



RESULTS OF THE APRIL 2014 UTAH VOTER POLL  
11 APRIL 2014

**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, 2010, and 2012, to complete an online survey between March 28, 2014 and April 8, 2014. 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 28, 2014 – April 8, 2014

### *Sample Size and Margin of Error:*

In total, 889 respondents entered the survey; we have at least partial data from 889 respondents, while 799 respondents completed the entire survey. The margin of error for a simple random sample with a sample size of 799 is about + or – 3.47%. The Utah Voter Poll is drawn from the Utah Colleges Exit Poll, which has a sophisticated 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 11.58% (see calculations below). Potential respondents were sent three invitations to participate, spaced a few days apart over the survey field period. **Women within the sample were sent an additional email to encourage an equal response rate between genders.** 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: 6,923

Total valid email addresses that received at least one email: 6,898

Total accessed surveys: 889

Completed surveys: 799

Response rate =  $799/6,898 = 11.58\%$

### *Weighting:*

The raw data were statistically adjusted using a technique called “rim weighting” to correct for potential nonresponse error and potential coverage error. Nonresponse error would occur if the non-respondents from our sampling pool (the email addresses collected on Election Day 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, and 2012) differed significantly from our actual respondents on their responses to the survey items. Coverage error would occur if the group that opted into the Utah Voter Poll on Election Day differed significantly from the group that we are really trying to survey and draw inferences about (all Utah voters). It is impossible to be absolutely certain about the existence of nonresponse and coverage error, and when weighting, we use what we know about nonresponse and coverage to minimize the chances of nonresponse error and coverage error.

Utah has very high computer ownership and internet access rates among the general population. These rates are likely to be even higher among voters. Some literature suggests web surveys will tend to over-represent people with higher incomes, higher levels of education, younger people, and men. Our weighting procedure was designed to take the distributions for age, education, income, gender, race, and religion from the 2010 and 2012 KBYU/Utah Colleges Exit Polls and

use them to statistically adjust the data so that respondents belonging to overrepresented groups are given less weight in the analysis and those in underrepresented groups are given more weight. Raking is when the weights are applied iteratively, one variable at a time, until the distributions for all of the variables of interest closely reflect their targets. The data were weighted by education, age, income, gender, race, and religion.

# 2014 MARCH UTAH VOTER POLL RESULTS

Last Modified: 4/11/2014

## 1. Governor Herbert Approval

Answer	Response	%
Strongly approve	145	17%
Approve	493	57%
Disapprove	167	19%
Strongly disapprove	61	7%
Total	866	100%

## 2. Utah Legislature Approval

Answer	Response	%
Strongly approve	23	3%
Approve	465	54%
Disapprove	243	28%
Strongly disapprove	128	15%
Total	859	100%

## 3. For each of the following persons, please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable impression:

Question	Very Unfavorable	Somewhat Unfavorable	Somewhat Favorable	Very Favorable	No Opinion	Total Responses
Gary Herbert	11.32%	17.11%	38.06%	30.04%	3.48%	855
Orrin Hatch	24.51%	26.74%	32.14%	14.32%	2.29%	855
Mike Lee	36.39%	15.91%	19.27%	23.61%	4.82%	855
Becky Lockhart	22.54%	22.73%	20.25%	5.06%	29.42%	853

**4. Please rank the following functions of the United States Constitution in order of their importance to you. The list is not comprehensive, so please base your rankings on the options presented below.**

Answer	Mean Ranking	Response
Guarantee equal protection under the law to all citizens	2.51	776
Protect civil liberties	2.62	776
Establish a system of checks and balances between government branches	2.70	776
Define the balance of power between the federal government and states	3.05	776
Set up a process to create laws and amend the Constitution	4.13	776

**5. Several proposals for Medicaid funding were debated in the recent legislative session. Given the following options, which state Medicaid funding plan would you prefer?**

Answer	Response	%
Reject \$524 million of federal Medicaid funds and instead use \$35 million in state money — matched with about \$80 million of federal dollars — to extend partial health care benefits to 54,000 or fewer of the poorest Utahns.	43	11%
	<u>46</u>	<u>11%</u>
	89	11%
Accept \$524 million in federal funds to provide full coverage to 111,000 of the poorest Utahns through the Medicaid program. These individuals would not be required to pay any of the insurance costs out of their own pockets.	130	33%
	<u>128</u>	<u>30%</u>
	258	32%
Keep Utah's current insurance system. No Utahns would receive additional support for health care coverage.	52	13%
	<u>73</u>	<u>17%</u>
	125	15%
Accept \$258 million in federal funds and seek a federal waiver allowing the state to provide subsidies to help up to 111,000 of the poorest Utahns buy private insurance. These individuals would still be required to pay a portion of the cost of the insurance out of their own pockets.	168	43%
	<u>122</u>	<u>28%</u>
	290	35%
Don't Know	0	0%
	<u>59</u>	<u>14%</u>
	59	7%
Total	393	
	<u>428</u>	100%
	821	

**6. Several proposals for Medicaid funding were debated in the recent legislative session. Given the following options, which state Medicaid funding plan would you prefer?**

Answer	Response	%
Reject \$524 million of federal Medicaid funds and instead use \$35 million in state money — matched with about \$80 million of federal dollars — to extend partial health care benefits to 54,000 or fewer of the poorest Utahns.	46	11%
Accept \$524 million in federal funds to provide full coverage to 111,000 of the poorest Utahns through the Medicaid program. These individuals would not be required to pay any of the insurance costs out of their own pockets.	128	30%
Keep Utah's current insurance system. No Utahns would receive additional support for health care coverage.	73	17%
Accept \$258 million in federal funds and seek a federal waiver allowing the state to provide subsidies to help up to 111,000 of the poorest Utahns buy private insurance. These individuals would still be required to pay a portion of the cost of the insurance out of their own pockets.	122	28%
Don't Know	59	14%
Total	428	100%

**7. A recent effort was made to reform Utah's electoral process for nominating candidates. Which of the following options do you prefer?**

Answer	Response	%
Utah should use a caucus/convention system for nominating candidates.	167	20%
Utah should use a primary system for nominating candidates.	387	46%
Utah should use a caucus system, but also allow candidates to be added to a party's primary ballot by gathering signatures.	207	25%
Don't Know	75	9%
Total	836	100%

**8. In the legislative session, a law was passed that leaves Utah's current caucus and convention system for nominating candidates in place, but also allows candidates to be added to a party's primary ballot by gathering a certain number of signatures. The law also requires political parties to adopt changes such as opening primaries to unaffiliated voters and allowing absentee voting at neighborhood caucus meetings. Do you approve or disapprove of this law?**

Answer	Response	%
Strongly approve	76	9%
Approve	432	52%
Disapprove	222	27%
Strongly disapprove	96	12%
Total	826	100%



## 9. Did you attend your neighborhood caucus this year?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	220	27%
No	607	73%
Total	827	100%

Answer If Did you attend your neighborhood caucus this year? Yes Is Selected

## 10. Which party's caucus did you attend?

Answer	Response	%
Republican	173	79%
Democratic	36	16%
Other	11	5%
Total	220	100%

Answer If Did you attend your neighborhood caucus this year? Yes Is Selected

## 11. Please rate the overall quality of your caucus.

Answer	Response	%
Excellent	45	20%
Very Good	79	36%
Good	62	28%
Fair	19	9%
Poor	15	7%
Total	220	100%

**12. Some have proposed changing the position of Utah attorney general from an elected office to a position appointed by the governor and approved by the Utah state Senate. Supporters argue that appointment would free the Attorney General from the influence of campaign contributors. Opponents argue that appointment would remove the independence of the Attorney General and give too much influence to the Governor. If the proposal were on the ballot in November, how would you vote?**

Answer	Response	%
Yes, appoint the Attorney General.	283	34%
No, keep the current system and elect the Attorney General.	545	66%
Total	828	100%

**13. Various bills were discussed and debated during the legislative session. Please indicate whether you support or oppose each of the following proposals.**

Question	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Total Responses
Move the state prison out of Draper and use the land for residential and commercial development.	15.97%	35.77%	23.98%	24.28%	399
Spend \$200-\$300 million to provide students in Utah public schools with a tablet computer.	6.13%	25.40%	26.14%	42.34%	402
Eliminate the time change that occurs during daylight savings.	44.82%	22.32%	17.25%	15.61%	402
Prohibit discrimination in housing and employment based on sexual orientation and gender identity.	45.52%	29.73%	11.25%	13.49%	401
Allow state clean air requirements to be more strict than national requirements.	35.89%	30.07%	21.80%	12.24%	402

**14. Various bills were discussed and debated during the legislative session. Please indicate whether you support or oppose each of the following proposals.**

Question	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	No Opinion	Total Responses
Move the state prison out of Draper and use the land for residential and commercial development.	17.82%	27.69%	17.48%	22.89%	14.11%	427
Spend \$200-\$300 million to provide students in Utah public schools with a tablet computer.	4.28%	15.96%	26.26%	47.45%	6.05%	427
Eliminate the time change that occurs during daylight savings.	45.34%	17.08%	7.86%	18.74%	10.97%	427
Prohibit discrimination in housing and employment based on sexual orientation and gender identity.	54.29%	18.89%	10.80%	11.61%	4.40%	427
Allow state clean air requirements to be more strict than national requirements.	34.40%	33.45%	16.85%	12.91%	2.65%	427

**Next, you will be asked a series of questions about the Constitution. Many people don't know the answers to these questions, so if there are questions you're not sure about, just give your best guess and continue to the next question. Please answer these questions without looking up the answer. Your responses will be timed and each question will automatically advance after 30 seconds.**

**15. How many states must ratify a Constitutional amendment for it to take effect?**

Answer	Response	%
1/2	1	0%
2/3	515	67%
3/5	82	11%
3/4	175	22%
Total	773	100%

**16. Which of the following is a right expressly named in the First Amendment?**

Answer	Response	%
Freedom of the press	569	75%
Freedom of equal protection	117	16%
Freedom of determination	15	2%
Freedom of habeas corpus	55	7%
Total	756	100%

**17. According to the Constitution, which of the following types of bills must originate in the U.S House of Representatives?**

Answer	Response	%
Revenue	219	29%
Appropriations	340	45%
Regulatory	125	17%
National Defense	64	9%
Total	748	100%

**18. Which of the following is NOT a power that the Constitution specifically delegates to Congress?**

Answer	Response	%
Power to borrow money for the United States	163	21%
Power to establish rules for immigration and naturalization	126	17%
Power to regulate commerce between states	204	27%
Power to temporarily fill vacancies in Congress	269	35%
Total	762	100%

**19. Which of the following Constitutional amendments guarantees all people "equal protection under the laws?"**

Answer	Response	%
14th Amendment	378	51%
21st Amendment	46	6%
1st Amendment	201	27%
9th Amendment	116	16%
Total	741	100%

## 20. Which of the following best describes the Tenth Amendment?

Answer	Response	%
Recognizes the federal Constitution as the supreme law of the land	46	7%
Guarantees the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness	79	11%
Reserves powers not granted to the federal government to the states	414	60%
Prohibits cruel and unusual punishment and excessive bail	155	22%
Total	694	100%

## 21. At the time of the Constitution's creation, did most Founding Fathers intend for the Constitution to increase, decrease, or not change the strength of the national government?

Answer	Response	%
Increase the strength of the national government	194	24%
Decrease the strength of the national government	302	38%
Not change the strength of national government	305	38%
Total	801	100%

## 22. Gender

Answer	Response	%
Male	382	47%
Female	425	53%
Total	807	100%

## 23. Age

Answer	Response	%
18-24	60	7%
25-34	137	17%
34-44	131	16%
45-54	133	17%
55-64	158	20%
65 and older	181	23%
Total	800	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Strong Democrat	65	8%
Not so strong Democrat	23	3%
Independent leaning Democrat	125	16%
Independent	97	12%
Independent leaning Republican	185	23%
Not so strong Republican	110	14%
Strong Republican	156	19%
Other	43	5%
Don't know	2	0%
Total	806	100%



## 25. On most political matters do you consider yourself:

Answer	Response	%
Strongly conservative	194	24%
Moderately conservative	285	36%
Neither, middle of the road	112	14%
Moderately liberal	152	19%
Strongly liberal	58	7%
Don't know	3	0%
Total	804	100%

## 26. What was the last year of school you completed?

Answer	Response	%
Some high school or less	3	0%
High school graduate	79	10%
Some college	275	34%
College graduate	276	35%
Post-graduate	171	21%
Total	804	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Protestant	50	6%
Catholic	30	4%
LDS / Mormon	552	69%
Jewish	5	0%
Other	50	6%
No preference / No religious affiliation	94	12%
Prefer not to say	22	3%
Total	803	100%

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

Answer	Response	%
Very active	505	63%
Somewhat active	96	12%
Not very active	54	7%
Not active	65	8%
Does not apply / Prefer not to say	83	10%
Total	803	100%

## 29. What is your current employment status?

Answer	Response	%
Self-employed	80	10%
Employed by someone else	400	50%
Unemployed	14	2%
Homemaker	114	14%
Retired	158	20%
Student	35	4%
Total	801	100%

### 30. Are you:

Answer	Response	%
American Indian / Native American	5	0%
Asian	3	0%
Black / African American	1	0%
Hispanic / Latino	28	4%
White / Caucasian	745	94%
Pacific Islander	2	0%
Other	13	2%
Total	797	100%

### 31. Are you currently:

Answer	Response	%
Married	621	77%
Divorced	36	5%
Widowed	34	4%
Living with partner	15	2%
Single	97	12%
Total	803	100%

### 32. Where did you begin taking this survey?

Answer	Response	%
Work	169	21%
School	9	1%
Home	592	74%
Public Computer	5	1%
Other	28	3%
Total	803	100%

### 32. What do you expect your 2013 family income to be?

Answer	Response	%
Under \$25,000	84	11%
\$25,000 - \$39,999	110	14%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	64	8%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	180	23%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	164	21%
\$100,000 - \$124,999	63	8%
\$125,000 - \$149,999	73	9%
Over \$150,000	50	6%
Total	788	100%