

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

For More Information:

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The University of Montana Big Sky Poll collects and reports information about Montanans' perceptions of local, state, and federal issues. The poll is directed by Dr. Sara Rinfret, Associate Professor and Director of the Master of Public Administration Program, and Dr. Justin Angle, Associate Professor of Marketing and Warren and Betsy Wilcox Faculty Fellow.

The UM Big Sky Poll online survey was conducted from February 21 – March 1, 2019 with 293 registered Montana voters. The margin of error (MOE) is +/- 5.72 at a 95 percent confidence level. Survey results were weighted by geography and gender to more accurately reflect demographics of the registered voter population in Montana. Due to rounding, totals may not equal 100 percent.

*Use of poll findings requires attribution to the University of Montana Big Sky Poll.

Elected Official Job Performance

Question: Do you think each of the following elected officials or elected bodies are doing an excellent, good, fair or poor job?

President Donald Trump

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)					
Excellent	28.6%	29.8%	27.0%	26.7%	30.8%	-	58.7%	21.5%
Good	15.9%	14.6%	17.2%	15.9%	16.2%	2.6%	26.0%	16.1%
Fair	9.0%	9.9%	8.2%	8.5%	9.4%	5.1%	5.8%	14.0%
Poor	46.6%	45.6%	47.5%	48.9%	43.6%	92.3%	9.6%	48.4%

	18 to 26	27 to 46	47 to 66	67 or older
Excellent	12.5%	33.3%	26.6%	31.3%
Good	25.0%	10.6%	15.6%	19.3%
Fair	12.5%	10.6%	7.8%	8.4%
Poor	50.0%	45.5%	50.0%	41.0%

	Some	High	Some	Associate's	Bachelor's	Post-Bac.
	High	School/	College	Degree	Degree	(Ph.D.,
	School	GED	_	_	-	J.D., etc.)
Excellent	33.3%	26.2%	29.6%	43.3%	29.3%	21.0%
Good	-	14.3%	19.8%	20.0%	14.7%	12.9%
Fair	33.3%	7.1%	4.9%	10.0%	13.3%	8.1%
Poor	33.3%	52.4%	45.7%	26.7%	42.7%	58.1%

Senator Jon Tester

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)				_	
Excellent	28.7%	28.2%	29.8%	29.5%	27.4%	63.3%	5.8%	28.0%
Good	21.7%	22.9%	19.8%	25.6%	16.2%	29.1%	14.4%	21.5%
Fair	16.3%	19.4%	11.6%	14.2%	18.8%	5.1%	21.2%	18.3%
Poor	33.3%	29.4%	38.8%	30.7%	37.6%	2.5%	58.7%	32.3%

	18 to 26	27 to 46	47 to 66	67 or older
Excellent	33.3%	24.2%	26.4%	36.1%
Good	26.7%	19.7%	24.0%	19.3%
Fair	6.7%	24.2%	16.3%	10.8%
Poor	33.3%	31.8%	33.3%	33.7%

	Some High School	High School/ GED	Some College	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)
Excellent	33.3%	35.7%	30.0%	6.7%	20.0%	45.2%
Good	33.3%	16.7%	25.0%	23.3%	22.7%	17.7%
Fair	-	28.6%	7.5%	26.7%	20.0%	9.7%
Poor	33.3%	19.0%	37.5%	43.3%	37.3%	27.4%

Senator Steve Daines

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)				_	
Excellent	19.4%	13.5%	27.9%	17.7%	22.0%	3.8%	33.7%	18.3%
Good	28.3%	33.3%	20.5%	28.0%	28.8%	21.8%	37.5%	23.7%
Fair	29.1%	32.2%	24.6%	30.3%	27.1%	28.2%	25.0%	35.5%
Poor	23.3%	21.1%	27.0%	24.0%	22.0%	46.2%	3.8%	22.6%

	18 to 26	27 to 46	47 to 66	67 or older
Excellent	13.3%	13.6%	20.8%	22.9%
Good	26.7%	27.3%	26.9%	31.3%
Fair	53.3%	34.8%	28.5%	20.5%
Poor	6.7%	24.2%	23.8%	25.3%

	Some	High	Some	Associate's	Bachelor's	Post-Bac.
	High	School/	College	Degree	Degree	(Ph.D.,
	School	GED	_	_	-	J.D., etc.)
Excellent	-	11.9%	17.5%	28.1%	19.7%	22.6%
Good	33.3%	28.6%	33.8%	34.4%	23.7%	22.6%
Fair	-	33.3%	30.0%	28.1%	43.4%	9.7%
Poor	66.7%	26.2%	18.8%	9.4%	13.2%	45.2%

House Representative Greg Gianforte

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)				_	
Excellent	14.9%	12.4%	18.7%	16.5%	12.9%	1.3%	31.7%	9.7%
Good	22.8%	25.9%	17.9%	19.3%	27.6%	5.1%	36.5%	22.6%
Fair	24.7%	27.6%	21.1%	26.1%	22.4%	20.3%	21.2%	32.3%
Poor	37.7%	34.1%	42.3%	38.1%	37.1%	73.4%	10.6%	35.5%

	18 to 26	27 to 46	47 to 66	67 or older
Excellent	6.3%	14.9%	12.5%	19.5%
Good	43.8%	23.9%	21.1%	20.7%
Fair	18.8%	32.8%	21.9%	24.4%
Poor	31.3%	28.4%	44.5%	35.4%

	Some High School	High School/ GED	Some College	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)
Excellent	-	11.9%	11.1%	26.7%	16.0%	16.1%
Good	33.3%	28.6%	25.9%	33.3%	17.3%	16.1%
Fair	33.3%	14.3%	27.2%	10.0%	40.0%	16.1%
Poor	33.3%	45.2%	35.8%	30.0%	26.7%	51.6%

U.S. Congress

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)				-	
Excellent	2.9%	4.1%	0.8%	3.4%	1.7%	1.3%	4.9%	3.2%
Good	16.0%	17.1%	14.0%	17.0%	14.7%	26.9%	15.5%	5.3%
Fair	35.0%	37.1%	32.2%	34.1%	36.2%	41.0%	30.1%	37.2%
Poor	46.1%	41.8%	52.9%	45.5%	47.4%	30.8%	49.5%	54.3%

	18 to 26	27 to 46	47 to 66	67 or older
Excellent	6.3%	4.5%	2.3%	2.4%
Good	12.5%	30.3%	13.2%	8.4%
Fair	62.5%	37.9%	35.7%	26.5%
Poor	18.8%	27.3%	48.8%	62.7%

	Some	High	Some	Associate's	Bachelor's	Post-Bac.
	High	School/	College	Degree	Degree	(Ph.D.,
	School	GED				J.D., etc.)
Excellent	-	7.0%	3.7%	-	2.7%	1.6%
Good	33.3%	20.9%	19.8%	19.4%	12.0%	9.7%
Fair	-	44.2%	27.2%	22.6%	42.7%	37.1%
Poor	66.7%	27.9%	49.4%	58.1%	42.7%	51.6%

Governor Steve Bullock

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)					
Excellent	21.3%	19.4%	24.6%	21.6%	20.5%	43.6%	8.7%	18.1%
Good	31.7%	36.5%	24.6%	34.1%	28.2%	39.7%	25.0%	31.9%
Fair	25.6%	28.8%	21.3%	25.6%	25.6%	16.7%	30.8%	28.7%
Poor	21.4%	15.3%	29.5%	18.8%	25.6%	-	35.6%	21.3%

	18 to 26	27 to 46	47 to 66	67 or older
Excellent	6.3%	16.7%	22.5%	25.3%
Good	25.0%	24.2%	33.3%	36.1%
Fair	56.3%	33.3%	22.5%	19.3%
Poor	12.5%	25.8%	21.7%	19.3%

	Some High School	High School/ GED	Some College	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)
Excellent	33.3%	35.7%	18.5%	9.7%	16.0%	25.8%
Good	33.3%	28.6%	32.1%	25.8%	26.7%	40.3%
Fair	-	28.6%	24.7%	16.1%	30.7%	24.2%
Poor	33.3%	7.1%	24.7%	48.4%	26.7%	9.7%

Montana Legislature

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)				_	
Excellent	3.7%	4.1%	3.3%	4.5%	2.6%	6.4%	4.8%	1.1%
Good	41.3%	46.2%	34.4%	40.7%	41.9%	39.7%	50.0%	34.0%
Fair	43.2%	42.1%	44.3%	44.6%	41.0%	39.7%	39.4%	48.9%
Poor	11.8%	7.6%	18.0%	10.2%	14.5%	14.1%	5.8%	16.0%

	18 to 26	27 to 46	47 to 66	67 or older
Excellent	13.3%	4.5%	3.1%	1.2%
Good	40.0%	36.4%	38.3%	51.2%
Fair	46.7%	47.0%	43.8%	39.0%
Poor	-	12.1%	14.8%	8.5%

	Some	High	Some	Associate's	Bachelor's	Post-Bac.
	High	School/	College	Degree	Degree	(Ph.D.,
	School	GED	_	_	-	J.D., etc.)
Excellent	-	7.1%	4.9%	3.2%	2.7%	1.6%
Good	33.3%	45.2%	42.0%	41.9%	36.0%	43.5%
Fair	33.3%	35.7%	42.0%	45.2%	52.0%	37.1%
Poor	33.3%	11.9%	11.1%	9.7%	9.3%	17.7%

2020 Election

Question: If the election for US President was held today, which one of the following potential
candidates would you vote for? [can only select one]

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)				•	
Donald	40%	40.6%	39.3%	36.4%	45.3%	1.3%	78.1%	31.6%
Trump								
Beto	3.4%	2.4%	4.9%	4.5%	1.7%	7.7%	-	3.2%
O'Rourke								
Elizabeth	5%	4.7%	4.9%	4.0%	6.8%	11.5%	1.0%	3.2%
Warren								
Joe Biden	14.7%	17.6%	9.8%	13.6%	16.2%	32.1%	4.8%	12.6%
Cory Booker	2.4%	1.2%	4.1%	3.4%	0.9%	5.1%	-	3.2%
John Kasich	4.4%	2.9%	6.6%	5.1%	3.4%	1.3%	2.9%	9.5%
Kirsten	1.0%	1.2%	0.8%	1.1%	0.9%	2.6%	-	1.1%
Gillibrand								
Kamala	3.8%	4.1%	3.3%	5.1%	1.7%	11.5%	-	1.1%
Harris								
Bernie	8.4%	8.8%	8.2%	9.7%	6.0%	17.9%	1.0%	9.5%
Sanders								
Howard	1.2%	0.6%	2.5%	2.3%	-	1.3%	-	2.1%
Schultz								
Someone else	11.6%	12.4%	10.7%	9.7%	14.5%	7.7%	9.5%	16.8%
None/I don't	4.0%	3.5%	4.9%	5.1%	2.6%	-	2.9%	6.3%
plan to vote								

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Donald Trump	26.7%	40.9%	38.0%	44.4%
Beto O'Rourke	6.7%	9.1%	1.6%	1.2%
Elizabeth Warren	-	4.5%	5.4%	4.9%
Joe Biden	13.3	7.6%	17.1%	17.3%
Cory Booker	-	-	2.3%	4.9%
John Kasich	-	3.0%	3.1%	8.6%
Kirsten Gillibrand	-	1.5%	1.6%	-
Kamala Harris	-	4.5%	5.4%	1.2%
Bernie Sanders	33.3%	13.6%	7%	2.5%
Howard Schultz	-	-	0.8%	2.5%
Someone else	6.7%	6.1%	16.3%	9.9%
None/I don't plan to vote	13.3%	9.1%	1.6%	2.5%

	Some High	High	Some	Assoc.	Bach.	Post-Bac.
	School	School/	College	Degree	Degree	(Ph.D. ,
		GED				J.D., etc.)
Donald Trump	33.3%	36.6%	45.0%	48.3%	44.6%	29.0%
Beto O'Rourke	-	-	3.8%	-	1.4%	8.1%
Elizabeth	-	9.8%	2.5%	6.9%	1.4%	8.1%
Warren						
Joe Biden	-	14.6%	17.5%	17.2%	10.8%	16.1%
Cory Booker	-	2.4%	2.5%	-	1.4%	4.8%
John Kasich	-	2.4%	2.5%	3.4%	5.4%	6.5%
Kirsten	-	-	2.5%	3.4%	-	-
Gillibrand						
Kamala Harris	-	2.4%	3.8%	-	4.1%	6.5%
Bernie Sanders	-	19.5%	11.3%	3.4%	4.1%	4.8%
Howard Schultz	-	-	1.3%	-	1.4%	1.6%
Someone else	33.3%	9.8%	6.3%	13.8%	14.9%	14.5%
None/I don't	33.3%	2.4%	1.3%	3.4%	10.8%	-
plan to vote						

Question: If the election for Montana Governor was held today, which one of the following potential candidates would you vote for? [can only select one]

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)				-	
Tim Fox	16.8%	12.4%	23.8%	13.0%	22.0%	2.6%	24.8%	18.1%
Corey	8.0%	10.0%	4.9%	9.6%	5.9%	5.1%	10.5%	7.4%
Stapleton								
Whitney	0.6%	1.2%	-	0.6%	0.8%	1.3%	-	1.1%
Williams								
Mike	5.2%	5.3%	4.9%	5.6%	5.1%	9.0%	1.9%	5.3%
Cooney								
Matt	7.5%	8.8%	5.7%	6.2%	9.3%	-	16.2%	3.2%
Rosendale								
Greg	16.1%	15.9%	16.4%	14.7%	17.8%	-	32.4%	13.8%
Gianforte								
Kathleen	26.6%	27.1%	25.4%	29.4%	22.0%	64.1%	2.9%	24.5%
Williams								
Someone	15.4%	15.3%	15.6%	15.8%	14.4%	15.4%	8.6%	21.3%
else								
None/I	3.8%	4.1%	3.3%	5.1%	2.5%	2.6%	2.9%	5.3%
don't plan								
to vote								

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Tim Fox	12.5%	7.6%	16.4%	26.5%
Corey Stapleton	18.8%	7.6%	7.8%	6.0%
Whitney Williams	6.3%	1.5%	-	-
Mike Cooney	-	3.0%	4.7%	8.4%
Matt Rosendale	12.5%	7.6%	7.8%	6.0%
Greg Gianforte	25.0%	18.2%	14.1%	15.7%
Kathleen Williams	12.5%	24.2%	29.7%	26.5%
Someone else	6.3%	19.7%	17.2%	10.8%
None/I don't plan to vote	6.3%	10.6%	2.3%	-

	Some	High	Some	Assoc.	Bach.	Post-Bac.
	High	School/	College	Degree	Degree	(Ph.D. ,
	School	GED				J.D., etc.)
Tim Fox	-	19.0%	8.8%	25.8%	24.0%	12.7%
Corey Stapleton	-	11.9%	10.0%	-	10.7%	3.2%
Whitney	-	2.4%	1.3%	-	-	-
Williams						
Mike Cooney	-	4.8%	5.0%	3.2%	1.3%	11.1%
Matt Rosendale	-	9.5%	10.0%	12.9%	6.7%	-
Greg Gianforte	33.3%	7.1%	18.8%	22.6%	12.0%	20.6%
Kathleen	33.3%	33.3%	18.8%	22.6%	22.7%	39.7%
Williams						
Someone else	33.3%	9.5%	22.5%	12.9%	14.7%	11.1%
None/I don't	-	2.4%	5.0%	-	8.0%	1.6%
plan to vote						

National and State Issues

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)					
Yes	50.5%	51.8%	48.4%	51.1%	49.6%	77.9%	32.7%	45.3%
No	37.4%	37.1%	37.7%	36.9%	37.6%	10.4%	55.8%	42.1%
Don't know	12.2%	11.2%	13.9%	11.9%	12.8%	11.7%	11.5%	12.6%

Question: Do you think marijuana should be legalized in Montana?

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Yes	66.7%	63.6%	56.3%	29.3%
No	26.7%	25.8%	33.6%	53.7%
Don't Know	6.7%	10.6%	10.2%	17.1%

	Some High School	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)
Yes	33.3%	57.1%	53.7%	40.0%	44.0%	54.8%
No	66.7%	33.3%	32.9%	56.7%	38.7%	35.5%
Don't Know	-	9.5%	13.4%	3.3%	17.3%	9.7%

Question: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Montana should move to a total mail-in voting system, with no in-person voting.

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)					
Strongly agree	14.1%	12.9%	15.7%	17.0%	10.3%	15.2%	12.5%	17.0%
Agree	16.0%	15.8%	16.5%	17.6%	13.7%	17.7%	14.4%	14.9%
Disagree	31.8%	32.7%	29.8%	30.7%	33.3%	34.2%	29.8%	31.9%
Strongly	24.5%	22.8%	27.3%	21.6%	28.2%	21.5%	26.9%	25.5%
disagree								
Don't know	13.6%	15.8%	10.7%	13.1%	14.5%	11.4%	16.3%	10.6%

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Strongly agree	6.7%	16.4%	12.4%	15.9%
Agree	13.3%	13.4%	18.6%	14.6%
Disagree	33.3%	37.3%	30.2%	29.3%
Strongly disagree	26.7%	22.4%	25.6%	24.4%
Don't know	20.0%	10.4%	13.2%	15.9%

	Some High School	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)
Strongly agree	-	21.4%	19.5%	12.9%	5.3%	14.5%
Agree	-	11.9%	13.4%	16.1%	21.3%	14.5%
Disagree	-	19.0%	35.4%	25.8%	38.7%	32.3%

Strongly disagree	66.7%	26.2%	20.7%	25.8%	20.0%	32.3%
Don't know	33.3%	21.4%	11.0%	19.4%	14.7%	6.5%

Δ ℓ Γ 1.1	C (1 C 11 ·		get most of your news?
I Mastion · Hrom Which	of the following source	e of information do vou	det most of vour news?
	of the following source	25 OI IIIIOIIIIauoii uo you	get most of your news:

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)					
Television	45.8%	46.8%	44.3%	45.5%	46.6%	44.9%	57.7%	36.2%
Print Media	15.9%	14.0%	18.0%	14.8%	17.8%	16.7%	6.7%	25.5%
(e.g.								
Newspaper)								
Social Media	13.6%	18.1%	7.4%	12.5%	15.3%	16.7%	15.4%	9.6%
Radio	7.8%	7.6%	8.2%	9.1%	5.1%	9.0%	6.7%	6.4%
Something else	15.3%	11.7%	20.5%	17.6%	11.9%	12.8%	11.5%	20.2%
Don't know	1.6%	1.8%	1.6%	0.6%	3.4%	-	1.9%	2.1%

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Television	18.8%	28.8%	52.7%	53%
Print media (e.g. Newspaper)	-	9.1%	17.8%	21.7%
Social media	68.8%	30.3%	7.0%	1.2%
Radio	-	6.1%	10.1%	6.0%
Something else	6.3%	21.2%	11.6%	18.1%
Don't know	6.3%	4.5%	0.8%	-

	Some High School	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)
Television	66.7%	48.8%	53.1%	41.9%	48.0%	30.6%
Print Media (e.g.	-	9.3%	11.1%	29.0%	13.3%	24.2%
Newspaper)						
Social Media	-	25.6%	16.0%	6.5%	14.7%	4.8%
Radio	-	2.3%	4.9%	9.7%	9.3%	14.5%
Something else	33.3%	9.3%	13.6%	9.7%	13.3%	25.8%
Don't know		4.7%	1.2%	3.2%	1.3%	-

Question: From what you know, has Montana ever elected a female representative to the U.S. Congress?

	Overall	Woman	Man	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Rep.	Ind.
	Sample	(Female)	(Male)					
Yes	49.4%	42.9%	59.0%	47.7%	51.3%	59.0%	41.3%	53.8%
No	25.5%	25.3%	25.4%	27.3%	23.1%	21.8%	28.8%	25.8%
Don't know	25.1%	31.8%	15.6%	25.0%	25.6%	19.2%	29.8%	20.4%

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Yes	13.3%	41.8%	48.1%	63.9%
No	60.0%	26.9%	26.4%	16.9%

Don't know 26.7% 31.3% 25.6% 19.3
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	Some High School	High School/ GED	Some College	Assoc. Degree	Bach. Degree	Post-Bac. (Ph.D., J.D., etc.)
Yes	-	46.3%	40.7%	41.9%	51.3%	65.1%
No	-	22.0%	29.6%	41.9%	25.0%	17.5%
Don't Know	100.0%	31.7%	29.6%	16.1%	23.7%	17.5%

Demographics

<i>N</i> = 293	Survey Respondents
Gender	
Female	58.1%
Male	41.6%
Other	0%
Prefer not to answer	0.3%
Age	
18-26	5.2%
27-46	22.7%
47-66	43.9%
67 or older	28.2%
Level of Education	
Some high school	0.9%
High school/GED	14.3%
Some college	27.6%
Associate's degree	10.4%
Bachelor's degree	25.5%
Post baccalaureate (Master's, PhD, JD, MD, etc.)	21.3%
Political Party	
Republican	35.5%
Independent	32.0%
Democrat	26.7%
Libertarian	1.2%
Prefer not to answer	2.4%
Other	2.2%
Total Household Income	
\$0 - \$20,000	10.0%
\$20,001 - \$37,000	11.9%
\$37,001 - \$46,000	5.8%
\$46,001 - \$57,000	11.6%
\$57,001 - \$88,000	20.4%
\$88,001 - \$150,000	
\$150,001 and above	10.1%
Prefer not to answer	