

Washington Benchmark Survey

S1 Are you registered to vote at this address in the state of Washington? Yes 100%
No → **Terminate**

S2 In November, there will be an election for President, Governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. Congress, and other state and local offices. How likely are you to vote in this election – will you definitely vote, probably vote, are the chance 50-50, or will you not vote in this election? Definitely/Probably Vote .. 100%

50-50	TERMINATE
Not Vote	
(Depends)	
(Don't Know)	

Q1 When it comes to government and politics, do you consider yourself to be a Republican, Independent, or a Democrat?

(If Democrat/Republican) Do you consider yourself to be a strong (Democrat/Republican) or a not so strong (Democrat/Republican)?

(If Independent) Do you lean more towards the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

Strong Republican	23%
Weak Republican	5
Ind Republican	4
Independent	24
Ind Democrat	12
Weak Democrat	6
Strong Democrat	24
(Other)	0
(Don't Know)	1

Total Republican 28%
Total Independent 41
Total Democrat 30

Republican w/leans 32%
Democrat w/leans 43

Q2 Thinking about the country as a whole, do you think things are on the right track or do you think things are on the wrong track?
Right Track..... 33%
Wrong Track..... 53
(Depends) 3
(Don't Know)..... 11

Q3 And do you think things in the state Washington are on the right track or do you think things are on the wrong track?
Right Track..... 35%
Wrong Track..... 39
(Depends) 5
(Don't Know)..... 21

Q4-Q5 Now I am going to read you some issues currently facing state of Washington that the federal government can do something to help out with. Please tell me which one you find most important for the federal government to deal with. **[READ LIST]** Which is the most important issue to you? **(If Choice)** And what is the second most important issue?

	<u>Most Important</u>	<u>Total Important</u>
Ranked by 'Total Importance'		
• The economy and jobs.....	33%	52%
• The health and education and protection of children	22	45
• Homeland security	17	29
• The environment.....	9	22
• Taxes.....	7	17
• Care for senior citizens.....	5	17
• Crime and violence.....	5	8
(Other)	*	1
(Don't Know)	2	5
NO SECOND RESPONSE.....		2

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Q6-Q17 The U.S. Congress in Washington DC is currently debating the federal budget. If you were making up the federal budget, would you decrease spending for **(read item)** or increase spending on **(read item)**?

Ranked by 'Increase Spending'	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Stay the Same</u>		<u>Decrease</u>	<u>(DK)</u>
• Providing health care to children	68%	21	9	2	2
• Medicare	63%	29	6	2	2
• Child abuse prevention.....	62%	25	11	2	2
• Supporting public schools in Washington	62%	22	15	1	1
• Job training programs.....	54%	26	18	2	2
• Protecting the environment.....	52%	25	22	1	1
• Social Security	50%	37	11	2	2
• Supporting pre-school education programs.....	48%	31	21	1	1
• Child care for working families	48%	27	22	2	2
• Providing after-school programs for school-aged children	46%	29	23	2	2
• Homeland security	37%	32	28	3	3
• The occupation and rebuilding of Iraq	16%	21	60	3	3

Q18 How would you rate the condition of children in the state of Washington? By that I mean consider the conditions of Washington's children from around the state and their access to a good education, health care, and the opportunity for a good start in life. Would you rate the conditions for children in Washington as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	Excellent.....	10%
	Good	48
	Only fair	39
	Poor	1
	(Don't Know).....	1
	Excellent/Good	58%
	Only Fair/Poor.....	40

Q19 Over the past 5 years or so, would say that the conditions for children in Washington have improved, deteriorated, or stayed about the same?

	Improved.....	17%
	Deteriorated	38
	Stayed the same.....	33
	(Don't Know).....	12

Q20 Do you think that the federal tax cuts that have been passed since 2001 have helped the economy in Washington or have they had no real effect on the economy?

	Helped	30%
	No real effect.....	62
	(Depends/Mixed)	2
	(Don't Know).....	7

Q21 When it comes to federal taxes, which of the following two statements do you agree with more?

➤ **Statement A** – The recent federal tax cuts were too large. We need to keep the tax cuts for middle and lower-income Americans, but repeal the tax cuts for people making over \$200,000 a year to help pay for health care, education, and greater investments in children..... 59%

➤ **Statement B** – The recent federal tax cuts were the right size. We need to keep the tax cuts for all Americans and make them permanent, rather than let them expire, in order to make the economy strong..... 31

	(Depends)	2
	(Don't Know)	9

Q22 Which comes closer to your view about how children's needs – such as health care, child abuse prevention, pre-school education, and after-school programs – are addressed in the United States Congress:

➤ Congress does a lot to help working families with children, OR..... 27%

➤ Congress does not do enough to help working families with children?..... 56

	(Depends)	2
	(Don't Know)	15

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- Q23** And does the Washington state legislature:
- Do a lot to help working families with children, OR..... 27%
 - Do they not do enough to help working families with children?..... 54
 - (Depends) 2
 - (Don't Know) 17

- Q24** In making a voting decision, how important are issues of child well-being such as education, child abuse prevention, and child health care:
- Very important, they are a primary factor in deciding how you vote
 - Somewhat important, they are one of several issues you consider
 - Not very important, they are not necessarily issues you consider
 - Not at all important, they are just not a consideration in deciding how you vote?
- Very important..... 49%
 Somewhat important 40
 Not very important..... 9
 Not important at all..... 1
 (Don't Know)..... 1

Total Important 89%
Total Not Important..... 10

Q25-Q31 Now I am going to read you some candidates for public office. For each one, please tell me how familiar you are with each of their positions on specific children's issues such as child care, health care, child abuse, and funding for after-school and pre-school education programs. **(Read item)** How familiar are you with where he stands on children's issues – very familiar, somewhat familiar, not too familiar, or not familiar at all?

Ranked by 'Total Familiar'	<u>Very Familiar</u>	<u>Somewhat Familiar</u>	<u>Not Too Familiar</u>	<u>Not Familiar at All</u>	<u>(DK)</u>	<u>Total Familiar</u>	<u>Total Not Familiar</u>
• George W. Bush.....	42%	37	5	14	1	79%	20
• Patty Murray.....	25%	42	11	21	1	67%	32
• John Kerry.....	22%	34	16	27	1	56%	43
• George Nethercutt.....	8%	25	22	42	3	33%	64
• Ron Sims.....	8%	23	16	49	3	31%	66
• Christine Gregoire.....	11%	18	18	50	4	28%	68
• Dino Rossi.....	5%	16	12	64	3	22%	75

Q32-Q37 For each of the following, please tell me how important a candidate's position would be on that issue. **(Read Item)** How important would a candidate's specific position on that issue be when deciding who to vote for – very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?

Ranked by 'Total Important'	<u>Very Impt</u>	<u>Smwt Impt</u>	<u>Not Too Impt</u>	<u>Not Impt at All</u>	<u>(DK)</u>	<u>Total Impt</u>	<u>Total Not Impt</u>
• Supporting public schools in Washington.....	59%	29	8	3	1	88%	11
• Child abuse prevention.....	50%	37	7	5	1	87%	12
• Health insurance for children.....	45%	39	10	5	1	84%	15
• Head Start.....	32%	43	16	8	1	75%	24
• Pre-school education.....	31%	39	21	8	1	70%	29
• After-school programs.....	25%	44	21	9	1	68%	31

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**Q38-
Q42** Now I am going to read you some proposals people have made. For each one, I want you to tell me whether you favor that proposal or oppose it. **(Read Item)** Do you favor or oppose that? **(If Favor/Oppose)** Do you strongly or only somewhat **(favor/oppose)** with that?

Ranked by 'Total Favor'	<u>Strongly Favor</u>	<u>Smwt Favor</u>	<u>Smwt Oppose</u>	<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>(DK)</u>	<u>Total Favor</u>	<u>Total Oppose</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the more than 50,000 reported cases of child abuse and neglect last year by helping new parents at the hospital or in their homes on a voluntary basis with information about the local resources available to help families raise healthy, successful children..... 	51%	36	11	1	1	87%	12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide every child in Washington, including the more than 150,000 currently without health insurance, and the United States with health insurance and access to high-quality comprehensive health coverage.... 	51%	30	10	7	2	81%	17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand after-school programs to give the 69 percent of Washington school-aged children who live in households where both parents work a safe place to learn and play when school's out... 	39%	36	12	11	1	75%	24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing federal spending to provide on child care for more low-income families and allow existing child care facilities to improve the quality of their programs..... 	31%	42	16	10	2	72%	26
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase support to states like Washington so that all parents who want their three and four year-old children to attend a high-quality pre-school program can do so since around half of these children are <u>not</u> enrolled in any early education or preschool program. Parents would have the flexibility to choose which program to send their child to..... 	24%	27	18	21	10	51%	39

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Q43	When you think about all of the issues facing the state of Washington and the country, how important is it to you that candidates for office talk about plans to make children a priority – very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?	Very important..... 48% Somewhat important 37 Not too important..... 13 Not important at all..... 1 (Don't Know)..... 1 Total Important 85% Total Not Important..... 14
Now I have a few final questions for statistical purposes only.		
Q44	Sex	Male 49% Female 51
Q45	What is your age?	18-29 10% 30-44 22 45-54 25 55-64 23 65+ 19 (DK/Refused) 1
Q46	Are you currently employed, unemployed, retired, or a homemaker?	Employed 63% Unemployed 3 Retired..... 19 Homemaker 14 (Other) 1 (DK/Refused) *
Q47	Are you currently married, separated, divorced, widowed, or have you never been married?	Married 70% Sep/Div/Wid 19 Never married 10 (DK/Refused) *
Q48	Are you the parent of a child under 18 currently living in your household?	Yes..... 33% No..... 67 (DK/Refused) *
Q49	Are you a grandparent of a child under 18?	Yes..... 33% No..... 67 (DK/Refused) *
Q50	What was the last grade you completed in school?	Less than HS..... 1% High school graduate 21 Some college/Technical 38 College graduate (4 yr) 24 Graduate degree 15 Refused *
Q51	Do you consider yourself liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or conservative?	Liberal 24% Somewhat liberal 16 Moderate 20 Somewhat conservative 19 Conservative..... 20 (DK/Refused) 2 Total Liberal 39% Total Conservative..... 39
Q54	And what is your race? (If needed) Well most people consider themselves white, black or African-American, or Asian?	White 88% Black 3 Asian 5 (DK/Refused) 4

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Q55	Is your total household income: (READ CHOICES)	Less than \$15,000	7%
		\$15,000-\$24,999	11
		\$25,000-\$34,999	14
		\$35,000-\$49,999	23
		\$50,000+	29
		(Refused)	16
Q56	Region	King County	32%
		Snohomish County	10
		Pierce County	11
		Western Washington	27
		Eastern Washington.....	20

Thank you for your time and have a great evening.