UTAH POLITICAL TRENDS PANEL
JULY 2019
TOPLINE REPORT

METHODOLOGY DETAILS

n=2,608
Online interviews fielded June 27 - July 17, 2019
Margin of error +- 2.1

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, resulting in a 2.2% response rate. 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.

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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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.

QTRACK1.   Do you feel things in the country are going in the right direction or the wrong direction? (n = 2608)

Right direction	34%
Wrong direction	66

QTRACK2.   And thinking just about Utah, do you feel things in Utah are going in the right direction or the wrong direction? (n = 2576)

Right direction	52%
Wrong direction	48

QAPPROVAL1. 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.

(ROTATED QAPPROVAL SERIES)

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Neither approve nor disapprove	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	Don't know
President Donald Trump (n=2475)	25%	17	4	9	44	1
Utah Governor Gary Herbert (n=2473)	19	29	13	17	15	6
The Utah State Legislature (n=2472)	4	29	16	25	20	6
Senator Mike Lee (n=2472)	17	22	14	12	25	10
Senator Mitt Romney (n=2475)	13	25	17	20	20	4
Congressman Rob Bishop (n=553)	11	23	20	13	21	12
Congressman Chris Stewart (n=692)	8	18	21	10	23	20
Congressman Ben McAdams (n=653)	15	28	18	10	11	17
Congressman John Curtis (n=568)	10	21	21	12	7	29
Utah Lieutenant Governor Spencer Cox (n=2473)	14	23	23	8	6	27
Republicans in Congress (n=2478)	5	25	10	21	34	4
Democrats in Congress (n=2478)	6	22	11	17	40	5

Q2020ELECTION. If the 2020 November election for the President of the United States were being held today who would you vote for? (n = 2464)

(ROTATED ORDER OF The Republican, Donald Trump AND The future Democratic nominee)

The Republican, Donald Trump	38%
The future Democratic nominee	30
A third-party candidate	12
Other, please specify:	6
Do not know/not sure	14

QCONGRESS. If the November 2020 election for U.S. House of Representatives were held today, would you vote for the Republican candidate, the Democrat candidate, or someone else? (n = 2458)

(ROTATED ORDER OF Republican candidate AND Democrat candidate)

Republican candidate	39%
Democrat candidate	29
Someone else	8
Other, please specify:	4
Don't know/not sure	20

QRUSSIA. Overall, do you think the attempts by Russia or other foreign governments to influence the U.S. elections are a major problem, a minor problem, or not a problem at all? (n = 2454)

A major problem	51%
A minor problem	32
Not a problem at all	18

QTARIFF1. Tariffs are a tax on goods that are imported into the United States. Some people say that tariffs harm the economy by increasing the cost that buyers pay for these goods. Others say that tariffs are the most effective tool the U.S. has to make other countries do things that benefit America.

In your view, should the United States use tariffs as a foreign policy tool or should the United States avoid using them? (n = 2444)

Yes, tariffs should definitely be used as a foreign policy tool	23%
Yes, tariffs should probably be used as a foreign policy tool	28
No opinion about tariffs either way	10
No, tariffs should probably not be used as a foreign policy tool	27
No, tariffs should definitely not be used as a foreign policy tool	13

QTARIFF2. Do you believe that tariffs usually hurt the U.S. economy, or not? (n = 2439)

Yes, tariffs definitely hurt the U.S. economy	21%
Yes, tariffs probably hurt the U.S. economy	32
No opinion about the effect of tariffs on the U.S. economy	20
No, tariffs probably do not hurt the U.S. economy	22
No, tariffs definitely do not hurt the U.S. economy	5

QTARIFF3.   Do you believe that tariffs are the most effective tool the U.S. has to make other countries do things that benefit America, or not? (n = 2432)

Yes, tariffs are definitely the most effective tool	8%
Yes, tariffs are probably the most effective tool	22
No opinion about the effectiveness of tariffs	18
No, tariffs are probably not the most effective tool	33
No, tariffs are definitely not the most effective tool	19

QTARIFF4.   Below is a set of situations in which the United States might consider using tariffs to further American interests.

For each situation, please indicate whether or not you think it would usually be okay for the United States to use tariffs.

(ROTATED QTARIFF4 SERIES)

	Okay	Not okay	No opinion
Pressure another country to engage in fair trade (n=2401)	68%	22	10
Pressure another country to renegotiate a trade deal (n=2395)	54	34	12
Pressure another country to eliminate its nuclear program (n=2396)	57	30	13
Pressure another country to change its immigration policies (n=2397)	35	51	14
Punish a country for human rights violations (n=2396)	57	31	12
Punish a country for cyber espionage against the U.S. (n=2395)	59	29	11

QCLIMATECHANGE.   I'd like you to think about the weather in your local area this last winter season compared to past winters. Have temperatures in your local area been colder than usual this winter, about the same, or warmer than usual this winter? (n = 2397)

Colder than usual this last winter	33%
Warmer than usual this last winter	27
About the same	40

(IF QCLIMATECHANGE = Colder than usual this last winter OR Warmer than usual this last winter, SHOWN QCC2A ELSE SHOWN QCC2B)

QCC2A.   Do you think temperatures are [colder/warmer] than usual this last winter mainly due to human-caused climate change or to normal year-to-year changes in temperature? (n = 1349)

Human-caused climate change	55%
Normal year-to-year changes in temperature	45

(IF QCLIMATECHANGE = About the same, SHOWN QCC2B)

QCC2B.   Do you think there have been changes to the normal weather patterns in your area in the past? (n = 1036)

              Yes   57%
              No   43

(IF QCC2B = Yes, SHOWN QCC2C ELSE WENT TO QBLOCK)

QCC2C.   Do you think these changes to the temperature patterns are mainly due to human-caused climate change or to normal year-to-year variation? (n = 570)

              Human-caused climate change   52%
              Normal year-to-year changes in weather patterns   48

QBLOCK.   Some people say that social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram should decide what is allowed to be posted on their sites. Others say that these social media platforms should allow people to post whatever they want. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view? (n = 2335)

              (RANDOMIZED CHOICES)

              Social media platforms should be able to decide   57%
              what is posted on their sites
              Social media platforms should allow people to post   43
              whatever they want

QNEWS.   Where do you go to learn about current events? Select all that apply.

              (RANDOMIZED CHOICES)   Average
                                                       frequency

              Social media (n=878)   41%
              Local newspaper (n=795)   32
              National newspaper (n=498)   22
              Online local news (n=1280)   56
              Online national news (n=1452)   62
              Local radio (n=969)   40
              National radio (n=827)   35
              Podcasts (n=477)   23
              National TV Stations (n=1206)   47
              Local TV Stations (n=1303)   49
              Other (n=339)   15

QSLTRIB.   Do you read the Salt Lake Tribune? (n = 2392)

                        Yes   29%
                        No   71

(IF QSLTRIB = Yes, SHOWN QSLTRIB2 ELSE WENT TO QSLTRIB3)

QSLTRIB2.   How do you most often read the Salt Lake Tribune? (n = 670)

                        Online   69%
                        In print/paper edition   21
                        Both equally   10

QSLTRIB3.   Over the last few years, local newspapers, such as the Salt Lake Tribune, have had a difficult time staying profitable. Some of these papers have even gone out of business. Do you think it is important for the Salt Lake Tribune to stay in business? (n = 2367)

                        Yes   57%
                        No   43

(IF QSLTRIB3 = Yes, SHOWN QSLTRIB4 ELSE WENT TO QZIONS1)

QSLTRIB4.   Below are some reasons why people might think it is important for the Salt Lake Tribune to stay in business. Which, if any of these reasons, explains why it is important to you for the Salt Lake Tribune to stay in business? Select all that apply.

	Average frequency
Salt Lake City needs as many local newspapers as possible. (n=813)	58%
The Salt Lake Tribune is the only paper that can hold the LDS Church accountable. (n=427)	34
The Salt Lake Tribune is the only paper that can hold politicians accountable. (n=387)	30
The Salt Lake Tribune is the only paper that really speaks for the minority in Utah (n=416)	33
The Salt Lake Tribune is the most trustworthy news source in the state. (n=390)	31
Other, please specify: (n=253)	18

You are nearly done. The rest of the questions are to ensure we have a group of people in the panel that represent Utahns overall. Remember that your answers will only ever be reported in groups, never individually.

QSEX.   Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself? (n = 2284)

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

QTIMELIVED.   How many years have you lived in Utah? (n = 2285)

0-3 years	1%
4-7 years	5
8-11 years	5
12+ years	88

QPARTYID.   Generally speaking…do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent or something else? (n = 2280)

Republican	36%
Democrat	19
Independent	28
No preference	9
Other, please specify:	7
Do not know/not sure	1

(IF QPARTYID = Republican OR Democrat, SHOWN QINTENSE ELSE WENT TO QLEAN)

QINTENSE.   Would you call yourself a strong [Democrat/Republican] or a not very strong [Democrat/Republican]? (n = 1277)

Strong	68%
Not very strong	28
Do not know/not sure	4

(IF QPARTYID ≠ Republican OR Democrat, SHOWN QLEAN ELSE WENT TO QIDEOLOGY)

QLEAN.   Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or the Democratic Party? (n = 1001)

Republican	37%
Democratic	28
Neither	29
Do not know/not sure	5

QIDEOLOGY.   On most political matters do you consider yourself: (n = 2278)

Strongly conservative	22%
Moderately conservative	29
Neither, middle of the road	18
Moderately liberal	20
Strongly liberal	9
Do not know/not sure	2

QYEARBORN. What year were you born? (RECODED INTO AGE CATEGORIES) (n=2173)

18-34	26%
35-44	20
45-54	16
55-64	16
65+	21

QEDOFR. What is the last year of school you completed? (n = 2269)

Some high school or less	<1%
High school graduate	7
Some college	26
College graduate	41
Post graduate degree (e.g. MA, MBA, LLD, PhD)	21
Vocational school or technical school	4

QEMPLOY. What is your employment status? (n = 2265)

Self-employed	12%
Employed by someone else	54
Unemployed	1
Homemaker	8
Retired	21
Student	3

QRELIGION. What, if any, is your religious preference? (n = 2238)

Mormon or LDS	55%
Protestant [e.g. Baptist, Methodist, etc.]	5
Roman Catholic	3
Jewish	1
Other Christian	7
Muslim/Islamic	1
Other non-Christian	1
Agnostic/Atheist	10
None	15
Do not know/not sure	2

(IF QRELIGION ≠ Agnostic/Atheist AND None AND Do not know/not sure, SHOWN QGOCHUR2 ELSE WENT TO QRACE)

QGOCHUR2.   How active do you consider yourself in the practice of your religious preference? Would you say you are... (n = 1688)

Very active	63%
Somewhat active	19
Not very active	9
Not active	7
Prefer not to say	2

QRACE.   Are you...?

	Average frequency
White (n=2047)	92%
Black (n=23)	1
Hispanic/Spanish American/Latino (n=96)	6
Asian (Japanese, Korean, Chinese, etc.) (n=27)	1
Pacific Islander (n=16)	1
Native American/American Indian (n=29)	2
Other, please specify: (n=85)	4

QINCOME.   What do you expect your 2019 family income to be? (n = 2235)

Under $25,000	7%
$25,000 - 34,999	6
$35,000 - 49,999	9
$50,000 - 74,999	17
$75,000 - 99,999	17
$100,000 - 124,999	12
$125,000 - 149,999	7
Over $150,000	12
Prefer not to say	12

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? Some of your answers to the survey may be shared with the reporter.
 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 = 2263)

Yes	43%
No	57

(IF QFOLLOW-UP = Yes, SHOWN QCONTACT)

QCONTACT.   Please enter your name, email address, and the phone number you would prefer Utah Policy to use to contract you regarding an interview for news stories.

COUNTYCONDENSED.   County make-up of respondents (RECODED) (n=2608)

Cache County	3%
Davis Country	16
Salt Lake County	41
Utah County	19
Washington County	7
Weber County	9
Other	3

PARTY7.   Political leanings of respondents (RECODED) (n=2608)

Strong Republican	21%
Not very strong Republican	10
Independent leaning Republican	11
Independent/ Other/ No preference	32
Independent leaning Democrat	10
Not very strong Democrat	5
Strong Democrat	12

PARTY7.   Relative activity of religion of respondents. (RECODED) (n=2608)

Very active LDS	35%
Less active LDS	10
Not active LDS	2
Very active Christian (non-LDS)	4
Less active Christian (non-LDS)	7
Not active Christian (non-LDS)	2
Very active non-Christian	1
Less active non-Christian	1
Not active non-Christian	0
Agnostic/Atheist/None	38