

**PRINCETON SURVEY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES for  
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY  
2009 HOOSIER POLL**

**FINAL TOPLINE RESULTS**  
December 8, 2009

N= 604 Indiana adults, 18+  
Margin of Error: plus or minus 4.5 percentage points  
Field period: November 9 to December 6, 2009  
*Job #:29078*

**INTRODUCTION:** Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling for Princeton Survey Research . We're conducting a statewide opinion survey in Indiana and it's very important that we include your household. **READ IF NECESSARY:** This survey is for research purposes ONLY – we won't ask you for money or try to sell you anything.

May I please speak with the YOUNGEST MALE age 18 or older, who is now at home? **(IF NO MALE AT HOME NOW:** Then, may I please speak with the YOUNGEST FEMALE age 18 or older who is now at home) **(REPEAT INTRODUCTION IF RESPONDENT DID NOT ANSWER THE TELEPHONE.)**

*Notes: Data are weighted so that sample demographics match Indiana State parameters for gender, age, education, race, ethnicity, region, and population density.*

*An asterisk (\*) indicates a value less than 1%.*

- 1/2. Were you born in the state of Indiana, or somewhere else? [IF BORN SOMEWHERE ELSE, RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED] In what year did you FIRST move to Indiana?

Years living in Indiana

- 67 Born in state  
 33 Total Born somewhere else  
First Moved to Indiana:  
 17 More than 20 years ago  
 7 6-20 years ago  
 7 In the past 5 years  
 2 Time undesignated  
 0 Don't know/Refused

3. How would you rate Indiana as a place to live? Would you say it is... **(READ)**

<u>Current</u>		<u>11/18/2008</u>
30	An excellent place to live	31
50	Good	49
15	Only fair, or	14
5	Poor?	4
1	<b>(DO NOT READ)</b> Don't know/Refused	2

4. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job Governor Mitch Daniels is doing?

- 54 Approve  
 25 Disapprove  
 22 Don't know/Refused

5. In general, how much attention do you pay to the state legislative activities and decisions of the Indiana General Assembly... **(READ)**

<u>Current</u>		<u>11/18/2008</u>
17	A lot of attention	19
45	Some attention	48
24	Not too much, OR	22
13	No attention at all?	9
2	<b>(DO NOT READ)</b> Don't know/Refused	2

6. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job the General Assembly has done in recent years?<sup>1</sup>

<u>Current</u>		<u>11/18/2008</u>
50	Approve	59
27	Disapprove	25
23	Don't know/Refused	16

7. How satisfied are you with the record of state government in attracting new jobs into the state...  
**(READ)**

<u>Current</u>		<u>11/18/2008</u>
9	Very satisfied	14
46	Somewhat satisfied	39
26	Not too satisfied OR	24
15	Not at all satisfied?	16
5	(DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused	7

- 8a. As you may know, the state recently capped property taxes for homeowners, reducing property taxes for many. Have your own property taxes been reduced this past year, or not?

- 8b. Are you satisfied with this reduction in your property taxes or do you think they need to be reduced further?

37	Yes
21	Satisfied
15	Need to be reduced further
2	Don't know/Refused
37	No
17	<b>(VOL.--DO NOT READ)</b> Doesn't apply/Not a homeowner/Don't pay property taxes
9	Don't know/Refused

9. Some lawmakers have proposed amending the Indiana state constitution to place caps on current property taxes and make it more difficult to raise them in the future. Do you favor or oppose a constitutional amendment to cap property taxes?

64	Favor
22	Oppose
14	Don't know/Refused

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<sup>1</sup> Q6 wording modified from November 2008 poll.

10. If local governments in Indiana were required to cut services to deal with budget shortfalls, please tell me which of the following areas you think should be cut. (First/Next), what about...  
(INSERT—READ AND RANDOMIZE)

**(READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY:** If budget shortfalls require it, should this be one of the areas where local governments cut services, or not?)

	<u>Yes, should be an area for cuts</u>	<u>No, should not</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a. Fire departments	8	90	2
b. Police departments	12	85	3
c. Schools	10	87	3
d. Parks and recreation	47	47	6
e. Jails	26	65	10
f. Street and road maintenance	20	74	5
g. Government operations	66	22	12

11. As you may know, the state now has primary responsibility for funding Indiana's public schools. We'd like your views on which schools should have a higher priority for receiving state funds. If you had to make a choice, would you prefer that more state funding go to... **(READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-2)**

- 33 Schools in communities experiencing the greatest GROWTH in school-age children (or)  
45 Schools in communities where schools face the greatest OBSTACLES to student achievement (or)  
9 **(VOL.)** Both should have the same priority for funding  
14 **(DO NOT READ)** DK/Refused

12. Next, I will ask you about some local government services and your community's record in providing these services over the past year. (First,) what about... **(INSERT—READ AND RANDOMIZE)** where you live?

**READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY:** Have government services in this area gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same over the past year?

		<u>Gotten better</u>	<u>Gotten worse</u>	<u>About<sup>2</sup> the same</u>	<u>Doesn't Apply/Service not provided</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a. Road maintenance	Current	28	21	48	*	3
	11/18/2008	32	20	47	*	1
b. The quality of the schools	Current	19	13	49	4	16
	11/18/2008	26	16	41	8	9
c. Public parks and recreation	Current	19	9	61	3	7
	11/18/2008	30	8	54	3	5
d. Sewage disposal and water delivery services	Current	9	9	65	12	5
	11/18/2008	13	5	58	18	6
e. Fire and police protection	Current	20	8	66	*	5
	11/18/2008	28	7	60	*	5

13. Now I'm going to ask you some questions about priorities for the state of Indiana. Please tell me if you think each of the following should be a TOP priority for the state, important but not a top priority, not too important, or not at all important. (First,) what about... **(INSERT—READ AND RANDOMIZE)**

**(REPEAT AS NECESSARY:** Should this be a TOP priority, important but not a top priority, not too important, or not at all important?)

		<u>Top priority</u>	<u>Important but not top priority</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a. Bringing more jobs to the state	Current	73	25	1	*	1
	11/18/2008	83	15	1	*	1
b. Improving transportation	Current	18	47	25	4	6
	11/18/2008	25	42	23	5	5
c. Reducing illegal immigration	Current	44	33	14	6	5
	11/18/2008	47	30	14	5	4

<sup>2</sup> Q12 answer choice "About the same" modified from previous poll.

Q13 continued...

		<u>Top</u> <u>priority</u>	<u>Important</u> <u>but not top</u> <u>priority</u>	<u>Not too</u> <u>important</u>	<u>Not at all</u> <u>important</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
d. Improving local schools	Current	50	40	4	2	4
	11/18/2008	60	28	7	1	4
e. Protecting the environment	Current	34	52	9	3	1
	11/18/2008	46	43	8	3	*
f. Providing more affordable healthcare coverage	Current	56	29	6	7	2
	11/18/2008	62	27	6	3	2
g. Making government more efficient	Current	53	37	6	1	2
	11/18/2008	67	26	4	1	2

14. In general, would you favor or oppose the increased use of PRIVATE companies to perform government services in Indiana?

44 Favor  
42 Oppose  
15 Don't know/Refused

15. Do you favor or oppose the lease or sale of public roads to PRIVATE companies who will then be responsible for maintenance and improvements?

34 Favor  
57 Oppose  
10 Don't know/Refused

16. Should it become necessary to raise revenue for the state of Indiana and you had to make a choice, which ONE of the following five options would be your first choice... **(READ ITEM NUMBER FOLLOWED BY ITEM, READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-5)?**

**ALWAYS ASK 1-2 TOGETHER, IN ORDER:**

- 10 Extend the sales tax to all services  
22 Extend the sales tax to services with exemptions for medical and legal services  
13 Increase the current sales tax  
35 Expand casino gaming  
2 Increase property taxes  
9 **(VOL.—DO NOT READ)** None of these/Would not support any  
8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know/Refused

17. On another subject... Would you favor or oppose a law that requires all Americans to have health insurance, either getting it from work or buying it on their own?

- 49 Favor
- 46 Oppose
- 6 Don't know/Refused

18a. Would you support or oppose having the federal government create a new health insurance plan to compete with private health insurance plans?

18b. Do you (support/oppose) this strongly, or somewhat?

- 50 Support
  - 29 Strongly
  - 22 Not strongly
- 42 Oppose
  - 31 Strongly
  - 11 Not strongly
- 8 Don't know/Refused

19. Do you, yourself, now have some form of health insurance or health care coverage, or are you uninsured at this time?

- 85 Have coverage
- 15 Uninsured
- \* Don't know/Refused

20. Which of the following is your MAIN source of health coverage...**(READ)**

***Based on those who are covered (n=535)***

- 61 An employer or union
- 10 A private insurance plan you bought yourself
- 21 Medicare
- 3 Medicaid
- 4 Or are you covered by some other source? **(SPECIFY)**
- 1 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know/Refused

21. Is there a computer in your household?

- 76 Yes
- 24 No
- \* Don't know/Refused

22. Does your household computer have high speed internet access, such as through a cable or D-S-L line?

*Based on those who have home computer (n=452)*

- 82 Yes
- 16 No
- 2 Don't know/Refused



**DEMOGRAPHICS (ASK ALL)****D1. RECORD RESPONDENT'S SEX:**

- 49 Male
- 52 Female

**D2/D2a.**

In politics, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent? [IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED INDEPENDENT/OTHER/NO PARTY/ OR REFUSED, THEY WERE ASKED] As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

- 26 Republican
- 32 Democrat
- 32 Independent
- 4 No party/Not interested in politics (**VOL.**)
- \* Other party (**VOL.**)
- 6 Don't know/Refused
  
- 41 Total Republican/Lean Republican
- 43 Total Democrat/Lean Democrat
- 16 Refused to Lean

**D3. How would you describe your views on most political matters? Do you consider yourself to be... (READ)**

- 15 Liberal
- 36 Conservative, or
- 42 Moderate?
- 7 (**DO NOT READ**) Don't know/Refused

D4. What is your age?

- 15 18-29
- 36 30-49
- 29 50-64
- 19 65+
- 1 Don't know/Refused

D5. What is the last grade or class you completed in school? **(DO NOT READ)**

- 3 None, or grade 1 to 8
- 10 High school incomplete (Grades 9-11)
- 40 High school graduate, Grade 12, or GED certificate
- 4 Trade, technical, or vocational school AFTER high school
- 23 Some college, but no four-year degree (includes associates degree)
- 12 College or university graduate (BA, BS or other four-year degree received)
- 9 Post graduate or professional schooling after college (including work towards an MA, MS, Ph.D., JD, DDS, or MD degree)
- 1 Refused

D6/D7.

Are you of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or other Spanish background? / What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race?

- 87 White, non-Hispanic
- 12 Total Non-White
  - 7 Black
  - 4 Hispanic
  - \* Asian
  - 1 Other or mixed race
- 1 Undesignated

D8. Does any disability, handicap, or chronic disease keep you from fully participating in school, housework or other activities, or not?

- 13 Yes
- 86 No
- 1 Refused

D9. Last year, that is in 2008, approximately what was your total household income from all sources, before taxes – just tell me when I get to the right category. **(READ—IF INCOME OVERLAPS TWO CATEGORIES, RECORD IN THE LOWER CATEGORY)**

- 25 Under \$30,000
- 24 Between \$30,000 and \$50,000
- 17 Between \$50,000 and \$75,000
- 9 Between \$75,000 and \$100,000
- 11 Over \$100,000
- 3 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 10 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**END OF INTERVIEW. THANK RESPONDENT:** That completes the interview. Thank you very much for your cooperation.