



# Protect Democracy – National Guard Survey



**GS STRATEGY GROUP**

**PRESENTED BY:**

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**PROJECT DETAILS**

Conducted October 8 – 15, 2025

N = 600 Likely Voters in Iowa

Margin of Error: +/- 4.00%

# Direction of the Country

Nearly 60% of Iowans say the country is on the wrong track, including 1/4 of Republicans.

## Right Direction vs Wrong Track

In general, do you think things in the country are going in the right direction or on the wrong track?

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Right direction	<b>33%</b>	5	24	61
Wrong track	<b>58%</b>	93	66	26
<b>Net</b>	<b>-25%</b>	<b>-88</b>	<b>-42</b>	<b>+35</b>

*Some numbers may be slightly off +/- 1% due to rounding.*

# Crime & Public Safety Under Trump

52% of Iowans disapprove of President Trump's handling of crime and public safety.

## Crime & Public Safety

Do you approve or disapprove Donald Trump's handling of crime and public safety?

Strongly  
41%

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Approve	<b>44%</b>	6	36	79
Disapprove	<b>52%</b>	91	55	18
<b>Net</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>-85</b>	<b>-19</b>	<b>+61</b>

Some numbers may be slightly off +/- 1% due to rounding.

# Command of National Guard

63% of voters surveyed said that governors are in command of states' National Guards, and a president deploying them over a governor's wishes undermines states' rights and the Constitution's separation of powers.

**Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.**

Governors are in command of their states' National Guards, and a president deploying them over a governor's wishes undermines states' rights and the Constitution's separation of powers.

Strongly  
16%

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Agree	<b>63%</b>	88	67	40
Disagree	<b>27%</b>	4	24	48
<b>Net</b>	<b>+36</b>	<b>+84</b>	<b>+43</b>	<b>-8</b>

*Some numbers may be slightly off +/- 1% due to rounding.*

# Trump's Deployment was a Political Stunt

50% of Iowans believe that President Trump deploying military and National Guard to Democratic-run cities is a political stunt.

## Political Stunt

What do you think the reason is for President Trump only sending the military and National Guard to cities controlled by Democratic elected officials?

- It is a political stunt
- The cities have real problems with crime

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Political stunt	<b>50%</b>	85	56	19
Real problems	<b>43%</b>	11	39	73
<b>Net</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>+74</b>	<b>+18</b>	<b>-54</b>

Some numbers may be slightly off +/- 1% due to rounding.

# National Guard Deployment Opposition

Over 20% of Iowa Republicans oppose the latest federal deployments of the National Guard.

## National Guard Deployment

Recently President Trump authorized the deployment of the National Guard into cities Washington D.C., Memphis, Portland, and Chicago. Knowing this, do you support or oppose President Trump's deployment of the military?

Strongly  
44%

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Support	<b>42%</b>	6	35	74
Oppose	<b>53%</b>	91	56	21
Undecided	<b>6%</b>	3	9	5
<b>Net</b>	<b>-11</b>	<b>-84</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>+54</b>

Some numbers may be slightly off +/- 1% due to rounding.

# Crime and Immigration

Voters, and especially Republicans see major drops in illegal immigration since Trump was elected, but the same is not true for crime, which is driving support for President Trump’s National Guard Strategy with Republicans.

## Illegal Immigration

Since Donald Trump has taken office, do you feel that illegal immigration into the US has increased, decreased, or been about the same?

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Increased	<b>4%</b>	9	1	4
Decreased	<b>58%</b>	33	58	79
Same	<b>27%</b>	44	29	11

## Crime Increasing vs Decreasing

In general, since Donald Trump has taken office, do you feel that crime in the US has increased, decreased, or been about the same?

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Increased	<b>27%</b>	47	25	12
Decreased	<b>29%</b>	5	25	51
Same	<b>35%</b>	40	40	25

## Which comes closer to your opinion?

- Many of Americas big cities have high rates of violent crimes.
- Violent crime rates have been declining in America’s big cities.

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
High rates	<b>49%</b>	30	45	68
Declining rates	<b>32%</b>	50	33	18
<b>Net</b>	<b>+17</b>	<b>-19</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>+50</b>

Some numbers may be slightly off +/- 1% due to rounding.

# President Trump & National Guard Deployment

63% of Iowans believe the recent military and National Guard deployments are dividing Americans.

## National Guard Deployment

Recently President Trump authorized the deployment of the National Guard into cities Washington D.C., Memphis, Portland, and Chicago. Knowing this, do you support or oppose President Trump's deployment of the military?

Strongly  
44%

## Dividing vs Uniting Americans

And what impact do you think the National Guard deployment is having on Americans?

- Dividing Americans
- Uniting Americans

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Support	<b>42%</b>	6	35	74
Oppose	<b>53%</b>	91	56	21
Undecided	<b>6%</b>	3	9	5
<b>Net</b>	<b>-11</b>	<b>-84</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>+54</b>

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Dividing	<b>63%</b>	90	68	39
Uniting	<b>21%</b>	5	14	39
<b>Net</b>	<b>+43</b>	<b>+85</b>	<b>+54</b>	<b>Even</b>

# National Guard Deployment – What’s Appropriate

The National Guard has many appropriate roles to play, but responding political protests, like those in Portland, is not one.

For each question, please answer whether you think it is an appropriate or inappropriate reason for deploying the National Guard?

### Natural Disaster Response

### National Defense

### Defending the United States Border

### Political Protests

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Appr.	<b>88%</b>	80	89	93
Inapp.	<b>7%</b>	14	5	4
<b>Net</b>	<b>+81</b>	<b>+66</b>	<b>+83</b>	<b>+89</b>

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Appr.	<b>81%</b>	60	84	93
Inapp.	<b>12%</b>	27	9	4
<b>Net</b>	<b>+69</b>	<b>+33</b>	<b>+74</b>	<b>+90</b>

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Appr.	<b>71%</b>	46	68	92
Inapp.	<b>20%</b>	37	21	6
<b>Net</b>	<b>+50</b>	<b>+9</b>	<b>+47</b>	<b>+86</b>

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Appr.	<b>35%</b>	24	29	49
Inapp.	<b>50%</b>	66	57	32
<b>Net</b>	<b>-15</b>	<b>-42</b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>+17</b>

# Funding for Local Law Enforcement

69% of Iowa voters believe it would be better to increase funding for local law enforcement rather than spending huge sums of taxpayer money on military deployments.

**Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.**

- It would be better to increase funding for local law enforcement rather than spending huge sums of taxpayer money to deploy the military.

	Overall	Party		
		Dem	Indy	GOP
Agree	69%	84	75	54
Disagree	19%	6	13	31
Not Sure	13%	10	12	15
<b>Net</b>	<b>+50</b>	<b>+78</b>	<b>+62</b>	<b>+23</b>


*Some numbers may be slightly off +/- 1% due to rounding.*


**THANK YOU**





**GS STRATEGY GROUP**

# Audience Profile


 <b>Gender</b>		Overall
	• Male	48%
	• Female	52%


 <b>Age</b>		Overall
	• 18-34	21%
	• 35-44	16%
	• 45-54	17%
	• 55-64	18%
	• 65+	29%
	• Mean	50.7

 <b>Income</b>		Overall
	• Under \$50,000	27%
	• \$50-100,000	30%
	• \$50-75,000	14%
	• \$75-100,000	16%
	• \$100,000 +	31%
	• Refused	13%

 <b>Children Under 18?</b>		Overall
	• Yes	27%
	• No	70%

 <b>Area</b>		Overall
	• Des Moines	40%
	• Cedar Rapids	27%
	• Davenport	10%
	• Sioux City	9%

 <b>Ideology</b>		Overall
	• Liberal	26%
	• Very Liberal	12%
	• Somewhat Liberal	14%
	• Moderate	29%
	• Conservative	41%
	• Somewhat Conservative	20%
	• Very Conservative	21%
	• NET	<b>+15</b>

 <b>Party</b>		Overall
	• Republican	38%
	• Democratic	27%
	• Independent/No Party	30%
	• Other	2%
	• NET	<b>+11</b>