**INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY**

From July 8-16, 2022, the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center conducted a statewide survey of Oregonians’ values and beliefs.

**Research Methodology**: The online survey consisted of 1,572 Oregon residents ages 18+ and took approximately 15 minutes to complete. This is a sufficient sample size to assess Oregonians’ opinions generally and to review findings by multiple subgroups.

Respondents were contacted by using professionally maintained online panels. In gathering responses, a variety of quality control measures were employed, including questionnaire pre-testing, validation, and real time monitoring of responses. To ensure a representative sample, demographic quotas were set, and data weighted by area of the state, gender, age, and education.

**Statement of Limitations:** Any sampling of opinions or attitudes is subject to a margin of error. The margin of error is a standard statistical calculation that represents differences between the sample and total population at a confidence interval, or probability, calculated to be 95%. This means that there is a 95% probability that the sample taken for this study would fall within the stated margin of error if compared with the results achieved from surveying the entire population. This survey’s margin of error for the full sample is ±2.5%. Due to rounding or multiple answer questions, response percentages may not add up to 100%.

**Oregon Values and Beliefs Center:** The research was completed as a community service by the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center. OVBC is an independent and non-partisan organization and an Oregon charitable nonprofit corporation.

**OVBC Monthly Survey, July 2022**

The OVBC July survey is a potpourri of topics— some topics only having a few questions. Topics include Oregon’s judicial court system, civic engagement, the pandemic’s influence on your job life, drought & water supplies in Oregon, guns, and abortion.

Please be assured your personal identity will be kept anonymous. This survey should take about 10-15 minutes. Random and robotic responders and those using hate speech are subject to disqualification through validity analytics.

OVBC is an Oregon-based nonprofit, nonpartisan team that uses representative samples to provide valid research. We share our findings with elected officials, policymakers, the public, and other researchers. Again, be assured that your name will not be connected to any of your responses in our reporting. [OVBC panel:] You will be asked if you are willing to be contacted by a journalist about your answers to this survey and participation in OVBC.

Thank you.

***The first topic relates to your experiences and beliefs about Oregon judicial courts.***

1. What word or image comes to mind when you hear the words “Oregon’s court system”? [open, coded]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N = 1,572* |
| Neutral facts, nouns (e.g., judges, court, legal) | 28% |
| Negative impressions (unfair, unjust, broken) – general, non-specified | 23% |
| Inefficient, mismanaged, overburdened (slow, expensive) | 10% |
| Positive impressions (fair, just, good system) | 9% |
| So-so impression (better than most, could use improvements) | 4% |
| Corrupt, crooked | 4% |
| Liberal, Kate Brown | 4% |
| Not tough enough on people, lenient | 2% |
| Ineffective, unreliable, inconsistent | 2% |
| Inequitable, racist, discriminatory, does not consider mental health issues enough | 2% |
| Biased | 2% |
| All other responses | <1% |
| Don’t know | 9% |

1. How much trust and confidence do you have at this time in the following Oregon public institutions? [Randomized]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Response category,** *N* = *1,572* | **A great deal** | **A fair amount** | **Not very much** | **None at all** | **Don’t know** |
| 1. Executive branch, headed by the governor | 8% | 32% | 25% | 29% | 6% |
| 1. Court system, headed by Chief Justice | 10% | 35% | 31% | 15% | 10% |
| 1. Legislative branch, consisting of the Oregon Senate and House of Representatives | 6% | 32% | 34% | 20% | 8% |
| 1. Local government, headed by mayors, city councils, county commissions, etc. | 7% | 34% | 37% | 17% | 5% |

1. From what you have heard or seen, do Oregon’s judges seem fair to you?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Definitely yes | 9% |
| Leans toward yes | 40% |
| Leans toward no | 23% |
| Definitely no | 12% |
| Don’t know | 16% |

1. From what you have heard or seen, does Oregon’s court system seem efficient to you?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* *= 1,572* |
| Definitely yes | 6% |
| Leans toward yes | 25% |
| Leans toward no | 33% |
| Definitely no | 22% |
| Don’t know | 14% |

1. Besides fair-minded judges, what else is needed to assure the administration of fair and impartial justice in Oregon? [open, coded]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *n = 1,569* |
| No conflicts of interest: keep politics out, follow the money, accountability, transparency, checks and balances of power, oversight for judges/judicial system | 14% |
| Efficiency: faster, appearances mandatory only when absolutely necessary, prompt trials, courts, staff, judges | 9% |
| More strict: enforcement of laws, follow the law by the book, less catch and release, more jail time, more jail time for sex offenders, more rights for victims, more jail/prison space | 9% |
| Modernize system: educate judges on societal change, new ideas, update laws, jails, and penalization system, restorative justice | 7% |
| DEI-informed: more equity/equality, hire more diverse judges, more equity training for judges and staff, equal treatment of BIPOC and LGBTQ Oregonians, more diverse juries, judges that believe in science | 7% |
| Economic feasibility: pay jurors more, less fees/costs, bail reform, rich people should not be at an advantage, increase pay for public defenders, more free legal aid, accessible to all, easier to get to, transportation help, adequately budgeted judicial system | 7% |
| Honest and fair: truthful, less biased | 6% |
| Honest and fair juries: more diverse jurors, fair/better jury selection | 5% |
| Humanity (judicial system): more kindness, compassion, understanding, humility, open-mindedness, more integrity among judges, lawyers and staff, build trust, deeper wisdom of broader problems (mental illness, inequality) | 5% |
| Better D.A.’s, impartial D.A.’s and prosecutors who will act | 4% |
| Police equity and reform: honest sheriff’s office, non-racist police, abolish ICE, stop over-policing poor neighborhoods, less police, more accountability, more training | 4% |
| Higher quality attorneys: more ethical, efficient, competent, better law schools | 4% |
| More public defenders | 4% |
| Higher quality trials: thorough investigations, evidence-based, science/sociology informed, more time investigating before sentencing/jailing | 3% |
| All other responses | 2% |
| Don’t know | 10% |

1. Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements. [1- Strongly disagree, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7-Strongly agree, Don’t know] [Randomized]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Response category,** *N = 1,572* | **1+2 Disagree** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6+7**  **Agree** | **Don’t know** | **Mean** |
| 1. I have access to the courts | 11% | 7% | 14% | 17% | 37% | 13% | 4.9 |
| 1. I know my basic rights as a citizen | 5% | 4% | 8% | 17% | 65% | 2% | 5.7 |
| 1. Oregon’s court system is fair and impartial | 21% | 14% | 16% | 16% | 21% | 11% | 4.0 |
| 1. I have a general understanding of the law that affects my life | 6% | 4% | 10% | 19% | 58% | 3% | 5.5 |

1. Have you ever needed to access the Oregon court system or go before an Oregon judge? [Rotated]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N = 1,572* |
| Yes | 44% |
| No | 56% |

1. Please feel free to comment here on how you feel about the Oregon courts system. [open, see verbatims document]
2. Thinking about the national level, how much trust and confidence do you have at this time in the Supreme Court of the United States?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| A great deal | 11% |
| A fair amount | 20% |
| Not very much | 31% |
| None at all | 34% |
| Don’t know | 5% |

1. Please feel free to comment here on how you feel about the Supreme Court of the United States. [open, see verbatims document]

***The next topic is civic engagement. For the purpose of this survey, civic engagement is defined as being actively involved and present in one’s local and state-wide community.***

1. What main barriers to civic engagement do you experience? ***Please rank your top four barriers.*** [Randomized]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category,** *N = 1,572* | **1st** |
| Lack of trust in the public process | 13% |
| Too busy / not enough time | 10% |
| Family life [Q12 Follow-up only for people who chose this one] | 8% |
| Desire to avoid conflict | 8% |
| Work life | 7% |
| It won’t matter anyway | 7% |
| Don’t know what to do | 5% |
| The benefits vs. the time investment required aren’t worth it | 5% |
| Personal reputation and privacy concerns | 4% |
| Too many hurdles to participation | 4% |
| Not enough social / peer support | 3% |
| Not invested in local / state issues | 2% |
| Do not hold strong beliefs on issues | 2% |
| It is too hard | 2% |
| Others have it covered | 1% |
| Other (Open) | 6% |
| I don’t experience barriers to civil engagement | 13% |

1. **(If “family life” is selected)** Which of the following would increase your level of civic engagement when it comes to family responsibilities? *Please choose all that apply.* [Randomized]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *n* = *396* |
| Remote participation from home | 48% |
| Transportation costs reimbursement | 27% |
| Opportunities for child/whole family involvement | 27% |
| Meals offered if meetings during dinner | 22% |
| Childcare support | 21% |
| Other (open) | 5% |
| None of these, Don’t know | 23% |

1. What adjustments or accommodations could be made to reduce civic engagement barriers for you? [open, see verbatims document]
2. Have you worked for pay over the last two years? [Yes, No] 🡪 [If no, skip to Q21 – ideal work situation]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Yes | 65% |
| No [Skip to Q21] | 35% |

***For this next section, please share how the COVID pandemic has affected your work life.***

1. How has the COVID pandemic affected or influenced your work life? ***Please choose all that apply.*** [Randomized]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *n* = *1,017* |
| Same job changed from all in-person to some or all work remote | 20% |
| Went on unemployment for a bit | 18% |
| Became self-employed | 12% |
| Started new job to work remotely from home | 9% |
| Decided to be a stay-at-home parent | 5% |
| Retired earlier than planned | 4% |
| Nothing has changed | 38% |
| Other (open) | 14% |

1. Have you quit a job over the last 2 years? [Yes, No [skip Q17]]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *n* = *1,017* |
| Yes | 28% |
| No | 72% |

1. [If yes:] Which of the following was a reason you quit a job in the last 2 years (2020-2022)? ***Please choose all that apply.***

| **Response category** | *n* = *280* |
| --- | --- |
| Felt disrespected at work | 43% |
| The pay was too low | 41% |
| No opportunity for advancement | 26% |
| Working TOO MANY hours | 21% |
| Not enough flexibility to choose when you put in your hours | 19% |
| The benefits – such as health insurance, paid time-off – weren’t good | 15% |
| Working TOO FEW hours | 14% |
| You were worried you would get COVID-19 at work | 14% |
| Wanted to relocate to a different area | 13% |
| Because of childcare issues | 10% |
| Your employer required a COVID-19 vaccine | 6% |
| Other (open) | 20% |

1. Did you lose a job during the last 2 years?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *n = 1,017* |
| Yes | 21% |
| No | 79% |

1. [If yes to Q18] Which of the following were the main reason(s) you lost a job in the last two years (2020-2022)? *Please choose all that apply.*

| **Response category** | *n = 215* |
| --- | --- |
| Workplace was damaging to your physical and / or mental health | 30% |
| Furloughed / let go due to lack of work | 23% |
| Employer went out of business | 20% |
| Company reorganization | 17% |
| Vaccination requirements | 10% |
| Other (open) | 30% |

1. Thinking about paid employment, do you currently work from home, or at your employer’s office/facility?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *n* = *1,017* |
| Only work from home | 22% |
| Only work at employer’s office / facility | 37% |
| A combination of working both from home and employer’s office / facility | 18% |
| Not applicable, other | 22% |

1. What is your ideal work situation for paid employment?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Always working from home | 26% |
| Always working at employer’s office / facility | 19% |
| A flexible combination of working both from home and employer’s office / facility | 41% |
| Don’t know, other | 15% |

1. For you personally, would the option to work from home determine whether you accept a job?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Yes | 44% |
| No | 37% |
| Don’t know | 19% |

1. Thinking about how difficult it is nowadays for employers to fill low-wage jobs, which of the following statements, A or B, comes closest to what you believe? [Statements A and B rotated]

It’s hard for employers to fill jobs right now because:

| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| --- | --- |
| **Statement A:** Since COVID lockdowns, people have gotten used to not working and are continuing to live off savings and unemployment benefits and are not feeling a sense of urgency to work. | |
| Strongly agree statement A | 17% |
| Lean toward statement A | 16% |
| **Statement B:** Due to the high cost of living, including housing, people can’t afford to work low-wage jobs and are finding other ways to earn their living. | |
| Lean toward statement B | 22% |
| Strongly agree statement B | 39% |

1. Please feel free to comment here on job-related thoughts you would like to share. [open, see verbatims document]

***The next few questions focus on water management and drought in Oregon****.*

1. [OVBC 7.2021] Do you agree or disagree with the following statements . . . [Randomized]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Response category,** *N* = *1,572* | **Strongly agree** | **Somewhat agree** | **Somewhat disagree** | **Strongly disagree** | **Don’t know** |
| 1. There is enough water in Oregon to meet current needs | 15% | 34% | 24% | 13% | 15% |
| 1. Oregon’s agriculture industry is taking decisive action to conserve water during droughts | 8% | 28% | 19% | 9% | 34% |
| 1. There is enough water in Oregon to meet future needs | 11% | 25% | 24% | 22% | 19% |
| 1. Oregon’s public water agencies effectively manage water supplies during droughts | 7% | 35% | 22% | 10% | 26% |
| 1. The general public is doing enough to conserve water during droughts | 6% | 22% | 29% | 28% | 15% |
| 1. Cities and towns in Oregon need to move quicker to address the drought | 29% | 37% | 13% | 4% | 16% |
| 1. I am willing to pay something more in fees or taxes to pay for infrastructure improvements to address Oregon’s droughts | 13% | 36% | 18% | 22% | 12% |

1. Feel free to share anything noteworthy related to drought, rainfall, or water supply in your area of Oregon: [open, see verbatims document]

***We thank you ahead of time for answering these next questions relating to abortion access and gun laws. We acknowledge these subjects can be very sensitive, and at the same time feel it is important to hear from Oregonians on these topics.***

1. [Pew] Do you think abortion should be… [Rotated]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Legal in all cases | 42% |
| Legal in most cases | 30% |
| Illegal in most cases | 18% |
| Illegal in all cases | 6% |
| Don’t know | 5% |

1. [Pew] Do you happen to personally know someone (such as a close friend, family member, or yourself) who has had an abortion?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *n = 1,474* |
| Yes | 70% |
| No | 25% |
| Don’t know | 6% |

***The well-known abortion case Roe v. Wade resulted in a Supreme Court decision that ruled the Constitution of the United States protects a person’s right to an abortion before fetal viability, and after fetal viability if the pregnancy endangers the pregnant person’s life or health.***

1. On June 24, the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. Does this make you more likely or less likely to vote in November? If you haven’t heard anything about this, please say so.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| More likely to vote in November | 40% |
| Less likely to vote in November | 4% |
| Haven’t heard about it | 4% |
| This does not affect my voting behaviors | 46% |
| Unsure | 6% |

1. If it were put up to a general vote, would you vote to keep this decision in place or to reinstate the *Roe v. Wade* ruling? [First two rotated]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| I would vote to reinstate *Roe v. Wade* (protect federal abortion rights) | 62% |
| I would vote to keep *Roe v. Wade* overturned (no federal abortion rights) | 22% |
| I would not vote on this | 6% |
| Unsure | 10% |

1. Before the federal Supreme Court’s recent decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, how much thought would you say you had given to issues around abortion?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N = 1,572* |
| A lot | 37% |
| Some | 32% |
| Not too much | 19% |
| Not at all | 7% |
| Unsure | 4% |

1. Thinking about the State elections in November, are you more likely to vote for someone who is pro-life or pro-choice? **[Rotate first and second choices]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Pro-life | 21% |
| Pro-choice | 58% |
| Other | 3% |
| Doesn’t matter | 9% |
| Undecided | 9% |

1. How much do you support or oppose access to an abortion in the following situations:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Response category,** *N* = *1,572* | **Definitely support** | **Somewhat support** | **Somewhat oppose** | **Definitely oppose** | **Don’t know** |
| 1. If the pregnancy is 6 weeks along or fewer | 59% | 11% | 7% | 14% | 9% |
| 1. If the pregnancy is still in the first trimester (14 weeks or less) | 48% | 16% | 8% | 19% | 9% |
| 1. If the pregnancy is in the second trimester (24 weeks or less) | 31% | 14% | 14% | 31% | 11% |
| 1. The pregnancy threatens the pregnant person’s life | 72% | 11% | 4% | 6% | 8% |

1. Are there any other considerations that would lead you to support or oppose abortion access? [open, see verbatims document]
2. Feel free to share your thoughts on abortion: [open, see verbatims document]
3. [Pew] Which of the following statements comes closest to your overall view of gun laws in Oregon? [Rotated first and third]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Gun laws should be MORE strict than they are today | 56% |
| Gun laws are about right | 22% |
| Gun laws should be LESS strict that they are today | 14% |
| Don’t know | 8% |

1. How much do you support or oppose the following policies relating to gun access in Oregon? [Randomized]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Response category,** *N* = *1,572* | **Definitely support** | **Somewhat support** | **Somewhat oppose** | **Strongly oppose** | **Don’t know** |
| 1. Expanding screening and treatment for people with mental illness diagnoses | 71% | 16% | 5% | 3% | 5% |
| 1. Requiring background checks on all gun sales | 76% | 12% | 5% | 4% | 4% |
| 1. Preventing sales of all firearms to people who a mental health provider has deemed dangerous | 74% | 14% | 5% | 3% | 5% |
| 1. Requiring a person to be 21 in order to purchase a gun | 66% | 15% | 6% | 9% | 4% |
| 1. Banning assault-style weapons | 53% | 13% | 9% | 19% | 6% |

1. Recently there were mass shootings at a parade in Highland Park, IL, a supermarket in Buffalo, NY and an Elementary School in Uvalde, TX. Do these events make you more likely or less likely to vote in November? If you haven’t heard anything about these events, please say so.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| More likely to vote in November | 36% |
| Less likely to vote in November | 2% |
| Haven’t heard about it | 4% |
| This does not affect my voting behaviors | 51% |
| Unsure | 7% |

1. Thinking about the State elections in November, are you more likely to vote for someone who wants more or less gun control? [First and second choices rotated]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| More gun control | 54% |
| Less gun control | 19% |
| Other | 8% |
| Doesn’t matter | 9% |
| Undecided | 10% |

1. Do you feel there should be some gun control?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Yes | 83% |
| No | 11% |
| Don’t know | 6% |

1. [If yes to Q40] Please describe the type of gun control you would support. [open, see verbatims document]
2. Do you own a gun (NOT including air guns, such as paintball, BB or pellet guns)? [Rotated first and second choice]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Yes, I own a gun | 33% |
| No, I don’t own a gun | 57% |
| Prefer not to answer | 11% |

1. Feel free to share here any thoughts you have on gun laws and regulations**:** [open, see verbatims document]
2. Please feel free to leave any comments here about the topics covered in this survey: [open, see verbatims document]

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

These questions ensure our sample is representative of the population. This information is used for no other purpose.

Age

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| 18-29 | 18% |
| 30-44 | 26% |
| 45-54 | 13% |
| 55-64 | 18% |
| 65-74 | 18% |
| 75+ | 7% |

What is the highest level of education you have attained?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N = 1,572* |
| Less than high school | 3% |
| High school diploma/GED | 31% |
| Some college/2-year degree/trade | 36% |
| College degree/4-year degree | 14% |
| Graduate degree/professional school | 16% |

I describe my gender as (feel free to choose all that reply):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* *= 1,572* |
| Man | 49% |
| Woman | 49% |
| Non-binary or gender non-conforming | 3% |
| Trans | 2% |
| Other | n=2 |
| Prefer not to answer | 1% |

Knowing there may not be a perfect fit, which of these descriptions used by the United States Census would you say best describes your race and/or ethnicity? Please select all that apply. [Previous question asks “How would you describe your race and/or ethnicity?” as an open response.]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = 1,572 |
| Asian | 4% |
| Black or African American | 4% |
| Hispanic or Latino/a/x | 8% |
| Native American, American Indian, or Alaska Native | 6% |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 1% |
| White | 81% |
| Another race or ethnicity not listed above | 4% |
| Prefer not to answer | 3% |

What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Tri-county | 43% |
| Willamette Valley | 27% |
| Rest of State | 31% |

What is your party registration?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = 1,572 |
| Democrat | 39% |
| Republican | 24% |
| Independent Party of Oregon | 14% |
| Some other party | 2% |
| Non-affiliated | 15% |
| Not registered to vote | 6% |

Do you rent or own your home?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N = 1,572* |
| Own | 55% |
| Rent | 34% |
| Other arrangement | 11% |

Do you have school-age children in your household?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Yes | 24% |
| No | 76% |

What was your total household income in 2021? Remember to include everyone, and your best guess is okay.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Less than $25,000 | 21% |
| $25,000-49,999 | 23% |
| $50,000-74,999 | 20% |
| $75,000-99,999 | 14% |
| $100,000-149,999 | 12% |
| $150,000 or more | 8% |
| Refused | 1% |

When it comes to most economic issues, do you consider yourself. . .

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N = 1,572* |
| Very liberal | 17% |
| Somewhat liberal | 21% |
| Middle of the road | 34% |
| Somewhat conservative | 17% |
| Very conservative | 11% |

When it comes to most social issues, do you consider yourself. . .

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Very liberal | 25% |
| Somewhat liberal | 23% |
| Middle of the road | 30% |
| Somewhat conservative | 12% |
| Very conservative | 10% |

Do you consider the area you live in to be

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | *N* = *1,572* |
| Urban | 28% |
| Suburban | 38% |
| Rural changing to suburban | 12% |
| Rural | 22% |