## PolitiFact | Fact-checking former President Donald Trump's 'Save America' rally in Iowa

Conjecture that former President Donald Trump is seeking back the White House job he held for four years continued to generate news— and fact checks — in Iowa on Saturday night, Oct. 9.

"Just this week the latest Des Moines Register poll showed that Biden is a record low, 31 percent approval in lowa ... While your all-time favorite president ... is at a record high, the highest we've ever been."

Trump has received high marks among lowa voters, especially Republicans. The most recent *Des Moines Register*/Mediacom lowa Poll, reported Oct. 4, showed that 53 percent of lowans have a favorable view of Trump, while 45 percent have an unfavorable view. The approval numbers are better than he had when president, *The Register* reported. The poll questioned 805 adults between Sept. 12-15. Its margin of error was plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

Among Republicans, 91 percent had a favorable view of Trump in the Iowa Poll survey. Another 7 percent viewed him unfavorably, while 2 percent didn't know, the survey showed. The flipside showed 99 percent of Democrats in Iowa viewing Trump unfavorably, and only 1 percent viewing him favorably.

Whether it was a mistake or intentional, Trump flubbed the numbers on President Joe Biden's favorability rating — in the same poll, 37 percent of voters said they had a favorable view of the president, not 31 percent.

## The Arizona forensic audit of the state's 2020 presidential election results "showed massive irregularities."

PolitiFact looked into this when Trump previously made the false comment, which the fact-finders ruled to be "Pants on Fire." That report showed that a Republican-led review of the 2020 election totals in crucial Arizona showed Biden with 45,469 more votes than Trump in Maricopa, the state's largest county.

Not only was that close to the official results certified in November 2020, Cyber Ninjas, the firm hired to conduct the review, reported that Biden's margin of victory was 360 votes larger than what the county's official canvass showed.

Trump claimed that the audit showed "2,500 duplicate ballots," but that claim is misleading. The previous fact check found that duplicate ballots are created when election officials find a ballot has inconsistent signature information and they contact the voter, but only one ballot is actually counted.

Trump also claimed that "10,324 voters might have voted in multiple counties." This is an exaggeration of what the report says, and Maricopa County officials have said that the report's criteria were not stringent enough to prove duplicate voting.

The report said it found 5,047 voters with the same first, middle, last name, and birth date, representing 10,342 votes among all Arizona counties. A report from Maricopa County officials, though, said the criteria used to identify voters resulted in false duplicates, and the firm should have used more specific criteria like social security number and driver's license number.

## "We won by a lot" in Wisconsin.

This is false. Biden won in Wisconsin with more than 20,000 more votes than Trump.

While he didn't get into specifics, Trump made a similar claim about winning Wisconsin in August, which PolitiFact found to be "Pants on Fire." It involves an email exchange in the early morning hours after Election Day from an election consultant to Claire Woodall-Vogg, executive director of the Milwaukee Elections Commission.

"Damn, Claire, you have a flair for drama, delivering just the margin needed at 3:00 a.m." the consultant wrote. "I bet you had those votes counted at midnight, and just wanted to keep the world waiting!"

Woodall-Vogg responded about 10 minutes later: "Lol. I just wanted to say I had been awake for a full 24 hours!"

Right-leaning news organizations published the exchange and commentators jumped on it but Woodall-Vogg said the exchange was a joke, but inappropriate. Republican and Democratic observers were at Milwaukee's absentee ballot-counting center until all results were tallied and no evidence exists showing ballots deliberately were miscounted. Trump's efforts to impugn the process lost in both a recount requested by Trump and a Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling.

On the Oct. 7 Senate Judiciary Committee report on Trump's efforts to overturn election: "The left's new obsession is the un-select committee, I call it the un-select committee."

The Judiciary Committee issued two reports on Oct. 7 on the former president's efforts to overturn the 2020 president election. One was from the majority Democrats and one was from minority Republicans, led by ranking member Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa. The two reports were based on the same testimony but had different conclusions.

The majority report said Trump repeatedly asked leaders of his Department of Justice "to endorse his false claims that the election was stolen and to assist his efforts to overturn the election results." They added that Trump's Chief of Staff Mark Meadows asked Acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen "to initiate election fraud investigations on multiple occasions, violating longstanding restrictions on White House-DOJ communications about specific law enforcement matters."

The minority report didn't dispute any of the testimony but said Trump followed the Justice Department staff recommendations and did not take actions that an assistant attorney general, Jeffrey Clark, suggested: sending a draft letter to some states with reported voter irregularities and recommending that their legislatures choose different Electoral College electors. Biden won the states in question.

The Republican report also noted that Trump did not fire anyone over these matters. It said the Republicans believe Trump had legitimate complaints and reports of crimes involving the election, and that he was reaching out to the Justice Department to make it aware of those complaints and doing its job of investigating them. He did not, the Republicans said, issue an order to take any actions.

Multiple audits and reviews have shown no evidence of widespread voter fraud, and have confirmed that Biden beat Trump in the election.