



RESULTS OF THE APRIL 2011 UTAH VOTER POLL  
06 July 2011

**Information about the Survey**

Researchers at Brigham Young University's Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy invited members of the Utah Voter Poll panel, a group of voters who were recruited at polling places across Utah on Election Day in 2004, 2006, 2008, and 2010 to complete an online survey between March 31, 2011 and April 11, 2011. For more about the poll, see the methodology section below.

**Contact**

For further discussion of the results or methodology, please use the following contact information:

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## Methodology

Survey Field Dates: March 31, 2011 – April 11, 2011.

### Sample Size and Margin of Error:

The survey was entered by 793 respondents and we have data on at least one question from 743 respondents and completed surveys from 646 respondents. The margin of error for a simple random sample with a sample size of 646 is about + or – 3.9 %. The Utah Voter Poll is drawn from the Utah Colleges Exit Poll, which has a more complicated sample design. A “design effect” multiplier would make the margin of error slightly higher than this.

### Response Rate:

The response rate for the Utah Voter Poll was 13.4% (see calculations below). Potential respondents were sent four invitations to participate, spaced a few days apart over the survey field period. Our decision to send four invitations follows standard practices for internet surveys seeking to maximize response rates with minimal field time and disruption to potential respondents. Our 13.4% response rate is lower than our previous Utah Voter Poll surveys. We have no method to actually measure whether or not survey respondents actually received the email invitations. One explanation for the drop in response rates could be increased use of spam blocking software. Another explanation could be related to the length of time that some of the email addresses have been in the panel.

### Response rate calculation:

Total email addresses after removes: 5,903

Total valid email addresses that received at least one email: 4807

Total accessed surveys: 793

Completed surveys: 646

Response rate =  $646/4807 = 13.4\%$

### Weighting:

There was no weighting done for the April 2011 Utah Voter Poll.

# April 2011 Utah Voter Poll Topline Report

07/06/2011

## 1. Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Gary Herbert is doing as Utah Governor?

Answer	Response	%
Strongly approve	53	7.0%
Approve	416	54.6%
Disapprove	226	29.7%
Strongly disapprove	67	8.8%
Total	762	100.0%

## 2. Do you approve or disapprove of how the Utah State Legislature is handling its job?

Answer	Response	%
Strongly approve	11	1.4%
Approve	281	36.8%
Disapprove	285	37.4%
Strongly disapprove	186	24.4%
Total	763	100.0%

## 3. Please rate how favorably you feel toward each of the following individuals on a scale from 0 to 100, where 0 is completely unfavorable, 100 is completely favorable, and 50 is neutral.

Individual	Average Value	Standard Deviation	Responses
Orrin Hatch	48.2	29.5	718
Mike Lee	47.7	29.1	718
Jason Chaffetz	52.1	31.2	718
Jim Matheson	54.1	24.9	718
Rob Bishop	49.8	25.8	718
Mitt Romney	62.9	29.2	718
Jon Huntsman, Jr.	63.0	26.2	718

**4. Thinking about immigrants who are now living in the U.S. illegally, which of the following options for immigration reform comes closest to your view?**

Option	Response	%
Illegal immigrants should be required to go home immediately.	125	17.0%
Most illegal immigrants should be required to go home, but some should be allowed to remain in the U.S. under a temporary guest worker program.	222	30.2%
Most illegal immigrants should be allowed to stay in the U.S. but only as temporary workers who must eventually return home.	297	40.4%
Illegal immigrants should be allowed to stay permanently in the U.S.	92	12.5%
Total	736	100.0%

**5. As you may know, the state of Arizona recently passed a law that gives the police the power to question someone they have already stopped or arrested about their legal status in the country. Under the law, the police may turn over confirmed illegal aliens to federal custody. To what extent do you oppose or favor such a law?**

Answer	Response	%
Strongly Oppose	161	21.7%
Somewhat Oppose	100	13.5%
Neither Oppose Nor Favor	51	6.9%
Somewhat Favor	169	22.8%
Strongly Favor	261	35.2%
Total	742	100.0%

**6. Below is a brief description of four immigration bills recently passed by the Utah state legislature and signed by the governor. Please indicate how much you favor or oppose each bill.**

Bill	Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neither Oppose Nor Favor	Somewhat Favor	Strongly Favor	Haven't heard enough about it to have an opinion	Responses
HB116 authorizes a guest-worker program that will allow undocumented people to pay fines and stay in Utah.	19.0%	13.0%	9.0%	28.9%	22.8%	7.2%	736
HB497 requires local police to check the immigration status of those arrested on felony or serious misdemeanor charges.	8.2%	6.0%	4.8%	13.9%	65.2%	2.0%	736
HB469 allows Utah citizens to sponsor immigrants.	5.9%	7.8%	13.1%	29.7%	32.6%	11.0%	734
HB466 establishes a partnership with the Mexican state of Nuevo Leon to allow workers to come to Utah using federal visas.	8.9%	8.0%	12.7%	28.5%	28.9%	13.0%	733

**7. Next, we are interested in your opinions about whether the LDS Church favors or opposes Utah's new immigration laws. Please tell us your impressions of how much the LDS Church favors or opposes each bill.**

Bill	Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neither Oppose Nor Favor	Somewhat Favor	Strongly Favor	Don't Know	Responses
HB116 authorizes a guest-worker program that will allow undocumented people to pay fines and stay in Utah.	6.5%	5.8%	10.0%	14.9%	18.4%	44.4%	711
HB497 requires local police to check the immigration status of those arrested on felony or serious misdemeanor charges.	3.0%	6.2%	12.4%	8.8%	23.3%	46.3%	707
HB469 allows Utah citizens to sponsor immigrants.	4.4%	2.4%	8.9%	16.3%	23.5%	44.5%	710
HB466 establishes a partnership with the Mexican state of Nuevo Leon to allow workers to come to Utah using federal visas.	4.8%	2.5%	10.5%	16.3%	20.1%	45.7%	711

**8. This year, the Utah state legislature passed a records law that would restrict public access to text messages, instant messages and video chats from public officials in the state. It would also end the presumption that government records are public. During a special session called by the governor in March, the legislature repealed the new law. To what extent do you favor or oppose the REPEAL of this law?**

Answer	Response	%
Strongly Oppose	41	5.7%
Somewhat Oppose	35	4.9%
Neither Oppose Nor Favor	39	5.4%
Somewhat Favor	100	13.9%
Strongly Favor	503	70.1%
Total	718	100.0%

**9. The governor has convened a working group to consider changes to Utah's open records laws. In considering changes, lawmakers must balance several different considerations. Please rank each of the considerations below in order from most important (at the top) to least important (at the bottom).**

Consideration	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Mean Rank	Responses
The public's right to access information about government business	77.5%	13.2%	6.4%	2.9%	1.3	658
The legislator's right to privacy	2.1%	8.4%	27.4%	62.2%	3.5	658
A citizen's right to privacy when communicating with legislators	14.7%	48.3%	31.3%	5.6%	2.3	658
The administrative cost of conducting open records searches	5.6%	30.1%	35.0%	29.3%	2.9	658

**10. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of the political movement known as the Tea Party?**

Answer	Response	%
Strongly unfavorable	207	29.3%
Somewhat unfavorable	115	16.3%
Don't know/No opinion	46	6.5%
Somewhat favorable	188	26.6%
Strongly favorable	151	21.4%
Total	707	100.0%

**11. Do you consider yourself to be an active supporter of the Tea Party movement, or not?**

Answer	Response	%
Yes	140	19.9%
No	486	69.1%
Don't know/No opinion	77	11.0%
Total	703	100.0%

**12. Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following:<sup>1</sup>**

Question	Yes	No	Responses
Given money to any organization associated with the Tea Party movement	23.4%	76.6%	137
Attended a rally or meeting held by any organization associated with the Tea Party movement	28.5%	71.5%	137
Took any other active steps to support the Tea Party movement, either in person or through email or on the internet	58.3%	41.7%	139

**13. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is strongly disagree and 5 is strongly agree, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

Statement	Strongly Disagree 1	2	3	4	Strongly Agree 5	Responses	Mean/ Standard Deviation
Politics is ultimately a struggle between good and evil.	34.9%	24.6%	22.5%	9.9%	8.1%	707	2.3/1.3
The politicians in Congress need to follow the will of the people.	0.8%	3.0%	11.3%	34.7%	50.2%	707	4.3/0.9
The power of a few special interests is what prevents our country from making progress.	3.0%	8.2%	13.6%	36.6%	38.6%	707	4.0/1.1
The people, not the politicians, should make the most important policy decisions.	4.8%	10.6%	26.2%	30.6%	27.9%	707	3.7/1.1
Democracy is about achieving compromise among differing viewpoints.	3.5%	8.5%	14.1%	38.9%	34.9%	707	3.9/1.1
Ordinary people can't be trusted to make the right choices about our nation's problems.	48.6%	30.2%	13.0%	5.5%	2.7%	706	1.8/1.0

<sup>1</sup> This question was asked only to respondents who responded “yes” to question 11.



#### 14. How often do you use the Internet?

Answer	Response	%
Once or more a day	609	93.3%
A few times a week	42	6.4%
A few times a month	2	0.3%
Hardly ever	0	0.0%
I do not have access to the internet.	0	0.0%
Total	653	100.0%

#### 15. Are you:

Answer	Response	%
Male	373	57.1%
Female	280	42.9%
Total	653	100.0%

#### 16. Please select the year you were born: (Grouped into age categories)

Age category	Response	%
18-24	13	2.0%
25-34	115	19.7%
35-44	115	19.9%
45-54	148	23.1%
55-64	164	25.6%
65 and older	86	13.4%
Total	743	100.0%

**17. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be a(n):**

Answer	Response	%
Strong Democrat	51	7.8%
Not so strong Democrat	33	5.1%
Independent leaning Democrat	75	11.5%
Independent	67	10.3%
Independent leaning Republican	132	20.3%
Not so strong Republican	90	13.8%
Strong Republican	164	25.2%
Other	33	5.1%
Don't know	5	0.8%
Total	650	100.0%

**18. On most political matters do you consider yourself:**

Answer	Response	%
Strongly conservative	174	26.9%
Moderately conservative	224	34.6%
Neither, middle of the road	93	14.4%
Moderately liberal	109	16.8%
Strongly liberal	44	6.8%
Don't know	4	0.6%
Total	648	100.0%

**19. What was the last year of school you completed?**

Answer	Response	%
Some high school or less	2	0.3%
High school graduate	29	4.5%
Some college	157	24.2%
College graduate	247	38.1%
Post-graduate	214	33.0%
Total	649	100.0%

## 20. What, if any, is your religious preference?

Answer	Response	%
Protestant	36	5.5%
Catholic	25	3.9%
LDS / Mormon	436	67.2%
Jewish	1	0.2%
Other	35	5.4%
No preference / No religious affiliation	93	14.3%
Prefer not to say	23	3.5%
Total	649	100.0%

## 21. How active do you consider yourself in the practice of your religious preference?

Answer	Response	%
Very active	432	66.6%
Somewhat active	75	11.6%
Not very active	28	4.3%
Not active	40	6.2%
Does not apply / Prefer not to say	74	11.4%
Total	649	100.0%

## 22. What is your current employment status?

Answer	Response	%
Self-employed	98	15.1%
Employed by someone else	355	54.7%
Unemployed	11	1.7%
Homemaker	60	9.2%
Retired	83	12.8%
Student	42	6.5%
Total	649	100.0%

### 23. Are you:

Answer	Response	%
American Indian / Native American	2	0.3%
Asian	5	0.8%
Black / African American	3	0.5%
Hispanic / Latino	21	3.2%
White / Caucasian	606	93.5%
Pacific Islander	6	0.9%
Other	5	0.8%
Total	648	100.0%

### 24. Are you currently:

Answer	Response	%
Married	524	80.9%
Divorced	32	4.9%
Widowed	8	1.2%
Living with partner	15	2.3%
Single	69	10.6%
Total	648	100.0%

### 25. What do you expect your 2011 family income to be?

Answer	Response	%
Under \$25,000	48	7.5%
\$25,000 - \$39,999	75	11.8%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	55	8.6%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	129	20.3%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	136	21.4%
\$100,000 - \$124,999	86	13.5%
\$125,000 - \$149,999	40	6.3%
Over \$150,000	67	10.5%
Total	636	100.0%