



**March  
2013**

# **Amtrak Support Levels Missouri 8<sup>th</sup> District**



**DFM Research**

Dean Mitchell, Consultant  
Saint Paul, MN 55102  
[www.dfmresearch.com](http://www.dfmresearch.com)

## **Executive Summary:**

Nearly 2-in-3 (62%) constituents in Missouri's 8<sup>th</sup> district believe that government funding of Amtrak should continue at current levels (47%) or increase (15%), when informed that eliminating government funding would likely end Amtrak service in Southeast Missouri. Only 15 percent support eliminating Amtrak funding. The level of support for current Amtrak service varies among demographic groups, yet all show strong levels of support:

- By a 4-to-1 ratio, constituents over age 65 support keeping/increasing Amtrak funding at current levels, versus eliminating funding.
- By a more than 4-to-1 ratio, political Independents support keeping/increasing funding.
- By a 7-to-1 ratio, constituents in the exurbs support keeping/increasing funding.

The March 2013 survey of 500 randomly selected (margin of error  $\pm 4.4\%$ pts) constituents was designed to determine support levels for Amtrak funding, while also measuring several themes that could promote increase usage of passenger rail throughout the region.

- Constituents have a favorable impression of Amtrak (whether a passenger in the last two years, or not), with 63 percent registering a favorable impression, to only 10 percent with an unfavorable impression. This number is consistent with all demographic groups, including Republicans who register a 55/12 percent favorable rating.
- When informed that Amtrak has only one daily passenger train service in each direction (north to Chicago, and south to Texas) in Southeast Missouri, 43 percent indicated that rail service should increase, with an additional 33 percent saying rail service should remain the same. Only 5 percent indicated that passenger rail service should be eliminated. Numbers were consistent across all demographic groups and political parties.
- When asked if Amtrak was to provide daylight passenger service to Saint Louis and Little Rock (currently the Texas Eagle provides night service), 20 percent indicated they would be very/fairly likely to use Amtrak, with another 17 percent indicating somewhat likely. This level of support is four times the rate of those who responded they have used Amtrak the past two years.

In addition to the Amtrak question series, the survey tested some topical issues, including the sequester, federal deficit, Medicare, and the potential temporary Missouri sales tax for transportation needs.

- Regarding the sequester, constituents place more blame in the direction of President Obama (43%), than Congressional Republicans (33%); with another 1-in-4 placing the blame on both, neither or are unsure. Most demographic groups show consistent numbers, with party self-identification being the noticeable key wedge in differing views: 73 percent of district Democrats blame Republicans in Congress, while 61 percent of district Republican blame the President. Independents mirror the district as a whole.
- Over half (55%) the constituents support reducing the federal deficit by utilizing mostly spending cuts; only 8 percent support mostly tax increases, with another 30 percent favoring a balanced approach. Constituents between ages 45-65 are more likely than younger residents to support spending cuts than a balanced approach: middle age grouping 59-27 percent in favor of cuts, younger age grouping 51-35 percent in favor of cuts.
- Yet on the other hand, constituents do not support the idea of increasing the age of Medicare (as part of entitlement reform) from age 65 to age 67 as a way to cut federal spending. Only

8 percent strongly approve raising the age, while 51 percent strongly disapprove; overall only 25 percent approve of this reform proposal, with 69 percent expressing disapproval. Key demographic finding, while varied, show consistent disapproval of raising the age of Medicare to age 67.

- Ages 45-64 disapprove raising the Medicare age by 72-25 percent.
  - Women disapprove raising the Medicare age by 71-22 percent.
  - Independent disapprove raising the Medicare age by 70-27 percent.
  - Republicans disapprove raising the Medicare age by 67-25 percent.
- The survey also asked basic support levels for a temporary one percent increase in the sales tax for transportation use (see question 15 for language); with the potential sales tax increase leading the no vote by a 49-46 percent margin. When the data is crossed with the likelihood of voting, the margin increases to 51-46 percent in favor of the tax increase. Support is strongest among women, residents over age 45 and those who live in the Bootheel/Southeast region. Based on party self-identification, the potential tax measure has a +30 percent margin among Democrats and a -14 percent gap among Republicans, with Independent mirroring the district with a +4 percent margin.

The highlighted survey numbers presented in the executive summary, as well as the full report is a current snapshot of the mind-set of constituents of Missouri’s 8<sup>th</sup> congressional district. In conclusion, the data shows strong support for current Amtrak service in the district.

**Survey Methodology:**

The poll results presented in this report are based on a stratified random sample of 500 adults conducted between March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> in Missouri’s 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. The sample was stratified by three distinct region to ensure a representative sample:

- 29% - St. Louis Exurbs and Northeast District
- 33% - Bootheel Area and Southeast District
- 38% - Western and Central District

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 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.

<u>Gender</u>		<u>Age</u>		<u>Party Identification</u>	
Male	49%	18-44	42%	Democrat	25%
Female	51%	45-64	37%	Independent	32%
		65+	21%	Republican	43%

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  $\pm 4.4$  percentage points with a 95 percent

confidence level, meaning that in 19 out of 20 times the results presented would be within the margin of error. If final results of a question resulted in a tabulated answer of 50 percent, the confidence interval would be between 45.6 to 54.4 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, Minnesota. 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 Missouri's 8<sup>th</sup> 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, and political self-identification. The margin of error among crosstabs will vary between 6 and 9 percentage points.

In questions where (VOL) is before the answer category, this means the respondent volunteered that basic response (it was not read to the respondent). Due to rounding, numbers in the topline and crosstabs may not equal 100 percent.

**Topline Results:**

- Interviews:** 500 respondents by live caller from Stone Research Services of Indianapolis, Indiana.  
**Margin of Error:** ± 4.4 percentage points with a 95 percent confidence interval.  
**Interview Dates:** March 18-19, 2013.  
**Sample:** 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 three distinct Missouri 8th Congressional geographical regions.  
**Survey Sponsor:** SMART Transportation, Missouri 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.....	<b>19%</b>
Wrong track .....	<b>70</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>11</b>

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

Right direction.....	<b>35%</b>
Wrong track .....	<b>39</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>26</b>

**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>
<b>Q3a:</b> Barack Obama	<b>31</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Q3b:</b> Claire McCaskill	<b>39</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Q3c:</b> Roy Blunt	<b>38</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Q3d:</b> Jay Nixon	<b>53</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Q3e:</b> Republican Party	<b>46</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Q3f:</b> Democratic Party	<b>36</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Q3g:</b> Labor Unions	<b>38</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Q3h:</b> NRA	<b>65</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>

**Q4:** As you may know, on March 1<sup>st</sup> automatic across the board federal spending cuts took place, known as the ‘sequester’. Who do you feel is more to blame for the sequester: Republicans in Congress or President Obama?

Republicans in Congress .....	<b>33%</b>
President Obama .....	<b>43</b>
(VOL) Both .....	<b>12</b>
(VOL) Neither .....	<b>1</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>11</b>

**Q5:** Moving forward, to balance the federal budget, we either need to reduce government spending or increase revenue through taxation. If you could decide, which would you pick: **(READ LIST)**

Mostly Spending Cuts .....	<b>55%</b>
Spending Cuts and Tax Increases About Equally .....	<b>30</b>
Mostly Tax Increases.....	<b>8</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>7</b>

**Q6:** While Medicare and Social Security are protected from the sequester, 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, do you approve or disapprove increasing the age one can receive Medicare to 67? (*probe for strongly or somewhat*)

Strongly Approve .....	<b>8%</b>	25% approve
Somewhat Approve .....	<b>17</b>	
Somewhat Disapprove .....	<b>18</b>	69% disapprove
Strongly Disapprove .....	<b>51</b>	
(VOL) Unsure / Neutral .....	<b>5</b>	

**Q9:** I’m now going to read you a few more names. 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 9a to 9c).**

	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Neutral (VOL)</u>	<u>Never Heard Of</u>
<b>Q3a:</b> Amtrak	<b>63</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Q3b:</b> High Speed Rail	<b>34</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Q3c:</b> MO-DOT	<b>70</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>

**Q10:** Now just a few questions on transportation issues. Thinking back the past two years or so, how often would you say you have been a passenger on Amtrak?

Never .....	<b>90%</b>
One to Two Times .....	<b>9</b>
Three to Five Times.....	<b>1</b>
More than Five Times .....	<b>0</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>0</b>

**Q11:** Currently Southeast Missouri has one daily passenger train to Chicago and south to Texas. When it comes to passenger rail service here in Southeast Missouri, which best fits your view?

Passenger rail service should increase.....	<b>43%</b>
Passenger rail service should remain the same .....	<b>33</b>
Passenger rail service should be eliminated .....	<b>5</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>19</b>

**Q12:** Right now train service in Southeast Missouri runs late at night. If there was an additional train or trains as a daytime option to Saint Louis and Little Rock, how likely would you find yourself using Amtrak.

Very likely .....	<b>13%</b>
Fairly likely .....	<b>7</b>
Somewhat likely .....	<b>17</b>
Not very likely .....	<b>20</b>
Not at all likely .....	<b>41</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>2</b>

**Q13:** Amtrak has a top-speed of 79 miles per hour through Southeast Missouri. Some have been pushing for High Speed Rail, which will top out at 110 miles per hour. Thinking to the future, if High Speed Rail was to come about, how likely would you say you would use rail as a travel option.

Very likely .....	<b>12%</b>
Fairly likely .....	<b>7</b>
Somewhat likely .....	<b>20</b>
Not very likely .....	<b>23</b>
Not at all likely .....	<b>35</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>2</b>

**Q14:** 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 Southeast Missouri. Considering everything you know about Amtrak, do you support:

Eliminating government funding of Amtrak .....	<b>21%</b>
Keeping current government funding of Amtrak .....	<b>47</b>
or, Increasing government funding of Amtrak .....	<b>15</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>16</b>

**Q15:** Now turning to roads. Some in the state capitol are pushing for a change in the state constitution to allow a temporary 1 percent sales tax to improve the state highway system, city streets, county roads and other forms of transportation. This sales tax will need to be approved by state voters. If the election was held today, would you vote **Yes or No** to approve a temporary 1 percent sales tax for state transportation improvements.

Yes .....	<b>49%</b>
No .....	<b>46</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>5</b>

**Q16:** Some in Congress want to increase the maximum allowable truck weight on our nation's highways from 80 to 97,000 pounds. Generally speaking, based on what you know, do you approve or disapprove of increasing the maximum truck weight?

Approve .....	<b>17%</b>
Disapprove .....	<b>74</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>8</b>





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

Right direction..... **35%**  
 Wrong track ..... **39**  
 (VOL) Unsure ..... **26**

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>RD</u></b>	<b><u>WT</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Men	38%	38	24
Women	32	39	28

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>RD</u></b>	<b><u>WT</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
18-44	31	43	26
45-64	38	40	22
Over 65	36	33	31

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>RD</u></b>	<b><u>WT</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	30	39	31
Bootheel / Southeast	38	41	21
Central / West	37	37	26

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>RD</u></b>	<b><u>WT</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Democrat	48	36	16
Independent	35	38	26
Republican	27	41	32

**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 .....	<b>31%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>62</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>6</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>0</b>

<u><b>Gender</b></u>	<u><b>Fav</b></u>	<u><b>Unfav</b></u>	<u><b>Neutral</b></u>	<u><b>NHO</b></u>
Men	30%	63	7	0
Women	32	62	6	0

  

<u><b>Age</b></u>	<u><b>Fav</b></u>	<u><b>Unfav</b></u>	<u><b>Neutral</b></u>	<u><b>NHO</b></u>
18-44	26	67	6	0
45-64	35	56	9	0
Over 65	35	60	5	0

  

<u><b>Region</b></u>	<u><b>Fav</b></u>	<u><b>Unfav</b></u>	<u><b>Neutral</b></u>	<u><b>NHO</b></u>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	36	56	3	0
Bootheel / Southeast	33	61	5	0
Central / West	26	68	7	0

  

<u><b>Party Identification</b></u>	<u><b>Fav</b></u>	<u><b>Unfav</b></u>	<u><b>Neutral</b></u>	<u><b>NHO</b></u>
Democrat	73	19	8	0
Independent	30	65	5	0
Republican	8	86	6	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.

**Claire McCaskill**

Favorable .....	<b>39%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>46</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>13</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>2</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Men	36%	48	13	3
Women	41	43	13	2

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
18-44	34	48	14	4
45-64	42	46	11	1
Over 65	44	43	13	0

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	47	41	10	3
Bootheel / Southeast	40	44	14	2
Central / West	33	51	14	2

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Democrat	47	40	10	3
Independent	40	44	14	2
Republican	33	51	14	2

**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.

**Roy Blunt**

Favorable .....	<b>38%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>26</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>26</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>10</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Men	38%	29	25	9
Women	39	24	28	10

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
18-44	35	27	27	11
45-64	38	28	24	10
Over 65	44	23	25	8

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	27	33	28	13
Bootheel / Southeast	42	17	30	11
Central / West	44	28	21	7

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Democrat	21	48	18	13
Independent	35	26	29	10
Republican	50	13	28	7

**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.

**Jay Nixon**

Favorable .....	<b>53%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>24</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>18</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>5</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Men	53%	24	16	7
Women	52	24	20	4

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
18-44	48	26	19	7
45-64	55	26	15	4
Over 65	60	16	22	3

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	61	20	16	4
Bootheel / Southeast	50	23	20	7
Central / West	51	28	17	5

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Democrat	73	16	6	5
Independent	55	19	19	6
Republican	39	31	24	5

**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.

**Republican Party**

Favorable .....	<b>46%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>38</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>15</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>0</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Men	46%	39	15	0
Women	47	38	15	0

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
18-44	44	36	20	0
45-64	48	40	12	0
Over 65	47	42	11	0

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	41	44	14	0
Bootheel / Southeast	48	35	16	0
Central / West	47	37	16	0

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Democrat	9	83	7	0
Independent	40	40	20	0
Republican	72	11	16	0

**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.

**Democratic Party**

Favorable .....	<b>36%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>51</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>13</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>0</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Men	35%	51	14	0
Women	38	51	11	0

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
18-44	30	52	18	0
45-64	43	49	8	0
Over 65	37	53	10	0

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	42	44	14	0
Bootheel / Southeast	38	49	13	0
Central / West	29	58	13	0

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Democrat	95	3	2	0
Independent	27	51	22	0
Republican	9	79	12	0



**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.

**Labor Unions**

Favorable .....	<b>38%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>42</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>18</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>2</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Men	42%	43	13	2
Women	35	41	22	2

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
18-44	37	42	18	2
45-64	37	44	17	2
Over 65	42	39	18	1

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	52	27	18	3
Bootheel / Southeast	32	51	16	1
Central / West	33	46	18	3

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Democrat	66	20	11	3
Independent	38	40	21	1
Republican	22	57	20	1

**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.

**the NRA**

Favorable .....	<b>62%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>20</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>13</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>5</b>

<u><b>Gender</b></u>	<u><b>Fav</b></u>	<u><b>Unfav</b></u>	<u><b>Neutral</b></u>	<u><b>NHO</b></u>
Men	65%	19	12	4
Women	59	20	15	5

  

<u><b>Age</b></u>	<u><b>Fav</b></u>	<u><b>Unfav</b></u>	<u><b>Neutral</b></u>	<u><b>NHO</b></u>
18-44	67	14	13	6
45-64	64	22	10	4
Over 65	51	27	17	5

  

<u><b>Region</b></u>	<u><b>Fav</b></u>	<u><b>Unfav</b></u>	<u><b>Neutral</b></u>	<u><b>NHO</b></u>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	62	18	16	4
Bootheel / Southeast	58	21	12	9
Central / West	65	21	12	2

  

<u><b>Party Identification</b></u>	<u><b>Fav</b></u>	<u><b>Unfav</b></u>	<u><b>Neutral</b></u>	<u><b>NHO</b></u>
Democrat	42	41	11	6
Independent	62	22	10	6
Republican	75	6	16	3

**Q4:** As you may know, on March 1<sup>st</sup> automatic across the board federal spending cuts took place, known as the ‘sequester’. Who do you feel is more to blame for the sequester: Republicans in Congress or President Obama?

Republicans in Congress .....	<b>33%</b>
President Obama .....	<b>43</b>
(VOL) Both .....	<b>12</b>
(VOL) Neither .....	<b>1</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>11</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>GOP</u></b>	<b><u>Obama</u></b>	<b><u>Both</u></b>	<b><u>Neither</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Men	35%	43	12	2	8
Women	31	42	12	0	14

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>GOP</u></b>	<b><u>Obama</u></b>	<b><u>Both</u></b>	<b><u>Neither</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
18-44	28	44	11	2	15
45-64	41	42	10	1	6
Over 65	28	44	15	1	13

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>GOP</u></b>	<b><u>Obama</u></b>	<b><u>Both</u></b>	<b><u>Neither</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	35	36	16	1	12
Bootheel / Southeast	32	45	11	0	12
Central / West	31	47	10	2	9

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>GOP</u></b>	<b><u>Obama</u></b>	<b><u>Both</u></b>	<b><u>Neither</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Democrat	73	13	6	0	8
Independent	33	42	14	1	11
Republican	10	61	14	1	13

**Amtrak Support Levels (Missouri 8<sup>th</sup> District) – March, 2013**

Prepared by DFM Research

**Q5:** Moving forward, to balance the federal budget, we either need to reduce government spending or increase revenue through taxation. If you could decide, which would you pick:

Mostly Spending Cuts .....	<b>55%</b>
Spending Cuts and Tax Increases About Equally .....	<b>30</b>
Mostly Tax Increases.....	<b>8</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>7</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Cuts</u></b>	<b><u>Equal</u></b>	<b><u>Tax</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Men	54%	31	10	6
Women	55	30	7	8

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Cuts</u></b>	<b><u>Equal</u></b>	<b><u>Tax</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
18-44	51	35	8	6
45-64	59	27	8	6
Over 65	53	28	8	11

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Cuts</u></b>	<b><u>Equal</u></b>	<b><u>Tax</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	51	31	10	9
Bootheel / Southeast	55	31	8	7
Central / West	58	30	7	6

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Cuts</u></b>	<b><u>Equal</u></b>	<b><u>Tax</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Democrat	27	46	17	10
Independent	53	38	5	4
Republican	73	16	4	7

**Q6:** While Medicare and Social Security are protected from the sequester, 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, do you approve or disapprove increasing the age one can receive Medicare to 67? (*probe for strongly or somewhat*)

Strongly Approve .....	<b>8%</b>	25% approve
Somewhat Approve .....	<b>17</b>	
Somewhat Disapprove .....	<b>18</b>	69% disapprove
Strongly Disapprove .....	<b>51</b>	
(VOL) Unsure / Neutral .....	<b>5</b>	

<u>Gender</u>	<u>Strg Apv</u>	<u>Sw Apv</u>	<u>Sw Dpv</u>	<u>Strg Dpv</u>	<u>Neutral</u>
Men	10%	18	14	53	5
Women	5	17	22	49	6

<u>Age</u>	<u>Strg Apv</u>	<u>Sw Apv</u>	<u>Sw Dpv</u>	<u>Strg Dpv</u>	<u>Neutral</u>
18-44	6	14	17	59	4
45-64	9	16	21	51	4
Over 65	12	26	16	36	10

<u>Region</u>	<u>Strg Apv</u>	<u>Sw Apv</u>	<u>Sw Dpv</u>	<u>Strg Dpv</u>	<u>Neutral</u>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	11	15	16	55	3
Bootheel / Southeast	4	18	19	52	7
Central / West	9	18	18	48	7

<u>Party Identification</u>	<u>Strg Apv</u>	<u>Sw Apv</u>	<u>Sw Dpv</u>	<u>Strg Dpv</u>	<u>Neutral</u>
Democrat	9	14	14	58	4
Independent	10	17	17	53	4
Republican	6	19	21	46	7

**Q7a:** 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.

**Amtrak**

Favorable .....	<b>63%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>10</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>20</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>7</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Men	61%	13	18	7
Women	64	7	22	7

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
18-44	62	9	22	8
45-64	64	11	18	8
Over 65	62	11	21	6

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	69	6	20	5
Bootheel / Southeast	66	9	19	7
Central / West	55	13	23	9

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Democrat	76	4	14	6
Independent	65	12	17	6
Republican	55	12	25	8

**Q7b:** 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.

**High Speed Rail**

Favorable .....	<b>34%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>20</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>19</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>27</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Men	39%	26	13	21
Women	28	15	24	33

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
18-44	31	15	16	38
45-64	39	23	20	19
Over 65	33	26	23	18

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	45	21	14	20
Bootheel / Southeast	31	17	19	33
Central / West	30	22	22	26

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Democrat	46	12	17	24
Independent	37	22	15	26
Republican	25	24	23	28

**Q7c:** 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.

**MO-DOT (Missouri Department of Transportation)**

Favorable .....	<b>70%</b>
Unfavorable .....	<b>10</b>
(VOL) Neutral/Unsure .....	<b>16</b>
Never Heard Of .....	<b>3</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Men	71%	13	13	2
Women	69	7	19	4

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
18-44	75	8	16	0
45-64	73	12	13	2
Over 65	56	11	26	7

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	65	10	21	4
Bootheel / Southeast	74	9	15	2
Central / West	70	12	14	4

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Fav</u></b>	<b><u>Unfav</u></b>	<b><u>Neutral</u></b>	<b><u>NHO</u></b>
Democrat	79	9	10	2
Independent	71	13	14	2
Republican	65	9	20	5



**Q8:** Now just a few questions on transportation issues. Thinking back the past two years or so, how often would you say you have been a passenger on Amtrak?

Never .....	<b>90%</b>
One to Two Times .....	<b>9</b>
Three to Five Times.....	<b>1</b>
More than Five Times .....	<b>0</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>0</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Never</u></b>	<b><u>1-2</u></b>	<b><u>3-5</u></b>	<b><u>5+</u></b>
Men	90%	8	2	0
Women	89	9	1	0

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Never</u></b>	<b><u>1-2</u></b>	<b><u>3-5</u></b>	<b><u>5+</u></b>
18-44	90	8	2	0
45-64	91	9	1	0
Over 65	89	9	2	0

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Never</u></b>	<b><u>1-2</u></b>	<b><u>3-5</u></b>	<b><u>5+</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	85	12	3	0
Bootheel / Southeast	90	9	1	0
Central / West	93	6	2	0

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Never</u></b>	<b><u>1-2</u></b>	<b><u>3-5</u></b>	<b><u>5+</u></b>
Democrat	89	9	2	0
Independent	89	10	1	0
Republican	91	8	1	0

**Q9:** Currently Southeast Missouri has one daily passenger train to Chicago and south to Texas. When it comes to passenger rail service here in Southeast Missouri, which best fits your view?

Passenger rail service should increase..... **43%**  
 Passenger rail service should remain the same ..... **33**  
 Passenger rail service should be eliminated ..... **5**  
 (VOL) Unsure ..... **19**

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Increase</u></b>	<b><u>Same</u></b>	<b><u>Eliminate</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Men	43%	34	9	15
Women	44	32	2	22

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Increase</u></b>	<b><u>Same</u></b>	<b><u>Eliminate</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
18-44	40	36	6	18
45-64	46	33	6	15
Over 65	43	29	3	25

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Increase</u></b>	<b><u>Same</u></b>	<b><u>Eliminate</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	44	33	3	20
Bootheel / Southeast	39	40	5	16
Central / West	47	27	7	19

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Increase</u></b>	<b><u>Same</u></b>	<b><u>Eliminate</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Democrat	46	34	3	17
Independent	48	33	4	15
Republican	38	32	7	22

**Q10:** Right now train service in Southeast Missouri runs late at night. If there was an additional train or trains as a daytime option to Saint Louis and Little Rock, how likely would you find yourself using Amtrak.

Very likely .....	<b>13%</b>
Fairly likely .....	<b>7</b>
Somewhat likely .....	<b>17</b>
Not very likely .....	<b>20</b>
Not at all likely .....	<b>41</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>2</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Very</u></b>	<b><u>Fairly</u></b>	<b><u>Smwht</u></b>	<b><u>Not Very</u></b>	<b><u>Not All</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Men	11%	6	18	23	42	1
Women	14	8	17	19	40	2

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Very</u></b>	<b><u>Fairly</u></b>	<b><u>Smwht</u></b>	<b><u>Not Very</u></b>	<b><u>Not All</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
18-44	14	4	17	23	39	2
45-64	10	11	20	19	38	1
Over 65	16	6	12	15	48	2

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Very</u></b>	<b><u>Fairly</u></b>	<b><u>Smwht</u></b>	<b><u>Not Very</u></b>	<b><u>Not All</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	14	8	19	24	33	1
Bootheel / Southeast	15	7	22	18	36	2
Central / West	10	7	12	20	50	2

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Very</u></b>	<b><u>Fairly</u></b>	<b><u>Smwht</u></b>	<b><u>Not Very</u></b>	<b><u>Not All</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Democrat	20	9	14	24	31	1
Independent	10	11	17	20	41	1
Republican	10	3	20	18	46	3

**Q11:** Amtrak has a top-speed of 79 miles per hour through Southeast Missouri. Some have been pushing for High Speed Rail, which will top out at 110 miles per hour. Thinking to the future, if High Speed Rail was to come about, how likely would you say you would use rail as a travel option.

Very likely .....	<b>12%</b>
Fairly likely .....	<b>7</b>
Somewhat likely .....	<b>20</b>
Not very likely .....	<b>23</b>
Not at all likely .....	<b>35</b>
(VOL) Unsure .....	<b>2</b>

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Very</u></b>	<b><u>Fairly</u></b>	<b><u>Smwht</u></b>	<b><u>Not Very</u></b>	<b><u>Not All</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Men	15%	6	22	23	31	2
Women	10	7	18	23	39	2

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Very</u></b>	<b><u>Fairly</u></b>	<b><u>Smwht</u></b>	<b><u>Not Very</u></b>	<b><u>Not All</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
18-44	14	8	22	23	30	3
45-64	11	7	24	20	36	2
Over 65	10	6	11	29	42	2

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Very</u></b>	<b><u>Fairly</u></b>	<b><u>Smwht</u></b>	<b><u>Not Very</u></b>	<b><u>Not All</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	18	12	19	23	26	1
Bootheel / Southeast	8	7	24	21	37	3
Central / West	12	3	18	25	40	2

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Very</u></b>	<b><u>Fairly</u></b>	<b><u>Smwht</u></b>	<b><u>Not Very</u></b>	<b><u>Not All</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Democrat	14	8	21	25	31	1
Independent	15	7	19	22	36	1
Republican	9	6	22	23	37	3

**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 Southeast Missouri. Considering everything you know about Amtrak, do you support:

Eliminating government funding of Amtrak ..... **21%**  
 Keeping current government funding of Amtrak ..... **47**  
 or, Increasing government funding of Amtrak ..... **15**  
 (VOL) Unsure ..... **16**

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Eliminate</u></b>	<b><u>Keep</u></b>	<b><u>Increase</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Men	25%	44	19	12
Women	17	50	12	21

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Eliminate</u></b>	<b><u>Keep</u></b>	<b><u>Increase</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
18-44	19	47	14	19
45-64	27	48	14	11
Over 65	16	46	19	19

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Eliminate</u></b>	<b><u>Keep</u></b>	<b><u>Increase</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	11	57	17	15
Bootheel / Southeast	21	45	14	21
Central / West	28	43	16	14

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Eliminate</u></b>	<b><u>Keep</u></b>	<b><u>Increase</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Democrat	8	52	27	14
Independent	19	56	14	11
Republican	31	38	9	22

**Q13:** Now turning to roads. Some in the state capitol are pushing for a change in the state constitution to allow a temporary 1 percent sales tax to improve the state highway system, city streets, county roads and other forms of transportation. This sales tax will need to be approved by state voters. If the election was held today, would you vote **Yes or No** to approve a temporary 1 percent sales tax for state transportation improvements.

Yes ..... **49%**  
 No ..... **46**  
 (VOL) Unsure ..... **5**

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Men	47%	47	5
Women	50	45	5

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
18-44	47	46	7
45-64	52	46	2
Over 65	49	43	8

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	47	48	5
Bootheel / Southeast	53	41	6
Central / West	48	47	5

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Democrat	63	33	4
Independent	50	46	4
Republican	39	53	8

**Q14:** Some in Congress want to increase the maximum allowable truck weight on our nation’s highways from 80,000 to 97,000 pounds. Based on what you know, do you approve or disapprove of increasing the maximum truck weight?

Approve ..... 17%  
 Disapprove ..... 74  
 (VOL) Unsure ..... 8

<b><u>Gender</u></b>	<b><u>Approve</u></b>	<b><u>Disapprove</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Men	20%	75	5
Women	15	74	11

  

<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Approve</u></b>	<b><u>Disapprove</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
18-44	22	69	9
45-64	17	76	7
Over 65	9	83	8

  

<b><u>Region</u></b>	<b><u>Approve</u></b>	<b><u>Disapprove</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
St. Louis Exurbs / Northeast	19	71	10
Bootheel / Southeast	13	79	8
Central / West	19	73	8

  

<b><u>Party Identification</u></b>	<b><u>Approve</u></b>	<b><u>Disapprove</u></b>	<b><u>Unsure</u></b>
Democrat	14	75	11
Independent	17	78	4
Republican	19	71	10