



Colonel Bud Day Center for Civic Engagement

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Morningside Poll 2020: Results Overview

In January 2020, the Colonel Bud Day Center for Civic Engagement released results of its third annual Morningside Poll. This poll measured the attitudes of Iowa residents on a variety of public policy issues and on the performance of the state’s legislative and executive branches. This report outlines the key elements of the poll and its results.¹

Key Elements of the Poll

- Total respondents: 864 Iowa adults
- Sampling margin of error (MOE): ± 3.3 percentage points (95% confidence level)
- Survey type: 405 landline, 459 cell phone computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATI)

Survey Results by Policy Question

What do you think is the most important problem facing the United States today?²

Problem	Percent of Total Responses
Government/Elected Officials	15
Partisan Divisions/Political Incivility	13
Economy	10
Healthcare	9
International Relations/Foreign Policy	9
Climate Change/Environment	8
Immigration	8
Societal Changes/Social Values	4
Budget/Deficit	4
Gun Policy/Violence	2
Poverty/Homelessness	1
Abortion/Reproductive Rights	1
Taxes	1
Education	1
Media	1
Other Issues	5
Don't Know/Refused	8

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

¹ Please see the “Morningside Poll 2020: Data & Methods” report for additional methodological and sampling details.

² This question was posed to respondents as an open-ended question. Answer categories (e.g. “Healthcare”) that received less than 1% of the total responses were grouped as “Other Issues.”

What do you think is the most important problem facing the state of Iowa today?³

Problem	Percent of Total Responses
Economy	16
Agricultural Issues/Policy	11
Healthcare	10
Education	6
Climate Change/Environment	5
Infrastructure	5
Partisan Divisions/Political Incivility	4
Mental Illness	3
Societal Changes/Social Values	3
Taxes	2
Budget/Deficit	2
Poverty/Homelessness	1
Abortion/Reproductive Rights	1
Immigration	1
Marijuana Policy	1
Drug Usage	1
Other issues	9
Don't Know/Refused	19

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

How would you rate Iowa in regards to the amount of funding allocated to K-12 education?

		Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	DK/Ref
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
All Respondents		16	34	29	10	4	7
Registered Voters		17	33	28	11	5	7
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		19	37	26	10	4	5
Party Identification ⁴	Democrat	24	43	23	7	1	3
	Republican	8	25	36	15	7	9
	No Party	22	37	20	6	5	11
	Something else	12	31	31	9	5	12
Gender	Women	18	38	27	8	3	7
	Men	14	30	31	13	6	8
Age	18 to 29	17	41	33	3	2	5
	30 to 49	16	33	29	6	7	9
	50 to 64	17	31	28	11	6	6
	65 or older	14	35	29	12	2	8
Education	Not college graduate	15	34	30	10	4	8
	College graduate	17	35	27	10	5	6
Race	White	15	35	29	10	4	7
	Non-white	21	26	22	14	9	9

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

³ This question was posed to respondents as an open-ended question. Answer categories (e.g. “Healthcare”) that received less than 1% of the total responses were grouped as “Other Issues.”

⁴ Partisan identification of “Democrat” includes respondents who identify as Democrats and Democratic leaning and “Republican” includes those who identify as Republican and Republican leaning.

To what extent do you disagree or agree with giving the parents of K-12 students in Iowa the option to use public funding for private schooling?

		Strongly Disagree Row %	Disagree Row %	Neither Disagree or Agree Row %	Agree Row %	Strongly Agree Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		22	27	14	23	12	3
Registered Voters		25	27	14	22	11	3
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		24	27	11	25	11	2
Party Identification	Democrat	34	31	11	18	3	3
	Republican	12	25	14	29	17	3
	No Party	25	28	16	15	13	4
	Something else	14	23	18	24	19	2
Gender	Women	22	30	17	20	8	4
	Men	22	25	10	26	15	3
Age	18 to 29	14	41	19	19	6	2
	30 to 49	25	27	14	19	14	1
	50 to 64	23	21	16	26	12	2
	65 or older	20	30	11	23	12	5
Education	Not college graduate	18	30	14	24	10	4
	College graduate	27	23	14	21	14	1
Race	White	22	28	14	22	11	3
	Non-white	16	22	7	33	17	5

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

How would you rate Iowa in regards to the quality of women's healthcare resources?

		Poor Row %	Fair Row %	Good Row %	Very Good Row %	Excellent Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		14	25	32	16	7	8
Registered Voters		15	25	30	16	7	7
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		18	28	30	14	5	6
Party Identification	Democrat	23	35	28	9	2	3
	Republican	4	15	35	27	11	8
	No Party	19	30	28	6	2	16
	Something else	14	20	37	11	8	10
Gender	Women	14	27	34	16	7	3
	Men	14	23	30	15	7	12
Age	18 to 29	14	39	20	8	5	14
	30 to 49	11	31	29	14	8	8
	50 to 64	16	23	30	18	8	5
	65 or older	13	21	35	17	5	9
Education	Not college graduate	14	23	34	16	7	8
	College graduate	14	28	28	16	6	8
Race	White	14	25	32	16	6	7
	Non-white	17	28	22	12	9	12

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

**How satisfied are you with how Iowa farmers are currently represented
in international trade relations?**

		Completely Dissatisfied Row %	Mostly Dissatisfied Row %	Mixed Row %	Mostly Satisfied Row %	Completely Satisfied Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		9	19	25	30	9	9
Registered Voters		9	19	25	30	8	9
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		11	24	26	25	7	8
Party Identification	Democrat	16	34	28	14	2	6
	Republican	2	8	20	47	15	8
	No Party	8	22	32	21	4	13
	Something else	11	16	27	24	9	12
Gender	Women	7	21	31	23	6	11
	Men	10	18	19	36	11	6
Age	18 to 29	6	6	59	17	5	6
	30 to 49	8	16	27	31	7	12
	50 to 64	11	20	20	30	12	7
	65 or older	8	23	23	30	7	9
Education	Not college graduate	7	18	26	29	9	10
	College graduate	10	21	25	30	7	7
Race	White	8	21	26	30	8	7
	Non-white	14	9	24	19	14	21

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Do you oppose or favor legalizing the recreational use of marijuana in the state of Iowa?

		Oppose Row %	Favor Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		50	42	8
Registered Voters		55	37	8
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		49	44	8
Party Identification	Democrat	33	56	11
	Republican	68	27	5
	No Party	43	48	9
	Something else	50	40	10
Gender	Women	52	37	10
	Men	48	46	6
Age	18 to 29	27	67	6
	30 to 49	35	57	8
	50 to 64	51	42	7
	65 or older	59	31	10
Education	Not college graduate	48	44	8
	College graduate	53	39	9
Race	White	50	41	8
	Non-white	43	50	7

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Do you oppose or favor Medicare-for-all, which is a healthcare plan that would create a national health insurance program for all citizens and replace private health insurance?

		Oppose Row %	Favor Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		60	35	5
Registered Voters		66	30	5
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		56	39	6
Party Identification	Democrat	38	55	7
	Republican	86	11	3
	No Party	41	53	6
	Something else	64	32	5
Gender	Women	53	42	6
	Men	66	29	5
Age	18 to 29	42	52	6
	30 to 49	52	44	3
	50 to 64	59	38	4
	65 or older	66	27	6
Education	Not college graduate	57	37	6
	College graduate	64	33	4
Race	White	61	34	5
	Non-white	38	57	5

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Do you oppose or favor Medicare-for-all who want it, which is a healthcare plan that would allow citizens to choose between a national health insurance program or their own private health insurance?

		Oppose Row %	Favor Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		33	63	5
Registered Voters		36	60	4
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		30	65	4
Party Identification	Democrat	13	83	4
	Republican	55	41	4
	No Party	19	71	10
	Something else	37	61	2
Gender	Women	26	70	5
	Men	39	56	5
Age	18 to 29	17	77	6
	30 to 49	31	66	3
	50 to 64	37	60	3
	65 or older	33	61	6
Education	Not college graduate	33	62	5
	College graduate	32	64	4
Race	White	33	63	4
	Non-white	22	69	9

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

In the 1973 court case, *Roe v. Wade*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that a woman's right to an abortion is protected by the U.S. Constitution. Do you think *Roe v. Wade* should be overturned?

		No, <i>Roe v. Wade</i> should not be overturned Row %	Yes, <i>Roe v. Wade</i> should be overturned Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		60	34	6
Registered Voters		61	34	5
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		65	30	5
Party Identification	Democrat	86	12	2
	Republican	36	57	7
	No Party	70	23	7
	Something else	55	37	8
Gender	Women	66	30	5
	Men	56	37	7
Age	18 to 29	70	20	9
	30 to 49	58	35	8
	50 to 64	57	37	6
	65 or older	62	34	5
Education	Not college graduate	57	36	7
	College graduate	66	30	4
Race	White	61	33	6
	Non-white	57	35	9

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

In relation to events at the U.S.-Mexico border, do you think the process for asylum seekers to achieve legal status in the United States should be made less difficult, kept the same, or more difficult?

		Less Difficult Row %	Kept the Same Row %	More Difficult Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		36	28	30	5
Registered Voters		37	27	30	6
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		45	24	26	5
Party Identification	Democrat	62	20	14	5
	Republican	16	32	47	6
	No Party	30	39	27	5
	Something else	34	32	31	4
Gender	Women	39	27	28	7
	Men	34	30	32	4
Age	18 to 29	45	39	13	3
	30 to 49	39	32	25	5
	50 to 64	34	29	34	3
	65 or older	34	25	33	8
Education	Not college graduate	29	29	36	6
	College graduate	45	27	23	5
Race	White	37	29	30	5
	Non-white	38	22	35	5

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Do you think the United States' decision to impose tariffs on various products imported from our trading partners will hurt the U.S. economy, not make a difference either way, or help the U.S. economy?

		Hurt the U.S. Economy Row %	Not Make a Difference Either Way Row %	Help the U.S. Economy Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		38	16	37	9
Registered Voters		42	16	33	10
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		46	14	31	8
Party Identification	Democrat	68	11	11	10
	Republican	12	19	62	7
	No Party	37	22	29	13
	Something else	37	15	40	8
Gender	Women	42	17	29	13
	Men	34	15	45	6
Age	18 to 29	28	28	34	9
	30 to 49	32	20	39	10
	50 to 64	44	14	38	4
	65 or older	38	14	36	12
Education	Not college graduate	33	17	40	11
	College graduate	46	15	32	6
Race	White	39	16	37	8
	Non-white	33	14	31	22

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

In relation to climate change, how satisfied are you with current U.S. policy?

		Completely Dissatisfied Row %	Mostly Dissatisfied Row %	Mixed Row %	Mostly Satisfied Row %	Completely Satisfied Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		27	19	21	20	9	5
Registered Voters		27	20	19	20	10	4
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		34	21	19	16	7	4
Party Identification	Democrat	48	32	9	7	2	1
	Republican	6	9	26	34	18	8
	No Party	29	21	30	14	2	5
	Something else	30	14	27	16	8	6
Gender	Women	28	24	23	16	6	4
	Men	26	15	18	24	12	6
Age	18 to 29	22	27	28	11	9	3
	30 to 49	25	18	27	16	10	5
	50 to 64	28	15	22	24	8	4
	65 or older	28	21	16	20	10	6
Education	Not college graduate	21	20	22	22	10	5
	College graduate	35	18	18	18	7	4
Race	White	27	20	21	20	9	5
	Non-white	36	14	14	21	12	4

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Do you disapprove or approve of the way Governor Kim Reynolds is handling her job as Governor of Iowa?

		Disapprove Row %	Approve Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		33	57	10
Registered Voters		37	57	6
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		44	48	9
	Democrat	63	28	9
	Republican	7	86	7
	No Party	33	47	20
	Something else	34	60	7
Gender	Women	35	53	13
	Men	32	61	7
Age	18 to 29	39	39	22
	30 to 49	33	53	14
	50 to 64	31	62	8
	65 or older	34	58	8
Education	Not college graduate	30	58	12
	College graduate	38	55	8
Race	White	33	58	9
	Non-white	45	40	16

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Do you disapprove or approve of the way Senator Joni Ernst is handling her job as a U.S. Senator from Iowa?

		Disapprove Row %	Approve Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		40	51	9
Registered Voters		44	51	5
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		48	46	6
Party Identification	Democrat	73	21	6
	Republican	11	82	7
	No Party	40	41	19
	Something else	39	52	8
Gender	Women	43	46	11
	Men	37	56	7
Age	18 to 29	34	47	19
	30 to 49	38	46	16
	50 to 64	37	57	6
	65 or older	44	50	7
Education	Not college graduate	35	55	11
	College graduate	48	46	6
Race	White	41	51	9
	Non-white	47	45	9

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Do you disapprove or approve of the way Senator Charles Grassley is handling his job as a U.S. Senator from Iowa?

		Disapprove Row %	Approve Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		38	54	8
Registered Voters		40	54	6
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		46	46	8
Party Identification	Democrat	71	21	9
	Republican	10	85	5
	No Party	39	49	12
	Something else	33	60	8
Gender	Women	43	47	11
	Men	33	61	6
Age	18 to 29	31	48	20
	30 to 49	38	50	12
	50 to 64	37	58	6
	65 or older	39	54	6
Education	Not college graduate	33	57	10
	College graduate	45	50	5
Race	White	38	54	8
	Non-white	43	43	14

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Do you disapprove or approve of the way President Donald Trump is handling his job as President of the United States?

		Disapprove Row %	Approve Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		49	47	3
Registered Voters		52	46	2
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		57	40	3
Party Identification	Democrat	91	7	1
	Republican	11	87	2
	No Party	54	34	13
	Something else	49	51	1
Gender	Women	58	40	2
	Men	41	54	4
Age	18 to 29	52	44	5
	30 to 49	44	50	5
	50 to 64	47	50	2
	65 or older	53	44	3
Education	Not college graduate	53	46	1
	College graduate	61	37	2
Race	White	50	47	3
	Non-white	57	36	7

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Recently the U.S. House of Representatives voted to impeach President Donald Trump. Next, the U.S. Senate will oversee a trial to determine whether or not he has committed a crime. As a result, the president could be removed from office.

Do you think President Trump should be removed from office?

		No, President Trump should not be removed from office Row %	Yes, President Trump should be removed from office Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		55	41	4
Registered Voters		53	43	4
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		46	50	4
Party Identification	Democrat	13	81	5
	Republican	92	6	2
	No Party	52	38	10
	Something else	63	36	2
Gender	Women	44	52	5
	Men	65	31	4
Age	18 to 29	56	42	2
	30 to 49	63	32	5
	50 to 64	56	39	5
	65 or older	51	45	4
Education	Not college graduate	58	38	4
	College graduate	52	45	4
Race	White	55	40	4
	Non-white	40	57	4

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

When electing the President of the United States, which option do you prefer?

- A. Keep the current system so that the winner of the presidential election is determined by the Electoral College**
- B. Amend the U.S. Constitution so that the winner of the presidential election is determined by a national popular vote**

		A. Keep Electoral College Row %	B. National Popular Vote Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		53	43	4
Registered Voters		54	42	5
Likely 2020 IA Caucus Goers		51	45	3
Party Identification	Democrat	23	71	5
	Republican	82	16	3
	No Party	42	54	5
	Something else	60	37	3
Gender	Women	43	51	6
	Men	63	35	3
Age	18 to 29	52	47	2
	30 to 49	60	37	3
	50 to 64	55	40	5
	65 or older	49	46	5
Education	Not college graduate	51	45	4
	College graduate	56	39	5
Race	White	53	42	5
	Non-white	47	50	4

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=864, MOE ±3.3 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Next, I am going to read a list of candidates seeking the Democratic Presidential nomination. If the caucuses were held today, which one of the following candidates would be your first choice?⁵

Problem	Percent of Total Responses
Michael Bennett, U.S. Senator from Colorado	1
Joe Biden, former Vice President of the United States	19
Michael Bloomberg, former mayor of New York City	1
Pete Buttigieg, Mayor of South Bend, Indiana	18
John Delaney, former U.S. Representative from Maryland	1
Tulsi Gabbard, U.S. Representative from Hawaii	3
Amy Klobuchar, U.S. Senator from Minnesota	12
Deval Patrick, former governor of Massachusetts	0
Bernie Sanders, U.S. Senator from Vermont	15
Tom Steyer, businessman	6
Elizabeth Warren, U.S. Senator from Massachusetts	15
Andrew Yang, businessman	4
Don't Know/Refused	4

Survey conducted Jan. 17-23, 2020. N=253, MOE ±6.2 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

⁵ This question was posed to respondents who previously responded “definitely will attend” or “probably will attend” to the question “How likely is it you will attend one of the Iowa Caucuses scheduled for February 2020?” and answered that they would attend the Democratic Party Caucus.

Respondent Characteristics

GENDER	Frequency	Percent
Woman	417	48.26
Man	439	50.81
Something else	1	0.12
Refused	7	0.81
Total	864	100

PARTY IDENTIFICATION⁶	Frequency	Percent
Democrat	296	34.26
Republican	325	37.62
No Party	112	12.96
Something else	107	12.38
Don't Know/Refused	24	2.78
Total	864	100

REGISTERED IOWA VOTER	Frequency	Percent
No	437	51
Yes	427	49
Total	864	100

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OR REPUBLICAN PARTY CAUCUS GOER⁷	Frequency	Percent
Democratic Party	253	57.63
Republican Party	151	34.40
Don't Know/Refused	35	7.97
Total	439	100

⁶ Party identification was calculated based on two questions. All respondents were first asked "In politics, do you usually think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, No Party, or something else?" For those who responded "No Party," a second question was asked: "Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party, equally close to the Democratic Party and Republican Party, or closer to the Republican Party?" Those who responded to this question as leaning towards either the Democratic or Republican Party were included in the categories of "Democrat" and "Republican" in the analyses above.

⁷ Respondents who said that they "definitely will attend" or "probably will attend" the February 2020 Iowa caucuses were then asked "Will you attend the Democratic Party or Republican Party Caucus?"

AGE	Frequency	Percent
18 to 29	64	7.49
30 to 49	147	17.19
50 to 64	266	31.11
65 or older	378	44.21
Refused	9	0.01
Total	864	100

RACE	Frequency	Percent
American Indian/ Alaska Native	14	1.62
Asian	7	0.81
Black or African American	19	2.20
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	2	0.23
White	780	90.28
Something else	16	1.85
Refused	26	3.01
Total	864	100

HISPANIC ETHNICITY⁸	Frequency	Percent
No	824	95.37
Yes	25	2.89
Refused	15	1.74
Total	864	100

⁸ Respondents were asked "Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin"?

EDUCATION COMPLETED⁹	Frequency	Percent
Less than a high school diploma	26	3.01
High school degree or equivalent	177	20.49
Some college, no degree	185	21.41
Associate degree	105	12.15
Bachelor's degree	213	24.65
Master's degree	94	10.88
Professional degree	27	3.13
Doctorate	25	2.89
Refused	12	1.39
Total	864	100

⁹ In the analysis of survey results, "Not college graduate" includes education achieved up to and including an associate degree and "College graduate" includes bachelor's degrees and beyond.