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## Voters Prefer Smoking Ban for Public Buildings

*MIRS/Rossman Group/Denno-Noor Poll Shows Smoking Ban Has Voter Support*

**LANSING, Mich.** — According to polling data released today, Michigan voters would prefer their public buildings, including bars and restaurants, to be smoke free.

This according to a recent state-wide survey conducted by Denno-Noor Research, in partnership with The Rossman Group, one of Michigan's top public relations and issue management consulting firms, and Michigan Information & Research Services, Michigan's leading daily legislative and state government newsletter. MIRS was recently voted the preferred newsletter of Lansing's political insiders.

The question was worded as follows:

*“There is discussion in Michigan to put a proposal on the ballot to ban smoking in all public buildings, including restaurants and bars. If you had the opportunity, how would you vote on this issue, would you vote (ROTATE) to ban public smoking or against a ban to prohibit smoking?”*

According to the results, 61 percent of Michigan residents would support a ban on smoking in public buildings, while 35 percent oppose the ban. Two percent of the electorate was undecided, while three percent didn't know or didn't care.

“Voters are very clear about where they stand on this issue,” said MIRS President John T. Reurink, “as evidenced by the large degree of support for a ban on smoking in public buildings, and the fact that a mere 5% of the electorate was unsure or didn't care one way or the other.”

“The proposal received broad support from both parties and almost all regions of the state,” said Denno-Noor President Dennis Denno. “If a ban on smoking in public buildings were on the ballot today, it would likely pass.”

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The following chart demonstrates where responses landed on this issue among Michigan’s geographic regions\*:

	<u>SE MI</u>	<u>Central MI</u>	<u>West MI</u>	<u>Tri Cities/ Thumb</u>	<u>Upper L.P.</u>	<u>U.P.</u>	<u>Oakland</u>	<u>Macomb</u>	<u>Detroit</u>	<u>Balance of Wayne</u>
<b>Ban Public Smoking</b>	71%	46%	59%	63%	58%	50%	67%	70%	59%	55%
<b>Do Not Ban Public Smoking</b>	26%	54%	33%	36%	39%	44%	29%	26%	32%	42%
<b>Unsure</b>	0%	0%	3%	2%	3%	6%	1%	2%	5%	0%
<b>Does Not Matter /Do Not Care</b>	3%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3%	2%	5%	3%

\*All numbers rounded. Thus, totals may exceed 100 percent.

“Geographically, only Central Michigan would oppose a ban on smoking in public buildings,” added Reurink. “Among the rest of the state’s geographic regions, the margin is tightest in the Upper Peninsula (+6 percent), suburban Wayne County (+17 percent) and the Upper Lower Peninsula (+19%). Every other geographic region favors the ban by more than 20 percent.”

“Women (67 percent) were more likely to support the ban than men (53 percent),” added Denno, “while among age groups, 18 to 35-year olds were the least supportive (54 percent).”

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**Methodology:**

**This survey was part of the inaugural Rossman Group/MIRS/Denno-Noor Quarterly Survey of the Michigan electorate. 600 respondents were surveyed between February 21 and February 23, and the participation was stratified based on census data and past voter behavior. A screen was employed to include only those participants who said they intended on voting, either at the polls or by absentee ballot, in the November 2008 Election. The margin of error is plus/minus 4 percent.**