



Colonel Bud Day Center for Civic Engagement

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Morningside Poll 2021: Results Overview

In March 2021, the Colonel Bud Day Center for Civic Engagement released results of its fourth 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: 690 Iowa adults
- Sampling margin of error (MOE): ± 3.7 percentage points (95% confidence level)
- Survey type: 240 landline, 450 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
Covid-19	18
Partisan/Political Divisions	13
Elected Officials	10
Economy	8
Immigration	7
Racism	5
Government Structure/Processes	4
National Debt	4
Climate Change/Environmental Issues	3
Employment/Unemployment	3
Healthcare	3
Border Security	2
Equality/Inequality	2
International Relations	2
Morality/Social Issues	2
Poverty	2
Societal Unrest/Changes	2
Election Integrity	1
Other Issues	6
Don't Know/Refused	3

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

¹ Please see the “Morningside Poll 2021: 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. “Gun Policy”) 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
COVID-19	19
Elected Officials	11
Economy	8
Education	5
Employment/Unemployment	5
Partisan/Political Divisions	5
Agricultural Issues/Policy	3
Climate Change/Environment	3
Government Structure/Processes	3
Healthcare	2
Immigration	2
Infrastructure	2
Racism	2
Taxes	2
Budget/Spending	1
Election Integrity	1
Equality/Inequality	1
Gun Policy	1
Poverty	1
Societal Unrest/Changes	1
Other Issues	6
Don't Know/Refused	16

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Do you think that Iowa’s minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour should be decreased, kept the same, or increased by state lawmakers?

		Decreased	Keep the Same	Increased	DK/Ref
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
All Respondents		2	25	70	4
Party Identification	Democrat	1	2	97	1
	Republican	2	47	47	4
	No Party	2	22	72	4
	Something else	4	30	63	4
Gender	Women	1	20	76	4
	Men	2	31	64	4
Age	18 to 29	0	40	58	2
	30 to 49	2	31	64	3
	50 to 64	1	20	75	4
	65 or older	2	24	71	4
Education	Not college graduate	1	26	70	3
	College graduate	2	24	72	2
Race	White	1	25	70	3
	Non-white	2	14	77	7

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

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

What amount would you like the minimum wage increased to?⁴

		At least \$8/hour Row %	Between \$8.01 & \$10/hour Row %	Between \$10.01 & \$12/hour Row %	Between \$12.01 & \$14/hour Row %	Between \$14.01 & \$16/hour Row %	More than \$16/hour Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		6	31	27	11	20	3	3
Party Identification	Democrat	6	24	24	14	21	5	6
	Republican	6	32	29	12	18	2	2
	No Party	5	37	23	7	23	4	8
	Something else	5	29	45	8	13	0	0
Gender	Women	8	30	23	10	22	3	4
	Men	5	30	31	11	19	3	2
Age	18 to 29	3	30	27	12	24	3	0
	30 to 49	3	33	33	13	16	1	2
	50 to 64	10	29	21	10	21	4	4
	65 or older	5	30	27	10	21	4	2
Education	Not college graduate	6	30	29	11	16	2	3
	College graduate	6	31	25	10	22	5	2
Race	White	6	31	27	10	20	3	2
	Non-white	11	18	32	14	21	0	4

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 480, MOE ±4.5 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

At the national level, President Biden's administration has expressed support for increasing the minimum wage. Do you oppose or favor the federal government increasing the minimum wage?

		Oppose Row %	Favor Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		44	51	6
Party Identification	Democrat	6	91	4
	Republican	78	17	4
	No Party	37	55	8
	Something else	56	39	5
Gender	Women	35	60	6
	Men	52	43	5
Age	18 to 29	49	49	2
	30 to 49	49	47	4
	50 to 64	38	56	7
	65 or older	43	51	6
Education	Not college graduate	47	50	4
	College graduate	40	54	6
Race	White	44	51	5
	Non-white	26	65	9

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

⁴ This question was asked of the 480 participants who answered "Increased" to the question "Do you think that Iowa's minimum wage of \$7.25 should be decreased, kept the same, or increased by state lawmakers?"

To what extent do you disagree or agree with giving K-12 students in Iowa taxpayer-funded scholarships to attend private schools?

		Strongly Disagree Row %	Disagree Row %	Neither Agree Nor Disagree Row %	Agree Row %	Strongly Agree Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		25	25	16	18	9	7
Party Identification	Democrat	40	22	16	13	6	4
	Republican	19	28	16	21	11	6
	No Party	20	24	18	23	7	9
	Something else	25	18	16	16	16	11
Gender	Women	24	26	17	16	9	9
	Men	26	25	16	20	8	6
Age	18 to 29	17	19	26	23	11	4
	30 to 49	26	22	19	18	10	4
	50 to 64	29	24	18	15	8	5
	65 or older	24	27	13	19	8	10
Education	Not college graduate	19	27	18	19	10	7
	College graduate	34	23	15	17	7	5
Race	White	26	25	16	18	8	7
	Non-white	19	30	21	14	12	5

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Do you oppose or favor allowing transgender student athletes to compete in sports according to their gender identity? For example, allowing a transgender woman to play women’s sports?

		Oppose Row %	Favor Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		56	34	11
Party Identification	Democrat	23	59	17
	Republican	84	12	5
	No Party	54	35	11
	Something else	60	32	9
Gender	Women	44	45	12
	Men	67	24	10
Age	18 to 29	49	40	11
	30 to 49	62	30	8
	50 to 64	56	36	9
	65 or older	54	33	13
Education	Not college graduate	58	32	11
	College graduate	54	37	9
Race	White	55	35	10
	Non-white	61	28	12

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 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		43	51	6
Party Identification	Democrat	27	65	8
	Republican	62	32	6
	No Party	37	59	4
	Something else	40	56	4
Gender	Women	48	45	7
	Men	39	57	5
Age	18 to 29	23	68	9
	30 to 49	23	73	4
	50 to 64	39	56	5
	65 or older	58	38	6
Education	Not college graduate	45	50	5
	College graduate	39	55	6
Race	White	44	51	6
	Non-white	23	72	5

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 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		15	28	26	19	5	7
Party Identification	Democrat	16	41	19	18	3	4
	Republican	15	22	24	24	7	8
	No Party	16	21	32	18	4	8
	Something else	12	26	37	7	4	14
Gender	Women	12	33	29	15	3	7
	Men	18	24	23	22	6	7
Age	18 to 29	19	21	34	21	0	4
	30 to 49	20	20	32	17	5	6
	50 to 64	12	29	28	18	4	8
	65 or older	14	32	20	20	5	8
Education	Not college graduate	13	27	26	21	6	7
	College graduate	18	30	25	17	3	7
Race	White	16	29	25	18	5	7
	Non-white	9	21	28	30	7	5

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

How much, if at all, do you think climate change is currently affecting agriculture in Iowa?

		Not at All Row %	Only a Little Row %	Some Row %	A Great Deal Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		15	18	32	32	3
Party Identification	Democrat	1	5	35	57	3
	Republican	28	32	26	11	4
	No Party	12	14	36	33	4
	Something else	16	21	28	33	2
Gender	Women	9	13	34	41	4
	Men	20	23	30	25	3
Age	18 to 29	13	13	36	36	2
	30 to 49	21	15	30	32	3
	50 to 64	12	20	28	35	5
	65 or older	14	19	34	30	3
Education	Not college graduate	17	20	29	32	2
	College graduate	11	15	37	33	4
Race	White	14	18	33	32	3
	Non-white	14	12	33	35	7

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Recently, social media companies, such as Twitter and Facebook, have removed the accounts of users they consider dangerous. To what extent do you disagree or agree that social media companies should ban such users?

		Strongly Disagree Row %	Disagree Row %	Neither Agree Nor Disagree Row %	Agree Row %	Strongly Agree Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		25	15	10	23	24	4
Party Identification	Democrat	3	6	8	37	44	3
	Republican	45	22	11	12	8	4
	No Party	22	15	11	23	26	3
	Something else	30	16	7	26	18	4
Gender	Women	17	12	12	28	29	3
	Men	33	17	7	20	20	4
Age	18 to 29	30	13	13	26	17	2
	30 to 49	33	15	14	20	17	2
	50 to 64	23	14	9	22	29	3
	65 or older	22	15	7	25	26	5
Education	Not college graduate	27	16	12	22	22	3
	College graduate	24	14	6	24	28	4
Race	White	25	15	9	23	25	3
	Non-white	19	9	12	30	26	5

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Currently, the Iowa Legislature is considering a bill that would ban state and local governments from having contracts with or offering aid to companies that censor online content. To what extent do you disagree or agree with this proposed ban?

		Strongly Disagree Row %	Disagree Row %	Neither Disagree Nor Agree Row %	Agree Row %	Strongly Agree Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		19	21	20	17	16	7
Party Identification	Democrat	34	23	17	12	6	8
	Republican	12	19	18	23	22	7
	No Party	12	21	29	17	15	6
	Something else	12	18	18	14	28	11
Gender	Women	18	18	26	17	11	11
	Men	20	23	14	18	20	4
Age	18 to 29	13	30	30	9	13	6
	30 to 49	17	20	24	21	17	1
	50 to 64	22	14	20	21	18	6
	65 or older	19	24	17	15	15	11
Education	Not college graduate	19	18	21	17	18	8
	College graduate	20	25	19	15	15	6
Race	White	19	22	20	16	16	7
	Non-white	16	19	21	21	16	7

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

How would you rate the federal government's response to COVID-19?

		Poor Row %	Fair Row %	Good Row %	Very Good Row %	Excellent Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		24	28	23	14	7	4
Party Identification	Democrat	20	21	23	23	10	4
	Republican	25	31	24	12	5	3
	No Party	25	30	27	8	5	4
	Something else	25	33	19	7	9	7
Gender	Women	19	27	29	15	8	2
	Men	28	29	20	13	6	5
Age	18 to 29	34	45	11	9	2	0
	30 to 49	38	33	15	5	4	5
	50 to 64	26	24	24	16	7	3
	65 or older	15	26	29	17	9	4
Education	Not college graduate	24	27	26	14	6	4
	College graduate	23	30	20	15	8	3
Race	White	23	28	25	14	7	4
	Non-white	35	23	14	14	9	5

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

How would you rate the state of Iowa's response to COVID-19?

		Poor Row %	Fair Row %	Good Row %	Very Good Row %	Excellent Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		31	26	22	14	7	1
Party Identification	Democrat	57	25	13	5	1	0
	Republican	8	23	31	27	12	0
	No Party	32	30	22	9	5	2
	Something else	26	30	19	14	11	0
Gender	Women	31	27	23	13	5	1
	Men	30	25	22	14	8	1
Age	18 to 29	32	36	17	9	6	0
	30 to 49	39	21	22	11	7	1
	50 to 64	32	28	20	13	7	1
	65 or older	26	26	24	16	7	1
Education	Not college graduate	27	26	25	14	7	1
	College graduate	38	25	17	14	6	0
Race	White	30	26	22	14	6	1
	Non-white	47	23	12	5	12	2

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

How would you rate your local area's process for distributing the COVID-19 vaccine?

		Poor Row %	Fair Row %	Good Row %	Very Good Row %	Excellent Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		14	26	29	17	8	7
Party Identification	Democrat	18	31	28	15	7	2
	Republican	8	21	33	18	11	9
	No Party	14	28	29	17	5	9
	Something else	19	18	21	19	14	9
Gender	Women	10	27	29	20	8	6
	Men	17	24	30	14	7	8
Age	18 to 29	9	28	32	13	6	13
	30 to 49	20	27	26	11	8	8
	50 to 64	15	25	30	14	8	9
	65 or older	11	25	30	22	9	5
Education	Not college graduate	13	23	31	19	7	8
	College graduate	15	28	28	15	10	5
Race	White	13	25	29	18	8	6
	Non-white	21	35	14	7	7	16

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

To what extent do you oppose or favor programs, such as DACA, that would allow immigrants who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children the chance to become U.S. citizens if they meet certain requirements over time?

		Completely Oppose Row %	Mostly Oppose Row %	Mixed Row %	Mostly Favor Row %	Completely Favor Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		12	14	18	27	27	3
Party Identification	Democrat	2	4	7	30	55	2
	Republican	21	25	27	20	7	1
	No Party	12	10	18	34	23	4
	Something else	9	12	16	30	26	7
Gender	Women	8	11	20	30	29	3
	Men	15	16	16	25	25	3
Age	18 to 29	11	15	21	21	32	0
	30 to 49	11	12	20	25	30	3
	50 to 64	12	8	23	28	27	3
	65 or older	12	17	14	28	25	3
Education	Not college graduate	15	17	19	23	22	3
	College graduate	8	10	15	33	34	1
Race	White	12	13	18	28	27	2
	Non-white	5	14	16	26	35	5

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

To what extent do you oppose or favor the Black Lives Matters movement?

		Completely Oppose Row %	Mostly Oppose Row %	Mixed Row %	Mostly Favor Row %	Completely Favor Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		25	13	17	24	18	4
Party Identification	Democrat	2	3	11	43	40	1
	Republican	49	23	15	8	4	3
	No Party	19	13	24	27	12	5
	Something else	30	12	21	19	16	2
Gender	Women	16	13	16	30	21	5
	Men	33	14	17	19	15	3
Age	18 to 29	26	9	15	21	30	0
	30 to 49	28	10	20	18	23	2
	50 to 64	24	12	18	25	18	2
	65 or older	24	16	15	27	13	6
Education	Not college graduate	29	14	17	20	17	4
	College graduate	20	12	17	29	20	3
Race	White	25	13	17	24	18	3
	Non-white	19	5	16	26	30	5

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 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		45	52	4
Party Identification	Democrat	86	12	3
	Republican	9	86	2
	No Party	44	49	7
	Something else	44	53	4
Gender	Women	48	47	4
	Men	42	56	3
Age	18 to 29	51	45	4
	30 to 49	41	53	5
	50 to 64	44	53	3
	65 or older	46	51	3
Education	Not college graduate	41	55	4
	College graduate	51	46	3
Race	White	45	52	3
	Non-white	56	35	9

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 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		45	49	6
Party Identification	Democrat	88	11	2
	Republican	12	84	5
	No Party	42	46	12
	Something else	42	53	5
Gender	Women	49	43	8
	Men	42	54	4
Age	18 to 29	43	47	11
	30 to 49	38	53	9
	50 to 64	45	48	7
	65 or older	49	47	4
Education	Not college graduate	40	53	7
	College graduate	53	43	4
Race	White	46	49	5
	Non-white	54	26	21

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 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		40	54	6
Party Identification	Democrat	83	12	5
	Republican	8	87	5
	No Party	35	56	9
	Something else	39	60	2
Gender	Women	46	47	7
	Men	35	61	4
Age	18 to 29	38	49	13
	30 to 49	37	55	8
	50 to 64	44	51	4
	65 or older	40	55	5
Education	Not college graduate	36	59	6
	College graduate	47	48	5
Race	White	40	55	5
	Non-white	54	35	12

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

**Do you disapprove or approve of the way
President Joe Biden is handling his job as President of the United States?**

		Disapprove Row %	Approve Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		46	50	4
Party Identification	Democrat	6	93	1
	Republican	83	15	3
	No Party	41	51	8
	Something else	53	44	4
Gender	Women	37	59	4
	Men	54	43	3
Age	18 to 29	53	45	2
	30 to 49	52	41	7
	50 to 64	42	54	5
	65 or older	45	53	2
Education	Not college graduate	53	44	3
	College graduate	38	59	4
Race	White	46	51	3
	Non-white	40	56	5

Survey conducted March 8-22, 2021. N= 690, MOE ±3.7 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Respondent Characteristics

GENDER	Frequency	Percent
Woman	315	45.65
Man	363	52.61
Something else	7	1.01
Refused	5	0.72
Total	690	100

PARTY IDENTIFICATION	Frequency	Percent
Democrat	201	29.13
Republican	226	32.75
No Party	185	26.81
Something else	57	8.26
Don't Know/Refused	21	3.04
Total	690	100

REGISTERED IOWA VOTER	Frequency	Percent
No	41	5.94
Yes	648	93.91
Don't Know/Refused	1	0.14
Total	690	100

AGE	Frequency	Percent
18 to 29	47	6.81
30 to 49	148	21.45
50 to 64	185	26.81
65 or older	310	44.93
Total	690	100

RACE	Frequency	Percent
American Indian/ Alaska Native	8	1.16
Asian	5	0.72
Black or African American	20	2.9
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	1	0.14
White	619	89.71
Something else	9	1.3
Refused	28	4.06
Total	690	100

HISPANIC ETHNICITY⁵	Frequency	Percent
No	661	95.80
Yes	20	2.9
Refused	9	1.30
Total	690	100

EDUCATION COMPLETED⁶	Frequency	Percent
Less than a high school diploma	29	4.20
High school degree or equivalent	138	20.00
Some college, no degree	140	20.29
Associate degree	74	10.72
Bachelor's degree	165	23.91
Master's degree	87	12.61
Professional degree	17	2.46
Doctorate	16	2.32
Refused	24	3.48
Total	690	100

⁵ Respondents were asked "Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin"?

⁶ 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.