**INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY**

From November 10-19, 2022, the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center conducted a statewide survey of Oregonians’ values and beliefs when it comes to Oregon forests, drinking water, and the recent elections.

**Research Methodology**: The online survey consisted of 1,554 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 ±2.49%.

[**Oregon Values and Beliefs Center**](https://oregonvbc.org/)**:** 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 Special Project and November Survey**

**COLT: Water and Safety in Nature – Values and Beliefs**

This OVBC survey focuses on the topic of Oregon forests, including federal, state, and private land, as well as a few questions on natural habitats, water, and an election reflection.

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 a representative sample of Oregonians to provide valid opinion 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.

**WATER AND SAFETY IN NATURE**

For the next question, it’s OK if you don’t know the answer.

1. Are you aware of where your drinking water comes from?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N =* 1,554** |
| Yes, I definitely know | 52% |
| I think I could make a good guess | 26% |
| I don’t know [Skip to next question] | 22% |

1. Where do you think your drinking water comes from? [open, required]

*[See separate verbatim file.]*

How safe do you feel spending time in the following natural areas? [Very safe, Somewhat safe, Somewhat unsafe, Very unsafe, Unsure, I’ve never gone there, Not applicable]

1. Parks near my house or neighborhood

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response Category**  | ***N =* 1,554** |
| Very safe | 41% | 77% |
| Somewhat safe | 36% |
| Somewhat unsafe | 11% | 17% |
| Very unsafe | 6% |
| Unsure | 3% |
| I’ve never gone there | 2% |
| Not applicable | 1% |

1. Nature preserves in my area of Oregon

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response Category**  | ***N =* 1,554** |
| Very safe | 39% | 79% |
| Somewhat safe | 41% |
| Somewhat unsafe | 7% | 12% |
| Very unsafe | 4% |
| Unsure | 4% |
| I’ve never gone there | 4% |
| Not applicable | 2% |

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

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

What is your age?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N* *=* 1,554** |
| 18-29 | 18% |
| 30-44 | 26% |
| 45-54 | 13% |
| 55-64 | 18% |
| 65-74 | 19% |
| 75+ | 6% |

What is the highest level of education you have attained?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N* *=* 1,554**  |
| Less than high school | 4% |
| High school diploma/GED | 30% |
| 2-yr degree/some college/trade | 36% |
| 4-yr degree/college degree | 13% |
| Graduate degree/professional school | 17% |

I describe my gender as:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N* *=* 1,554**  |
| Man | 49% |
| Woman | 49% |
| Non-binary, non-conforming | 2% |
| Trans | <1% |
| Other | <1% |
| I prefer not to answer | <1% |

Knowing there may not be a perfect fit, which of these descriptions used by the US Census would you say best describes your race and/or ethnicity

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N* *=* 1,554**  |
| Asian | 5% |
| Black or African American | 6% |
| Hispanic or Latino/a/x | 7% |
| Native American, American Indian, or Alaska Native | 6% |
| Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | 1% |
| White | 79% |
| Another race or ethnicity not listed above | 2% |
| Prefer not to answer | 4% |

Area (From County)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N* *=* 1,554** |
| Tri-county | 43% |
| Willamette Valley | 27% |
| Rest of state | 31% |

Area (From County)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N* = 1,554** |
| Central Oregon | 9% |
| Eastern Oregon | 4% |
| Metro Portland | 43% |
| North Coast | 5% |
| Northern Willamette Valley | 12% |
| South Coast | 2% |
| Southern Oregon | 8% |
| Southern Willamette Valley | 17% |

What is your party registration?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N* *=* 1,554**  |
| Democrat | 40% |
| Republican | 25% |
| Independent Party of Oregon | 13% |
| Some other party | 3% |
| Non-affiliated | 14% |
| Not registered to vote | 6% |

Do you rent or own your home?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N =* 1,554** |
| Own | 56% |
| Rent | 33% |
| Other arrangement | 10% |

Do you have school-age children in your household?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N* *=* 1,554** |
| Yes | 26% |
| No | 74% |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N* *=* 1,554**  |
| Less than $25,000 | 21% |
| $25,000-49,999 | 23% |
| $50,000-74,999 | 22% |
| $75,000-99,999 | 11% |
| $100,000-149,999 | 14% |
| $150,000 or more | 7% |
| Refused | 1% |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N =* 1,554** |
| Very liberal | 15% |
| Somewhat liberal | 23% |
| Middle of the road | 34% |
| Somewhat conservative | 18% |
| Very conservative | 10% |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N =* 1,554** |
| Very liberal | 23% |
| Somewhat liberal | 23% |
| Middle of the road | 22% |
| Somewhat conservative | 13% |
| Very conservative | 9% |

Do you consider the area you live in to be

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Response category** | ***N =* 1,554** |
| Urban | 28% |
| Suburban | 36% |
| Rural changing to suburban | 13% |
| Rural | 23% |

We anticipate news media to be very interested in these results. If you are willing to be contacted by a journalist about your answers to this survey and participation in OVBC, please share your name, phone number and email. This is completely voluntary.

Name:

Phone number:

Email address: