



NELSON REPORT™

FINAL RESULTS

(n=522)

OPRI MEMBERSHIP SURVEY 2017

FINAL DRAFT

Hello, may I please speak to _____? My name is _____. I'm calling on behalf of your association, the Oregon PERS Retirees. We are conducting a brief survey today to get your opinions on the PERS system so that we may better represent you in the state capitol. May I please take a few minutes of your time?

- A. Taking everything into consideration, what is your biggest concern right now about the Oregon Public Employee Retirement System? (**PROBE**)
- B. What is the most important issue you'd like your association – Oregon PERS Retirees – to work on? (**PROBE**)

1. Do you believe that Oregon's Public Employee Retirement System has become a financial crisis for state and local governments?

- | | | |
|----|------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Yes | 43 |
| 2. | No | 37 |
| 3. | Not Sure/Refused | 20 |

2. Currently, the legislature is considering proposals that would reduce the cost of PERS by reducing benefits for future PERS retirees, and directing those savings to increase funding for government services. Generally speaking, do you FAVOR or OPPOSE this approach?

- | | | |
|----|------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Favor | 15 |
| 2. | Oppose | 67 |
| 3. | Not Sure/Refused | 18 |

3. Do you FAVOR or OPPOSE PERS reform proposals that would require future PERS retirees to make greater contributions to their own personal retirement accounts?

- | | | |
|----|------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Favor | 44 |
| 2. | Oppose | 30 |
| 3. | Not Sure/Refused | 26 |

4. Next, I will read you two statements. Please tell me which one statement comes closest to your point of view? (**INTERVIEWER, PLEASE ROTATE STATEMENTS**)

We need to reduce the cost of future PERS benefits to ensure that the system is sustainable for future retirees, even if that requires reforms that may reduce future benefits; or

A contract is a contract and benefit levels should be kept as is for those who are not yet retired.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Reduce PERS costs | 23 |
| 2. Keep Benefits As Is | 65 |
| 3. Not Sure/Refused | 12 |

5. Now, I am going to read you two different statements. Please tell me which one statement comes closest to your point of view: (**INTERVIEWER, PLEASE ROTATE STATEMENTS**)

We need to reduce the cost of future PERS benefits so that we can use those savings to fund critical government services, even if that requires a modest reduction in benefits, or;

The legislature needs to find other ways to fund critical services instead of trimming future retirement benefits for public employees.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Reduce PERS/Fund Svc | 13 |
| 2. Find Other Funding Solutions | 77 |
| 3. Not Sure/Refused | 10 |

- C. What would be your solution for reducing the unfunded liabilities of the Oregon PERS system? If you don't believe PERS unfunded liabilities are a problem, just say so.

DEMOGRAPHICS:

6. GENDER:

1. Male
2. Female

7. EMPLOYMENT: Did you retire from service in...?

1. State Government
2. Local Government
3. School District
4. Special District
5. Not Sure/Refused

8. HOW LONG have you been retired from public service?

1. Less than 5 years
2. Between 6 – 15 years
3. More than 15 years