



Marion County Legislative Poll for Howey Political Report

Survey conducted April 10 & 11, 2005

Demographic breakout

402 randomly selected registered voters, margin of error +/- 5.0

46% men, 54% women

32% Democrats

38% Republicans

30% Independents

21% Minority

Age ranges

18-34 17%

35-49 30%

50-64 26%

65+ 27%

Question: We will list four prominent political leaders by alphabet and by party affiliation. We want to know how favorably or on favorably you feel about each of them. Choose from very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, very unfavorable, or uncertain.

Pat Bauer, Democrat Indiana House leader

Total sample

VF 11%

SF 22%

SUn 21%

VUn 26%

Unc 20%

By voter affiliation

Dems	Reps	Inds
VF 24%	VF 4%	VF 8%
SF 31%	SF 11%	SF 27%
SUn 11%	SUn 29%	SUn 22%
VUn 12%	VUn 41%	VUn 20%
Unc 23%	Unc 15%	Unc 23%

Analysis: Bauer's recent legislative walk-out probably contributed to his unfavs.



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Brian Bosma, Indiana House Speaker, Republican

Total sample

VF 14%
SF 28%
SUn 23%
VUn 21%
Unc 15%

By voter affiliation

Dems	Reps	Inds
VF 3%	VF 28%	VF 8%
SF 14%	SF 49%	SF 14%
SUn 30%	SUn 8%	SUn 33%
VUn 38%	VUn 4%	VUn 24%
Unc 15%	Unc 11%	Unc 20%

Analysis: Bosma has real problems with Independents as 57% view him unfavorably to 22% who view him favorably.

Mitch Daniels, Indiana Governor, Republican

Total sample

VF 31%
SF 22%
SUn 18%
VUn 25%
Unc 4%

By voter affiliation

Dems	Reps	Inds
VF 8%	VF 60%	VF 18%
SF 17%	SF 19%	SF 31%
SUn 20%	SUn 11%	SUn 26%
VUn 51%	VUn 7%	VUn 22%
Unc 4%	Unc 3%	Unc 3%

Analysis: Mitch's 25% favs among Dems is very good as it more than offsets his 18% unfavs with Republicans. Independents are right down the middle with 49% favs and 48% unfavs.



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Bart Peterson, Mayor, Democrat

Total sample

VF 35%
 SF 32%
 SUn 17%
 VUn 15%
 Unc 2%

By voter affiliation

	Dems	Reps	Inds
VF	54%	17%	39%
SF	32%	36%	26%
SUn	10%	22%	15%
VUn	4%	24%	13%
Unc	0%	2%	4%

Analysis: Peterson's favorables are about as good as it gets for a public official. His 53% favorables among Republicans is exceptional as is his 65% favs with Independents.

Question: Overall, do you feel Indiana is on the right track or wrong track?

Total sample

Right track 30%
 Wrong track 43%
 Uncertain 27%

By voter affiliation

	Dems	Reps	Inds
Right track	18%	50%	18%
Wrong track	51%	25%	58%
Uncertain	31%	25%	24%

Analysis: The number that jumps off this question is the 58% of the Independents that answered "Wrong track" to 18% that answered "Right track." That is better than a 3 to 1 ratio.



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Question: Governor Daniels supports a Daylight Savings Plan that would put all of Indiana's counties, with the exception of certain counties in Northwest and Southwest Indiana, on New York time. Which of the following three options do you agree with most?

Prefer being on New York time year round.	35%
Prefer being on Chicago time year round.	24%
Keep our time the way it is currently.	40%

By voter affiliation

	Dems	Reps	Inds
New York	24%	41%	40%
Chicago	22%	27%	23%
Same	54%	32%	37%

By gender

	Men	Women
New York	45%	30%
Chicago	26%	23%
Same	29%	47%

Analysis: The gender gap on this question is huge. Almost half the men want New York time and almost half the women want no change. Could putting kids to bed while it's still light out be the reason?

Question: In his first "State of the State" address, Governor Daniels called for a one time, one year tax of 1% on all tax returns of \$100,000 a year or more in an effort to ease Indiana's fiscal problems. Do you agree or disagree with this proposal?

Total sample

Agree	74%
Disagree	18%
Not sure	8%

By voter affiliation

	Dems	Reps	Inds
Agree	66%	78%	76%
Disagree	25%	14%	16%
Not sure	9%	8%	8%

Analysis: The biggest surprise here is that 78% of the Republican respondents favor the proposal but only 66% of the Democrats favor it.



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Question: A proposal is now before the General Assembly that would finance a new stadium for the Colts and Convention Center expansion. The financial package calls for an additional restaurant tax of 1% in Marion and six contiguous counties along with tax increases hotel, rental car and ticket prices. Do you approve or disapprove of this plan?

Total sample

Approve	51%
Disapprove	41%
Not sure	8%

By voter affiliation

	Dems	Reps	Inds
Approve	42%	61%	46%
Disapprove	46%	31%	48%
Not sure	12%	8%	6%

By gender

	Men	Women
Approve	60%	46%
Disapprove	34%	45%
Not sure	6%	9%

Analysis: Dems and Independents are almost identically split on this question. The "gender gap" surfaces again on this question. The overall support of this plan is clearly driven by the Republican respondents.

Question: Mayor Peterson has proposed a government consolidation plan, called Indy Works, that he believes would save Marion County \$35 million annually. His proposal has the support of Senator Lugar, Governor Daniels, former city-county council president SerVaas, the Chamber of Commerce, and 37 leading businesses. House Republican critics contend that Peterson's numbers are false and misleading and the proposal needs further study. Who do you agree with most?

Total sample

Mayor Peterson's Indy Works	52%
House Republican opposition	24%
Not sure	24%

By voter affiliation

	Dems	Reps	Inds
Mayor Peterson's Indy Works	68%	39%	53%
House Republican opposition	16%	37%	16%
Not sure	16%	24%	31%

Analysis: Republicans are clearly unsettled on this issue, as almost as many favor it (39%) as oppose it (37%), while one in four (24%) haven't made up their minds.



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Question: Republican leadership in the General Assembly has chosen to raise state revenue by increasing the cigarette tax in addition to the tax increases previously mentioned. Republican leadership has opposed any proposals that would increase revenue from expansion of gambling or gaming. Do you agree with their approach, or do you think a combination of both is a more acceptable way to increase revenue?

Total sample

Agree with specific tax increases, without increasing gaming revenues is most acceptable.
18%

A combination of increasing gaming revenues and specific tax increases is preferable.
61%

Uncertain
21%

By voter affiliation

	Dems	Reps	Inds
Specific taxes and no gaming increases.	11%	24%	17%
Combination of specific taxes and gaming revenue.	61%	60%	62%
Uncertain	28%	16%	21%

Analysis: These responses show clearly that there is little opposition to increasing gaming and gambling revenues in Marion County. All three voter cells are in lockstep on the "combination" approach.