

INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY

From July 14-July 22, 2020, DHM Research conducted a survey of Oregonians. The purpose of the survey was to assess values and beliefs related to the coronavirus pandemic and education.

The research was completed as a community service by DHM Research in partnership with the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center.

Research Methodology: The online survey consisted of 603 Oregon residents ages 18+ and took approximately 16 minutes to complete. This is a sufficient sample size to assess Oregonians' opinions generally and to review findings by multiple subgroups.

Respondents were contacted by using professionally maintained online panels. In gathering responses, a variety of quality control measures were employed, including questionnaire pre-testing, validation, and real time monitoring of responses. To ensure a representative sample, demographic quotas were set, and data weighted by area of the state, gender, age, and education.

Statement of Limitations: Any sampling of opinions or attitudes is subject to a margin of error. The margin of error is a standard statistical calculation that represents differences between the sample and total population at a confidence interval, or probability, calculated to be 95%. This means that there is a 95% probability that the sample taken for this study would fall within the stated margin of error if compared with the results achieved from surveying the entire population. This survey's margin of error, for the full sample, ranges from $\pm 2.4\%$ to $\pm 4.0\%$ depending on the how the response category percentages split for any given question.

DHM Research & Oregon Values and Beliefs Center: The research was completed as a community service by DHM Research in partnership with the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center. Both organizations are independent and non-partisan. DHM is a Certified B Corporation and OVBC is an Oregon charitable nonprofit corporation.

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DHM RESEARCH & OVBC MONTHLY SURVEY
Oregon adults ages 18+
N=603; ±4.0%
July 14 – July 22, 2020

GENERAL

1. All in all, would you say that things in Oregon are headed in the right direction, or are things pretty much off on the wrong track?

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Right direction	33%
Wrong track	46%
I'm not sure	20%

2. What is the most important community issue you want your elected officials to do something about?
[Open]

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
COVID-19: spread, controlling it, community compliance	22%
Racial injustice: police brutality, defund/reform police, systemic	14%
Homeless/Affordable housing	13%
Law & order, rioters and destruction	11%
Support/improve economy: unemployment, jobs	7%
Education: higher quality, funding for	6%
Climate change and environment	5%
Affordable housing, low income, fair, high rent prices	5%
COVID-19: Open up, back to school/work, freedom, less control	4%
Public health guidelines for schools, business	4%
Taxes: impact to small biz, reform, too high, need sales tax	4%
Increase financial and social support: food, services, money	4%
All other responses	3% or less
I'm not sure	5%

3. In general, do you think crime is increasing or decreasing in your community?

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Increasing	48%
Decreasing	16%
I'm not sure	36%

CORONAVIRUS

When thinking about coronavirus, how concerned are you about: **[Randomize]**

Response category	n=603	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not too concerned	Not at all concerned	I'm not sure
4. Your health		31%	32%	25%	12%	<1%
5. The health of your family and friends		48%	29%	17%	6%	<1%
6. The health of your community		44%	34%	15%	7%	1%
7. The economy		55%	32%	9%	2%	1%

EDUCATION

In the midst of Covid-19 infections peaking, both nationally and in Oregon, teachers have raised concerns about returning to in-person classes this Fall before an agreement on new safety measures is reached.

38. Do you support or oppose the resumption of in-person classes this Fall before an agreement is reached to ensure Covid-19 infections are not spread between students, teachers and other school personnel at local K-12 schools in Oregon?

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Strongly support	17%
Somewhat support	15%
Somewhat oppose	20%
Strongly oppose	37%
Don't know	11%

39. When it comes to student success, how would you rate the overall performance of your school district?

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Very good	13%
Good	44%
Poor	17%
Very poor	7%
I'm not sure	20%

40. What percentage of high school seniors graduate in Oregon – what is the graduation rate? **[Open, numeric, 0-100]**

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
0%	1%
1%–30%	2%
31-50%	7%
51-60%	8%
61-70%	16%
71-80%	44%
81-90%	18%
91-99%	3%
100%	1%
Mean	73.2%

41. How knowledgeable do you consider yourself to be about how teachers are hired and transferred in your school district?

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Very knowledgeable	6%
Somewhat knowledgeable	20%
Not very knowledgeable	32%
Not at all knowledgeable	38%
I'm not sure	4%

42. During budget cuts, school districts often use a last in, first out policy. This means teachers hired last are the first to be let go during budget cuts, regardless of their effectiveness in the classroom. Do you support or oppose this policy?

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Strongly support	4%
Somewhat support	17%
Somewhat oppose	39%
Strongly oppose	30%
I'm not sure	10%

Do you agree or disagree with these statements?

Response category n=603	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	I'm not sure
43. All teachers, regardless of performance, should be treated equally in the hiring process.	26%	22%	24%	19%	9%
44. There are other higher priority issues than how teachers are hired, like classroom size and funding K-12 schools.	26%	46%	13%	3%	13%
45. Teachers should be retained based on their performance in student academic growth, and not on how many years they have been teaching.	45%	37%	9%	2%	7%
46. Teachers with seniority need to be protected, otherwise, they will be forced out of jobs since newer and less experienced teachers are paid less.	12%	39%	26%	11%	12%
47. The length of time a teacher spends in the classroom is critical to their development and it makes sense to base teacher permanent status solely on the length of time they have been teaching.	11%	25%	32%	21%	10%

Response category n=603	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	I'm not sure
48. Oregon needs to hire more teachers of color to better reflect the increasing number of students of color in the classroom.	25%	30%	17%	12%	16%
49. School curriculum and learning needs to include culturally specific content and experiences as schools educate more students of color.	33%	28%	14%	11%	14%

How much of a priority should schools give each of the following? **[Randomize]**

Response category n=603	Low	Medium	High	Urgent	I'm not sure
50. Students are reading by 3 rd grade.	2%	13%	39%	41%	5%
51. Social and emotional learning for children in K-12 schools.	7%	22%	40%	26%	4%
52. Culturally inclusive and relevant curriculum in K-12 schools.	16%	27%	32%	18%	7%
53. Diverse teachers and educators to better reflect the student population.	19%	30%	29%	14%	8%
54. Sense of belonging in schools for all students.	5%	18%	46%	28%	4%

DEMOGRAPHICS

55. Do you have any children in your local public schools?

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Yes	24%
No	76%

56. What is your zip code? **[Open]**

57. In what year were you born?

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
18–29	21%
30–44	25%
45–64	35%
65+	19%

58. With which of the following gender identities do you identify? Check all that apply.

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Male	50%
Female	49%
Non-binary or gender non-conforming	2%
Trans	1%
Other	<1%

59. With which of the following races and ethnicities do you identify? Check all that apply.

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
African	1%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2%
Black or African American	1%
Hispanic or Latino	4%
Middle Eastern or North African	n=1
Native American or American Indian	3%
Slavic	n=4
White or Caucasian	92%
Other	n=4
Refused	n=4

60. What is your party registration?

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Democrat	41%
Republican	22%
Independent Party of Oregon	11%
Registered with some other party	n=6
Not registered as a member of a party (non-affiliated voter)	16%
Not registered to vote	9%

61. When it comes to politics and elections, are you:

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Very liberal	18%
Somewhat liberal	20%
Middle of the road	37%
Somewhat conservative	15%
Very conservative	10%

62. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Less than high school diploma	3%
High school diploma	33%
2-year degree/some college/trade	36%
4-year degree	13%
Graduate degree	15%

63. What was your total household income in 2019? Remember to include everyone and your best guess is okay.

Response category	DHM/OVBC n=603
Less than \$25,000	22%
\$25,00– \$49,999	26%
\$50,000–\$74,999	17%
\$75,000–\$99,999	12%
\$100,000–\$149,999	15%
\$150,000 or more	7%

64. The questions this month were chosen based on feedback from previous respondents. Is there a topic you would like to see covered in next month's survey? **[Open]**