

EPIC•MRA STATEWIDE POLL OF ACTIVE AND LIKELY VOTERS – DECEMBER 2014
[FREQUENCY REPORT OF SURVEY RESPONSES – 600 SAMPLE – ERROR ±4.0%]
Polling Dates: December 10th, 2014 through December 14th, 2014
Conducted by live callers -- 20% cell phones

__02. Overall, would you say that things in the United States are generally headed in the right direction, or, have things pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

- 30% Right direction
- 59% Wrong track
- 11% Undecided/Refused

__03. How about in Michigan – are things generally headed in the right direction, or, have things pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

- 52% Right direction
- 39% Wrong track
- 9% Undecided/Refused

Now, I would like to read the names of several political figures and groups of people. For each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of that person or group. If you do not recognize a name, please say so and we can move on.

The first name is _____? “Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of that person?” **[IF FAVORABLE/ UNFAVORABLE, ASK: “Would that be very or generally?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

[ROTATE Q.4 TO Q.11]		<u>DO NOT RECOG</u>	<u>VERY FAVOR</u>	<u>TOTAL FAVOR</u>	<u>TOTAL UNFAV</u>	<u>VERY UNFAV</u>	<u>REF UND</u>
__04.	Barack Obama	---	23%	47%	48%	32%	5%
__06.	Public school teachers	---	32%	79%	12%	4%	9%
__09.	Public school employees	---	27%	78%	11%	3%	11%
__10.	Rick Snyder	---	24%	52%	40%	24%	8%
__11.	Union members	---	21%	58%	25%	8%	17%

__12. Overall, how would you rate the job being done by Barack Obama as President -- would you give him a positive rating of excellent or pretty good, or a negative rating of just fair or poor?

- 8% Excellent
- 33% Pretty good
- 41% TOTAL POSITIVE**
- 58% TOTAL NEGATIVE**
- 21% Just fair
- 37% Poor
- 1% Undecided/Refused

__13. Overall, how would you rate the job being done by Rick Snyder as Michigan's Governor – would you give him a positive rating of excellent or pretty good, or a negative rating of just fair or poor?

12% Excellent
 37% Pretty good
49% TOTAL POSITIVE
50% TOTAL NEGATIVE
 30% Just fair
 20% Poor
 1% Undecided/Refused

__14. Thinking about the economy in Michigan, do you believe Michigan's economy...**[READ 1 TO 3]**

70% Has already bottomed out and is starting to improve
 15% Is at the bottom but is not yet getting any better
 12% Has not yet bottomed out and will still get worse
 3% Undecided/Refused

Turning to another topic...

__15. Thinking about the quality of education provided in most local public school districts in Michigan, would you offer a positive rating of excellent or pretty good, or a negative rating of only fair or poor for the education quality provided?

7% Excellent
 45% Pretty good
52% TOTAL POSITIVE
40% TOTAL NEGATIVE
 28% Just fair
 12% Poor
 8% Undecided/Refused

__16. Overall, including all state and local funds, does your local public school district have too much, too little, or about the right amount of funding it needs to provide a quality education? **[IF TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE, ASK: 'Would that be much or somewhat (too much/too little)?' AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

3% Much too much funding
 4% Somewhat too much funding
7% TOTAL TOO MUCH
 35% About the right amount of funding
51% TOTAL TOO LITTLE
 27% Somewhat too little funding
 24% Much too little funding
 7% Undecided/Refused

__17. Thinking about the state and local taxes you pay to fund the programs and services of your local public school district, would you say the taxes you pay are too high, too low or about right for what you get back in programs and services? **[IF TOO HIGH, ASK, ASK: ‘Would that be much or somewhat?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

10% Much too high
 19% Somewhat too high
29% TOTAL TOO HIGH
 58% About the right amount
 8% Too low
 5% Undecided/Refused

Thinking about the November general election in 2016 for President,

The president is elected by a process called the Electoral College, which is established in the U.S. Constitution and was a compromise between a nationwide popular vote, and having members of Congress choose the President. The number of presidential electors in any state is equal to the number of congressional districts a state has plus its two United States Senate seats. The U.S. Constitution leaves it to the states to determine how its own electors are chosen and how they are divided.

Michigan currently has a winner-take-all system, just as 47 other states do and the District of Columbia. Nebraska and Maine are the only two states that divide their electoral votes. This means that the winner of the statewide popular vote receives all 16 of the state’s electoral votes. A bill under consideration in the Michigan legislature would change Michigan from a winner-take-all system and instead, award 9 of its 16 electoral votes to the winner of the popular vote in the presidential election, with the winner able to receive additional electoral votes based on how much they beat the second-place finisher by in one-on-one vote totals. Each 1.5 points above 50 percent would mean another electoral vote with any remaining electoral votes going to the runner up. Under this system a presidential candidate can only win all of Michigan’s 16 electoral votes if he or she is able to capture 60.5 percent of the statewide popular vote.

__18. Based on this description and whatever else you may have heard or know about the issue, do you support or oppose the proposed legislation to change Michigan’s winner-take-all electoral vote allocation system to one that would divide the vote as proposed? **[IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE, ASK: “Would that be strongly or somewhat?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

24% Strongly Support
 19% Somewhat Support
43% TOTAL SUPPORT
45% TOTAL OPPOSE
 12% Somewhat Oppose
 33% Strongly Oppose
 12% Undecided/Refused

__19. Now I would like to read two statements, one by supporters and one by opponents of the proposal.

[ROTATE STATEMENTS]

Supporters of the proposal to change Michigan’s winner-take-all system say that by changing to a system where even if a candidate knows they won’t win the popular vote, they can still win at least some of the state’s electoral votes, will keep Michigan in the spotlight and attract candidates from both major political parties to continue campaigning in Michigan to compete for electoral votes. This means that more campaign money will be spent locally on advertising and other campaign activities. Supporters also say it’s a fairer system because voters who support the candidate who loses the statewide popular vote will still have an effect which candidate is ultimately chosen as president.

Opponents say that efforts to change the winner-take-all system are being pushed by Republican Party interests and are only taking place in states like Michigan, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and other winner-take-all states where Democratic presidential candidates usually win, but where the Governor’s office and state legislatures are controlled by Republicans. The same push for this change is not taking place in winner-take-all states like Texas, Georgia and other states where Republicans control state government but Republican presidential candidates usually win. Opponents say the push to change the electoral college is nothing more than a scheme hatched by Republicans to siphon off 20, 30, 40 or more electoral votes for Republican candidates to increase their chance of winning the presidential election.

Thinking about this argument, let me ask you again, do you support or oppose the legislation to change Michigan’s winner-take-all electoral vote allocation system? **[IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE, ASK: “Would that be strongly or somewhat?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

22% Strongly Support
 17% Somewhat Support
39% TOTAL SUPPORT
49% TOTAL OPPOSE
 12% Somewhat Oppose
 37% Strongly Oppose
 12% Undecided/Refused

__25. Now I would like to ask about the salary and wages paid to public school employees. Thinking about salary and wages only – and not including health insurance, retirement or other benefits - do you think school teachers and other school employees who work in your local public school district are paid too much, too little, or about the right amount? **[IF TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE, ASK: ‘Would that be much or somewhat?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

2% Much too much
 7% Somewhat too much
9% TOTAL TOO MUCH
 36% About the right amount
45% TOTAL TOO LITTLE
 21% Somewhat too little
 24% Much too little
 10% Undecided/Refused

Thinking specifically about the health insurance, retirement and other benefits that are part of a total compensation package...

__26. Do you think the benefits local public school teachers and other public school employees receive in your area are too much, too little, or about the right amount? **[IF TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE, ASK: ‘Would that be much or somewhat?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

8% Much too much
 11% Somewhat too much
19% TOTAL TOO MUCH
 43% About the right amount
24% TOTAL TOO LITTLE
 12% Somewhat too little
 12% Much too little
 14% Undecided/Refused

__28. Based on your personal experience or what you know or have heard or read, do you support or oppose the efforts of the Tea Party movement? **[IF SUPPORT OR OPPOSE, ASK: ‘Do you strongly or somewhat (SUPPORT/OPPOSE) the Tea Party movement?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

12% Strongly supports Tea Party movement
 19% Somewhat supports Tea Party movement
31% TOTAL SUPPORT
45% TOTAL OPPOSE
 9% Somewhat opposes Tea Party movement
 36% Strongly opposes Tea Party movement
 24% Undecided/Refused

__35. Which of the following racial or ethnic groups best describes you -- White, African American or Black, Hispanic or Latino, Asian, Native American, of mixed-race or some other group or race?

79% White
 11% African American/Black
 1% Hispanic or Latino (Puerto Rican, Mexican-American etc.)
 1% Asian
 1% Native American
 2% Mixed race
 1% Other
 4% Undecided/Refused

__36. Would you describe yourself as (**ROTATE**) a conservative, a moderate or a liberal?

39% Conservative
 37% Moderate
 16% Liberal
 8% Undecided/Refused

__37. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Republican or a Democrat?

(IF DEM) Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?

(IF INDEP) Do you consider yourself closer to the Republican or Democratic Party?

(IF REP) Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or not a very strong Republican?

23% Strong Democrat
 7% Not Strong Democrat
 10% Independent-Lean Democrat
40% TOTAL DEMOCRATIC
 20% Independent
37% TOTAL REPUBLICAN
 9% Independent-Lean Republican
 9% Not Strong Republican
 19% Strong Republican
 3% Other/Undecided/Refused