

# 2024 Colorado Political Climate (CPC) Survey

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## Block 1: Informed Consent

#programming instruction: if respondent checks box to participate, advance to question #2; if not, end survey.

[question #1] [single choice: consent]

[Insert Consent Form Here]

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## Block 2: Likely Voter Qs

[question #2] {single choice: thought\_nov}

#programming notes: please reverse answer options

How much thought have you given to the upcoming November elections in Colorado?

<1> A great deal

<2> A lot

<3> Some

<4> Only a little

<5> None at all

[question #3] {single choice: likely\_vote}

#programming notes: please reverse answer options 1-5, anchor option <6>

Statewide Election Day in Colorado is November 5, 2024. How likely are you to vote in these elections?

- <1> Highly likely
- <2> Likely
- <3> Somewhat likely
- <4> Not very likely
- <5> Not at all likely
- <6> I have already voted

[question #4] {single choice: freq\_vote}

#programming notes: please reverse answer options

In general, how often would you say you vote in elections?

- <1> Always
- <2> Most of the time
- <3> About half of the time
- <4> Rarely
- <5> Never

### Block 3: Elections

[question #5] {single choice: pres\_choice}

#programming notes: please randomize options 1 and 2, but anchor "other" (3)

If the election for President were held today, would you vote for:

<1> Kamala Harris, Democrat

<2> Donald Trump, Republican

<3> Some other candidate \_\_\_\_\_(text box)

[question #6] {single choice: congress\_choice}

#programming notes: please randomize options 1 and 2, but anchor "other" (3)

If the election for U.S. House of Representatives in your congressional district were held today, would you vote for:

<1> The Democratic candidate

<2> The Republican candidate

<3> Some other candidate \_\_\_\_\_(text box)

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### Block 4: Leadership & Approval

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options 1-4, but anchor 5 (Not sure).

Names

Q7: app\_biden

Q8: app\_polis

Q9: app\_hickenlooper

Q10: app\_bennet

How much do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following is handling their job?

- [q7] President Joe Biden
- [q8] Governor Jared Polis
- [q9] Senator John Hickenlooper
- [q10] Senator Michael Bennet

- <1> Strongly approve
- <2> Approve
- <3> Disapprove
- <4> Strongly disapprove
- <5> Not sure

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options 1-4, but anchor 5 (Not sure).

Names

Q11: app\_congress

Q12: app\_sc

Q13: app\_state

Q14: app\_police

Q15: app\_county

How much do you approve or disapprove of the way that each of the following is handling their job?

- [q11] United States Congress
- [q12] The US Supreme Court
- [q13] Colorado State Legislature
- [q14] Your local police department
- [q15] The county officials where you live

- <1> Strongly approve
- <2> Approve
- <3> Disapprove

<4> Strongly disapprove  
<5> Not sure

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#### Block 5: Election Fairness & Legitimacy

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options 1-4, but anchor 5 (Not sure).

Names:

Q16: elec\_1  
Q17: elec\_2  
Q18: elec\_3  
Q19: elec\_4  
Q20: elec\_5  
Q21: elec\_6

How much do you agree with each of the following statements about **the upcoming elections**?

[q16] Elections across the country will be conducted fairly and accurately

[q17] Elections in Colorado will be conducted fairly and accurately

[q18] Across the US, all citizens who want to vote in the elections will be able to

[q19] In Colorado, all citizens who want to vote in the elections will be able to

[q20] Elections in Colorado today reflect the will of Coloradans

[q21] Elections in America today reflect the will of the American people

<1> Strongly agree  
<2> Agree  
<3> Disagree  
<4> Strongly disagree  
<5> Not sure

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options 1-4, but anchor 5 (Not sure).

Names:

Q22: process\_1

Q23: process\_2

Q24: process\_3

Q25: process\_4

Q26: process\_5

How much do you agree with each of the following statements about the upcoming **presidential election**?

[q22] The losing candidate in the presidential election should publicly acknowledge the winner as legitimate

[q23] If my preferred candidate does not win, I will view the winner as legitimate

[q24] I am confident there will be a peaceful transition/continuation of power

[q25] I am worried about violence on or after Election Day in other parts of the country

[q26] I am worried about violence on or after Election Day in Colorado

<1> Strongly agree

<2> Agree

<3> Disagree

<4> Strongly disagree

<5> Not sure

[question #27] {single choice: age\_limit}

#programmer: please randomly assign respondents to the v1 and v2 of Q27 with a .5 probability.

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options 1-6.

**Q27\_v1**

How much do you agree with the following statement?

There should be an age limit when it comes to running for federal office (the US House, the US Senate or the Presidency).

- <1> Strongly agree
- <2> Agree
- <3> Disagree
- <4> Strongly disagree
- <5> Not sure

## Q27\_v2

How much do you agree with the following statement?

People over 70 should not be allowed to run for federal office (the US House, the US Senate or the Presidency).

- <1> Strongly agree
- <2> Agree
- <3> Disagree
- <4> Strongly disagree
- <5> Not sure

#programmer: Please randomize order of block Q28-Q32 and block Q33-Q39.

## Block Q28-Q32

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options 1-6, but anchor 7 (Not sure).

Names:

- Q28: mail\_1
- Q29: mail\_2
- Q30: mail\_3
- Q31: mail\_4
- Q32: mail\_5

How much do you agree with each of the following statements **about the mail voting system in Colorado?**

[q28] When I talk to people during election season, I tend to know who has already returned their ballot.

[q29] After I return my ballot, I generally mention that I've done so to other people.

[q30] If I know someone has already returned their ballot, it changes the way I talk to them about the election.

[q31] If I know someone has already returned their ballot, their perspective holds more weight with me.

[q32] If I return my ballot well before Election Day, I worry that I may regret some of my decisions

- <1> Strongly agree
- <2> Agree
- <3> Slightly agree
- <4> Slightly disagree
- <5> Disagree
- <6> Strongly disagree
- <7> Not sure

#### Block Q33-Q39

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options 1-6, but anchor 7 (Not sure).

Names:

Q33: mailp\_1  
Q34: mailp\_2  
Q35: mailp\_3  
Q36: mailp\_4  
Q37: mailp\_5  
Q38: mailp\_6  
Q39: mailp\_7

How much do you agree with each of the following statements about **the process of voting in Colorado?**

[q33] I worry about my ballot being kept private.

[q34] I worry about my ballot getting lost.

[q35] I worry about making mistakes – like using the wrong type of pen – that will invalidate my ballot.

[q36] I find it helpful to be able to look up information while filling out my ballot.



[q37] I find it helpful to be able to talk to other people while filling out my ballot.

[q38] I usually fill out all parts of my ballot at the same time.

[q39] There is just too much on the ballot in some years.

- <1> Strongly agree
- <2> Agree
- <3> Slightly agree
- <4> Slightly disagree
- <5> Disagree
- <6> Strongly disagree
- <7> Not sure

#programmer: Please randomize order of items Q40 and Q41

[question #40] {single choice: local\_gov\_know}

#programming notes: please reverse answer options, hold not sure (6) fixed

Some people feel that they have a strong understanding of how their local government works with respect to things like spending and regulation; other people feel less confident about their knowledge of their local government. On a scale from A to F, how would you grade your own knowledge of your local government?

- <1>A
- <2>B
- <3>C
- <4>D
- <5>F
- <6> Not Sure

[question #41] {multiple choice: ballot\_measure\_info}

#programming notes: please randomize answer options, hold "none of these" (6) and other fixed

Colorado voters often decide on policies directly through ballot measures. Which of the following sources, if any, have you relied on for information about this year's ballot measures? Please check all that apply.

<1> Conversations with family, friends or neighbors

<2> Political ads on TV or Radio

<3> Political ads on social media (e.g., Facebook, X (Twitter))

<4> Campaign mailings you've received at your residence

<5> Communication from campaigns/groups (e.g., texts, phone calls, door knocks)

<6> News stories about ballot measures (e.g., TV, online, newspaper)

<7> Other: \_\_\_\_\_ [small text box]

<8> None of these

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#### Block 6: Partisanship & Ideology

#programmer: Please randomize the order of questions #42-43

Names

Q42: partisanship

Q43: ideology

[question #42] {single choice: partisanship}

#programming notes: please reverse answer options, but anchor 8 (other)

In general, do you usually think of yourself as a...

<1>Strong Democrat

<2>Democrat

<3>Weak Democrat

<4>Independent

<5>Weak Republican  
<6>Republican  
<7>Strong Republican  
<8> Some Other Party [Text Box]

[question #43] {single choice: ideology}

#programming notes: please reverse answer options

When it comes to politics, do you usually think of yourself as...

<1>Extremely Liberal  
<2>Liberal  
<3>Slightly Liberal  
<4>Moderate  
<5>Slightly Conservative  
<6>Conservative  
<7>Extremely Conservative

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## Block 7: Propositions & Amendments

#programmer: Please randomize the order of questions #44-52

Names

Q44: amend\_h  
Q45: amend\_j  
Q46: amend\_k  
Q47: amend\_79  
Q48: prop\_jj

Q49: prop\_kk  
Q50: prop\_127  
Q52: prop\_131

[question #44] {single choice: amend\_h}

#programming notes: please reverse answer options 1 and 2, but anchor 3 (not sure)

**Amendment H** proposes amending the Colorado Constitution to create an independent board to preside over ethical misconduct hearings involving judges, and it would allow for increased public access to judicial discipline proceedings and records.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this amendment?

- <1> Favor the amendment
- <2> Oppose the amendment
- <3> Not sure

[question #45] {single choice: amend\_j }

**Amendment J** proposes amending the Colorado Constitution to repeal its language that defines a valid marriage as only consisting of a union between a man and a woman.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this amendment?

- <1> Favor the amendment
- <2> Oppose the amendment
- <3> Not sure

[question #46] {single choice: amend\_k}

#programmer: please randomly assign respondents to Q46\_v1 or Q46\_v2 with a .5 probability.

#programming notes: for Q46\_v1, Q46\_v2 please reverse answer options 1 and 2, but anchor 3 (not sure)

**Q46V\_1**

**Amendment K** proposes amending the Colorado Constitution to make deadlines one week earlier for citizens to submit signatures for initiative and referendum petitions, and for judges to file declarations of intent to seek another term. It would also require the

content of ballot measures to be published in local newspapers 30 days earlier than is currently required by law.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this amendment?

- <1> Favor the amendment
- <2> Oppose the amendment
- <3> Not sure

#### Q46V\_2

**Amendment K** proposes amending the Colorado Constitution to make deadlines earlier for citizens to submit signatures for initiative and referendum petitions, and for judges to file declarations of intent to seek another term. It would also require the content of ballot measures to be published in local newspapers earlier than is currently required by law.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this amendment?

- <1> Favor the amendment
- <2> Oppose the amendment
- <3> Not sure

[question #47] {single choice: amend\_79}

#programming notes: please reverse answer options 1 and 2, but anchor 3 (not sure)

**Amendment 79** proposes amending the Colorado Constitution to make abortion a constitutional right in Colorado, and to repeal the existing constitutional ban on state and local government funding for abortion services.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this amendment?

- <1> Favor the amendment
- <2> Oppose the amendment
- <3> Not sure

[question #48] {single choice: prop\_jj}

#programmer: please randomly assign respondents to Q48\_v1 or Q48\_v2 with a .5 probability.

#programming notes: for Q48\_v1, Q48\_v2 please reverse answer options 1 and 2, but anchor 3 (not sure)

#### Q48V\_1

**Proposition JJ** would allow the state to keep sports betting tax revenue above the amount previously approved by voters, rather than returning it to casinos and betting operators. This money would be used for water projects.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this proposition?

- <1> Favor the proposition
- <2> Oppose the proposition
- <3> Not sure

#### Q48V\_2

**Proposition JJ** would fund state water projects. The funding would come from the state being allowed to keep sports betting tax revenue above the amount previously approved by voters, rather than returning it to casinos and betting operators.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this proposition?

- <1> Favor the proposition
- <2> Oppose the proposition
- <3> Not sure

[question #49] {single choice: prop\_kk}

#programmer: please randomly assign respondents to v1, v2, v3, v4 of Q49 with a .25 probability.

#programming notes: for Q49\_v1, Q49\_v2, Q49\_v3, Q49\_v4 please reverse answer options 1 and 2, but anchor 3 (not sure)

#### Q49\_v1

**Proposition KK** would create a new state tax on firearms sellers equal to 6.5% of their sales on firearms, firearms parts, and ammunition, and would allow the state to keep and spend this revenue to fund crime victim support services, mental health services for veterans and youth, and school safety programs.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this proposition?

- <1> Favor the proposition
- <2> Oppose the proposition
- <3> Not sure

#### Q49\_v2

**Proposition KK** would allow the state to fund crime victim support services, mental health services for veterans and youth, and school safety programs. The funding would come from a new state tax on firearms sellers equal to 6.5% of their sales on firearms, firearms parts, and ammunition – the state would be allowed to keep and spend this revenue on these programs.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this proposition?

- <1> Favor the proposition
- <2> Oppose the proposition
- <3> Not sure

#### Q49\_v3

**Proposition KK** would create a new state tax on firearms sellers equal to 6.5% of their sales on firearms, firearms parts, and ammunition, and would allow the state to keep and spend this revenue of \$39,000,000 to fund crime victim support services, mental health services for veterans and youth, and school safety programs.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this proposition?

- <1> Favor the proposition
- <2> Oppose the proposition
- <3> Not sure

#### Q49\_v4

**Proposition KK** would allow the state to fund crime victim support services, mental health services for veterans and youth, and school safety programs. The funding would come from a new state tax on firearms sellers equal to 6.5% of their sales on firearms, firearms parts, and ammunition – the state would be allowed to keep and spend this revenue of \$39,000,000 on these programs.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this proposition?

- <1> Favor the proposition
- <2> Oppose the proposition
- <3> Not sure

[question #50] {single choice: prop\_127}

#programming notes: please reverse answer options 1 and 2, but anchor 3 (not sure)

**Proposition 127** would prohibit the hunting or trapping of bobcats, lynx, and mountain lions, except in instances involving the loss of life, property, or livestock.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this proposition?

- <1> Favor the proposition
- <2> Oppose the proposition
- <3> Not sure

[question #52] {single choice: prop\_131}

#programming notes: please reverse answer options 1 and 2, but anchor 3 (not sure)

**Proposition 131** would create new election processes for certain state and federal offices. After conditions in state law are met, it would establish an all-candidate primary election for these offices; the top four candidates – regardless of party – would advance to the general election. In the general election, voters would then be allowed to rank the candidates in order of preference, and votes would be counted over multiple rounds to determine who wins the election.

If the election were held today, how would you vote on this proposition?

- <1> Favor the proposition
- <2> Oppose the proposition
- <3> Not sure

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#### Block 8: Trust & Economic Conditions

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options.

Names:

- Q53: trust\_fed
- Q54: trust\_colorado
- Q55: trust\_localgov
- Q56: trust\_police

How often do you trust each of the following to do what is in the public's best interest?

[q53] the Federal Government (1)



[q54] Colorado State Government (2)

[q55] Your Local Government (3)

[q56] Your Local Police Department (4)

<1> Always

<2> Most of the time

<3> About half the time

<4> Rarely

<5> Never

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options.

Names:

Q57: econ\_us

Q58: econ\_colorado

Q59: econ\_local

How would you rate the economic conditions in each of the following as of today?

[q57] The United States

[q58] Colorado

[q59] Your local community

<1> Excellent

<2> Good

<3> Average

<4> Fair

<5> Poor

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Block 9: MIP

[question #60] {textbox: problem\_us}

If you had to pick, what one issue do you think is the most important problem facing **the United States** today? Please write out the issue in the space provided. <small text box>

[question #61] {textbox: problem\_colorado}

If you had to pick, what one issue do you think is the most important problem facing **Colorado** today? Please write out the issue in the space provided. <small text box>

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## Block 10: Threats to the First Amendment

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a dynamic grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options 1-4, but anchor 5 (Not sure).

Names:

Q62: threat\_1

Q63: threat\_2

Q64: threat\_3

Q65: threat\_4

Q66: threat\_5

Thinking about some rights that are guaranteed by the US Constitution, how secure or threatened do you think each of the following are in the United States today?

[q62] Freedom of the press

[q63] Freedom to petition the government, meaning presenting requests to the government without fear of punishment

[q64] Freedom of speech

[q65] Freedom of religion

[q66] Freedom for people to assemble peacefully

<1> Very secure

<2> Somewhat secure

<3> Somewhat threatened

<4> Very threatened

<5 fixed> Not sure

## Block 11: Policies & Issues

[question #67] {static: policyintro}

Now we would like to ask you about various policies and issues that have been in the news recently.

#programmer: please randomize order of questions 68-76

Names

Q69: cost\_living

Q70: tabor

Q71: guns

Q72: climate

Q73: migration

Q74: abortion\_sc

Q75: israel

Q76: ukraine

[question #69] {single choice: cost\_living}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options 1-5.

How concerned personally are you about the cost of living in Colorado?

<1> Very concerned

<2> Concerned

<3> Somewhat concerned

<4> Not very concerned

<5> Not at all concerned

<6 fixed> Not sure

[question #70] {single choice: tabor}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options 1-4, but anchor 5 (Not Sure)

The Colorado Tax Payer Bill of Rights (also known as TABOR) limits the annual growth in state government spending based on the amount of population growth and inflation in the state. Some advocate keeping TABOR as law in Colorado while others advocate repealing it. How much do you favor or oppose TABOR remaining the law in Colorado?

- <1> Strongly favor
- <2> Slightly favor
- <3> Slightly oppose
- <4> Strongly oppose
- <5 fixed> Not sure

[question #71] {single choice: guns}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options 1-4, but anchor 5 (Not Sure)

How much do you favor or oppose the federal government making it more difficult for individuals to purchase a gun?

- <1> Strongly favor
- <2> Slightly favor
- <3> Slightly oppose
- <4> Strongly oppose
- <5 fixed> Not sure

[question #72] {single choice: climate}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options, but hold option <6> (not sure) fixed.

How concerned are you personally about climate change?

- <1> Very concerned

- <2> Concerned
- <3> Somewhat concerned
- <4> Not very concerned
- <5> Not at all concerned
- <6 fixed> Not sure

[question #73] {single choice: migration}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options, but hold <5, not sure> fixed.

How much do you agree with the following statement:

Those who migrate to the United States from other countries generally have a positive impact on the economy.

- <1> Strongly agree
- <2> Agree
- <3> Disagree
- <4> Strongly disagree
- <5, fixed> Not sure

[question #74] {single choice: abortion\_sc}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options 1-4, but anchor 5 (Not Sure)

How much do you favor or oppose the Supreme Court's 2022 decision to overturn Roe v. Wade?

- <1> Strongly favor
- <2> Slightly favor
- <3> Slightly oppose
- <4> Strongly oppose
- <5 fixed> Not sure

[question #75] {single choice: Israel}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options, but anchor option #5 (not sure)

How much do you favor or oppose the US government sending aid to Israel in its war with Hamas and Hezbollah?

- <1> Strongly favor
- <2> Slightly favor
- <3> Slightly oppose
- <4> Strongly oppose
- <5 fixed> Not sure

[question #76] {single choice: Ukraine}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options, but anchor option #5 (not sure)

How much do you favor or oppose the US government sending aid to Ukraine in its war with Russia?

- <1> Strongly favor
- <2> Slightly favor
- <3> Slightly oppose
- <4> Strongly oppose
- <5 fixed> Not sure

## Block Q77-80

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options 1-6, but anchor 7 (Not sure).

Names:

Q77: system\_1

Q78: system\_2

Q79: system\_3

Q80: system\_4

How much do you agree with each of the following statements about **the US political system**?

[q77] I often wish there were more political parties to choose from.

[q78] Having more than two major political parties would make it harder to solve the country's problems.

[q79] For presidential elections, we should replace the Electoral College with a national popular vote.

[q80] The U.S. Constitution should be amended so that states with larger populations have more senators than smaller states.

<1> Strongly agree

<2> Agree

<3> Slightly agree

<4> Slightly disagree

<5> Disagree

<6> Strongly disagree

<7> Not sure

[end of questions]

DEBRIEFING STATEMENT

#programming note: please present the following to all respondents upon completion of the survey

Debriefing Statement:

Thank you for participating in this study.

This study was designed to understand Coloradans' priorities and their preferences with respect to the 2024 elections. The wording for the ballot measure questions was taken from parts of the 2024 state information ballot booklet – this booklet is mailed to registered voters by the state of Colorado Legislative Council of the Colorado General Assembly.

For some questions on this survey, respondents were randomly assigned to different versions that varied the information provided or the wording – this was to see if these differences affected people's responses.

If you have any questions regarding this study, please contact Dr. A. Edward Sokhey at: [anand.sokhey@colorado.edu](mailto:anand.sokhey@colorado.edu). Thanks again for your participation!

[end of survey]