

## Humphrey Institute Surveys of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa: Kerry Opens Leads Among Youngest and Older Voters; Middle-Aged Voters Prefer Bush

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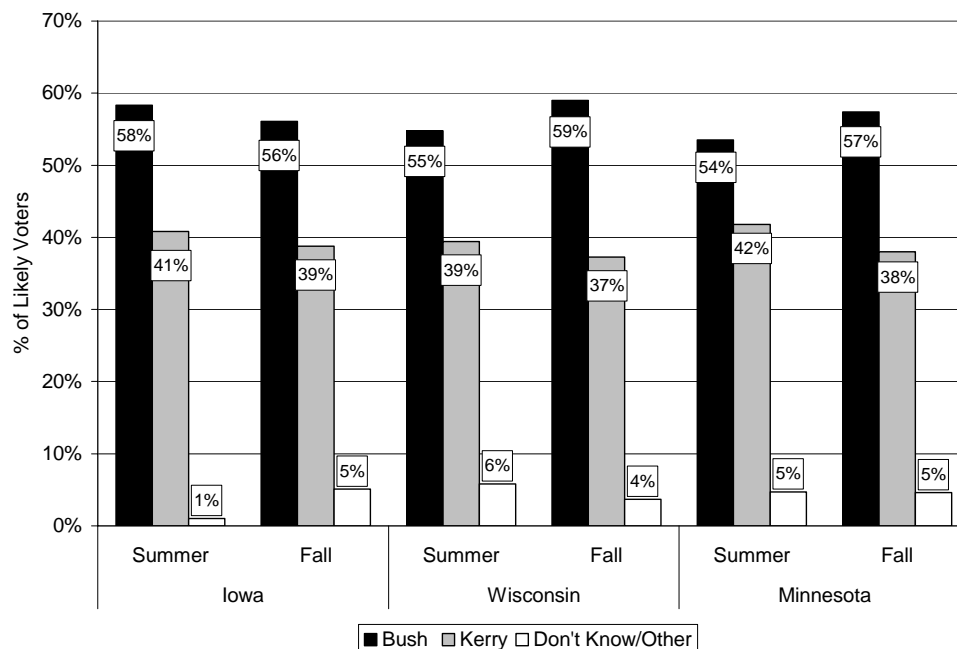
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The presidential election has bared glaring divides between the generations. The youngest and oldest Americans are rallying behind Senator John Kerry, while younger middle-aged voters strongly support President George W. Bush, according to Humphrey Institute surveys of likely voters in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa during October. Given the modest number of respondents for each age group, we focus on differences of 10 points or more.

### Bush Advantage Among Younger Middle-Aged Voters

The President has opened a substantial advantage over Kerry among younger middle-aged voters aged 30 to 49 in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa, according to the most recent Humphrey Institute surveys. Bush expanded his lead among Wisconsin voters in this age group by six points since the mid-summer Humphrey Institute Survey and now enjoys a 22-point bulge; he added seven points to his lead in Minnesota and leads by 19 points; and he is 17 points in front in Iowa.

### **Younger Middle-Aged Voters in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa (aged 30 to 49)**

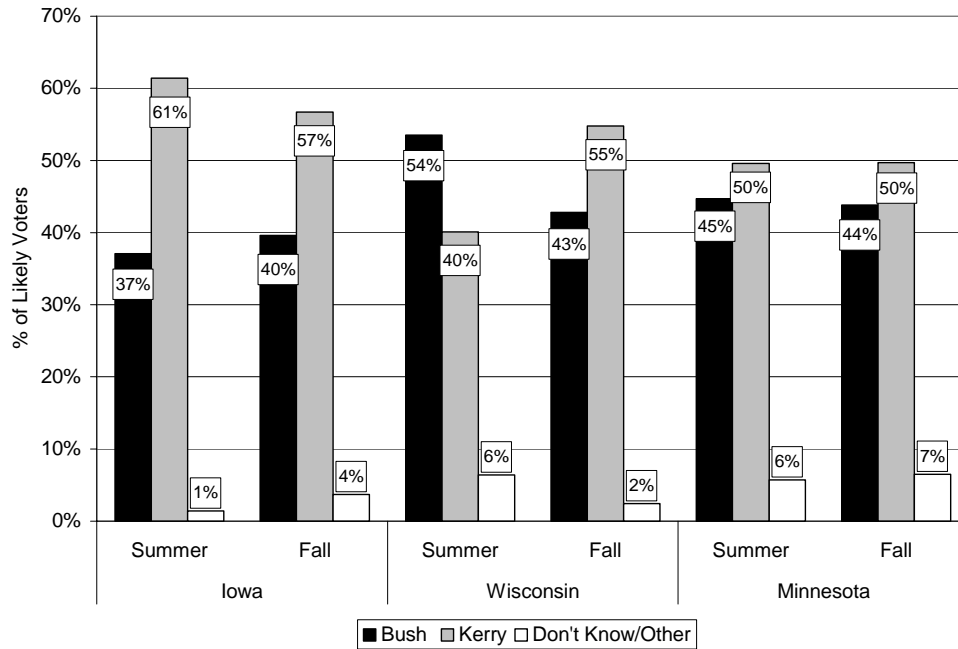


**Kerry Advantage Among Older Voters and the Youngest Voters**

Kerry leads Bush among likely voters aged 18 to 29, according to the October Humphrey Institute surveys of likely voters.

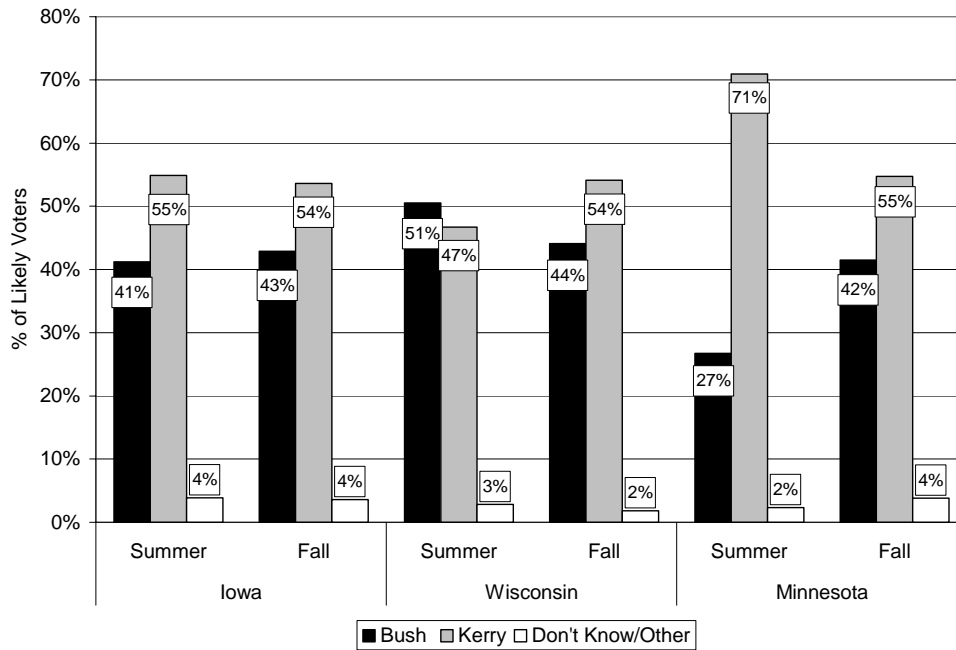
He also has the edge among older voters. Older middle-age voters (aged 50 to 64) favor Kerry by 17 points in Iowa, 12 points in Wisconsin (reversing Bush’s 14 point lead), and 6 points in Minnesota.

**Older Middle-Aged Voters in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa (aged 50 to 64)**



Kerry also holds the lead among likely voters 65 years of age and older. Seniors prefer the Democrat by 11 points in Iowa, 10 points in Wisconsin (reversing a 4 point Bush edge), and 13 points in Minnesota (a decline from Kerry’s 44 point summertime bulge).

**Seniors in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa (65 and older)**



The summer Humphrey Institute Survey was conducted between June 21 and July 12, 2004, and consisted of 448 likely voters in Iowa, 504 likely voters in Wisconsin, and 509 likely voters in Minnesota. The fall Humphrey Institute Surveys were conducted with 599 likely Iowa voters from September 27 to October 3, 2004, 623 likely Wisconsin voters contacted between October 14 and 19, 2004, and 690 likely Minnesotan likely voters from October 21 to 26, 2004.