

Results of SurveyUSA Election Poll #17493

Geography: Minnesota
Data Collected: 10/24/2010 - 10/27/2010
Release Date: 10/28/2010
Percentaages

Jump Ball for MN Governor; Independent Horner Complicates Calculus on Whether GOP Emmer or DFL Dayton Has Last-Minute Edge: Impossible to say who has the late advantage in the Minnesota Governor's race, according to SurveyUSA's final pre-election tracking poll for KSTP-TV in Minneapolis. DFL candidate Mark Dayton has never trailed, but neither in 3 polls has he led by more than 5 points. Today's it's Dayton 39%, Republican Tom Emmer 38%, Independence Party candidate Tom Horner 13%. Horner complicates any analysis of the race. The 1 point difference between Dayton and Emmer reported here does not have statistical significance. The contest should be reported as even. Each of the 2 leading candidates has a chance to win. Independent voters split: 37% for Dayton, 37% for Emmer, 17% for Horner. Tea Party supporters back Emmer 21:1. Moderates break 2:1 for Dayton. Emmer has a slight advantage among men, Dayton has a slight advantage among women, but this Gender Gap is less pronounced than in many other 2010 contests nationwide, where men are breaking sharply Republican.

This survey includes interviews conducted on cellphones and on home phones. Using both RDD landline and cellphone sample from Survey Sampling, SurveyUSA interviewed 900 Minnesota adults 10/24/10 through 10/27/10. Cellphones were hand-dialed. Of the adults, 824 were registered to vote. Of the registered voters, 624 were determined by SurveyUSA to be likely to vote in the 11/02/10 general election. In the table that follows: "CPO" = Cell Phone Only, respondents who do not have a home phone and who make and receive phone calls with a cell phone. "Both" = respondents who have both a cell phone and a home phone but for this survey were interviewed on their cell phone by a live operator who dialed the call by hand. "Home Phone" = respondents who were interviewed on their home phone with the recorded-voice of a professional announcer. 29% of the likely voters interviewed for this survey were contacted and interviewed entirely by live operator, 71% of likely voters were contacted and interviewed using recorded voice. CPO respondents account for 15% of likely voters. Unlike the findings in some academic research, and unlike SurveyUSA data in California, CPO respondents in Minnesota are not politically different than respondents interviewed on their home phones.

1	[Candidate names rotated] If the election for Minnesota Governor were today, who would you vote for? Republican Tom Emmer? DFL candidate Mark Dayton? Independence Party candidate Tom Horner? Or some other candidate?																																
	624 Likely Voters	All	Interview Conducted			Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Tea Party Movement				Vote in Midterms			College Grad		
	Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points		CPO, li	Both C	Home p	Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Other	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Favora	Unfavor	Neutral	No Opi	Rarely	Usually	Always	Yes	No	
	Emmer (R)	38%	35%	40%	39%	42%	35%	37%	44%	36%	33%	41%	35%	39%	**	**	**	76%	2%	37%	75%	23%	3%	85%	6%	48%	27%	40%	37%	40%	38%	39%	
	Dayton (DFL)	39%	35%	34%	41%	36%	42%	34%	37%	41%	46%	36%	44%	38%	**	**	**	5%	78%	37%	11%	49%	74%	4%	76%	25%	30%	41%	40%	38%	42%	36%	
	Horner (IP)	13%	9%	11%	15%	14%	13%	15%	13%	14%	12%	14%	13%	13%	**	**	**	11%	13%	17%	8%	19%	14%	6%	15%	14%	20%	11%	15%	13%	15%	12%	
	Other	3%	5%	2%	3%	4%	2%	4%	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	**	**	**	2%	2%	4%	1%	3%	5%	2%	2%	5%	6%	4%	3%	3%	2%	4%	
	Undecided	6%	15%	15%	3%	4%	8%	10%	4%	6%	5%	6%	6%	6%	**	**	**	6%	4%	6%	5%	6%	5%	2%	2%	8%	17%	4%	5%	7%	4%	8%	
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Composition of Likely Voters	100%	15%	14%	71%	50%	50%	23%	35%	24%	18%	58%	42%	94%	2%	1%	3%	35%	33%	29%	37%	38%	20%	27%	37%	18%	19%	13%	46%	40%	53%	47%	

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[Candidate names rotated]
If the election for Minnesota Governor were today, who would you vote for? Republican Tom Emmer? DFL candidate Mark Dayton? Independence Party candidate Tom Horner? Or some other candidate?

624 Likely Voters	All	Income		Region				
Credibility Interval: +/-4 pct points		< \$50K	> \$50K	Twin Ci	South	West M	Northea	
Emmer (R)	38%	31%	42%	37%	43%	41%	35%	
Dayton (DFL)	39%	41%	38%	42%	30%	32%	45%	
Horner (IP)	13%	12%	15%	13%	13%	19%	10%	
Other	3%	5%	2%	3%	5%	2%	3%	
Undecided	6%	11%	4%	5%	9%	6%	7%	
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	32%	68%	58%	14%	15%	13%	

** Too few respondents of this type were interviewed for this data to be meaningful.

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Statement of Methodology: About the Poll: This poll was conducted by telephone in the voice of a professional announcer. Respondent households were selected at random, using Random Digit Dialed (RDD) sample provided by Survey Sampling, of Fairfield CT. All respondents heard the questions asked identically. The pollster's report includes the geography that was surveyed; the date(s) interviews were conducted, the number of respondents who answered each question and the theoretical margin of sampling error for each question. Where necessary, respondents were weighted using the most recent US Census estimates for age, gender, ethnic origin and region, to align the sample to the population. In theory, one can say with 95% certainty that the results would not vary by more than the stated margin of sampling error, in one direction or the other, had the entire universe of respondents with home telephones been interviewed with complete accuracy. There are other possible sources of error in all surveys that may be more serious than sampling error. These include: the difficulty of interviewing respondents who do not have a home telephone; the refusal by some with home telephones to be interviewed; the order in which questions are asked; the wording of questions; the way and extent to which data are weighted; and the manner in which specialized populations, such as likely voters, are determined. It is difficult to quantify the errors that may result from these and other factors. Research methodology, questionnaire design and fieldwork for this survey were completed by SurveyUSA of Clifton, NJ. This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.