



Unweighted Results from the Utah Voter Poll, July 31 to August 10, 2007

Welcome to the Utah Voter Poll

Thank you for responding to our survey. Your time and opinions are greatly valued. Please note that your participation is voluntary and that all of your answers will remain strictly confidential. The survey only takes about 10 minutes to complete. If you exit the survey before completion, you will not be able to resume it at a later time. To answer the questions, click on the circle (radio button) next to the answer of your choice. You can change your answer by clicking on a different circle, which removes your previous answer and replaces it with the new one. To begin the survey, click on the "Next" button below. During the survey you can use the navigation buttons on the bottom left of the screen to move between questions. If during the survey you do not see the buttons, scroll down until you see them.

APPHUNT

Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Jon Huntsman, Jr. is doing as Utah Governor?

- Strongly approve, 18.8%
- Approve, 67.3%
- Disapprove, 11.8%
- Strongly disapprove, 2.0%
- N=542

APPUTLEG

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

- Strongly approve, 1.3%
- Approve, 58.0%
- Disapprove, 28.9%
- Strongly disapprove, 11.8%
- N=533

(Respondents were randomly assigned one of the following three questions about H.B. 148.)

OFFICIAL

In February 2007, the Utah Legislature passed H.B. 148, Education Vouchers. This bill takes effect only if approved by voters. The bill:

- establishes a scholarship program for: qualifying school-age children who newly enroll in eligible private schools; and lower income school-age children who continue their enrollment in eligible private schools;
- provides for scholarships within that program of \$500 to \$3,000, depending on family size and income, increasing those scholarship amounts in future years; and
- allows school districts to retain some per-student funding for

scholarship students who transfer to private schools.

Are you for or against H.B. 148 taking effect?

- For H.B. 148, 42.4%
- Against H.B. 148, 57.6%
- N=177

SKEWEDPRO

In February 2007, the Utah Legislature passed H.B. 148, Education Vouchers. This bill takes effect only if approved by voters. H.B. 148 allows parents to choose which school is best for their children. The bill provides Utah students scholarships in the amount of \$500 to \$3,000, depending on family size and income. The bill also protects public education by providing per-student funding to public schools if students transfer to private schools.

Are you for or against H.B. 148 taking effect?

- For H.B. 148, 51.4%
- Against H.B. 148, 48.6%
- N=183

SKEWEDCON

In February 2007, the Utah Legislature passed H.B. 148, Education Vouchers. This bill takes effect only if approved by voters. The bill would give taxpayer money to private schools in the form of vouchers ranging from \$500 to \$3,000, depending on family size and income. Parents with lower incomes would receive the most money, but even parents of higher incomes would receive some money from the state if they move their child from a public school to a private or religious school. The bill also provides per-student funding to public schools, but only for the first five years after the student moves to the private school.

Are you for or against H.B. 148 taking effect?

- For H.B. 148, 39.9%
- Against H.B. 148, 60.1%
- N=173

RATEEDUC

How would you rate the quality of public education (K-12) in Utah?

- Excellent, 7.0%
- Good, 45.8%
- Fair, 35.6%
- Poor, 11.7%
- N=531

EDUCFUND

Do you think the current levels of funding for public education (K-12) in Utah are:

- Not enough, 72.5%
- About the right amount, 22.0%
- Too much, 5.5%
- N=527

NUMCHILD

During the 2006-2007 school year that has already ended, how many children did you have in grades kindergarten through 12th grade?

- Zero, 58.2%
- One, 13.7%
- Two, 13.3%
- Three, 9.2%
- Four or more, 5.6%
- N=534

PUBLIC2

During the 2006-2007 school year that has already ended, did you have any children in a traditional public school (not including charter schools)?

- Yes, 88.8%
- No, 11.2%
- N=224

VOUCHHYPO

Suppose Utah adopted the voucher program. Would you move your public school student(s) to a private school?

- Yes, 18.1%
- No, 81.9%
- N=199

CHARTER

During the 2006-2007 school year that has already ended, did you have any children in a charter school?

- Yes, 9.0%
- No, 91.0%
- N=222

CHARTER_O

What was the most important reason why you enrolled your child in a charter school?

VOUCHHYPO2

Suppose Utah adopted the voucher program. Would you move your charter school student(s) to a private school?

- Yes, 15.0%
- No, 85.0%
- N=20

PRVTRELIG2

During the 2006-2007 school year that has already ended, did you have any children in a religious or parochial school?

- Yes, 4.1%
- No, 95.9%
- N=222

PRVTRELIG_O

What was the most important reason why you enrolled your child in a religious or parochial school?

PRVTNON

During the 2006-2007 school year that has already ended, did you have any children in a non-religious private school?

- Yes, 1.8%
- No, 98.2%
- N=222

PRVTNON_O

What was the most important reason why you enrolled your child in a non-religious private school?

HOME

During the 2006-2007 school year that has already ended, did you have any children in home school?

- Yes, 4.9%
- No, 93.7%

- N=223

HOME_O

What was the most important reason why you enrolled your child in home school?

OTHERSCH

During the 2006-2007 school year that has already ended, did you have any children enrolled in some other type of school?

- Yes, 6.3%
- No, 93.7%
- N=223

OTHERSCH_O

What other type of school did your child attend during the 2006-2007 school year that has already ended?

The next several questions are about the possible effects of vouchers. After reading each question, please indicate if you think the statement is very likely to happen, somewhat likely to happen, somewhat unlikely to happen, or very unlikely to happen.

REDUCEFUND

Do you think vouchers for private education would reduce funding for Utah's public schools, or do you think this would not happen?

- Very likely to happen, 38.1%
- Somewhat likely to happen, 25.0%
- Somewhat unlikely to happen, 19.2%
- Very unlikely to happen, 17.7%
- N=525

CROWDED

Do you think vouchers would alleviate over-crowded public schools as students transfer to private schools, or do you think this would not happen?

- Very likely to happen, 9.7%
- Somewhat likely to happen, 31.9%
- Somewhat unlikely to happen, 32.4%
- Very unlikely to happen, 26.0%
- N=524

TUITION

Do you think even with a voucher program, most private school tuition would be too expensive for middle and lower income families, or do you think this would not happen?

- Very likely to happen, 47.7%
- Somewhat likely to happen, 34.8%
- Somewhat unlikely to happen, 13.7%
- Very unlikely to happen, 3.8%
- N=526

SAVEMONEY

Do you think the voucher program would save Utah taxpayers money because the largest voucher will only be less than half of the amount that the state spends on each student in public school, or do you think this would not happen?

- Very likely to happen, 10.6%
- Somewhat likely to happen, 21.7%
- Somewhat unlikely to happen, 36.1%
- Very unlikely to happen, 31.6%
- N=529

POLYG

Do you think polygamist groups in rural Utah would use the voucher program to organize their own private schools, or do you think this would not happen?

- Very likely to happen, 32.4%
- Somewhat likely to happen, 41.5%
- Somewhat unlikely to happen, 17.3%
- Very unlikely to happen, 8.8%
- N=525

CHOICE

Do you think vouchers would give parents more control over the quality of education that their children receive, or do you think this would not happen?

- Very likely to happen, 30.9%
- Somewhat likely to happen, 28.5%
- Somewhat unlikely to happen, 22.3%
- Very unlikely to happen, 18.3%
- N=530

RELIGSCH

Do you think voucher money would go to church schools that focus too much on religion rather than basic education, or do you think this would not happen?

- Very likely to happen, 14.0%
- Somewhat likely to happen, 31.5%
- Somewhat unlikely to happen, 33.8%
- Very unlikely to happen, 20.7%
- N=527

COMPETITION

Do you think vouchers would provide competition that will force public schools to improve, or do you think this would not happen?

- Very likely to happen, 19.2%
- Somewhat likely to happen, 28.9%
- Somewhat unlikely to happen, 24.5%
- Very unlikely to happen, 27.5%
- N=526

QUALITY

Do you think the state board of education would be able to guarantee the quality of education at all schools accepting vouchers, or do you think this would not happen?

- Very likely to happen, 7.8%
- Somewhat likely to happen, 23.3%
- Somewhat unlikely to happen, 34.7%
- Very unlikely to happen, 34.2%
- N=527

UEA

Do you think vouchers would reduce the power that teachers unions have over public education, or do you think this would not happen?

- Very likely to happen, 18.6%
- Somewhat likely to happen, 35.8%
- Somewhat unlikely to happen, 27.1%
- Very unlikely to happen, 15.2%
- N=526

For the next four questions, please indicate whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each statement.

CULT1

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is important for children to have classmates with different cultural backgrounds.

- Strongly agree, 53.2%
- Somewhat agree, 35.2%
- Somewhat disagree, 9.1%
- Strongly disagree, 2.5%
- N=528

CULT2

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Students should give up their cultural beliefs and practices to fit in with other students.

- Strongly agree, 2.9%
- Somewhat agree, 12.5%
- Somewhat disagree, 28.1%
- Strongly disagree, 56.5%
- N=526

CULT3

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Cultural diversity in schools is a valuable asset.

- Strongly agree, 53.2%
- Somewhat agree, 34.8%
- Somewhat disagree, 8.1%
- Strongly disagree, 3.8%
- N=528

CULT4

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Schools have fewer problems when most students are from the same cultural background.

- Strongly agree, 9.5%
- Somewhat agree, 32.4%
- Somewhat disagree, 34.3%
- Strongly disagree, 23.9%
- N=528

We're almost finished. Our last series of questions is for classification purposes and will help us properly analyze responses to this survey. As you may already know, we never disclose the identity of any individual. Your answers will always be kept strictly confidential. We only report results for groups of people, not for individuals.

INTERNET

How often do you use the Internet?

- Once or more per day, 88.8%
- A few times a week, 10.8%
- A few times a month, 0.4%
- Hardly ever, 0.0%
- N=527

AGE

What year were you born?

(1900 - 1988)

(Converted into age brackets)

- 18-24, 5.5%
- 25-34, 23.8%
- 35-44, 19.2%
- 45-54, 25.7%
- 55-64, 17.5%
- 65 or older, 8.2%
- N=525

SEX

Are you:

- Male, 51.7%
- Female, 48.3%
- N=526

PARTYID

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

- Strong Democrat, 7.6%
- Not so strong Democrat, 3.6%
- Independent leaning Democrat, 8.2%
- Independent, 11.4%
- Independent leaning Republican, 21.1%
- Not so strong Republican, 17.0%
- Strong Republican, 26.9%
- Other, 3.4%
- Don't know, 0.8%
- N=525

IDEOLOGY

On most political matters do you consider yourself:

- Strongly conservative, 20.3%
- Moderately conservative, 43.8%
- Neither, middle of the road, 17.6%
- Moderately liberal, 12.0%
- Strongly liberal, 4.6%
- Don't know, 1.7%
- N=523

EDUC

What was the last year of school you completed?

- Eighth grade or less, 0.0%
- Some high school, 0.4%
- High school graduate, 5.5%
- Some college, 31.0%
- College graduate, 35.8%
- Post-graduate, 27.3%
- N=523

PARENTPRVT

Did you ever attend a private/parochial (boarding or day) school for primary or secondary education?

- Yes, 13.5%
- No, 86.5%
- N=517

RELIG7

What, if any, is your religious preference?

- Protestant, 5.0%
- Catholic, 3.8%
- LDS / Mormon, 71.1%
- Jewish, 0.0%
- Other, 4.8%
- No preference / No religious affiliation, 12.1%
- Prefer not to say, 3.3%
- N=522

BORNAGAIN

Do you consider yourself to be a Born-Again or Evangelical Christian?

- Yes, 7.1%
- No, 92.9%
- N=510

ACTIVE

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

- Very active, 64.8%
- Somewhat active, 10.5%
- Not very active, 7.1%
- Not active, 8.0%
- Does not apply, 7.8%
- Prefer not to say, 1.7%
- N=523

EMPLOY

Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

- Self-employed, 15.1%
- Employed by someone else, 57.0%
- Unemployed, 1.1%
- Homemaker, 12.2%
- Retired, 11.7%
- Student, 2.9%
- N=523

PUBLICSCHOOL

Do you or does someone in your household work for the public school system?

I work for the public school system

- Yes, 7.8%
- No, 92.2%
- N=510

Someone in my household works for the public school system

- Yes, 12.1%
- No, 87.9%
- N=512

RACE

Are you:

- American Indian / Native American, 1.0%
- Asian, 0.6%
- Black / African American, 0.4%
- Hispanic / Latino, 1.5%

- White / Caucasian, 95.2%
- Pacific Islander, 0.2%
- Other, 1.2%
- N=520

MARITAL

What is your marital status?

- Married, 82.1%
- Divorced, 6.0%
- Widowed, 1.5%
- Living with partner, 0.6%
- Single, 9.8%
- N=521

INCOME

What do you expect your 2007 family income to be?

- Under \$25,000, 8.9%
- \$25,000 - \$39,999, 10.2%
- \$40,000 - \$49,999, 11.2%
- \$50,000 - \$74,999, 25.6%
- \$75,000 - \$99,999, 20.3%
- \$100,000 - \$149,999, 16.5%
- Over \$150,000, 7.3%
- N=508

CONTACT

A researcher from the Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy may want to contact you by email and ask further questions related to this survey. Would that be okay?

- Yes, 79.4%
- No, 20.6%
- N=520

RESULTS

Would you like to receive an email detailing the results of this survey?

- Yes, 86.5%
- No, 13.5%
- N=520

SATISF

Finally, for quality control purposes, please rate your experience taking this poll. Would you consider the experience:

- Excellent, 27.2%
- Good, 59.5%
- Fair, 12.0%
- Poor, 0.6%
- Don't know, 0.8%
- N=518

COMMENT

If you have any comments or suggestions about this survey or politics in Utah in general, please enter them here.