



## **Gender and Multicultural Leadership (GMCL) Survey Topline Findings**

A total of 1,354 elected officials of color holding positions at the state and local levels of government were interviewed by phone between June 5, 2006 and March 21, 2007. Entries are frequency distribution in percentages except where noted; “-” indicates the percentage is less than 0.1. Percentage totals may exceed 100% in questions where multiple responses are accepted. The number of respondents by race and gender is as below:

### **3. What level of elective office do you currently hold?**

State Legislator	10.8
Municipal Official	47.1
County Official	15.7
School Board Member	26.4
Total N = 1354	

### **4. What is the official title of your elective office?**

Board of Aldermen	5.4
Select Board	0.2
City Council	29.6
Town Board	1.2
Village Board	0.8
Mayoral Position	9.7
School Board	26.4
County Board	15.7
State Assembly Member	0.6
Delegate	0.1
State Representative	7.6
State Senator	2.4
Other	0.1
Total N = 1354	

### **5. Is this your first elective position?**

Yes	66.7
No	33.2
DK/NA	0.1
Total N = 1354	

**6. What year were you first elected to public office?**

1960-1969	1.0
1970-1979	6.7
1980-1989	16.2
1990-1999	40.2
2000-2006	34.5
DK/NA	1.4
Total N = 1354	

**7. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “NO” TO QUESTION 5] What was your first elective office?**

Board of Aldermen	2.1
City Council	12.1
Board/Commission	0.4
Town Board	1.0
Village Board	0.4
Mayoral Position	0.6
County Board	2.4
Other Local Office	1.1
School Board	8.0
State Assembly Member	0.1
Delegate	0.1
State Representative	1.2
State Senator	0.1
Civic/Community	0.7
Political Party	1.0
Tribal Office	0.1
Public Works	0.5
Judicial/Police	0.3
Other	0.7
Same Office	0.1
None	66.7
DK/NA	0.1
Dropout	0.1
Total N = 1353	

**8. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “NO” TO QUESTION 5] What year were you first elected to your current office?**

1960-1969	0.7
1970-1979	3.8
1980-1989	8.9
1990-1999	33.5
2000-2007	52.1
DK/NA	0.7
Dropout	0.2
Total N = 450	

**9. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “NO” TO QUESTION 5] How many elected offices did you hold prior to your current position?**

None	29.0
One	45.5
Two	15.7
Three	3.5
Four	2.4
Five	1.1
Six	0.4
Seven	0.2
Eight or More	1.1
DK/NA	0.7
Dropout	0.2
Total N = 451	

**10. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “NO” TO QUESTION 5] What was the most recent elective office prior to your current position?**

Board of Aldermen	0.8
Select Board	0.1
City Council	7.0
Board/Commission	0.4
Town Board	0.7
Village Board	0.2
Mayoral Position	1.5
County Board	1.4
School Board	2.1
Other Local Office	0.8

State Assembly Member	0.2
State Rep.	0.7
State Senator	0.3
Civic/Community	1.0
Political Party	1.0
US Government	0.1
Public Works	0.4
Judicial/Police	0.1
Other	1.2
Same Office	0.3
None	77.0
DK/NA	2.7
Total N = 1183	

**11. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “NO” TO QUESTION 5 AND SAID THEY HELD TWO OR MORE ELECTED OFFICES IN QUESTION 9] What was your most recent elective office before you were a [response given in Q10]?**

Board of Aldermen	0.4
City Council	3.2
Board/Commission	0.1
Mayoral Position	0.2
County Board	0.4
Other Local Office	0.4
School Board	1.3
State Rep.	0.4
Other Statewide Elected	0.1
Civic/Community	0.8
Political Party	0.1
Tribal Office	0.2
Public Works	0.1
Other	1.1
None	89.5
DK/NA	1.8

**12. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “NO” TO QUESTION 5 AND SAID THEY HELD MORE THAN TWO ELECTED OFFICES IN QUESTION 9] What was the third most recent elective office?**

City Council	0.8
Board/Commission	0.3
Mayoral Position	0.1

School Board	0.3
County Board	0.2
Other Local Office	0.2
State Senator	0.1
Civic/Community	0.1
Other	0.5
None	95.8
DK/NA	1.5
Total N = 945	

**13. How many appointed positions did you hold prior to your current elected position?**

None	47.0
One	17.1
Two	10.3
Three or More	23.3
DK/NA	2.1
Dropout	0.1
Total N = 1354	

**14. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER” TO QUESTION 3] We know there are many kinds of school systems, could you tell me which of the following best reflects your school board or committee system? Is it:**

City- or Town-wide	19.0
County School District	19.0
Independent School District	17.6
Unified School District	18.4
Consolidated School District	4.9
Local School-based Board	15.9
Other	4.6
DK/NA	0.6
Total N = 347	

**15. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “MAYORAL POSITION” TO QUESTION 4] Which of the following best describes your election as mayor? Were you:**

Listed on the ballot as a candidate for mayor and popularly elected	52.8
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Popularly elected to the municipal governing body and selected by your colleagues to serve as mayor	22.2
Popularly elected to the municipal governing body and, as the top vote getter, serve as mayor	22.2
None of the above	1.4
DK/NA	1.4
Total N = 72	

**17. Is your current position full or part-time?**

Full-time	29.0
Part-time	68.9
DK/NA	2.1
Total N = 1353	

**18. How long had you lived in the district or area you represent before you were elected to your present office?**

0 to 4 years	5.4
5-10 years	9.0
11-20 years	17.2
21-30 years	19.6
31-50 years	32.2
More than 50 years	15.5
DK/NA	0.9
Total N = 1353	

**20. On a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all involved and ten means extremely involved, how involved were you in activities with political parties before you first ran for elected office?**

0 Not at all involved	12.9
1	3.4
2	4.4
3	5.8

4	5.3
5	15.7
6	6.1
7	8.9
8	13.7
9	4.4
10 Extremely involved	18.8
DK/NA	0.4
Total N = 1353	

**21. On a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all involved and ten means extremely involved, how involved were you in activities with labor unions before you first ran for elected office?**

0 Not at all involved	50.3
1	3.8
2	5.0
3	4.2
4	3.0
5	8.2
6	3.1
7	3.7
8	5.0
9	2.0
10 Extremely involved	11.1
DK/NA	0.6
Dropout	0.1
Total N = 1353	

**22. On a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all involved and ten means extremely involved, how involved were you in activities with business groups before you first ran for elected office?**

0 Not at all involved	18.1
1	2.7
2	5.6
3	6.1
4	6.1
5	18.4
6	8.2
7	7.5
8	11.8

9	3.3
10 Extremely involved	11.6
DK/NA	0.5
Total N = 1351	

**23. On a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all involved and ten means extremely involved, how involved were you in activities with parent teacher’s organizations or associations before you first ran for elected office?**

0 Not at all involved	15.6
1	2.6
2	3.3
3	3.8
4	3.2
5	12.3
6	5.6
7	7.0
8	12.9
9	7.8
10 Extremely involved	25.5
DK/NA	0.2
Total N = 1351	

**24. On a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all involved and ten means extremely involved, how involved were you in activities with election campaigns before you first ran for elected office?**

0 Not at all involved	15.8
1	2.3
2	5.6
3	5.1
4	5.0
5	12.8
6	5.3
7	7.4
8	13.0
9	6.8
10 Extremely involved	20.8
DK/NA	0.2
Total N = 1351	



**25. On a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all involved and ten means extremely involved, how involved were you in activities with civil rights organizations before you first ran for elected office?**

0 Not at all involved	23.4
1	3.3
2	4.6
3	4.7
4	3.6
5	10.2
6	5.1
7	6.5
8	10.5
9	5.5
10 Extremely involved	22.1
DK/NA	0.4
Total N = 1351	

**26. On a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all involved and ten means extremely involved, how involved were you in activities with faith-based organizations before you first ran for elected office?**

0 Not at all involved	24.6
1	3.6
2	4.7
3	4.2
4	3.8
5	10.3
6	5.0
7	6.3
8	8.3
9	5.3
10 Extremely involved	21.8
DK/NA	1.7
Total N = 1351	

**27. On a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all involved and ten means extremely involved, how involved were you in activities with community or neighborhood organizations before you first ran for elected office?**

0 Not at all involved	6.2
1	.9
2	1.5
3	3.3
4	3.6
5	10.4
6	5.0
7	8.8
8	17.6
9	8.8
10 Extremely involved	33.4
DK/NA	0.4
Total N = 1351	

**28. On a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all involved and ten means extremely involved, how involved were you in activities with women’s organizations before you first ran for elected office?**

0 Not at all involved	39.3
1	4.2
2	5.3
3	6.0
4	4.2
5	11.8
6	4.3
7	3.8
8	6.7
9	3.3
10 Extremely involved	10.1
DK/NA	0.9
Total N = 1351	

**29. Did you ever serve on the staff of an elected public official prior to your first bid for office?**

Yes	12.5
No	87.4
Total N = 1351	

**30. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 29] Was this person a male or female?**

Male	84.0
Female	13.6
DK/NA	2.4
Total N = 169	

**31. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 29] Was this person of your own racial or ethnic background?**

Yes	50.3
No	47.9
DK/NA	1.8
Total N = 169	

**32. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 29] Did you work for someone at the congressional level, or was it a statewide, state legislature, county, city or town, or school board position?**

Congressional	14.2
Statewide	17.8
State Legislature	16.6
County	17.2
City	23.1
Town	3.6
School Board	3.0
DK/NA	4.7
Total N = 169	

**33. Elected officials have a variety of reasons for why they first decided to run for a political office. We are interested in the most important factor that influenced your decision to run for public office the very first time. Briefly, what was the most important reason influencing your decision to run for public office the very first time?**

**What was the next most important reason?**

**What was the next most important reason?**

(Textual Response)

**34. Using a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all likely and ten means extremely likely, how likely is it that you will run for a higher level of office when you leave your current position?**

0 Not at all likely	32.3
1	3.4
2	3.9
3	3.9
4	2.4
5	15.1
6	3.9
7	5.5
8	8.1
9	2.7
10 Extremely likely	16.2
DK/NA	2.3
Total N = 1348	

**35. First, in your most recent election for your current office, did you run as an:**

Incumbent	63.0
Challenger	14.7
For an Open Seat	20.5
DK/NA	1.3
Total N = 1348	

**36. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “CHALLENGER” OR “FOR AN OPEN SEAT” TO QUESTION 35] Was the race for your current office partisan or nonpartisan?**

Partisan	25.9
Non-partisan	71.3
DK/NA	2.4
Total N = 1203	

**37. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “CHALLENGER” OR “FOR AN OPEN SEAT” TO QUESTION 35] Are you currently in a district, at-large, or multi-member district seat?**

District	35.3
At-large	39.0
Multi-member District	19.6
DK/NA	5.7
Total N = 1203	

**38. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “CHALLENGER” OR “FOR AN OPEN SEAT” TO QUESTION 35] What is the name and/or number of your district?**

(Textual Response)

**39. In your most recent election to your current office, did you provide written materials for voters in languages other than English? [IF YES] What languages?**

No	65.7
Does not apply; few voters/ residents don't speak English	0.7
Yes (net)	<u>32.0</u>
Spanish	89.8
Chinese	7.0
Filipino	3.2
Korean	2.0
Vietnamese	2.9
Japanese	0.2
American Indian	0.7
Other	6.1
DK/NA	1.0
Total N = 1348	

**40. To the best of your recollection, was the approximate margin of victory over your closest opponent in your most recent general election:**

More than 10%	58.6
Between 5 and 10%	13.1
Less than 5%	10.5
Ran unopposed	14.8
Doesn't apply to state/ No head-to-head races	0.4
DK/NA	1.9
Total N = 1348	

*Some people believe that minority candidates have to overcome special obstacles when they run for elected office. For the next several questions, please tell me whether you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, or strongly agree that you faced any of the following obstacles during your first bid for your current office.*

**42. How would you rate your level of agreement with the following statement?  
*I received less support from political parties than other candidates.***

Strongly Disagree	14.6
Disagree	40.4
Agree	21.2
Strongly Agree	14.9
DK/NA	8.1
Total N = 1348	

**43. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “AGREE” OR “STRONGLY AGREE” TO QUESTION 42] Do you think the biggest factor for this was because of your race or ethnicity; your gender; your race or ethnicity and gender; or some other factor?**

Race/Ethnicity	31.6
Gender	4.7
Race/Ethnicity and Gender	16.4
Some Other Factor	41.8
DK/NA	5.5
Total N = 488	

**44. How would you rate your level of agreement with the following statement:**  
*I received less support from other political organizations than other candidates.*

Strongly Disagree	13.6
Disagree	44.9
Agree	20.6
Strongly Agree	11.9
DK/NA	8.2
Total N = 1348	

**45. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “AGREE” OR “STRONGLY AGREE” TO QUESTION 44] Do you think the biggest factor for this was because of your race or ethnicity; your gender; your race or ethnicity and gender; or some other factor?**

Race/Ethnicity	31.7
Gender	5.0
Race/Ethnicity and Gender	16.4
Some Other Factor	41.3
DK/NA	5.5
Total N = 438	

**46. How would you rate your level of agreement with the following statement:**  
*I faced more questions about my qualifications and/or electability than other candidates.*

Strongly Disagree	14.8
Disagree	45.4
Agree	24.1
Strongly Agree	11.3
DK/NA	3.5
Total N = 1348	

**47. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “AGREE” OR “STRONGLY AGREE” TO QUESTION 46] Do you think the biggest factor for this was because of your race or ethnicity; your gender; your race or ethnicity and gender; or some other factor?**

Race/Ethnicity	37.3
Gender	4.8
Race/Ethnicity and Gender	19.9
Some Other Factor	32.3
DK/NA	5.5
Total N = 477	

**48. How would you rate your level of agreement with the following statement:**  
*I had a harder time raising money than other candidates.*

Strongly Disagree	12.4
Disagree	44.8
Agree	20.4
Strongly Agree	13.3
DK/NA	7.9
Total N = 1348	

**49. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “AGREE” OR “STRONGLY AGREE” TO QUESTION 48] Do you think the biggest factor for this was because of your race or ethnicity; your gender; your race or ethnicity and gender; or some other factor?**

Race/Ethnicity	34.9
Gender	4.8
Race/Ethnicity and Gender	18.0
Some Other Factor	39.5
DK/NA	2.9
Total N = 456	

**50. How would you rate your level of agreement with the following statement:**  
*I received less attention from the mainstream media than other candidates.*

Strongly Disagree	13.4
Disagree	53.3
Agree	18.7
Strongly Agree	8.8
DK/NA	4.6
Total N = 1348	

**51. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “AGREE” OR “STRONGLY AGREE” TO QUESTION 50] Do you think the biggest factor for this was because of your race or ethnicity; your gender; your race or ethnicity and gender; or some other factor?**

Race/Ethnicity	39.1
Gender	5.1
Race/Ethnicity and Gender	15.9
Some Other Factor	37.2
DK/NA	2.4
Total N = 371	

**52. How would you rate your level of agreement with the following statement:**  
*More comments were made about my personal appearance than about my opponents’.*

Strongly Disagree	17.4
Disagree	59.7
Agree	9.5
Strongly Agree	4.7
DK/NA	7.3
Total N = 1348	

**53. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “AGREE” OR “STRONGLY AGREE” TO QUESTION 52] Do you think the biggest factor for this was because of your race or ethnicity; your gender; your race or ethnicity and gender; or some other factor?**

Race/Ethnicity	30.7
Gender	13.5
Race/Ethnicity and Gender	16.1
Some Other Factor	35.9
DK/NA	3.6
Total N = 192	



**54. How would you rate your level of agreement with the following statement:**  
*My family's background received greater scrutiny than that of other candidates.*

Strongly Disagree	16.3
Disagree	60.4
Agree	12.2
Strongly Agree	5.2
DK/NA	4.4
Total N = 1348	

**55. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “AGREE” OR “STRONGLY AGREE” TO QUESTION 54] Do you think the biggest factor for this was because of your race or ethnicity; your gender; your race or ethnicity and gender; or some other factor?**

Race/Ethnicity	45.2
Gender	2.1
Race/Ethnicity and Gender	14.2
Some Other Factor	35.1
DK/NA	3.3
Total N = 239	

*Now we want to ask about factors that affect how you view politics in this country.*

**56. Do you think what happens generally to other minority groups in this country affects what happens in your life and how you view politics?**

No	23.1
Yes	73.4
DK/NA	1.5
Refused	0.1
Total N = 1348	

**57. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 56] Is it a lot, some, or not very much?**

A Lot	47.8
Some	43.6
Not Very Much	8.3
DK/NA	0.3
Total N = 989	

**58. Do you think what happens to people of your own racial or ethnic background in this country affects what happens in your life and how you view politics?**

No	20.3
Yes	76.5
DK/NA	1.1
Refused	0.1
Total N = 1348	

**59. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 58] Is it a lot, some, or not very much?**

A Lot	50.9
Some	44.3
Not Very Much	4.5
DK/NA	0.2
Refused	0.1
Total N = 1031	

**60. Do you think what happens to women in this country affects what happens in your life and how you view politics?**

No	22.0
Yes	74.6
DK/NA	1.1
Refused	0.4
Total N = 1348	

**61. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 60] Is it a lot, some, or not very much?**

A Lot	47.0
Some	48.4
Not Very Much	4.7
Total N = 1005	

**63. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Shifting the focus slightly, I would like to know whether you think it is easier or harder for women to get a job suitable to their education and training than it is for men.**

Easier	13.9
About the Same	6.7
Harder	73.5
DK/NA	3.6
Total N = 668	

**64. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for women to get ahead in elective politics than it is for men?**

Easier	10.3
About the Same	7.8
Harder	76.2
DK/NA	3.3
Total N = 668	

**65. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for women to be accepted as a member of a profession, such as law or medicine, than it is for men?**

Easier	16.3
About the Same	13.3
Harder	63.2
DK/NA	4.6
Total N = 668	

**66. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for women to get appointed to public office than it is for men?**

Easier	11.5
About the Same	10.5
Harder	72.6
DK/NA	2.7
Total N = 668	

**67. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for minority women to get a job suitable to their education and training than it is for minority men?**

Easier	27.8
About the Same	5.2
Harder	64.2
DK/NA	2.8
Total N = 650	

**68. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for minority women to get ahead in elective politics than it is for minority men?**

Easier	19.2
About the Same	8.8
Harder	68.3
DK/NA	3.5
Total N = 650	

**69. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for minority women to be accepted as a member of a profession, such as law or medicine, than it is for minority men?**

Easier	22.5
About the Same	11.7
Harder	60.9
DK/NA	4.9
Total N = 649	

**70. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for minority women to get appointed to public office than it is for minority men?**

Easier	21.1
About the Same	10.6
Harder	64.3
DK/NA	4.0
Total N = 649	

**71. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Shifting the focus slightly, I would like to know whether you think it is easier or harder for minority women to get a job suitable to their education and training than it is for minority men.**

Easier	32.1
About the Same	7.5
Harder	54.5
DK/NA	4.0
Total N = 679	

**72. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for minority women to get ahead in elective politics than it is for minority men?**

Easier	24.2
About the Same	8.4
Harder	62.2
DK/NA	3.2
Total N = 679	

**73. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for minority women to be accepted as a member of a profession, such as law or medicine, than it is for minority men?**

Easier	24.9
About the Same	11.3
Harder	56.6
DK/NA	5.0
Total N = 679	

**74. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for minority women to get appointed to public office than it is for minority men?**

Easier	25.0
About the Same	10.5
Harder	59.1
DK/NA	3.4
Total N = 679	

**75. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for women to get a job suitable to their education and training than it is for men?**

Easier	25.9
About the Same	6.2

Harder	62.2
DK/NA	3.2
Total N = 679	

**76. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for women to get ahead in elective politics than it is for men?**

Easier	15.2
About the Same	6.3
Harder	72.9
DK/NA	3.1
Total N = 679	

**77. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for women to be accepted as a member of a profession, such as law or medicine, than it is for men?**

Easier	18.0
About the Same	10.6
Harder	62.7
DK/NA	6.2
Total N = 679	

**78. [ASKED OF A RANDOMIZED SPLIT SAMPLE OF RESPONDENTS] Do you think it is easier or harder for women to get appointed to public office than it is for men?**

Easier	19.6
About the Same	7.5
Harder	65.4
DK/NA	5.0
Total N = 679	

*Now I would like to ask about your views on politics.*

**79. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as Republican, Democrat, Independent, or of another political affiliation?**

None	1.1
Republican	7.8
Democrat	76.5

Independent	10.2
Other	1.6
DK/NA	0.6
Refused	0.8
Total N = 1329	

**80. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “REPUBLICAN” OR “DEMOCRAT” TO QUESTION 79] Would you call yourself a strong [Republican or Democrat]?**

No	23.4
Yes	75.4
DK/NA	1.0
Refused	0.3
Total N = 1117	

**81. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “INDEPENDENT” TO QUESTION 79] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democratic Party?**

Neither	20.1
Lean Republican	17.6
Lean Democrat	56.6
DK/NA	3.8
Refused	1.9
Total N = 159	

**82. How would you describe your views on most matters having to do with politics? Do you generally think of yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, middle-of-the road, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?**

Very Liberal	9.6
Somewhat Liberal	22.3
Middle of the Road	34.2
Somewhat Conservative	23.5
Very Conservative	5.9
DK/NA	2.5
Refused	0.2
Total N = 1329	

*Now we’d like to ask you a few questions about your constituents—the people who live in the jurisdiction or district that you represent.*

**83. Would you say that more voters in your jurisdiction identify with the Republican Party, the Democratic Party, or are the voters divided about equally between the two parties?**

Identify With No Party	0.2
Republican Party	10.9
Divided About Equally	19.0
Democrat Party	66.7
Mostly Independent/ Third Party Voters	0.2
DK/NA	1.3
Total N = 1329	

**84. On most political issues, would you characterize the majority of voters in your jurisdiction as:**

Very Liberal	5.6
Somewhat Liberal	22.0
Middle of the Road	36.8
Somewhat Conservative	26.5
Very Conservative	7.1
DK/NA	1.8
Refused	0.2
Total N = 1304	

**85. Would you say that your constituency is mostly:**

Poor	14.3
Working-class	35.6
Middle-class	22.5
Upper Middle-class	5.9
Upper Class	1.0
Mixed—No Dominant Class	20.1
DK/NA	0.6
Total N = 1304	

**86. Would you say that the racial or ethnic makeup of your jurisdiction is mostly:**

White, Non-Hispanic	19.6
Black	32.0
Hispanic or Latino	24.5
Asian	1.2



American Indian	0.8
Other	0.1
Mixed—No Dominant Race	21.5
DK/NA	0.2
Total N = 1304	

**87. To the best of your knowledge, about what percentage of the people who live in your jurisdiction are immigrants?**

None	6.3
1-20%	59.5
21-40%	13.7
41-60%	4.6
61-80%	2.2
81-100%	1.7
DK/NA	12.0
Total N = 1303	

**88. To better understand the extent of constituent interactions with elected officials, how many constituents contact your office in an average week?**

None	4.4
1-25	69.4
26-50	9.1
51-75	1.8
76-100	3.9
More than 100	3.5
DK/NA	7.8
Total N = 1303	

**89. To the best of your knowledge, from which racial or ethnic group are the majority of the constituents who contact your office in an average week?**

American Indian	0.5
Asian	1.4
Black	23.9
Hispanic or Latino	19.5
White, Non-Hispanic	25.6
Mixed—No Dominant Race	19.2
Other	1.0
Minority, Unspecified	0.8
No Contact	0.2
DK/NA	7.3

Refused 0.5  
Total N = 1303

**90. Researchers have found that there are many reasons constituents contact their elected officials. I am going to read you a list of some possible reasons. Please tell me which of these would you say is the primary reason why most of your constituents contact you? Is it to:**

Influence Government Policy	10.7
Voice a Community Concern	59.1
Get Help with a Family or Personal Problem	29.4
To Get Help Finding a Job	8.7
Other	2.1
DK/NA	0.9
Dropout	0.5
Total N = 1303	

**92. Next, I'm going to read you a pair of statements. Please tell me which one comes closest to your own view even if neither one is exactly right.**

*In a situation when the views of my constituents conflict with my own, it is more important that my vote reflects the views of my constituents.*

**or**

*In a situation when the views of my constituents conflict with my own, it is more important that my vote reflects my informed judgment and trust that my constituents will support me.*

Views of Constituents	33.4
My Informed Judgment	60.9
Neither/It Depends	2.8
Don't Know	2.1
Total N = 1303	

**93. Which of the following statements best describes your voting record in the governing body in which you serve, meaning the decision-making body or governing unit that you are part of or interact with due to your elective position? Are you part of a voting majority on important public policy issues, part of a voting minority, or do you vote with the majority and the minority equally?**

Part of a Voting Majority	37.1
Part of a Voting Minority	10.7
Vote with the Majority and Minority About Equally	45.6
Don't Know	2.5
Dropout	1.0
Does Not Apply	3.1
Total N = 1303	

*Now I am going to read you a list of types of elected officials. Using a scale from zero to ten, where zero is not at all likely to support your policy initiatives and ten is extremely likely, how likely are each of the following groups to support your policy initiatives?*

**95. Elected officials from your own party.**

0 Not at all likely	2.2
1	0.3
2	0.4
3	0.6
4	1.9
5	10.4
6	4.9
7	12.6
8	25.0
9	9.5
10 Extremely likely	24.5
Don't Know	1.8
Refused	0.6
Does Not Apply	5.3
Total N = 1290	

**96. Elected officials from your own racial or ethnic background.**

0 Not at all likely	1.6
1	0.2
2	0.9
3	0.9
4	1.2
5	8.1
6	4.2
7	10.9
8	22.9

9	15.7
10 Extremely likely	26.0
Does Not Apply	4.9
Don't Know	1.7
Refused	0.9
Total N = 1290	

**97. Minority elected officials from racial or ethnic backgrounds other than your own.**

0 Not at all likely	3.3
1	0.9
2	1.2
3	0.9
4	3.1
5	14.4
6	7.0
7	14.0
8	21.6
9	8.9
10 Extremely likely	12.7
Don't Know	2.6
Refused	1.2
Does Not Apply	8.1
Total N = 1290	

**98. Female elected officials from non-minority backgrounds.**

0 Not at all likely	4.0
1	1.2
2	1.5
3	2.2
4	3.7
5	16.1
6	9.1
7	13.3
8	21.2
9	8.4
10 Extremely likely	9.7
Don't Know	2.2
Refused	1.2
Does Not Apply	6.1
Total N = 1290	

**99. Elected officials who share your ideology.**

0 Not at all likely	1.4
1	0.2
2	0.4
3	1.3
4	1.2
5	7.4
6	5.3
7	10.6
8	23.3
9	15.3
10 Extremely likely	29.5
Don't Know	1.6
Refused	1.3
Does Not Apply	0.9
Total N = 1290	

**100. Elected officials who are minority women.**

0 Not at all likely	4.2
1	1.8
2	1.5
3	1.3
4	1.9
5	9.6
6	5.7
7	11.2
8	20.8
9	13.2
10 Extremely likely	18.6
Don't Know	1.9
Refused	1.4
Does Not Apply	7.0
Total N = 1290	

***Please tell me whether you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, or strongly agree with each of the following statements about possible differences between women and men who serve in elective office.***

**102. Female elected officials are more persuasive than their male counterparts.**

Strongly Disagree	6.1
Disagree	45.5
Agree	31.1
Strongly Agree	11.7
DK/NA	3.5
Total N = 684	

**103. Female elected officials are better at achieving consensus than their male counterparts.**

Strongly Disagree	4.1
Disagree	37.6
Agree	39.9
Strongly Agree	12.0
DK/NA	4.4
Total N = 684	

**104. Female elected officials work harder than their male counterparts.**

Strongly Disagree	4.8
Disagree	40.1
Agree	33.5
Strongly Agree	16.1
DK/NA	3.4
Total N = 684	

**105. Female elected officials are less interested in being in the limelight than in getting the job done compared to their male counterparts.**

Strongly Disagree	7.0
Disagree	44.9
Agree	31.0
Strongly Agree	10.4
DK/NA	4.5
Total N = 684	

**106. Female elected officials are more likely to conduct policymaking behind closed doors compared to their male counterparts.**

Strongly Disagree	8.5
-------------------	-----

Disagree	61.5
Agree	17.7
Strongly Agree	4.1
DK/NA	6.0
Total N = 684	

**107. Male elected officials are more persuasive than their female counterparts.**

Strongly Disagree	14.0
Disagree	52.1
Agree	23.9
Strongly Agree	6.6
DK/NA	1.8
Total N = 607	

**108. Male elected officials are better at achieving consensus than their female counterparts.**

Strongly Disagree	13.4
Disagree	58.7
Agree	21.0
Strongly Agree	3.0
DK/NA	2.5
Total N = 606	

**109. Male elected officials work harder than their female counterparts.**

Strongly Disagree	26.1
Disagree	63.5
Agree	5.4
Strongly Agree	1.2
DK/NA	2.3
Total N = 606	

**110. Male elected officials are less interested in being in the limelight than in getting the job done compared to their female counterparts.**

Strongly Disagree	17.3
Disagree	60.0
Agree	16.6
Strongly Agree	1.5
DK/NA	3.1

Total N = 607

**111. Male elected officials are more likely to conduct policymaking behind closed doors compared to their female counterparts.**

Strongly Disagree	4.4
Disagree	32.0
Agree	46.0
Strongly Agree	11.7
DK/NA	4.3

Total N = 607

**112. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “STATE LEGISLATOR” TO QUESTION 3] Is there a formal women’s caucus in your legislative chamber?**

No	35.0
Yes	61.3
DK/NA	1.5

Total N = 137

**113. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “STATE LEGISLATOR” TO QUESTION 3 AND “YES” TO QUESTION 112] Are men also members of the women’s caucus?**

No	68.2
Yes	27.1
DK/NA	4.7

Total N = 85

**114. [ASKED OF WOMEN WHO ANSWERED “STATE LEGISLATOR” TO QUESTION 3 AND “YES TO QUESTION 112] Are you a member of the women’s caucus?**

No	8.3
Yes	91.7

Total N = 36

**115. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “STATE LEGISLATOR” TO QUESTION 3] Is there a formal minority caucus in your legislature?**

No	22.6
Yes	73.7
DK/NA	1.5



Total N = 137

**116. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “STATE LEGISLATOR” TO QUESTION 3 AND “YES” TO QUESTION 115] Which racial or ethnic group sponsors a minority caucus?**

Black	38.2
Hispanic/Latino	27.5
Asian	5.9
Native American	3.9
Multiracial	-
Other	48.0
DK/NA	2.0
Total N = 102	

**117. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “STATE LEGISLATOR” TO QUESTION 3 AND 115] Are you a member?**

No	10.8
Yes	86.5
Total N = 37	

**119. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “STATE LEGISLATOR” TO QUESTION 3] Is there a formal caucus for minority women in your legislature?**

Yes	10.2
No	80.3
DK/NA	6.6
Total N = 137	

**120. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “STATE LEGISLATOR” TO QUESTION 3 AND “YES” TO QUESTION 119] Are you a member?**

Yes	26.7
No	66.7
Total N = 15	

**121. In recent years, the number of women serving in public office has increased across the country. We are interested in whether you think the presence of women has affected the way your particular governing body works.**

**Would you say that women have made a lot of difference, some difference, very little difference, or no difference at all in terms of helping pass policy initiatives to benefit racial or ethnic minorities?**

A Lot of Difference	42.1
Some Difference	42.9
Very Little Difference	7.0
No Difference	4.3
Don't Know	0.6
Dropout	2.1
Does Not Apply	0.9
Total N = 1290	

**122. In recent years, the number of minorities serving in public office has increased across the country. We are interested in whether you think the presence of minorities has affected the way your particular governing body works.**

**Would you say that minority elected officials have made a lot of difference, some difference, very little difference, or no difference at all in terms of helping pass policy initiatives to benefit women?**

A Lot of Difference	43.6
Some Difference	42.9
Very Little Difference	6.5
No Difference	3.2
Don't Know	0.9
Dropout	2.4
Does Not Apply	0.6
Total N = 1290	

**123. Would you say that minority elected officials have made a lot of difference, some difference, very little difference, or no difference at all in terms of helping pass policy initiatives to benefit minority women?**

A Lot of Difference	38.2
Some Difference	46.5
Very Little Difference	7.8
No Difference	3.3
Don't Know	1.0
Dropout	2.6
Does Not Apply	0.6
Total N = 1290	

**124. Would you say that minority elected officials have made a lot of difference, some difference, very little difference, or no difference at all in terms of helping pass policy initiatives to benefit the economically disadvantaged?**

A Lot of Difference	42.9
Some Difference	42.6
Very Little Difference	8.5
No Difference	2.2
Don't Know	0.9
Dropout	2.7
Does Not Apply	0.2
Total N = 1290	

**125. Would you say that minority elected officials have made a lot of difference, some difference, very little difference, or no difference at all in terms of helping pass policy initiatives to benefit racial or ethnic groups?**

A Lot of Difference	40.9
Some Difference	45.5
Very Little Difference	7.4
No Difference	2.7
Don't Know	0.5
Dropout	2.7
Does Not Apply	0.4
Total N = 1289	

**126. Briefly, what do you think is the most important policy issue facing your constituents?**

**What is the next most important policy issue?**

**What is the next most important policy issue?**

(entries are % of one or more mentions)

Education	45.7
Employment and Wages	32.1
Public Safety	21.2
Development	20.2
Healthcare	19.6
Infrastructure	19.4
Housing	17.6
Budget	16.4
Economy	15.6

Taxes	9.4
Minority Issues	9.2
Municipal/Social Services	7.1
Government	6.6
Treating Everyone Equally/Fairly	5.4
Immigration	4.7
Environment	3.7
Zoning	3.6
Participation	3.5
Quality of Life	2.9
War	2.8
Representation	2.7
Ethics	2.5
No Child Left Behind	2.1
Community Appearance	1.9
Language	1.5
Gasoline	1.5
Utility Costs	1.0
Other	6.5

*Now we're going to ask your opinion on a range of policy proposals currently being debated.*

*Please tell me whether you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, or strongly agree with each of the following policy proposals.*

**128. The death penalty should be an option as a punishment for those who commit murder.**

Strongly Disagree	15.5
Disagree	28.9
Agree	35.9
Strongly Agree	12.5
Don't Know	3.5
Refused	2.5
Total N = 1254	

**129. The United States Supreme Court should overturn the Roe versus Wade decision, which made abortion legal during the first three months of pregnancy.**

Strongly Disagree	27.8
Disagree	44.6
Agree	13.9
Strongly Agree	5.8
Don't Know	4.3

Refused 2.4  
Total N = 1254

**130. Government should provide childcare services to all parents who desire them with fees charged according to ability to pay.**

Strongly Disagree 2.7  
Disagree 14.4  
Agree 60.4  
Strongly Agree 20.3  
Don't Know 1.6  
Refused 0.5  
Total N = 1239

**131. Gay and lesbian couples should be allowed to legally form civil unions, giving them some of the legal rights of married couples.**

Strongly Disagree 17.4  
Disagree 31.8  
Agree 32.8  
Strongly Agree 8.5  
Don't Know 6.0  
Refused 3.6  
Total N = 1239

**132. States no longer need laws prohibiting sexual harassment against women.**

Strongly Disagree 35.5  
Disagree 54.6  
Agree 6.7  
Strongly Agree 2.1  
Don't Know 0.6  
Refused 0.5  
Total N = 1239

**133. States no longer need laws prohibiting job discrimination against women.**

Strongly Disagree 34.5  
Disagree 56.6  
Agree 6.5  
Strongly Agree 1.9  
Don't Know 0.3

Refused 0.5  
Total N = 1239

**134. The US made the right decision in using military force against Iraq.**

Strongly Disagree 31.8  
Disagree 43.5  
Agree 13.5  
Strongly Agree 4.0  
Don't Know 3.9  
Refused 3.4  
Total N = 1238

**135. The US should bring its troops home from Iraq as soon as possible.**

Strongly Disagree 1.9  
Disagree 10.4  
Agree 50.9  
Strongly Agree 32.5  
Don't Know 2.3  
Refused 1.9  
Total N = 1238

**136. As a matter of public safety, drivers' licenses should be made available to immigrants, regardless of their legal status in the U.S.**

Strongly Disagree 14.4  
Disagree 41.8  
Agree 30.8  
Strongly Agree 8.6  
Don't Know 2.8  
Refused 1.7  
Total N = 1238

**137. Government agencies should provide services in a variety of languages to help non-English speaking clients.**

Strongly Disagree 3.2  
Disagree 17.9  
Agree 61.6

Strongly Agree	14.8
Don't Know	1.5
Refused	1.0
Total N = 1238	

**138. Non-citizen legal immigrants should be allowed to vote in school board elections if they have children in the public schools.**

Strongly Disagree	10.3
Disagree	42.0
Agree	38.5
Strongly Agree	6.4
Don't Know	1.9
Refused	0.8
Total N = 1238	

**139. Subsidized childcare should be increased for poor working mothers in welfare-to-work programs.**

Strongly Disagree	1.0
Disagree	10.5
Agree	66.5
Strongly Agree	19.9
Don't Know	1.3
Refused	0.8
Total N = 1237	

**140. College education should be allowed to count toward the “work requirement” for women receiving welfare.**

Strongly Disagree	1.0
Disagree	13.1
Agree	65.3
Strongly Agree	14.1
Don't Know	4.9
Refused	1.5
Total N = 1237	

**141. Which of the following statements best agrees with your view on abortion:**

*By law, abortion should never be permitted;*

*The law should permit abortion only in cases of rape, incest, or when the life of the woman is in danger; or*

*By law, a woman should always be able to obtain an abortion as a private decision to be made with her physician.*

None of the Above	0.8
No Abortion By Law	6.1
Permit Conditional Abortion	33.5
Abortion Should Be Made Available	54.4
Don't Know	1.8
Refused	3.2
Total N = 1237	

*The following questions are specifically about policies concerning education. For each one, please tell me whether you would strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose each policy.*

**143. A constitutional amendment to permit prayer in public schools.**

Strongly Favor	32.0
Favor	33.8
Oppose	18.2
Strongly Oppose	12.5
DK/NA	3.3
Total N = 1235	

**144. A law banning preferential school admission on the basis of race or ethnicity.**

Strongly Favor	9.8
Favor	17.7
Oppose	36.8
Strongly Oppose	29.8
DK/NA	5.5
Total N = 1235	

**145. A law giving parents government-funded school vouchers to pay for tuition at the public, private, or religious school of their choice.**

Strongly Favor	7.5
Favor	18.9
Oppose	36.8
Strongly Oppose	33.4
DK/NA	2.8



Total N = 1235

**146. A law mandating public schools to provide instruction in other languages for students not proficient in English.**

Strongly Favor	19.8
Favor	46.0
Oppose	25.6
Strongly Oppose	5.5
DK/NA	2.9
Total N = 1227	

**147. The No Child Left Behind Act mandating public schools to meet certain testing standards for federal funding.**

Strongly Favor	13.2
Favor	32.9
Oppose	32.4
Strongly Oppose	18.2
DK/NA	3.3
Total N = 1227	

**148. A law mandating the teaching of creationism instead of evolution in public schools.**

Strongly Favor	7.1
Favor	22.4
Oppose	35.9
Strongly Oppose	22.2
DK/NA	12.3
Total N = 1227	

*Another policy we'd like to ask about is affirmative action. Affirmative action refers to any measure, policy, or law used to increase diversity or rectify discrimination so that qualified individuals have equal access to employment, education, business, and contracting opportunities.*

**150. Using a scale from zero to ten, where zero is not at all important and ten is extremely important, in your opinion, how important are affirmative action programs in terms of helping women achieve equity?**

0 Not Important	1.2
-----------------	-----

1	0.2
2	0.3
3	0.7
4	1.4
5	6.4
6	3.6
7	8.5
8	15.6
9	8.0
10 Extremely Important	53.1
DK/NA	0.8
Total N = 1225	

**151. Using a scale from zero to ten, where zero is not at all important and ten is extremely important, in your opinion, how important are affirmative action programs in terms of helping persons of your racial or ethnic background achieve equity?**

0 Not Important	1.4
1	0.2
2	0.6
3	1.1
4	0.9
5	6.5
6	3.0
7	7.5
8	15.3
9	7.4
10 Extremely Important	55.4
DK/NA	0.7
Total N = 1224	

**152. Have you personally benefited from affirmative action policies in higher education?**

Yes	34.6
No	62.6
Don't Know	2.3
Refused	0.3
Does Not Apply	0.1
Total N = 1224	

**153. Have you personally benefited from affirmative action policies in hiring or promotion?**

Yes	26.1
No	71.9
Don't Know	1.6
Refused	0.3
Total N = 1224	

**154. People have many different views about whether race, gender, or socio-economic class poses the most important problem facing minority communities today. In your view, which of the following issues poses the most important problem facing minorities in your community today? Is it race, socio-economic class, gender, or a combination of factors?**

It has nothing to do with these issues	0.6
Race	59.9
Socio-economic Class	79.7
Gender	26.6
Other	8.7
DK/NA	1.5
Total N = 1224	

**155. As you may be aware, the Voting Rights Act (or VRA) is scheduled for reauthorization in 2007. We are interested in your views about some of the provisions in the act.**

*Using a scale from zero to ten, where zero is not at all important and ten is extremely important, in your opinion, how important are the protections of equal political access in the current voting rights act for persons of your racial or ethnic background?*

0 Not Important	0.7
1	-
2	0.2
3	0.3
4	0.2
5	4.2
6	1.9
7	4.5
8	9.3
9	6.5
10 Extremely Important	68.5
DK/NA	2.9
Total N = 1224	

**156-8. Which of the following voting rights protections would you like to see renewed?**

*Bilingual ballots for speakers of Spanish, Native American, Native Alaskan, and Asian*

*languages.*

Yes	80.1
No	16.1
Don't Know	2.9
Total N = 1224	

***The Section 5 (Preclearance) provision that requires federal approval of proposed changes of voting laws or procedures in the covered jurisdictions.***

Yes	72.5
No	14.6
Don't Know	12.6
Total N = 1213	

***Federal observers sent to polling places where electoral discrimination based on race or color is suspected.***

Yes	89.0
No	8.4
Don't Know	2.3
Total N = 1213	

**159. How old are you?**

20-29	0.7
30-39	6.8
40-49	18.9
50-59	33.7
60-69	25.2
70 and older	12.4
DK/NA	2.0
Total N = 1213	

**160. How would you describe your primary racial or ethnic background?**

American Indian	1.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	6.4
Black/African American	38.8
Hispanic/Latino	30.1
Something else	0.2
Minority	0.5

Mixed (unspecified)	1.0
Mixed (specified)	1.8
N/A	5.4
DK	2.4
Refused	0.8
Total N=1210	

**161. How would you describe your ancestry or ethnic origin?**

American	1.2
American Indian	1.4
African	17.7
Asian	1.0
Black	9.2
Caribbean	0.1
Chinese	2.1
Japanese	1.1
European	0.2
Filipino	1.0
Korean	0.3
Indian	0.4
Asian Indian	0.1
Hawaiian	0.1
Latino/Hispanic	10.7
Mexican	11.2
Puerto Rican	0.7
Spanish	1.3
Mixed (specified)	13.4
Mixed (unspecified)	3.8
Minority	0.3
Other	0.6
N/A	4.9
DK	2.8
Refused	0.7
N=1172	

**162. Other than serving as an elected official, what is your primary occupation?**

Business and Financial Operations	7.6
Computer and Mathematical	1.2
Architecture and Engineering	2.0
Life, Physical, and Social Science	0.6

Community and Social Services	8.6
Legal	5.0
Education, Training, and Library	24.5
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	1.6
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	3.9
Healthcare Support	0.2
Protective Service	2.8
Food Preparation and Serving Related	0.6
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	1.0
Personal Care and Service	1.7
Sales and Related	6.4
Office and Administrative Support	3.0
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	2.2
Construction and Extraction	1.9
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	1.5
Production	1.8
Transportation and Material Moving	0.9
Military	1.0
Government Worker/Civil Service	6.9
Elected Official	2.8
Other/Unspecified	12.0
DK/NA	1.5
Total N = 1006	

**163. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO SELF-IDENTIFIED AS “AMERICAN INDIAN”] Did you serve on any tribal governing bodies prior to running for the state legislature?**

Yes	22.2
No	77.8
Total N = 9	

**164. Are you currently holding any tribal office?**

Yes	-
No	100.0
Total N = 9	

**165. Are you a veteran of the U.S. military?**

Yes	19.6
No	80.4
Total N = 1208	

**166. Were you born in the United States?**

Yes	92.6
No	7.4
Total N = 1208	

**167. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “NO” TO QUESTION 166] At what age did you come to the United States?**

0-9	27.0
10-19	36.0
20-29	28.1
30 and older	6.7
DK/NA	2.2
Total N = 89	

**168. [ASKED OF ALL BUT THOSE WHO ANSWERED “DKNA” TO QUESTION 166 OR 167, OR ANSWERED “1” TO QUESTION 167] Were either of your parents born outside of the United States?**

Yes	15.9
No	84.0
DK/NA	0.1
Total N = 1119	

**169. [ASKED OF ALL BUT THOSE WHO ANSWERED “DKNA” TO QUESTION 166 OR 167, OR ANSWERED “1” TO QUESTION 167] Were either of your grandparents born outside of the United States?**

Yes	28.6
No	69.9
DK/NA	1.5
Total N = 1119	

**170. What is the highest level of education you have completed?**

Less than High School	1.2
High School Graduate/ GED	8.0
Business, Technical, Vocational School	4.9
Some College	20.5
College Graduate	27.6
Some Graduate School	4.7
Masters Degree	23.5
Law Degree	3.1
Medical Degree	0.4
Doctorate	3.0
Other	3.0
Total N = 1208	

**171. How did you pay for your education?**

Self/Out-of-Pocket	40.9
Parents/Family	15.2
Grants	16.8
Scholarships	16.5
Loans	24.6
Government/G.I. Bill	12.0
Work/Work Study	21.2
Other	5.2
DK/NA	0.5
Total N = 1097	

**172. What is the highest level of education attained by your mother?**



Less than High School	48.4
High School Graduate/ GED	30.5
Business, Technical, Vocational School	2.0
Some College	4.0
College Graduate	7.5
Some Graduate School	0.5
Masters Degree	2.8
Law Degree	-
Medical Degree	0.2
Doctorate	0.2
Other	0.6
DK/NA	3.3
Total N = 1208	

**173. What is the highest level of education attained by your father?**

Less than High School	52.6
High School Graduate/ GED	21.6
Business, Technical, Vocational School	2.7
Some College	4.1
College Graduate	8.2
Some Graduate School	0.5
Masters Degree	1.9
Law Degree	0.4
Medical Degree	0.4
Doctorate	1.0
Other	0.4
DK/NA	6.1
Total N = 1208	

**174. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO SELF IDENTIFIED AS BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN IN QUESTION 160 AND ANSWERED THAT THEY HAD EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL IN QUESTION 170] On a scale from zero to ten, where zero means not at all involved and ten means extremely involved, how involved were you in black sororities or fraternities before you ran for elected office the very first time?**

0 Not at all involved	52.1
1	1.0
2	1.7

3	2.3
4	1.7
5	6.9
6	1.9
7	2.5
8	5.0
9	3.3
10 Extremely involved	21.1
DK/NA	0.4
Total N = 478	

**175. Did you receive any part of your education outside of the United States?**

Yes	11.3
No	88.5
DK/NA	0.2
Total N = 1208	

**176. Do you pay attention to the politics of your country of origin or your ancestral homeland? [IF YES]**

Yes	78.4
No	18.6
DK/NA	3.0
Total N = 1208	

**177. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 177] Do you pay a lot, some, or very little attention to the politics of your country of origin or your ancestral homeland?**

A Lot	56.0
Some	36.1
Very Little	7.6
DK/NA	0.3
Total N = 947	

**178. What is your marital status? Are you:**

Single, Never Married	7.8
Married	69.6
Widowed	7.4
Separated	1.3
Divorced	12.8

Have a Domestic Partner	0.8
DK/NA	0.2
Dropout	0.1
Total N = 1208	

**179. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “MARRIED,” “SEPARATED,” OR “HAVE A DOMESTIC PARTNER” TO QUESTION 178] How would you describe the racial or ethnic background of your spouse or partner?**

American Indian	1.6
Asian	6.1
Black	38.1
Hispanic	29.6
White Non-Hispanic	11.8
Something Else	9.9
DK/NA	1.7
Refused	1.0
Total N = 867	

**180. Would you describe yourself as having been raised in a political family?**

Yes	33.6
No	66.3
DK/NA	0.1
Total N = 1207	

**181. [NOT ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “SINGLE, NEVER MARRIED” TO QUESTION 178] Are you currently or have you ever been married to someone who has held public or elective office?**

Yes	8.6
No	91.4
Total N = 1112	

**182. What is your religious preference?**

Protestant	56.1
Roman Catholic	35.7
Jewish	-
LDS (Mormon)	0.2
Orthodox	0.2

Islam/Muslim	0.6
Nation of Islam	-
Buddhist	0.2
Hindu	0.3
No Religion/Atheist/ Agnostic	3.2
Other	1.7
DK/NA	1.8
Total N = 1206	

**183. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “PROTESTANT” TO QUESTION 182]**

**What denomination are you?**

Baptist	48.0
Christian	19.2
Episcopalian	2.4
Jehovah’s Witness	-
Lutheran	0.7
Methodist	16.8
Presbyterian	2.1
Evangelical Christian	0.4
Pentecostal	2.4
Other	9.6
DK/NA	0.4
Total N = 677	

**184. Do you speak another language in addition to English?**

Yes	49.6
No	50.4
Total N = 1206	

**185. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 184] What languages, other than English, do you speak?**

Spanish	85.1
Korean	0.8
Vietnamese	0.5
Chinese	4.5
Japanese	1.0
French	7.0
German	2.8

Other 12.2  
Total N = 598

**186. Do you receive an annual salary for holding elected office?**

Yes 69.7  
No 30.2  
DK/NA 0.1  
Total N = 1206

**187. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 186] What is the annual salary you receive for this office?**

Less than \$10,000 54.1  
10 to less than 20 27.4  
20 to less than 30 8.0  
30 to less than 40 3.8  
40 to less than 50 0.5  
\$50,000 or more 0.4  
DK/NA 5.8  
Total N = 740

**188. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “NO” TO QUESTION 186] Do you receive any compensation at all?**

No 51.6  
Yes 47.3  
DK/NA 0.8  
Total N = 366

**189. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 188] What is your monthly compensation?**

Less than \$100 17.3  
100 to less than 200 16.2  
200 to less than 300 16.8  
300 to less than 400 5.8  
400 to less than 500 5.8  
500 to less than 1,000 12.7  
\$1,000 or more 7.5

DK/NA 17.9  
Total N = 173

**190. Was the estimated annual income for your household in 2005:**

Less than \$50k 25.0  
50k to less than 100k 43.0  
100 k to less than 150k 18.7  
\$150k or more 8.8  
DK/NA 4.4  
Total N = 1206

**191-4. I'm going to read you some broad income categories. Please STOP me when I get to the one that includes the estimated annual income for your household in 2005. Was it:**

Less than \$10k 0.7  
10k to less than 20k 2.8  
20k to less than 30k 5.6  
30k to less than 40k 7.6  
40k to less than 50k 8.9  
50k to less than 60k 12.4  
60k to less than 70k 10.5  
70k to less than 80k 8.6  
80k to less than 90k 6.3  
90k to less than 100k 5.6  
100k to less than 110k 5.3  
110k to less than 120k 5.1  
120k to less than 130k 4.6  
130k to less than 140k 1.8  
140k to less than 150k 2.4  
150k to less than 160k 1.7  
160k to less than 170k 1.1  
170k to less than 180k 1.3  
180k to less than 190k 0.6  
190k to less than 200k 0.6  
\$200k or more 3.2  
DK/NA 3.0  
Total N = 1152

**195. Growing up, did your family receive any type of U.S. government assistance, including food stamps, public housing, welfare, WIC, unemployment insurance, SSI, or Medicaid?**

Yes	17.9
No	81.1
DK/NA	1.0
Total N = 1204	

### **How the GMCL Survey was conducted**

A total of 1,354 elected officials of color were interviewed by telephone between June 5, 2006 and March 21, 2007 by the Institute for Public Policy (IPP) at the University of New Mexico. The population consists of a comprehensive list of nonwhite elected officials of African American, Latino, Asian Pacific American, and American Indian origins holding positions at the state and local levels of government including state legislators, county commissioners, board of supervisors, or county council members, mayors, city/town/village council members, local school board members, and elected judges (in Texas only). The GMCL project team prepared the population database by enlisting support from organizations and research centers that had published rosters of popularly elected officials of their respective racial/ethnic community. (For American Indian elected officials, we obtained the roster of state legislators from the National Council of State Legislators.) The final sample includes 722 Black, 509 Latino, 96 Asian (and Pacific Islander) American, and 27 American Indian (and Alaska native) or 846 male and 508 female elected officials. Seventy-two percent of those public officials who were successfully contacted participated in the survey. The cooperation rate is 77%, and the refusal rate is 22%. The average length of interviews is 44 minutes. To the extent that the survey approximates a probability sample of the nation's elected officials of color at sub-national levels of office, we estimate the margin of error at the 95% level of confidence to be  $\pm 3\%$ . The margin of error is larger, when the sample is broken down into subgroups.