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

Boise State University
College of Social Sciences & Public Affairs
Public Policy Center
Boise State University  Public Policy Center
20th Public Policy Survey

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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
20th Annual Idaho Public Policy Survey

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?
Most important issue facing Idaho today?

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

- Education: 21%, 25%, 27%, 24%, 20%
- Jobs/Economy/Wages: 22%, 17%, 22%, 33%, 51%
- Growth: 7%, 11%, 14%, 21%, 2%

2004 2005 2006 2007 2010
My household has been personally impacted by cuts in State programs and services

- Strongly agree: 30%
- Somewhat agree: 26%
- Neither agree or disagree: 12%
- Somewhat disagree: 20%
- Strongly disagree: 10%
- Don't know/Not sure: 2%

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20th Public Policy Survey
Budget cuts have affected the quality of children’s education

- Strongly agree: 56%
- Somewhat agree: 19%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 4%
- Somewhat disagree: 8%
- Strongly disagree: 9%
- Don’t know/Not sure: 4%
The State is investing enough in higher education in Idaho

- Strongly agree: 14%
- Somewhat agree: 18%
- Neither agree or disagree: 5%
- Somewhat disagree: 20%
- Strongly disagree: 39%
- Don't know/Not sure: 4%
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

- Strongly agree: 16%
- Somewhat agree: 23%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 4%
- Somewhat disagree: 15%
- Strongly disagree: 41%
- Don't know/Not sure: 1%
The State is doing enough to encourage economic development in your area of the State

- Strongly agree: 8%
- Somewhat agree: 28%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 11%
- Somewhat disagree: 24%
- Strongly disagree: 26%
- Don't know/Not sure: 4%
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

30% Strongly agree
26% Somewhat agree
5% Neither agree or disagree
10% Somewhat disagree
16% Strongly disagree
4% Don't know/Not sure
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 or 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

- Strongly agree: 31%
- Somewhat agree: 32%
- Neither agree or disagree: 6%
- Somewhat disagree: 13%
- Strongly disagree: 14%
- Don't know/Not sure: 3%
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
The State should collect sales tax on goods purchased via the internet
The sales tax exemption should be eliminated from services
Political Orientation

- Very conservative: 16%
- Somewhat conservative: 30%
- Middle-of-the-road: 31%
- Somewhat liberal: 14%
- Very liberal: 6%
- Don't know/not sure: 2%
Political Affiliation

- Democrat: 21%
- Republican: 33%
- Independent: 37%
- Other/Multiple: 1%
- None/No Affiliation: 2%
- Don't know/Not sure: 2%
Political Affiliation - 10 Year trend

- Democrat
- Republican
- Independent

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Which level of government do you most trust?

- Local: 42%
- State: 25%
- Federal: 16%
- None: 14%
- Don't know/Not sure: 3%
Which level of government best responds to your needs?

- Local: 43%
- State: 27%
- Federal: 15%
- None: 10%
- Don't know/Not sure: 5%
From which level of government do you think you get the most from your tax money?

- Federal: 24%
- State: 32%
- Local: 31%
- None: 7%
- Don't know/Not sure: 6%
Land use planning in your area

- Strongly satisfied: 7%
- Somewhat satisfied: 34%
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied: 15%
- Somewhat dissatisfied: 21%
- Strongly dissatisfied: 16%
- Don't know/Not sure: 6%
Level of environmental protection in your area

- Strongly satisfied: 25%
- Somewhat satisfied: 42%
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied: 6%
- Somewhat dissatisfied: 13%
- Strongly dissatisfied: 12%
- Don't know/Not sure: 1%
Have you or someone in your household filed for bankruptcy in the last year?

- Yes: 5%
- No: 95%
Have you or someone in your household experienced foreclosure in the last year?

- Yes: 5%
- No: 95%
County commissioners should make location siting decisions for CAFOs

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<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<td>Don't know/Not sure</td>
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Public Policy Center 20th Public Policy Survey
County commissioners should make location siting decisions for power generation plants

- Strongly agree: 26%
- Somewhat agree: 29%
- Neither agree or disagree: 10%
- Somewhat disagree: 13%
- Strongly disagree: 16%
- Don't know/Not sure: 5%
County commissioners should make location siting decisions for electricity transmission lines/underground fuel pipelines

- Strongly agree: 32%
- Somewhat agree: 23%
- Neither agree or disagree: 11%
- Somewhat disagree: 13%
- Strongly disagree: 16%
- Don't know/Not sure: 5%

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Businesses who knowingly hire undocumented workers should be penalized

- Strongly agree: 63%
- Somewhat agree: 17%
- Neither agree or disagree: 5%
- Somewhat disagree: 8%
- Strongly disagree: 6%
- Don't know/Not sure: 1%
Idaho should allow the sale and manufacture of marijuana for medical purposes

Strongly agree: 22%
Somewhat agree: 20%
Neither agree or disagree: 7%
Somewhat disagree: 8%
Strongly disagree: 42%
Don't know/Not sure: 2%
Do you support changing Idaho law to allow terminally and seriously ill patients to use and purchase marijuana for medical purposes?

- Yes: 74%
- No: 23%
- Don't know/Not sure: 3%
Idaho should raise the sales tax to support the higher education budget

- Strongly agree: 18%
- Somewhat agree: 21%
- Neither agree or disagree: 4%
- Somewhat disagree: 20%
- Strongly disagree: 36%
- Don't know/Not sure: 2%
Public funds should be used to provide health insurance for children of families who cannot afford insurance

- Strongly agree: 48%
- Somewhat agree: 31%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 5%
- Somewhat disagree: 9%
- Strongly disagree: 6%
- Don't know/Not sure: 2%
When it comes to health care coverage in the future, which are you most concerned about?

- Quality of service: 36%
- Cost of service: 40%
- Choice of doctors: 17%
- Don't know/Not sure: 1%
- All of the above: 5%
- Other: 1%

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Undocumented immigrants have negatively affected the overall quality of children’s education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreement Level</th>
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Idaho should fund pre-K education

- 24% Strongly agree
- 20% Somewhat agree
- 9% Neither agree nor disagree
- 23% Somewhat disagree
- 23% Strongly disagree
- 1% Don't know/Not sure
What is the highest level of school or college that you have completed?

- Less than high school: 5%
- High school graduate or GED: 24%
- Some college but less than 4 years: 14%
- Trade or vocational certificate: 20%
- 4-year college graduate: 3%
- Some graduate school: 20%
- Master's degree: 8%
- Doctorate or professional degree (PhD, MD, etc.): 2%
- Something else: 1%
What is your age?
Do you own your home, rent, or live in some other type of housing?

- **Own**: 75%
- **Rent**: 20%
- **Living with Parents or Relatives**: 1%
- **Other**: 4%
Do you have K-12 school-age children?

No 69%

Yes 31%
Gender

Female 53%
Male 47%
Racial/Ethnic Group

- White: 88%
- Hispanic or Latino: 4%
- Black or African American: 0.2%
- Asian: 0.4%
- American Indian or Alaskan Native: 2%
- Other: 0.4%
- Mixed/More than one: 2%
- Don’t know/Not sure: 0.4%