



Convention 101

Caucus night is just the beginning of Iowa's process to select National Convention Delegates. The rest of the process comprises 3 conventions: county, district, and state.

National Delegation

Iowa's National Convention Delegation is 53 people. Here's how that number breaks down:

Pledged Delegates

- 27 District-Level Delegates
- 9 At-Large Delegates
- 4 Alternates (elected at district conventions)
- 5 PLEOs

Automatic Delegates

- 5 DNC Members
- 3 Democratic Members of Congress

Where do Delegates come from?

Conventions! National Delegates are elected at both the State Convention and each District Convention.

The 9 At-Large Delegates are elected by preference group at the state convention. The 9 delegates are allocated to candidates who are in the race as of the state convention, based on their relative strength from caucus results. Each district also elects 1 alternate.

The 27 District-Level Delegates are first apportioned to each congressional district based on the district's Democratic vote strength, then each district's share of delegates is apportioned to preference group based on the group's relative strength from caucus results.

The 5 PLEO (Party Leader and Elected Official) delegates are elected at the state convention. They are allocated to candidates who are in the race as of the state convention, based on their relative strength from caucus results.

Ok, so where do District and State Convention Delegates from come?

Conventions! Each of Iowa's 99 counties holds a Democratic County Convention to elect delegates to represent the county to both the district AND the state conventions. These delegates are allocated within the county to viable preference groups based on each group's relative strength from caucus results.

District/State Conventions

Step 1: State Central Committee determines the State Convention size

Step 2: That convention size number is divided among the 4 districts based on each district’s democratic vote share (we use 2016 Clinton votes + 2018 Hubbell votes to determine democratic vote share) within the entire state.

Step 3: That convention size number is then divided among the 1,677 precincts based on each precinct’s democratic vote share (we use 2016 Clinton votes + 2018 Hubbell votes to determine democratic vote share) to determine State Delegate Equivalencies from each precinct.

Step 4: The district convention number is divided among the counties within the district based on their democratic vote share (with each county being allocated at least 3 delegates). The result is the number of delegates each county convention elects to the district and state conventions.

County Conventions

Step A: County Parties determine their county convention size

Step B: The county convention number is divided among the precincts in the county based on the precinct’s vote share within the county. The result is the number of delegates each precinct caucus elects to the county convention.

Okay okay....but then where do County Convention Delegates from come?

Caucuses! On caucus night, every precinct elects their allotted number of delegates up to the county convention.

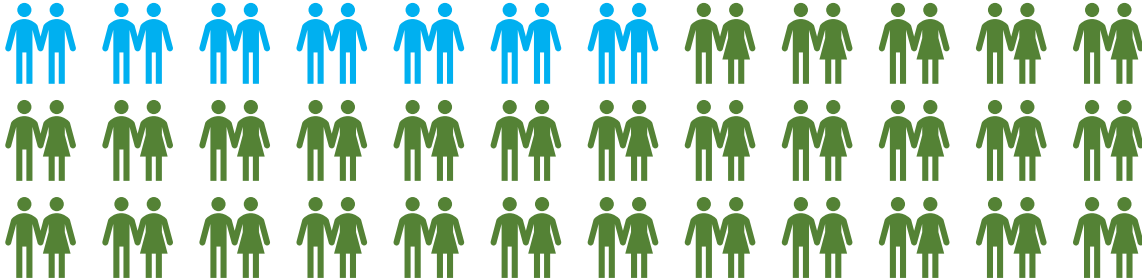
Maybe a picture would help.

Okay, here it is from caucus to convention:

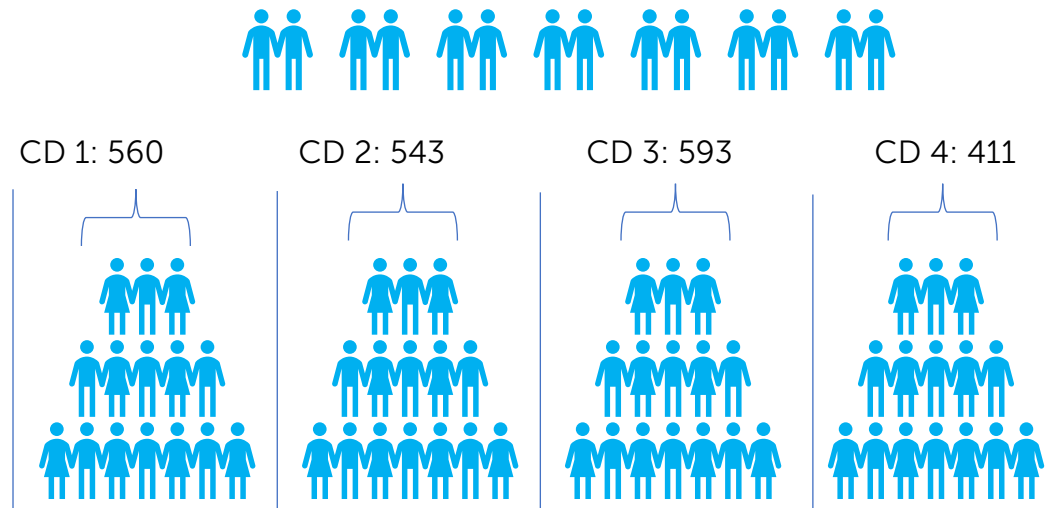
Caucuses = 170,000+ caucusers elect ~11,500 delegates to county conventions:



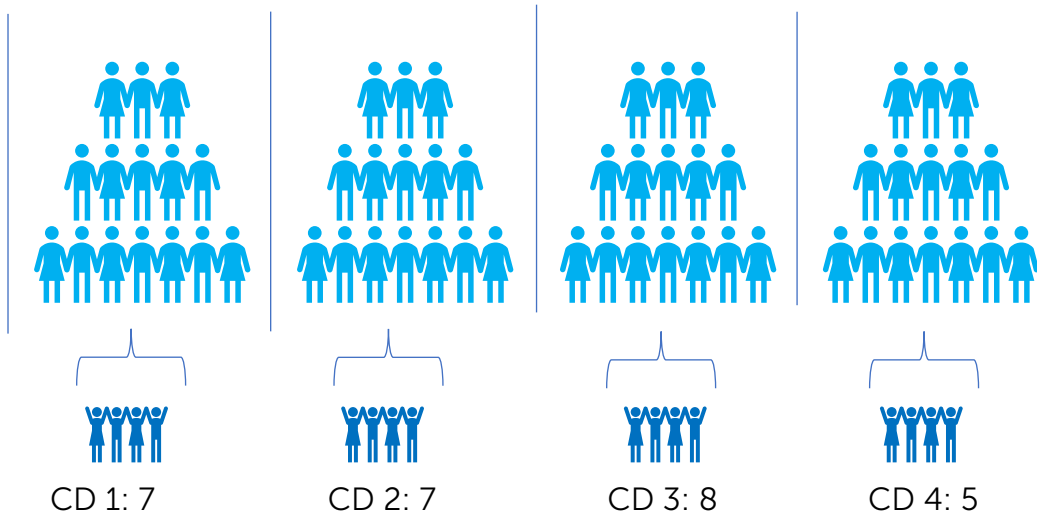
County Conventions = ~11,500 delegates elect 2,107 delegates to district AND state conventions. These delegates are also elected with preference groups (not reflected here).



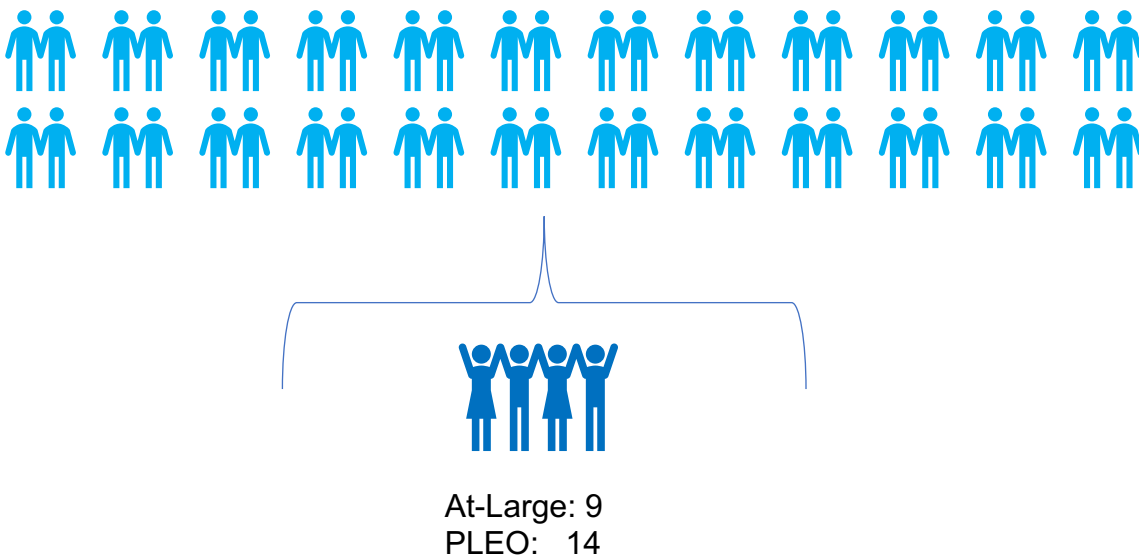
These 2,107 delegates are divided proportionally to each district. The delegates first meet at their district convention.



Each district convention elects its allotment of national delegates, which have been allocated proportionally to it. These delegates are also elected with preference groups (not reflected here).

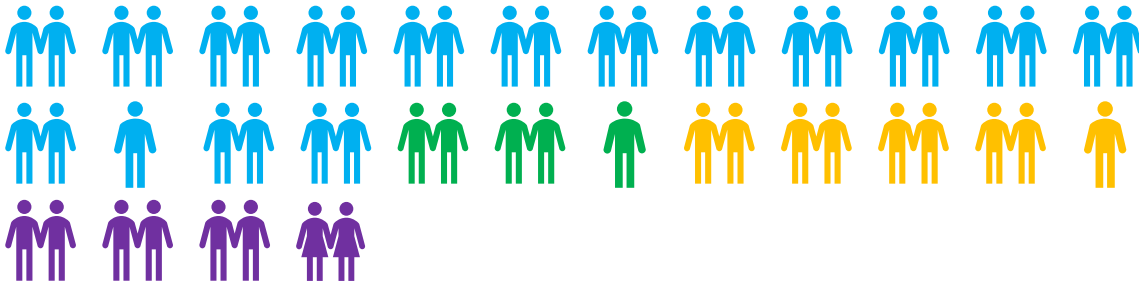


At the state convention, the entire convention elects the at-large and PLEO delegates. These delegates are also elected with preference groups (not reflected here).



Can you just show me the National Delegate breakdown using these funny little icons?

Sure!



27 Delegates & 4 Alternates come from District Conventions



5 Delegates are PLEOs that come from the State Convention



9 Delegates come from the State Convention



5 Delegates are DNC Members & 3 are the Democratic Members of Congress

So conventions are just used to elect delegates?

Nope. Electing Delegates & Alternates to the next convention is just one important function of each convention.

County Conventions also:

- Elect a County Affirmative Action Chair
- Elect District Convention Committee Members
- Approve a platform report

District Conventions also:

- Elect 8 State Central Committee Members
- Elect 1 Elector
- Elect State Convention Committee Members
- Elect a District Affirmative Action Chair
- Approve a platform report

State Convention also:

- Elects DNC Members
- Elects State Affirmative Action Chair
- Amends the IDP Constitution
- Approves the State Platform