



Introduction and Methodology

From September 5-11, 2025, DHM Research conducted an online survey of Oregon residents. The purpose of the survey was to assess overall mood and economic outlook, as well as Oregonians' opinions on various topics such as voting by mail, energy, and job seeking preferences. The survey also assessed Oregonians' personal social connections and behaviors.

Research Methodology

The online survey consisted of N=501 Oregon residents and took approximately 15 minutes to complete. This is a sufficient sample size to assess Oregonians' opinions generally and to review findings by multiple subgroups.

Respondents were members of a professionally maintained online panel. A variety of quality control measures were employed, including questionnaire pre-testing and validation. To ensure a representative sample, demographic quotas were set and data were weighted by age, gender, region, political party, education, and income level.

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 $\pm 4.4\%$.

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 45 years. The firm is nonpartisan and independent and specializes in research projects to support public policy making.

**DHM Panel Survey
September 2025**

DEMOGRAPHICS / QUOTAS

Screeners: What state do you reside in?

Response category	n=501
Oregon	100%
All other states	--

1. In what year were you born? **[Open]**
[Autofill age as:]

Response category	n=501
18-29	19%
30-44	27%
45-64	31%
65+	23%

- 2A. **[Split A, n=250]** How do you describe your gender?

Response category	n=250
Man	49%
Woman	49%
Non-binary or gender non-conforming	3%
Another way [Open]	n=0

- 2B. **[Split B n=251]** How do you describe your gender?

Response category	n=251
Man	49%
Woman	49%
Non-binary	n=0
Gender fluid	n=1
Gender neutral	n=1
Trans woman	n=0
Trans man	1%
Two-Spirit	n=0
Something else fits better (please specify): (OPEN)	n=0

3. In what county do you live? **[Dropdown box of all Oregon counties]**
[Autofill area as]:

Response category	n=501
Tri-county	44%
Willamette Valley	27%
Rest of state	29%

4. Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity? *You may choose more than one.*
[Allow for multiple responses]

Response category	n=501
African	n=2
Asian/Pacific Islander	7%
Black/African American	3%
Hispanic/Latino/a/x	12%
Middle Eastern/North African	1%
Native American/American Indian	4%
White/Caucasian	81%
Other	2%
White alone	72%
POC	28%

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

Response category	n=501
Less than high school	3%
High school diploma/GED	29%
Some college/2-year degree	34%
College degree/4-year degree	18%
Graduate/professional school	16%

6. Which category best describes your gross household income before taxes? Remember to include everyone living in your household. Your best estimate will do.

Response category	n=501
Less than \$25,000	14%
\$25,000 to less than \$50,000	19%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	14%
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	15%
\$100,000 to less than \$150,000	24%
\$150,000 or more	14%

7. What is your party registration?

Response category	n=501
Democrat	32%
Republican	23%
Another party	6%
Not affiliated with a political party	32%
Not registered to vote	6%

8. When it comes to politics and elections, do you consider yourself liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Response category	n=501
Total liberal	36%
Very liberal	15%
Somewhat liberal	21%
Moderate	38%
Total conservative	26%
Somewhat conservative	15%
Very conservative	10%

9. Do you rent or own your home?

Response category	n=501
Rent	34%
Own	64%
I have a different arrangement	2%

10. What is your current employment status?

Response category	n=501
Employed: full-time	45%
Employed: part-time	15%
Unemployed: looking for work	8%
Unemployed: not looking for work	8%
Retired	24%

11. Not including yourself, how many people live with you?

Response category	n=501
0 - live alone	15%
1	26%
2	27%
3	14%
4	11%
5 or more	8%

12. Do any children under age 18 live in your home?

Response category	n=501
Yes	33%
No	67%

BENCHMARK QUESTIONS

13. All things considered, would you say Oregon is headed in the right direction or on the wrong track?

Date	Right direction	Wrong track	Don't know
Sept 2025, n=501	35%	47%	19%
July 2025	43%	41%	16%
April 2025	34%	47%	19%
January 2025	36%	47%	17%
September 2024	34%	48%	17%
June 2024	31%	51%	18%
December 2023	34%	45%	21%
August 2023	31%	55%	14%
April 2023	26%	57%	17%
February 2023	29%	57%	14%
August 2022	32%	54%	14%
January 2022	33%	54%	13%
September 2021	36%	45%	14%
May 2021	32%	43%	26%
March 2021	40%	45%	14%
September 2020	31%	56%	13%
July 2020	33%	46%	20%
June 2020	43%	38%	19%
April 2020	51%	34%	16%
March 2020	46%	44%	10%
February 2020	37%	51%	11%

14. What do you think is the most important problem facing Oregon today? **[Open]**

Response category	n=501
Homelessness	38%
Poor government leadership/ Government mismanagement	13%
Drugs/Addiction/Mental health	11%
Housing affordability	11%
Taxes/Tariffs	11%
Cost of living	9%
Economy/Jobs	7%
Budget/Funding cuts	5%
Crime	4%
Education/Schools	4%
Healthcare	3%
Democrats/Too liberal	3%
Environment	2%
Political divisions/Partisanship	2%
Immigration	2%
Infrastructure/Roads/Transportation	2%
Wildfire/Forest fire	2%
Income inequality	2%
All other responses	1% or less
None	<1%
Don't know/refused	2%

15. In general, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in your personal life at this time?

Response category	n=501
NET Satisfied	68%
Very satisfied	21%
Somewhat satisfied	48%
NET Unsatisfied	29%
Somewhat unsatisfied	18%
Very unsatisfied	11%
Don't know	2%

ECONOMY

16. How would you rate Oregon's current economic conditions?

Date	NET Good	Very good	Good	NET Poor	Poor	Very poor	Don't know
Sept 2025, n=501	38%	4%	33%	54%	40%	15%	8%
July 2025	49%	2%	47%	45%	35%	10%	6%
April 2025	42%	2%	40%	49%	40%	8%	9%
January 2025	41%	5%	36%	53%	38%	15%	6%
September 2024	42%	4%	39%	51%	41%	9%	7%
June 2024	43%	2%	41%	51%	39%	12%	5%
December 2023	38%	2%	36%	54%	39%	15%	8%
August 2023	34%	2%	32%	59%	45%	14%	7%
March 2023	38%	3%	35%	60%	43%	17%	3%
August 2022	44%	4%	40%	51%	37%	14%	5%
January 2022	41%	9%	32%	52%	42%	10%	6%
June 2020	30%	3%	27%	63%	46%	17%	8%
March 2020	35%	4%	31%	55%	37%	18%	9%
June 2019	63%	6%	57%	32%	26%	6%	4%

17. How would you rate your current financial situation?

Date	NET Good	Very good	Good	NET Poor	Poor	Very poor	Don't know
Sept 2025, n=501	61%	13%	48%	37%	25%	11%	3%
July 2025	62%	10%	52%	37%	27%	10%	1%
April 2025	60%	7%	52%	39%	29%	11%	1%
January 2025	58%	8%	51%	40%	27%	13%	2%
June 2024	54%	9%	45%	45%	30%	15%	1%
December 2023	56%	5%	51%	44%	29%	15%	1%

VOTE BY MAIL

Oregonians may vote on the following measure in an upcoming election. Please read it carefully.

Amends Constitution: Prohibits vote-by-mail elections; registration requires “proof of citizenship”; voting requires “valid” photo identification

Result of “Yes” Vote: “Yes” vote prohibits vote-by-mail elections; registration requires “proof of citizenship and other qualifications”; voting requires “valid” photo identification; voting rolls available “without redaction.”

Result of “No” Vote: “No” vote retains vote-by-mail elections; voter registration requires attestation of qualifications/citizenship; no photo identification required to vote; disclosure of voter information restricted.

18. If the election were today would you vote Yes or No on this measure?

Response category	n=501
NET Yes	44%
Certain to vote yes	28%
Leaning toward voting yes	16%
NET No	46%
Leaning toward voting no	12%
Certain to vote no	34%
Don't know	9%

ENERGY

Turning to a new topic: Energy

All things considered, do you have a positive or negative impression of the following energy sources?

Response category	NET Positive	Very positive	Somewhat positive	NET Negative	Somewhat negative	Very negative	Don't know
19. Natural gas							
n=501	66%	24%	41%	22%	19%	3%	12%
20. Solar							
n=501	83%	45%	37%	12%	8%	4%	6%
21. Wind							
n=501	77%	36%	41%	15%	8%	6%	8%
22. Hydropower from dams							
n=501	73%	32%	41%	13%	10%	2%	14%
23. Nuclear							
n=501	41%	13%	28%	43%	24%	19%	16%
24. Coal							
n=501	29%	9%	20%	57%	24%	33%	15%

Some governments in Oregon are considering the following types of energy policies.

Would you support or oppose the following policies in your community?

Response category	Total support	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Total oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
25. Ban new natural gas hookups to homes and businesses.							
n=501	27%	10%	17%	57%	22%	34%	17%
26. Require new buildings to be built with renewable energy sources like solar power or hydropower that can meet all of the building's energy needs.							
n=501	69%	32%	37%	23%	13%	10%	7%
27. Pass laws or enact regulatory measures to make natural gas too expensive to use in homes and businesses.							
n=501	18%	8%	11%	66%	22%	44%	15%

Imagine Oregon proposed a law related to natural gas and electricity used by homes. Suppose this law helped to meaningfully reduce emissions that cause climate change. Also, suppose that it increased utility rates.

28. Would you support or oppose an Oregon law that meaningfully reduces emissions that cause climate change, but increases utility rates?

Response category	n=501
NET Support	46%
Strongly support	12%
Somewhat support	33%
NET Oppose	44%
Somewhat oppose	21%
Strongly oppose	22%
Don't know	11%

29. How much more each month would you be willing to pay on natural gas for an Oregon law that meaningfully reduced emissions that cause climate change? *Do your best to answer this question even if you don't pay for natural gas service.* **[Open]**

Response category	n=501
\$0	47%
\$1-\$9	5%
\$10-\$19	10%
\$20-\$29	7%
\$30-\$39	1%
\$40-\$49	2%
\$50-\$59	9%
\$60-\$69	1%
\$70-\$79	1%
\$80-\$89	1%
\$90-\$99	<1%
\$100+	7%
Mean	\$25
Don't know	11%

30. How much more each month would you be willing to pay on electricity for an Oregon law that meaningfully reduced emissions that cause climate change? *Do your best to answer this question even if you don't pay for electricity service.* **[Open]**

Response category	n=501
\$0	46%
\$1-\$9	5%
\$10-\$19	11%
\$20-\$29	8%
\$30-\$39	3%
\$40-\$49	1%
\$50-\$59	4%
\$60-\$69	1%
\$70-\$79	1%
\$80-\$89	1%
\$90-\$99	<1%
\$100+	8%
Mean	\$25.90
Don't know	11%

President Trump has issued executive orders and supported other policies to limit wind and solar energy development.

31. In general, do you support or oppose President Trump in limiting the wind and solar energy development?

Response category	n=501
NET Support	25%
Strongly support	10%
Somewhat support	16%
NET Oppose	65%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	52%
Don't know	9%

President Trump's policies to limit wind and solar development conflict with policies of the State of Oregon and utilities in Oregon to increase the development of wind and solar energy.

32. Which of the following is closest to how you think the State of Oregon should respond to President Trump's wind and solar energy policies?

Response category	n=501
The State of Oregon should challenge President Trump and make it a high priority to develop wind and solar energy	48%
The State of Oregon should continue to pursue wind and solar energy development where it can, but it should be a low priority while President Trump is in office	24%
The State of Oregon should align with President Trump's policies and reduce its efforts to develop wind and solar energy	15%
Don't know	12%

33. Which of the following is closest to how you think your local energy utilities should respond to President Trump's wind and solar energy policies?

Response category	n=501
My local energy utilities should challenge President Trump and make it a high priority to develop wind and solar energy	43%
My local energy utilities should continue to pursue wind and solar energy development where it can, but it should be a low priority while President Trump is in office	29%
My local energy utilities should align with President Trump's policies and reduce its efforts to develop wind and solar energy	15%
Don't know	13%

Transmission lines are necessary to move electricity from where it is produced to where it is used. To meet future electricity demands and maintain reliable service, it is likely necessary to build new transmission lines.

Knowing this, would you support or oppose allowing new transmission lines to be built in the following areas?

Response category	Total support	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Total oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
34. The community where you live							
n=501	69%	26%	43%	20%	11%	9%	11%
35. Through state forestlands							
n=501	45%	13%	32%	43%	23%	20%	12%
36. In habitat of endangered plants and animals							
n=501	30%	11%	19%	59%	22%	37%	11%

CONNECTION

Moving on to a new topic. The remainder of this survey is about your engagement and connections with others.

37. When it comes to your overall well-being, do you feel like there are people looking out for you, or do you feel like you are basically on your own?

Response category	n=501
People are looking out for me	57%
Basically on my own	43%

38. Which is closest to your point of view?

Response category	n=501
Total Can trust	44%
People can almost always be trusted	6%
People can usually be trusted	38%
Total Can't be too careful	56%
You usually can't be too careful in dealing with people	42%
You almost always can't be too careful in dealing with people	14%

How often do you do the following?

Response category	More than once a week	Once a week	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	Seldom	Never
39. Attend church or religious service						
n=501	5%	14%	6%	9%	20%	46%
40. Attend a hobby or activity group, like a book club, gardening club, or outdoors group						
n=501	4%	9%	12%	15%	19%	41%
41. Play in a sports league or participant in workout group						
n=501	5%	10%	8%	8%	15%	53%
42. Do volunteer work in the community						
n=501	3%	8%	13%	19%	24%	32%
43. Attend community meetings, such as a city council or school board meeting						
n=501	2%	4%	5%	14%	24%	51%
44. Attend events about politics and elections						
n=501	1%	4%	5%	14%	26%	50%
45. Have a conversation with someone in your community you did not know well						
n=501	11%	15%	22%	19%	19%	14%
46. Have friends, family, or neighbors over to your home						
n=501	12%	16%	24%	21%	18%	9%
47. Attend a social event in the community, such as a high school sporting event, play, or local festival						
n=501	5%	5%	15%	33%	22%	21%

A “third place” is a familiar public location where people gather outside of their homes or workplaces. Examples of “third places” include bars, coffee shops, bowling centers, libraries, or community centers.

48. Do you have a “third place” that you regularly spend time?

Response category	n=501
Yes	47%
No	53%

49. Do you have a place you can go outside of home or work where people would consider you a “regular”?

Response category	n=501
Yes	55%
No	45%

When is the last time you did the following?

Response category	Within the last week	Within the last month	Within the last six months	Within the last year	More than a year ago
50. Held a baby					
n=501	13%	7%	12%	9%	59%
51. Spent time with someone older than 65 years who is not a family member or co-worker					
n=501	28%	18%	10%	16%	28%
52. Made a new close friend					
n=501	3%	12%	15%	21%	49%

53. Not counting your family, how many close friends do you have?

Response category	Sept 2025 n=501	Sept 2024 n=500
0	11%	5%
1	8%	6%
2	18%	17%
3	19%	20%
4	13%	13%
5	11%	15%
6	5%	7%
7	3%	2%
8	3%	2%
9	<1%	--
10 or more	7%	10%
Mean	3.7	4.2

54. How many close friends would you like to have?

Response category	n=501
0	6%
1	6%
2	14%
3	15%
4	14%
5	16%
6	8%
7	3%
8	4%
9	1%
10 or more	14%
Mean	4.6

Thinking about the people in your life, do you have someone who would be willing and able to do the following?

Response category	Total Yes	Yes, have at least a couple of people who would do this	Yes, have one person who would do this	No, do not have someone who would do this
55. Care for you if you got sick				
n=501	83%	50%	32%	17%
56. Offer you a place to stay for at least a few days if you couldn't live where you do now				
n=501	84%	57%	26%	16%
57. Give you a ride somewhere if you ever needed it				
n=501	91%	64%	27%	9%
58. Take you to a doctor's appointment				
n=501	89%	55%	34%	11%
59. Loan you at least \$200 if you needed it				
n=501	79%	45%	34%	21%
60. Help you find a new job				
n=501	70%	42%	28%	30%
61. Help you move				
n=501	86%	60%	25%	14%
62. Support you and listen to your problems				
n=501	91%	64%	27%	9%

Indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements.

Response category	Total agree	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Total disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
63. It is harder for young people to succeed today than it was for their parents' generation.							
n=501	72%	35%	37%	23%	17%	6%	5%
64. You can get ahead in America if you work hard and play by the rules							
Sept 2025, n=501	55%	18%	36%	42%	26%	16%	3%
Jan 2025	49%	14%	35%	47%	25%	22%	4%
Sept 2021	53%	21%	32%	39%	20%	19%	8%
July 2016	55%	15%	40%	43%	27%	16%	1%
65. I can achieve the American Dream							
n=501	61%	22%	39%	34%	17%	17%	5%
66. I am hopeful about the future							
n=501	59%	23%	36%	38%	23%	14%	3%

The results to questions about social connections and friendships will be shared with leaders in Oregon from government, business, and philanthropy.

67. What would you like leaders in the state to do, if anything, to help Oregonians stay connected with one another? **[Open]**

WORK QUESTIONS

The final questions are about looking for a new job. Please do your best to answer these even if you are not working or looking for work. We are still interested in your opinions.

68. If you were looking for a new job, which team-building or workplace culture activities would be most important to you? Select up to two.

Response category	n=501
Professional development and training	46%
Wellness programs, such as fitness and mental health	29%
One-on-one mentorship and coaching	26%
Informal gatherings, such as group coffees and team lunches	23%
Organized social events, such as happy hours and employee celebrations	20%
Volunteer and community service activities	19%

69. If you were looking for a new job, what would make you feel most confident that you could trust the organization's leadership? Select up to two.

Response category	n=501
Clear and transparent communication from leadership	42%
Evidence of fair pay and benefits	41%
Strong workplace culture and values	27%
Opportunities for professional growth	27%
Positive reputation in the community and industry	21%
Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)	19%

70. In a job, how would you most prefer to receive updates and information about the organization's leadership? Select up to two.

Response category	n=501
Direct communication from your manager	48%
Email update from the organizations' leaders	41%
Team and department meetings	39%
Organization-wide all staff meetings	22%
Messages through internal platforms, such as Slack and Teams messages	14%
Social media, such as the organizations LinkedIn page	5%

71. In a job, what type of relationship with the organization's leadership is important to you?

Response category	n=501
I want occasional interaction with leadership	41%
I want direct access to leadership	36%
I want to mainly rely on my manager, with little interaction with leadership	17%
I do not want to interact with leadership	6%