

West Virginia Benchmark Survey

Q1 Are you registered to vote at this address in West Virginia? Regardless of how you feel about the political parties in general, which party are you registered to vote with? Are you registered as a Democrat, Republican, or are you registered some other way?

Democrat..... 60%
 Republican..... 31
 Other Way..... 10
 No →**Terminate**

Q2 In November, there will be an election for President, Governor, 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 Vote..... 83%
 Probably Vote..... 17

50-50.....	TERMINATE
Not Vote.....	
(Depends/DK).....	

Q3 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..... 30%
 Wrong Track..... 53
 (Depends)..... 4
 (Don't Know)..... 12

Q4 And do you think things in West Virginia are on the right track or do you think things are on the wrong track?

Right Track..... 22%
 Wrong Track..... 49
 (Depends)..... 6
 (Don't Know)..... 23

Q5-Q6 Now I am going to read you some issues currently facing West Virginia 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?

Ranked by 'Total Importance'	<u>Most Important</u>	<u>Total Important</u>
• The economy and jobs.....	51%	67%
• The health and education and protection of children.....	18	50
• Homeland security.....	12	29
• Care for senior citizens.....	9	25
• Taxes.....	5	14
• The environment.....	4	9
• Crime and violence.....	*	1
(Other).....	*	1
(Don't Know).....	1	2
NO SECOND RESPONSE.....		1

Q7-Q18 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.....	79%	15	5	1
• Child abuse prevention.....	74%	19	5	2
• Medicare.....	74%	19	4	2
• Supporting public schools in West Virginia.....	67%	22	9	1
• Child care for working families.....	64%	25	9	2
• Job training programs.....	64%	23	11	2
• Social Security.....	63%	29	5	3
• Homeland security.....	63%	24	12	1
• Providing after-school programs for school-aged children.....	60%	24	14	2
• Supporting pre-school education programs.....	58%	22	18	1
• Protecting the environment.....	48%	26	24	3
• The occupation and rebuilding of Iraq.....	13%	20	64	3

West Virginia Benchmark Survey

<p>Q19 How would you rate the condition of children in West Virginia? By that I mean consider the conditions of West Virginia’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 West Virginia as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?</p>	<p>Excellent..... 1% Good 36 Only fair 47 Poor 15 (Don't Know)..... 1</p> <p>Excellent/Good 37% Only Fair/Poor..... 62</p>
<p>Q20 Over the past 5 years or so, would say that the conditions for children in West Virginia have improved, deteriorated, or stayed about the same?</p>	<p>Improved 33% Deteriorated 54 Stayed the same..... 12 (Don't Know)..... 2</p>
<p>Q21 Do you think that the federal tax cuts that have been passed since 2001 have helped the economy in West Virginia or have they had no real effect on the economy?</p>	<p>Helped 24% No real effect..... 66 (Depends/Mixed) 1 (Don't Know)..... 9</p>
<p>Q22 When it comes to <u>federal</u> taxes, which of the following two statements do you agree with more?</p> <p>➤ 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.....</p> <p>➤ 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.....</p>	<p>55% (Depends) 1 (Don't Know) 6</p>
<p>Q23 Which comes closer to your view about how children’s needs – such as health care, child abuse prevention, pre-kindergarten education, and after-school programs – are addressed in the United States Congress:</p> <p>➤ Congress does a lot to help working families with children, OR.....</p> <p>➤ Congress does not do enough to help working families with children?.....</p>	<p>22% (Depends) 1 (Don't Know) 12</p>
<p>Q24 And does the West Virginia state legislature:</p> <p>➤ Do a lot to help working families with children, OR.....</p> <p>➤ Do they not do enough to help working families with children?.....</p>	<p>18% (Depends) 1 (Don't Know) 14</p>
<p>Q25 In making a voting decision, how important are issues of child well-being such as education, child abuse prevention, and child health care:</p> <p>➤ Very important, they are a primary factor in deciding how you vote</p> <p>➤ Somewhat important, they are one of several issues you consider</p> <p>➤ Not very important, they are not necessarily issues you consider</p> <p>➤ Not at all important, they are just not a consideration in deciding how you vote?</p>	<p>Very important..... 64% Somewhat important 30 Not very important..... 5 Not important at all..... * (Don't Know)..... *</p> <p>Total Important 94% Total Not Important..... 6</p>

West Virginia Benchmark Survey

Q26-Q29 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-kindergarten 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?

	<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>
Ranked by ‘Total Familiar’							
• George W. Bush.....	33%	40	8	17	2	72%	26
• Joe Manchin.....	13%	32	25	29	1	45%	54
• John Kerry.....	16%	25	20	36	2	41%	56
• Monty Warner.....	1%	14	23	59	3	15%	82

Q30-Q35 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?

	<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>
Ranked by ‘Total Important’							
• Child abuse prevention.....	68%	29	2	*	*	97%	3
• Supporting public schools in West Virginia.....	68%	27	4	*	*	95%	4
• Health insurance for children.....	65%	28	5	2	*	93%	6
• Pre-school education.....	47%	36	16	1	*	83%	17
• Head Start.....	44%	37	11	7	1	81%	18
• After-school programs.....	39%	40	13	7	1	79%	20

Q36-Q41 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?

	<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>
Ranked by ‘Total Favor’							
• Expand the West Virginia Child Health Insurance Program by allowing the parents of the 10,000 children who do not have health insurance to buy into the program.....	64%	23	10	1	2	87%	12
• Reduce the more than 20,000 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.....	57%	28	12	2	1	85%	13

West Virginia Benchmark Survey

Q36-Q41 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"> Expanding the West Virginia Child Health Insurance Program to cover the more than half of working parents whose children are enrolled in program but who do not currently have any health coverage of their own..... 	59%	22	11	6	2	81%	17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand after-school programs to give the 60 percent of West Virginia school-aged children who live in households where both parents work a safe place to learn and play when school's out. ... 	49%	28	13	8	1	78%	21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase support to states like West Virginia 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 more a two-thirds 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..... 	39%	33	15	11	2	72%	26
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing federal support to states like West Virginia to prevent a planned cut of 40 million dollars in the welfare-to-work program, including child care, health, dental, and transportation assistance, that helps working poor families with children, even if it means a slight increase in federal taxes..... 	37%	26	18	16	3	63%	34

Q42 When you think about all of the issues facing West Virginia 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.....	66%
Somewhat important	28
Not too important.....	5
Not important at all.....	*
(Don't Know).....	*
Total Important	94%
Total Not Important.....	6

West Virginia Benchmark Survey

Now I have a few final questions for statistical purposes only.

Q43 Sex (Observation)	Male 48% Female 52
Q44 What is your age?	18-29 11% 30-44 18 45-54 18 55-64 22 65+ 30 (DK/Refused) 1
Q45 Are you currently employed, unemployed, retired, or a homemaker?	Employed 52% Unemployed 10 Retired 27 Homemaker 11 (Other) * (DK/Refused) *
Q46 Are you currently married, separated, divorced, widowed, or have you never been married?	Married 66% Sep/Div/Wid 21 Never married 13 (DK/Refused) *
Q47 Are you the parent of a child under 18 currently living in your household?	Yes 32% No 68 (DK/Refused) *
Q48 Are you a grandparent of a child under 18?	Yes 36% No 63 (DK/Refused) *
Q49 What was the last grade you completed in school?	Less than HS 12% High school graduate 39 Some college/Technical 28 College graduate (4 yr) 12 Graduate degree 8 Refused *
Q50 Do you consider yourself liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or conservative?	Liberal 10% Somewhat liberal 14 Moderate 28 Somewhat conservative 25 Conservative 21 (DK/Refused) 2 Total Liberal 24% Total Conservative 45
Q51 Is your total household income: (READ CHOICES)	Less than \$15,000 8% \$15,000-\$24,999 21 \$25,000-\$34,999 23 \$35,000-\$49,999 27 \$50,000+ 13 (Refused) 8
Q52 Region	North (CD #1) 35% Central (CD #2) 34 South (CD #3) 31

Thank you for your time and have a great evening.