

FASTER Arkansas Survey

600 Registered Voters

August 25-27, 2014



1. Generally speaking, would you say the national economy is headed in the right direction, or is it seriously headed off on the wrong track?

1. Right Direction	27
2. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	10
3. Wrong Track	63

2. Generally speaking, would you say the economy in the state of Arkansas is headed in the right direction, or is it seriously headed off on the wrong track?

1. Right Direction	47
2. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	11
3. Wrong Track	43

3. Which of the following issues would you say is the most important to you in deciding how to vote for Governor? (ROTATE)

1. The Economy	18
2. Health Care/Prescription Drugs	16
3. Education	15
4. Taxes	6
5. Social Security	9
6. Energy	*
7. Jobs	14
8. Budget and Spending	6
9. Immigration	3
10. Roads and Highways	1
11. Crime and Safety	3
12. Agriculture	2
13. Other (SPECIFY)	5
14. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	2

4. Overall would you say that you approve or disapprove of the job the Arkansas State Legislature is doing?

1. Approve	51
2. Don't know/refused (DO NOT READ)	13
3. Disapprove	37

Outlook on the State, Education and Economy

**5. In general, how would you rate the K-12 public education system in Arkansas?
(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

1. Excellent	6
2. Good	33
3. Fair	41
4. Poor	18
5. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	2

6. Do you think that children in Arkansas are or are not being given enough tools to prepare them for the future?

1. Are	41
2. Are not	55
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	4

7. How much does the quality of Arkansas' education system impact the state's economy?

1. A great deal	67
2. Some	25
3. Not much	6
4. Not at all	1
5. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

Role of Internet in Education

- 8. Do you believe or not believe this statement: In a national study about technology access in all 50 states, Arkansas was ranked 50th among all states for high speed Internet access.**

1. Believe	56
2. Do not believe	36
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	8

- 9. Do you believe or not believe this statement: Getting broadband Internet access to every school is as important of an issue as getting electricity to everyone was in the 1930s.**

1. Believe	74
2. Do not believe	24
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	2

- 10. Do you believe or not believe this statement: A recent study shows that only about half the schools in Arkansas meets the level of broadband Internet connectivity that is needed per student.**

1. Believe	70
2. Do not believe	23
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	7

- 11. If this were true, is that acceptable or not acceptable?**

1. Acceptable	20
2. Not acceptable	76
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	4

12. Do you believe or not believe this statement: Arkansas schools need better access to Internet content, video, and courses for this school year and for the future, and many schools in the state do not have enough access to high speed Internet to meet these challenges.

1. Believe	77
2. Do not believe	19
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	4

Proposal/Reasons to Support or Oppose

13. There is a proposal to amend the state law to allow K-12 educational institutions to connect to an existing high speed Internet network through a public-private partnership. Do you favor or oppose this proposal?

1. Favor	69
2. Oppose	19
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	12

BELIEF STATEMENTS

Do you believe or not believe the following statements: (ROTATE STATEMENTS Q14-20)

14. This would level the playing field by reducing the cost of high speed Internet for school districts statewide, including rural and low income areas.

1. Believe	71
2. Do not believe	22
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	7

15. Increasing students' access to the Internet will create a better educated workforce and bring more jobs into the state.

1. Believe	81
2. Do not believe	17
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

16. If this proposal does not pass, Arkansas' students will be at a disadvantage to students in other states who have better access to high speed Internet.

1. Believe	78
2. Do not believe	18
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	4

17. This proposal would allow Arkansas children to be able to use a high speed Internet network that has already been paid for by taxpayers. Estimates say it can be done without additional cost, and in fact the state may be able to significantly reduce cost.

1. Believe	67
2. Do not believe	26
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	7

18. Private Internet providers have already invested in infrastructure and sponsored programs to increase access to high speed Internet for low income and rural areas.

1. Believe	59
2. Do not believe	32
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	10

19. The urgency of this problem may be overstated.

1. Believe	51
2. Do not believe	45
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	4

20. This proposal could lead to unfair competition with private providers.

1. Believe	49
2. Do not believe	41
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	10

21. After hearing these statements from both sides, do you favor or oppose this proposal?

1. Favor	73
2. Oppose	17
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	10

22. Would you be more favorable or less favorable to a legislator who supported this proposal, or would it have no impact?

1. More favorable	45
2. Less favorable	7
3. No impact	43
4. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	6

23. Some are considering holding a special session of the state legislature this fall to discuss this proposal. Do you support or oppose holding a special session?

1. Support	61
2. Oppose	34
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	5

Impact of the Proposal

If this proposal is passed, please tell me if it would (ROTATE) help, hurt or have no impact on each of the following: (ROTATE 24-26)

24. Economic growth of the state

1. Help	71
2. Hurt	3
3. No impact	23
4. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	4

25. Student outcomes and test scores

1. Help	72
2. Hurt	3
3. No impact	20
4. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	5

26. The state's workforce and job training for the future

1. Help	78
2. Hurt	2
3. No impact	16
4. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	3

27. Do you believe or not believe this statement: Having faster Internet access in schools would give students better ability to do research, and have access to online courses and the best video lectures, which would improve student learning.

1. Believe	87
2. Do not believe	13
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

Demographics

Now just a few demographic questions for statistical purposes only--

28. In what year were you born?

1. 18-34	25
2. 35-44	17
3. 45-54	13
4. 55-64	24
5. 65+	20

29. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself (ROTATE) a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

1. Republican	30
2. Democrat	35
3. Independent	30
4. Other	4
5. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

30. If you had to classify yourself, would you say you are (ROTATE) liberal, moderate, or conservative in your political beliefs?

1. Liberal	13
2. Moderate	40
3. Conservative	46
4. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

31. Are there children in your household under the age of 18 years old?

1. Yes	30
2. No	70
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

32. What is your current marital status?

1. Single, never married	21
2. Married	62
3. Separated	1
4. Divorced	10
5. Widowed	6
6. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

33. What is the annual income of your household before taxes? Is it...

1. Less than 15K	10
2. 15K-30K	14
3. 30K-50K	15
4. 50K-75K	18
5. 75K-100K	8
6. Over 100K	16
7. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	19

34. What is the last grade of school you completed?

1. Some high school	3
2. High school graduate	24
3. Some college	28
4. Associate's degree	7
5. Bachelor's degree	23
6. Postgraduate study/degree	13
7. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

35. Do you consider yourself part of the “Tea Party” movement?

1. Yes	11
2. No	86
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	3

36. What is your race or ethnicity?

1. Hispanic	3
2. African-American	12
3. Asian	1
4. White	82
5. Other	1
6. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

Gender (by observation)

1. Male	46
2. Female	54

Region/Media Market (TAKEN FROM SAMPLE)

1. Ft/ Smith/Fayetteville/Springville/Rogers	25
2. Shreveport	4
3. Jonesboro	7
4. Memphis	6
5. Little Rock/Pine Bluff/Monroe	53
6. Springfield	5