

DES MOINES REGISTER/NBC NEWS/MEDIACOM IOWA POLL

Study #2274
 404 likely Republican caucusgoers
 Margin of error: ±4.9 percentage points

SELZER & COMPANY
 October 22-26, 2023
 3,028 registered voter contacts weighted by
 age, sex, and congressional district

Results may not add to 100% due to rounding.

First, how likely is it you will attend the Republican party caucuses scheduled for next January—will you definitely attend, probably attend, might or might not attend, or probably not attend?

	Among likely Republican caucusgoers				
	Definitely attend Republican caucus	Probably attend Republican caucus	Might or might not attend Republican caucus	Probably not attend Republican caucus	Not sure
Oct-23	51	49	-	-	-
Aug-23	50	50	n/a	n/a	n/a

Have you in the past attended party caucuses to show your preference for presidential candidates, or would this be your first time to participate? (If attended in the past, ask:) Was that a Republican caucus, a Democratic caucus, or both?

	Among likely Republican caucusgoers				
	Attended Republican caucus in the past	Attended Democratic caucus in the past	Attended both	First caucus	Not sure
Oct-23	56	6	12	26	-
Aug-23	60	8	11	19	1

For each of the following people, please tell me if your feelings are very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable. If you don't know enough about the person to answer, just say so. (Record "don't know" as "not sure." Rotate list.)

		Fav		Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure
			Unf					
Among likely Republican caucusgoers	Oct-23	13	28	2	11	18	10	59
	Aug-23	12	21	2	10	12	8	68
Ryan Binkley, businessman from Texas	Oct-23	42	27	9	33	19	8	32
	Aug-23	38	16	8	30	10	6	46
Doug Burgum, governor of North Dakota	Oct-23	20	69	4	16	28	41	11
	Aug-23	28	60	6	21	29	31	12
Chris Christie, former governor of New Jersey	Oct-23	40	44	9	30	29	15	16
	Aug-23	51	42	12	39	27	15	7
Chris Christie, governor of New Jersey	Oct-23	46	42	8	38	24	19	11
	Aug-23	39	49	6	32	28	21	12
Chris Christie, former governor of New Jersey	Oct-23	29	59	5	24	36	23	12
	Aug-23	28	58	6	21	39	19	14
Chris Christie, former governor of New Jersey	Oct-23	36	54	7	29	32	22	10
	Aug-23	39	45	8	31	29	16	16
Chris Christie, former governor of New Jersey	Oct-23	45	14	17	28	9	5	41
	Aug-23	45	14	17	28	9	5	41
Ron DeSantis, governor of Florida	Oct-23	69	26	29	39	13	13	5
	Aug-23	66	29	27	38	14	15	5
Nikki Haley, former U.S. ambassador to the U.N.	Oct-23	59	29	25	34	17	12	13
	Aug-23	53	26	14	39	17	9	21
Asa Hutchinson, former governor of Arkansas	Oct-23	17	45	3	14	26	20	37
	Aug-23	20	32	2	18	21	12	48
Vivek Ramaswamy, entrepreneur and author	Oct-23	43	37	13	30	23	14	20
	Aug-23	38	20	16	23	13	7	41
Tim Scott, senator from South Carolina	Oct-23	61	22	18	43	16	7	17
	Aug-23	59	17	25	34	12	5	24

Among likely Republican caucusgoers		Fav	Unf	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure
Donald Trump, former president	Oct-23	66	32	42	25	10	22	1
	Aug-23	65	33	42	23	14	19	2
Donald Trump	late Jan-16	50	47	27	23	19	27	3
	early Jan-16	54	45	26	27	23	22	2
Donald Trump, a businessman from New York	Dec-15	57	38	25	32	17	21	5
	Oct-15	59	37	27	32	19	18	5
Donald Trump, businessman and television personality	Aug-15	61	35	26	34	16	19	4
	May-15	27	63	7	20	31	33	10
	Jan-15	26	68	4	22	36	32	6

Which one of the following Republicans would be your first choice for president? **(Read list and rotate.)**

And who would your second choice be? **(If None of these or Not sure in first-choice question, record “No first choice” in second choice question and do not ask. Read list only if necessary.)**

(Ask all.) I’m going to read the list one more time, excluding any names you may have already mentioned. This time, please tell me if the person is someone you are actively considering or not. Just answer yes or no. **(Read list, excluding first- and second-choice candidate choices. Mark all yeses. Same order as first-choice question.)**

	First Choice	Second Choice	Actively Considering	Footprint (Combined)
Ryan Binkley	-	1	5	6
Doug Burgum	3	3	13	19
Chris Christie	4	2	10	16
Ron DeSantis	16	27	25	67
Nikki Haley	16	17	22	54
Asa Hutchinson	1	1	7	9
Vivek Ramaswamy	4	9	19	32
Tim Scott	7	10	32	49
Donald Trump	43	12	12	67
None of these (VOL)	2	10	26	3
Not sure	3	2	2	
No first choice	n/a	5	n/a	

Which one of the following Republicans would be your first choice for president? **(Read list and rotate.)**

And who would your second choice be? **(If None of these or Not sure in first-choice question, record “No first choice” in second choice question and do not ask. Read list only if necessary.)**

(Ask all.) I’m going to read the list one more time, excluding any names you may have already mentioned. This time, please tell me if the person is someone you are actively considering or not. Just answer yes or no. **(Read list, excluding first- and second-choice candidate choices. Mark all yeses. Same order as first-choice question.)**

		Q.4a First Choice	Q.4b Second Choice	Q.4c Actively Considering	Footprint (Combined Q.4)
Among likely Republican caucusgoers					
Ryan Binkley	Oct-23	-	1	5	6
	Aug-23	-	-	6	7
Doug Burgum	Oct-23	3	3	13	19
	Aug-23	2	3	18	23
Chris Christie	Oct-23	4	2	10	16
	Aug-23	5	5	11	21
Ron DeSantis	Oct-23	16	27	25	67
	Aug-23	19	20	22	61
Nikki Haley	Oct-23	16	17	22	54
	Aug-23	6	5	29	40
Asa Hutchinson	Oct-23	1	1	7	9
	Aug-23	-	2	7	9
Vivek Ramaswamy	Oct-23	4	9	19	32
	Aug-23	4	12	18	34
Tim Scott	Oct-23	7	10	32	49
	Aug-23	9	15	29	53
Donald Trump	Oct-23	43	12	12	67
	Aug-23	42	10	12	63
None of these (VOL)	Oct-23	2	10	26	3
	Aug-23	2	7	22	3
Not sure	Oct-23	3	2	2	n/a
	Aug-23	5	4	1	n/a
No first choice	Oct-23	n/a	5	n/a	n/a
	Aug-23	n/a	7	n/a	n/a

When it comes to your support of [FIRST CHOICE CANDIDATE], would you say your mind is made up, or could you still be persuaded to support another candidate as your first choice?

Among all Rep CGs				Mind is made up	Could still be persuaded	Not sure	No first-choice candidate
Oct-23	n=404	±4.9% pts	41	54	-	5	
Aug-23	n=406	±4.9% pts	40	52	1	7	

When it comes to your support of [FIRST CHOICE CANDIDATE], would you say your mind is made up, or could you still be persuaded to support another candidate as your first choice?

Among Trump supporters				Mind is made up	Could still be persuaded	Not sure
Oct-23	n=179	±7.3% pts	63	37	-	
Aug-23	n=173	±7.5% pts	66	34	-	

When it comes to your support of [FIRST CHOICE CANDIDATE], would you say your mind is made up, or could you still be persuaded to support another candidate as your first choice?

Among DeSantis supporters				Mind is made up	Could still be persuaded	Not sure
Oct-23	n=68	±12.0% pts	30	70	-	

When it comes to your support of [FIRST CHOICE CANDIDATE], would you say your mind is made up, or could you still be persuaded to support another candidate as your first choice?

			Mind is made up	Could still be persuaded	Not sure
Among Haley supporters					
Oct-23	n=65	±12.3% pts	26	74	-

How would you describe your level of enthusiasm for your first-choice candidate [NAME INSERTED HERE]—are you extremely enthusiastic, very enthusiastic, mildly enthusiastic, or not that enthusiastic?

			Extremely enthusiastic	Very enthusiastic	Mildly enthusiastic	Not that enthusiastic	Not sure	No first-choice candidate
Among all Rep CGs								
Oct-23	n=404	±4.9% pts	30	40	20	4	-	5

How would you describe your level of enthusiasm for your first-choice candidate [NAME INSERTED HERE]—are you extremely enthusiastic, very enthusiastic, mildly enthusiastic, or not that enthusiastic?

			Extremely enthusiastic	Very enthusiastic	Mildly enthusiastic	Not that enthusiastic	Not sure
Among Trump supporters							
Oct-23	n=179	±7.3% pts	47	40	13	-	-

How would you describe your level of enthusiasm for your first-choice candidate [NAME INSERTED HERE]—are you extremely enthusiastic, very enthusiastic, mildly enthusiastic, or not that enthusiastic?

			Extremely enthusiastic	Very enthusiastic	Mildly enthusiastic	Not that enthusiastic	Not sure
Among DeSantis supporters							
Oct-23	n=68	±12.0% pts	25	40	33	1	-

How would you describe your level of enthusiasm for your first-choice candidate [NAME INSERTED HERE]—are you extremely enthusiastic, very enthusiastic, mildly enthusiastic, or not that enthusiastic?

			Extremely enthusiastic	Very enthusiastic	Mildly enthusiastic	Not that enthusiastic	Not sure
Among Haley supporters							
Oct-23	n=65	±12.3% pts	19	56	19	5	1

Is your support for [FIRST CHOICE CANDIDATE] more about [personality and leadership style] or more about [the issues]? (**Alternate options.**)

			More about personality and leadership style	More about issues	Not sure	No first-choice candidate
Among all Rep CGs						
Oct-23	n=404	±4.9% pts	29	63	3	5

Is your support for [FIRST CHOICE CANDIDATE] more about [personality and leadership style] or more about [the issues]? (**Alternate options.**)

			More about personality and leadership style	More about issues	Not sure
Among Trump supporters					
Oct-23	n=179	±7.3% pts	26	69	5

Is your support for [FIRST CHOICE CANDIDATE] more about [personality and leadership style] or more about [the issues]? (**Alternate options.**)

			More about personality and leadership style	More about issues	Not sure
Among DeSantis supporters					
Oct-23	n=68	±12.0% pts	35	64	1

Is your support for [FIRST CHOICE CANDIDATE] more about [personality and leadership style] or more about [the issues]? (**Alternate options.**)

			More about personality and leadership style	More about issues	Not sure
Among Haley supporters					
Oct-23	n=65	±12.3% pts	39	61	-

Which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion regarding Donald Trump and the future of the Republican Party? (**Read list. Rotate.**)

Among likely Republican caucusgoers
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	The Republican Party should continue to be led by Donald Trump	Donald Trump was a good president, but it is time to consider other leaders	The Republican Party needs a new leader with better personal behavior and a different approach	None of these (VOL)	Not sure
Oct-23	39	28	32	1	-
Aug-23	41	26	31	1	2

Donald Trump has said that passing a 6-week abortion ban like Iowa’s was a “terrible mistake.” Do you agree or disagree?

Among likely Republican caucusgoers

	Agree	Disagree	Not sure
Oct-23	36	52	12

Donald Trump has not attended any Republican debates so far and may not attend any before the caucuses. Do you think he should participate in at least one debate before the caucuses, or does that not matter to you?

Among likely Republican caucusgoers

	Should participate in at least one before caucuses	Does not matter	Not sure
Oct-23	42	57	1

We’re interested in issues that affect which candidate you will support. For each of the following, please tell me if this is extremely important, just important, or not that important to you as you evaluate candidates. **(Rotate list.)**

Among likely Republican caucusgoers

		Extremely important	Important	Not that important	Not sure
Abortion restrictions	Oct-23	41	38	20	1
Ethanol and renewable energy	Oct-23	27	42	30	-
Transgender issues such as athletic participation or gender-affirming care for juveniles	Oct-23	32	31	35	2
Immigration and border security	Oct-23	80	17	4	-
The Israel-Hamas war	Oct-23	57	37	6	-
The Russia-Ukraine war	Oct-23	33	48	19	-
The economy and inflation	Oct-23	81	18	1	-
Government spending and the deficit	Oct-23	72	25	3	-
Vaccinating against COVID	Oct-23	9	15	76	1
Climate change	Oct-23	10	23	66	-
Relations with China	Oct-23	50	40	10	-

Which of the following better describes your view of Donald Trump’s legal challenges? **(Read list. Rotate.)**

Among likely Republican caucusgoers			
	Donald Trump can win an election against Joe Biden, regardless of his legal challenges	Donald Trump’s legal challenges will make it nearly impossible for him to win an election against Joe Biden	Not sure
Oct-23	65	32	4

Of the following candidates for the Republican nomination, which one do you think would do the best job of handling the Israel-Hamas war? **(Read list. Rotate.)**

Among likely Republican caucusgoers								
	Chris Christie	Ron DeSantis	Nikki Haley	Vivek Ramaswamy	Tim Scott	Donald Trump	Someone else (VOL)	Not sure
Oct-23	2	9	22	3	2	52	5	4

*Pence was one of the original answer options. When he suspended his campaign after the poll was out of the field, respondents who chose him were reallocated to “Someone else.”

ABOUT THE POLL

The Iowa Poll, conducted October 22-26, 2023, for *The Des Moines Register*, NBC News, and Mediacom by Selzer & Co. of Des Moines, is based on telephone interviews with 404 registered voters in Iowa who say they will definitely or probably attend the 2024 Republican caucuses.

Interviewers with Quantel Research contacted 3,028 randomly selected voters from the Iowa secretary of state’s voter registration list by telephone. The sample was supplemented with additional phone number lookups. Interviews were administered in English. Responses for all contacts were adjusted by age, sex and congressional district to reflect their proportions among voters in the list.

Questions based on the sample of 404 voters likely to attend the 2024 Iowa Republican caucuses have a maximum margin of error of plus or minus 4.9 percentage points. This means that if this survey were repeated using the same questions and the same methodology, 19 times out of 20, the findings would not vary from the true population value by more than plus or minus 4.9 percentage points. Results based on smaller samples of respondents—such as by gender or age—have a larger margin of error.

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