

Public Topline Results -- Montana Oversample
 An oversample survey among 204 adults 18+ in Montana
 On Community Issues

12 minute oversample survey of 204 adults in Montana
 Margin of error: ± 7 percentage points for MT; ± 3.5 for national results;
 ± 10 percentage points when comparing MT to nat'l results
 Weighted by gender, age, race, region
 * denotes less than one percent

1. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in your own community these days? Very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Very/somewhat satisfied	85	78
Not too/not at all satisfied	15	21
Don't know/refuse	*	1

Please tell me how high of a priority you think each of these things should be for local elected officials in your community. By locally elected, I mean your mayor, city council, county commissioners, tribal officials, or the state representative who represents your community. The first one is _____. In your own opinion, should this be a top priority, a high priority but not top, a middle priority, low priority, or not a priority at all for local elected officials? RANDOMIZE 2-5

	<u>Montana</u>				<u>National</u>			
	Top/ High	Middle/ Low	Not at all	DK/ REF	Top/ High	Middle/ Low	Not at all	DK/ REF
2. Improving public transportation	39	50	10	1	41	47	10	2
3. Improving access to health care and health care costs	85	14	*	1	74	20	4	1
4. Creating more affordable housing	70	27	3	*	55	37	5	3
5. Keeping and attracting more businesses that have good-paying jobs	89	10	1	*	77	19	3	1

MONTANA (N=204)

6. Overall, how often can you trust your local government to do what is right? Always, most of the time, sometimes, or rarely?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Always/Most of the time	49	39
Sometimes	37	41
Rarely/Never	13	20
Don't know/refuse	1	*

7. In your own community, would you say there are a lot, some or not many people who are struggling to make ends meet?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
A lot	31	51
Some	53	34
Not many	13	13
Don't know/refuse	3	2

8. How many people in your community are working full-time jobs but are still struggling to make ends meet – would you say there are a lot of people like that, some, or not many?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
A lot	28	41
Some	54	41
Not many	10	13
Don't know/refuse	8	6

9. Do you personally know anyone in your community who is working two or more jobs and still struggling to make ends meet?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Yes	46	51
No	50	47
Don't know/refuse	4	1

10. How much income would you say a family of four needs to earn in a year in order to make ends meet in your community? Do you think they need an income of...READ CATEGORIES:

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
At least \$10,000	3	1
At least \$20,000	13	8
At least \$30,000	36	23
At least \$40,000, or	20	25
More than that	26	39
Don't know/refuse	3	3

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11. Think about Hurricane Katrina just for a moment and the people who were in the city of New Orleans during the hurricane. If there were a natural disaster in your own community like a hurricane, flood, tornado, or something else, who would be hardest hit? What types or groups of people do you think would be hardest hit? OPEN END.
PROBE: Any others?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Poor/low income/less fortunate	47	53
Everyone/anyone	13	15
Elderly	16	14
Middle class/income	2	7
Minorities	3	4
Enviro factors/low areas	1	4
Families/children	4	3
People without insurance	4	3
People without solid homes/mobile	*	3
Disabled/sick	2	2
Farmers/ranchers	1	1
Rural areas	2	1
No one	*	1
Other	4	6
Don't know/refused	9	8

12. Thinking about all of the concerns you personally have about your community, is helping people struggling to make ends meet a top concern, a middle concern, or a low concern?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Top concern	29	49
Middle concern	51	38
Low concern	18	12
Don't know/refuse	2	2

13. How important is it that your local elected officials work to help people struggling to make ends meet– very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Very/somewhat important	87	91
Not too/not at all important	12	8
Don't know/refuse	1	1

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Now I want to ask a little more about local elected officials in your community.

14. Would you say your local officials are working very hard, somewhat hard, not too hard, or not at all to help people struggling to make ends meet in your community?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Very/somewhat hard	55	56
Not very/not at all hard	38	35
Don't know/refuse	7	9

15. How knowledgeable do you think your local elected officials are about the struggles people have trying to make ends meet in your community – very knowledgeable, somewhat knowledgeable, not very, or not knowledgeable at all?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Very/somewhat knowledgeable	75	69
Not very/not at all knowledgeable	20	26
Don't know/refuse	4	5

16. If you had an idea or solution to help people struggling in your community, do you think your local officials would be willing to talk with you about it, or would they be unwilling to talk to you about it? (Is that very or somewhat willing/unwilling?)

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Very/somewhat willing	73	66
Not very/not at all willing	16	27
Don't know/refuse	11	6

17. Do you think the number of people struggling to make ends meet could be reduced in your own community? IF YES: Do you think it could be reduced a lot, some, or just a little?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Yes- reduced a lot	15	25
Yes- reduced some	49	51
Yes- reduced a little	29	12
No- could not be reduced	3	6
Don't know/refuse	4	6

18. When you vote in an election, do you think about how well a candidate would help those struggling to make ends meet?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Yes	51	70
No	45	26
Don't know/refuse	4	3

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Now I'm going to read some statements. Please tell me if you agree or disagree with each: [Is that strongly or somewhat agree/disagree?] RANDOMIZE 19-22

	<u>Montana</u>			<u>National</u>		
	Agree	Dis.	DK/ REF	Agree	Dis.	DK/ REF
19. There are many skilled and capable people in my community	98	1	*	87	9	4
20. Most people in my community are willing to help their neighbors	91	8	2	86	13	2
21. There are people in my community who are willing to help those who are struggling	90	6	4	88	10	3
22. I would like to do more to help people struggling in my community	82	9	10	90	8	3

23. How often do you feel that your community can do something effective about its community problems? Always, most of the time, sometimes, or rarely?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Always/most of the time	63	51
Sometimes	30	39
Rarely/never	5	8
Don't know/refuse	2	2

24. Do you think it would be a good idea or bad idea if people in your community got together to discuss ways to help those struggling to make ends meet? (Very or somewhat good/bad idea?)

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Very/somewhat good idea	86	92
Somewhat/very bad idea	8	4
Don't know/refuse	5	4

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Thinking realistically, how likely would you be to: (Would you be very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely) 25 FIRST, RANDOMIZE 26-29

	<u>Montana</u>			<u>National</u>		
	Likely	Not likely	DK/REF	Likely	Not likely	DK/REF
25. Attend this type of discussion?	73	22	5	76	23	1
26. Take part in a church project to help people struggling to make ends meet?	76	19	5	78	21	1
27. Adopt a family in need to help them from time to time?	42	50	8	64	34	2
28. Pay 50 dollars more a year in taxes if it would go to programs in your own community that help people struggling to make ends meet?	49	47	4	68	29	3
29. Talk to elected officials in your community about people's struggle to make ends meet?	62	33	6	70	29	1

For each of the following, please tell me if your local elected officials should have a great deal of responsibility for doing each of these, some responsibility, not much responsibility, or no responsibility at all: The first one is: RANDOMIZE 30-35

	<u>Montana</u>			<u>National</u>		
	Great deal/some	Not much/None	DK/REF	Great deal/some	Not much/None	DK/REF
30. Making health care more affordable and accessible to everyone in the community	91	9	*	88	11	1
31. Creating more affordable housing	87	12	1	87	11	1
32. Providing better social services	93	6	1	90	8	2
33. Keeping and attracting more businesses that have good-paying jobs	91	7	2	95	4	1
34. Setting up ways so that everyone in the community can get involved in helping people struggling to make ends meet	81	16	3	90	9	1
35. Getting churches, business, schools, and other local groups to work together to help people struggling to make ends meet	81	17	2	88	11	1

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36. In the past 12 months, have you joined with other people to work to fix or improve something in your community?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Yes	32	49
No	67	51
Don't know/refuse	1	*

37. Finally, in your community, do you think an income of \$10,000 for a single adult is enough to make ends meet?

	<u>Montana</u>	<u>National</u>
Yes	13	11
No	80	86
Don't know/refuse	7	3