



SENATOR
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COUNTY IN THE
MISSOURI SENATE.



2013 SURVEY RESULTS

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The results of my 2013 legislative survey show that constituents in the 14th Senatorial District are well versed in what is going on in state government. The following data was submitted to my office through a series of questions regarding many controversial topics including economic development, property tax credits, prevailing wage laws, education, and many other topics. Hundreds of people participated in the survey, and I value everyone's opinion. The information my office collected guides several of my legislative priorities this year and helps me craft many of my sponsored and co-sponsored bills.

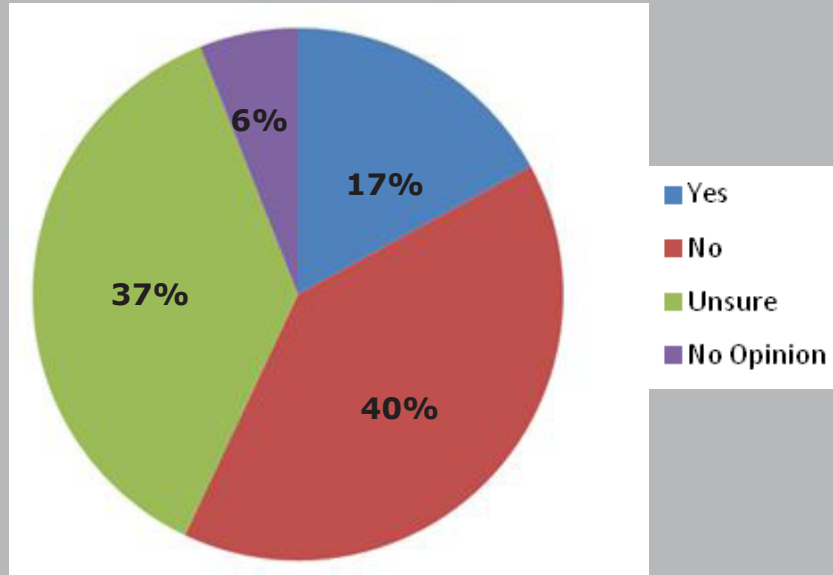
In the area of economic development, citizens who participated in my legislative survey state that our state's tax credit system must be reformed. They also indicate that they would like to discontinue the Property Tax Credit for those who rent their homes. Survey takers shared their thoughts about changing Missouri's current prevailing wage laws. Survey takers also overwhelmingly spoke out against making Missouri a "Right to Work" state.

In the area of placing the burden of proof in discrimination cases, 46% of survey takers said that the burden of proof should be placed on the plaintiff, and 31% of survey takers said the burden of proof should be placed on the defendant. In the area of Education, 83% of survey takers say the mandatory age requirement for children in school should be age 5, and 83% of survey takers said the state government should have a role in ensuring our public colleges and universities control their costs and keep higher education affordable. Regarding our state's public school teachers, 47% of surveyors said these teachers should be given tenure after completing a state-mandated probationary period.

This summary provides all of my survey results in a manner that can easily be reviewed. I would like to thank everyone who participated in my legislative survey, please do not hesitate to contact my Capitol office if you have any questions or concerns.

GENERAL INQUIRIES:

Do you feel you are well-represented in the Missouri General Assembly and that the laws passed are improving your quality of life?

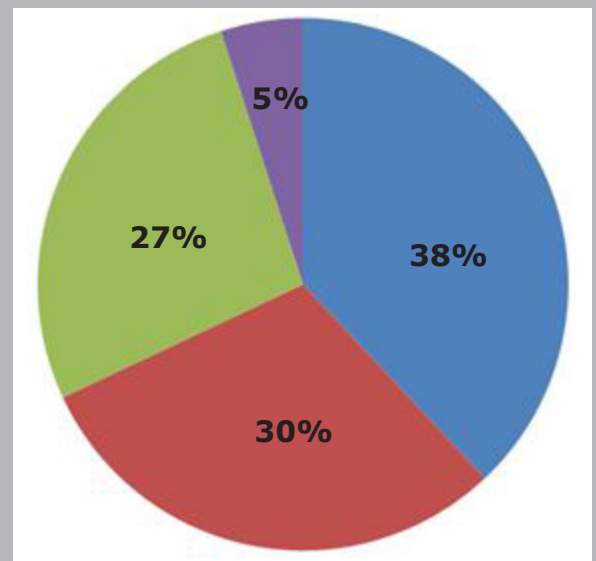


PREVAILING WAGE LAWS:

The prevailing wage is the hourly rate paid to a contractor for a public works project, similar to the minimum wage, but specific to an occupation. Prevailing wage laws were first enacted to level the playing field for contractors bidding on public works projects. By having set hourly rates for various occupations, contractors couldn't cut wages to underbid competitors.

In Missouri, the prevailing wage varies on where the project is located, and is determined based on data from the county where the work is to be done. However, if no data has been submitted for a county, the system uses collective bargaining agreements from major metro areas, which may have higher wages compared to more rural areas where the cost of living is less. Not all states use the prevailing wage system.

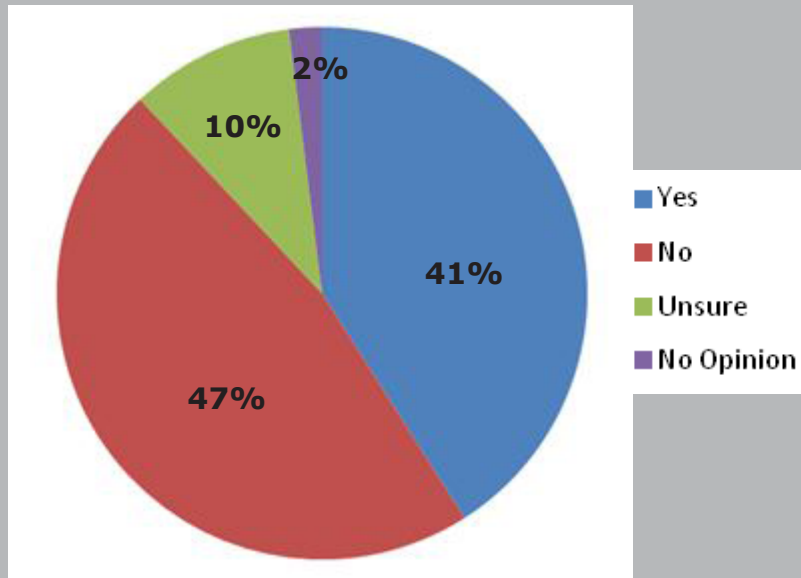
In 2012, lawmakers considered legislation to change the prevailing wage system by basing the hourly rates on data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics. Should Missouri's method for determining the prevailing wage be changed?



PROPERTY TAX CREDIT:

The Property Tax Credit (PTC) is a tax rebate issued to disabled and elderly Missourians to offset the costs of property taxes paid on their homes. The General Assembly expanded the PTC to include those who also rent their homes, but pay no property taxes, although their rent payments constitute income for their landlord, who does pay property taxes.

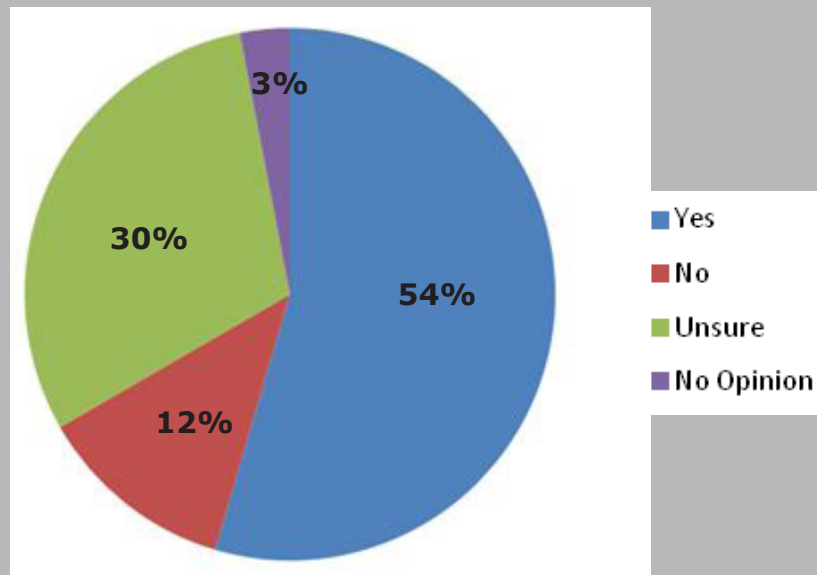
Do you think Missouri should continue to offer the PTC credit to people who rent their homes?



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/JOB CREATION:

Unlike tax deductions, tax credits are subtracted from the final amount of tax owed. Missouri has more than 60 tax credit programs, which have recently been reviewed by a commission for their efficiency and return on investment.

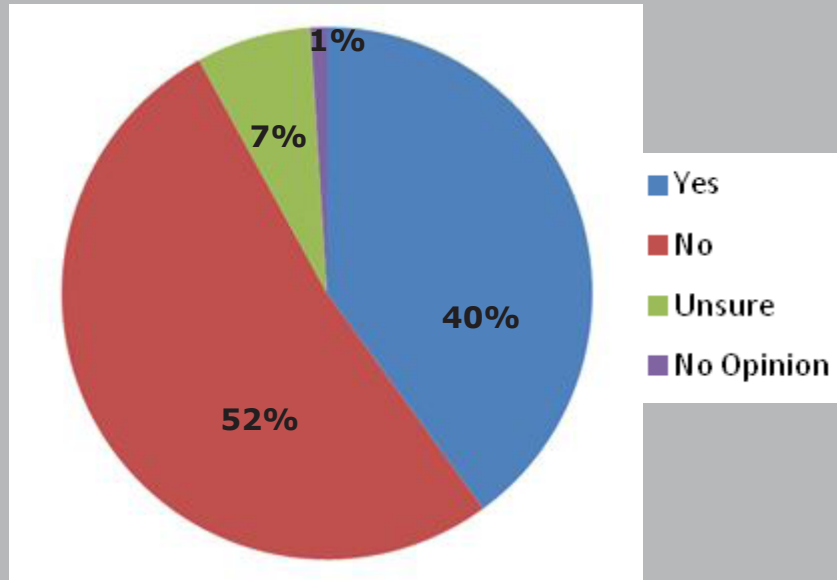
Do you think that Missouri's tax credit system needs to be reformed?



“RIGHT TO WORK”:

To stimulate the economic market, Missouri has offered attractive prospects for businesses to invest and expand in the state. It has been proposed to make Missouri a “Right to Work” state, meaning a Missouri employee would not be required to join a union against his or her will.

Should Missouri become a “Right to Work” state?

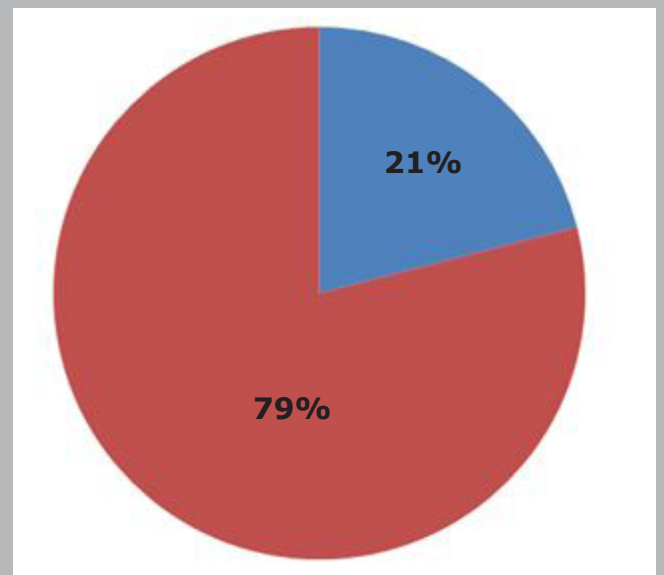


MINIMUM WAGE:

Proposals have been considered to prohibit the state minimum wage from exceeding the federal minimum wage.

I agree with keeping Missouri's minimum wage below federal minimum wage: **21%**

I do not agree with keeping Missouri's minimum wage below federal minimum wage: **79%**



BURDEN OF PROOF IN DISCRIMINATION CASES:

During the 2012 legislative session, lawmakers considered a bill that would revise Missouri's discrimination laws. Among the changes was a provision that would place the burden of proof in discrimination cases on the plaintiff instead of the defendant.

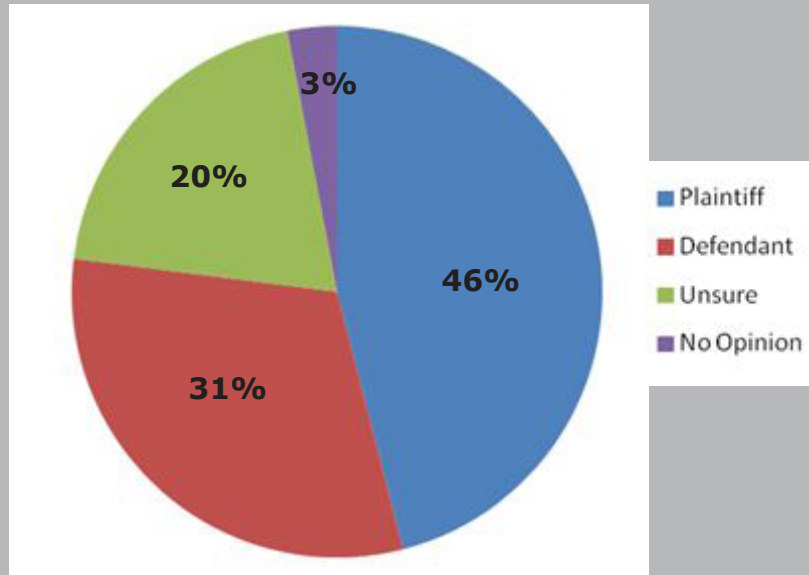
Do you think the burden of proof in discrimination cases should be on the plaintiff or the defendant?

Plaintiff: **46%**

Defendant: **31%**

Unsure: **20%**

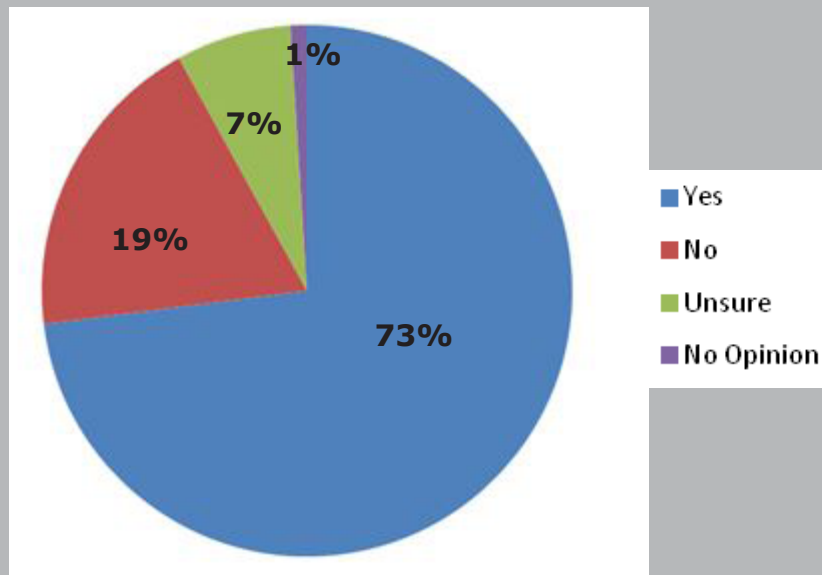
No Opinion: **3%**



ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION:

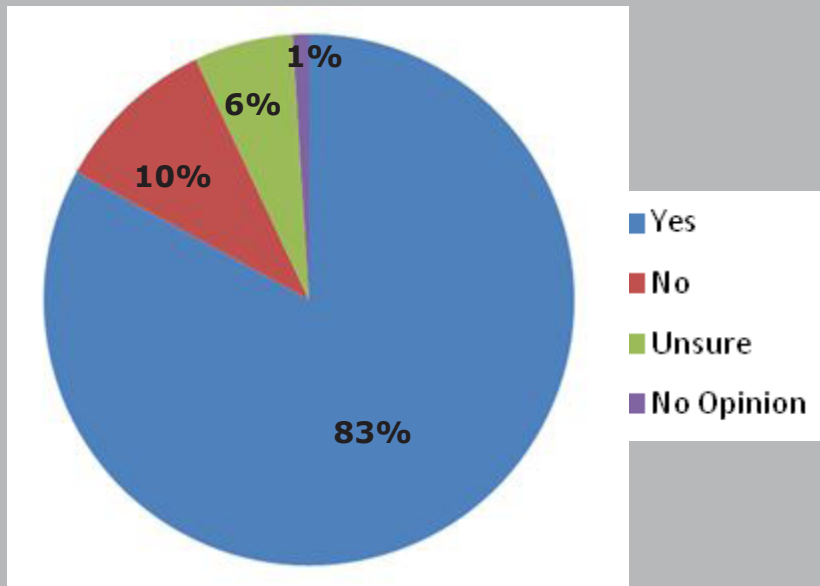
According to the Missouri Department of Education, "Children between the ages of 5 and 7 are not required to be enrolled in school. However, if they are enrolled in a public school, their parent, guardian or custodian must ensure that they regularly attend."

Some lawmakers would like to see the mandatory age requirement for children to be enrolled in school at age 5. Do you support this idea?



HIGHER EDUCATION:

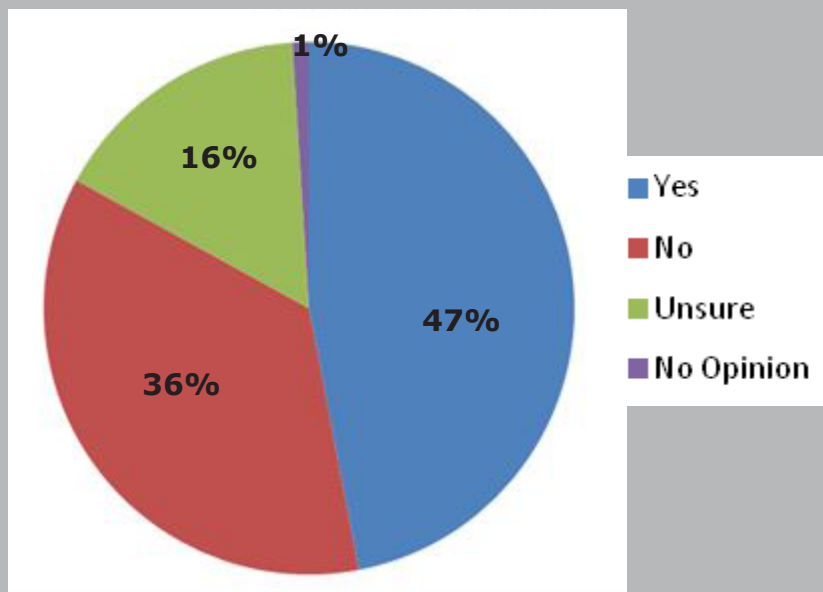
Should state government have a role in ensuring public colleges control their costs and keep higher education affordable?



TEACHER TENURE:

In 2012, the General Assembly considered legislation to double the probationary period for teachers to earn tenure from five to 10 years. It also called for any layoffs to be based on merit and not seniority. Previous legislative measures have called for abolishing the teacher tenure system altogether.

Should Missouri public school teachers be given tenure after completing a state-mandated probationary period?



NATURAL DISASTER RECOVERY:

Shortly after the 2011 regular legislative session, a Senate committee was created to focus on emergency, fiscal and insurance response after a string of natural disasters impacted Missouri.

How do you rate Missouri's response to the state's natural disasters (1 being most important and 5 being least important)?

Issue/Rank:	1	2	3	4	5
The state issues the right amount of support.	42%	17%	26%	9%	6%
Missouri could do more to help disaster-stricken communities.	53%	20%	19%	5%	3%
The state has done an adequate job in helping communities recover, but it needs to focus on areas that need attention.	46%	24%	20%	5%	5%
No Opinion	74%	2%	1%	14%	10%
Other	56%	17%	6%	17%	5%

Friends & Neighbors,

Thank you for participating in my legislative survey. The 2014 Legislative Survey will be sent out soon. If you would like to learn more about the issues or if you would like to discuss any matter involving state government, please contact my Capitol office.

Thank you,

Maria Chappelle-Nadal
14th District