



***TeleResearch Corporation
Survey Results
Consolidation & Modernization
September 27th, 2005***



Executive Summary

Governmental Efficiency

Respondents were asked to rate the three levels of local government--city, county, and township--on their respective perceptions of efficiency of each unit of government. Township government received the highest efficiency ratings with 72% of the respondents answering favorably regarding efficiency--17% answered "Very efficient" and 55% answered "Somewhat efficient." The lowest rated was the city of Indianapolis with an aggregate efficiency rating of 54%--9% answered "Very efficient" and 45% said "Somewhat efficient." Marion County government received an aggregate efficiency rating of 64%--7% said "Very efficient" and 57% answered "Somewhat efficient."

Absorb Township Services

Although 38% of the respondents said county government could absorb township governmental services, 35% answered "Not sure." For the county government to absorb township government services, it would require a massive public education program.

Knowledge of Elected Officials

Slightly more of the respondents knew the name of at least one elected township official compared to their knowledge of the name of their current representative on the city-county council by 53% to 51%. However there are far more elected township officials in Marion County than members of the city-county council. The elected official that drew the highest name recognition was their current state representative at 61%

Non-policy County Offices

By a wide margin--51% to 32%-- respondents still want to elect the offices of coroner, surveyor, auditor, and recorder.



Executive Summary *(continued)*

Consolidation of Public Safety Departments

On the question of merging township fire departments with the Indianapolis fire department, respondents are divided right down the middle at 44% for consolidation with 44% opposed and 12% undecided.

On the consolidation of the Marion County Sheriff's department with IPD the margin is not close as 53% are opposed to 41% who favor with only 6% not sure. Mayor Peterson's efforts to make the case for consolidation have not proven effective with the voters of Marion County.

Statewide Non-policy Offices

By an overwhelming margin, there is miniscule support for elimination the statewide non-policy elective offices of Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, and Superintendent of Public Instruction as 71% oppose their elimination from the ballot.

Constitutional Convention

Although support for a constitutional convention has greater support than opposition by 44% to 34%, a significant number of respondents--22%-- answered "Not sure." This indicates there is need for more information and education on this topic.

Summary

The sample's high percentage of Democrats--43%-- is reflective of the high level of interest in the dispute between two of the county's top Democrats, Mayor Peterson and Sheriff Anderson. Republican participation in the sample reflects the view that they do not have "A dog" in the struggle between the Mayor and the Sheriff.



Poll Results Detail

Survey Title: **Government Consolidation**
Survey Sample Size: **603**
Date of Survey: **September 27th, 2005**
Margin of Error: **+/- 4%**

01.) Respondent Political Party Affiliation

Democrat	43%
Republican	24%
Independent	33%

02) Age Demographic of Respondents

18-34	15%
35-49	28%
50-64	38%
65 and Over	24%

03) Indianapolis Government Efficiency

Very Efficient	09%
Somewhat Efficient	45%
Not Very Efficient	36%
Not At All Efficient	10%



04) Marion County Government Efficiency

Very Efficient	07%
Somewhat Efficient	57%
Not Very Efficient	29%
Not At All Efficient	07%

05) Township Government Efficiency

Very Efficient	17%
Somewhat Efficient	55%
Not Very Efficient	16%
Not At All Efficient	12%

06) Ability for County Government to Absorb Township Services

Yes	38%
No	27%
Not Sure	35%

07) Respondents Ability to Name Their Township Officials

Yes	53%
No	47%

08) Respondents Ability to Name Their City-County Council Member

Yes	51%
No	49%

09) Respondents Ability to Name Their State Representative

Yes	61%
No	39%



10) *Continue Electing Non-Policy County Offices*

Yes	51%
No	32%
Not Sure	17%

11) *Consolidation of Township Fire Departments and IFD*

Yes	44%
No	44%
Not Sure	12%

12) *Consolidation of Marion County Sheriff and IPD*

Yes	41%
No	53%
Not Sure	06%

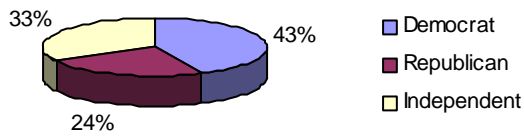
13) *Allow Governor to Appoint Non-Policy Executive Branch Cabinet Positions such as Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, and Superintendent of Public Instruction*

Yes	22%
No	71%
Not Sure	07%

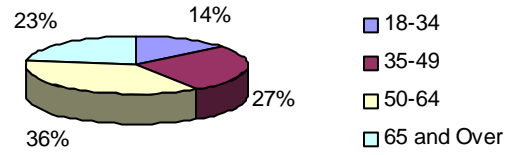
14) *Call Constitutional Convention to rewrite Indiana's 1851 State Constitution*

Yes	44%
No	34%
Not Sure	22%

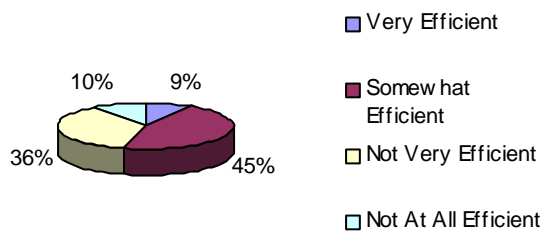
Party Affiliation



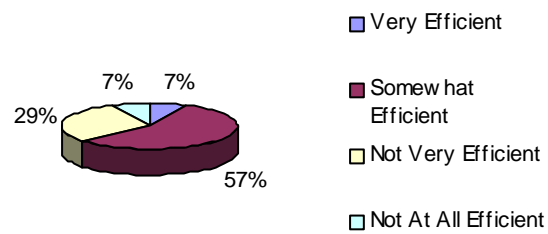
Age Demographic



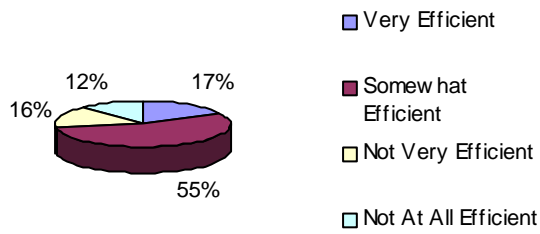
Indianapolis Government Efficiency



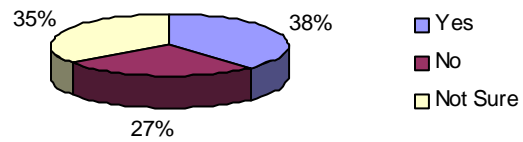
Marion County Government Efficiency



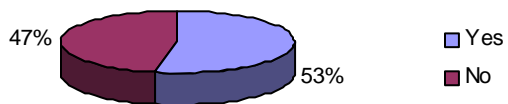
Township Government Efficiency



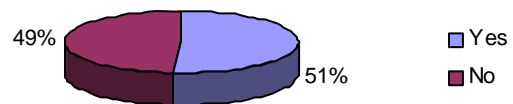
County Absorption of Township Services



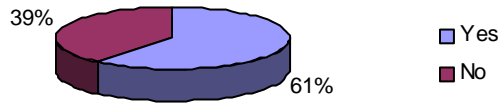
Ability To Name Township officials



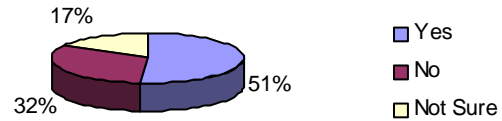
Ability To Name City-County Official



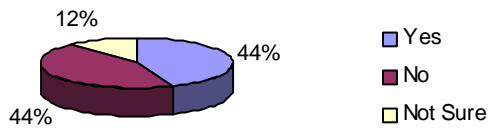
Ability To Name State Representative



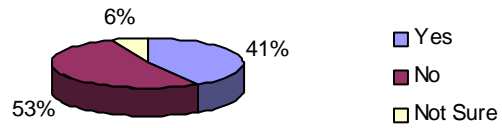
Continued Election of Non-Policy County Officials



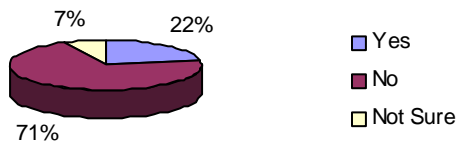
Consolidation of Township Fire Departments and IFD



Consolidation of Marion County Sheriff and IPD



Governor Appointment of Currently Elected Non-Policy Officials



Rewrite Indiana State Constitution

