

Arizona Voters' Agenda



Economy & Inflation Priorities

What the majority of Arizona's likely voters want candidates to address as they compete for their votes in the 2022 election

Center for the Future of Arizona (CFA) developed the Arizona Voters' Agenda from new survey research of Republican, Democratic, and independent/unaffiliated voters of all ages. The survey was conducted April 12-19, 2022 by HighGround Public Affairs on behalf of CFA. The Agenda focuses on what a majority of likely voters across the political spectrum say are the priorities in the 2022 midterm election. This includes economy & inflation in addition to education, water & the environment, election reform, and immigration.

Key Finding: Voters Prefer Investing Surplus Over Cutting Taxes

The findings on economy & inflation demonstrate that voters care the most about supporting Arizona's long-term economic growth, and would prefer to invest surplus money in critical infrastructure rather than cutting taxes.

Voters believe the tax burden is low and the surplus should be invested.

- **82%** of all likely voters support the following statement: "Economists forecast Arizona will have a \$4 billion budget surplus over the next three years. Instead of continuing to cut taxes, we should be increasing funding for education, public safety, roads, and other critical investments that will boost our long-term economic growth."
- **84%** of all likely voters support the following statement: "When you compare Arizona to other states across the country, our tax burden is relatively low. Everyone should pay their fair share of taxes to ensure that the state can continue to meet its core obligations."

What Voters Want to Know: Questions for Candidates

Use these questions to foster productive dialogue and seek out real answers:

- Economists forecast Arizona will have a budget surplus over the next three years. What do you think the state should do with the funds?
- The Arizona Legislature passed a bipartisan budget in June 2022 that included investments of surplus dollars. Do you think additional investments are needed, and what would that look like under your leadership?
- What should Arizona do to address inflation and rising costs and make housing more affordable for all Arizonans?

What Didn't Make the Arizona Voters' Agenda for Economy & Inflation?

The Arizona Voters' Agenda survey covered a wide array of issues, and several highly publicized topics did NOT reach the level of support necessary to be considered a priority, including:



"Reducing income taxes."

Arizona Voters' Agenda: Economy & Inflation

Issues on the Arizona Voters' Agenda meet **all of** the following criteria:

- "Strongly Agree/Support" is 50% and above among All Likely Voters
- Total Support (i.e., the sum of "Somewhat Agree/Support" and "Strongly Agree/Support") is 50% and above among every political affiliation and age group

Policy Items

Supporting Arizona's long-term economic growth.

All Respondents		Rep	Ind/Un	Dem
Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support
76%	95%	95%	98%	95%

Addressing inflation.

All Respondents		Rep	Ind/Un	Dem
Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support
75%	92%	95%	93%	88%

Addressing rising costs.

All Respondents		Rep	Ind/Un	Dem
Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support
69%	88%	88%	88%	89%

Reducing gas prices.

All Respondents		Rep	Ind/Un	Dem
Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support
69%	87%	93%	83%	79%

Increasing housing affordability.

All Respondents		Rep	Ind/Un	Dem
Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support
68%	88%	84%	88%	94%

Increasing job creation and business investment.

All Respondents		Rep	Ind/Un	Dem
Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support
67%	92%	95%	88%	91%

Value Statements

Economists forecast Arizona will have a \$4 billion budget surplus over the next three years. Instead of continuing to cut taxes, we should be increasing funding for education, public safety, roads, and other critical investments that will boost our long-term economic growth.

All Respondents		Republican	Ind/Unaffiliated	Democrat
Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support
54%	82%	70%	93%	95%

When you compare Arizona to other states across the country, our tax burden is relatively low. Everyone should pay their fair share of taxes to ensure that the state can continue to meet its core obligations.

All Respondents		Republican	Ind/Unaffiliated	Democrat
Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support	Total Support
51%	84%	78%	90%	92%