



# Why Idaho 2020?



# Our Process

- **Business Leaders Input**
- **Data Driven**
- **World Class Research**
- **Public Opinion Polling**

STANFORD  
UNIVERSITY



# Organizational Structure

## Executive Committee

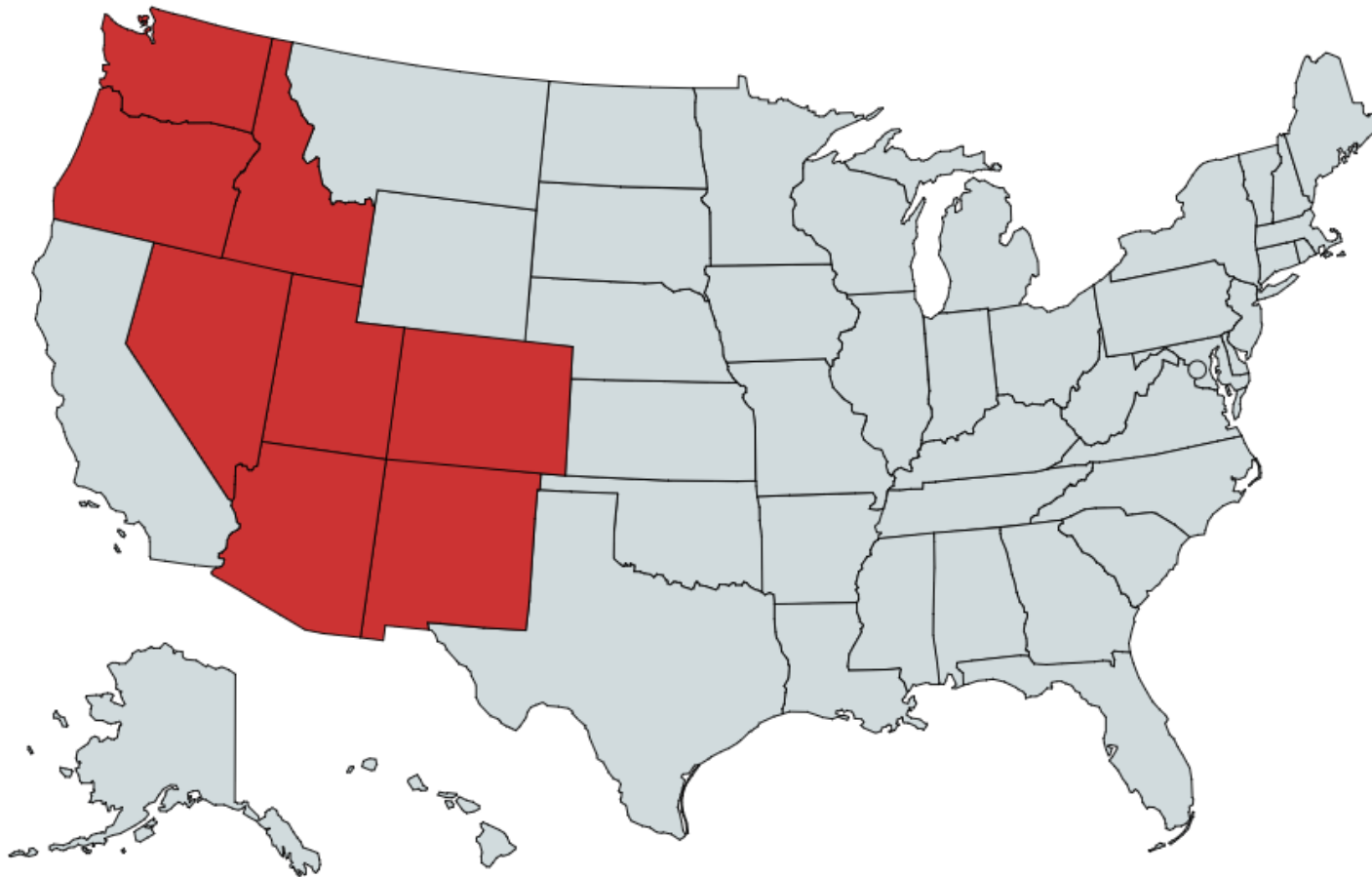
- Tommy Ahlquist – Gardner Company
- Scott Anderson – Zions Bank
- Bill Whitacre – Simplot
- Cortney Liddiard – Ball Ventures
- Damond Watkins/ Frank VanderSloot - Melaleuca
- Skip Oppenheimer – Oppenheimer Companies
- David Wali – Gardner Company

## Contributors

- Geoff Wardle – Gardner Company
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- Todd Cranney – Riverwood Strategies
- Travis Hawkes – Riverwood Strategies



# Compare Idaho and Seven Competing States



# Business and Economic Index Competitiveness

	Business Tax Climate Index	Individual Income Tax	Corporate Income Tax	Property Tax
Arizona	7 (23)	5 (19)	5 (24)	4 (6)
Colorado	6 (20)	4 (16)	3 (12)	7 (22)
<b>Idaho</b>	<b>5 (19)</b>	<b>6 (24)</b>	<b>4 (21)</b>	<b>2 (3)</b>
Nevada	1 (3)	1 (1)	1 (1)	5 (9)
New Mexico	8 (38)	8 (35)	7 (35)	1 (1)
Oregon	4 (12)	7 (31)	8 (36)	6 (15)
Utah	2 (9)	3 (12)	2 (5)	3 (4)
Washington	3 (11)	2 (6)	6 (28)	8 (23)

Note: First number is rank among eight states. Number in parentheses is national rank.

Source: Tax Foundation, 2015 State Business Tax Climate Index



# Economic Freedom and Outlook Indices

	Mercatus Center		ALEC
	Economic - Fiscal and Regulatory Policy	Overall Freedom	Overall Economic Outlook
Arizona	3 (9)	3 (11)	2 (5)
Colorado	4 (22)	4 (19)	5 (21)
<b>Idaho</b>	<b>1 (4)</b>	<b>1 (6)</b>	<b>3 (6)</b>
Nevada	8 (29)	5 (20)	4 (10)
New Mexico	6 (27)	6 (21)	6 (34)
Oregon	5 (25)	7 (28)	8 (45)
Utah	2 (8)	2 (10)	1 (1)
Washington	7 (28)	8 (29)	7 (35)

Note: First number is rank among eight states. Number in parentheses is national rank.  
Sources: Mercatus Center, "Freedom in the 50 States;" ALEC, "Rich States, Poor States."



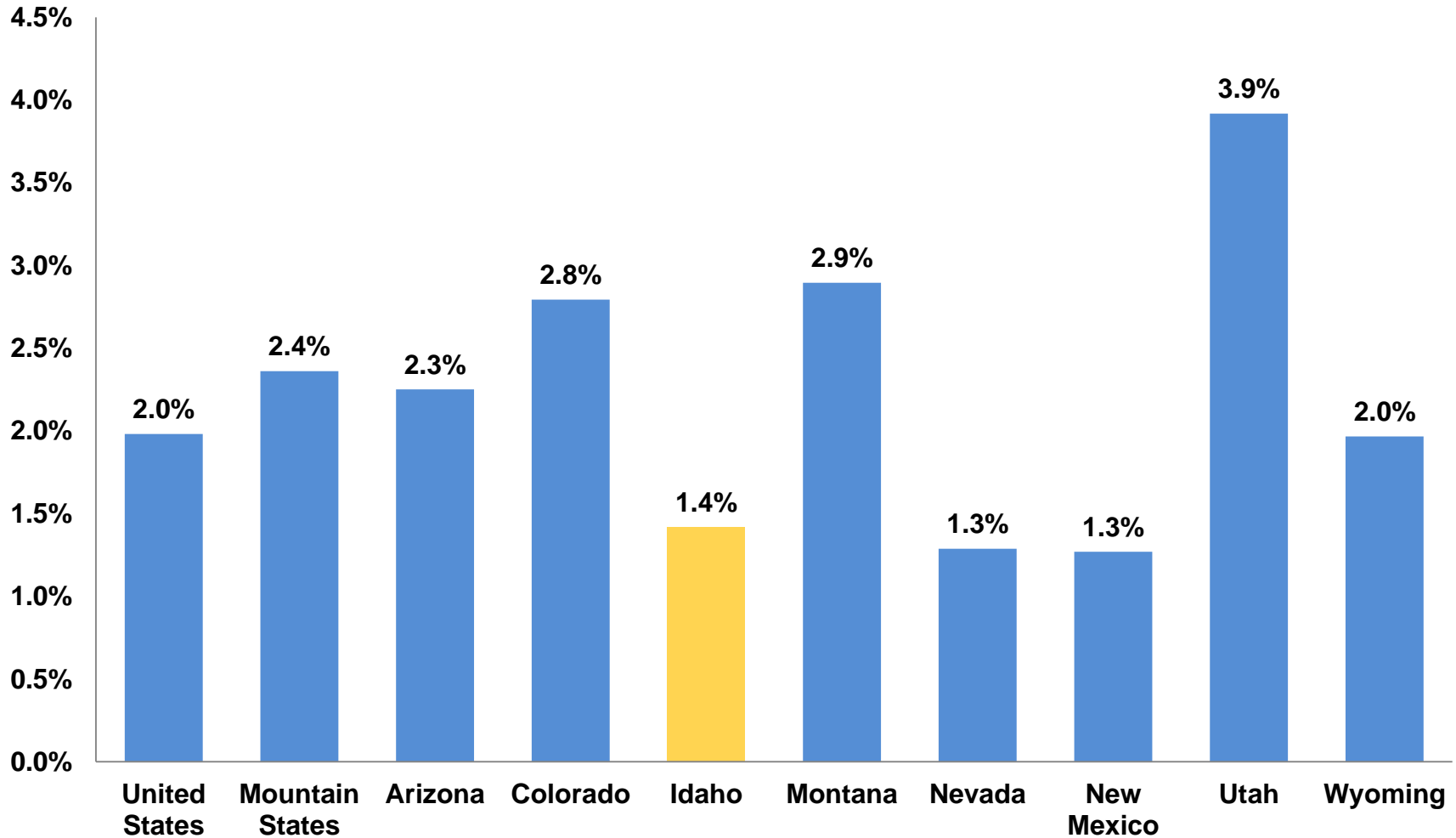
# Idaho Has High Income and Corporate Tax Rates

	Highest Individual Tax Rates	Highest Corporate Tax Rate
Arizona	4.54%	6.5%
Colorado	4.63%	4.63%
<b>Idaho</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>7.4%</b>
Nevada	0%	0%
New Mexico	4.9%	7.3%
Oregon	9.9%	7.6%
Utah	5%	5%
Washington	0%	0%





# Average Annual GDP Growth



# Modernizing Investment Tools

Surrounding states have:

- More tools available for municipalities to initiate projects on their own
- Lower barriers to obtaining funding
- More flexibility for urban renewal
- Lower tax rates

Idaho:

- Infrastructure development options are either more limited than those in comparable states or more difficult to enact
- Idaho could benefit by loosening funding restrictions in smart, targeted ways in order to respond to the unmet demand for infrastructure investment



# General Obligation Bonds

State	Authorization	Security/Collateral	Repayment	Types of Projects	Other Notes	State Statute
Idaho	66.67% vote	Ad valorem property taxes	Property tax or other available revenues	Many public projects	Assessed value is equal to one-third of the actual property value in New Mexico. Available GO capacity is 1 percent of statewide assessed property value from the previous year minus outstanding bond debt.	<a href="#">Article VIII of the State Constitution</a>
Utah	Majority Vote					<a href="#">Chapter 1a Master General Obligation Bond Act</a>
<a href="#">Colorado</a>	Majority Vote					<a href="#">Article 11, Public Indebtedness</a>
<a href="#">New Mexico</a>	Majority vote that come before voters every two years coinciding with a state election					<a href="#">New Mexico Chapter 22, Statutes on GO Bonds for School Districts</a>
<a href="#">Nevada</a>	Majority Vote					Limits on size of GO bonds
<a href="#">Arizona</a>	Arizona's Constitution limits the total General Fund backed debt to \$350,000. Most debt in Arizona is from revenue bonds and lease-purchasing financing.					<a href="#">Article 9, Arizona Constitution</a>
<a href="#">Oregon</a>	Majority Vote	Ad valorem property taxes	Property tax or other available revenues	Many public projects	Total indebtedness in a school district cannot exceed 5% of the value of the taxable property. Cities face a total limit of 7.5%, with 1/3 designated for general municipal purposes, certain utility purposes, and economic development purposes.	<a href="#">Chapter 287A, Local Government Borrowing</a>
<a href="#">Washington</a>	60% of qualified voters within local government. Total number of votes must be greater than 40% of number of votes in last state general election.					<a href="#">Title 39, Chapter 49, Section 110, Local Government General Obligation Bonds</a>



# Revenue Bonds

State	Authorization	Security/Collateral	Repayment	Types of Projects	Other Notes	State Statute
Idaho	Majority Vote	Revenues from water, sewer, electric, or other enterprise funds	Revenues from water, sewer, electric, or other enterprise funds	Projects related to the revenue source being pledged		<a href="#">Title 50, Municipal Corporations, Chapter 31, Community Infrastructure Development Act</a>
Utah	Authorization of governing body	Revenues from water, sewer, electric, or other enterprise funds	Revenues from water, sewer, electric, or other enterprise funds	Projects related to the revenue source being pledged		<a href="#">Chapter 14, Local Government Bonding Act</a>
<a href="#">Colorado</a>	Colorado Water Resources & Power Development Authority	Revenues from water, sewer, electric, or other enterprise funds	Revenues from water, sewer, electric, or other enterprise funds	Water and wastewater treatment plants, pump stations, dams/reservoirs, water rights, pipelines, hydro-electric projects, wells, meters, reuse, storage tanks, etc.	<a href="#">Eligible borrowers: Colorado cities, towns, counties, water districts, water and sanitation districts, metropolitan districts, water conservancy districts, water conservation districts, irrigation districts and any enterprise created by the foregoing.</a>	Various city and county charters
New Mexico	New Mexico Finance Authority. Makes recommendations to the board (all legislators) for consideration.	Revenues from bond projects	Revenues from bond projects	Projects related to the revenue source being pledged	<a href="#">2001 Water Project Finance Act created the Water Project Fund, which oversees water development projects. Also has Public Project Revolving Fund, Local Government Planning Funds, and Dept. of Transportation Bonds.</a>	<a href="#">Title 2, Chapter 61, Part 5, Financing Approvals</a>
<a href="#">Nevada</a>	<a href="#">State of Nevada, Division of Environmental Protection, Board for Financing Water Projects.</a>	<a href="#">Revenues from bond projects. Also puts a lien on any property used for securing a loan for a water project.</a>	Revenues from bond projects	Water and sewer projects, modernization, energy efficiency.	<a href="#">Note, it is a state department that helps localities get water projects.</a>	<a href="#">Chapter 350, Municipal Obligations</a>
<a href="#">Arizona</a>	Typically does not require voter approval. Loans come through Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona.	Revenues from bond projects	Revenues from bond projects	Projects related to the revenue source being pledged	<a href="#">More about WIFA</a>	<a href="#">Title 48, Special Taxing Districts</a>
Oregon	Revenue bonds subject to voter referral. Revenue obligations are not.	Revenue source	Revenue source	Projects related to the revenue source being pledged	Voter approval not typically required. Only certain instances where bonds issued pursuant to "Uniform Revenue Bond Act."	<a href="#">Various statutes depending on project. 285B.575, Revenue Bonds for Water Fund, 367.030 Transportation Fund</a>
<a href="#">Washington</a>	Legislative body of a city or town town passes an ordinance. Ordinance must then be ratified by the city or town.	Revenue source	Revenue source	Projects related to the revenue source being pledged		<a href="#">Title 39, Chapter 46, Revenue Bonds</a>



# Tax Increment Financing

State	Authorization	Security/Collateral	Repayment	Types of Projects	Other Notes	State Statute	
Idaho	Authorization of governing body and possibly judicial confirmation	Tax increment from increased property value	Tax increment or other revenue	Equipment fixtures and real property		<a href="#">Title 50, Chapter 29, Local Economic Development Act</a>	
Utah	Authorization of governing body			Water, sewer, road, and other infrastructure		<a href="#">Title 17, Redevelopment Agencies Act</a>	
Colorado	Authorization of governing body followed by city council			Various infrastructure projects		<a href="#">Title 31, Government - Municipal</a>	
<a href="#">New Mexico</a>	Community must submit approval to the local governing board, along with approval from majority of the real property owners.			Tax increment from increased property value. One of the only states that allows state gross receipts and property taxes in TIFs	Various infrastructure projects	-	<a href="#">Article 46, Urban Development Law</a>
<a href="#">Nevada</a>	Governing board of county or municipality creates TIA.			Tax increment from increased property value	Various infrastructure projects		<a href="#">Chapter 279, Redevelopment of Communities</a>
Arizona	No TIF					No TIF	
Oregon	Available to cities, designated agencies of cities, and counties.	Tax increment from increased property value	Tax increment or other revenue	Purpose of remedying "blighted" conditions.		<a href="#">Chapter 457, Urban Renewal Law</a>	
<a href="#">Washington</a>	Cities, counties, and port districts create TIAs.			Various infrastructure projects		<a href="#">Title 39, Chapter 89, Community Revitalization Financing</a>	



# Special Assessment

State	Authorization	Security/Collateral	Repayment	Types of Projects	Other Notes
Idaho	60% vote of property owners or 1/2 plus one vote of city council	Property within assessment area	Special assessment levied against property owners	Public projects and infrastructure	
Utah	Authorization of city council				
<a href="#">Colorado</a>	Varies by city/ township, but generally city council approval with approval from property owners				
<a href="#">New Mexico</a>	Two methods: City may initiate a SAD if it determines it is necessary for the health, safety, or welfare of the community. Or, 2/3 of benefiting properties may petition the city.				<a href="#">More information</a>
<a href="#">Nevada</a>	Two methods: provisional order or petition method. Authorization of city council or half of all affected property owners.				
<a href="#">Arizona</a>	Authorization of city council. Affected land owners can ask for a judicial review.				
Oregon	Municipalities may form Local Improvement Districts in order to issue bonds.				
<a href="#">Washington</a>	Authorization of city council				



# Certificates of Participation

State	Authorization	Security/Collateral	Repayment	Types of Projects
Idaho	Judicial confirmation	Financed improvements	General fund or other revenues	Equipment, fixtures, and real property
Utah	Authorization of governing body			
<a href="#">Colorado</a>	Not considered multi-year fiscal obligation, as lease can be canceled anytime, so no voter approval			
New Mexico	Authorization of governing body			
Nevada				
Arizona				
Oregon	No voter approval. Not subject to debt limitations.			
<a href="#">Washington</a>	Run through Office of the State Treasurer			



# Excise Tax

State	Authorization	Security/Collateral	Repayment	Types of Projects
Idaho	Resort Cities only. 60% vote to levy tax; Majority vote to borrow against tax.	Revenues from local option taxes	Revenues from local option taxes	Roads and other public projects
Utah	Authorization of city council	Revenues - sales tax, class C road tax, franchise, other excise taxes	Excise tax revenues or other available general fund revenues	Roads and other public projects





# Lease Revenue Bonds

State	Authorization	Security/Collateral	Repayment	Types of Projects	Other Notes
Idaho	Authorization of governing body and possibly judicial confirmation	Financed equipment and improvements	Annually appropriated general fund or other revenues	Equipment, fixtures, and real property	
Utah	Authorization of city council and LBA board				
<a href="#">Colorado</a>	Authorization of governing body				
Nevada					
<a href="#">Arizona</a>	<a href="#">Authorization of the state</a>				Following the Great Recession, Arizona entered into a large amount of lease/purchase agreements.
Oregon					
<a href="#">Washington</a>	Subject to State Finance Committee approval				



# Other Bonds

OTHER BONDS	State	Authorization	Security/Collateral	Repayment	Types of Projects	Other Notes
Tax Anticipation Notes	<a href="#">Colorado</a>	Voter approval	Repaid within same fiscal year. Specified source.	Repaid over time from a specified source.	Infrastructure, others.	
	<a href="#">Colorado</a>					
Private Activity Bonds	Oregon		Benefactors of the PABs	No legal responsibility for government to repay; the private businesses provide credit quality and repayment.	Small issue industrial development, water/sewer/waste, hazardous waste facilities, district heating and cooling, local gas and electric, single family mortgage, student loans	Subject to restrictions by state and the federal government. Basically allows businesses to take advantage of tax-free status of municipal bonds.
Revenue Anticipation Bonds	<a href="#">Colorado</a>					
Severance Tax Bonds	<a href="#">New Mexico</a>		Oil, gas, or other natural resources "severed" from the ground.	Revenue from severance taxes.		Revenue deposited into a severance tax bonding fund. Available as senior long-term bonds, senior notes, or supplemental notes. Total debt available is limited to 95 percent of prior-year revenue.
Industrial Revenue Bonds	<a href="#">New Mexico</a>	City council or county commission must vote to include an IRB. Company must secure its own purchaser of IRBs or purchase its own IRBs.	No tax revenues pledged as collateral, no collateral provided by the locality.	Company pays it back. Locality is not the bond issuer, the investor buying the bond is.	Land, buildings, furniture, fixtures, and equipment. Working capital is not eligible. Mostly manufacturing and some industrial parks.	<a href="#">Another backgrounder</a>



Financing Tool	State	Authorization	Security/Collateral	Repayment	Types of Projects
General Obligation Bond	Utah	50% vote	Ad valorem property taxes	Property tax or other available revenues	Many public projects
	Idaho	66.67% vote			
Revenue Bond	Utah	Authorization of governing body	Revenues from water, sewer, electric, or other enterprise funds	Revenues from water, sewer, electric, or other enterprise funds	Projects related to the revenue source being pledged
	Idaho	50% vote			
Tax Increment Bond	Utah	Authorization of governing body	Tax increment from increased property value	Tax increment or other revenue	Water, sewer, road, and other infrastructure Equipment, fixtures, and real property
	Idaho	Authorization of governing body and possibly judicial confirmation			
Special Assessment/Local Improvement District Bond	Utah	Authorization of City Council; <40% protest rate	Property within assessment area	Special assessment levied against property owners	Public projects and infrastructure
	Idaho	60% vote of property owners or 1/2 plus one vote of City Council			
Certificates of Participation****	Utah	Authorization of governing body	Financed improvements	General fund or other revenues	Equipment, fixtures, and real property
	Idaho	Judicial confirmation			
Excise Tax/Local Option Tax Revenue Bond	Utah	Authorization of City Council	Revenues - sales tax, class C road tax, franchise, other excise taxes	Excise tax revenues or other available general fund revenues	Roads and other public projects
	Idaho	Resort Cities only. 60% vote to levy tax; 50% vote to borrow against tax	Revenues from local option taxes	Revenues from local option taxes	
Lease Revenue Bonds/Lease Purchase Agreements****	Utah	Authorization of City Council and LBA Board	Financed equipment and improvements	Annually appropriated general fund or other revenues	Equipment, fixtures, and real property
	Idaho	Authorization of governing body and possibly judicial confirmation			

\*\*\*\* Idaho market is limited due to unresolved legal questions

Source: Utah and Idaho State Statutes



# Idaho & Utah Issuance Comparison

Year	Idaho				Utah			
	Volume	# Issues	Population	/Capita	Volume	# Issues	Population	/Capita
2004	374,000	51	1,391	269	2,435,600	129	2,469	986
2005	918,500	55	1,425	645	2,523,500	121	2,547	991
2006	1,031,900	47	1,464	705	2,294,000	97	2,615	877
2007	1,268,900	74	1,499	846	2,539,100	114	2,700	940
2008	1,099,100	41	1,527	720	3,286,000	96	2,758	1,191
2009	724,900	24	1,545	469	4,274,400	116	2,765	1,546
2010	764,500	44	1,567	488	3,618,900	126	2,775	1,304
2011	517,300	32	1,583	327	2,548,600	73	2,814	906
2012	886,700	48	1,595	556	3,118,300	84	2,855	1,092
2013	221,800	20	1,612	138	2,147,700	80	2,900	741
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,807,600</b>	<b>436</b>		<b>516</b>	<b>28,786,100</b>	<b>1,036</b>		<b>1,057</b>

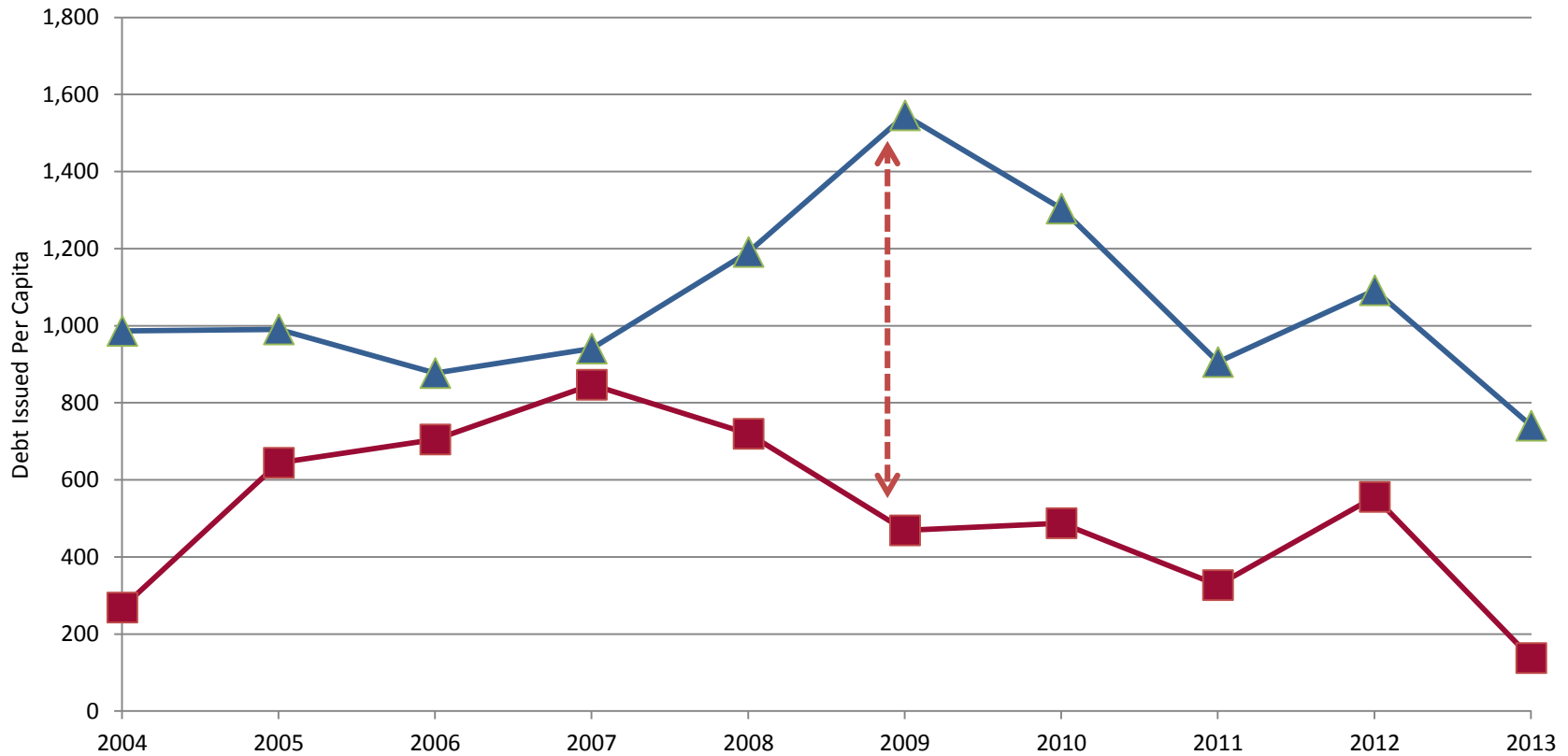
Source: Bond Buyer Yearbooks 2003-2013, U.S. Census Bureau



# Total Volume 10 Year Trend

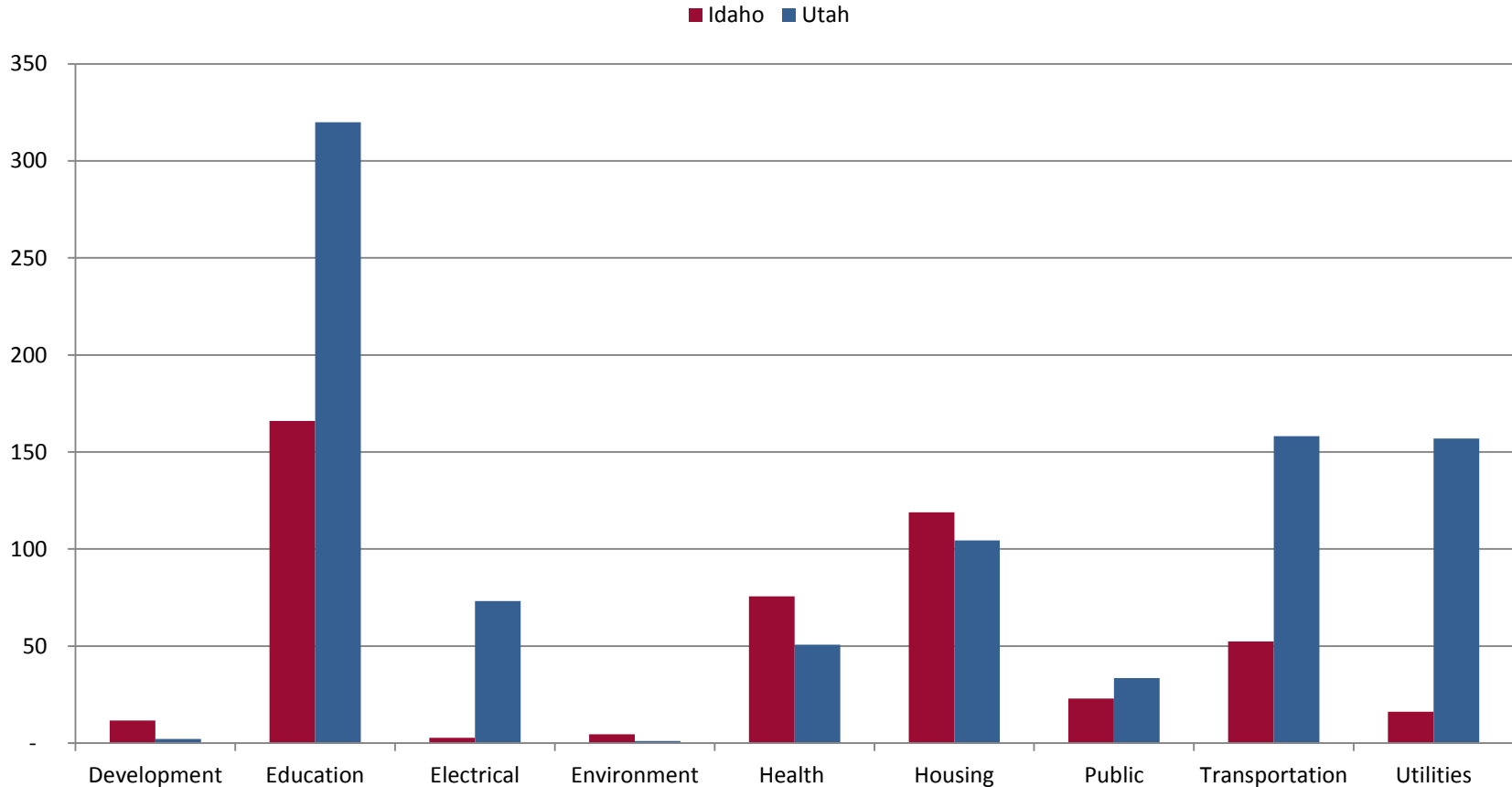
## Long-Term Bonds Issued Per Capita

■ Idaho ▲ Utah



# Total Volume 10 Year Trend

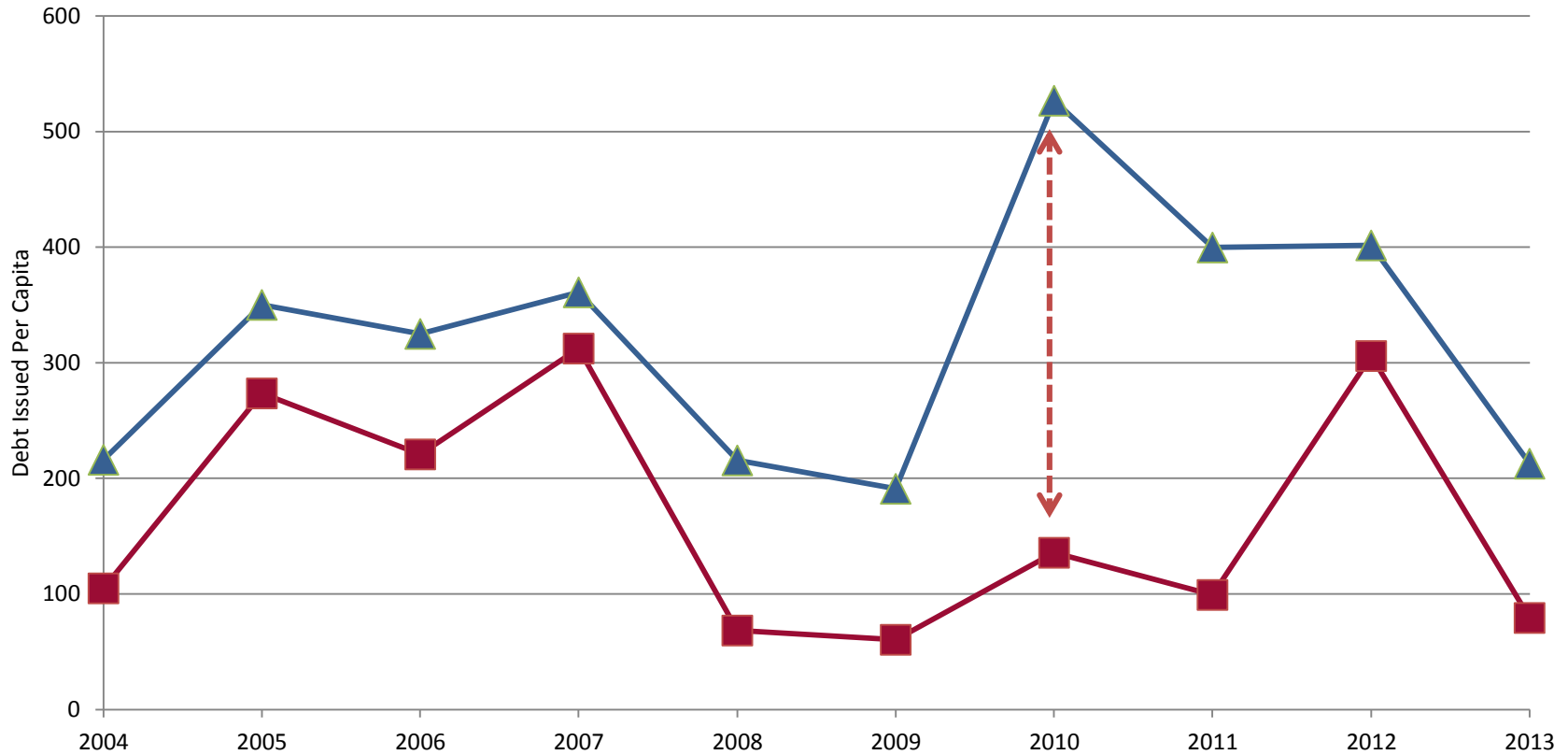
## Per Capita Average Annual Bond Issuance by Category



# Education 10 Year Trend

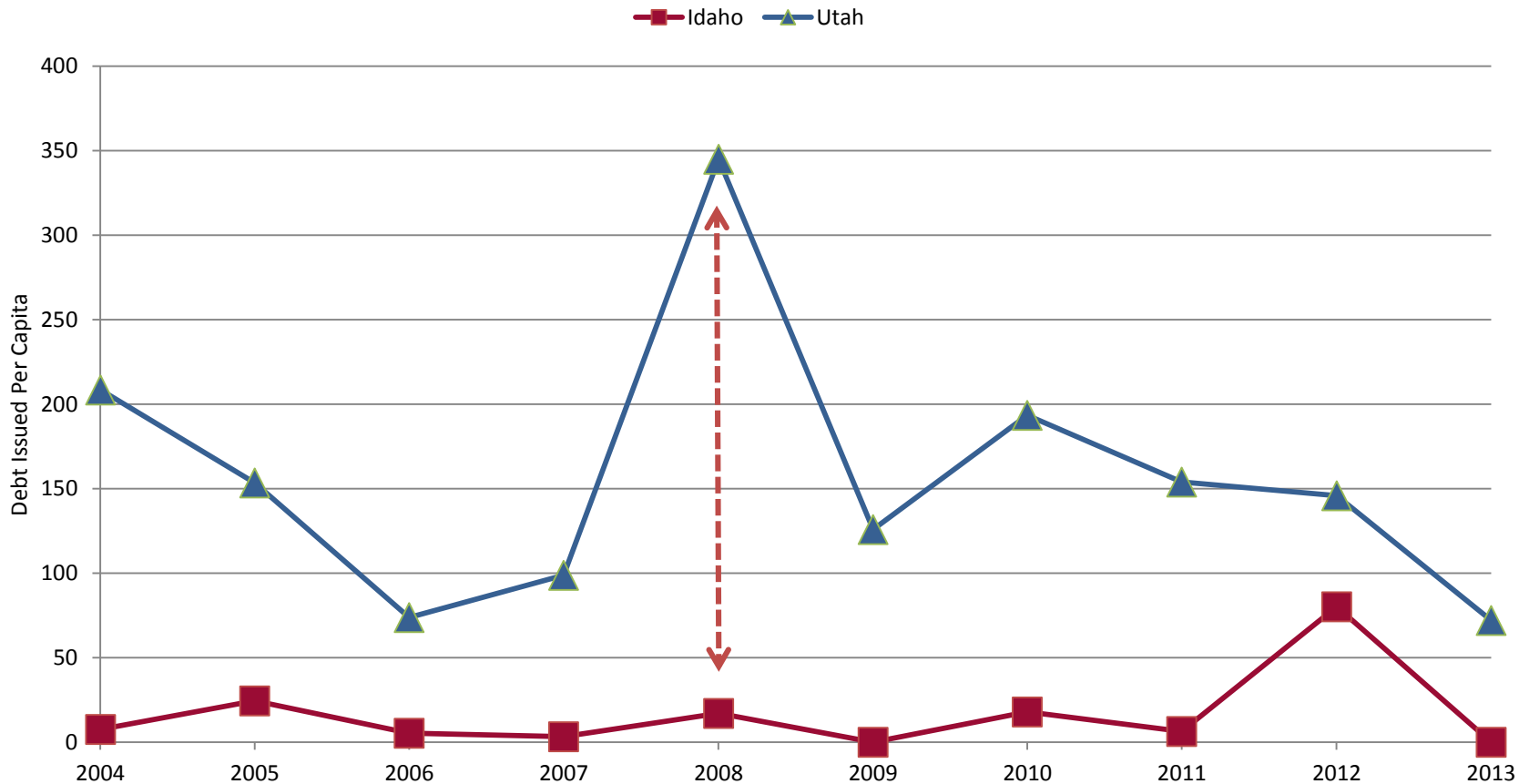
## Education Bonds Issued Per Capita

Idaho Utah



# Utilities 10 Year Trend

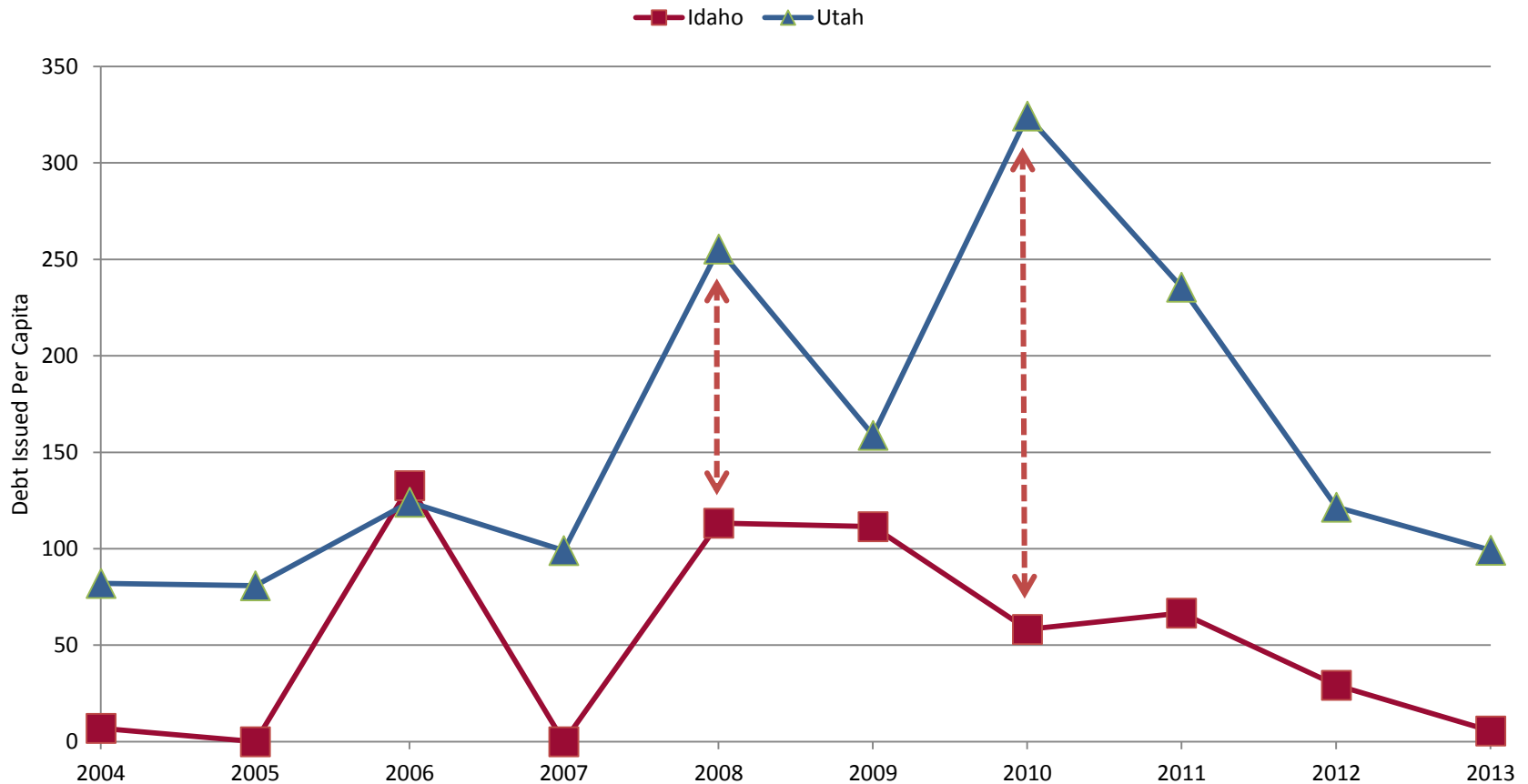
## Utility Bonds Issued Per Capita





# Transportation 10 Year Trend

## Transportation Bonds Issued Per Capita



# Public Opinion Research

## Idaho Statewide Survey

November 2015

N=500 likely voters

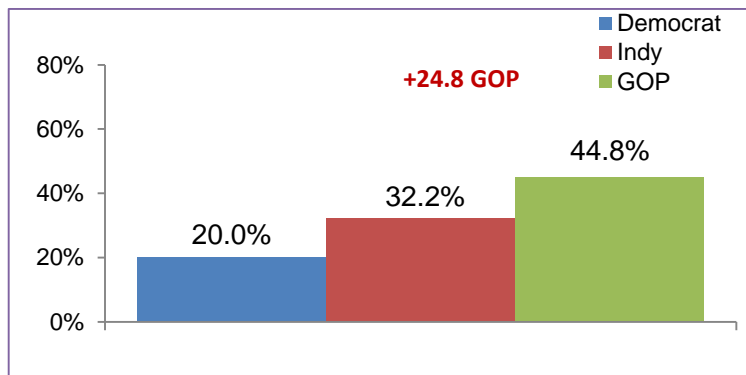
Margin of error +/- 4.38%

Conducted by GS Strategy Group

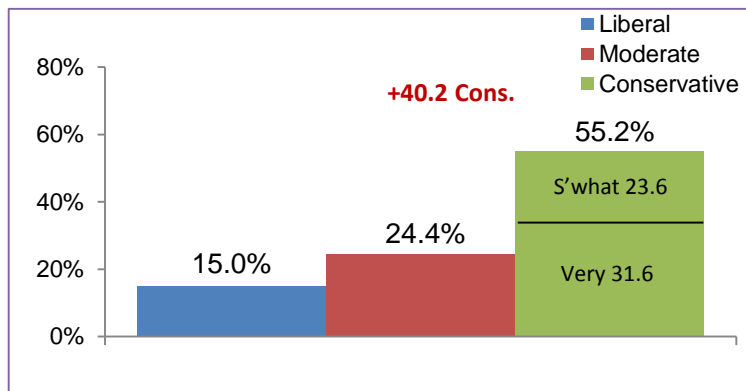


# General Political Climate

With which political party are you currently affiliated?



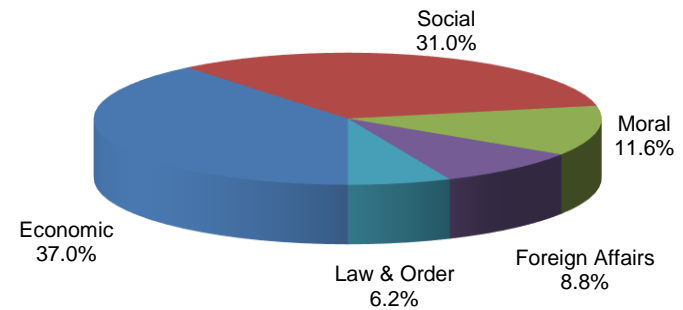
If you had to label yourself, would you say you are a liberal, a moderate or a conservative in your political beliefs?



# General Issues Environment

In general, are you most interested in:

- Economic issues, like taxes, jobs and the budget deficit,
- Foreign affairs issues like national defense and terrorism,
- Social issues like education, health care and the environment,
- Law and order issues like crime, drugs and immigration reform, or
- Moral issues like the right to life and gay rights



What is the most important issue facing Idaho today?

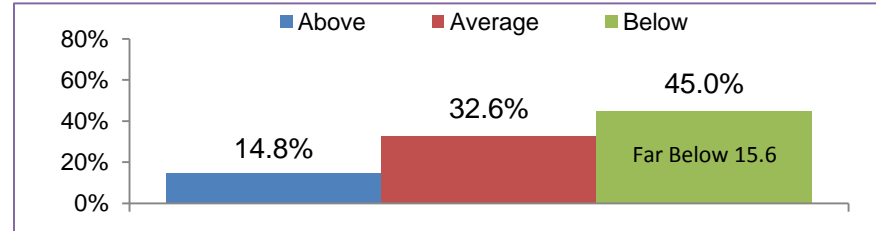
	Overall
Education/quality	17.8
Unemployment/jobs	12.6
The economy	11.6
Health care/insurance	5.2
Education funding	5.2
Immigration	3.0
Big gov't/interfere	2.6
Water/rights	2.4
Taxes	2.2
Roads/infrastructure	1.8
Wages	1.8
Environment/global warm	1.2
Government/politics	1.2
Guns/gun control	1.2



# Macro Education and Economic Environment

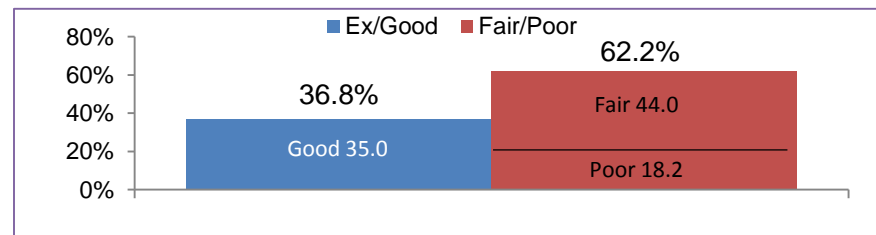
Compared to other states, how would you rate the overall quality of Idaho's K-12 public education system?

1. Far above average compared to other states
2. Somewhat above average
3. About average compared to other states
4. Somewhat below average
5. Far below average compared to other states



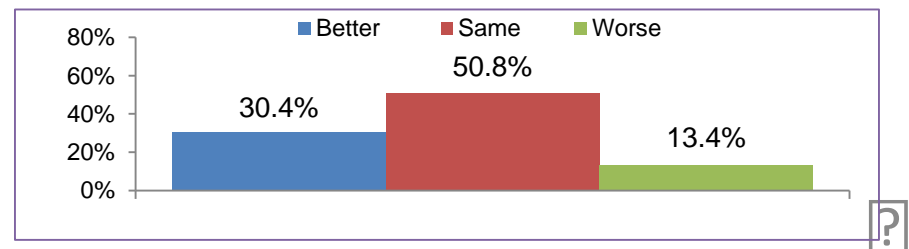
	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
<b>Above</b>	<b>14.8</b>	8.0	14.3	18.3
<b>Average</b>	<b>32.6</b>	16.0	35.4	37.5
<b>Below</b>	<b>45.0</b>	68.0	42.9	36.6

Generally speaking, how would you rate the economy in Idaho—excellent, good, fair or poor?



	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
<b>Ex/Good</b>	<b>36.8</b>	21.0	41.6	41.5
<b>Fair/Poor</b>	<b>62.2</b>	79.0	57.8	56.7
<b>Net Fair/Poor</b>	<b>+25.4</b>	<b>+58.0</b>	<b>+16.1</b>	<b>+15.2</b>

Over the next 2 years do you think Idaho's economy is going to get better, worse or stay about the same?

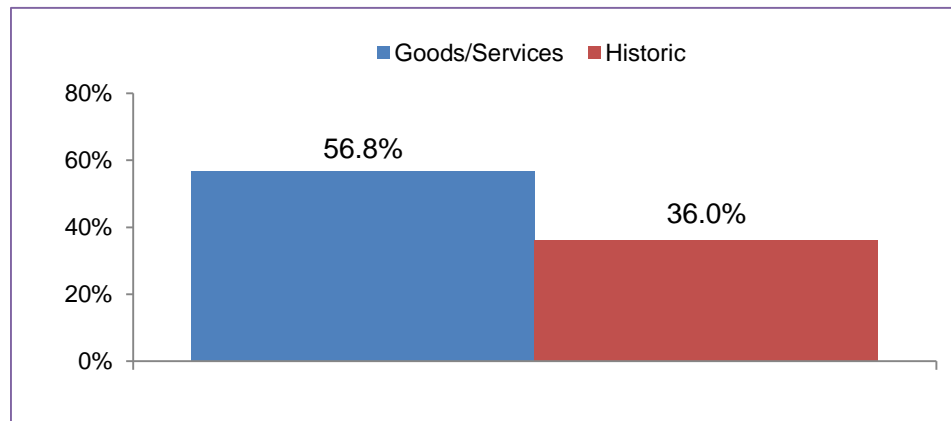


	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
<b>Better</b>	<b>30.4</b>	25.0	29.8	33.9
<b>Same</b>	<b>50.8</b>	54.0	50.3	49.1
<b>Worse</b>	<b>13.4</b>	15.0	12.4	12.9

# Idaho's Economic Future

Which of the following statements comes closest to your own opinion:

- The Idaho economy of the future should focus more on creating goods and services and encouraging innovation and an entrepreneurial culture;
- The Idaho economy of the future should focus on its historical strengths in natural resources, like agriculture, timber and mining.



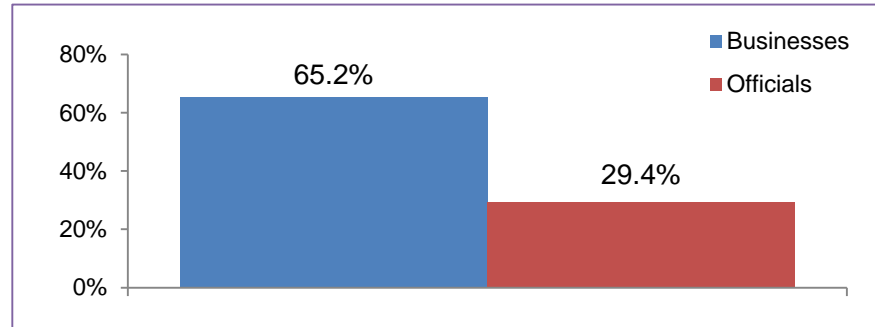
	Over All	Media Market					Party			Ideology			
		Boise	ID Falls	SLC	Spokane	Twin Falls	Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons
<b>Goods/Services</b>	<b>56.8</b>	63.0	53.3	50.0	53.2	39.4	76.0	52.2	52.2	78.7	66.4	52.5	45.6
<b>Historic</b>	<b>36.0</b>	31.7	38.3	50.0	33.9	60.6	17.0	39.8	41.5	16.0	29.5	44.1	42.4
<b>Net Goods/Svcs</b>	<b>+20.8</b>	<b>+31.3</b>	<b>+15.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>+19.3</b>	<b>-21.2</b>	<b>+59.0</b>	<b>+12.4</b>	<b>+10.7</b>	<b>+62.7</b>	<b>+36.9</b>	<b>+8.5</b>	<b>+3.2</b>



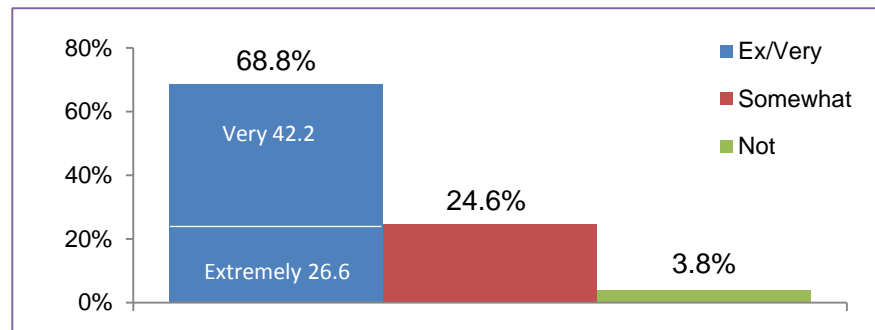
# Idaho's Economic Future

Of the following, who do you think is more responsible for growing the economy in Idaho?

- Local businesses who invest in the area
- Elected officials who make policy that incentivizes new businesses and job creation



How important are state government policies to recruiting and growing business in Idaho. Extremely important, very important, somewhat important, or not at all important?



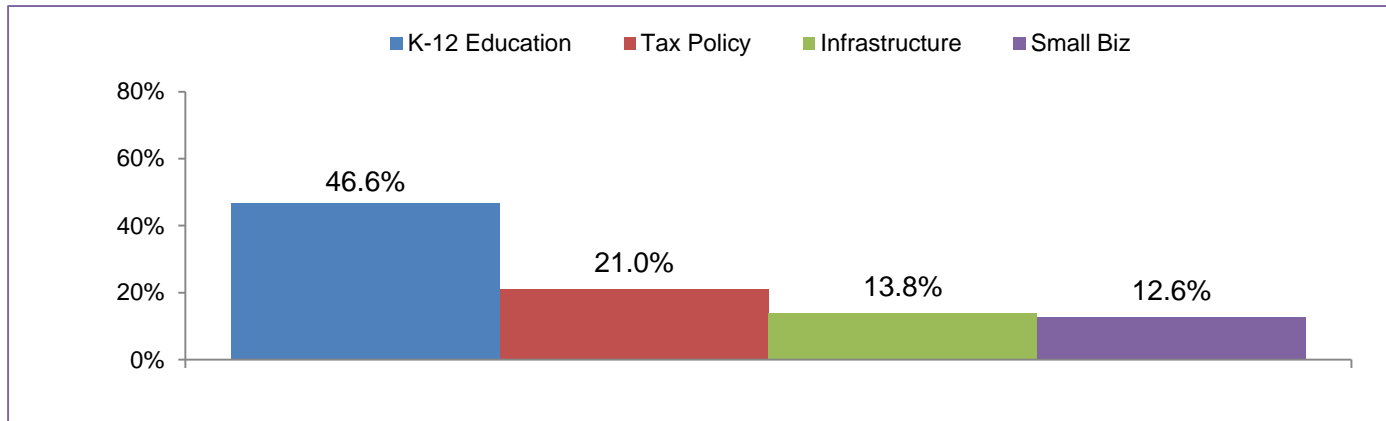
	Over All	Party			Ideology			
		Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons
<b>Ex/Very</b>	<b>68.8</b>	67.0	64.6	74.6	60.0	72.1	69.5	74.1
<b>Somewhat</b>	<b>24.6</b>	24.0	28.0	20.5	26.7	23.0	26.3	21.5
<b>Not</b>	<b>3.8</b>	5.0	3.7	3.6	6.7	2.5	1.7	3.8



# Idaho's Economic Future

Which of the following initiatives is the most important to helping Idaho's economy grow and create new jobs?

- Providing better K-12 education and increasing the number of students that pursue higher education or after high school training
- Creating tax policy and regulations that encourage economic growth
- Providing basic public infrastructure, including roads, sewer and water, and schools
- Increasing loans and investment capital for small and medium sized business development



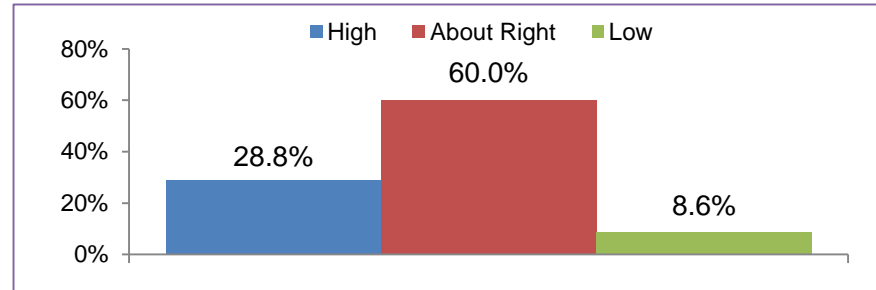
	Over All	Party			Ideology			
		Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons
<b>K-12 Education</b>	<b>46.6</b>	71.0	44.7	37.5	68.0	59.8	34.7	33.5
<b>Tax Policies</b>	<b>21.0</b>	3.0	21.1	28.6	2.7	10.7	28.8	34.2
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>13.8</b>	16.0	13.0	12.9	14.7	16.4	12.7	11.4
<b>Small Biz Dev.</b>	<b>12.6</b>	5.0	14.3	15.2	9.3	9.0	17.8	14.6





# Idaho's Tax Climate

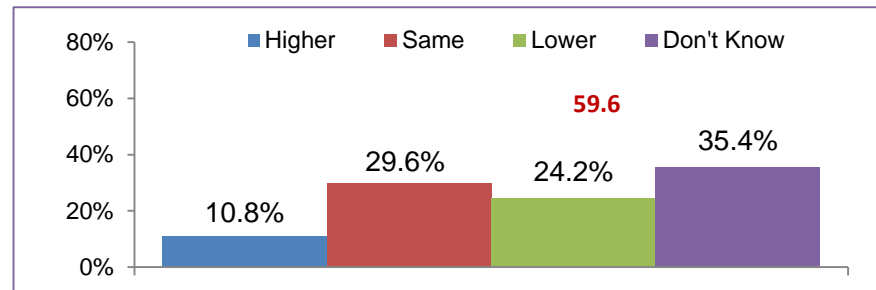
Generally speaking, would you say taxes in Idaho are too high, too low, or just about right?



	Over All	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
<b>Too High</b>	<b>28.8</b>	17.0	26.1	33.9
<b>About Right</b>	<b>60.0</b>	58.0	65.2	58.9
<b>Too Low</b>	<b>8.6</b>	19.0	7.5	4.9

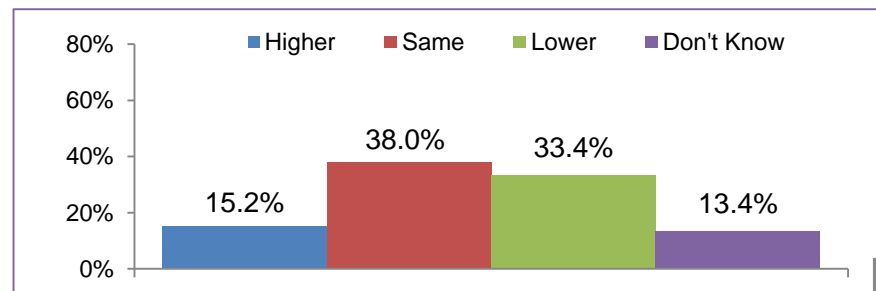
Which of the following comes closest to your opinion regarding how competitive Idaho's corporate income taxes are to other states in the region?

- Idaho's taxes are high compared to other states in the region.
- Idaho's taxes are about the same as other states in the region.
- Idaho has some of the lowest taxes in the region.



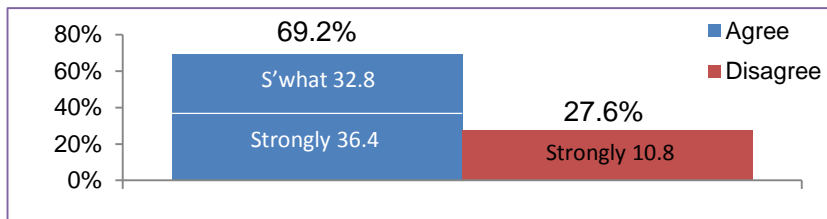
Which of the following comes closest to your opinion regarding how competitive Idaho's personal income, property and sales taxes are to other states in the region?

- Idaho's taxes are high compared to other states in the region.
- Idaho's taxes are about the same as other states in the region.
- Idaho has some of the lowest taxes in the region.



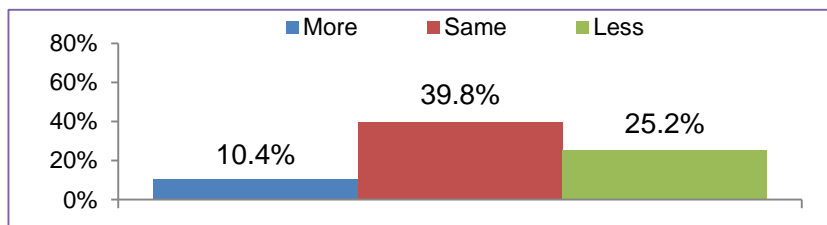
# Attracting Business to Idaho

Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: lower state taxes are critical to helping attract new business and jobs.



	Overall	Party			Very Cons
		Dem	Indy	GOP	
<b>Agree</b>	69.2	47.0	65.8	81.3	84.8
<b>Disagree</b>	27.6	48.0	31.1	16.1	12.0
<b>Net Agree</b>	<b>+41.6</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>+34.8</b>	<b>+65.2</b>	<b>+72.8</b>

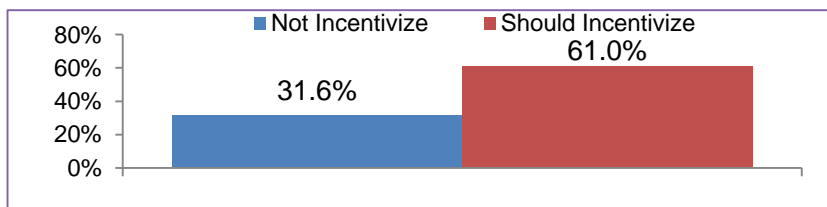
Compared to neighboring states in the mountain west region, are Idaho's elected officials doing more, less or about the same to attract new business to the state?



	Overall	Party			Very Cons
		Dem	Indy	GOP	
<b>More</b>	<b>10.4</b>	8.0	9.9	12.5	15.8
<b>Same</b>	<b>39.8</b>	30.0	41.6	43.3	41.8
<b>Less</b>	<b>25.2</b>	39.0	25.5	18.8	13.3

Some have suggested companies choose to establish new businesses in other states because Idaho won't offer the same level of incentives to companies as neighboring states. Which of the following comes closest to your opinion?

- Idaho should not be using taxpayer dollars to incentivize and attract new business to the state.
- Idaho should provide tax incentives to attract new business to the state because the economic benefit would far outweigh the amount of tax dollars spent.

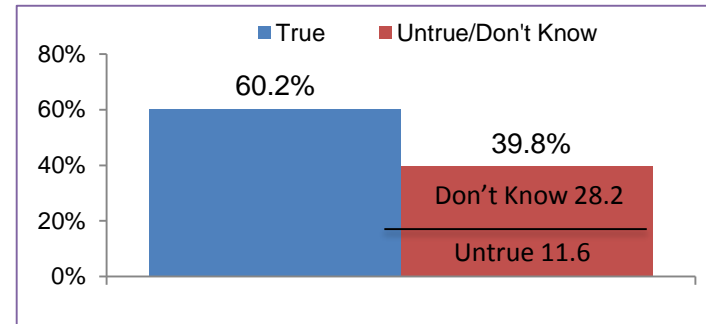


	Overall	Party			Very Cons
		Dem	Indy	GOP	
<b>Not Incentivize</b>	31.6	37.0	36.0	25.4	27.8
<b>Should Incentivize</b>	61.0	57.0	57.8	65.6	67.1
<b>Net Should</b>	<b>+29.4</b>	<b>+20.0</b>	<b>+21.8</b>	<b>+40.2</b>	<b>+39.3</b>



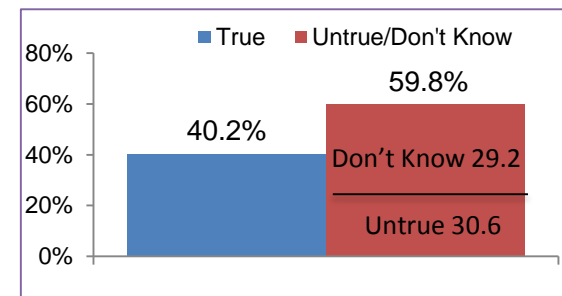
# Perception of Idaho's Business Climate Compared to Other States

True/Untrue: Utah has a more competitive business climate than Idaho.



	Over All	Media Market				
		Boise	ID Falls	SLC	Spokane	Twin Falls
<b>True</b>	60.2	55.2	74.2	87.5	47.7	78.8
<b>Untrue</b>	11.6	15.7	10.0	0.0	8.3	3.0
<b>Don't Know</b>	28.2	29.1	15.8	12.5	44.0	18.2

True/Untrue: Idaho is tied for the lowest economic growth rate in the region.

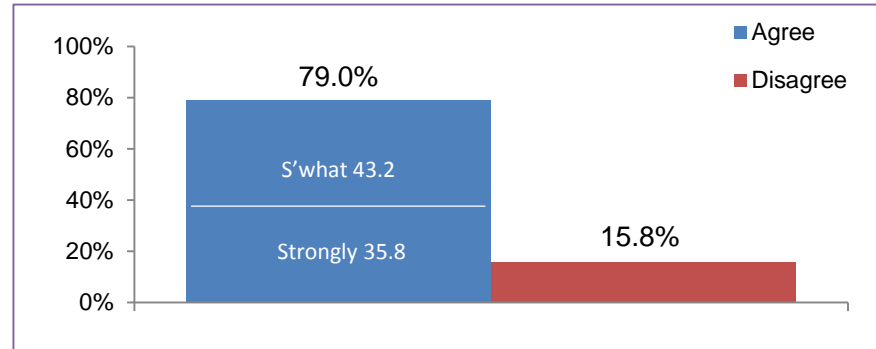


	Over All	Media Market				
		Boise	ID Falls	SLC	Spokane	Twin Falls
<b>True</b>	40.2	38.3	38.3	50.0	49.5	27.3
<b>Untrue</b>	30.6	33.0	38.3	25.0	15.6	36.4
<b>Don't Know</b>	29.2	28.7	23.3	25.0	34.9	36.4



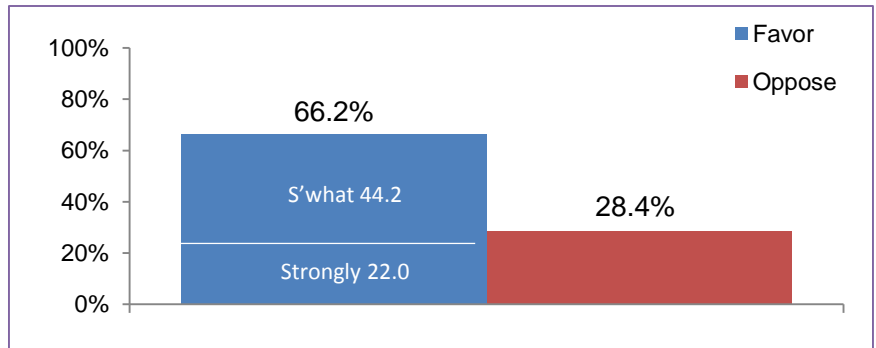
# General Thoughts on Bonds

Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Local governments issuing bonds for basic public and infrastructure projects, like roads, sewers, and schools, is an important and critical government responsibility.



	Overall	Party			Very Cons
		Dem	Indy	GOP	
<b>Agree</b>	79.0	90.0	77.6	77.2	69.6
<b>Disagree</b>	15.8	7.0	16.1	17.4	23.4
<b>Net Agree</b>	<b>+63.2</b>	<b>+83.0</b>	<b>+61.5</b>	<b>+59.8</b>	<b>+46.2</b>

In general, do you favor or oppose local governments issuing bonds in order to invest in basic infrastructure to increase business development?

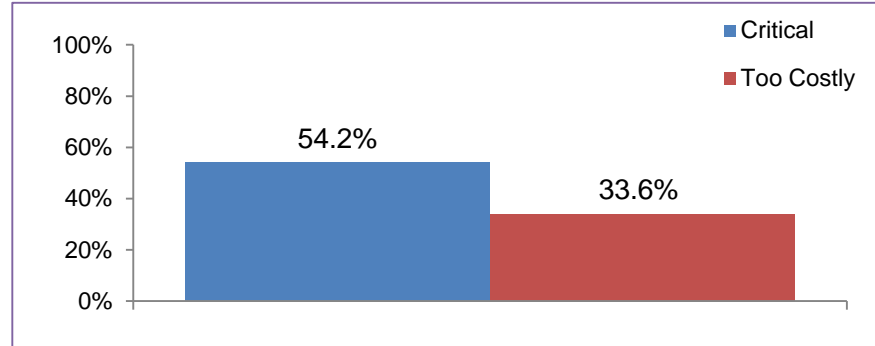


	Overall	Party			Very Cons
		Dem	Indy	GOP	
<b>Favor</b>	66.2	71.0	64.0	66.5	62.0
<b>Oppose</b>	28.4	23.0	30.4	28.6	30.4
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+37.8</b>	<b>+48.0</b>	<b>+33.5</b>	<b>+37.9</b>	<b>+31.6</b>

# Bonds vs. Taxes

Please tell me which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion:

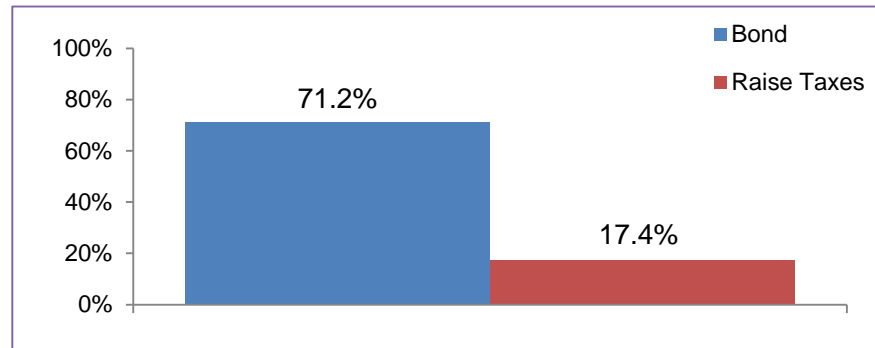
- Bonds issued by local governments are critical for providing basic infrastructure, spurring business development are worth the additional cost because of the economic returns communities see
- Bonds issued by local governments are too costly for tax payers



	Overall	Party			Very Cons
		Dem	Indy	GOP	
<b>Critical for Dev.</b>	54.2	64.0	52.8	51.8	43.0
<b>Too Costly</b>	33.6	24.0	31.7	38.8	41.8
<b>Net Critical</b>	<b>+20.6</b>	<b>+40.0</b>	<b>+21.1</b>	<b>+12.9</b>	<b>+1.3</b>

The following are two ways local governments could fund basic infrastructure projects. Please tell me which of the following you would prefer:

- Your local government being allowed to fund projects by bonding
- Your local government raising property, personal income and corporate taxes in order to fund basic infrastructure projects

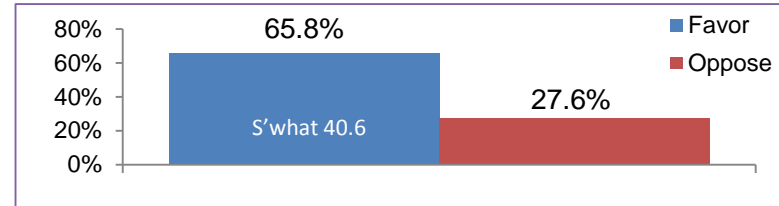


	Overall	Party			Very Cons
		Dem	Indy	GOP	
<b>Bond</b>	71.2	63.0	72.0	74.6	76.6
<b>Raise Taxes</b>	17.4	26.0	16.1	14.7	12.0
<b>Net Difference</b>	<b>+53.8</b>	<b>+37.0</b>	<b>+55.9</b>	<b>+59.9</b>	<b>+64.6</b>



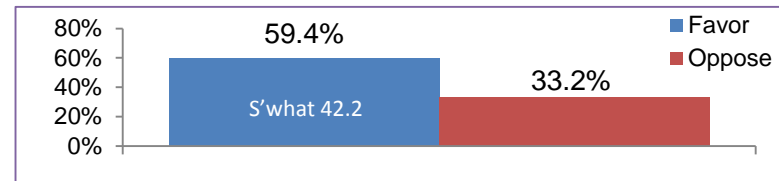
# Bonding Options

Favor/Oppose: Allowing local governments to use non-property tax revenue, like hotel occupancy taxes and sales tax revenues, to issue bonds to finance basic infrastructure projects.



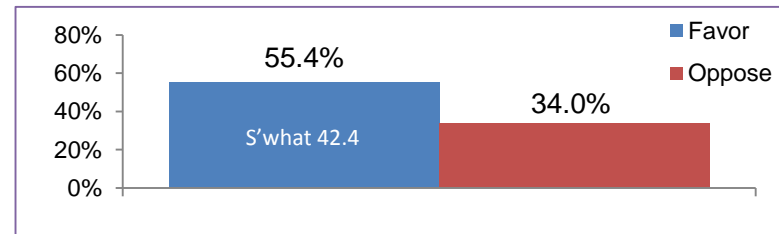
	Overall	Party			Very Cons	LDS
		Dem	Indy	GOP		
<b>Favor</b>	65.8	74.0	64.0	64.3	58.2	66.7
<b>Oppose</b>	27.6	17.0	28.6	30.4	33.5	29.5
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+38.2</b>	<b>+57.0</b>	<b>+35.4</b>	<b>+33.9</b>	<b>+24.7</b>	<b>+37.2</b>

Allowing governments the ability to use future property tax revenues from new businesses to issue bonds to provide infrastructure for those companies as an incentive to create more jobs in Idaho.



	Overall	Party			Very Cons	LDS
		Dem	Indy	GOP		
<b>Favor</b>	59.4	66.0	54.0	62.1	52.5	57.4
<b>Oppose</b>	33.2	27.0	34.8	32.6	42.4	34.9
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+26.2</b>	<b>+39.0</b>	<b>+19.3</b>	<b>+29.5</b>	<b>+10.1</b>	<b>+22.5</b>

Favor/Oppose: Allowing individual municipalities to issue bonds supported by non-property tax user fees, like sewer fees, to invest in basic infrastructure projects.

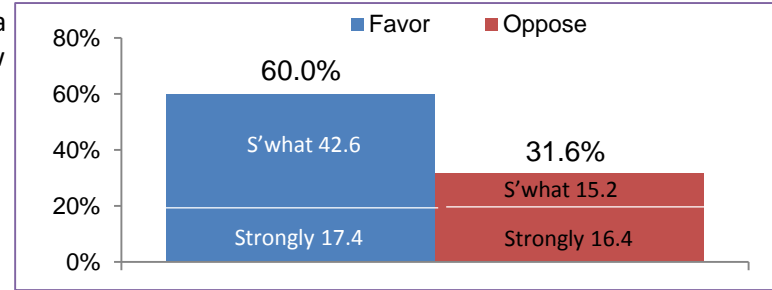


	Overall	Party			Very Cons	LDS
		Dem	Indy	GOP		
<b>Favor</b>	55.4	68.0	54.7	52.2	46.2	57.4
<b>Oppose</b>	34.0	24.0	32.9	38.4	40.5	35.7
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+21.4</b>	<b>+44.0</b>	<b>+21.7</b>	<b>+13.8</b>	<b>+5.7</b>	<b>+21.7</b>



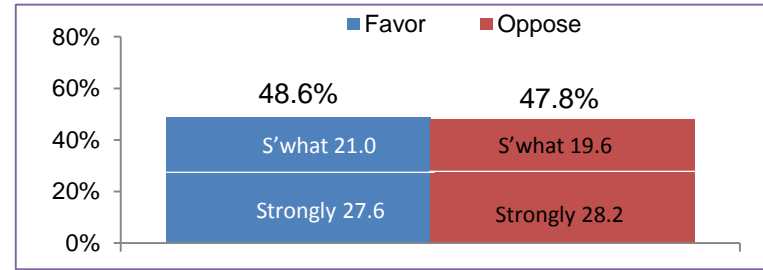
# Bonding Options

Idaho only allows local governments to use future property tax revenue as a basis for issuing bonds for certain infrastructure projects. Other states allow for non-property tax revenue to be included when issuing bonds like these, taking into account future sales tax, hotel occupancy tax and income tax that would not occur without the development. These states have seen higher economic growth rates as a result. Knowing this, would you favor or oppose allowing Idaho to use future non-property tax revenue to issue bonds to finance infrastructure development?



	Over All	Party			Ideology				Utah Better Biz Env.		Bonds Important		Religion		Income		
		Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons	True	Untrue	Agree	Disagree	LDS	Other	< \$50k	\$50-100k	\$100k+
<b>Favor</b>	<b>60.0</b>	67.0	60.2	58.0	68.0	63.9	71.2	48.1	63.5	60.3	62.8	50.6	68.2	60.3	62.4	65.7	54.9
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>31.6</b>	24.0	30.4	33.9	28.0	26.2	23.7	41.8	29.9	34.5	29.1	45.6	25.6	30.9	31.2	25.9	41.5
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+28.4</b>	<b>+43.0</b>	<b>+29.8</b>	<b>+24.1</b>	<b>+40.0</b>	<b>+37.7</b>	<b>+47.5</b>	<b>+6.3</b>	<b>+33.6</b>	<b>+25.9</b>	<b>+33.7</b>	<b>+5.1</b>	<b>+42.6</b>	<b>+29.3</b>	<b>+31.2</b>	<b>+39.8</b>	<b>+13.4</b>

States like Utah and Oregon allow local governments to use their discretion to issue bonds without a vote of the public to build things like water or sewage plants based on revenues coming in from user fees. This has resulted in significant economic growth and job creation in these states. Idaho requires such bonds to be voted on by the public. Knowing this, would you favor or oppose allowing local governments to issue bonds based on future user fees to build things like water and sewage plants, rather than requiring a public vote to fund such projects?

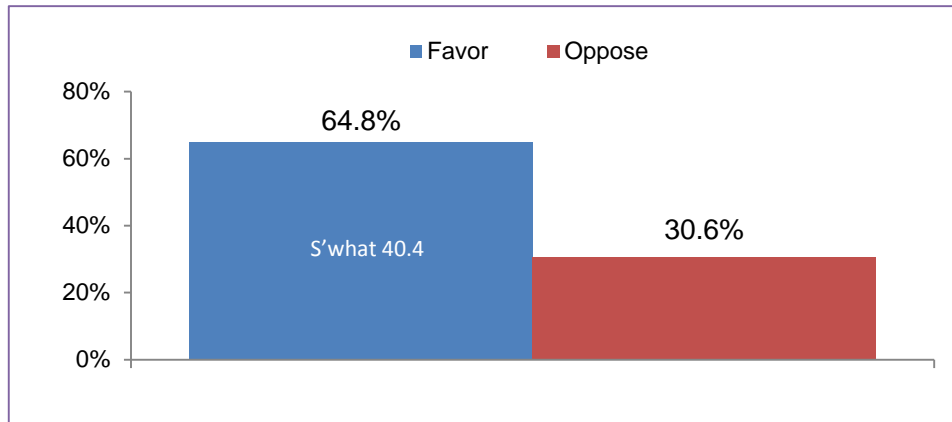


	Over All	Party			Ideology				Utah Better Biz Env.		Bonds Important		Religion		Income		
		Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons	True	Untrue	Agree	Disagree	LDS	Other	< \$50k	\$50-100k	\$100k+
<b>Favor</b>	<b>48.6</b>	63.0	49.7	42.0	61.3	62.3	50.0	30.4	51.8	48.3	54.2	21.5	51.9	49.8	43.5	54.8	48.8
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>47.8</b>	29.0	47.2	55.8	33.3	33.6	48.3	66.5	46.5	48.3	42.8	77.2	46.5	45.1	51.6	42.2	51.2
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+0.8</b>	<b>+34.0</b>	<b>+2.5</b>	<b>-13.8</b>	<b>+28.0</b>	<b>+28.7</b>	<b>+1.7</b>	<b>-36.1</b>	<b>+5.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>+11.4</b>	<b>-55.7</b>	<b>+5.4</b>	<b>+4.7</b>	<b>-8.1</b>	<b>+12.7</b>	<b>-2.4</b>

# Uses for Urban Renewal Districts

Favor/Oppose:

Allowing local governments to rebate a portion of a company's future property taxes, for a limited period of time, to incentivize development in urban renewal districts as a way to stimulate the economy and create local jobs.



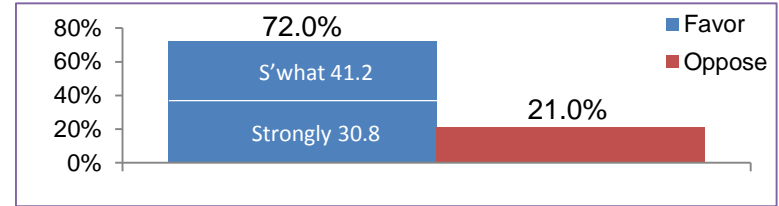
	Over All	Media Market					Party			Ideology			
		Boise	ID Falls	SLC	Spokane	Twin Falls	Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons
<b>Favor</b>	<b>64.8</b>	66.1	65.8	87.5	61.5	57.6	66.0	61.5	68.8	61.3	63.9	78.8	58.9
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>30.6</b>	30.4	30.0	12.5	31.2	36.4	29.0	31.7	28.1	33.3	29.5	18.6	36.7
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+34.2</b>	<b>+35.7</b>	<b>+35.8</b>	<b>+75.0</b>	<b>+30.3</b>	<b>+21.2</b>	<b>+37.0</b>	<b>+29.8</b>	<b>+40.6</b>	<b>+28.0</b>	<b>+34.4</b>	<b>+60.2</b>	<b>+22.2</b>





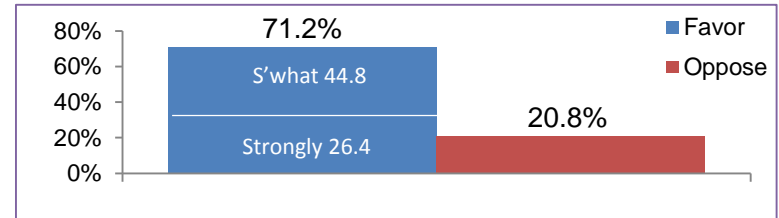
# Uses for Urban Renewal Districts

In some communities, where there are no other means to fund the construction of public buildings like libraries and fire stations, money generated by urban renewal districts has been used to fund these projects. Knowing this, would you favor or oppose expanding the use of urban renewal districts as a way to fund the construction of public buildings like libraries, police stations and fire stations?



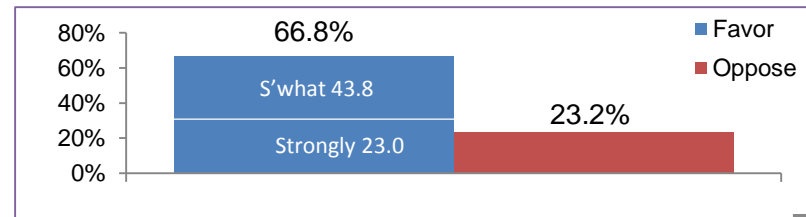
	Over All	Party			Ideology			
		Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons
<b>Favor</b>	<b>72.0</b>	86.0	66.5	71.0	82.7	82.0	75.4	59.5
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>21.0</b>	8.0	25.5	22.3	10.7	13.9	20.3	30.4
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+51.0</b>	<b>+78.0</b>	<b>+41.0</b>	<b>+48.7</b>	<b>+72.0</b>	<b>+68.0</b>	<b>+55.1</b>	<b>+29.1</b>

A section of downtown Boise was previously designated an Urban Renewal District that included the hole at 8th and Main Streets. Because it was an urban renewal district, the developer was refunded \$1 million of their property taxes for a period of 4 years in order to provide them with an incentive to build at the site. As a result, the developer built the tallest building in the state, attracting many new businesses, hundreds of jobs, and millions in additional tax revenue – all in a space that had sat vacant for more than 25 years. Knowing this, would you favor or oppose expanding the use of urban renewal districts in order to grow the economy and create jobs?



	Over All	Media Market					Party			Ideology			
		Boise	ID Falls	SLC	Spokane	Twin Falls	Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons
<b>Favor</b>	<b>71.2</b>	72.6	75.0	87.5	67.9	54.5	78.0	67.1	73.2	76.0	79.5	74.6	64.6
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>20.8</b>	19.6	15.8	0.0	25.7	36.4	16.0	21.7	20.5	18.7	13.9	20.3	26.6
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+50.4</b>	<b>+53.0</b>	<b>+59.2</b>	<b>+87.5</b>	<b>+42.2</b>	<b>+18.2</b>	<b>+62.0</b>	<b>+45.3</b>	<b>+52.7</b>	<b>+57.3</b>	<b>+65.6</b>	<b>+54.2</b>	<b>+38.0</b>

Urban renewal districts are city designated areas that can issue bonds to fund construction of basic infrastructure, utilities, and public buildings to enable commercial development. Utah has expanded its use of these districts and as a result has seen some of the highest economic and job growth in the United States. Knowing this, would you favor or oppose expanding the use of urban renewal districts in order to grow the economy and create jobs?

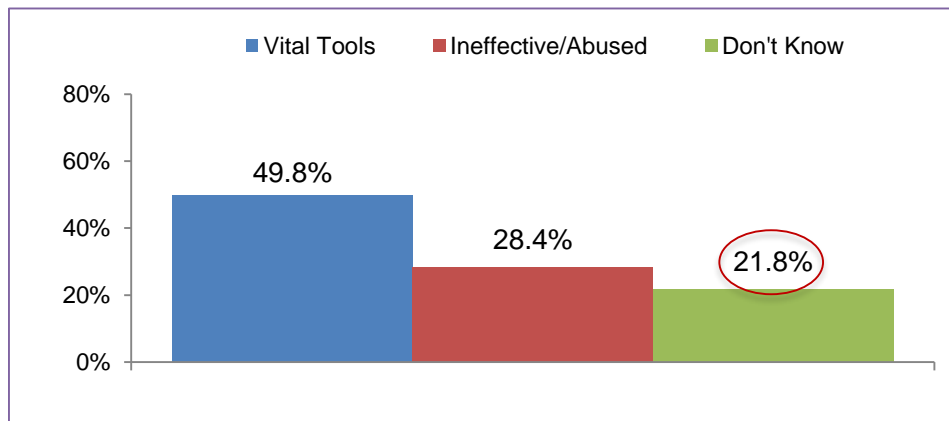


	Over All	Party			Ideology			
		Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons
<b>Favor</b>	<b>66.8</b>	76.0	64.0	66.1	76.0	77.9	70.3	55.7
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>23.2</b>	13.0	26.1	24.1	13.3	15.6	22.0	32.9
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+43.6</b>	<b>+63.0</b>	<b>+37.9</b>	<b>+42.0</b>	<b>+62.7</b>	<b>+62.3</b>	<b>+48.3</b>	<b>+22.8</b>

# Uses for Urban Renewal Districts

Which of the following comes closest to your view on urban renewal districts?

- Urban renewal districts are vital tools that provide local governments' greater flexibility and control to undertake important economic development initiatives.
- Urban renewal districts are ineffective at implementing economic development initiatives, and are tools that have been abused by many local governments throughout the state.

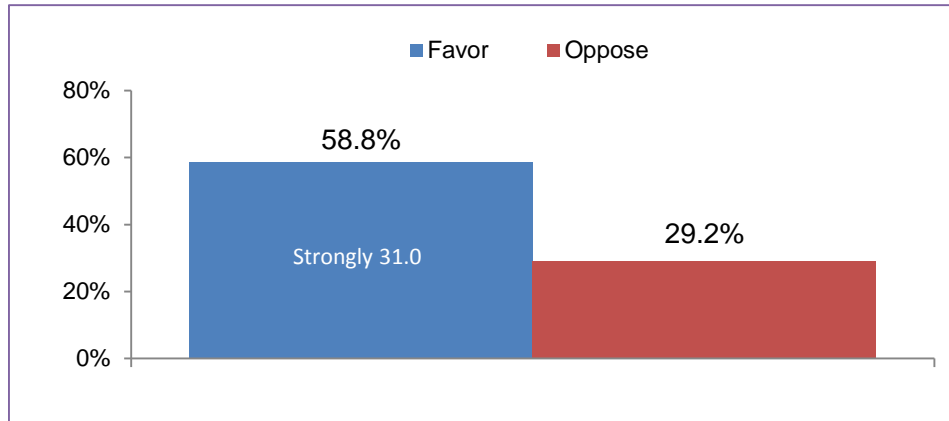


	Over All	Media Market					Party			Ideology			
		Boise	ID Falls	SLC	Spokane	Twin Falls	Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons
<b>Vital Tools</b>	<b>49.8</b>	55.2	50.0	62.5	39.4	42.4	61.0	44.1	50.4	68.0	59.8	45.8	39.9
<b>Ineffective</b>	<b>28.4</b>	27.8	20.8	25.0	37.6	30.3	19.0	31.7	28.6	17.3	18.0	33.1	36.1
<b>Net Vital</b>	<b>+21.4</b>	<b>+27.4</b>	<b>+29.2</b>	<b>+37.5</b>	<b>+1.8</b>	<b>+12.1</b>	<b>+42.0</b>	<b>+12.4</b>	<b>+21.9</b>	<b>+50.7</b>	<b>+41.8</b>	<b>+12.7</b>	<b>+3.8</b>



# Flat Tax Support

Would you favor or oppose creating a flat tax system which would lower corporate and personal income taxes to 5% each?



	Over All	Party			Ideology			
		Dem	Indy	GOP	Lib	Mod	Sw Cons	Very Cons
<b>Favor</b>	<b>58.8</b>	28.0	59.6	71.4	26.7	42.6	74.6	75.3
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>29.2</b>	62.0	26.7	17.9	62.7	42.6	14.4	15.2
<b>Net Favor</b>	<b>+29.6</b>	<b>-34.0</b>	<b>+32.9</b>	<b>+53.6</b>	<b>-36.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>+60.2</b>	<b>+60.1</b>



# Key Survey Findings

- Both education and economic concerns dominate the issue matrix in Idaho
- While voters strongly support providing incentives to companies to create jobs in the state, they are unaware of where Idaho is positioned in the region when it comes to both the tax and economic climates
- Currently, Idahoans believe improving education would be the best way to improve the state's economy
- Idaho voters believe bonding for public infrastructure is an essential responsibility of government, and they would much prefer bonding to property tax increases as a way pay for public infrastructure
- Strong support exists for urban renewal districts as a way to create economic growth and fund construction of public buildings



# Strategic Recommendations

- Pursue other infrastructure development options that comparable state use as key to economic development:
  - GO Bonds
  - Revenue Bonds
  - TIF
  - Industrial Revenue Bonds
  - Local Improvement Districts
- Protect Urban Renewal as only real current economic development Idaho has
- Lower tax rates, broaden the base, keep progressivity



# What have we done?

- Met with key stake holders privately.
- Published a white paper with findings.
- Coordinated with BSU (Corey Cook) - Public Policy Institute
- Presented to the Chamber Alliance and to the many legislators
- HOW DID WE DO?



# What is next for Idaho 2020?

- Remain focused on investment tools and taxes
- Remain focused on economic development and job creation
- Determine projects for 2016 with an earlier timeline for presentation of the data.
- Continue to collaborate and work with key legislators and leaders to promote a vision for Idaho's future.

