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Statewide Survey of Michigan General Election Voters

Tuesday, November 11–Thursday, November 13, 2014

**Sample of 600 voters, plus/minus 4 percent
 20 percent completes by cell phone**

Hello, this is _____ from a research firm located in Michigan. We're conducting a random survey about important issues in your community. This is NOT a sales call, you will not be asked for a donation and you will not be called again because you participated in this survey. This is strictly research and I'd like to take a few minutes to include the opinions of your household.

We need to have an equal number of males and females and we also need to have young voters represented. May I please speak to the youngest (MALE/ FEMALE, depending on specified quota) registered voter, age 18 or older, who is home now?

IF LANDLINE: Are you registered to vote at the address I'm calling?

IF CELL PHONE: Are you registered to vote at (offer street address off phone list _____?)

IF YES: GO TO QUESTION 1

IF NO: Is there any other (male/female, as specified) registered voter at home who I can talk to?
 (IF NOT, TERMINATE INTERVIEW)

1. Do you plan on voting in the 2016 elections, when Michigan will be voting for president?

1. Very certain	600	100.0 %
2. No/Maybe/Other/Unsure (Thank and terminate)	0	0.0 %

2. Is Michigan is heading in the right direction or headed down the wrong track?

1. Right direction	363	60.5 %
2. Wrong track	168	28.0 %
3. Other/Unsure/DNK (DO NOT OFFER)	69	11.5 %

3. Compared to four years ago, how is your financial situation? Are you:

1. Better off	147	24.5 %
2. About the same	300	50.0 %
3. Worse off	146	24.3 %
4. Other/Unsure/DNK (DO NOT OFFER)	7	1.2 %

4. Recently, Michigan voters re-elected Governor Rick Snyder for a second term. What do you think should be the governor's top priority for the next four years? [OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE]

Jobs	131	21.83%
Road improvement	76	12.67%
Don't know	57	9.50%
Education/schools	45	7.50%
The economy/improve the economy	42	7.00%
Education funding	27	4.50%
Stop taxing pensions/repeal pension tax	15	2.50%
Fixing infrastructure	9	1.50%
Continue doing what he was doing	7	1.17%
Getting out of office/leave office	7	1.17%
Balancing the budget	6	1.00%
Cutting taxes	6	1.00%
Fighting/get rid of illegal immigration	3	0.50%
Getting rid of right-to-work	3	0.50%
Budget management	2	0.33%
Spending cuts	2	0.33%
Health care	2	0.33%
Repealing Obamacare	2	0.33%
Taxes	2	0.33%
Don't raise taxes	2	0.33%
Higher paying jobs	2	0.33%
School and education funding	1	0.17%
The budget	1	0.17%
Corruption in the government	1	0.17%
Keep our state out of debt	1	0.17%
Don't raise gas tax	1	0.17%
Continue to help keep our taxes low	1	0.17%
Lowering taxes for businesses in Michigan	1	0.17%
Tax cuts for the middle class	1	0.17%
Trying to cut back on taxes	1	0.17%
Cut taxes for retirees	1	0.17%
Repealing taxes	1	0.17%
Tax breaks for everyone	1	0.17%
Middle class tax cuts	1	0.17%
Raising taxes on rich people	1	0.17%
Too many to pick just one	1	0.17%
Exercising control of the Republican leadership since right-to-work was forced upon him	1	0.17%
Taking care of the unions	1	0.17%
Create more technical jobs in Michigan	1	0.17%
Restoring some benefits for retired seniors	1	0.17%
More security in low income areas	1	0.17%

Middle-class issues	1	0.17%
Stabilizing and rebuilding Detroit	1	0.17%
Give the money back to the public	1	0.17%
Cut welfare fraud and abuse down	1	0.17%
Overall progress in everything he's started so far	1	0.17%
Better economic atmosphere	1	0.17%
Unemployment benefits should be increased back to 26 weeks	1	0.17%
Making more free food programs available to the public who needs these programs	1	0.17%
Dealing with long-term unemployment	1	0.17%
Keeping young people like college graduates in the state	1	0.17%
Public schools	1	0.17%
Continue to build the bridge	1	0.17%
Getting rid of welfare	1	0.17%
Rebuilding the budget	1	0.17%
Provide better programs to get people off of Medicaid	1	0.17%
Taking care of the senior citizens he's ripped off	1	0.17%
The business climate	1	0.17%
College tuition funding	1	0.17%
To help people who need help such as the poor and homeless	1	0.17%
Keeping the economy going without raising taxes	1	0.17%
Put money back into Michigan	1	0.17%
Taking care of small people	1	0.17%
Economic stability	1	0.17%
Education funding collection, it's corrupt	1	0.17%
Bringing more businesses to the state	1	0.17%
Health care costs	1	0.17%
Helping people who need things like food stamps	1	0.17%
Businesses	1	0.17%
Homeless	1	0.17%
Make things better	1	0.17%
Affordable health care should be improved to universal health care	1	0.17%
No bridge to Canada	1	0.17%
Budget and jobs	1	0.17%
Raising wages	1	0.17%
No more taxes on the poor and middle class	1	0.17%
Not doing any more damage to our state and seniors	1	0.17%
Not privatizing education	1	0.17%
Getting the business climate booming again	1	0.17%
Helping college students after graduation	1	0.17%
More tax reforms, for example, stop taxing seniors	1	0.17%
We need agreements in the government	1	0.17%
Looking to improve aid to seniors to improve quality of life	1	0.17%
Serving all people instead of a select few	1	0.17%
Getting more industries to Michigan	1	0.17%
Keeping our cities out of bankruptcy	1	0.17%
Keeping Michigan on the right track	1	0.17%
Stop bashing teachers	1	0.17%
Getting school funding for quality faculty	1	0.17%
Finding a way to spend money more efficiently on education	1	0.17%

Cut car insurance rates	1	0.17%
Truly fixing the problem with no money for schools	1	0.17%
Equal opportunity for jobs	1	0.17%
Changing Republicans' views on abortion	1	0.17%
Wages	1	0.17%
Considering the people	1	0.17%
Minimum wage	1	0.17%
Fighting for the rights of unborn babies	1	0.17%
Budget cuts for businesses	1	0.17%
Legalizing gay marriage	1	0.17%
Helping the poor	1	0.17%
Job market and businesses	1	0.17%
Providing healthcare	1	0.17%
Veterans' welfare	1	0.17%
Finding money for the roads without taxing	1	0.17%
Strengthening unions	1	0.17%
More jobs and education	1	0.17%
Give back to seniors	1	0.17%
Right-to-work	1	0.17%
Creating more jobs and education system	1	0.17%
Working on budgets	1	0.17%
Improve health care for everyone in Michigan	1	0.17%
Allowing voters to have a voice	1	0.17%
Education and tax cuts to help the middle class	1	0.17%
Correcting corruption with the use of school funds	1	0.17%
Continuing to keep a balanced budget	1	0.17%
Health insurance cost	1	0.17%
Cut politicians wages	1	0.17%
Raising the sales tax by 2 percent for road improvement	1	0.17%
Michigan's economic health	1	0.17%
Doing nothing	1	0.17%
Smaller government	1	0.17%
Government spending	1	0.17%
Replacing pensions	1	0.17%
Continuing business growth	1	0.17%
Medical weed programs should be set in place	1	0.17%
Creating more businesses	1	0.17%
Fixing no-fault insurance	1	0.17%
Our schools	1	0.17%
General education	1	0.17%
Pay back teachers' retirements	1	0.17%
Establishing the middle class	1	0.17%
Job training for disabled people	1	0.17%
Improving employment opportunities	1	0.17%
Raising minimum wage	1	0.17%
Legalizing recreational marijuana	1	0.17%
Keep strengthening businesses	1	0.17%
Continuing economic development	1	0.17%
Refused	1	0.17%
Orphan outreach programs	1	0.17%

Pro-life issues	1	0.17%
Public education	1	0.17%
Reducing higher education costs	1	0.17%
Making sure they don't change the electoral college	1	0.17%
The second bridge to Canada being built	1	0.17%
Helping the middle and lower classes	1	0.17%
Helping people to save for retirement	1	0.17%
Keep going in a positive direction	1	0.17%
Rehabilitating Detroit	1	0.17%
Finish what the city of Lansing started years ago	1	0.17%
Undoing all the bad he did in the first term	1	0.17%
Lower taxes for small businesses	1	0.17%
To get a new governor to take his place	1	0.17%
Keep the state going in the right direction	1	0.17%
Turn Michigan back into a union state	1	0.17%
Increasing minimum wage	1	0.17%
More tax cuts to the middle class	1	0.17%
Continue to support policies to help the economy	1	0.17%
Civil rights and equality for all	1	0.17%
Leave the seniors alone	1	0.17%
Not taking away from the schools	1	0.17%
Gay marriage	1	0.17%
Reevaluating all taxes	1	0.17%
Giving back the money he stole from education	1	0.17%
Stop trying to railroad the unions in	1	0.17%
Controlling the GOP to pass valuable legislation	1	0.17%
Helping the economy by allowing more companies to have tax breaks to entice them to come here	1	0.17%
Keep supporting homeschooling	1	0.17%
Lessening government influence	1	0.17%
The water pollution	1	0.17%
Marriage equality in Michigan	1	0.17%
Finding a way to fund road repair without taxes	1	0.17%
The people	1	0.17%

5. During the last election, about a quarter of Michigan voters used an absentee ballot, which means they did not vote in person at their precinct. Currently, Michigan voters have to certify that one of the approved reasons applies to their situation (such as being away from their precinct, age, physical or health limitations). If Michigan began allowing “no reason” absentee ballots—meaning any registered voter could vote by absentee ballot—how would this impact your voting behavior? Would you be:

1. More likely to vote	93	15.5 %
2. Less likely to vote	13	2.2 %
3. No difference	485	80.8 %
4. Other/Unsure/DNK (DO NOT OFFER)	9	1.5 %

6. What do you consider the most compelling reason to allow “no reason” absentee ballots? (ROTATE)

1. Convenience	266	44.3 %
2. More informed decisions	71	11.8 %
3. A large number of people are voting absentee now anyway, so what's the harm?	112	18.7 %
4. I do not support “no reason” absentee ballots (DO NOT OFFER)	109	18.2 %
5. Other/Unsure/DNK (DO NOT OFFER)	42	7.0 %

7. Which of the following statements most closely resembles your opinion about Michigan's charter schools? (ROTATE)

1. Charter schools are an important way to give parents a choice in where their child is educated.	209	34.8 %
2. Charter schools have improved educational performance across Michigan	67	11.2 %
3. Charter schools are a financial drain on Michigan's public schools	155	25.8 %
4. Charter schools perform worse than Michigan's public schools	48	8.0 %
5. Other/Unsure/DNK (DO NOT OFFER)	121	20.2 %

8. How important is it to have high-quality pre-kindergarten programs in place to achieve reading proficiency by the end of third grade?

1. Very important	371	61.8 %
2. Somewhat important	127	21.2 %
3. Somewhat unimportant	33	5.5 %
4. Not at all important	55	9.2 %
5. Other/Unsure/DNK (DO NOT OFFER)	14	2.3 %

9. Recently, New Jersey and New York instituted mandatory 21-day quarantines for health care workers who had been in contact with Ebola patients. When people have been in an area with Ebola cases, do you favor or oppose a mandatory 21-day quarantine when they return to the United States?

1. Favor	480	80.0 %
2. Oppose	81	13.5 %
3. Other/Unsure/DNK (DO NOT OFFER)	39	6.5 %

10. Black Friday is just weeks away! When do you plan on starting your Black Friday shopping?

1. 5 PM Thursday	12	2.0 %
2. Midnight Thursday	18	3.0 %
3. 8 AM Friday	39	6.5 %
4. Noon Friday	35	5.8 %
5. I'd rather shop online	163	27.2 %
6. Other/Unsure/DNK (DO NOT OFFER)	333	55.5 %

I'd now like to ask you a few quick questions for statistical purposes only.

11. In general, do you consider yourself to be a Democrat or a Republican?

1. Democrat	209	34.8 %
2. Independent	177	29.5 %
3. Republican	205	34.2 %
4. Other/Unsure/ Do Not Know/ Refused (DO NOT OFFER)	9	1.5 %

12. What is your race—do you consider yourself African American, Hispanic/Latino, white, or some other race?

1. African-American	52	8.7 %
2. White	500	83.3 %
3. Hispanic/Latino	7	1.2 %
4. Other (DO NOT OFFER)	18	3.0 %
5. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER)	23	3.8 %

13. Gender of respondent (do not ask, determine from conversation)

1. Male	271	45.2 %
2. Female	329	54.8 %

14. What is your age?

1. 18–34 years old	100	16.7 %
2. 35–49 years old	185	30.8 %
3. 50–64 years old	170	28.3 %
4. 65 years old and older	133	22.2 %
5. Unsure/Refused (DO NOT OFFER)	12	2.0 %

15. Which portion of the state are you from? (DO NOT ASK, indicate county unless they are from Detroit, indicate Detroit)

16. Type of call (do not ask, determine from list) THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME (AND TERMINATE)

	Number	Percent
1. Landline	480	80.0 %
2. Cell phone	120	20.0 %

Methodology:

This was a Public Sector Consultants survey of the Michigan electorate, conducted by Denno Research. Between November 11–13, 2014, 600 respondents in the state of Michigan were surveyed, with a margin of error of plus/minus 4 percent, and the participation was stratified based on census data and past voter behavior. *In an attempt to gather younger voters who do not have a landline, 120 respondents (20 percent) were from cell phone users.* A screen was employed to include only those participants who said they would vote, either at the polls or by absentee ballot, in the November 2016 general election. All numbers are rounded and may exceed 100 percent.

Attention media:

For attribution purposes, please recognize all the organizations involved in this project:

- Public Sector Consultants (PSC)
- Denno Research