

EPIC•MRA STATEWIDE POLL OF ACTIVE AND LIKELY VOTERS

[FREQUENCY REPORT OF SURVEY RESPONSES – 600 SAMPLE – ERROR ±4.0%]

[ON Q'S IN SPLIT SAMPLES – ERROR ±5.7%]

Polling Dates: April 27, 2011 through May 3, 2011

__03. Overall, would you say that Michigan is generally headed in the right direction, or are things pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

30% Right direction
52% Wrong track
18% Undecided/Refused

Now, I would like to read a list of several political figures, organizations and groups. For each one, please tell me if you recognize the name, and if you do, whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of that person or group. The first name is _____? Do you recognize the name? **[IF YES, ASK: 'Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of (him/her)?' AND IF FAVORABLE/ UNFAVORABLE, ASK]: "Would that be very or generally?"**

NAMES [ROTATE Q.4 to Q.12]	<u>DON'T RECOG</u>	<u>VERY FAVOR</u>	<u>TOTAL FAVOR</u>	<u>TOTAL UNFAV</u>	<u>VERY UNFAV</u>	<u>REF UNDEC</u>
__04. Barack Obama	---	22%	44%	49%	30%	7%
__05. Rick Snyder	---	10%	41%	43%	28%	16%
__06. Republicans in the State Legislature	---	8%	35%	47%	24%	18%
__07. Democrats in the State Legislature	---	9%	35%	47%	16%	18%
__08. The United Auto Workers Union, called the UAW	---	14%	47%	43%	19%	10%
__09. The Michigan Chamber of Commerce	4%	8%	45%	16%	6%	35%
__10. The Mackinac Center	38%	9%	21%	13%	8%	28%
__11. The Michigan Education Association, called the MEA	2%	14%	42%	44%	22%	12%
__12. The AFL-CIO	8%	10%	36%	38%	22%	18%

__13. Overall, how would you rate the job being done by Barack Obama as President -- would you give him a positive rating of excellent or pretty good, or a negative rating of just fair or poor?

11%	Excellent -----	38% TOTAL POSITIVE
27%	Pretty good	
26%	Just fair -----	61% TOTAL NEGATIVE
35%	Poor	
1%	Undecided/Refused	

__14. Overall, how would you rate the job being done by Rick Snyder as Governor – would you give him a positive rating of excellent or pretty good, or a negative rating of just fair or poor?

6%	Excellent -----	32% TOTAL POSITIVE
26%	Pretty good	
25%	Just fair -----	60% TOTAL NEGATIVE
35%	Poor	
8%	Undecided/Refused	

Now I am going to read a list of several different issue areas and ask you for each one, how you would rate the job that Governor Snyder is doing in that area. For each one, please tell me if you give Governor Snyder a positive rating of excellent or pretty good, or a negative rating of only fair or poor? The first area is...

[ROTATE Q.15 to Q.22]	<u>EXCEL</u>	<u>PRETTY GOOD</u>	<u>TOT POS</u>	<u>TOT NEG</u>	<u>ONLY FAIR</u>	<u>POOR</u>	<u>UNDEC DK</u>
__15. State budget proposals	7%	24%	31%	62%	25%	37%	7%
__16. Taxes on Michigan businesses	6%	20%	26%	61%	23%	38%	13%
__17. Improving the state economy and creating jobs	3%	21%	24%	62%	22%	40%	14%
__18. Taxes affecting individuals	2%	14%	16%	71%	26%	45%	13%
__19. Funding for local public schools	3%	15%	18%	71%	20%	51%	11%
__20. Funding colleges and universities	3%	16%	19%	66%	23%	43%	15%
__21. Providing assistance to unemployed workers	4%	18%	22%	59%	24%	35%	19%
__22. Making everyone share in the sacrifice needed to turn Michigan around	8%	2%	28%	63%	17%	46%	9%

__23. Over the next year, do you think Michigan's economy will improve, get worse or remain about the same? **[IF IMPROVE/GET WORSE, ASK: 'Would that be a lot or somewhat?' AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

3%	Improve a lot -----	35% TOTAL IMPROVE
32%	Improve somewhat	
41%	Remain about the same	
12%	Get somewhat worse	
9%	Get a lot worse -----	21% TOTAL WORSE
3%	Undecided/Refused	

__24. Thinking about the amount of state and local taxes you currently pay to fund the programs and services of state government, local government, and your local public school district, would you say the state and local taxes you pay are too high, too low or about right for what you get back in programs and services? **[IF TOO HIGH, ASK: "Would that be much or somewhat?"**

18%	Much too high -----	37% TOTAL TOO HIGH
19%	Somewhat too high	
54%	About the right amount	
6%	Too low	
3%	Undecided/Refused	

__25. Looking at the amount of state and local taxes you pay now, compared to what you paid a few years ago, are you paying more in state and local taxes now, less or about the same as you paid before? **[IF LESS, ASK: 'Would that be much or somewhat?' AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

38%	Pays more now	
42%	Pays about the same in taxes now	
12%	Pays somewhat less in taxes now	
4%	Pays much less in taxes now -----	16% TOTAL PAY LESS
4%	Undecided/Refused	

Now I would like to ask a few questions about the salary and wages paid to public school employees. Thinking about salary and wages only -- not including health insurance, retirement or other benefits.

__26. Do you think school teachers and other school employees who work in your local public school district are paid too much, too little, or about the right amount? **[IF TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE, ASK: 'Would that be much or somewhat?' AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

5%	Much too much -----	17% TOTAL TOO MUCH
12%	Somewhat too much	
48%	About the right amount	
18%	Somewhat too little	
11%	Much too little -----	29% TOTAL TOO LITTLE
6%	Undecided/Refused	

Thinking specifically about the health insurance, retirement and other benefits that are part of total compensation packages. . .

__27. Do you think the benefits local public school teachers and other public school employees receive in your area are too much, too little, or about the right amount? **[IF TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE, ASK]:** “Would that be much or somewhat?”

14%	Much too much -----	39% TOTAL TOO MUCH
25%	Somewhat too much	
41%	About the right amount	
7%	Somewhat too little	
6%	Much too little -----	13% TOTAL TOO LITTLE
7%	Undecided/Refused	

__28. Based on what you know about the amount of state taxes Michigan businesses currently pay, do you think Michigan business taxes are too high, too low or about right? **[IF TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE, ASK]:** “Would that be much or somewhat?”

15%	Much too high -----	37% TOTAL TOO HIGH
22%	Somewhat too high	
29%	About right	
12%	Somewhat too low	
6%	Much too low -----	18% TOTAL TOO LOW
16%	Undecided/Refused	

__29. As you may know, Governor Snyder has proposed replacing the Michigan Business Tax with a corporate income tax of 6 percent on the business profits of the larger “C” type corporations, with other types of corporations and businesses not having to pay any Michigan business taxes. Instead, all other business owners will only pay taxes on their personal income if their business profits are passed through to them as income, like all taxpayers do. Based on this description and what you may know, do you favor or oppose Governor Snyder’s proposal? **[IF FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK]:** “Would that be strongly or somewhat?”

21%	Strongly favor -----	45% TOTAL FAVOR
24%	Somewhat favor	
10%	Somewhat oppose	
31%	Strongly oppose -----	41% TOTAL OPPOSE
14%	Undecided/Refused	

__30. If the business tax cuts proposed by Governor Snyder are approved, do you think businesses will use their tax cuts --- just to increase profits, just to create new jobs, or for both? **[IF BOTH, ASK]:** “Will businesses use tax cuts mostly to increase profits or mostly to create new jobs?”

- 31% Use tax cuts just to increase profits ----- **45% TOTAL PROFITS**
- 14% Use tax cuts mostly to increase profits
- 41% Use tax cuts to equally increase profits and create new jobs (**VOLUNTEERED**)
- 7% Use tax cuts mostly to create new jobs
- 2% Use tax cuts just to create new jobs ----- **9% TOTAL JOBS**
- 5% Undecided/Don't know

On another topic...

__31. Legislation has been proposed in Michigan that would take away collective bargaining rights for all state, local government and local public school district public employees. Do you favor or oppose the proposal? **[IF FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK]:** ‘Would that be strongly or somewhat?’

- 22% Strongly favors taking away collective bargaining rights
- 11% Somewhat favors taking away collective bargaining rights **33% TOTAL FAVOR**
- 9% Somewhat opposes taking away collective bargaining rights
- 51% Strongly opposes taking away collective bargaining rights **60% TOTAL OPPOSE**
- 7% Undecided/Don't know

Governor Snyder and legislative Republicans have made a number of proposals to cut state and local government spending and to change current state tax laws. These proposals are intended to address the existing budget deficit, as well as paying for the revenue shortfall that will occur because of their proposed tax reductions for businesses. I am going to describe some of these tax and budget proposals recently made. For each one I read, please tell me if you favor or oppose the proposal? **[IF FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK: ‘Would that be strongly or somewhat?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

[ROTATE Q.32 to Q.39]		<u>STRG</u> <u>FAVR</u>	<u>TOT</u> <u>FAVR</u>	<u>TOT</u> <u>OPPSE</u>	<u>STRG</u> <u>OPPSE</u>	<u>REF</u> <u>UND</u>
__32.	Cut wages and benefits for state employees by \$180 million	23%	46%	49%	29%	5%
__33.	Eliminate Michigan’s earned income tax credit program, which goes to low income working people, saving the state \$354 million	14%	29%	66%	46%	5%
__34.	Cut state funding for state public universities by \$220 million, a 15% cut, and if a college fails to keep tuition increases below 7.1%, funding cuts would go up to 22%.	19%	43%	49%	35%	8%

__35.	Cut state revenue sharing that mostly goes to cities from \$307 million to \$200 million. The amount left after the cut would be distributed based on whether communities adopted changes recommended by the state, such as requiring employees to pay 20% of their health insurance premiums, working with other jurisdictions to consolidate services, or merging with adjacent cities, villages or townships.	24%	48%	45%	29%	7%
__36.	Change state guidelines to make it easier for the Governor to declare a financial emergency in a local community or school district and name an emergency financial manager. The appointed manager will have the authority to cancel contracts with government vendors and employees, eliminate collective bargaining rights for up to 5 years, consolidate services with other communities, require mergers with nearby communities or school districts, dissolve local governments, and fire local elected officials.	19%	36%	60%	46%	4%
__37.	Require the privatization of some state services, like food service in state prisons, and custodial, bus transportation, and food service in local public schools by allowing private companies to provide these services instead of having them provided by local school employees	27%	46%	48%	34%	6%
__38A N=300	Currently, pensions and other retirement income, up to \$45,000 for individuals and \$90,000 for couples, are exempt from state taxes. Governor Snyder has proposed raising \$900 million by making all pension and retirement income, except social security, subject to the state income tax.	12%	29%	67%	55%	4%

__38B N=300	Currently, pensions and other retirement income, up to \$45,000 for individuals and \$90,000 for couples, are exempt from state taxes. Republicans in the state senate have proposed raising \$300 million by keeping the exemption for people age 67 and older, lowering the exempt amount to \$20,000 for individuals and \$40,000 for joint filers for people age 60 to 66, and removing the exemption entirely for people born after 1952.	13%	31%	61%	48%	8%
__39A N=300	Cut \$564 million in state funding for local public schools – representing an additional \$300 per pupil cut in addition to the \$170 per-pupil cut already enacted for the current school year.	11%	24%	72%	53%	4%
__39B N=300	Cut \$200 million in state funding for local public schools – representing an additional \$170 per pupil cut in addition to the \$170 per-pupil cut already enacted for the current school year.	14%	27%	68%	54%	5%

__40. After hearing the specific proposals that Governor Snyder has made or supported, let me ask you again, how would you rate the job Rick Snyder has done in making his budget and tax proposals—would you give him a positive rating of excellent or pretty good, or a negative rating of just fair or poor?

7%	Excellent -----	36% TOTAL POSITIVE
29%	Pretty good	
23%	Just fair	
38%	Poor -----	61% TOTAL NEGATIVE
3%	Undecided/Refused	

Now I would like to ask you about several potential proposals that may be placed on the 2012 November general election ballot. **[ROTATE Q.41 THRU Q.47]**

__41. (One/Another) proposal would amend the state constitution to implement a graduated state income tax, which would assess a higher percentage tax rate on individuals with higher incomes, with lower tax rates assessed on individuals with moderate to low incomes? If this proposal were placed on the ballot, would you vote Yes in favor of the proposal or No to oppose it?

[IF UNDECIDED, ASK: ' Well, if the election were held today and you had to decide right now, would you lean toward voting yes or voting no?' AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]

52%	Vote Yes -----	64% TOTAL YES
12%	Lean toward voting Yes	
28%	Vote No -----	32% TOTAL NO
4%	Lean toward voting No	
4%	Undecided/Refused	

__42. (One/Another) proposal would amend the state constitution to read, quote:

“Every person shall have the right to form, join, or assist labor organizations and to bargain collectively through representatives chosen by the members of that labor organization concerning wages, benefits and conditions of employment.”

If this proposal were placed on the ballot and the election were held today, would you vote Yes in Favor of amending the state constitution to include this provision, or No, to Oppose it?

[IF UNDECIDED, ASK: ‘ Well, if the election were held today and you had to decide right now, would you lean toward voting yes or voting no?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]

51%	Vote Yes -----	57% TOTAL YES
6%	Lean toward voting Yes	
28%	Vote No -----	33% TOTAL NO
5%	Lean toward voting No	
10%	Undecided/Refused	

__43. (One/Another) proposal would amend the state constitution to require the state school aid fund to only be used to fund local public schools, and not be combined with budgets for state universities or community colleges. If a constitutional amendment proposal were placed on a future ballot requiring that the state school aid fund only be used to fund local public schools, and not be used to fund other state supported education institutions, would you vote Yes in favor of the proposal or No to oppose it?

[IF UNDECIDED, ASK: ‘ Well, if the election were held today and you had to decide right now, would you lean toward voting yes or voting no?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]

54%	Vote Yes -----	61% TOTAL YES
7%	Lean toward voting Yes	
25%	Vote No -----	30% TOTAL NO
5%	Lean toward voting No	
9%	Undecided/Refused	

__44. (One/Another) proposal would be to expand the current 6 percent state sales tax paid on the purchase of products to the purchase of most services as well. Some taxable services would include haircuts and auto repairs, as well as some things considered to be luxury items such as, tickets to sporting events and theatre performances. If approved, it would raise an estimated \$1.6 billion in additional state revenue that could be used to maintain existing programs and services. If this proposal were placed on the ballot, would you vote Yes in favor of the proposal or No to oppose it?

[IF UNDECIDED, ASK: ‘ Well, if the election were held today and you had to decide right now, would you lean toward voting yes or voting no?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]

38%	Vote Yes -----	45% TOTAL YES
7%	Lean toward voting Yes	
48%	Vote No -----	51% TOTAL NO
3%	Lean toward voting No	
4%	Undecided/Refused	

[POLLERS NOTE: ALWAYS ASK Q.45 FOLLOWED BY Q.46 AS A QUESTION SET]

__45. (One/Another) proposal would make Michigan a right to work state. Federal law allow states to pass laws that permit employers to hire workers without requiring the worker to become a member of a union, even if a union represents other workers in the same job at the same place of employment. A total of 23 states currently have some version of a Right to Work law, which means workers cannot be required to join a union or pay union dues as a condition of being hired or kept on as an employee. Based on what you may know about Right to Work laws, if a proposal was placed on the ballot to make Michigan a Right to Work state, would you vote Yes in favor of the proposal or No to oppose it?

[IF UNDECIDED, ASK: ' Well, if the election were held today and you had to decide right now, would you lean toward voting yes or voting no?' AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]

51%	Vote Yes -----	ASK Q.46		
3%	Lean toward voting Yes -----	ASK Q.46	54%	TOTAL YES
42%	Vote No -----	GO TO Q.47		
3%	Lean toward voting No -----	GO TO Q.47	45%	TOTAL NO
1%	Undecided/Refused -----	ASK Q. 46		

__46. Opponents of right to work laws say that such laws are unfair because workers can decide not to join the union and not have to pay dues or fees, but they get the full benefit of what the union negotiates for their members, and if a worker is a union member and decides to quit the union, they not only continue to receive the union negotiated wages and benefits, but the union must continue to represent them with any grievances. Knowing this, let me ask you again, if a proposal was placed on the ballot to make Michigan a right to work state, would you vote Yes in favor of the proposal or No to oppose it?

[IF UNDECIDED, ASK: ' Well, if the election were held today and you had to decide right now, would you lean toward voting yes or voting no?' AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]

Q.45/Q.46 COMBINED

40%	Vote Yes -----	43% TOTAL YES
3%	Lean toward voting Yes	
50%	Vote No -----	55% TOTAL NO
5%	Lean toward voting No	
2%	Undecided/Refused	

__47. (One/Another) proposal would initiate legislation that would require a review of all existing corporate and business tax credits and exemptions, and require businesses that currently hold a tax credit or exemption to demonstrate how many new jobs have been created or how many existing jobs have been preserved, in order to keep the credit or exemption. In addition, businesses that hold or apply for a tax credit would be required to reveal their tax liability at all levels, including what is paid to the federal government, other states and local jurisdictions, as well as to foreign countries. If this proposal were placed on the ballot, would you vote Yes in favor of the proposal or No to oppose it?

[IF UNDECIDED, ASK: ‘ Well, if the election were held today and you had to decide right now, would you lean toward voting yes or voting no?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]

69%	Vote Yes -----	76% TOTAL YES
7%	Lean toward voting Yes	
16%	Vote No -----	18% TOTAL NO
2%	Lean toward voting No	
6%	Undecided/Refused	

On another topic...

__48. If the proposal to replace the Michigan Business Tax with a 6 percent corporate income tax is approved, it will represent an 86% cut in taxes for Michigan businesses and result in the loss of an additional \$1.8 billion in state revenue, which would double the existing state budget deficit to \$3.2 billion. The lost revenue will be made up by cutting more out of public education and other critical state services, as well as through increasing taxes on many individuals. Some of the increases in individual taxes include requiring retirees to pay taxes on their pensions and other retirement income for the first time, eliminating the earned income tax credit for low income working people, and, eliminating the homestead property tax exemptions for senior citizens. Knowing this, let me ask you again, do you favor or oppose Governor Snyder’s proposal to replace the current Michigan business tax with a 6 percent corporate tax on profits for the corporations and other businesses? **[IF**

FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK: ‘Would that be strongly or somewhat?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]

14%	Strongly favor -----	23% TOTAL FAVOR
9%	Somewhat favor	
13%	Somewhat oppose	
57%	Strongly oppose -----	70% TOTAL OPPOSE
7%	Undecided/Refused	

Finally, I would like to ask you a few questions about yourself for statistical purposes.

__55. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Republican or a Democrat?

(IF DEM) Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?

(IF INDEP) Do you consider yourself closer to the Republican or Democratic Party?

(IF REP) Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or not a very strong Republican?

20%	Strong Democrat -----	36% TOTAL DEMOCRAT
8%	Not Strong Democrat	
8%	Independent-Lean Democrat	
24%	Independent	
11%	Independent-Lean Republican	
8%	Not Strong Republican	
18%	Strong Republican -----	37% TOTAL REPUBLICAN
3%	Other/Undecided/Refused	

__56. Based on your personal experience or what you know or have heard or read, do you support or oppose the efforts of the Tea Party movement? **[IF SUPPORT OR OPPOSE, ASK: 'Do you strongly or somewhat (SUPPORT/OPPOSE) the Tea Party movement?' AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

20%	Strongly Support -----	38% TOTAL SUPPORT
18%	Somewhat Support	
9%	Somewhat Oppose	
33%	Strongly Oppose -----	42% TOTAL OPPOSE
20%	Undecided/Refused	