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## **ORGAN DONATION IS SUPPORTED IN ARIZONA; MOST ARE WILLING TO DONATE TO A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND**

Most Arizonans support organ and tissue donation from deceased donors, according to findings from a recent *Grand Canyon State Poll*. More than half of Arizonans have taken steps to donate their own organs in the event of death. People are also likely to make a living organ donation to family or friends, if needed.

The *Grand Canyon State Poll* was conducted by the Social Research Laboratory at Northern Arizona University. Calling took place between February 27 and March 3, 2004. Four hundred and ten randomly-selected Arizonans participated in the survey. Results are accurate within a +/- 5 percent margin of error, at a 95 percent confidence level.

### **STRONG BACKING FOR ORGAN DONATION**

Most Arizonans (89%) support the donation of organs and tissues from deceased individuals for transplants to ailing people. Only seven percent of Arizonans oppose organ and tissue donation. Men and women are equally supportive of organ and tissue donation. Support for organ and tissue donation is consistent for religious and non-religious people and consistent across all education levels and age groups.

Fifty-five percent of Arizonans say they have already taken steps to donate their organs and tissue in the event of death. Arizonans who are “not very religious” are more likely to have taken steps to donate their organs (68%) than those who are “very religious” (59%). Education also makes a difference. People with a post-bachelor’s degree are three times more likely to

have taken steps to donate organs and tissue than people who have not completed high school (67% versus 20%).

“Arizonans are truly willing to give the ultimate gift to help out others,” commented Fred Solop, director of the *Grand Canyon State Poll*. “This altruism speaks well for the state.”

One-quarter of Arizonans (25%) say they have either received an organ or tissue transplant or know someone who has.

### **“LIVING ORGAN DONATIONS” ARE POPULAR**

“Living organ donations” involve someone donating an organ while they are still alive. Most Arizonans (88%) are either “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to donate an organ to a family member who is in need. Younger people are more likely to make a living donation (96%) than older people (77%). Just about three-quarters of Arizonans (73%) say they are likely to donate an organ to a friend in need.

### **DONOR INCENTIVES MAKE LITTLE DIFFERENCE**

When asked whether receiving a financial incentive would make them more likely to donate an organ while alive, 13 percent of Arizonans say that it would. Financial incentives would have no effect on the decision of 78 percent of Arizonans



Social Research Laboratory, Northern Arizona University

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**GRAND CANYON STATE POLL  
BACKGROUND MEMO**

Spring 2004

The *Grand Canyon State Poll* was conducted between February 27 and March 3, 2004. A random sample of 410 adult residents of Arizona was asked questions regarding organ donation. Survey question results are subject to a sampling error of +/- 5 percent at a 95 percent confidence level. Sampling error is the probable difference in results between interviewing everyone in the population versus a scientific sample taken from the population. Sampling error does not take into account additional sources of error inherent in any study of public opinion. The data referred to in this release are presented below.

In general, do you support or oppose the donation of organs and tissue from deceased individuals for transplants?

	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>No opinion/ Neutral/ Depends</b>	<b>Count</b>
Total	89%	7%	4%	(405)
Female	90%	7%	3%	(203)
Male	88%	7%	6%	(201)
18-34 years	95%	5%	--	(77)
35-59 years	88%	7%	4%	(204)
60+ years	87%	6%	7%	(117)
Very religious	91%	6%	4%	(128)
Somewhat religious	88%	9%	3%	(174)
Not very religious	90%	5%	5%	(83)
Less than high school	93%	--	7%	(15)
High school degree	88%	11%	1%	(82)
Some college	91%	7%	3%	(147)
Bachelors degree	92%	2%	6%	(89)
Post-bachelors degree	86%	5%	10%	(62)

Have you taken steps to donate your organs and tissue in the event of your death, such as completing a donation form?

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Count</b>
Total	55%	46%	(401)
Female	57%	43%	(197)
Male	52%	48%	(201)
18-34 years	49%	51%	(76)
35-59 years	60%	41%	(205)
60+ years	50%	50%	(114)
Very religious	59%	41%	(128)
Somewhat religious	47%	53%	(174)
Not very religious	68%	32%	(81)
Less than high school	20%	80%	(15)
High school degree	48%	52%	(81)
Some college	54%	46%	(147)
Bachelors degree	60%	40%	(88)
Post-bachelors degree	67%	33%	(61)

In addition to donating organs and tissue after death, some people choose to donate organs while they are still alive. This is known as “living organ donation” and is usually done for family and friends. How likely are you to donate an organ to a family member?

	<b>Very likely</b>	<b>Somewhat likely</b>	<b>Somewhat unlikely</b>	<b>Very Unlikely</b>	<b>Count</b>
Total	62%	26%	5%	7%	(395)
Female	63%	26%	5%	7%	(199)
Male	61%	27%	5%	7%	(195)
18-34 years	70%	26%	1%	3%	(76)
35-59 years	68%	25%	4%	4%	(201)
60+ years	47%	30%	9%	14%	(111)
Very religious	57%	29%	4%	10%	(125)
Somewhat religious	60%	29%	5%	6%	(172)
Not very religious	73%	22%	4%	1%	(77)
Less than high school	60%	27%	--	13%	(15)
High school degree	62%	27%	1%	10%	(82)
Some college	65%	23%	5%	8%	(147)
Bachelors degree	62%	33%	5%	1%	(89)
Post-bachelors degree	56%	27%	13%	4%	(55)

How likely are you to donate an organ to a friend?

	<b>Very likely</b>	<b>Somewhat likely</b>	<b>Somewhat unlikely</b>	<b>Very Unlikely</b>	<b>Count</b>
Total	27%	46%	13%	14%	(394)

Have you, or someone you know, ever received an organ or tissue transplant?

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Count</b>
Total	25%	75%	(409)

Some people believe that families who donate living organs should receive some sort of financial incentive such as assistance in paying funeral expenses, a cash award to the donor's estate, paid time off, tax rebate, or a cash award to a charity of the family's choice. Would financial incentives like these make you more likely or less likely to donate your own organs, or would it have no effect?

	<b>More likely</b>	<b>Less likely</b>	<b>No effect</b>	<b>Depends if personal family member or friend</b>	<b>Count</b>
Total	13%	8%	78%	2%	(398)