



Colonel Bud Day Center for Civic Engagement

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Morningside Poll: Results Overview May 2018

In May 2018, the Colonel Bud Day Center for Civic Engagement released results of its first 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: 994 Iowa adults
- Sampling margin of error (MOE): ± 3.1 percentage points (95% confidence level)
- Survey type: 399 landline, 595 cell phone computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATI)

Survey Results by Policy Question

What do you think is the most important problem facing the state of Iowa today?²

Problem	Percent of Total Responses
Budget/taxes	13
Education	12
Employment/jobs	9
Healthcare	9
Economy	6
Government/elected officials	6
Mental health	5
Agricultural issues	4
Abortion/reproductive rights	4
Environment	3
Immigration	3
Infrastructure	2
Welfare/poverty	2
Gun violence	1
Drug use/addiction	1
Marijuana policy	1
Other issues	6
Don't know/refused	15

Survey conducted May 2 through May 12, 2018. N=994, MOE ±3.1 percentage points. Total may not equal 100% due to rounding.

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

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

In general, do you feel that the laws in Iowa regarding firearms should be made less strict, kept as they are now, or more strict?

		Less strict Row %	Kept same Row %	More strict Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		12	41	42	6
Registered Voters		12	42	41	5
Firearm Household	No	7	27	58	8
	Yes	16	53	27	4
Party Identification	Democrat	5	23	66	6
	Republican	17	59	20	4
	No Party	9	41	42	8
	Something else	24	38	32	6
Gender	Women	7	37	49	7
	Men	16	44	35	5
Age	18 to 29	13	39	44	4
	30 to 44	14	44	37	5
	45 to 59	15	43	37	4
	60 or older	10	39	45	7
Education	Not college graduate	14	42	39	5
	College graduate	10	39	44	7
Income	Less than \$50,000	14	37	41	7
	\$50,000 and more	11	44	41	4
Race	White	11	42	42	5
	Non-white	20	29	42	9
Marital Status	Single, never married	12	34	48	6
	Partnered/married	11	44	40	5

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How effective do you feel Iowa's gun free zones are in preventing gun violence?

		Never effective Row %	Rarely effective Row %	Sometimes effective Row %	Usually effective Row %	Always effective Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		22	17	26	20	5	10
Registered Voters		22	17	26	20	5	10
Firearm Household	No	14	17	30	22	4	12
	Yes	28	16	23	18	6	9
Party Identification	Democrat	12	16	35	22	5	10
	Republican	31	16	18	20	8	8
	No Party	19	19	27	19	3	12
	Something else	31	16	23	15	3	11
Gender	Women	14	16	34	21	3	12
	Men	29	18	19	19	6	9
Age	18 to 29	9	18	28	27	9	9
	30 to 44	23	10	24	27	8	8
	45 to 59	24	18	26	21	3	8
	60 or older	23	18	27	15	4	12
Education	Not college graduate	21	16	27	22	5	9
	College graduate	23	19	25	17	5	12
Income	Less than \$50,000	18	16	32	17	5	13
	\$50,000 and more	24	17	24	23	5	8
Race	White	22	17	27	20	4	11
	Non-white	23	19	21	19	10	7
Marital Status	Single, never married	16	17	26	22	7	12
	Partnered/married	24	16	25	21	5	10

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How would you rate Iowa in regards to providing resources for women's healthcare?

		Poor Row %	Fair Row %	Good Row %	Very Good Row %	Excellent Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		21	24	28	12	6	9
Registered Voters		22	24	29	12	6	8
Party Identification	Democrat	42	26	17	7	1	6
	Republican	4	19	38	20	10	9
	No Party	18	26	31	8	7	8
	Something else	18	21	23	13	9	16
Gender	Women	23	26	27	13	7	3
	Men	20	21	29	11	6	14
Age	18 to 29	19	26	25	12	7	11
	30 to 44	24	21	28	12	8	7
	45 to 59	19	28	28	13	7	7
	60 or older	22	22	28	12	5	10
Education	Not college graduate	22	24	28	12	7	8
	College graduate	21	23	28	12	6	10
Income	Less than \$50,000	17	29	31	9	4	11
	\$50,000 and more	24	20	28	14	6	7
Race	White	21	24	29	12	6	8
	Non-white	21	23	20	12	8	15
Marital Status	Single, never married	19	27	24	10	5	15
	Partnered/married	24	20	29	14	7	6

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In regards to mental healthcare, do you feel that the state of Iowa should allocate fewer resources, the same amount of resources, or more resources?

		Fewer resources Row %	Same amount Row %	More resources Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		1	13	81	4
Registered Voters		1	13	82	3
Party Identification	Democrat	1	6	92	1
	Republican	1	21	74	5
	No Party	2	14	79	4
	Something else	4	12	77	6
Gender	Women	1	10	86	3
	Men	2	16	77	5
Age	18 to 29	2	17	76	5
	30 to 44	1	15	79	5
	45 to 59	1	14	82	3
	60 or older	2	12	82	4
Education	Not college graduate	1	13	82	4
	College graduate	1	14	81	4
Income	Less than \$50,000	1	13	83	4
	\$50,000 and more	1	14	82	3
Race	White	1	13	82	4
	Non-white	3	20	73	5
Marital Status	Single, never married	2	16	78	5
	Partnered/married	1	13	82	4

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**The state of Iowa currently taxes feminine hygiene products as a luxury item.
Do you believe this practice should continue?**

		No Row %	Yes Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		72	19	9
Registered Voters		72	19	9
Party Identification	Democrat	86	12	3
	Republican	61	25	14
	No Party	72	21	8
	Something else	65	21	14
Gender	Women	75	19	6
	Men	69	20	11
Age	18 to 29	69	25	7
	30 to 44	73	20	7
	45 to 59	72	19	9
	60 or older	72	18	10
Education	Not college graduate	73	19	8
	College graduate	71	20	9
Income	Less than \$50,000	69	23	9
	\$50,000 and more	75	17	8
Race	White	72	19	9
	Non-white	67	24	8
Marital Status	Single, never married	67	23	9
	Partnered/married	74	17	9

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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		7	18	29	30	6	11
Registered Voters		7	19	29	29	6	10
Party Identification	Democrat	14	23	31	18	3	10
	Republican	1	16	25	40	8	10
	No Party	4	16	32	29	7	12
	Something else	9	14	26	30	7	13
Gender	Women	7	19	31	25	5	13
	Men	7	17	26	34	7	9
Age	18 to 29	4	9	39	26	9	13
	30 to 44	6	18	31	25	5	13
	45 to 59	9	16	32	26	5	11
	60 or older	7	20	24	33	6	9
Education	Not college graduate	6	17	33	28	6	10
	College graduate	8	19	24	32	6	12
Income	Less than \$50,000	7	17	31	28	6	11
	\$50,000 and more	6	20	29	31	5	10
Race	White	6	18	30	30	6	11
	Non-white	11	15	22	30	9	12
Marital Status	Single, never married	6	16	35	25	7	11
	Partnered/married	7	18	27	31	5	11

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In general, should U.S. border security be decreased, kept the same, or increased?

		Decreased Row %	Kept same Row %	Increased Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		8	35	55	3
Registered Voters		7	36	55	3
Party Identification	Democrat	15	59	22	4
	Republican	1	12	86	1
	No Party	7	36	54	3
	Something else	7	29	61	3
Gender	Women	8	38	50	3
	Men	7	32	58	3
Age	18 to 29	14	50	34	2
	30 to 44	9	33	54	4
	45 to 59	6	33	59	2
	60 or older	7	34	57	3
Education	Not college graduate	8	37	53	3
	College graduate	7	33	57	3
Income	Less than \$50,000	9	34	54	3
	\$50,000 and more	7	36	55	2
Race	White	7	36	55	2
	Non-white	14	33	48	6
Marital Status	Single, never married	11	42	44	3
	Partnered/married	6	33	59	2

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When should legal status be made available to individuals who reside in the state of Iowa illegally?

		Never Row %	Rarely Row %	Sometimes Row %	Usually Row %	Always Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		21	11	37	16	9	6
Registered Voters		21	11	38	16	8	5
Party Identification	Democrat	9	3	40	28	13	7
	Republican	33	17	32	7	6	6
	No Party	19	12	45	14	8	3
	Something else	30	12	28	17	5	8
Gender	Women	16	9	38	21	11	6
	Men	26	12	37	12	6	6
Age	18 to 29	9	10	37	25	12	8
	30 to 44	21	12	38	15	10	4
	45 to 59	24	10	38	17	6	5
	60 or older	22	11	37	15	9	6
Education	Not college graduate	20	11	40	16	9	5
	College graduate	22	11	34	18	9	7
Income	Less than \$50,000	23	10	31	15	15	6
	\$50,000 and more	19	11	44	16	6	4
Race	White	21	11	39	16	7	6
	Non-white	23	7	28	16	21	5
Marital Status	Single, never married	16	8	37	23	10	6
	Partnered/married	22	11	39	16	8	5

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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		36	53	12
Registered Voters		36	53	11
Party Identification	Democrat	69	20	11
	Republican	9	83	8
	No Party	30	55	16
	Something else	31	56	13
Gender	Women	38	49	13
	Men	34	56	10
Age	18 to 29	29	50	21
	30 to 44	39	49	12
	45 to 59	31	59	10
	60 or older	38	52	10
Education	Not college graduate	36	52	12
	College graduate	35	54	11
Income	Less than \$50,000	37	50	14
	\$50,000 and more	37	54	9
Race	White	36	53	11
	Non-white	36	45	19
Marital Status	Single, never married	38	45	18
	Partnered/married	35	56	9

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Do you disapprove or approve of the way the Iowa State Legislature is handling its job?

		Disapprove Row %	Approve Row %	DK/Ref Row %
All Respondents		49	41	9
Registered Voters		51	41	9
Party Identification	Democrat	75	20	6
	Republican	24	65	11
	No Party	49	40	11
	Something else	49	40	11
Gender	Women	51	39	11
	Men	48	44	8
Age	18 to 29	40	48	12
	30 to 44	44	45	11
	45 to 59	50	41	8
	60 or older	53	39	9
Education	Not college graduate	50	41	8
	College graduate	48	41	11
Income	Less than \$50,000	49	42	9
	\$50,000 and more	51	40	8
Race	White	49	42	9
	Non-white	54	33	13
Marital Status	Single, never married	50	38	12
	Partnered/married	49	43	8

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Respondent Characteristics

GENDER	Frequency	Percent
Woman	465	46.78
Man	525	52.82
Something else	2	.20
Refused	2	.20
Total	994	100

PARTY IDENTIFICATION	Frequency	Percent
Democrat	304	30.58
Republican	306	30.78
No Party	273	27.46
Something else	97	9.76
Don't Know/Refused	14	1.41
Total	994	100

REGISTERED IOWA VOTER	Frequency	Percent
No	92	9.26
Yes	897	90.24
Don't Know/Refused	5	.50
Total	994	100

HOUSEHOLD FIREARM³	Frequency	Percent
No	474	47.69
Yes	499	50.20
Don't Know/Refused	21	2.11
Total	994	100

AGE	Frequency	Percent
18 to 29	102	10.26
30 to 44	173	17.40
45 to 59	227	22.84
60 or older	492	49.50
Total	994	100

³ Respondents were asked "Do you, or does anyone in your household, own a firearm"?

RACE	Frequency	Percent
American Indian/ Alaska Native	24	2.41
Asian	11	1.11
Black or African American	24	2.41
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	4	.40
White	873	87.83
Something else	44	4.43
Refused	14	1.41
Total	994	100

HISPANIC ETHNICITY⁴	Frequency	Percent
No	939	94.47
Yes	46	4.63
Refused	9	.91
Total	994	100

MARITAL STATUS	Frequency	Percent
Single, never married	193	19.42
Partnered or married	619	62.27
Widowed	64	6.44
Divorced	104	10.46
Separated	9	.91
Refused	5	.50
Total	994	100

HOUSEHOLD ANNUAL INCOME	Frequency	Percent
Less than \$20,000	88	8.85
\$20,000 to \$34,999	131	13.18
\$35,000 to \$49,999	123	12.38
\$50,000 to \$74,999	181	18.21
\$75,000 to \$99,999	119	11.97
\$100,000 to \$150,000	150	15.09
More than \$150,000	63	6.34
Refused	139	13.98
Total	994	100

⁴ Respondents were asked "Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin"?

EDUCATION COMPLETED⁵	Frequency	Percent
Less than a high school diploma	419	41.15
High school degree or equivalent	81	8.15
Some college, no degree	29	2.92
Associate degree	17	1.71
Bachelor's degree	313	31.49
Master's degree	24	2.41
Professional degree	69	6.94
Doctorate	37	3.72
Refused	5	.50
Total	994	100

⁵ In 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.