

March 2021 Edition

# LAKE EFFECT



What's Inside



# Welcome to Lake Effect

Welcome to Lake Effect, a monthly research newsletter and a resource for progressive leaders and advocates, presented by Progress Michigan and Public Policy Polling.

Research in this newsletter comes from a survey conducted between March 4th and March 5th.

## In this issue

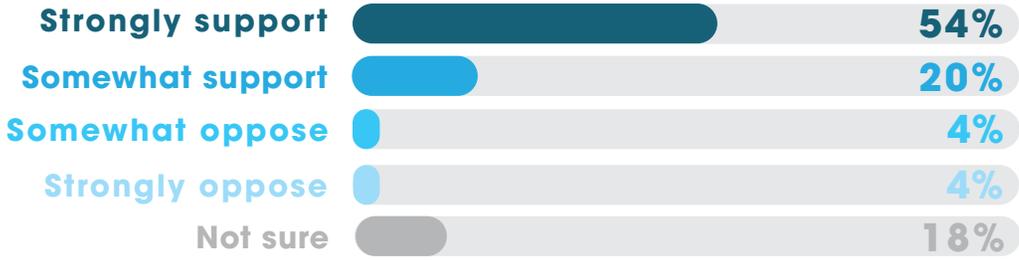




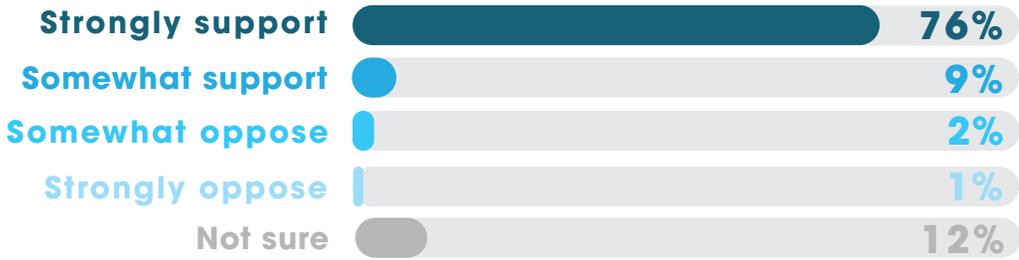
## Transparency, Accountability Reform Extremely Popular

Michigan has the worst ethics and transparency rankings in the entire country. Michiganders are ready for change as they voice incredible support for FOIA, lobbying and financial disclosure reforms.

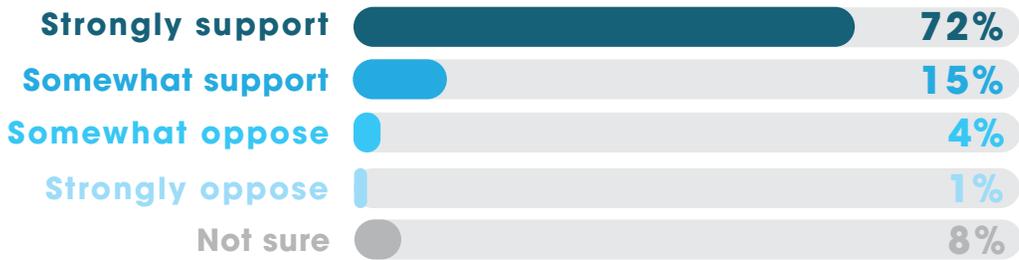
Currently, the Michigan Legislature and Governor's office are expressly exempt from Freedom of Information Act Requests. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose a ballot initiative that would make the Governor and Legislature subject to Freedom of Information Act requests?



Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose a ballot initiative that would require more transparency and reporting for lobbying activities in state government?



Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose a policy requiring more financial disclosure from lawmakers?





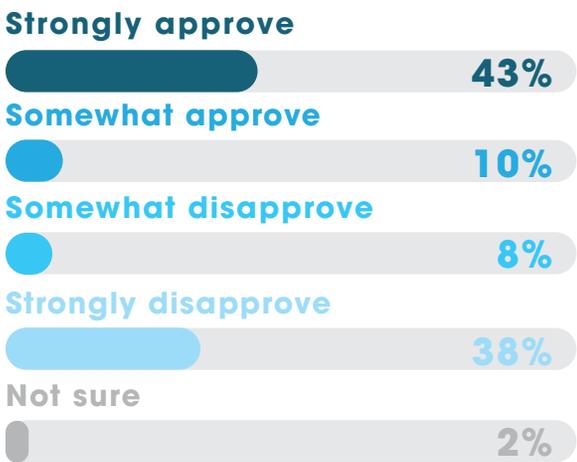
## GOP vs. Whitmer Funding Stunts Not Popular

Republicans in Lansing have been fighting tooth and nail to take emergency powers away from Gov. Whitmer, including holding up federal funding to do it. That may not be a wise move as respondents support Whitmer keeping her powers and are not on board with the GOP's funding stunt.

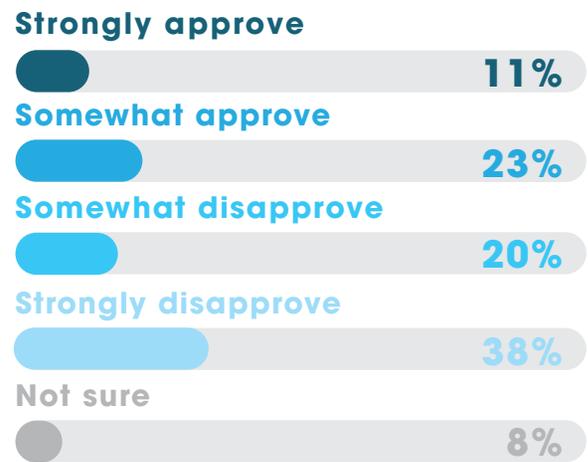
Do you support or oppose the Legislature refusing to allocate federal coronavirus relief unless the Governor gives up her emergency powers?



Do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove of the job Governor Whitmer is doing handling the coronavirus?



Do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove of the job Republicans in the State Legislature are doing handling the coronavirus?



Generally speaking, when it comes to coronavirus do you think Michigan is moving too fast when it comes to reopening the state, not fast enough, or at about the right speed?

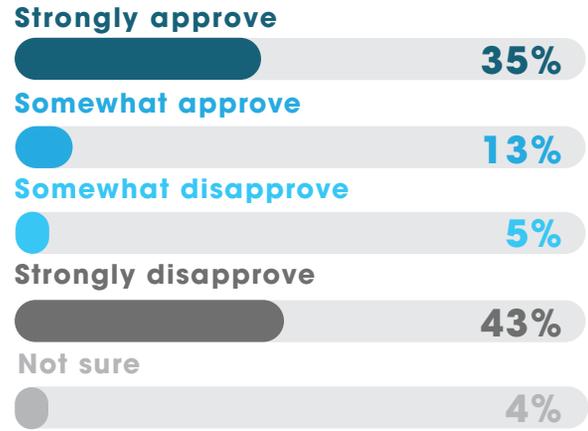




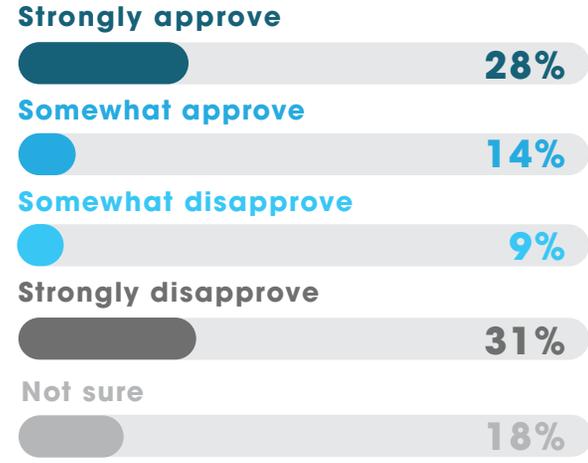
## Michigan Dems Continue to Outshine GOP

While respondents may be split on Biden, the Dems in the state's highest offices continue to receive solid support. Their GOP colleagues? Not so much.

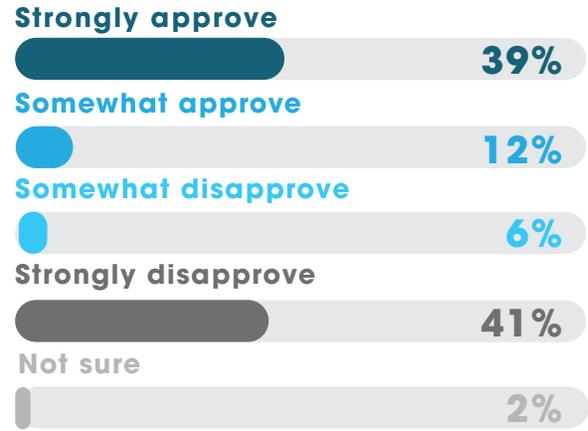
Do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove of President Joe Biden's job performance?



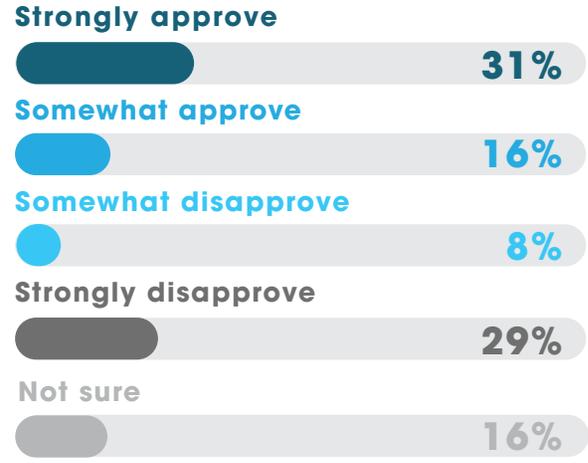
Do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove of Attorney General Dana Nessel's job performance?



Do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove of Governor Gretchen Whitmer's job performance?



Do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove of Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson's job performance?

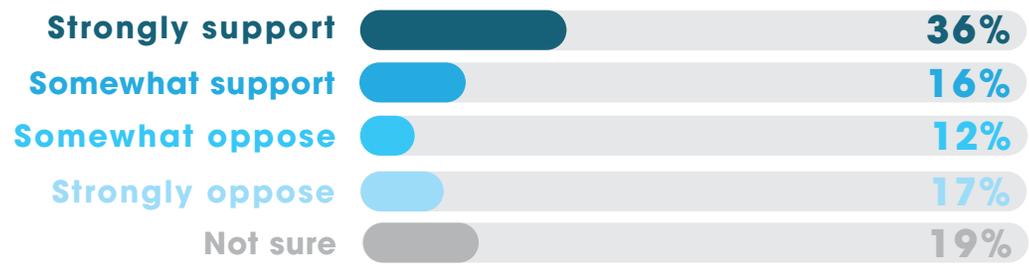




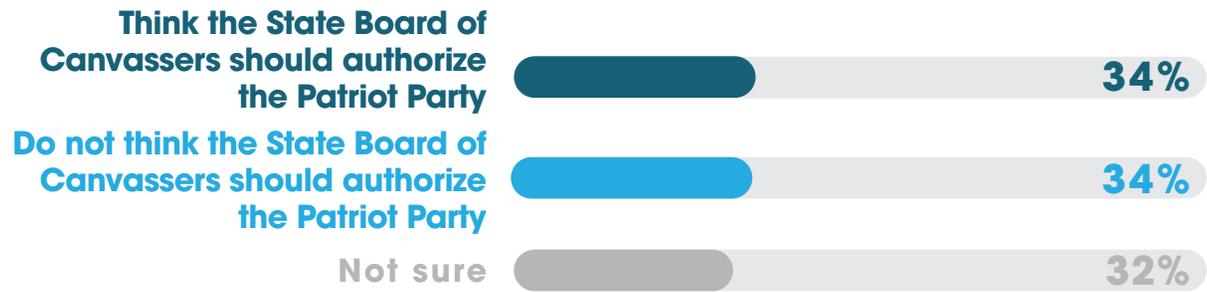
## Michigan Political Heat

The last few weeks have seen some explosive headlines and high-profile controversies. The temperature is hot in Michigan as we move into the Spring. From Lee Chatfield’s high-profile demise after elected office, to Shirkey’s ties to militias and election misinformation, we take a look at some of the underlying issues and potential fallout for elected officials.

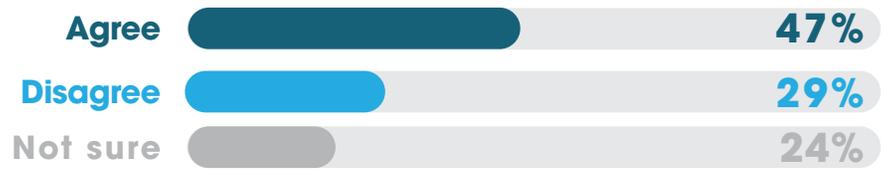
Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose expanding the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act in Michigan to include protections against discrimination for LGBT people?



There has been an effort announced in Michigan to start a third political party called the “Patriot Party.” Do you think the State Board of Canvassers should authorize this new party, or not?



Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: State Senate Leader Mike Shirkey should resign based on his deep association with Militia groups who helped plan the January attack on the US Capitol?



## About Lake Effect

Presented by Progress Michigan, Lake Effect is a monthly research newsletter that follows public opinion in Michigan. Each month, Public Policy Polling will survey registered voters across Michigan about their opinions of important issues and public figures in the state. These newsletters will break down the results and provide readers with key takeaways and analysis from the data.

## About This Study

PPP interviewed 872 Michigan voters by phone and text from March 4th and March 5th on behalf of Progress Michigan. The margin of error is +/- 3.3%

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