

Poll: Trump, Armstrong, Fedorchak, Cramer

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Only 55% of Independents gave Trump the thumbs up and 44% have a more negative view of his performance. Independent voters accounted for 219 of the respondents, or 35%.
Female support for Trump, however, is also softer, with 57% approving and 42% disapproving of his first half-year as POTUS.
"The thing that really jumped out was the gender split on the approval of Trump," said Mark Jendrysik, a professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of North Dakota.
"Obviously, there's still high approval for Trump, but that 72% of men approve and 57% of women approve, that is an interesting difference," he said.
Headrick said those numbers related to female voters may reflect some things the poll did not cover.

"Cuts to things like Medicaid tend to land on women more in terms of who picks up the slack if a family member loses support," she said. "The support for Trump's immigration policies is significantly less among women, as is the idea that tariffs could make their personal situation better."

Armstrong most popular
Governor Armstrong, who got 68% of the vote last November, did not see a significant divergence from those numbers in this latest poll.
Currently, 66% of voters approve of his performance, with numbers pretty even across the state, though the highest in western North Dakota at 71%.

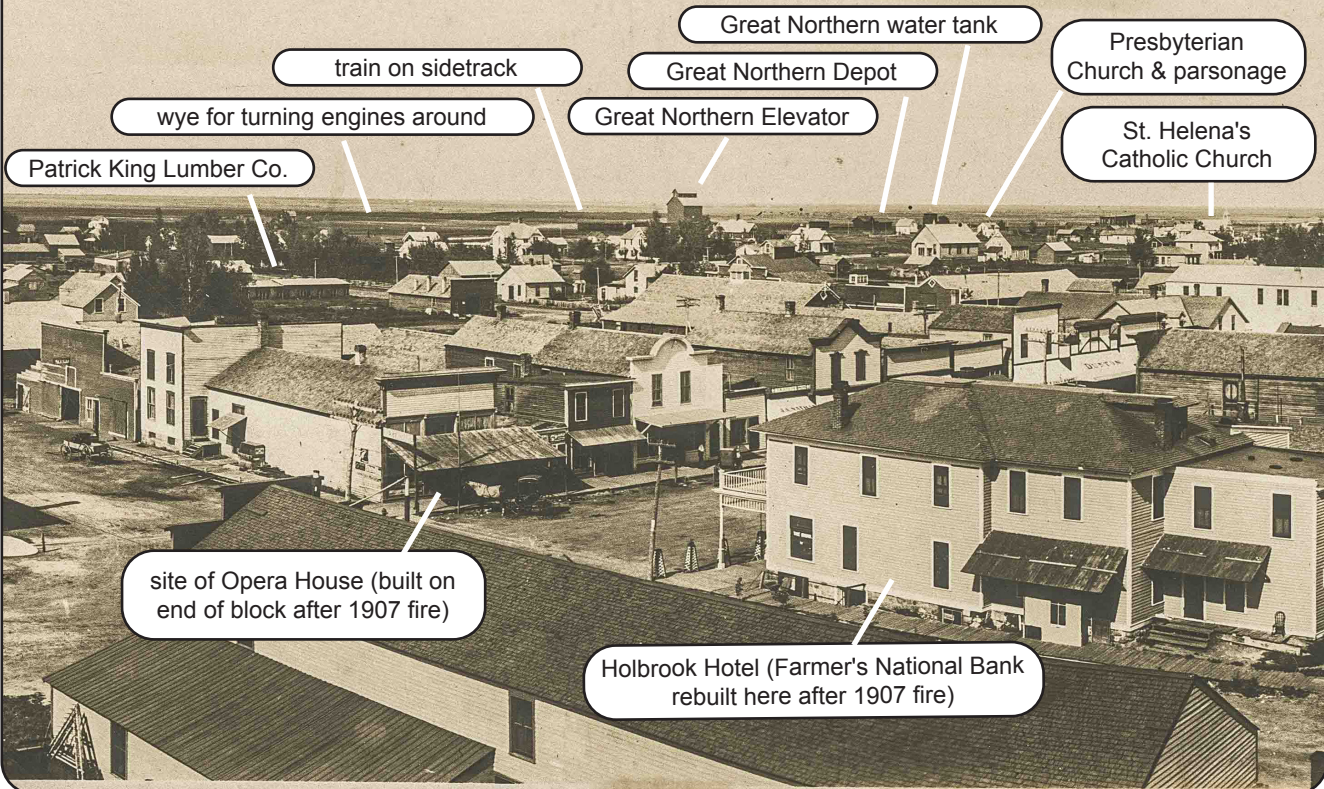
A total of 11% of respondents in eastern North Dakota – not counting the Fargo-Cass County region – said they weren't sure about Armstrong's performance, possibly reflecting a failure of Armstrong in actively engaging in issues there.
Independents were more favorable of Armstrong than of Trump, with 57% approving and 33% disapproving, though 10% were uncertain about how he's doing as the state's top executive.

Congressional approvals mixed
Among the state's congressional delegation, Sen. John Hoeven had the highest approval rate at 63% while the ratings for both Sen. Kevin Cramer and Rep. Julie Fedorchak appear to have slipped since elections last year.
Only 54% of respondents approved of Fedorchak's performance, while 27% disapproved and 19% were unsure.

Fedorchak secured 69% of the vote this past November, beating Democratic-NPL challenger Trygve Hammer, who garnered 30% of the vote.
Jendrysik said it was hard to figure out the reason for Fedorchak's softer numbers and there could be speculation on any number of reasons. The lower public profile as a U.S. representative versus a senator's seat and the fact that she's new to the position could be factors, he said.
Jendrysik also said he felt Fedorchak has taken more heat than the two senators for not holding in-person town halls, although she has made herself available for four virtual town halls since taking her House seat in Washington, D.C.
No one among the congressional delegation has had in-person town halls in North Dakota since at least 2019, before the state of the Covid pandemic, according to a Gigafact fact brief recently conducted by the North Dakota News Cooperative.
Headrick said that questions like those in this and other polls are questions that people across the state would like to be asking their congressional delegation in person right now.
"None of them are holding in-person town hall meetings of any kind," Headrick said.
Sen. Cramer's approval rate stands at 59% and he has the highest disapproval rate among the congressional delegation at 37%.
Cramer also had the highest rate of disapproval among Independents among the delegation at 55%.
Cramer defeated Dem-NPL challenger Katrina Christiansen in November last year, securing 66% of the vote over her 33%.

As the only major urban center in the state, the Fargo-Cass County region led on disapproval rates for all the congressional delegation, and for President Trump. Armstrong's numbers remained consistently favorable across all geographical regions.
"It isn't enormous, but it is there," Jendrysik said of the difference of opinion in Fargo-Cass County. "I think that's part of an interesting long-term trend, given you've got literally a quarter of the population of North Dakota now living in Cass County."
The North Dakota Poll, sponsored by the North Dakota News Cooperative, was conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling & Strategy, Inc. of Jacksonville, Florida. From August 4 through August 6, 2025, 625 adults identifying as regular voters were interviewed statewide by phone.
The margin of error is no more than + or - 4%, according to the polling firm.
A total of 155 respondents were in Fargo-Cass County, 155 in eastern North Dakota, 120 in the Bismarck-Mandan region, and another 195 in western North Dakota. Quotas were assigned to reflect voter turn-out by county.

Ellendale's Second Railroad Arrives - Built by "Heroes"



This scene, taken from a grain elevator about 1904, is the best known photo of the Great Northern elevator, which was located somewhere in the green space between the present PUMC Church and the Church of the Nazarene. The rail line, which until 1905 did not extend past the Milwaukee's north-south tracks, also had a wooden depot, a water tower, coal sheds, a side track and a turnaround system called a "wye," discussed in this week's Transitions column on page 2.
The third white-roofed building to the right of the elevator is the Presbyterian Church, built in 1883, which was later used by the Zion German Lutheran Congregation), and ultimately was converted into its current used as an apartment building.
In the foreground, East Main street's buildings prior to the great fire of 1907 are clearly seen. Four storefronts at the west corner, including Randall's store, were destroyed in the fire, after which the Opera House was built on that site. The wooden hotel at the bottom right corner also burned to the ground, and was replaced by the Farmers National Bank, which now houses the Coleman Museum.


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"The two pile drivers have been worked night and day for the last three weeks," reported the *Leader* on May 20, "and are now only one mile east of this city for their last job. In their anxiety to keep out of the way of the track layers and cause no delay they worked until 2:00 AM this morning, driving twelve of the forty piles which will go into this cut."
Locals came out to watch the progress. "The progress of the workmen was carefully watched for the last mile," said the *Leader*, joking that "no doubt nearly every one in town knows just how to go to work to build a railroad. Several of the town people tried their hands at driving spikes, with varied success" (May 27, 1887).
Well before the completion, Ellendalers formed a committee to greet the workers and celebrate their accomplishment. A "royal welcome" for the workers would be given: "The citizens, without reference to 'race, color, or previous condition of servitude' will meet them en masse at the track and escort them to the courthouse, where a bounteous repast will be served, and oratory and music fill the air." The reference to "race, color, or previous condition of servitude" referenced the presences of African-American workers on the rail-laying crew.
As predicted, the bridge over the small stream a mile east of town (and a short distance east of the cemetery) was completed, and the next morning, despite a drizzling rain, the tracks were laid to the line's terminus on the north side of Ellendale. At eleven o'clock the rain ceased, "and Marshal Courtney immediately formed the procession and marched it to the courthouse hall, where a stirring air was played by the band, followed by a ten-minute speech by E. P. Conser."

Conser's speech began with an elevated tribute to James J. Hill, who, he said, had appeared to observers as a tramp when he first surveyed the vast prairies, but "there flitted through his brain a scheme, the bold outlines of which startle this age of genius and enterprise" and "gives rise to the prophecy that the Manitoba system is destined to become the greatest railroad plant of the world, and James Hill the Napoleon of railroads."
Drawing on analogies that would have been familiar to his hearers and to schoolchildren, Conser had no reservations about placing Ellendale squarely on the historical map. Moreover, his comments would have fit well within a Fourth of July address. "As I passed along the street on my way to this meeting," said the speaker, "I saw three beautiful arches spanning the highway, decked in the symbolic colors of red, white and blue. While looking at the beautiful picture the question came to me, what is the significance of all this? And what does it mean in contrast with those gorgeous arches which spanned the forum and busy marts of the 'Eternal city' two thousand years ago?"
Conser went on to suggest that whereas Caesar's arches represented brute force and conquest, "cities in flames, provinces subdued and nations conquered and humiliated by the payment of tribute to the conquerors," Ellendale's trio of arches were telling "a very different story."
There is, he said, "nothing in it pointing to the pomp and pageantry of military conquest. It tells rather of peaceful homes, of changing wild wastes into productive fields, of the organization of states and nations for the protection and welfare of the individual. It tells of the arts and sciences matured in the lap of peaceful industry."

Speeding citations drop after new 80 mph speed limit

Citations have fallen from about 2,000 to 1,500 in North Dakota as drivers and troopers adjust to the new 80 mph limit on interstates.
By Ryan McNamara - WDAY
Fargo, August 15— The new 80 mph speed limit on North Dakota highways is two weeks old, and the Highway Patrol is seeing a significant drop in the number of drivers exceeding the limit.
Capt. Bryan Niewand said speeding violations are down 25% in the first two weeks of August, in part because drivers and troopers are adjusting to the higher limit.
"I think it is, because, again, it's that feeling out period. People are just trying to feel out like, 'Do I feel comfortable traveling 80? Am I going to go 82? If I go 85, am I going to get stopped?'" There's just a lot of, like, unknowns right now," Niewand said.
Citations have decreased from 2,000 to 1,500

in two weeks. Niewand said other factors, such as weather and the number of troopers patrolling, could also contribute to the lower numbers.
As drivers adjust, Niewand said troopers will give motorists a couple of miles per hour of space around the limit. "When you're hitting 84 to 85 miles per hour, you can expect to be stopped. And it'll be a citation or warning, whatever feels appropriate for that situation," he said.
The Highway Patrol is reminding drivers to limit distractions with the speed limit increase. With no minimum speed limit, drivers have less time to react to slower vehicles, such as farm equipment. "It's really hard when you're driving 80-82 miles per hour and something ahead of you is going 25 miles per hour," he said. It can cause problems with a driver's depth perception, how fast they really are approaching that vehicle, he said.
Niewand also advised drivers to lower their speed during poor weather conditions. Troop-

ers say, as always, to keep your seat belt on and practice defensive driving. Reach WDAY reporter Ryan McNamara at rmcnamara@wday.com.

Willie B. C. has no objection to the new 80 mile per hour interstate speed limit, as long as he gets to ride along in his owner's vehicle. When he's sitting next to the highway, though, he sometimes looks worried, and wants everyone to drive carefully.

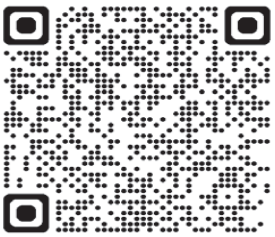
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April 1 - Sept. 30

Monday & Wednesday
3 pm – 8 pm

Tuesday & Thursday
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Amend: Temporary Partial Disability Benefits; Injured Employee Attorney Fees; Merger, Transfer & Sale of Business; Rehabilitation Equipment; Medical and Hospital Fees; Medical Services – Definitions, Who May Be Reimbursed, and Prior Authorization; Criteria for Motor Vehicle Purchase and Modification, Home Modification, Power Mobility Device, Footwear, and Prostheses; Independent Medical Examinations; Medical Service Provider Responsibilities and Billings and Copies of Records; Employer Attorney Fees; Decision Review Office – Electronic Means; and Premium Credit – Military Members.
Repeal: Definitions; First Report of Injury; Treating Health Care Provider's Opinion; and Contributing Cause of Mental or Psychological Condition Defined.
TAKE NOTICE that Workforce Safety & Insurance (WSI) will hold a public hearing to address the proposed creation, amendments and repeal to the North Dakota Administrative Code, Title 92, at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at the WSI Board Room, Century Center, 1600 E. Century Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota, at which time and place all persons will be heard regarding the proposed rules.
A copy of the proposed rules may be obtained by writing to WSI, Legal Department, P.O. Box 5585, Bismarck, North Dakota 58506 or by calling 800-777-5033 or TTY 800-366-6888. Written comments may be submitted to WSI, Legal Department, P.O. Box 5585, Bismarck, ND 58506 until close of business on October 3, 2025. The Full Notice may be viewed by scanning the below QR code. If you plan to attend the public hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact WSI at the above telephone number or address at least five days prior to hearing.
Dated: August 13, 2025.
WSI Legal Department,
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