**UTAH POLITICAL TRENDS PANEL**

**JANUARY 2020**

**TOPLINE REPORT**

**METHODOLOGY DETAILS**

n=2,296 likely Utah 2020 General Election voters

Online interviews fielded January 16-30, 2020

Margin of error +- 2.04

In January of 2020, 115,126 likely Utah voters were sampled from the state’s file of registered voters and invited to join in the Utah Political Trends Panel–a representative, statewide panel of Utah voters (see sampling details below). From this sample, 2,296 voters completed this survey to join the Utah Political Trends Panel, resulting in a 2.0% response rate. Survey invitations were sent via email and interviews were completed online.

Before drawing the sample, a model of 2020 general election turnout was estimated using age, party registration status, length of registration, permanent absentee status, and past election turnout (one recent general election is used as the “dependent variable,” in this case the 2016 general election). This model produces a sampling pool of registered voters that can be randomly sampled based on their likelihood of voting. A Probability Proportionate to Size (PPS) sample was drawn using this predicted turnout estimate such that voters with a higher probability of voting have a higher probability of being selected in the sample. Thus, the final sample accurately approximates a population of general election voters. Sampling error is only one possible source of error in survey research. Results can also be affected by measurement error (e.g. question wording and question order), coverage error (e.g. counting as “likely voters” survey respondents who will not vote), and non-response error (e.g. the people who responded to the survey are systematically different from people who refused or were not reachable).

To correct for non-response and minimize the likelihood of coverage error, the responses to this survey were weighted according to turnout probability, county, registered party, gender, and age to reflect the likely voter population within each of Utah’s U.S. congressional districts.

The Utah Political Trends Panel is a partnership between Y2 Analytics, UtahPolicy.com, and KUTV. We are committed to providing transparent public opinion data so that policy makers, social scientists, journalists, teachers, and students may better-understand Utah and its unique political landscape.

**CONTACT**

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QINTRO. Welcome to the Utah Political Trends Panel, sponsored by Utah Policy, KUTV, and Y2 Analytics. As a member of this panel, you will have the opportunity to share your opinions on many of the most important topics in Utah politics and society.   
   
We highly value your time and opinions. Please note that your participation is voluntary and that all your answers will remain strictly confidential. Most people will complete the survey in less than 15 minutes. If you exit the survey before completion, you will be able to resume it at a later time.   
   
To begin the survey, click on the “ → ” button below. During the survey you can use the navigation button on the bottom of the screen to advance questions. If during the survey you do not see the button, scroll down until you see it.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |

QTRACK1. Do you feel things in the country are going in the right direction or the wrong direction? (n = 2,276)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Right direction | | 42% |  |
|  | Wrong direction | | 58 |  |

QTRACK2. And thinking just about Utah, do you feel things in Utah are going in the right direction or the wrong direction? (n = 2,227)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Right direction | | 50% |  |
|  | Wrong direction | | 50 |  |

QCONGRESS. If the November 2020 election for U.S. House of Representative were held today, would you vote for the Republican candidate, the Democrat candidate, or someone else? (n = 2,233)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Republican candidate | | 44% |  |
|  | Democrat candidate | | 28 |  |
|  | Someone else | | 7 |  |
|  | Other, please specify | | 4 |  |
|  | Don't know/not sure | | 17 |  |

QAPPR1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." President Donald Trump (n = 2,220)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 35% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 17 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 3 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 7 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 38 |  |

QAPPR2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." Utah Governor Gary Herbert (n = 2,206)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 19% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 31 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 17 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 22 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 11 |  |

QAPPR3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." The Utah State Legislature (n = 2,192)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 3% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 29 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 20 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 29 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 19 |  |

QAPPR4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." Senator Mike Lee (n = 2,184)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 16% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 23 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 18 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 20 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 23 |  |

QAPPR5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." Senator Mitt Romney (n = 2,188)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 10% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 26 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 16 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 23 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 25 |  |

QAPPR6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." Congressman Rob Bishop (n = 485)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 15% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 22 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 30 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 13 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 20 |  |

QAPPR7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." Congressman Chris Stewart (n = 552)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 16% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 21 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 26 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 11 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 26 |  |

QAPPR8. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." Congressman John Curtis (n = 594)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 17% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 23 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 36 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 16 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 9 |  |

QAPPR9. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." Congressman Ben McAdams (n = 538)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 18% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 23 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 18 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 15 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 26 |  |

QAPPR10. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." Utah Lieutenant Governor Spencer Cox (n = 2,158)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 16% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 24 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 44 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 9 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 7 |  |

QAPPR11. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." Republicans in Congress (n = 2,176)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 14% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 30 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 9 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 16 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 31 |  |

QAPPR12. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following individuals or organizations are handling their jobs? If you are not aware of a particular person or organization, simply select "Don't know." Democrats in Congress (n = 2,176)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | | 7% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | | 20 |  |
|  | Neither approve nor disapprove | | 10 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | | 15 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | | 47 |  |

Q2020ELECTION. If the 2020 November election for the President of the United States were being held today who would

you vote for? (n = 2,174)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The Republican, Donald Trump | | 47% |  |
|  | The future Democratic nominee | | 31 |  |
|  | A third-party candidate | | 8 |  |
|  | Other, please specify | | 4 |  |
|  | Do not know/not sure | | 10 |  |

QCONCERN. For each of the following people or groups, please tell me whether you think they are very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not really concerned with looking out for the economic well-being of average Americans?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Very concerned | Somewhat concerned | Not really concerned |
|  | The Democrats in the Utah State legislature (n=2,122) | 22% | 43 | 35 |
|  | The Republicans in the Utah State legislature (n=2,122) | 20 | 50 | 31 |
|  | The Governor of the State of Utah (n=2,123) | 29 | 48 | 23 |
|  | The mayor of your city or town (n=2,114) | 29 | 50 | 21 |
|  | The Republicans in the US Congress (n=2,129) | 23 | 39 | 38 |
|  | The Democrats in the US Congress (n=2,127) | 22 | 29 | 49 |
|  | The President of the United States (n=2,129) | 44 | 14 | 42 |

QFOUNDATION1. Thinking for a moment about issues facing Utah that a governor could do something about, what

would you say is the greatest issue facing Utah? (OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES VERBATIM IN APPENDIX)

QFOUNDATION2. What is the next greatest issue? (OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES VERBATIM IN APPENDIX)

QISSUE\_CONCERN. As you know, there are many competing spending priorities facing Utahs governor and legislature.

For each of the following, please tell me if it should be a priority for Utah state government, or not?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | It should be a top priority | It should be a moderately important priority | It should be a very low priority | It should not be done |
|  | Protecting the environment (n=2,083) | 43% | 38 | 16 | 3 |
|  | Reducing the number of people abusing prescription painkillers or heroin (n=2,082) | 33 | 43 | 19 | 5 |
|  | Making health care more accessible and affordable (n=2,083) | 53 | 32 | 11 | 4 |
|  | Reducing crime (n=2,085) | 39 | 48 | 12 | 1 |
|  | Improving infrastructure, like buildings and roads (n=2,083) | 39 | 51 | 9 | 1 |
|  | Reforming the criminal justice system (n=2,081) | 25 | 49 | 24 | 2 |
|  | Improving public education (n=2,084) | 62 | 30 | 6 | 2 |
|  | Reforming the tax system (n=2,082) | 38 | 40 | 17 | 5 |
|  | Making housing more affordable (n=2,081) | 45 | 38 | 12 | 5 |
|  | Improving air quality (n=2,083) | 55 | 32 | 10 | 2 |

QREFORM. Based on what you know today, do you support or oppose the tax reform passed by the Utah State Legislature in December of 2019? (n = 2,083)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly support | | 3% |  |
|  | Somewhat support | | 14 |  |
|  | Somewhat oppose | | 21 |  |
|  | Strongly oppose | | 40 |  |
|  | Not sure | | 22 |  |

QTAXCUT. Do you believe the tax reform passed by the Utah State Legislature in December of 2019 will mean most Utahns will pay less in taxes overall or that most Utahns will pay more in taxes overall? (n = 2,077)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Most Utahns will pay less in taxes overall | | 11% |  |
|  | Most Utahns will pay more in taxes overall | | 60 |  |
|  | Not sure | | 29 |  |

QGOV\_FUNCTION1. The Utah State Legislature only meets for 45 days out of every year, except for when special

sessions are called. During the 45-day session, the Utah State legislature handles hundreds of pieces of legislation. People have many different thoughts and feelings when the Utah State Legislature is in session. In a few words, what are some of the thoughts and feelings you have while the Utah State Legislature is in session? (OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES VERBATIM IN APPENDIX)

QGOV\_FUNCTION2. How much confidence do you have in the knowledge, skills, and abilities of government leaders in

your state, including the governor and legislature? (n = 2,046)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | A great deal | | 9% |  |
|  | A moderate amount | | 52 |  |
|  | Not much | | 32 |  |
|  | None at all | | 6 |  |

QGOV\_FUNCTION2. If you wanted to express your opinion about something going on in your state legislature and you

contacted your state representative, do you think that he or she would pay a lot of attention to what you say, some attention, very little attention, or none at all?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
|  | A lot of attention | 6% |
|  | Some attention | 31 |
|  | Very little attention | 44 |
|  | None at all | 18 |

QGOV\_FUNCTION3. Thinking now about the Utah state legislature and how it compares with the U.S. (United States)

Congress.... Which do you think gets more done—the Utah state legislature or Congress? (n = 1,975)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Utah State Legislature | | 86% |  |
|  | US Congress | | 14 |  |

QINFLUENCE. How much influence would you say lobbyists have in shaping the laws that come out of your state legislature--a great amount, some, not much, or none? (n = 2,038)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | A great amount | | 66% |  |
|  | Some | | 27 |  |
|  | Not much | | 6 |  |
|  | None | | <1 |  |

PROPRIETARY; NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

PROPRIETARY; NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

PROPRIETARY; NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

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PROPRIETARY; NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

QPARTYID. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent or something else? (n = 1,954)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Republican | | 29% |  |
|  | Democrat | | 17 |  |
|  | Independent | | 29 |  |
|  | No preference | | 7 |  |
|  | Other, please specify: | | 6 |  |
|  | Do not know/not sure | | 1 |  |

PARTY7. (RECODED PARTY IDENTIFICATION) (n = 1,783)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strong Republican | | 32% |  |
|  | Not very strong Republican | | 11 |  |
|  | Independent leaning Republican | | 13 |  |
|  | Independent/Other/No Preference | | 15 |  |
|  | Independent leaning Democrat | | 11 |  |
|  | Not very strong Democrat | | 5 |  |
|  | Strong Democrat | | 14 |  |

QIDEOLOGY. On most political matters do you consider yourself…? (n = 1,950)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly conservative | | 24% |  |
|  | Moderately conservative | | 31 |  |
|  | Neither, middle of the road | | 18 |  |
|  | Moderately liberal | | 18 |  |
|  | Strongly liberal | | 8 |  |
|  | Do not know/ not sure | | 1 |  |

QSEX. Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself? (n = 1,948)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Male | | 48% |  |
|  | Female | | 51 |  |
|  | In another way, please specify if you wish | | 1 |  |

QYEARBORN. What year were you born (RECODED INTO AGE CATEGORIES) (n = 1,897)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 18-34 | 16% |  |
|  | 35-44 | 18 |  |
|  | 45-54 | 19 |  |
|  | 55-64 | 19 |  |
|  | 65+ | 28 |  |

QTIMELIVED. How many years have you lived in Utah? (n = 1,954)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 0 - 3 years | | 1% |  |
|  | 4 - 7 years | | 6 |  |
|  | 8 - 11 years | | 6 |  |
|  | 12+ years | | 86 |  |

QEDOFR. What is the last year of school you completed? (n = 1,946)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Some high school or less | | <1% |  |
|  | High school graduate | | 6 |  |
|  | Some college | | 25 |  |
|  | College graduate | | 41 |  |
|  | Post graduate degree (e.g. MA, MBA, LLD, PhD) | | 25 |  |
|  | Vocational school or technical school | | 4 |  |

QEMPLOY. What is your employment status? (n = 1,947)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Self-employed | | 13% |  |
|  | Employed by someone else | | 49 |  |
|  | Unemployed | | 2 |  |
|  | Homemaker | | 7 |  |
|  | Retired | | 28 |  |
|  | Student | | 2 |  |

QMARRIAGE. Are you currently...? (n = 1,208)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Married | | 73% |  |
|  | Divorced | | 7 |  |
|  | Widowed | | 4 |  |
|  | Living with partner | | 3 |  |
|  | Single | | 13 |  |

QRELIGION. What, if any, is your religious preference? (n = 1,914)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Mormon or LDS | | 55% |  |
|  | Protestant [e.g. Baptist, Methodist, etc.] | | 5 |  |
|  | Roman Catholic | | 4 |  |
|  | Jewish | | 1 |  |
|  | Other Christian | | 8 |  |
|  | Muslim/Islamic | | <1 |  |
|  | Other non-Christian | | 1 |  |
|  | Agnostic/Atheist | | 7 |  |
|  | None | | 16 |  |
|  | Do not know/not sure | | 2 |  |

QREL\_ACTIVITY. How active do you consider yourself in the practice of your religious preference? Would you say you

are… (n = 1,738)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Very active | | 54% |  |
|  | Somewhat active | | 15 |  |
|  | Not very active | | 9 |  |
|  | Not active | | 16 |  |
|  | Prefer not to say | | 6 |  |

QRACE. Are you...?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | White (n=1,748) | | 76% |  |
|  | Black (n=17) | | 1 |  |
|  | Hispanic/Spanish American/Latino (n=69) | | 3 |  |
|  | Asian (Japanese, Korean, Chinese, etc.) (n=27) | | 1 |  |
|  | Pacific Islander (n=12) | | 1 |  |
|  | Native American/American Indian (n=24) | | 1 |  |
|  | Other (n=72) | | 3 |  |

QINCOME. What do you expect your 2020 family income to be? (n = 1,923)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Under $25,000 | | 5% |  |
|  | $25,000 – 34,999 | | 6 |  |
|  | $35,000 – 49,999 | | 9 |  |
|  | $50,000 – 74,999 | | 18 |  |
|  | $75,000 – 99,999 | | 18 |  |
|  | $100,000 – 124,999 | | 11 |  |
|  | $125,000 – 149,999 | | 7 |  |
|  | Over $150,000 | | 15 |  |
|  | Prefer not to say | | 11 |  |

QFOLLOWUP. As part of your participation in the Utah Political Trends Panel, a reporter may like to contact you when doing stories about the issues facing Utah. Would you be interested in being interviewed by a Utah Policy writer for a news story? Your response to this question has no bearing on your membership in the Utah Political Trends Panel and we still welcome your voluntary, confidential participation as a panelist should you decline. (n = 1,207)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Yes | | 45% |  |
|  | No | | 55 |  |

DISTRICT. US Congressional make-up of respondents (FROM VOTER FILE) (n = 2,296)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1 | | 22% |  |
|  | 2 | | 25 |  |
|  | 3 | | 28 |  |
|  | 4 | | 25 |  |