# UTAH POLITICAL TRENDS PANEL

# DECEMBER 2019

**TOPLINE REPORT**

**METHODOLOGY DETAILS**

n=911

Online interviews fielded November 20-December 7, 2019

Margin of error +- 3.3

In June and July of 2019, 103,131 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. From this sample, 2,608 voters completed this survey to join the Utah Political Trends Panel. Utah voters who opted-in to join this panel were contacted again in the last week of August, 2019 and invited to participate in the next wave of the Utah Political Trends Panel. 911 of our 2,608 panelists responded by participating in this survey, resulting in an overall response rate of 1% of the original sample (AAPOR RR#2) and an eligible response rate of 38% of panelists (AAPOR Contact Rate #3). Survey invitations were sent via email and interviews were completed online.

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 active voter status, county, registered party, gender, and age to reflect the registered voter population within each of Utah’s U.S. congressional districts. A final statewide weight was applied for gender to ensure that the statewide registered voter population was accurately reflected. Weights were trimmed at the first and ninety-ninth percentiles.

The Utah Political Trends Panel is a partnership between Y2 Analytics and UtahPolicy.com. 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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INTRO. Welcome to the Utah Political Trends Panel, sponsored by Utah Policy 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 10 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.

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

QHOLIDAY1. Do you plan to travel this holiday season? (n = 910)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Yes | 32% |  |
|  | No | 63 |  |
|  | Not sure | 5 |  |

(IF QHOLIDAY1 = Yes, SHOWN QHOLIDAY2 ELSE WENT TO QHOLIDAY3)

QHOLIDAY2. Are you planning to travel in-state, out-of-state, or internationally this holiday season? (n = 267)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | In-state | 25% |  |
|  | Out-of-state | 63 |  |
|  | Internationally | 12 |  |

QHOLIDAY3. Which, if any, of the following are your favorite winter or holiday-themed activities in Utah? Please select up to three.

 (RANDOMIZED CHOICES)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Temple Square lights in Downtown Salt Lake City (n=493) | 56% |  |
|  | Tree of Life in Draper (n=51) | 7 |  |
|  | The Lower Lights Concert at Kingsbury Hall (n=12) | 2 |  |
|  | Midway Ice Castles (n=106) | 11 |  |
|  | Polar Express Ride in Heber (n=57) | 7 |  |
|  | Soldier Hollow Sledding (n=40) | 7 |  |
|  | Ice Skating at the Gallivan Center (n=41) | 6 |  |
|  | Windows at the Grand America (n=65) | 7 |  |
|  | Zoo Lights at the Hogle Zoo (n=118) | 15 |  |
|  | Festival of Trees (n=173) | 19 |  |
|  | Cedar City Holiday Market (n=6) | 1 |  |
|  | Local tree lighting festivals or light parades (n=163) | 19 |  |
|  | Other, please specify: (n=100) | 9 |  |
|  | None of these (n=191) | 22 |  |

QERA. The Equal Rights Amendment, also known as the ERA, would be an amendment to the U.S. Constitution which states that equal rights under the law shall not be denied on account of a person's sex. This amendment has not been ratified, but it could be considered by the Utah State Legislature.  Would you favor or oppose the Utah State Legislature voting to ratify of the Equal Rights Amendment also known as the ERA? (n = 879)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly favor | 48% |  |
|  | Somewhat favor | 23 |  |
|  | Somewhat oppose | 13 |  |
|  | Strongly oppose | 15 |  |

QINSULIN. A new law in Colorado caps co-payments for diabetes medication at $100 a month for insured patients, regardless of the supply they require, aiming to shield patients from dramatic increases in the price of insulin. Insurance companies will have to absorb the remainder of those costs. Colorado is the first state to enact such legislation. Would you support or oppose the Utah State Legislature passing a similar law? (n = 887)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly support | 49% |  |
|  | Somewhat support | 29 |  |
|  | Somewhat oppose | 13 |  |
|  | Strongly oppose | 10 |  |

(IF PARTY7 = Republican SHOWN QREPRIMARY SERIES)

QREPPRIMARY. If the June 2020 Republican Primary election for Governor were held today, who would you vote for?

(n = 457)

 (RANDOMIZED CHOICES)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Jeff Burmingham | 5% |  |
|  | Aimee Winder Newton | 6 |  |
|  | Greg Hughes | 5 |  |
|  | Jon Huntsman, Jr. | 29 |  |
|  | Spencer Cox | 41 |  |
|  | Rob Bishop | 9 |  |
|  | Thomas Wright | 1 |  |
|  | Sean Reyes | 5 |  |

QREPPRIMARY\_SECOND. Let's imagine for a moment that your preferred candidate was not on the primary ballot. Who

 would be your second choice? (n = 424)

 (RANDOMIZED CHOICES)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Jeff Burmingham | 7% |  |
|  | Aimee Winder Newton | 14 |  |
|  | Greg Hughes | 9 |  |
|  | Jon Huntsman, Jr. | 18 |  |
|  | Spencer Cox | 18 |  |
|  | Rob Bishop | 13 |  |
|  | Thomas Wright | 4 |  |
|  | Sean Reyes | 16 |  |

QREPPRIMARY\_THIRD. Let's imagine for a moment that your first two preferred candidates were not on the primary

 ballot. Who would be your third choice? (n = 396)

 (RANDOMIZED CHOICES)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Jeff Burmingham | 7% |  |
|  | Aimee Winder Newton | 15 |  |
|  | Greg Hughes | 12 |  |
|  | Jon Huntsman, Jr. | 9 |  |
|  | Spencer Cox | 10 |  |
|  | Rob Bishop | 19 |  |
|  | Thomas Wright | 5 |  |
|  | Sean Reyes | 21 |  |

QTAXVALUES. As you may have heard, a special legislative committee of the Utah State Legislature has been discussing possible changes to Utah’s overall tax structure. There are many types of goals that the committee needs to consider. Overall, what do you think are the most important values for the committee to keep in mind as it considers possible changes to Utah’s tax structure?

Please select, drag, and drop to arrange each of the items in the list below into your preferred rank order where the MOST IMPORTANT value is at the TOP of the list and the LEAST IMPORTANT value is at the BOTTOM of the list. (n = 823)

 (RANDOMIZED CHOICES)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | Average rank |  |
|  | The new tax structure should not increase the tax burden on the poor. | 2.5 |  |
|  | The new tax structure needs to give the state more flexibility to fund state programs. | 4.1 |  |
|  | The new tax structure needs to guarantee a certain amount of money for higher and public education. | 3.4 |  |
|  | The new tax structure should not increase the overall tax burden on average Utahns. | 2.6 |  |
|  | The new tax structure should make Utah more competitive at attracting business. | 4.3 |  |
|  | The new tax structure should tax richer Utahns more than other Utahns. | 4.1 |  |

QTAX\_PROP. Below are the proposed elements of a tax reform package that the special legislative committee is considering as it looks at possible changes to Utah’s overall tax structure.

 Reduces the income tax rate, giving a family of four making $60,000 a year about a $320 taxcut.
 Imposes a fuel tax increase of about 5 percent.
 Restores the full state sales tax of 4.85% on unprepared food while reimbursing low-income

Utahns to make up for the food sales tax.
Expands the sales tax base by taxing some services and eliminating some sales tax exemptions.

Would you favor or oppose a tax reform package that included all of these proposed elements?

(n = 849)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly favor  | 5% |  |
|  | Somewhat favor  | 26 |  |
|  | Somewhat oppose  | 34 |  |
|  | Strongly oppose  | 34 |  |

QAMEND. The Utah State Constitution says that all personal and corporate income taxes collected in Utah must go to higher and public education. Some people want to change the Utah State Constitution to make it possible to spend personal and corporate income tax on other state programs if the State Legislature guarantees to protect and enhance funding for higher and public education over time. Others say that the Utah State Constitution should not be changed because the funding for higher and public education would not be secure. Which of the following statements comes closest to your own view? (n = 810)

 (RANDOMIZED CHOICES)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The Utah State Constitution should be amended to allow personal and corporate income taxes to be spent on other state programs. | 35% |  |
|  | The Utah State Constitution should be kept the same to provide guaranteed funds for higher and public education. | 65 |  |

QIMPEACHMENT1. Based on what you know today, do you approve or disapprove of the impeachment inquiry being conducted by Congress to determine if there is enough evidence to remove President Donald Trump from office? (n = 847)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly approve | 42% |  |
|  | Somewhat approve | 8 |  |
|  | Somewhat disapprove | 7 |  |
|  | Strongly disapprove | 40 |  |
|  | Not sure | 4 |  |

QIMPEACHMENT2. Thinking about the media coverage of the impeachment inquiry, which of the following statements applies to you the most? (n = 846)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | I am closely following the media coverage | 32% |  |
|  | I am somewhat following the media coverage | 42 |  |
|  | I am not really following the media coverage | 16 |  |
|  | I am not following the media coverage at all | 11 |  |

QIMPEACHMENT3. And based on what you have seen, read, or heard; would you say Congress should... (n = 846)

(RANDOMIZED CHOICES)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Impeach Donald Trump and remove him from office | 43% |  |
|  | Not impeach Donald Trump and he should remain in office | 47 |  |
|  | Not sure | 10 |  |

QIMPEACHMENT4. Recently the House of Representatives voted on a resolution to formalize the rules for the impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump. Representative (REPRESENTATIVE NAME ASSIGNED BY HOUSE DISTRICT) voted (FOR/AGAINST) the resolution. The House of Representatives is now formally and publicly proceeding with impeachment hearings.

Would you be more or less likely to support Representative (REPRESENTATIVE NAME ASSIGNED BY HOUSE DISTRICT) if he voted to impeach President Trump?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Overall(n = 634) | Rob Bishop(n = 171) | Chris Stewart(n = 168) | John Curtis(n = 139) | Ben McAdams(n = 156) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Much more likely to support him | 30% | 32 | 30 | 25 | 31 |
|  | Somewhat more likely to support him | 12 | 15 | 11 | 12 | 11 |
|  | Somewhat less likely to support him | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
|  | Much less likely to support him | 38 | 38 | 44 | 36 | 34 |
|  | No effect on my support | 15 | 11 | 10 | 22 | 18 |
|  | Not sure | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 |

HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

PROPRIETARY; NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

PROPRIETARY; NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

PROPRIETARY; NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

QYEARBORN. What year were you born? (RECODED INTO AGE CATEGORIES FROM PANEL; n=837)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 18-34 | 25% |  |
|  | 35-44 | 21 |  |
|  | 45-54 | 16 |  |
|  | 55-64 | 17 |  |
|  | 65+ | 22 |  |

QSEX. Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself? (FROM PANEL; n = 867)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Male | 49% |  |
|  | Female | 51 |  |
|  | In another way, please specify if you wish: | <1 |  |

QIDEOLOGY. On most political matters do you consider yourself: (FROM PANEL; n = 869)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strongly conservative | 23% |  |
|  | Moderately conservative | 29 |  |
|  | Neither, middle of the road | 19 |  |
|  | Moderately liberal | 20 |  |
|  | Strongly liberal | 8 |  |
|  | Do not know/not sure | 2 |  |

PARTY7. Political leanings of respondents (RECODED FROM PANEL; n= 911)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strong Republican | 23% |  |
|  | Not very strong Republican | 12 |  |
|  | Independent leaning Republican  | 14 |  |
|  | Independent/ Other/ No preference  | 22 |  |
|  | Independent leaning Democrat | 13 |  |
|  | Not very strong Democrat | 4 |  |
|  | Strong Democrat | 12 |  |

REL\_ACTIVE. Relative activity of religion of respondents. (RECODED FROM PANEL; n=911)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Very active LDS | 43% |  |
|  | Less active LDS | 13 |  |
|  | Not active LDS | 2 |  |
|  | Very active Christian (non-LDS) | 4 |  |
|  | Less active Christian (non-LDS) | 6 |  |
|  | Not active Christian (non-LDS) | 2 |  |
|  | Very active non-Christian | <1 |  |
|  | Less active non-Christian  | 1 |  |
|  | Not active non-Christian | <1 |  |
|  | Agnostic/Atheist/None | 28 |  |

COUNTYCONDENSED. County make-up of respondents (RECODED FROM PANEL; n=911)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Cache County | 4% |  |
|  | Davis County | 16 |  |
|  | Salt Lake County | 42 |  |
|  | Utah County  | 19 |  |
|  | Washington County | 7 |  |
|  | Weber County | 8 |  |
|  | Other | 4 |  |

DISTRICT. US Congressional makeup of respondents (RECODED FROM PANEL; n=911)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1 | 21% |  |
|  | 2 | 29 |  |
|  | 3 | 24 |  |
|  | 4  | 26 |  |