



## RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER 2011 UTAH VOTER POLL

09 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, 2008, and 2010 to complete an online survey between September 29, 2011 and October 12, 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:

Kelly Patterson, CSED Director, (801) 422-4985

Quin Monson, CSED Associate Director, (801) 422-8017

The Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy

Brigham Young University.

Phone: (801) 422-3716

Email: [csed@byu.edu](mailto:csed@byu.edu)

## Methodology

Survey Field Dates: September 29, 2011 – October 12, 2011.

Sample Size and Margin of Error:

The survey was entered by 773 respondents and we have data on at least one question from 733 respondents and completed surveys from 682 respondents. The margin of error for a simple random sample with a sample size of 682 is about + or – 3.75 %. 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 14.96% (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.

Response rate calculation:

Total email addresses sent invitations: 5,772

Total valid email addresses that received at least one email: 4,560

Total accessed surveys: 773

Completed surveys: 682

Response rate =  $682/4560 = 14.96\%$

Weighting:

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

## September 2011 Utah Voter Poll Topline Report

02/09/2012

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

Answer	Response	%
Strongly approve	86	11.7%
Approve	433	59.1%
Disapprove	171	23.3%
Strongly disapprove	43	5.9%
Total	733	100.0%

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

Answer	Response	%
Strongly approve	17	2%
Approve	367	50%
Disapprove	187	26%
Strongly disapprove	156	21%
Total	727	100%

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

Candidate	Average Value	Standard Deviation	Responses
Mitt Romney	67.03	29.83	706
Jon Huntsman	57.38	29.10	704
Rick Perry	31.24	26.89	660
Michelle Bachmann	30.93	28.62	661
Ron Paul	39.52	28.48	660

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

Officeholder	Average Value	Standard Deviation	Responses
Orrin Hatch	50.75	31.09	692
Mike Lee	49.65	33.09	625
Jason Chaffetz	51.64	34.47	631
Jim Matheson	58.32	25.84	659
Rob Bishop	50.16	29.45	575
Gary Herbert	58.56	28.22	680

**5. In the last legislative session, the Utah Legislature passed H.B. 220, which requires public schools to teach that the United States is a “compound constitutional republic”. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements about H.B. 220.**

Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Mean/ Standard Dev.	n
H.B. 220 was a necessary law.	30.1%	20.8%	34.0%	9.1%	6.0%	2.4/ 1.2	682
H.B. 220 provides an accurate description of the U.S. government.	11.4%	14.4%	47.7%	20.2%	6.3%	3.0/ 1.0	682

**6. Now we would like to ask you about a couple of issues being debated around the country: the budget deficit and climate change. On a scale from 0 to 100 where 0 means "not serious at all" and 100 means "very serious".**

Issue	Average Value	Standard Deviation	Responses
Climate change	50.36	34.90	227
The budget deficit	88.21	16.33	227

**7. Please indicate your preferences for solving the budget deficit by indicating how much of the solution should come from increased taxes and how much from spending cuts.**

Solution	Mean Response	Standard Deviation
Increase taxes	26.1%	25.6
Cut spending	74.4%	27.1

**8. Who do you cheer for when Brigham Young University plays the University of Utah in athletic events?**

Team	Response	%
Brigham Young University	145	41%
University of Utah	131	37%
Neither or Don't Know	82	23%
Total	358	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Strongly favorable	118	17%
Somewhat favorable	207	30%
Somewhat unfavorable	96	14%
Strongly unfavorable	231	34%
Don't Know/No Opinion	32	5%
Total	684	100%

**10. Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following:**

Question	Yes	No	Responses
Given money to any organization associated with the Tea Party movement	26.5%	73.6%	121
Attended a rally or meeting held by any organization associated with the Tea Party movement	26.2%	73.8%	122
Took any other active steps to support the Tea Party movement, either in person or through email or on the internet	59.0%	41.0%	122

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

Answer	Response	%
Yes	122	18%
No	500	73%
Don't know/No opinion	63	9%
Total	685	100%

**12. How often do you use the internet?**

Answer	Response	%
Once or more a day	651	95%
A few times a week	29	4%
A few times a month	3	0%
Hardly ever	1	0%
I do not have access to the internet.	1	0%
Total	685	100%

**13. Are you:**

Answer	Response	%
Male	395	58%
Female	289	42%
Total	684	100%

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

Age Category	Response	%
18-24	22	3.2%
25-34	69	10.2%
35-44	142	21.0%
45-54	157	23.2%
55-64	161	23.8%
65 and older	126	18.6%
Total	677	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Strong Democrat	47	7%
Not so strong Democrat	18	3%
Independent leaning Democrat	90	13%
Independent	89	13%
Independent leaning Republican	152	22%
Not so strong Republican	78	11%
Strong Republican	168	25%
Other	36	5%
Don't know	4	1%
Total	682	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Strongly conservative	173	25%
Moderately conservative	253	37%
Neither, middle of the road	109	16%
Moderately liberal	108	16%
Strongly liberal	33	5%
Don't know	7	1%
Total	683	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Some high school or less	2	0%
High school graduate	25	4%
Some college	183	27%
College graduate	250	37%
Post-graduate	224	33%
Total	684	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Protestant	36	5%
Catholic	30	4%
LDS / Mormon	472	69%
Jewish	2	0%
Other	26	4%
No preference / No religious affiliation	87	13%
Prefer not to say	30	4%
Total	683	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Very active	466	78%
Somewhat active	55	9%
Not very active	23	4%
Not active	33	6%
Does not apply / Prefer not to say	19	3%
Total	596	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Self-employed	95	14%
Employed by someone else	383	56%
Unemployed	19	3%
Homemaker	72	11%
Retired	85	12%
Student	29	4%
Total	683	100%



**21. Are you:**

Answer	Response	%
American Indian / Native American	3	0%
Asian	7	1%
Black / African American	0	0%
Hispanic / Latino	17	3%
White / Caucasian	641	94%
Pacific Islander	4	1%
Other	8	1%
Total	680	100%

**22. Are you currently:**

Answer	Response	%
Married	562	82%
Divorced	32	5%
Widowed	8	1%
Living with partner	9	1%
Single	72	11%
Total	683	100%

**23. What do you expect your 2011 family income to be?**

Answer	Response	%
Under \$25,000	50	8%
\$25,000 - \$39,999	78	12%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	56	8%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	139	21%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	141	21%
\$100,000 - \$124,999	89	13%
Over \$150,000	64	10%
\$125,000 - \$149,999	49	7%
Total	666	100%