STATEWIDE SURVEY
State of Ohio
2/16 – 2/19/2011
n=1,001, +/- 3.09%
General Election Voters
(percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding)

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Q. 1. Generally speaking, would you say that Ohio is going in the right direction, or has it gotten off onto the wrong track?

28.2% Right direction
48.2   Wrong track
4.6   Mixed/both (volunteered)
18.9   Unsure/no answer

Looking at state government…

Q. 2. Generally speaking, do you approve or disapprove of the job that John Kasich is doing as governor of Ohio? Follow-up: Would you say that you strongly approve/disapprove, or just somewhat approve/disapprove?

32.2% TOTAL APPROVE
12.5   Strongly approve
19.7   Somewhat approve

35.2% TOTAL DISAPPROVE
11.8   Somewhat disapprove
23.4   Strongly disapprove

32.6% Unsure/no answer

Turning to another topic…

Q. 3. How much information and news have you read or heard about the State of Ohio's current budget situation? A lot, some, not very much or nothing at all?

27.9% A lot
41.7   Some
22.2   Not much
7   Nothing at all
1.2   Unsure/no answer

Q. 4. Based on what you know or have heard, which of the following phrases would you say best describes the State of Ohio's current budget situation? Would you say it is…(rotated sequentially)…a major problem, somewhat of a problem, not much of a problem or not a problem at all?

59.4% Major problem
35.3 Somewhat of a problem
1.9 Not much of a problem
.3 Not a problem at all
3 Unsure/no answer

Q. 5. Do you agree or disagree that most people will not be affected if many state services and programs are reduced or eliminated in order to solve Ohio's budget problems?

25.5% Agree
67.8 Disagree
6.6 Unsure/no answer

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*Q. 6. If you were deciding, which of the following areas would you be **most** likely to reduce spending for, in order to solve Ohio's budget problems? Is it funding for…*

(randomly rotated)
9.8% Local public school districts
6.2 Skilled nursing facility care for the elderly who are poor
29.5 Ohio's public colleges and universities
26.6 Road and highway repairs…or…
4.8 Law enforcement and safety services
6.6 Other (volunteered)
16.5 Unsure/no answer

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*Q. 7. Thinking about those same choices, which of the following areas would you be **least** likely to reduce spending for? Is it funding for…*

(randomly rotated)
30.2% Local public school districts
17.2 Skilled nursing facility care for the elderly who are poor
10.4 Ohio's public colleges and universities
8.7 Road and highway repairs…or…
24.4 Law enforcement and safety services
1.4 Other (volunteered)
7.8 Unsure/no answer

Thinking more about this…

I would like to read you some of the various suggestions that have been made to reduce spending and solve the budget gap. After each one, please tell me whether you favor or oppose it. Here's the first one…

(RANDOMLY ROTATED QUESTIONS 8 THROUGH 17)

Q. 8. Do you favor or oppose…Eliminating property tax reductions that are given to homeowners?

38.2% Favor
57.6   Oppose
4.2   Unsure/no answer

Q. 9. Do you favor or oppose…Eliminating various exemptions in the state tax code that give deductions to taxpayers and businesses for special purposes or circumstances?

46.3% Favor
43.9   Oppose
9.9   Unsure/no answer

Q. 10. Do you favor or oppose…Laying off a portion of state workers in all departments, including public health, safety and law enforcement?

30.1% Favor
65.1   Oppose
4.8   Unsure/no answer

Q. 11. Do you favor or oppose…Raising the state sales tax?

36.6% Favor
60.3   Oppose
3.2   Unsure/no answer

Q. 12. Do you favor or oppose…Cutting back on welfare programs?

55.2% Favor
39.5   Oppose
5.3   Unsure/no answer

(Split sample – random assignment between versions A and B)

Q. 13a. Do you favor or oppose…Cutting back on health services for the poor and elderly?

14.7% Favor
82.4   Oppose
3   Unsure/no answer

Q. 13b. Do you favor or oppose…Cutting back on the state Medicaid program, which pays to provide health services for the poor and elderly?

25.3% Favor
71.9   Oppose

2.8   Unsure/no answer

Q. 14. Do you favor or oppose…Reducing the amount of money the state gives to cities and counties?

42.5% Favor
49.3   Oppose
8.2   Unsure/no answer

Q. 15. Do you favor or oppose…Raising property taxes?

16.5% Favor
81.4   Oppose
2.1   Unsure/no answer

(Split sample – random assignment between versions A and B)

Q. 16a. Do you favor or oppose…Eliminating collective bargaining rights that are used by unions to negotiate salaries and benefits for state employees?

41.1% Favor
52.3   Oppose
6.7   Unsure/no answer

Q. 16b. Do you favor or oppose…Eliminating collective bargaining rights that are used by unions to negotiate salaries and benefits for all state employees, except those in health and safety fields, such as law enforcement officers and nurses?

45.7% Favor
47.3   Oppose
7   Unsure/no answer

Q. 17. Do you favor or oppose…Raising taxes for businesses and corporations?

50.6% Favor
44.9   Oppose
4.5   Unsure/no answer

(Split sample – random assignment between versions A and B)

Q. 18a. Do you favor or oppose…Substantially reducing funding for the elderly who are poor to receive care in skilled nursing facilities?

15.1% Favor
81.4   Oppose
3.4   Unsure/no answer

Q. 18b. Do you favor or oppose…Substantially reducing funding for the elderly who are poor to receive care in skilled nursing facilities, when they are so sick or frail that their families can no longer care for them at home?

16.4% Favor
80.9 Oppose
2.6 Unsure/no answer

Thinking more about the idea of substantially reducing funding for care in skilled nursing facilities…

(RANDOMLY ROTATED QUESTIONS 19 THROUGH 21)

Q. 19. Do you agree or disagree that the State of Ohio should not try to balance the budget by eliminating funding which assures, that if it is needed, elderly people can receive care in skilled nursing facilities?

70.6% Agree
22.9 Disagree
6.6 Unsure/no answer

(Split sample – random assignment between versions A and B)

Q. 20a. Do you agree or disagree that, as they get older and have limited incomes, people who have worked their entire lives and paid taxes should be assured that, if they become seriously ill, the state will provide funding for suitable care, such as in skilled nursing facilities?

88.2% Agree
8.8 Disagree
3 Unsure/no answer

Q. 20b. Do you agree or disagree that, as they get older and have limited incomes, people who have worked their entire lives and paid taxes should be assured that, if they become seriously ill, and do not have families to care for them, the state will provide funding for suitable care, such as in skilled nursing facilities?

87.6% Agree
8.6 Disagree
3.8 Unsure/no answer

Q. 21. Do you agree or disagree that, no matter how bad the budget situation becomes, there needs to be a "safety net" to ensure that people with limited incomes who sustain serious injuries will have long-term care for recuperation, if they need it?

86.3% Agree

11   Disagree
2.7   Unsure/no answer

Thinking back on everything we have discussed…

(ROTATED NEXT 2 QUESTIONS)

*Q. 22. Supposing that the state legislator that represents your community voted to **continue** funding to provide skilled nursing facility care for the elderly or severely injured people who cannot afford it, would you be more or less likely to re-elect him or her, or would it make no difference in your decision?*

48.3%   More likely
6.6   Less likely
40.2   Make no difference (volunteered)
4.9   Unsure/no answer

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*Q. 23. Supposing that the state legislator that represents your community voted to **eliminate** funding to provide skilled nursing facility care for the elderly or severely injured people who cannot afford it, would you be more or less likely to re-elect him or her, or would it make no difference in your decision?*

8.4%   More likely
55.4   Less likely
32.6   Make no difference (volunteered)
3.6   Unsure/no answer

Finally, for statistical purposes to ensure that no one is under-represented in the survey...

Q. 24. I would like to read you a list of age groups. Please stop me when I get to the one you are in. Here's the first one…

15.7%   18 to 34
37   35 to 54
22.9   55 to 65
23.3   66 and older
.9   Refused
.2   Unsure

Q. 25. What is your main racial or ethnic heritage? Is it…

80.4%   White
12.1   African-American
.6   Hispanic or Latino
.8   Asian…or…
1.8   Something else

.5   Mixed race (volunteered)
3.3   Refused
.5   Unsure

Q. 26. Are you, or is anyone in your household, a member of a union?

19.7% Yes
79.3 No
1   Unsure/no answer

Q. 27. Looking back to the election in November 2010 and how you voted, for most of the offices that were on the ballot, did you…

(sequentially rotated)
7.7% Vote just for Republican candidates
20.6 Vote mostly for Republican candidates
30.9 Vote for some Republican and some Democrat candidates
20.3 Vote mostly for Democrat candidates
11.2 Vote just for Democrat candidates
1.6   Vote for independent candidates (volunteered)
1.2   Do not recall (volunteered)
1.7   Did not vote (volunteered)
4.7   Unsure/no answer

Gender:

46.8% Men
53.2 Women