

University of Iowa Hawkeye Poll – Topline Results October 2012 poll of Iowa respondents

Sample: 320 participants in Iowa, margin of error for full sample is +/- 5.6 percent.

The October 2012 Hawkeye Poll was in the field Oct. 18-27. It was conducted by the Hawkeye Poll Cooperative, comprised of UI faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students in the Department of Political Science in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS). The poll is with the cooperation and facilities of the Iowa Social Science Research Center, directed by UI Sociology Professor Kevin Leicht. Faculty adviser for the poll is UI Associate Professor of Political Science Frederick Boehmke. The poll is a teaching, research, and service project of the UI Department of Political Science. CLAS, the Office of the Provost, and the Department of Political Science fund the poll.

MEDIA CONTACTS: Frederick Boehmke, Hawkeye Poll, 319-335-2342 (office), 716-866-9277 (cell), frederick-boehmke@uiowa.edu; Kelli Andresen, University News Services, 319-384-0070 (office), 319-330-9951 (cell), kelli-andresen@uiowa.edu; Maggie Frerichs, Hawkeye Poll, 515-451-7345, maggie-frerichs@uiowa.edu; Mitch Levinson, Hawkeye Poll, 847-989-2370, mitchell-levinson@uiowa.edu; Emily Schilling, Hawkeye Poll, (cell), 319-335-3844 (office), emily-schilling@uiowa.edu.

Respondent Identification: A household sample was acquired of households of the state of Iowa. An initial attempt was made on answering the phone to reach the “youngest male who is 18 years or older.” Alternatively an available female age 18 or older was interviewed. All of those who stated they were over age 18 and willing to participate in the survey were included.

Weighting: The survey was weighted according to age and sex for those 18 and over.

** All topline results sum to 100 percent – discrepancies are due to rounding.*

Do you plan to vote on the judicial retention question in Iowa during the 2012 general election?

Plan to vote in judicial retention election	%
Yes	76.8
No	15.0
Don't Know/Refused	8.2
Total	100.0

Do you plan to vote for or against retaining the Iowa justice who will be on the ballot in 2012?

Plan to vote for or against retention	%
For	52.9
Against	30.4
Don't Know/Refused	16.7
Total	100.0

People are currently talking about whether we should reform judicial retention elections. Some suggest that judges should campaign to stay on the court while others suggest that such campaigns undermine judicial independence. Which group do you agree with?

Reform judicial retention elections	%
There should be campaigns	20.8
Campaigns would undermine judicial decision making	64.0
Don't Know/Refused	15.2
Total	100.0

Of the following statements, which comes closest to your view?

Opinion on Gay Marriage	%
Legally marry	38.2
Civil Unions but not Marriage	34.3
No legal representation	23.8
Don't Know/Refused	3.7
Total	100.0

Do you plan to vote for or against retaining the Iowa justice who will be on the ballot in 2012? **With 3-point Party ID**

Plan to vote for or against retention	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Total
	%	%	%	%
For	84.5	32.1	49.3	53.4
Against	4.4	54.1	28.7	30.5
Don't Know/Refused	11.0	13.7	22.0	16.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you plan to vote for or against retaining the Iowa justice who will be on the ballot in 2012? **With Presidential Vote Choice**

Plan to vote for or against retention	Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else	Don't Know/Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
For	84.9	26.2	73.6	22.3	52.9
Against	4.2	55.8	26.4	29.6	30.4
Don't Know/Refused	10.9	18.0	0.0	48.1	16.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you plan to vote for or against retaining the Iowa justice who will be on the ballot in 2012? **With Perceived sex of respondent**

Plan to vote for or against retention	Male	Female	Total
	%	%	%
For	55.3	50.5	52.9
Against	32.1	28.6	30.4
Don't Know/Refused	12.6	20.9	16.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you plan to vote for or against retaining the Iowa justice who will be on the ballot in 2012? **With Age**

Age Category	18-34	35-54	55-69	70 and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
For	53.3	45.3	55.2	63.3	52.9
Against	26.7	37.7	30.2	22.8	30.4
Don't Know/Refused	20.0	17.0	14.6	13.9	16.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you plan to vote for or against retaining the Iowa justice who will be on the ballot in 2012? **With Opinion on Gay Marriage**

Plan to vote for or against retention	Legally marry	Civil Unions but not Marriage	No legal representation	Total
	%	%	%	%
For	79.8	41.4	28.1	53.1
Against	7.1	44.8	45.2	30.3
Don't Know/Refused	13.1	13.8	26.7	16.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

People are currently talking about whether we should reform judicial retention elections. Some suggest that judges should campaign to stay on the court while others suggest that such campaigns undermine judicial independence. Which group do you agree with?

Reform judicial retention elections	For	Against	Don't Know/Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%
There should be campaigns	19.6	25.1	13.7	20.3
Campaigns would undermine judicial decision making	76.4	60.4	70.9	70.6
Don't Know/Refused	4.0	14.5	15.3	9.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

People are currently talking about whether we should reform judicial retention elections. Some suggest that judges should campaign to stay on the court while others suggest that such campaigns undermine judicial independence. Which group do you agree with?

With 3-point Party ID

Reform judicial retention elections	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Total
	%	%	%	%
There should be campaigns	8.1	15.7	31.4	19.6
Campaigns would undermine judicial decision making	85.3	76.3	57.2	71.5
Don't Know/Refused	6.6	8.0	11.4	8.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

People are currently talking about whether we should reform judicial retention elections. Some suggest that judges should campaign to stay on the court while others suggest that such campaigns undermine judicial independence. Which group do you agree with?

With Presidential Vote Choice

Reform judicial retention elections	Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else	Don't Know/Refused	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
There should be campaigns	16.0	23.1	54.3	9.3	20.3
Campaigns would undermine judicial decision making	77.6	67.6	45.7	64.3	70.6
Don't Know/Refused	6.4	9.3	0.0	26.4	9.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

People are currently talking about whether we should reform judicial retention elections. Some suggest that judges should campaign to stay on the court while others suggest that such campaigns undermine judicial independence. Which group do you agree with?

With Perceived sex of respondent

Reform judicial retention elections	Male	Female	Total
	%	%	%
There should be campaigns	27.8	12.8	20.3
Campaigns would undermine judicial decision making	66.8	74.5	70.6
Don't Know/Refused	5.4	12.8	9.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

People are currently talking about whether we should reform judicial retention elections. Some suggest that judges should campaign to stay on the court while others suggest that such campaigns undermine judicial independence. Which group do you agree with?

With Age

Age Category	18-34	35-54	55-69	70 and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
There should be campaigns	26.7	18.9	19.8	12.7	20.3
Campaigns would undermine judicial decision making	73.3	69.8	70.8	67.1	70.6
Don't Know/Refused	0.0	11.3	9.4	20.3	9.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

People are currently talking about whether we should reform judicial retention elections. Some suggest that judges should campaign to stay on the court while others suggest that such campaigns undermine judicial independence. Which group do you agree with?

With Opinion on Gay Marriage

Opinion on Gay Marriage	Legally marry	Civil Unions but not Marriage	No legal representation	Total
	%	%	%	%
There should be campaigns	21.1	22.8	19.5	21.3
Campaigns would undermine judicial decision making	60.9	65.8	65.2	63.7
Don't Know/Refused	18.0	11.4	15.3	15.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0