

Frequencies on Key Variables

(Percentage of respondents listed first, with the frequency of respondents in parentheses)

Did you vote in the 2014 election?

Yes	64.0 (1,033)
No	31.1 (501)
Attempted to vote but was unable to	4.9 (79)

Do you consider yourself to be male or female?

Female	58.8 (882)
Male	40.7 (611)
Other	0.5 (7)

What year in school are you?

First Year	20.8 (312)
Sophomore	16.5 (248)
Junior	16.0 (240)
Senior	24.7 (371)
Graduate Student	21.9 (329)

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or what? [This question was asked as a branching question, so that eventually, respondents classified themselves as a strong Democrat; a Democrat; leaning Democrat; Independent; leaning Republican; a Republican; or a strong Republican. The analysis here collapses all partisan identifiers into one category per party.]

Democrat	36.9 (519)
Independent	13.5 (189)
Republican	49.6 (697)

We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. Here is a seven-point scale on which the political views that people might hold are arranged from extremely liberal to extremely conservative. Where would you place yourself on this scale? [Respondents chose between extremely liberal; liberal; slightly liberal; moderate/middle of the road; slightly conservative; conservative; and extremely conservative. The analysis here collapses all conservative categories into one and all liberal categories into one.]

Liberal	32.7 (472)
Moderate/Middle of the Road	17.0 (246)
Conservative	50.3 (726)

Political knowledge was measured by adding together the number of correct answers to the following nine items:

- Whose responsibility is it to determine if a law is constitutional or not – is it the president, the Congress or the Supreme Court? [multiple choice]
- How much of a majority is required for the U.S. Senate and House to override a presidential vote? [multiple choice]
- Do you happen to know which party has the most members in the House of Representatives in Washington? [multiple choice]
- Would you say that one of the major parties is more conservative than the other at the national level? If so, which party is more conservative? [multiple choice]
- How many members of the U.S. Supreme Court are there? [open]
- Do you happen to know what job or political office is now held by Joe Biden? [open]
- Do you happen to know what job or political office John Kerry now holds? [open]
- Do you happen to know what job or political office John Roberts now holds? [open]
- How many US senators are there from each state? [open]

For this analysis, respondents were classified as “low knowledge” if they scored 0-3 questions correct. Respondents are classified as “medium knowledge” if they scored 5-7 questions correct and “high knowledge” if they scored 8-9 questions correct.

Low Knowledge	31.6 (568)
Medium Knowledge	36.1 (649)
High knowledge	32.3 (580)

Some people don't pay much attention to political campaigns. How about you? Would you say that you have been very much interested, somewhat interested, or not very much interested in the political campaigns this year?

Very much interested	26.8 (451)
Somewhat interested	41.1 (692)
Not very much interested	32.1 (539)

Analyses of additional variables will be released soon. Any questions should be directed to the principal investigators: Dr. Nick Bauroth (nicholas.bauroth@ndsu.edu) or Dr. Kjersten Nelson (kjersten.nelson@ndsu.edu).