

****

IDAHO STATEWIDE SURVEY

SCHEDULED JANUARY 10-14, 2016

N = 1,000 Idaho Adults

Margin of Error: +/- 2.3%



**INTRODUCTION (3 QUESTIONS)**

Good evening. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling from RTB Research, a national public opinion firm. This evening we're conducting a survey on issues in Idaho and we'd like to get your opinions. All answers are confidential and no one will try to sell you anything.

First, to make sure we get a representative sample, can you please tell me your current age? [**RECORD EXACT AGE]**

1. Under 18 **(TERM)** 2. 18-24 3. 25-29 4. 30-34

5. 35-39 6. 40-44 7. 45-49 8. 50-54

9. 55-59 10. 60-64 11. 65-69 12. 70-74

13. 75-79 14. 80+ 15. DK/Refused **(TERM)**

And before we begin, please tell me, do you currently live in Idaho – yes or no?

1. Yes **(CONT)**  2. No **(TERM)**  3. DK/REF **(TERM)**

Not everyone votes in every election, but in general, when there is an election for President of the United States, do you always vote, almost always vote, vote most of the time, vote some of the time, hardly ever vote or never vote?

1. Always 2. Almost always 3. Most of time

4. Sometimes 5. Hardly ever 6. Never

**STATE OF IDAHO OVERVIEW (11 QUESTIONS)**

Why do you live in Idaho?

What is the most important issue facing Idaho today?

Do you think things in Idaho are generally headed in the right direction, or do you feel that things are off on the wrong track?

1. Right Direction

2. Wrong Track

3. DK/Refused

Which of the following do you think should be the top priority of the Idaho State Legislature? **READ/ROTATE:**

1. Education

2. Jobs and unemployment

3. The economy

4. Transportation

5. Healthcare

6. The environment

7. Social issues, like abortion and gay marriage

8. Immigration

9. Natural resources like farming, mining and energy

10. DK/Refused

And from the same list, which should be the second highest priority of the Idaho State Legislature?

1. Education

2. Jobs and unemployment

3. The economy

4. Transportation

5. Healthcare

6. The environment

7. Social issues, like abortion and gay marriage

8. Immigration

9. Natural resources like farming, mining and energy

10. DK/Refused

On a scale of 1-10, with 1 being not at all important and 10 being extremely important, how important would you say it is for the Idaho State Legislature to address each of the following issues? If you have no opinion, just say so. **[READ/ROTATE]**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | No Opinion | DK/  Refused |
|  | Jobs and the economy | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 |
|  | Education | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 |
|  | Transportation | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 |
|  | Healthcare | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 |
|  | The environment | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 |
|  | Immigration | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**BUDGET/SPENDING/TAX (5 QUESTIONS)**

Now, moving on to another issue, do you think the Idaho state budget should be increased, should be decreased, or should stay about the same?

1. Increased
2. Decreased
3. Stay about the same
4. DK/Refused

In general, would you say that taxes in Idaho are too high, too low or about right?

1. Too high
2. About right
3. Too low
4. DK/Refused

Which of the following statements comes closest to your own opinion? **READ/ROTATE:**

1. I’d rather pay higher taxes and have a state government that provides more services

OR

1. I’d rather pay lower taxes and have a state government that provides fewer services
2. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

Currently, all transportation projects like fixing potholes, roadway improvements and new highway construction in Idaho are paid for with money raised by the gas tax. Would you favor or oppose increasing the gas tax in Idaho by 6 cents per gallon in order to pay for these transportation projects? **PROBE IF FAVOR OR OPPOSE: Is that strongly or somewhat?**

1. Strongly favor
2. Somewhat favor
3. Somewhat oppose
4. Strongly oppose
5. DK/Refused

If the Idaho State Legislature does not raise the gas tax, would you favor or oppose using general budget funds to pay for these transportation projects? **PROBE IF FAVOR OR OPPOSE: Is that strongly or somewhat?**

1. Strongly favor
2. Somewhat favor
3. Somewhat oppose
4. Strongly oppose
5. DK/Refused

**ECONOMY (6 QUESTIONS)**

**SPLIT SAMPLE A**

On a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not at all important and 10 being extremely important, how important would you say it is for the Idaho State Legislature to address the difference in incomes between rich people and poor people? If you have no opinion, just say so.

1. 1 2.2 3.3 4.4 5.5 6.6 7.7 8.8 9.9 10.10 11. No Opinion

12. DK/Refused

**SPLIT SAMPLE B**

XX. Currently, states like Texas and Utah are taking action to address the difference in incomes between rich people and poor people. On a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not at all important and 10 being extremely important, how important would you say it is for the Idaho State Legislature to address the difference in incomes between rich people and poor people? If you have no opinion, just say so.

1. 1 2.2 3.3 4.4 5.5 6.6 7.7 8.8 9.9 10.10 11. No Opinion

12. DK/Refused

**SPLIT SAMPLE C**

XX. Currently, states like California and Massachusetts are taking action to address the difference in incomes between rich people and poor people. On a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not at all important and 10 being extremely important, how important would you say it is for the Idaho State Legislature to address the difference in incomes between rich people and poor people? If you have no opinion, just say so.

1. 1 2.2 3.3 4.4 5.5 6.6 7.7 8.8 9.9 10.10 11. No Opinion

12. DK/Refused

**SPLIT SAMPLE D**

XX. Currently, states like Texas and California are taking action to address the difference in incomes between rich people and poor people. On a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not at all important and 10 being extremely important, how important would you say it is for the Idaho State Legislature to address the difference in incomes between rich people and poor people? If you have no opinion, just say so.

1. 1 2.2 3.3 4.4 5.5 6.6 7.7 8.8 9.9 10.10 11. No Opinion

12. DK/Refused

Over the next 2 years do you think Idaho’s economy is going to get better, get worse or stay about the same?

1. Better 2. Worse 3. Stay the same 4. DK/Refused

Which of the following statements comes closest to your own opinion? **READ/ROTATE:**

1. The Idaho economy of the future should focus on growing new industries like technology and computer sciences, encouraging innovation and an entrepreneurial culture;

OR

1. The Idaho economy of the future should focus on its historical strengths in natural resources, like agriculture, timber and mining.
2. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

Which of the following statements comes closest to your own opinion? **READ/ROTATE**:

1. The government should let each person get ahead on their own merits without interference

OR

1. The government should help people get a job and achieve a good standard of living
2. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

Would you say that current distribution of income and money in America is fair or unfair? **PROBE IF FAIR OR UNFAIR: Is that very or somewhat?**

1. Very fair

2. Somewhat fair

3. Somewhat unfair

4. Very unfair

5. DK/Refused

Which of the following statements comes closest to your own opinion? **READ/ROTATE:**

1. The government should increase taxes on the wealthiest individuals and corporations in order to expand programs for the poor

OR

1. The government should lower taxes on the wealthiest individuals and corporations in order to encourage investment and economic growth to create jobs
2. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

**EDUCATION (5 QUESTIONS)**

Now, moving on to another issue, do you think that quality of K-12 public education in Idaho is excellent, good, fair or poor?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Fair
4. Poor
5. DK/Refused

Compared to other states, how would you rate the overall quality of Idaho’s K-12 public education system? Would you say it is: **READ**

1. Far above average compared to other states
2. Somewhat above average
3. About average compared to other states
4. Somewhat below average
5. Far below average compared to other states
6. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

When it comes to preparing students for college, do you think Idaho is doing an excellent, good, fair or poor job?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Fair
4. Poor
5. DK/Refused

Which of the following comes closest to your opinion? **READ/ROTATE:**

1. Idaho’s K-12 public education system needs more money in order to educate our children well

OR

1. Idaho’s K-12 public education system has enough money, but instead needs to undergo major reforms to educate our children well

3. DK/Refused

Which of the following do you think is most important for the state to spend education dollars on? **READ/ROTATE**

1. Providing more state money for schools to increase per pupil funding
2. Providing more state money for teacher salaries
3. Investing more state dollars in technology
4. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

**ENVIRONMENT (7 QUESTIONS)**

Moving on, on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being not at all concerned and 10 being highly concerned, please tell me how concerned you are about protecting the environment in Idaho?

1. 1 2.2 3.3 4.4 5.5 6.6 7.7 8.8 9.9 10.10 11. DK/Refused

Which of the following should be the priority in Idaho? **READ/ROTATE:**

1. Environmental protection

OR

1. Job creation and economic growth
2. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

Which of the following best describes your views about global climate change. Do you believe it is happening, or do you not believe it is happening?

1. It is happening
2. It is not happening
3. DK/Refused

Regardless of whether or not you believe global climate change is happening, is it more likely to be caused by mostly natural changes in the atmosphere, mostly because of human activity, or equally because of human activity and natural changes?

1. Mostly because of natural changes in the atmosphere
2. Mostly because of human activity
3. Equally because of human activity and natural changes
4. DK/Refused

When it comes to global climate change, would you say that you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not at all concerned?

1. Very concerned
2. Somewhat concerned
3. Not at all concerned
4. DK/Refused

Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Too often public policy debates in Idaho are all or nothing conversations with one side saying we have to protect the environment and the other saying we have to grow the economy.  The truth is, this is a false choice. Idaho can have economic development while still protecting the environment.

1. Agree
2. Disagree
3. DK/Refused

**LAND/WATER/WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT (3 QUESTIONS)**

**SPLIT SAMPLE A**

Currently, the federal government owns or manages over 60% of land in Idaho. Would you favor or oppose transferring land owned by the federal government to the state government for management? **PROBE IF FAVOR OR OPPOSE: Is that strongly or somewhat?**

1. Strongly favor
2. Somewhat favor
3. Somewhat oppose
4. Strongly oppose
5. DK/Refused

**SPLIT SAMPLE B**

XX. Currently, the federal government owns or manages over 60% of land in Idaho. Transferring management of those lands to the state government in Idaho could potentially cost the state millions per year in taxpayer dollars. Knowing this, would you favor or oppose transferring land owned by the federal government to the state government for management? **PROBE IF FAVOR OR OPPOSE: Is that strongly or somewhat?**

1. Strongly favor
2. Somewhat favor
3. Somewhat oppose
4. Strongly oppose
5. DK/Refused

Do you favor or oppose allowing Idaho hunters to hunt wolves? **PROBE IF FAVOR OR OPPOSE: Is that strongly or somewhat?**

1. Strongly favor
2. Somewhat favor
3. Somewhat oppose
4. Strongly oppose
5. DK/Refused

Idaho lawmakers have approved spending $400,000 to help reduce the number of wolves in Idaho. Do you support or oppose state efforts to reduce the wolf population? **PROBE IF SUPPORT OR OPPOSE: Is that strongly or somewhat?**

1. Strongly support
2. Somewhat support
3. Somewhat oppose
4. Strongly oppose
5. DK/Refused

**IMMIGRATION (4 QUESTIONS)**

Now, I’d like to ask you some questions about another topic: immigration. Would you say immigration helps Idaho more than it hurts or immigration hurts Idaho more than it helps?

1. Helps more than hurts
2. Hurts more than helps
3. DK/Refused

When it comes to illegal immigration, which solution do you think makes the most sense for the United States? **READ/ROTATE 1 and 3:**

1. Provide a pathway to citizenship for all immigrants in the United States illegally
2. Provide legal status, but not citizenship, for immigrants here illegally to work and pay taxes
3. Deport all illegal immigrants in the United States back to their home country.
4. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

Do you favor or oppose allowing children brought to the United States illegally by their parents, through no fault of their own, to attend Idaho public schools? **PROBE IF FAVOR OR OPPOSE: Is that strongly or somewhat?**

1. Strongly favor
2. Somewhat favor
3. Somewhat oppose
4. Strongly oppose
5. DK/Refused

Do you favor or oppose allowing refugees from other countries to resettle in Idaho? **PROBE IF FAVOR OR OPPOSE: Is that strongly or somewhat?**

1. Strongly favor
2. Somewhat favor
3. Somewhat oppose
4. Strongly oppose
5. DK/Refused

**PERSONAL POLITICS (5 QUESTIONS)**

We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. Here is a seven-point scale on which the political views that people might hold are arranged from very liberal to very conservative. Where would you place yourself on this scale, or haven't you thought much about this? **READ:**

1. Very Liberal
2. Liberal
3. Somewhat liberal
4. Moderate
5. Somewhat conservative
6. Conservative
7. Very Conservative
8. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?

**PROBE IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT: Would you call yourself a strong Republican/Democrat or a not very strong Republican/Democrat?**

**PROBE IF INDEPENDENT: Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democratic party?**

1. Strong Republican
2. Not very strong Republican
3. Strong Democrat
4. Not very strong Democrat
5. Independent lean Republican
6. Independent lean Democrat
7. Pure Independent
8. Other
9. DK/Refused

In general, would you say you are interested in becoming more involved in politics than just voting, like volunteering for a campaign, donating money or even running for office yourself? **PROBE INTERESTED: Is that very or somewhat**

1. Very interested

2. Somewhat interested

3. Not interested

4. DK/Refused

What is the biggest obstacle to your active involvement in politics?

**SPLIT SAMPLE A**

In general, would you say that there are too many, too few or about the right number of women holding elected office in Idaho?

1. Too many

2. About right

3. Too few

4. DK/Refused

**SPLIT SAMPLE B**

XX. Currently, women hold about one fourth of the seats in the Idaho Legislature and one third of positions on state and local boards. Knowing this, would you say that there are too many, too few or about the right number of women holding elected office in Idaho?

1. Too many

2. About right

3. Too few

4. DK/Refused

**CONTINUE ASKING ALL:**

**DEMOGRAPHICS (13 QUESTIONS)**

Finishing up, we are interested in the satisfaction that Idahoans have with their communities and the places where they live. We do not want to know exactly where you live, but having a general idea allows us to better understand your community. What town or city do you live in, or nearest to? **CODED OPEN END**

LIST OF IDAHO CITIES

Have you ever moved from outside of the state of Idaho or from other part of Idaho to your current city or town?

1. Yes
2. No
3. DK/Refused

**IF YES ON 51 ASK QUESTIONS 52 - 54**

How long ago did you move to your current city or town? **RECORD EXACT NUMBER OF YEARS**

1. Less than one year
2. 1-5 years
3. 6-10 years
4. 11-20 years
5. 20+ years
6. DK/Refused

What was the zip code of this previous residence? **PROBE IF DON’T KNOW: What was the city and state of this previous residence?**

How would you say your political attitudes and beliefs have changed since you moved to your current town? **READ:**

1. Closer to the Republican Party

2. Closer to the Democratic Party

3. They have changed but not in favor of one party or another

4. My beliefs have not changed

5. DK/Refused (Don’t read)

**CONTINUE ASKING ALL:**

What racial or ethnic group best describes you? **CODED OPEN END**

1. White
2. Latino or Hispanic
3. Black
4. Asian
5. Native American
6. Other
7. Two or more
8. DK/Refused

What is the highest level of education or training you have completed?

1. Some high school 2. High school degree or equivalent

3. Some college 4. Associate’s Degree

5. Bachelor’s Degree 6. Some graduate school

7. Graduate degree 8. DK/Refused

What is your religion?

* + - 1. Catholic
      2. Mainstream Protestant, like Presbyterian, Lutheran, Methodist, or Episcopalian
      3. Mormon
      4. Non-denominational Christian
      5. Jewish
      6. Atheist/Agnostic
      7. Other
      8. No Religion
      9. DK/Refused

  What is your relationship status? **READ:**

1. Single
2. In a relationship
3. Married
4. Divorced
5. Widowed
6. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

Do you currently have any children under the age of 18?

1. Yes

2. No

3. DK/Refused (Don’t Read)

Which of the following best describes your annual household income before taxes?

1. Under $25,000 2. $25,001-$50,000 3. $50,001 to $75,000

4. $75,001 to $100,000 5. Over $100,000 6. DK/Refused

Gender: 1. Male 2. Female

Area Breaks:

61y. Nielsen media market

61z. Health district

62. County (from purchased list)

63. Landline or cell (1=cell, 2=landline)

ver1. Identifies which split respondent received for 37A-37B (Land Transfer) and Q48A-48B (Women in Office)

ver2. Identifies which split respondent received for 20A-20D (State Inequality Policy)