

Milwaukee County

Interview Schedule



CONFIDENTIAL

Field Dates: February 1-2
Project #11054

N = 400 Likely Voters
Margin of Error = +/- 4.9%

Hello, I'm _____ of _____, a national research firm. We're talking with people in your area and would like to ask you a few questions on a confidential basis. We are not attempting to sell anything, nor will your participation result in any calls in the future to sell you anything. **(DO NOT PAUSE)**

- C. Thinking ahead to the 2012 elections for President, Senate, Congress and other offices... how likely would you say you are to vote in these elections? Would you say you are... **(ROTATE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)**

93% VERY LIKELY
7% SOMEWHAT LIKELY

1. Generally speaking, would you say that things in Milwaukee County are going in the right direction, or have they pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

33% RIGHT DIRECTION
58% WRONG TRACK
8% DON'T KNOW **(DO NOT READ)**
2% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Milwaukee County Board is doing?

(IF CHOICE, ASK:) And is that **STRONGLY** (choice), or just **SOMEWHAT** (choice)?

- 36% TOTAL APPROVE**
- 56% TOTAL DISAPPROVE**

- 4% STRONGLY APPROVE
- 33% SOMEWHAT APPROVE
- 28% SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE
- 28% STRONGLY DISAPPROVE

- 7% DON'T KNOW **(DO NOT READ)**
- 1% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

Rate how well the Milwaukee County Board is doing on the following issues...Please rate each one, using a scale of zero to 10, where zero means the Milwaukee County Board was not doing well at all on that issue, 10 means the Milwaukee County Board is doing very well on that issue.

	10	10-9	10-8	9-8	7-4	3-1	0	MEAN
The (FIRST/NEXT) one is... (RANDOMIZE)								
3. Holding the line on taxes	4%	6%	11%	7%	51%	24%	13%	4.2
4. Holding the line on government spending	5%	5%	11%	6%	48%	26%	14%	4.1
5. County parks and recreation facilities	9%	13%	24%	15%	54%	18%	5%	5.4
6. County cultural facilities like the zoo, and the Milwaukee Public Museum	14%	24%	45%	31%	47%	6%	2%	6.9
7. County facilities for those who have mental health problems	3%	5%	8%	5%	42%	29%	13%	3.8
8. Public transportation	6%	10%	20%	15%	55%	16%	5%	5.4

9. As you may know, Milwaukee County currently faces an estimated \$1.5 to 2 billion dollar budget shortfall. In your view what is most to blame (**RANDOMIZE**)

- 20% The downturn in the economy
 - 23% Wasteful spending by Milwaukee County Government
 - 10% Some people or businesses not paying their fair share in taxes
 - 17% Fraud or abuse by some people who use Milwaukee County services
 - 26% Milwaukee County employees receiving too many taxpayer funded health care and pension benefits

 - 5% DO NOT KNOW/ REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)
-

10. (**SOME PEOPLE/OTHER PEOPLE**) say that to eliminate the deficit we should (**ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM AND BOTTOM TO TOP**)

- 53% Cut spending with no tax increases
- 40% Use a mix of spending cuts and tax increases
- 6% Increase taxes with no spending cuts

...which is closest to how you feel?

- 1% DO NOT KNOW/ REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)
-

Now I am going to read a number of different proposals some have offered to help close Milwaukee County’s estimated \$1.5 to 2 billion dollar budget shortfall. After I read each one, please tell me if you support or oppose that proposal.

(IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE, ASK) And would you say that is **DEFINITELY** closer to **(SUPPORT/OPPOSE)** or just **PROBABLY** closer to **(SUPPORT/OPPOSE)**

TOT SUPPORT	TOT OPPOSE	DEF SUPPORT	PROB SUPPORT	PROB OPPOSE	DEF OPPOSE	(DNR) DK/ REF
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The **(FIRST/NEXT)** one is... **(RANDOMIZE)**

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| 11. Leasing or selling unused property that is owned by Milwaukee County. | 88% | 11% | 57% | 31% | 6% | 4% | 2% |
| 12. Using unused property that is owned by Milwaukee County for other purposes. | 78% | 17% | 46% | 33% | 8% | 9% | 5% |
| 13. Requiring Milwaukee County government to be more transparent and fully disclose the County’s complete budget, finances and how taxpayer dollars are spent. | 92% | 7% | 78% | 15% | 3% | 3% | 1% |
| 14. Changing the law to allow some Milwaukee county services to be completed by less expensive private companies. | 64% | 34% | 37% | 27% | 12% | 22% | 2% |
| 15. Changing the law to allow some Milwaukee county services to received dedicated funding as a service – like the money from mass transit only being used to pay for mass transit. | 79% | 19% | 49% | 30% | 9% | 10% | 2% |
| 16. Reforming Milwaukee County public employee health care benefits to require employees to pay part of their premiums and co pay’s like most private sector employees. | 84% | 16% | 64% | 20% | 7% | 8% | 1% |
| 17. Allowing Milwaukee County and other counties to consolidate their public employee health care plans into the Wisconsin state public employee health care plan. | 73% | 20% | 38% | 36% | 11% | 9% | 7% |

	TOT SUPPORT	TOT OPPOSE	DEF SUPPORT	PROB SUPPORT	PROB OPPOSE	DEF OPPOSE	(DNR) DK/ REF
18. Changing the law to allow Milwaukee County and other local governments more flexibility when negotiating labor contracts with county employee unions.	71%	25%	42%	29%	11%	14%	4%
19. Requiring all Wisconsin villages, cities, towns and counties to pass a series of tests to determine if they are financially healthy and provide oversight to ensure they are meeting their financial obligations.	72%	25%	38%	35%	15%	10%	3%
20. Protecting Milwaukee County employees from budget cuts.	46%	51%	25%	21%	25%	26%	4%
21. Consolidating some city, village and county services so they are performed by one organization instead of many.	72%	26%	43%	29%	12%	14%	2%
22. Decreasing the current size of the Milwaukee County Board.	71%	25%	44%	27%	13%	12%	5%

And now, I have just a few more questions for statistical purposes only...

D1. First, in what year were you born?

3%	18 - 24
6%	25 - 34
11%	35 - 44
23%	45 - 54
32%	55 - 64
25%	65 AND ABOVE
--	REFUSED

D2. And, in politics today, do you consider yourself to be ...**(ROTATE)**

a Republican,
a Democrat,
or something else?

(IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT, ASK:) Would you call yourself a STRONG
(Republican/Democrat) or a NOT-SO-STRONG (Republican/Democrat)?
(IF SOMETHING ELSE, ASK:) Do you think of yourself as closer to the...**(ROTATE)**

the Republican party
...OR...
the Democratic party

22%	TOTAL REPUBLICAN
40%	TOTAL DEMOCRAT
37%	TOTAL LEAN/INDEPENDENT
14%	STRONG REPUBLICAN
8%	NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN
12%	LEAN REPUBLICAN
14%	SOMETHING ELSE/INDEPENDENT/UNDECLARED
12%	LEAN DEMOCRAT
10%	NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT
30%	STRONG DEMOCRAT
2%	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

D3. And what was the last grade you completed in school thus far? **(DO NOT READ CATEGORIES)**

33% HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS

25% SOME COLLEGE

43% COLLEGE+

- 1% Some grade school (1-8)
- 4% Some high school (9-11)
- 28% Graduated high school (12)
- 3% Technical or vocational school (12)
- 21% Some college (13-15)
- 27% Graduated college (16)
- 16% Graduate/Professional school (16+)

-- **REFUSED (DO NOT READ)**

D5. Other than American, what is your main racial or ethnic heritage? Is it...
(READ LIST SLOWLY BEFORE ACCEPTING ANSWER, THEN ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE ONLY.)

20% AFRICAN AMERICAN OR BLACK

75% WHITE

2% HISPANIC AMERICAN

2% NATIVE AMERICAN

1% OTHER

1% **REFUSED (DO NOT READ)**

D6. Gender **(BY OBSERVATION)**

(IF FEMALE, ASK) And do you work outside the home or are you a homemaker or work inside the home?

48% MALE

52% FEMALE
