

Questionnaire: KCTS-9 / Washington Poll 2012—First Wave Results

Version: 10.3.12 // OCTOBER 2012 // n=782 registered voters, +/- 3.5%

Q.1 Do you think things here in Washington State are generally going in the right direction, or seriously on the wrong track?

- 1. Going in the right direction.....**51.7%**
- 2. Seriously on the wrong track...**39.2%**
- 88. (Don't Know).....**9.1%**

(ref:DIRECT)

(IF PUNCH 2, 88, 99 IN VOTEMAIL)

Q.2 Thinking ahead to the November 2012 elections, what general issues are most important to you as you decide how you will vote?

(IF PUNCH 1 IN VOTEMAIL)

What general issues WERE most important to you when you filled out your ballot?

(OPEN-ENDED, PRE-CODE TO LIST, RESPONDENT MAY SELECT UP TO TWO ISSUES)

(DO NOT READ THIS LIST!!)

- 1. Jobs/Unemployment.....**24.0%**
- 2. Fixing the Economy / Recession**37.2%**
- 3. State budget deficit/National debt/Government spending....**10.2%**
- 4. Education reform / Charter schools / Universities.....**14.1%**
- 5. Health care reform / Obamacare**18.3%**
- 6. Gay rights/Marriage Equality**8.7%**
- 7. Marijuana laws**2.6%**
- 8. Women's Reproductive Rights/Women's issues/abortion**4.2%**
- 9. Foreign Affairs/Unrest in Syria/Libya/Middle East**5.9%**
- 10. Wall Street Mess/Banking/Finance**0.5%**
- 11. National security/Terrorism**2.1%**
- 12. Illegal immigration/Border Security**0.3%**
- 13. The environment/Climate change**3.2%**
- 14. Gas and energy prices**1.0**
- 15. Taxes**9.6%**
- 16. Transportation/Roads/Toll roads**1.2%**
- 17. Something else/Other**9.0%**
- 88. (Don't Know)**9.1%**

(ref:ISSUE)

Now I'm going to read you a list of names of public officials and public organizations, and for each one, I want you to tell me whether you have a **(ROTATE FORWARDS AND BACKWARDS)** very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or strongly unfavorable view of that person or organization.

If you have no opinion, or have never heard of the person or organization, just let me know.

How about **(READ NAME)** Do you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or strongly unfavorable view of **(READ NAME)**?

(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "DON'T KNOW") Would you say you have no opinion of **(READ NAME)** or have you never heard of **(READ NAME)**?

(RANDOMIZE LIST ORDER)

____ Q.3 President Barack Obama

- 1. Very favorable.....**31.7%**
- 2. Somewhat favorable.....**22.0%**
- 3. Somewhat unfavorable....**11.9%**
- 4. Very unfavorable.....**31.4%**
- 5. (No Opinion)..... **2.9%**
- 6. (Never Heard).....**0.0%**

____ Q.4 former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney

- 1. Very favorable.....**21.3%**
- 2. Somewhat favorable.....**20.3%**
- 3. Somewhat unfavorable....**17.9%**
- 4. Very unfavorable.....**35.1%**
- 5. (No Opinion).....**5.2%**
- 6. (Never Heard).....**0.2%**

____ Q.5 Governor Christine Gregoire (GREG-wahr)

- 1. Very favorable.....**21.1%**
- 2. Somewhat favorable.....**31.0%**
- 3. Somewhat unfavorable....**16.3%**
- 4. Very unfavorable.....**25.0%**
- 5. (No Opinion).....**6.3%**
- 6. (Never Heard).....**0.3%**

____ Q.6 The state legislature in Olympia

- 1. Very favorable.....**3.8%**
- 2. Somewhat favorable.....**33.8%**
- 3. Somewhat unfavorable.....**25.8%**
- 4. Very unfavorable.....**12.2%**
- 5. (No Opinion).....**22.7%**
- 6. (Never Heard).....**1.7%**

____ Q.7 The U.S. Congress in Washington, DC

- 1. Very favorable.....**2.6%**
- 2. Somewhat favorable.....**19.7%**
- 3. Somewhat unfavorable....**33.3%**
- 4. Very unfavorable.....**34.3%**
- 5. (No Opinion).....**9.9%**
- 6. (Never Heard).....**0.2%**

____ Q.8 Attorney General Rob McKenna

- 1. Very favorable.....**20.0%**
- 2. Somewhat favorable.....**27.0%**
- 3. Somewhat unfavorable....**19.0%**
- 4. Very unfavorable.....**14.4%**
- 5. (No Opinion).....**15.2%**
- 6. (Never Heard).....**4.29%**

____ Q.9 former Congressman Jay Inslee (Ins—Lee)

- 1. Very favorable.....**16.1%**
- 2. Somewhat favorable.....**26.5%**
- 3. Somewhat unfavorable....**16.2%**
- 4. Very unfavorable.....**14.6%**
- 5. (No Opinion).....**20.1%**
- 6. (Never Heard).....**6.6%**

____ Q.10 U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell (Can't-Well)

- 1. Very favorable.....**27.3%**
- 2. Somewhat favorable.....**28.8%**
- 3. Somewhat unfavorable....**15.5%**
- 4. Very unfavorable.....**15.8%**
- 5. (No Opinion)..... **11.1%**
- 6. (Never Heard).....**1.5%**

(ref:JOBAPP)

____ Q.11 The Tea Party

- 1. Very favorable.....**10.5%**
- 2. Somewhat favorable.....**18.5%**
- 3. Somewhat unfavorable....**11.8%**
- 4. Very unfavorable.....**43.0%**
- 5. (No Opinion)..... **13.48%**
- 6. (Never Heard).....**2.7%**

Q.12 If the election for President were held today, would you vote for **(ROTATE NAMES)** Democrat Barack Obama, Republican Mitt Romney, Libertarian Gary Johnson, Green Party candidate Jill Stein, or someone else?

(If mention Obama or Romney) "Are you fairly certain you will vote for **(CANDIDATE)** or is there a chance you could change your mind?"

(If mention undecided or don't know) "Well, if you had to decide, which candidate are you leaning towards supporting?"

- 1. Barack Obama – certain**47.5%**
- 2. Barack Obama -- could change.....**4.1%**
- 3. Undecided -- lean Obama.....**0.2%**
- 4. Mitt Romney -- certain.....**35.1%**
- 5. Mitt Romney -- could change.....**5.6%**
- 6. Undecided -- lean Mitt Romney.....**0.6%**
- 7. Gary Johnson**1.3%**
- 8. Jill Stein**0.3%**
- 9. Vote for other candidate.....**1.5%**
- 88. Undecided/Don't know.....**3.9%**

- Barack Obama**51.8%**
- Mitt Romney.....**41.3%**

(ref:PRESID)

Q.13 If the election for Governor of Washington were held today, would you vote for **(ROTATE NAMES)** Jay Insee (**INS-LEE**), who prefers the Democratic Party, or **Rob McKenna**, who prefers the Republican Party?

(If mention Inslee or McKenna) "Are you fairly certain you will vote for **(CANDIDATE)** or is there a chance you could change your mind?" **(If mention undecided or don't know)** "Well, if you had to decide, which candidate are you leaning towards supporting?"

- 1. Jay Inslee – certain.....**38.5%**
- 2. Jay Inslee -- could change.....**6.8%**
- 3. Undecided -- lean Jay Inslee.....**2.6%**
- 4. Rob McKenna -- certain.....**35.6%**
- 5. Rob McKenna -- could change.....**6.9%**
- 6. Undecided -- lean Rob McKenna.....**2.2%**
- 88. Undecided/Don't know.....**7.5%**

- Jay Inslee.....**47.9%**
- Rob McKenna.....**44.7%**

(ref:GOVERNOR)

Q.14 If the election for U.S. Senate were held today, would you vote for **(ROTATE NAMES)** Democrat **Maria Cantwell** or Republican **Michael Baumgartner**?

(If mention Cantwell or Baumgartner) "Are you fairly certain you will vote for **(CANDIDATE)** or is there a chance you could change your mind?"

(If mention undecided or don't know) "Well, if you had to decide, which candidate are you leaning towards supporting?"

- 1. Maria Cantwell – certain.....**50.9%**
- 2. Maria Cantwell -- could change.....**5.3%**
- 3. Undecided -- lean Maria Cantwell.....**2.1%**
- 4. Michael Baumgartner -- certain.....**27.3%**
- 5. Michael Baumgartner -- could change.....**5.1%**
- 6. Undecided -- lean Michael Baumgartner.....**2.4%**
- 88. Undecided/Don't know.....**6.9%**

- Maria Cantwell.....**58.3%**
- Michael Baumgartner.....**34.8%**

(ref:SENATE)

Q.15 Statewide ballot Initiative eleven eighty-five (1185) concerns tax and fee increases imposed by the state government. This measure would restate existing statutory requirements that legislative actions raising taxes must be approved by two-thirds of the legislature or receive voter approval, and that new or increased fees require majority legislative approval.

- 1. Yes I-1185 – certain.....**37.8%**
 - 2. Yes I-1185 -- could change.....**13.3%**
 - 3. Undecided -- lean Yes.....**2.5%**
 - 4. No I-1185 -- certain.....**23.8%**
 - 5. No I-1185 -- could change.....**5.7%**
 - 6. Undecided -- lean No.....**1.7%**
 - 7. (Will not vote on this issue)**0.7%**
 - 88. Undecided/Don't know.....**14.6%**
-
- Yes**53.6%**
 - No.....**31.2%**

(ref:TAX1185)

Q.16 [IF NO TO TAX1185] Some people say that tax increases should only be a last resort, and without safety checks the state legislature will keep increasing taxes. In order to create a climate where the economy can grow, we need to make it harder to raise taxes, NOT easier. Does this make you more likely to support I-1185 to require two-thirds majority for new taxes, less likely to support I-1185, or have no effect on how you would vote?

- 1. More likely to support I-1185.....**14.0%**
- 2. Less likely to support I-1185.....**19.1%**
- 3. No effect on vote.....**60.6%**
- 88. (Undecided/Don't know).....**6.3%**

(Ref:TAX1185A)

Q.17 [IF YES TO TAX1185] Some people say that in a democracy, the legislature should be able to pass laws with a simple majority. By imposing a two-thirds restriction on the legislature it will be nearly impossible to provide adequate funding for public schools or social services. Does this make you more likely to support I-1185 to require two-thirds majority for new taxes, less likely to support I-1185, or have no effect on how you would vote?

- 1. More likely to support I-1185.....**17.9%**
- 2. Less likely to support I-1185.....**21.6%**
- 3. No effect on vote.....**53.8%**
- 88. (Undecided/Don't know).....**6.8%**

(Ref:TAX1185B)

Q.18 Statewide ballot Initiative twelve forty (1240) concerns the creation of a public charter school system. This measure would authorize up to forty publicly-funded charter schools open to all students and operated through approved, nonreligious, non-profit organizations and have government oversight.

- 1. Yes I-1240 – certain.....**34.1%**
 - 2. Yes I-1240 -- could change.....**10.6%**
 - 3. Undecided -- lean Yes.....**2.8%**
 - 4. No I-1240 -- certain.....**30.0%**
 - 5. No I-1240 -- could change.....**7.3%**
 - 6. Undecided -- lean No.....**1.9%**
 - 7. (Will not vote on this issue).....**0.8%**
 - 88. Undecided/Don't know.....**12.6%**
-
- Yes**47.5%**
 - No.....**39.2%**

(ref:CHARTER)

Q.19 [IF NO TO CHARTER] Some people say that we need more funding for charter schools because charter schools have been proven to increase student achievement by offering a more flexible and customized learning experience. Too many students are falling through the cracks in traditional schools. Does this make you more likely to support I-1240 to create public charter schools, less likely to support I-1240, or have no effect on how you would vote?

- 1. More likely to support I-1240.....**7.8%**
- 2. Less likely to support I-1240.....**22.3%**
- 3. No effect on vote.....**67.5%**
- 88. (Undecided/Don't know).....**2.5%**

(Ref:CHARTERA)

Q.20 [IF YES TO CHARTER] Some people say that charter schools won't fix anything and instead will drain millions of dollars form existing public schools to new private schools which are unproven and a risky gamble. Charter schools can be run by out-of-state operators who don't know what's best for our kids. Does this make you more likely to support I-1240 to create public charter schools, less likely to support I-1240, or have no effect on how you would vote?

- 1. More likely to support I-1240.....**12.5%**
- 2. Less likely to support I-1240.....**14.7%**
- 3. No effect on vote.....**69.6%**
- 88. (Undecided/Don't know).....**3.1%**

(Ref:CHARTERB)

Q.21 Statewide ballot referendum seventy-four (74) concerns marriage for same-sex couples. This referendum would allow same-sex couples to marry, preserve domestic partnerships only for seniors, and preserve the right of clergy or religious organizations to refuse to perform, recognize, or accommodate any marriage ceremony.

- 1. Yes R-74 – certain.....**50.4%**
 - 2. Yes R-74 -- could change.....**3.9%**
 - 3. Undecided -- lean Yes.....**2.0%**
 - 4. No R-74 -- certain.....**31.0%**
 - 5. No R-74 -- could change.....**3.3%**
 - 6. Undecided -- lean No.....**1.3%**
 - 7. (Will not vote on this issue)**2.0%**
 - 88. Undecided/Don't know.....**6.1%**
-
- Yes**56.3%**
 - No.....**35.6%**

(Ref:GAYREF)

Q.22 [IF NO TO GAYREF] Some people say that freedom to marry whoever you want is a core American value like liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Same-sex couples are our neighbors, friends, and co-workers and we should treat them with the exact same respect and dignity as everyone in our state. Does this make you more likely to support R-74 for same-sex marriage, less likely to support R-74, or have no effect on how you would vote?

- 1. More likely to support R-74.....**6.9%**
- 2. Less likely to support R-74.....**13.4%**
- 3. No effect on vote.....**78.3%**
- 88. (Undecided/Don't know).....**1.5%**

(Ref:GAYREFA)

Q.23 [IF YES TO GAYREF] Some people say that Washington same-sex couples already enjoy full legal equality under our laws, and Referendum 74 is dangerous because it redefines traditional marriage. Traditional marriage promotes child well-being because kids need both a mother and a father. Does this make you more likely to support R-74 for same-sex marriage, less likely to support R-74, or have no effect on how you would vote?

- 1. More likely to support R-74.....**18.0%**
- 2. Less likely to support R-74.....**5.8%**
- 3. No effect on vote.....**75.0%**
- 88. (Undecided/Don't know).....**1.2%**

(Ref:GAYREFB)

Q.24 Statewide ballot initiative five – oh – two (502) concerns marijuana. This measure would license and regulate marijuana production, distribution, and possession for persons over twenty-one; remove state-law criminal and civil penalties for activities that it authorizes; tax marijuana sales; and earmarks marijuana-related revenues.

- 1. Yes I-502 – certain.....**38.4%**
- 2. Yes I-502 -- could change.....**7.8%**
- 3. Undecided -- lean Yes.....**4.7%**
- 4. No I-502 – certain.....**35.0%**
- 5. No I-502 -- could change.....**3.8%**
- 6. Undecided -- lean No.....**2.0%**
- 7. (Will not vote on this issue).....**0.7%**
- 88. (Undecided/Don't know).....**7.6%**

- Yes**50.9%**
- No.....**40.8%**

(Ref:MARIJUANA)

Q.25 [IF NO TO MARIJUANA] Some people say that our current marijuana laws have failed, and that treating adult marijuana use as a crime costs millions in tax dollars, ties up police, courts, and jail space. We should regulate and tax marijuana use just like we do cigarettes, and use the new revenue to fund health care and drug prevention programs. Does this make you more likely to support I-502 to regulate marijuana, less likely to support I-502, or have no effect on how you would vote?

- 1. More likely to support I-502.....**6.9%**
- 2. Less likely to support I-502.....**17.3%**
- 3. No effect on vote.....**73.5%**
- 88. (Undecided/Don't know).....**2.5%**

(Ref:MARIJA)

Q.26 [IF YES TO MARIJUANA] Some people say that legalizing marijuana will increase its availability and lead to more addiction among adults and youth. Plus marijuana possession will still be illegal under federal law, which means people will have to turn to the black market to buy marijuana, which only promotes crime. Does this make you more likely to support I-502 to regulate marijuana, less likely to support I-502, or have no effect on how you would vote?

- 1. More likely to support I-502.....**10.0%**
- 2. Less likely to support I-502.....**10.5%**
- 3. No effect on vote.....**78.4%**
- 88. (Undecided/Don't know).....**1.2%**

(Ref:MARIJB)

Q.27 [SPLIT SAMPLE A] The state of Washington is currently facing a budget deficit of over 1.4 billion dollars. The state legislature can reduce this budget deficit by cutting spending, raising taxes, or a combination of the two. Ideally, how would you prefer to see the legislature attempt to reduce the state of Washington's budget deficit? (READ AND ROTATE LIST)

- 1. Only with spending cuts.....**19.7%**
- 2. Mostly with spending cuts.....**21.0%**
- 3. Equally with spending cuts and tax increases.....**37.2%**
- 4. Mostly with tax increases.....**10.5%**
- 5. Only with tax increases.....**3.1%**
- 88. (Don't know).....**8.6%**

(Ref:DEFICIT)

Q.28 [SPLIT SAMPLE B] The state of Washington is currently facing a budget deficit of over 1.4 billion dollars. In an effort to reduce the deficit some people have suggested that we create a state income tax only on households making more than 500 hundred thousand dollars per year. Do you agree or disagree with the creation of a state income tax on wealthy households?

- 1. Strongly agree.....**20.5%**
- 2. Somewhat agree.....**15.1%**
- 3. Somewhat disagree.....**14.1%**
- 4. Strongly disagree.....**43.8%**
- 5. (Neither agree nor disagree)..**3.0%**
- 88. (Don't know).....**3.4%**

(Ref: INCOMTAX)

Q.29 Thinking about the future of our state economy, which party do you trust more to make the right decisions and improve economic conditions in Washington State? Would you say you have more confidence in (ROTATE NAMES) the Democrats, or the Republicans?

- 1. Democrats.....**44.6%**
- 2. Republicans.....**36.8%**
- 3. Both (volunteered).....**2.8%**
- 4. Neither (volunteered)....**13.0%**
- 88. (Don't Know).....**2.7%**

(ref: FUTECON)

Q.30 [SPLIT SAMPLE A] Thinking ahead to the November 2012 presidential election, how enthusiastic are you about voting in the election this year?

- 1. Very enthusiastic.....**61.9%**
- 2. Somewhat enthusiastic.....**21.4%**
- 3. Not too enthusiastic.....**9.9%**
- 4. Not at all enthusiastic.....**5.5%**
- 88. (Don't Know).....**1.1%**

(ref: ENTHUS1)

Q.31 [SPLIT SAMPLE B] Would you say you are MORE enthusiastic about voting in 2012, or that you were more enthusiastic about voting back in 2008?

- 1. More enthusiastic about 2012.....39.5%
- 2. More enthusiastic back in 2008.....28.7
- 3. No difference / same level.....31.6
- 88. (Don't Know).....0.2

(ref: ENTHUS2)