

THE RILEY REPORT™

Oregon Voter Survey

- **Governor's Approval Ratings**
- **Legislature's Mid-Term Approval Ratings**

June 2009

INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY

Riley Research Associates conducted an omnibus survey among registered Oregon voters regarding their opinions on a variety of current issues. The scientific telephone poll was conducted among 406 randomly selected voters throughout Oregon. A sample of 406 provides accuracy to within +/-5 percent at a 95 percent level of confidence. Fielding took place between May 27th and June 2nd, 2009.

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

RESULTS

📊 The Oregon Legislature's mid-term favorability rating is just 26 percent, with unfavorability ratings at 39 percent and over one-third unsure (35 percent). Favorability ratings were highest among:

- Democrats (31 percent)
- Voters under the age of 45 (30 – 36 percent)
- New voters (33 percent)

📊 Unfavorable ratings were highest among:

- Men (47 percent)
- Republicans (59 percent)
- Perennial voters: 4/4 elections (49 percent)

📊 The rating for Governor Kulongoski is better than the legislature's, although down significantly from previous polls, and are the lowest of his term in office.

Ratings	2009	2007	2005	2003
Favorable	37%	48%	46%	43%
Neutral	20	16	30	33
Unfavorable	43	35	23	23

📊 The governor squeaked out a favorable rating from a majority of just two groups:

- Democrats (50 percent)
- Those age 18-24 (55 percent)

📊 The governor's unfavorable ratings most often came from: men (47 percent), Republicans (59 percent), and perennial voters: 4/4 elections (49 percent).

The Oregon Legislature has been in session since the middle of January and is expected to adjourn in June. Is your opinion of the work of the 2009 legislature so far this session generally favorable or unfavorable? (Somewhat or Very?)

	GENDER		PARTY AFFILIATION			REGION					AGE					VOTING HISTORY					
	Total	FE MALE	MALE	DEM	REP	OTHR	PDX	WILL VLLY	C/E OREG	SO OREG	CO AST	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65+	0/4	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4
Total Participants	406	219	187	172	143	91	174	110	51	50	21	22	37	57	184	106	36	44	68	92	166
		54%	46%	42%	35%	22%	43%	27%	13%	12%	5%	5%	9%	14%	45%	26%	9%	11%	17%	23%	41%
Favorable	26%	27%	25%	31%	19%	27%	28%	26%	27%	20%	14%	36%	30%	33%	23%	23%	33%	20%	21%	26%	28%
Unfavorable	39	33	47	35	48	35	41	40	25	44	48	27	32	33	42	42	31	34	43	38	42
Don't know/too soon	35	40	28	34	34	37	31	34	47	36	38	36	38	33	34	35	36	45	37	36	30
Chi Square		9.43		8.38			8.44					5.89					6.41				
		.009		.079			.391					.659					.601				

In terms of the job Governor Kulongoski has done in office, is your opinion generally favorable or unfavorable? (Somewhat or Very?)

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	Total	FE MALE	MALE	DEM	REP	OTHR	PDX	WILL VLLY	C/E OREG	SO OREG	CO AST	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65+	0/4	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4
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Favorable	37%	39%	35%	50%	22%	36%	40%	41%	31%	26%	38%	55%	41%	35%	36%	36%	47%	36%	37%	40%	34%
Unfavorable	43	39	47	33	59	35	40	45	43	46	48	32	32	40	45	46	31	34	38	43	49
Neutral/ Both/ Don't Know	20	22	18	17	18	29	21	15	25	28	14	14	27	25	20	18	22	30	25	16	17
Chi Square		3.06		34.91			7.90					6.33					9.59				
		.216		.001			.443					.611					.295				