

# Federalist Society Polling Data: Mississippi

Survey of 500 Likely Voters in Mississippi  
September 23-28, 2008  
Margin of Error:  $\pm 4.4\%$

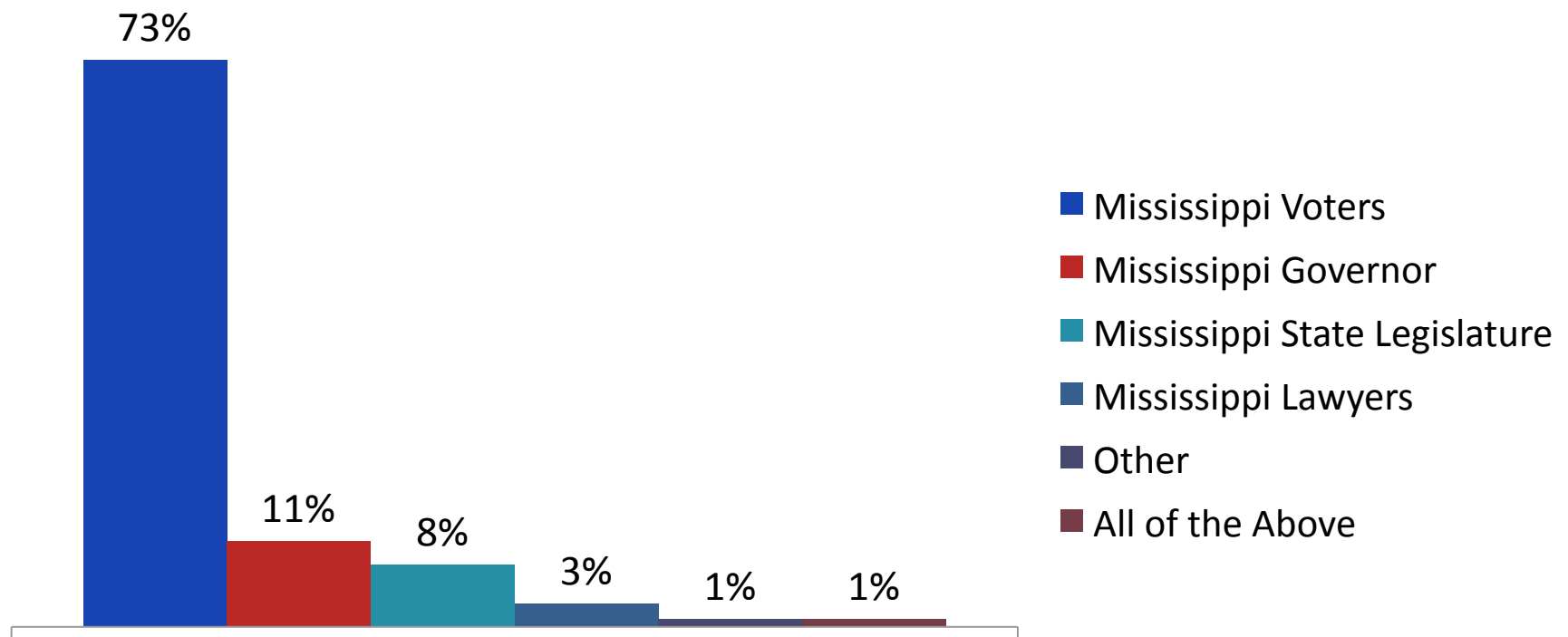
**STATE COURTS**  
*guide*

 the polling company, inc.  
WomanTrend



# Mississippi Supreme Court Selection

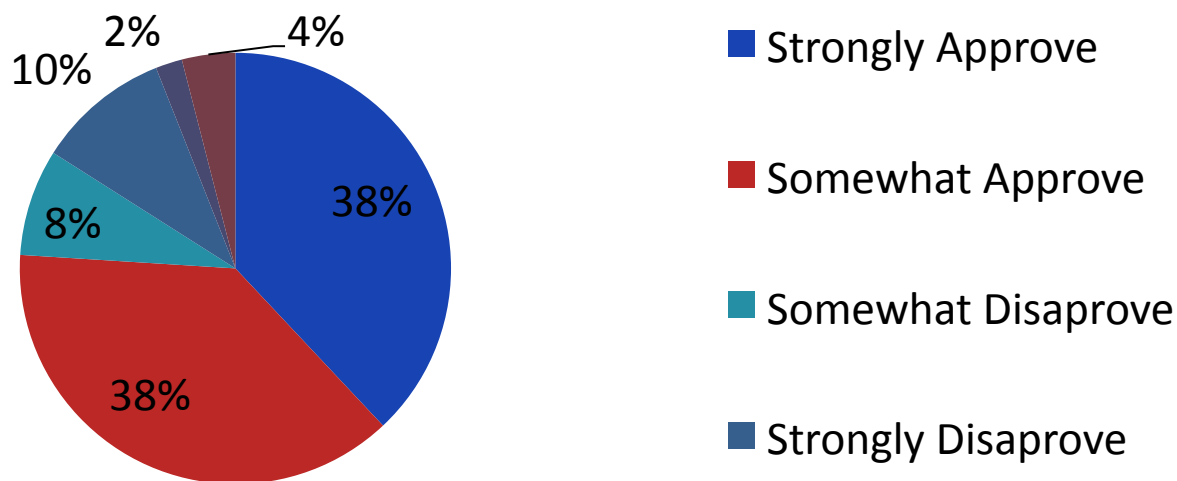
*Who do you think should have the greatest input on who is selected to serve as a Justice on the Mississippi Supreme Court?*



# Mississippi Supreme Court Selection

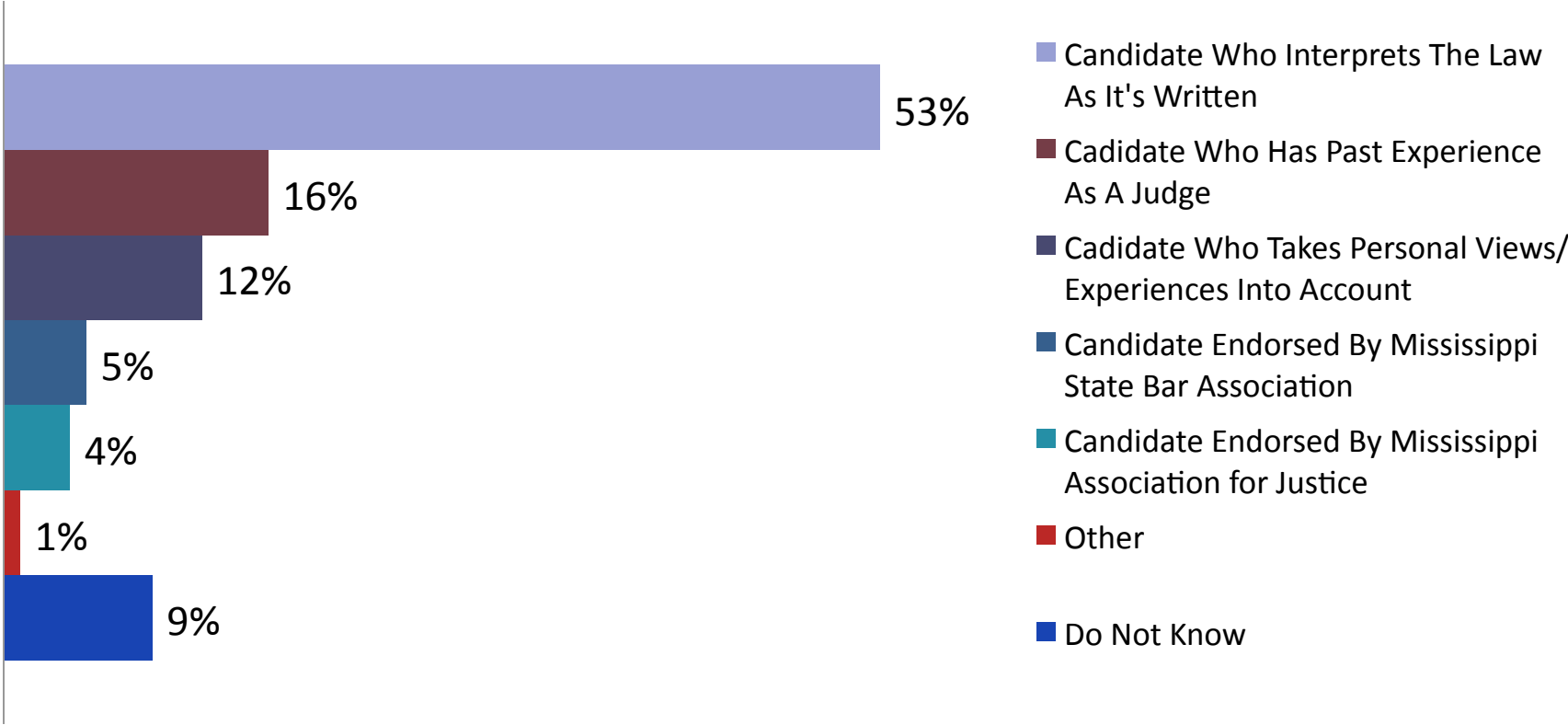
*As you may know, there are nine Justices on the Mississippi Supreme Court. They are elected by Mississippi voters in non-partisan elections (meaning the Justices do not identify as Republican or Democrat) for eight-year terms. The state is divided into three districts and each district votes for three Supreme Court Justices. Elections are staggered such that not every seat is up for election at the same time. Voters are only able to vote for Supreme Court Justices from their district.*

*Do you approve or disapprove of this method of judicial selection for Mississippi's Supreme Court?*



# Mississippi Supreme Court Selection

*Which of the following will be MOST important to you in deciding how to vote for Mississippi Supreme Court in November?*

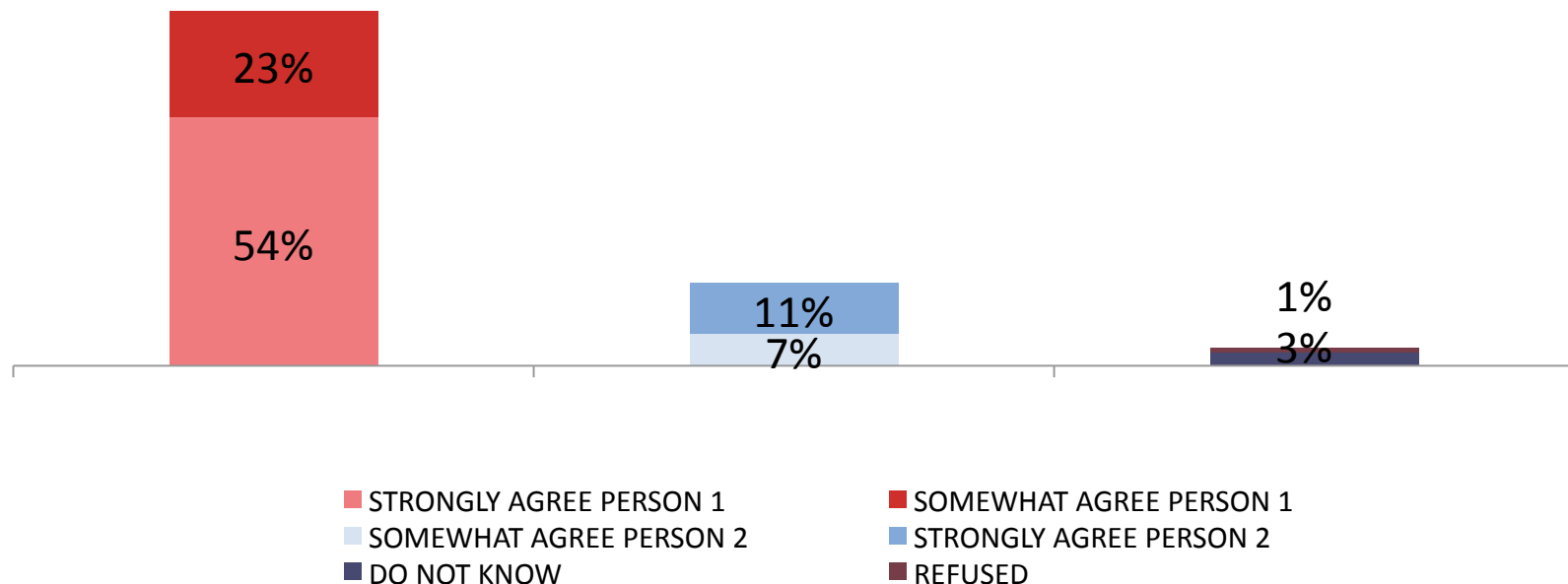


# Mississippi Supreme Court Selection

*I am going to read you the opinions of two people. Please tell me which one comes closest to your view.*

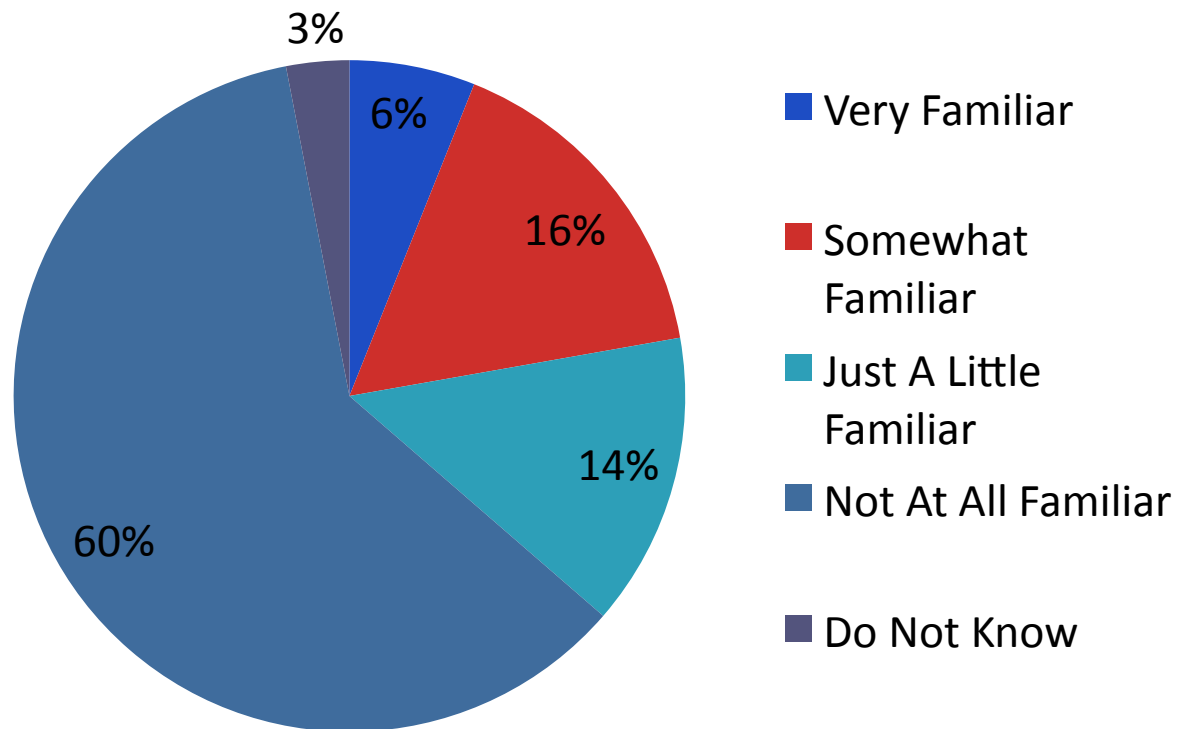
**PERSON 1:** *Judges should interpret and apply the law as it is written and not take into account their own viewpoints and experiences.*

**PERSON 2:** *Judges should go beyond interpreting and applying the law and take into account their own viewpoints and experiences.*



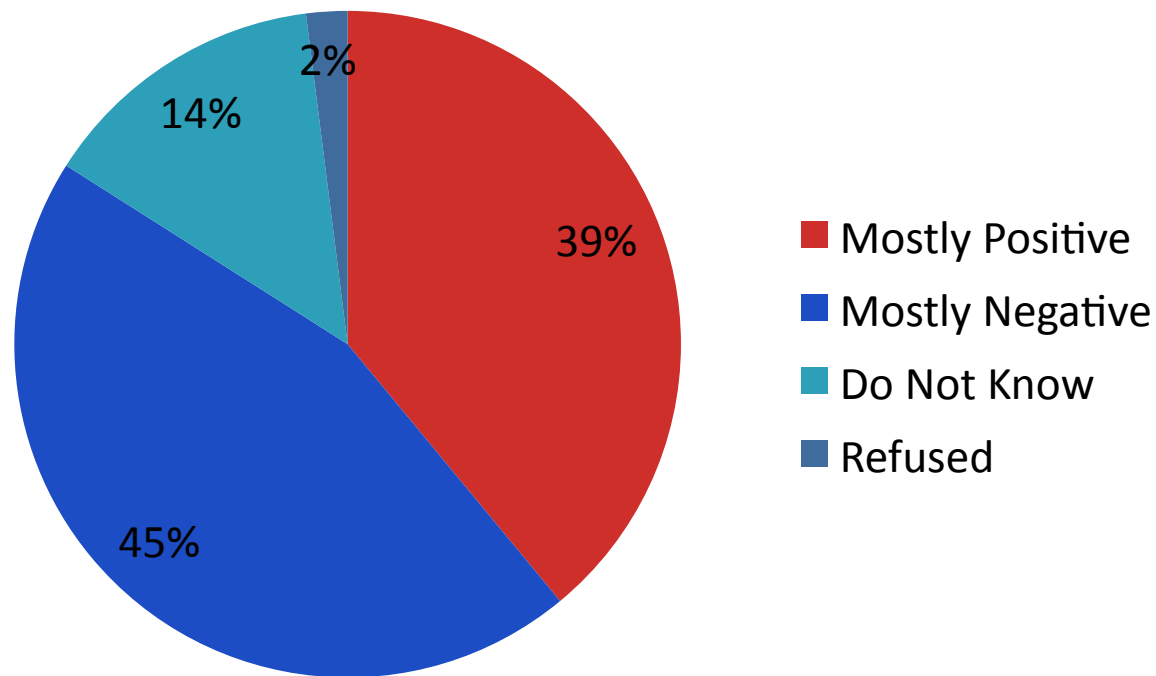
# Awareness of Judicial Activism

*How familiar are you with the concept of “judicial activism”? Would you say you are...*



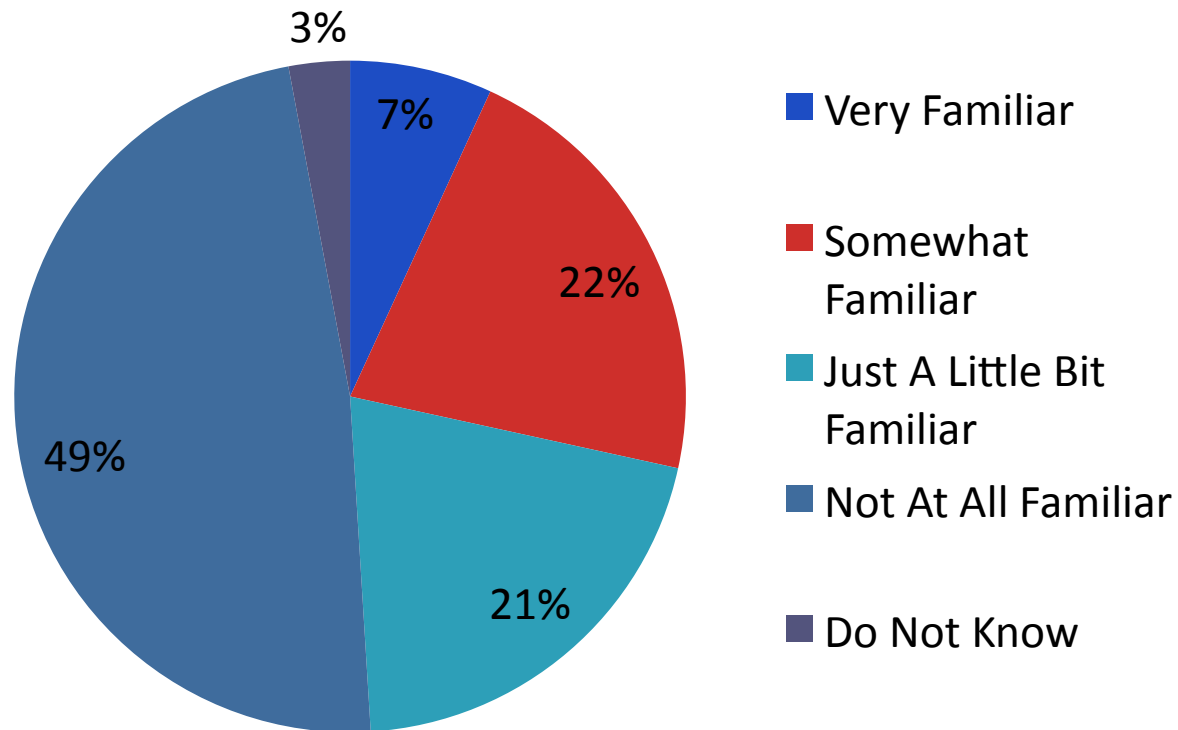
# Attitudes Toward Judicial Activism

*“Judicial activism” is a term used to describe when a judge feels that his or her role is not simply to review the law as it is written, but is instead to allow for new or evolving meaning of the law over time. Do you think judicial activism is a mostly positive or mostly negative thing for the Mississippi State Supreme Court?*



# Awareness of Judicial Restraint

*How familiar are you with the concept of “judicial restraint”? Would you say you are...*

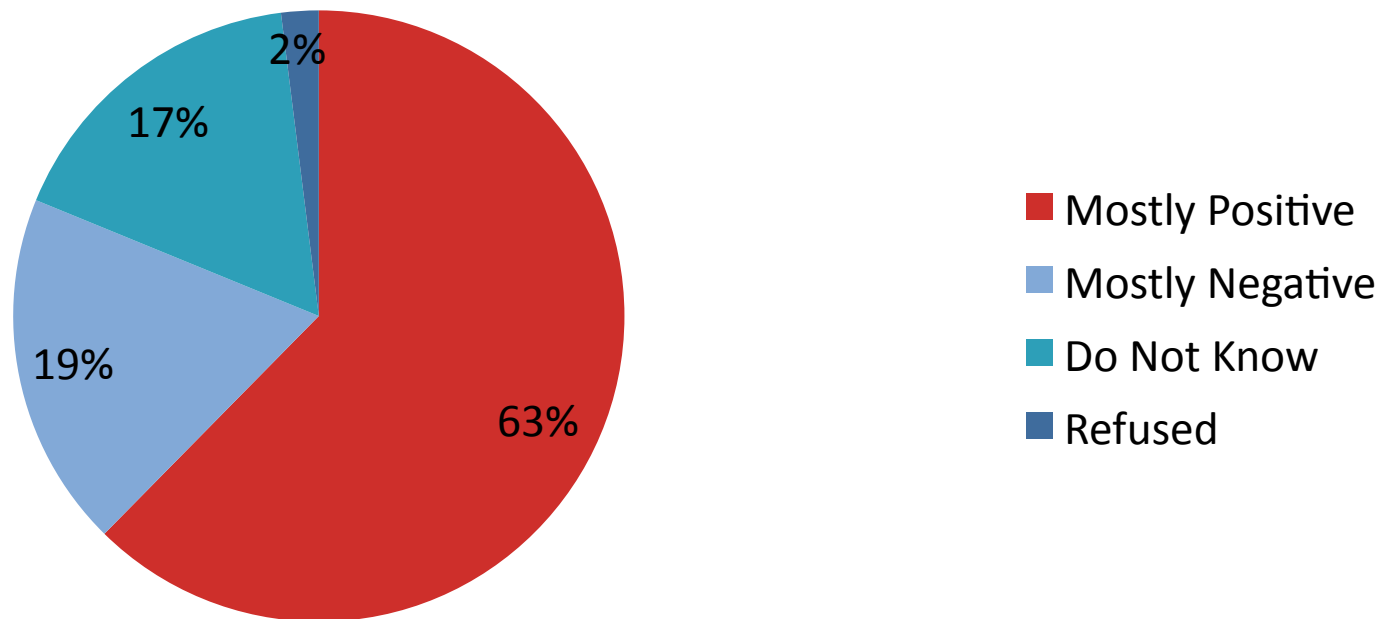




# Attitudes Toward Judicial Restraint

*“Judicial restraint” is a term used to describe when a judge views his or her role solely as an evaluator of whether a law or lower court ruling is in line with the state constitution.*

*Do you think judicial restraint is a mostly positive or mostly negative thing for the Mississippi State Supreme Court?*



# Preferred Jurisprudence for Mississippi Supreme Court

*Based on the definitions I gave you, would you rather the Mississippi Supreme Court practice judicial activism or judicial restraint?*

