



State Legislative GOP Has Offensive Opportunity in Minnesota

DATE: Monday, January 31, 2022
TO: Dee Duncan, RSLC President
FROM: Brent Buchanan & Jacqueline Boggess, Cygnal
RE: Survey of Likely 2022 General Election Voters in Minnesota

The political environment has flipped in favor of Republicans at the legislative level.

- Minnesotans are seeking an alternative to Democratic-Farmer-Laborer leadership, as a majority of voters say the state is on the wrong track (**41% right direction, 53% wrong track**).
- Republicans are leading the generic ballot for the state legislature by **four points** (48-44).
 - Republicans are decisively winning Independents by **21 points** (50-29) – a massive early advantage.

Republicans are gaining ground because Biden and his congressional allies are unpopular, and voters want the legislature to push back on Washington, D.C.

- Joe Biden's image is underwater **by double digits at (44-56)**.
 - Elected Democrats in Washington, D.C. overall are also deeply unpopular, with a **net-negative image of 14 points** (41-55).
 - D.C. Democrats are dragging down Democrats in Minnesota's state legislature, who only **41% view favorably as opposed to the 50% who view them unfavorably**.
- Voters were asked whether they want the General Assembly to support or push back against the policies coming out of Washington D.C.
 - **Only 37%** of voters want the state legislature to support Washington's policies compared to **47%** who want the state legislature to push back on Washington.

Republicans at the state legislative level are on offense because of concern about crime, the economy, and education.

- "The crime rate and public safety, and what the candidate proposes to do about it" is what most of the respondents say is the "top issue they consider."
 - Voters also say public safety in their communities is **only 4%** better off than it was a year ago compared to the **52% who say** it has gotten **worse**.
- **Only 18%** of voters say their personal finances are better off than they were a year ago compared to the **46%** who say they are worse off.
- 70% of Minnesotans believe schools should be open because "too many students are falling behind" compared to the 18% who favor keeping schools closed or virtual learning "until COVID-19 is under control."
 - This is especially true of parents, who overwhelmingly want schools to be open by a margin of (85-11).
 - Even 44% of Democrats want schools open.

METHODOLOGY: This probabilistic survey was conducted January 17, 2022 – January 18, 2022, with 510 likely general election voters. It has a margin of error of $\pm 4.33\%$. Known registered voters were interviewed via live agents calling cell phones and landlines. This survey was weighted to a likely general 2022 election voter universe.

ABOUT CYGNAL: [Cygnal](#) is an award-winning international public opinion and predictive analytics firm. Cygnal was named the #1 Republican private pollster by Nate Silver's [FiveThirtyEight](#) two cycles running, as well as the #1 most accurate polling and research firm in the country for 2018 by [The New York Times](#). Its team members have worked in 47 states and countries on more than 2,500 corporate, public affairs, and political campaigns.

