

Survey of Likely Voters in Oregon Coastal Senate Districts

Topline Report – January 24, 2019

Clout Research conducted a telephone survey of 613 likely voters in four Oregon Senate Districts regarding environmental legislation. The survey was conducted January 21-23, 2019 and included interviews with voters in both landline and mobile phone-only households. It carries a confidence interval of 95% and a margin of error of +/- 3.93 percentage points.

Q1. To start, which of the following statements comes closest to your view about global warming, also known as climate change?

		Q1			
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	HUMAN ACTIVITY	187	30.6	30.6	30.6
	NATURAL PATTERNS	120	19.5	19.5	50.1
	COMBINATION	264	43.0	43.0	93.1
	DOESN'T EXIST	42	6.9	6.9	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

Q2. In what ways do you think global warming, or climate change, might impact you or a family member personally?

		Q2			
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	HURT OUR HEALTH	123	20.1	20.1	20.1
	COST JOBS	11	1.8	1.8	21.9
	DRIVE UP COSTS	91	14.9	14.9	36.8
	HARM NATURE	226	36.8	36.8	73.7
	NO IMPACT	161	26.3	26.3	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

Q3. If you HAD TO CHOOSE, with which one of these two statements about the environment and the economy do you most agree?

Q3					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	PROTECT ENVIRONMENT	351	57.3	57.3	57.3
	PROTECT JOBS	262	42.7	42.7	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

Q4. With which one of these two statements about the environment and energy production do you most agree?

Q4					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	PROTECT ENVIRONMENT	334	54.5	54.5	54.5
	AFFORDABLE ENERGY	279	45.5	45.5	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

Q5. Oregon’s legislature will soon consider what is known as “Cap and Trade” legislation. The objective of the legislation is to tax sources of carbon emissions, which are primarily energy – gas and electricity – and then use the money collected from such a tax to fund projects that reduce or capture carbon emissions. The taxes will likely increase over time with the objective of creating financial incentives to reduce carbon emissions. Knowing this, would you support or oppose such a plan to tax energy?

Q5					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	TOTALS
Valid	STRONGLY SUPPORT	182	29.7	29.7	TOTAL SUPPORT
	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	130	21.2	21.2	50.9
	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	58	9.4	9.4	TOTAL OPPOSE
	STRONGLY OPPOSE	204	33.3	33.3	42.7
	NOT SURE	39	6.4	6.4	
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

Q6. One of the effects of a carbon tax in Oregon would be higher gas prices at the pump, starting with a 16 to 25 cent increase per gallon in the first year, increasing annually thereafter. Would that make you much more, a little more, a little less, or much less likely to support a carbon tax?

Q6					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	TOTALS
Valid	MUCH MORE LIKELY	74	12.2	12.2	TOTAL MORE
	A LITTLE MORE LIKELY	60	9.7	9.7	21.9
	SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY	108	17.6	17.6	TOTAL LESS
	MUCH LESS LIKELY	250	40.8	40.8	58.4
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE	91	14.8	14.8	
	NOT SURE	31	5.0	5.0	
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

Q7. If you knew that one of the consequences of a carbon tax would be higher electricity and gas costs, resulting in higher utility bills for homes and small businesses, would that make you much more, a little more, a little less, or much less likely to support a carbon tax?

Q7					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	TOTALS
Valid	MUCH MORE LIKELY	68	11.0	11.0	TOTAL MORE
	A LITTLE MORE LIKELY	76	12.4	12.4	23.4
	SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY	113	18.4	18.4	TOTAL LESS
	MUCH LESS LIKELY	247	40.3	40.3	58.7
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE	77	12.5	12.5	
	NOT SURE	33	5.4	5.4	
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

Q8. If you knew that in the last election, Washington State voters opposed a carbon tax measure at the ballot, would you be much more, a little more, a little less, or much less likely to support an Oregon version of the same carbon tax proposal?

Q8					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	TOTALS
Valid	MUCH MORE LIKELY	71	11.7	11.7	TOTAL MORE
	A LITTLE MORE LIKELY	60	9.7	9.7	21.4
	SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY	48	7.7	7.7	TOTAL LESS
	MUCH LESS LIKELY	213	34.7	34.7	42.4
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE	182	29.8	29.8	
	NOT SURE	39	6.4	6.4	
Total		613	100.0	100.0	

Q9. Do you believe that industries or companies who are low carbon emitters OR who have zero carbon emissions OR whose industrial activities actually reduce carbon in our environment, should be excluded from the tax?

Q9					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	YES	325	53.0	53.0	53.0
	NO	226	36.9	36.9	89.9
	NOT SURE	62	10.1	10.1	100.0
Total		613	100.0	100.0	

Q10. Rural legislators are facing pressure from special interest groups to vote yes on a carbon tax, even though it could have a disproportionate impact on their communities due to higher gas and utility costs, and potential job losses in the timber industry. If you could tell your lawmaker right now how you'd like them to vote on a carbon tax, how would you tell them to vote?

Q10					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	TOTALS
Valid	VERY MUCH FAVOR - VOTE YES	129	21.0	21.0	TOTAL FAVOR
	SOMEWHAT FAVOR - VOTE YES	139	22.6	22.6	43.6
	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE - VOTE NO	54	8.8	8.8	TOTAL OPPOSE
	VERY MUCH OPPOSE - VOTE NO	262	42.8	42.8	51.6
	NOT SURE	29	4.8	4.8	
Total		613	100.0	100.0	

11. Conservationists have found that trees capture and store carbon dioxide and create a "carbon neutral" environment. Do you agree or disagree with this assessment?

Q11					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	AGREE	494	80.5	80.5	80.5
	DISAGREE	46	7.5	7.5	88.0
	NOT SURE	74	12.0	12.0	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

12. California's carbon emission standards allow utility companies to plant trees to offset their carbon emissions in order to comply with state standards. If Oregon passes a carbon tax bill in 2019, do you agree or disagree that Oregon's policy should mirror California's tree-planting program to reduce carbon emissions?

Q12					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	AGREE	403	65.7	65.7	65.7
	DISAGREE	138	22.5	22.5	88.2
	NOT SURE	72	11.8	11.8	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

13. Taxpayer watchdog groups are concerned that Oregonians will be forced to pay more for gas and home utilities to subsidize projects considered to be 'eco-friendly' - even if those projects are not profitable or self-sustaining without tax dollars, and would do little to reduce carbon emissions. Would these concerns make you much more, a little more, a little less, or much less likely to support a carbon tax?

Q13					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	TOTALS
Valid	MUCH MORE LIKELY	50	8.1	8.1	TOTAL MORE
	A LITTLE MORE LIKELY	46	7.5	7.5	15.6
	SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY	113	18.4	18.4	TOTAL LESS
	MUCH LESS LIKELY	265	43.2	43.2	62.6
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE	94	15.3	15.3	
	NOT SURE	46	7.5	7.5	
Total		613	100.0	100.0	

14. Environmental and conservation groups like Oregon League of Conservation Voters and the Nature Conservancy support Oregon’s proposed carbon tax. Does their support for the proposed law make you much more, a little more, a little less, or much less likely to support a carbon tax?

Q14					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	TOTALS
Valid	MUCH MORE LIKELY	76	12.4	12.4	TOTAL MORE
	A LITTLE MORE LIKELY	95	15.5	15.5	28.0
	SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY	46	7.5	7.5	TOTAL LESS
	MUCH LESS LIKELY	192	31.4	31.4	38.9
	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE	179	29.2	29.2	
	NOT SURE	24	4.0	4.0	
Total		613	100.0	100.0	

PARTY					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	DEM	193	31.5	31.5	31.5
	GOP	206	33.6	33.6	65.1
	INDY	214	34.9	34.9	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

PHILOS					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	PROGRESSIVE	93	15.1	15.1	15.1
	LIBERAL	84	13.8	13.8	28.9
	MODERATE	225	36.6	36.6	65.6
	CONSERVATIVE	155	25.3	25.3	90.9
	VERY CONSERVATIVE	56	9.1	9.1	100.0
Total		613	100.0	100.0	

UNION					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	PUBLIC UNION	43	6.9	6.9	6.9
	TRADE UNION	29	4.7	4.7	11.7
	SERVICE UNION	31	5.1	5.1	16.8
	NO UNION	510	83.2	83.2	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

TIMBER INDUSTRY EMPLOY					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	YES	92	14.9	14.9	14.9
	NO	521	85.1	85.1	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

TOURISM INDUSTRY EMPLOY					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	YES	47	7.6	7.6	7.6
	NO	566	92.4	92.4	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

MILITARY					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	ACTIVE DUTY	19	3.1	3.1	3.1
	VETERAN	170	27.7	27.7	30.8
	NO MILITARY	424	69.2	69.2	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

GENDER					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	MEN	319	52.0	52.0	52.0
	WOMEN	294	48.0	48.0	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

MARITAL STATUS					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	MARRIED	428	69.9	69.9	69.9
	SINGLE	131	21.3	21.3	91.2
	DIVORCED - SEPARATED	54	8.8	8.8	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

AGE					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	AGE 18-34	92	15.0	15.0	15.0
	AGE 35-49	141	23.0	23.0	38.0
	AGE 50-64	208	34.0	34.0	72.0
	AGE 65 +	172	28.0	28.0	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

PHONE TYPE					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	LANDLINE	291	47.5	47.5	47.5
	MOBILE	322	52.5	52.5	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	

SENATE DISTRICT					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	153	24.9	24.9	24.9
	5	150	24.5	24.5	49.4
	12	150	24.5	24.5	73.9
	16	160	26.1	26.1	100.0
	Total	613	100.0	100.0	