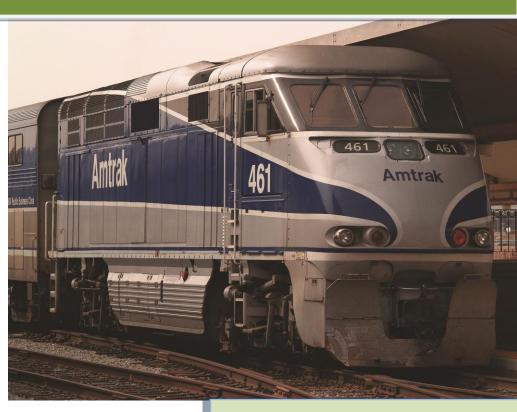# February 2013

Amtrak Support Levels Illinois 13th District

DFM Research

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Executive Summary:

Nearly 2-in-3 (64%) constituents in the 13th district (hereby referred to as residents) believe that government funding of Amtrak should continue at current levels, when mentioned that eliminating government funding would most likely end Amtrak service in Illinois. Only 2-in-10 support eliminating funding, while 1-in-10 favor increased funding. The level of support for current Amtrak service varies among key demographic groupings, but all groups show strong levels of support:

- By a more than 5-to-1 ratio, residents over age 65 support keeping/increasing Amtrak funding at current levels, versus eliminating funding.

- By a more than 3-to-1 ratio, political Independents support keeping/increasing funding.

- And by a 2-to-1 ratio, self-identified Republican support keeping/increasing funding.

The February 2013 survey of 400 randomly selected (margin of error $\pm$4.9%pts) residents was designed to determine support levels for Amtrak service, while also measuring several themes that might stimulate future passengers utilizing Amtrak service more frequently.

- Residents support the argument (52% agree to 36% disagree) that Amtrak service allows passengers to stay connected by electronic devices, whereas driving restricts the ability to stay connected … as a reason they might use Amtrak service in the future. The numbers are strongest among those between ages 18-44 (60% to 31%).

- Increasing maximum train speed from 79 to 110 miles per hour (High Speed Rail) was the number one reason why residents would consider using Amtrak in the future; an overwhelming majority of 84 percent found this to be a very likely or fairly likely reason, while only 13 percent said this was not very likely or not at all likely reason. Strong support for High Speed Rail was evident across all demographic groups, including a positive spread of 80-15 percent amongst self-indentified Independents, and a 78-15 percent spread among self-identified Republicans.

- Recent Amtrak passengers found the ride to be favorable, with 81 percent giving a favorable rating for their trip or trips, to only a 5 percent unfavorable rating. The rest were neutral.

In addition to the Amtrak question series, the survey tested the favorability of unions, as well as current topical issues on the federal deficit and Medicare.

- Unions have an overall favorable rating, with an overall 49-36 percent favorable to unfavorable rating; this rating is on par with the NRA, which had an overall 53-31 rating. Self-identified Independents clock in with a 49-35 positive rating for unions. Overall, women and residents age 45 plus show the strongest support levels for unions.

- Over half (52%) of residents support reducing the federal deficit by utilizing mostly spending cuts. Only eight (8) percent support mostly tax increases, with 36 percent favoring a balanced approach of both spending cuts and tax increases. Men are far more likely to support spending cuts than a balanced approach: men 59-29 percent, women 46-42 percent.

- Yet on the other hand, residents do not support the idea of increasing the age of Medicare (as part of entitlement reform) to age 67, from age 65, as a way to cut federal spending. Only 11 percent strongly approve raising the age to 67, while 42 percent strongly disapprove; overall only 36 percent approve of this potential reform proposal, while 60 percent disapprove. Key demographic finding, while varied, show consistent disapproval of raising the age of Medicare to age 67.

- o Those between 45-64 disapprove raising the age by 70-27 percent.
- o Women disapprove raising the age by 66-28 percent.
- o Independent disapprove raising the age by 58-37 percent.
- o Republicans disapprove raising the age by 51-44 percent.

The survey numbers presented in both the executive summary and the full report is a current snapshot of the mind-set of residents of Illinois' 13th congressional district. In general, the numbers show solid support for current Amtrak service in the district; and that faster trains and a more concerted effort to stress the digital connection (compared to motor vehicles) will only increase Amtrak's current usage to Chicago, Saint Louis, and points beyond.

Full survey results, and corresponding crosstabs can be found beginning on page four.

Survey Methodology:

The poll results presented in this report are based on a stratified random sample of 400 adults in Illinois 13th Congressional District. The sample was stratified by four distinct region to ensure a representative sample:

32% - Amtrak Stations (Champaign-Urbana, Bloomington, and Springfield)
21% - Alton Area
31% - Decatur and East Rural
16% - West and Central Rural

After the numbers were stratified into the appropriate region, telephone numbers were then selected at random using a skip pattern to guarantee that the interviews were distributed throughout the region. Each number in the stratified sample had the same non-zero chance of being selected for an interview.

Telephone interviews were conducted by trained staff of Stone Research Services of Indianapolis, Indiana, using a computer assisted telephone interview (CATI) system. To ensure everyone in the household would have an equal chance of being selected, callers would ask to interview the resident over the age-of-18 who had the most recent birthday.

Final results were weighted based on gender, age, self party identification, and the 2012 presidential election results to conform to the 2010 U.S. Census Bureau demographic data and the presidential election results. Below are the final demographic percentage used to weight the survey responses for the general election.

Gender		Age		Party Identification	
Male	49%	18-44	49%	Democrat	32%
Female	51%	45-64	33%	Independent	37%
		65+	18%	Republican	31%

The final results presented are subject to sampling error, which is the difference between results obtained from the survey and those if everyone in the target population were interviewed. The sampling error – margin of error – for this poll is +4.9 percentage points with a 95 percent confidence level; meaning that in 19 out of 20 times, the results presented would be within the confidence interval. If final results of a question resulted in a tabulated answer of 50 percent, the confidence interval would between 45.1 to 54.9 percent. It should be noted that the margin of error decreases as results move closer to zero and 100 percent.

Final analysis of the data, as well as project management, was completed by Dean Mitchell of DFM Research in Saint Paul. In addition to his 21 years of political experience, Dean has completed

course work in survey techniques and statistics as part of his Master in Public Policy (MPP) degree from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Reading the Survey Results:

The weighted results in this survey reflect an approximate response (within the margin of error) had every adult in Illinois 13th Congressional district participated in the survey. Weighting is a standard technique in survey analysis to best reflect the total population being surveyed without contacting all residents.

The attached report provides topline results, then followed by cross tabulation (crosstabs) results (one question per page). Crosstabs results are for key demographic groups: gender, age, geographic region, political self-identification, and 2012 support for the presidential race.

In questions where you see (VOL) before the answer category, this means the respondent volunteered that answer (it was not read to the respondent). In the crosstab for the 2012 presidential race, only results from respondents who declared that they voted for either Obama or Romney are included. Due to rounding to the nearest full percent, results may not equal 100 percent.

Topline Results:

<u>Interviews</u>:	400 respondents by live caller from Stone Research Services of Indianapolis, Indiana.
<u>Margin of Error</u>:	+ 4.9 percentage points with a 95 percent confidence interval.
<u>Interview Dates</u>:	February 11-13, 2013.
<u>Sample</u>:	Stratified Random Sample. Random digit numbers provided by Survey Sample International (SSI) of Fairfield, CT. SSI provided Stone Research with 4,000 residential random phone numbers from a pool of listed and unlisted numbers in the boundary area, which then were stratified into four distinct Illinois 13th Congressional geographical regions.
<u>Survey Sponsor</u>:	SMART Transportation, Illinois State Legislative Board

Intro: The initial screen will be to ask for the person with the most recent birthday over the age of eighteen.

Q1: Generally speaking, do you think the country is moving in the right direction, or is the country off on the wrong track?

Right direction	**31%**
Wrong track	**60**
(VOL) Unsure	**9**

Q2: And generally speaking, do you think Illinois is moving in the right direction, or is Illinois off on the wrong track?

Right direction	**7%**
Wrong track	**88**
(VOL) Unsure	**5**

Q3: I'm now going to read you names of some public figures and organizations, for each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just let me know. **(ROTATE 3a to 3i).**

		<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Neutral (VOL)</u>	<u>Never Heard Of</u>
Q3a:	Barack Obama	**45**	**49**	**7**	**0**
Q3b:	Dick Durbin	**46**	**38**	**13**	**4**
Q3c:	Mark Kirk	**28**	**12**	**25**	**36**
Q3d:	Pat Quinn	**15**	**73**	**10**	**2**
Q3e:	Rodney Davis	**24**	**18**	**33**	**25**
Q3f:	John Boehner	**23**	**40**	**16**	**22**
Q3g:	Congressional Rep.	**32**	**45**	**19**	**4**
Q3h:	Labor Unions	**49**	**36**	**13**	**1**
Q3i:	NRA	**53**	**31**	**10**	**6**

Q4: As you may know, avoiding the fiscal cliff was the first step to reduce the federal deficit. Moving forward, we need to either reduce government spending or increase revenue through taxation. If you could decide, which would you pick?

Mostly Spending Cuts **52%**
Spending Cuts and Tax Increases Around Equally **36**
Mostly Tax Increases.. **8**
(VOL) Unsure **4**

Q5: Many in Congress are saying that the only way to cut federal spending is through entitlement reform. One proposal is to increase the age of Medicare from age 65, to age 67. Based on what you know, <u>do you approve or disapprove increasing the age</u> one can receive Medicare to 67? (*probe for strongly or somewhat*)

Strongly Approve .... **11%**   36% approve
Somewhat Approve **25**
Somewhat Disapprove .... **18**   60% disapprove
Strongly Disapprove **42**
(VOL) Neutral / Unsure **4**

Q6: Now changing themes. I now want to ask a few questions about Amtrak and High Speed Rail. Thinking back the past two years or so, how often would you say you have been a passenger on Amtrak?

Never **67%**
One to Two Times **23**
Three to Five Times.. **8**
Five to Ten Times **1**
More than Ten Times **1**

Q7: And what would you say is the general reason why you have not used Amtrak service in the last two years? (**ROTATE**) – *asked only to respondents who said 'never' in question #6*

Too expensive **4%**
Times are inconvenient **9**
Amtrak is too slow **5**
No Amtrak station nearby **18**
Like my car for mobility **52**
Don't like trains **2**
(VOL) Unsure **11**

Q8: Which would you say is the overall general purpose for using Amtrak? (**ROTATE**) *asked only to respondents who declared they've been a passenger on Amtrak in question #6.*

Business trip **14%**
Day trips to Chicago **32**
Vacation or Leisure **42**
School **2**
Other **10**

Q9: And generally speaking, how would you rate your trip or trips on Amtrak: *asked only to respondents who declared they've been a passenger on Amtrak in question #6.*

Very Favorably	**48%**	81% favorable
Somewhat Favorably	**33**	
Neutral	**13**	
Somewhat Unfavorably	**5**	5% unfavorable
Very Unfavorably	**0**	
(VOL) Unsure	**1**	

Q10: Research and news reports cite that riding the train allows passengers to stay connected with electronic devices, whereas driving restricts the ability to stay connected. Do you agree or disagree with this reason why you might use Amtrak service in the future? **(probe for strongly or somewhat).**

Strongly Agree	**19%**	55% agree
Somewhat Agree	**36**	
Somewhat Disagree	**17**	36% disagree
Strongly Disagree	**19**	
(VOL) Unsure	**10**	

Q11: Amtrak has a top-speed of 79 miles per hour through most of Illinois. Some in Illinois have been pushing for High Speed Rail, which will top out at 110 miles per hour. Thinking to the future, how likely would you find yourself using High Speed Rail to Chicago or St. Louis as compared to current Amtrak service?

Very likely	**39%**	84% very/fairly
Fairly likely	**45**	
Somewhat likely	**3**	
Not very likely	**5**	13% not likely
Not at all likely	**8**	

Q12: Some in Congress have suggested that partial government funding of Amtrak should be eliminated. Such a step would most likely end current Amtrak service here in Illinois. Considering everything you know about Amtrak, do you support:

Eliminating government funding of Amtrak	**21%**
Keeping current government funding of Amtrak	**64**
or, Increasing government funding of Amtrak	**10**
(VOL) Unsure	**5**

CROSSTAB RESULTS

Q1: Generally speaking, do you think the country is moving in the right direction, or is the country off on the wrong track?

Right direction.. **31%**
Wrong track **60**
(VOL) Unsure **9**

Gender	**RD**	**WT**	**Unsure**
Men	26%	69	5
Women	35	51	13

Age	**RD**	**WT**	**Unsure**
18-44	29	62	10
45-64	37	54	9
Over 65	24	65	11

Region	**RD**	**WT**	**Unsure**
Amtrak Cities	40	46	14
Alton Area	27	65	8
Decatur & East Rural	27	68	5
West & Central Rural	28	66	6

Party Identification	**RD**	**WT**	**Unsure**
Democrat	60	25	15
Independent	25	68	7
Republican	6	89	5

Q2: And generally speaking, do you think Illinois is moving in the right direction, or is Illinois off on the wrong track?

Right direction **7%**
Wrong track **88**
(VOL) Unsure **5**

Gender	RD	WT	Unsure
Men	5%	91	4
Women	8	86	6

Age	RD	WT	Unsure
18-44	7	89	4
45-64	7	88	5
Over 65	4	88	8

Region	RD	WT	Unsure
Amtrak Cities	8	80	12
Alton Area	8	90	1
Decatur & East Rural	5	93	2
West & Central Rural	5	92	3

Party Identification	RD	WT	Unsure
Democrat	16	74	10
Independent	5	91	5
Republican	1	98	1

Q3a: I'm now going to read you names of some public figures and organizations, for each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just let me know.

Barack Obama

Favorable	**45%**
Unfavorable	**49**
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure	**7**
Never Heard Of	**0**

Gender	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Men	33%	61	6	0
Women	56	37	7	0

Age	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
18-44	42	48	10	0
45-64	48	50	2	0
Over 65	45	48	7	0

Region	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Amtrak Cities	61	36	3	0
Alton Area	35	60	5	0
Decatur & East Rural	35	58	7	0
West & Central Rural	41	45	14	0

Party Identification	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Democrat	87	8	5	0
Independent	37	54	9	0
Republican	8	89	3	0

Q3b: I'm now going to read you names of some public figures and organizations, for each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just let me know.

Dick Durbin

Favorable	**46%**
Unfavorable	**38**
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure	**13**
Never Heard Of	**4**

Gender	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Men	37%	54	6	4
Women	56	22	19	4

Age	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
18-44	39	37	17	8
45-64	52	40	9	1
Over 65	51	41	8	0

Region	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Amtrak Cities	50	34	11	5
Alton Area	38	40	18	5
Decatur & East Rural	47	42	9	2
West & Central Rural	44	34	16	6

Party Identification	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Democrat	79	7	13	1
Independent	37	43	15	5
Republican	21	65	8	6

Q3c: I'm now going to read you names of some public figures and organizations, for each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just let me know.

Mark Kirk

Favorable	**28%**
Unfavorable	**12**
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure	**25**
Never Heard Of	**36**

Gender	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Men	35%	15	23	28
Women	21	9	27	44

Age	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
18-44	28	8	19	46
45-64	27	15	32	26
Over 65	31	17	29	24

Region	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Amtrak Cities	30	12	25	34
Alton Area	24	15	29	32
Decatur & East Rural	31	10	24	35
West & Central Rural	23	9	24	44

Party Identification	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Democrat	19	15	45	22
Independent	24	14	34	28
Republican	43	6	29	30

Q3d: I'm now going to read you names of some public figures and organizations, for each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just let me know.

Pat Quinn

Favorable	**15%**
Unfavorable	**73**
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure	**10**
Never Heard Of	**2**

Gender	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Men	12%	78	7	2
Women	17	68	13	2

Age	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
18-44	14	66	16	4
45-64	17	80	3	1
Over 65	13	79	9	0

Region	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Amtrak Cities	16	77	5	2
Alton Area	22	61	14	2
Decatur & East Rural	11	81	7	1
West & Central Rural	10	68	16	6

Party Identification	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Democrat	28	60	10	2
Independent	11	75	12	2
Republican	6	84	6	3

Q3e: I'm now going to read you names of some public figures and organizations, for each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just let me know.

Rodney Davis

Favorable	**24%**
Unfavorable	**18**
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure	**33**
Never Heard Of	**25**

Gender	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Men	31%	17	28	24
Women	18	18	39	25

Age	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
18-44	25	13	31	31
45-64	22	22	35	21
Over 65	26	20	33	21

Region	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Amtrak Cities	20	22	32	26
Alton Area	14	14	39	32
Decatur & East Rural	35	21	24	19
West & Central Rural	20	7	44	29

Party Identification	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Democrat	14	23	27	26
Independent	21	19	33	28
Republican	38	11	27	23

Q3f: I'm now going to read you names of some public figures and organizations, for each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just let me know.

John Boehner

Favorable	**23%**
Unfavorable	**40**
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure	**16**
Never Heard Of	**22**

Gender	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Men	32%	43	13	12
Women	14	37	18	31

Age	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
18-44	21	35	16	29
45-64	23	45	12	20
Over 65	29	46	20	5

Region	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Amtrak Cities	21	46	12	21
Alton Area	24	36	21	19
Decatur & East Rural	23	38	16	23
West & Central Rural	24	34	19	23

Party Identification	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Democrat	5	56	12	27
Independent	23	40	22	15
Republican	44	21	11	23

Q3g: I'm now going to read you names of some public figures and organizations, for each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just let me know.

Congressional Republicans

Favorable	**32%**
Unfavorable	**45**
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure	**19**
Never Heard Of	**4**

Gender	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Men	41%	41	14	4
Women	23	48	24	5

Age	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
18-44	35	37	24	4
45-64	30	52	12	6
Over 65	31	51	14	3

Region	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Amtrak Cities	29	53	14	4
Alton Area	31	44	20	5
Decatur & East Rural	37	41	17	5
West & Central Rural	28	38	30	5

Party Identification	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Democrat	6	72	16	5
Independent	28	43	26	3
Republican	64	18	13	4

Q3h: I'm now going to read you names of some public figures and organizations, for each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just let me know.

Labor Unions

Favorable **49%**
Unfavorable **36**
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure **13**
Never Heard Of **1**

Gender	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Men	46%	43	10	1
Women	51	30	17	2

Age	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
18-44	45	41	13	2
45-64	52	33	14	1
Over 65	54	33	12	1

Region	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Amtrak Cities	42	41	14	2
Alton Area	46	40	13	0
Decatur & East Rural	54	34	10	2
West & Central Rural	56	27	18	0

Party Identification	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Democrat	70	14	15	2
Independent	49	35	15	1
Republican	25	63	10	2

Q3i: I'm now going to read you names of some public figures and organizations, for each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just let me know.

NRA (National Rifle Association)

Favorable	**53%**
Unfavorable	**31**
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure	**10**
Never Heard Of	**6**

Gender	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Men	63%	25	11	2
Women	43	38	8	11

Age	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
18-44	57	27	8	8
45-64	48	36	12	4
Over 65	50	33	11	6

Region	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Amtrak Cities	39	40	15	6
Alton Area	53	35	5	6
Decatur & East Rural	61	25	6	8
West & Central Rural	68	20	13	0

Party Identification	Fav	Unfav	Neutral	NHO
Democrat	35	48	8	8
Independent	54	30	11	5
Republican	72	12	10	6

Q4: As you may know, avoiding the fiscal cliff was the first step to reduce the federal deficit. Moving forward, we need to either reduce government spending or increase revenue through taxation. If you could decide, which would you pick?

Mostly Spending Cuts **52%**
Spending Cuts and Tax Increases Around Equally **36**
Mostly Tax Increases.. **8**
(VOL) Unsure **4**

Gender	Cuts	Equal	Tax	Unsure
Men	59%	29	9	3
Women	46	42	8	4

Age	Cuts	Equal	Tax	Unsure
18-44	51	36	7	5
45-64	53	35	9	2
Over 65	52	36	8	3

Region	Cuts	Equal	Tax	Unsure
Amtrak Cities	43	40	13	4
Alton Area	56	33	7	3
Decatur & East Rural	58	32	5	5
West & Central Rural	54	36	6	5

Party Identification	Cuts	Equal	Tax	Unsure
Democrat	27	48	20	5
Independent	55	37	4	4
Republican	78	21	0	1

Q5: Many in Congress are saying that the only way to cut federal spending is through entitlement reform. One proposal is to increase the age of Medicare from age 65, to age 67. Based on what you know, <u>do you approve or disapprove increasing the age</u> one can receive Medicare to 67? *(probe for strongly or somewhat)*

Strongly Approve	**11%**	36%
Somewhat Approve	**25**	
Somewhat Disapprove	**18**	60%
Strongly Disapprove	**42**	
(VOL) Neutral / Unsure	**4**	

Gender	**Strg Apv**	**Sw Apv**	**Sw Dpv**	**Strg Dpv**	**Neutral**
Men	15%	27	16	39	3
Women	6	22	21	45	5

Age	**Strg Apv**	**Sw Apv**	**Sw Dpv**	**Strg Dpv**	**Neutral**
18-44	14	27	18	36	5
45-64	7	20	18	52	3
Over 65	12	30	17	37	3

Region	**Strg Apv**	**Sw Apv**	**Sw Dpv**	**Strg Dpv**	**Neutral**
Amtrak Cities	16	24	18	38	5
Alton Area	8	31	25	32	4
Decatur & East Rural	11	24	12	48	4
West & Central Rural	6	17	19	55	3

Party Identification	**Strg Apv**	**Sw Apv**	**Sw Dpv**	**Strg Dpv**	**Neutral**
Democrat	2	26	19	51	2
Independent	14	23	19	39	5
Republican	19	25	17	34	5

Q6: Now changing themes. I now want to ask a few questions about Amtrak and High Speed Rail. Thinking back the past two years or so, how often would you say you have been a passenger on Amtrak?

Never	**67%**
One to Two Times	**23**
Three to Five Times...	**8**
Five to Ten Times	**1**
More than Ten Times	**1**

Gender	**Never**	**1-2**	**3-5**	**6-10**	**10+**
Men	66%	24	8	1	1
Women	68	22	7	1	1

Age	**Never**	**1-2**	**3-5**	**6-10**	**10+**
18-44	65	25	8	1	1
45-64	71	19	8	2	1
Over 65	69	24	4	1	2

Region	**Never**	**1-2**	**3-5**	**6-10**	**10+**
Amtrak Cities	58	28	9	3	2
Alton Area	68	28	2	0	1
Decatur & East Rural	72	16	10	1	1
West & Central Rural	74	21	5	0	0

Party Identification	**Never**	**1-2**	**3-5**	**6-10**	**10+**
Democrat	60	30	8	0	2
Independent	68	21	8	2	1
Republican	75	17	6	2	1

Questions 7 and 8 were asked only to respondents who have not been an Amtrak passenger in the past two years, while question 9 was asked to Amtrak passengers. Crosstabs are not provided since each demographic grouping would have too few respondents to provide a complete detail on attitudes by key demographics.

Q7: And what would you say is the general reason why you have not used Amtrak service in the last two years? (**ROTATE**) – *asked only to respondents who said 'never' in question #6*

a -- Too expensive	**4%**
b -- Times are inconvenient	**9**
c -- Amtrak is too slow	**5**
d -- No Amtrak station nearby	**18**
e -- Like my car for mobility	**52**
f -- Don't like trains	**2**
g -- (VOL) Unsure	**11**

Q8: Which would you say is the overall general purpose for using Amtrak? (**ROTATE**) *asked only to respondents who declared they've been a passenger on Amtrak in question #6.*

a -- Business trip	**14%**
b -- Day trips to Chicago	**32**
c -- Vacation or Leisure	**42**
d -- School	**2**
e -- Other	**10**

Q9: And generally speaking, how would you rate your trip or trips on Amtrak: *asked only to respondents who declared they've been a passenger on Amtrak in question #6.*

Very Favorably	**48%**	81% favorable
Somewhat Favorably	**33**	
Neutral	**13**	
Somewhat Unfavorably	**5**	5% unfavorable
Very Unfavorably	**0**	
(VOL) Unsure	**1**	

Q10: Research and news reports cite that riding the train allows passengers to stay connected with electronic devices, whereas driving restricts the ability to stay connected. Do you agree or disagree with this reason why you might use Amtrak service in the future? **(probe for strongly or somewhat).**

Strongly Agree	**19%**	55% agree
Somewhat Agree	**36**	
Somewhat Disagree	**17**	36% disagree
Strongly Disagree	**19**	
(VOL) Unsure	**10**	

Gender	**Strg Agr**	**Sw Agr**	**Sw Dgr**	**Strg Dgr**	**Neutral**
Men	15%	38	18	20	10
Women	23	34	15	19	10

Age	**Strg Agr**	**Sw Agr**	**Sw Dgr**	**Strg Dgr**	**Neutral**
18-44	20	40	20	11	9
45-64	16	35	16	24	9
Over 65	17	31	12	27	13

Region	**Strg Agr**	**Sw Agr**	**Sw Dgr**	**Strg Dgr**	**Neutral**
Amtrak Cities	24	41	13	16	7
Alton Area	13	38	24	14	11
Decatur & East Rural	19	32	14	26	9
West & Central Rural	15	30	19	19	17

Party Identification	**Strg Agr**	**Sw Agr**	**Sw Dgr**	**Strg Dgr**	**Neutral**
Democrat	24	38	15	13	10
Independent	18	36	19	18	9
Republican	14	34	14	26	12

Q11: Amtrak has a top-speed of 79 miles per hour through most of Illinois. Some in Illinois have been pushing for High Speed Rail, which will top out at 110 miles per hour. Thinking to the future, how likely would you find yourself using High Speed Rail to Chicago or St. Louis as compared to current Amtrak service?

Very likely	**39%**	84% very/fairly
Fairly likely	**45**	
Somewhat likely	**3**	
Not very likely	**5**	13% not likely
Not at all likely	**8**	

Gender	**Very**	**Fairly**	**Smwht**	**Not Very**	**Not All**
Men	38%	42	3	7	9
Women	39	47	3	3	7

Age	**Very**	**Fairly**	**Smwht**	**Not Very**	**Not All**
18-44	37	46	3	3	11
45-64	39	47	4	6	4
Over 65	44	40	1	8	6

Region	**Very**	**Fairly**	**Smwht**	**Not Very**	**Not All**
Amtrak Cities	52	39	2	2	5
Alton Area	39	41	5	5	10
Decatur & East Rural	28	52	2	9	10
West & Central Rural	31	49	5	6	9

Party Identification	**Very**	**Fairly**	**Smwht**	**Not Very**	**Not All**
Democrat	45	46	0	4	5
Independent	39	41	4	6	9
Republican	31	47	5	5	10

Q12: Some in Congress have suggested that partial government funding of Amtrak should be eliminated. Such a step would most likely end current Amtrak service here in Illinois. Considering everything you know about Amtrak, do you support:

Eliminating government funding of Amtrak	**21%**
Keeping current government funding of Amtrak	**64**
or, Increasing government funding of Amtrak	**10**
(VOL) Unsure	**5**

Gender	**Eliminate**	**Keep**	**Increase**	**Unsure**
Men	25%	60	11	4
Women	17	67	10	6

Age	**Eliminate**	**Keep**	**Increase**	**Unsure**
18-44	24	62	7	8
45-64	22	65	12	1
Over 65	15	65	14	7

Region	**Eliminate**	**Keep**	**Increase**	**Unsure**
Amtrak Cities	16	60	21	3
Alton Area	20	70	5	5
Decatur & East Rural	25	62	7	6
West & Central Rural	24	68	4	5

Party Identification	**Eliminate**	**Keep**	**Increase**	**Unsure**
Democrat	11	69	17	3
Independent	22	63	8	7
Republican	31	59	6	3