

# Talent tops in Mackinac action plan poll

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Talent rules.

Educational preparedness and the attraction and retention of talent easily emerged as the top concern of Detroit-area business leaders gathered at the Mackinac Island policy conference. The top five results of the poll, which was conducted with computer terminals spread throughout the [Grand Hotel](#), were released Friday.

The talent issue beat out what business leaders said was a need for immediate structural state budget reform to free up funds for new initiatives, said Leslie Murphy, conference chair. Placing third was the elimination of term limits, followed by establishing regional transportation for people and goods and pursuing alternative energy.

The [Detroit Regional Chamber](#), the sponsor of the four-day conference, asked attendees to choose from 12 top issues gleaned from polling and focus group sessions conducted prior to the conference. Chamber officials plan to use the results as a blueprint for action after leaving the island and report back on progress at next year's conference.

About 300 of the 1,700 total attendees participated in the polling, Murphy said. The polling was fraught with technical complications that inhibited participation, she said.

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