



# 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Idaho Public Policy Survey

**Social Science Research Center**



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Annually, the SSRC conducts a survey of Idahoans to identify public policy opinions and concerns. The study is provided to public officials and interested citizens. 531 adults in Idaho households representing six geographic regions were surveyed via telephone between November 9 and November 29, 2004. The survey standard error is +/- 4.1% at a 95% Confidence Interval for the total population.

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## Introduction

Annually, the Social Science Research Center (SSRC) at Boise State University conducts a statewide survey of Idahoans to identify public policy opinions and concerns. The results of the survey are provided to policy makers and any interested citizen. This document is the full and final report of the survey findings. An executive summary was provided in January 2005 to legislators, state agencies, the press, and the public.

To accurately reflect the population of the state, the survey data is weighted to assign proper proportional populations to each of the six survey regions. Prior to year 2002, frequency data was used without weighting and regions were assigned a ‘quota’ to ensure adequate statewide representation. While the differences generally remain well within the acceptable error range, population weighted data more accurately portrays the statewide population. The difference in methodology is more apparent in the regional data where larger variation from the overall frequency data will be obvious.

The survey was administered to 531 Idaho adults (+18 years old) by telephone in November 9, 2004 and completed November 29, 2004. The overall statewide population is represented by the survey sample at a standard error estimated to be +/- 4.1% at the 95% confidence level.

Since its inception in 1990, the survey has included a set of “core questions” which have been asked each year. These core questions relate to the problems facing Idaho, perceptions of and confidence in government, opinions on taxes, and satisfaction with program and service areas. Additional questions are asked that attempt to identify or clarify issues that are of interest and concern to Idaho citizens.

Additionally, a stratified sample also allows for general comparisons across six geographic regions. (Statistically speaking, the survey results are representative of the population of each region.) **Figure I** on Page 5 maps the regions in the state, and **Table I** identifies the standard error of the sample for each region as well as the weighted population basis used for the analysis.

The survey instrument, technical requirements, reporting and analysis for the survey were prepared by the SSRC. The Institutional Review Board at BSU approved the research protocol and questionnaire for use with human subjects. Respondents to the survey are guaranteed anonymity and confidentiality, and they are allowed to refuse to answer the survey or any question within the survey. A technical report that includes a detailed description of the methodology and the response rates are included in Appendix IV.

Clearwater Research, Inc. of Boise, ID (208-658-0001 [www.clearwater-research.com](http://www.clearwater-research.com)) utilized their Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system to collect the survey data and deliver a weighted sample to the SSRC for analysis.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

View the current survey online at <http://sspa.boisestate.edu/ssrc>

Past surveys are currently available for download in .pdf format.

For questions concerning the survey, please call 1-208-426-1835.

Copies are also available to Idahoans upon request; and archive copies are available at the Albertsons Library at Boise State University.

## Executive Summary

### Core Questions

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- The largest majority of Idahoans since 1999 believe that the state is headed in the right direction.
- The economy and education remain as Idahoans' top concerns. Social issues entered as one of the top five for the first time.
- Idahoans place most of their trust in local government. Trust in the federal level of government showed a ten percent drop from the previous two years.

### Issues Concerning Fiscal and Tax Policy

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- Statistically, Idahoans feel that the property tax and the federal income tax are the least fair tax.
- A majority of 63% of Idahoans feel the amount of state sales tax they pay is about right, although almost half feel that they would rather hold the line on budget increases and wait for the economy to catch up than to extend the one-cent sales tax increase passed two years ago.
- Validating the property tax as the least fair tax, 47% of Idahoans feel that the property tax is too high versus 42% who feel it is about right.
- About 60% feel that the state income tax is about right.
- A 55% majority agrees or strongly agrees that local governments should be able to grant local option taxes if approved by local voters.
- 42% of Idahoans either disagree or strongly disagree in passing legislation that would cap state spending increases based on annual changes in the cost of living and population regardless of the impact on education and other services as compared to 37% who agree or strongly agree.

### Issues Concerning Education Policy

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- Three fourths of Idahoans believe that kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade requires the most improvement.
- An 80% majority of Idahoans believe that the state should provide financial help when upgrading or constructing school buildings.
- Relative to the federal law, No Child Left Behind, a 75% majority of Idahoans across the state feel that a single test was inadequate in determining if a school needs improvement.
- A 57% majority feel that student test scores should not be used very much or not at all in determining teacher pay. This view prevails in all regions of the state.

### Issues Concerning Natural Resource Policy

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- Water contamination and water pollution dominated the top two most important environmental issues.
- Over 40% of respondents show some level of support for designation of wilderness in the Boulder Whiteclouds and Owyhee Canyonlands as compared with 27% who oppose it.
- Idahoans were fairly evenly split on using statewide water user fees to buy up water rights to stabilize the Snake River aquifer with 38% showing support versus 32% who oppose it.
- A larger percentage show more opposition (42%) than support (35%) for changes in water laws to support urban areas.
- 38% show some level of support for building a research reactor at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) while 33% oppose it. Much of this support came from the east central and southeast regions of the state.
- 36% of respondents show some level of belief that the U.S. Department of Energy will meet its commitment to clean up the INEEL site by 2012 and finish work by 2035 versus 32% who show some level of disbelief. Most of this optimism is heavily skewed toward the east central and southeast regions of the state.

## Executive Summary

### Other Issues of Interest to Idahoans

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- 70% of respondents agreed that community supervision after a short period of incarceration may be appropriate for some but not all non-violent crimes.
- A 54% majority believes that the Idaho Legislature should not be able to hold closed door meetings for official business.
- A 59% majority of respondents believe in a women's right to choose to have an abortion.
- Idahoans are evenly split at about 38% on whether or not a business and a union can enter into a contract that requires employees to be in a union.
- Approximately 60% of respondents favor protecting constitutional rights over tradeoffs required to fight terrorism.

### Summary Profile of Respondents

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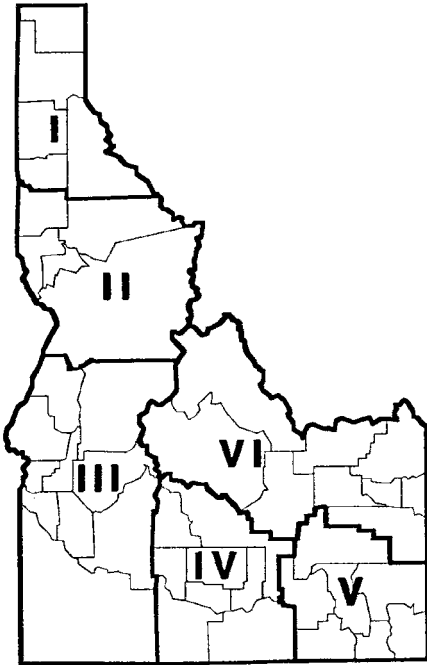
- **Age:** respondents ranged from 18 to 91 years; the median age is 49.
- **Years in Idaho:** responses ranged from less than 1 to 88 years; the median number of years in Idaho is 28.
- **Number of Adults in Household:** 58.5% of households had two adults, 15.8% had three, and 9.9% were single adult households.
- **Race/Ethnicity:** 88.1% of respondents identified themselves as 'White'; all other races and ethnicities polled accounted for 9% or less of respondents. Remaining respondents reported ethnicity as refused or other.
- **Gender:** 49.7% male and 50.3% female
- **Educational Level:** 4.8% hold less than a high school diploma; 22.8% have at least a 4 - year degree; 9.1% hold a master's degree or better, and 62.8% have a high school diploma, GED, vocational certificate, associate degree or some college.
- **Household Income:** 12.7% of those polled reported household income of less than \$20,000 annually; 20.9% reported \$70,000 and over, and 57.9% reported incomes between \$20,000 and \$70,000 per year.
- **Political Orientation:** 52% of respondents said they were conservative; 14% liberal; and 33% claimed to be 'middle-of-the-road' in political orientation.
- **Political Affiliation:** 47% reported affiliation with the Republican party; 18% Democratic party; and 29% said they were Independent.

## Regional Representation

The survey is designed to identify differences across six geographic regions, which are comprised of counties in Idaho. See **Figure 1** below. A stratified sample across the regions allows for statistical comparison. The standard error for the sample of each region as well as the weighted population basis used for the analysis is identified in **Table 1**.

**Figure 1**  
**County Map of Idaho with Regional Boundaries & List of Counties within Region**

1—Panhandle	Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Benewah, Shoshone
2—North Central	Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis, Idaho
3—Southwest	Adams, Valley, Washington, Payette, Gem, Boise, Canyon, Ada, Elmore, Owyhee
4—South Central	Camas, Blaine, Gooding, Lincoln, Minidoka, Jerome, Twin Falls, Cassia
5—Southeast	Bingham, Power, Bannock, Oneida, Franklin, Bear Lake, Caribou
6—East Central	Lemhi, Custer, Butte, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Teton, Bonneville



### Regional Response Statistic

**Table 1**

	Actual			Weighted	
	N	Pct.	95% Conf. Intvl Std. Error	Pct.	Population
1—Panhandle	91	17.1%	+/-10.3%	14%	141824
2—North Central	93	17.5%	+/-10.2%	8%	79190
3—Southwest	88	16.6%	+/-10.5%	42%	422151
4—South Central	88	16.6%	+/-10.5%	12%	120826
5—Southeast	86	16.2%	+/-10.6%	11%	108964
6—East Central	85	16.0%	+/-10.6%	12%	121349
Total	531	100.0%	+/- 4.1%	100%	994304

For summaries of regional responses by question, see Appendix I.

## Core Questions

Every year, several core questions are asked to gauge citizens' overall perception of the state of the state.

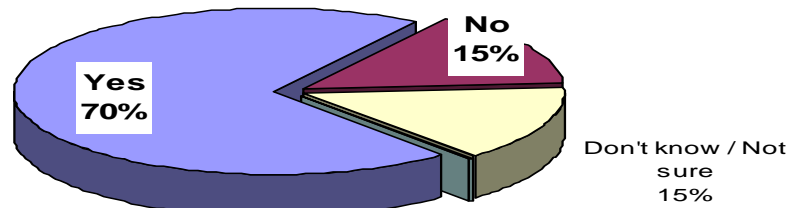
### In general terms, do you think the state is headed in the right direction?

70% of those surveyed said that the state is headed in the right direction. This is the highest level of approval since 1999, up 7% from last year.

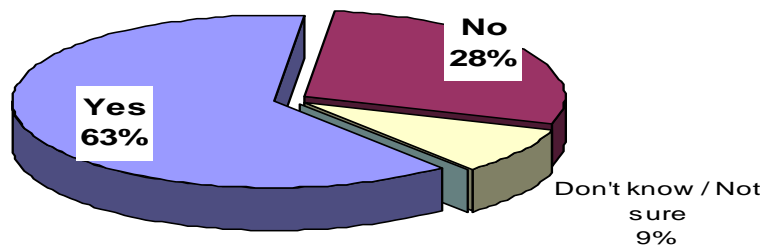
- Regionally, the east central region showed the highest level of approval at about 86%, with the south central region showing the lowest level of approval at about 64%.
- 84% of Republicans approve, while Democrats reflect the lowest level of approval at 52%.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I. For historical trends, see Appendix II. For a breakdown by political party, see Appendix III.

#### This Year



#### Last Year



*Unless specified otherwise, all charts throughout this report represent data for 2004 where n=531 and for 2003 where n=517.*

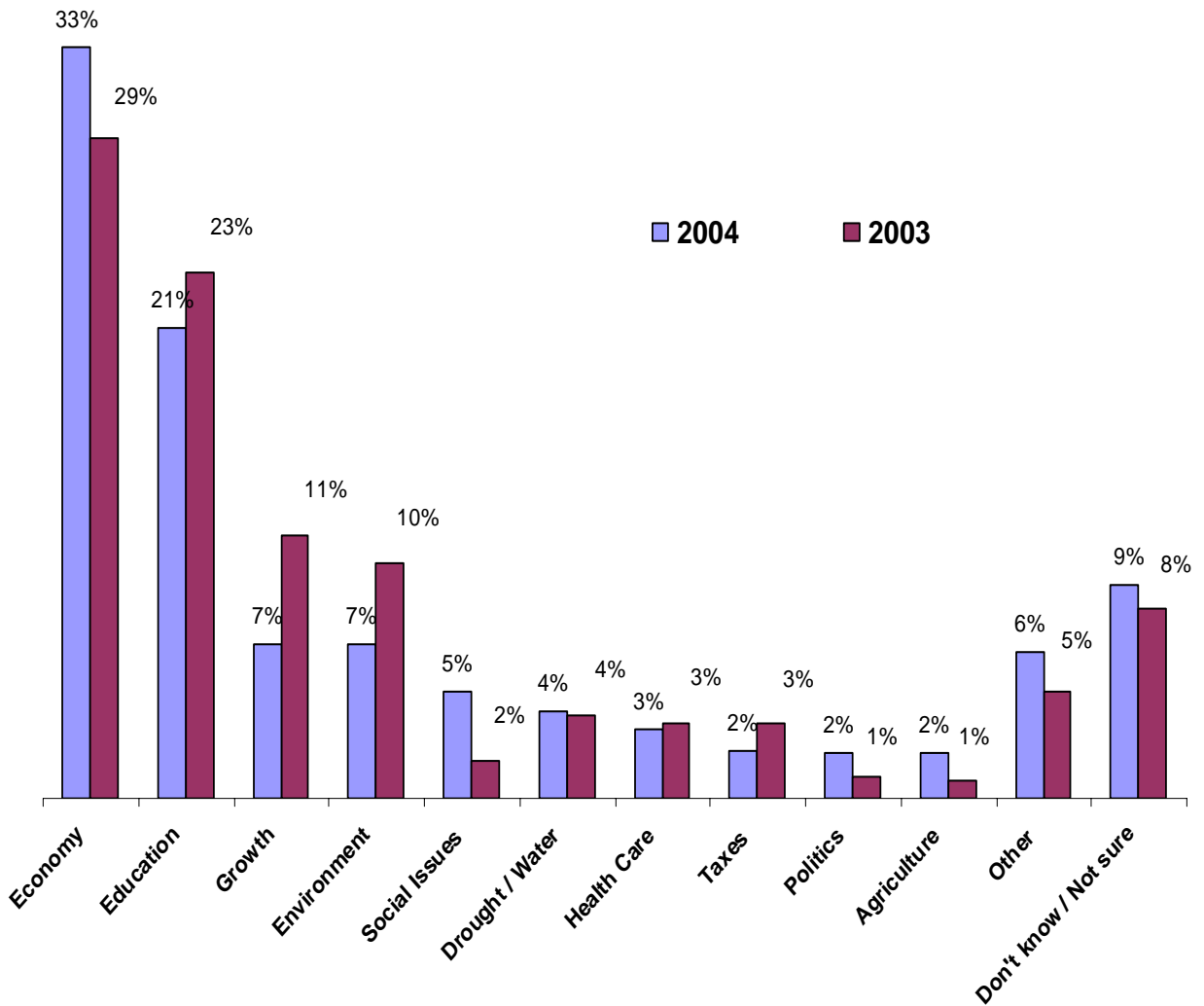


## Core Questions

### In your opinion what is the one MOST important problem facing Idaho today?

This question has been asked every year since 1990. In past years, jobs, economy, and wages were broken out separately frequently leaving education as the top issue. When these categories are collapsed, as was done this year, the economy became the dominant issue over the past 3 years, leaving education as the second most important issue. Joining the economy and education are growth and the environment as top issues. In addition, social issues have in the top five for 2004.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I.

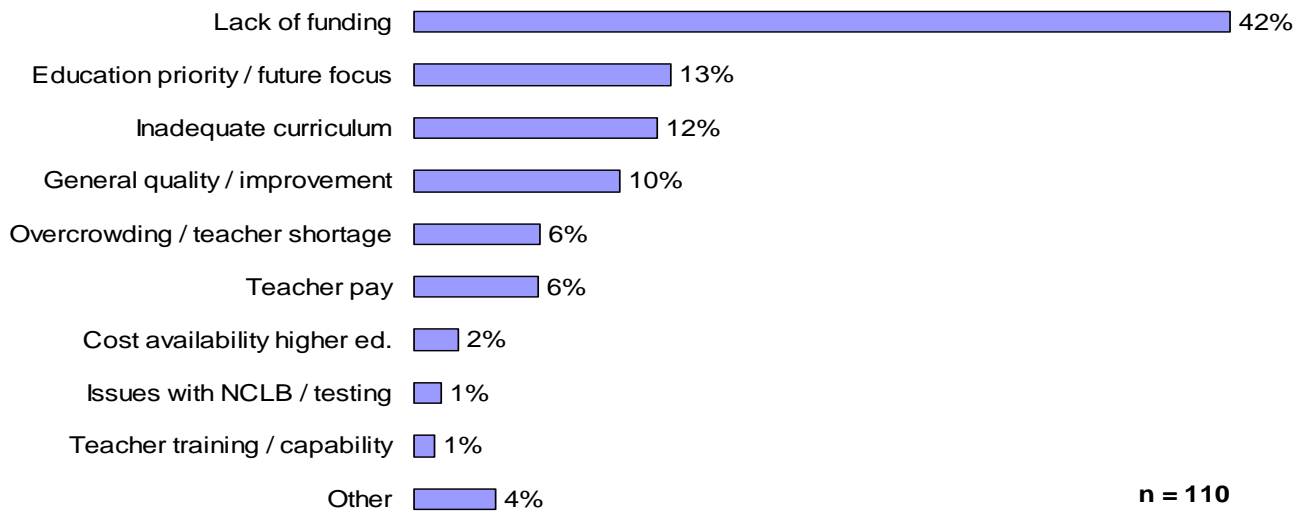


## Core Questions

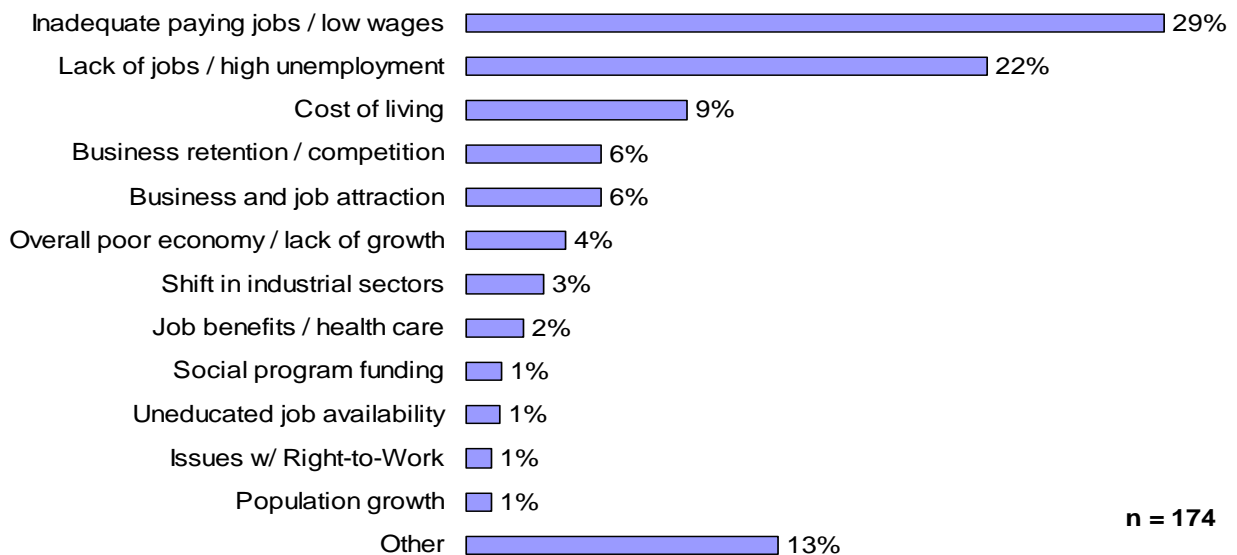
### With regards to education and the economy as the most important problems facing Idaho today, what were the reasons given.

This year, we asked respondents to give us the reason why they thought their most important issue was a problem. Lack of funding, lack of priority given to education by policymakers, and inadequate curriculum were the top reasons for education as the most important problem. Inadequate paying jobs/low wages, lack of jobs/high unemployment, and rising cost of living were the top reasons for the economy as the most important problem. Responses are a very small sample and collected on an unaided basis. (Note: the small sample size precludes reliable projection of the results to the population.)

#### Education



#### Economy



## Core Questions

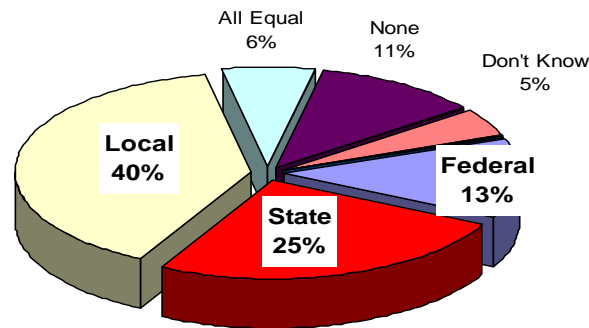
### In general, do you have the most trust in federal, state, or local government?

When given a choice, Idahoan's trust their local government the most with trust increasing slightly from last year. Trust in the federal government saw the largest change seeing a reduction in trust by 10% after holding steady for the previous two years at about 23%.

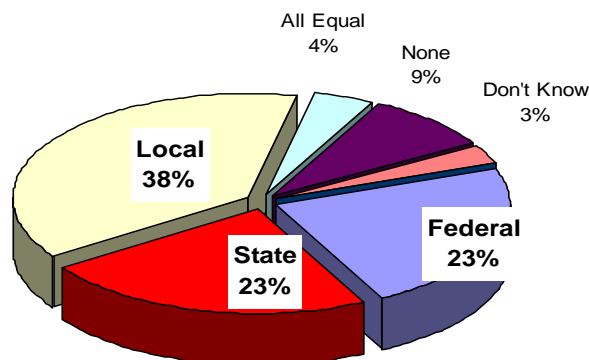
- Across the state, the federal government is perceived most negatively in the southwest at 9%, while reflecting the highest level of trust in local government at 43%.
- Democrats and those not declaring themselves either Republican or Independent showed the least trust across all three levels of government. Independents showed the highest level of trust in local government while Republicans reflected the highest level of trust in federal government when compared to other party affiliations.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I. For historical trends, see Appendix II. For a breakdown by political party, see Appendix III.

#### This Year



#### Last Year



## Fiscal and Tax Policy

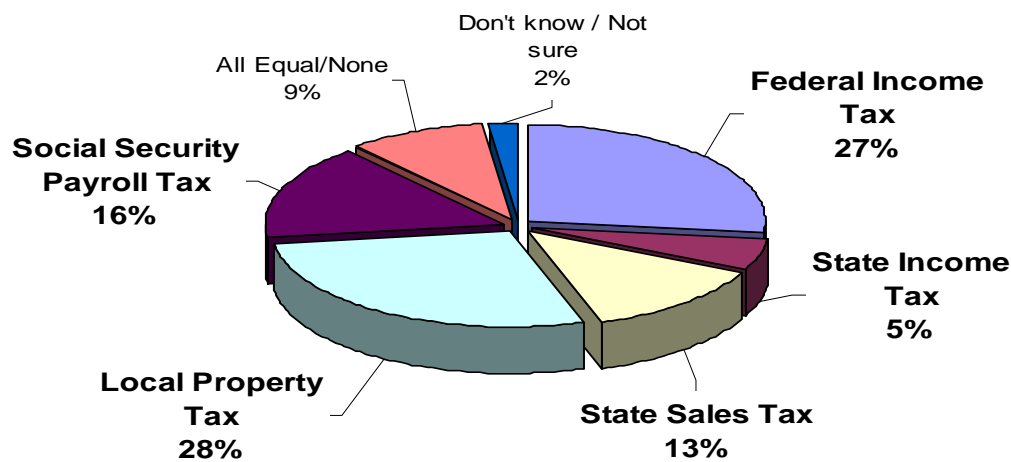
### Which tax do you think is the least fair?

The property tax remains the least fair tax according to Idahoans, however, this year the federal income tax was a close second increasing 5 percentage points over last year.

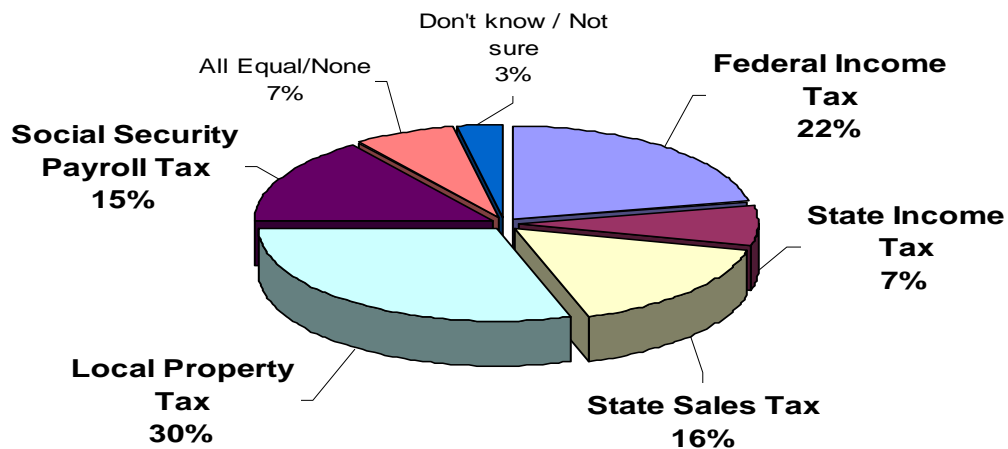
- Regionally, property tax was perceived as the least fair across the state except for the southwest region, which chose the federal income tax as the least fair.
- Democrats and Republicans both saw the federal income tax as least fair by a small margin; however, Independents overwhelmingly believe the property tax is the least fair.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I. For a breakdown by political party, see Appendix III.

#### This Year



#### Last Year

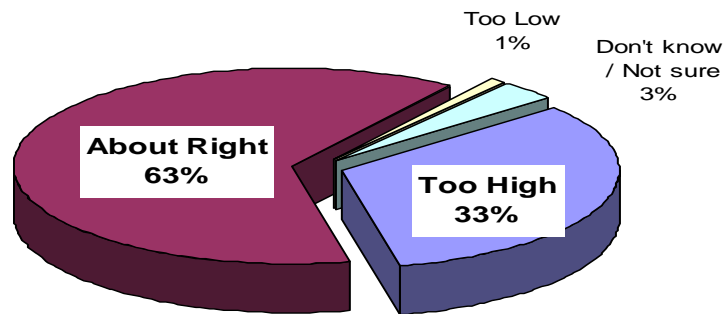


## Fiscal and Tax Policy

### Do you think the state sales tax is too high, too low, or about right?

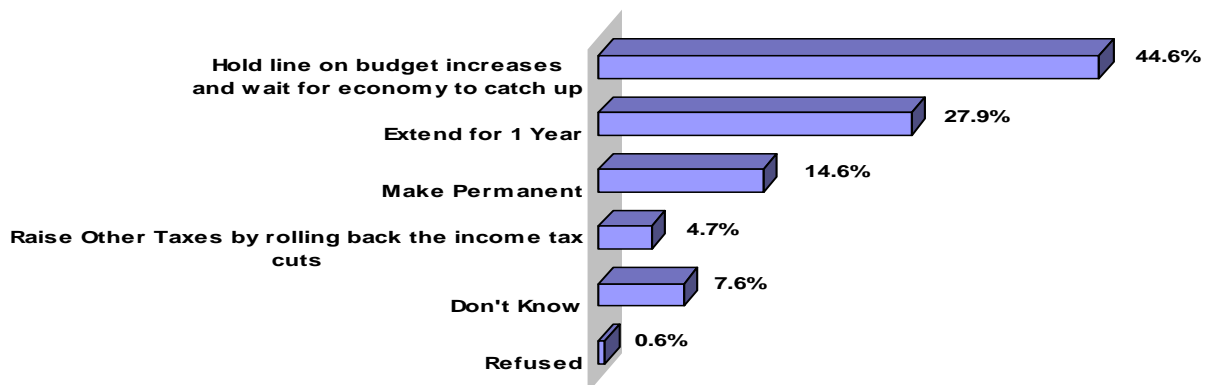
63% of Idahoans believe that the state sales tax is about right in a year that a temporary 1-cent tax increase passed two years ago will expire. This year's results are statistically similar to last year's results.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I. For a breakdown by political party, see Appendix III.



### The temporary one-cent sales tax increase raises approximately \$180 million annually. It will expire on June 30, 2005. Which policy action do you prefer?

Almost one-half of Idahoans would rather hold the line on budget increases and wait for the economy to catch up, although about one-fourth feel that they should extend the one-cent increase for another year.

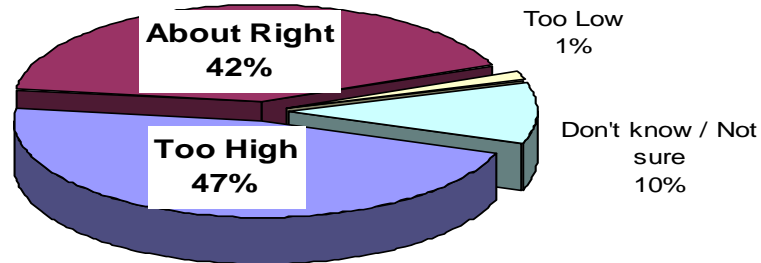


## Fiscal and Tax Policy

### Do you think the amount of local property tax is too high, too low, or about right?

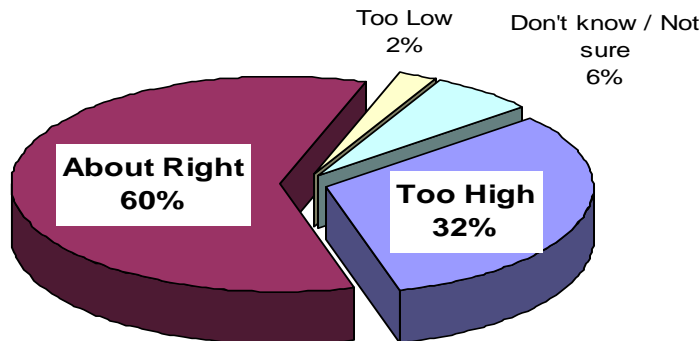
A slightly higher percentage of Idahoans feel that local property taxes are too high when compared to those that feel it is about right.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I. For a breakdown by political party, see Appendix III.



### Do you think the amount of state income tax is too high, too low, or about right?

A clear majority of Idahoans feel that the state income tax is about right.

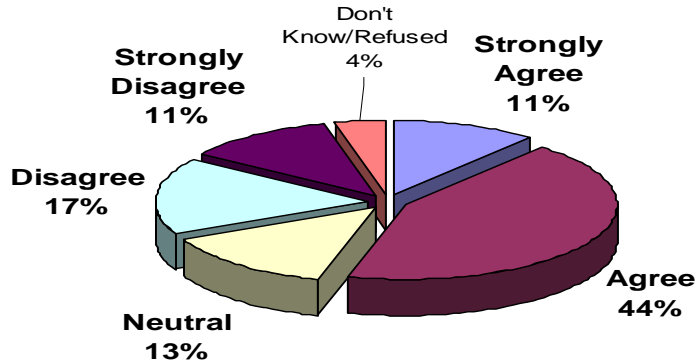


## Fiscal and Tax Policy

### How much do you support a legislative proposal to grant cities and counties local option tax authority if it were subject to voter approval?

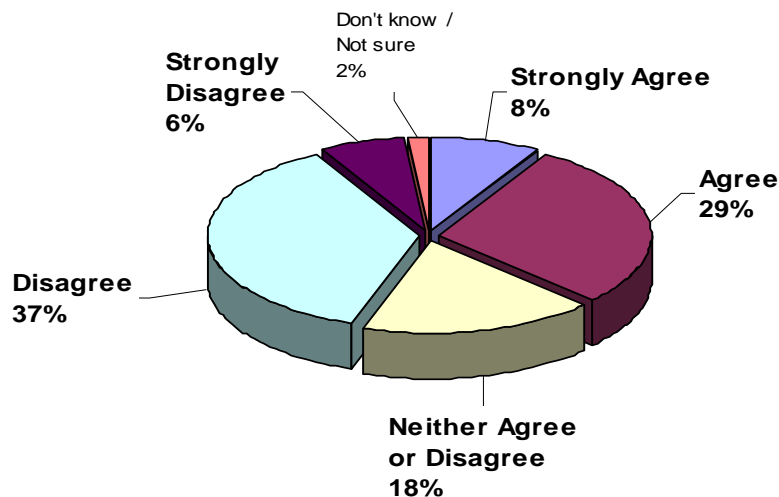
A 55% majority agrees or strongly agrees that local governments should be granted local option tax authority if approved by their constituents.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I.



### Should legislation be passed to cap state spending increases based on the annual changes in the cost of living and population regardless of impact on education and other services?

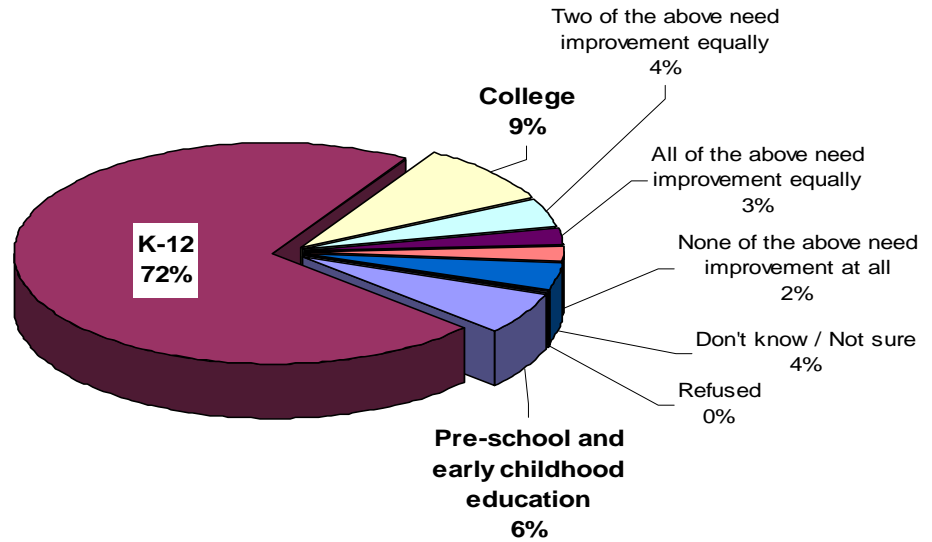
43% of Idahoans either disagree or strongly disagree in capping state spending increases regarding the above conditions as compared to 37% who feel that the state should cap spending.



## Education Policy

**Between college, kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, or pre-school education, which level do you believe needs the MOST improvement?**

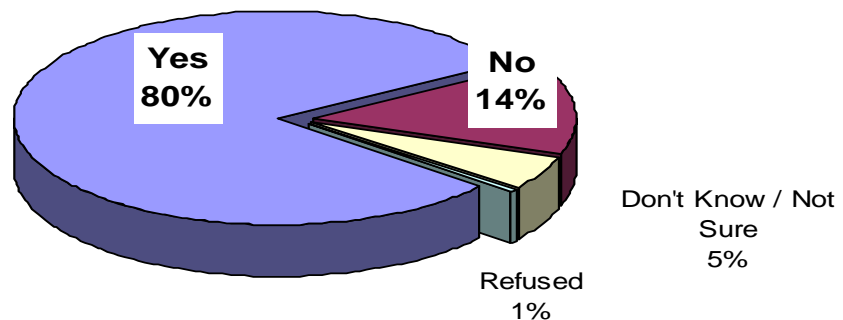
Three fourths of Idahoans believe that kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade requires the most improvement.



**When constructing or remodeling schools, should districts rely on the state for funding?**

A clear majority of Idahoans believe that the state should provide financial help when upgrading or constructing school buildings.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I.

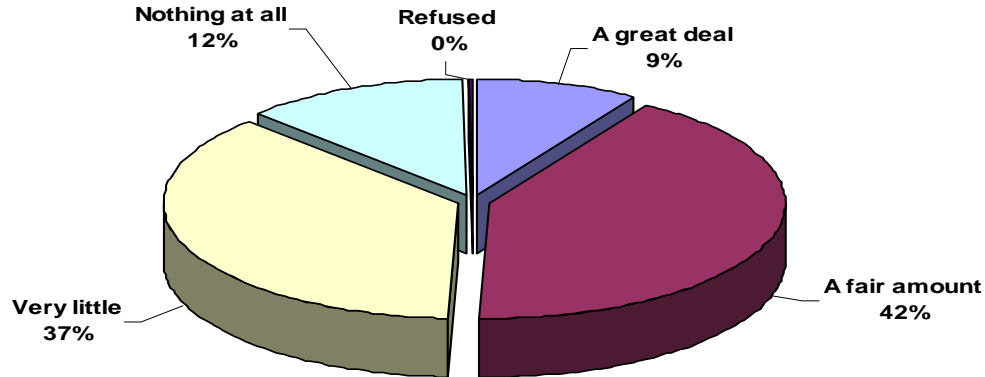




## Education Policy

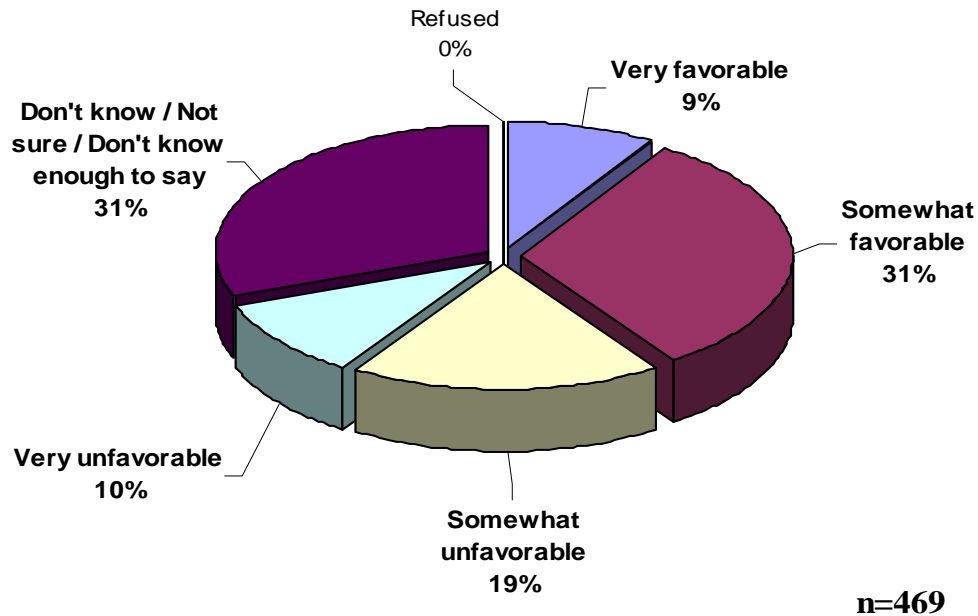
**How much of anything would you say you know about the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), the federal education bill passed by congress in 2001?**

Close to half of Idahoans have little or no knowledge of No Child Left Behind.



**From what you know or have heard or read about the NCLB Act, what is your view of it?**

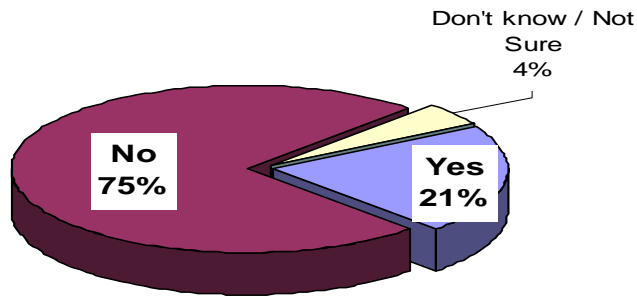
Respondents were evenly split on how favorable they viewed NCLB. (Note: Those responding “nothing at all” to the above question were not asked this question reflecting a smaller sample size.)



## Education Policy

### In your opinion, will a single test provide a fair picture of whether or not a school needs improvement?

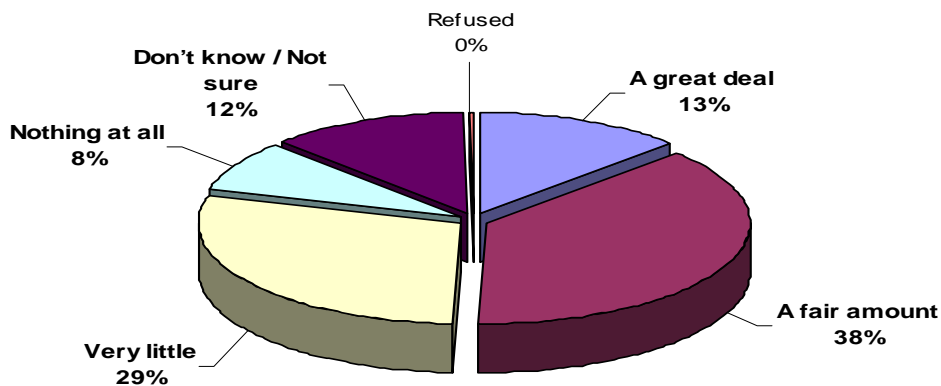
An overwhelming majority of Idahoans across the state felt that a single test was inadequate in determining if a school needs improvement.



### How much do you think NCLB will help to improve student achievement in public schools in your community?

A slim majority of 51% across the state believes that NCLB will help improve student achievement, although in north central Idaho, 49% believed that it would help very little or not at all compared with 34% who felt it would help a fair amount or a great deal.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I.

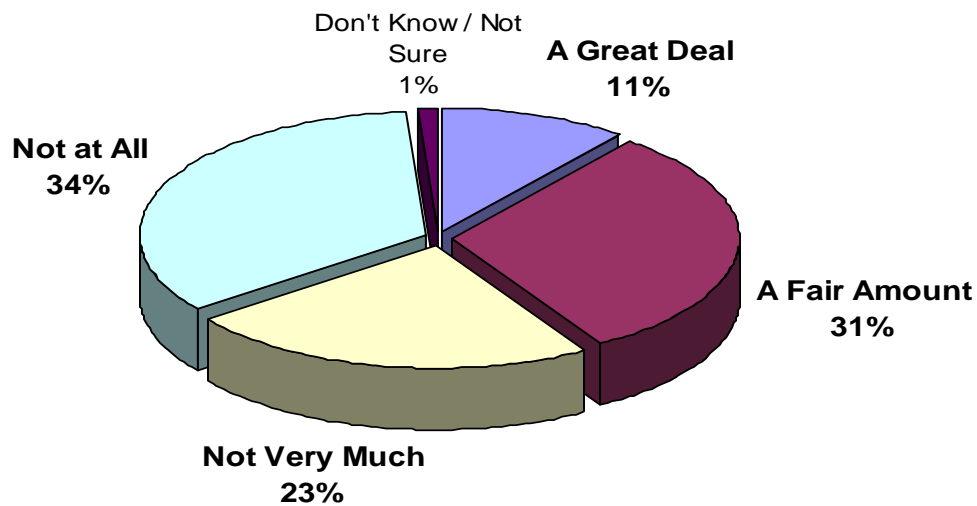


## Education Policy

### How much do you think test scores should be used to determine teacher pay?

A majority of respondents from across the state felt that student test scores should not be used very much or not at all to determine a teacher's pay. This view was shared by all regions of the state.

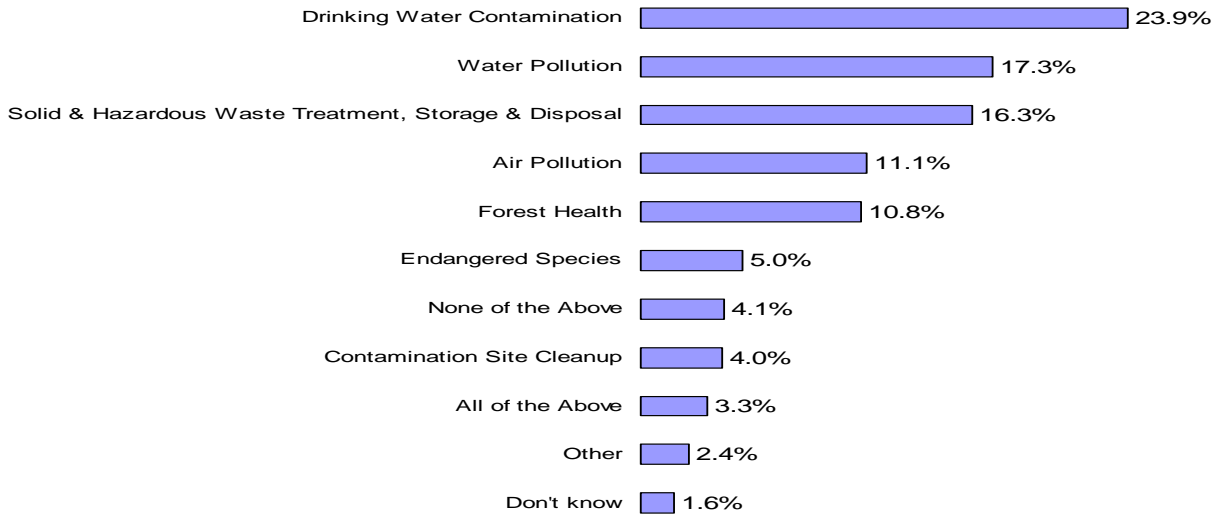
For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I.



## Natural Resource Policy

### Which state environmental issue is most important to you?

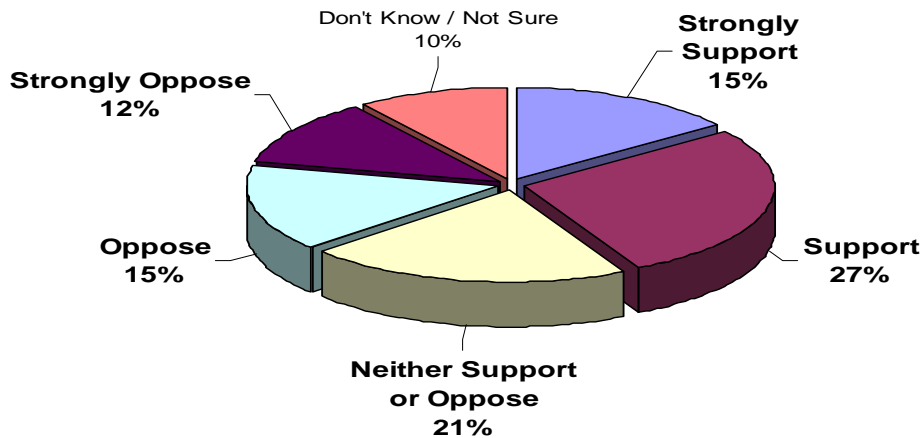
Water contamination and water pollution dominated the top two most important environmental issues with solid and hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal following a close third when respondents were asked to select from several different categories. This is a repeat of the top three issues when this question was asked in the year 2000.



### How much do you support or oppose Idaho Congressional efforts to designate wilderness in the Boulder White Clouds and Owyhee Canyonlands?

Over 40% of respondents showed some level of support for further designation of wilderness in the Boulder White Clouds and Owyhee Canyonlands as compared with 27% who opposed it. However, the east and north central regions of the state showed greater opposition than support.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I.

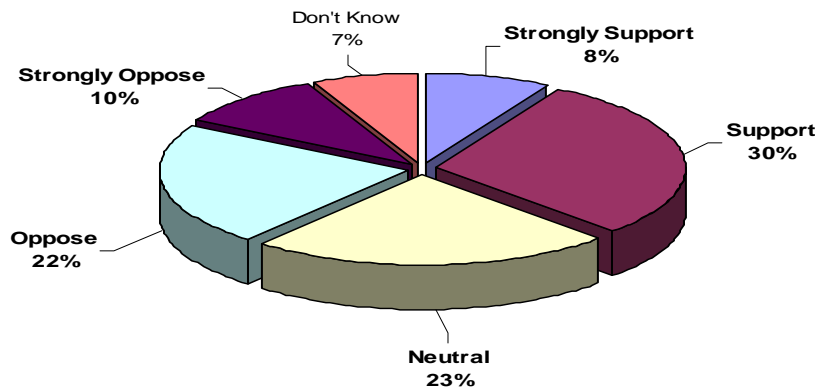


## Natural Resource Policy

### Do you support or oppose a statewide water user fee to buy up water rights to stabilize the Snake River Aquifer?

Overall, it would appear that Idahoans were fairly evenly split on this particular issue, although support or opposition appeared along regional lines. The north and east central regions of the state opposed this solution, while the rest of the state showed a higher percentage of support.

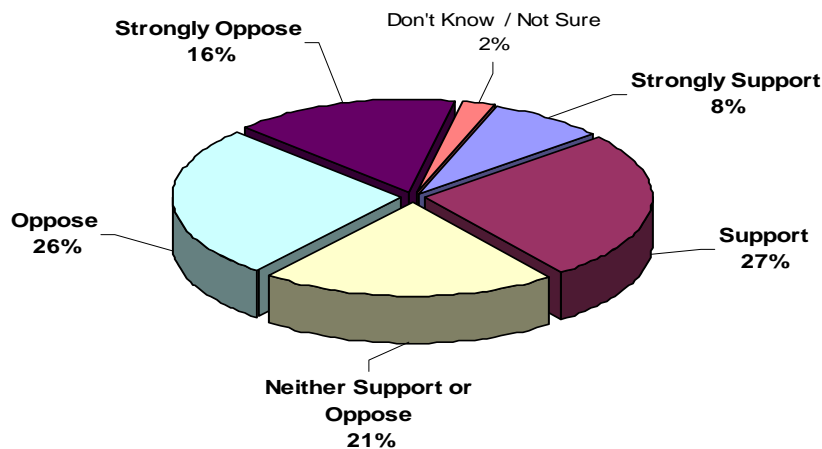
For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I.



### How strongly would you support or oppose a change to the current law to allow for easier transfer of water for growing urban needs?

A larger percentage of respondents across all regions showed more opposition than support for changes in water law to support urban areas. Also, a large number of "neutral" and "don't know" responses indicate a possible lack of knowledge about water issues.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I.

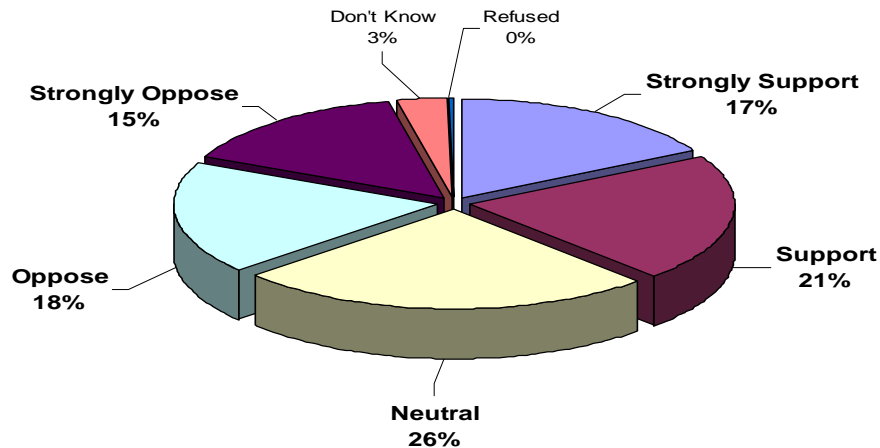


## Natural Resource Policy

Idaho's Congressional delegation has secured 10 million dollars to design a nuclear research reactor at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL). How much do you support or oppose a decision to build it?

Although 38% of all respondents showed some level of support for building a nuclear research reactor, much of this support came from the east central and southeast regions of the state.

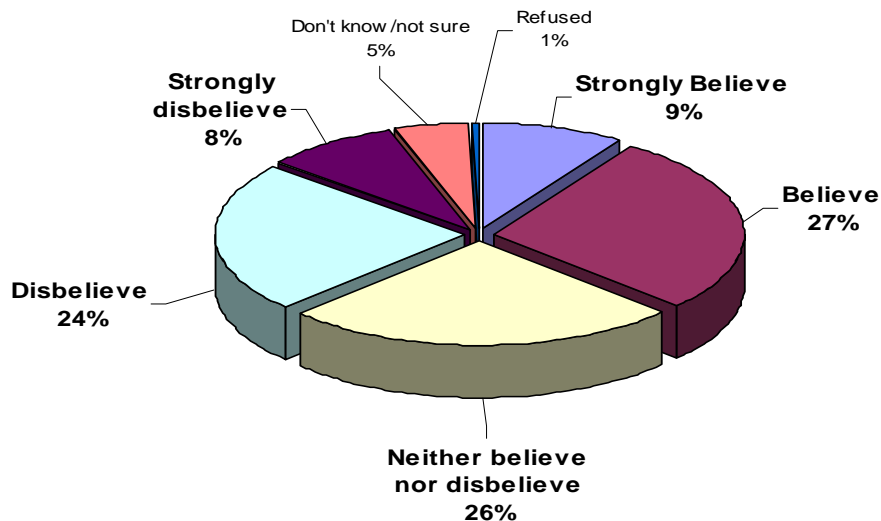
For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I.



How strongly do you believe that the U.S. Department of Energy will meet its commitment to clean up most of the INEEL site by 2012 and finish work by 2035?

Again, although 36% of all respondents showed some level of belief that the U.S. Department of Energy will live up to its commitments, much of this belief came from the east central and southeast regions of the state. Respondents in the south central and panhandle regions reflected more skepticism than belief.

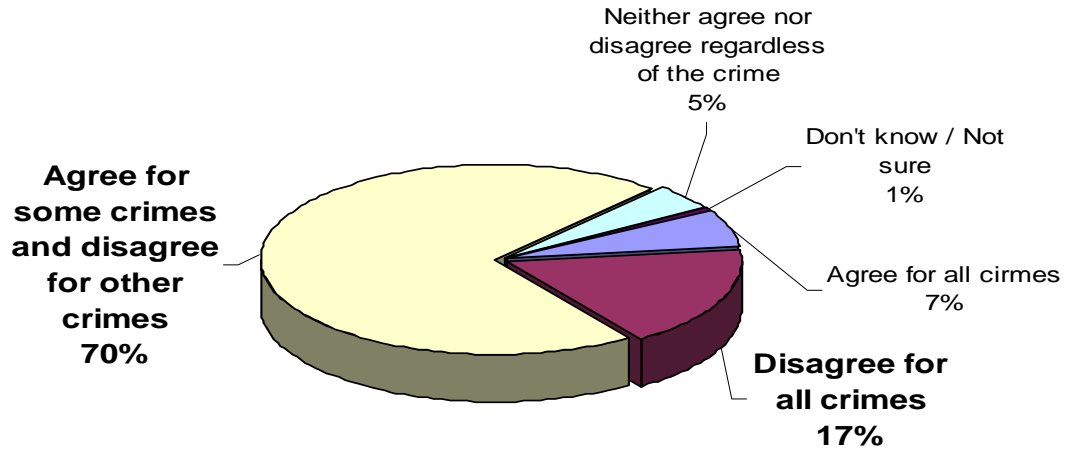
For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I.



## Miscellaneous Policy Issues

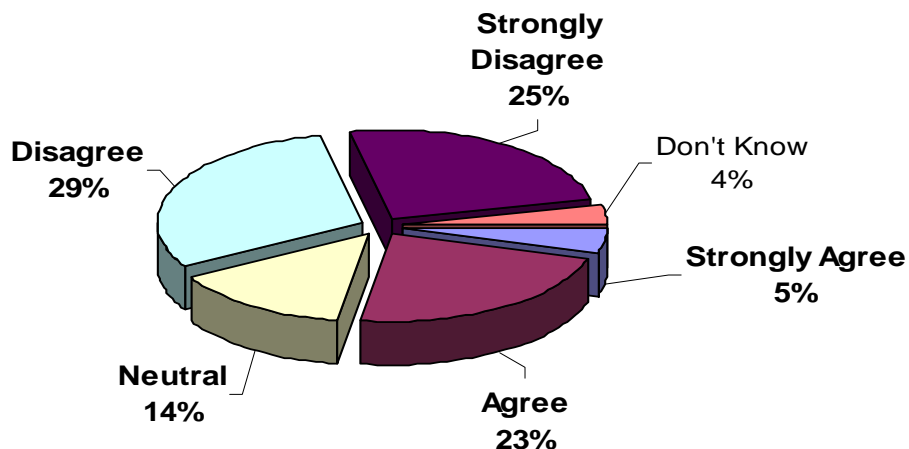
**In some instances, non-violent offenders could be removed from prison after a short period of incarceration, then supervised in the community. Do you....**

A significant majority of respondents agreed that community supervision may be appropriate for some non-violent crimes.



**Should the Idaho Legislature be able to hold closed-door meetings for official business?**

The Idaho Legislature has been sued by the Idaho Press Club for holding closed-door legislative committee meetings. A majority of respondents agree with the Press Club's position.

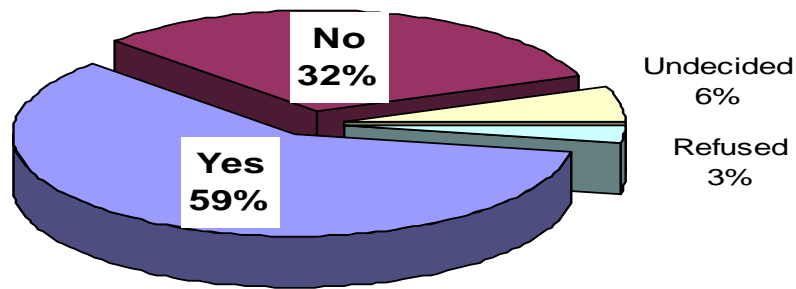


## Miscellaneous Policy Issues

### Do you think a woman should have the right to choose to have an abortion?

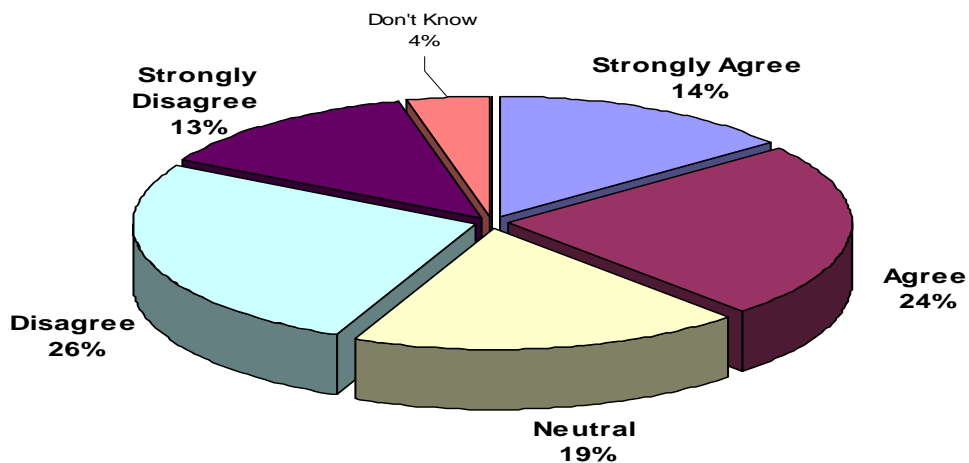
A majority of respondents believe in a women's right to choose. All regions across Idaho agree with this position, except the east central region, which is statistically split on the issue. From a political party affiliation perspective, respondents who declare themselves Democrats and Independents show a larger percentage that believe in a women's right to choose, while Republican's are statistically split.

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I. For a breakdown by political party, see Appendix III.



### Idaho law makes it illegal for a business and a union to agree to a contract that requires employees to be in a union. How much do you agree with the current law?

Idahoans appear evenly split on this issue.

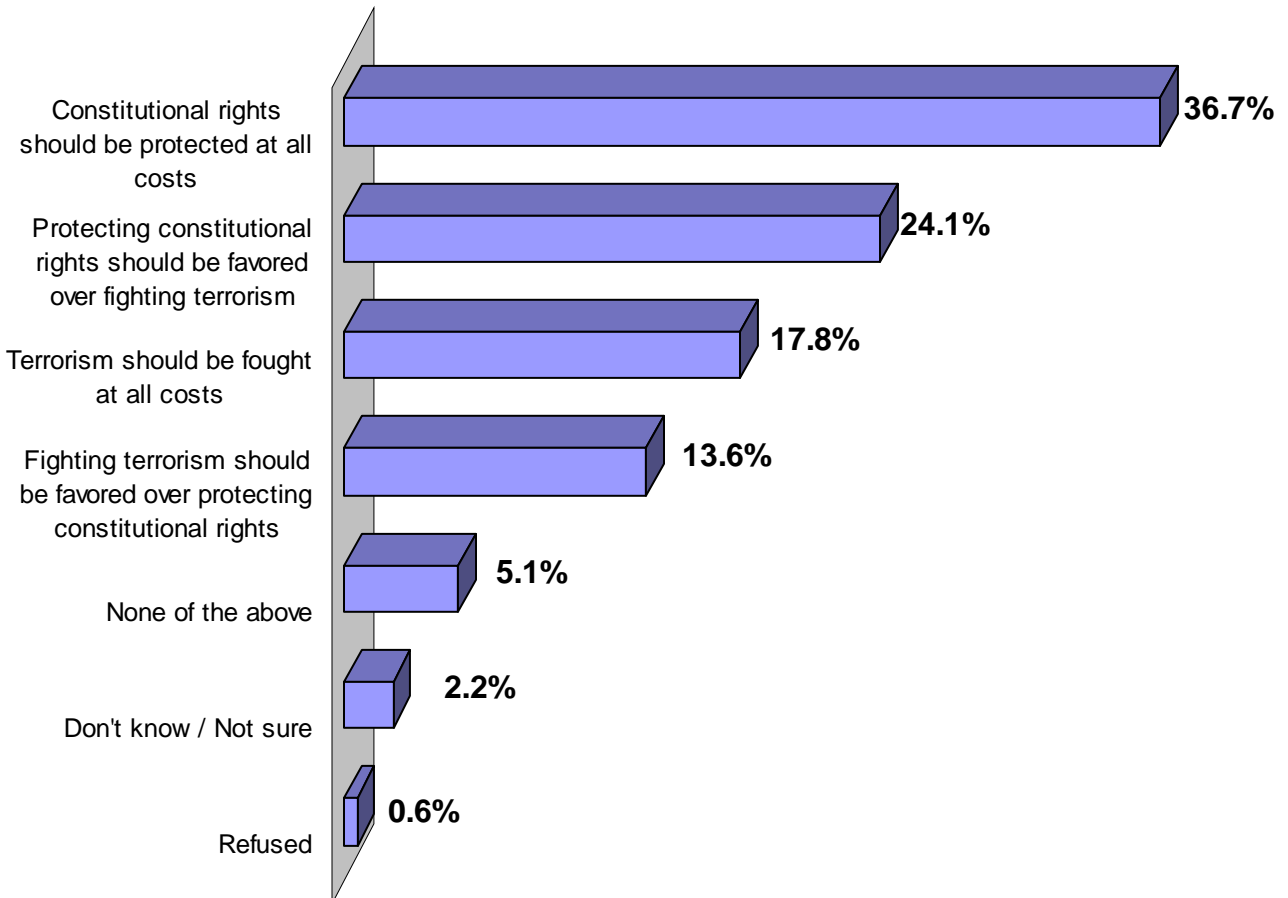




## Miscellaneous Policy Issues

**It has been argued that in order to fight terrorism, we may have to give up some of our constitutional rights. Which of the following best describes your opinion about this tradeoff?**

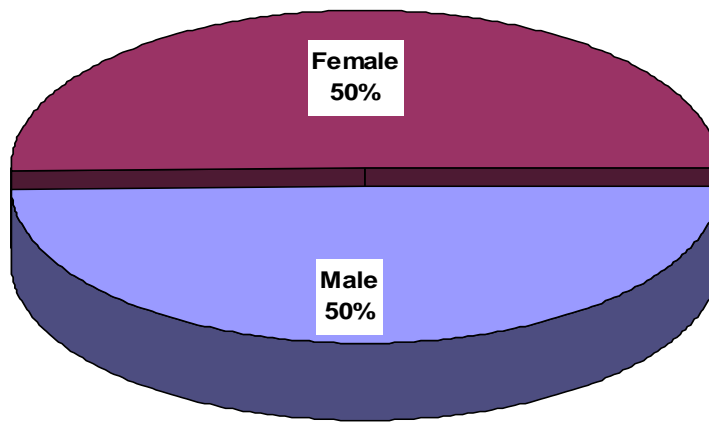
Approximately 60% of respondents favor protecting constitutional rights over tradeoffs required to fight terrorism.



## Demographic Profile of Respondents

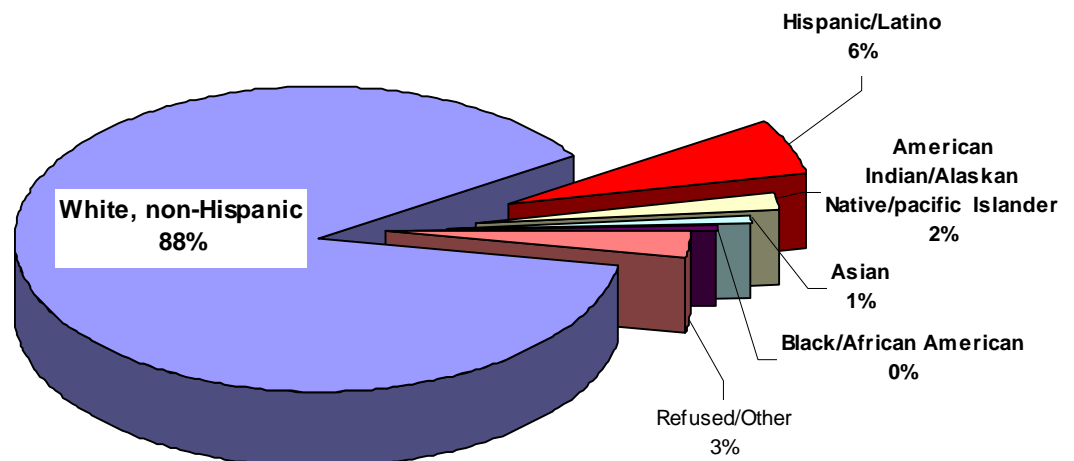
As in past years, demographic questions are asked to provide a profile of Idaho citizens. All respondents are adults (18 years of age or older), reside in Idaho, and are reached by telephone. All responses are self-reported.

### Gender:



### Race/Ethnicity:

See Appendix II for trend data.



## Demographic Profile of Respondents

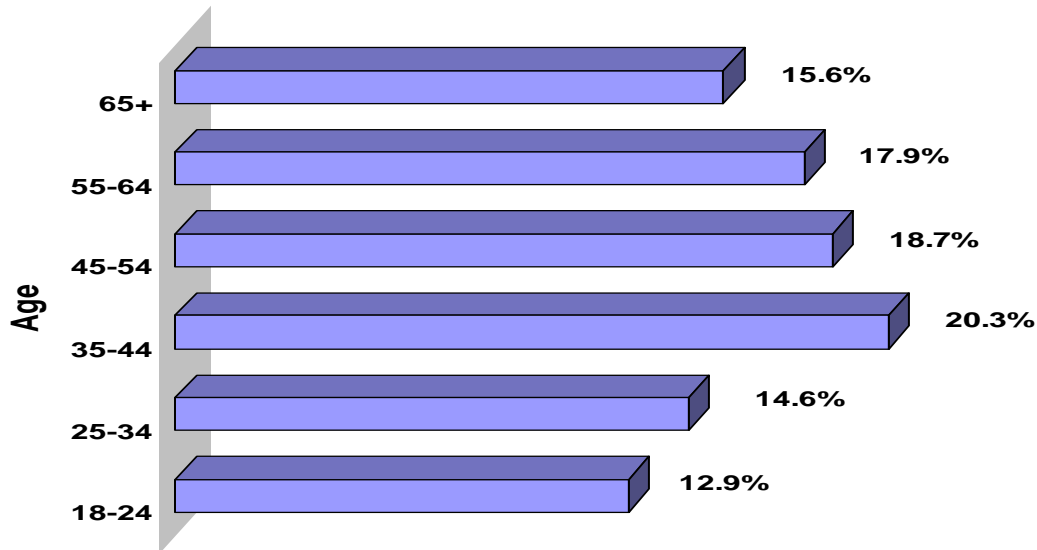
### Age:

Mean: 48

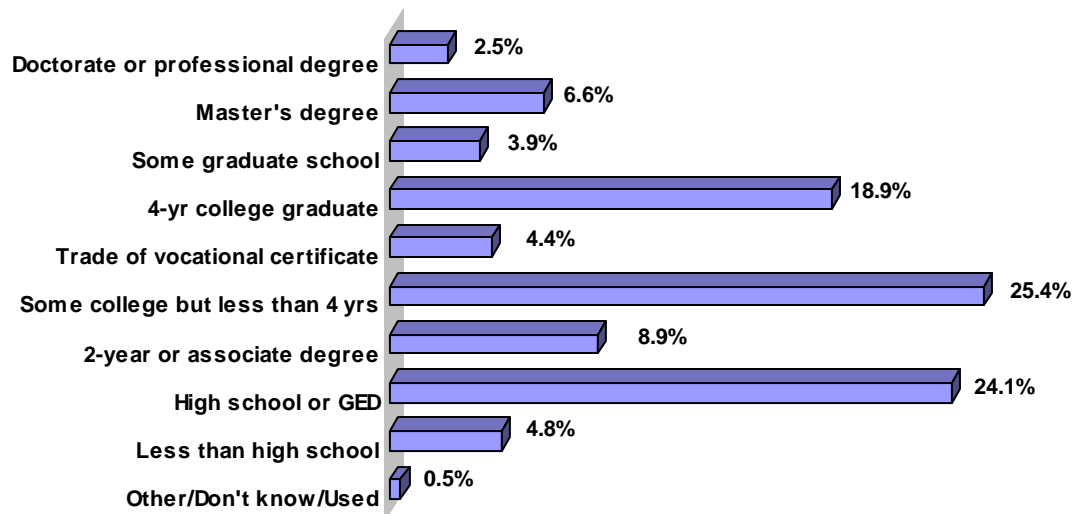
Median: 49

Mode: 50

Range: 73

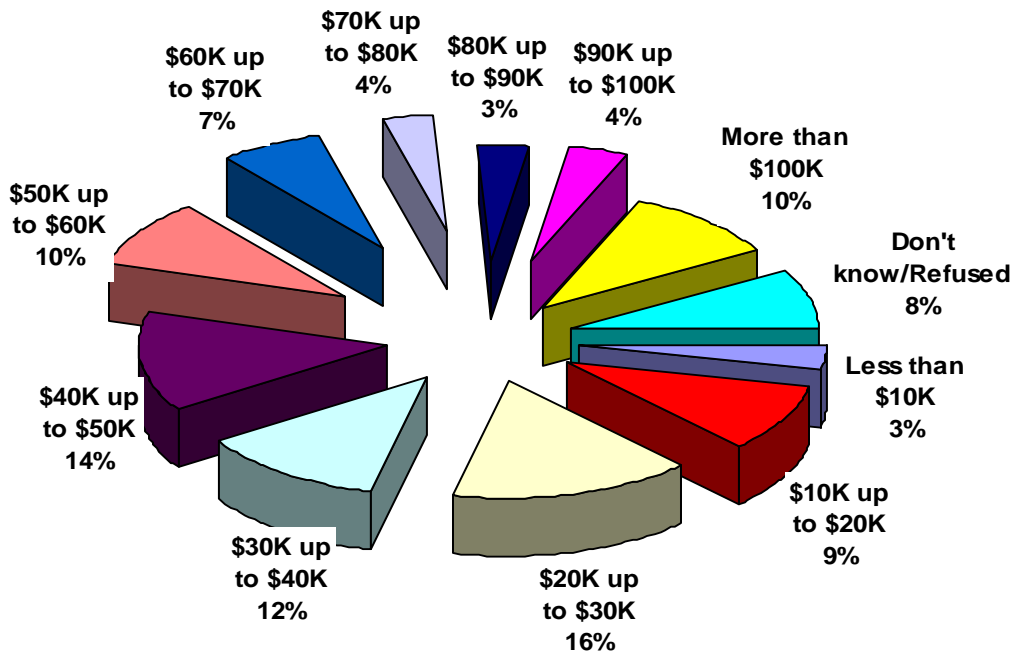


### Level of Education:



## Demographic Profile of Respondents

### Annual Income:



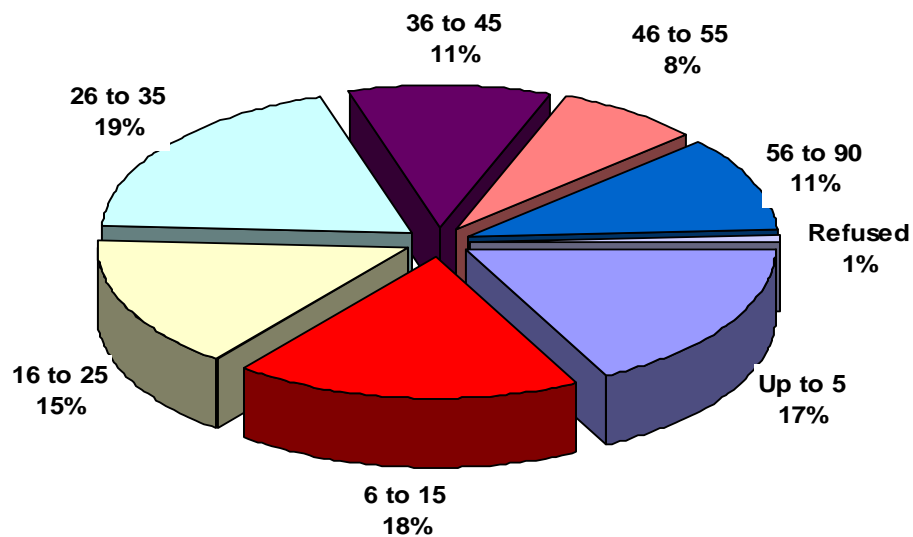
### Number of Years Lived in Idaho:

Mean: 30

Median: 28

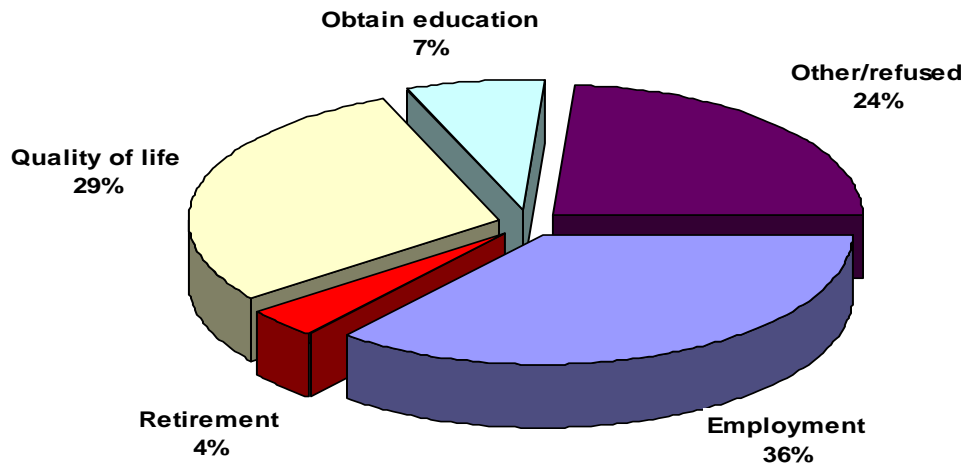
Mode: 30

Range: 88



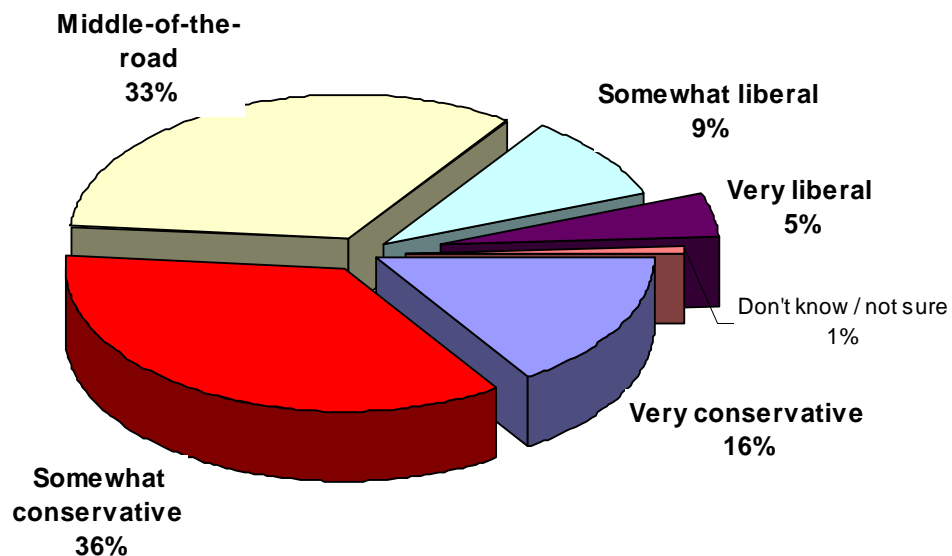
## Demographic Profile of Respondents

### Reasons for moving to Idaho:



### Declared Ideology:

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I. For historical trends, see Appendix II.

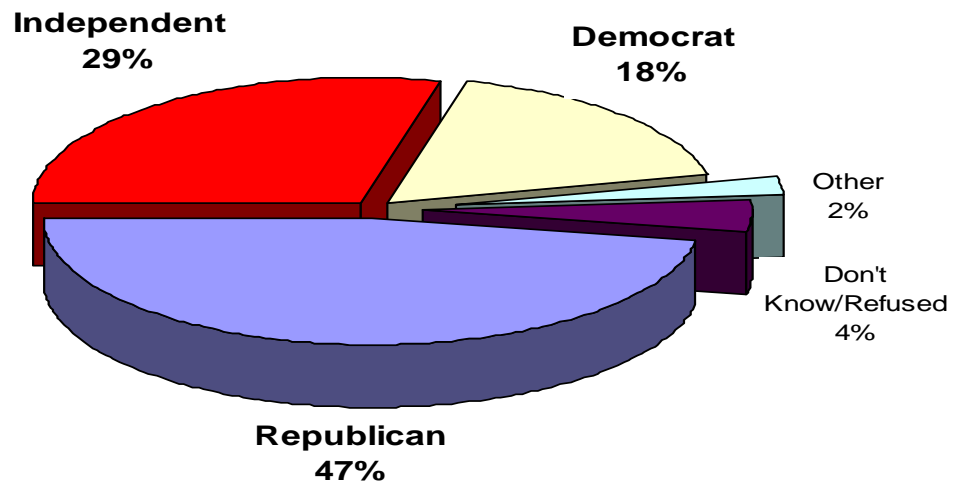


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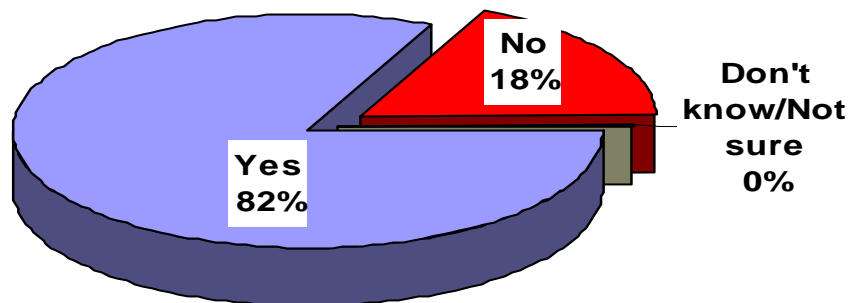
## Demographic Profile of Respondents

### Political Party Affiliation:

For a regional breakdown, see Appendix I. For historical trends, see Appendix II.



Those claiming to have voted in an election over the past two years:



## Appendix I – Regional Responses

### PUBLIC POLICY SURVEY QUESTIONS

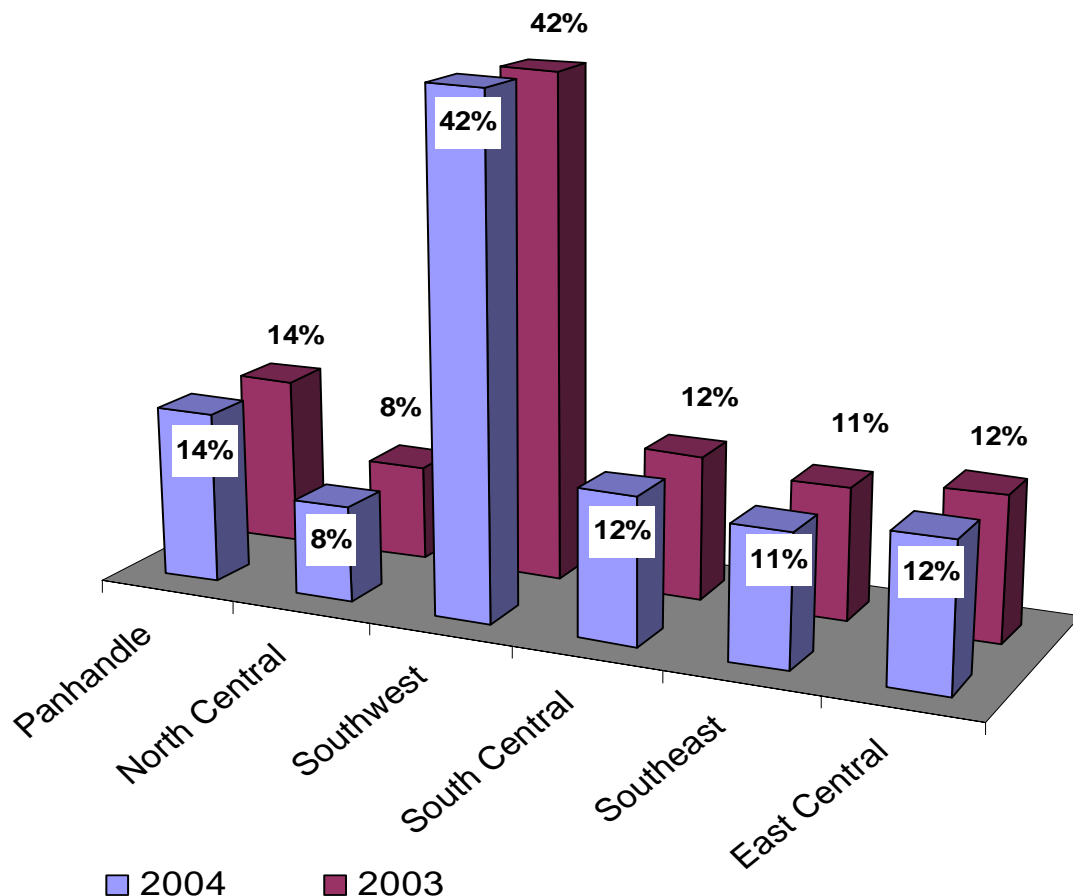
### Statewide Summary Tables -- Regional Responses

#### Regions

1—Panhandle	Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Benewah, Shoshone
2—North Central	Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis, Idaho
3—Southwest	Adams, Valley, Washington, Payette, Gem, Boise, Canyon, Ada, Elmore, Owyhee
4—South Central	Camas, Blaine, Gooding, Lincoln, Minidoka, Jerome, Twin Falls, Cassia
5—Southeast	Bingham, Power, Bannock, Oneida, Franklin, Bear Lake, Caribou
6—East Central	Lemhi, Custer, Butte, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Teton, Bonneville

See Figure I, page 5 for Region and County Map.

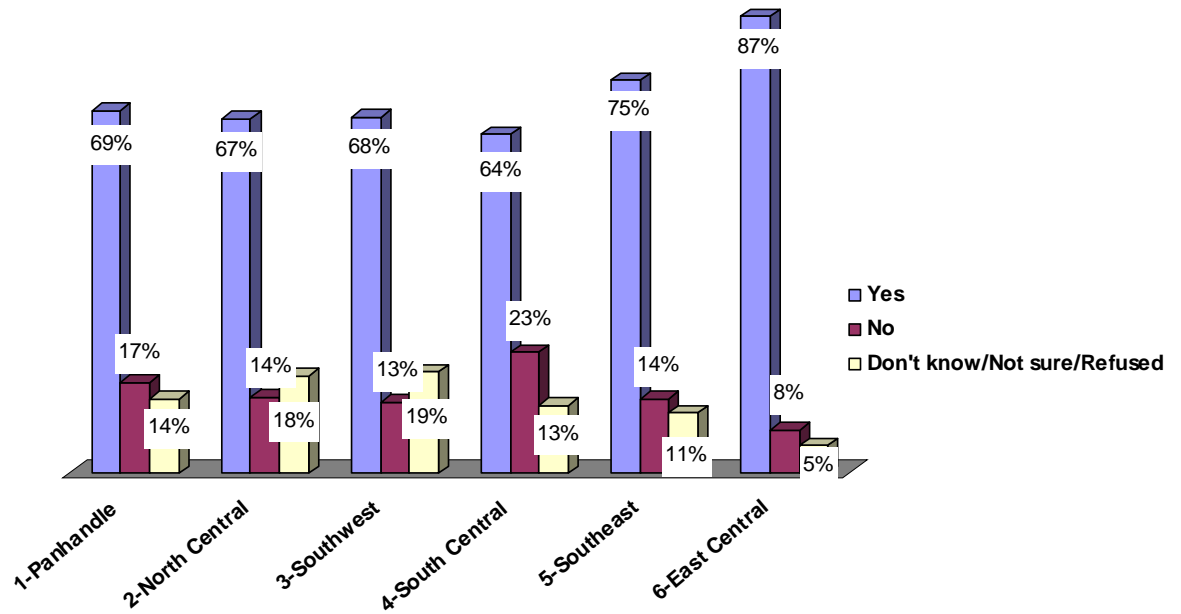
#### Regional Weighted Sample – 2004 compared to 2003



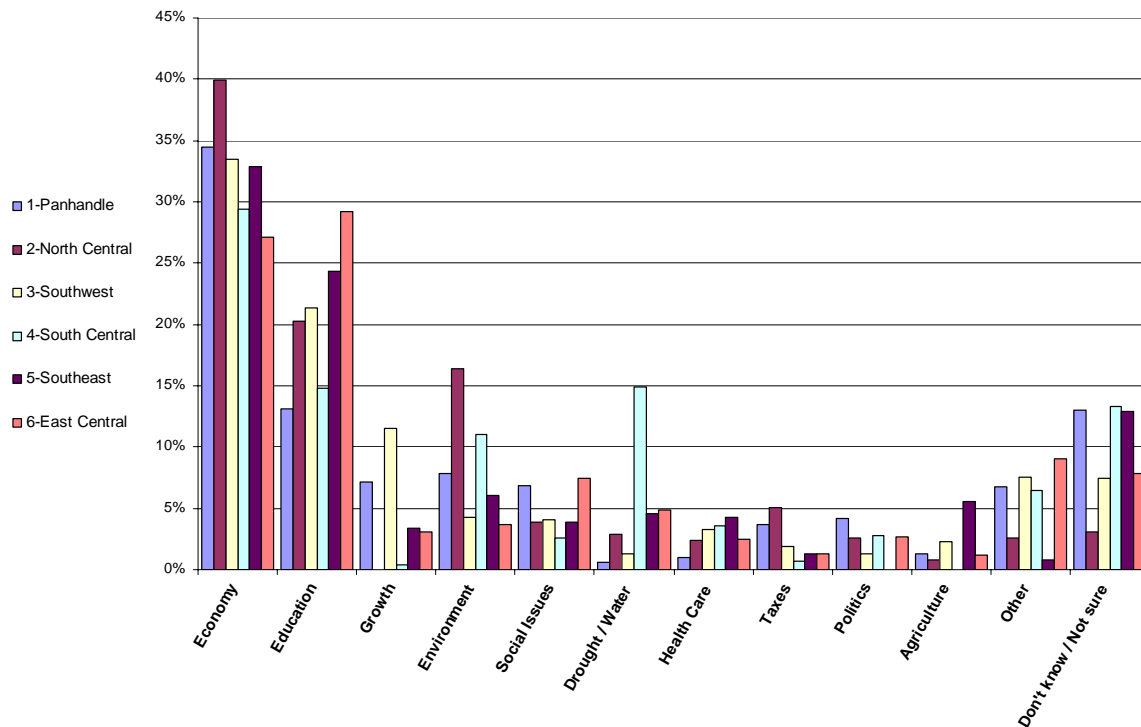
The regional weighted sample reflects the proportion of population (the weighted sample) found in the region. Counties with small populations may not necessarily be represented in the random regional sample.

## Appendix I – Regional Responses

Is the state headed in the right direction?



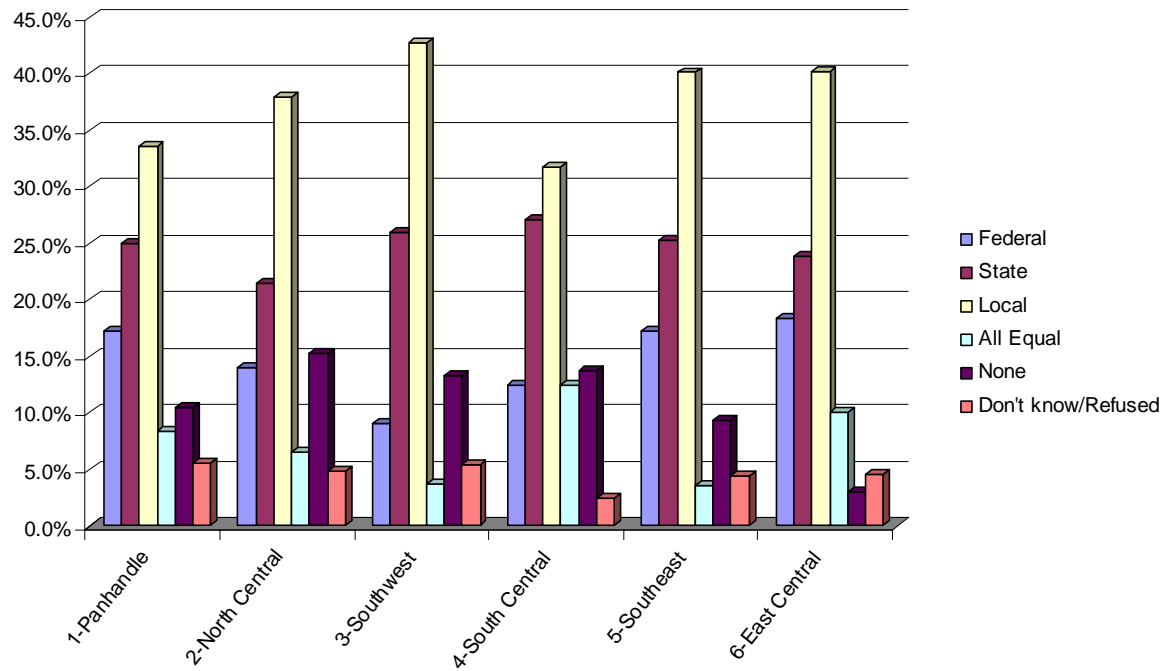
In your opinion what is the one MOST important problem facing Idaho today?





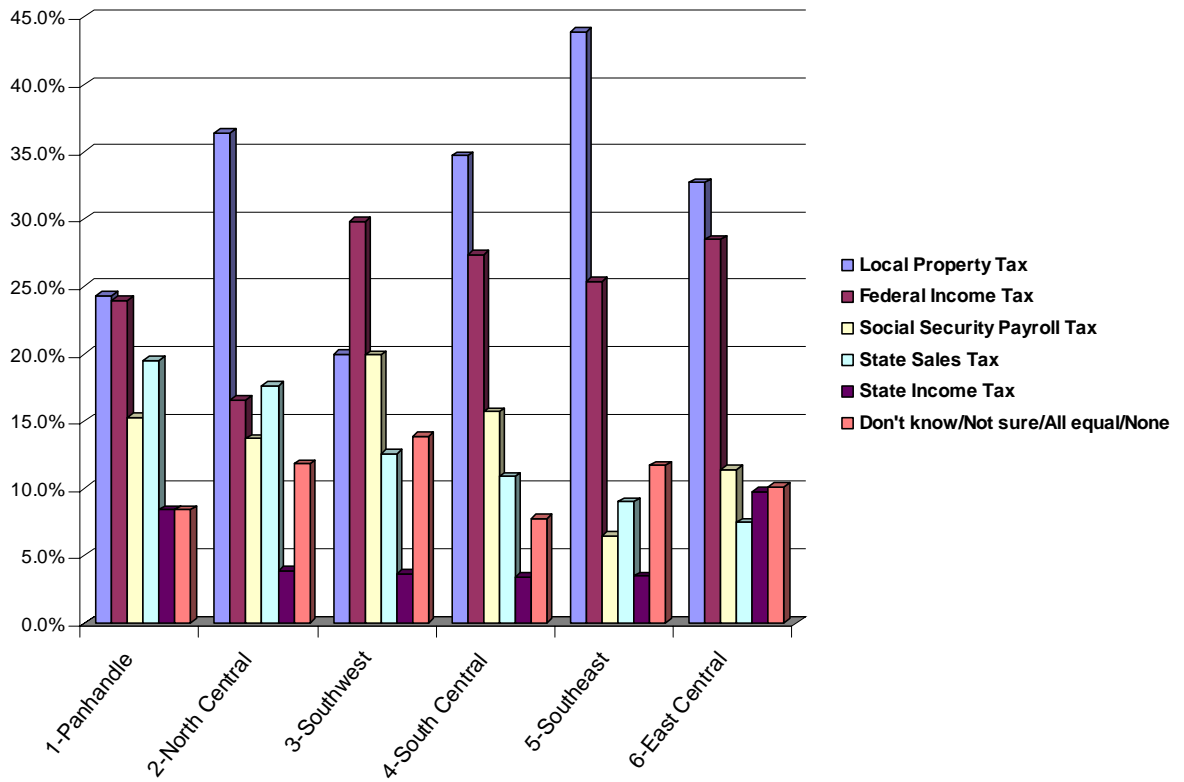
## Appendix I – Regional Responses

In general, do you have the most trust in federal, state, or local government?



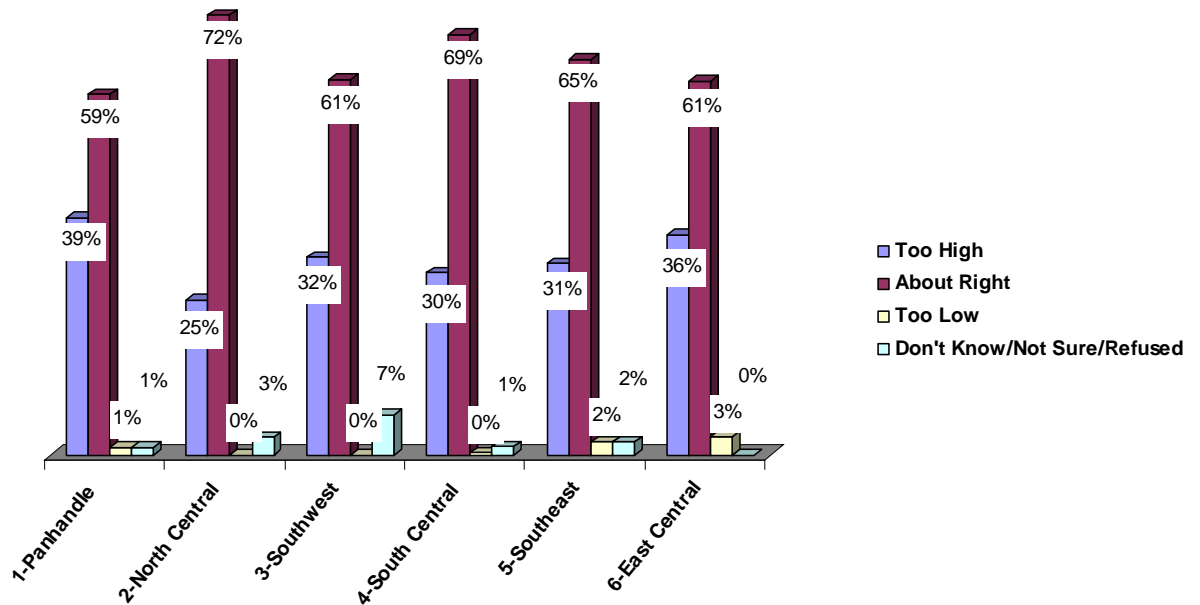
Which tax do you think is the least fair?

## Appendix I – Regional Responses

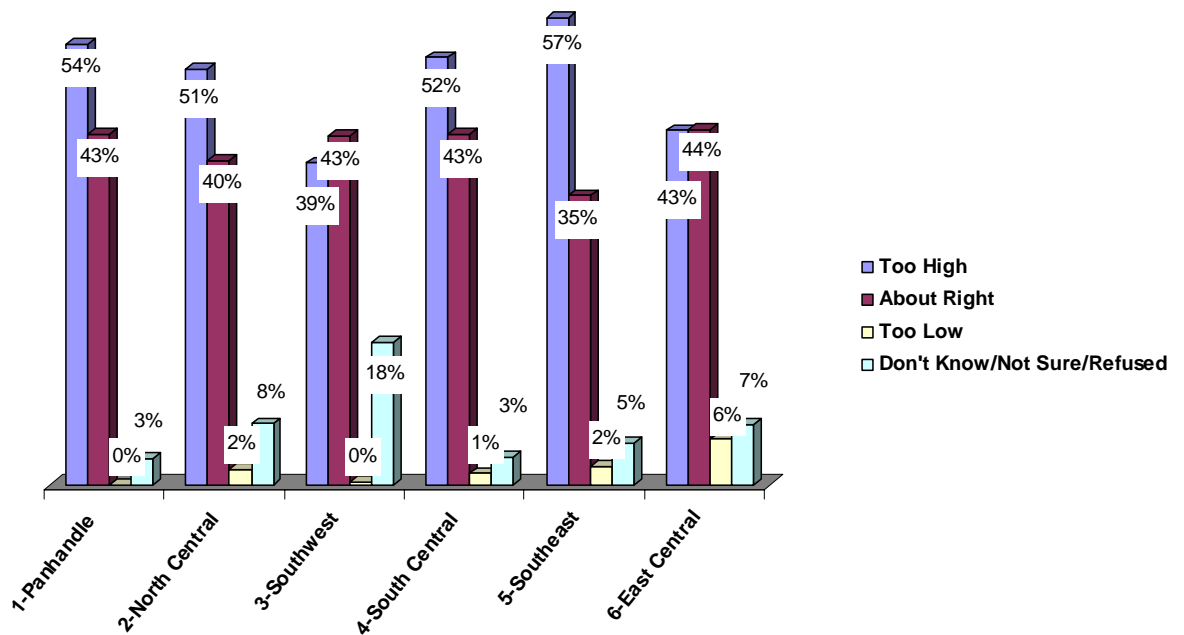


## Appendix I – Regional Responses

Do you think the state sales tax is too high, too low, or about right?

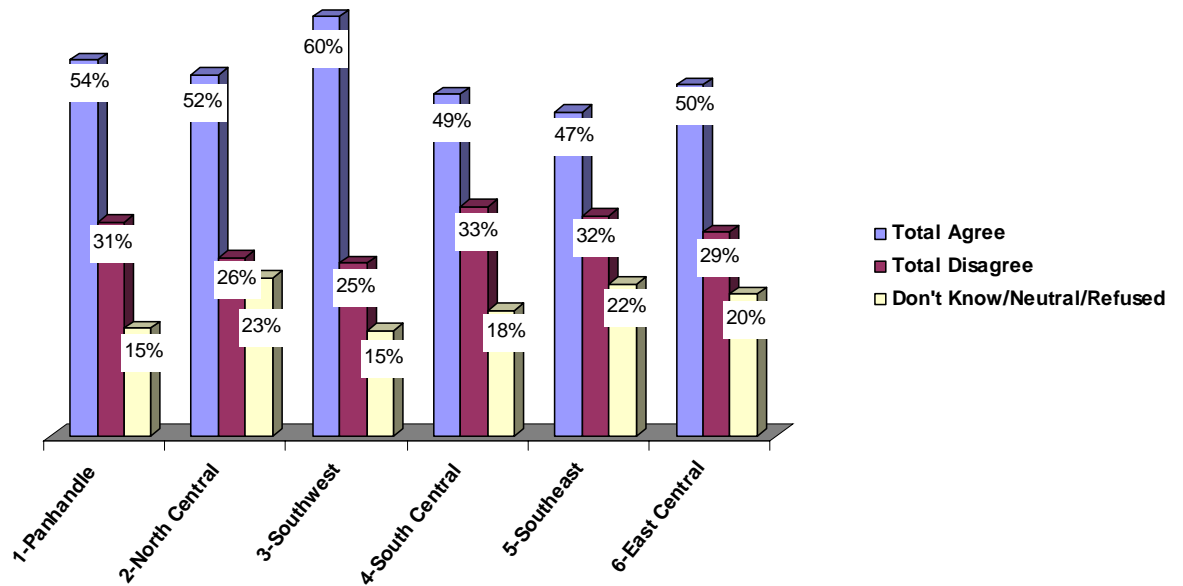


Do you think the amount of local property tax is too high, too low, or about right?

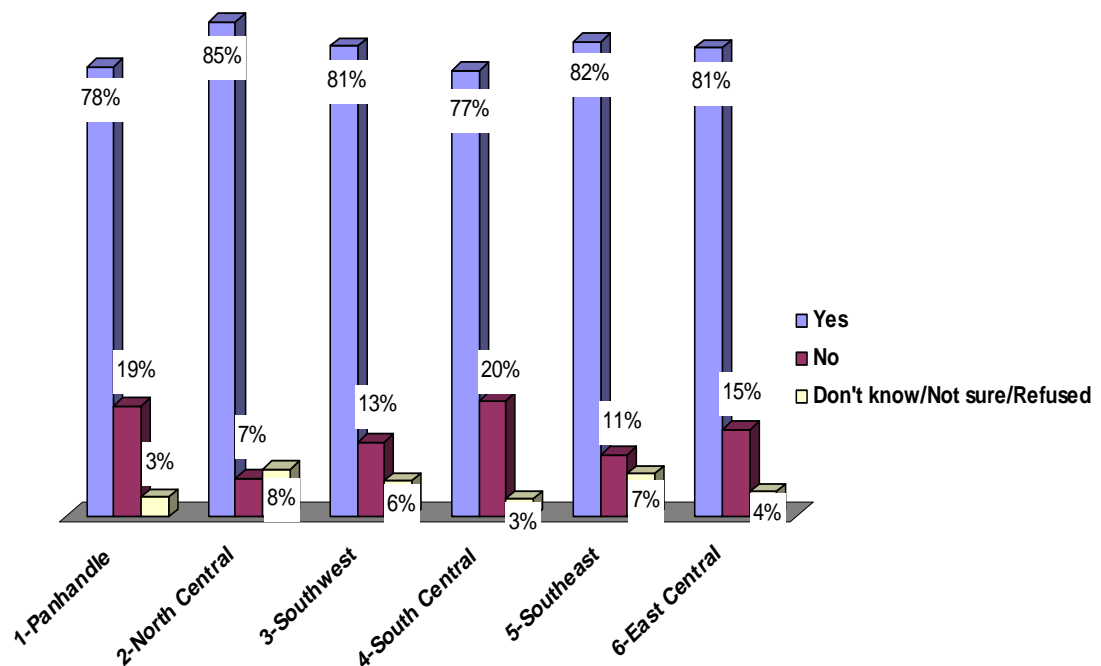


## Appendix I – Regional Responses

How much do you support a legislative proposal to grant cities and counties local option tax authority if it were subject to voter approval?

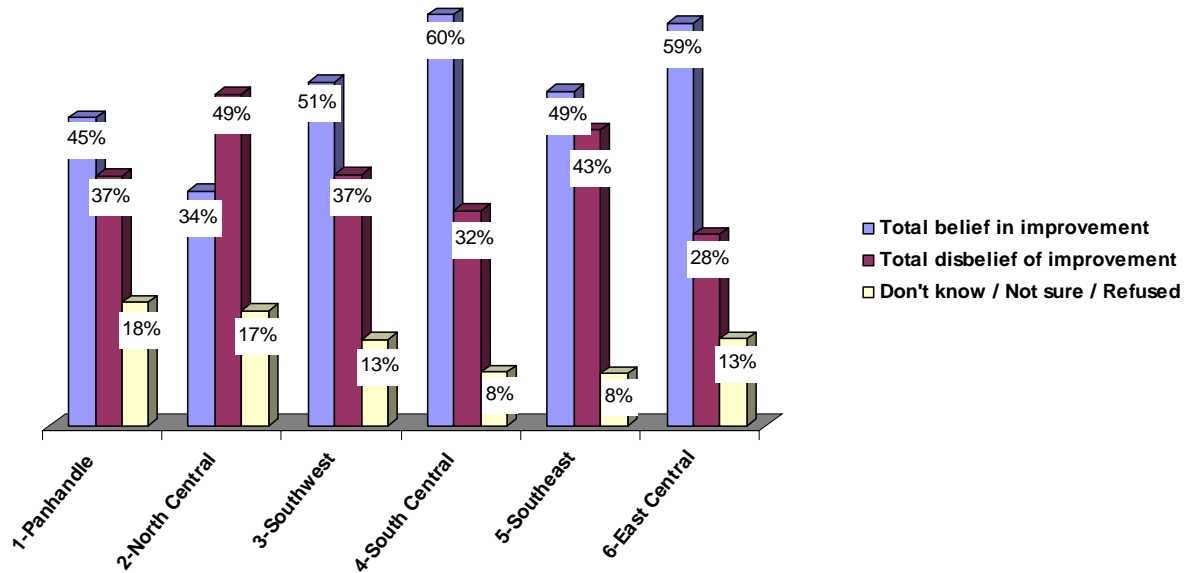


When constructing or remodeling schools, should districts rely on the state for funding?

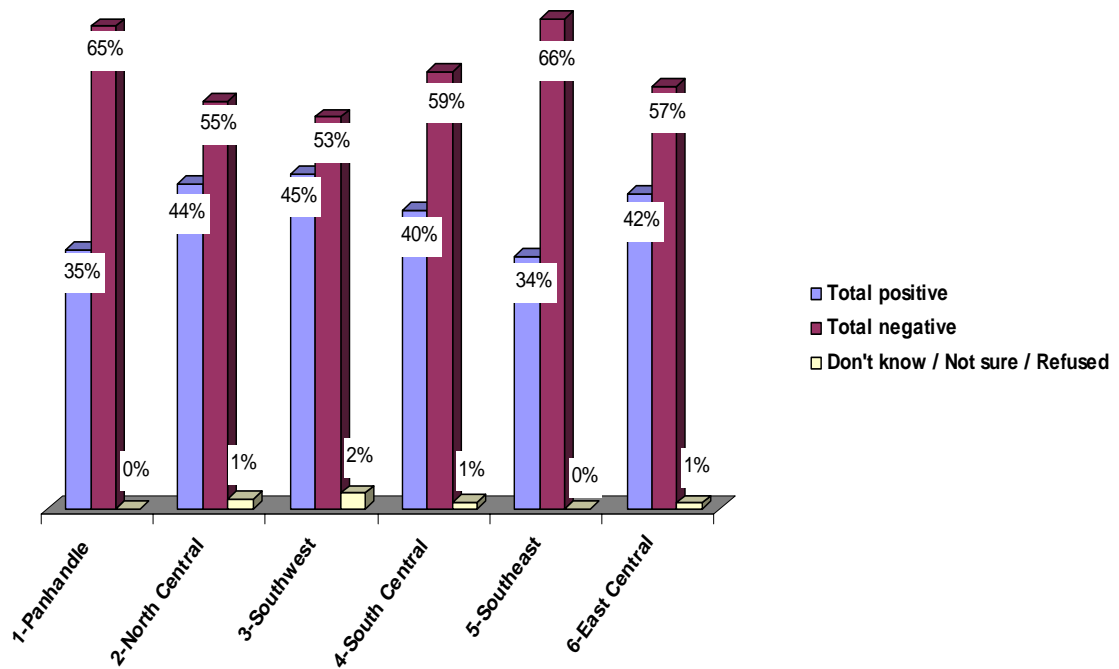


## Appendix I – Regional Responses

How much do you think NCLB will help to improve student achievement in public schools in your community?

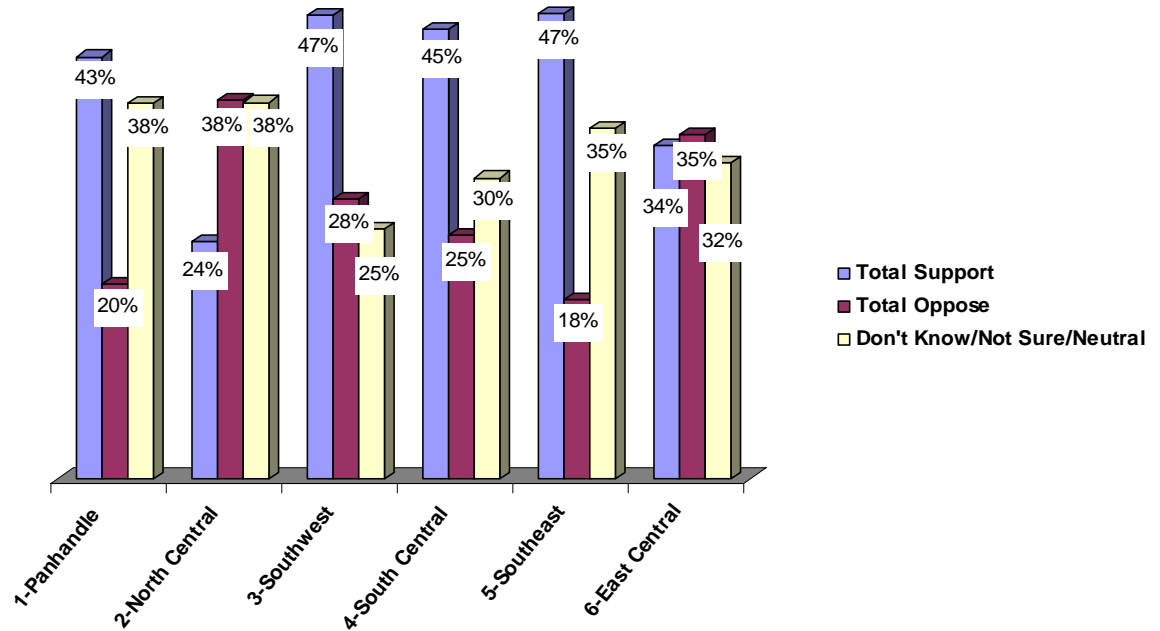


How much do you think test scores should be used to determine teacher pay?

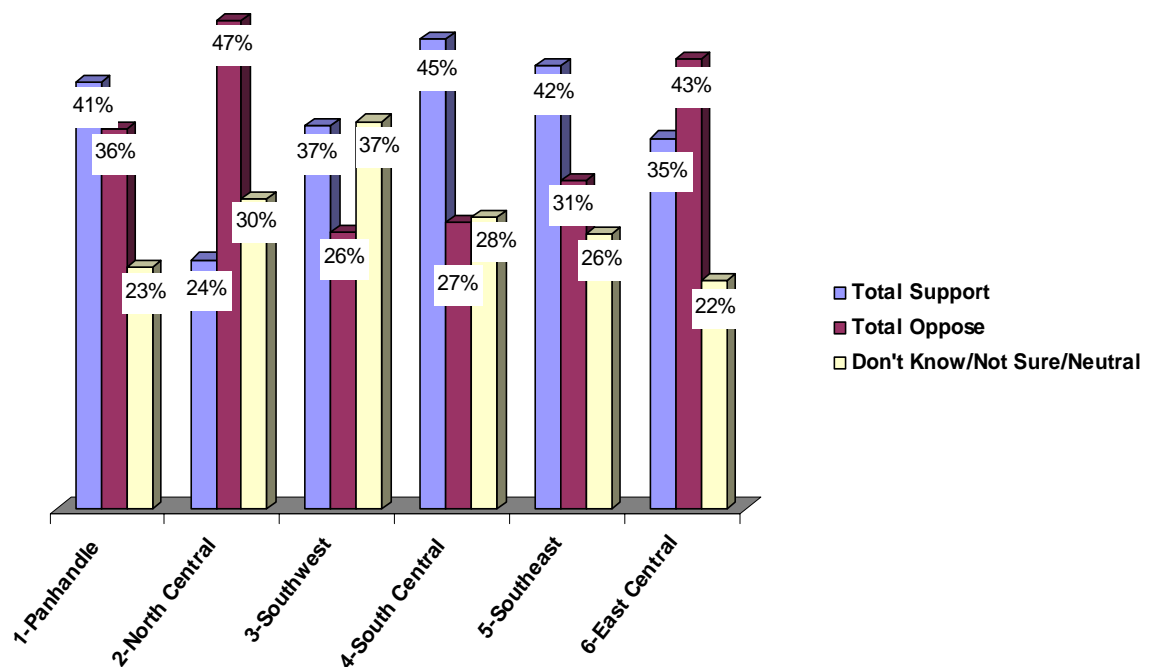


## Appendix I – Regional Responses

How much do you support or oppose Idaho Congressional efforts to designate wilderness in the Boulder White Clouds and Owyhee Canyonlands?

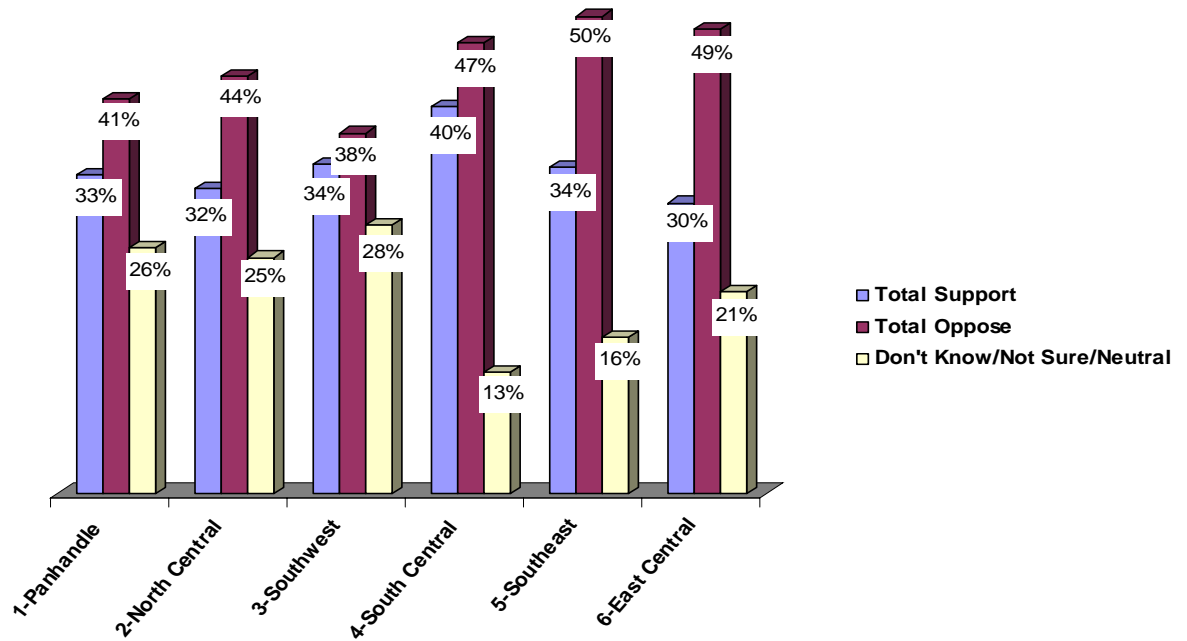


Do you support or oppose a statewide water user fee to buy up water rights to stabilize the Snake River Aquifer?

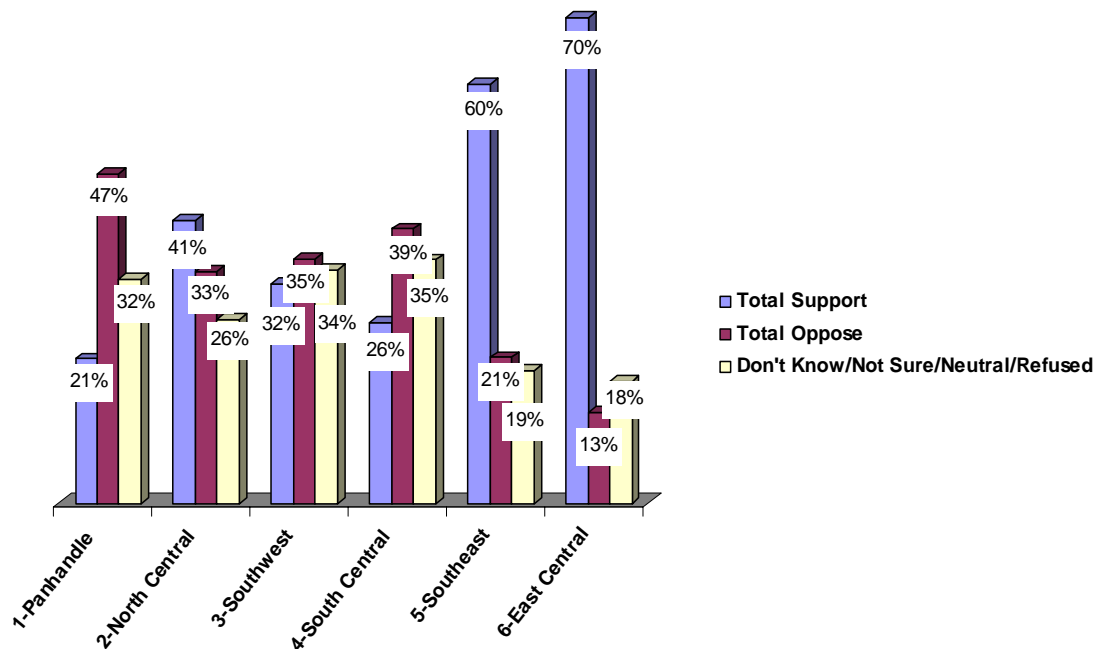


## Appendix I – Regional Responses

How strongly would you support or oppose a change to the current law to allow for easier transfer of water for growing urban needs?

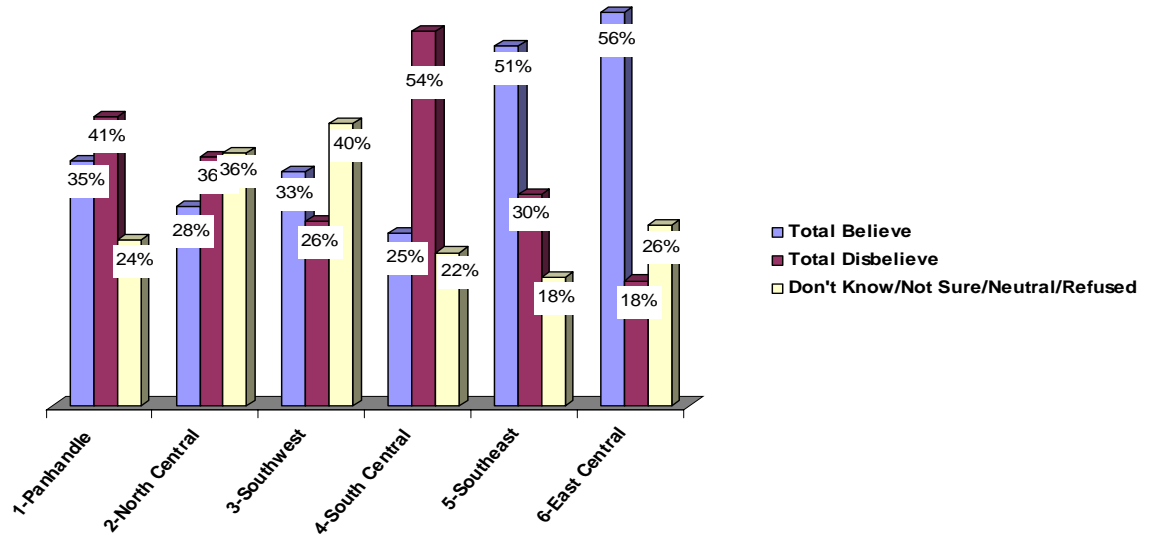


Idaho's Congressional delegation has secured 10 million dollars to design a nuclear research reactor at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL). How much do you support or oppose a decision to build it?

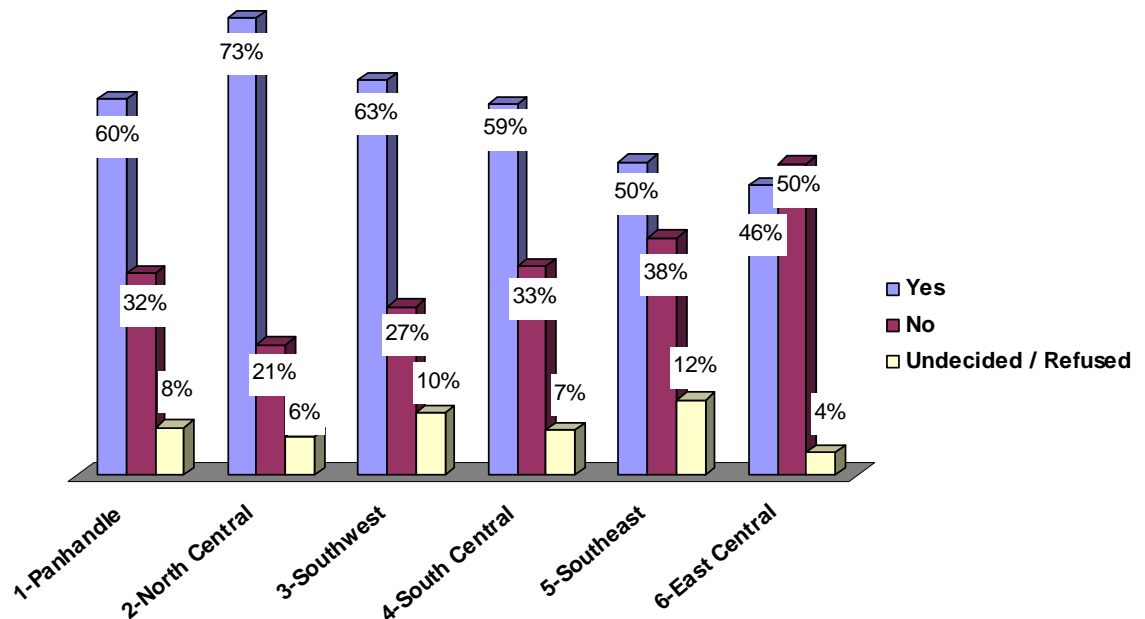


## Appendix I – Regional Responses

How strongly do you believe that the U.S. Department of Energy will meet its commitment to clean up most of the INEEL site by 2012 and finish work by 2035?



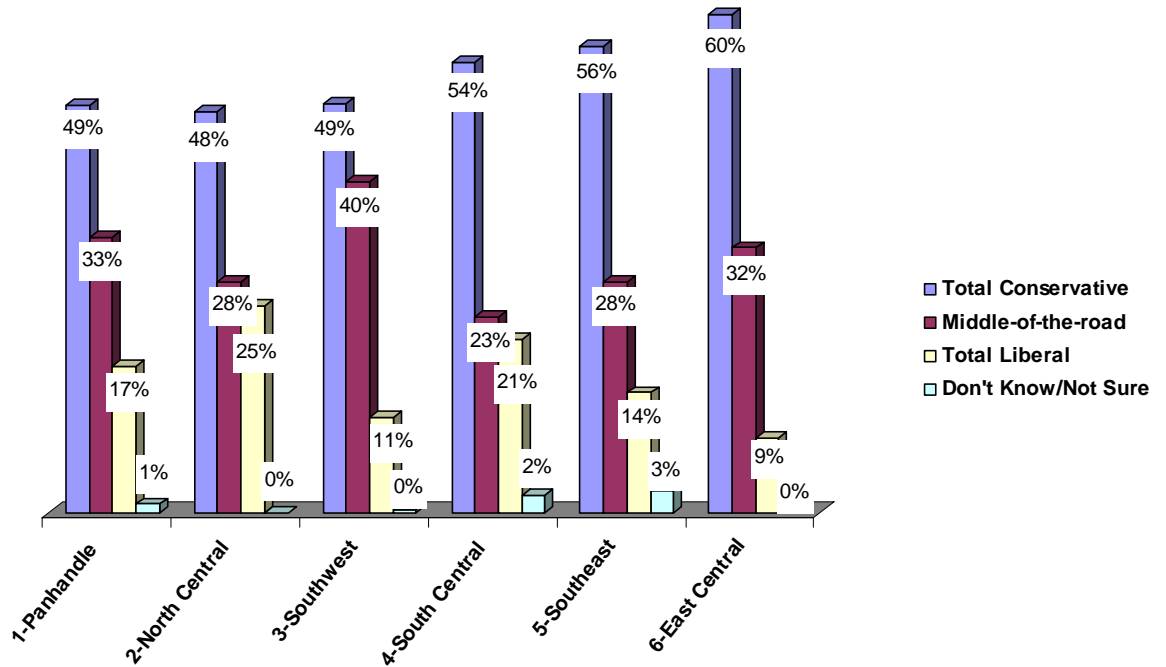
Do you think a woman should have the right to choose to have an abortion?



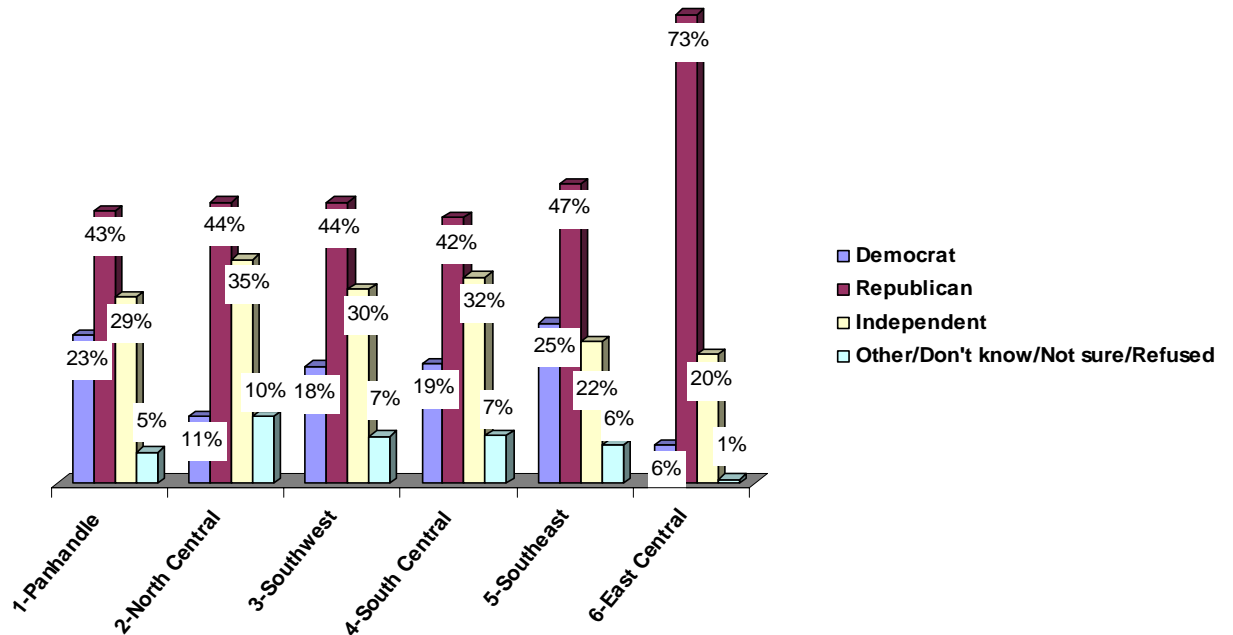


## Appendix I – Regional Responses

### Declared Ideology:

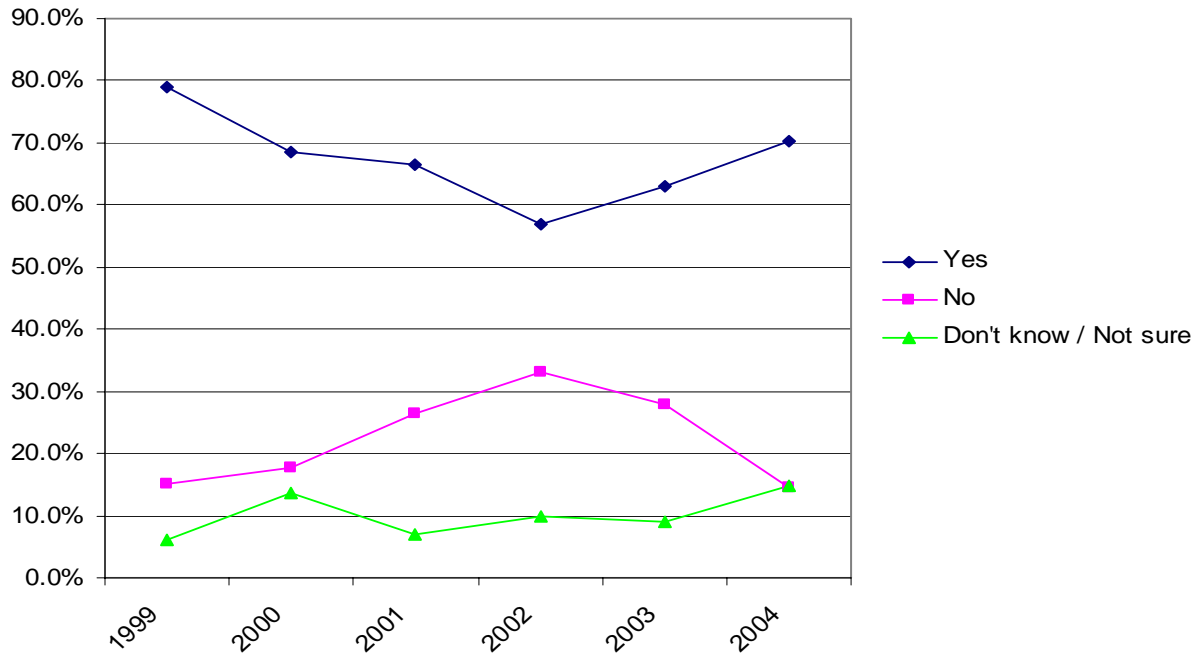


### Political Party Affiliation:



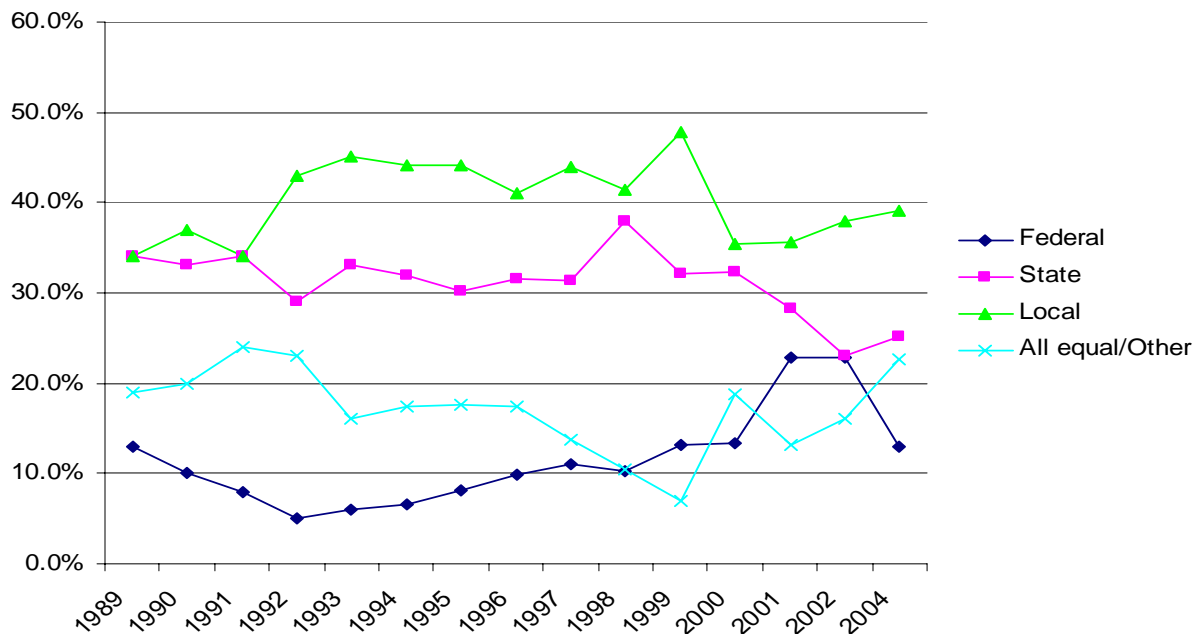
## Appendix II – Historical Trends

### Is the state headed in the right direction?



Note: Years 2002 through 2004 is weighted based on population.

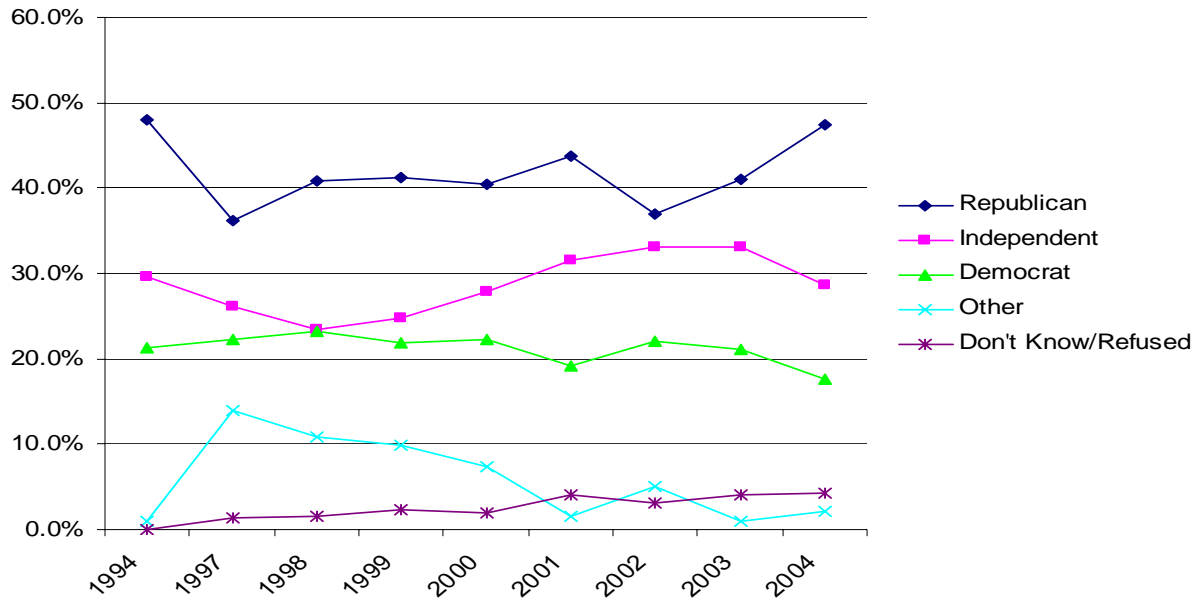
### In general, do you have the most trust in federal, state, or local government?



Note: Data missing in 2003.

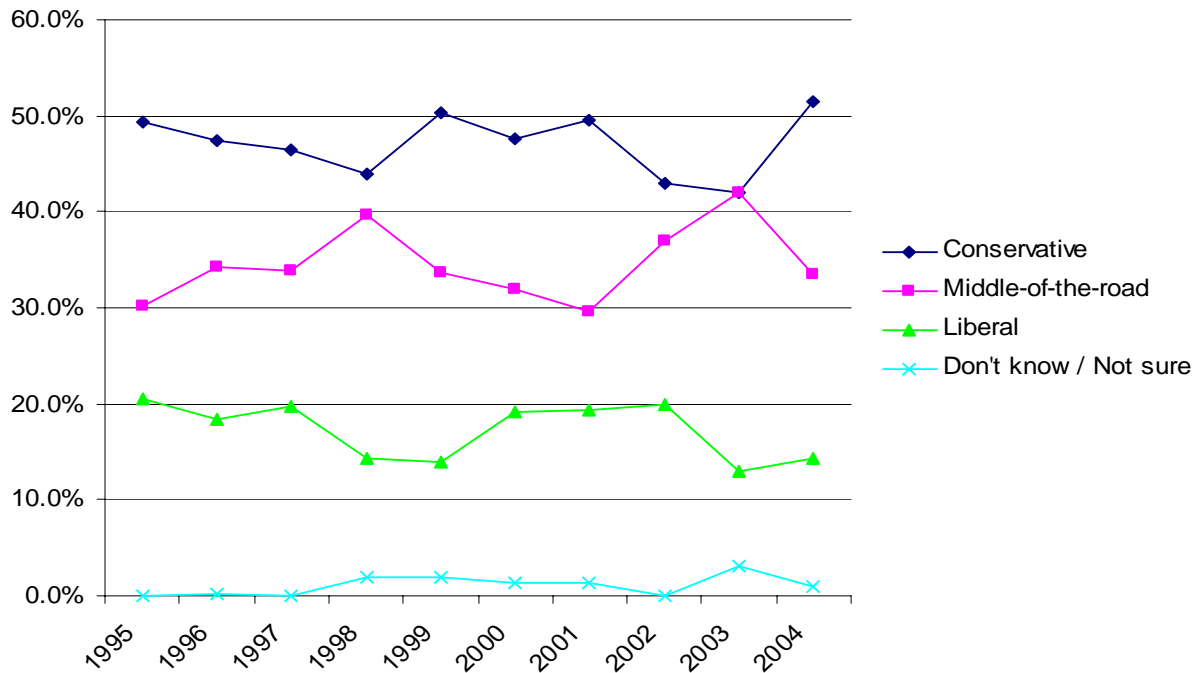
## Appendix II – Historical Trends

### Party Affiliation:



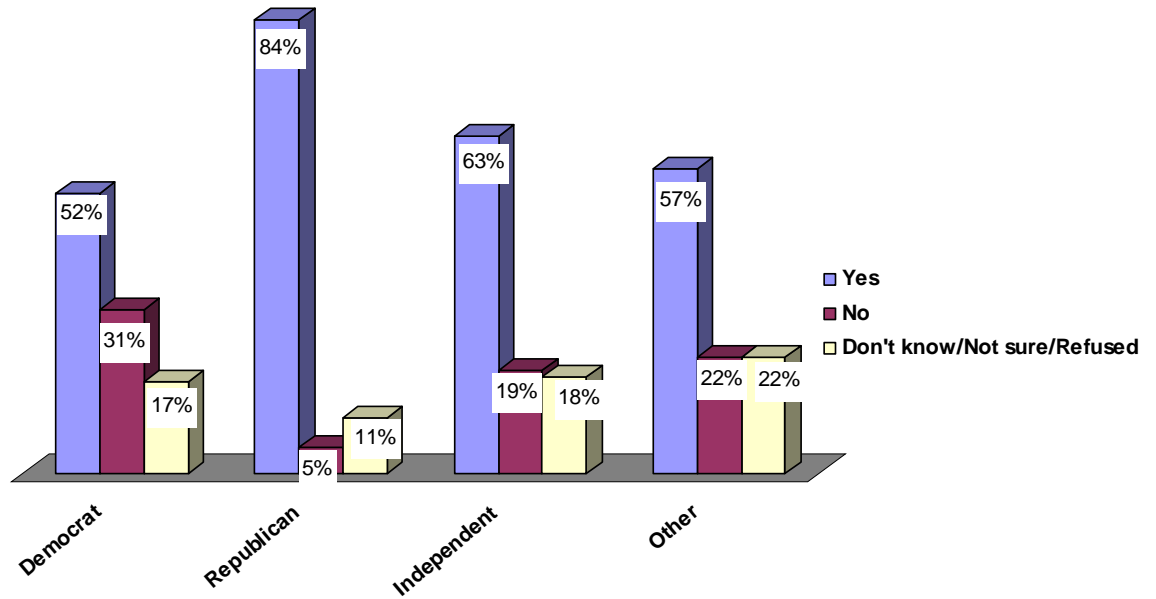
Note: Data missing in 1995 and 1996.

### Declared Ideology:

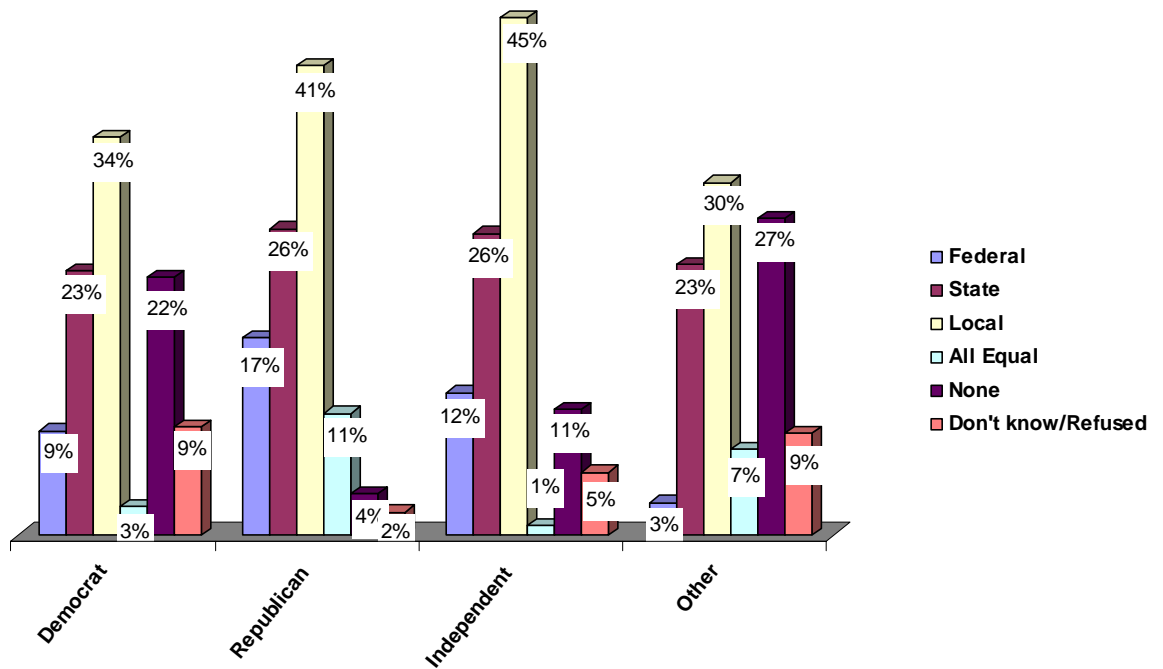


## Appendix III – Breakdown by Party Affiliation

Is the state headed in the right direction?

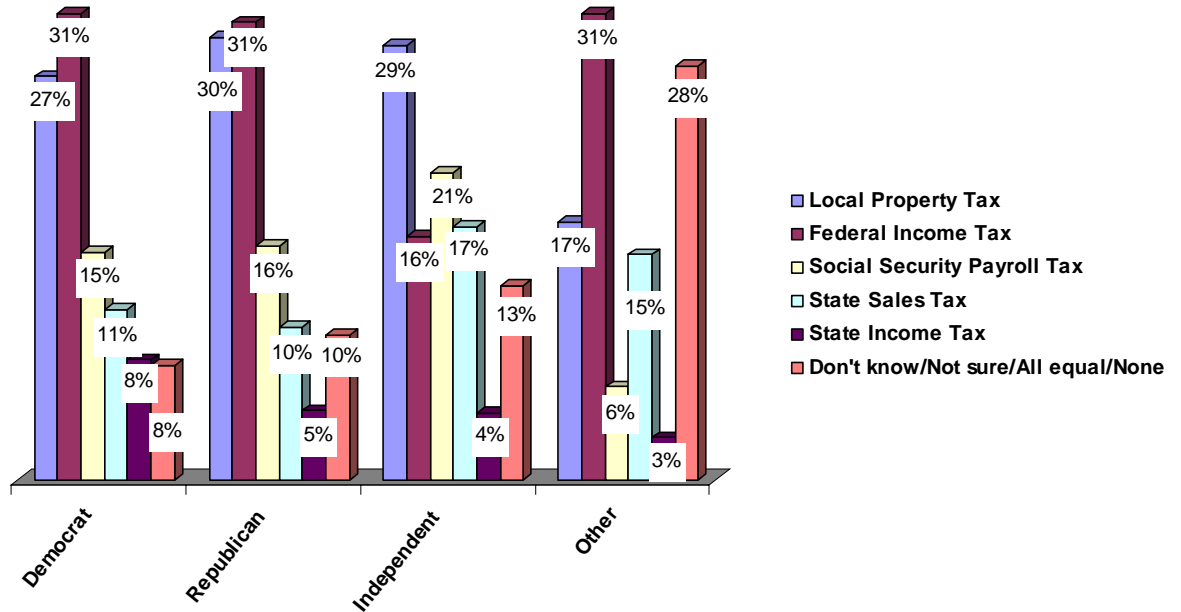


In general, do you have the most trust in federal, state, or local government?

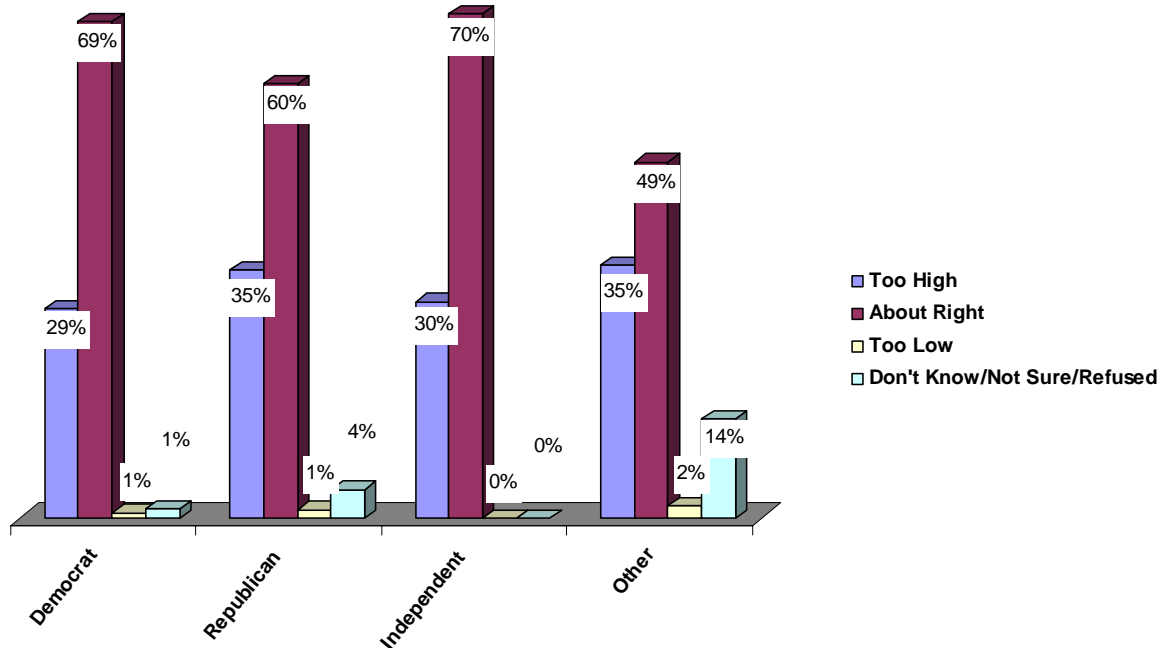


## Appendix III – Breakdown by Party Affiliation

Which tax do you think is the least fair?

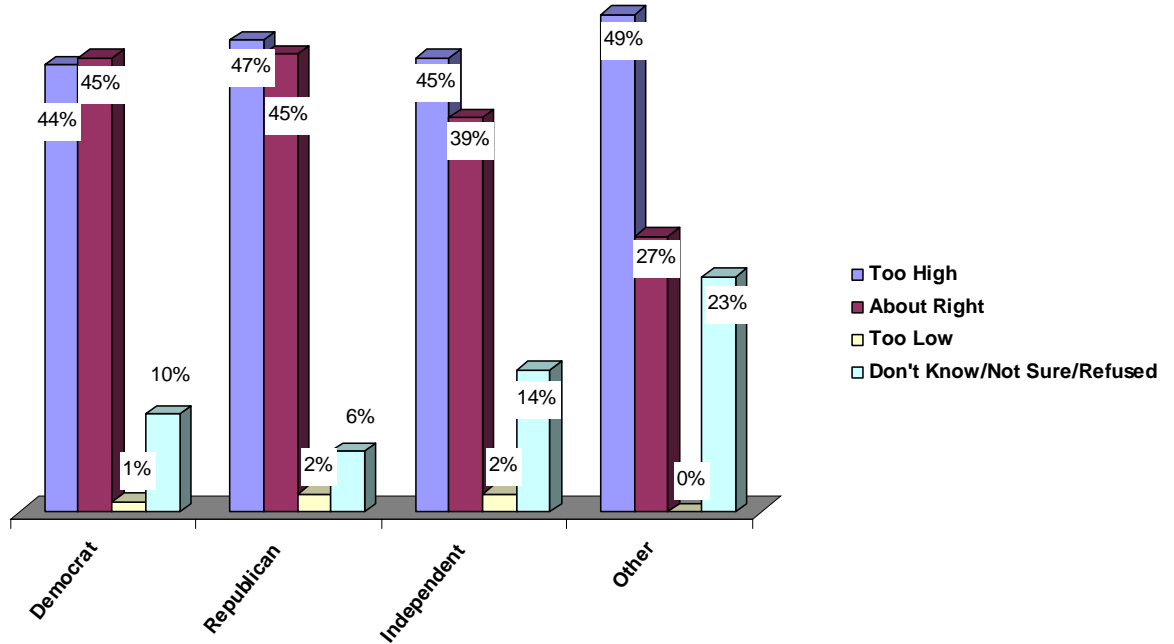


Do you think the state sales tax is too high, too low, or about right?

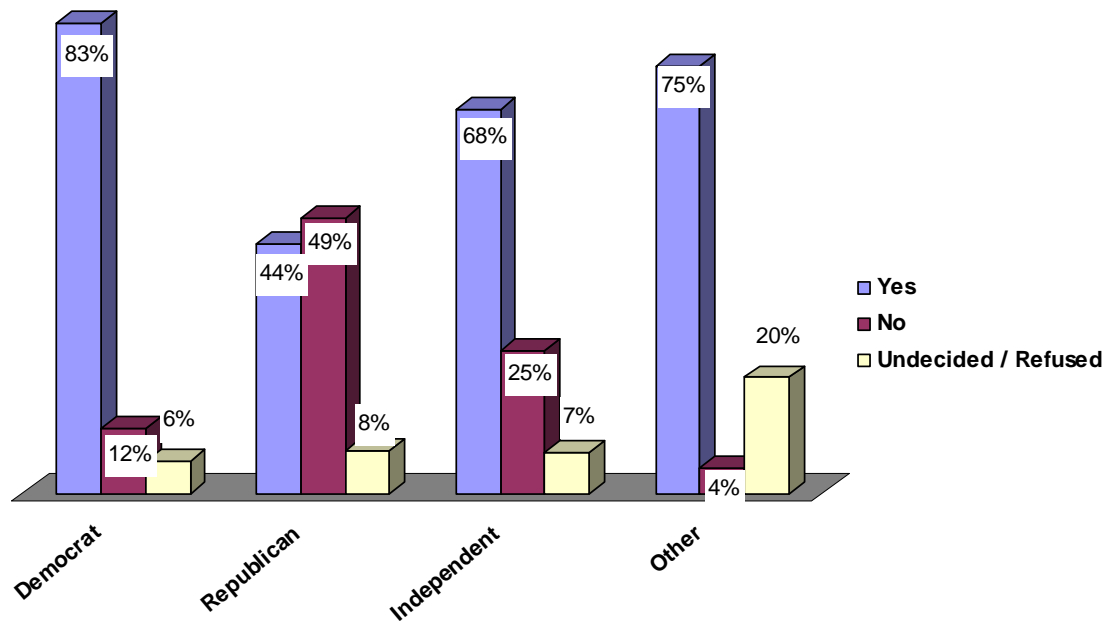


### Appendix III – Breakdown by Party Affiliation

Do you think the amount of local property tax is too high, too low, or about right?



Do you think a woman should have the right to choose to have an abortion?



## Appendix IV – Technical Report

### Introduction and Background

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Annually, the BSU Social Science Research Center (SSRC) conducts the Idaho Public Policy Survey (IPPS). The SSRC contracted with Clearwater Research to provide consultation on the design, collect data for, and complete initial analyses of the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Idaho Public Policy Survey. Clearwater Research, Inc., provided sample design, questionnaire consultation, data collection, analysis, and data table production services. The survey design and implementation followed computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI) protocols Clearwater Research has used successfully for past IPPS projects.

### Method

---

The SSRC provided Clearwater Research with the overall specifications of the 2004 IPPS project and with a set of questions to be included on the survey instrument. Clearwater Research consulted on the final questionnaire and sample design. We conducted telephone interviews with over 500 randomly selected adults residing in the State of Idaho using a random-digit-dialing (RDD) method.

### Survey Instrument

The SSRC provided Clearwater Research with the core questions for the 2004 IPPS questionnaire. Some items had been asked on earlier IPPS surveys of Idahoans, and others were developed for the 2004 study. Clearwater Research consulted with the SSRC to finalize the CATI version of the survey instrument.

The omnibus questionnaire covered a variety of areas, including core policy survey items, opinions on taxes, education, water rights, and other issues to be considered by the Idaho legislature in 2005. It also included demographic questions such as education level, age, income, and political party affiliation. During the first few days of data collection, minor adjustments were made to the question wordings and response categories based on feedback from interviewers and survey respondents. In addition, some items originally included on the instrument were dropped in an effort to shorten the average length of the survey interview. The final questionnaire is presented in Appendix V.

The programming of the questionnaire included checks for out-of-range and improbable values, and for consistency in responses across questions, as questions were answered. These checks brought invalid or questionable answers to the attention of the interviewer for corrective action as a respondent was interviewed. In testing the programming, Clearwater Research checked the CATI questionnaire with mock data to ensure that appropriate skip patterns were followed. The survey was conducted in English only. The average interview length was 15.6 minutes.

### Sampling

For the 2004 IPPS, a random-digit-dialing (RDD) method was used to sample a minimum of 500 of Idaho adults. The RDD sample frame consisted of all telephone numbers in one-plus working banks with exchanges serving Idaho households. A bank is a series of 100 telephone numbers from ending with 01 through 99 that start with the same area code, exchange, and first two digits of the line number. A one-plus bank contains a telephone number listed in a residential directory and is therefore likely to include telephone numbers that ring at residential households.

The sample was stratified by region—six county groupings corresponding to the six districts of the Idaho Association of Counties. Independent samples were drawn for each region so that the total number

## Appendix IV – Technical Report

of completed interviews in each could be controlled during the field period. The stratification was disproportionate, such that an equal number of interviews was planned to be completed in each region (a minimum of 85).

Clearwater Research estimated the necessary number of RDD records to generate for each region in order to achieve the required number of completed interviews. The generated sample records were divided into random subsamples of 50 records for processing. Replication provides a means of ensuring that the minimum number of records are called to achieve the desired number of completed interviews.

The records were processed by Marketing Systems Group (MSG) using their GENESYS-CSS (Comprehensive Sample Screening) service. The process identifies a large percentage of business, nonworking, and cell phone numbers that are drawn in RDD samples. Records identified through the CSS process as nonresidential lines were not called. Rather, they were sequestered and added to the calculation of final dispositions and response rates. All remaining RDD telephone numbers were called.

Once an interviewer made voice contact with a household, he or she verified the number reached and that the number was for a private residence. One adult member of the household was randomly selected to be interviewed using a most-recent-birthday method.

### Data Collection

Clearwater Research collected data using its in-house 110-station computer-aided telephone interview (CATI) system. Data collection ran from November 9 through 29, 2004.

Interviewers were thoroughly briefed prior to data collection, and they rehearsed the questionnaire before conducting actual interviews. Monitoring staff listened to a sampling of interviews throughout the fielding period to maintain data quality. Clearwater Research used computer-aided dialing, *but not predictive dialing*. Predictive dialing has the potential to annoy respondents by introducing a delay in connections after respondents answer the telephone. This delay leads to higher hang-up and refusal rates and a correspondingly lower response rate for the survey.

Calling protocols followed good practices for general population surveys sampled with RDD. We resolved each sample record by attempting the number 10 times during the calling period or until a final disposition code (such as “completed interview” or “disconnected/non-working number”) was assigned. The calling protocols required that the 10 attempts occur on no fewer than five calling occasions—each consisting of no more than three attempts at least one hour apart. Further, the 10 attempts should involve at least three weekday calls, three weeknight calls, and three weekend calls. The calling periods for the PTES data collection were 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. weekdays, 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. weeknights, 10 A.M. to 7:30 P.M. Saturdays, and 1 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. Sundays (Mountain Time).

The calling protocol required that respondents or potential respondents who initially refused to participate or who terminated the interview after beginning it be contacted again in an attempt to convert them to a participating respondent. The initial refusal could occur either at the household level (before a respondent had been selected) or at the respondent level (after a respondent had been selected and the selected respondent had refused).



## **Appendix IV – Technical Report**

The numbers of completed interviews being collected in each region during fielding was monitored. As needed, sample replicates were added to or removed from the pool of records being called by interviewers via the CATI system.

During fielding, the survey data were entered and automatically consolidated by the CATI software as interviewers completed each questionnaire with a respondent. During fielding, interviewers and supervisors used project feedback and data change forms to document and communicate data collection errors or problems to the production manager in the data collection department. Data changes were effected by the production manager using the CATI data editor. If a data change affected a skip pattern later in the questionnaire, the respondent was called back to collect the missing data.

The productivity of the sample was sufficient to achieve the minimum 500 completed interviews using 4,150 RDD telephone numbers. Clearwater Research completed 531 interviews—31 (6%) more than the required minimum—for the 2004 IPPS.

### Data Preparation

Calling on the RDD sample was considered complete at the point that all records in used replicates had reached their maximum attempts or a final disposition had been assigned. We exported the data from CATI, cleaned the data, and compiled them into a labeled SPSS data file. The data files included data from all completed interviews in the used replicates. Any data collected in replicates that had been backed out during fielding was removed from the final data set.

Clearwater Research checked the prepared data for out-of-range and improbable values and for consistency in responses across questions and appropriate skip patterns. Data cleaning included editing open-ended responses to ensure correctness and consistency in spelling, capitalization, and punctuation. Open-ended responses in “other” categories were further cleaned by coding them into existing categories when they were duplicative of existing categories. The SSRC worked with Clearwater Research to finalize the coding schemes and the correct code assignments. Confidentiality of the data was ensured by removing any information—such as the telephone number—that could identify a specific household that participated in the study.

Clearwater Research calculated the final disposition for each sample record. The CATI call history tables recorded the interim or final disposition entered by the interviewer for each call attempt. Database programming referenced both the CATI call history tables and the data sets to determine the correct final disposition.

Finally, the data were weighted to account for the sample design and to reduce the effect of unit nonresponse. The list-assisted RDD design yields a complex probability sample. Probabilities vary by the number of phone lines that serve the household and by the number of adults that live in the household. Case weights were calculated to account for these varying probabilities of selection. In addition, we used a post-stratification factor in the case weighting to help minimize bias due to nonresponse patterns (refusals and noncontacts). The population estimates used for poststratification were county-level estimates by age and gender for July 1, 2003, published by the U.S. Census.

We calculated two weights for each case. The first was an expansion weight for projecting to population counts and for correct variance estimation using specialized statistical analysis software, such as SUDAAN. The second was a relative weight, which can be used for approximating correct variance

## Appendix IV – Technical Report

estimates using standard statistical analysis software with simple random sample assumptions, such as SPSS. The final tables produced by Clearwater Research for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual IPPS contain results generated with SUDAAN using the expansion weight.

### Call Outcomes

Each call attempt was given an interim disposition depending on the outcome of the call. At the end of the field period, each record was assigned a final disposition for the study based on the history of interim dispositions for that case. The final disposition counts for the 2004 IPPS project—based on the disposition set developed by the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) for CATI studies—is shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Final Dispositions**

Final Disposition	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Total
<b>Interview (Category 1)</b>							
Complete	91	93	88	88	86	85	531
Partial	1	0	1	0	1	1	4
Total Category 1	92	93	89	88	87	86	535
<b>Eligible, non-interview (Category 2)</b>							
Refusal and breakoff	0	1	2	1	4	3	11
Household-level refusal	69	76	82	62	66	64	419
Known-respondent refusal	1	3	5	6	4	8	27
Respondent never available	2	5	6	6	1	6	26
Answering machine household-message left	2	1	5	3	5	4	20
Physically or mentally unable/incompetent	2	1	0	1	3	0	7
Household-level language problem		0	3	5	2	2	12
Respondent language problem	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Total Category 2	76	87	103	85	85	88	524
<b>Unknown eligibility, non-interview (Cat. 3)</b>							
Always busy	3	4	2	6	2	2	19
No answer	27	26	33	37	24	40	187
Answering machine-don't know if household	29	22	39	28	29	30	177
Call blocking		0	1	2	1	1	5
Total Category 3	59	52	75	73	56	73	388
<b>Not eligible (Category 4)</b>							
Fax/data line	21	11	27	31	16	15	121
Non-working number	43	14	32	18	23	33	163
Nonresidence	438	378	352	395	320	436	2319
Business, government office, other organizations	20	14	21	9	12	18	94
No eligible respondent	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Total Category 4	523	418	433	454	372	503	2703
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>4150</b>

### Response Rates

For the 2004 IPPS project, we use the method of response rate calculation codified by the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR).<sup>1</sup> Specifically, we calculated AAPOR Response Rate 4 (RR4). This rate reflects the percentage of completed and partially completed interviews

<sup>1</sup> The American Association for Public Opinion Research. 2004. *Standard Definitions: Final Dispositions of Case Codes and Outcome Rates for Surveys*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Lenexa, Kansas: AAPOR.

## Appendix IV – Technical Report

achieved after fully processing all attempted sample records in worked replicates according to the prescribed sample management rules. It also estimates the number of eligible households from the total number of phone numbers of unknown status.

To calculate RR4, the IPPS final dispositions are summarized into seven categories, shown in Table 3.

**Table 3: AAPOR Response Rate Formula Categories**

Symbol	Description	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Total
I	Complete interviews	91	93	88	88	86	85	531
P	Partial interviews	1	0	1	0	1	1	4
R	Refusal or break off	70	80	89	69	74	75	457
NC	Non-contact	4	6	11	9	6	10	46
O	Other	2	1	3	7	5	3	21
UH	Unknown if household	59	52	75	73	56	73	388
UO	Unknown other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RR4	AAPOR Reponse Rate #4 (unweighted)	0.505	0.475	0.414	0.456	0.459	0.446	0.458

The formula for RR4 is:

$$RR4 = (I+P)/((I+P)+(R+NC+O)+e(UH+UO))$$

For this calculation, we set the value of *e* to the proportion of known households in the group of sample records whose eligibility status was able to be determined. For most RDD surveys, this is a conservative estimate of *e*.

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

INTRO

-----

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am calling on behalf of the Social Science Research Center at Boise State University. This is not a sales call.

We are conducting a brief 10-minute survey to find out how the people of Idaho feel about issues that affect the state. This study is very important because it will be a resource for Idaho policy-makers.

I need to speak to the adult 18 years or older who lives in your household and who has had the most recent birthday. Are you the adult with the most recent birthday in your household?

- 1 YES (SKIP TO INSTATE)
- 2 NO (CONTINUE WITH GETNEWAD)

IF NECESSARY, USE FALLBACK STATEMENT TO EXPLAIN MOST RECENT BIRTHDAY SELECTION

-----

GETNEWAD - GET IF INTRO1 = 2

-----

May I speak with the adult with the most recent birthday?

- 1 YES, SELECTED RESPONDENT COMING TO THE PHONE (CONTINUE WITH INTRO2)
  - 2 NO, NOT AVAILABLE NOW (SCHEDULE A CALLBACK)
- 

INTRO2 - GET IF INTRO1 = 2 AND GETNEWAD = 1

-----

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am calling on behalf of the Social Science Research Center at Boise State University. This is not a sales call.

We are conducting a brief 10-minute survey to find out how the people of Idaho feel about important issues that affect the state. This study is very important because it will be a resource for Idaho policy-makers.

I need to speak to the adult 18 years or older who lives in your household and who has had the most recent birthday. Are you the adult with the most recent birthday in your household?

- 1 YES
  - 2 NO
- 

INSTATE

-----

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary and all of your answers will be kept entirely confidential.

---

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

First, I need to make sure I've reached a household in Idaho. Is this household in Idaho?

- 1 YES (CONTINUE WITH COUNTYQ)
- 2 NO, NOT IN IDAHO (SKIP TO SORRY)
- 3 NOT A PRIVATE RESIDENCE (SKIP TO SORRY)

-----

COUNTYQ

-----

In what Idaho county is your residence located?

SELECT FROM LIST OF IDAHO COUNTIES

001. ADA	031. CASSIA	061. LEWIS
003. ADAMS	033. CLARK	063. LINCOLN
005. BANNOCK	035. CLEARWATER	065. MADISON
007. BEAR LAKE	037. CUSTER	067. MINIDOKA
009. BENEWAH	039. ELMORE	069. NEZ PERCE
011. BINGHAM	041. FRANKLIN	071. ONEIDA
013. BLAINE	043. FREMONT	073. OWYHEE
015. BOISE	045. GEM	075. PAYETTE
017. BONNER	047. GOODING	077. POWER
019. BONNEVILLE	049. IDAHO	079. SHOSHONE
021. BOUNDARY	051. JEFFERSON	081. TETON
023. BUTTE	053. JEROME	083. TWIN FALLS
025. CAMAS	055. KOOTENAI	085. VALLEY
027. CANYON	057. LATAH	087. WASHINGTON
029. CARIBOU	059. LEMHI	

777 DON'T KNOW

999 REFUSED

-----

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

### Core Questions

-----  
Q005  
-----

In general terms, do you think the state is headed in the right direction?

- 1 YES
  - 2 NO
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q010  
-----

In your opinion what is the single MOST important issue facing Idaho today?

CODE OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE. IF MORE THAN ONE, PROBE FOR ONE CATEGORY. IF ANSWER CATEGORY IS NOT ON LIST OR RESPONDENT WILL NOT CHOOSE ONE, USE "OTHER" AND SPECIFY CATEGORY/CATEGORIES.

- 11 EDUCATION (LEVEL OF FUNDING/CONDITION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS)
  - 12 JOBS (UNEMPLOYMENT)
  - 13 ECONOMY (OVERALL ECONOMIC GROWTH, STATE OR FEDERAL)
  - 14 ENVIRONMENT (DEGRADATION/TOO MUCH REGULATION/ACCESS)
  - 15 GROWTH (NEED MORE/LESS BUSINESS, POPULATION, SPRAWL)
  - 16 WAGES (RIGHT TO WORK/STATE GOV./EMPLOYEE SALARIES)
  
  - 20 OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)
  
  - 77 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 99 REFUSED
- 

Q010B  
-----

Why is <Q010> a problem?

- 1 ENTER RESPONSE
  
- 7 DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

PROGRAMMER: INSERT CATEGORY CHOSEN IN Q010 ABOVE.  
-----

---

**Appendix V – Survey Questions**Q020

---

In general, do you have the most trust in federal, state, or local government?

1. FEDERAL
  2. STATE
  3. LOCAL
  4. ALL EQUAL
  5. NONE
  
  7. DON'T KNOW
  9. REFUSED
- 

***Government and Civic Engagement***

---

Q045

---

Do you consider yourself to be a ...

- 1 Democrat
  - 2 Republican
  - 3 Independent
  - 4 OTHER (SPECIFY)
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q050

---

In general, would you describe yourself as ...

- 1 Very conservative
  - 2 Somewhat conservative
  - 3 Middle-of-the-road
  - 4 Somewhat liberal
  - 5 Very liberal
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
-

---

**Appendix V – Survey Questions**Q055

---

The Idaho Legislature has been sued by the Idaho Press Club for holding closed-door meetings of official legislative committees. Please tell me how much you agree or disagree that legislative committees should be able to conduct official business in private. Do you ...

- 1 Strongly agree
  - 2 Agree
  - 3 Neither agree nor disagree
  - 4 Disagree
  - 5 Strongly disagree
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

***Budget***

---

Q060

---

The next questions are about the state budget and taxes.

Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with the following statement:  
Legislation should be passed to cap state spending increases based on the annual changes in the cost of living and population regardless of impact on education and other services. Do you...

- 1 Strongly agree
  - 2 Agree
  - 3 Neither agree nor disagree
  - 4 Disagree
  - 5 Strongly disagree
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
-



---

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

### ***Taxes***

-----  
Q065  
-----

Which of the following taxes do you think is the least fair? Would you say...

- 1 Federal income tax
  - 2 State income tax
  - 3 State sales tax
  - 4 Local property tax
  - 5 Social security payroll tax
  - 5 ALL EQUAL
  - 6 NONE
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q070  
-----

Do you think the amount of state sales tax you have to pay in Idaho is too high, about right or too low?

- 1 TOO HIGH
  - 2 ABOUT RIGHT
  - 3 TOO LOW
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q075  
-----

Do you think the amount of local property tax you have to pay in Idaho is too high, about right or too low?

- 1 TOO HIGH
  - 2 ABOUT RIGHT
  - 3 TOO LOW
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
-

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

Q080

Do you think the amount of state income tax you have to pay in Idaho is too high, about right or too low?

- 1 TOO HIGH
- 2 ABOUT RIGHT
- 3 TOO LOW
- 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q085

The temporary one-cent sales tax increase raises approximately 180 million dollars annually. It will sunset or expire on June 30, 2005. Which one of the following policy options would you most prefer?

- 1 Make the one-cent sales tax increase permanent
- 2 Extend the temporary 1-cent sales tax for another year
- 3 Raise other taxes by rolling back the income tax cuts of 2001 and increasing fees
- 4 Hold the line on budget increases, and wait for the economy to catch up
- 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q087

How strongly would you agree to support a legislative proposal to grant cities and counties local option tax authority if it were subject to voter approval? Would you...

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 4 Disagree
- 5 Strongly disagree
- 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

INTERVIEWER: IF ASKED, "A local option tax is a tax collected at a local level whose revenue is used for local purposes (is usually in the form of a sales or use tax.)"

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

### Corrections

Q095

Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with this statement: In some instances, non-violent offenders could be removed from prison after a short period of incarceration, then supervised in the community. Do you ...

- 1 Agree for all crimes
- 2 Disagree for all crimes
- 3 Agree for some crimes but disagree for other crimes
- 4 Neither agree nor disagree regardless of the crime (NEUTRAL)
- 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

### Education

Q100

The next questions are about education in Idaho.

Which of the following levels of the Idaho education system do you believe needs the MOST improvement?

- 1 Pre-school and early childhood education
- 2 Kindergarten through 12th grade
- 3 College
- 4 TWO OF THE ABOVE NEED IMPROVEMENT EQUALLY
- 5 ALL OF THE ABOVE NEED IMPROVEMENT EQUALLY
- 6 NONE OF THE ABOVE NEED IMPROVEMENT AT ALL
- 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

---

**Appendix V – Survey Questions**

Q105

-----

When constructing or remodeling public school buildings, should school districts rely on the state to assist with funding?

- 1 YES
  - 2 NO
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q115

-----

How much if anything would you say you know about the No Child Left Behind Act, the federal education bill passed by congress in 2001?

- 1 A great deal
  - 2 A fair amount
  - 3 Very little
  - 4 Nothing at all (SKIP TO Q125)
  - 9 REFUSED (SKIP TO Q125)
- 

Q120 – ONLY IF Q115 &lt; 4

-----

From what you know or have heard or read about the No Child Left Behind Act, do you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of the act – or don't you know enough about it to say?

- 1 VERY FAVORABLE
  - 2 SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE
  - 3 SOMEWHAT UNFAVORABLE
  - 4 VERY UNFAVORABLE
  - 7 DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE / DON'T KNOW ENOUGH TO SAY
  - 9 REFUSED
-

---

**Appendix V – Survey Questions**

Q125

-----

According to the No Child Left Behind Act, determining whether a public school is or is not in need of improvement will be based on the performance of its students on a single statewide test. In your opinion, will a single test provide a fair picture of whether or not a school needs improvement?

- 1 YES
  - 2 NO
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q130

-----

From what you have heard about the No Child Left Behind Act, how much do you think it will help to improve student achievement in the public schools in your community? Would you say ...

- 1 A great deal
  - 2 A fair amount
  - 3 Not very much
  - 4 Not at all
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q135

-----

How much do you think student test scores should be used to determine teacher pay? Would you say ...

- 1 A great deal
  - 2 A fair amount
  - 3 Not very much
  - 4 Not at all
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
-

---

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

### *Energy and Environmental Issues*

---

Q145

---

Idaho's congressional delegation has secured 10 million dollars to design a new nuclear research reactor at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. How strongly do you support or oppose a decision to build it? Do you ...

- 1 Strongly support
- 2 Support
- 3 Neither support nor oppose
- 4 Oppose
- 5 Strongly Oppose
  
- 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

NOTE: IDAHO NATIONAL ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY = INEEL. THE INEEL IS LOCATED IN IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO.

---

Q150

---

The U. S. Department of Energy plans to complete much of its cleanup at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory by the year 2012, and finish work by 2035. How strongly do you believe the Department of Energy will clean up the site? Do you ...

- 1 Strongly believe
- 2 Believe
- 3 Neither believe nor disbelieve
- 4 Disbelieve
- 5 Strongly disbelieve
  
- 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

NOTE: IDAHO NATIONAL ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY = INEEL. THE INEEL IS LOCATED IN IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO.

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**Appendix V – Survey Questions**

Q155

-----

Which state environmental issue is most important to you?

- 01 Drinking water contamination
  - 02 Water pollution
  - 03 Solid and hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal
  - 04 Air pollution
  - 05 Endangered species
  - 06 Contamination site cleanup
  - 07 Forest health
  - 08 Some other state environmental issue (SPECIFY)
  - 09 NONE OF THE ABOVE / NO ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE IS MOST IMPORTANT
  
  - 77 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 99 REFUSED
- 

Q165

-----

Over the past few decades, most trends have shown reductions in the Snake River Aquifer's groundwater level. How strongly would you support or oppose a statewide water user fee to buy up water rights to stabilize the Snake River aquifer? Would you.....

- 1 Strongly support
  - 2 Support
  - 3 Neither support nor oppose
  - 4 Oppose
  - 5 Strongly Oppose
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q175

-----

How much do you support or oppose Idaho Congressional efforts to designate wilderness in the Boulder White Clouds and Owyhee Canyonlands? Do you ...

- 1 Strongly support
  - 2 Support
  - 3 Neither support nor oppose
  - 4 Oppose
  - 5 Strongly oppose
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q180

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

Current Idaho law allocates water first to those who have the most senior water rights. As a general rule, those with the most senior rights use their water allocation for agricultural purposes. How strongly would you support or oppose a change to the current law to allow for easier transfer of water for growing urban needs? Would you ...

- 1 Strongly support
- 2 Support
- 3 Neither support nor oppose
- 4 Oppose
- 5 Strongly oppose
- 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

### Social Issues

Q190

We are getting close to the end of the interview. The next few questions are about social issues in Idaho.

Do you think a woman should have the right to choose to have an abortion?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 3 UNDECIDED
- 9 REFUSED

Q195

Currently, Idaho law makes it illegal for a business and a union to agree to a contract that requires employees of that business to be union members. How much do you agree or disagree with the current law? Do you ...

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 4 Disagree
- 5 Strongly disagree
- 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED



---

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

### Security

---

Q200

---

It has been argued that in order to fight terrorism, we may have to give up some of our constitutional rights. Which of the following best describes your opinion about this tradeoff?

- 1 Constitutional rights should be protected at all costs
  - 2 Protecting constitutional rights should be favored over fighting terrorism
  - 3 Fighting terrorism should be favored over protecting constitutional rights
  - 4 Terrorism should be fought at all costs
  - 5 NONE OF THE ABOVE/OTHER
  
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

### Demographics

---

Q205

---

Finally, I have some background questions that will be used for statistical purposes only.

How many members of your household, including yourself, are 18 years of age or older?

\_\_\_\_\_ ENTER THE NUMBER OF ADULTS

- 20 20 OR MORE
  - 77 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 99 REFUSED
- 

Q210

---

Do you have more than one telephone number in your household? Do not include cell phones or numbers that are only used by a computer or fax machine.

- 1 YES
  - 2 NO
  - 7 DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
-

---

**Appendix V – Survey Questions**

Q211

-----

How many of these phone numbers are residential numbers?

- 1 ONE
  - 2 TWO
  - 3 THREE
  - 4 FOUR
  - 5 FIVE
  - 6 SIX OR MORE
  - 7 DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q215

-----

CODE SEX OF RESPONDENT. IF NECESSARY, ASK:

This may sound silly, but for survey purposes I need to ask, are you male or female?

- 1 MALE
  - 2 FEMALE
  - 7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q220

-----

Please tell me which of the following racial or ethnic group or groups best describe you?

- 11 White, non-Hispanic
- 22 Hispanic or Latino
- 33 Black or African American, non-Hispanic
- 44 Asian, non-Hispanic
- 55 American Indian or Alaskan Native, non-Hispanic
- 66 OTHER (SPECIFY)
- 77 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 REFUSED

NOTE: IF MORE THAN ONE GROUP, USE 66 (OTHER) AND SPECIFY GROUPS.

-----

---

**Appendix V – Survey Questions**

Q225

-----

What is your current marital status?

- 1 SINGLE, NEVER MARRIED
  - 2 MARRIED
  - 3 DIVORCED
  - 4 SEPARATED
  - 5 WIDOWED
  
  - 9 REFUSED
- 

Q230

-----

What is your age?

\_\_\_\_\_ ENTER AGE (18-110) (SKIP TO Q230)

- 777 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE (GO TO Q225B)
- 999 REFUSED (GO TO Q225B)

**[Q225V: VERIFY RESPONDENTS' ANSWERS IF Q225 IS LESS THAN Q220]**

-----

**Q230B - GET IF Q230 = 777 OR 999**

-----

I understand this is a sensitive question. Would you be willing to tell me which of the following best describes your age range?

READ CHOICES

- 1 Under 30
  - 2 30 to 44
  - 3 45 to 64
  - 4 65 or older
  
  - 7 I DO NOT KNOW / I DO NOT UNDERSTAND
  - 9 REFUSED
-

---

**Appendix V – Survey Questions**

Q235

-----

How many years have you lived in Idaho?

\_\_\_\_\_ ENTER NUMBER OF YEARS (0-110)

777 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

999 REFUSED

NOTE: IF LESS THAN ONE YEAR CODE AS "0" (ZERO)

-----

Q240 - GET IF Q230 = 10 YEARS OR LESS OR Q230 = 777 OR 999

-----

What was the most important reason that you  
(moved to /returned to) this state? Was it ...

1 For employment opportunities

2 To retire

3 Quality of life

4 To obtain an education

5 Or some other reason

7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

9 REFUSED

-----

Q245

-----

Have you voted in an election in the past two years?

1 YES

2 NO

7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

9 REFUSED

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

Q250

What is the highest level of school or college that you have completed?

**INTERVIEWER: READ ONLY IF NECESSARY**

- 21 Less than high school
- 22 High school graduate or GED
- 23 2-year or associate degree
- 24 Some college but less than 4 years
- 25 Trade or vocational certificate
- 26 4-year college graduate (Bachelor's or 4 year degree)
- 27 Some graduate school
- 28 Master's degree
- 29 Doctorate or professional degree (PHD, MD, JD)
- 30 Or something else (SPECIFY)
  
- 77 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 REFUSED

Q255

I'm going to quickly read a list of income ranges in order from lowest to highest. Please stop me when I get to the one that describes your annual household income from all sources.

- 01 Less than \$10,000
- 02 \$10,000 up to \$20,000
- 03 \$20,000 up to \$30,000
- 04 \$30,000 up to \$40,000
- 05 \$40,000 up to \$50,000
- 06 \$50,000 up to \$60,000
- 07 \$60,000 up to \$70,000
- 08 \$70,000 up to \$80,000
- 09 \$80,000 up to \$90,000
- 10 \$90,000 up to \$100,000
- 11 More than \$100,000
  
- 77 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 REFUSED

GOODBYE

Those are all my questions. Thank you very much for taking the time to participate in this survey.

TERMINATE THE CALL AS COMPLETED INTERVIEW

**SORRY - GET IF INSTATE = 2**

## Appendix V – Survey Questions

---

I'm sorry, but for this study we need to speak with people who live in private households in Idaho. Thank you for your time, and have a nice <day>/<evening>.

TERMINATE THE CALL AS NOT A PRIVATE RESIDENCE OR NOT IN STUDY AREA

---