RILEY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES
Research for Marketing, Public Relations, and Planning

THE RILEY REPORT™

Statewide Voter Survey

Oregon's 2008 Special Legislative Session
Analysis & Cross Tabulations

March 2008

www.rileyresearch.com
9900 S.W. Wilshire, Suite 250, Portland, OR 97225
phone [503] 222-4179 *fax* [503] 222-4313

INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY

Riley Research Associates conducted an omnibus survey among likely Oregon voters regarding their opinions on a variety of current issues. The scientific telephone poll was conducted among 410 randomly selected registered likely voters throughout Oregon. A sample of 410 provides accuracy to within +/-4.84 percent at a 95 percent level of confidence. Fielding took place between March 7th and 17th, 2008.

This poll defined "likely voters" as those who have voted in at least one of the following four elections: 2004 General, 2004 Primary, 2006 General, or 2006 Primary.

In order to produce results consistent with the changes in voter demographics, we set minimum quotes for young voters (18-44) consistent with recent Oregon State voter profiles.

Regional breakouts were defined for cross tabulations. The counties were classified into the following regions:

- Portland Metro: Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah, Washington
- Willamette Valley: Benton, Lane, Linn, Marion, Polk, Yamhill
- Southern: Douglas, Jackson, Josephine
- Central / Eastern: Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wasco, Wallowa, Wheeler
- Coast: Clatsop, Coos, Curry, Lincoln, Tillamook

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

Emergency legislative Session

- Respondents were more likely to approve than disapprove of the performance of the Oregon legislature during the emergency session (26 percent vs. 17 percent), though over half were neutral/unsure (57 percent).

- Democrats and independent/other party voters were more likely to approve of the legislature's performance (30 percent and 32 percent, respectively) than Republicans (19 percent). Also likely to approve of the legislature's performance were respondents who had voted in each of the past four elections (37 percent), and voters ages 45-64 (32 percent)

Performance	% Responding
Approve	**26%**
Strongly approve	7
Somewhat approve	20
Disapprove	**17%**
Somewhat disapprove	6
Strongly disapprove	11
Neutral / Unsure	**57%**

- Although many were unsure on the performance of the legislature during the session, majorities are more likely to support than oppose a change in the Oregon Constitution to provide for regular annual sessions (60 percent vs. 24 percent), with 25 percent saying, "Strongly support." Some were also were neutral/unsure (16 percent).

Regular Annual Sessions	% Responding
Support	**60%**
Strongly support	25
Somewhat support	35
Oppose	**24%**
Somewhat oppose	10
Strongly oppose	15
Neutral / Unsure	**16%**

- Those most likely to support a change to the Constitution include voters ages 18-24 and 25-34 (83 percent and 67 percent, respectively), respondents who had voted in just one of the past four elections (69 percent), and Democrats (66 percent).

- When voters were asked to identify the one issue from the session they either supported or opposed, most respondents were unsure (59 percent). A handful mentioned some specific issues, such as: allowing parents to pay for all-day kindergarten (4 percent) and stricter drivers license requirements (3 percent). Although same-sex unions/domestic partnerships were not addressed during the emergency session, 3 percent said it was an issue they opposed.

The Oregon legislature just wrapped up an emergency session that was scheduled to address a handful of issues. Would you approve or disapprove of the performance of the legislature during that session? Strongly or somewhat?

		GENDER		PARTY			COUNTY					AGE					VOTING HISTORY			
	Total	FE MALE	MALE	DEM	REP	OTHR	PDX	WILL VLY	C/E OR	SO OR	CO AST	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65+	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4
Total Participants	410	218	192	176	156	78	178	107	61	37	27	18	42	66	179	105	48	116	85	161
		53%	47%	43%	38%	19%	43%	26%	15%	9%	7%	4%	10%	16%	44%	26%	12%	28%	21%	39%
Approve	**26%**	**24%**	**29%**	**30%**	**19%**	**32%**	**28%**	**27%**	**30%**	**14%**	**22%**	**28%**	**17%**	**20%**	**32%**	**25%**	**21%**	**18%**	**20%**	**37%**
Strongly approve	7	4	10	9	6	5	7	7	8	5	4	-	5	3	9	7	4	2	5	12
Somewhat approve	20	20	19	22	13	27	21	20	21	8	19	28	12	17	22	18	17	16	15	25
Disapprove	**17%**	**13%**	**22%**	**13%**	**25%**	**10%**	**19%**	**14%**	**11%**	**24%**	**22%**	**11%**	**7%**	**15%**	**17%**	**23%**	**13%**	**12%**	**21%**	**20%**
Somewhat disapprove	6	6	6	6	8	4	8	6	3	5	7	6	7	8	4	9	4	8	8	5
Strongly disapprove	11	6	16	7	17	6	11	8	8	19	15	6	-	8	13	14	8	4	13	15
Neutral / Unsure	**57%**	**63%**	**49%**	**57%**	**56%**	**58%**	**53%**	**59%**	**59%**	**62%**	**56%**	**61%**	**76%**	**65%**	**51%**	**52%**	**67%**	**70%**	**59%**	**43%**
Neutral / Unsure	56	62	48	56	55	56	53	58	59	59	52	56	76	65	50	51	67	68	58	43
Refused	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	3	4	6	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	-
Chi Square		18.75		18.64				16.58						29.49				38.53		
		.002		.045				.680						.079				.001		

If there were a measure on this fall's ballot to change Oregon's Constitution, in order to provide for regular annual sessions, would you vote to support or oppose such a change? Strongly or somewhat?

		GENDER		PARTY			COUNTY					AGE					VOTING HISTORY			
	Total	FE MALE	MALE	DEM	REP	OTHR	PDX	WILL VLY	C/E OR	SO OR	CO AST	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65+	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4
Total Participants	410	218	192	176	156	78	178	107	61	37	27	18	42	66	179	105	48	116	85	161
		53%	47%	43%	38%	19%	43%	26%	15%	9%	7%	4%	10%	16%	44%	26%	12%	28%	21%	39%
Support	**60%**	**62%**	**58%**	**66%**	**56%**	**53%**	**63%**	**60%**	**64%**	**51%**	**44%**	**83%**	**67%**	**62%**	**61%**	**50%**	**69%**	**51%**	**60%**	**64%**
Strongly support	25	21	29	27	22	24	28	23	18	30	19	17	14	27	27	25	29	14	26	30
Somewhat support	35	41	29	40	34	28	35	36	46	22	26	67	52	35	35	25	40	37	34	34
Oppose	**24%**	**20%**	**29%**	**21%**	**28%**	**23%**	**24%**	**21%**	**20%**	**38%**	**33%**	**17%**	**24%**	**23%**	**19%**	**35%**	**21%**	**30%**	**22%**	**22%**
Somewhat oppose	10	11	8	9	8	13	9	7	7	22	11	6	10	12	8	11	6	13	13	6
Strongly oppose	15	10	20	12	20	10	15	13	13	16	22	11	14	11	11	24	15	17	9	16
Neutral / Unsure	**16%**	**18%**	**14%**	**13%**	**15%**	**24%**	**13%**	**20%**	**16%**	**11%**	**22%**	**-**	**10%**	**15%**	**20%**	**15%**	**10%**	**19%**	**18%**	**14%**
Neutral / Unsure	15	17	13	12	14	23	12	20	16	8	19	-	7	15	18	14	10	17	15	14
Refused	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	3	4	-	2	-	1	1	-	2	2	-
Chi Square		17.49		13.92				24.14						32.35				21.27		
		.004		.177				.236						.040				.129		

What one issue did you either favor or oppose, regarding this session?

		GENDER		PARTY			COUNTY					AGE					VOTING HISTORY			
	Total	FE MALE	MALE	DEM	REP	OTHR	PDX	WILL VLY	C/E OR	SO OR	CO AST	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65+	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4
Total Participants	410	218	192	176	156	78	178	107	61	37	27	18	42	66	179	105	48	116	85	161
		53%	47%	43%	38%	19%	43%	26%	15%	9%	7%	4%	10%	16%	44%	26%	12%	28%	21%	39%
Favor	**19%**	**16%**	**23%**	**24%**	**13%**	**21%**	**20%**	**21%**	**16%**	**19%**	**15%**	**11%**	**12%**	**17%**	**23%**	**19%**	**17%**	**14%**	**19%**	**24%**
Pay tuition all day kindergarten	4	5	4	4	3	8	7	3	-	3	-	6	5	6	4	3	4	2	6	5
Stricter drivers license requirement	3	1	6	5	2	1	4	1	3	-	7	-	-	2	4	5	2	2	1	6
Annual session in general	3	1	5	3	3	3	2	3	-	8	7	-	-	3	4	2	2	2	6	2
Health insurance for needy children	1	1	1	2	1	-	1	1	3	-	-	6	-	2	2	-	2	1	1	1
Increased number of police	1	0	2	1	1	3	-	2	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	2	-	1
Land-use planning / "Big Look"	1	0	2	2	-	1	1	1	2	3	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	1	-	2
Increased Medicaid reimbursement	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1
Everyone has right to healthcare	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	2	1	-	1
Releasing abusive caregiver names	1	1	1	1	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	1
Completed session before deadline	1	1	1	2	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	2	2	-	1
Funding for water storage studies	0	0	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
Tougher sentences for crimes	0	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1
Same sex unions/ partnerships	0	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	2	-
Funding for U of O arena	0	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mortgage reform - favor	0	0	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Caps on damages paid by gov	0	0	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Prohibit secret settlements for teacher sexual misconduct	0	0	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Oppose	**18%**	**18%**	**19%**	**16%**	**23%**	**13%**	**18%**	**19%**	**18%**	**27%**	**7%**	**22%**	**14%**	**15%**	**21%**	**17%**	**21%**	**15%**	**21%**	**19%**
Annual session in general	4	4	5	4	4	6	3	6	5	11	-	6	-	2	5	7	4	3	4	6
Session too rushed	4	3	5	3	5	3	4	5	-	8	-	-	7	5	4	3	6	3	7	2
Same sex unions/ partnerships	2	2	3	2	4	-	2	4	2	-	4	-	-	2	4	1	2	1	2	3
Funding for U of O arena	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	-	-	6	-	2	1	1	-	-	1	2
Pay tuition all day kindergarten	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	5	-	6	-	2	1	1	-	3	-	1
Stricter drivers license requirement	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	3	-	6	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	1
Increased number of police	0	0	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	1
Increased Medicaid reimbursement	0	0	1	1	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	-
Land-use planning / "Big Look"	0	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Tougher sentences for crimes	0	0	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
Miscellaneous/Unsure	**62%**	**66%**	**58%**	**59%**	**64%**	**67%**	**62%**	**61%**	**66%**	**54%**	**78%**	**67%**	**74%**	**68%**	**56%**	**64%**	**63%**	**72%**	**60%**	**57%**
Miscellaneous	3	3	4	2	5	3	4	3	2	5	4	6	5	2	2	7	2	2	5	4
Unsure / Unfamiliar / Refused	59	63	54	57	59	64	58	58	64	49	74	61	69	67	55	57	60	70	55	53
Chi Square		32.37		57.99				125.28						94.27				77.57		
		.304		.476				.262						.931				.755		