

DES MOINES REGISTER/NBC NEWS/MEDIACOM IOWA POLL

Study #2277

502 likely Republican caucusgoers

Margin of error: ±4.4 percentage points

SELZER & COMPANY

December 2-7, 2023

3,733 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
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>49</b>	-	-	-
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
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>
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
		Fav	Unf					
<b>Among likely Republican caucusgoers</b>								
Ryan Binkley, businessman from Texas	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>68</b>
	Oct-23	13	28	2	11	18	10	59
	Aug-23	12	21	2	10	12	8	68
Chris Christie, former governor of New Jersey	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>12</b>
	Oct-23	20	69	4	16	28	41	11
	Aug-23	28	60	6	21	29	31	12
Chris Christie	late Jan-16	40	44	9	30	29	15	16
	early Jan-16	51	42	12	39	27	15	7
Chris Christie, governor of New Jersey	Dec-15	46	42	8	38	24	19	11
	Oct-15	39	49	6	32	28	21	12
	Aug-15	29	59	5	24	36	23	12
	May-15	28	58	6	21	39	19	14
	Jan-15	36	54	7	29	32	22	10
	Oct-14	39	45	8	31	29	16	16
	Jun-11	45	14	17	28	9	5	41
Ron DeSantis, governor of Florida	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>
	Oct-23	69	26	29	39	13	13	5
	Aug-23	66	29	27	38	14	15	5
Randy Feenstra, Iowa congressman	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>44</b>
Nikki Haley, former U.S. ambassador to the U.N.	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>
	Oct-23	59	29	25	34	17	12	13
	Aug-23	53	26	14	39	17	9	21

		Fav	Unf	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure
<b>Among likely Republican caucusgoers</b>								
Asa Hutchinson, former governor of Arkansas	Dec-23	19	41	3	16	27	14	40
	Oct-23	17	45	3	14	26	20	37
	Aug-23	20	32	2	18	21	12	48
Vivek Ramaswamy, entrepreneur and author	Dec-23	46	36	14	32	20	17	18
	Oct-23	43	37	13	30	23	14	20
	Aug-23	38	20	16	23	13	7	41
Kim Reynolds, governor of Iowa	Dec-23	78	20	46	32	9	11	2
	Aug-23	81	18	50	31	7	11	1
Donald Trump, former president	Dec-23	72	28	49	23	10	17	1
	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
Bob Vander Plaats, president of the Family Leader	Dec-23	23	31	5	18	18	14	45

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	-	2	4	6
Chris Christie	4	5	8	17
Ron DeSantis	19	30	18	67
Nikki Haley	16	17	19	52
Asa Hutchinson	1	2	5	8
Vivek Ramaswamy	5	14	19	38
Donald Trump	51	13	11	76
None of these (VOL)	2	10	43	2
Not sure	3	2	-	n/a
No first choice	n/a	5	n/a	n/a

\*May not equal the total of the first three column due to rounding.

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.)**

<b>Among likely Republican caucusgoers</b>		<b>First Choice</b>	<b>Second Choice</b>	<b>Actively Considering</b>	<b>Footprint* (Combined)</b>
Ryan Binkley	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>
	Oct-23	-	1	5	6
	Aug-23	-	-	6	7
Chris Christie	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>
	Oct-23	4	2	10	16
	Aug-23	5	5	11	21
Ron DeSantis	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>67</b>
	Oct-23	16	27	25	67
	Aug-23	19	20	22	61
Nikki Haley	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>52</b>
	Oct-23	16	17	22	54
	Aug-23	6	5	29	40
Asa Hutchinson	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>
	Oct-23	1	1	7	9
	Aug-23	-	2	7	9
Vivek Ramaswamy	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>38</b>
	Oct-23	4	9	19	32
	Aug-23	4	12	18	34
Donald Trump	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>76</b>
	Oct-23	43	12	12	67
	Aug-23	42	10	12	63
None of these (VOL)	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>2</b>
	Oct-23	2	10	26	3
	Aug-23	2	7	22	3
Not sure	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>n/a</b>
	Oct-23	3	2	2	n/a
	Aug-23	5	4	1	n/a
No first choice	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
	Oct-23	n/a	5	n/a	n/a
	Aug-23	n/a	7	n/a	n/a

\*May not equal the total of the first three column due to rounding.

**How many candidates respondent is at least considering**

	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight	Nine	Ten	Eleven or more
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
Oct-23	-	4	22	23	23	16	7	2	-	-	1	-
Aug-23	-	7	17	19	21	19	7	4	3	-	-	1

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?

<b>Among likely Rep CGs</b>			<b>Mind is made up</b>	<b>Could still be persuaded</b>	<b>Not sure</b>	<b>No first-choice candidate</b>
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>n=502</b>	$\pm 4.4\%$ pts	<b>49</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>
Oct-23	n=404	$\pm 4.9\%$ pts	41	54	-	5
Aug-23	n=406	$\pm 4.9\%$ 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?

<b>Among Trump supporters</b>			<b>Mind is made up</b>	<b>Could still be persuaded</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>n=257</b>	$\pm 6.1\%$ pts	<b>70</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>-</b>
Oct-23	n=179	$\pm 7.3\%$ pts	63	37	-
Aug-23	n=173	$\pm 7.5\%$ 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?

<b>Among DeSantis supporters</b>			<b>Mind is made up</b>	<b>Could still be persuaded</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>n=93</b>	$\pm 10.2\%$ pts	<b>30</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>-</b>
Oct-23	n=68	$\pm 12.0\%$ pts	30	70	-
Aug-23	n=70	$\pm 11.8\%$ pts	31	69	-

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?

<b>Among Haley supporters</b>			<b>Mind is made up</b>	<b>Could still be persuaded</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>n=83</b>	$\pm 10.8\%$ pts	<b>34</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>1</b>
Oct-23	n=65	$\pm 12.3\%$ 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?

<b>Among likely Rep CGs</b>			<b>Extremely enthusiastic</b>	<b>Very enthusiastic</b>	<b>Mildly enthusiastic</b>	<b>Not that enthusiastic</b>	<b>Not sure</b>	<b>No first-choice candidate</b>
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>n=502</b>	$\pm 4.4\%$ pts	<b>31</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	-	<b>5</b>
Oct-23	n=404	$\pm 4.9\%$ 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?

<b>Among Trump supporters</b>			<b>Extremely enthusiastic</b>	<b>Very enthusiastic</b>	<b>Mildly enthusiastic</b>	<b>Not that enthusiastic</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>n=257</b>	$\pm 6.1\%$ pts	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>13</b>	-	-
Oct-23	n=179	$\pm 7.3\%$ 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?

<b>Among DeSantis supporters</b>			<b>Extremely enthusiastic</b>	<b>Very enthusiastic</b>	<b>Mildly enthusiastic</b>	<b>Not that enthusiastic</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>n=93</b>	$\pm 10.2\%$ pts	<b>16</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>4</b>	-
Oct-23	n=68	$\pm 12.0\%$ 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?

<b>Among Haley supporters</b>			<b>Extremely enthusiastic</b>	<b>Very enthusiastic</b>	<b>Mildly enthusiastic</b>	<b>Not that enthusiastic</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>n=83</b>	$\pm 10.8\%$ pts	<b>21</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>2</b>	-
Oct-23	n=65	$\pm 12.3\%$ pts	19	56	19	5	1

For each of the following five candidates, I'd like you to tell me if you think this person is too conservative, too moderate, or about right. **(Read list. Rotate.)**

		<b>Too conservative</b>	<b>Too moderate</b>	<b>About right</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
<b>Among likely Republican caucusgoers</b>					
Chris Christie	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>
	Jan-15	7	46	27	20
Ron DeSantis	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>5</b>
Nikki Haley	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>10</b>
Vivek Ramaswamy	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>18</b>
Donald Trump	<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>4</b>
	Jan-15	15	30	28	27

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

<b>Among likely Republican caucusgoers</b>			<b>Donald Trump can win an election against Joe Biden, regardless of his legal challenges</b>	<b>Donald Trump's legal challenges will make it nearly impossible for him to win an election against Joe Biden</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
<b>Dec-23</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>3</b>		
Oct-23	65	32	4		

I'm going to mention some candidate endorsements that have been made recently. For each, please tell me if it makes you more likely to support the candidate, less likely, or does it not matter? **(Read list. Rotate.)**

<b>Among likely Republican caucusgoers</b>	<b>More likely</b>	<b>Less likely</b>	<b>Does not matter</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
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The endorsement of Ron DeSantis by Governor Kim Reynolds	<b>Dec-23</b>	31	14	54	1
The endorsement of Ron DeSantis by Family Leader president Bob Vander Plaats	<b>Dec-23</b>	13	12	73	2
The endorsement of Nikki Haley by Americans for Prosperity, the Koch political network	<b>Dec-23</b>	14	13	71	2

## ABOUT THE POLL

The Iowa Poll, conducted December 2-7, 2023, for *The Des Moines Register*, NBC News, and Mediacom by Selzer & Co. of Des Moines, is based on telephone interviews with 502 registered voters in Iowa who say they will definitely or probably attend the 2024 Republican caucuses.

Interviewers with Quantel Research contacted 3,733 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 502 voters likely to attend the 2024 Iowa Republican caucuses have a maximum margin of error of plus or minus 4.4 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 4.4 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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