Presentation of the 20th Idaho Public Policy Survey - Statewide Results

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Public Policy Center
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• The Public Policy Center has conducted a statewide, survey of Idaho citizens for 20 years. This survey is meant to identify opinions about a variety of public policy concerns. The study is provided to the public – including officials and interested citizens - to facilitate policy discussion and education.

• Adults in 525 Idaho households representing three geographic regions were surveyed between November 18th, 2010 and January 8th, 2011. This is a random sample survey (RDD) to landline telephones and cell phones. Telephone calls, interviews, data collection and data preparation were contracted to Clearwater Research. Analysis and reporting are conducted by Boise State University.

• The survey standard error is +/- 5% at a 95% confidence-level for the total population.

www.clearwater-research.com
Regions covered in the survey

I. Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Benewah, Shoshone, Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis, Idaho

II. Adams, Valley, Washington, Payette, Gem, Boise, Canyon, Ada, Elmore, Owyhee, Camas, Blaine, Gooding, Lincoln, Minidoka, Jerome, Twin Falls, Cassia

III. Bingham, Power, Bannock, Oneida, Franklin, Bear Lake, Caribou, Lemhi, Custer, Butte, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Teton, Bonneville
Do you think the State is headed in the right direction?

Yes, 49%

No, 35%

Don't know/Not sure, 16%
Five year trend – Is the state headed in the right direction?

Yes: 70%, 64%, 60%, 66%, 49%
No: 15%, 26%, 30%, 21%, 35%
Don't Know/Not Sure: 15%, 10%, 9%, 13%, 16%
Most important issue facing Idaho today?

- Jobs: 33%
- Education: 24%
- Economy: 17%
- Environment: 3%
- Growth: 2%
- Wages: 1%
- Other: 0%
- Health Care: 10%
- Politics/Governance: 4%
- Social Issues: 2%
- Don't know/Not sure: 4%
Five year trend—Most important issue facing Idaho today?

- **Education**
  - 2004: 21%
  - 2005: 25%
  - 2006: 20%
  - 2007: 24%
  - 2010: 27%

- **Jobs/Economy/Wages**
  - 2004: 33%
  - 2005: 17%
  - 2006: 22%
  - 2007: 22%
  - 2010: 51%

- **Growth**
  - 2004: 7%
  - 2005: 11%
  - 2006: 21%
  - 2007: 14%
  - 2010: 2%
My household has been personally impacted by cuts in State programs and services
Budget cuts have affected the quality of children’s education

- Strongly agree: 56%
- Somewhat agree: 19%
- Neither agree or disagree: 4%
- Somewhat disagree: 8%
- Strongly disagree: 9%
- Don’t know/Not sure: 4%
The State is investing enough in higher education in Idaho
Idaho should raise sales tax to support the K-12 public school budget

- Strongly agree: 30%
- Somewhat agree: 23%
- Neither agree or disagree: 4%
- Somewhat disagree: 13%
- Strongly disagree: 29%
- Don't know/Not sure: 1%
Idaho should raise the sales tax by $0.01 to help close the budget gap
The State is doing enough to encourage economic development in your area of the State

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat agree</td>
<td>28%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neither agree or disagree</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<td>Somewhat disagree</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know/Not sure</td>
<td>4%</td>
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Immigration is a problem in Idaho

- Strongly agree: 47%
- Somewhat agree: 20%
- Neither agree or disagree: 7%
- Somewhat disagree: 12%
- Strongly disagree: 11%
- Don't know/Not sure: 3%
Counties should deny indigent health services to undocumented workers

- Strongly agree: 43%
- Somewhat agree: 19%
- Neither agree or disagree: 4%
- Somewhat disagree: 15%
- Strongly disagree: 16%
- Don’t know/Not sure: 2%
Idaho should pass a law concerning illegal immigrants similar to the law Arizona recently passed

- Strongly agree: 46%
- Somewhat agree: 12%
- Neither agree or disagree: 4%
- Somewhat disagree: 5%
- Strongly disagree: 21%
- Not familiar with Arizona law: 11%
- Don't know/Not sure: 1%
A law similar to Arizona’s new immigration law will reduce illegal immigration

- Strongly agree: 30%
- Somewhat agree: 26%
- Neither agree or disagree: 5%
- Somewhat disagree: 10%
- Strongly disagree: 16%
- Don’t know/Not sure: 4%
A program should be created that would allow illegal immigrants to stay in this country permanently
Idaho should be able to opt out of the 2010 health care bill

- Strongly agree: 46%
- Somewhat agree: 12%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 5%
- Somewhat disagree: 7%
- Strongly disagree: 22%
- Don't know/Not sure: 7%
Public funds should be used to help provide health insurance to people who cannot afford it
Questions and Answers

• You will find additional slides with information included in the handout.
• A convenient on-line presentation for your use can be found on the web at:
  http://sspa.boisestate.edu/publicpolicycenter/
Have you/someone in your household lost a job in the last year?

- Yes: 26%
- No: 74%
- Don't know/Not sure: 0.2%
Did you change a health care plan or reduce benefits in the past year in order to lower your own spending?

- Yes: 26%
- No: 72%
- Don’t know/Not sure: 2%
Have you/someone in your household deferred retirement due to the economy?

- Yes: 16%
- No: 83%
- Don't know/Not sure: 1%
Have you/someone in your household delayed making a major purchase?

- Yes: 65%
- No: 34%
- Don't know/Not sure: 1%
Is everyone in your household currently covered by health insurance?

- Yes: 77%
- No: 23%
- Don't know/Not sure: 0.2%
Did anyone in your household lose their health insurance this last year?

- Yes: 13%
- No: 86%
- Don't know/Not sure: 1%
Sales and use tax exemptions should be entirely eliminated in Idaho

- **Strongly agree**: 13%
- **Somewhat agree**: 19%
- **Neither agree or disagree**: 12%
- **Somewhat disagree**: 23%
- **Strongly disagree**: 21%
- **Don't know/Not sure**: 11%
The State should collect sales tax on goods purchased via the internet

- Strongly agree: 19%
- Somewhat agree: 20%
- Neither agree or disagree: 7%
- Somewhat disagree: 19%
- Strongly disagree: 31%
- Don't know/Not sure: 3%
The sales tax exemption should be eliminated from services

- Strongly agree: 20%
- Somewhat agree: 21%
- Neither agree or disagree: 11%
- Somewhat disagree: 22%
- Strongly disagree: 19%
- Don't know/Not sure: 7%
Political Orientation

- Very conservative: 16.2%
- Somewhat conservative: 29.7%
- Middle-of-the-road: 31.0%
- Somewhat liberal: 13.5%
- Very liberal: 6.1%
- Don’t know/not sure: 1.5%
Political Affiliation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Political Affiliation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Democrat</td>
<td>21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>37%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other/Multiple</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>None/No Affiliation</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know/Not sure</td>
<td>2%</td>
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Political Affiliation- 10 Year trend

1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2010

- Democrat
- Republican
- Independent

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