PRRI/The Atlantic 2018 Voter Engagement Survey

Minnesota

Minnesotans' Views of Problems With Current Election System
A majority of Minnesota residents believe that the following are major problems with the current election system:

- Over two-thirds (68%) of Minnesota residents agree that wealthy individuals and corporations having too much influence is a major problem with the current election system.
- Roughly two-thirds (64%) of Minnesota residents cite too few people voting as a major problem.
- Six in ten (60%) agree that too many uninformed people voting is a major problem with the current election system.
- A majority (53%) of Minnesota residents say that media bias against certain candidates is a major problem.

Fewer Minnesota residents say outside interference or influence from foreign governments (44%), voter disenfranchisement (38%), or voter fraud (33%) are major problems.

Few Minnesota residents report issues in voting.
- Few Minnesota residents say they or a member of their household experienced any of the following the last time they tried to vote: could not find the correct polling place (7%), were unable to get off work to vote (6%), got harassed while trying to vote (5%), were told they did not have correct voter identification (4%), or missed the registration deadline (4%).

Minnesota residents express considerable uncertainty about voting laws and restrictions.
- Minnesota residents express uncertainty about a number of voting laws in their state. A majority of Minnesota residents are not sure if a resident of their state can vote without a permanent address (60%) or if they are late in paying taxes (51%). About half (49%) are not sure if voting is allowed if you have an outstanding traffic ticket or unpaid utility bill.
- Notably, one-third (33%) of residents are uncertain whether citizenship is required to vote.
- Three-quarters (75%) of Minnesota residents correctly say that their state allows early voting, and a majority (64%) know that the state allows same-day voter registration.

There is broad support among Minnesota residents for expanding voting access and the popular vote.
- Three-quarters (75%) of Minnesota residents believe that a person convicted of a felony should be allowed to vote after they have served their sentence.
Nearly eight in ten (78%) Minnesota residents are in favor of allowing same-day voter registration.

Close to two-thirds (64%) of Minnesota residents believe that citizens should be automatically registered to vote when they do business with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) or other state agencies, while around one-third (34%) of residents disagree.

A majority (69%) of Minnesota residents believe presidential elections should be based on the popular vote instead of the electoral college.

Minnesotans Polarized Along Partisan, Racial Lines Heading Into Midterms

A majority of Minnesota residents believe the country has gotten off on the wrong track.

- Sixty-three percent of Minnesota residents say things in the country have gone off course, while 37% say things are heading in the right direction.
- Nearly seven in ten (69%) women in Minnesota believe the country has gotten off on the wrong course, compared to 56% of men in the state.

Most Minnesota residents say coming demographic change is mostly positive.

- Sixty-five percent of Minnesota residents say that the U.S. becoming majority nonwhite by 2043 will primarily be a positive change for the country. Thirty-one percent say this will be a mostly negative development for the U.S.

Most Minnesota residents have an unfavorable view of President Trump.

- Nearly two-thirds (64%) of Minnesota residents have an unfavorable view of Trump, while 36% say they have a favorable opinion of him.
- Female Minnesotans are more likely than male Minnesotans to express a negative view of President Trump, with nearly seven in ten (69%) women in the state viewing the president unfavorably. Male residents are more split, with six in ten (60%) viewing the president unfavorably and around four in ten (41%) viewing him favorably.

Minnesota Democrats are more likely they will vote than Minnesota Republicans, and voters in the state are more likely to vote for the Democratic candidate in their district.

- More than six in ten (62%) Minnesota residents report they are absolutely certain to vote in the upcoming midterm election.
- However, Minnesota Democrats (82%) are more likely than Minnesota Republicans (54%) to say they are absolutely going to vote in the midterm election.
- Fifty-three percent of Minnesota voters say they would vote for the Democratic candidate in their election district, compared to 45% who say they would vote for the Republican candidate.