



December 17, 2025

**To:** Portland Metro Chamber  
**From:** Michelle Neiss & John Horvick, DHM Research  
**Re:** Economy Survey, #28528

## Introduction and Methodology

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From December 6 to 14, 2025 DHM Research conducted a hybrid survey of Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas County voters. The purpose of the survey was to track opinions about the economy, jobs, and community issues over time, as well as to measure support for multiple policy proposals.

### Research Methodology

The hybrid survey consisted of 600 registered voters and took approximately 16 minutes to complete. The sample included 210 voters in the City of Portland, and 390 voters from Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties who do not live within the City of Portland boundary. This is a sufficient sample size to assess voter opinions generally and to review findings by multiple subgroups.

Respondents were contacted from a list of registered voters. Telephone respondents were contacted by a live interviewer and text-to-online respondents received a text invitation directing them to an online survey. In gathering responses, a variety of quality control measures were employed, including questionnaire pre-testing and validation. Quotas were set by age, gender, ethnicity, party, and region to ensure a representative sample.

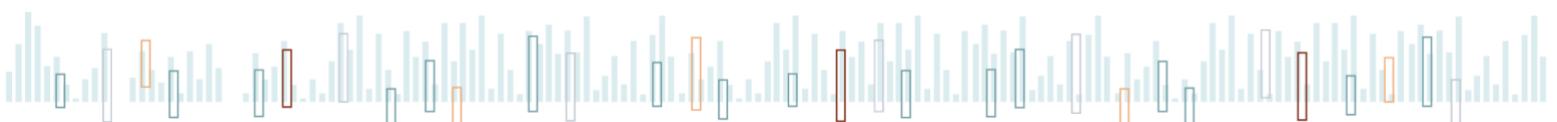
Statistical weighting allows us to ensure results are representative of registered voters. We weight to registered voter profile by age, gender, region, and party registration. We also weight to education and ethnicity based on Census data. This document presents weighted results. We oversampled voters in Multnomah County, this means the weighted sample size in Multnomah County is weighted down to reflect the actual proportion of tri-county voters living within the county boundaries.

### 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 +/-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.



**Portland Metro Chamber  
Economy Survey  
December 6-14, 2025  
N=600 registered voters; +/-4.0%  
n=300 Multnomah County; +/-5.7%  
n=300 Clackamas and Washington counties; +/-5.6%  
Split Sample for one question; 16 minutes  
DHM Research  
#25828**

Hello, this is \_\_\_\_\_ calling from \_\_\_\_\_. I am not selling anything. We're conducting a community survey about issues in the Portland area. May I please speak to \_\_\_\_\_ **[Must speak to name on list. If unavailable schedule callback.]**

**SCREENERS**

1. What county in Oregon do you live in?

Response category	n=600
Clackamas County	23%
Multnomah County	44%
Washington County	33%
All other responses	--

2. City and county check:

Response category	n=600
City of Portland	35%
Multnomah County outside City of Portland	11%
Clackamas County outside City of Portland	22%
Washington County outside City of Portland	32%

3. How do you describe your gender?

Response category	n=600
Man	49%
Woman	51%
Non-binary or gender non-conforming	n=1
Another way <b>[Open]</b>	--
Prefer not to say / Missing	--

4. What year were you born? **[Autocode per two categories below]**

Age 1 Response category	n=600
18-29	18%
30-49	39%
50-64	22%
65+	21%

Age 2 Response category	n=600
18-24	6%
25-34	16%
35-54	42%
55-64	15%
65+	21%

**[Telephone only]** If at any point you are not sure of your answer to the rest of our questions, just let us know.

### INTRODUCTION AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

5. All in all, would you say that things in **[Restore Q1 response: Multnomah / Washington / Clackamas]** County are headed in the right direction, or are things pretty much off on the wrong track?

Response category	2025 n=600	2024 n=700	2023 n=500	2022 n=500	2021 n=500	Dec. 2020 n=548
Right direction	25%	29%	26%	24%	16%	32%
Wrong track	47%	38%	51%	52%	62%	42%
Not sure	28%	34%	24%	23%	22%	27%

6. What would you say is the **one** biggest issue facing our area at this time? [**Open, collect verbatim; probe for one issue.**]

Response category	2025 n=600	2024 n=700	2023 n=500	2022 n=500	2021 n=500	2020 n=548
Homelessness	20%	35%	40%	34%	45%	32%
High taxes	14%	6%	4%	2%	2%	3%
Cost of living / Inflation	12%	7%	3%	4%	--	--
Affordable housing	11%	18%	10%	8%	12%	9%
Immigration enforcement / ICE**	10%	--	--	--	--	--
Safety / Crime / Lack of police presence	8%	12%	19%	19%	24%	16%
Economy	5%	2%	2%	1%	2%	14%
Lack of government planning/budgeting	5%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%
Drug use/addiction*	4%	6%	16%	--	--	--
Government corruption/distrust**	4%	--	--	--	--	--
Politics / Politicians	4%	5%	5%	3%	13%	14%
Roads / Infrastructure	3%	3%	1%	2%	2%	4%
Liberal politics	3%	2%	--	--	--	--
Traffic congestion	2%	4%	3%	2%	2%	<1%
Low wages / Income inequality	2%	2%	<1%	2%	1%	--
Employment/job opportunities	2%	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	8%
Negative impact on small businesses	2%	1%	--	--	--	--
Healthcare	1%	<1%	--	--	--	--
Garbage / Trash	1%	1%	1%	<1%	3%	--
Tolls	1%	<1%	1%	2%	--	--
Education / Education funding	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%
Population growth / Crowding	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Mental health	<1%	1%	1%	3%*	--	--
Transportation	<1%	<1%	1%	1%	<1%	2%
Government overreach	<1%	<1%	--	--	--	--
Climate change	--	1%	1%	<1%	1%	1%
Police reform / Policing problems	--	1%	1%	4%	7%	5%
Drug laws / Measure 110	--	--	1%	--	--	--
All other responses	4%	5%	8%	2%	2%	<1%
None/Nothing	--	1%	--	<1%	--	2%
Don't know / No answer	<1%	1%	--	2%	1%	4%

\*Mentions of mental health and addiction were combined in 2022 but separated in 2023.

\*\*New response category for 2025

**[Telephone]** Now, let me read you a list of issues facing the area.

**[Online]** The following is a list of issues facing the area. Using a 0 to 10 scale, where a 0 means that issue does not concern you at all at the present time, and a 10 means that you are very concerned about that issue at the present time, please rate each of the following.

Response category		Top Box (9+10)	Mean
<b>7. Growth and density</b>			
	2025, n=600	23%	<b>5.9</b>
	2024, n=700	22%	<b>5.8</b>
	2023, n=500	20%	<b>5.8</b>
	2022, n=500	18%	<b>5.6</b>
	2021, n=500	23%	<b>6.3</b>
	2020, n=548	22%	<b>6.0</b>
<b>8. Drug use and addiction</b>			
	2025, n=600	44%	<b>7.6</b>
	2024, n=700	52%	<b>7.8</b>
<b>9. K-12 Education</b>			
	2025, n=600	51%	<b>7.8</b>
	2024, n=700	44%	<b>7.4</b>
	2023, n=500	41%	<b>7.4</b>
	2022, n=500	38%	<b>7.1</b>
	2021, n=500	41%	<b>7.2</b>
	2020, n=548	40%	<b>7.1</b>
<b>10. Global warming or climate change</b>			
	2025, n=600	31%	<b>5.3</b>
	2024, n=700	34%	<b>5.9</b>
	2023, n=500	28%	<b>5.3</b>
	2022, n=500	35%	<b>5.9</b>
	2021, n=500	40%	<b>6.0</b>
	2020, n=548	39%	<b>6.5</b>
<b>11. Traffic</b>			
	2025, n=600	27%	<b>6.3</b>
	2024, n=700	29%	<b>6.5</b>
	2023, n=500	24%	<b>6.6</b>
	2022, n=500	21%	<b>6.2</b>
	2021, n=500	29%	<b>6.8</b>
	2020, n=548	18%	<b>5.8</b>
<b>12. Jobs</b>			
	2025, n=600	35%	<b>7.1</b>
	2024, n=700	19%	<b>5.9</b>
	2023, n=500	14%	<b>5.2</b>
	2022, n=500	12%	<b>5.2</b>
	2021, n=500	16%	<b>5.2</b>
	2020, n=548	32%	<b>6.9</b>

Response category		Top Box (9+10)	Mean
<b>13. Homelessness</b>			
	2025, n=600	58%	<b>8.3</b>
	2024, n=700	65%	<b>8.5</b>
	2023, n=500	71%	<b>8.8</b>
	2022, n=500	72%	<b>8.7</b>
	2021, n=500	76%	<b>9.1</b>
	2020, n=548	58%	<b>8.2</b>
<b>14. Affordable housing</b>			
	2025, n=600	53%	<b>7.7</b>
	2024, n=700	57%	<b>7.9</b>
	2023, n=500	48%	<b>7.5</b>
	2022, n=500	45%	<b>7.2</b>
	2021, n=500	51%	<b>7.4</b>
	2020, n=548	44%	<b>7.2</b>
<b>15. Cost of living</b>			
	2025, n=600	65%	<b>8.7</b>
	2024, n=700	59%	<b>8.5</b>
	2023, n=500	52%	<b>8.2</b>
	2022, n=500	49%	<b>8.0</b>
	2021, n=500	52%	<b>8.1</b>
	2020, n=548	38%	<b>7.4</b>
<b>16. Crime rates</b>			
	2025, n=600	36%	<b>6.8</b>
	2024, n=700	38%	<b>7.0</b>
	2023, n=500	50%	<b>7.7</b>
	2022, n=500	52%	<b>7.8</b>
	2021, n=500	58%	<b>8.2</b>
	2020, n=548	29%	<b>6.3</b>

## ECONOMY

17. Generally speaking, would you say that your household is worse off, in about the same position, or better off economically as it was two years ago?

Response category	2025 n=600	2024 n=700	2023 n=500	2022 n=500	2021 n=500	2020 n=548
Worse off	52%	45%	49%	38%	38%	33%
About the same	27%	37%	35%	43%	37%	45%
Better off	19%	18%	15%	18%	24%	21%
Not sure	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

18. Do you believe quality of life in the Portland region is getting worse, staying about the same, or getting better?

Response category	2025 n=600	2024 n=700	2023 n=500	2022 n=500	2021 n=500	2020 n=548
Getting worse	68%	59%	78%	78%	88%	71%
Staying about the same	24%	27%	15%	17%	8%	21%
Getting better	6%	10%	5%	4%	1%	4%
Not sure	3%	4%	2%	2%	3%	5%

19. Do you feel economic opportunities in the Portland region for you and your household are very good, good, poor, or very poor?

Response category	2025 n=600	2024 n=700	2023 n=500	2022 n=500	2021 n=500	2020 n=548
<b>NET Good</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>50%</b>
Very good	3%	3%	7%	8%	8%	6%
Good	24%	39%	35%	45%	43%	43%
<b>NET Poor</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>40%</b>
Poor	38%	33%	32%	28%	23%	26%
Very poor	24%	13%	16%	10%	16%	14%
Don't know	11%	11%	11%	9%	10%	10%

20. A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in **[Restore Q1: county]** will be better, worse, or about the same for you and your household?

Response category	2025 n=600
Better	9%
Worse	52%
About the same	31%
Not sure	9%

## AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT

For the next few questions, think about the Metro region as a whole—Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties. In the past 12 months, would you say the Metro Region has made significant, some, little, or no progress in addressing each of the following issues?

Response category	Significant / Some progress	Significant progress	Some progress	Little / No progress	Little progress	No progress	Not sure
21. Growth and density							
2025, n=600	<b>20%</b>	2%	18%	<b>58%</b>	28%	30%	22%
22. Drug use and addiction							
2025, n=600	<b>15%</b>	1%	14%	<b>77%</b>	32%	46%	8%
23. K-12 Education							
2025, n=600	<b>10%</b>	1%	9%	<b>76%</b>	25%	51%	14%
24. Global warming or climate change							
2025, n=600	<b>16%</b>	3%	13%	<b>58%</b>	24%	33%	26%
25. Traffic							
2025, n=600	<b>14%</b>	1%	13%	<b>75%</b>	30%	45%	11%
26. Jobs							
2025, n=600	<b>8%</b>	<1%	8%	<b>79%</b>	35%	44%	13%
27. Homelessness							
2025, n=600	<b>21%</b>	2%	19%	<b>76%</b>	34%	42%	3%
28. Affordable housing							
2025, n=600	<b>12%</b>	1%	11%	<b>81%</b>	31%	50%	7%
29. Cost of living							
2025, n=600	<b>4%</b>	<1%	4%	<b>93%</b>	22%	70%	4%
30. Crime rates							
2025, n=600	<b>24%</b>	4%	20%	<b>63%</b>	30%	34%	13%

31. Which statement best describes your view of the level of support currently provided to businesses by the local government in the Portland Metro region?

Response category	2025 n=600
Businesses have too much support from the local government	10%
Businesses have the right amount of support from the local government	11%
Businesses do not have enough support from the local government	60%
Not sure	19%

## TAXES AND POLICY

32. **[Ask all]** Thinking about the services you receive and the taxes you pay, would you say that taxes in **[Restore Q1 response: Multnomah / Washington / Clackamas]** county are generally too high, too low, or about right?

Response category	2025 n=600	2024 n=700	2023 n=500
Too high	72%	68%	69%
Too low	3%	2%	2%
About right	21%	23%	21%
Not sure	4%	7%	9%

## DOWNTOWN PORTLAND

- [For all]** Next, we'll move on to some other topics.

41. In the last 30 days, how many days did you visit Portland's downtown area?

Response category	2025 n=600	2024 n=700	2023 n=500	2022 n=500
0	33%	35%	46%	40%
1-5	44%	44%	34%	42%
6-10	10%	9%	10%	9%
11-20	4%	5%	4%	3%
20+	9%	8%	6%	6%
Not sure	1%	<1%	1%	1%

42. All things considered, do you think conditions in downtown Portland have **[Rotate: gotten worse, gotten better]**, or stayed the same in the past 12 months?

Response category	2025 n=600	2024 n=700
Gotten better	37%	29%
Gotten worse	31%	33%
Stayed the same	28%	31%
Not sure	4%	8%

Indicate if you would feel safe or unsafe in the following areas:

Response category	NET Safe	Very safe	Somewhat safe	NET Unsafe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not sure
43. Downtown Portland during the day							
2025, n=600	<b>64%</b>	29%	35%	<b>35%</b>	23%	12%	1%
2024, n=700	<b>63%</b>	20%	42%	<b>36%</b>	26%	11%	1%
2023, n=500	<b>44%</b>	17%	28%	<b>55%</b>	36%	19%	<1%
2022, n=500	<b>49%</b>	16%	33%	<b>50%</b>	33%	16%	2%
44. Downtown Portland at night							
2025, n=600	<b>34%</b>	8%	26%	<b>64%</b>	27%	37%	2%
2024, n=700	<b>24%</b>	5%	19%	<b>74%</b>	33%	41%	2%
2023, n=500	<b>18%</b>	4%	14%	<b>81%</b>	25%	56%	1%
2022, n=500	<b>20%</b>	4%	17%	<b>77%</b>	21%	56%	3%

## DEMOGRAPHICS

56. **[Ask all]** How long have you lived in the area?

Response category	n=600
0 to 5 years	8%
6 to 10 years	15%
More than 10 years	77%
Not sure	--

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

Response category	n=600
Less than high school	4%
High school graduate	23%
Some college, 2-year degree	29%
College degree, 4-year degree	27%
Graduate degree or higher	17%
Not sure	n=1

58. Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity? *You may select more than one response.* **[Accept multiple responses]**

Response category	n=600
African American/Black	5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4%
Hispanic/Latino	14%
Middle Eastern/North African	--
Native American/American Indian	5%
White/Caucasian	69%
Other	7%
Prefer not to say	7%
<b>White alone</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>People of Color</b>	<b>33%</b>

59. 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=600
Less than \$25,000	6%
\$25,000 to less than \$50,000	10%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	10%
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	16%
\$100,000 to less than \$150,000	24%
\$150,000 to less than \$200,000	12%
\$200,000 or more	16%
I prefer not to say	6%

60. Party **[Record from sample]**

Response category	n=600
Democrat	48%
Republican	21%
Independent Party of Oregon	5%
Non-affiliated voter	23%
All other	3%

61. Voting history **[Record from sample]**

Response category	n=600
0 of 4	9%
1 of 4	10%
2 of 4	20%
3 of 4	19%
4 of 4	41%