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NEW POLL: Whitmer's Proposed Budget Proves Popular

Michiganders show strong support for progressive spending priorities

MICHIGAN - On Friday, Progress Michigan released the latest edition of [Lake Effect](#), a monthly poll that tracks public opinion about a variety of issues and political figures. This month's poll dug into attitudes about a variety of economic policies, including those proposed in Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's budget.

"Michiganders may not be mad about March Madness, but Gov. Whitmer's budget that will help support working families and build stronger communities is a slam dunk," **said Sam Ingot, executive director of Progress Michigan.** "From raising trash dumping fees to protecting civil rights to ensuring access to birth control, Michiganders understand how important it is to invest in programs that will support all of our well being. People across the state are also concerned about Republicans like Rep. Josh Schriver and what their white nationalist rhetoric and beliefs represent for the future of the party. And, of course, workers' rights remain as popular as ever, with a majority of respondents supporting efforts to bolster unemployment benefits and restore worker's compensation."

Additional poll results are available below. Some key takeaways include:

- Respondents were asked about several items from Gov. Whitmer's budget. The results were as follows:
 - Raising the trash dumping fee: 77 percent support, 11 percent oppose
 - Increasing funding for the Michigan Department of Civil Rights: 58 percent support, 34 percent oppose
 - Providing free pre-K and two years of free community college for Michigan residents: 70 percent support, 23 percent oppose
- 71 percent of respondents support expanding unemployment benefits, while 22 percent are in opposition.
- When given details about the American Rescue Plan Act, 58 percent of those polled said they think it was very or somewhat beneficial, while 32 percent said it was not beneficial at all.
- When asked whether Rep. Josh Schriver, who has spread white supremacist conspiracies, is an outlier within the Republican Party or represents the rising influence of white nationalism in the party, 45 percent of respondents said he represents the rising influence of white nationalism in the party, while 22 percent believe he is an outlier, and 33 percent are not sure.

- Just 7 percent of respondents are passionate about their March Madness brackets, while 18 percent take a more casual approach, 54 percent don't bother, and 17 percent have no idea what March Madness is.

Margin of error for this poll is +/- 3.4%

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Michigan Survey Results

Q1 Governor Gretchen Whitmer recently presented her recommendations for next year’s budget. I am going to give you some of the provisions she outlined and ask if you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose them. Here’s the first one: making out-of-state trash dumpers pay the same fees as they do in other Midwest states. Currently, Michigan has some of the lowest fees in the region. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose this?

<i>Strongly support</i>	61%
<i>Somewhat support</i>	16%
<i>Somewhat oppose</i>	4%
<i>Strongly oppose</i>	7%
<i>Not sure</i>	13%

Q2 Here’s the next one: dedicating funds to ensure and expand access to contraception. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose this?

<i>Strongly support</i>	48%
<i>Somewhat support</i>	13%
<i>Somewhat oppose</i>	11%
<i>Strongly oppose</i>	19%
<i>Not sure</i>	9%

Q3 Here’s the next one: bolstering the Michigan Department of Civil Rights to ensure they can fight back against antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism, anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination, and other forms of discrimination. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose this?

<i>Strongly support</i>	43%
<i>Somewhat support</i>	15%
<i>Somewhat oppose</i>	13%
<i>Strongly oppose</i>	21%
<i>Not sure</i>	9%

Q4 Here’s the last one: offering free pre-k education and tuition-free community college for all Michigan residents without raising taxes. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose this?

<i>Strongly support</i>	52%
<i>Somewhat support</i>	18%
<i>Somewhat oppose</i>	7%
<i>Strongly oppose</i>	16%
<i>Not sure</i>	7%

Q5 Workers compensation, usually referred to as workers comp, provides benefits to workers who are injured or become ill on the job or as a result of their job. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose restoring workers compensation in Michigan?

<i>Strongly support</i>	62%
<i>Somewhat support</i>	21%
<i>Somewhat oppose</i>	7%
<i>Strongly oppose</i>	2%
<i>Not sure</i>	9%

Q6 Bills passed during Governor Rick Snyder’s administration cut back on workers’ compensation, making it harder for workers to qualify for and keep their benefits. Having heard this, let me ask you again: do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose restoring workers compensation in Michigan?

<i>Strongly support</i>	53%
<i>Somewhat support</i>	23%
<i>Somewhat oppose</i>	7%
<i>Strongly oppose</i>	8%
<i>Not sure</i>	10%

Q7 Unemployment benefits, also called unemployment insurance, are payments made to people who become unemployed through no fault of their own. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose expanding unemployment benefits in Michigan?

<i>Strongly support</i>	44%
<i>Somewhat support</i>	27%
<i>Somewhat oppose</i>	11%
<i>Strongly oppose</i>	11%
<i>Not sure</i>	8%

Q8 Unemployment benefits have not been increased since 2002, meaning they have not kept up with the cost of living. Most states offer workers at least 26 weeks of unemployment benefits, but under Governor Rick Snyder's administration, unemployment benefits were cut down to 20 weeks. Having heard this, let me ask you again: do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose expanding unemployment benefits in Michigan?

<i>Strongly support</i>	45%
<i>Somewhat support</i>	20%
<i>Somewhat oppose</i>	13%
<i>Strongly oppose</i>	17%
<i>Not sure</i>	6%

Q9 Former President Donald Trump held a campaign rally in Michigan recently. I am going to give you several statements he made and ask if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with them. Here's the first one: Trump said that United Auto Workers President Shawn Fain "sold out" autoworkers during the 2023 labor negotiations. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree?

<i>Strongly agree</i>	24%
<i>Somewhat agree</i>	10%
<i>Somewhat disagree</i>	11%
<i>Strongly disagree</i>	33%
<i>Not sure</i>	22%



Q10 Former President Donald Trump is currently facing 91 criminal counts in four separate criminal cases, has been ordered to pay over \$80 million to E. Jean Carroll for sexual abuse and defamation, and ordered to pay over \$400 million in fines by a judge for business fraud. Do Trump’s legal problems make you more likely or less likely to vote for him in the upcoming presidential election, or do they not make a difference?

- More likely*..... 25%
- Less likely*..... 40%
- They don't make a difference* 32%
- Not sure* 4%

Q11 When it comes to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, how aware are you of how these bills have impacted your community and Michigan as a whole: are you very aware, somewhat aware, or not at all aware?

- Very aware*..... 35%
- Somewhat aware* 37%
- Not at all aware*..... 19%
- Not sure* 8%

Q12 The American Rescue Plan Act provided Michigan with \$6.5 billion in federal relief funds to address the social and economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. The Inflation Reduction Act resulted in Michigan securing over \$20 billion in clean energy projects and investments and the creation of over 16,000 jobs. After hearing this, do you think the American Rescue Plan Act and the Inflation Reduction Act have been very beneficial, somewhat beneficial, or not at all beneficial for Michiganders?

- Very beneficial* 30%
- Somewhat beneficial*..... 28%
- Not at all beneficial* 32%
- Not sure* 10%

Q13 Michiganders now have a large variety of ways they can cast their vote including voting early in person, no-reason absentee voting by mail, and voting in person on Election Day. Voters can also register to vote on Election Day. After the recent Presidential primary election, are you happy or unhappy with all the methods of voting now available to Michiganders, or are you not sure?

- Happy* 58%
- Unhappy* 32%
- Not sure* 10%

Q14 Recently, Republican Representative Josh Schriver has repeatedly pushed what is known as The Great Replacement theory, a white nationalist conspiracy theory targeting immigrants and people of color, that has been used by multiple mass shooters as the reason for their actions. Do you believe Representative Schriver is an outlier in the Michigan Republican Party when it comes to white nationalism and white supremacy or do you believe he is representative of the rise of white nationalist and white supremacist views within the Michigan Republican Party overall?

- Believe Representative Schriver is an outlier in the Michigan Republican Party when it comes to white nationalism and white supremacy* 22%
- Believe he is representative of the rise of white nationalist and white supremacist views within the Michigan Republican Party*... 45%
- Not sure* 33%

Q15 If a political party has candidates for office who are connected to white nationalist or white supremacist views and movements, does that make you more likely or less likely to support that political party and its candidates overall, or does it not make a difference?

- More likely*..... 4%
- Less likely*..... 68%
- They don't make a difference* 20%
- Not sure* 8%





Q16 When it comes to March Madness, are you passionate about your bracket, casual about your bracket, do you not bother with a bracket, or do you have no idea what March Madness and brackets are referring to?

- Passionate about my bracket* 7%
- Casual about my bracket* 18%
- Don't bother with a bracket* 54%
- Have no idea what March Madness is and what brackets are referring to* 17%
- Not sure* 3%

Q17 In the 2020 election for President, did you vote for Republican Donald Trump, Democrat Joe Biden, someone else, or did you not vote in the election?

- Donald Trump* 45%
- Joe Biden* 48%
- Someone else / Did not vote* 7%

Q18 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2. If you are gender non-binary, press 3.

- Woman* 52%
- Man* 46%
- Gender non-binary* 1%

Q19 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If an independent, press 3.

- Democrat* 34%
- Republican* 30%
- Independent* 36%

Q20 If you are Hispanic or Latino, press 1. If Arab-American, press 2. If white, press 3. If African-American, press 4. If Asian-American or Pacific Islander, press 5. If other, press 6.

- Hispanic or Latino* 3%
- Arab-American* 2%
- White* 77%
- African-American* 13%
- Asian-American / Pacific Islander* 2%
- Other* 4%

Q21 If you are 18-45 years old, press 1. If 46-65, press 2. If older than 65, press 3.

- 18 to 45* 34%
- 46 to 65* 39%
- Older than 65* 27%

Q22 What is the highest level of education you have received: high school graduate or less, some college but did not finish, 2-year college degree, 4-year college degree, or post-graduate degree?

- High school graduate or less* 26%
- Some college but did not finish* 22%
- 2-year college degree* 12%
- 4-year college degree* 17%
- Post-graduate degree* 16%
- Don't care to say* 6%

Q23 Are you or is anyone in your household a current or former member of a labor union?

- Yes* 38%
- No* 62%

Q24 Mode

- Landline* 44%
- Text* 56%

Q25 Media Market

- Detroit* 49%
- Flint* 11%
- Grand Rapids* 20%
- Lansing* 7%
- Marquette* 2%
- Traverse City* 7%
- Other* 4%

