

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Culver Lags Branstad by Double Digits**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Despite yesterday’s release showing Terry Branstad in a less than comfortable position in the Republican primary for Iowa governor, he is by far the most popular of the candidates contending for that office, and leads incumbent Chet Culver by 15 points. Rod Roberts and Bob Vander Plaats also beat Culver, but by much narrower margins. Iowa voters are sour on Culver’s job performance.

Branstad routs Culver 52-37. Independents go for the former governor over the current one, 49-33, and Branstad pulls 20% of Democrats to Culver’s 7% of Republicans. Culver also gets only 71% of his own party’s support to Branstad’s 85% of his.

Vander Plaats, the leading conservative challenger to Branstad, is up on Culver 43-38, while Roberts also edges Culver 40-38. The two do equally poorly with Democrats and top Culver with independents, but Vander Plaats by six more points on the margin. Vander Plaats does slightly better with the GOP than does Roberts.

Branstad’s personal favorability is 42-37, to Vander Plaats’ 28-30 and Roberts’ 15-19. Branstad is the only one with a net positive margin among independents, and the only one better liked among Republicans than disliked among Democrats.

Culver’s current 38% ceiling in his re-election bid is no surprise when considering his dismal 28-56 job approval numbers. Only 56% of his own party members approve, with 89% of Republicans and 59% of independents disapproving.

“Chet Culver is in big trouble, and while Terry Branstad isn’t massively popular, he takes advantage of Culver’s vulnerability with his own party to take a large lead a week before the primary,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

PPP surveyed 1,277 Iowa voters from May 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the survey was +/-2.7%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at [www.publicpolicypolling.com](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com).

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.



## Iowa Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Chet Culver's job performance?

*Approve* ..... 28%  
*Disapprove*..... 56%  
*Not sure*..... 16%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tom Vilsack?

*Favorable*..... 37%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 36%  
*Not Sure*..... 27%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Terry Branstad?

*Favorable*..... 42%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 37%  
*Not Sure*..... 22%

**Q4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rod Roberts?

*Favorable*..... 15%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 19%  
*Not Sure*..... 65%

**Q5** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Bob Vander Plaats?

*Favorable*..... 28%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 30%  
*Not Sure*..... 43%

**Q6** If the candidates for Governor were Democrat Chet Culver and Republican Terry Branstad, who would you vote for?

*Chet Culver*..... 37%  
*Terry Branstad*..... 52%  
*Undecided*..... 11%

**Q7** If the candidates for Governor were Democrat Chet Culver and Republican Rod Roberts, who would you vote for?

*Chet Culver*..... 38%  
*Rod Roberts*..... 40%  
*Undecided*..... 22%

**Q8** If the candidates for Governor were Democrat Chet Culver and Republican Bob Vander Plaats, who would you vote for?

*Chet Culver*..... 38%  
*Bob Vander Plaats*..... 43%  
*Undecided*..... 19%

**Q9** Who did you vote for President last year?

*John McCain*..... 45%  
*Barack Obama*..... 45%  
*Someone Else/Don't Remember*..... 9%

**Q10** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

*Liberal*..... 18%  
*Moderate*..... 39%  
*Conservative*..... 44%

**Q11** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 52%  
*Man*..... 48%

**Q12** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

*Democrat*..... 37%  
*Republican*..... 38%  
*Independent/Other*..... 26%





**Q13** If you are white, press one now. If other, press 2.

*White* ..... 94%  
*Other*..... 6%

**Q14** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

*18 to 29*..... 14%  
*30 to 45*..... 20%  
*46 to 65*..... 46%  
*Older than 65*..... 20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Culver Job Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	28%	6%	54%	12%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	83%	28%	63%
<b>Not sure</b>	16%	11%	18%	25%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Vilsack Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	14%	64%	22%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	36%	58%	14%	38%
<b>Not Sure</b>	27%	28%	23%	40%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Branstad Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	42%	60%	23%	41%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	37%	20%	56%	25%
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	19%	21%	33%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Roberts Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	15%	21%	9%	18%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	19%	12%	28%	12%
<b>Not Sure</b>	65%	68%	62%	70%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Vander Plaats Favorability</b>				
Favorable	28%	46%	10%	22%
Unfavorable	30%	14%	47%	23%
Not Sure	43%	39%	43%	55%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Culver/Branstad</b>				
Chet Culver	37%	11%	68%	17%
Terry Branstad	52%	80%	23%	58%
Undecided	11%	10%	10%	25%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Culver/Roberts</b>				
Chet Culver	38%	8%	72%	20%
Rod Roberts	40%	69%	11%	37%
Undecided	22%	23%	17%	43%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Culver/Vander Plaats</b>				
Chet Culver	38%	7%	73%	17%
Bob Vander Plaats	43%	75%	12%	39%
Undecided	19%	18%	15%	44%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Culver Job Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>28%</b>	59%	38%	7%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>56%</b>	23%	43%	82%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>16%</b>	18%	19%	12%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Vilsack Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>37%</b>	60%	53%	15%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>36%</b>	16%	23%	57%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>27%</b>	24%	25%	29%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Branstad Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>42%</b>	20%	37%	54%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>37%</b>	61%	44%	21%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>22%</b>	19%	19%	25%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Roberts Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>15%</b>	9%	13%	20%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>19%</b>	28%	23%	13%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>65%</b>	64%	64%	67%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Vander Plaats Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>28%</b>	10%	16%	45%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>30%</b>	50%	40%	13%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>43%</b>	41%	44%	42%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Culver/Branstad</b>				
<b>Chet Culver</b>	<b>37%</b>	78%	49%	10%
<b>Terry Branstad</b>	<b>52%</b>	15%	39%	77%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>11%</b>	7%	11%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Culver/Roberts</b>				
<b>Chet Culver</b>	<b>38%</b>	79%	51%	11%
<b>Rod Roberts</b>	<b>40%</b>	9%	25%	65%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>22%</b>	12%	24%	24%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Culver/Vander Plaats</b>				
<b>Chet Culver</b>	<b>38%</b>	76%	53%	9%
<b>Bob Vander Plaats</b>	<b>43%</b>	12%	26%	71%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>19%</b>	12%	21%	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Culver Job Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	28%	27%	30%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	56%	56%
<b>Not sure</b>	16%	17%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Vilsack Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	35%	39%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	36%	32%	41%
<b>Not Sure</b>	27%	33%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Branstad Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	42%	39%	44%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	37%	34%	40%
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	27%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Roberts Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	15%	14%	17%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	19%	17%	22%
<b>Not Sure</b>	65%	69%	61%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Vander Plaats Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>28%</b>	26%	29%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>30%</b>	25%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>43%</b>	50%	35%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Culver/Branstad</b>			
<b>Chet Culver</b>	<b>37%</b>	36%	39%
<b>Terry Branstad</b>	<b>52%</b>	51%	53%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>11%</b>	13%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Culver/Roberts</b>			
<b>Chet Culver</b>	<b>38%</b>	37%	40%
<b>Rod Roberts</b>	<b>40%</b>	36%	43%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>22%</b>	27%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Culver/Vander Plaats</b>			
<b>Chet Culver</b>	<b>38%</b>	35%	40%
<b>Bob Vander Plaats</b>	<b>43%</b>	41%	46%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>19%</b>	23%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Culver Job Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	28%	56%	4%	22%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	26%	84%	59%
<b>Not sure</b>	16%	17%	12%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Vilsack Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	63%	13%	36%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	36%	16%	57%	34%
<b>Not Sure</b>	27%	21%	30%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Branstad Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	42%	23%	62%	39%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	37%	57%	17%	37%
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	20%	21%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Roberts Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	15%	11%	21%	14%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	19%	28%	14%	15%
<b>Not Sure</b>	65%	62%	65%	71%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Vander Plaats Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	28%	13%	45%	22%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	43%	18%	28%
<b>Not Sure</b>	43%	43%	37%	50%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Culver/Branstad</b>				
<b>Chet Culver</b>	37%	71%	7%	33%
<b>Terry Branstad</b>	52%	20%	85%	49%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	9%	8%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Culver/Roberts</b>				
<b>Chet Culver</b>	38%	74%	7%	32%
<b>Rod Roberts</b>	40%	10%	72%	35%
<b>Undecided</b>	22%	15%	21%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Culver/Vander Plaats</b>				
<b>Chet Culver</b>	38%	75%	5%	33%
<b>Bob Vander Plaats</b>	43%	10%	77%	42%
<b>Undecided</b>	19%	15%	19%	25%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Culver Job Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	28%	28%	32%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	57%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	16%	15%	26%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Vilsack Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	37%	44%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	36%	37%	22%
<b>Not Sure</b>	27%	26%	33%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Branstad Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	42%	43%	22%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	37%	36%	53%
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	21%	25%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Roberts Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	15%	16%	8%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	19%	19%	23%
<b>Not Sure</b>	65%	65%	69%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Vander Plaats Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	28%	29%	9%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	30%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	43%	42%	55%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Culver/Branstad</b>			
<b>Chet Culver</b>	37%	36%	52%
<b>Terry Branstad</b>	52%	53%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	11%	12%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Culver/Roberts</b>			
<b>Chet Culver</b>	38%	37%	56%
<b>Rod Roberts</b>	40%	41%	18%
<b>Undecided</b>	22%	22%	26%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Culver/Vander Plaats</b>			
<b>Chet Culver</b>	38%	37%	55%
<b>Bob Vander Plaats</b>	43%	45%	17%
<b>Undecided</b>	19%	19%	29%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Culver Job Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	28%	31%	27%	28%	28%
<b>Disapprove</b>	56%	41%	56%	59%	60%
<b>Not sure</b>	16%	28%	18%	13%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Vilsack Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	39%	32%	40%	35%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	36%	28%	39%	39%	35%
<b>Not Sure</b>	27%	33%	30%	22%	30%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Branstad Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	42%	41%	38%	41%	46%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	37%	33%	35%	41%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	26%	27%	18%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Roberts Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	15%	15%	10%	16%	20%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	19%	22%	17%	20%	16%
<b>Not Sure</b>	65%	63%	73%	64%	63%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Vander Plaats Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	28%	22%	30%	29%	27%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	30%	30%	26%	31%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	43%	48%	45%	40%	41%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Culver/Branstad</b>					
<b>Chet Culver</b>	37%	48%	33%	37%	33%
<b>Terry Branstad</b>	52%	39%	59%	51%	55%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	13%	8%	12%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Culver/Roberts</b>					
<b>Chet Culver</b>	38%	54%	34%	38%	33%
<b>Rod Roberts</b>	40%	24%	43%	41%	44%
<b>Undecided</b>	22%	22%	23%	21%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Culver/Vander Plaats</b>					
<b>Chet Culver</b>	38%	48%	31%	39%	33%
<b>Bob Vander Plaats</b>	43%	28%	51%	44%	44%
<b>Undecided</b>	19%	24%	18%	16%	23%

