

Zoomerang Survey Results

Winter Survey 2009

Response Status: Completes

Filter: No filter applied

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The National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) is conducting this survey of State and Local REALTOR® Executive Officers (EOs) and Government Affairs Directors (GADs) in order to assist NAR in determining which issues state and local associations could benefit from additional information and research. If you have any questions about the survey, please feel free to contact Gerry Allen at gallen@realtors.org or 202-383-1109.

1. Are you associated with:

a Local REALTOR® association	159	80%
a State REALTOR® association	37	19%
Other, please specify:	2	1%
Total	198	100%

2. Which of the following best describes your main function in the association:

Government Affairs Director	47	24%
Consultant/Contract Lobbyist	1	1%
Executive Officer	120	61%
Shared GAD	0	0%
EO/GAD	16	8%
REALTOR® Member & GAD	2	1%
Other, please specify:	12	6%
Total	198	100%

3. Which of the following NAR Communication vehicles do you use to obtain information on real estate issues? (Select All That Apply)

REALTOR® Magazine	126	63%
REALTOR® Magazine Online	94	47%
REALTOR.org	183	92%
Association Executive RealTown Community	77	39%
NAR Mailings	115	58%
NARGADs RealTown Community	42	21%
Internal News Service (INS)	105	53%
REALTORS® Commercial Alliance (RCA) Report	32	16%
NAR State Issues Tracker	48	24%
NAR's GAD Newsletter	60	30%
Washington Report	110	55%
NAR Eye on the Hill articles	109	55%
On Common Ground Magazine	72	36%
I do not get any information	1	1%
Other, please specify:	7	4%

4. Here is a list of problems that many areas are facing. Please tell us how big a problem each one is in your area. For each issue, please indicate if that issue is a very big problem in your area, a fairly big problem, a moderate problem a slight problem or not a problem at all in your area.

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.

	Very Big Problem	Fairly Big Problem	A moderate problem	Slight Problem	Not a problem at all	No opinion
Lack of affordable health care	51 26%	72 36%	43 22%	21 11%	6 3%	5 3%
Job layoffs and unemployment	58 29%	59 30%	52 26%	24 12%	4 2%	1 1%
Home foreclosures	52 26%	51 26%	44 22%	46 23%	4 2%	0 0%
Crime and illegal drugs	9 5%	25 13%	71 36%	71 36%	17 9%	5 3%
The environment and pollution	4 2%	21 11%	64 32%	63 32%	41 21%	5 3%
Lack of quality public schools	16 8%	23 12%	50 25%	49 25%	59 30%	1 1%
Too much traffic and congestion	16 8%	31 16%	43 22%	50 26%	53 27%	3 2%
High property taxes	42 21%	46 23%	59 30%	38 19%	12 6%	0 0%
Government budget deficits	63 32%	65 33%	36 18%	19 10%	9 5%	6 3%
A slow housing market	103 52%	54 27%	29 15%	12 6%	1 1%	0 0%
High income or sales taxes	15 8%	37 19%	61 31%	56 28%	27 14%	3 2%
Inflation and the high cost of living	33 17%	48 24%	59 30%	44 22%	10 5%	2 1%
Illegal immigration	16 8%	14 7%	45 23%	61 31%	54 28%	6 3%
Houses are selling, but prices are too low	19 10%	32 16%	64 32%	46 23%	32 16%	5 3%
Lack of available housing that is affordable	27 14%	53 27%	47 24%	48 24%	23 12%	0 0%

5. And are there any other major problems that your area is facing that you would like to mention that are NOT on this list?

52 Responses

6. Now think about the New Year and the legislative priorities of the state or local government that your GAD or association works most closely with. Based on your observation and experience, how large a priority do you think the government body you work most closely with is going to place on this issue in 2009? Is it the SINGLE highest priority, one of the TOP FEW priorities, but not the highest, NEAR THE TOP of the list, in the MIDDLE OF THE LIST or TOWARD THE BOTTOM of the list of priorities for the state or local government you work with?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Single Highest Priority	One of the Top Few Priorities	Near the top of the list	In the Middle of the List	Toward the Bottom of the list	No opinion
Cutting taxes	14 7%	21 11%	43 22%	50 26%	63 33%	2 1%
Lowering the cost of health insurance	19 10%	32 16%	40 21%	64 33%	35 18%	4 2%
Improving public schools	7 4%	38 20%	49 26%	66 35%	27 14%	4 2%
Cutting spending	48 25%	56 29%	45 23%	25 13%	16 8%	2 1%
Providing more job training and placement programs	8 4%	28 14%	45 23%	73 38%	37 19%	3 2%
Reducing the number of home foreclosures	23 12%	49 26%	49 26%	42 22%	27 14%	2 1%
Expanding the use of clean, renewable energy sources	15 8%	34 18%	56 29%	45 23%	40 21%	3 2%
Improving public transportation	4 2%	28 15%	51 27%	54 28%	52 27%	3 2%
Providing health insurance for children	11 6%	26 14%	55 29%	57 30%	35 18%	8 4%
Raising teacher salaries	4 2%	10 5%	34 18%	60 31%	78 41%	5 3%
Increasing taxes to cover budget shortfalls	33 17%	40 21%	47 24%	37 19%	31 16%	4 2%
Increasing funding for roads and road improvements	9 5%	43 22%	75 39%	47 24%	16 8%	4 2%
Cracking down on illegal immigration	6 3%	9 5%	20 10%	51 27%	95 49%	11 6%
Land conservation and/or farmland preservation	8 4%	17 9%	49 26%	62 33%	49 26%	5 3%
Finding new sources of revenue	58 30%	59 31%	42 22%	20 10%	11 6%	1 1%
Attracting new jobs and business	49 26%	52 27%	58 30%	25 13%	6 3%	1 1%
Reducing greenhouse gas emissions	3 2%	26 13%	36 19%	51 26%	72 37%	6 3%

7. Thinking about the New Year and the legislative priorities of the state or local association you represent, what would you say are the top one or two legislative priorities for your association this year?

127 Responses

8. Now think again about the New Year and the legislative priorities of the state or local association you represent. How large a priority do you think YOUR ASSOCIATION is going to place on this issue in 2009? Is it the SINGLE highest priority, one of the TOP FEW priorities, but not the highest, NEAR THE TOP of the list, in the MIDDLE OF THE LIST or TOWARD THE BOTTOM of the list of priorities for your association?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Single Highest Priority	One of the Top Few Priorities	Near the top of the list	In the Middle of the List	Toward the Bottom of the list	No opinion
Helping homeowners avoid foreclosures	48 25%	59 31%	58 30%	22 11%	6 3%	0 0%
Toughening lender laws to crack down on questionable lending practices	21 11%	45 24%	58 31%	38 20%	24 13%	2 1%
Improving public schools	6 3%	18 10%	49 26%	56 30%	54 29%	6 3%
Cutting government spending	26 14%	41 22%	48 25%	35 18%	34 18%	6 3%
Stopping or reducing property transfer taxes	64 34%	59 31%	35 19%	14 7%	13 7%	3 2%
Making health insurance more affordable for small business	25 13%	40 21%	50 27%	39 21%	30 16%	4 2%
Reducing property taxes	25 13%	47 25%	56 29%	34 18%	28 15%	0 0%
Zoning for more affordable housing options (apartments, attached, small lots, etc.)	13 7%	33 17%	52 27%	47 25%	40 21%	5 3%
Smart growth legislation (e.g., zoning for mixed use walk able neighborhoods or transit oriented development)	12 6%	26 14%	56 30%	42 22%	43 23%	10 5%
Energy efficiency legislation that does not burden homeowners	13 7%	26 14%	48 25%	59 31%	40 21%	6 3%
Tax incentives for home buyers to stimulate the housing market	58 30%	66 34%	41 21%	16 8%	10 5%	1 1%
Increasing funding for roads and road improvements	8 4%	30 16%	58 31%	49 26%	39 21%	6 3%
Increasing funding for public transportation	0 0%	11 6%	36 19%	56 30%	75 40%	10 5%

9. And are there any other legislative issues or priorities that your association is working on that are NOT on this list?

29 Responses

10. Now just a few questions about the housing market in your area. In the last three months in the area in which you live, do you feel that activity in the housing market has:

Slowed down, meaning the pace of buying and selling homes has dropped off	116	59%
Increased, meaning the pace of buying and selling a home has picked up	31	16%
Stayed about the same	50	25%
Total	197	100%

11. In the next three months, do you expect real estate sales in your area to increase, decrease, or remain about the same?

Increase	86	43%
Decrease	21	11%
Remain about the same	91	46%
Total	198	100%

12. Has the area in which you live experienced more foreclosures or fewer foreclosures in the last six months, or is the rate of foreclosures about the same?

More foreclosures	114	57%
Fewer foreclosures	18	9%
About the same	53	27%
Don't know	14	7%
Total	199	100%

13. Has the number of foreclosures in your area increased/decreased significantly or just slightly?

Significantly	67	51%
Just slightly	65	49%
Total	132	100%

14. Do you think your state government is doing enough to address the foreclosure issue in your state or should they be doing more?

Doing enough	67	34%
Should be doing more	120	60%
Other	12	6%
Total	199	100%

15. What more could they be doing?

79 Responses

16. Do you think the local governments in your area are doing enough to address the foreclosure issue in your area, or should they be doing more?

Doing enough	35	27%
Should be doing more	81	61%
Other	16	12%
Total	132	100%

17. What more could they be doing?

59 Responses

18. How many years have you been employed by any REALTOR® organization? (Select one).

Less than 1 year	8	4%
1-5 years	66	33%
6-15 years	77	39%
16-25 years	30	15%
Over 25 years	17	9%
Total	198	100%

19. What is your association membership size?

Under 250 Members	50	25%
250-499 Members	24	12%
500-1,999 Members	52	26%
2,000-4,999 Members	24	12%
5,000-9,999 Members	19	10%
10,000 Members or More	29	15%
Total	198	100%

20. Your state:

ALABAMA	1	1%
ALASKA	1	1%
ARIZONA	4	2%
ARKANSAS	4	2%
CALIFORNIA	8	4%
COLORADO	6	3%
CONNECTICUT	4	2%
DELAWARE	1	1%
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (D.C.)	0	0%
FLORIDA	11	6%
GEORGIA	6	3%
GUAM	0	0%
HAWAII	2	1%
IDAHO	2	1%
ILLINOIS	7	4%
INDIANA	1	1%
IOWA	1	1%
KANSAS	4	2%
KENTUCKY	5	3%
LOUISIANA	2	1%

MAINE	1	1%
MARYLAND	5	3%
MASSACHUSETTS	5	3%
MICHIGAN	6	3%
MINNESOTA	4	2%
MISSISSIPPI	3	2%
MISSOURI	5	3%
MONTANA	3	2%
NEBRASKA	1	1%
NEVADA	2	1%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	2	1%
NEW JERSEY	1	1%
NEW MEXICO	2	1%
NEW YORK	7	4%
NORTH CAROLINA	7	4%
NORTH DAKOTA	3	2%
OHIO	6	3%
OKLAHOMA	4	2%
OREGON	4	2%
PENNSYLVANIA	4	2%
PUERTO RICO	0	0%
RHODE ISLAND	2	1%
SOUTH CAROLINA	5	3%
SOUTH DAKOTA	0	0%
TENNESSEE	4	2%
TEXAS	9	5%
UTAH	1	1%
VERMONT	2	1%
VIRGIN ISLANDS	0	0%
VIRGINIA	3	2%
WASHINGTON	7	4%
WEST VIRGINIA	0	0%
WISCONSIN	13	7%
WYOMING	5	3%
Total	196	100%

21. Thank you for your time and participation. By completing this survey you have assisted NAR's advocacy and research efforts. Please identify yourself below (optional).

127 Responses

This concludes our survey. Thank you for your time and participation. Please click the submit arrow below to forward your completed survey to us.