



2019-2020 PRE-SESSION POLLING ON EITC AND REVENUE POLICY

Voters Express Strong Support for Revenue Policy that Benefits Low Income Workers in FL and NC;

Broad Support for Revenue Policies that Ensure Everyone Pays Their Fair Share in MD and MI

EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

State polling conducted over the course of 2019 and 2020 to broadly educate legislators, partners, and the public showed that among likely voters, there is strong support for policies that provide working families with economic security. In particular, polling found high levels of support for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

The EITC is a tax cut for working families. The federal EITC was established during the Reagan administration as a way to reduce poverty and to reward people who work in low-wage industries. In addition, the District of Columbia and 29 states have a state EITC which provides a vital source of income for tens of millions of low-wage workers.

SiX polling also found strong support for responsible revenue policies that ensure everyone pays their fair share.

Below is a look at the polling questions and numbers:

Florida

The Earned Income Tax Credit is a tax cut for working families. The federal EITC was established during the Reagan administration as a way to reduce poverty and to reward people who work in low-wage industries. Twenty-nine states and the District of Columbia have a state EITC. If Florida passed an EITC it could provide a tax cut to millions of low-income Florida families. Based on what you have read, do you support or oppose establishing a state Earned Income Tax Credit in Florida?

TOTAL SUPPORT 65%

TOTAL OPPOSE 21%

North Carolina

Below is a brief description of the state Earned Income Tax Credit. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a tax cut for working families struggling to make ends meet. Reestablishing a North Carolina EITC would provide a tax cut to more than one

million families in our state. The EITC has been linked to improvements in the health and well-being of children whose families receive it in other states, and increased access to healthcare. Based on what you have read, do you favor or oppose establishing a state Earned Income Tax Credit in North Carolina?

TOTAL FAVOR 73%

TOTAL OPPOSE 14%

You will now read some reasons that people have given for restoring the state Earned Income Tax Credit in North Carolina. For each one, please indicate whether it is a strong reason, medium reason, or weak reason to support restoring the state Earned Income Tax Credit in North Carolina.

A state Earned Income Tax Credit would help working families who are struggling to get by

STRONG REASON TO SUPPORT 51%

MEDIUM REASON TO SUPPORT 39%

WEAK REASON TO SUPPORT 10%

A state Earned Income Tax Credit has been linked to improvements in the health and well-being of children

STRONG REASON TO SUPPORT 48%

MEDIUM REASON TO SUPPORT 39%

WEAK REASON TO SUPPORT 13%

A state Earned Income Tax Credit would help one million working families.

STRONG REASON TO SUPPORT 47%

MEDIUM REASON TO SUPPORT 40%

WEAK REASON TO SUPPORT 13%

A state Earned Income Tax Credit could improve access to healthcare

STRONG REASON TO SUPPORT 47%

MEDIUM REASON TO SUPPORT 35%

WEAK REASON TO SUPPORT 18%

A state Earned Income Tax Credit could reduce infant mortality

STRONG REASON TO SUPPORT 44%

MEDIUM REASON TO SUPPORT 31%

WEAK REASON TO SUPPORT 25%

Maryland

Now I'd like to ask you some proposals that are being considered to provide revenue that would be dedicated to increases in funding for Maryland public schools. After I read each one, please tell me if you support or oppose that proposal.

Tax wealthy estates worth at least one million dollars, rather than the current five million dollars

TOTAL SUPPORT 52%

TOTAL OPPOSE 44%

Raise income taxes on people making at least two-hundred and fifty thousand dollars per year.

TOTAL SUPPORT 60%

TOTAL OPPOSE 38%

Close corporate loopholes and start taxing corporations in Maryland

TOTAL SUPPORT 79%

TOTAL OPPOSE 19%

Legalize and tax the sale of recreational marijuana

TOTAL SUPPORT 67%

TOTAL OPPOSE 29%

Create a carbon tax paid by companies based on how much carbon they emit

TOTAL SUPPORT 71%

TOTAL OPPOSE 26%

Increase the tax on tobacco and vaping products

TOTAL SUPPORT 77%

TOTAL OPPOSE 21%

Increase tax on alcohol

TOTAL SUPPORT 59%

TOTAL OPPOSE 40%

Apply the existing sales tax to online purchases

TOTAL SUPPORT 36%

TOTAL OPPOSE 61%

Michigan

Currently Michigan has a flat tax rate for corporations, where all businesses pay the same percent on their profits. Some people are now calling for a graduated tax where bigger companies pay a higher rate.

Supporters of this idea say it would raise more money for better roads and schools by making larger and more profitable companies pay their fair share, while helping small businesses by cutting their taxes.

Opponents of this idea say Michigan should keep a low, flat corporate tax rate so that businesses are all treated fairly. Changing the rates would hurt Michigan's already shaky economy, by forcing some businesses to move jobs out of state

Based on what you know about this idea, would you support or oppose Michigan moving to graduated corporate income tax?

TOTAL SUPPORT 58%

TOTAL OPPOSE 29%

ABOUT THESE POLLS

Florida: TargetSmart conducted an on-line survey of likely voters in December 2019.

Maryland: TargetSmart conducted a phone survey of 500 adults December 4-8, 2019. Margin of Error is $\pm 4.4\%$.

Michigan: Lincoln Park Strategies conducted a multi-modal survey of 1,200 likely voters November 12-17. Margin of error is $\pm 3.5\%$ at the 95% confidence level.

North Carolina: Hart Research conducted an on-line survey of 652 likely voters February 26-March 3, 2020 .