

April 29, 2021

Release is effective immediately

Hawkeye Poll: *Slight majority of Iowans opposes permitless carry*

According to a recent Hawkeye Poll — conducted by University of Iowa faculty and students between March 23 and April 12 — a slight majority of Iowans opposes permitless carry in the state. Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds signed a law allowing the permitless carry and purchase of firearms on April 2.

53.7% of respondents said they strongly opposed (39.9%) or somewhat opposed (13.8%) allowing the purchase and carrying of handguns without a permit, while 32.7% of respondents said they strongly supported (19.1%) or somewhat supported (13.6%) the measure.

Among Democrats, 23.3% either strongly or somewhat support permitless carry, while 70.2% somewhat or strongly oppose. 46.3% of Republicans strongly or somewhat support the measure, and 37.8% somewhat or strongly oppose. Independents fell in between, with 29.6% somewhat or strongly supporting the measure and 56.6% somewhat or strongly opposing it.

Opposition to removing the permit requirement was strongest among suburban residents, with 57.9% either opposed or strongly opposed to the measure. Urban residents were more supportive than rural residents, with 37.5% of urban residents either strongly supporting or somewhat supporting the measure, while 34.4% of rural residents said the same.

There were differences in support for the permit requirement between men and women. 50.8% of women strongly opposed removing the permit requirement, compared to 28.5% of men.

The University of Iowa Department of Political Science has conducted the Hawkeye Poll since 2007. A series of national and state public opinion polls, this experience serves as an important learning opportunity for students. Over 1000 students have had the opportunity to directly participate in the research and survey process and to acquire valuable career-related knowledge about survey research and public polling in general. This year 17 students collaborated to design and implement a poll of Iowans. Learn more about the course at <https://now.uiowa.edu/2019/11/taking-iowas-pulse-hawkeye-poll>.

Respondent Identification: The Iowa Social Science Research Center (ISRC) assisted with data collection. Responses were gathered by phone (89) and by web (903). For the phone portion, the ISRC obtained a random sample of Iowans consisting of 40% household landline numbers and 60% mobile phone numbers. All respondents who stated they were over age 18 and willing to participate in the survey were included. After training, students in the class used the ISRC's computer-assisted interviewing resources to complete the calling and interviews. No quotas were set for the phone component. For the web portion, the ISRC contracted with a respected web panel vendor to field the survey to a demographically representative sample of 903 web 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 party identification.

Sample: 992 voting-age resident in Iowa (903 by web and 89 by phone), margin of error +/-3.2%

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

About the Hawkeye Poll

The poll was conducted by the Hawkeye Poll Cooperative, comprised of University of Iowa faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students in the Political Science departments. The poll is a teaching, research, and service project, which uses the facilities of the Iowa Social Science Research Center directed by Frederick J. Boehmke, professor of political science and faculty advisor for the poll. The Department of Political Science, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the University of Iowa Public Policy Center support the poll; financial support was provided through a Student Technology Fee award (#1290-91).

Caleb McCullough, Rylee Wilson, and Jon Rodriguez assisted with the preparation of this release.

CONTACT:

Frederick Boehmke, Faculty Advisor for the Hawkeye Poll, 319-335-2342 (office), 716-866-9277 (cell), frederick-boehmke@uiowa.edu.

###