

OREGON SURVEY ON THE ECONOMY, POLITICAL ISSUES AND PUBLIC POLICY

PI Survey 7 Toplines December 2010 N=400

Survey conducted by Information Alliance, conforms to AAPOR standards of practice

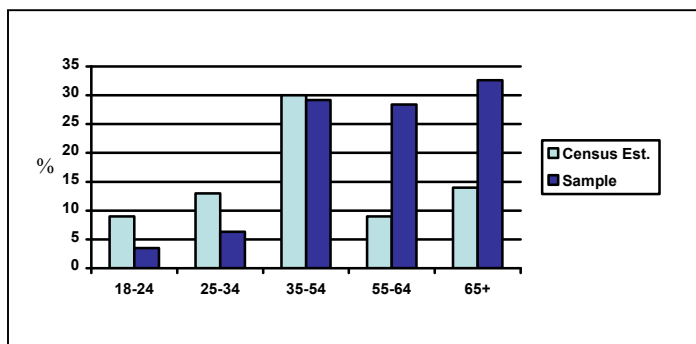
Survey design peer reviewed¹

Questions or comments to: info@policyinteractive.org

Methodology & Project Description: www.policyinteractive.org

[INTRO] Hello, this is _____. I'm calling on behalf of PolicyInteractive, an Oregon-based non-profit non-partisan research organization. We are conducting a survey of views of government decisions at this time. We are not soliciting or selling anything. It's anonymous and voluntary and takes about 10 minutes. With your permission [*please tell me...*]

1. In what year you were born. [dates converted to census sample comparison]



Note: Citizens over 30 are more than twice as likely to vote than citizens under 30. Disparity in sample to census represents typical and growing problem with land-line sampling of under 34 cohorts as "citizen" sample but close to "voter" sample representation.

1B. Gender (by operator judgment, ask if uncertain):

Male	182	45.5%
Female	218	54.5%

2A. All in all, are you dissatisfied or satisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

Very Dissatisfied [then skip to 2C]	206	51.5%
Somewhat Dissatisfied [then skip to 2C]	112	28.0%
Somewhat Satisfied [ask 2B]	46	11.5%
Very Satisfied [ask 2B]	8	2.0%
(DO NOT READ) Mixed [or equivalent]	22	5.5%
(DO NOT READ) DK, NA, refuse	6	1.5%

2A tracks other national research, compare: Satisfied/Dissatisfied/Don't know

PI Oregon Dec.2010 (combined results) 14/80/6

Pew Research Ctr: Dec 2010 21/72/7

Pew Nov 2010 23/69/8

Pew Oct 2010 30/63/7

Gallup Polling Nov 2010 17/81/2

2B. In a few words, what is the single most important thing which contributes to your feeling of satisfaction about the way things are going? [*record open response*][from "satisfied response N=54, 61 topics recorded]

¹ Peer reviewers with extensive sample survey experience included: Steve Johnson of Northwest Survey & Data; Adam Davis of DHM Research; Robert Ribe of University of Oregon

- 25 Confidence in Government
- 10 Jobs programs
- 6 Health care reforms
- 5 Don't know
- 4 Education system
- 3 Good life
- 7 Misc. other

2C. In a few words, what is the single most important thing which contributes to your dissatisfaction with the way things are going? [Record open response] [From "Dissatisfied" response choice N=318, 340 topics recorded]

- mentions category
- 85 Jobs situation
- 77 Politics/Government
- 12 Obama/Congress
- 11 Government intrusion
- 30 Deficit/Waste
- 17 Social security
- 16 Unequal wealth
- 14 The war
- 13 Health care
- 11 It's the Republicans
- 9 It's the Democrats
- 39 Other misc.
- 4 Don't know

Notable other misc: Drift to socialism (8); Illegal immigrants (8); Education declines (7); Environmental degradation (4); Decline in quality of life (2)

2D. Thinking about how things are going in the State of Oregon, how dissatisfied or satisfied are you with the way things are going here?

Very Dissatisfied	147	36.8%
Somewhat Dissatisfied	132	33.0%
Somewhat Satisfied	77	19.3%
Very Satisfied	21	5.3%
(DO NOT READ) Some of both	11	2.8%
(DO NOT READ) Can't decide/DK/NA/Refuse	12	3.0%

Q4 Root: I'll read some statements we sometimes hear people say are important to them. We'd like your own opinion. For each one please tell me if you strongly disagree, moderately disagree, moderately agree, or strongly agree with each statement. [Form A N=200 Q4&5 in order shown; Form B N=200 Q4&5 moves to follow Q14]

4A. Our leaders should do everything they can to stimulate the economy.

Strongly disagree	30	7.5%
Moderately disagree	46	11.5%
Moderately agree	139	34.8%
Strongly Agree	173	43.3%
(DO NOT READ) In-between	9	2.3%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, No Opinion, Refused	3	0.8%

4B. This Economic downturn may be just what we need to reorder our values.

Strongly disagree	79	19.8%
Moderately disagree	81	20.3%
Moderately agree	137	34.3%
Strongly Agree	83	20.8%
(DO NOT READ) In-between	10	2.5%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, No Opinion, Refused	10	2.5%

5A Our country would be better off if we all consumed less.

Strongly disagree	33	8.3%
Moderately disagree	64	16.0%
Moderately agree	96	24.0%
Strongly Agree	184	46.0%
(DO NOT READ) In-between	7	1.8%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, No Opinion, Refused	16	4.0%

5B We need to buy things to support a strong economy.

Strongly disagree	48	12.0%
Moderately disagree	89	22.3%
Moderately agree	157	39.3%
Strongly Agree	76	19.0%
(DO NOT READ) In-between	17	4.3%

6A/B Root: Now I'm going to read a pair of statements that represent different views of the economy. Please tell me which statement comes closest to your view even if it isn't your view exactly:

A The government should stimulate the economy through spending on jobs and infrastructure

-- OR --

B Government should reduce deficit spending

A The government should stimulate the economy through spending on jobs and infrastructure	177	44.3%
B Government should reduce deficit spending (skip to question 6D)	202	50.5%
(DO NOT READ) Both	13	3.3%
(DO NOT READ) Neither	4	1.0%
(DO NOT READ) DK/NA/refused	4	1.0%
Total Responses	400	

Q6B And how important is it to you that our leaders should do everything they can to stimulate the economy? [asked only of 6A respondents who said 'stimulate the economy']

Not too important	3	1.5%
Fairly important	40	20.2%
Very important	150	75.7%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, no answer, refuse	5	2.5%
Total Responses	198	

Q6C If "STIMULATE THE ECONOMY" includes printing money for government stimulus programs such as job creation packages, lowering interest rates and extending unemployment benefits, which do you prefer [*asked only of 6A respondents, results shown % of 198*]:

A. Have the federal government print more money to fund economic stimulation and job creation.

-- OR --

B. Have the federal government focus on a debt reduction and frugality.

A. Have the federal government print more money to fund economic stimulation and job creation.	78	39.3%
B. Have the federal government focus on a debt reduction and frugality.	88	44.4%
(DO NOT READ) Both	7	3.5%
(DO NOT READ) Neither	14	7.0%
(DO NOT READ) DK/NA/refuse	11	5.5%
Total Responses	198	

Q6D How important is it to you that our leaders should reduce deficit spending? [*all respondents*]

Not too important	27	6.8%
Fairly important	109	27.3%
Very important	258	64.5%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, No answer, Refuse	6	1.5%
Total Responses	400	

Q8-Q16 Root: Here are several more pairs of questions, as before, please tell me which comes closest to your view even if neither represents your view exactly. On these, for the choice which comes closest to your view please tell me if you just lean in that direction or if you feel strongly enough about it to take some action like speaking out in public, writing a letter to a newspaper, donating money to an organization or being a key reason for voting for an issue or person. [Q # in sequence shown, individual pair ordering rotates]

Q8 Which of these two statements comes closest to your view?

A Nuclear power is an energy choice which we should develop

-- OR --

B Nuclear power is too dangerous and expensive to develop

A Lean towards Nuclear power is an energy choice which we should develop	123	30.8%
A + Feel Strongly Nuclear power is an energy choice which we should develop	113	28.3%
B Lean towards Nuclear power is too dangerous and expensive to develop	54	13.5%
B + Feel Strongly Nuclear power is too dangerous and expensive to develop	79	19.8%
(DO NOT READ) Neither	7	1.8%
(DO NOT READ) Not that simple, Other reason	8	2.0%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, no answer, refused	16	4.0%
Total Responses	400	

Q9 So, which do you agree with more?

A We can pretty much count on science and technology can solve any problem which we might face.

-- OR --

B Science and technology often create more problems than they solve.

A Lean towards We can pretty much count on science and technology can solve any problem which we might face.	140	35.0%
A + Feel Strongly We can pretty much count on science and technology can solve any problem which we might face.	80	20.0%
B Lean towards Science and technology often create more problems than they solve.	61	15.3%
B + Feel Strongly Science and technology often create more problems than they solve.	48	12.0%

(DO NOT READ) Neither	30	7.5%
(DO NOT READ) Not that simple, Other reason	29	7.3%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, no answer, refused	12	3.0%
Total Responses	400	

Q10 So, which do you agree with more?

A Human activity poses little threat to the environment

-- OR --

B Environmental exploitation threatens the well-being of future generations

A Lean towards Human activity poses little threat to the environment	43	10.8%
A + Feel Strongly Human activity poses little threat to the environment	41	10.3%
B Lean towards Environmental exploitation threatens the well-being of future generations	91	22.8%
B + Feel Strongly Environmental exploitation threatens the well-being of future generations	178	44.5%
(DO NOT READ) Neither	13	3.3%
(DO NOT READ) Not that simple, Other reason	24	6.0%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, no answer, refused	10	2.5%
Total Responses	400	

Q6-1 So, which do you agree with more?

A Economic growth should be given priority, even if the environment suffers to some extent.

-- OR --

B Protection of the environment should be given more priority even at the risk of slowing economic growth.

A Lean towards Economic growth should be given priority, even if the environment suffers to some extent.	84	21.0%
A + Feel Strongly Economic growth should be given priority, even if the environment suffers to some extent.	61	15.3%
B Lean towards Protection of the environment should be given more priority even at the risk of slowing economic growth.	92	23.0%
B + Feel Strongly Protection of the environment should be given more priority even at the risk of slowing economic growth.	120	30.0%
(DO NOT READ) Neither	10	2.5%
(DO NOT READ) Not that simple, Other reason	26	6.5%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, no answer, refused	7	1.8%
Total Responses	400	

Q6 tracks other surveys – here is a comparison:

Protect environment priority/Economic growth priority/equal

PI (Oregon) Dec 2010 53/36/9 (“equal” category includes broader response options than other surveys below)*

Gallup (national) Poll May 2010 50/43/4

CNN (national) Poll March 2010 45/51/4

Q7-1. So, which do you agree with more?

A Climate change requires us to change our way of life such as driving less or living more simply.

-- OR --

B If climate change becomes a problem, we can deal with it later.

A Lean towards Climate change requires us to change our way of life such as driving less or living more simply.	91	22.8%
A + Feel Strongly Climate change requires us to change our way of life such as driving less or living more simply.	185	46.3%
B Lean towards If climate change becomes a problem, we can deal with it later.	24	6.0%
B + Feel Strongly If climate change becomes a problem, we can deal with it later.	45	11.3%
(DO NOT READ) Neither	22	5.5%

(DO NOT READ) Not that simple, Other reason	25	6.3%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, no answer, refused	8	2.0%
Total Responses	400	

Q11 Which of these next two statements do you lean toward or feel strongly about?

A Our political system may not be perfect but works pretty well as-is.

-- OR --

B The political system is broken and really needs to be fixed

A Lean towards Our political system may not be perfect but works pretty well as-is.	102	25.5%
A + Feel Strongly Our political system may not be perfect but works pretty well as-is.	36	9.0%
B Lean towards The political system is broken and really needs to be fixed.	62	15.5%
B + Feel Strongly The political system is broken and really needs to be fixed.	178	44.5%
(DO NOT READ) Neither	7	1.8%
(DO NOT READ) Not that simple, Other reason	13	3.3%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, no answer, refused	2	0.5%
Total Responses	400	

Q12 So, which do you agree with more?

A The Republican and Democratic parties gives us a clear choice of leadership and direction

-- OR --

B The two political parties are too much alike, we need a multi-party system to offer us better choices

A Lean towards The Republican and Democratic parties gives us a clear choice of leadership and direction	72	18.0%
A + Feel Strongly The Republican and Democratic parties gives us a clear choice of leadership and direction	65	16.3%
B Lean towards The two political parties are too much alike, we need a multi-party system to offer us better choices.	96	24.0%
B + Feel Strongly The two political parties are too much alike, we need a multi-party system to offer us better choices.	106	26.5%
(DO NOT READ) Neither	25	6.3%
(DO NOT READ) Not that simple, Other reason	24	6.0%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, no answer, refused	12	3.0%
Total Responses	400	

Q13 Thinking about voter dissatisfaction with the system, which do you agree with more?

A Voters have only themselves to blame for our politician's shortcomings

-- OR --

B Elected officials are to blame for saying one thing and delivering something else.

A Lean towards Voters have only themselves to blame for our politician's shortcomings	49	12.3%
A + Feel Strongly Voters have only themselves to blame for our politician's shortcomings	60	15.0%
B Lean towards Elected officials are to blame for saying one thing and delivering something else.	80	20.0%
B + Feel Strongly Elected officials are to blame for saying one thing and delivering something else.	169	42.3%
(DO NOT READ) Neither	9	2.3%
(DO NOT READ) Not that simple, Other reason	29	7.3%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, no answer, refused	4	1.0%
Total Responses	400	

Q14 Thinking about political campaign spending, which of these two statements do you agree with more?

A A Constitutional amendment should be passed to strictly limit spending by individuals and corporations.

-- OR --

B Campaign spending is freedom of speech and should be protected by the Constitution.

A Lean towards A Constitutional amendment should be passed to...	79	19.8%
A + Feel Strongly A Constitutional amendment should be passed to...	177	44.3%

B Lean towards Campaign spending is freedom of speech and should...	53	13.3%
B + Feel Strongly Campaign spending is freedom of speech and should...	57	14.3%
(DO NOT READ) Neither	10	2.5%
(DO NOT READ) Not that simple, Other reason	16	4.0%
(DO NOT READ) Don't know, no answer, refused	8	2.0%
Total Responses	400	

Q15 Thinking about the recent election we just had, would you say that you're...

very dissatisfied with the outcome	83	20.8%
kind of dissatisfied	67	16.8%
kind of satisfied	113	28.3%
very satisfied	52	13.0%
doesn't make much difference to you	12	3.0%
doubt things will change one way or the other	68	17.0%
(DO NOT READ) NA/DK/Refused	5	1.3%
Total Responses	400	

Q16 All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days? If "1" means you are completely dissatisfied and "10" means you are completely satisfied, where would you put your satisfaction of life?

01 Completely Dissatisfied	10	2.5%
02	4	1.0%
03	11	2.8%
04	15	3.8%
05	37	9.3%
06	37	9.3%
07	78	19.5%
08	113	28.3%
09	48	12.0%
10 Completely Satisfied	43	10.8%
(DO NOT READ) Refuse, DK, NA	4	1.0%
Total Responses	400	

Q3 What impact has the current economic downturn had on you personally...

no impact at all	33	8.3%
small impact	108	27.0%
moderate impact	143	35.8%
very large impact	113	28.3%
(DO NOT READ) DK/NA/Refuse	3	0.8%
Total Responses	400	

Q17 Did you vote in this most recent election?

Yes	345	86.3%
No	54	13.5%
(DO NOT READ) Other, no answer, refused	1	0.3%
Total Responses	400	

Q18 Regarding the political parties, are you registered as a...

Republican	126	31.5%
Democrat	142	35.5%
Independent or unaffiliated with a party	60	15.0%
Other response	6	1.5%
(DO NOT READ) Refused, DK, NA	12	3.0%
Total Responses	346	

Q19 In this next question about the importance of God in your life, I want to assure you that we are not proselytizing or soliciting, and this survey is non-denominational. Can you tell me how important God is in your life?

very important	245	61.3%
somewhat important	73	18.3%
not very important	25	6.3%
not important at all	52	13.0%
(DO NOT READ) Other, DK, no answer, refused	5	1.3%
Total Responses	400	

Q20 What faith or denomination do you most identify with? [also record open responses]

Christian [PROMPT: What denomination?]	66	16.5%
Protestant	34	8.5%
Evangelical	9	2.3%
Catholic	40	10.0%
Baptist	26	6.5%
Methodist	15	3.8%
Seventh Day Adventist	2	0.5%
Pentecostal	5	1.3%
Jewish	1	0.3%
Latter-Day Saints (LDS)	5	1.3%
Or some other faith (record if offered)	94	23.5%
(DO NOT READ) Nature [include "great outdoors, "the forest" etc.]	3	0.8%
(DO NOT READ) Refused/Declined	23	5.8%
Total Responses	323	

Q20 Record other faith or denomination here: (*Response rate 23.5%, file on request*)

Q21 We hear people use the terms liberal and conservative a lot these days. Where would you put yourself on this list: very liberal, somewhat liberal, in the middle, somewhat conservative or very conservative?

very liberal	50	12.5%
somewhat liberal	76	19.0%
in the middle	93	23.3%
somewhat conservative	80	20.0%
very conservative	75	18.8%
(DO NOT READ) meaningless terms	14	3.5%
(DO NOT READ) dk/na/refuse	12	3.0%
Total Responses	400	

Q22 Thinking of all sources, was your household income in 2009...

below \$40,000	169	42.3%
\$40,000 - 80,000	120	30.0%
Above \$80,000	85	21.3%
(DO NOT READ) DK/REFUSE/NA	26	6.5%
Total Responses	400	

Q24 Zip code [Converted to County Distribution] [color code to 3 regions, full county distribution on request]

Code by Region	Actual %	PI 7 Sample %
Oregon non-Willamette Val.	32.4	37.6
Willamette Valley	25.1	24.4
Portland Metro	42.5	38

Q25 One last thing: a researcher with this project may want to ask some follow-up questions. Keeping in mind that this research is confidential and non-commercial, may we have your permission to contact you sometime in the future?

Yes	337	84.3%
No, refuse, no answer	63	15.8%
Total Responses	400	

Q26 Thank you for your interest. Would you prefer we contact you by phone or E-mail?

Phone	270	67.5%
E-mail	67	16.8%
Total Responses	337	Total Acceptance 84.3%

Q29 Thank you, we appreciate your interest. Is there anything you'd briefly like to add about this survey, in a few words? The researchers read closing comments carefully. (from 142 respondents)

PI 7 Closing Comments (from 142 R)

Governmental Comments	N
Dislike Obama/Liberalism	4
Jobs	3
Protectionism	2
Need better leadership	12
Too much spending	6
Bad direction	12
Worried Social Security	4
Partisanship	10
Distrust of politicians 2	2
Other single government comments	5

Social Comments	N
Hopeful signs	2
Need more respect for people & planet	2
Special interests: too much power	3
Illegal immigration	2
Greed/Distribution of wealth	2
Global warming/Environ. concern	3
Other single social comments	5

Polling Comments	N
Issues not that simple, too black & white	16
Subset: need middle ground	5
Interesting, good questions	18
Difficult questions to answer	7
Thanks, appreciate chance to express myself	10
Waste of time	3
Questions too vague	2

Questions too concrete, specific	2
Too biased (bias claim equal spread between R & D; cons & lib)	4
Too complex, too wordy	2
Missed other issues: immigration mentioned (2)	3