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QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

POLL

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OBAMA APPROVAL DROPS TO NEW LOW IN IOWA, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; BRALEY, WHITAKER CLOSE IN SENATE RACE

President Barack Obama gets a negative 38 – 59 percent job approval rating among Iowa voters, according to a poll released today, his lowest score in the state and one of his lowest in any state or national survey conducted by Quinnipiac University.

This compares to a negative 41 – 55 percent approval rating in a July 22 survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University.

President Obama gets negative scores of 30 – 67 percent among men, 45 – 51 percent among women, 7 – 93 percent among Republicans and 31 – 62 percent among independent voters. Democrats approve 82 – 15 percent.

Looking at the 2014 U.S. Senate race, 29 percent see their vote as a vote against Obama, while 14 percent say it is a vote for Obama and 54 percent say Obama is not much of a factor.

In the 2014 Senate race, U.S. Rep. Bruce Braley, the Democrat, gets 43 percent, while U.S. Attorney Matt Whitaker, the Republican, gets 40 percent. Braley tops other possible Republican contenders:

- 44 – 38 percent over State Sen. Joni Ernst;
- 46 – 37 percent over businessman Mark Jacobs;
- 44 – 36 percent over former U.S. Senate aide David Young;
- 45 – 34 percent over radio commentator Sam Clovis;
- 46 – 40 percent over political activist Bob Vander Plaats.

“President Barack Obama twice carried Iowa and it was the Iowa Caucuses which began his march to the presidency, but if he were on the ballot here today he would be toast,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

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Quinnipiac University Poll/December 18, 2013 – page 2

“And, his overwhelmingly negative job approval – including thumbs down from 15 percent of Democrats and 62 percent of independent voters – could be having an impact on the prospects for Iowa Democrats who do face the voters in 2014,” Brown added.

“Half of the voters say their Senate vote will have nothing to do with Obama, but among the other half, twice as many say it is a vote against the president rather than for him. His job approval among women is six points negative, compared to 37 points among men.

Iowa voters say 46 – 41 percent that they want the Republican Party to control the U.S. Senate. Independent voters go Republican 41 – 34 percent. Voters tend Republican on a number of issues which could affect their Senate vote:

- 52 percent are less likely to back a candidate who supports the 2010 Affordable Care Act, with 25 percent more likely and 20 percent who say it makes no difference to their Senate vote;
- 45 percent are less likely to vote for a candidate who supports stricter gun control laws, with 33 percent more likely and 20 percent saying no difference;
- 46 percent are less likely to back a candidate who supports a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, with 24 percent more likely and 27 percent saying no difference.

Working for the Democrats is that 52 percent of voters are less likely to vote for a candidate who supported the government shutdown.

“Almost half of Iowa voters want Republicans to control the U.S. Senate. And even though Democrat U.S. Rep. Bruce Braley defeats his potential GOP opponents in trial heats, when asked about what they want in the views of their next U.S. senator, voters appear to be leaning toward the GOP agenda,” Brown said.

“Iowa voters say 2-1 they want a senator who opposes Obamacare and a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, and by a plurality want someone opposed to stricter gun control.”

From December 10 – 15, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,617 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.4 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Colorado, Iowa and the nation as a public service and for research.

For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).

4. (Split Sample) If the election for United States Senator were being held today, and the candidates were Bruce Braley the Democrat and Matt Whitaker the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Braley	43%	7%	86%	39%	35%	50%
Whitaker	40	79	4	35	48	31
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	-	-	1	1	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	1	3	4	4	2
DK/NA	14	13	6	20	12	16

5. (Split Sample) If the election for United States Senator were being held today, and the candidates were Bruce Braley the Democrat and Joni Ernst the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Braley	44%	4%	88%	44%	39%	49%
Ernst	38	84	4	27	44	31
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	-	-	1	1	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	1	2	2	3	1
DK/NA	15	10	6	25	13	18

6. (Split Sample) If the election for United States Senator were being held today, and the candidates were Bruce Braley the Democrat and Mark Jacobs the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Braley	46%	8%	90%	45%	38%	54%
Jacobs	37	79	3	31	45	29
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	-	-	1	1	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	1	1	4	3	2
DK/NA	14	12	6	19	13	15

7. (Split Sample) If the election for United States Senator were being held today, and the candidates were Bruce Braley the Democrat and David Young the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Braley	44%	8%	89%	43%	41%	47%
Young	36	74	2	29	41	31
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	2	-	1	1	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	2	1	4	4	2
DK/NA	16	14	7	22	14	18

8. (Split Sample) If the election for United States Senator were being held today, and the candidates were Bruce Braley the Democrat and Sam Clovis the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Braley	45%	9%	88%	44%	38%	51%
Clovis	34	76	1	24	43	26
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	-	-	2	2	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	2	3	4	3	3
DK/NA	17	13	7	25	15	19

9. (Split Sample) If the election for United States Senator were being held today, and the candidates were Bruce Braley the Democrat and Bob Vander Plaats the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Braley	46%	7%	88%	46%	38%	52%
Vander Plaats	40	80	5	36	47	34
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	-	-	1	1	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	3	1	2	3	2
DK/NA	11	10	6	15	10	12

22. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chuck Grassley is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	60%	78%	38%	60%	62%	58%
Disapprove	30	13	50	29	30	30
DK/NA	10	9	12	11	8	12

	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	30%	56%	78%	58%	57%	61%	62%
Disapprove	60	33	15	27	27	33	33
DK/NA	9	11	7	15	15	6	5

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chuck Grassley is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Dec 18 2013	Jul 19 2013	May 23 2013
Approve	60	59	52
Disapprove	30	29	33
DK/NA	10	12	15

23. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Tom Harkin is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	50%	32%	74%	47%	45%	54%
Disapprove	38	57	14	40	46	30
DK/NA	12	11	13	13	9	15

	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	71%	61%	32%	52%	47%	51%	52%
Disapprove	14	28	59	24	39	41	40
DK/NA	15	12	9	24	14	8	9

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Tom Harkin is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Dec 18 2013	Jul 19 2013	May 23 2013
Approve	50	50	47
Disapprove	38	35	35
DK/NA	12	15	18

24. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Approve	38%	7%	82%	31%	30%	45%	
Disapprove	59	93	15	62	67	51	
DK/NA	4	1	2	7	3	4	
POLITICAL PHILSPHY							
	Lib	Mod	Con	AGE IN	YRS.....		
				18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	82%	45%	12%	35%	32%	43%	42%
Disapprove	16	50	85	62	64	54	54
DK/NA	2	5	3	3	4	3	4

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

	Dec 18 2013	Jul 22 2013	May 24 2013
Approve	38	41	45
Disapprove	59	55	50
DK/NA	4	4	6

32. And if the election were today, would you want to see the Republican Party or the Democratic Party win control of the United States Senate?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
Republican Party	46%	95%	2%	41%	54%	38%	
Democratic Party	41	2	94	34	33	48	
DK/NA	13	3	4	25	12	14	
POLITICAL PHILSPHY							
	Lib	Mod	Con	AGE IN	YRS.....		
				18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Republican Party	6%	31%	80%	46%	50%	43%	43%
Democratic Party	85	51	12	41	35	46	44
DK/NA	10	17	8	13	16	11	12

33. Do you think of your vote for United States Senator as a vote for Barack Obama, or as a vote against Barack Obama, or isn't Barack Obama much of a factor in your vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
For Obama	14%	1%	39%	7%	9%	19%	
Against Obama	29	57	3	27	34	25	
Not much of a factor	54	40	56	63	54	53	
DK/NA	3	2	3	3	3	3	
POLITICAL PHILSPHY							
	Lib	Mod	Con	AGE IN	YRS.....		
				18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
For Obama	36%	15%	4%	13%	11%	17%	16%
Against Obama	6	20	50	30	30	27	30
Not much of a factor	56	63	44	54	58	53	48
DK/NA	2	3	3	3	2	2	6

34. If a candidate for United States Senator - supports the 2010 health care law passed by President Obama and Congress, would you be more likely to vote for a candidate who held this position, less likely, or wouldn't it make a difference?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
More likely	25%	2%	62%	16%	20%	29%	
Less likely	52	89	11	53	60	45	
No difference	20	8	22	28	18	22	
DK/NA	3	1	5	3	2	4	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
More likely	69%	27%	4%	23%	18%	29%	31%
Less likely	13	44	79	49	60	47	48
No difference	16	27	15	28	19	21	17
DK/NA	2	3	2	-	3	2	5

35. If a candidate for United States Senator - supports stricter gun control laws, would you be more likely to vote for a candidate who held this position, less likely, or wouldn't it make a difference?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
More likely	33%	15%	64%	27%	25%	41%	
Less likely	45	64	15	48	57	33	
No difference	20	19	19	23	17	23	
DK/NA	2	1	1	2	1	2	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
More likely	62%	38%	17%	30%	24%	40%	43%
Less likely	18	36	65	53	54	37	34
No difference	18	25	17	17	22	22	19
DK/NA	2	1	2	1	1	1	4

36. If a candidate for United States Senator - supports a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, would you be more likely to vote for a candidate who held this position, less likely, or wouldn't it make a difference?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	
More likely	24%	13%	46%	16%	21%	26%	
Less likely	46	63	22	48	47	44	
No difference	27	21	29	31	29	25	
DK/NA	4	3	2	5	3	5	
	POLITICAL PHILSPHY			AGE IN YRS.....			
	Lib	Mod	Con	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
More likely	57%	23%	12%	24%	18%	27%	28%
Less likely	16	43	62	43	51	43	43
No difference	26	31	23	32	29	27	22
DK/NA	2	4	3	1	2	3	7

