

September 2022 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 September 2-3, 2022.

## In this issue



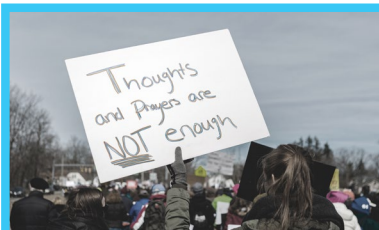
### 3 Overwhelming Majority Support for Protecting Abortion Access

The majority of Michiganders support keeping abortion legal and oppose criminal penalties. Hearing Tudor Dixon's stance on abortion makes people less likely to vote for her.



### 4 DeVos Support Makes Respondents Less Likely to Back Candidates

If a candidate has received money from DeVos family members or been endorsed by a DeVos organization, the majority of Michiganders are less likely to support that candidate.



### 5 Michiganders Want Action on Gun Violence Legislation

The majority of respondents want Shirkey to hold a hearing on gun violence prevention measures and the majority of parents support safe storage legislation.



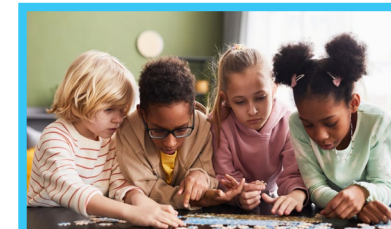
### 6 Economy, Democracy, Abortion Top Issues for Michiganders

When asked their first and second most important issues when considering who to vote for, Michiganders picked the economy, democracy, and abortion.



### 7 Majority Support Whitmer on Pandemic Handling

Most respondents believe Governor Whitmer did the best she could to protect Michiganders during the pandemic with the information she had about coronavirus at the time.



### 8 Respondents Agree with Child Advocates About Political Attacks

Strong majority oppose politicians using language associated with the sexual abuse of children to attack their opponents.



# Overwhelming Majority Support for Protecting Abortion Access

The majority of Michiganders support keeping abortion legal and oppose criminal penalties. Hearing details about Tudor Dixon's stance on abortion makes people less likely to vote for her.

When thinking about reproductive rights in Michigan, do you support or oppose keeping abortion legal?



Do you support or oppose criminal penalties for a pregnant person who seeks or has an abortion?



Do you support or oppose criminal penalties for medical professionals who provide abortion services?



Tudor Dixon, the Republican candidate for Governor, has said that a 14-year-old who has been raped by a family member should be forced to carry to term and give birth. Does this make you more likely or less likely to vote for Tudor Dixon for Governor, or does it not make a difference?

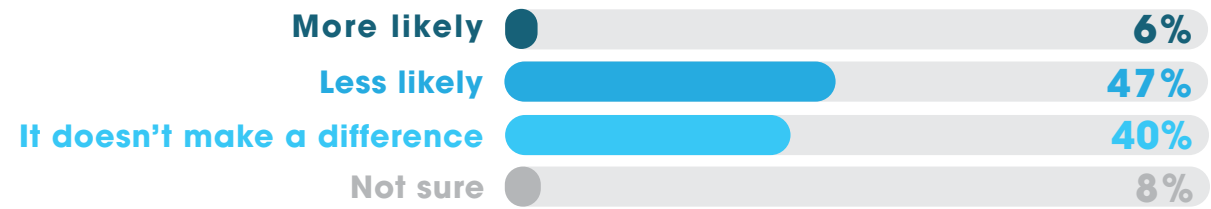




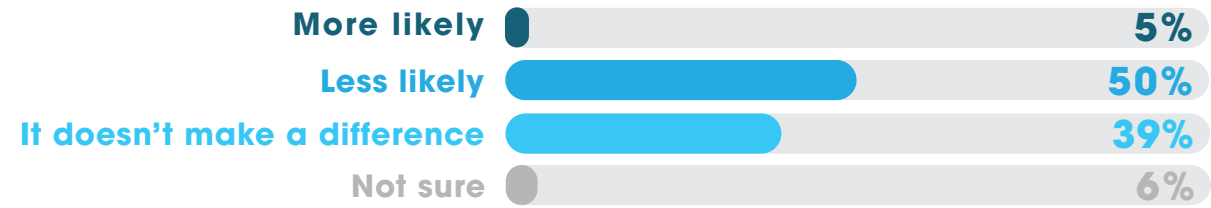
# DeVos Support Makes Respondents Less Likely to Back Candidates

If a candidate has received money from DeVos family members or been endorsed by a DeVos organization, the majority of Michiganders are less likely to support that candidate.

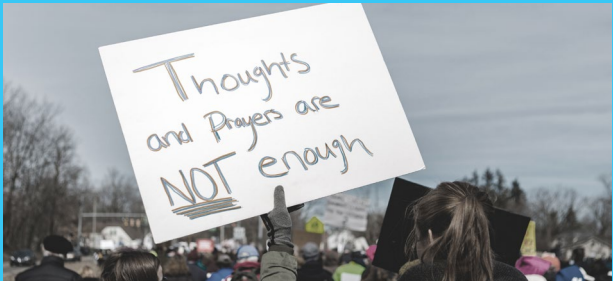
DeVos-backed organizations the Great Lakes Education Project and the Michigan Freedom Network have endorsed candidates for public office up and down the ballot. Does a candidate being endorsed by a DeVos-backed organization make you more likely or less likely to vote for them or does it not make a difference?



If a candidate for public office has received money from members of the DeVos family or their organizations, does that make you more likely or less likely to vote for that candidate or does it not make a difference?



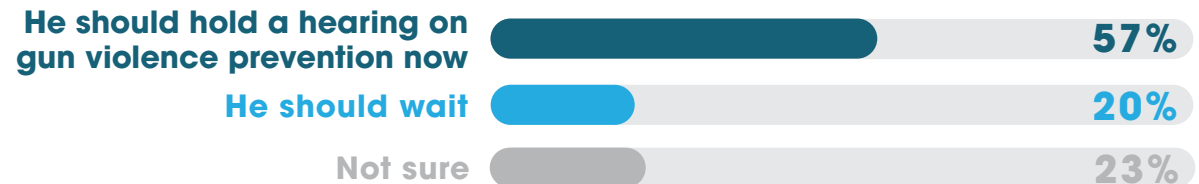




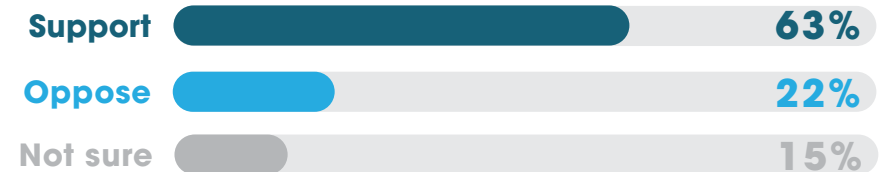
## Michiganders Want Action on Gun Violence Legislation

The majority of respondents want Shirkey to hold a hearing on gun violence prevention measures and the majority of parents support safe storage legislation.

While speaking privately to the father and sister of one of the victims of the Oxford High School shooting, Michigan Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey told them he would hold a hearing on common sense gun violence prevention measures such as safe storage and extreme risk protection order bills after the August primary election. Do you believe he should hold a hearing on gun violence prevention now, or continue to wait?

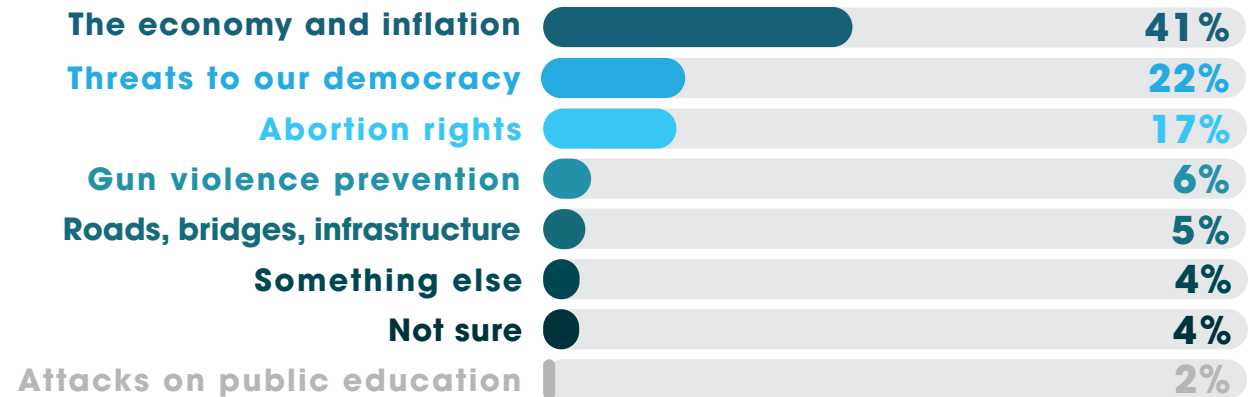


\*One possible gun violence prevention measure is safe storage legislation. This legislation would require adults to keep a firearm in a securely locked container if it is accessible to a minor. It would also impose criminal penalties on the adult if a minor obtained their gun and used it to kill or injure. Do you support or oppose safe storage legislation?

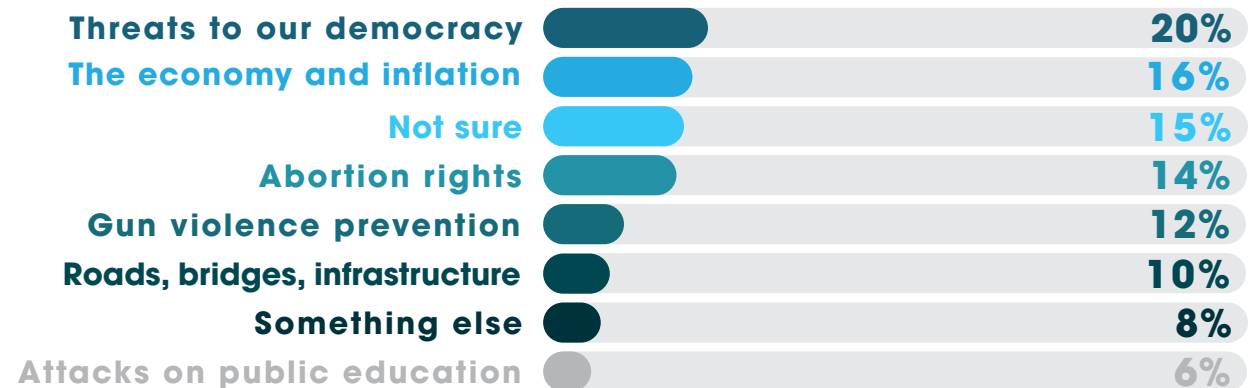


*\*Respondents were only asked this question if they identified as parents.*

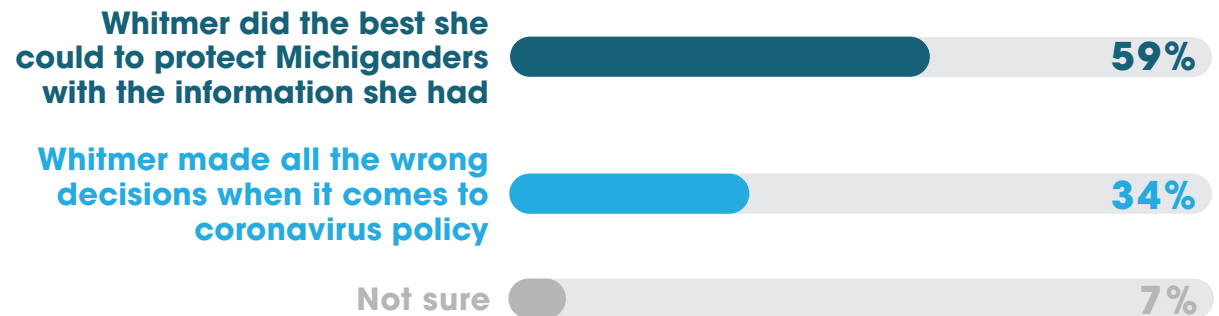
From the following list of choices, which issue is most important to you when making your decision about who to vote for in November: the economy and inflation, roads, bridges and infrastructure, abortion rights, gun violence prevention, attacks on public education, threats to our democracy, or something else?



And working from the same list of choices, which issue is the second most important to you when making your decision about who to vote for in November?



In regards to Governor Whitmer's handling of the coronavirus pandemic, which statement do you agree with more: Governor Whitmer did the best she could to protect Michiganders with the information she had, or, Governor Whitmer made all the wrong decisions when it comes to coronavirus policy?

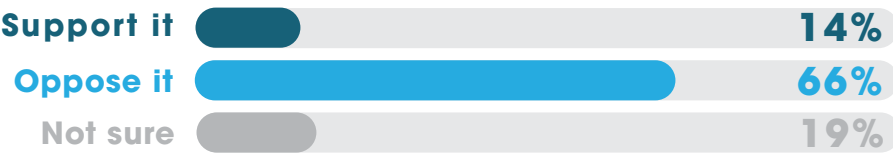




## **Respondents Agree with Child Advocates About Political Attacks**

Strong majority oppose politicians using language associated with the sexual abuse of children to attack their opponents.

Recently, it has become more common for those in political circles to attack their opponents by referring to them as groomers and pedophiles. Advocates for children have warned that making light of language intended to help prevent and treat child victims of sexual abuse will reduce the effectiveness of these efforts. Do you support or oppose politicians and political parties making use of this language to attack their opponents?





## 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 surveys registered voters across Michigan about their opinions on important issues and public figures in the state. These newsletters break down the results and provide readers with key takeaways and analysis from the data.

## About This Study

PPP interviewed 733 Michigan voters by phone and text September 2-3, 2022 on behalf of Progress Michigan. The margin of error is +/- 3.6%

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**For results of additional questions asked in this survey, [click here.](#)**