

THE DES MOINES REGISTER/MEDIACOM IOWA POLL

Study #2225
 814 Iowa likely voters in the 2020 general election
 Margin of error: ± 3.4 percentage points

SELZER & COMPANY
 October 26-29, 2020

941 contacts weighted by age, sex, and congressional district

Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

(Based on general population contacts:) How likely is it you will vote in the November general election for president, U.S. Senate and other offices—will you definitely vote, probably vote, might or might not vote, or probably not vote, or have you already cast a ballot in early voting?

		Already voted + Definitely vote	Already voted	Definitely vote	Probably vote	Might or might not vote	Probably not vote	Refused/ Not sure
n=941	Oct-20	85	43	42	5	3	6	1
n=803	Sep-20	80	n/a	80	9	2	8	2
n=801	Jun-20	82	n/a	82	10	3	5	-
n=800	Mar-20	80	n/a	80	11	5	4	-
n=803	Feb-19	81	n/a	81	8	3	5	3
n=801	Jan-18	81	n/a	81	10	3	3	3

Likelihood to vote at 1) roughly similar time in cycle as the September 2020 Iowa Poll and 2) final pre-election poll.

		Already voted + Definitely vote	Already voted	Definitely vote	Probably vote	Might or might not vote	Probably not vote	Refused/ Not sure
	Nov-16	74	25	49	8	5	11	2
	Oct-16	74	7	67	11	5	9	1
	Nov-12	84	35	49	6	2	8	1
	Sep-12	79	n/a	79	12	4	5	-
	Oct-08	87	25	62	5	2	6	-
	Sep-08	73	n/a	73	11	6	9	1

(Based on likely voters:) How likely is it you will vote in the November general election for president, U.S. Senate and other offices—will you definitely vote, probably vote, might or might not vote, or probably not vote, or have you already cast a ballot in early voting?

	Already voted	Definitely vote	Probably vote	Might or might not vote	Probably not vote	Refused/ Not sure
Oct-20	51	49	-	-	-	-
Nov-16	34	66	-	-	-	-
Nov-12	42	58	-	-	-	-
Oct-08	28	72	-	-	-	-

(If already voted in Q.1 ask:) In the election for president, for whom did you vote—[DEMOCRAT JOE BIDEN/ REPUBLICAN DONALD TRUMP], or for someone else? **(Rotate candidate names.)** **(If already voted and not sure, ask:)** Do you just not want to tell, or do you not remember? **(Then code “Mind is made up” in Q.2c and skip to Q.2d, if applicable.)**

(If definitely vote in Q.1, ask:) If the election for president were held today and the candidates were [DEMOCRAT JOE BIDEN/ REPUBLICAN DONALD TRUMP], for whom would you vote—[JOE BIDEN/DONALD TRUMP], for someone else, or would you not vote? **(Rotate candidate names.)**

(If definite voter names a candidate in Q.2a, skip Q.2b and ask Q.2c.

If definite voter doesn’t name a candidate in Q.2a, continue to Q.2b.)

(Ask only of definite voters AC=1 in Q.1 who do not name a candidate in Q.2a): Toward which candidate would you say you are leaning, or support the most? **(If respondent names a candidate in Q.2b, code as “Could be persuaded” in Q.2c and do not ask. If respondent doesn’t name a candidate in Q.2b, code as “No first-choice candidate” in Q.2c and do not ask.)**

	Q.2a Choice	Q.2b Leaning	Total
Joe Biden	41	1	41
Donald Trump	47	1	48
Someone else	3	-	3
Would not vote	-	-	-
Not sure/do not remember	3	2	2
Don’t want to tell (Already voted only)	5	n/a	5

Based on likely voters in the 2020 general election. Question language differed slightly in past polls.

	Sample size	Margin of error	Joe Biden	Donald Trump	Someone else	Would not vote	Not sure/ don’t remember	Don’t want to tell
Oct-20	n=814	±3.4% pts.	41	48	3	-	2	5
Sep-20	n=658	±3.8% pts.	47	47	4	-	3	n/a
Jun-20	n=674	±3.8% pts.	43	44	9	1	3	n/a
Mar-20	n=667	±3.8% pts.	41	51	n/a	n/a	8	n/a

(Based on likely voters in the 2020 general election.) Would you say your mind is made up to support that candidate, or could you still be persuaded to support a different candidate?

	Presidential race	Sample size	Margin of error	Mind is made up	Could be persuaded	Not sure	No first-choice candidate
Oct-20	All	n=814	±3.4% pts.	94	4	-	2
Oct-20	Biden supporters	n=343	±5.3% pts.	98	2	-	n/a
Oct-20	Trump supporters	n=384	±5.0% pts.	95	4	-	n/a
Sep-20	All	n=658	±3.8% pts.	84	12	1	3
Sep-20	Biden supporters	n=301	±5.7% pts.	84	15	2	n/a
Sep-20	Trump supporters	n=315	±5.5% pts.	92	7	1	n/a
Jun-20	All	n=674	±3.8% pts.	75	20	1	4
Jun-20	Biden supporters	n=302	±5.6% pts.	80	19	1	n/a
Jun-20	Trump supporters	n=300	±5.7% pts.	87	11	2	n/a

(Ask only of those who support Biden or Trump in Q.2a or Q.2b.) Which ONE of the following have you been thinking about most in your decision to support [JOE BIDEN/DONALD TRUMP]? **(Fill in answer to Q.2a or Q.2b.)**
(Read list. Rotate).

		His proposals for the economy and taxes	His demonstrated leadership	His ability to restore what is good about America	His vision for how to address future challenges	His approach to the COVID pandemic	His approach to Supreme Court appointments	Other (VOL)	Not sure
Oct-20	Biden or Trump supporters n=727	23	19	22	7	9	4	10	5
Oct-20	Biden supporters n=343	7	20	26	11	18	3	11	5
Oct-20	Trump supporters n=384	37	18	19	4	2	5	9	5

(If already voted, ask:) In the election for U.S. Senate, for whom did you vote—[DEMOCRAT THERESA GREENFIELD/ REPUBLICAN JONI ERNST], or for someone else? **(Rotate candidate names.)** **(If already voted and not sure, ask:)** Do you just not want to tell, or do you not remember? **(Then code AC=1 in Q.3c and skip to Q.3d or Q.3e, if applicable.)**

(If definitely vote, ask:) If the election for U.S. Senate were held today and the candidates were [DEMOCRAT THERESA GREENFIELD] and [REPUBLICAN JONI ERNST], for whom would you vote—[THERESA GREENFIELD], [JONI ERNST], or for someone else, or would you not vote? **(Rotate candidate names.)**
(If definite voter names a candidate in Q.3a, skip Q.3b and ask Q.3c. If definite voter doesn't name a candidate in Q.3a, continue to Q.3b.)

(Ask only of definite voters who do not name a candidate in Q.3a:) Toward which candidate would you say you are leaning, or support the most? **(If respondent names a candidate, code as "Could be persuaded" in Q.3c and do not ask. If respondent doesn't name a candidate, code as "No first-choice candidate" in Q.3c and do not ask.)**

	Q.3a Choice	Q.3b Leaning	Total
Theresa Greenfield	41	1	42
Joni Ernst	45	1	46
Someone else	3	-	3
Would not vote	2	1	1
Not sure/do not remember	4	2	3
Don't want to tell (Already voted only)	4	n/a	4

Based on likely voters in the 2020 general election. Question language differed slightly in past polls.

	Sample size	Margin of error	Theresa Greenfield	Joni Ernst	Someone else	Would not vote	Not sure/ Don't remember	Don't want to tell
Oct-20	n=814	±3.4% pts.	42	46	3	1	3	4
Sep-20	n=658	±3.8% pts.	45	42	3	2	7	n/a
Jun-20	n=674	±3.8% pts.	46	43	4	-	7	n/a

(Based on likely voters in the 2020 general election.) Would you say your mind is made up to support that candidate, or could you still be persuaded to support a different candidate?

	U.S. Senate race	Sample size	Margin of error	Mind is made up	Could be persuaded	Not sure	No first-choice candidate
Oct-20	All	n=814	±3.4% pts.	89	7	1	3
Oct-20	Greenfield supporters	n=347	±5.3% pts.	93	7	-	n/a
Oct-20	Ernst supporters	n=376	±5.1% pts.	92	7	1	n/a
Sep-20	All	n=658	±3.8% pts.	75	14	1	9
Sep-20	Greenfield supporters	n=290	±5.8% pts.	83	16	2	n/a
Sep-20	Ernst supporters	n=287	±5.8% pts.	87	13	-	n/a
Jun-20	All	n=674	±3.8% pts.	68	23	1	7
Jun-20	Greenfield supporters	n=306	±5.6% pts.	78	22	-	n/a
Jun-20	Ernst supporters	n=293	±5.7% pts.	74	24	1	n/a

(Ask only of those who support Joni Ernst; n=376.) Is your support for Joni Ernst more about your enthusiasm for her as a candidate or more out of a desire for Republicans to keep control of the Senate?

	Enthusiasm for Ernst as a candidate	Desire for Republicans to keep control of Senate	Other (VOL)	Not sure
Oct-20	35	54	6	4

(Ask only of those who support Theresa Greenfield; n=347.) Is your support for Theresa Greenfield more about your enthusiasm for her as a candidate or more out of a desire for Democrats to gain control of the Senate?

	Enthusiasm for Greenfield as a candidate	Desire for Democrats to gain control of Senate	Other (VOL)	Not sure
Oct-20	41	48	10	2

Which ONE of the following issues would you say is most on your mind as you think about how you will vote for senator? **(Read list. Rotate.)**

		Health care	COVID-19 pandemic	The economy	President Trump's performance in office	The Supreme Court	Other (VOL)	Not sure
Oct-20	n=814	22	8	31	20	8	6	5
Greenfield supporters	n=347	32	14	11	27	9	5	2
Ernst supporters	n=376	11	4	49	19	7	6	5

Compared to:

Study #2224
803 Iowa adults,
including 658 likely voters in the 2020 general election
Margin of error: ± 3.5 percentage points for all Iowa adults
Margin of error: ± 3.8 percentage points for likely voters

September 14-17, 2020
Weighted by age, sex, and congressional district

Study #2216
801 Iowa adults,
including 674 likely voters in the 2020 general election
Margin of error: ± 3.5 percentage points for all Iowa adults
Margin of error: ± 3.8 percentage points for likely voters

June 7-10, 2020
Weighted by age, sex, and congressional district

Study #2212
800 Iowa adults,
including 667 likely voters in the 2020 general election
Margin of error: ± 3.5 percentage points for all Iowa adults
Margin of error: ± 3.8 percentage points for likely voters

March 2-5, 2020
Weighted by age, sex, and congressional district

Study #2183
803 Iowa adults,
including 659 likely voters in the 2020 general election
Margin of error: ± 3.5 percentage points for all Iowa adults
Margin of error: ± 3.8 percentage points for likely voters

February 10-13, 2019
Weighted by age, sex, and congressional district

Study #2168
801 Iowa adults,
including 656 likely voters in the 2020 general election
Margin of error: ± 3.5 percentage points
Margin of error: ± 3.8 percentage points for likely voters

January 28-31, 2018
Weighted by age and sex

About the Poll

The Iowa Poll, conducted October 26-29, 2020, for *The Des Moines Register* and Mediacom by Selzer & Co. of Des Moines, is based on telephone interviews with 814 Iowans ages 18 or older who say they will definitely vote or have already voted in the 2020 general election for president, U.S. Senate, and other offices.

Interviewers with Quantel Research contacted 941 Iowa adults 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 census data.

Questions based on the sample of 814 Iowa likely voters have a maximum margin of error of plus or minus 3.4 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 3.4 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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