



University of Connecticut
Center for Survey Research & Analysis

2009 Tobacco Tax Survey
Annotated Questionnaire

Q1. Do you feel things in Connecticut are generally heading in the right direction or do you feel things are pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

Headed in right direction	34%
Off on the wrong track	54%
Don't Know	11%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

IQ2. As you may have heard, the state is currently facing a budget shortfall, estimated to be more than several billion dollars in the upcoming two-year budget. Please tell me if you favor or oppose the following proposals to help eliminate this budget shortfall?

Q2A. Increase the state cigarette tax

Strongly favor	62%
Somewhat favor	16%
Somewhat oppose	4%
Strongly oppose	17%
Don't Know	0%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q2B. Increase the state alcohol tax

Strongly favor	48%
Somewhat favor	27%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	14%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q2C. Increase the deposit on bottles and cans

Strongly favor	40%
Somewhat favor	29%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	18%
Don't Know	3%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q2D. Increase the state sales tax

Strongly favor	5%
Somewhat favor	19%
Somewhat oppose	18%
Strongly oppose	58%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	--
Count	(701)

Q2E. Increase the state income tax

Strongly favor	6%
Somewhat favor	13%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	64%
Don't Know	3%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q2F. Increase the state tax on gasoline

Strongly favor	8%
Somewhat favor	11%
Somewhat oppose	11%
Strongly oppose	69%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q2G. Reduce local aid to cities and towns

Strongly favor	9%
Somewhat favor	15%
Somewhat oppose	25%
Strongly oppose	46%
Don't Know	5%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q2H. Reduce funding for health care, including Medicaid

Strongly favor	11%
Somewhat favor	6%
Somewhat oppose	16%
Strongly oppose	65%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

Q2I. Reduce funding for K-12 education

Strongly favor	7%
Somewhat favor	6%
Somewhat oppose	13%
Strongly oppose	72%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q2J. Reduce funding for state colleges and universities

Strongly favor	12%
Somewhat favor	13%
Somewhat oppose	23%
Strongly oppose	51%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	--
Count	(701)

IQ3. Thinking some more about some of these proposals...

Q3. Would you favor or oppose a one dollar per pack increase in the state cigarette tax, with part of the revenue dedicated to programs to reduce tobacco use, particularly among kids?

Strongly favor	64%
Somewhat favor	12%
Somewhat oppose	5%
Strongly oppose	18%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q4. Looking ahead to the 2010 elections for state legislature, would you be more likely or less likely to support a candidate for political office who supports raising the state cigarette tax by one dollar per pack to fund programs to reduce tobacco use, particularly among kids, or would it make a difference?

More likely	38%
Less likely	11%
It wouldn't make a difference	48%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

IQ5. If Connecticut were to raise its cigarette tax, the additional revenue could be used for different purposes. Please tell me whether you would favor or oppose spending a portion of new cigarette tax revenues for each of the following purposes:

Q5A. Increasing funding for education

Strongly favor	63%
Somewhat favor	21%
Somewhat oppose	5%
Strongly oppose	9%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q5B. Repairing and improving state roads and bridges

Strongly favor	58%
Somewhat favor	23%
Somewhat oppose	5%
Strongly oppose	13%
Don't Know	--
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

Q5C. Increasing aid to local towns and cities

Strongly favor	41%
Somewhat favor	31%
Somewhat oppose	11%
Strongly oppose	13%
Don't Know	3%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

Q5D. Funding programs to reduce tobacco use, especially among kids

Strongly favor	58%
Somewhat favor	18%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	14%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

Q5E. Expanding health coverage for uninsured residents

Strongly favor	50%
Somewhat favor	25%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	14%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

Q5F. Reducing the state's budget shortfall

Strongly favor	51%
Somewhat favor	28%
Somewhat oppose	5%
Strongly oppose	12%
Don't Know	3%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

Q5G. Providing home heating assistance to lower income residents

Strongly favor	48%
Somewhat favor	32%
Somewhat oppose	7%
Strongly oppose	12%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

Q5H. Funding smoking cessation services for the uninsured

Strongly favor	32%
Somewhat favor	27%
Somewhat oppose	11%
Strongly oppose	27%
Don't Know	3%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q6. Connecticut currently receives more than \$420 million per year in revenue from state cigarette taxes and the settlement of its lawsuit against the tobacco industry. How important is it for the state to dedicate part of the revenue from the tobacco settlement to funding programs to reduce tobacco use among kids and help smokers quit?

Very important	57%
Somewhat important	26%
Not too important	7%
Not at all important	8%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

Q7. In 2009 the state may spend less than two percent of the money it receives from the tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes to fund programs to prevent kids from becoming smokers and provide help for smokers who want to quit. Would you favor or oppose increasing the funding for these tobacco prevention programs?

Strongly favor	49%
Somewhat favor	23%
Somewhat oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	12%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

IQ8. Now thinking about national issues...

Q8. Would you favor or oppose the U.S. Congress passing a bill that would give the Food and Drug Administration (the FDA) the authority to regulate tobacco products, including restrictions on sales and marketing to kids?

Strongly favor	53%
Somewhat favor	20%
Somewhat oppose	6%
Strongly oppose	17%
Don't Know	3%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

IQ9. I am going to read you some reasons that have been made to SUPPORT a one dollar increase in the cigarette tax. After each, please tell me if you think it is a very convincing, somewhat convincing, not very convincing, or not at all convincing reason to SUPPORT a cigarette tax increase.

Q9A. Thousands of Connecticut kids become regular smokers every year. Even a slight decline in youth smoking makes a cigarette tax increase worthwhile because for every three kids who are prevented from smoking as a result of higher cigarette taxes, there is one less smoking-caused death in the future.

Very convincing	49%
Somewhat convincing	30%
Not very convincing	8%
Not at all convincing	12%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q9B. The state budget deficit is currently approximately \$8.7 billion dollars over the next two years. The revenue raised by this tax would help address the budget deficit.

Very convincing	33%
Somewhat convincing	36%
Not very convincing	13%
Not at all convincing	16%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q9C1. Groups like the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, and the American Lung Association support higher cigarette taxes because they know it keeps kids from starting to smoke. The tobacco companies oppose these taxes for the same reason. Big tobacco knows that 90 percent of smokers start as teens, and they need to addict a new generation of customers to replace the smokers who quit or die every day.

Very convincing	47%
Somewhat convincing	25%
Not very convincing	12%
Not at all convincing	13%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	0%
Count	(352)

Q9C2. Groups like the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, and the American Lung Association support higher cigarette taxes because they know it keeps kids from starting to smoke.

Very convincing	44%
Somewhat convincing	28%
Not very convincing	11%
Not at all convincing	17%
Don't Know	--
Refused	0%
Count	(349)

Q9D. Health care costs caused by smoking total more than 1 billion dollars per year in Connecticut-a cost of \$680 per household. Increasing cigarette taxes will save millions of dollars by lowering smoking rates and reducing the amount of money the government pays to treat those with smoking-related diseases.

Very convincing	48%
Somewhat convincing	28%
Not very convincing	10%
Not at all convincing	14%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

IQ10. I am going to read you some reasons that have been made to OPPOSE a one dollar increase in the cigarette tax. After each, please tell me if you think it is a very convincing, somewhat convincing, not very convincing, or not at all convincing reason

Q10A. Instead of raising taxes to solve state budget problems, politicians should be looking for ways to live within our means, like cutting spending.

Very convincing	52%
Somewhat convincing	26%
Not very convincing	11%
Not at all convincing	9%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q10B. Raising the price of cigarette taxes will hurt small businesses and retailers who will lose customers to neighboring states or the Internet.

Very convincing	21%
Somewhat convincing	21%
Not very convincing	22%
Not at all convincing	35%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q10C. Raising cigarette taxes will not reduce youth smoking because kids will always find enough money to buy a pack of cigarettes.

Very convincing	33%
Somewhat convincing	23%
Not very convincing	23%
Not at all convincing	21%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q10D. A cigarette tax increase is unfair because it forces one small group of people to pay for government programs that we all use.

Very convincing	23%
Somewhat convincing	21%
Not very convincing	21%
Not at all convincing	33%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

Q10E. Raising cigarette taxes would affect those with lower incomes the most, because they are the least able to afford any big increase.

Very convincing	24%
Somewhat convincing	17%
Not very convincing	21%
Not at all convincing	36%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	0%
Count	(701)

IQD1. Finally, I have a few questions for classification purposes.

QS1. Which of the following describes your use of tobacco products:

I currently smoke cigarettes	12%
I USED to smoke cigarettes, but I've quit	38%
I have never been a cigarette smoker	49%
Smokeless or other tobacco user	1%
Don't Know	--
Refused	--
Count	(701)

QS2. And do you never smoke, or do you smoke on occasion?

(Asked of those who responded I USED to smoke cigarettes but I've quit, I have never been a cigarette smoker, or Smokeless or other tobacco user on QS1)

Never smoke	91%
Smoke on occasion	7%
Never smoked but my spouse/partner does	1%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	--
Count	(618)

QD1A. Are you currently registered to vote in the town in which you live?

Yes	92%
No	8%
Don't Know	--
Refused	--
Count	(701)

QD1B. Did you vote in the 2008 elections?

Yes	89%
No	11%
Don't Know	--
Refused	--
Count	(701)

QD1. In what year were you born?

1975-1991 (Age 18-34)	9%
1960-1974 (Age 35-49)	32%
1945-1959 (Age 50-64)	36%
Before 1944 (Age 65 and older)	22%
Don't Know	--
Refused	2%
Total	(701)

QD2. In general would you describe your political views as very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal, or very liberal?

Very Conservative	6%
Conservative	24%
Moderate	40%
Liberal	20%
Very Liberal	6%
Don't Know	3%
Refused	2%
Count	(701)

QD3. What is the highest grade of school or year of college you have completed and gotten credit for?

Grade school or less (0-8)	1%
Some high school (9-11)	2%
High school (12)	18%
Some college (1-3 years)	24%
College graduate (4 years)	32%
Post graduate (Masters or Doctorate)	23%
Don't Know	--
Refused	--
Count	(701)

QD4. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent, or what?

Republican	21%
Democrat	34%
Independent	42%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	2%
Count	(701)

QD4A. Would you call yourself a strong or not very strong <Democrat or Republican>?

(Asked of those who responded Republican or Democrat on QD4)

Strong	62%
Not very strong	37%
Don't Know	1%
Refused	1%
Count	(380)

QD4B. Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or Democratic Party or neither?

(Asked of those who responded Independent or Something else on QD4)

Republican Party	20%
Democratic Party	26%
Neither	50%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	2%
Count	(315)

QD5. Are you now married, single, divorced, widowed or what?

Married	63%
Single	17%
Divorced	9%
Widowed	10%
Don't Know	--
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

QD6. Are you now employed full-time, employed part-time, retired, temporarily laid off, or not employed?

Employed full-time	51%
Employed part-time	11%
Retired	23%
Temporarily laid off	6%
Not employed	8%
Don't Know	0%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

QD7. For classification purposes only, what is the yearly income of all the members of your family now living at home?

Less than \$25,000	6%
\$25,000 to less than \$50,000	13%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	18%
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	16%
\$100,000 or more	29%
Don't Know	2%
Refused	16%
Count	(701)

QD8. What racial or ethnic group would you most identify yourself with?

African American	7%
Asian	1%
Hispanic	3%
Native American	--
White	85%
Don't Know	--
Refused	4%
Count	(701)

QD9. How many adults live in this household who are 18 years old or older including yourself?

1	20%
2	58%
3	14%
4	6%
5	1%
6	--
Don't Know	0%
Refused	1%
Count	(701)

QD10. Gender

Male	44%
Female	56%
Count	(701)