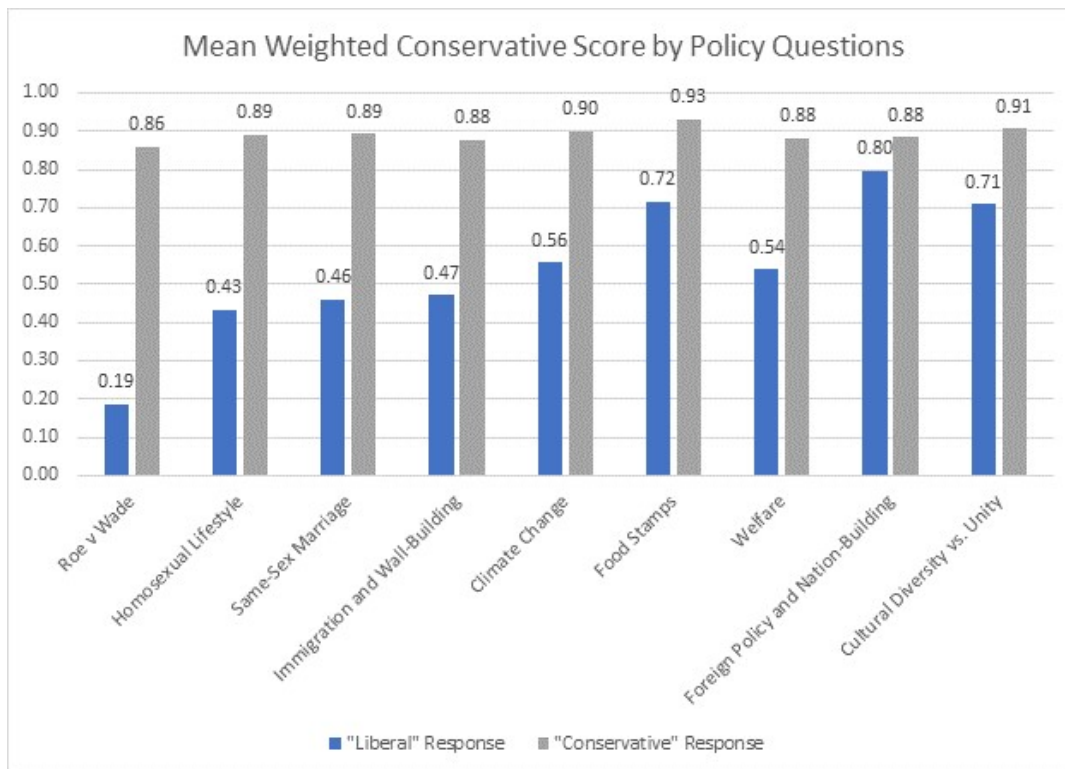


## Conservative Scores Methodology and Summary

A conservative score was calculated using a weighted average of nine policy questions, and the average conservative score was calculated for each policy question with the more “liberal” and more “conservative” responses. The following are the questions used in the order of importance with the more “conservative” responses indicated. For each question a one for the “conservative” response or a zero for the “liberal” response is multiplied by a weight of nine for the first question, eight for the second question, and so on.

1. Roe v Wade (Policy question 26, Conservative response = Abortion should be restricted further or abolished.)
2. Homosexual Lifestyle (Policy question 28, Conservative response = Americans should be disapproving of homosexual lifestyles.)
3. Same-Sex Marriage (Policy question 27, Conservative response = No, I don’t agree with the Court’s decision. Same-sex couples should not have the same rights as opposite-sex couples.)
4. Immigration and Wall-Building (Policy question 25, Conservative response = The United States should have closed borders and have a strict immigration process.)
5. Climate Change (Policy question 29, Conservative response = No, it should not be a serious policy concern.)
6. Food Stamps (Policy question 30, Conservative response = These programs are not necessary and should be scaled back.)
7. Welfare (Policy question 34, Conservative response = The welfare system promotes a lack of self-responsibility and initiative; it should be overhauled from top to bottom.)
8. Foreign Policy and Nation-Building (Policy question 31, Conservative response = America should continue to promote democracy and nation-building globally.)
9. Cultural Diversity vs. Unity (Policy question 32, Conservative response = Cultural diversity is not as important as unity.)

The following figure presents the average conservative score for those people who responded with the more traditionally liberal response and then the more traditionally conservative response respectively for each of the above policy questions. Higher average conservative scores indicate that the people in those groups were more consistently selecting the traditionally conservative responses.

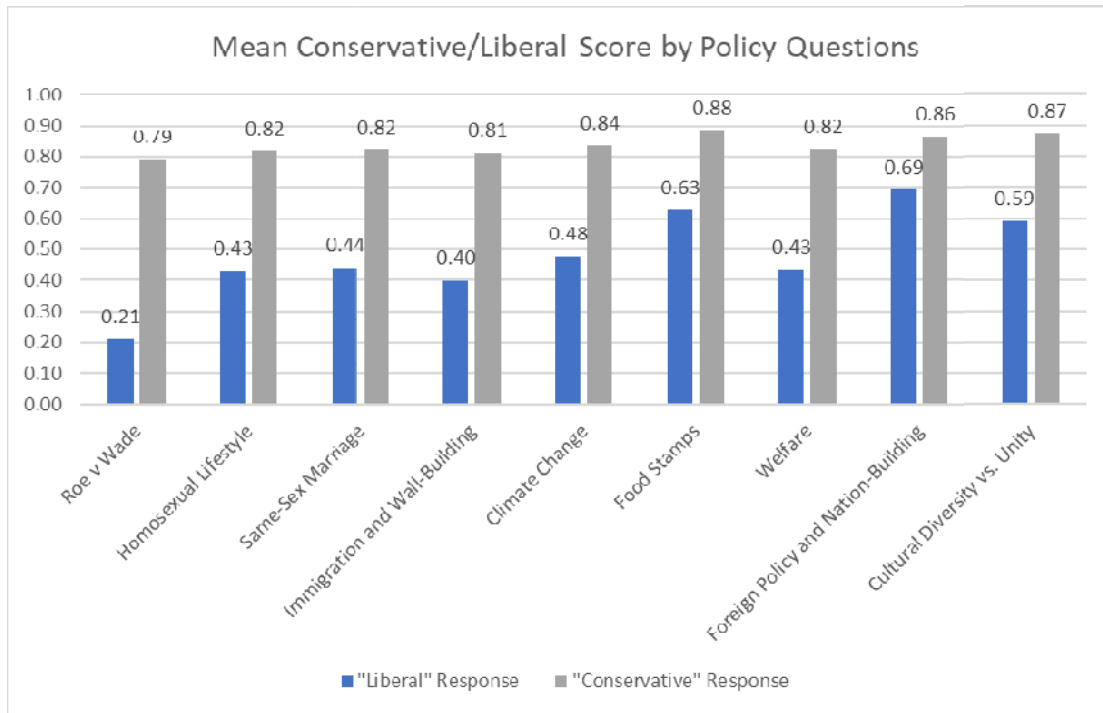


With 99% confidence there is a difference between the average conservative scores of those who answered a policy question “conservatively” and those who answered “liberally.” Statistical results are presented in the following table:

| Policy Question                           | Mean Conservative Score for those who selected the: |                         | Test Statistic (df)  | Significance (p-value) |
|---|---|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|   | "Liberal" Response                                  | "Conservative" Response |                      |                        |
| <b>Roe v Wade</b>                         | 0.19  | 0.86                    | t(41.155) = 178.149  | <0.001                 |
| <b>Homosexual Lifestyle</b>               | 0.43  | 0.89                    | t(584.727) = 42.734  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Same-Sex Marriage</b>                  | 0.46  | 0.89                    | t(659.455) = 42.779  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Immigration and Wall-Building</b>      | 0.47  | 0.88                    | t(498.824) = 31.932  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Climate Change</b>                     | 0.56  | 0.90                    | t(941.393) = 37.983  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Food Stamps</b>                        | 0.72  | 0.93                    | t(2781.181) = 39.157 | < 0.001                |
| <b>Welfare</b>                            | 0.54  | 0.88                    | t(687.582) = 30.672  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Foreign Policy and Nation-Building</b> | 0.80  | 0.88                    | t(4642.362) = 15.45  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Cultural Diversity vs. Unity</b>       | 0.71  | 0.91                    | t(2073.671) = 30.07  | < 0.001                |

There does not appear to be much variation in the scores of those who answered “conservatively,” but there does appear to be a general increasing trend in the scores of those who answered “liberally,” meaning that more people with an overall “conservative” viewpoint selected the “liberal” answer on the later questions more frequently. This indicates that the later questions are less universally viewed as definitively conservative and liberal, and generally conservative people are more likely to select the less conservative position.

A standard average, in which the response for each question was equally weighted, was also computed using the same nine policy questions. The following figure presents the average, equally weighted conservative score for those people who responded with the more traditionally liberal response and then the more traditionally conservative response respectively for each of the above policy questions. Higher average conservative scores indicate that the people in those groups were more consistently selecting the traditionally conservative responses.



With 99% confidence there is a difference between the average conservative scores for the conservative answers to each policy question and the liberal answers to each policy question. (See chart for p-values.)

| Policy Question                           | Mean Conservative Score for those who selected the: |                         | Test Statistic (df) | Significance (p-value) |
|---|---|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
|   | "Liberal" Response                                  | "Conservative" Response |                     |                        |
| <b>Roe v Wade</b>                         | 0.21  | 0.79                    | t(179.452) = 32.82  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Homosexual Lifestyle</b>               | 0.43  | 0.82                    | t(609.039) = 34.36  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Same-Sex Marriage</b>                  | 0.44  | 0.82                    | t(692.488) = 36.28  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Immigration and Wall-Building</b>      | 0.40  | 0.81                    | t(518.154) = 36.08  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Climate Change</b>                     | 0.48  | 0.84                    | t(1001.544) = 43.12 | < 0.001                |
| <b>Food Stamps</b>                        | 0.63  | 0.88                    | t(2982.318) = 47.74 | < 0.001                |
| <b>Welfare</b>                            | 0.43  | 0.82                    | t(722.830) = 40.32  | < 0.001                |
| <b>Foreign Policy and Nation-Building</b> | 0.69  | 0.86                    | t(4637.276) = 29.78 | < 0.001                |
| <b>Cultural Diversity vs. Unity</b>       | 0.59  | 0.87                    | t(2225.425) = 47.37 | < 0.001                |

The averages of these equally weighted conservative follow the same trends as the original conservative scores, indicating that the ordering of the questions simply intensifies the differences between more and less conservative responses without changing the overall patterns.