

# FASTER Arkansas Survey

600 Registered Voters

August 25-27, 2014



**1. Generally speaking, would you say the national economy is headed in the right direction, or is it seriously headed off on the wrong track?**

1. Right Direction	27
2. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	10
3. Wrong Track	63

**2. Generally speaking, would you say the economy in the state of Arkansas is headed in the right direction, or is it seriously headed off on the wrong track?**

1. Right Direction	47
2. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	11
3. Wrong Track	43

**3. Which of the following issues would you say is the most important to you in deciding how to vote for Governor? (ROTATE)**

1. The Economy	18
2. Health Care/Prescription Drugs	16
3. Education	15
4. Taxes	6
5. Social Security	9
6. Energy	*
7. Jobs	14
8. Budget and Spending	6
9. Immigration	3
10. Roads and Highways	1
11. Crime and Safety	3
12. Agriculture	2
13. Other (SPECIFY)	5
14. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	2

**4. Overall would you say that you approve or disapprove of the job the Arkansas State Legislature is doing?**

1. Approve	<b>51</b>
2. Don't know/refused <b>(DO NOT READ)</b>	<b>13</b>
3. Disapprove	<b>37</b>

## Outlook on the State, Education and Economy

**5. In general, how would you rate the K-12 public education system in Arkansas?  
(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

1. Excellent	<b>6</b>
2. Good	<b>33</b>
3. Fair	<b>41</b>
4. Poor	<b>18</b>
5. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>2</b>

**6. Do you think that children in Arkansas are or are not being given enough tools to prepare them for the future?**

1. Are	<b>41</b>
2. Are not	<b>55</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>4</b>

**7. How much does the quality of Arkansas' education system impact the state's economy?**

1. A great deal	<b>67</b>
2. Some	<b>25</b>
3. Not much	<b>6</b>
4. Not at all	<b>1</b>
5. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>1</b>

## Role of Internet in Education

- 8. Do you believe or not believe this statement: In a national study about technology access in all 50 states, Arkansas was ranked 50<sup>th</sup> among all states for high speed Internet access.**

1. Believe	<b>56</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>36</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>8</b>

- 9. Do you believe or not believe this statement: Getting broadband Internet access to every school is as important of an issue as getting electricity to everyone was in the 1930s.**

1. Believe	<b>74</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>24</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>2</b>

- 10. Do you believe or not believe this statement: A recent study shows that only about half the schools in Arkansas meets the level of broadband Internet connectivity that is needed per student.**

1. Believe	<b>70</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>23</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>7</b>

- 11. If this were true, is that acceptable or not acceptable?**

1. Acceptable	<b>20</b>
2. Not acceptable	<b>76</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>4</b>

**12. Do you believe or not believe this statement: Arkansas schools need better access to Internet content, video, and courses for this school year and for the future, and many schools in the state do not have enough access to high speed Internet to meet these challenges.**

1. Believe	<b>77</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>19</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>4</b>

## Proposal/Reasons to Support or Oppose

**13. There is a proposal to amend the state law to allow K-12 educational institutions to connect to an existing high speed Internet network through a public-private partnership. Do you favor or oppose this proposal?**

1. Favor	<b>69</b>
2. Oppose	<b>19</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>12</b>

## BELIEF STATEMENTS

Do you believe or not believe the following statements: (ROTATE STATEMENTS Q14-20)

**14. This would level the playing field by reducing the cost of high speed Internet for school districts statewide, including rural and low income areas.**

1. Believe	<b>71</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>22</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>7</b>

**15. Increasing students' access to the Internet will create a better educated workforce and bring more jobs into the state.**

1. Believe	<b>81</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>17</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>1</b>

**16. If this proposal does not pass, Arkansas' students will be at a disadvantage to students in other states who have better access to high speed Internet.**

1. Believe	<b>78</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>18</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>4</b>

**17. This proposal would allow Arkansas children to be able to use a high speed Internet network that has already been paid for by taxpayers. Estimates say it can be done without additional cost, and in fact the state may be able to significantly reduce cost.**

1. Believe	<b>67</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>26</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>7</b>

**18. Private Internet providers have already invested in infrastructure and sponsored programs to increase access to high speed Internet for low income and rural areas.**

1. Believe	<b>59</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>32</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>10</b>

**19. The urgency of this problem may be overstated.**

1. Believe	<b>51</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>45</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>4</b>

**20. This proposal could lead to unfair competition with private providers.**

1. Believe	<b>49</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>41</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>10</b>

**21. After hearing these statements from both sides, do you favor or oppose this proposal?**

1. Favor	<b>73</b>
2. Oppose	<b>17</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>10</b>

**22. Would you be more favorable or less favorable to a legislator who supported this proposal, or would it have no impact?**

1. More favorable	<b>45</b>
2. Less favorable	<b>7</b>
3. No impact	<b>43</b>
4. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>6</b>

**23. Some are considering holding a special session of the state legislature this fall to discuss this proposal. Do you support or oppose holding a special session?**

1. Support	<b>61</b>
2. Oppose	<b>34</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>5</b>

## Impact of the Proposal

**If this proposal is passed, please tell me if it would (ROTATE) help, hurt or have no impact on each of the following: (ROTATE 24-26)**

**24. Economic growth of the state**

1. Help	<b>71</b>
2. Hurt	<b>3</b>
3. No impact	<b>23</b>
4. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>4</b>

**25. Student outcomes and test scores**

1. Help	<b>72</b>
2. Hurt	<b>3</b>
3. No impact	<b>20</b>
4. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>5</b>

**26. The state's workforce and job training for the future**

1. Help	<b>78</b>
2. Hurt	<b>2</b>
3. No impact	<b>16</b>
4. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>3</b>

**27. Do you believe or not believe this statement: Having faster Internet access in schools would give students better ability to do research, and have access to online courses and the best video lectures, which would improve student learning.**

1. Believe	<b>87</b>
2. Do not believe	<b>13</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>1</b>



## Demographics

Now just a few demographic questions for statistical purposes only--

### 28. In what year were you born?

1. 18-34	25
2. 35-44	17
3. 45-54	13
4. 55-64	24
5. 65+	20

### 29. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself (ROTATE) a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

1. Republican	30
2. Democrat	35
3. Independent	30
4. Other	4
5. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

### 30. If you had to classify yourself, would you say you are (ROTATE) liberal, moderate, or conservative in your political beliefs?

1. Liberal	13
2. Moderate	40
3. Conservative	46
4. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

### 31. Are there children in your household under the age of 18 years old?

1. Yes	30
2. No	70
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

**32. What is your current marital status?**

1. Single, never married	<b>21</b>
2. Married	<b>62</b>
3. Separated	<b>1</b>
4. Divorced	<b>10</b>
5. Widowed	<b>6</b>
6. Don't Know/Refused ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )	<b>*</b>

**33. What is the annual income of your household before taxes? Is it...**

1. Less than 15K	<b>10</b>
2. 15K-30K	<b>14</b>
3. 30K-50K	<b>15</b>
4. 50K-75K	<b>18</b>
5. 75K-100K	<b>8</b>
6. Over 100K	<b>16</b>
7. Don't Know/Refused ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )	<b>19</b>

**34. What is the last grade of school you completed?**

1. Some high school	<b>3</b>
2. High school graduate	<b>24</b>
3. Some college	<b>28</b>
4. Associate's degree	<b>7</b>
5. Bachelor's degree	<b>23</b>
6. Postgraduate study/degree	<b>13</b>
7. Don't Know/Refused ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )	<b>1</b>

**35. Do you consider yourself part of the “Tea Party” movement?**

1. Yes	<b>11</b>
2. No	<b>86</b>
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>3</b>

**36. What is your race or ethnicity?**

1. Hispanic	<b>3</b>
2. African-American	<b>12</b>
3. Asian	<b>1</b>
4. White	<b>82</b>
5. Other	<b>1</b>
6. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	<b>1</b>

**Gender (by observation)**

1. Male	<b>46</b>
2. Female	<b>54</b>

**Region/Media Market (TAKEN FROM SAMPLE)**

1. Ft/ Smith/Fayetteville/Springville/Rogers	<b>25</b>
2. Shreveport	<b>4</b>
3. Jonesboro	<b>7</b>
4. Memphis	<b>6</b>
5. Little Rock/Pine Bluff/Monroe	<b>53</b>
6. Springfield	<b>5</b>