Results of SurveyUSA Election Poll #17086

Geography: Minnesota
Data Collected: 09/12/2010 - 09/14/2010
Release Date: 09/15/2010
Counts (Frequencies)

Sponsor:
KSTP-TV (Minneapolis)

Minnesota: 3rd Party Horner Complicates Battle for Open Governor's Seat; Dayton and Emmer Effectively Even: In an election for Minnesota Governor today, 09/15/10, DFL candidate Mark Dayton and Republican Tom Emmer finish effectively even, within the survey's theoretical margin of sampling error, according to this latest exclusive KSTP-TV poll conducted by SurveyUSA. Today, Dayton gets 38%, Emmer 36%; Dayton's nominal 2-point advantage may or may not be statistically significant. But: Independence Party candidate Tom Horner today gets 18% of the vote, stronger yet among older, more reliable voters, complicating the calculus either major-party campaign needs to capture the open seat. Among men, Emmer leads Dayton by 11 points; among women, Dayton leads Emmer by 13 -- a 24-point gender gap. 1 in 5 men and 1 in 6 women vote for the Independence Party candidate Horner. Dayton has an edge among older voters, but Horner gets 22% among those 50+. Emmer and Dayton each take 3 of 4 votes from members of their own parties, with Horner taking 14% of Republican and 13% of Democrat votes today. Among the 1 in 3 voters who are independent, the 3 candidates are effectively even, separated from one another by 3 points. Dayton, who served as a US Senator from 2001 to 2006, leads by 14 points in Northeastern Minnesota; Emmer, a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives, has a small advantage in the southern portion of MN. Elsewhere, Dayton and Emmer tie, with Horner receiving 14% to 22% of the vote.

Filtering: SurveyUSA interviewed 1,000 Minnesota adults 09/12/10 through 09/14/10. Of them, 926 were registered to vote. Of the registered voters, 656 were determined by SurveyUSA to be likely to vote in the 11/02/10 general election, 7 weeks from today. Incumbent Governor Republican Tim Pawlenty is not seeking a 3rd term.

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?

656 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Tea Party Movement				College Grad		Attend Religious Service			Abortion	
Credibility Interval: +/-3.9 pct points		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	Yes	No	Regular	Occasi	Almost	Pro-life	Pro-cho
Emmer (R)	236	140	96	51	82	60	43	134	103	217	7	7	6	155	15	57	149	72	5	135	9	57	29	111	117	117	76	35	163	61
Dayton (DFL)	249	108	141	34	84	75	55	118	131	225	7	8	8	24	159	58	32	117	83	6	159	47	32	116	125	120	63	58	71	162
Horner (IP)	116	65	50	10	34	40	32	44	72	113	1	1	1	29	29	51	30	62	17	37	37	30	12	63	52	64	24	25	35	70
Other	31	9	22	11	6	8	6	17	14	28	0	1	2	3	10	16	7	16	5	2	3	15	8	12	15	10	7	10	11	16
Undecided	24	8	15	5	7	4	7	13	11	24	0	0	0	4	3	8	6	8	2	5	2	11	4	6	16	13	5	3	10	9
Total	656	332	324	111	214	187	143	326	330	606	15	17	17	215	215	189	225	275	111	184	210	160	84	308	325	324	175	132	290	318
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	51%	49%	17%	33%	29%	22%	50%	50%	92%	2%	3%	3%	33%	33%	29%	35%	42%	17%	29%	33%	25%	13%	49%	51%	51%	28%	21%	47%	51%

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?

656 Likely Voters	All	Own a Gun?		Income		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.9 pct points		Yes	No	< $50K	> $50K	Twin Ci	South	West M	Northea
Emmer (R)	236	121	93	81	126	141	29	37	30
Dayton (DFL)	249	97	136	116	115	137	33	35	44
Horner (IP)	116	61	43	41	61	64	20	13	20
Other	31	15	10	13	13	22	1	6	2
Undecided	24	9	11	13	8	10	6	4	4
Total	656	303	293	264	323	373	89	94	99
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	49%	48%	45%	55%	57%	14%	14%	15%

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.

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