

Gray Television: North Dakota Survey

Strategic Research Associates, LLC

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According to a survey of 650 likely voters in North Dakota conducted between September 17 - 27, 2018, Republican challenger Kevin Cramer leads incumbent Democratic Senator Heidi Heitkamp by 10 percentage points, 51% to 41%. Eight percent have yet to make up their minds.

Heitkamp is viewed favorably by 43% of North Dakota voters and unfavorably by 41%, with 12% holding a neutral opinion and 4% unfamiliar. Her challenger is viewed favorably by 46% of likely voters and unfavorably by 37%, with 12% holding a neutral opinion and 5% unfamiliar with him.

In the race for Congress, Republican Kelly Armstrong leads Democrat Mac Schneider 55% to 31%, with 14% undecided. Forty-five percent hold a favorable view of Armstrong while only 14% hold an unfavorable view with 22% holding a neutral opinion. Schneider is viewed favorably by 30% of likely voters, unfavorably by 21%, with the remainder either neutral (24%) or unfamiliar (25%) with the Democratic candidate.

The race for Attorney General sees Republican Wayne Stenehjem leading Democrat David Clark Thompson 60% to 26%.

The poll asked North Dakotans about the constitutional measures on the ballot in 2018:

- 41% expressed support for measure number one, which would establish an ethics commission, ban foreign political contributions, and enact provisions related to lobbying and conflicts of interest. Twenty-eight percent expressed opposition, while 31% were unsure how they would vote.
- 68% expressed support for measure number two, which would amend the North Dakota Constitution to state that only citizens are qualified to vote in federal, state, local, or school elections. Nineteen percent expressed opposition, while 13% were unsure how they would vote.
- 59% expressed opposition to measure number three, which would legalize the possession of marijuana and provide for the automatic removal of past marijuana convictions from criminal records in North Dakota. Thirty percent expressed support, while 11% were unsure how they would vote.
- 56% expressed support for measure number four, which would provide partially personalized license plates to volunteer emergency responders that would provide free access to state parks. Twenty-four percent expressed opposition, while 19% were unsure how they would vote.

Overall, 61% of North Dakota voters approve of the job Donald Trump is doing as president, while 35% disapprove. Sixty percent of likely voters support the nomination of Brett

Kavanaugh to the United States Supreme Court, with 27% expressing opposition. The poll was conducted during the recent disclosure that Kavanaugh may have engaged in sexual misconduct while in high school and college, but before the September 27 testimony by Kavanaugh and one of his accusers before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The poll was conducted by Strategic Research Associates, LLC, of Austin, Texas. A total of 650 likely voters were surveyed between September 17-27, 2018. Determination of the likely voter sample was based on past vote history. Forty-seven percent of calls were completed on a landline telephone, 53% were completed over a cellular telephone. The final results are weighted based on analysis of available electoral and commercial data. The margin of error for the complete sample is +/- 3.84 percentage points, with higher margins of error for any sub-group.

ENTH. Compared to previous Congressional elections, are you more enthusiastic about voting this year than usual, less enthusiastic, or about the same as usual?

	Percent
More enthusiastic	40
Less enthusiastic	8
The same as usual	51
Don't know	1

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
More enthusiastic	24.6	46.1	42.6	38.1	39.5	50	75	41.9	26.9	43.7	40.4	40.1
Less enthusiastic	7.8	7.6	6.8	8.4	8.0	5	0	5.5	12.0	4.8	6.4	9.0
The same as usual	66.5	45.3	49.1	52.8	51.6	35	25	52.7	59.0	50.7	51.8	50.2
Don't know	1.1	1.0	1.5	0.7	0.9	10	0	0.0	2.1	0.7	1.4	0.7

MIP. Which one of the following national issues is currently most important to you as a voter? [RANDOMIZE 1-11]

	Percent
U.S. Supreme Court Nomination of Brett Kavanaugh	21
Healthcare	13
Immigration & Border Security	12
The Economy & Jobs	10
National Security, Terrorism & Foreign Policy	9
Taxes, Government Spending & National Debt	8
U.S. Trade Policy & Tariffs	7
Russian Collusion or Removing Trump from Office	7
Social Issues	6
Gun Rights & Gun Control	4
None	4
Other	0

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
The Economy & Jobs	18.3	6.4	13.2	6.3	9.5	25.0	12.5	6.4	4.8	13.8	8.3	11.0
Healthcare	5.9	15.5	9.7	15.9	13.1	5.0	0.0	15.2	18.2	10.0	13.8	12.0
Immigration & Border Security	9.3	12.9	12.4	11.5	11.9	32.5	0.0	7.5	7.6	14.2	9.7	14.3
Gun Rights & Gun Control	1.8	4.6	4.9	2.9	3.7	0.0	0.0	7.1	3.0	4.6	4.1	3.6
National Security, Terrorism & Foreign Policy	15.6	6.7	8.5	9.7	9.5	5.0	25.0	3.5	11.4	8.1	10.4	7.7
Taxes, Government Spending & National Debt	10.1	7.3	11.3	5.1	8.3	5.0	25.0	4.5	8.0	8.3	9.6	6.4
U.S. Trade Policy & Tariffs	12.9	4.3	4.9	8.2	7.1	0.0	0.0	2.6	6.4	8.6	6.5	6.7
Social Issues	4.4	7.2	4.3	8.5	6.7	5.0	12.5	3.4	5.3	5.4	5.0	8.0
Russian Collusion or Removing Trump from Office	3.1	8.5	6.6	7.4	6.8	12.5	0.0	9.4	10.6	7.1	7.9	6.0
U.S. Supreme Court Nomination of Brett Kavanaugh	15.8	22.6	21.2	20.3	20.2	0.0	25.0	33.5	22.8	18.6	19.1	22.5
Other	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
None	2.9	3.8	3.2	4.0	3.2	10.0	0.0	6.8	1.8	1.3	5.5	1.6

[For Q1 through Q3, if response selected for initial item was “Haven’t thought about it enough,” respondents were then asked, “If you had to make a choice, who would you choose?” Results presented are the combined responses to both items.]

Q1. If the 2018 general election for U.S. Senator from North Dakota was held today, would you vote for [RANDOMIZE, “the Democrat Heidi Heitkamp” [Pronounced: “Hi-dee Height-Camp”], “the Republican Kevin Cramer” [Pronounced: “Craymer”]], or haven’t you thought about it enough to have an opinion?

	Percent
Kevin Cramer	51
Heidi Heitkamp	41
Don’t Know/Refuse	8

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
Kevin Cramer	43.9	54.1	56.5	46.6	50.5	45	87.5	58.8	51.3	54.6	49.4	53.4
Heidi Heitkamp	46.7	38.8	34.9	46.5	41.9	45	12.5	30.9	39.3	42.4	41.2	40.6
Don’t Know/Refuse	9.4	7.1	8.6	7.0	7.6	10	0.0	10.4	9.3	3.0	9.4	6.0

Q2. If the 2018 general election for U.S. Congress from North Dakota was held today, would you vote for [RANDOMIZE, “the Democrat Mac Schneider” [Pronounced: “Shny-der”], “the Republican Kelly Armstrong”], or haven’t you thought about it enough to have an opinion?

	Percent
Kelly Armstrong	55
Mac Schneider	31
Don’t Know/Refuse	14

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
Kelly Armstrong	48.4	57.0	61.9	48.0	54.3	52.5	75	57.7	52.1	57.2	55.4	53.8
Mac Schneider	31.9	31.2	23.3	38.8	31.9	37.5	0	27.9	29.9	32.0	28.7	34.3
Don’t Know/Refuse	19.7	11.8	14.8	13.2	13.9	10.0	25	14.4	18.0	10.8	15.9	11.9

Q3. If the 2018 general election for Attorney General from North Dakota was held today, would you vote for [RANDOMIZE, “the Democrat David Clark Thompson”, “the Republican Wayne Stenehjem”, [Pronounced: “Sten-jem”]], or haven’t you thought about it enough to have an opinion?

	Percent
Wayne Stenehjem	60
David Clark Thompson	26
Don’t Know/Refuse	14

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
Wayne Stenehjem	48.1	64.9	66.4	54.9	59.9	67.5	62.5	63.9	58.1	63.8	59.3	61.5
David Clark Thompson	28.4	24.5	19.9	30.8	26.1	22.5	12.5	21.9	22.9	27.6	23.4	27.9
Don’t Know/Refuse	23.4	10.6	13.7	14.4	14.0	10.0	25.0	14.3	19.0	8.6	17.3	10.5

Now, we'd like to ask you about some of the North Dakota constitutional measures voters will see on the ballot in the 2018 general election.

Q4. Measure number one establishes an ethics commission, bans foreign political contributions, and enacts provisions related to lobbying and conflicts of interest.

If the election were held today, would you vote for or against this measure?

	Percent
For	41
Against	28
Don't know/No opinion	31

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
For	35.8	43.5	46.5	36.7	41.0	62.5	50	39.0	43.0	46.0	33.0	50.5
Against	31.7	26.5	32.5	23.8	27.6	15.0	50	33.1	23.4	29.8	29.3	26.4
Don't know/No opinion	32.5	30.0	21.0	39.5	31.4	22.5	0	27.9	33.6	24.3	37.7	23.1

Q5. Measure number two amends the North Dakota Constitution to state that only citizens are qualified to vote in federal, state, local, or school elections.”

If the election were held today, would you vote for or against this measure?

	Percent
For	68
Against	19
Don't know/No opinion	13

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
For	64.9	69.5	68.0	68.5	68.3	72.5	50.0	68.4	71.8	69.0	68.2	68.3
Against	27.6	16.0	20.3	18.0	19.5	15.0	37.5	13.5	14.9	19.6	16.9	21.5
Don't know/No opinion	7.5	14.5	11.7	13.5	12.2	12.5	12.5	18.1	13.3	11.4	14.8	10.2

Q6. Measure number three legalizes the possession of marijuana and provides for the automatic removal of past marijuana convictions from criminal records in North Dakota.

If the election were held today, would you vote for or against this measure?

	Percent
For	30
Against	59
Don't know/No opinion	11

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
For	39.2	26.7	30.3	29.9	29.8	32.5	12.5	35.8	29.3	32.6	30.2	30.0
Against	53.5	61.4	59.5	59.0	59.1	67.5	75.0	57.0	60.7	59.9	57.3	61.3
Don't know/No opinion	7.4	11.9	10.2	11.1	11.2	0.0	12.5	7.3	10.0	7.5	12.5	8.7

Q7. Measure number four provides partially personalized license plates to volunteer emergency responders that would provide free access to state parks.

If the election were held today, would you vote for or against this measure?

	Percent
For	56
Against	24
Don't know/No opinion	19

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
For	49.4	59.1	51.6	61	56.4	65	25.0	59.7	59.2	62.3	55.9	57.2
Against	33.5	21.1	28.1	21	24.1	25	62.5	23.3	18.6	23.7	20.5	28.7
Don't know/No opinion	17.1	19.8	20.2	18	19.5	10	12.5	17.0	22.2	14.0	23.7	14.2

Q8. Please tell us whether you have a favorable, unfavorable, or neutral impression of [SELECT RANDOMLY FROM A-D BELOW], or are you unfamiliar with [SELECT RANDOMLY FROM A-D BELOW]? [RESPONSE OPTIONS, “Favorable”, “Unfavorable”, “Neutral”, “Unfamiliar”]

A. Heidi Heitkamp

Percent	
Favorable	43
Unfavorable	41
Neutral	12
Unfamiliar	4

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
Favorable	42.2	43.0	37.0	48.1	43.1	45	50	37.5	41.4	46.0	41.5	44.2
Unfavorable	36.5	42.4	44.9	36.9	40.3	50	50	42.6	39.2	43.8	38.9	42.8
Neutral	15.3	10.9	13.7	10.7	12.5	0	0	12.2	14.3	9.1	12.8	11.4
Unfamiliar	6.0	3.7	4.3	4.3	4.1	5	0	7.7	5.1	1.2	6.8	1.6

B. Kevin Cramer

Percent	
Favorable	46
Unfavorable	37
Neutral	12
Unfamiliar	5

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
Favorable	35.3	50.3	51.8	41.1	45.6	50.0	87.5	48.4	44.5	50.2	44.7	47.9
Unfavorable	42.4	35.2	32.5	41.4	37.9	32.5	12.5	32.6	41.0	38.2	34.3	40.1
Neutral	18.6	9.4	12.0	11.8	12.0	12.5	0.0	11.8	10.3	10.4	12.9	10.8
Unfamiliar	3.7	5.1	3.7	5.6	4.5	5.0	0.0	7.1	4.2	1.2	8.1	1.1

C. Mac Schneider

Percent	
Favorable	30
Unfavorable	21
Neutral	24
Unfamiliar	25

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
Favorable	26.7	31.2	25.4	34.2	31.2	32.5	0.0	18.0	27.7	33.7	27.5	32.6
Unfavorable	20.2	21.7	28.5	14.7	20.2	50.0	25.0	26.7	18.3	24.6	19.8	23.0
Neutral	33.4	20.1	22.5	24.7	24.5	0.0	62.5	15.4	17.6	23.2	23.4	24.0
Unfamiliar	19.8	26.9	23.6	26.3	24.1	17.5	12.5	39.9	36.4	18.5	29.4	20.3

D. Kelly Armstrong

Percent	
Favorable	45
Unfavorable	14
Neutral	22
Unfamiliar	19

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
Favorable	33.2	49.0	51.5	38.6	45.1	50.0	0.0	44.5	47.4	47.6	43.1	46.5
Unfavorable	13.1	14.3	14.7	13.3	13.1	27.5	25.0	19.2	7.9	15.3	12.3	15.7
Neutral	32.8	18.3	17.8	26.3	22.7	5.0	62.5	16.7	19.1	20.7	22.2	22.3
Unfamiliar	20.9	18.3	16.1	21.8	19.1	17.5	12.5	19.6	25.7	16.4	22.3	15.5

Q9. Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Donald Trump is doing as president?
Would the be somewhat or strongly *[approve/disapprove]*?

Percent	
Strongly approve	45
Somewhat approve	16
Somewhat disapprove	4
Strongly disapprove	31
Don't know/No opinion	5

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
Strongly approve	35.7	48.0	48.1	41.4	44.5	32.5	50.0	49.5	40.9	48.5	45.6	43.7
Somewhat approve	18.7	14.6	18.8	12.9	15.8	22.5	12.5	13.1	18.0	15.9	15.7	15.7
Somewhat disapprove	1.8	4.5	2.5	5.0	3.9	10.0	0.0	1.3	4.1	4.5	3.6	4.0
Strongly disapprove	35.9	29.6	24.2	37.9	31.8	22.5	37.5	26.9	31.2	29.0	27.8	35.2
Don't know/No opinion	7.8	3.3	6.3	2.8	4.0	12.5	0.0	9.2	5.7	2.1	7.3	1.5

Q10. Do you support or oppose the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh [**Pronounced: “Cav-e-nah”**] to serve on the United States Supreme Court?

	Percent
Support	60
Oppose	27
Don't know/No opinion	13

	Under 40	Over 40	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Less than \$40K	More than \$40K	No College	College
Support	51.8	63.1	65.4	55.1	60.3	50.0	50	61.3	59.8	61.5	59.6	60.5
Oppose	33.0	25.3	21.2	33.0	27.3	32.5	50	23.2	28.3	27.5	23.3	31.7
Don't know/No opinion	15.2	11.7	13.4	11.9	12.4	17.5	0	15.6	11.9	11.1	17.1	7.8

We have just a few more questions for statistical purposes...

AGEG

Percent	
Over 40	73
Under 40	27

EDUC. What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

Percent	
No College	52
College	48

INCOME. What was your total household income for 2017?

Percent	
Less than \$40K	22
More than \$40K	49
Don't know/Refuse	30

RACE. Would you say that you are...

	Percent
White	90
Black	2
Hispanic	1
Other	7

GENDER. (by observation)

	Percent
Male	48
Female	52

P16. Did you vote for [**RANDOMIZE: “Donald Trump”, “Hillary Clinton”**], or someone else in the 2016 Presidential Election?

	Percent
Donald Trump	56
Hillary Clinton	26
Someone else	12
Don't know/Remember	6

About SRA

The principals at SRA are James Henson, PhD and Joshua Blank, PhD. They have played major roles in political polling and research at the state and national level for more than a decade. They are based in Austin, Texas, and can be contacted at SRATEXLLC@gmail.com.