



## RESULTS OF THE JANUARY 2011 UTAH VOTER POLL

17 February 2012

### **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, and 2008 to complete an online survey between January 21, 2011 and January 29, 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: January 21, 2011 – January 29, 2011.

### Sample Size and Margin of Error:

The survey was entered by 265 respondents and we have data on at least one question from 247 respondents and completed surveys from 244 respondents. The margin of error for a simple random sample with a sample size of 244 is about + or – 6.27 %. 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 10.07% (see calculations below). Potential respondents were sent three invitations to participate, spaced a few days apart over the survey field period. Our decision to send three invitations follows standard practices for internet surveys seeking to maximize response rates with minimal field time and disruption to potential respondents.

### Response rate calculation:

Total email addresses sent invitations: 3094

Approximate valid email addresses that received at least one email: 2423

Total accessed surveys: 265

Completed surveys: 244

Response rate =  $244/2423 = 10.07\%$

### Weighting:

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

# January 2011 Utah Voter Poll Topline Report

Last Modified: 02/17/2012

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

Answer	Response	%
Strongly approve	41	16%
Approve	152	61%
Disapprove	47	19%
Strongly disapprove	11	4%
Total	251	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Strongly approve	12	5%
Approve	131	52%
Disapprove	72	29%
Strongly disapprove	35	14%
Total	250	100%

## 3. 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?

Answer	Response	%
Illegal immigrants should be required to go home immediately	43	17%
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.	83	33%
Most illegal immigrants should be allowed to stay in the U.S. but only as temporary workers who must eventually return home.	96	39%
illegal immigrants should be allowed to stay permanently in the U.S.	26	10%
Total	248	100%

**4. On the whole, do you think immigration is a good thing or a bad thing for this country today?**

Answer	Response	%
Good thing	161	64%
Bad thing	57	23%
Don't know	33	13%
Total	251	100%

**5. Which of the following two statements comes closest to your views?**

Answer	Response	%
The U.S. is a country with a basic American culture that immigrants take on when they come here.	145	58%
The U.S. is a country made up of many cultures and values that change as new people come here.	104	42%
Total	249	100%

**6. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about immigration?**

Question	Disagree 1	2	3	4	Agree 5	Responses	Mean
Undocumented status is like civil trespass. There is nothing inherently wrong about it.	49.8%	20.5%	12.5%	10.0%	7.2%	249	2.04
A more thoughtful, factual, and humane approach to immigration reform is warranted.	9.2%	11.6%	16.8%	22.4%	40.0%	250	3.72
We should all meet an undocumented person and come to know that individual's family.	26.2%	16.5%	26.2%	13.3%	17.7%	248	2.80
The LDS church owes a debt to immigrants and the principle of immigration.	38.2%	13.0%	17.5%	12.2%	19.1%	246	2.61

**7. 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. Currently, similar legislation is being sponsored in Utah. To what extent do you oppose or favor such a law?**

Answer	Response	%
Strongly Oppose	59	23.9%
Somewhat Oppose	33	13.4%
Neither Oppose Nor Favor	13	5.3%
Somewhat Favor	50	20.2%
Strongly Favor	92	37.2%
Total	247	100.0%

**8. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about immigration?**

Question	Disagree 1	2	3	4	Agree 5	Responses	Mean
Immigration is primarily a federal policy issue, not a state issue.	29.4%	16.7%	13.9%	13.5%	26.5%	245	2.91
When it comes to immigration, local law enforcement resources should focus on criminal activities, not civil violations of federal code.	15.5%	10.6%	15.0%	22.4%	36.6%	246	3.54
Immigration policies should avoid separating families.	10.2%	10.6%	17.5%	20.7%	41.1%	246	3.72
Utah should be a place that welcomes immigrants of goodwill.	10.6%	7.3%	20.3%	26.0%	35.8%	246	3.69
Utah's immigration policies must reaffirm our global reputation as a welcoming and business-friendly state.	9.8%	13.8%	20.7%	28.9%	26.8%	246	3.49

**9. Recently, several groups and individuals who were concerned about the tone of the immigration debate agreed on a statement of principles about immigration. The statement is called the Utah Compact. Before taking this survey, had you read or heard anything about the Utah Compact?**

Answer	Response	%
Yes, a great deal.	33	13%
Yes, but only a little.	125	51%
No, I have not heard about the Utah Compact before.	88	36%
Total	246	100%

## 10. How much do you agree or disagree with the Utah Compact?<sup>1</sup>

Answer	Response	%
Strongly Disagree	10	6%
Disagree	16	10%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	60	39%
Agree	48	31%
Strongly Agree	20	13%
Total	154	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Once or more a day	230	93%
A few times a week	14	6%
A few times a month	2	1%
Hardly ever	0	0%
I do not have access to the internet.	0	0%
Total	246	100%

## 12. Are you:

Answer	Response	%
Male	142	58%
Female	103	42%
Total	245	100%

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<sup>1</sup> This question was not asked to those who indicated that they have not heard about the Utah compact.

**13. Please select the year you were born: (Grouped into age categories)**

Age Category	Response	%
18-24	7	2.9%
25-34	30	12.3%
35-44	34	13.9%
45-54	55	22.5%
55-64	61	25.0%
65 and older	86	35.2%
Total	244	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Strong Democrat	21	9%
Not so strong Democrat	9	4%
Independent leaning Democrat	25	10%
Independent	35	14%
Independent leaning Republican	61	25%
Not so strong Republican	32	13%
Strong Republican	50	20%
Other	9	4%
Don't know	4	2%
Total	246	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Strongly conservative	53	22%
Moderately conservative	96	39%
Neither, middle of the road	36	15%
Moderately liberal	41	17%
Strongly liberal	15	6%
Don't know	5	2%
Total	246	100%



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

Answer	Response	%
Some high school or less	1	0%
High school graduate	18	7%
Some college	66	27%
College graduate	80	33%
Post-graduate	81	33%
Total	246	100%

**17. What, if any, is your religious preference?**

Answer	Response	%
Protestant	9	4%
Catholic	11	4%
LDS / Mormon	168	68%
Jewish	0	0%
Other	6	2%
No preference / No religious affiliation	40	16%
Prefer not to say	12	5%
Total	246	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Very active	157	64%
Somewhat active	23	9%
Not very active	11	4%
Not active	24	10%
Does not apply / Prefer not to say	31	13%
Total	246	100%

### 19. What is your current employment status?

Answer	Response	%
Self-employed	39	16%
Employed by someone else	142	58%
Unemployed	3	1%
Homemaker	21	9%
Retired	35	14%
Student	6	2%
Total	246	100%

### 20. Are you:

Answer	Response	%
American Indian / Native American	0	0%
Asian	0	0%
Black / African American	0	0%
Hispanic / Latino	10	4%
White / Caucasian	231	94%
Pacific Islander	1	0%
Other	3	1%
Total	245	100%

### 21. Are you currently:

Answer	Response	%
Married	194	79%
Divorced	16	7%
Widowed	5	2%
Living with partner	5	2%
Single	26	11%
Total	246	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Under \$25,000	17	7%
\$25,000 - \$39,999	27	11%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	19	8%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	59	25%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	46	19%
\$100,000 - \$124,999	37	15%
\$125,000 - \$149,999	14	6%
Over \$150,000	20	8%
Total	239	100%