



Mountain States Poll

October 2022

35th edition

Dr. Hope Dewell Gentry, Director

Introduction

The Montana State University Billings Poll was first conducted by Dr. Craig Wilson in 1989. At that time, it was named the Eastern Montana College Poll. The Poll became the Mountain States Poll in 2019. This report provides a summary of the statewide random sample of 343 Montana residents. Phone numbers were provided by Scientific Telephone Samples (STS) using the method of random digit dialing (RDD). The Poll was generously funded by the Department of Social Sciences and Cultural Studies, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, and the Office of the Provost at Montana State University Billings.

This year, the Mountain States Poll was conducted from October 3-14, 2022 in the Market Research Lab in the College of Business. The margin of error for the poll is 5.29%, with various subgroups having larger margins of error. Cross-tabulations are provided based on a variety of demographic information and party affiliation. The results are weighted based on reports from the Census.

Acknowledgements

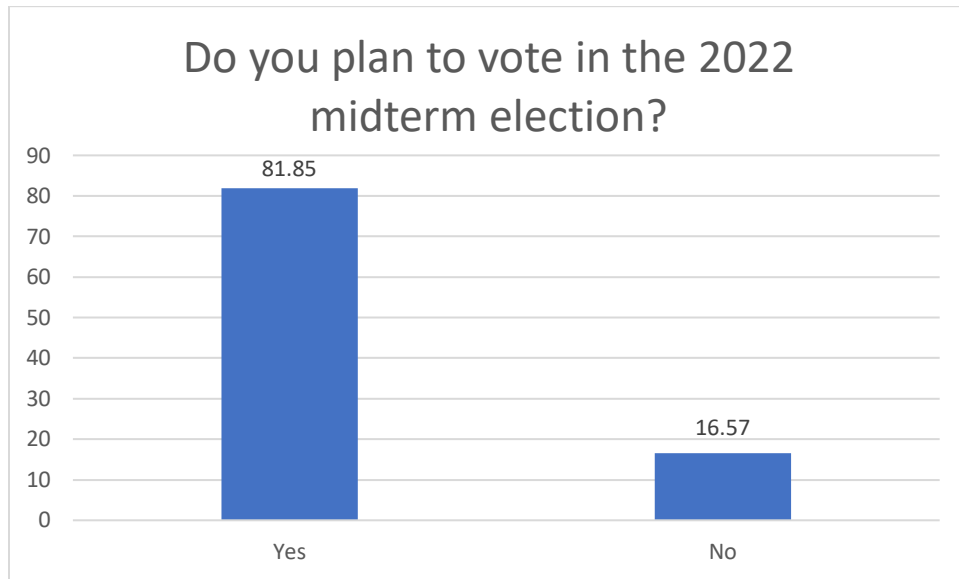
The Mountain States Poll would not be possible without the hard work, dedication, and support of a team of people. Thank you to those who contributed to the success of this year's Poll. I would like to acknowledge the support of Montana State University Billings Chancellor Stefani Hicswa and Provost Sep Eskandari. I would also like to thank the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, including Dean Tami Haaland, as well as the Department of Social Sciences and Cultural Studies, including Dr. Jennifer Scroggins, Dr. Paul Pope, and Ms. Glenda Holbrook. The use of the Market Research Lab is vital to the success of the Poll. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for Dr. Jessie Perius and her continued support of the Poll, as well as the College of Business. We also had amazing volunteers to help administer the Poll. Thank you to Claire Bagnell, Elizabeth Goffena, and Payton Tigner for your dedication and hard work!

Most of all, the PSCI 342 Media, Public Opinion, and Polling class needs to be recognized for the extensive work in designing the polling questions and conducting phone interviews. Fantastic job, class!

PSCI 342 Student Participants

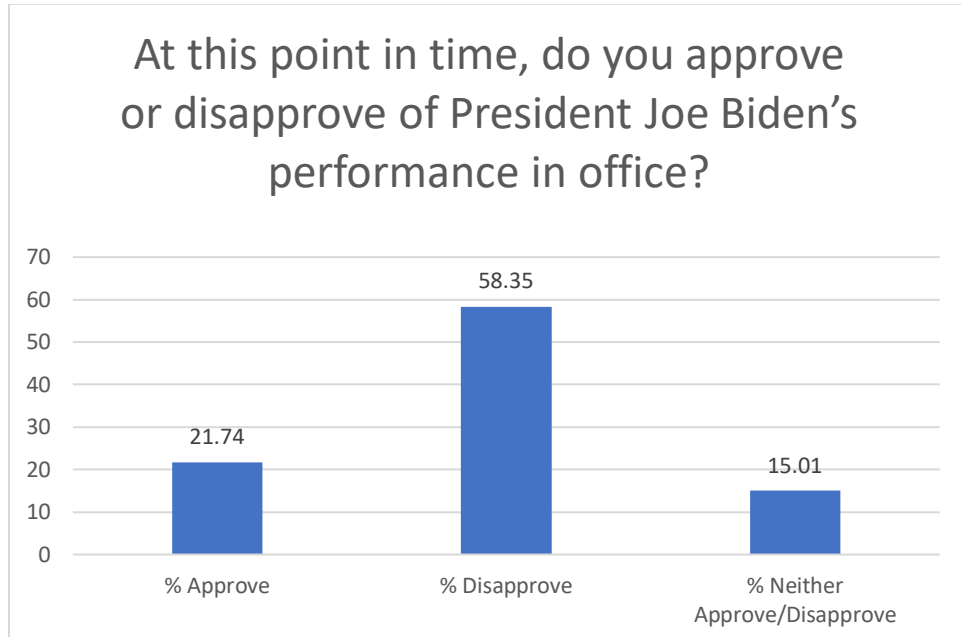
Vendela Andersson	Anna Howell
Brienna Barron	Megan Mendenhall
Levi Black Eagle	Mercedes Milam
Abria Boze	Nathan Muri
Phoebe Brailer	Keith O'Neil
Dayle DeCoteau	Carson Prokop
Kyra Fortner	Sidney Romero
Carson Green	Amanda Rouse
Samantha Green	Jacqueline Sharpe
Austin Hansen	Keegan Vanderhoef

1. Do you plan to vote in the 2022 midterm election?



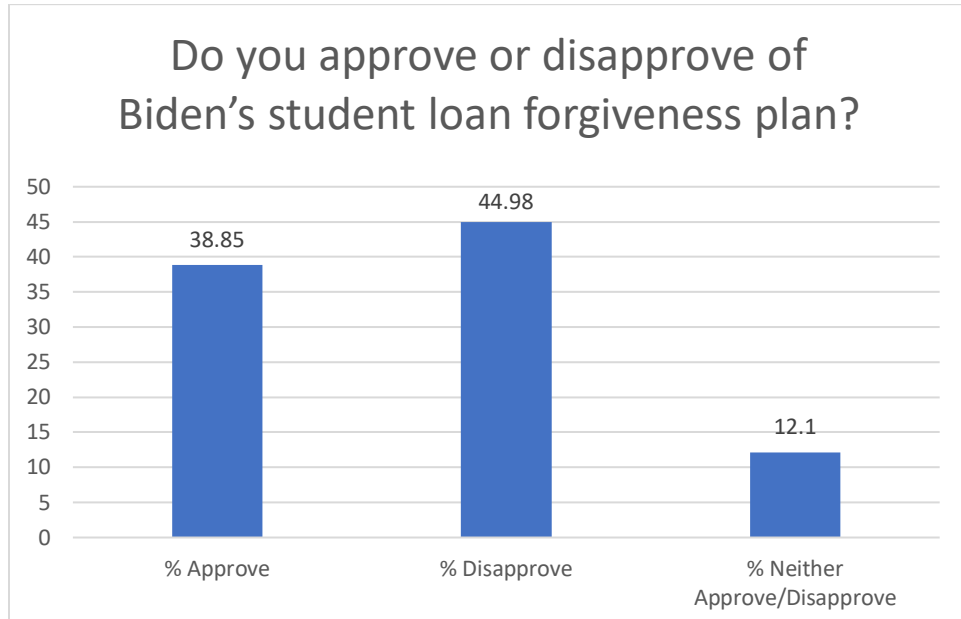
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Yes	82	84	90	98	81	83		
% No	17	8	10	2	16	17		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Yes	72	79	81	94	73	80	86	93
% No	27	17	18	6	27	20	9	3

2. At this point in time, do you approve or disapprove of President Joe Biden's performance in office?



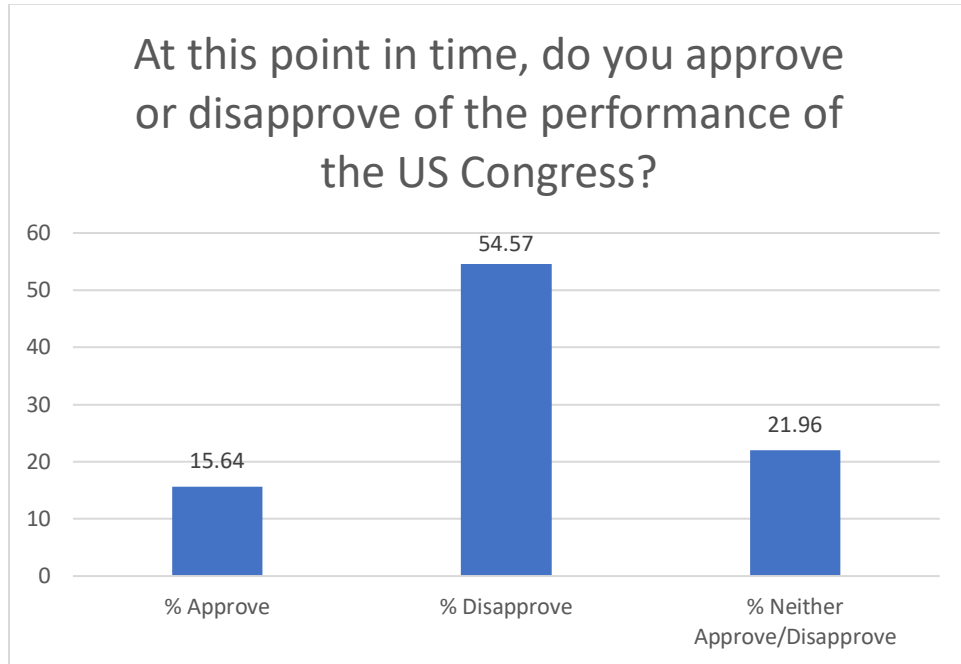
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Approve	22	71	1	22	16	28		
% Disapprove	58	8	88	64	61	55		
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	15	21	12	12	17	13		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Approve	11	14	18	42	11	18	26	38
% Disapprove	54	73	63	44	63	63	55	49
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	23	13	15	10	15	15	19	11

3. Do you approve or disapprove of Biden's student loan forgiveness plan?



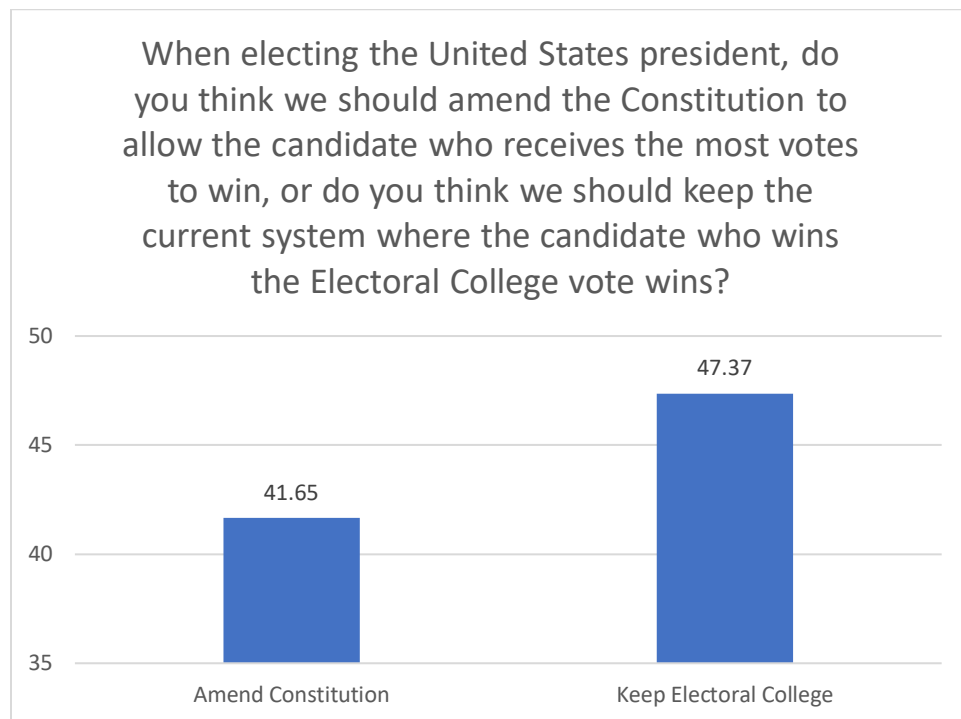
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Approve	39	76	20	33	36	42		
% Disapprove	45	19	69	52	49	41		
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	12	5	11	14	9	15		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Approve	43	37	28	51	45	24	47	39
% Disapprove	33	50	54	40	37	58	45	42
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	11	13	15	9	10	14	9	17

4. At this point in time, do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the US Congress?



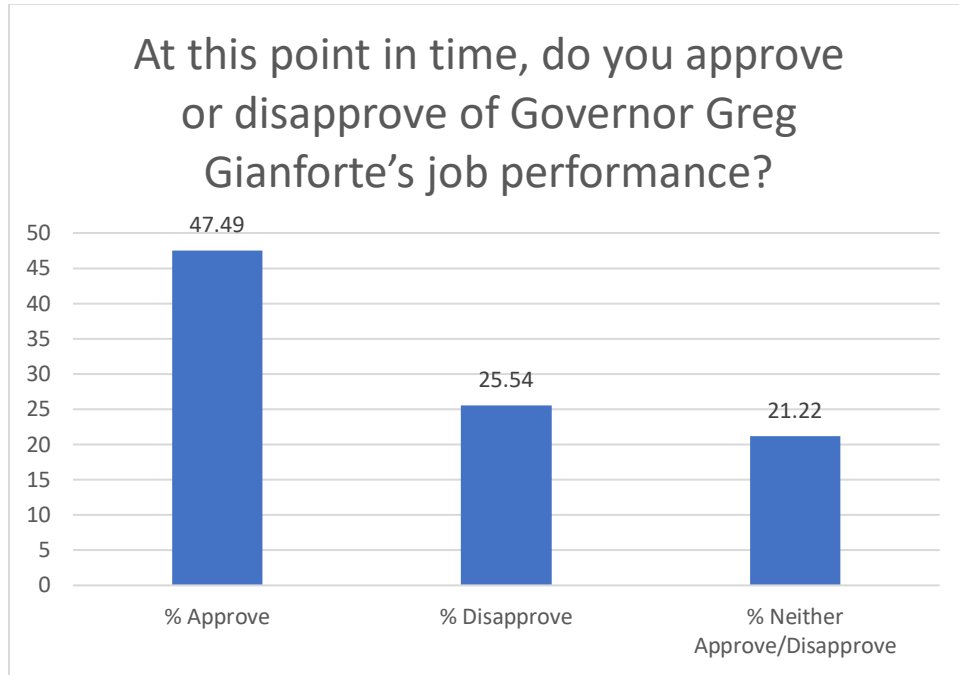
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Approve	16	31	12	7	14	17		
% Disapprove	55	54	53	70	60	48		
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	22	15	24	20	12	33		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Approve	14	9	21	16	15	21	10	16
% Disapprove	34	61	59	61	53	51	51	64
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	31	25	18	17	16	24	32	18

5. When electing the United States president, do you think we should amend the Constitution to allow the candidate who receives the most votes to win, or do you think we should keep the current system where the candidate who wins the Electoral College vote wins?



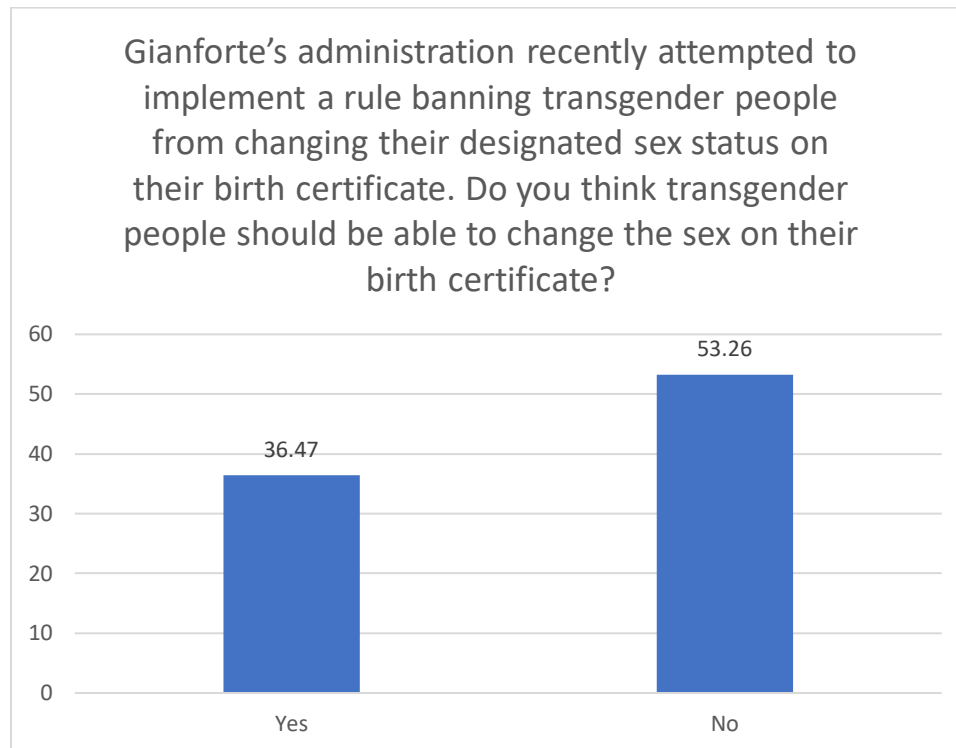
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Amend Constitution	42	73	21	39	34	50		
% Keep Electoral College	47	10	68	52	54	40		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Amend Constitution	30	57	37	44	39	38	44	48
% Keep Electoral College	56	31	51	49	50	49	45	44

6. At this point in time, do you approve or disapprove of Governor Greg Gianforte's job performance?



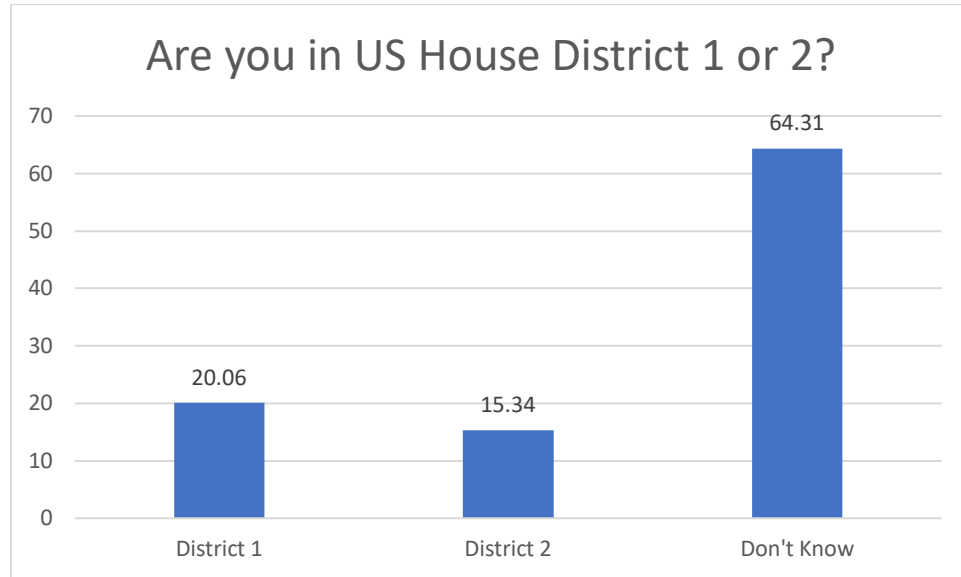
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Approve	47	3	84	34	54	40		
% Disapprove	26	72	3	33	22	30		
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	21	22	11	32	18	25		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Approve	69	43	45	36	57	58	31	36
% Disapprove	6	26	22	47	23	17	24	42
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	18	31	28	7	11	23	39	17

7. **Gianforte’s administration recently attempted to implement a rule banning transgender people from changing their designated sex status on their birth certificate. Do you think transgender people should be able to change the sex on their birth certificate?**



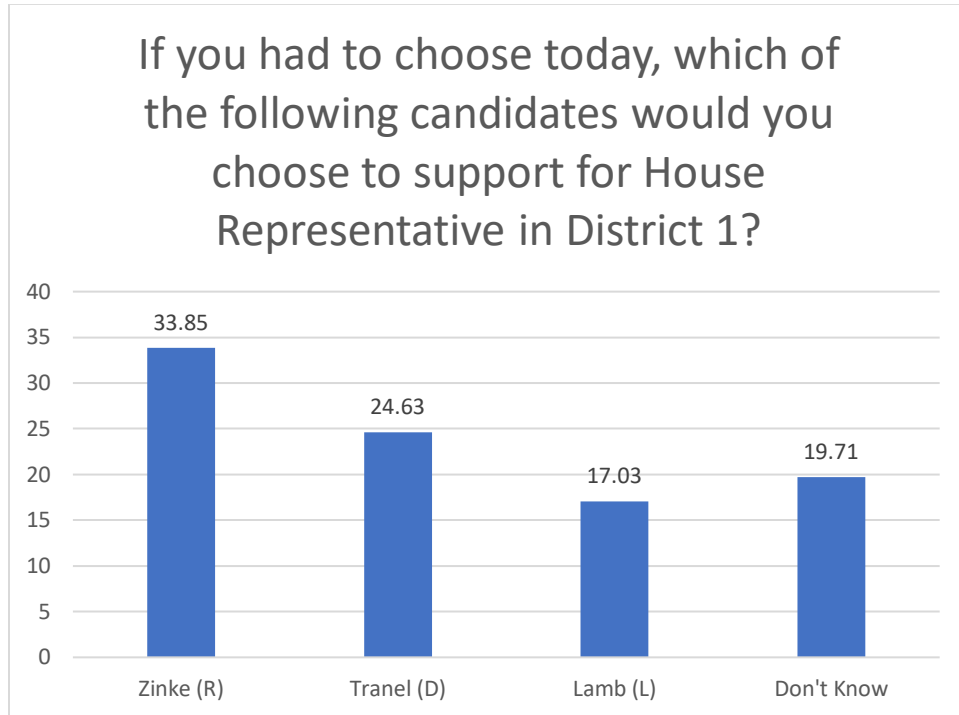
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Yes	36	66	18	42	23	52		
% No	53	31	71	40	62	44		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Yes	35	34	36	40	36	25	43	44
% No	58	48	55	52	57	65	49	37

8. Are you in US House District 1 or 2?



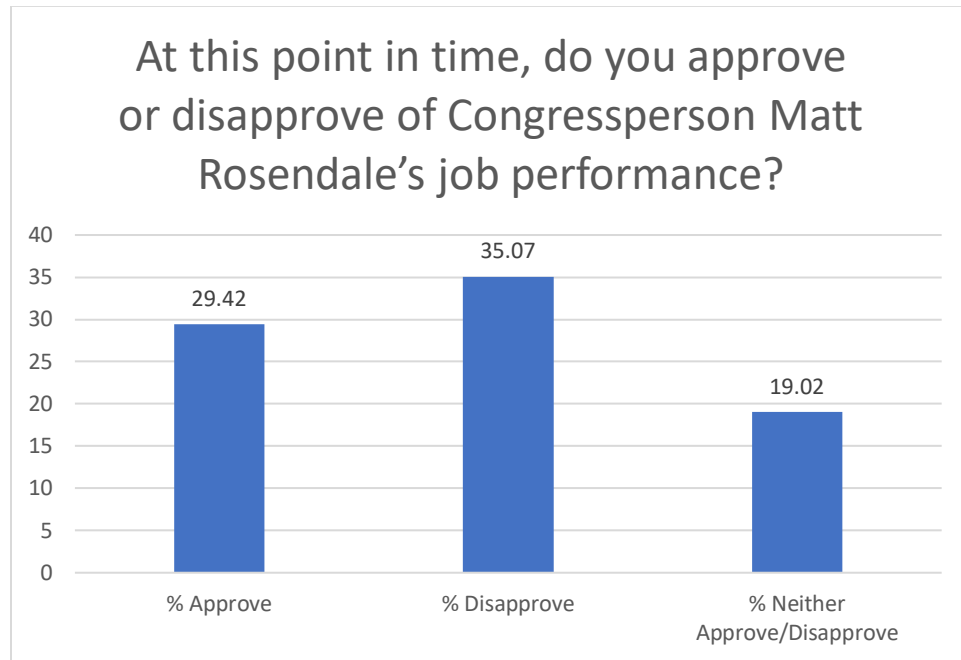
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% District 1	20	23	11	17	18	13		
% District 2	15	5	10	23	14	13		
% Don't Know	64	72	80	61	68	75		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% District 1	17	17	10	21	16	9	15	23
% District 2	11	7	11	24	16	7	13	17
% Don't Know	72	76	79	55	68	84	73	60

9. If you had to choose today, which of the following candidates would you choose to support for House Representative in District 1?



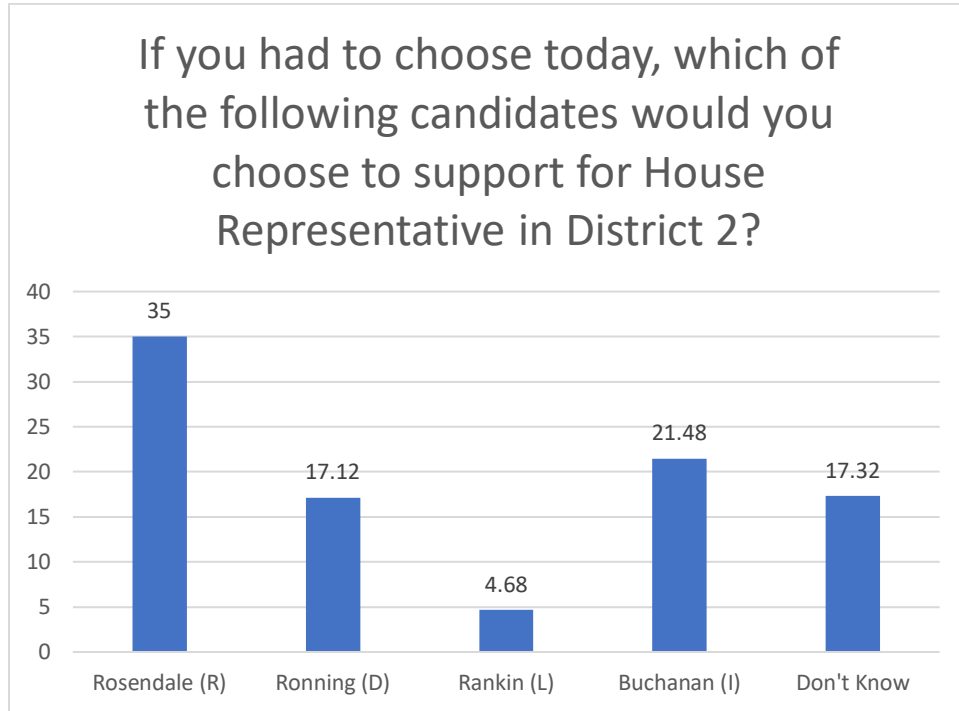
		Party			Gender		District 1	
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman	Yes	No
% Zinke	34	4	72	25	44	22	34	33
% Tranel	25	88	0	25	21	29	32	18
% Lamb	17	0	6	26	29	15	12	21
% Don't Know	20	4	18	18	18	29	18	22
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Zinke	39	29	40	25	31	52	22	30
% Tranel	6	22	24	44	17	22	28	36
% Lamb	34	23	7	10	23	5	27	11
% Don't Know	21	21	24	11	23	17	22	16

10. At this point in time, do you approve or disapprove of Congressperson Matt Rosendale's job performance?



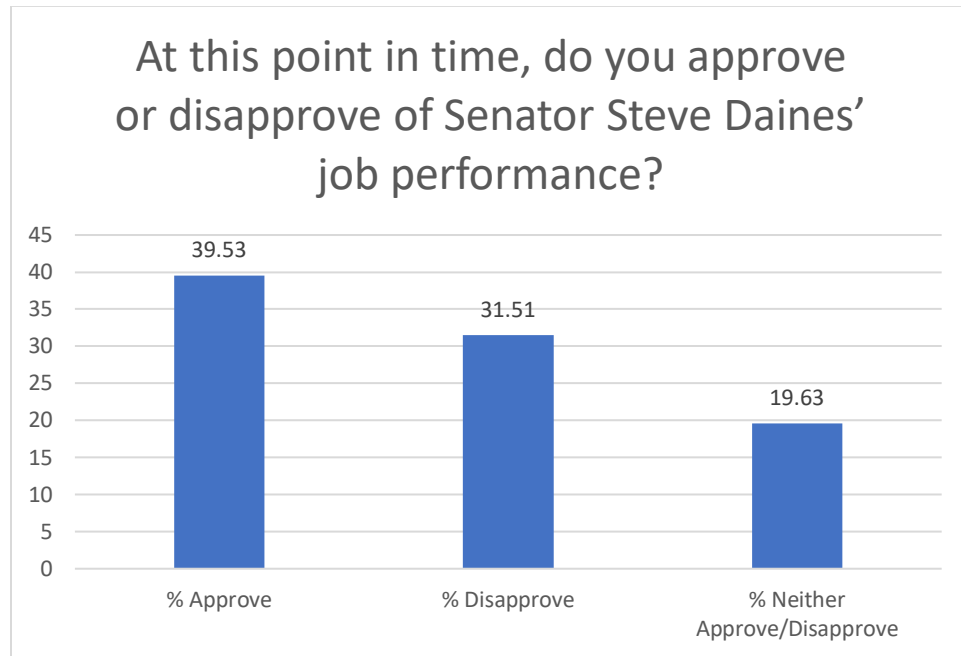
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Approve	29	10	57	24	27	32		
% Disapprove	35	66	12	45	35	35		
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	19	14	21	26	25	13		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Approve	32	39	33	14	33	36	23	22
% Disapprove	31	30	31	48	35	22	36	49
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	23	25	14	17	10	30	19	20

11. If you had to choose today, which of the following candidates would you choose to support for House Representative in District 2?



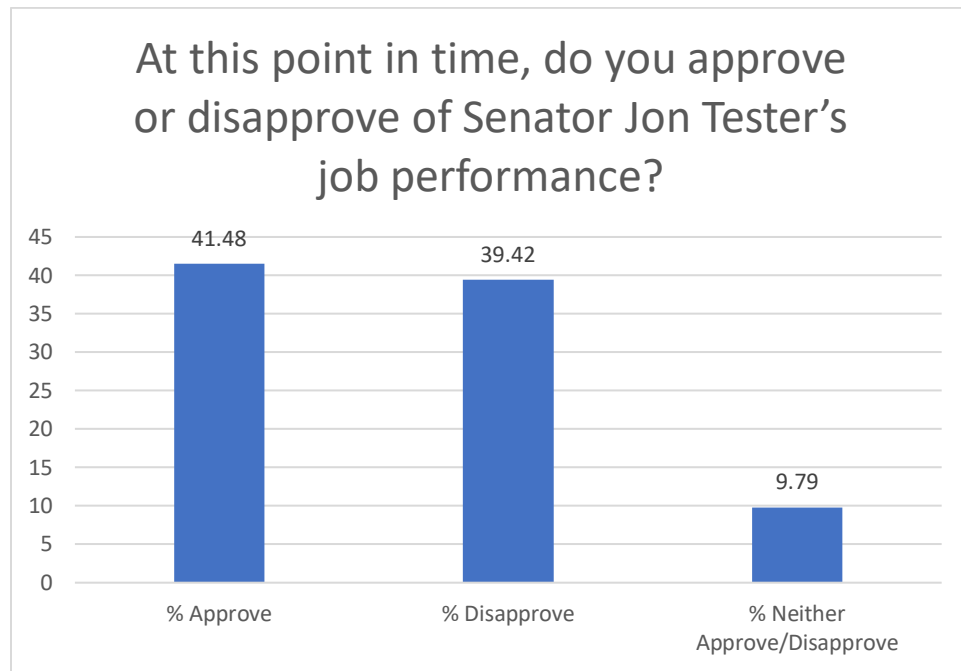
		Party			Gender		District 2	
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman	Yes	No
% Rosendale	35	8	73	28	41	28	40	30
% Ronning	17	66	2	11	12	22	14	21
% Rankin	5	0	1	1	5	4	5	4
% Buchanan	21	10	6	45	24	19	27	16
% Don't Know	17	10	17	15	16	19	12	22
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Rosendale	35	27	45	28	31	49	37	24
% Ronning	8	7	20	30	13	11	19	29
% Rankin	12	7	2	0	4	4	8	4
% Buchanan	18	30	14	26	29	15	15	24
% Don't Know	27	23	15	7	19	15	21	15

12. At this point in time, do you approve or disapprove of Senator Steve Daines' job performance?



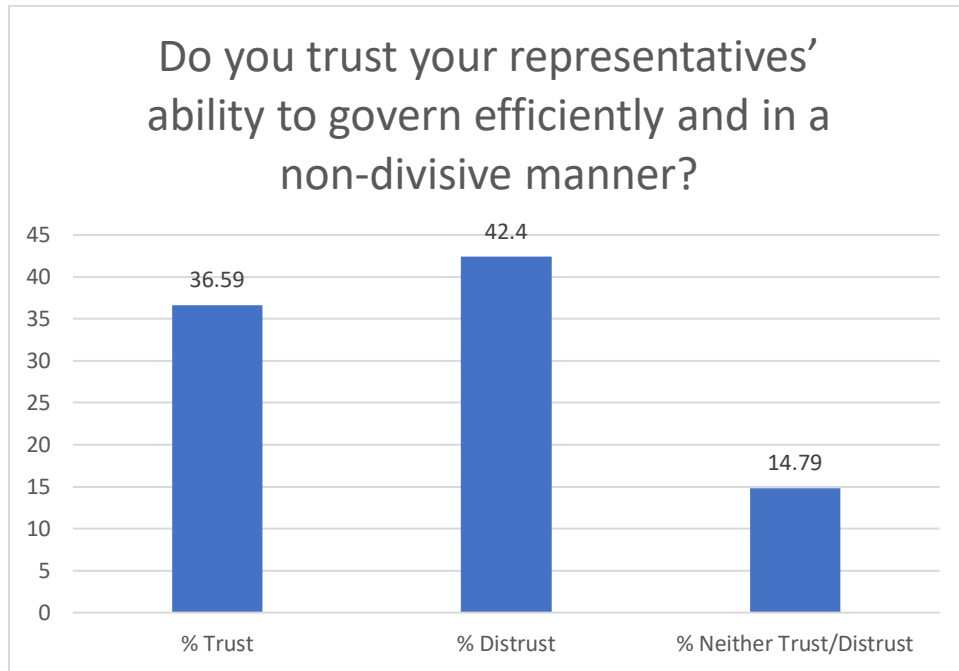
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Approve	40	9	63	37	42	37		
% Disapprove	32	65	16	31	30	33		
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	20	24	14	30	19	20		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Approve	38	35	51	29	42	48	32	31
% Disapprove	29	34	17	49	38	15	24	45
% Neither Approve/Disapprove	22	26	19	12	11	27	28	17

13. At this point in time, do you approve or disapprove of Senator Jon Tester's job performance?



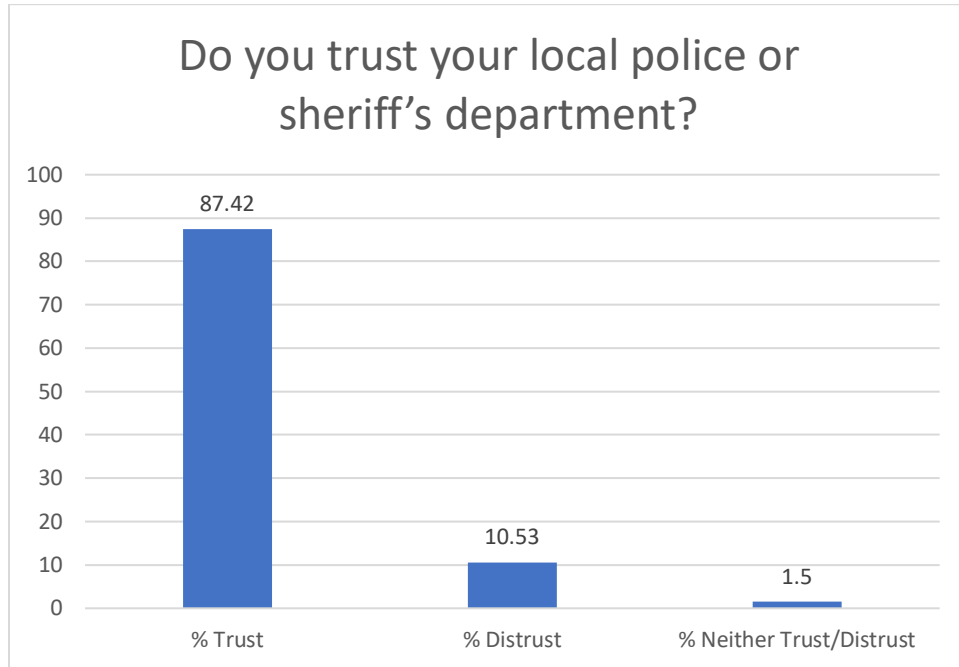
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Agree	41	82	31	42	40	43		
% Disagree	39	16	52	45	42	36		
% Neither Agree/Disagree	10	1	12	9	9	10		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Agree	24	40	44	55	37	35	38	61
% Disagree	49	38	42	29	53	37	36	25
% Neither Agree/Disagree	15	17	6	4	3	15	13	12

14. Do you trust your representatives' ability to govern efficiently and in a non-divisive manner?



		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Trust	37	28	54	19	36	37		
% Distrust	42	54	24	55	40	45		
% Neither Trust/Distrust	15	13	13	21	17	12		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Trust	71	18	35	24	53	34	25	25
% Distrust	23	61	42	44	36	37	47	53
% Neither Trust/Distrust	6	20	11	23	5	24	20	14

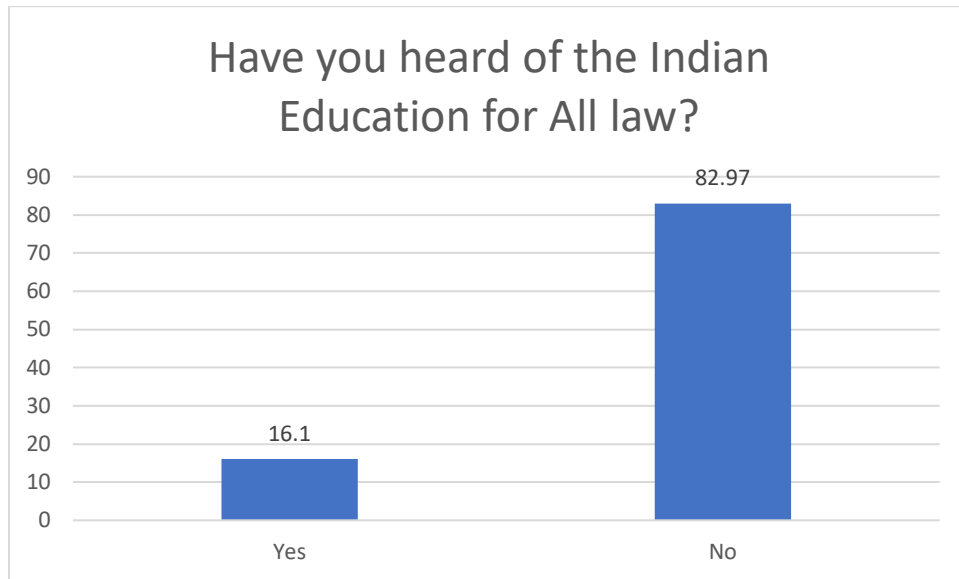
15. Do you trust your local police or sheriff's department?



		Party			Gender	
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman
% Trust	87	78	93	84	88	87
% Distrust	11	19	5	13	10	11
% Neither Trust/Distrust	2	3	0	3	2	1

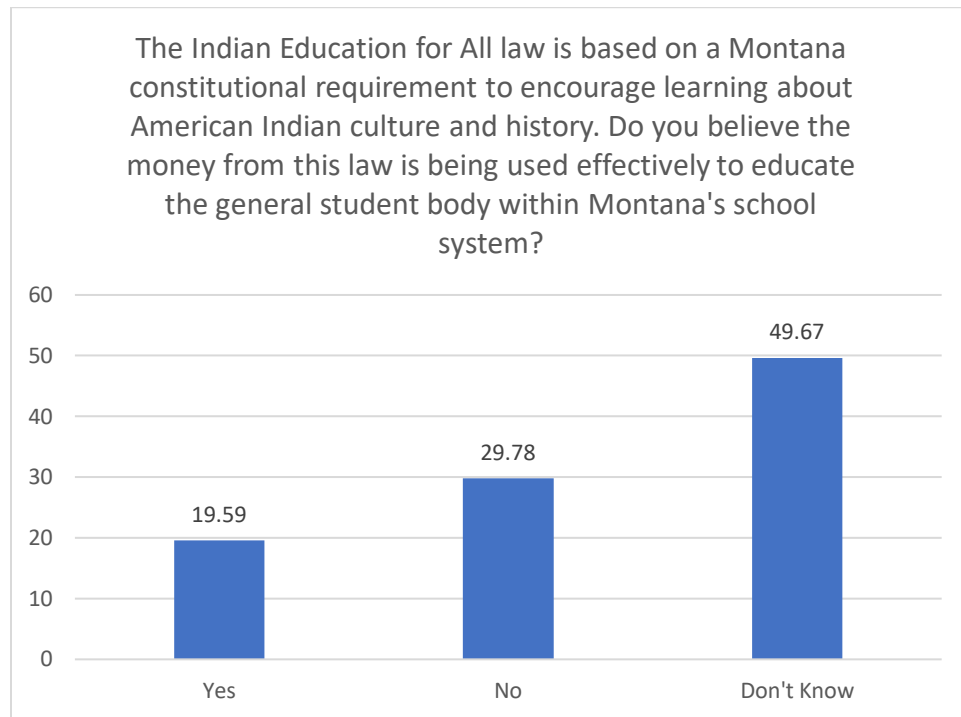
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Trust	99	87	83	84	87	91	86	85
% Distrust	1	10	15	14	13	9	11	8
% Neither Trust/Distrust	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	6

16. Have you heard of the Indian Education for All law?



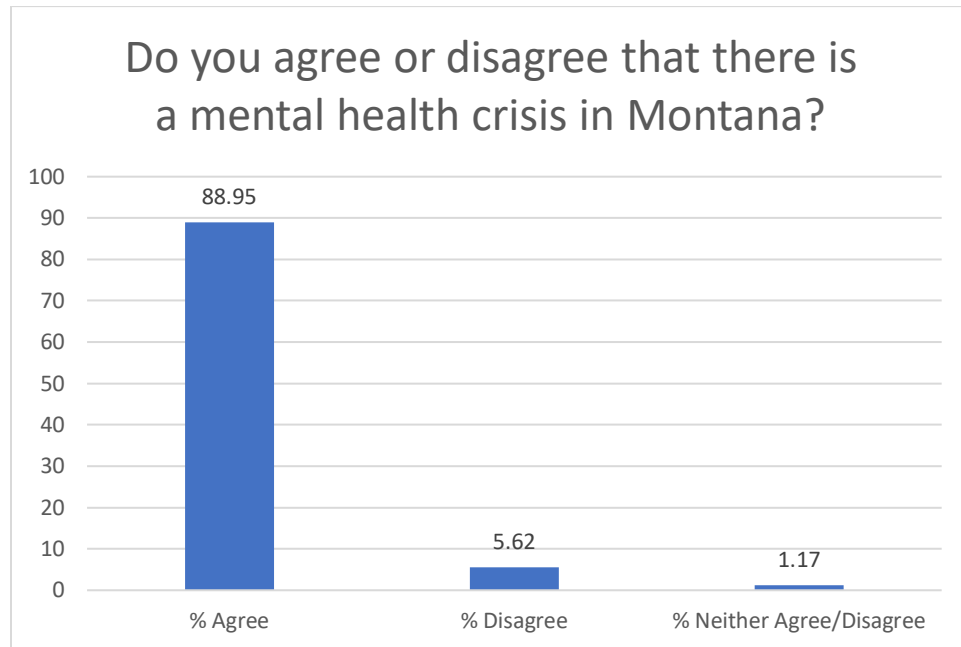
		Party			Gender				
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman			
% Yes	16	18	6	24	14	18			
% No	83	82	92	75	86	80			
	Age				Education				
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+	
% Yes	14	24	13	16	8	16	15	31	
% No	86	76	87	81	92	84	82	68	

17. The Indian Education for All law is based on a Montana constitutional requirement to encourage learning about American Indian culture and history. Do you believe the money from this law is being used effectively to educate the general student body within Montana's school system?



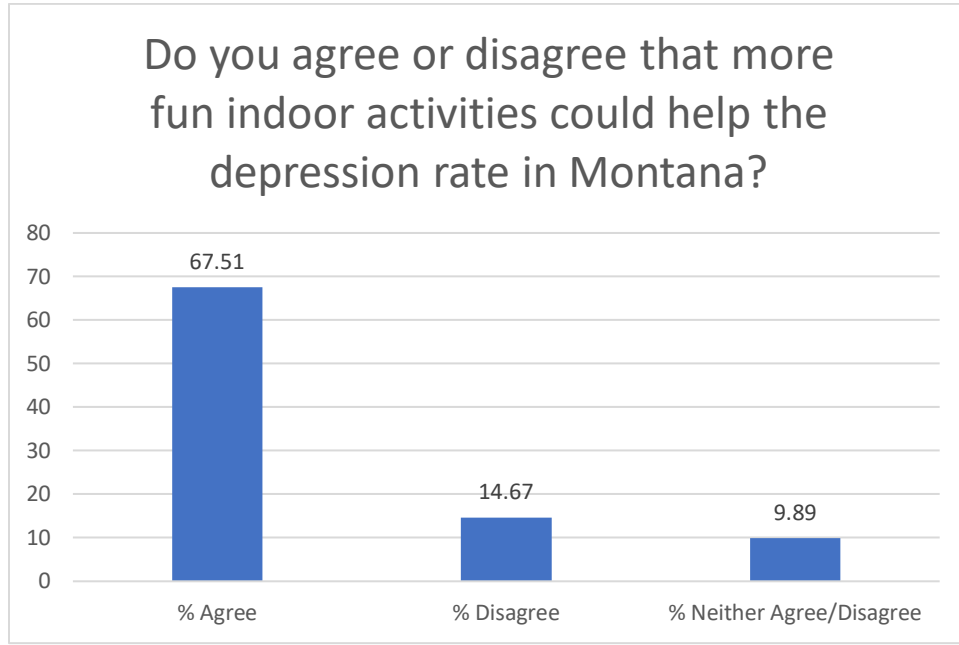
		Party			Gender		Know Law	
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman	Yes	No
% Yes	20	13	18	12	20	19	32	16
% No	30	38	26	37	31	29	39	28
% Don't Know	50	47	56	50	48	51	28	53
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Yes	40	14	11	17	20	21	21	17
% No	30	18	29	41	36	25	24	32
% Don't Know	31	65	59	41	43	55	56	48

18. Do you agree or disagree that there is a mental health crisis in Montana?



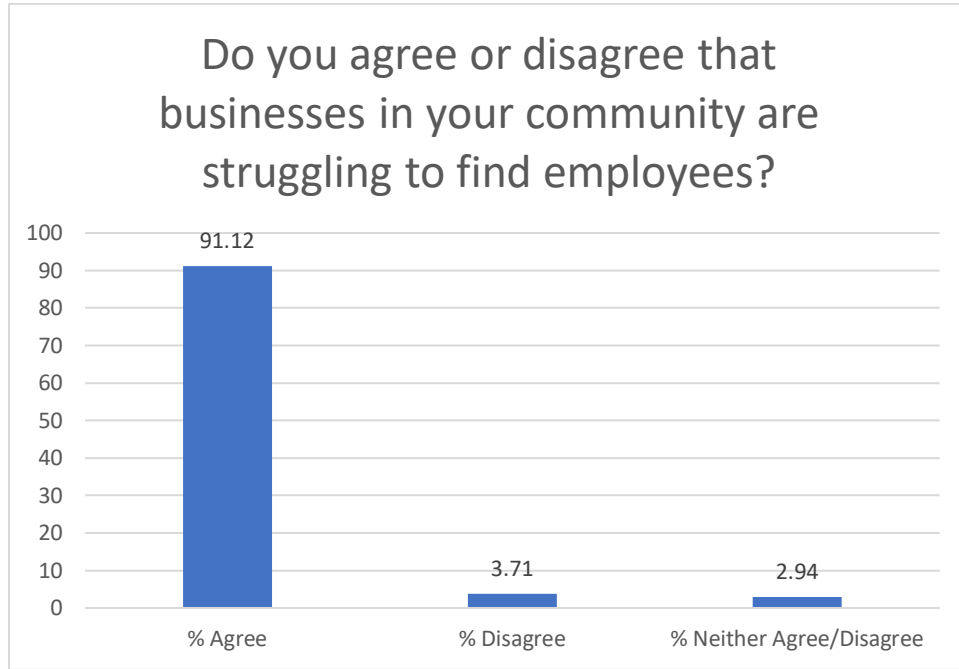
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Agree	89	93	88	92	83	96		
% Disagree	6	5	8	6	10	1		
% Neither Agree/Disagree	1	0	4	0	1	1		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Agree	82	95	95	82	83	93	95	88
% Disagree	5	1	3	12	8	4	2	8
% Neither Agree/Disagree	0	3	1	3	1	0	3	1

19. Do you agree or disagree that more fun indoor activities could help the depression rate in Montana?



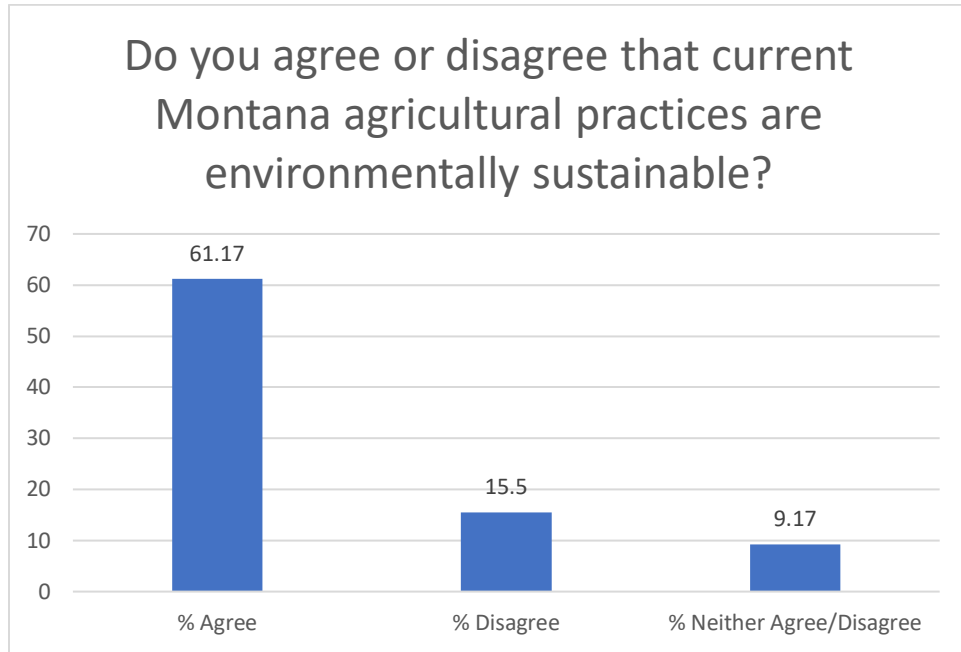
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Agree	68	77	68	67	64	72		
% Disagree	15	5	16	6	20	9		
% Neither Agree/Disagree	10	12	6	17	6	15		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Agree	64	73	69	63	68	72	60	67
% Disagree	28	9	11	13	14	15	18	12
% Neither Agree/Disagree	6	13	13	7	10	7	13	11

20. Do you agree or disagree that businesses in your community are struggling to find employees?



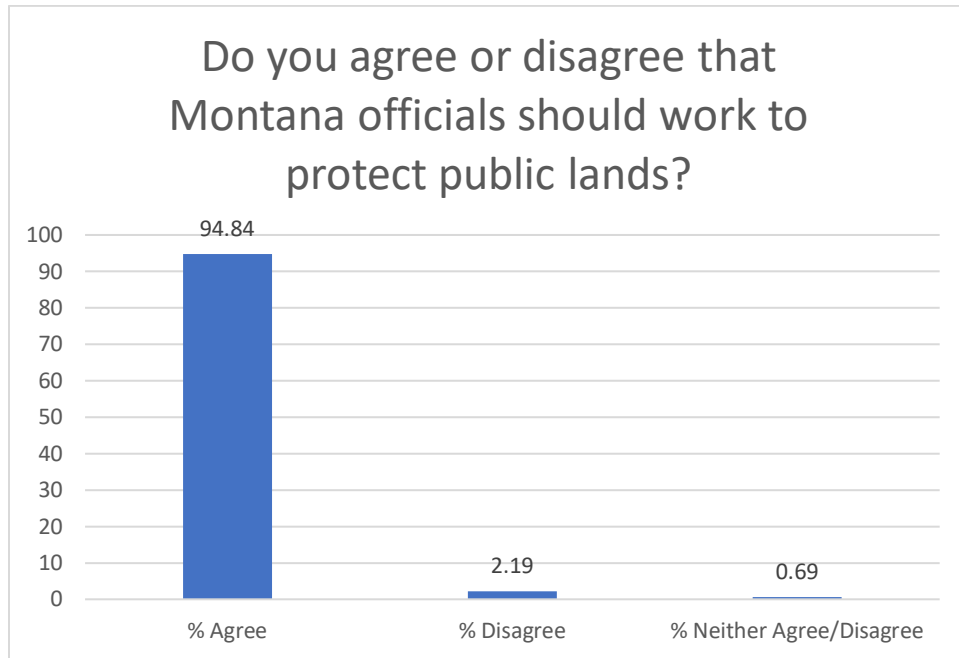
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Agree	91	81	97	99	91	92		
% Disagree	4	8	1	1	5	2		
% Neither Agree/Disagree	3	2	0	0	3	3		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Agree	89	86	94	93	92	95	84	93
% Disagree	0	11	4	0	5	2	4	4
% Neither Agree/Disagree	11	2	0	0	4	0	5	3

21. Do you agree or disagree that current Montana agricultural practices are environmentally sustainable?



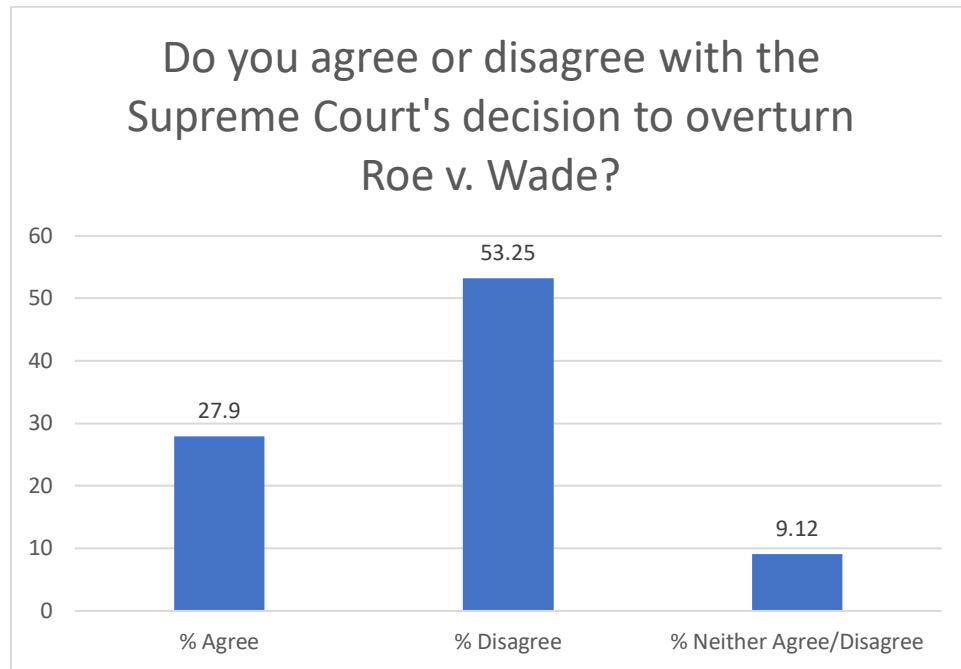
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Agree	61	40	81	53	65	57		
% Disagree	16	28	3	26	12	20		
% Neither Agree/Disagree	9	19	4	11	9	9		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Agree	70	63	60	53	70	65	46	57
% Disagree	7	13	15	26	11	13	22	19
% Neither Agree/Disagree	11	8	11	7	9	9	6	13

22. Do you agree or disagree that Montana officials should work to protect public lands?



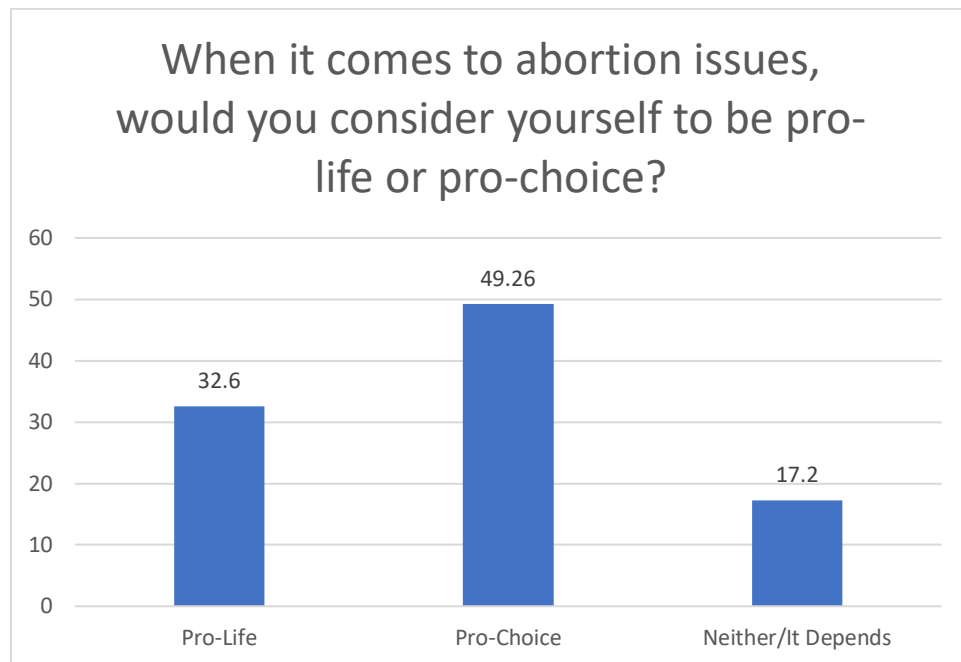
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Agree	95	92	93	96	96	94		
% Disagree	2	8	0	3	1	4		
% Neither Agree/Disagree	1	0	2	1	0	1		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Agree	100	94	92	94	94	92	95	98
% Disagree	0	6	2	1	4	1	2	1
% Neither Agree/Disagree	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	1

23. Do you agree or disagree with the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade?



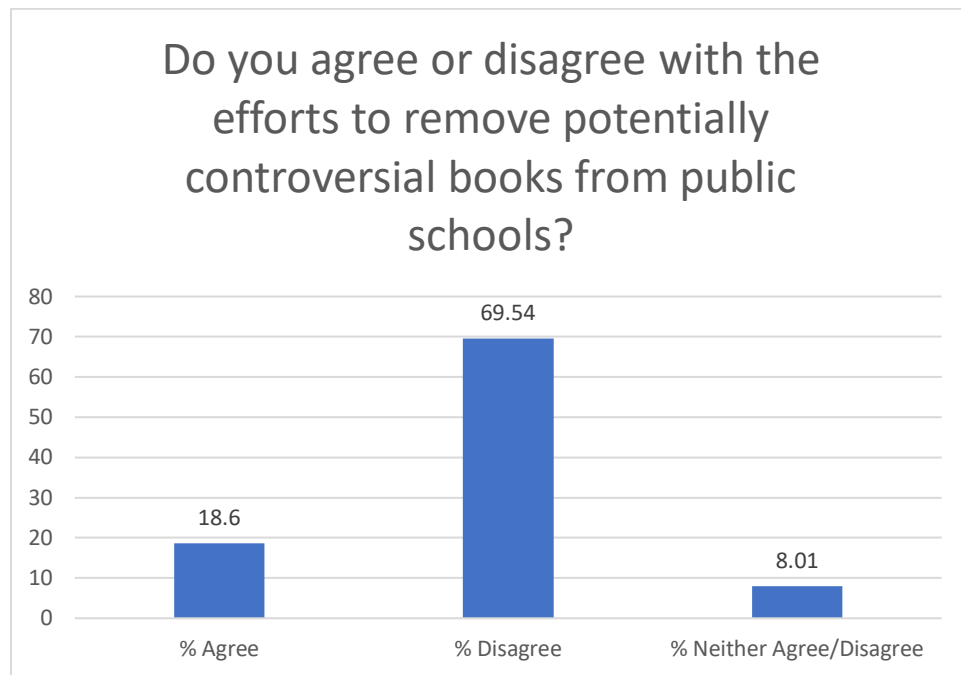
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Agree	28	3	40	40	37	18		
% Disagree	53	83	33	54	45	62		
% Neither Agree/Disagree	9	0	20	3	6	12		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Agree	18	21	31	39	22	37	29	26
% Disagree	47	58	55	53	54	44	50	66
% Neither Agree/Disagree	23	7	8	0	11	12	8	4

24. When it comes to abortion issues, would you consider yourself to be pro-life or pro-choice?



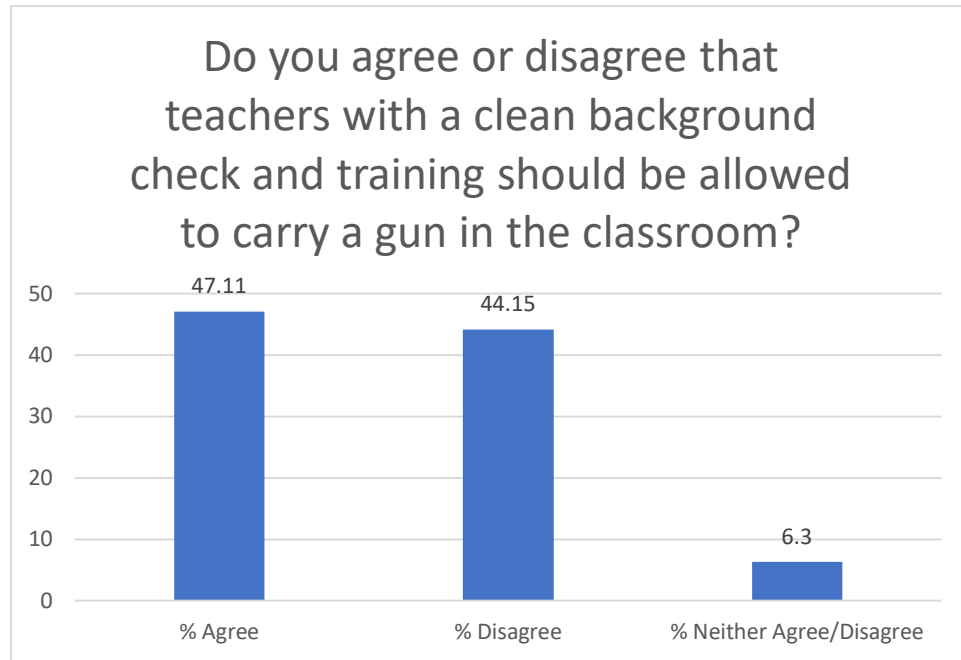
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Pro-Life	33	3	50	31	37	28		
% Pro-Choice	49	83	28	50	45	54		
% Neither/Depends	17	14	21	18	18	16		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Pro-Life	27	29	38	33	31	44	30	26
% Pro-Choice	51	50	47	50	47	35	64	55
% Neither/Depend	23	20	12	16	22	20	6	18

25. Do you agree or disagree with the efforts to remove potentially controversial books from public schools?



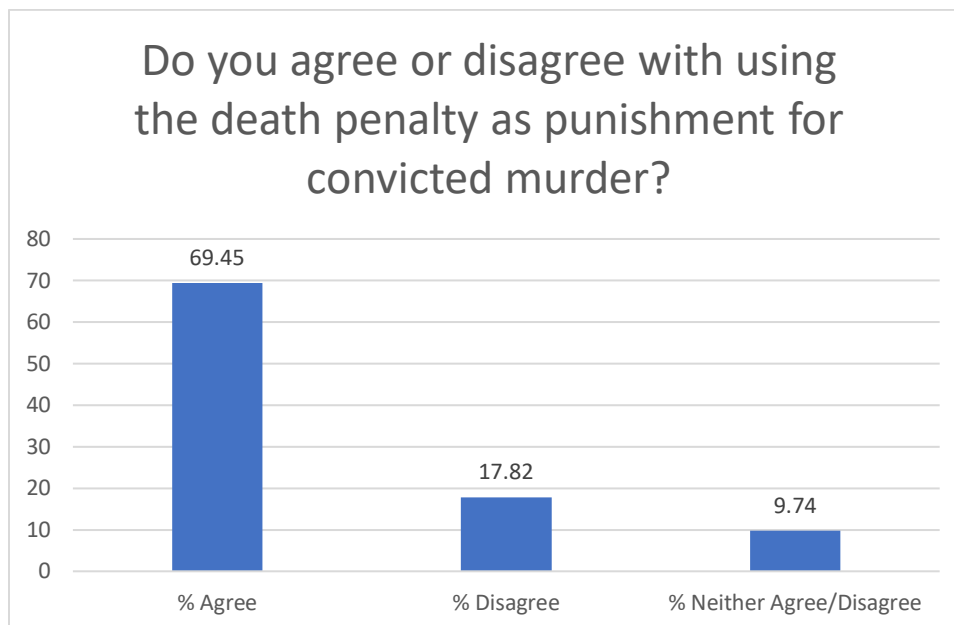
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Agree	19	8	20	28	25	12		
% Disagree	70	91	66	65	65	75		
% Neither Agree/Disagree	8	1	8	6	7	9		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Agree	13	13	19	28	28	16	12	13
% Disagree	78	74	67	61	65	69	71	75
% Neither Agree/Disagree	9	10	7	7	5	6	14	9

26. Do you agree or disagree that teachers with a clean background check and training should be allowed to carry a gun in the classroom?



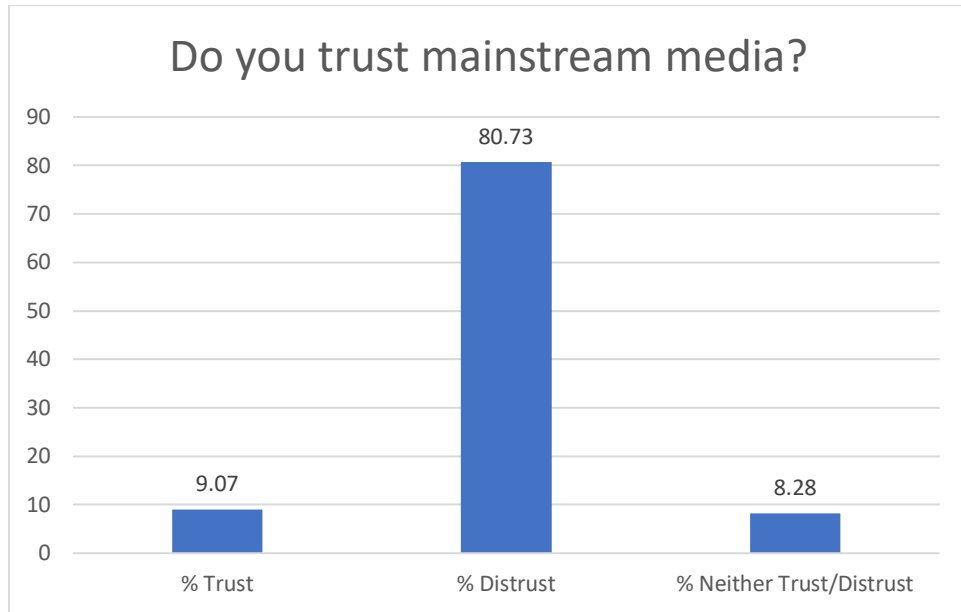
		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Agree	47	10	63	55	52	42		
% Disagree	44	90	28	37	39	50		
% Neither Agree/Disagree	6	0	4	7	6	6		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Agree	49	59	53	28	34	65	59	35
% Disagree	50	31	35	63	58	28	30	54
% Neither Agree/Disagree	1	9	10	4	6	3	8	8

27. Do you agree or disagree with using the death penalty as punishment for convicted murder?



		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Agree	69	40	86	75	73	66		
% Disagree	18	39	4	16	19	17		
% Neither Agree/Disagree	10	16	9	4	6	14		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Agree	62	75	74	65	71	74	75	56
% Disagree	22	19	14	18	15	18	6	33
% Neither Agree/Disagree	10	5	11	12	9	7	15	9

28. Do you trust mainstream media?



		Party			Gender			
	Total	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Man	Woman		
% Trust	9	27	1	14	12	6		
% Distrust	81	57	95	70	81	81		
% Neither Trust/Distrust	8	20	4	14	7	10		
	Age				Education			
	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
% Trust	0	3	4	28	9	3	10	16
% Distrust	96	11	89	52	87	86	78	66
% Neither Trust/Distrust	4	86	6	12	4	9	6	16

Sample Composition Before Weighting

Party				Gender			
Dem.	Rep.	Ind.	Other	Man	Woman		
63	97	106	62	180	147		
Age				Education			
18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Up to high school	Some college	2-year degree	4-year degree+
24	74	126	105	57	66	46	160
Race							
White	Black	Native American	More than one				
300	1	11	10				