

**STATEWIDE POLL OF  
LOUISIANA VOTERS ON THE  
DEATH PENALTY**

Conducted by:

Multi-Quest PRSCM LLC

MARCH 2016

Q1. How important are each of the following in the allocation of tax revenues –

a. Road and highway repairs

Extremely ..... 36.1%  
Very ..... 49%  
Somewhat ..... 12.6%  
Not Very ..... 1.6%  
Not at all ..... 0.3%  
Don't know ..... 0.3%

b. Funding higher education/ TOPS

Extremely ..... 38.2%  
Very ..... 37%  
Somewhat ..... 15.6%  
Not Very ..... 5.1%  
Not at all ..... 2.8%  
Don't know ..... 1.3%

c. K-12 education

Extremely ..... 51.4%  
Very ..... 36.5%  
Somewhat ..... 8.5%  
Not Very ..... 2.5%  
Not at all ..... 0.8%  
Don't know ..... 0.3%

d. Healthcare for the poor, children and the elderly

Extremely ..... 45.9%  
Very ..... 42.4%  
Somewhat ..... 9.4%  
Not Very ..... 1.6%  
Not at all ..... 0.3%  
Don't know ..... 0.3%

e. Preserving the death penalty

Extremely ..... 16.4%  
Very ..... 21.1%  
Somewhat ..... 23.1%  
Not Very ..... 14.3%  
Not at all ..... 17.2%

Don't know ..... 7.9%

Q2. Do you think the punishment for first degree murder should be:

35 years with parole thereafter ..... 15.4%  
Life without possibility of parole ..... 42.3%  
Death penalty ..... 24.3%  
Don't know/Refused ..... 18%

Q3. The State is currently in a budget crisis. The Governor and Legislature will have to decide which services to cut and which taxes to raise. The death penalty has cost the State of Louisiana an average of 10 million dollars over the past 15 years. Knowing this, would you prefer your legislators to raise taxes to keep the death penalty or cut costs by eliminating the death penalty?

Prefer tax raise ..... 24.5%  
Eliminate ..... 52.1%  
Don't know/Refused ..... 23.5%

Q4. Of the attributes I just read [party affiliation, vote on taxes, responsiveness to constituents, position on criminal justice reform, position on the death penalty] which is the most important?

Their party affiliation ..... 10.5%  
Their vote on taxes ..... 23.3%  
Responsiveness to constituents ...37.9%  
Position on criminal justice reform ...11.3%  
Position on the death penalty ..... 8%  
Don't know/Refused ..... 9%

And now just for demographic purposes –  
Q5. Gender

Male ..... 44.9%  
Female who works ..... 21.2%  
Female who stays home ..... 33.4%  
Female refused to indicate ..... .5%

Q6. Are you registered as a Democrat, a  
Republican or an Independent?

Democrat ..... 47.9%  
Republican ..... 33.6%  
Independent ..... 12.3%  
Refused ..... 6.2

Q7. What is your age, are you under 40, 40  
but under 60 or over 60?

Under 40 ..... 8.2%  
40 but under 60 ..... 26.2 %  
60 and over ..... 64.8%  
Refused ..... .8%

**Death Penalty Research**  
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	Base	Gender		
Death penalty importance in tax allocation		Male	Female	
			Works	Stays home
Extremely	16.4	19.4	14.6	13.8
Very	21.1	20.9	27.7	17.2
Somewhat	23.1	20.5	23.1	27.1
Not very	14.3	16.5	10.8	13.3
Not at all	17.2	18.3	14.6	17.7
Don't know	7.9	4.4	9.2	10.8

	Base	Gender		
Punishment for first degree murder		Male	Female	
			Works	Stays home
35 with Parole	15.4	14.7	14.7	17.2
Life without Parole	42.3	35.5	52.7	44.6
Death Penalty	24.3	33.3	17.8	15.7
Don't know/Refuse	18	16.5	14.7	22.5

	Base	Gender		
Raise taxes or eliminate the death penalty		Male	Female	
			Works	Stays home
Tax increase	24.5	28.6	23.3	19.6
Eliminate	52.1	44.3	57.4	59.8
Don't know/Refused	23.5	27.1	19.4	20.6

	Base	Gender		
Most important in electing legislator		Male	Female	
			Works	Stays home
Party	10.5	9.6	9.2	12.3
Vote on taxes	23.3	24.3	22.1	22.7
Responsiveness	37.9	40.1	34.4	37.4
Position on CJ reform	11.3	12.1	14.5	7.9
Position on death penalty	8	5.9	9.2	10.3
Don't know/Refused	9	8.1	10.7	9.4

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	Base	Party		
		Dem	Rep	Ind
Death penalty importance in tax allocation				
Extremely	16.4	11	25	9.3
Very	21.1	15	29.9	22.7
Somewhat	23.1	27.9	19.6	17.3
Not Very	14.3	17.6	7.8	18.7
Not at all	17.2	20.3	10.3	21.3
Don't Know/Refused	7.9	7.9	7.4	10.7

	Base	Party		
		Dem	Rep	Ind
Punishment for first degree murder				
35 with Parole	15.4	21.6	8.7	10.5
Life without Parole	42.3	48.1	35.4	36.8
Death Penalty	24.3	15.1	36.4	31.6
Don't know/Refuse	18	15.1	19.4	21.1

	Base	Party		
		Dem	Rep	Ind
Raise taxes or eliminate the death penalty				
Tax increase	24.5	21.6	27	29.7
Eliminate	52.1	60.1	40.2	48.6
Don't know/Refused	23.5	18.2	32.8	21.6

	Base	Party		
		Dem	Rep	Ind
Most important in electing legislator				
Party	10.5	10.3	12.7	7.9
Vote on taxes	23.3	21	27.9	23.7
Responsiveness	37.9	35.4	37.3	50
Position on CJ reform	11.3	13.7	7.4	11.8
Position on death penalty	8	8.6	7.8	6.6
Don't know/Refused	9	11		0

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	Base	Age		
Death penalty importance in tax allocation		Under 40	40 but not 60	60 and over
Extremely	16.4	6	17	17.3
Very	21.1	24	20	21.1
Somewhat	23.1	24	21.4	23.9
Not Very	14.3	16	17	12.9
Not at all	17.2	28	17.6	15.5
Don't Know/Refused	7.9	2	6.3	9.4

	Base	Age		
Punishment for first degree murder		Under 40	40 but not 60	60 and over
35 with Parole	15.4	20.4	11.3	16.7
Life without Parole	42.3	51	41.3	41.7
Death Penalty	24.3	16.3	26.3	24.5
Don't know/Refuse	18	12.2	21.3	17.2

	Base	Age		
Raise taxes or eliminate the death penalty		Under 40	40 but not 60	60 and over
Tax increase	24.5	16	25	24.8
Eliminate	52.1	62	50	51.9
Don't know/Refused	23.5	22	25	23.3

	Base	Age		
Most important in electing legislator		Under 40	40 but not 60	60 and over
Party	10.5	10.2	9.4	10.9
Vote on taxes	23.3	30.6	21.9	23.1
Responsiveness	37.9	38.8	35	38.6
Position on CJ reform	11.3	12.2	17.5	8.9
Position on death penalty	8	6.1	6.9	8.6
Don't know/Refused	9	2	9.4	9.9