

***THE RILEY REPORT™***

***OREGON LIKELY VOTER POLL***

***THE GOVERNOR & LEGISLATURE***

**AUGUST 9, 2011**

RESEARCH | INSIGHT | KNOWLEDGE



## INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY

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Riley Research Associates surveyed 387 Oregon voters regarding their opinions on topics of current interest. The scientific telephone survey is representative of Oregon's "likely" voting public, qualified as only those having voted in at least two of the past four major elections. Nearly half of respondents (49 percent) have voted in four of the past four elections.

A sample of 387 is accurate to within +/-5 percent at a 95 percent level of confidence. Interviews took place from July 21 through August 1, 2011.

The sample demographics are comparable to Oregon's voting population, including relative proportions for political party, gender, age, and region. Regional breakouts were defined by county, and classified as follows:

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

This report includes an executive overview and the supporting demographic cross tabulations, and is also available at: [www.RileyResearch.com](http://www.RileyResearch.com)



## FINDINGS

- Oregon’s voters remain largely uncertain how to rate the legislature. Ratings are almost identical to those received at the close of the 2009 legislature.

| <b>Favorability Ratings:<br/>Oregon Legislature</b> | <b>July '11</b> | <b>July '09</b> | <b>May '09</b> |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Favorable   | 28%             | 28%             | 26%            |
| Unfavorable   | 33              | 34              | 39             |
| Neutral/Not sure                                    | 39              | 37              | 35             |

- The Oregon governor’s ratings have improved significantly since the middle of the 2011 session, with a 5 percent increase in favorability. Unfavorable ratings for Governor Kitzhaber are well below those received by Governor Kulongoski toward the end of his term.

| <b>Favorability<br/>Ratings: Oregon<br/>Governor</b> | <b>Kitzhaber</b> |                | <b>Kulongoski</b> |             |             |             |             |
|--|------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | <b>Aug '11</b>   | <b>May '11</b> | <b>2010</b>       | <b>2009</b> | <b>2007</b> | <b>2005</b> | <b>2003</b> |
| Favorable  | 45%              | 40%            | 42%               | 37%         | 48%         | 46%         | 43%         |
| Unfavorable  | 30               | 27             | 39                | 43          | 35          | 23          | 23          |
| Neutral/Unsure                                       | 24               | 33             | 20                | 20          | 16          | 30          | 33          |



# RESULTS

**Q1. The Oregon legislature has just wrapped up the 2011 session. Is your opinion of the job the Oregon legislature has done this year generally favorable or unfavorable?**

|                                | GENDER     |            | AGE        |            |            |            |            | REGISTERED PARTY |            |            | REGION     |            |             |             |            | VOTER PROPENSITY |            |            |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                                | Total      | MALE       | FEMALE     | 18-34      | 35-44      | 45-54      | 55-64      | 65+              | DEM        | REP        | MISC       | PDX METRO  | WLLMT VALLY | CNTRL ESTRN | STHRN      | COAST            | 2/4        | 3/4        | 4/4        |
| Total Participants             | 387        | 171        | 216        | 51         | 62         | 84         | 89         | 101              | 176        | 137        | 74         | 163        | 107         | 48          | 50         | 19               | 95         | 101        | 189        |
|                                |            | 44%        | 56%        | 13%        | 16%        | 22%        | 23%        | 26%              | 45%        | 35%        | 19%        | 42%        | 28%         | 12%         | 13%        | 5%               | 25%        | 26%        | 49%        |
| <b><u>Favorable</u></b>        | <b>28%</b> | <b>31%</b> | <b>26%</b> | <b>12%</b> | <b>24%</b> | <b>27%</b> | <b>37%</b> | <b>32%</b>       | <b>33%</b> | <b>26%</b> | <b>20%</b> | <b>29%</b> | <b>24%</b>  | <b>33%</b>  | <b>28%</b> | <b>32%</b>       | <b>19%</b> | <b>25%</b> | <b>35%</b> |
| Somewhat favorable             | 25         | 27         | 23         | 8          | 24         | 25         | 34         | 27               | 29         | 23         | 20         | 26         | 23          | 29          | 24         | 21               | 17         | 23         | 31         |
| Very favorable                 | 3          | 4          | 3          | 4          | -          | 2          | 3          | 5                | 4          | 4          | -          | 3          | 1           | 4           | 4          | 11               | 2          | 2          | 4          |
| <b><u>Unfavorable</u></b>      | <b>33%</b> | <b>33%</b> | <b>32%</b> | <b>27%</b> | <b>31%</b> | <b>26%</b> | <b>35%</b> | <b>40%</b>       | <b>30%</b> | <b>39%</b> | <b>27%</b> | <b>32%</b> | <b>34%</b>  | <b>25%</b>  | <b>38%</b> | <b>37%</b>       | <b>28%</b> | <b>34%</b> | <b>34%</b> |
| Very unfavorable               | 12         | 13         | 10         | 10         | 6          | 12         | 13         | 14               | 8          | 18         | 9          | 7          | 16          | 13          | 16         | 11               | 12         | 10         | 12         |
| Somewhat unfavorable           | 21         | 20         | 22         | 18         | 24         | 14         | 21         | 26               | 22         | 22         | 18         | 25         | 18          | 13          | 22         | 26               | 17         | 24         | 22         |
| <b><u>Neutral / Unsure</u></b> | <b>39%</b> | <b>36%</b> | <b>42%</b> | <b>61%</b> | <b>45%</b> | <b>46%</b> | <b>28%</b> | <b>29%</b>       | <b>38%</b> | <b>34%</b> | <b>53%</b> | <b>39%</b> | <b>42%</b>  | <b>42%</b>  | <b>34%</b> | <b>32%</b>       | <b>53%</b> | <b>42%</b> | <b>31%</b> |
| Neutral                        | 18         | 17         | 19         | 22         | 19         | 20         | 17         | 15               | 17         | 15         | 26         | 21         | 16          | 17          | 14         | 16               | 26         | 14         | 16         |
| Don't know / Refused           | 21         | 19         | 23         | 39         | 26         | 26         | 11         | 14               | 20         | 19         | 27         | 18         | 26          | 25          | 20         | 16               | 26         | 28         | 15         |
| Chi Square                     |            | 3.02       |            | 35.31      |            |            |            |                  | 16.46      |            |            | 19.12      |             |             |            |                  | 19.81      |            |            |
|                                |            | .697       |            | .019       |            |            |            |                  | .087       |            |            | .514       |             |             |            |                  | .031       |            |            |

**Q2. In terms of the job Governor John Kitzhaber has done this year, is your opinion generally favorable or unfavorable?**

|                         | GENDER     |            |            | AGE        |            |            |            |            | REGISTERED PARTY |            |            | REGION     |             |             |             |            | VOTER PROPENSITY |            |            |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|
|                         | Total      | MALE       | FMALE      | 18-34      | 35-44      | 45-54      | 55-64      | 65+        | DEM              | REP        | MISC       | PDX METRO  | WLLMT VALLY | CNTRL ESTRN | STHRN COAST | 2/4        | 3/4              | 4/4        |            |
| Total Participants      | 387        | 171        | 216        | 51         | 62         | 84         | 89         | 101        | 176              | 137        | 74         | 163        | 107         | 48          | 50          | 19         | 95               | 101        | 189        |
|                         |            | 44%        | 56%        | 13%        | 16%        | 22%        | 23%        | 26%        | 45%              | 35%        | 19%        | 42%        | 28%         | 12%         | 13%         | 5%         | 25%              | 26%        | 49%        |
| <b>Favorable</b>        | <b>45%</b> | <b>43%</b> | <b>47%</b> | <b>37%</b> | <b>44%</b> | <b>50%</b> | <b>45%</b> | <b>47%</b> | <b>61%</b>       | <b>28%</b> | <b>41%</b> | <b>50%</b> | <b>42%</b>  | <b>35%</b>  | <b>48%</b>  | <b>37%</b> | <b>45%</b>       | <b>36%</b> | <b>50%</b> |
| Somewhat favorable      | 35         | 33         | 36         | 33         | 35         | 43         | 26         | 36         | 44               | 25         | 31         | 37         | 32          | 27          | 40          | 32         | 39               | 31         | 34         |
| Very favorable          | 11         | 10         | 11         | 4          | 8          | 7          | 19         | 11         | 17               | 3          | 9          | 13         | 10          | 8           | 8           | 5          | 6                | 5          | 16         |
| <b>Unfavorable</b>      | <b>30%</b> | <b>34%</b> | <b>28%</b> | <b>24%</b> | <b>29%</b> | <b>32%</b> | <b>30%</b> | <b>34%</b> | <b>17%</b>       | <b>54%</b> | <b>19%</b> | <b>25%</b> | <b>36%</b>  | <b>35%</b>  | <b>32%</b>  | <b>32%</b> | <b>25%</b>       | <b>34%</b> | <b>32%</b> |
| Very unfavorable        | 14         | 18         | 10         | 6          | 10         | 14         | 16         | 18         | 5                | 28         | 9          | 7          | 18          | 19          | 20          | 16         | 13               | 15         | 14         |
| Somewhat unfavorable    | 17         | 16         | 18         | 18         | 19         | 18         | 15         | 16         | 13               | 26         | 9          | 17         | 19          | 17          | 12          | 16         | 13               | 19         | 18         |
| <b>Neutral / Unsure</b> | <b>24%</b> | <b>23%</b> | <b>25%</b> | <b>39%</b> | <b>27%</b> | <b>18%</b> | <b>25%</b> | <b>20%</b> | <b>22%</b>       | <b>18%</b> | <b>41%</b> | <b>25%</b> | <b>21%</b>  | <b>29%</b>  | <b>20%</b>  | <b>32%</b> | <b>29%</b>       | <b>31%</b> | <b>18%</b> |
| Neutral                 | 15         | 17         | 13         | 24         | 18         | 12         | 16         | 11         | 14               | 11         | 26         | 17         | 13          | 19          | 8           | 21         | 20               | 18         | 11         |
| Don't know / Refused    | 9          | 6          | 12         | 16         | 10         | 6          | 9          | 9          | 9                | 7          | 15         | 9          | 8           | 10          | 12          | 11         | 9                | 13         | 7          |
| Chi Square              |            | 8.52       |            |            |            | 26.20      |            |            | 76.53            |            |            |            |             | 16.91       |             |            | 18.85            |            |            |
|                         |            | .130       |            |            |            | .159       |            |            | .001             |            |            |            |             | .659        |             |            | .042             |            |            |