

## Election 2008: Iowa Presidential Election

Iowa: Obama takes 10% lead over McCain  
Monday, July 14, 2008

Barack Obama has taken a double-digit lead over John McCain 48% to 38% in the latest Rasmussen Reports telephone survey in Iowa. When “leaners” are included, the Democrat is ahead 51% to 41%.

In June, Obama enjoyed a seven-point lead in the battleground state. That lead represented a push for Obama from May, when he was ahead by just 2 percentage points. McCain has held steady now at 38% for two months in a row.

The race is closer among voters not affiliated with either political party. Among those voters, Obama has a 38% to 34% lead. In June, Obama had a much larger lead 44% to 29% lead among those voters.

As he does nationally, Obama continues to do much better among women than men in Iowa. The Democrat has a commanding 52% to 34% lead among women voters in Iowa, but the two candidates are tied at 43% among men.

Obama is viewed favorably by 59% of Iowa voters and unfavorably by 38%. McCain’s numbers are 56% favorable, 40% unfavorable.

A plurality of Iowa voters(40%) thinks the economy is the most important issue in the upcoming election. National security comes in a distant second, with 25% who see it as the top issue.

When it comes to high fuel prices, 58% of Iowan voters think drilling in offshore oil wells should be allowed, while 50% think gas prices would likely go down if this practice were implemented. Forty-six percent (46%) think the United States should allow oil drilling of the Alaskan Wildlife Refuge, but 41% disagree.

However, voters are less enthusiastic about the idea of controlling their own energy use. Most Iowa voters (60%) oppose a reduction of the national speed limit to 55 mph, and 62% do not think lowering the speed limit would reduce the price of gas.

Forty-four percent (44%) think it is more important to protect the environment than to reduce fuel prices, but 41% disagree.

Just 29% of Iowa voters think President Bush is doing a good or excellent job as president. Over half (52%) think he is doing a poor job.