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# QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL

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## **HILLARY CLINTON TOPS RUBIO, PAUL IN 2016 IOWA PRES RACE, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; VOTERS KNOW LITTLE ABOUT U.S. SENATE CANDIDATES**

If the 2016 presidential election were today, Iowa voters back former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton over Republican Senators Marco Rubio of Florida or Rand Paul of Kentucky, but Vice President Joseph Biden trails Rand and ties Rubio in the Hawkeye State, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Iowa voters disapprove 50 – 45 percent of the job President Barack Obama is doing, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds.

And, the 2014 race for Iowa’s open U.S. Senate seat at this point features a bunch of candidates who are unknown to most Iowa voters.

In an early look at the 2016 White House race, Ms. Clinton would defeat Sen. Rubio of Florida 48 – 37 percent. In a race against Sen. Paul of Kentucky, she would have a very small 46 – 42 percent margin.

Vice President Biden gets 39 percent to Rubio’s 40 percent and he trails Paul 44 – 39 percent.

“The major difference between former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Vice President Joseph Biden is that she runs much better among independent voters, although Sen. Rand Paul runs better among that key group than either Democrat,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

“In general Sen. Paul appears to be the better GOP candidate at this point in Iowa. Part of the reason may be the publicity from his recent high-profile visit to the state, but more likely is that he begins with a solid base of support – the folks who voted for his father in the 2008 and 2012 caucuses.”

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In a Clinton-Paul race, she carries Democrats 89 – 4 percent, while he leads 82 – 9 percent among Republicans and 44 – 38 percent among independent voters. Clinton wins women 53 – 34 percent, but loses men 49 – 39 percent.

Iowa independent voters back Paul over Biden 45 – 29 percent, while the vice president takes Democrats 80 – 7 percent, but lose Republicans 84 – 6 percent. Paul leads among men 51 – 34 percent and loses women 43 – 37 percent.

President Obama, who has carried Iowa in both of his White House campaigns, gets a 53 – 39 percent disapproval rating from independent voters. He gets an overwhelming 83 – 12 percent thumbs up from Democrats and an equally overwhelming 85 – 10 percent thumbs down from Republicans. There is a gender gap as men disapprove of the president 54 – 41 percent while women are divided with 48 percent approving and 45 percent disapproving.

“The president’s approval numbers may reflect the news media coverage in recent days over the IRS, Benghazi and Justice Department allegations,” said Brown. “As will be true nationally, the question is whether his numbers will drop if these matters remain the focus of news media attention.”

The decision by U.S. Sen. Tom Harkin not to seek re-election, and the decision by many better known candidates not to seek the seat, leaves a group of potential candidates so unknown to voters that more than half don’t know enough about any of them to have an opinion.

The best known of the bunch is the one Democrat in the race, Congressman Bruce Braley who is viewed favorably by 27 percent and unfavorably by 14 percent while 57 percent don’t know enough about him to form an opinion.

But Braley is well-known compared to possible Republican contenders. The percentages of Iowa voters who don’t know enough about them to form an opinion of Matt Whitaker, Joni Ernst, Matt Schultz, David Young and A.J. Spiker ranges from 81 to 94 percent.

“Iowans can look forward to a lot of television ads as all these candidates try to introduce themselves to the folks who have no idea who they are,” said Brown. “Braley is clearly better known than the Republicans, but he too is an unknown to a majority of Iowa voters.”

From May 15 – 21, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,411 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.6 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, 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](#).**

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom				
Approve	45%	10%	83%	39%	41%	48%				
Disapprove	50	85	12	53	54	45				
DK/NA	6	4	5	8	4	7				
	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL	HSHOLD	INC	AGE IN YRS.....				
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	
Approve	48%	43%	46%	46%	43%	52%	39%	44%	46%	
Disapprove	48	50	47	51	54	39	56	51	49	
DK/NA	4	7	7	3	3	9	5	5	5	

7. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Marco Rubio the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom			
Clinton	48%	11%	89%	41%	43%	53%			
Rubio	37	80	3	36	44	31			
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	1	1	5	3	2			
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	2	2	5	4	3			
DK/NA	9	7	5	12	7	11			
	WHITE.....								
	COLLEGE DEG						BornAgnEv		
	Yes	No	Prot	Cath	Men	Wom	Yes	No	
Clinton	46%	48%	41%	45%	42%	52%	32%	49%	
Rubio	46	35	45	38	45	32	53	37	
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	3	2	2	3	2	1	2	
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	1	4	3	1	4	3	4	2	
DK/NA	5	11	10	15	7	11	10	9	
	COLLEGE DEG		ANNUAL	HSHOLD	INC	AGE IN YRS.....			
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+
Clinton	48%	48%	51%	49%	42%	51%	45%	48%	48%
Rubio	45	35	33	37	52	32	37	39	38
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	3	3	3	1	4	5	2	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	1	4	4	2	2	5	5	2	3
DK/NA	5	10	9	9	3	8	8	9	9

8. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Joe Biden the Democrat and Marco Rubio the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom				
Biden	39%	6%	78%	32%	36%	42%				
Rubio	40	80	7	40	47	34				
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	4	2	3	6	5	3				
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	4	3	2	6	3	5				
DK/NA	13	9	10	16	9	16				
WHITE.....										
COLLEGE DEG										
	Yes	No	Prot	Cath	Men	Wom	Born	Agn	Ev	
Biden	38%	39%	33%	35%	35%	41%	25%	39%		
Rubio	49	37	47	41	48	34	55	39		
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	2	4	3	3	4	3	1	4		
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	4	3	2	3	4	4	3		
DK/NA	9	15	14	20	10	17	15	14		
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HSHOLD INC AGE IN YRS.....										
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	
Biden	39%	39%	41%	45%	32%	44%	38%	38%	39%	
Rubio	47	37	36	38	54	37	37	42	41	
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	4	5	3	3	5	6	3	2	
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	4	4	2	3	3	5	4	4	
DK/NA	8	15	14	12	9	11	14	12	14	

9. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton the Democrat and Rand Paul the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom				
Clinton	46%	9%	89%	38%	39%	53%				
Paul	42	82	4	44	49	34				
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	2	2	4	3	3				
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	3	1	4	3	2				
DK/NA	7	4	4	10	6	8				
WHITE.....										
COLLEGE DEG										
	Yes	No	Prot	Cath	Men	Wom	Born	Agn	Ev	
Clinton	47%	45%	40%	46%	38%	53%	30%	49%		
Paul	43	42	50	40	51	35	58	39		
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3		
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	1	3	2	1	3	2	4	2		
DK/NA	5	7	5	11	6	7	5	8		
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HSHOLD INC AGE IN YRS.....										
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	
Clinton	49%	45%	48%	47%	41%	42%	44%	48%	48%	
Paul	42	41	40	39	53	46	41	42	38	
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	3	3	3	1	2	5	3	1	
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	1	3	3	1	1	3	1	2	5	
DK/NA	5	8	6	9	3	7	8	6	8	

10. If the election for President were being held today, and the candidates were Joe Biden the Democrat and Rand Paul the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom				
Biden	39%	6%	80%	29%	34%	43%				
Paul	44	84	7	45	51	37				
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	2	2	6	4	3				
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	4	2	3	6	4	3				
DK/NA	11	6	9	14	8	13				
WHITE.....										
COLLEGE DEG										
	Yes	No	Prot	Cath	Men	Wom	Born	Agn	Ev	
Biden	42%	36%	32%	38%	33%	42%	24%	41%		
Paul	45	44	52	42	52	38	58	40		
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	3	2	3	3	4	2	4		
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	4	3	2	5	3	4	3		
DK/NA	8	12	10	15	8	13	12	11		
COLLEGE DEG ANNUAL HSHOLD INC AGE IN YRS.....										
	Yes	No	<50K	50-100	>100K	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	
Biden	42%	37%	40%	41%	35%	38%	38%	38%	40%	
Paul	44	44	42	42	56	45	44	45	41	
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	3	4	3	2	3	5	3	3	
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	3	4	4	2	2	5	1	4	5	
DK/NA	8	12	10	12	6	8	13	10	12	

11. Is your opinion of Bruce Braley favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	27%	13%	41%	28%	30%	24%
Unfavorable	14	23	4	14	17	10
Hvn't hrd enough	57	61	52	56	51	62
REFUSED	2	3	2	2	1	4

12. Is your opinion of Matt Whitaker favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	8%	8%	4%	11%	10%	6%
Unfavorable	4	2	5	5	6	3
Hvn't hrd enough	86	88	90	83	82	90
REFUSED	1	1	1	1	1	1

13. Is your opinion of Joni Ernst favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about her?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	5%	4%	5%	5%	6%	3%
Unfavorable	3	1	3	4	4	2
Hvn't hrd enough	92	94	91	91	89	94
REFUSED	1	-	1	-	1	1

14. Is your opinion of Matt Schultz favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	11%	13%	5%	14%	15%	7%
Unfavorable	7	3	11	8	10	5
Hvn't hrd enough	81	84	82	77	74	87
REFUSED	1	-	2	1	-	2

15. Is your opinion of David Young favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	3%	4%	3%	2%	4%	1%
Unfavorable	2	1	2	1	2	2
Hvn't hrd enough	94	94	94	96	93	96
REFUSED	1	1	1	-	1	1

16. Is your opinion of AJ Spiker favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	2%	3%	1%	2%	3%	2%
Unfavorable	6	4	6	7	9	3
Hvn't hrd enough	91	93	92	89	88	95
REFUSED	1	-	1	1	1	1