CYGNAL

Survey of Likely 2026 General Election Voters

Utah Statewide

September 17 – 19, 2026 | n=700 | ±3.70%

Q1. Top Priority: Which one of the following issues is the most important to you in the upcoming election?

	Freq.	%
Inflation and the cost of living	278	39.7%
Taxes and government spending	131	18.7%
Illegal immigration and border security	65	9.3%
Jobs and the economy	54	7.7%
Healthcare	34	4.8%
Infrastructure and roads	29	4.2%
Abortion	27	3.8%
Crime and public safety	23	3.3%
Education	17	2.4%
Homelessness	12	1.8%
Wildfire management	11	1.5%
Gun control	2	0.3%
Unsure	17	2.4%
Total	700	100.0%

Q2. Vote Method: How do you plan to vote in the November 3rd general election for U.S. Congress and other offices?

	Freq.	%
Vote/return Ballot In-Person On Election Day	**232**	**33.1%**
Definitely vote/return ballot in-person on Election Day	147	21.0%
Probably vote/return ballot in-person on Election Day	85	12.2%
Vote By Mail Returning Ballot As Soon As Possible	**270**	**38.6%**
Definitely vote by mail returning ballot as soon as possible	190	27.1%
Probably vote by mail returning ballot as soon as possible	80	11.4%
Vote By Mail Returning Ballot Closer To The Election	**198**	**28.3%**
Definitely vote by mail returning ballot closer to the election	108	15.5%
Probably vote by mail returning ballot closer to the election	90	12.8%
I do NOT plan to vote in the November 3rd general election	**0**	**0.0%**
Unsure	0	0.0%
Total	700	100.0%

Q3. Generic Ballot: If the election was held today, and you had to make a choice, would you vote for the Republican or Democratic candidate for U.S. Congress?

	Freq.	%
Republican Candidate	**334**	**47.7%**
Definitely the Republican candidate	224	32.0%
Probably the Republican candidate	110	15.7%
Democratic Candidate	**262**	**37.4%**
Probably the Democratic candidate	67	9.6%
Definitely the Democratic candidate	195	27.8%
Unsure	104	14.8%
Total	700	100.0%

Q4 – Q7. Image: For each of the following, please indicate if you have heard of the person, and if you have, whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of them.

	Fav	Very Fav	Unfav	Very Unfav	No Opinion	NHO	NET Fav
Donald Trump	**43.9%** 307	24.4% 171	**54.0%** 378	46.8% 328	1.9% 13	0.2% 1	-10.1%
John Curtis	**29.4%** 206	9.1% 64	**33.5%** 235	17.6% 123	17.7% 124	19.4% 136	-4.1%
Mike Lee	**36.8%** 258	19.0% 133	**50.9%** 356	39.0% 273	9.3% 65	2.9% 20	-14.1%
Spencer Cox	**34.5%** 241	9.8% 69	**59.2%** 414	37.2% 261	5.1% 35	1.3% 9	-24.7%

Q8. Public Lands Priority: Which of the following aspects of the national public lands debate in Utah is most important to you?

	Freq.	%
Protecting public lands to ensure they are around for future generations	196	28.0%
Protecting the freedom for Utahns to hunt, fish, and recreate on national public lands	124	17.7%
Transferring control over these decisions from the federal government to Utah	107	15.3%
Protecting Native American cultural and archaeological sites on national public lands	62	8.8%
Preventing new mining and drilling on protected national public lands	45	6.5%
Preserving grazing and ranching livelihoods on national public lands	45	6.4%
Creating jobs through energy and resource development on national public lands	29	4.1%
Restoring staffing and budget levels to ensure proper management	28	4.0%
Protecting Utah's tourism and outdoor recreation economy	23	3.3%
Maintaining and improving roads on national public land	10	1.4%
Unsure	30	4.3%
Total	700	100.0%

Q9. Public Lands Authority: Who do you think should have the most authority over decisions about national public land use in Utah?

	Freq.	%
Federal land managers	24	3.4%
The State of Utah government	129	18.4%
The Utah Congressional delegation (ex. Senator Lee, Rep. Maloy)	9	1.3%
Local city and county governments	97	13.8%
Tribal governments	81	11.6%
A balanced mix of federal, state, and local officials	332	47.5%
Unsure	28	4.0%
Total	700	100.0%

Q10. Public Lands Activities Support: Which of the following activities do you support allowing on national public lands in Utah? Select all that apply.

	Freq.	%
Hunters, anglers, and OHV users	**615**	**87.8%**
Livestock grazing	481	68.7%
Hunting and fishing access	560	80.0%
Off-road vehicle (OHV) use and road-building	344	49.1%
Timber and firewood cutting	325	46.4%
Coal mining	182	26.1%
Oil and gas drilling	235	33.6%
Uranium and hardrock mining	172	24.6%
Outdoor recreation like hiking, camping, mountain biking	634	90.5%
Conservation for wildlife, water, and open space	590	84.3%
Data centers	88	12.6%
None of these	1	0.2%
Unsure	10	1.4%
Total	700	100.0%

Q11. Public Lands Value: How important are national public lands in Utah, including its national parks, lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, national forests and monuments, to the state's outdoor recreation economy and Utahns way of life?

	Freq.	%
Important	**676**	**96.6%**
Very important	594	84.9%
Somewhat important	82	11.8%
Not Important	**13**	**1.8%**
Not very important	8	1.2%
Not at all important	5	0.6%
Unsure	11	1.5%
Total	700	100.0%

Q12. Monument Reduction Support: In July 2026, President Trump made an executive decision to reduce the size of the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments by approximately 90 percent.

As of September 2026, mining companies are pursuing new mining claims on land that was cut from Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments, with several claims already filed.

Do you support or oppose opening these areas to mining?

	Freq.	%
Support	**211**	**30.1%**
Definitely support	90	12.9%
Probably support	121	17.2%
Oppose	**437**	**62.4%**
Probably oppose	92	13.2%
Definitely oppose	344	49.2%
Unsure	53	7.5%
Total	700	100.0%

Q13. Initial Public Lands Position: Which of the following comes closest to your view about national public lands in Utah?

	Freq.	%
They should be sold to private buyers	11	1.6%
Management of them should be transferred from the federal government to the State of Utah	379	54.2%
They should remain public and managed by federal land agencies	268	38.3%
Unsure	42	6.0%
Total	700	100.0%

Q14. Public Lands Vote Impact: If a candidate for state office supported selling national public lands to private buyers or transferring national public lands to the State of Utah to open more lands to roads, mining and development, would that make you more or less likely to support them?

	Freq.	%
More Likely	**115**	**16.4%**
Much more likely	47	6.7%
Somewhat more likely	68	9.7%
Makes no difference	**54**	**7.7%**
Less Likely	**489**	**69.9%**
Somewhat less likely	107	15.2%
Much less likely	383	54.7%
Unsure	42	6.0%
Total	700	100.0%

Q15 – Q18. Message Battery: The following are arguments in support of selling or transferring national public lands in Utah. Please indicate whether the information makes you more or less likely to support selling or transferring national public lands in Utah.

Message	NET More Likely	Much More Likely	No Diff	NET Less Likely	Much Less Likely	Unsure	CME Lift	Message Text
Heritage & Local Control	**39.2%** 274	21.2% 149	18.8% 132	**30.8%** 215	22.7% 159	11.2% 78	0.34	Utah's founding pioneers settled this land long before it became a state and these local communities, who know this land best, should have ultimate authority to decide how to manage public lands.
Rural Economy & Equal Footing	**44.9%** 315	20.3% 142	13.3% 93	**30.5%** 214	21.6% 151	11.3% 79	1.00	Rural Utah economies depend on developing public lands for grazing, timber and energy production, but federal officials are blocking that development. Having so much federal land also puts Utah at an economic disadvantage, and state management would make Utah more competitive.
Better Stewardship	**51.1%** 357	25.0% 175	15.3% 107	**23.5%** 165	16.7% 117	10.1% 70	0.65	Federal managers have failed to address Utah's wildfire risk, access and development needs. State and local officials would do a far better job managing the land to meet the needs of our communities and protect us from future wildfires.
Budget Cuts	**34.0%** 238	12.2% 86	18.9% 132	**34.2%** 239	22.4% 157	13.0% 91	0.10	The federal land management agencies' staff and budgets have been cut dramatically and are no longer able to adequately manage the national public lands.

Q19 - Q25. Message Battery: The following are arguments in opposition to selling or transferring national public lands in Utah. Please indicate whether the information makes you more or less likely to support selling or transferring national public lands in Utah.

Message	NET More Likely	Much More Likely	No Diff	NET Less Likely	Much Less Likely	Unsure	CME Lift	Message Text
Anti–Constitutional Arguments	**25.0%** 175	14.8% 103	24.7% 173	**36.0%** 252	25.8% 181	14.3% 100	0.30	Utah's own constitution is clear that the state permanently gave up any claim to national public lands when it became a state in 1896. Respecting the constitution means honoring that commitment, not trying to undo it.
Anti–Gone for Good	**26.6%** 186	17.0% 119	12.2% 85	**50.6%** 354	39.9% 279	10.6% 74	0.12	Our national public lands have been enjoyed by Utahns for generations. Once they are sold, they are gone for good, and our kids and grandkids will never get them back to enjoy the outdoor experiences and opportunities that we have had.
Anti–Cost of Management	**16.6%** 116	7.0% 49	17.0% 119	**51.6%** 362	34.7% 243	14.8% 103	0.16	In order to properly manage public lands the state of Utah would have to significantly raise taxes or sell off large tracks of public lands to private buyers. One bad fire season could bankrupt the state.
Anti–Access at Risk	**24.0%** 168	16.0% 112	12.3% 86	**52.0%** 364	39.4% 276	11.8% 82	0.10	National public lands ensure Utahns' access to hunting, fishing and all types of outdoor recreation. If national public lands are sold to private buyers or transferred to the state, Utahns would lose access to their favorite recreation spots.
Anti–State Economy	**29.3%** 205	17.1% 120	12.8% 90	**48.3%** 338	38.4% 269	9.6% 67	0.39	Millions of Americans visit Utah's National Parks and public lands every year. These lands bring hundreds of millions of dollars to Utah's economy each year. Outdoor recreation and tourism are one the state's fastest growing economic sectors. Selling these lands would destroy this thriving part of our state's economy.
Anti–Industrializing	**22.8%** 160	13.8% 97	10.2% 72	**57.3%** 401	48.0% 336	9.7% 68	1.00	Selling or transferring national public lands would open these places to industrial scale development including mines, oil and gas wells and sprawling data centers.
Anti–Western Republicans	**20.8%** 145	11.4% 80	19.4% 136	**43.9%** 307	28.5% 200	16.0% 112	0.85	Even in conservative states like Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho, Republican leaders have fought to stop efforts to sell or transfer national public lands. Utah's leaders are creating vulnerabilities by pushing to take control of lands the state would then be on the hook to manage and pay for.

Q26. Informed Public Lands Position: Which of the following comes closest to your view about national public lands in Utah?

	Freq.	%
They should be sold to private buyers	12	1.7%
Management of them should be transferred from the federal government to the State of Utah	280	39.9%
They should remain public and managed by federal land agencies	340	48.5%
Unsure	69	9.8%
Total	700	100.0%

Q27. Gender: Are you female or male?

	Freq.	%
Female	364	52.0%
Male	336	48.0%
Total	700	100.0%

Q28. Age Range: What is your age as of today?

	Freq.	%
Under 55	**411**	**58.7%**
18 – 29	89	12.8%
30 – 44	194	27.6%
45 – 54	128	18.3%
55 and Over	**289**	**41.3%**
55 – 64	114	16.3%
65+	175	25.0%
Total	700	100.0%

Q29. Partisanship by Registration: How are you registered to vote in Utah? You may consider yourself of a different party, but what does your voter registration card show?

	Freq.	%
Republican	387	55.3%
Democrat	106	15.2%
Unaffiliated	160	22.9%
Other	25	3.6%
Unsure	21	3.0%
Total	700	100.0%

Q30. Ideology: And thinking about your views toward politics and government, would you say you are...

	Freq.	%
Conservative	**339**	**48.4%**
Very conservative	154	22.0%
Somewhat conservative	185	26.4%
Moderate	**152**	**21.6%**
Liberal	**188**	**26.9%**
Somewhat liberal	94	13.5%
Very liberal	94	13.4%
Unsure	21	3.1%
Total	700	100.0%

Q31. Community Type: Do you consider the area where you live to be more rural, small town, suburban, or urban?

	Freq.	%
Rural	76	10.8%
Small town	143	20.4%
Suburban	388	55.4%
Urban	93	13.4%
Total	700	100.0%

Q32. Income by Response: What annual household income range do you fall within out of the following options?

	Freq.	%
Less than $25,000	34	4.8%
$25,000 - $49,999	75	10.8%
$50,000 - $74,999	113	16.1%
$75,000 - $99,999	119	17.0%

$100,000 - $124,999	108	15.5%
$125,000 - $149,999	69	9.9%
$150,000 - $249,999	93	13.3%
$250,000+	56	8.0%
Unsure	33	4.7%
Total	700	100.0%

Q33. Race/Ethnicity: Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity?

	Freq.	%
White or Caucasian	592	84.5%
Asian or Pacific Islander	7	1.0%
Black or African American	2	0.3%
Hispanic or Latino	58	8.2%
Native American	5	0.8%
Other	23	3.3%
Unsure	13	1.8%
Total	700	100.0%

Q34. 2024 Retro Ballot: Thinking back, who did you vote for in the 2024 election for President?

	Freq.	%
Republican Donald Trump	357	51.1%
Democrat Kamala Harris	238	34.0%
Another candidate	63	9.0%
Did not vote in 2024	21	2.9%
Unsure	21	3.0%
Total	700	100.0%

Q35. Education Level: What's the highest level of education you have completed?

	Freq.	%
No degree	**352**	**50.3%**
Some high school	2	0.2%
High school diploma/GED	77	11.0%
Technical Certification	41	5.9%
Some college or Associate's Degree	233	33.3%
At least College	**340**	**48.6%**
Four-year undergraduate or Bachelor's Degree	216	30.9%
Graduate degree or further	124	17.7%
Unsure	7	1.1%
Total	700	100.0%

Q36. Religion: If you have one, what is your religious affiliation?

	Freq.	%
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS/Mormon)	360	51.4%
Catholic	30	4.3%
Mainline Protestant (Methodist, Lutheran, Episcopal, Anglican, etc.)	21	3.1%
Evangelical or Born-Again (Baptist, Non-denominational Evangelical, Pentecostal, Church of God, etc.)	41	5.9%
Jewish	0	0.0%
Muslim	0	0.0%
Another religion	38	5.4%
Not religious	186	26.5%

Unsure	23	3.3%
Total	700	100.0%

Q37. General Election (X of 4)

	Freq.	%
0 of 4	7	1.0%
1 of 4	65	9.3%
2 of 4	73	10.5%
3 of 4	187	26.7%
4 of 4	368	52.6%
Total	700	100.0%

Q38. Geography

	Freq.	%
CD01	162	23.2%
CD02	174	24.9%
CD03	174	24.8%
CD04	190	27.1%
Total	700	100.0%

Q39. Gender + Age

	Freq.	%
F 18 – 29	45	6.5%
F 30 – 44	100	14.3%
F 45 – 54	65	9.3%
F 55 – 64	60	8.5%
F 65+	94	13.5%
M 18 – 29	44	6.3%
M 30 – 44	94	13.4%
M 45 – 54	63	9.0%
M 55 – 64	54	7.7%
M 65+	81	11.6%
Total	700	100.0%

Q40. Partisanship + Gender

	Freq.	%
F GOP	201	28.7%
M GOP	186	26.6%
F DEM	63	9.0%
M DEM	43	6.2%
F Unaffiliated	76	10.8%
M Unaffiliated	84	12.1%
F Other	10	1.5%
M Other	15	2.2%
Unsure	21	3.0%
Total	700	100.0%

Q41. Race + Gender

	Freq.	%
White Female	301	43.0%
White Male	290	41.5%



Asian Female	3	0.4%
Asian Male	4	0.6%
Black Female	0	0.0%
Black Male	2	0.3%
Hispanic Female	36	5.2%
Hispanic Male	21	3.0%
Other Female	17	2.4%
Other Male	11	1.6%
Unsure	13	1.8%
Total	700	100.0%

Q42. Gender + Education

	Freq.	%
Female At least College	176	25.1%
Female No degree	183	26.2%
Male At least College	164	23.5%
Male No degree	169	24.2%
Unsure	7	1.1%
Total	700	100.0%

Q43. Party + Vote History

	Freq.	%
R 0-2/4	65	9.2%
R 3-4/4	322	46.1%
D 0-2/4	26	3.8%
D 3-4/4	80	11.4%
Unaffiliated 0-2/4	39	5.5%
Unaffiliated 3-4/4	121	17.3%
Other 0-2/4	9	1.3%
Other 3-4/4	16	2.3%
Unsure	21	3.0%
Total	700	100.0%

Methodology

This probabilistic survey was conducted September 17 – 19, 2026, with 700 likely 2026 general election voters in Utah Statewide. It has a margin of error of ±3.70%. Known registered voters were interviewed via live phones and SMS. This survey was weighted to a likely 2026 general election voter universe.

About the Firm

Cygnal is an award-winning international polling, public opinion, and predictive analytics firm that pioneered multi-mode polling, text-to-web collection, and emotive analysis. Cygnal consistently ranks as the most accurate firm, and clients rely on Cygnal's ability to create intelligence for action. Its team members have worked in all 50 states and multiple countries on more than 3,000 corporate, public affairs, and political campaigns.