# OREGONIANS' ATTITUDES TOWARD TOP POLITICAL OFFICIALS 

DHM Panel October Survey Results<br>November 14, 2019

Last month, DHM checked in with Oregonians' regarding their approval of national and state leadership. These findings come from the October 2019 fielding of our DHM Panel. The survey was conducted from October 8 to 15, 2017, and surveyed 591 Oregonians. The results were weighted by age, gender, area of the state, political party, and level of education to ensure a representative sample of Oregon voters. The margin of error for this survey is $\pm 4.0$. National polling data of approval averages is from Real Clear Politics ${ }^{1}$.

## Less than half of Oregonians approve of national leaders Trump, Pelosi, and McConnell.

Oregonians' Impressions of National Leaders


Oregonians' approval ratings are low for President Donald Trump, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. However, just under half disapprove of Pelosi, compared to the almost seven in ten who disapprove of Trump and McConnell. Oregonians (45\%) are more likely to have positive impressions of Pelosi than Americans in general (38\%). Conversely, Oregonians are less likely to favor both Trump ( $31 \% \mathrm{v} .42 \%$ ) and McConnell ( $19 \% \mathrm{v} .25 \%$ ) than Americans on average.

[^0]Oregonians are more positive about our US Senators.
Oregonians' Impressions of State Senators


Oregonians tend to approve of both Senators, Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley.
Negative impressions of Kate Brown have continued to rise since April 2015, now surpassing rate of approval.

Impressions of Kate Brown


Since DHM first asked Oregonians in April of 2015, disapproval ratings of Governor Brown have tripled. These numbers have been consistently on the rise from 2015 to 2019, while approval ratings have only fluctuated five percentage points during that time. Uncertainty about Brown was at its highest in 2015 (35\%) and has consistently declined, to 4\%.

## Democrats are much more likely to approve of all three state leaders.



Party differences follow a trend for all three state leaders in question, with highest approval coming from Democrats, lowest rates from Republicans, and the other voters falling somewhere in between.

Other than party affiliation, impressions of state leaders are consistent across demographic groups. The only exception is that tri-county residents tend to be more positive about Senator Merkley and Governor Brown than residents of the rest of the state.

## INTRODUCTION \& METHODOLOGY

From October 8 to 15, 2019, DHM Research conducted a survey of Oregonians. The purpose of the survey was to assess Oregonians' opinions about notable elected officials and the impeachment inquiry of President Trump.

Research Methodology: The online survey consisted of voters and took approximately 5 minutes to complete. This is a sufficient sample size to assess voter opinions generally and to review findings by multiple subgroups.

Respondents were members of a professionally maintained online panel maintained by DHM Research. Respondents were initially recruited randomly by telephone. Panelist were invited to the survey via email. A variety of quality control measures were employed, including questionnaire pre-testing and validation. A combination of quotas and weighting by age, gender, area of state, education and political party were used to match the demographic makeup of the general population in the surveyed counties.

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. The margin of error for this survey is $\pm 4.0 \%$.

DHM Research Background: DHM Research has been providing opinion research and consultation throughout the Pacific Northwest and other regions of the United States for over 40 years. The firm is nonpartisan and independent and specializes in research projects to support public policy making.

## DHM Panel

October 8-15, 2019
$\mathrm{N}=591$; $\pm 4.0 \%$ margin of error
POLITICAL

In these first questions, will be touching base on opinions of current political leaders.

1. All things considered, do you think Oregon is headed in the right direction, or off on the wrong track?

| Response category | $\mathrm{n}=591$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Right direction | $38 \%$ |
| Wrong track | $47 \%$ |
| Don't know | $15 \%$ |

## [New page]

Please indicate if you have a positive or negative impression of the following elected officials.
[Randomize]

| Response category | Very <br> positive | Somewhat <br> positive | Somewhat <br> negative | Very <br> negative | Don't <br> know |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2. President Donald Trump | $19 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $61 \%$ | $1 \%$ |
| 3. | Governor Kate Brown | $11 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $36 \%$ |
| 4. Senator Ron Wyden | $31 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $8 \%$ |
| 5. | Senator Jeff Merkley | $35 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $23 \%$ |
| 6. | Representative Nancy Pelosi | $17 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $35 \%$ |
| 7. | Senator Mitch McConnell | $4 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $52 \%$ |

## [New page]

8. The House of Representatives has begun a formal impeachment inquiry to determine whether or not to bring impeachment charges against President Trump. Do you approve or disapprove of this impeachment inquiry?

| Response category | $\mathrm{n}=592$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Strongly approve | $47 \%$ |
| Somewhat approve | $13 \%$ |
| Somewhat disapprove | $8 \%$ |
| Strongly disapprove | $30 \%$ |
| Don't know | $2 \%$ |

9. In 1998, the House of Representatives impeached President Clinton. Looking back now, do you approve or disapprove of the impeachment of President Clinton?

| Response category | $\mathbf{n = 5 9 2}$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Strongly approve | $15 \%$ |
| Somewhat approve | $26 \%$ |
| Somewhat disapprove | $32 \%$ |
| Strongly disapprove | $21 \%$ |
| Don't know | $6 \%$ |

## DEMOGRAPHICS

These last questions are for demographic purposes only. Your responses are confidential.
10. What is your zip code? (OPEN)
11. In what year were you born?

| Response category | $\mathbf{n}=591$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| $18-44$ | $33 \%$ |
| $45-64$ | $37 \%$ |
| $65+$ | $30 \%$ |

12. With which of the following gender identities do you identify? Check all that apply.

| Response category | $\mathbf{n}=594$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Male | $47 \%$ |
| Female | $51 \%$ |
| Non-binary or gender non-conforming | $2 \%$ |
| Trans | $\mathrm{n}=2$ |
| Other | $\mathrm{n}=2$ |

13. With which of the following races and ethnicities do you identify? Check all that apply.

| Response category | $\mathrm{n}=574$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| African | $1 \%$ |
| Asian or Pacific Islander | $2 \%$ |
| Black or African American | $2 \%$ |
| Hispanic or Latino | $5 \%$ |
| Middle Eastern or North African | $\mathrm{n}=2$ |
| Native American or American Indian | $8 \%$ |
| Slavic | $2 \%$ |
| White or Caucasian | $94 \%$ |
| Other | $5 \%$ |

14. What is your party registration?

| Response category | $\mathbf{n}=593$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Democrat | $39 \%$ |
| Republican | $32 \%$ |
| Non-affiliated/other parties | $30 \%$ |

15. When it comes to politics and elections, are you:

| Response category | $\mathrm{n}=566$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Very liberal | $21 \%$ |
| Somewhat liberal | $26 \%$ |
| Middle of the road | $18 \%$ |
| Somewhat conservative | $23 \%$ |
| Very conservative | $12 \%$ |

16. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

| Response category | $n=570$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Less than high school diploma | $n=2$ |
| High school diploma | $8 \%$ |
| 2-year degree/some college/trade | $50 \%$ |
| 4-year degree | $21 \%$ |
| Graduate degree | $21 \%$ |

17. What was your total household income in 2018? Remember to include everyone and your best guess is okay.

| Response category | $\mathrm{n}=557$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Less than $\$ 25,000$ | $10 \%$ |
| $\$ 25,00-\$ 49,999$ | $16 \%$ |
| $\$ 50,000-\$ 74,999$ | $27 \%$ |
| $\$ 75,000-\$ 99,999$ | $18 \%$ |
| $\$ 100,000-\$ 149,999$ | $19 \%$ |
| $\$ 150,000$ or more | $10 \%$ |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ https://www.realclearpolitics.com/epolls/other/mitch_mcconnell_favorableunfavorable-6672.html

