

2024 Iowa Primary Election Summary

Iowa's 2024 primary election wrapped up in the late hours of Tuesday, June 4th, setting the stage for the November general election. Three of the four Iowa U.S. House seats had primary elections, and only four Iowa Senate Districts and 18 out of 100 Iowa House Districts had primary elections. 20 Iowa Senators and 82 Iowa House members ran unopposed this primary election cycle.

U.S. House

In the race for southeast Iowa's 1st U.S. House District, Republican incumbent Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks prevailed over businessman David Pautsch by winning 59% of the vote. Miller-Meeks will now face unopposed Democrat candidate Christina Bohannon.

Northwest Iowa's 4th U.S. House District had a primary race between Republican incumbent Rep. Randy Feenstra and veteran/small business owner, Kevin Virgil. Feenstra won with 60% of the vote and will face off against Democrat candidate Ryan Melton, who ran unopposed.

Two Democrat candidates vied for the nomination in the race for Iowa's 3rd House District. Lanon Baccam, a veteran and former Department of Agriculture official won by a huge margin (84%) over Melissa Vine, a nonprofit leader and small business owner. Baccam will now face Republican incumbent Rep. Zach Nunn who ran unopposed for the Republican nomination.

Iowa Senate

All 25 even numbered Senate Districts are up for reelection this cycle. However, only four districts had primary races. Senate Commerce Committee Chairman Waylon Brown (R-30) had a tight race against Republican challenger Doug Campbell but managed a win with 53% of the vote. Brown will now face Democrat challenger Richard Lorence for the Mason City Senate seat.

In the race for West Des Moines Senate District 16, State Rep. Claire Celsi successfully defended her seat by earning 80% of the vote against the former chair of the West Des Moines Democrats, Julie Lasche. There is no Republican nominee for Senate District 16.

In a three-way Republican primary for Senate District 38 (Cedar Falls), Dave Sires gained 59% of the vote to beat out opponents Steve Schmitt and James McCullagh. Sires will now take on Democrat State Rep. Eric Giddens.

There are three open seats in the Iowa Senate but only Senate District 26 (Marshalltown) had a primary election. In a very close race, veteran and political staffer, Gannon Hendrick lost to farmer and business owner, Kara Warne who got 54% of the vote for the Republican nomination and will now face Democrat Mike Wolfe, a farmer and union mechanical contractor.

Iowa House

All 100 Iowa House Seats are up for reelection this cycle. Five incumbent House members, four Republicans and one Democrat, faced challengers this primary election.

House State Government Committee Chairwoman Jane Bloomingdale won 61% of the vote, successfully defending her seat and beating business owner John Rosenfeld in the election for House District 60 (Clear Lake). State Rep. Josh Meggers easily defeated opponent Jody Anderson for House District 54 with 76% of the vote. Republican State Rep. Mike Sexton of Rockwell City triumphed over Mom's For Liberty backed candidate Wendy Lou Larson in the race for House District 7. Democrat State Rep. Elinor Levin easily won her primary election against Ty Bopp with 91% of the vote for House District 89 (Iowa City). None of these incumbents will face challengers in the general election.

House Commerce Committee Vice-Chairman David Young had a big win over Republican challenger Chad Brewbaker. Young won with 89% of the vote and will face Democrat nominee Laura Snider, a trial attorney and author, in the general election for House District 28 (West Des Moines).

Four other Democrat House members had Republican primaries in their district. In House District 20 (Council Bluffs), Democrat State Rep. Josh Turek will face Republican nominee James Wassell (60% of the vote). State Rep. Sean Bagniewski (D-35) from Urbandale will face Republican nominee Angela Schreder. Schreder won 60% of the vote against opponent Daniel Schmude. Northern Ankeny's State Rep. Molly Buck (D-41) will go against Republican nominee Ryan Weldon, who won his nomination with 62% of the vote. State Rep. Charles Isenhart (D-72) from Northern Dubuque will face Republican challenger Jennifer Smith. Smith won the nomination with 77% of the vote against Rod Warnke.

In a three-way Democrat primary for Iowa House District 53 (Grinnell), Tommy Hexter was named the winner after getting 59% of the vote. Hexter will challenge Republican State Rep. Dean Fischer.

There are 13 open seats in the Iowa House this election cycle, with only eight having primary races. House District 34 (Drake neighborhood) had a four-way Democratic primary to see who could replace retired Democrat State Rep. Ako Abdul-Samad. Rob Johnson prevailed over three other candidates with 43% of the vote. Johnson and Republican nominee Danielle Duggan, who ran unopposed, will face off in November.

House District 44 (Johnston/Grimes) had a Democrat primary to see who would replace retired State Rep. John Forbes. Larry McBurney got 65% of the vote over Jason Menke. There is no Republican nominee for the district.

In the race for House District 22 (Norwalk), former Rep. Garrett Gobble and Moms for Liberty member, Samantha Fett, faced off in the Republican primary. Fett won with 55% and will go against former Bevington City Council member Rory Taylor, who ran unopposed for the Democrat nomination.

Former State Rep. Ken Carlson's open seat in House District 13 (Onaway) was won easily by Republican Travis Sitzmann. Sitzmann got 63% of the vote over opponent Noah Wiesler and will not have a general election opponent.

In House District 24 (Osceola), Sam Wengryn clinched the Republican nomination with 66% over Brenda Brammer-Smith and will face unopposed Democrat nominee Sonya Hicks.

The Republican nomination for retired State Rep. Dave Deyoe's seat (House District 51) was won by Brett Barker with 60% of the vote. Barker beat Martin Chitty and will now face unopposed Democrat nominee Ryan Condon in November.

In Iowa's Northeast corner, Jason Gearhart won the race for House District 64 with 55% against Douglas Wolfe. There is no Democrat nominee for House District 64.

Finally, in the race for the Republican nominee in House District 91 (Williamsburg/Oxford) and retired Rep. Brad Sherman's seat, Judd Lawler won with 79% against Adam Grier. Lawler will meet unopposed Democrat nominee Jay Gorsch in the general election.

Overall, voter turnout was expectingly very low with only 8.3% of registered voters turning out for the primary election. For complete election results from all Iowa primary elections, see the Iowa Secretary of State's [website](#).

Madison Grady
Director of Government Affairs
PolicyWorks