



Washington Council on International Trade

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CONTACT: Ashley Dutta

(206) 389-7310

ashleyd@wcit.org

**New Poll Finds 54 Percent of Washington Voters
Support the Trans-Pacific Partnership**

Counter to Presidential Primary Rhetoric, State Residents Support New Trade Policy

Seattle – According to public opinion poll results released today by the Washington Council on International Trade, 54 percent of Washington voters support the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) regional free trade agreement, while only 23 percent are opposed. Importantly, of those who were opposed, more than half indicated a willingness to change their mind when educated about the TPP's strong, enforceable labor and environmental standards.

WCIT President Eric Schinfeld stated: "While media coverage of trade during this election season has been overwhelmingly negative, today's Washington state poll results reflect the reality that a clear majority of local voters support the TPP for its ability to open up new markets to American-made goods and services and level the playing field for our exporters and workers. This comes as no surprise in Washington, where trade is the single largest driver of our economy and 40 percent of jobs are tied to trade."

Additional poll results included:

- Almost equal support based on voter party registration: 58 percent of Democrats & 56 percent of Republicans
- Strong support for TPP across the state: 60 percent of King County voters, 53 percent of Pierce & Kitsap voters, 56 percent of voters in the North Puget Sound and 56 percent of voters in Eastern Washington
- That 57 percent of the most likely voters, those who voted in 4 of the last 4 elections, support the TPP

Elway Research polled 503 registered Washington voters by phone from April 14 – 17. The questions were written and paid for by the Washington Council on International Trade. The results are within a \pm 4.5 percent margin of error with 95 percent level of confidence.

The key poll questions were:

1. As you may know, the Trans-Pacific Partnership is a proposed trade agreement between the U.S. and 11 Asia-Pacific countries. If passed, it would eliminate over 18,000 tariffs on U.S. exports, streamline complex regulations to make trade easier for U.S. small businesses, and establish American leadership in the fast-growing Asia-Pacific region. Would you say you [INSERT LIST] the Trans-Pacific Partnership?

Results:

20% Strongly Support

34% Support

14% Oppose

9% Strongly Oppose

21% Undecided

2. [IF OPPOSED OR STRONGLY OPPOSED:] Supporters say that the Trans-Pacific Partnership has the toughest labor and environmental standards of any trade agreement in history. It requires member countries to eliminate child labor, give employees safe working conditions, set minimum wages, and create a right to unionize. It also protects the environment by cracking down on illegal wildlife trafficking, illegal deforestation, and harmful subsidies that contribute to overfishing and marine pollution. If these claims were true, would you be more inclined to support the Trans-Pacific Partnership?

Results:

26% Definitely more inclined to support

28% Maybe more inclined to support

43% Not more inclined to support

3% Undecided

To view the full poll results, please contact Ashley Dutta at ashleyd@wcit.org or 206-920-4430.

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About the Washington Council on International Trade

WCIT is the only organization dedicated to protecting and growing the 40% of jobs in our state tied to international trade by advocating for policies and investments that increase Washington's global competitiveness. WCIT works to:

- **Evaluate** and share objective data on the impact of trade policies on Washington's economy
- **Educate** our local, state and federal elected officials about the benefits of strong international trade policies and investments to Washington employers and residents
- **Engage** diverse stakeholders from across the state – including manufacturers, retailers, farmers and service providers - to drive policy changes that help them succeed in the global marketplace

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