

There is a lot of talk about liberals and conservatives. Here is a 7-point scale on which the political views that people might hold are arranged from extremely liberal to extremely conservative.



7. Where would you place yourself on this scale? (Please write in your number.) _____

8. How much time, per month, would you say you participate in religious activities or events? (Please check your answer.)

- Don't participate in religious activities
- Less than 2 hours
- 2 to 4 hours
- 4 to 6 hours
- 6 to 8 hours
- over 8 hours

9. Have you ever participated on a Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB) in the City of Reno? (Please circle "yes" or "no.")

YES NO

10. Have you ever served on a Citizen Advisory Board in Washoe County? Citizen Advisory Boards, or CABs, are advisors to the Washoe County Commission, serving to communicate the interests of its citizens to Commissioners on a variety of issues. (Please circle "yes" or "no.")

YES NO

If yes, what years? _____

Now, please go to **question 11**.

If no, please go to **question 12**.

11. If you did participate on a CAB, what led you to participate?

12. Would you participate on a CAB or NAB? Why or why not?

13. Have you participated on a different community board? (Please circle "yes" or "no.")

YES NO

If yes, what board and what years did you participate?

Thank you for your valuable input!



ID # _____

Community Participation & Local Government Survey

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension is administering this survey to examine citizen participation in community and local government. As a resident of Washoe County, this survey is being sent to gather your opinions on the following questions. The survey will take you approximately 15 minutes to complete. Please take the time to complete this survey; your input is critical. Thank you for your participation.

Section I

1. If you had a complaint about a **local government activity** and took that complaint to the local government council, do you think that they would pay: (Please check your answer.)
 - No attention at all
 - Very little attention
 - Some attention
 - A lot of attention to what you say

2. If you had a complaint about an **issue in your community** and took that complaint to the local government council, do you think that they would pay: (Please check your answer.)
 - No attention at all
 - Very little attention
 - Some attention
 - A lot of attention to what you say

3. If you had a complaint about a **national government activity** and you took that complaint to your congressman or congresswoman, do you think that he or she would pay: (Please check your answer.)
 - No attention at all
 - Very little attention
 - Some attention
 - A lot of attention to what you say

4. How much influence do you think someone like you has over local government decisions? (Please check your answer.)
 - None at all
 - Very little influence
 - Some influence
 - A lot of influence

- 5a. Have you participated, in any way, on a local issue(s)? YES___ NO___

- 5b. If yes, how effective do you feel that your participation was on that local issue? (Please check your answer.)
 - Not effective
 - Somewhat effective
 - Effective
 - Very effective

Section II

1. Here is a list of activities that people sometimes have to do as either part of their jobs or members of organizations. Please indicate whether or not you have engaged in the following activities. Have you in the past 5 years... (Please circle "yes" or "no.")

	YES	NO	Written a letter to an elected official or government agency?
	YES	NO	Given a speech or a presentation?
	YES	NO	Gone to a meeting where you took part in providing comments or decisions?
	YES	NO	Planned or chaired a meeting?
	YES	NO	Contacted a local elected official through phone calls or email?

2. Which of the following associations have you been involved with in the past or present? (Please check all that apply.)

- Boy/Girl Scouts
- Student government (high school/college)
- Church group
- 4-H group
- Chamber of Commerce or Jaycees
- Big Brother/Big Sister
- Literary, art discussion, study groups
- School fraternities or sororities
- Labor unions
- Boys'/Girls' Clubs
- Athletic teams or clubs (sport teams)
- "Fraternal" organizations (e.g., Lions Kiwanis. Etc.)
- Band or choral groups
- Political clubs or interest groups
- Professional or academic societies
- Veterans' groups
- Hobby or garden clubs
- Religious group
- Other(s): _____

3. In the past two years, have you served in a voluntary capacity (that is, for no pay at all or for only a token amount) on any official local government board or council that deals with community problems and issues?

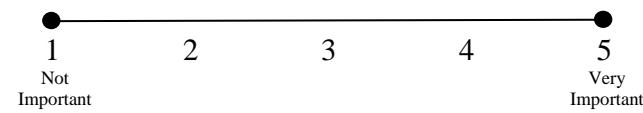
YES ___ NO ___

If yes, what kind of board or council was that?

4. Regarding informal community activities, have you gotten together informally with or worked with others in your community or neighborhood to try to deal with some community issue or problem? YES ___ NO ___

If yes, what was your most recent group or issue?

5. Below is a list of reasons people often give for taking part in community activities. Thinking about your experiences, please indicate how important each of the reasons below are in your decision to take part in a community group with "1" being not important to "5" being very important.



- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I find it exciting | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To learn about politics and government | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To work with people who share my ideals | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To meet important and influential people | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To influence government policy | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| My duty as a citizen..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I am the kind of person who does my share | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To lend a hand to people who need help..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To further my job or career | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The chance for recognition from people I respect..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I might want to get a job with the government someday | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I might want to run for office someday | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To be with people I enjoy | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I did not want to say no to someone..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I might want to get help from an official on a personal or family problem | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The chance to make the community a better place to live..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| To solve a particular problem..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

6. On average, how often do you attend community meetings that involve face-to-face discussions with other members, citizens, staff members, etc.? (Please check your answer.)

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Frequently

7. If these meetings you attended involve face-to-face discussions, how would you rate your level of satisfaction with the outcome of those discussions? On average would you rate your level of satisfaction as: (Please check your answer.)

- Very dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Satisfied
- Very satisfied

8. If these meetings you attended involved face-to-face discussions, how useful would you rate the discussions toward resolving the issue or reaching a decision? (Please check your answer.)

- Useless
- Not very useful
- Useful
- Very useful

9. How much time, per month, would you say you participate in community or volunteer activities, such as attending meetings, preparing for meetings, organizing for a community event, etc? (Please check your answer.)

- Don't participate in community activities
- Less than 2 hours
- 2 to 4 hours
- 4 to 6 hours
- 6 to 8 hours
- Over 8 hours

Section III

1. What is the highest level of education you have completed? (Please check your answer.)

- Some high school
- High school degree/GED
- Technical school
- Some college
- College degree (Associate's degree)
- College degree (Bachelor's degree)
- Some graduate work
- Graduate school (Master's degree)
- Doctorate

2. How long have you lived in the northern Nevada or the Truckee Meadows area? (Please check your answer.)

- Less than one year
- 1 to 3 years
- 3 to 6 years
- 6 to 10 years
- 10 to 15 years
- 15 to 20 years
- Over 20 years

3. What is your gender? Male Female

4. What year were you born? 19_____

5. What best describes your race or ethnic origin? (Please check all that apply.)

- African-American
- American Indian
- Anglo-White
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic/Latino
- Other _____

6. Which best describes your gross household family income in 2002? (Please check your answer.)

- Less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 to \$44,999
- \$45,000 to \$64,999
- \$65,000 to \$84,999
- \$85,000 to \$104,999
- Over \$105,000