



MAINE PEOPLE'S RESOURCE CENTER PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

March 17-19, 2012 ■ N=475

Methodology

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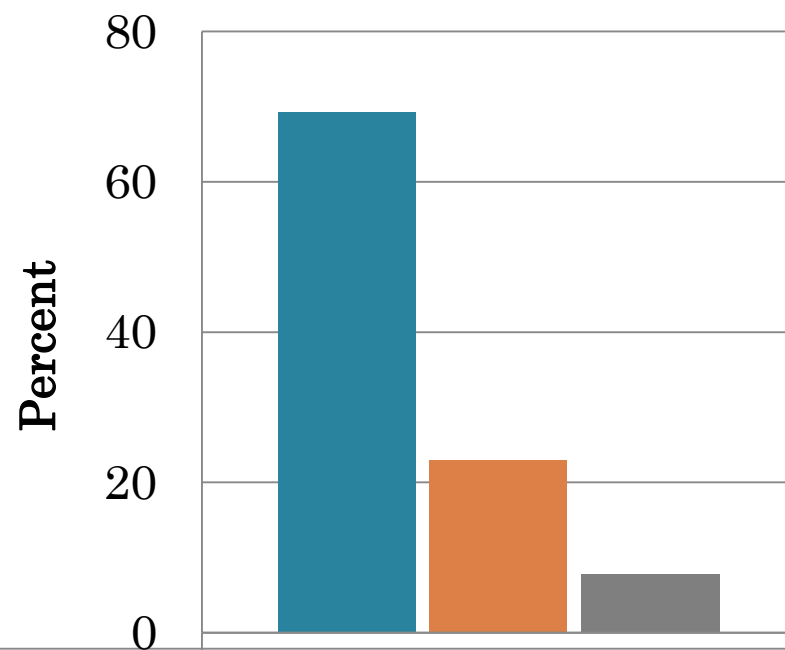
- A survey of 475 registered Maine voters in likely voter households was conducted by interactive voice response from March 17th through March 19th, 2012. Calls were made at different times of day to maximize the diversity of possible respondents. Questions were recorded by a female interviewer.
- Survey results were mathematically weighted by gender, age and geographic area to ensure an accurate representation of the population being surveyed. The sample was not weighted by party or ideology.
- The margin of error of this survey is 4.5%, 95 times out of 100. Sub-samples may have a larger margin of error.
- Frequencies and percentages may not always add up to the total number of responses or to 100%, due to weighting and rounding.
- Questions on money in politics were sponsored by Maine Citizens for Clean Elections.

MPRC is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to giving people, especially those groups that are under-represented in civic life, skills and information to participate in the decision-making processes that affect them.

Continuing Clean Elections

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- Maine citizens put the Maine Clean Election Act on the ballot and, in 1996, Maine voters passed it into law. Since 2000, qualified candidates for state office who limit their spending have received limited public funds to run for office rather than relying on campaign donations from private sources. Do you think Maine should continue to have a Clean Election program?
- Compare MPRC May 2011: (71.5/14.8/13.7, LV, N=525)

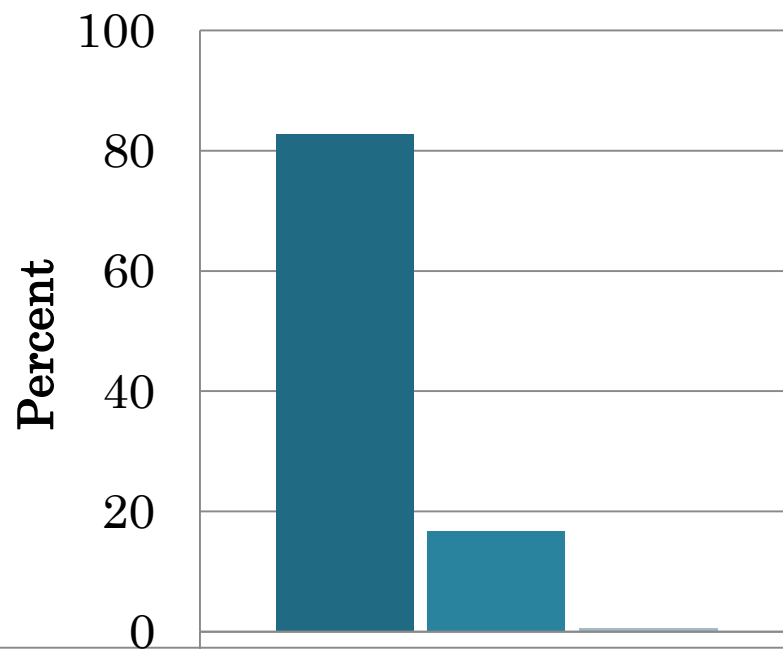


■ yes	69.3
■ no	22.9
■ don't know	7.8

Legislative Clean Elections

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- In your opinion, how important is it that Maine continue to have Clean Elections for legislative candidates? (Asked only of supporters of continuing Clean Elections, N=329)

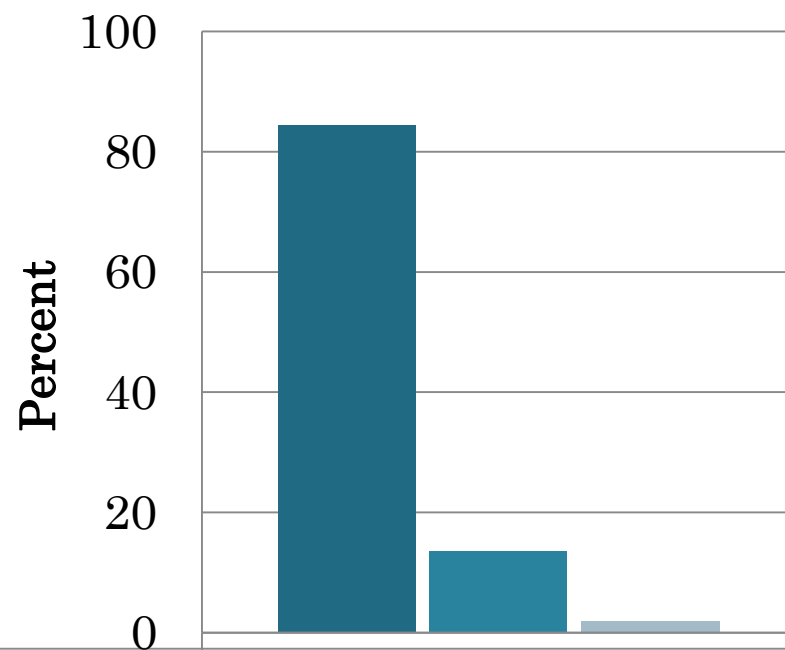


■ very	82.7
■ somewhat	16.7
■ not	0.6

Gubernatorial Clean Elections

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- In your opinion, how important is it that Maine continue to have Clean Elections for candidates running for Governor? (Asked only of supporters of continuing Clean Elections, N=329)

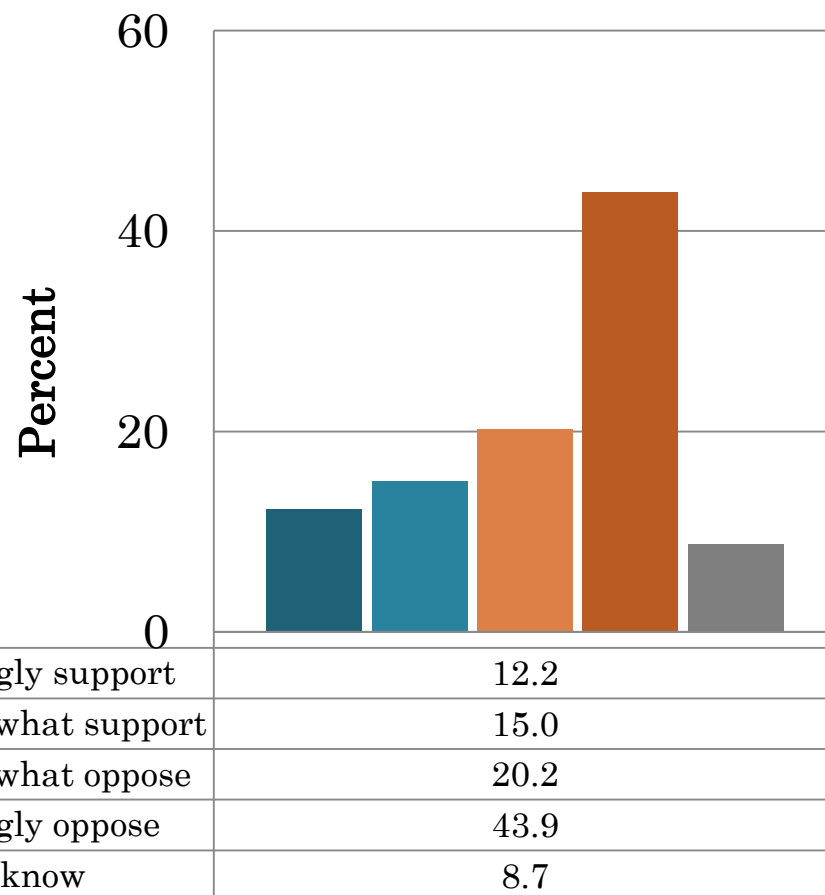


■ very	84.4
■ somewhat	13.6
■ not	1.9

Citizens United

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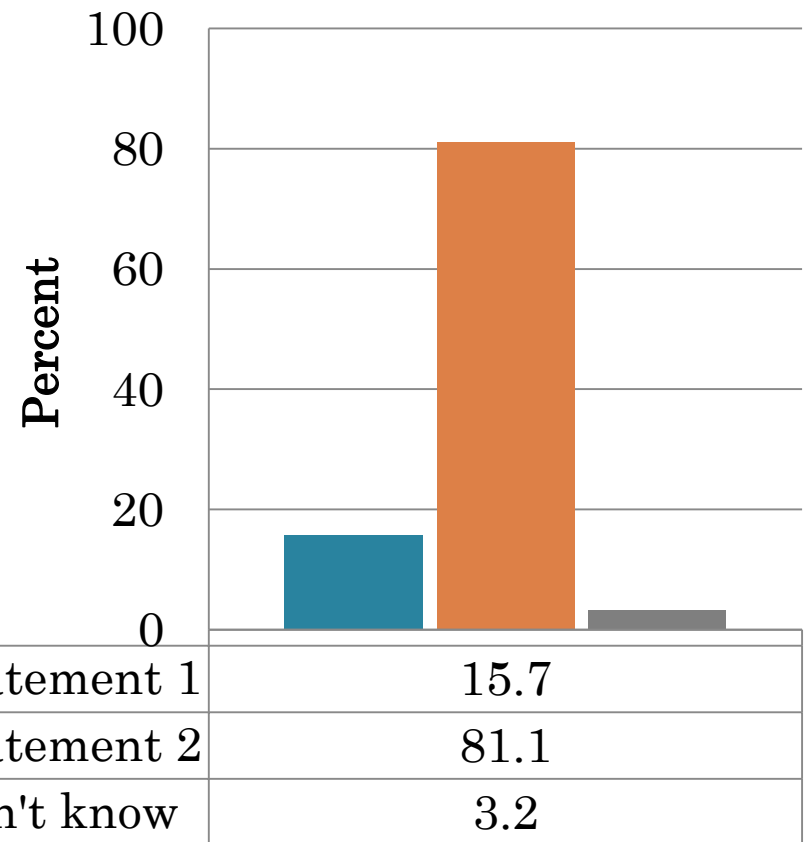
- In 2010, the Supreme Court decided in a case commonly referred to as Citizens United that corporations and unions can spend unlimited amounts of money to directly support or oppose federal candidates. From what you know, do you support or oppose this Supreme Court ruling?



Money in Politics

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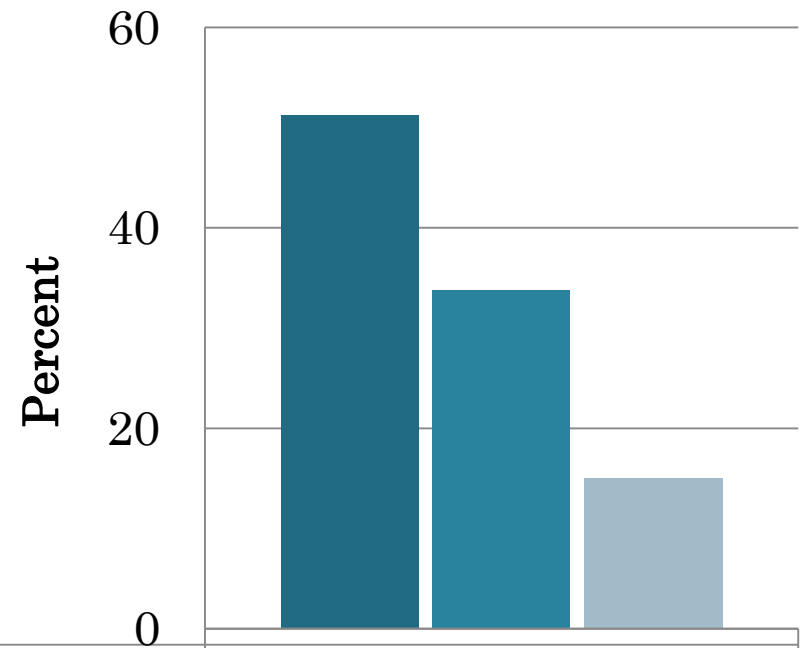
- Now I'm going to read you two statements. Please tell me which of the following more closely approximates your feelings about money in politics:
 - ▣ **Statement 1:** Campaign finance reform has failed to live up to its promise. We should roll back restrictions on the flow of money and just let donors give as much as they want to whomever they want.
 - ▣ **Statement 2:** There is too much money in politics and wealthy donors are overwhelming elections, drowning out the voices of ordinary citizens. We must push forward with reforms to limit the influence of big money in elections and government.



Election Issue

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- Thinking about the elections this year, how important is it to you that candidates address the issue of money in politics?



■ very	51.2
■ somewhat	33.8
■ not	15.0

Frequencies

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Gender

	Percent
female	52.5
male	47.5

Age

	Percent
18-34	16.6
35-49	24.0
50-64	33.5
65+	25.9

Party

	Percent
democratic	40.1
republican	33.0
unenrolled/other	26.9

Congressional District

	Percent
1	52.5
2	47.5