



July 24-27, 2019

600 Respondents

317 Landline Respondents, 284 Wireless Respondents

Margin of error: ± 4 percentage points

Holland Children's Institute Nebraska Statewide Issues Survey Frequencies

Q.2 First of all, are you registered to vote in Nebraska?

	Total
Yes	100
No (TERMINATE)	-

Q.3 Sex of respondent

	Total
Male	48
Female	52

Q.4 Generally speaking, do you think that things in Nebraska are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten off on the wrong track?

	Total
Right direction	58
Wrong track	33
(Don't know/refused)	10
Right direction - Wrong track	25

Q.5 Do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by:

	Approve strongly	Approve somewhat	Disapprove somewhat	Disapprove strongly	(Dk/ Ref)	Total Approve	Total Disapprove	Approve - Disapprove
A. President Donald Trump	34	18	7	35	6	52	42	10
B. Governor Pete Ricketts	29	31	12	22	7	59	34	26
C. The Nebraska Legislature	12	46	22	10	11	58	31	27

Q.6 And what do you think state government could be doing better to support and grow the middle class in Nebraska?

	Total
Lower taxes/property taxes/income taxes	31
Create more job opportunities/jobs in rural communities	9
Create higher wages/salaries	8
Support the middle class	8
Improve schools/resources for public education	7
Medicaid expansion/health care affordability	7
Increase minimum wage	5
Legalize marijuana	5
Improve infrastructure/roads	4
Spark business growth/entrepreneurship	4
Support farmers	3
Legalize gambling	2
Spending less/balance the budget	2
Advancing the workforce/job training	1
Expand affordable housing	1
Fix immigration system	1
Focusing on the elderly/Social Security/Medicare	1
Improve access to mental health/addiction services	2
Promote green energy/focus on the environment	1
Distance themselves from Trump	0
(Other)	12
(None)	2
(Don't know/refused)	15

Q.7 Now I'm going to read you a series of proposed policies that the Nebraska state government could adopt. Please rate each of them on a scale from 1 to 10, in which 1 means not at all helpful to you and your family, and 10 means extremely helpful to you and your family. You may choose any number from 1 to 10. The higher the number, the more helpful the proposal is to you and your family.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	(Dk/ Ref)	Mean	1-3	4-7	8-10
A. Creating more jobs	4	2	4	3	11	6	11	17	9	34	1	7.5	10	30	59
B. Making health care affordable and accessible	3	2	3	2	7	4	8	13	7	50	1	8.1	7	22	70
C. Lowering taxes for property and landowners	2	2	4	3	11	6	8	14	7	44	0	7.8	8	27	64
D. Fully-funding K through twelve public education	6	2	3	2	11	5	10	12	7	42	1	7.6	10	28	61
E. Making college affordable	5	3	2	3	10	9	11	13	6	37	1	7.4	11	33	56
F. Providing pathways to job training and career, technical, and vocational education to support and develop the workforce	4	1	2	2	12	9	10	21	8	29	1	7.5	7	33	59
G. Creating more access to affordable early childhood care and education	8	4	6	5	14	6	10	15	6	26	1	6.7	18	34	47
H. Providing working people with employee benefits like paid family and medical leave	4	3	3	3	11	7	10	19	7	33	1	7.5	9	31	58
I. Ensuring all working people are paid a livable wage so they can afford basic needs	8	1	3	6	11	5	6	13	7	40	1	7.4	12	27	59

Q.8 Please tell me if you think state government in Nebraska is doing an excellent, good, just fair, or poor job on each of the following.

	Excellent	Good	Just fair	Poor	(Dk/Ref)	Excellent/Good	Just fair/Poor	Excellent/Good - Just fair/Poor
A. Providing high quality public education	11	46	33	8	1	57	42	15
B. Providing job training and access to career, technical, and vocational education that is affordable	6	36	42	11	6	42	53	-11
C. Making childcare more available and affordable	5	24	44	20	7	29	65	-36
D. Supporting workers with benefits like paid sick and family leave	5	28	45	18	5	32	63	-31
E. Providing necessary funding to make sure college tuition is affordable	4	22	44	27	4	26	70	-45
F. Ensuring workers are paid reasonable wages so they can afford basic needs	8	34	37	21	1	41	58	-17

Q.9 Please tell me which of the two following statements better describes how you feel about state government in Nebraska:

(RIGHT PRIORITIES) *State government in Nebraska tends to have the right priorities and is focused on helping average Nebraskans and middle class families.*

OR

(WRONG PRIORITIES) *State government in Nebraska has the wrong priorities and is mostly focused on helping big corporations and the wealthy.*

Which of those better describes how you feel about state government in Nebraska, even if neither one is exactly right?

	Total
Right priorities	53
Wrong priorities	43
(Don't know/refused)	4
Right priorities - Wrong priorities	11

Q.10 And which groups or people do you think state government focuses on helping the most?

	Total
Wealthy/rich/upper class	25
Middle class	20
Large corporations/businesses	15
Farmers/agriculture	10
Poor/lower class	10
Themselves/people with power	3
White people	3
Children	2
Everyone	2
Families	2
Conservatives	1
Immigrants	1
Minorities	1
Senior citizens	1
Special interests/lobbyists	1
People living in rural areas	0
(Other)	7
(Don't know/refused)	12

Q.11 As you may know, Nebraska voters approved an expansion of the state's Medicaid program in last year's elections. Governor Ricketts is currently attempting to add restrictions on who qualifies for the voter-approved Medicaid expansion, and the process of adding those restrictions will delay implementation of the Medicaid expansion. Would you say you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, a little concerned, or not at all concerned about Governor Ricketts' actions on Medicaid expansion?

	Total
Very concerned	36
Somewhat concerned	20
A little concerned	14
Not at all concerned	28
(Don't know/refused)	2
Very/Somewhat concerned	56
Not very/Not at all concerned	42
Very/Somewhat concerned - Not very/Not at all concerned	13

Q.12 And if you had to choose a priority for Nebraska state government, would you rather they focus on:

(ED FUNDING) *Fully funding education and other services that support families in Nebraska?*

OR

(CUT TAXES) *Cutting taxes for Nebraska businesses and property owners?*

	Total
Ed funding strongly	44
Ed funding not so strongly	7
Cut taxes not so strongly	6
Cut taxes strongly	39
(Both)	1
(Neither)	1
(Don't know/refused)	2
Total Education	51
Total Cut funding	45
Total Education - Total Cut funding	6

Q.13 Now I am going to read you some statements about who you think gets the most help from the state legislature's economic policies. In the last year or so, have the state legislature's economic policies helped READ ITEM a lot, a fair amount, just some, very little, or not at all?

	A lot	A fair amount	Just some	Very little	Not at all	(Dk/Ref)
A. Big corporations	37	28	17	8	2	7
B. Wealthy Nebraskans	32	29	20	8	4	8
C. Children	10	34	25	22	4	5
D. Foreign and out-of-state companies	16	22	20	13	5	22
E. Blue-collar workers	6	28	28	27	6	6
F. Nebraska's middle class	5	30	28	28	5	3
G. Working Nebraska families	6	31	30	25	5	3
H. Families living in poverty	11	22	22	30	10	6
I. You and your family	5	23	22	30	18	2
J. Public schools and teachers	12	26	25	27	6	4
K. Your local community	7	33	28	24	5	

Q.14 Now I am going to read you some statements about ways government in Nebraska can support and grow the middle class. Each statement will make a claim about something government in Nebraska is currently doing to grow the middle class. After I read you each statement, I want you to tell me if you agree or disagree that this is something the government in Nebraska is currently doing.

	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly	(Neither/ neutral)	(Dk/ Ref)	Total agree	Total disagree	Total agree - disagree
A. State government is properly funding public education, we have motivated, well-paid teachers, and our world class public schools help develop our workforce and grow the middle class.	15	36	25	22	1	2	51	47	4
B. State government is making investments in early childhood care and education making it easy and affordable for working families to grow and succeed.	12	33	29	21	-	4	45	50	-5
C. Government in Nebraska is supporting working people with policies that allow for paid time off when you have a new child, need to care for a sick family member, or get sick yourself.	14	36	24	21	1	4	50	45	5
D. State government is working to provide the state's workforce with the tools and education it needs to be prepared for the jobs of the future, growing the middle class through investment in affordable community college, and career, technical and vocational training.	18	45	23	11	0	2	64	34	30
E. Government in Nebraska is making college affordable for Nebraska students so that they can graduate debt free, join the workforce, and grow the middle class.	7	26	25	39	0	3	33	65	-32
F. By balancing the budget and keeping our fiscal house in order, government in Nebraska ensures stability and growth for the middle class.	20	42	25	11	1	2	61	36	25
G. State government is supporting the middle class by keeping regulations to a minimum and taxes on private sector job creators low.	8	39	29	20	-	4	47	50	-3

Q.15 Now I am going to read you some pairs of statements about state government in Nebraska and I want you to tell me whether you agree more with the first statement or more with the second statement, even if neither is exactly right.

	A Much More	A Somewhat More	B Somewhat More	B Much More	(Both)	(Neither)	(Dk/ Ref)	Total A	Total B	Total A - Total B
A. (STATEMENT A) State government in Nebraska under funds public education and as a result our property taxes are high, and many kids get left behind.										
(STATEMENT B) State government in Nebraska properly funds our kids' schools. Property taxes are high because local school districts waste taxpayers' money.										
	27	32	20	15	-	3	3	59	35	24
B. (STATEMENT A) State government should be supporting the workforce by ensuring all workers in Nebraska have the option to take paid medical and family leave so people do not have to choose between their livelihoods and bonding with a new child or caring for a sick family member.										
(STATEMENT B) Nebraska state government should focus on minimizing regulations and keeping taxes low to create a welcoming environment to attract and retain big corporations and businesses that will create jobs and support the middle class.										
	32	26	22	17	1	1	1	58	39	18

	A Much More	A Somewhat More	B Somewhat More	B Much More	(Both)	(Neither)	(Dk/ Ref)	Total A	Total B	Total A - Total B
C. (STATEMENT A) Nebraska state government does not do nearly enough to support young families and should prioritize making early childhood education and childcare more available and affordable to support families and children in Nebraska.										
(STATEMENT B) Nebraskans should take personal responsibility for their kids' childcare and early childhood education, because state government should not be responsible for providing access to affordable childcare options to Nebraska families who can't afford it.	32	26	21	19	-	1	1	58	41	17
D. (STATEMENT A) Nebraska state government should be investing in higher education, and making job training and career, technical, and vocational training more accessible to grow and support our workforce.										
(STATEMENT B) State government should continue giving more tax breaks and incentives to private sector job creators that will encourage them to develop and support the workforce in Nebraska.	31	31	22	14	0	1	1	62	36	26

Q.16 OK next I am going to read you some policies that state government may consider. Please tell me whether you support or oppose the state government adopting this policy.

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	(Neither/ Neutral)	(Dk/ Ref)	Total Support	Total Oppose	Support - Oppose
A. Fully funding K through twelve public education across the state.	50	28	11	9	0	2	79	20	59
B. Making college affordable for middle class families.	56	30	8	5	1	1	86	12	74
C. Expanding access to job training, and career, technical, and vocational education.	55	36	5	3	0	1	91	8	83
D. Creating a paid leave program that allows workers to take paid days off if they or a family member get sick or need to take care of a new child.	50	26	14	9	0	1	75	23	52
E. Making childcare affordable and expanding access to early childhood education.	44	34	13	7	0	2	79	20	59
F. Raising the minimum wage for tipped workers for the first time since 1991.	49	21	12	17	0	1	70	28	42
G. Placing sales tax on groceries to provide tax relief for corporations and businesses.	5	10	19	65	0	2	15	83	-68
H. Cutting taxes and regulations for businesses to create jobs.	31	38	18	10	1	2	69	28	40

Q.17 Finally, I would like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, or what?

	Total
Strong Democrat	18
Weak Democrat	10
Independent-lean Democrat	10
Independent	8
Independent-lean Republican	12
Weak Republican	13
Strong Republican	28
(Don't know/refused)	1
Democrat	28
Independent with Leanners	30
Republican	42
Democrat - Republican	-14
Democrat and Ind. Lean Dem	38
Pure Independent	8
Republican and Ind. Lean Repub	54
Democrat and Ind. Lean Dem - Republican and Ind. Lean Repub	-17

Q.20 Thinking in political terms, would you say that you are liberal, moderate, or conservative?

	Total
Liberal	18
Moderate	35
Conservative	44
(Don't know/refused)	3

Q.21 In what year were you born?

	Total
18-29	17
30-39	16
40-49	16
50-64	25
65+	26
(Don't know/refused)	-

Q.22 What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?

	Total
1 - 11th grade	2
High school graduate	19
Non-college post H.S.	2
Some college	25
College graduate	29
Post-graduate school	23
(Don't know/refused)	0
H.S. or less	21
Post H.S.	27
College Graduate	52
Not College	48

Q.23 What is your race?

	Total
White	85
Hispanic	3
Black	4
Asian/Pacific Islander	0
Other	3
(Don't know/refused)	5

Q.24 Are you a current or retired member of a labor union?

	Total
Yes; Respondent belongs	14
Yes; Household member	7
No member belongs	78
(Don't know/refused)	1
Total union household	21

Phone line type

	Total
Wireless	47
Not Wireless	53

Survey Methodology

TargetSmart designed and administered this telephone survey conducted by professional interviewers. The survey reached 600 adults, age 18 or older, who indicated they were registered to vote in Nebraska. The survey was conducted from July 24-27, 2019. The sample was randomly selected from TargetSmart's enhanced voter file. Forty-seven percent of respondents were reached on wireless phones (forty-three percent unweighted). Quotas were assigned to reflect the demographic distribution of registered voters in Nebraska. The data were weighted by age and congressional district to ensure an accurate reflection of the population. The overall margin of error is +/- 4.0%. The margin of error for subgroups is larger and varies. Percentage totals may not add up precisely due to rounding.