

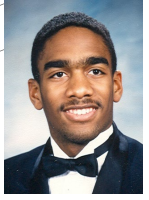


2024 “Presidential Preference Poll” Voter Feedback and Analysis

Daryl Acumen, MBA

AGENDA

- 01 INTRODUCTION
- 02 BACKGROUND
- 03 PROJECT OVERVIEW
- 04 MARCH 5TH AFTERMATH
- 05 BY THE NUMBERS
- 06 VOTER FEEDBACK
- 07 Q&A



1989

Personal Support Computers



Cubus Corporation



Network Solutions



hp HEWLETT®
PACKARD

Adobe



M.S. Data Science,
2025

2024

1992

USC



1996



Skunk New Media

2000

Cal. Poly
Pomona



2004

OMNITURE®
An Adobe company

2008

2012

UTAH VALLEY
UVU
UNIVERSITY

2016

BYU

2020



Daryl Acumen, MBA
Sr. Solutions Consultant



Initial Concerns

1. The premise of the presidential preference poll was flawed because political parties are not “private” organizations.
2. Withheld voters meant the process was doomed to failure because 20% of voters could not be authenticated.
3. There are not enough classrooms in Utah to physically accommodate even moderate primary turnout, therefore:
 - a) A significant portion of the voting public would be disenfranchised
 - b) Party infrastructure would be stretched to the breaking point
 - c) Both (a) and (b)? ...no way!
4. The Utah Republican Party lacks the financial resources to match marketing power of a ballot in every mailbox.
5. **The purpose of “the caucus system” is to minimize participation and to block qualified candidates from the ballot.**

Signature Thresholds

State	Registered Voters	State House	State Senate	U.S. House	U.S. Senate	Governor	President
Utah	1,726,066	1,000	2,000	7,000	28,000	28,000	-
Indiana	4,674,413	0	0	0	4,500	4,500	4,500
Virginia	5,976,125	125	250	1,000	12,000	12,000	2,200
Texas	15,831,573	500	500	500	5,000	5,000	5,000
Colorado	4,520,907	1,000	1,000	1,500	10,500	10,500	5,000
Arizona	4,109,270	200	200	2,616	21,047	21,047	25,000
Washington	4,867,913	568	568	1,740	1,740	1,900	-

“A state has a legitimate interest in requiring a showing of a "significant modicum of support" before it prints on the state election ballot the name of a political party and its slate of candidates. This serves the important state interest of avoiding "confusion, deception, and even frustration of the democratic process at the general election." *Jenness v. Fortson*, 403 U.S. 431, 442, 91 S.Ct. 1970, 29 L.Ed.2d 554 (1971). Furthermore, the states "have important interests in protecting the integrity of their political processes from frivolous or fraudulent candidacies, in ensuring that their election processes are efficient, in avoiding voter confusion caused by an overcrowded ballot, and in avoiding the expense and burden of run-off elections." *Clements v. Fashing*, 457 U.S. 957, 102 S.Ct. 2836, 73 L.Ed.2d 508 (1982)” - *Utah Republican Party v. Cox*, 885 F.3d 1219 (10th Cir. 2018)

Message #1

“On August 19th 2023, the State Central Committee of the Utah Republican Party decided that **the Utah Republican Party will NOT hold a Presidential Primary election in 2024.**

While your Democratic and Unaffiliated neighbors all received ballots in the mail this week for the 2024 Presidential Primary, YOU WILL NOT!!!

If you are ok with this decision, reply "Yes" to this message to indicate your support.

If you believe that your right to vote is important and should be protected, then call the Utah Republican Party at **(435) 666-2024** or email Republican Party Chairman Rob Axson at **Chair@utahgop.org** to express your concerns.

Thank you.”

Sent to 161,895 recipients

Email responses

The screenshot shows an email interface for the domain chair@utahgop.org. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Compose, Mail, Contacts, Calendar, Settings, Webmail Home, Light mode, About, and Logout. The main inbox area displays a list of messages from February 15, 2024, with the following subjects:

- No choice?
- This is bull crap everyone should be abl...
- right to vote
- Concern
- This is. It right now
- Primary Election
- Republican Primary
- Republican concern
- (no subject)
- Dear sir,Every American has the right to ...
- Primary election.
- Primary Voting

The selected email is from dixie sperry, dated 2024-02-15 13:51. The email body contains the following text:

This is bull crap everyone should be able to vote. Did the republicans party fall asleep. The Democrats are always one step I head because they are crooks

From dixie sperry on 2024-02-15 13:51
Sent from my iPhone

1,702 emails sent and ~400 phone calls received.

March 5th Aftermath

The Park Record. Park City and Summit County News

Utah Republicans will forgo presidential primary election for preference poll on caucus night

by Terie Barnhart
January 28, 2024

Utah's Super Tuesday caucus left Republicans frustrated. It wasn't the first time.

Utah Republican 2024 primary turnout appears to be much lower than in years past, even when compared to another chaotic caucus night.



Tuesday's GOP caucus presidential vote had 9% turnout. What went wrong?

Republican voters may have been dissuaded by an uncompetitive primary, confusing changes and long waits

Published: March 8, 2024, 12:06 p.m. MST

VIEW 259 COMMENTS SHARE

FISHER INVESTMENTS
**I Have \$500k—
Am I Ready for**

Utah GOP is ditching the presidential primary in 2024. Here's how you can vote for a Republican.

The Utah Republican Party will bypass the Super Tuesday primary election in favor of a preferential ballot process.

Target GOP voters: ... a presidential preference poll in 2024, not ...



Opinion: The tragedy of Utah's caucus

Less than 10% of registered Republicans participated on caucus night

What the heck is a presidential preference poll? And other questions, answered

Utah Women Run, a nonpartisan initiative hosted by the Hinckley Institute of Politics, will be holding a training session on Feb. 22

Published: Feb 20, 2024, 1:48 p.m. MST

VIEW COMMENTS SHARE

Specials on 2024 New Trucks

New Truck Sales Near You. Save Big on Top Brands.

With the Legislature in the rear-view mirror, Utah's political community turned to political party caucuses and presidential politics last week. As your lovable (in a grandfatherly sort of way) commentators, we weigh in on the consequences to our state.

March 5 was *Super Tuesday* for Republican and Democratic presidential preferences in 16 states, including Utah. Local Democrats chose traditional primary balloting while the Utah GOP opted presidential voters to caucus attendees ...

Utah GOP caucus night overwhelmed by turnout in some precincts

by Heidi Hatch, KUTV | Tue, March 5th 2024 at 9:08 PM
Updated Wed, March 6th 2024 at 1:13 PM

REGISTRATION ISSUES AT GOP CAUCUS

Utah GOP caucus night overwhelmed by turnout in some precincts on Mar. 5, 2024 (Photo: House District 49/ Fort Herriman Middle School)

TOPICS: UTAH GOP CAUCUS REGISTRATION ISSUES VOTER FRUSTRATION LONG LINES PRIMARY ELECTIONS ONLINE REGISTRATION

Some Utah Republicans sound off against caucus system after 'chaotic' Super Tuesday

by Derick Fox
Posted: Mar 6, 2024 / 07:53 AM MST
Updated: Mar 6, 2024 / 08:20 AM MST

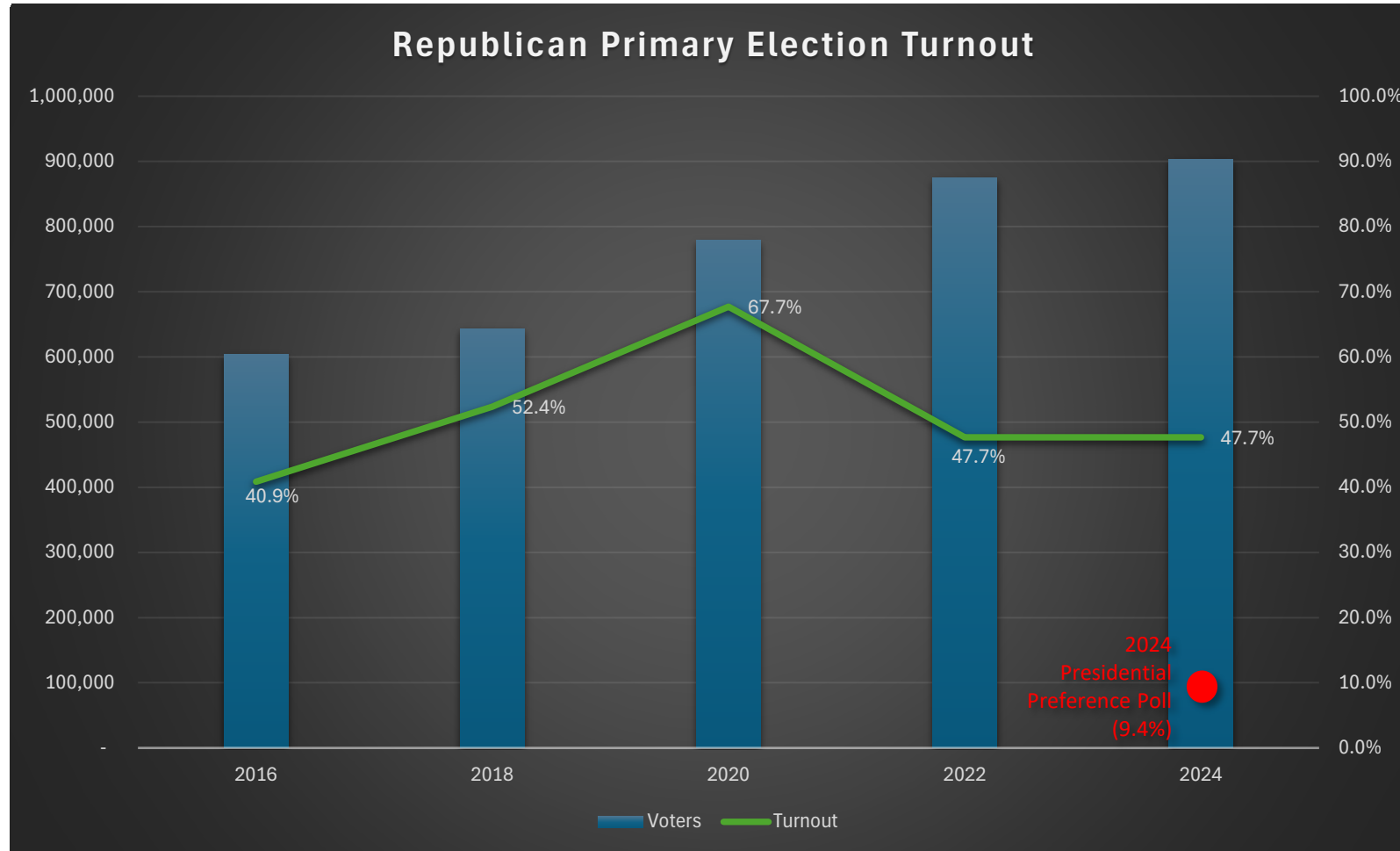
SALT LAKE CITY (ABC4) — This year's Republican presidential nomination process looked a little bit different in Utah. Instead of holding a state-run primary for voters to participate, the Republican party opted to hold public meetings with party voters to determine Utah's preferred nominee.

What resulted was a **chaotic scene** and, if social media is any measurement, Utah voters appear to be unmotivated to do it again.

PREVIOUS: Super Tuesday trouble: Delays reported in Salt Lake, Box Elder caucuses among others

Several counties throughout the state reported troubles and delays. Caucuses that were scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. had issues with QR codes used to check-in. The online system used to register voters for the caucus also reportedly had gone down throughout the day. Long lines slowed the

Primary Turnout



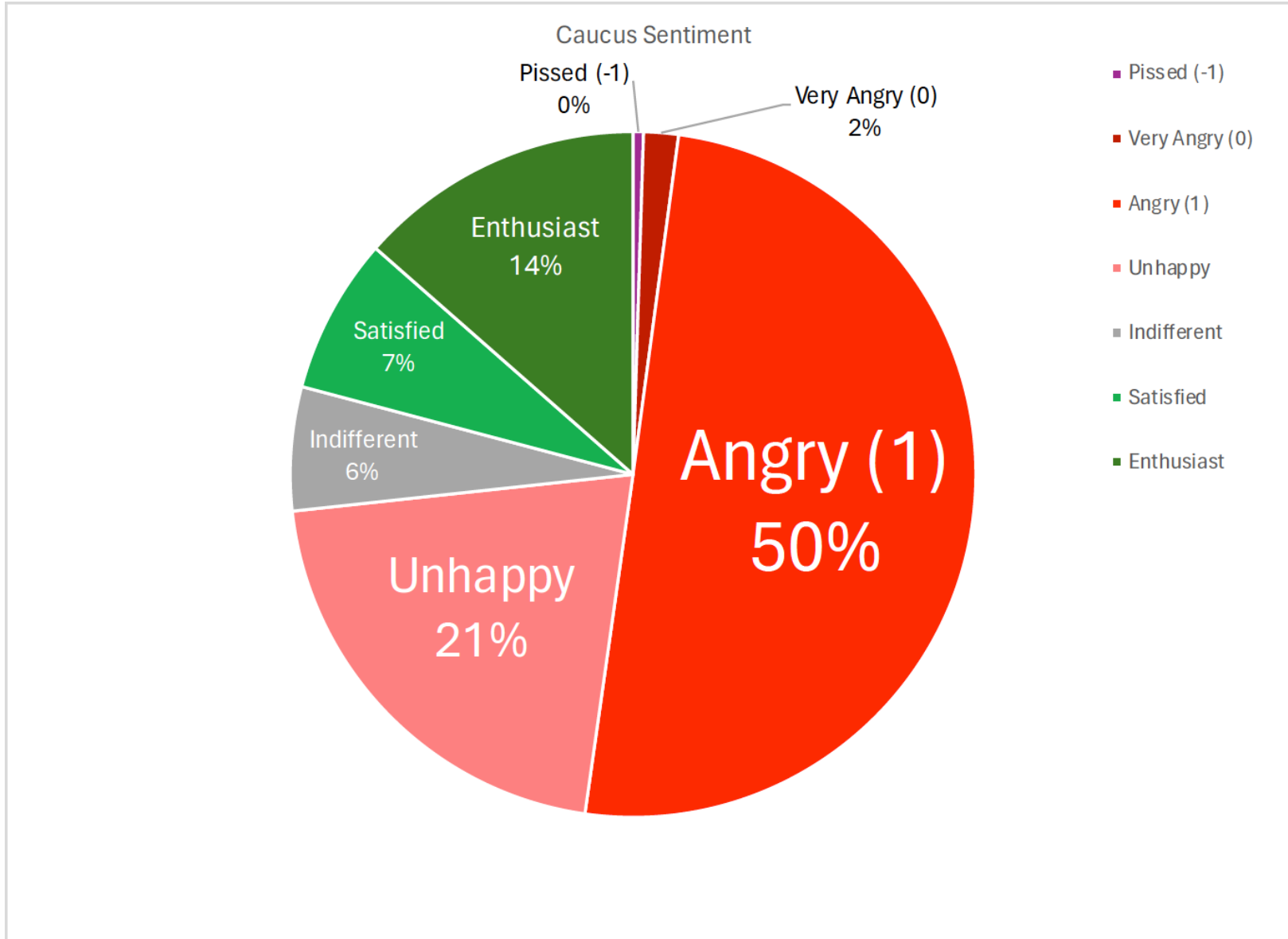
Message #2

“On a scale of 1 to 5 (**5 = Very Satisfied, 1 = Very Unsatisfied**), how would you rate your experience with the Utah Republican Party's Presidential Preference Poll on Tuesday, March 5th.

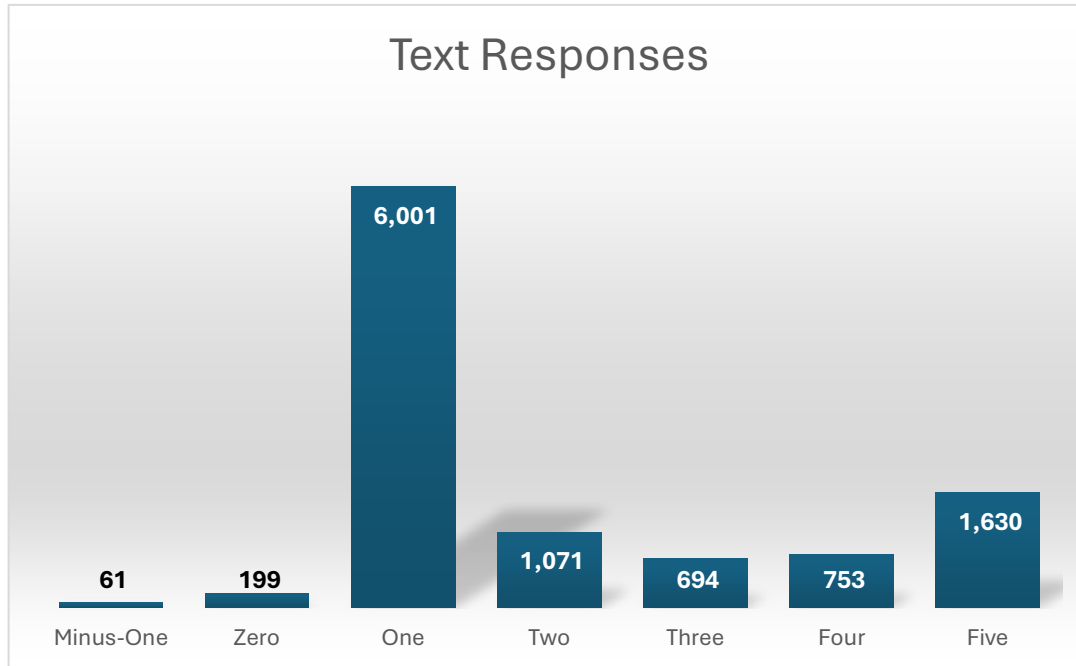
If you have specific feedback about your caucus experience or the party's decision to hold a "preference poll" at caucus instead of a Primary election, you can contact Utah Republican Party Chairman Rob Axson at chair@utahgop.org or respond to this text.”

Sent to 410,356 recipients

Statewide results



Statewide results



Minus-One	61
Zero	199
One	6,001
Two	1,071
Three	694
Four	753
Five	1,630

One	53.5%
One/Two	62.6%
Unhappy	72.8%
Happy	21.4%
Four/Five	20.4%
Five	13.9%

Statistical Significance

Given probability $Q = 95$

The z value is: 1.959964

Population size (N): 902611

Sample size(n): 11705

Sample proportion (p): 72.8

Target proportion (t): 50

Confidence Interval (ci): 3

FPC (fpc): 0.98703315!

Confidence Interval (CI): 0.8009

Raw Sample Size (SS): 1,067

Adjusted Sample Size (aSS): 1,065

Sigma (sigma): 0.4086

Gap (gap): -22.80

Deviations (dev): -55.80

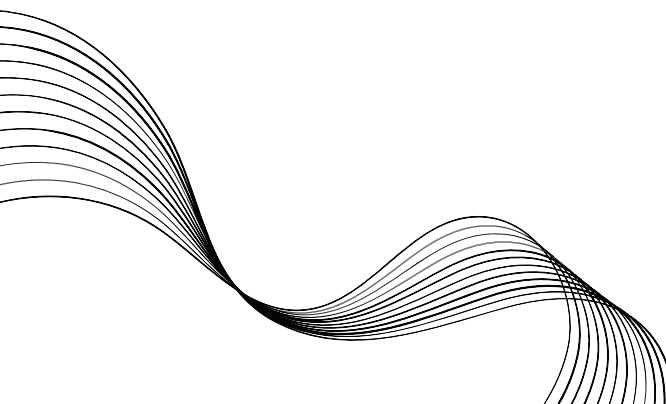
Upper (upper): 73.60

Lower (lower): 72.00

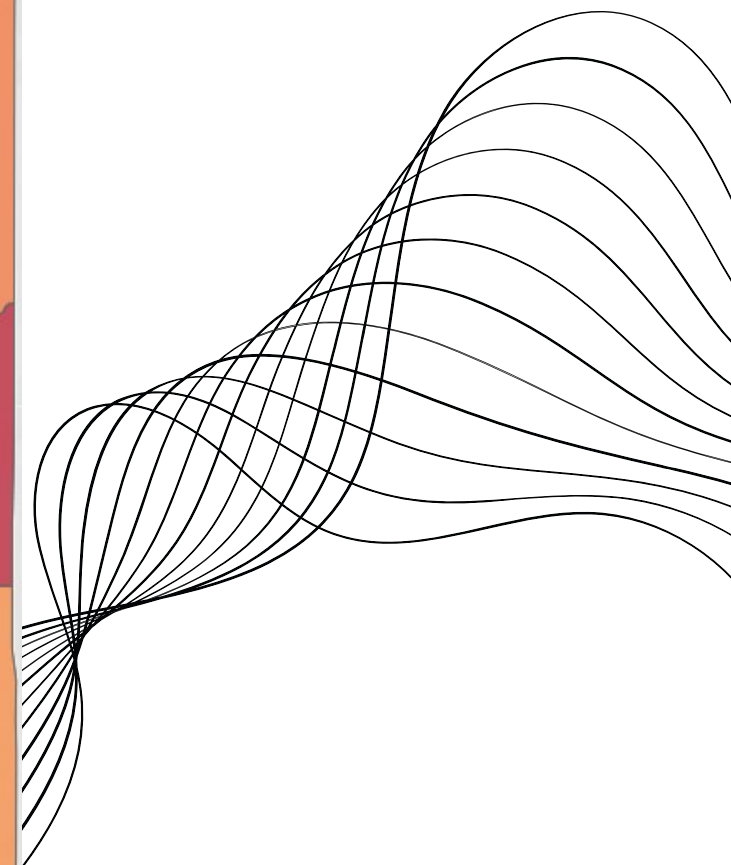
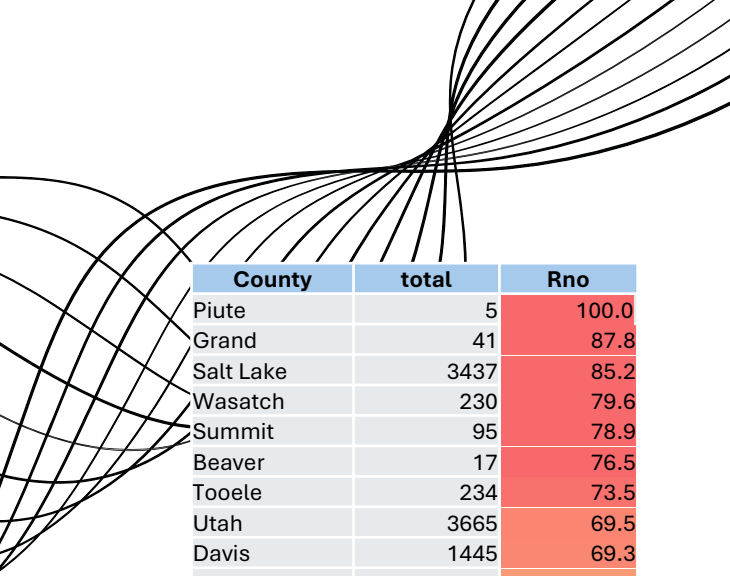
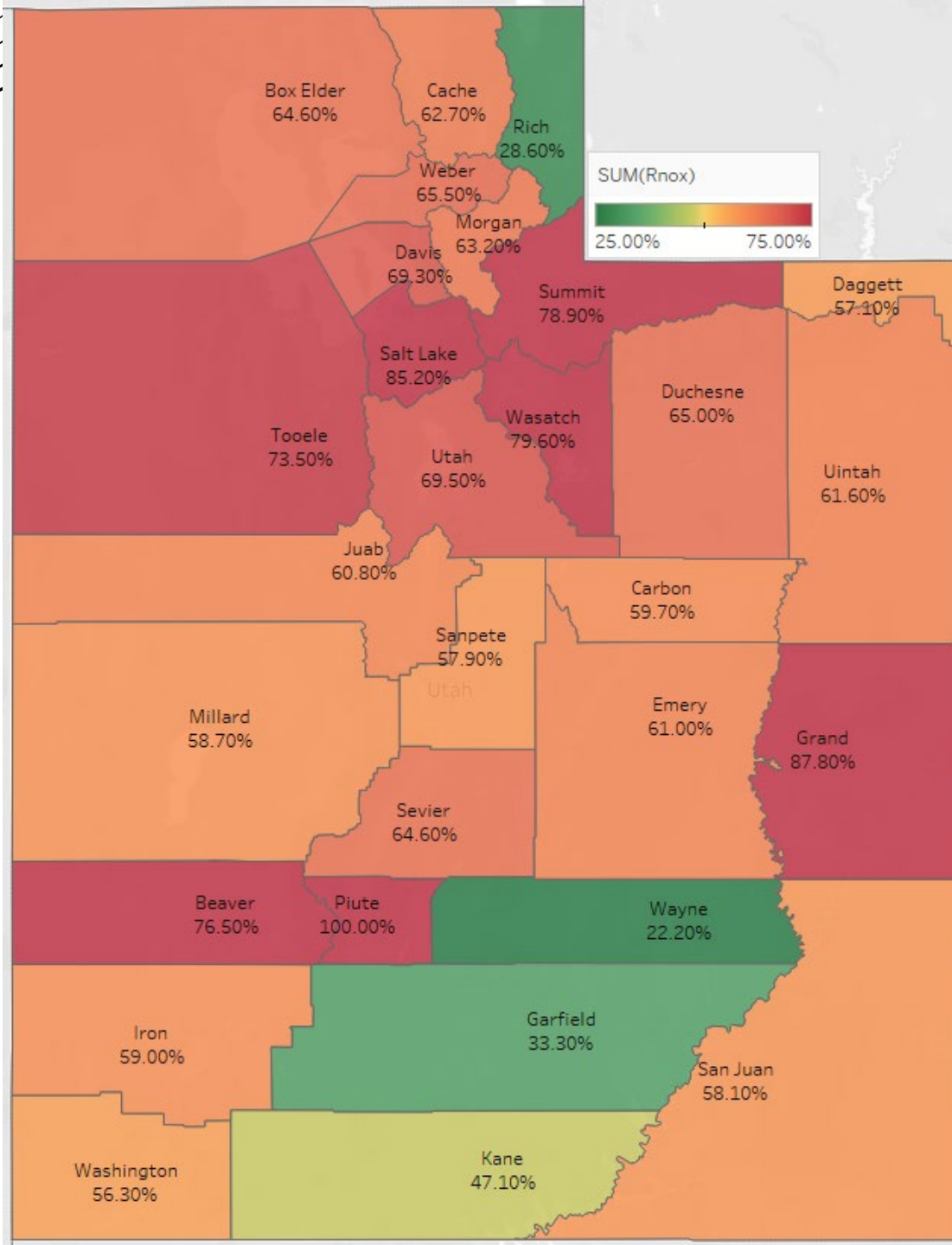
P-Value: *impossible*

Odds: 1 Octodeciducentillion ...to one

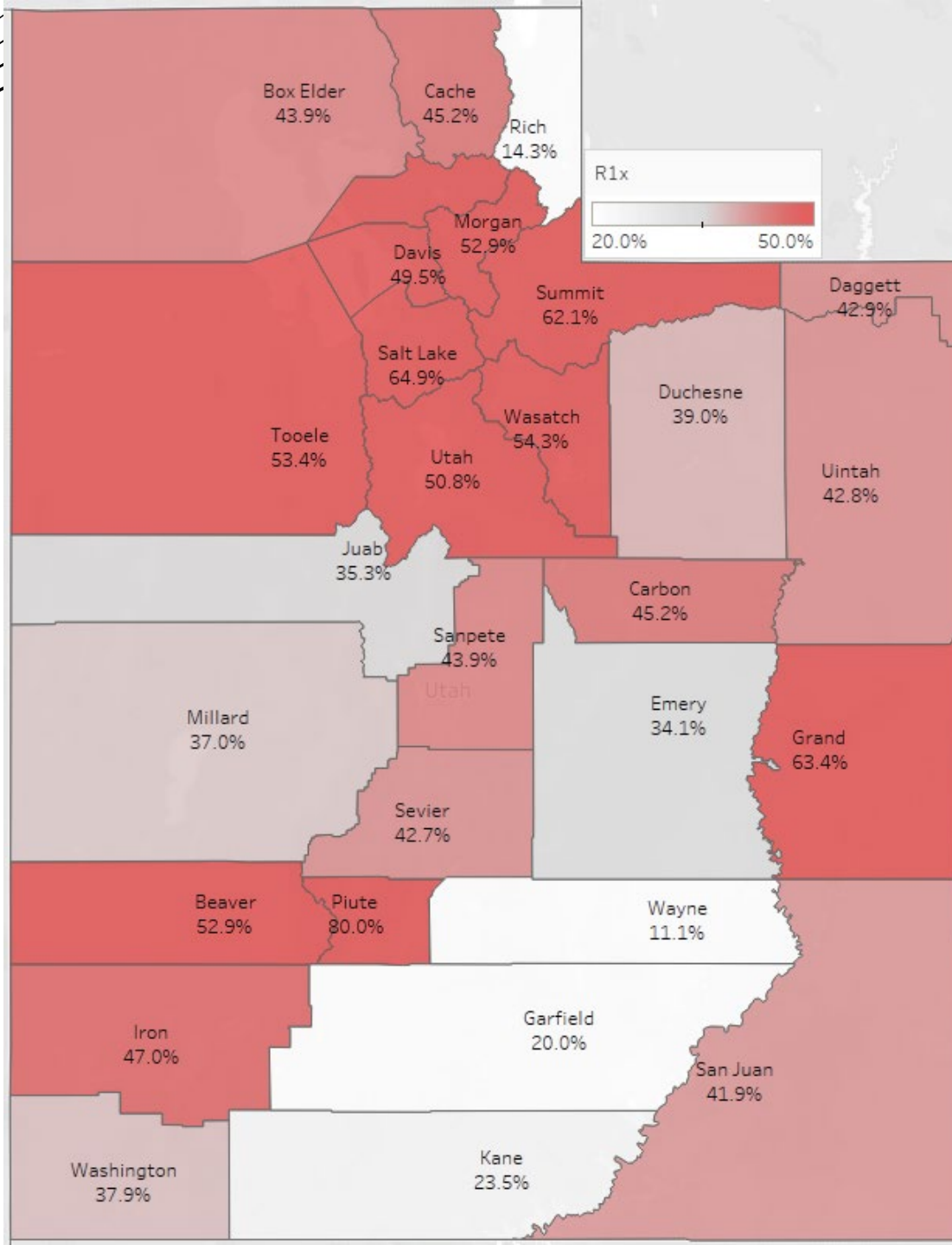
Odds (Exp.): 10^{657} ...to one



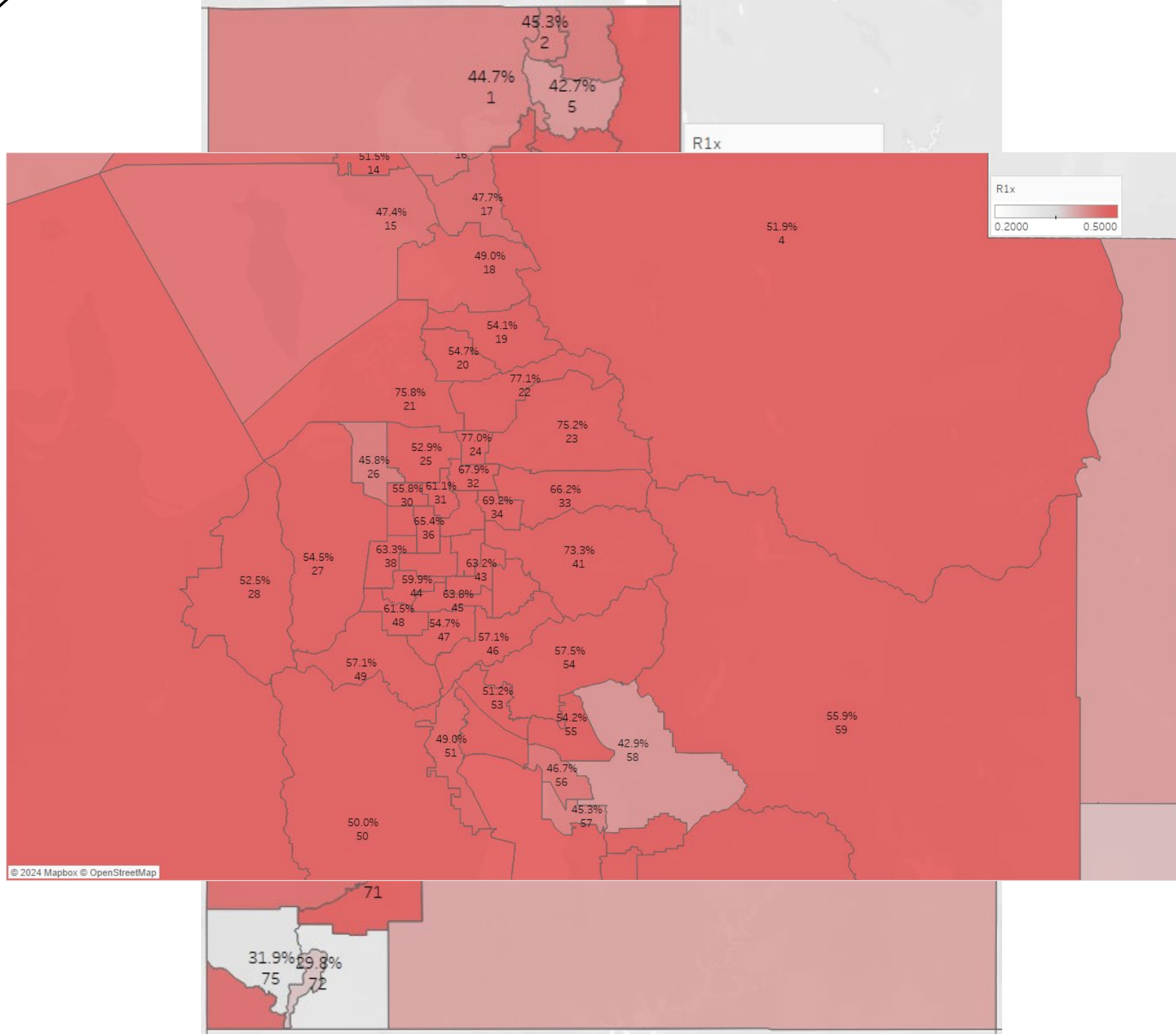
County	total	Rno
Piute	5	100.0
Grand	41	87.8
Salt Lake	3437	85.2
Wasatch	230	79.6
Summit	95	78.9
Beaver	17	76.5
Tooele	234	73.5
Utah	3665	69.5
Davis	1445	69.3
Weber	571	65.5
Duchesne	100	65.0
Box Elder	198	64.6
Sevier	82	64.6
Morgan	68	63.2
Cache	440	62.7
Uintah	138	61.6
Emery	41	61.0
Juab	51	60.8
Carbon	62	59.7
Iron	134	59.0
Millard	46	58.7
San Juan	31	58.1
Sanpete	107	57.9
Daggett	7	57.1
Washington	412	56.3
Kane	17	47.1
Garfield	15	33.3
Rich	7	28.6
Wayne	9	22.2



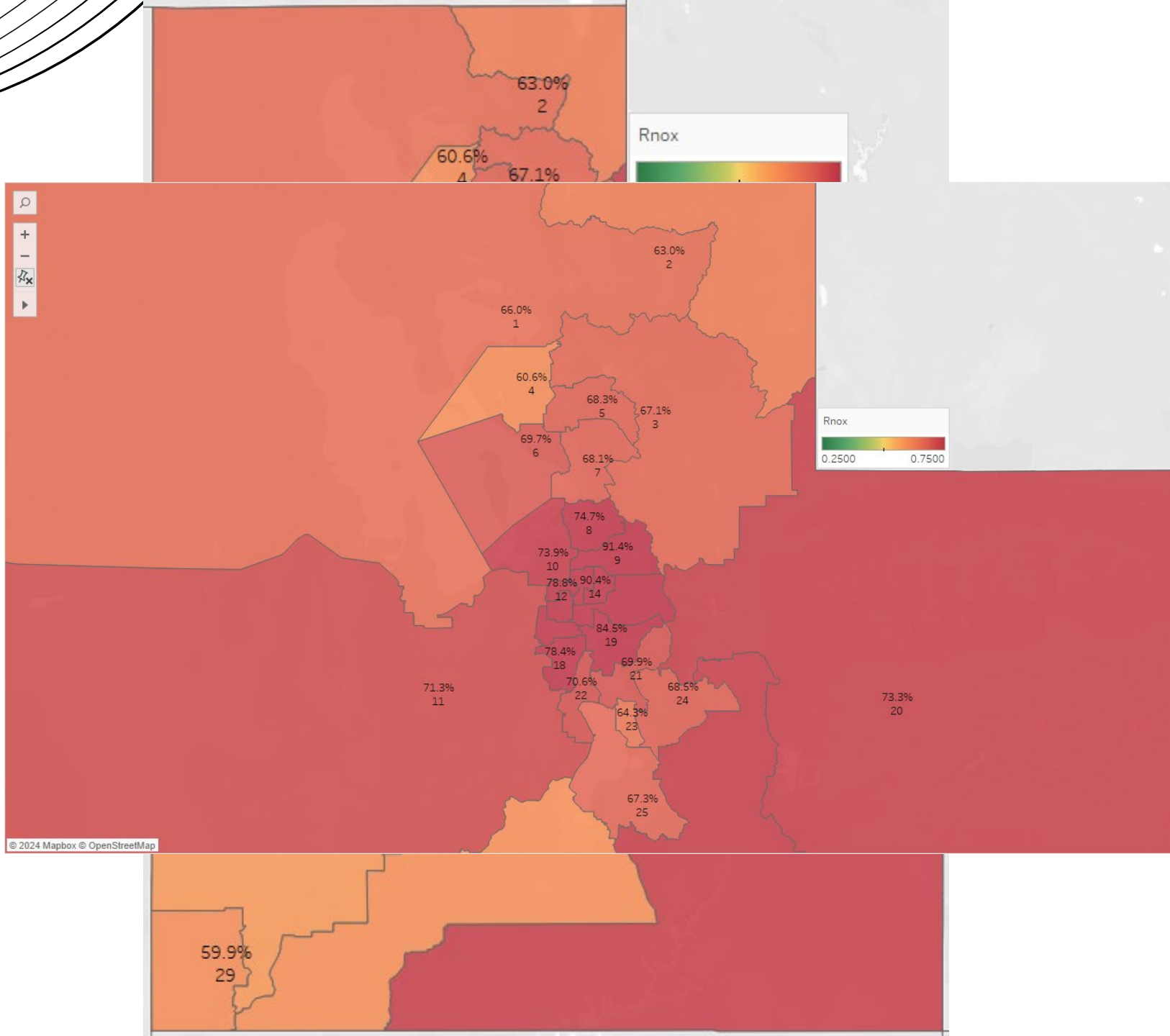
County	total	R1
Piute	5	80.0
Salt Lake	3437	64.9
Grand	41	63.4
Summit	95	62.1
Wasatch	230	54.3
Tooele	234	53.4
Beaver	17	52.9
Morgan	68	52.9
Utah	3665	50.8
Weber	571	49.7
Davis	1445	49.5
Iron	134	47.0
Cache	440	45.2
Carbon	62	45.2
Box Elder	198	43.9
Sanpete	107	43.9
Daggett	7	42.9
Uintah	138	42.8
Sevier	82	42.7
San Juan	31	41.9
Duchesne	100	39.0
Washington	412	37.9
Millard	46	37.0
Juab	51	35.3
Emery	41	34.1
Kane	17	23.5
Garfield	15	20.0
Rich	7	14.3
Wayne	9	11.1



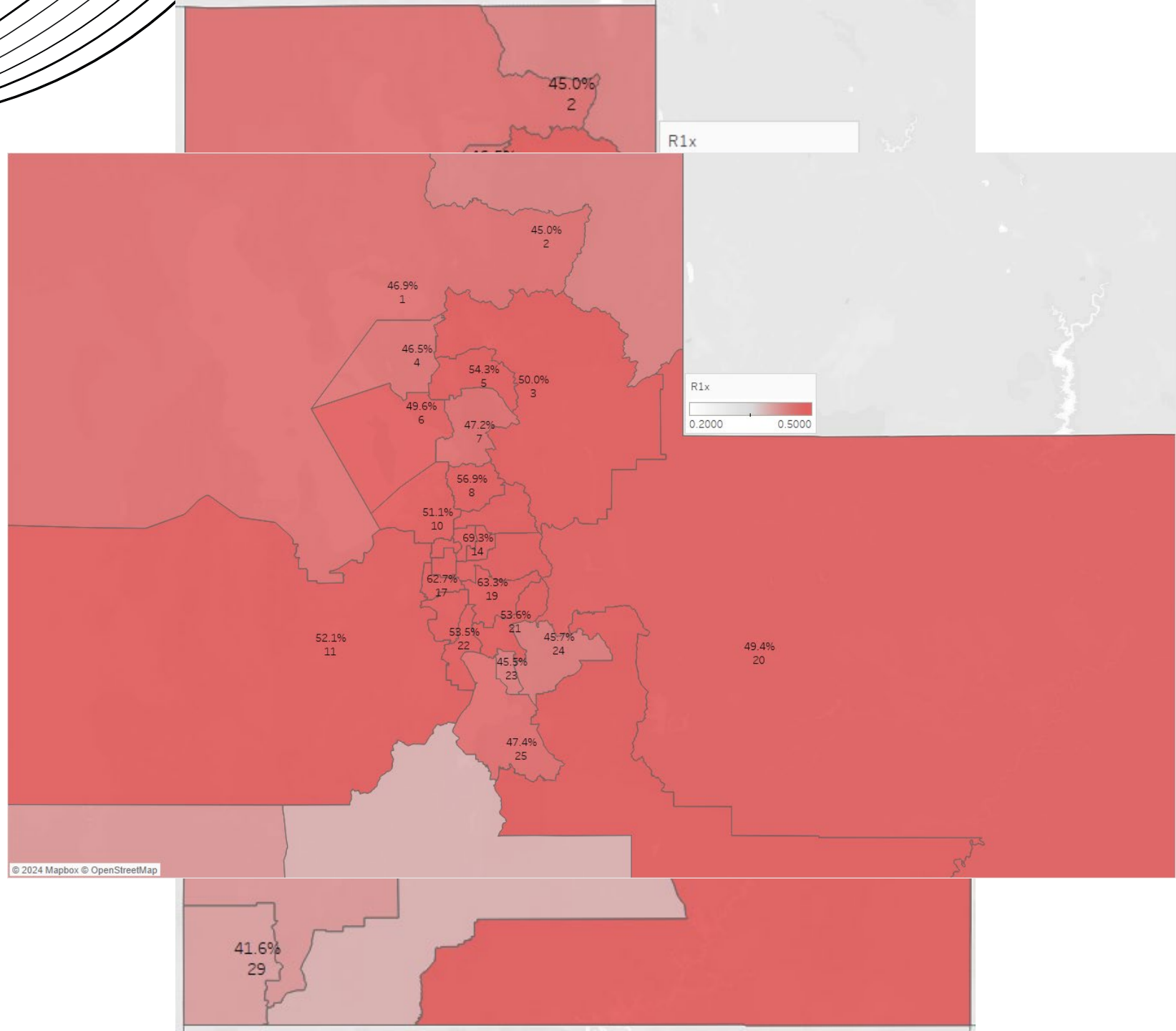
LD	total	Rno	LD	total	Rno
22	96	77.1	53	254	51.2
24	74	77.0	29	149	51.0
21	33	75.8	61	161	50.3
23	125	75.2	50	174	50.0
41	240	73.3	71	90	50.0
35	180	70.0	64	252	49.6
39	150	70.0	6	144	49.3
34	185	69.2	51	255	49.0
42	70	68.6	18	241	49.0
32	53	67.9	12	119	48.7
33	287	66.2	7	109	47.7
36	191	65.4	17	216	47.7
37	71	64.8	74	120	47.5
45	138	63.8	70	139	47.5
40	115	63.5	15	190	47.4
38	120	63.3	16	150	47.3
43	106	63.2	56	184	46.7
48	174	61.5	65	244	46.3
31	72	61.1	3	107	45.8
44	197	59.9	26	59	45.8
10	50	58.0	2	139	45.3
54	409	57.5	57	203	45.3
62	152	57.2	11	69	44.9
46	140	57.1	1	132	44.7
49	161	57.1	13	119	43.7
52	214	56.5	58	394	42.9
59	247	55.9	5	157	42.7
30	52	55.8	9	76	42.1
20	148	54.7	68	169	42.0
47	159	54.7	66	160	41.3
27	77	54.5	69	124	41.1
55	251	54.2	67	140	38.6
19	209	54.1	73	95	37.9
8	94	53.2	75	94	31.9
25	17	52.9	72	94	29.8
60	91	52.7			
28	118	52.5			
63	345	52.2			
4	135	51.9			
14	101	51.5			



SD	total	Rno
9	222	91.4
14	606	90.4
13	232	87.9
15	337	85.8
16	411	84.9
19	341	84.5
17	512	83.8
12	170	78.8
18	370	78.4
8	443	74.7
10	92	73.9
26	579	73.4
20	468	73.3
11	334	71.3
22	548	70.6
21	826	69.9
6	347	69.7
24	543	68.5
5	186	68.3
7	555	68.1
25	553	67.3
3	258	67.1
1	373	66.0
23	490	64.3
2	338	63.0
4	327	60.6
29	257	59.9
27	411	59.4
28	247	57.9



SD	total	Rno
9	222	46.9
14	606	45.0
13	232	50.0
15	337	46.5
16	411	54.3
19	341	49.6
17	512	47.2
12	170	56.9
18	370	76.1
8	443	51.1
10	92	52.1
26	579	58.8
20	468	68.5
11	334	69.3
22	548	66.5
21	826	66.9
6	347	62.7
24	543	55.1
5	186	63.3
7	555	49.4
25	553	53.6
3	258	53.5
1	373	45.5
23	490	45.7
2	338	47.4
4	327	51.8
29	257	39.7
27	411	42.5
28	247	41.6



The Widows Might

"I was not able to attend--I am over 90 and don't drive anymore..." - Deloris Eldredge

"My mother who is 90 years old and has participated in every election was unable to participate." - Rochelle White

"I do not drive at night and was unable to find someone to give me a ride. This was very disappointing to me as it is the very first primary election I was unable to participate in since I became old enough to vote back in 1968 when I turned twenty-one." - Linda Buytendorp

"I am an 82 year old veteran having served 22.5 years in the US Army. I have a 100% disability. It is hard to get around. Very difficult to drive at night. I believe any one over 65 years of age should be able to vote by mail. Utah is depriving me of my vote. Things can and should be easier to vote." - SFC Jeriel L Musselman US Army (Retired)



AGE

...many of us are unable to physically attend meetings that are held where we need to park in huge high school parking lots, walk with our walkers great distances (usually on the second floor). Most of us are not tech-savvy and without enlisting help from a younger neighbor, we cannot...be prepared for huge crowds that **our physicians tell us to avoid**...I have been a lifelong Republican who is sadly soooo disappointed with my party's decisions. **My husband is not well enough to attend anything like this** so PLEASE do take our dedicated loyalty into consideration in future decisions! This one was not wise and I fear disastrous for young and older members of the party! [28]

"First time in my life of 72 years I [haven't] voted. I use a computer every day all day so I know what I'm doing tech wise. This was a bad idea and poorly executed. ..."

– Marianne M.

My elderly parents who have always voted in every election could not participate because **they do not drive at night.** [34]

We are older and it's not always easy to deal with the long lines and long hours involved with this process. Even though we thought we'd be able to do it this time, **my husband's health didn't allow it.** [110]

I did not attend the caucus as **I am elderly and the parking, walking in, standing was too much for me.** Why did you do away from mailing? [124]

I'm 81y and can't go to caucus and hear it was a disaster. [154]

I do not like the caucus system. **I am older and do not like to drive at night.** I will not send my ballot with someone. I have a hard time with contention and that is what happens at these meetings. [144]

We are elderly and unable to attend caucuses and so we have no say on the republican ticket. Our elderly neighbors on the democrat side are receiving ballots so their voices get heard. We are not happy with this decision. [140]

As a senior citizen I was disappointed that it was so difficult to vote. I called and texted the Utah GOP office but did not get a response until the day before the caucus. The text told me I could vote with an absentee ballot but when I tried doing that, I found I had to either deliver my ballot to the caucus or send someone with my ID to the caucus. I don't go out after 6 pm, can't walk to far nor stand in long lines - so the caucus does not work for me. At least with the Primary I can go vote in my own time and convenient polling place. Or I can mail my vote or use a drop box. But the caucus is too much for me as a senior citizen. I have always voted, and it disappointed me that the Utah GOP decided to caucus without asking the constituents. Sometimes saving money isn't the answer. Please go back to having primaries. [122]

"I think it is a travesty that more people are not included. **My 80 year old sister was disgusted that she would be required to leave her house** for a caucus when she could have voted by mail from home. I think we need a primary and to do away with the caucus system...." – Tracy F.

"We have voted in every primary and general election since we were 21. Now 84. Did not know about caucus or anything about it..." – Barbara P.

I am 84, a widow with a few health issues, it would have been so nice to open my envelope, choose my candidates for the offices of those running for the different offices, mark their boxes, seal my envelope, sign my name and send my Voted Envelope in the mail to the designated address and then my vote would have been counted.

Since that wasn't the case, EVERYONE HAD TO PHYSICALLY ATTEND A CAUCUS IN ORDER TO VOTE, SO THEIR VOTE COULD BE COUNTED, THEREFORE I **WASN'T ABLE TO VOTE IN THE PRIMARIES. I FELT SO LEFT OUT !!!!** [156]

"My wife and I registered for absentee vote but couldn't find anyone to take our ballots. I am 75 and my wife is 73. **We both have health issues and feel that we were cheated out of our vote.** We could have voted at a polling location earlier in the day, attending a caucus in the cold and dark was not going to work for us!" – Richard J.

MILITARY

“Very unsatisfied. And how ironic is it that the header of your message is an image of a vote by mail ballot that we were denied this year? Deciding to hold a caucus was a terrible mistake. I feel as if my right to a private vote, unencumbered by public pressure, has been taken from me. **As a veteran**, I feel my country is, slowly but surely, leaving behind the core values for which I fought and sacrificed....” – Vicky C.

Regarding the caucus **I was turned away** and I was not able to register. I did not get a chance to voice my opinion. **I am an American citizen, and I've served in the military.** (Shameful) [74]

What in the hell are you thinking? What gives you the right to arbitrarily take away my right to vote? **I served 22 years in the Navy because I believe in what our founding fathers believed when they penned the Constitution.** Why would you have not asked US what we thought? Instead, you pass it on some dark night thinking that we don't care. Well, WE DO CARE!!! [97]

I didn't spend **8 years in the military** so that I couldn't vote for the Commander in Chief (i.e., the President). Thanks. [169]

I was not able to participate because those of us in the military are often asked to be away from home to serve this country. **The Republican attack on Primaries and mail in ballots, is a giant middle finger to our men and women in uniform.** I don't know why the Republican Party is choosing to alienate our service members, but it's discouraging and offensive. I will be voting third party for the foreseeable future and will not support a Republican candidate unless the Utah Republican Party takes steps to make me feel welcome again. [85]

For the past 20 years I have been fighting terrorists throughout the Middle East and North Africa. I'm an Arabic linguist. I help the U.S. Government track down and remove people who hate our way of life and want to harm freedom-loving people all over the world. I love this country and I'm very passionate about defending freedom and democracy.

*I also realize the importance of voting and making this blessing we enjoy more easily available to the citizenry of the United States. That is, in part, why I continue to risk my safety in far-off places. **I want to make it easier for every single eligible voter to exercise this God-given freedom. The GOP caucus system does the exact opposite, making it harder for people to vote.***

*We live in the year 2024. Last night I felt I was transported back 100 years to a time when public gatherings were necessary to exchange information. That is no longer necessary. We can, and should be able to, access any and all political information we need via the internet. **I invite you and the rest of the Utah GOP leaders to join us in the year 2024 by getting rid of the caucus system and replacing it with mail-in ballots. That will make it easier for people like my dear mother, who is politically passionate, but physically incapable of attending caucus meetings, to exercise her freedom to vote. She feels that the caucus system represents voter suppression.*** [114]

I went to the caucus meeting, not knowing what to expect. Sat around for over an hour, then sat in a precinct meeting that took away from people's constitutional right to vote for political candidates of their choice. Instead I got to vote on a dozen middle men who muddy up the voting process. Instead of hundreds of people voting in a primary, there were a few dozen playing middleman politics. A lot of citizens there agreed with me when I voiced my dismay. **I spent 4 years in the U.S. military to ensure mine and everyone's right to cast a vote for the candidate of MY choice. Going to the caucus system has taken that away.** [166]

WORKERS

I didn't participate this year. **I work in budget and planning at SLCC, and have to work late** post legislative session figuring things out. [134]

Despite my ridiculously busy work schedule, I was planning to attend and support Haley, but of course, something urgent came up at the end of the day, so I could not make it to the meeting. [24]

As a citizen of Utah and a lifelong Republican, I can't fathom why we are not going to be allowed a voice in the primary election. This seems to be in direct conflict with our right to vote. Who made this decision? **Was there a consensus by all Republicans in the state that this should be or is this a powerful leader pulling the strings?** [48]

Please consider individuals unable to participate in this fashion. I work full time, **when I am not working, I am a caregiver full time to my elderly mother, 96 and receiving hospice services in my home.** A mail in process I could have planned for and managed well. I was unable to participate as it was set up this year, and awfully disappointed to be left out. [50]

Because you did this, you basically told me my opinion doesn't count. I had to get up at 4:00 in the morning and didn't want to be at the caucus so late. My wife got home after 9:00 P.M. I was already in bed asleep. And there was practically no news about this at all. [118]

I would like to voice my extreme disappointment in the choice to move to a caucus. **My husband, parents and I all worked that night.** I didn't know anyone going to our caucus - either they aren't Republican, or they too couldn't make it for various reasons. I couldn't vote by "absentee." Therefore, I had no ability to vote. [138]

During the caucus this was a discussion myself Dr Pingree (neurosurgeon) and all the surgical staff had. **We couldn't leave the surgery to go to the caucus so because we were literally saving a life our right to vote is taken away.** Yet the government would put us in jail for not paying taxes. Is that being a contributing citizen or just a financial slave? [276]

I went to a lot of effort to obtain an absentee ballot since **my husband and I work for the US government in the state department and are overseas at the moment.** We were planning on voting in the Utah Republican primaries, we are not satisfied with this situation. Why did this happen? [61]

I am concerned that the caucus excluded many potential voters from being able to vote due to scheduling. **I am a medical worker at Primary Children's Hospital and I had to leave work early and leave work undone** in order to attend the caucus. The restrictive hours of a caucus are not in line with many people's schedules and no one should be excluded from voting...This was a mockery of the democratic process. [135]

I am furious that I was not able to vote in the Presidential primary. **I had no idea what this caucus thing was and because of my job, I was not able to have a say in the "poll".** EVERYONE should have access to and be able to vote at a time and place that works for them, during the entire day of such an important VOTE!!!! [129]

It is my opinion that having a preference poll caucus is a waste of time, money and effort. A primary election will tell you who people prefer. Furthermore, there are many people who are unable to attend a caucus and feel left out of the election process. **As a truck driver I was unable to attend the caucus** but I can vote early in a primary election... [224]

I am very disappointed in this decision as I was not able to vote. I had to work the day/evening of the caucus meeting and was not able to attend. **I am a nurse and should have been able to cast my vote** appropriately with a paper ballot or in person at the precinct that morning. This caucus vote took my opportunity to voice my vote away...[39]

My daughter could not go because **she had class...**[31]

PARENTS

“I'll take election interference for \$500 Alex”

That's how I feel about how this went down. Voting was limited to those who could go to a caucus meeting. Some people work at nights. Some people are disabled and can't get out of their homes in the evening. **My child was throwing up** all day yesterday and since my husband works into the evening (hardworking American family) so I couldn't go. [22]

Being a person who is raising 2 young children made it difficult to take the time to spend at the caucus. I know the GOP thinks it engages the party to have discussions, but that is only for people who can attend. Being able to quickly fill out a ballot would make it so more people would be able to participate. I believe more participation in a ballot is better than less people at a caucus. I don't think this caucus, with all the issues and problems and people not being able to attend, gave the party what more Utahns wanted. [147]

I was really disappointed about the preference poll at caucus instead of a primary election, because **my husband had a class that night and I wasn't able to find a babysitter** that night, so I wasn't able to attend, even though I really wanted to. If we had had a primary election, I could have voted on a drop-off ballot or found a babysitter more easily because the whole day would have been free for me to drop by and vote. Instead, I felt cut off from the primary candidate selection process. [182]

...As a busy parent, like many adults in this state, **I could not attend because one of my children had a performance that night.** [128]

We recently had a hospital stay for one of our children was associated with an emergency surgery. In order for my husband and I to both vote...we had to temporarily leave our child home with just siblings (other adults also wanted to vote). I did not know we could send in an absentee ballot until I was already at the caucus. This was not well advertised, as I know there are some in the Republican Party that are advocating for more in-person voting and less voting by mail, absentee ballots, etc... My neighborhood is filled with great community members: police officers, nurses, and other shift workers who would never be able to attend a caucus night in order to vote. And had our child's emergent medical care happened a few days later, my husband and I - educated and informed voters - wouldn't have been able to vote either.

The result of the preference vote instead of a primary was, overall, a feeling of disenfranchisement from a lot of my Republican friends and family members. **We don't feel that the party cares about what's best for the majority of us. It's like they want us to pass some silly litmus test to prove our patriotism before our vote counts.** But all of our votes matter, and more participation means better candidates overall. Please don't do this again. Mail us our ballots so we can make informed decisions and vote when we have time in our own schedules. Not everyone will participate (unfortunately), but it opens the door for more people. [101]

We are a fairly young family with kids who go to bed around 7:30. This makes it really difficult to get both of us to an event like this to be able to vote in person. We only had time for one of us to participate due to electronic check in websites being down and long wait times to register at the precinct location and general confusion by those volunteering on how to proceed.

An in person presidential poll like this excludes a lot of people like young mothers, and friends we talked to who are elderly and unable to drive at night or due to other health issues can't travel to a location that late or sit that long in hard chairs. **Our 80+ elderly friends lamented not being able to vote this election.** [185]

I would love to vote but **with a husband who works late and little kids at home there is no way I'll be able to make it to the meeting.** I know I am not the only one who wants to vote but will be unable to make the meeting. [60]

DISABILITIES



I will drag myself out to the caucus meeting on March 5, but **I have a family member with a disability that will probably not be able to attend.** I do not think it is right or fair to exclude people from voting because they have a disability...The caucus system is basically voter suppression. [47]

I wasn't able to attend as I am disabled and can't drive and my wife had to go out of town for her work last minute leaving me with no ride. I know, I could have paid for a taxi or an Uber to take me but I shouldn't have to pay to exercise my right to vote. I used to be able to vote with an absentee ballot which made voting possible for people in my position but with the Republican Party backing Trump's accusations that the elections were tampered with, that is now difficult for people like me. [114]

My wife as well as many other people are handicapped, and this method made it very difficult for them and confusing even to do an absentee ballot. [21]

I'm not very happy with the caucus. **I'm in a wheelchair and no way could I sit there for that long.** Needs to say, I never got to vote. That bothers me. I look forward to voting. [130]

My wife and I are both elderly and my wife is handicapped. Because of the caucus requirement instead of mail in ballots, we did not participate in the primary presidential elections. **I feel like you took our voting rights away from us** because of the way you set up the primaries. We tried your option of absentee ballots but that still requires delivering the ballot to the caucus location. In our situation this is very inconvenient. We are extremely dissatisfied with the way we're being forced to attend a caucus in order to exercise our voting rights. The Republican party better get their act together...[44]

I saw a mother and daughter, the mother in a wheelchair, whose precinct was meeting in an upper floor classroom. A security guard was called to locate a janitor with the elevator key, but **by the time the pair arrived at their room they missed the precinct votes.** [62]

I have been a registered Republican for nearly 20 years and can say this was the worst "voting" experience I have ever had - I didn't even get to vote. **It disenfranchises folks like me who are disabled** and utterly destroys any trust in the results. And don't add insult to injury by blaming this on the volunteers again. If we are the party of personal responsibility, you need to take responsibility for what your job to oversee, not blame others. **Take responsibility or step down.** [44]

We witnessed many elderly folks, with medical conditions from walking issues, carrying bottled oxygen to folks in the middle of cancer treatments who just wanted to be heard, and their vote counted. They should have been able to vote by mail. **The absentee version for the night was antiquated as well as absurd.** [115]

HEALTH

I have a disabled child who can't tolerate going to caucus meetings and I don't have any non-republican-voters to leave her with so I can attend. Please return to vote by mail primaries OR make a way for every republican who has a disability or who is a caregiver to attend. I really feel left out. [56]

I was very disappointed as I am home bound and not able to attend. I love to vote and study the candidates to make an educated vote. I have loved getting the mail in votes. I have time to research and mail in on time. I think every citizen should have the right to vote, home bound or not! [186]

I am recovering from cancer. By the time I figured out I could send a ballot with someone, it was too late. The system was gone. And I do not recall ever seeing information in advance...I feel extremely angry that I was unable to participate in a successful way. I also resent the manner in which the GOP chair blamed everyone else around him for this debacle. But maybe that was the plan all along. [116]

I am scheduled for surgery March 4 and will not recover in time for a March 5 GOP caucus. A mail in ballot would work well for people like me. The caucus system is not good for wide democratic participation. It works well for political extremists. [125]

Having a caucus vote made it so I couldn't vote. As **I have health issues and hardly leave home.** I have voted regularly until now. [78]

My husband was sick, which disenfranchised him. At the last minute I had to travel to get his medicine and barely made it back in time to participate.[42]

"I hope they never do this again. **My health condition made it impossible** to attend and your rules essentially eliminated my vote..." – Claudia B.

I for one dislike what they have done in Heber in doing voting by a ranking system. Then I find out basically at the last minute that we are not having a primary instead are doing a caucus. **That means a big change in how some one like me who can not travel due to cancer.** We have mostly used the regular voting for picking who we want to represent the people of Utah in presidential voting. **The caucus limited my ability to vote** and probably a lot of other people as well. Considering the questionable voting result elsewhere we want to be sure our votes are accurately counted, and the caucus system has at least affected me and I'm sure others throwing that little bit of questioning will the results be affected by this system. [166]

My husband had to be rushed from his root canal to vote... we barely made it...[14]

It a shame that you force people to a caucus that they have leave their homes. I was unable to vote. **I couldn't stand in those long lines with my health and had to go home.** The State of Utah has a system that works fine and is efficient, safe and secure and it is available to everyone that you should have use. It called mail in ballot. Why would you try to change something that works. It allows for the elderly to vote also which the system you are trying to incorporate doesn't allow. I suggest you really think about this and get your act together and make it easy for everyone to vote with a proven system that works...MAIL IN BALLOTS! [147]

VOTE SUPPRESSION

One person was a school teacher I know, she was grading students papers while attending. She wakes at 5am for work and had to leave to get sleep and prepare for the next day. Her late husband was a bishop and passed during the pandemic so she is the sole bread winner...During the check in at 6pm I witnessed 3 people told they couldn't vote...Great way to turn people away, obviously long time republican voters. So FIVE VOTERS at our small precinct disenfranchised because of this horribly organized process. How many other precincts did this happen at?...It feels like it was made difficult on purpose to keep people from voting. Why? [13]

I was extremely disappointed and confused by the whole caucus experience, I wasn't even able to vote. **I never thought I'd be the victim of voter suppression, but that's exactly how I feel.** Go back to the traditional primary voting! [68]

As a registered Utah Republican, I am very frustrated that the Utah Republican Party continues to rely on the caucus system. It's been shown several times to fail the Republican voters of Utah. The caucus delegates has chosen candidates that lose in the primary elections to those that the delegates did not elect...The only explanation I can find as to why the party leaders continue to rely on the caucus system is to gain **more control and influence over their self-interested agendas** rather than allowing the voters to decide the outcome of elections. This looks a lot like **voter suppression** from my viewpoint. [19]

My wife and I felt excluded from having our votes heard. **We needed to be out of town for family matters and couldn't participate.** In addition, being introverts, the crowds would stress us out. Please don't silence us! [62]

I would like answers as to why I am not getting a ballot this week? I am a registered Republican voter! MY VOTE MATTERS! why on earth would democrats and unaffiliated get ballots and not Republicans??? That's interesting. Why would the Republican Party not hold a presidential primary election for 2024??? What kind of stupidity is this???? **I would appreciate it if the Republican Party would use the brains they have and stop making decisions for the everyday citizen when they don't know how we feel.** [89]

Hate the situation. Total Chaos. Finally my wife and I just left. Go back to primaries so all can vote! **First time we couldn't vote for 53 years!!** [71]

"I believe the party deliberately disenfranchised many voters when they chose the caucuses. Not all people can physically get to the caucuses and the party wasn't clear about the process. It's way too lengthy for many of the elderly..." – John B.

It concerns me greatly that the Utah Republican party has canceled our states Presidential Primary and gone with a system much more restrictive to voters...I can't think of a good reason that benefits voters in making this decision...**Desiring less participation isn't a good look.** [35]

I hate caucus' and I really feel they should be banned. I want to choose my own candidates not two or three people choosing who they think would be good. That is taking voter's rights away...[27]

Why would the local Republican Party take away our right to vote. So .. we have to attend a MEETING? What are we afraid of? **We call foul play!** [91]

I'm a precinct chair - we did everything by the book for caucus night and it went well. I think everyone there was satisfied with how it was run. With that said, the website not working could have easily been foreseen. Secondly, we had about a 9% voter turn out. **Democracy is best when the most people turn out, not less.** Although cheaper, there is less confidence in the outcome of PPP polling than otherwise. Absentee balloting was a pain for many. And if we are honest with ourselves, the caucus system is not as convenient as dropping your ballot in the mail. **If I had my way, we would never do it again,** and just hold a standard primary election. Three people didn't bring an id and we had to deny voting- even though they had their registration. Three people who didn't get a chance to voice their preference because the system seems to exclude people, not include them. [122]

Hate the situation. Total Chaos. Finally my wife and I just left. Go back to primaries so all can vote! **First time we couldn't vote for 53 years!!** [71]

I'm extremely disappointed and appalled by the decision to cancel the republican presidential primary. Regardless of what the opinion on the outcome may or may not be, **this is voter suppression in its most blatant form...** [93]

Though I did not attend the caucus meeting on March 5th, because my husband and I were out of town, not having an option to vote early or heaven forbid having it mailed to me so I could mail it out was ridiculous!!!!

Remember Utah tax payers pay for this NOT the RNC. Stop the control of our American right to vote. [103]

Most horrible experience of my life! What a great way to disenfranchise so many loyal republicans from voting. Nobody I know had any idea that that ridiculous caucus would take the place of a primary to decide who we wanted to represent us as President. **There is no way that everybody who would have wanted to vote in the Primary could've possibly fit in our little room for our district.** PLEASE DO NOT EVER DO THAT TO US AGAIN! [51]

My husband who votes in every election without a caucus was taking care of my child last night. A friend was working in the ER as a nurse. Several elderly individuals at our precinct tried to register and were unable to, leaving before they could vote. How many concerned citizens left last night unable to park, register, or vote? [7]

PRIVACY & SECURITY

I am a very frustrated life-long registered Republican who feels like **the Caucus System of election is nothing more than a way to intimidate and bully voters** into supporting your preferred candidate. The only way I can have my voice heard is by going to a meeting where radical rightwing bullies will attempt to shout me down. What is wrong with just allowing me to vote in private without having to debate my position or preference? **The Caucus System is just a power grab!** [48]

They ask us to correct our voting information and then hand us a slip of paper for us to vote on. What ever was the republican party thinking? **I thought we were trying to prevent voting fraud.** Handing me a slip of paper to vote on is not a very secured way. No privacy whatsoever. The gentleman took my slip of paper. Looked at it and stuck it in a Ziploc bag. [22]

Voting should be as easy as possible while still maintaining the integrity of the voting system. The caucus on Tuesday did neither of those things. I could go on about other issues I had with the caucus, but I will leave it at that. **For a political party that pretends to be concerned about voting system integrity, the Utah GOP took a huge step back by going the caucus route.** It felt very illegitimate, and I know I am one of many people who came to vote and left without being able to vote. [108]

I am a proud Republican. I also am **the IT Director for Utah County government** and play an important role in supporting election officials in Utah County for the last several years and **have firsthand knowledge of what it takes to professionally process ballots.** I was very disappointed in the Utah GOP decision to have a presidential preference caucus instead of a formal primary **which would have leveraged our experienced professionals and systems which I believe are the best in the country.** However, my disappointment turned to embarrassment with the lack of organization and professionalism at my caucus location at Orem High School.

The voting was on slips of paper, and there were no controls or chain-of-custody on these votes, yet they were binding for choosing a candidate. They ran out of slips by the time my wife was able to vote, so they handed her a scrap of paper to write in her vote and it was initialed by a volunteer before being given to our precinct chair. **To me this is open to fraud** and has no way to show who I cast a vote for. [150]

I am very concerned about how the voting process went. **I've been concerned about voter fraud and then here we were voting on little tiny pieces of paper and putting them in a Ziplock bag.** I did not feel safe with my vote. I would prefer there being something with electronic voting or something more secure because this did not feel secure at all...[31]

"It was an absolute disaster! People were not registered, many could not attend because of small children, they sat in a corner and hand counted votes. That is not secure! Go back to mail in ballots. There is no way this Tuesday disaster was more secure or accurate. **Absolute mockery of the political process....**" – Denise S.

The irony was not lost on me that so many in our party believe in **election fraud**, but this was the one time I have ever felt that I could not trust my vote to be accounted for properly. [6]

We then conducted the votes and collected the presidential preference ballots in a shoebox, which another volunteer and I counted at the back of the room. **What a ridiculous, antiquated, unsecure, and human-error prone process** in this time of high-tech options! These concerns create a highlack of confidence for this chaotic system, as well as a much lower representation and narrower demographic of eligible voters. Our district has 590 registered Republicans. We had 28 attendees at our district caucus meeting making it a* 4.7% turnout*. This is not acceptable for an election as important as the presidential primary! We feel every Utah citizen deserves the right to a primary election for all national and statewide elections and this should be put into law by our state legislature. [100]

Utah has a tried-and-true election system, and our mail in ballots have proven to be very secure. **The Party gives lip service to wanting citizens to have a voice in our government while using a voting method that is a roadblock to participation.** [110]

I was told it was a presidential poll, (a survey) not an official primary election. I was given a slip of paper with three names on it. There was NO official ballot! There was no privacy offered for voting. **We sat at a table with other voters peering over our shoulders.** The papers were put into a small plastic open box. I found out the next day that it was the official primary vote...I have been voting for 60 years and I have never attended such a fiasco! [28]

It's way past time to replace our antiquated caucus system with a primary. We live in a world of computers, secure websites and even artificial intelligence. But Utah Republicans prefer to use little slips of paper for voting with hand counting. **I'm sure this was a good solution in the 1800's, but why are we still using it?** [103]

All that just to get handed a slip of paper and no pen (had to color the bubble in with someone else's sharpie) and vote **in front of a group of strangers with zero privacy**, and no way to determine that the votes were unique. There was nowhere to even sign my name and I was given the paper without having to prove the wristband was even mine - **so much for your security.** And then we were told to put the papers on a table where everyone was walking by in a sad, crumpled pile.

And the republicans claim to be so concerned about election integrity... my god. [142]

OTHER COMMENTS

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I want to provide you some feedback on last night's caucus meeting. As a **precinct chair** I received a good deal of feedback from many members of our party. The overwhelming opinion of old and young alike were strong feelings of **being manipulated by the party to be forced to participate in the caucus process** just to be able to submit a vote for their preferred presidential candidate. Many registered, voiced their complaint, voted, and then left.

I didn't receive a single comment supporting this approach. Our turn out was, as expected, greater than prior meetings. We had planned for such an increase and were prepared with 1 volunteer checking people in for every 25 participants, as instructed. The computer-based approach was largely non-functional and to alleviate wait times at the door we reverted to the paper registration method. Otherwise we would not have been able to start before 7:30pm.

Many loyal Republicans felt **this process disenfranchised them and their neighbors**. The absentee process is overly burdensome on those not tech savvy or tech able. The instructions provided were confusing.

My volunteers showed up hours in advance and practiced and were prepared. I found your comments in the media highly offensive and disrespectful to the hundreds of committed community servants who gave of their time freely to perform their civic duty.

Honestly, I **think they all deserve a public apology** for your comments suggesting the cumbersome and taxing process was the fault of the volunteers when in reality the process is in itself cumbersome and difficult.

I appreciate those who serve in positions such as yours but **your comments were inappropriate and self-serving**. You're better than that and we all deserved better than your public commentary. [188]

To the GOP Chairman:

We are more than disappointed with the ridiculous caucus process decided on by the GOP this year. Thanks to the confusion and complete lack of professionalism our vote/choice (whatever you want to call it) wasn't allowed to be heard. We couldn't even vote! What a complete frustration and waste of time!!! **Someone needs to be held accountable for this mess** that robbed thousands of people of their right to vote!

Mail in voting has worked for years. It's safe and effective. It's simple and doesn't waste time! I don't need to talk to my neighbors about who I'm voting for! I know who I want to vote for!! It should be a private and secure process!! You should be able to tell by the low turn out this year at caucus that it was a disaster! **I hope the Republican Party never ever tries this stupid caucus idea again!** Mail in or in person voting run by professionals is the only way to go.

How ironic that so many in the Republican Party worry about elections not being secure, and yet this stupid caucus process was absolutely the most insecure voting process we have ever seen! How many votes didn't get counted?? Or were counted for the wrong person?? Do you even know?? There needs to be an independent audit!!

You robbed a lot of people of the ability to vote during this very important primary. That is not right. **You've added to the distrust and frustration** so many people have right now towards our political process, and towards the government as a whole.

We deserve better as Utahans!! [160]

OTHER COMMENTS

What is this state and political party doing? **I brought my 93-year-old father with me to vote. He is a retired US house of representative member and served for 18 years in Washington DC.** He said he never ha seen anything like this before in his 50+ year political career. I have never been so embarrassed, and disappointed in being a Republican. [22]

Last night however was **more excruciating than enthralling, more appalling than appealing** - so much so in fact- that my wife is questioning whether she wants to ever go back to our neighborhood caucus again! [20]

I am a lifelong Republican (75 yoa). So was my father who was chairman of the Clay County AL Republican party and was instrumental in bringing GOP dominance to AL in the George Wallace era. **BUT I am disgusted with the Utah caucus system.** I thought we had finally moved beyond that BS when we instituted the dual primary/caucus nominating system, now you have gone back the CORRUPT caucus only system. [50]

Why aren't we holding a primary election this year? Why do I not get a chance to vote for the republican presidential candidate? You guys want to hold a caucus instead? What is that? I am not able to attend a caucus! Many of us cannot. This is not democratic! We should be able to vote for our nominee. I do not want a bunch of ultra conservative nut jobs choosing the candidate! **Utah should choose who the majority wants, not who the nut jobs want.** [53]

Just wanted to let you know that the so-called caucus this past Tuesday was about **the most amateur unprofessional thing I've ever seen.** The data base doesn't work on the most important night of the season? My voter number was right there and it still didn't work? We voted on a little piece of paper? Too bad we didn't have crayons to mark it with. People without phones who couldn't even scan the code so they got frustrated and left. You can put lipstick on a pig but it's still a pig! [49]

Is the party more important than the people who want to have a say in their government? Please stop acting like it is. [50]

OTHER COMMENTS

Electing the president at caucus was corrupt as hell! I'm sure other people would feel the same way. You need to stick with the primary election...Caucus was absolutely horrific this year. **It was a disgusting display of mediocrity!** [62]

If this is a government of the people, by the people, then the people should have a carefree opportunity to express their opinion. This caucus was a mess ! Not allowing so many to vote , become so frustrated that they may never want to participate again, is so wrong. The GOP must do better! Just have a primary vote! [62]

"I was very unsatisfied. I went to the health department to vote, only to find that there was no voting. I had a class during the caucus meeting time, so I couldn't vote. That was frustrating to me...." – Ruth L.

It is sad that the Democrats are smarter than the Republicans. I am offended that my right to vote in a primary election is not an options. We need to always our right to vote in any election. I want my voice heard and counted. [68]

"I was unsatisfied because I wasn't able to participate without attending a caucus. I'm a busy college student and I want my voice to matter whether or not I'm available on a specific evening..." – Eliza F.

"I wasn't able to vote because I was out of town. The most stupid way to vote! Hold a Primary election instead of at a caucus!..." – Camille T.

I will never subject myself to such a waste of time as the last caucus meeting again. NEVER substitute a primary election with a preference poll! **What a slap in the face.** [73]

"Not everyone can make it to caucus. With the primary voting I was able to vote when I had time. I feel like I was cheated out of voting this year..." – Jared J.

This process was a goat rope! Below poor -- embarrassing - no communication - **a circular firing squad in action?** [77]

"Your disenfranchisement of so many voters by having a one-night disorganized caucus is a bad as Jim Crow laws. What a joke for the purpose of keeping power in hands of a few. D&C 121:39 should be read for your self-righteous persons that call yourself Christian. Worst experience of my lifetime in a primary..." – Kevin S.

The preference vote was just plain stupid. Let me have a real vote. If it's not going to count why do it! [116]

I just couldn't believe I was in a place with so many losers. [82]

What a fiasco. **You want my rating on my experience at the caucus? A ZERO. I give you a zero.** I will never again go to a caucus. Its an antiquated method of choosing candidates, unless you want to restrict it to your selected ones. Inconsistent meeting management. Allowing proxy votes by people not even there (by cell phone). Allowing nominations for people not there. If you are going to restrict it to a worthless caucus then at least be consistent in your rules. [115]

I had brought my teenage daughter to volunteer and introduce her to voting and democracy. She was thrust at a table, in charge of helping people find their precincts and room numbers and guess what? Hundreds of people were lined up at her table, frustrated with my poor 14-year-old, who had no idea what she was doing and was only trying to help. **She left in tears.** [15]

Rob, it's decisions like the one by your committee to cancel the GOP Primary that places more distrust in the State GOP and the GOP Support continues to decline. Reinstate the primary. GOP Support will eventually falter. **The state GOP is, in my opinion, becoming a bunch tyrannical cronies!** [64]

A very bad experience. **Not the Party I have been apart off for 65 years.** Very disappointed. [75]

"...your caucus system has become a mechanism for extreme polarization. Welcome to Germany of the 1930s..." – Gregory F.

DEMOCRACY

The mission of the Utah GOP states that the party affirm[s] the infinite worth of all individuals, and seek[s] the best possible quality of life for all. They invite all citizens to join [them] in working together for a better Utah. If this is truly the mission of our party, then it is our duty to give all the opportunity to make their voices heard...[7]

After the meeting, most people, in private conversations, voiced their disapproval that the Primary Election had been eliminated and that we were only offered a Presidential Preference Poll. None of us recalled ever turning over our right to cast a ballot in an election...and none of us want to see this happen ever again. Trust me, no one in our caucus meeting was happy about this decision. [8]

This was the biggest mess and, in my opinion, **a violation of Americans right to vote!** Limiting the window to 2 hours and in centralized locations was a circus... [26]

The elimination of primary voting by **the Republican Party is certainly a move to the Leftist ideology of the Democrat party.** The optics of this show a gradual acceptance of dictatorship, true or not perception is a powerful thing. Whoever thought this was a good idea should have their cognitive abilities evaluated. This certainly is an anti- democratic view and certainly does not promote the idea of representative government. [49]

One of the primary reasons I have heard for holding a caucus instead of a primary is that it saved the taxpayers money. While I always appreciate government thrift, I would argue that **if there is a *single* thing that democracies should spend money on, it would be ELECTIONS.** [24]

My vote should count. **The constitution Gives me that right not the Republican Party.** You are a joke you just want control. [60]

How arrogant and narcissistic that the decision was made for us that we didn't need a Presidential Primary. That is our right as citizens of this country. To arbitrarily decide it is unnecessary with no consultation or public meetings or hearings is **truly an ego driven decision.** [55]

I am seriously disturbed that the Republican Party leaders in Utah have decided to hold caucuses rather than a Primary election opportunity in Utah in a crucial election cycle. I feel that you are depriving registered voters of their normal options to cast their votes at times and in ways that are convenient for all. It is impossible for all Republicans in Utah to attend caucuses in their assigned areas on one date and at one time only; do you realize this? **It boggles the mind that you would decide to disenfranchise so many in this way.** [26]

I want a Republican primary! What has happened to my Republican party? I want a primary election - EVERY time there is an election. You are suppressing my vote my canceling our Primary election. Please don't do that; I want to maintain our democracy! **Can we not afford to have a Primary - isn't it the State of Utah that pays for elections?** [51]

I am not okay with Utah's Republican leadership deciding whether I can vote in a primary or not. This decision disenfranchises SO many voters. My elderly parents would not have been able to attend. They never missed an opportunity to vote! When issues due to age prevented them from getting out, they voted by mail. **It's a sad day when the elderly, single moms/dads, and all those people who have to work cannot participate in the voting process.** Yes, I know that we are allowed to send a paper with someone else, but it's not the same...What is this state's party afraid of? It's embarrassing...[37]

Why does the party believe it can subvert Democracy and the right to vote. The party making decisions subverting voters is concerning. Elections have in fact been tampered with, but it's by the extremity of party leadership believing their views and decisions count more than the voters. **It's time to hold the party leadership accountable** it seems. Do better moving forward, as no one wins in division and extreme politics. [54]

DEMOCRACY

So un-American and goes against all of the foundational principles of the Republican party. Please reconsider this craziness. **Democracy and our right to vote is fundamental.** It looks desperate and eats away at republican voters' confidence in our leaders. [61]

Voting is a right in the United States that has been fought and died for and to be excluded from such is beyond reprehensible. So my question to you is how is this even allowed? **Respectfully but thoroughly pissed off!** [129]

I am so angry about the lack of courage the GOP shows by thwarting democracy in canceling a primary. I switched my voter registration. You should all feel ashamed that you promote anger and hatred and bow to the most base people in the Republican party. [66]

As a longtime member of the Republican party, I am appalled at what you passed in August. This was a very important presidential primary election, and **what you did is nothing short of unethical and certainly borderline unconstitutional.** [176]

How dare you cancel the primary in Utah!!! This goes against everything our democracy stands for. I am a long time Republican who detests Trump and would choose to vote for Nicki Haley. **You should lose your position.** [67]

The choice to do a preference poll was completely unconstitutional. The people's vote was not represented. In fact, the people's vote was purposefully excluded. [71]

The Republican caucus is anti-democratic. Allows party cronies to rule. The lengthy waits makes Utah a the new electoral national laughingstock...[69]

“Communism! Seems to me that the Democrats want no one else to vote! The republicans have turned into a bunch of pansies! **What ever happened to standing up for the Constitution of the United States?** My father served as a Tank commander for twenty-one years WWII, Korea and Nam! This is pathetic. Why is no one standing up for this country...” – Ed B.

There's only one reason to hold a caucus instead of a primary and that is so the party leaders can control the results, **similar to the Communist central committee in Russia.** Get rid of caucus system. [111]

We all know that a caucus is designed to specifically exclude most of the eligible voters. **For a group that claims to value democratic values I hope we do better next time.** [110]

“Words can not express how disappointing the caucus was...**The caucus is antidemocratic.** By putting up unnecessary barriers to inclusion of all registered Republicans and wasting everyone's time and money you discourage people from voting...” – Gregory F.

Why would our **constitutional right to vote** in a primary election be taken away from us just because we're Republicans? [76]

I am very disappointed in the decision not to hold a primary. **It seems calculated to stack the deck in favor of party elites and activists** to the detriment of the rank and file. Shame on you. [177]

I am very angry and upset that you have just autocratically made this decision to make it more difficult to participate in our constitutionally protected process to vote in elections. **This is the WORST idea this party has ever had.** There is no way this caucus is going to be broadly representative of the Utah Republican party, and I sincerely hope that you revert back to holding a primary election so that all people have a better opportunity to participate in our primary elections. [113]

LEADERSHIP

Whoever thought this system was a good idea needs to be fired. [22]

After arriving home and turning on the channel 5 news, they were interviewing the head honcho of the Utah State Republican Party trying to explain why there was so much trouble; But **he seemed to trivialize the reasons for it**, which made me REALLY MAD. [6]

Tuesday NIGHT WAS A TOTAL DISGRACE TO THE PARTY AND TO UTAH...[17]

The people choose our leaders. **I will no longer support anyone who created this pathetic mess.** You will not get my vote, that is if we actually get to vote on it! It feels like that is what the party wants, backroom deals without real voters ruining the deals! [13]

I'm calling you out for your clear desire to disenfranchise 90% of the Republican voters with this outdated and antiquated caucus. Many of them would have loved to have voted for the next Presidential nominee of the Republican Party, but you ensured that they didn't have a voice. When Democrats say that Republicans suppress votes and try to disenfranchise voters, they are 100% correct based on what I saw on Super Tuesday. **It's shameful and embarrassing.** I thought we were better than that, but you have demonstrated that clearly we are not. And that is entirely on you and your lack of leadership. [16]

I just saw you on TV with KSL saying it ran smoothly in most locations and you are so very wrong, as it was a mess...I couldn't believe how bad my voting experience was and I think you should reconsider your comments. **You should have been apologizing to all those of us** who stood in cold wind and weather for as we tried to cast our ballot. [29]

...what a mockery of our democratic system. Whoever devised these caucuses should be ashamed and should step away from these responsibilities. [7]

I was very disappointed that you took no responsibility for the botched caucus. You placed all of the blame on the participants we were too dumb to do it right, or some volunteers failed to show up. But it was your system and your responsibility to plan for contingencies; you didn't do that...This massive failure could not have come as a surprise to you...Seriously, it appears to me that the caucus is used to restrict voter's participation...Leadership appears to favor the caucus as a means of retaining their prominence in the Republican Party. I think that you should take full responsibility for the failed caucus, **apologize and resign like a man**, not hide behind lame excuses. [29]

I was extremely disappointed in the Utah GOP leadership holding another caucus and non-binding preference poll. It showed just how out of touch the Republican leadership in Utah is with the members. We had 55 people attend the caucus in my precinct which was one half of one percent of the registered voters. But that is exactly what the Utah GOP leadership wanted. **The party is dominated by a few people who think they are better informed than the general voter...**I will do everything in my power to remove the current party leadership starting with you Rob Axson. The performance you gave on television the night of the caucus was absolutely appalling. **Your remarks were arrogant** and showed your total disregard for the truth and government by the people for the people. I was thoroughly embarrassed to call myself a Republican. Biden is more believable than you. [14]

The outcome of our election is, frankly, one that could be sued. You could be sued over such negligence. I worried I would be sued for just being there and trying to help. I nervously looked around for press or reporters, knowing if anyone saw what was happening, we would be the laughingstock of the nation. You talk about election fraud? Last night I saw an election that means nothing because it was so inaccurate you couldn't call it a fair election. **I ask you to resign** and allow us to find people who will lead with grit and integrity and organization. [15]

Congratulations! You have now presided over one of the biggest cluster-f**ks I have ever had the privilege of attending. **The Utah GOP obsession with the caucus system has once again turned the simple task of picking a nominee into a bad joke...**[30]

LEADERSHIP

"I rate it a 0. This was a total fiasco and very discriminating against senior citizens. The process was confusing and totally took away our right to vote. I'm not sure Trump would have carried Utah had the seniors been allowed to participate. I'm so mad at the Utah Republican Party over this scam I'm switching to Independent. **That Rob Axson should be fired immediately....**" – Richard J.

This was the worst primary ever. I waited and never got to cast my vote. **Not sure that I am interested in Republican Party any longer if you do not even allow a person to vote.** I have been a Republican 40 years, but your ideology has changed to the extreme far right. 9% voter turnout is pathetic. You may have got Trump elected but lost my vote due to your interference in allowing me to vote. [58]

I ask you and your team to resign! So sick of Republican reps blowing it again and again and again. This decision was so bad I think it was on purpose to screw up the primary...Just saying, the party blew it on an epic level for what should have been the easiest primary in recent Utah history. If you are not even thinking of resigning, or even had that thought cross your mind, **you should be ashamed. Anyone else in the private sector would be kickin' rocks in the unemployment line...**Epic mistake! [32]

I tried to use the QR code provided to register multiple times but couldn't get it to go through. I finally left frustrated and angry. Then I watched your response on the news and became even more upset. You seemed to think that even though thousands didn't get to vote, the process worked and was successful. In America, every adult citizen has the right to vote...but that did not happen. It was a fail and you need to own it and fix it. **You owe those of us who did not get to vote and apology, not an excuse.** You need to find a way for our voices to be heard...**You should be embarrassed and ashamed** you had a job to do and you failed. I could forgive the failure of you owned it and showed some sort of concern for those who are upset but instead you made us feel like it was our fault and that you did nothing wrong, that you were successful...In the meantime I am left wondering how what happened to me is any different than what happens in places like Russia...[88]

Still waiting for an official reply from you and the Republican party. Why was I and several of my friends and neighbors prevented from casting a vote on Tuesday? I am a registered Republican with a registration card and legal Utah ID. You and your party denied me and legitimate voters our right to vote! And you are the party complaining about fraudulence in the American electoral system? Ha! What a joke, what an embarrassment...**You should be ashamed and fired.** Headline: Utah Republicans Conduct a Fake Caucus. [40]

Rob,
This plan disenfranchised my right to vote for my favorite candidate ever. **Whether this rises to a level of violating my civil rights or not is for lawyers to decide,** but in the meantime, you should resign immediately for this. [69]

Mr. Axson, we've heard you on news reports indicate you learned lessons from this process for future improvement. **We do not need to "learn lessons" on how to improve the caucus system** - we just need to utilize the inclusive, accessible, secure primary election system we already have available. [100]

Unless there's context for which I'm unaware, the cancellation of the primary is outrageous and an affront to my right to support and select the Republican candidate of MY choice. Reverse this decision immediately! **You have no right to marginalize Utah Republicans this way.** [62]

LEADERSHIP

"I think the decision not to do a real Primary is unconscionable. I have been a lifelong GOP member and have never felt so alienated by the party that purports to represent me..." – Teresa A.

I am writing to petition for my God-given, American right to vote in a Republican presidential primary. The cancellation of our Republican Primary is one of the **most un-American decisions that the Utah GOP has made** in a LONG time. I would expect this from big-government Democrats but not the GOP. Please live up to your commitment and allow Republicans to vote. **This is Utah, not Afghanistan.** I shouldn't even have to write this letter. Shame on every individual that made this decision. [138]

I just received a text to rate the satisfaction of the caucus experience. It was on a scale of 1-5 - too bad one was the lowest - **it really rated a negative number.** [139]

The caucus couldn't have been more TERRIBLE!!!! Unbelievable you and your group did such a Terrible job! **Is this sabotage by the Democrats or you?** Are you really a Republican? It doesn't seem so. I've been a registered Republican for over 40 years and your registration form says I'm unaffiliated ? [167]

Yes, I have a problem with the Utah Republican party choosing to only allow those who can attend the caucus meeting to be the ones who decide what Republican candidate is put forward. Everyone should have a problem with this process. **We talk about a stolen election, and this is what we do instead?** (no election). This is a shame. This is discussing. I've never heard of a more self-serving process in the United States. Please tell me when the caucus meeting is and where. I'll do everything I can to attend, but I'm furious that this was even considered. **You are not servants of the people. Your thieves in the night.** [166]

"The caucus system as run by party insiders is designed to take away my vote. Those in power fear a vote because their agendas are at risk. The caucus system is designed to protect their power. We need a fair primary...." – Mark R.

The **knucklehead extremists** in the Republican Party continue to restrict the People's Right to vote. This is harmful, misguided and unnecessary. [144]

Dear Sir, as a registered republican, the fact that there will be no Rep Primary held for 2024 is **a violation of my civil right** to cast my vote as I see fit! I am furious about this. [140]

"The caucus system used by the State Republican Party was a disaster...This is just the latest example of the old boys network of elitism that has existed in the Utah State Republican Party for quite some time..." – John H.

For all the talk about protecting the constitution and personal freedoms, you have removed my freedom to choose for myself whom I feel is the best republican candidate. **This smells strongly of corrupt politics** and makes me think that my party is nothing but a bunch of liars saying one thing and doing the opposite. [161]

For the process to go so poorly with only a 10% turnout is unacceptable. **To hear party loyalists pat themselves on the back for having a great caucus is disheartening to me.** How can people be patting themselves on the back when so many were disenfranchised? [142]

Tuesday's caucus was a fiasco...yet when you appeared the next day on KSL news, you reported that there were a few minor glitches, but the caucus mostly went well. That assessment is absurd. Hundreds in our party were disenfranchised, and most of us were grossly inconvenienced. Again, news outlets reported that voter participation Tuesday was about 8.5%, only about a third of the participation we had the last time we held a primary election instead of a caucus. Mostly went well? When does a severe spin cross the line into an outright lie?

...Who are you to decide what is worthwhile for me, or any of us? How worthwhile is it when I have to wait out in the cold for an hour and end up returning home without voting?

It seems to me that your thinly disguised agenda is to foster a system that favors the most passionate, right-leaning members of our party, while inconveniencing (and sometimes disenfranchising) most of the rest of us. [193]

"I am embarrassed to be a Utah Republican. First, the caucus seemed designed to limit participation. I can't think of any reason other than that to do a caucus instead of a normal voting election....**It could have been worse, I guess, if a helicopter crashed into a caucus building.** But other than that, this caucus was as bad as it gets..." – John B.

LEADERSHIP

I'm disgusted with the caucus presidential poll idea. It was a terrible idea, very confusing, and outright dishonest. 10% turnout, and you call that a good turnout. **You sir (Rob) need to resign from any position of authority.** I didn't know anything of you before a couple days ago, but now you have lost all respect from me and anyone I associate with. Please resign. [117]

Absolutely a distraction and a mess. Pre-register - who the hell had that idea? What ever happened to "keep it simple stupid"? **Head of the Utah GOP do us a favor and resign.** You could not it a bull in the butt with a frying pan. [104]

"Whoever came up with that idea is a moron..." – Elizabeth F.

I am unbelievably disappointed in my party. **Please respect the working people and value their time more than a hidden agenda!** [35]

It Is My Constitutional RIGHT To Vote, If I Am Not To Have A Valid Ballot In Order To Vote Then **Those Who Have Decided This For Me Are TRAITORS To This Country And Should Be Executed For TREASON!!!!!!!!!!!!!!** [104]

I am utterly ashamed of the Utah Republican party for it's abject incompetence in handling the **"caucus", aka, voter suppression plan.** You could have at least tried to make it look like the GOP was trying to have input from Republicans. Instead, it was very clear that the whole fiasco was planned from the beginning. You pretend that the caucus is a great way to get the people involved. **The truth is, and you know it, it's a great way to keep GOP power in the hands of the very few party leaders that pat themselves on the back every day while they obstruct the people from having a say** in the "elitist" party. Today's GOP disgusts me. The part of Lincoln and Reagan has turned it into an embarrassing clown car. [106]

Mr. Axson, ...you took away my chance to vote! As you can imagine I do not like that. I find it totally unacceptable. Hear these words CLEARLY! If you or the Republican party take away my right to vote again **there will be legal action taken against all involved.** Clean up your act, sir. A good start might be for you to resign as Chair. [102]

We see our rights eroded day after day, and **for our own party to decide to remove the right to vote in a primary is disheartening.** [57]

My biggest problem about a caucus is the lack of community being represented. **I heard you on KSL and you were in total denial.** 16,000 people live in Centerville And I don't think even 2,000 people showed up at Farmington high school. Even double that is a shame. Republican Party is a little wacky this year and it's not just me. [117]

For the past three years I have watched my fellow republicans disparage the election system and the thousands of county clerks who run those elections at a local level. It is clear that the 2020 election was generally carried out across this county by our county clerks in a relatively normal manner. It is also clear that our **Utah Republican Party now has egg on the face and is deeply hypocritical after botching what should have been a simple primary vote last Tuesday.** What an embarrassment! Utah's Republican Party should be leading by example, not wallowing in the mire of lies, corruption and extreme paranoia that has become so prevalent recently. [137]

I have heard several comments by GOP leadership today that there were larger crowds than anticipated. I find this ironic **you were doing caucus meetings hoping to engage more people but then are shocked when they show up!!!** I will never attend a caucus again. [127]

I just received a text to rate the satisfaction of the caucus experience. It was on a scale of 1-5 - too bad one was the lowest - **it really rated a negative number.** [139]

CANCELING the primary election is BULLSHIT!! Whomever made this choice should resign immediately! [58]

Class action lawsuits on the way!!! [145]

IGNORANCE

“Rob, the people participating in the caucus **are the ones that care about the politics**. If we went to a primary system, the media would take over and flood the airways with adds, likely improperly influencing people. I like the system the way it is.” [153]



IGNORANCE

**“Democracy doesn’t work
because it is too easily
manipulated by the rich...”**

– Stafford Palmieri, Utah Republican Party Secretary



THANK YOU

Daryl Acumen

Draper Data Services

