

## **Utah voters support military involvement against ISIS**

What level of military response do Utah voters think is appropriate to meet the threat of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria? The KBYU-Utah Colleges Exit Poll put this question to Utah voters and found strong support for some military response but much more limited support for using ground troops as part of the response.

“Given the war fatigue many American’s are feeling, this less aggressive response is understandable,” said David Magleby the professor whose class conducted the poll.

When asked how the United States should deal with ISIS presence in Iraq and Syria, most Utah voters said they support some level of U.S. military involvement against the terrorist group. The Utah Colleges Exit Poll found that 60 percent of Utah voters support at least air strikes against ISIS. Of those who support at least air strikes, 50 percent said that they supported troops engaging in combat in addition to the air strikes.

Voters did not express a majority overall preference for the way that they prefer that the United States deal with ISIS presence in Iraq, but the highest percentages of voters support either air strikes alone, with 29 percent of voters supporting this course of action, or air strikes combined with troops engaged in combat, with 29 percent of voters also supporting that action.

This comes as a surprise to Joshua Cooper, a student in the Utah Colleges Exit Poll class at Brigham Young University.

“Based on national sentiment and also on my own experience, I thought war fatigue would have caused the level of support for military action against ISIS to be drastically lower,” he said. “Among Utah voters, it appears that they do want U.S. military action against ISIS.”

Only 9 percent of Utah voters indicated that they would support no U.S. involvement against ISIS, while 10 percent support military advisors and 8% favor arming groups to fight against ISIS.

Table.

When dealing with ISIS presence in Iraq and Syria, which of the following plans of action for the U.S. do you approve? (Select one)

	Percentage
Troops engaged in combat and air strikes	29.4
Strategic air strikes only	29.5
Sending military advisors for training opposition forces	12.3
Arming groups fighting against ISIS	8.0
No involvement	7.9
Don't know	12.9