



UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

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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 telephone survey was conducted from August 13-31, 2018 with 618 registered Montana voters. The margin of error (MOE) is +/- 4 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. Questions one through six reflect the responses of the entire sample, while questions seven and eight reflect the responses of just likely Montana voters. The margin of error for questions seven and eight is +/-4.5 at a 95 percent confidence level with the same weighting as the rest of the document. All values have been rounded, which may cause some of the totals to not equal 100 percent.

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

1. In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Montana today?

	Overall Sample	Woman (Female)	Man (Male)	Urban	Rural
Jobs/Job Creation	12%	11%	14%	11%	14%
Health Care	11%	14%	9%	12%	11%
Economic Performance	10%	8%	12%	10%	11%
Public Lands (e.g., national monuments)	9%	9%	8%	8%	10%
Political Polarization	7%	5%	9%	8%	6%
Environment (e.g., climate change, water quality)	6%	6%	6%	7%	5%
Education	5%	7%	4%	4%	6%
Wildfires	5%	5%	5%	4%	5%
Social Service Issues (e.g., homelessness, food/nutrition availability, addiction treatment, veteran care, senior care, social security)	3%	4%	3%	3%	4%
State Budget	3%	2%	3%	3%	4%
Taxes	2%	2%	4%	3%	2%
Public Safety (e.g., crime)	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Housing Costs	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%
Infrastructure	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Other	22%	23%	21%	24%	20%

2. Do you think President Donald Trump is doing an excellent, good, fair or poor job in office?

	Overall Sample	Woman (Female)	Man (Male)	Urban	Rural
Excellent Job	23%	15%	30%	22%	26%
Good Job	21%	20%	23%	19%	24%
Fair Job	13%	15%	12%	13%	12%
Poor Job	43%	51%	36%	47%	38%

3. Do you think Senator Jon Tester is doing an excellent, good, fair or poor job in office?

	Overall Sample	Woman (Female)	Man (Male)	Urban	Rural
Excellent Job	29%	34%	23%	29%	29%
Good Job	26%	29%	24%	31%	18%
Fair Job	18%	17%	19%	13%	25%
Poor Job	27%	20%	34%	27%	28%

4. Do you think Senator Steve Daines is doing an excellent, good, fair or poor job in office?

	Overall Sample	Woman (Female)	Man (Male)	Urban	Rural
Excellent Job	10%	8%	10%	12%	7%
Good Job	27%	25%	30%	23%	34%
Fair Job	36%	39%	34%	36%	36%
Poor Job	27%	28%	26%	29%	23%

5. Do you think House Representative Greg Gianforte is doing an excellent, good, fair, or poor job in office?

	Overall Sample	Woman (Female)	Man (Male)	Urban	Rural
Excellent Job	8%	6%	9%	8%	9%
Good Job	26%	23%	29%	23%	32%
Fair Job	23%	23%	25%	25%	20%
Poor Job	43%	49%	37%	45%	39%

6. Do you think Governor Steve Bullock is doing an excellent, good, fair or poor job in office?

	Overall Sample	Woman (Female)	Man (Male)	Urban	Rural
Excellent Job	15%	16%	13%	16%	14%
Good Job	42%	46%	40%	41%	45%
Fair Job	26%	25%	27%	26%	26%
Poor Job	17%	14%	19%	17%	16%

7. If the election were held today for U.S. Senate, which candidate would you vote for?

	Overall Sample	Woman (Female)	Man (Male)	Urban	Rural
Democrat Jon Tester	56%	64%	49%	60%	52%
Republican Matt Rosendale	32%	25%	40%	30%	35%
Libertarian Rick Breckenridge	2%	1%	4%	3%	2%
Undecided	9%	9%	7%	8%	11%

8. If the election were held today for U.S. House of Representatives, which candidate would you vote for?

	Overall Sample	Woman (Female)	Man (Male)	Urban	Rural
<u>Democrat Kathleen Williams</u>	<u>51%</u>	<u>58%</u>	<u>45%</u>	<u>52%</u>	<u>50%</u>
<u>Republican Greg Gianforte</u>	<u>38%</u>	<u>31%</u>	<u>45%</u>	<u>36%</u>	<u>40%</u>
<u>Libertarian Elinor Swanson</u>	<u>3%</u>	<u>3%</u>	<u>3%</u>	<u>4%</u>	<u>2%</u>
<u>Undecided</u>	<u>8%</u>	<u>8%</u>	<u>7%</u>	<u>8%</u>	<u>7%</u>

9. Do you think having an increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States makes this country a better place to live, a worse place to live, or doesn't make much difference either way?

Better place to live	53%
Worse place to live	9%
Doesn't make much difference either way	38%

10. Education level and view on increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States

	Some High School	High School/ GED	Some college	Associate degree	Bachelor's degree	Post-Baccalaureate
Better place to live	33%	32%	50%	49%	59%	75%
Worse place to live	44%	16%	13%	8%	5%	2%
Doesn't make much difference either way	22%	52%	37%	43%	36%	23%

11. Party identification and view on increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States

	Constitution	Democrat	Independent	Libertarian	Republican	Tea Party	Other
Better place to live	100%	86%	49%	43%	26%	0%	41%
Worse place to live	0%	1%	10%	0%	19%	0%	6%
Doesn't make much difference either way	0%	14%	41%	57%	55%	100%	53%

12. Gender and view on increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States

	Woman (Female)	Man (Male)	Other
Better place to live	60%	48%	0%
Worse place to live	6%	10%	50%

Doesn't make a difference either way	34%	42%	50%
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13. Age and view on increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or Older
Better place to live	61%	56%	53%	51%
Worse place to live	0%	2%	10%	13%
Doesn't make a difference either way	39%	42%	37%	37%

14. In general, do you think it should be harder or easier for individuals to legally immigrate to the United States?

Harder	48%
Easier	52%

15. Education level and view on the difficulty legally immigrating to the United States

	Some High School	High School/ GED	Some college	Associate degree	Bachelor's degree	Post-Baccalaureate
Harder	100%	63%	47%	55%	38%	32%
Easier	0%	37%	53%	45%	62%	68%

16. Party identification and view on the difficulty legally immigrating to the United States

	Democrat	Independent	Libertarian	Republican	Tea Party	Other
Harder	18%	48%	14%	76%	100%	44%
Easier	82%	52%	86%	24%	0%	56%

17. Gender and view on the difficulty legally immigrating to the United States

	Woman (Female)	Man (Male)	Other
Harder	43%	51%	100%
Easier	57%	49%	0%

18. Age and view on the difficulty legally immigrating to the United States

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or Older
Harder	24%	38%	52%	53%
Easier	76%	62%	48%	47%

19. Elected Official's Approval Ratings

	Tester	Daines	Gianforte	Bullock	Trump
Excellent Job	29%	10%	8%	15%	23%
Good Job	26%	27%	26%	42%	21%
Fair Job	18%	36%	23%	26%	13%
Poor Job	27%	27%	43%	17%	43%

20. President Trump Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Female	Male	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Repub.	Indep.
Excellent Job	15%	30%	22%	26%	1%	48%	18%
Good Job	20%	23%	19%	24%	2%	37%	24%
Fair Job	15%	12%	13%	12%	9%	10%	17%
Poor Job	51%	36%	47%	38%	89%	5%	41%

20. Cont'd., Education Level

	Some high-school	High school/ GED	Some college	Associate Degree	Bachelor Degree	Post Bacc.	Other
Excellent Job	82%	33%	27%	29%	14%	11%	32%
Good Job	9%	21%	20%	20%	21%	18%	37%
Fair Job	20%	3%	0%	8%	3%	0%	0%
Poor Job	9%	30%	36%	41%	52%	61%	21%

20. Cont'd., Age

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Excellent Job	8%	21%	30%	21%
Good Job	20%	21%	21%	20%
Fair Job	36%	16%	13%	8%
Poor Job	36%	43%	36%	51%

21. Senator Tester Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Female	Male	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Repub.	Indep.
Excellent Job	34%	23%	29%	29%	59%	4%	26%
Good Job	29%	24%	31%	18%	37%	9%	27%
Fair Job	17%	19%	13%	25%	3%	31%	23%
Poor Job	20%	34%	27%	28%	1%	56%	24%

21. Cont'd., Education Level

	Some high-school	High school/ GED	Some college	Associate Degree	Bachelor Degree	Post Bacc.	Other
Excellent Job	9%	17%	25%	27%	33%	42%	32%
Good Job	0%	24%	22%	27%	28%	35%	11%
Fair Job	9%	22%	21%	16%	20%	10%	16%
Poor Job	82%	37%	33%	30%	19%	14%	42%

21. Cont'd., Age

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Excellent Job	37%	28%	22%	35%
Good Job	26%	24%	25%	28%
Fair Job	26%	24%	18%	15%
Poor Job	11%	25%	35%	23%

22. Senator Daines Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Female	Male	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Repub.	Indep.
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Excellent Job	8%	10%	12%	7%	1%	25%	8%
Good Job	25%	30%	23%	34%	11%	41%	31%
Fair Job	39%	34%	36%	36%	37%	30%	37%
Poor Job	28%	26%	29%	23%	52%	3%	24%

22.Cont'd., Education Level

	Some high-school	High school/ GED	Some college	Associate Degree	Bachelor Degree	Post Bacc.	Other
Excellent Job	56%	12%	11%	14%	7%	4%	18%
Good Job	11%	33%	29%	18%	29%	27%	18%
Fair Job	33%	34%	40%	42%	35%	29%	53%
Poor Job	0%	21%	20%	26%	29%	40%	12%

22.Cont'd., Age

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Excellent Job	5%	4%	13%	11%
Good Job	11%	27%	26%	30%
Fair Job	63%	45%	33%	31%
Poor Job	21%	24%	28%	28%

23. Representative Gianforte Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Female	Male	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Repub.	Indep.
Excellent Job	6%	9%	8%	9%	1%	17%	4%
Good Job	23%	29%	23%	32%	3%	52%	25%
Fair Job	23%	25%	25%	20%	17%	25%	27%
Poor Job	49%	37%	45%	39%	79%	6%	44%

23. Cont'd., Education Level

	Some high-school	High school/ GED	Some college	Associate Degree	Bachelor Degree	Post Bacc.	Other
Excellent Job	36%	9%	8%	9%	5%	5%	19%
Good Job	27%	25%	34%	34%	26%	15%	44%
Fair Job	27%	31%	20%	25%	18%	26%	6%
Poor Job	9%	34%	38%	32%	51%	56%	31%

23.Cont'd., Age

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Excellent Job	9%	10%	11%	5%

Good Job	17%	24%	31%	25%
Fair Job	26%	26%	21%	23%
Poor Job	48%	41%	38%	47%

24. Governor Bullock Approval Ratings by Demographic

	Female	Male	Urban	Rural	Dem.	Repub.	Indep.
Excellent Job	16%	13%	16%	14%	31%	2%	13%
Good Job	46%	40%	41%	45%	59%	25%	46%
Fair Job	25%	27%	26%	26%	9%	40%	28%
Poor Job	14%	19%	17%	16%	1%	33%	14%

25. Cont'd., Education Level

	Some high-school	High school/ GED	Some college	Associate Degree	Bachelor Degree	Post Bacc.	Other
Excellent Job	10%	11%	16%	6%	15%	25%	6%
Good Job	10%	34%	39%	40%	49%	47%	44%
Fair Job	20%	36%	21%	38%	23%	21%	38%
Poor Job	60%	19%	25%	16%	13%	7%	13%

25. Cont'd., Age

	18-26	27-46	47-66	67 or older
Excellent Job	20%	15%	10%	20%
Good Job	40%	40%	37%	48%
Fair Job	32%	30%	31%	20%
Poor Job	8%	15%	22%	13%