

University of Iowa, Iowa Policy and Opinion Lab Poll – Topline Results
Majority of Iowans Supports Racial Justice Policing Reforms
April 4, 2022
February online poll of Iowans

Sample: 883 voting-age residents in Iowa, margin of error +/-3.4%.

About: The Iowa Policy and Opinion Lab Poll was fielded Feb. 10 to Feb. 25, 2022.

The poll was designed by the Iowa Policy and Opinion Lab, comprised of University of Iowa faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students. The Iowa Policy and Opinion Lab is co-directed by Frederick J. Boehmke, professor of political science, and Kajsia Dalrymple, professor of journalism and mass communication. The poll is a teaching, research, and service project, and collaborated with the Iowa Social Science Research Center directed by Frederick J. Boehmke. The University of Iowa Public Policy Center provided support for this poll as part of its student success mission, intended to expand experiential policy-relevant research for UI students.

The Iowa Social Science Research Center (ISRC) contracted with a respected web panel vendor to field the survey to a demographically representative sample of up to 900 respondents. Respondents invited to complete the web survey were Iowa adults, aged 18-120 years, recruited for participation via web panel. To obtain a census-representative sample, quotas were set on the following demographics: sex, age, and urbanicity.

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Respondent identification: All respondents who stated they were older than 18 and willing to participate in the survey were included. To obtain a census-representative sample, quotas were set on the following demographics: sex, age, and urbanicity.

Weighting: Reported results are weighted by age, sex, and party identification.

In the last two years, many states including Iowa, have considered a wide variety of reforms to policing and sentencing. Please let us know whether you support or oppose it for Iowa:

Increased criminal penalties for protest-related crimes

	%
Strongly support	17.1
Support	21.6
Neutral	23.8
Oppose	16.1
Strongly Oppose	16.8
Don't Know/Declined	4.6
Total	100.0

Reducing state funding for cities that reduce police funding

	%
Strongly support	20.8
Support	23.1
Neutral	18.1
Oppose	14.2
Strongly Oppose	16.6
Don't Know/Declined	7.2
Total	100.0

Collecting information on who police stop in order to reduce racial profiling by law

	%
Strongly support	25.5
Support	30.6
Neutral	20.5
Oppose	10.0
Strongly Oppose	7.0
Don't Know/Declined	6.5
Total	100.0

Prohibit disparate treatment of minority populations by law enforcement

	%
Strongly support	32.3
Support	28.9
Neutral	20.0
Oppose	6.2
Strongly Oppose	4.4
Don't Know/Declined	8.3
Total	100.0

Criminal sentencing reform to reduce sentences for non-violent drug and property crimes

	%
Strongly support	29.4
Support	29.3
Neutral	19.1
Oppose	10.6
Strongly Oppose	7.1
Don't Know/Declined	4.4
Total	100.0

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or what?

	%
Democrat	29.9
Republican	29.5
Independent	33.5
No preference	5.6
Other	1.6
Total	100.0

Increased criminal penalties for protest-related crimes by political ideology

	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Total
	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	11.3	23.1	19.0	17.8
Support	19.4	28.6	18.9	22.1
Neutral	19.7	23.9	27.2	23.7
Oppose	18.0	13.6	16.1	15.9
Strongly Oppose	27.3	7.4	13.5	16.0
Don't Know/Declined	4.2	3.4	5.3	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Reducing state funding for cities that reduce police funding by political ideology

	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Total
	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	12.4	32.8	20.8	21.9
Support	16.3	33.2	22.2	23.8
Neutral	22.2	12.6	17.1	17.3
Oppose	18.8	6.2	16.6	14.0
Strongly Oppose	21.8	12.0	15.0	16.2
Don't Know/Declined	8.4	3.3	8.4	6.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Collecting information on who police stop in order to reduce racial profiling by law enforcement by political ideology

	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Total
	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	44.0	12.9	20.0	25.5
Support	28.7	27.6	34.3	30.4
Neutral	16.7	22.1	21.5	20.2
Oppose	3.8	16.6	10.3	10.2
Strongly Oppose	2.7	14.0	5.2	7.2
Don't Know/Declined	4.0	6.8	8.6	6.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Prohibit disparate treatment of minority populations by law enforcement by political ideology

	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Total
	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	49.9	15.9	32.4	32.8
Support	23.7	32.9	30.1	28.9
Neutral	14.1	25.7	19.6	19.8
Oppose	5.4	8.4	4.9	6.2
Strongly Oppose	2.4	7.2	3.4	4.2
Don't Know/Declined	4.6	9.9	9.6	8.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Criminal sentencing reform to reduce sentences for non-violent drug and property crimes by political ideology

	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Total
	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	39.8	20.8	26.4	29.0
Support	30.6	29.7	30.2	30.1
Neutral	18.2	19.7	18.0	18.6
Oppose	6.4	15.7	10.7	10.9
Strongly Oppose	2.0	11.7	8.0	7.3
Don't Know/Declined	3.0	2.4	6.6	4.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you consider the community that you live in to be urban, suburban, or rural?

	%
Urban	27.5
Suburban	33.7
Rural	38.8
Total	100.0

Increased criminal penalties for protest-related crimes by community

	Urban	Suburban	Rural	Total
	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	15.0	19.6	17.1	17.3
Support	18.7	23.6	21.4	21.4
Neutral	22.1	22.7	25.5	23.7
Oppose	17.2	12.9	18.6	16.3
Strongly Oppose	20.6	16.1	14.8	16.9
Don't Know/Declined	6.5	5.1	2.6	4.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Reducing state funding for cities that reduce police funding by community

	Urban	Suburban	Rural	Total
	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	16.4	21.9	23.0	20.8
Support	23.9	20.5	25.1	23.2
Neutral	16.8	18.7	18.1	17.9
Oppose	16.0	13.8	13.7	14.4
Strongly Oppose	16.2	18.7	15.0	16.6
Don't Know/Declined	10.7	6.4	5.1	7.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Collecting information on who police stop in order to reduce racial profiling by law enforcement by community

	Urban	Suburban	Rural	Total
	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	31.2	27.7	19.1	25.3
Support	31.8	30.0	30.5	30.7
Neutral	16.6	19.8	23.4	20.3
Oppose	7.4	8.0	13.6	10.0
Strongly Oppose	6.4	6.2	8.4	7.1
Don't Know/Declined	6.6	8.4	5.0	6.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Criminal sentencing reform to reduce sentences for non-violent drug and property crimes by following the news

	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Only now and then	Hardly ever	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	40.5	22.9	31.5	28.8	31.6	29.5
Support	24.2	34.6	32.0	26.2	24.4	29.8
Neutral	11.0	15.5	18.2	23.9	23.5	19.1
Oppose	12.9	13.9	10.8	10.3	6.2	10.8
Strongly Oppose	11.4	7.9	5.5	5.7	8.8	6.9
Don't Know/ Declined	0.0	5.2	2.0	5.1	5.5	3.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Last year, this is in 2021, what was your approximate income from all sources, before taxes?

	%
Less than \$20,000	18.4
\$20,000 to \$40,000	26.2
\$40,000 to \$75,000	27.1
\$75,000 or more	28.2
Total	100.0

Increased criminal penalties for protest-related crimes by income

	Less than \$20,000	\$20,000 to \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$75,000	\$75,000 or more	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	13.2	19.5	15.9	18.8	17.2
Support	20.0	21.4	22.5	22.0	21.6
Neutral	24.2	24.9	27.9	19.4	24.1
Oppose	12.8	15.0	17.7	16.7	15.8
Strongly Oppose	21.8	14.4	12.3	19.8	16.7
Don't Know/ Declined	8.1	4.8	3.7	3.3	4.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Reducing state funding for cities that reduce police funding by income

	Less than \$20,000	\$20,000 to \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$75,000	\$75,000 or more	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	18.2	20.9	21.8	21.9	20.9
Support	18.0	21.4	24.6	26.4	23.1
Neutral	19.3	18.8	17.2	17.1	18.0
Oppose	14.1	13.7	15.0	14.7	14.4
Strongly Oppose	18.0	18.6	15.2	15.6	16.8
Don't Know/ Declined	12.3	6.5	6.1	4.3	6.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Collecting information on who police stop in order to reduce racial profiling by law enforcement by income

Stop Data	Less than \$20,000	\$20,000 to \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$75,000	\$75,000 or more	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	28.9	28.5	22.0	25.1	25.8
Support	22.1	28.4	31.9	37.5	30.8
Neutral	23.9	18.2	23.4	17.4	20.5
Oppose	9.1	10.7	10.2	8.7	9.7
Strongly Oppose	6.7	6.8	5.2	8.3	6.8
Don't Know/ Declined	9.3	7.4	7.3	2.9	6.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Prohibit disparate treatment of minority populations by law enforcement by income

	Less than \$20,000	\$20,000 to \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$75,000	\$75,000 or more	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	39.7	28.3	31.4	33.2	32.6
Support	19.2	31.3	29.1	31.3	28.5
Neutral	19.6	21.3	22.3	18.3	20.4
Oppose	4.7	7.5	7.1	5.3	6.2
Strongly Oppose	4.7	2.6	4.2	5.1	4.1
Don't Know/ Declined	12.0	8.9	6.0	6.8	8.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Criminal sentencing reform to reduce sentences for non-violent drug and property crimes by income

	Less than \$20,000	\$20,000 to \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$75,000	\$75,000 or more	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	41.6	27.3	23.1	30.3	29.7
Support	13.7	35.3	29.7	32.3	29.0
Neutral	22.1	15.2	23.0	17.8	19.3
Oppose	6.9	10.2	13.7	10.0	10.5
Strongly Oppose	7.8	7.0	6.5	8.0	7.3
Don't Know/ Declined	7.9	5.0	4.0	1.6	4.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0