

THE DES MOINES REGISTER/MEDIACOM IOWA POLL

Study #2282

804 Iowa adults

Margin of error: ±3.5 percentage points

SELZER & COMPANY

February 25-28, 2024

Weighted by age, sex, and congressional district

Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

In general, do you think things in the nation are headed in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong track?

	Right direction	Wrong track	Not sure
Feb-24	17	79	4
Mar-23	18	74	8
Oct-22	20	73	8
Jul-22	10	84	6
Mar-22	23	67	11
Nov-21	23	69	8
Sep-21	21	70	9
Jun-21	31	59	10
Mar-21	38	51	11
Sep-20	25	64	11
Jun-20	22	63	15
Mar-20	46	44	10
Feb-19	39	51	10
Sep-18	34	55	11
Jan-18	40	49	12
Dec-17	29	60	10
Jul-17	32	56	11
Feb-17	36	51	13
Oct-16	21	71	8
Feb-16	25	65	10
Feb-15	29	60	11
Sep-14	23	65	12
Feb-14	23	68	9
Dec-13	23	70	7
Sep-13	22	68	10
Jun-13	30	60	10
Feb-13	37	51	12
Sep-12	40	54	6
Feb-12	30	64	6
Feb-11	32	58	10
Sep-10	30	63	7
Feb-10	31	61	8
Nov-09	35	58	7
Sep-09	41	50	9
Apr-09	43	49	8
Jan-09	36	53	11

I'm going to mention some elected officials and groups. For each, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of the way each is handling the job. **(Rotate list.)**

Approve Disapprove Not Sure

Joe Biden as president of the United States

	Feb-24	29	69	2
Mar-23	30		64	6
Oct-22	35		61	3
Jul-22	27		67	6
Mar-22	35		59	6
Nov-21	33		62	6
Sep-21	31		62	7
Jun-21	43		52	5
Mar-21	47		44	8

I'm going to mention the names of some people and institutions in the news. For each name I read, please tell me if your feelings toward the person or organization are very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable. If you don't know the person, just say so. **(Record "don't know" as "not sure." Rotate list.)**

		Combined Favorable	Combined Unfavorable	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure
Joe Biden	Feb-24	31	68	12	19	21	47	1
	Mar-23	34	64	8	26	23	40	3
	Oct-22	37	61	13	25	14	46	2
	Sep-21	37	61	11	26	13	48	2
	Jun-21	45	53	21	25	16	37	2
	Mar-21	51	46	20	31	13	33	4
Joe Biden, former vice president	Sep-20	43	51	17	25	16	35	6
	Jun-20	45	50	18	27	18	32	5
Joe Biden, vice president of the U.S.	Dec-13	36	57	12	24	21	36	7
Joe Biden, Democratic candidate for vice president	Sep-12	45	45	18	27	19	26	10

Donald Trump, Republican presidential candidate		Feb-24	49	48	25	23	7	40	3
Donald Trump, the former president of the U.S. and candidate for the Republican presidential nomination	Mar-23	42	57	20	22	14	43	2	
Donald Trump, the former president of the U.S.	Oct-22	46	52	22	23	12	41	2	
	Sep-21	53	45	30	23	8	36	2	
	Jun-21	49	49	29	20	9	40	2	
	Mar-21	45	53	23	21	11	42	3	
Donald Trump, president	Sep-20	48	49	28	20	10	39	3	
	Jun-20	45	52	28	17	8	43	3	
Donald Trump	Mar-20	51	47	32	18	9	38	2	
Donald Trump, current president of the United States	Sep-18	41	56	21	20	13	43	3	
Donald Trump, president	Jan-18	45	53	22	22	13	40	2	

		Combined Favorable	Combined Unfavorable	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure
Nikki Haley, Republican presidential candidate	Feb-24	36	54	7	29	32	22	11
Nikki Haley, former governor of South Carolina and candidate for the Republican presidential nomination	Mar-23	31	25	8	23	14	11	44
Iowa's Area Education Agencies, known as AEAs	Feb-24	56	20	22	34	15	5	24

How likely is it you will vote in the November 2024 general election for president and other offices—do you think you would definitely vote, probably vote, might or might not vote, or probably not vote?

	Definitely vote	Probably vote	Might or might not vote	Probably not vote	Refused/Not sure
Feb-24	75	13	4	8	-
Mar-23	77	12	5	4	1
Nov-21	79	12	4	4	-

If the general election were held today and the candidates for president were [Joe Biden for the Democrats] and [Donald Trump for the Republicans], for whom would you vote—[Joe Biden], [Donald Trump], someone else, or would you not vote? **(Rotate candidate names. Keep in same order as first rotation when names are repeated. Asked of 2024 likely voters only.)**

	Sample size	Margin of error	Joe Biden	Donald Trump	Someone else	Would not vote	Not sure
Feb-24	n=640	±3.9% pts.	33	48	15	1	2

[Alternate next two questions every other interview.]

Joe Biden is 81 years old. Which of the following best describes your feeling about his ability to serve a second term as president: **(Read list. Rotate first and third option, with the second option always in the middle.)**

	His age is not a concern	His age is somewhat of a concern	He is too old to serve a second term	Not sure
Feb-24	17	25	56	1

Donald Trump is 77 years old. Which of the following best describes your feeling about his ability to serve a second term as president: **(Read list. Rotate first and third option, with the second option always in the middle.)**

	His age is not a concern	His age is somewhat of a concern	He is too old to serve a second term	Not sure
Feb-24	42	35	22	1

Here are some specific issues that have been debated or passed in the Iowa Legislature. For each, please tell me if you favor or oppose the initiative. **(Rotate list.)**

		Favor	Oppose	Not Sure
Require transgender Iowans' birth certificates to include both their sex at birth and their current gender identity	Feb-24	44	49	7
Gradually reduce the state's individual income tax rate until it is eliminated	Feb-24	62	30	8
	Mar-23	56	33	11
Ban the use of ballot drop boxes for Iowans returning absentee ballots	Feb-24	41	56	3
Require mail-in ballots to be received by the county auditor by the close of business the day before Election Day, one day earlier than current law	Feb-24	61	35	3
Change Iowa law to allow convicted felons to appear on the ballot for president	Feb-24	25	74	2
Require parental approval for people under 18 to have a social media account	Feb-24	55	42	3
Restrict challenges to names of presidential candidates on election ballots, like those Donald Trump has faced in other states	Feb-24	36	51	13

About the Poll

The Iowa Poll, conducted February 25-28, 2024, for The Des Moines Register and Mediacom by Selzer & Co. of Des Moines, is based on telephone interviews with 804 Iowans ages 18 or older. Interviewers with Quantel Research contacted households with randomly selected landline and cell phone numbers supplied by Dynata. Interviews were administered in English. Responses were adjusted by age, sex, and congressional district to reflect the general population based on recent American Community Survey estimates.

Questions based on the sample of 804 Iowa adults have a maximum margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 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 3.5 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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