



Minnesota Senate Information Office

Minnesota Senate at the State Fair

Come see us at the Fair! Take our opinion poll, ask questions about the legislative process, give us ideas of laws you want changed or better yet: talk to a State Senator about your ideas! Who will be at our booth? Check the schedule below. Check back after the fair to see the results of the poll displayed here.

Event Information:

- **What:** MN Senate State Fair Booth
- **When:** August 24, 2017 to Labor Day, September 4, 2017
- **Where:** Education building (north of Dan Patch on Cosgrove St. In the building we are on the east wall)
[Click here for a building map](#)

2017 State Fair Opinion Poll Results:

2017 State Fair Opinion Poll

Minnesota State Senate

Survey Results

September 5, 2017

All Senators, staff and interested citizens:

We would like to thank everyone who stopped by the Senate's booth this year at the Minnesota State Fair. Many visitors had a chance to talk with one of the 39 Senators that spent time at the booth. Thirty-three Senate staff members also were on hand to answer questions from fair-goers.

More than 5,300 people took our annual State Fair opinion poll survey. The poll, which was offered exclusively at our booth in the Education Building, aimed to familiarize fair-goers with a sampling of issues that are currently being discussed at the Capitol. See below for the results of all 12 of the poll questions.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Senate Information Office

651-296-0504

Minnesota State Senate

2017 State Fair Poll

Respondents should be of voting age.

Please mark one answer per question.

5310 TOTAL RESPONDENTS

Demographics

Residence

Minneapolis/St. Paul	36.97% (1939)
Rural	12.93% (678)
Suburban	44.33% (2325)
Regional hub of at least 40,000 people (Rochester, Duluth, St. Cloud, Mankato, Moorhead)	3.93% (206)
Another state	1.49% (78)
No Answer	0.36% (19)

Gender

Male	46.56% (2446)
Female	51.58% (2710)
No Answer	1.87% (98)

Age:

18-24	6.98% (366)
25-34	12.03% (631)
35-49	16.68% (875)
50-64	32.63% (1712)
65 and older	29.58% (1552)
No Answer	2.12% (111)

1. Overall, do you have a favorable, unfavorable or neutral opinion of the outcomes from the 2017 Minnesota legislative session?

A) Favorable	12.99% (678)
B) Unfavorable	48.73% (2544)

C) Neutral **28.85% (1506)**

D) Undecided/No opinion **9.44% (493)**

2. Should state law requiring immunizations for children enrolled in public schools and child care facilities be changed to eliminate the current exemption for personal or religious beliefs?

A) Yes, the exemption for personal or religious beliefs should be eliminated

61.77% (3225)

B) No, the existing exemptions from immunizations should stay the same

31.97% (1669)

C) Undecided/No opinion

6.26% (327)

3. To measure student achievement, federal law requires school districts and charter schools to have 95 percent participation in statewide assessments in math, reading and science. The consequences for failing to meet this standard are decided by each state. In Minnesota, parents are able to opt their children out of taking the assessments. Should school districts or charter schools be penalized when less than 95 percent of students participate in the required statewide assessments?

A) Yes

33.09% (1725)

B) No penalty

49.07% (2558)

C) Undecided/No opinion

17.84% (930)

4. Should state lawmakers expand the sale of fireworks in Minnesota to include the sorts of aerial and audible fireworks that are available in neighboring states?

A) Yes

25.25% (1320)

B) Yes, but local governments should be able to enact ordinances that restrict fireworks

21.45% (1121)

C) No

48.94% (2558)

D) Undecided/No opinion

4.36% (228)

5. What is the best use of state dollars to meet future workforce needs in Minnesota?

A) Increase spending for high-school and dual-enrollment career and technical education.

36.03% (1869)

B) Provide full or partial scholarships for high school graduates pursuing an associate's degree or professional certificate

29.63% (1537)

C) Provide incentives to private employers that offer apprenticeships

20.24% (1050)

D) Other

7.19% (373)

E) Undecided/No opinion

6.90% (358)

6. State lawmakers have asked the Minnesota Department of Transportation to prepare a report about strategies to reduce congestion and raise revenue that includes toll roads. Do you support the use of toll roads?

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| A) Yes | 21.65% (1131) |
| B) No | 71.28% (3723) |
| C) Undecided/No opinion | 7.06% (369) |

7. Should Minnesota law be amended to provide a special tax credit to individuals and businesses for their donations to nonprofit organizations that provide scholarships to low-income students to attend K-12 private schools?

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| A) Yes | 40.40% (2092) |
| B) No | 49.40% (2558) |
| C) Undecided/No opinion | 10.20% (528) |

8. An angler in Minnesota is not allowed to fish with more than one line in open water. Should anglers be allowed to fish with two lines in open water?

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| A) Yes | 15.81% (823) |
| B) Yes, but not during catch-and-release seasons | 11.62% (605) |
| C) No | 53.69% (2795) |
| D) Undecided/No opinion | 18.88% (983) |

9. Lawmakers this year passed a one-year moratorium on enforcement of a permit that landowners would otherwise be required to obtain to mow or bale hay in ditches along state trunk highways. What is your primary concern about mowing ditches in rural areas?

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| A) Protecting habitat for pollinators and nesting birds | 57.91% (3005) |
| B) Providing a source of feed for livestock | 12.08% (627) |
| C) Other | 4.30% (223) |
| D) Undecided/No opinion | 25.71% (1334) |

10. Do you support amending the Minnesota Constitution to dedicate money for specific programs or purposes?

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| A) No, legislators are elected to make those decisions | 50.99% (2640) |
|--|----------------------|

B) Yes, voters should be able to decide when funds should be dedicated to certain programs and purposes

19.70% (1020)

C) Yes, but bills that propose to change the Constitution should have the support of at least two-thirds of the Legislature to get on the ballot

20.07% (1039)

D) Undecided/No opinion

9.23% (478)

11. In 2017, Minnesota lawmakers passed a law that provided \$327 million on a one-time basis to provide assistance to Minnesotans facing high premiums in the individual health insurance market. Should Minnesota continue to provide funding to help lower individual health insurance plan premiums?

A) Yes, continue to provide subsidies

46.83% (2425)

B) Yes, continue to provide subsidies, but with income limitations

31.38% (1625)

C) No

17.44% (903)

D) Undecided/No opinion

4.35% (225)

12. Should the state's current law on the use of force to defend against intruders in one's own home be expanded?

A) Yes, but only inside the home

8.62% (448)

B) Yes, including the home, garage and outbuildings

15.02% (781)

C) Yes, anywhere on the property, including the yard

24.46% (1,272)

D) No, the current laws are adequate

43.94% (2285)

E) Undecided/No opinion

7.96% (414)

Updated: Sept 5, 2017

Archives

You can find the archives of past years [here](#)

