

**PRINCETON SURVEY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES for  
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY  
2010 HOOSIER POLL**  
**Toplines**

**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

Born in state	66.1
Total Born somewhere else	33.6

First Moved to Indiana:

More than 20 years ago	
6-20 years ago	
In the past 5 years	
Time undesignated	
Don't know/Refused	

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

An excellent place to live	35.3
Good	43.6
Only fair, or	16.3
Poor?	3.2
<b>(DO NOT READ)</b> Don't know/Refused	1.7

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

Approve	50.4
Disapprove	29.6
Don't know/Refused	20

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

A lot of attention	20.3
Some attention	47.9
Not too much, OR	21.5
No attention at all?	9.2
<b>(DO NOT READ)</b> Don't know/Refused	1.2

6. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job the General Assembly has done during the last year?

Approve	48.3
Disapprove	30.1
Don't know/Refused	21.6

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

Very satisfied	7.5
Somewhat satisfied	44.9
Not too satisfied OR	22.5
Not at all satisfied?	20
(DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused	5.2

8. 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?

	Gotten <u>better</u>	Gotten <u>worse</u>	About <sup>1</sup> the <u>same</u>	Doesn't Apply/Service <u>not provided</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a. Road maintenance	31.9	23.1	42.4	.5	2
b. The quality of the schools	17.3	24.1	42.4	6	10
c. Public parks and recreation	26.1	9.2	55.1	4.2	5.5
d. Sewage disposal and water delivery services	11.5	8	57.1	17.3	6.2
e. Fire and police protection	21	9.3	64.1	1.5	4.2

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9. Local governments in Indiana may be facing budget shortfalls. Two options for dealing with these shortfalls include cutting back on services or increasing taxes. For each of the local services I will read you, please tell me which of these options you would prefer should they become necessary in your community:

**(READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY:** If budget shortfalls require it, should this service be reduced, taxes increased to keep services at the current level, or aren't you sure?)

	<u>Prefer cuts in services</u>	Prefer tax increases to keep services at current <u>level</u>	<u>Not sure</u>
a. Fire departments	13.6	57.7	28.6
b. Police departments	21.3	49.6	29.1
c. Schools	16.1	54.9	29
d. Parks and recreation	43.8	24	32.3
e. Jails	30.1	28.8	41.1
f. Street and road maintenance	27.5	41.3	31.3
g. Govt. Operations	49.1	15.3	34.8

10. 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 a-b)**

a. Schools in communities experiencing the greatest GROWTH in school-age children (or)	27.3
b. Schools in communities where schools face the greatest OBSTACLES to student achievement (or)	44.3
<b>(VOL.)</b> Both should have the same priority for funding	13.8
<b>(DO NOT READ)</b> DK/Refused	14.6

11. 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?)

	Top priority	Important but not top priority	Not too important	Not at all important	DK/Ref.
a. Bringing more jobs to the state	77%	20.8	.7	.5	1
b. Improving transportation	17.3	40.8	26.3	10.1	5.5
c. Reducing illegal immigration	45.9	27	16.6	7.8	2.7
d. Improving local schools	57.9	32.4	3.8	2.3	3.5
e. Protecting the environment	31.8	50.9	12	3.3	2
f. Providing more affordable healthcare coverage	51.9	30.9	9.3	5.2	2.7
g. Making government more efficient	60.7	27.1	6.7	2.5	3

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

An employer or union	54.7
A private insurance plan you bought yourself	8.1
Medicare	27.7
Medicaid	5.4
Or are you covered by some other source? (SPECIFY)	3.3
<b>(DO NOT READ)</b> Don't know/Refused	8

13. What is your overall impression of the healthcare law passed by Congress?

a) very favorable	7
b) mostly favorable	28.1
c) mostly unfavorable	21.3
d) very unfavorable	28.8
e) mixed	2.8
f) don't know	12

14) I am going to read you a series of items related to healthcare and I would like you to rate them as very important, not very important, unimportant or unsure.

	Very Important	Somewhat imp	Not too	Not at all	Not Sure
a) Affordability	78.8	16.3	2	1.5	1.7
b) Coverage for everyone	52.6	25.3	9.3	9.2	3.7
c) Prohibiting insurance Companies from cancelling For pre-existing conditions	72.4	19	2.3	2.3	4
d) Coverage for children up to age 26 whether or not they are in college	39.4	26.6	17.1	15	1.8

15. During the next year the state will be redrawing district boundaries for elective offices to accommodate shifts in population from one area to another within the state. Currently the process is handled by the state legislature and the Governor. Would you prefer to see the process placed in the hands of an independent nonpartisan body or should we keep the process we have?

- a) use non partisan body 38.3
- b) keep process the same 47.6
- c) unsure 14.1

16. In redrawing boundaries for elective districts how important are each of the following? (Multiple Responses Solicited)

	Very Important	Somewhat Imp	Not too	Not at all	DK
a) Keeping communities in close proximity together	29.1	45.6	11.5	6.2	7.7
b) Creating more compact and Geographically uniform districts	18.6	42.3	19.1	9.5	10.5
c) Respecting township and county boundaries	35.3	40.8	11.6	7.2	5.2
d) Placing House districts within Senate districts in a uniform way	20.6	45.8	11.6	9.2	12.8

17. Some counties in the state use vote centers which permit voters to cast their ballots in any number of locations instead of using just one polling place. Do you support the idea of extending vote centers statewide?

- a) yes 62.9
- b) no 31.6
- c) not sure 5.5

18. What level of confidence do you have that your vote in the last election was properly recorded and accurately counted?

- a) very confident 60.2
- b) somewhat confident 25.8
- c) not sure 4.5
- d) somewhat not confident 3
- e) not very confident at all 6.5

19. What is your impression of the Tea Party?

- a) Strongly agree 10.5
- b) Agree 21.6
- c) Disagree 11.6
- d) Strongly disagree 7.7
- e) No opinion 46.3
- f) Haven't Heard .5
- g) Refused/DK 1.8

20. Congress is currently deciding whether to extend the Bush era tax cuts. Some prefer extending the cuts only for families making \$250,000 or below; some prefer extending the cuts to all income levels; others prefer the cuts be allowed to expire in order to reduce the federal deficit. Which of these positions if any do you support?

- a) Keep cuts in place only for families who make below \$250,000 a year 36.8
- b) Keep cuts for people in all income levels 37.8
- c) Allow the cuts to expire to reduce the federal deficit 13.5
- d) None of the above 12

21. Indiana's trust fund for unemployed workers is currently bankrupt and the state is borrowing from the federal government in order to pay compensation for unemployed workers. Several options have been advanced by policymakers to keep funds flowing to the unemployed. Which of the following options do you favor? (Multiple Responses Solicited)

- a) increase employer contributions to the fund 57.7
- b) limit worker eligibility and benefits 47.9
- c) increase state income tax to fund the program 26.5
- d) continue borrowing from federal government to fund the program 37.8

22. During the past school year, that just ended, did you have any children in grades kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade?

- a)yes 22.3
- b)no 77.5
- c)Won't answer .2

23. How satisfied are you with your local public schools?

- a) very satisfied 41.8
- b) somewhat satisfied 37.3
- c) not too satisfied 11.9
- d) not at all satisfied 7.5
- e) DK 1.5

24. Charter schools have been started throughout the state in recent years as an alternative to local public schools. Charter schools may receive public money as well as private donations and are exempt from some rules that apply to public schools in exchange for some kind of accountability for producing results in student achievement. Some people believe these schools unnecessarily take public money away from struggling public schools. Others believe charter schools provide a necessary alternative to parents whose local schools are underperforming. Do you support the creation of more charter schools throughout the state or would you like to see public money stay with public school systems?

- a) favor creation of more charter schools 25.1
- b) favor using the money to support current public school systems 67.1
- c) DK 7.8

25. Several ideas have been circulated by policymakers to improve public education. Please tell me which of the following items would be your first choice for improving public education. (REPEAT WITH SECOND CHOICE AND THIRD CHOICE.)

- a) Increase teacher salary 20
- b) Tie teacher salaries to student test scores 19.3
- c) Close underperforming schools 7.5
- d) Increase parental involvement with the schools 47.1
- e) DK 6.2