

WPRIPOL

January 2-4, 2015

N = 600 Wisconsin Residents

1A. To begin, we have some questions about your general views about government taxes and spending. Which of the following statements do you agree with more? I'd rather pay higher taxes and have a state government that provides more services, OR I'd rather pay lower taxes and have a state government that provides fewer services. [SPLIT A, ASSIGN TO SAME SPLIT SAMPLE FOR QUESTIONS 1-3]

1. Higher taxes and more services.....	33.9%
2. Lower taxes and fewer services.....	61.3
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	2.2
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	2.6

Total..... 100.0%

1B. To begin, we have some questions about your general views about government taxes and spending. Which of the following statements do you agree with more? I'd rather pay higher taxes and have a federal government that provides more services, OR I'd rather pay lower taxes and have a federal government that provides fewer services. [SPLIT B]

1. Higher taxes and more services.....	41.8%
2. Lower taxes and fewer services.....	55.4
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	2.2
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.6

Total..... 100.0%

2A. Do you think the people in state government waste a lot of the money we pay in taxes, waste some of it, or don't waste very much at all? [SPLIT A]

1. Waste a lot of money.....	53.7%
2. Waste some of it.....	39.1
3. Don't waste much at all.....	6.4
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	0.8
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

2B. Do you think the people in federal government waste a lot of the money we pay in taxes, waste some of it, or don't waste very much at all? [SPLIT B]

1. Waste a lot of money.....	64.9%
2. Waste some of it.....	28.5
3. Don't waste much at all.....	4.7
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	2.0
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0
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Total.....	100.0%

3A. Overall, do you think the state government spends too much, too little, or about the right amount of tax dollars on state programs? [SPLIT A]

1. Spends too much.....	30.9%
2. Too little.....	31.1
3. About the right amount of tax dollars.....	31.9
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	5.6
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.4
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Total.....	100.0%

3B. Overall, do you think the federal government spends too much, too little, or about the right amount of tax dollars on federal programs? [SPLIT B]

1. Spends too much.....	31.6%
2. Too little.....	30.2
3. About the right amount of tax dollars.....	29.5
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	8.3
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.3
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Total.....	100.0%

4. Now we'd like to ask about taxes. Citizens, as you know, pay taxes to federal, state, and local governments. We're wondering whether you think these taxes are too high, too low, or about right. Let's start with the federal government. In your view, are the taxes that Wisconsin residents pay to the federal government too high, too low, or about right?

1. Too high.....	56.5%
2. Too low.....	2.6
3. About right.....	36.5
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	4.1
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.3
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Total.....	100.0%

5. What about the state government? Are the taxes paid to the Wisconsin state government too high, too low, or about right?

1. Too high.....	40.4%
2. Too low.....	5.2
3. About right.....	51.5
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	2.9
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

6. And finally, what about local taxes? Are local taxes too high, too low, or about right?

1. Too high.....	38.5%
2. Too low.....	4.6
3. About right.....	52.8
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	4.2
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

7. We're interested in your views about labor unions here in Wisconsin. Do you approve or disapprove of Wisconsin labor unions?

1. Approve.....	58.2%
2. Disapprove.....	33.8
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	6.4
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	1.6

Total..... 100.0%

8. Some people say that unions are a stumbling block to economic reform. Others say that unions fight for workers' rights and a strong Wisconsin. What effect do you think unions have on Wisconsin's economy? [READ OPTIONS]

1. A very positive effect.....	24.3%
2. A somewhat positive effect.....	27.5
3. A somewhat negative effect.....	19.9
4. A very negative effect.....	12.8
5. Or, neither positive nor negative effect.....	12.9
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	2.3
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.3

Total..... 100.0%

9. Have you heard of state laws called “right-to-work” or “open shop” laws?

1. Yes, heard of.....	66.9%
2. No, have not.....	33.1
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	0.0
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

10. Some states have passed right-to-work or open shop laws that say each worker has the right to hold his job in a company, no matter whether he joins a labor union, or not. If you were asked to vote on such a law, would you vote for it or against it?

1. Vote for.....	62.1%
2. Vote against.....	32.1
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	4.7
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	1.1

Total..... 100.0%

Author Note: Split Sample Q11.

11A. Those in favor of right-to-work or open shop laws say that no Americans should be required to join any private organization, like a labor union, against their will. Do you agree or disagree with this? [SPLIT A]

1. Agree.....	76.7%
2. Disagree.....	21.8
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	0.6
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	1.0

Total..... 100.0%

11B. Those opposed to right-to-work or open shop laws say that when all workers share the gains won by the labor union, all workers should have to join and pay dues to give the union financial support. Do you agree or disagree with this? [SPLIT B]

1. Agree.....	46.2%
2. Disagree.....	50.2
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	3.4
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

12. If these right-to-work or open-shop laws are enacted in Wisconsin, do you think that they should apply to all unions and all employers? Or do you think the state government should be allowed to grant exceptions?

1. Apply to all unions.....	54.9%
2. Exceptions permitted.....	37.4
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	5.4
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	2.4

Total..... 100.0%

13. We are wondering what impact you think these laws will have in Wisconsin. Let's start with workers. Generally speaking, do you think these laws will encourage businesses to invest in Wisconsin, which is good for workers around the state? Do you think these laws will hurt workers by undermining their ability to organize? Or do you think these laws won't have much of an impact on workers?

1. Encourage business investment in Wisconsin and thereby help workers.....	34.9%
2. Hurt workers by undermining their ability to organize.....	29.4
3. Not much of an effect on workers.....	32.3
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	3.3
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

14. What impact do you think these laws will have on businesses in Wisconsin? Will these laws attract more businesses to Wisconsin? By undermining unions, will they make Wisconsin a less attractive place for businesses to locate? Or do you think businesses won't much care whether these laws are enacted?

1. Attract more business to Wisconsin.....	37.4%
2. Make Wisconsin a less attractive place for businesses.....	24.1
3. Businesses won't care.....	35.4
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	2.6
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.5

Total..... 100.0%

15. What impact will these laws will have on the overall economy in Wisconsin? Will these laws: [READ OPTIONS]

1. Improve economic growth in Wisconsin.....	40.4%
2. Reduce economic growth in Wisconsin.....	27.0
3. Or, will they not affect economic growth in Wisconsin.....	28.6
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	3.8
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.2
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Total.....	100.0%

16. We're also interested in what you know about so-called "prevailing wage" laws. Have you heard of these laws?

1. Yes, heard of.....	31.1%
2. No, have not heard of.....	66.7
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	2.3
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0
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Total.....	100.0%

17. As you may know, prevailing wage laws set wages for government contractors. They do so on the basis of surveys that evaluate the average wages paid to workers in different industries. We are wondering what you think about these laws. Do they: [READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS]

1. Seem like a fair way for the government to ensure that workers are paid a just wage.....	45.7%
2. Unnecessarily limit the ability of businesses to negotiate competitive wages with workers...	41.6
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	12.2
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.5
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Total.....	100.0%

Author Note: Split sample Q18.

18A. Now we would like to ask you some questions about state spending, particularly spending on transportation. Do you think that government funding for transportation in Wisconsin should greatly increase, increase, stay about the same, decrease, or greatly decrease? [SPLIT A]

1. Greatly increase.....	8.9%
2. Increase.....	35.7
3. Stay about the same.....	42.3
4. Decrease.....	7.5
5. Greatly decrease.....	3.2
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.4
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.9
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Total.....	100.0%

18B. Now we would like to ask you some questions about state spending, particularly spending on transportation. A bi-partisan commission concluded that the state of Wisconsin needs to raise an additional \$6.8 billion to cover transportation costs over the next decade. Do you think that government funding for transportation in Wisconsin should greatly increase, increase, stay about the same, decrease, or greatly decrease? [SPLIT B]

1. Greatly increase.....	6.3%
2. Increase.....	36.5
3. Stay about the same.....	39.2
4. Decrease.....	8.8
5. Greatly decrease.....	3.4
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	5.3
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.4

Total..... 100.0%

19. New transportation funds can be raised in a variety of different ways. We're interested in your thoughts on the matter. Which of the following proposals do you think is the best way to raise funds for transportation in Wisconsin? [ROTATE AND READ OPTIONS]

1. Increase the current 33-cent-per-gallon gas tax.....	17.3%
2. Eliminate the existing gas tax and add a larger sales tax.....	15.9
3. Add or increase road tolls.....	29.2
4. Transfer existing funds currently being spent on schools and health care.....	8.8
5. Put additional fees on new cars.....	20.2
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	7.0
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	1.6

Total..... 100.0%

Author Note: Split sample Q20.

20A. We're particularly interested in your views about road tolls. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, strongly oppose, or neither support nor oppose the introduction of road tolls as part of a plan to raise transportation funds in Wisconsin? [SPLIT A]

1. Strongly support.....	20.6%
2. Somewhat support.....	24.3
3. Somewhat oppose.....	15.3
4. Strongly oppose.....	32.4
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	6.5
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.0
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

20B. We're particularly interested in your views about road tolls. These tolls would be purely electronic and would not involve toll booths. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, strongly oppose, or neither support nor oppose the introduction of road tolls as part of a plan to raise transportation funds in Wisconsin? [SPLIT B]

1. Strongly support.....	18.3%
2. Somewhat support.....	28.9
3. Somewhat oppose.....	11.0
4. Strongly oppose.....	29.7
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	10.4
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.3
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.3

Total..... 100.0%

****Author Note: Split sample Q21.****

21A. Now we have some questions about education policy. As you may know, in the last few years states have been deciding whether or not to use the Common Core, which are education standards for reading and math that are the same across the states. Wisconsin adopted these standards in 2010, and starting this academic year these standards will be used to hold all public schools accountable for their performance. Do you completely support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, completely oppose, or neither support nor oppose the use of Common Core standards in Wisconsin? [SPLIT A]

1. Strongly support.....	33.5%
2. Somewhat support.....	28.4
3. Somewhat oppose.....	16.6
4. Strongly oppose.....	12.7
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	6.2
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	2.1
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.4

Total..... 100.0%

21B. Now, we have some questions about education policy. As you may know, in the last few years states have been deciding whether or not to use education standards for reading and math that are the same across the states. Wisconsin adopted these standards in 2010, and starting this academic year these standards will be used to hold all public schools accountable for their performance. Do you completely support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, completely oppose, or neither support nor oppose the use of these standards in Wisconsin? [SPLIT B]

1. Strongly support.....	30.2%
2. Somewhat support.....	29.1
3. Somewhat oppose.....	13.2
4. Strongly oppose.....	16.1
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	8.7
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	2.4
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

****Author Note: Split sample Q22 three ways.****

22A. Some people have argued that Wisconsin should repeal the standards now. Other people say that Wisconsin should wait and see how things work out. What do you think about the matter? Do you think: [READ OPTIONS, SPLIT A]

1. Wisconsin should repeal the standards now.....	29.7%
2. Or wait and see how things work out.....	68.7
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.6
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

22B. In the past, Governor Scott Walker has argued that Wisconsin should repeal the standards now. Other people say that Wisconsin should wait and see how things work out. What do you think about the matter? Do you think: [READ OPTIONS, SPLIT B]

1. Wisconsin should repeal the standards now.....	35.1%
2. Or wait and see how things work out.....	58.2
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	6.7
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

22C. Some people have argued that Wisconsin should repeal the standards now. In the past, however, President Barack Obama has argued that states like Wisconsin should wait and see how things work out. What do you think about the matter? Do you think: [READ OPTIONS, SPLIT C]

1. Wisconsin should repeal the standards.....	38.4%
2. Or wait and see how things work out.....	58.0
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	3.3
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

****Author Note: Split sample Q23.****

23A. A proposal has been made that would give families with children in public schools a wider choice, by allowing them to enroll their children in private schools instead, with government helping to pay the tuition. Would you completely support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, completely oppose, or neither support nor oppose this proposal? [SPLIT A]

1. Completely support.....	24.4%
2. Somewhat support.....	23.0
3. Somewhat oppose.....	12.1
4. Completely oppose.....	27.7
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	11.3
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.2
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.4

Total..... 100.0%

23B. A proposal has been made that would give families of children with special needs in public schools a wider choice, by allowing them to enroll their children in private schools instead, with government helping to pay the tuition. Would you completely support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, completely oppose, or neither support nor oppose this proposal? [SPLIT B]

1. Completely support.....	30.4%
2. Somewhat support.....	31.6
3. Somewhat oppose.....	8.6
4. Completely oppose.....	18.4
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	10.8
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	0.0
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

****Author Note: Split sample Q24.****

24A. Another proposal has been made to allow students to receive credit for approved courses taken over the internet. Would you completely support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, completely oppose, or neither support nor oppose this proposal? [SPLIT A]

1. Completely support.....	21.1%
2. Somewhat support.....	41.9
3. Somewhat oppose.....	13.3
4. Completely oppose.....	11.4
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	11.0
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.1
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

24B. Another proposal has been made to allow students with disabilities to receive credit for approved courses taken over the internet. Would you completely support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, completely oppose, or neither support nor oppose this proposal? [SPLIT B]

1. Completely support.....	39.9%
2. Somewhat support.....	31.6
3. Somewhat oppose.....	8.1
4. Completely oppose.....	4.2
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	14.2
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.7
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.4

Total..... 100.0%

25. On Wednesday of this week, the Milwaukee Bucks played the Cleveland Cavaliers. As best as you recall, did the Bucks win or lose that game?

1. Won.....	23.2%
2. Lost.....	11.4
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	64.2
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	1.2

Total..... 100.0%

Author Note: Insert won/lost wording based on answer in Q25. If Don't know or refuse, skip to q27.

26. What is your best guess about the number of points by which the Bucks (won/lost) that game?
10.8 (Avg)

27. In the last game of the regular season, the Green Bay Packers played the Detroit Lions. As best you recall, did the Packers win or lose that game?

1. Won.....	81.2%
2. Lost.....	3.9
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	14.3
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.7

Total..... 100.0%

Author Note: Insert won/lost wording based on answer in Q27. If Don't know or refuse, skip to q29.

28. What is your best guess about the number of points by which the Packers (won/lost) that game? 10.7 (Avg)

Author Note: Split sample Q29 three ways.

29A. As you may know, the government does a number of things to financially support professional sports teams in Wisconsin. Do you completely support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, completely oppose, or neither support nor oppose public funding for professional sports teams? [SPLIT A]

1. Completely support.....	13.7%
2. Somewhat support.....	25.8
3. Somewhat oppose.....	18.4
4. Completely oppose.....	32.9
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	7.0
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.8
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

29B. As you may know, the government does a number of things to financially support the Green Bay Packers. Do you completely support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, completely oppose, or neither support nor oppose public funding for the Green Bay Packers? [SPLIT B]

1. Completely support.....	17.3%
2. Somewhat support.....	25.8
3. Somewhat oppose.....	15.5
4. Completely oppose.....	24.2
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	15.1
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.5
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

29C. As you may know, the government does a number of things to financially support the Milwaukee Bucks. Do you completely support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, completely oppose, or neither support nor oppose public funding for the Milwaukee Bucks? [SPLIT C]

1. Completely support.....	7.2%
2. Somewhat support.....	28.9
3. Somewhat oppose.....	15.5
4. Completely oppose.....	23.8
5. Neither support nor oppose.....	23.1
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.5
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.0

Total..... 100.0%

30. Thinking about a typical weekday, do you get most of your news from [READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS]:

1. A major television network.....	24.4%
2. A printed newspaper.....	10.4
3. The internet.....	30.3
4. Radio Talk shows.....	8.7
5. Cable television.....	22.6
6. Friends and neighbors.....	2.5
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	0.2
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.9

Total..... 100.0%

31. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

1. Republican.....	26.8%
2. Democrat.....	28.3
3. Independent.....	26.9
4. Other/No preference.....	15.9
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.0
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	1.0

Total..... 100.0%

[IF NOT DEMOCRAT OR REPUBLICAN, Q31 > 2]

31a. Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?

1. Republican.....	36.1%
2. Democrat.....	30.2
3. Neither/Just Independent.....	27.2
4. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	5.1
5. Refused (DO NOT READ).....	1.4

Total..... 100.0%

32. Overall, do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove, or strongly disapprove of the way Scott Walker is handling his job as Governor of Wisconsin?

1. Strongly approve.....	30.5%
2. Somewhat approve.....	24.2
3. Somewhat disapprove.....	12.0
4. Strongly disapprove.....	31.1
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	1.8
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.4

Total..... 100.0%

33. What is the highest level of education you completed? (READ LIST)

01 Elementary school only.....	0.3%
02 Some high school but did not finish.....	4.0
03 Completed high school.....	30.0
04 Some college but didn't finish.....	21.0
05 Two-year college degree.....	12.0
06 Four-year college degree.....	17.9
07 Some graduate work.....	3.1
08 Completed masters or professional degree.....	8.8
09 Advanced graduate work or PhD.....	2.2
98 Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	0.3
99 Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.4

Total..... 100.0%

34. Are you...? (READ LIST)

1. 18-24 years old.....	12.9%
2. 25-44 years old.....	31.0
3. 45-64 years old.....	36.0
4. 65+ years old.....	19.0
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	1.0

Total..... 100.0%

35. Would you describe yourself as White, African American, Asian, Hispanic, Native American, or some other race?

1. White.....	90.0%
2. African American or Black.....	5.0
3. Asian, South Asian, or Pacific Islander.....	0.8
4. Hispanic or Latino.....	2.0
5. Native American or American Indian.....	0.6
6. Other.....	0.9
8. Don't know (DO NOT READ).....	0.0
9. Refuse (DO NOT READ).....	0.7

Total..... 100.0%