

2022 Colorado Political Climate (CPC) Survey

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]

Title of research study: The 2022 Colorado Political Climate Survey

IRB Protocol Number: 22-0487

Investigator: Anand Edward Sokhey

Sponsor: University of Colorado

Purpose

The purpose of the study is to understand Coloradans' views and opinions on various national and local public affairs and issues facing the state during the 2022 election cycle.

We expect that you will be in this research study for between 10 and 12 minutes. We expect about 800 people will be in this research study.

Explanation of Procedures

Taking part in this study is completely voluntary. You do not have to participate if you don't want to. You may also leave the study at any time. If you leave the study before it is finished, there will be no penalty to you, though it may affect your compensation. The researchers at the University of Colorado have contracted with YouGov to offer you the opportunity to participate in this research – YouGov and its partners are responsible for any compensation you may receive for taking this survey.

If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to:

1. Answer questions about your demographic characteristics, your political attitudes such as your party affiliation, your opinions on issues facing the state of Colorado, and your preferences with respect to a number of political election contests.
2. Read a news story about a political candidate, and then answer some questions about what you read. There are several news stories in this study, and which one you are asked to read will be chosen by chance, like flipping a coin. Neither you nor the researcher will choose which story you get. We cannot tell you everything about what we are doing in this study or why. A full explanation of the purpose of the research and procedures will be provided after you complete the study.

Time Commitment to Complete Research Procedures

Participating should take roughly 10-12 minutes.

Research Location

Participation will take place at the participant's chosen location.

Voluntary Participation and Withdrawal

Whether or not you take part in this research is your choice. You can leave the research at any time and it will not be held against you.

Potential Benefits

You may not receive any direct benefit from taking part in this study. However, your participation in this study may help us learn about what people think about current events, and more specifically, what Coloradans see as important issues facing the state.

Confidentiality

Information obtained about you for this study will be kept confidential to the extent allowed by law. Research information that identifies you may be shared with the

University of Colorado Boulder Institutional Review Board (IRB) and others who are responsible for ensuring compliance with laws and regulations related to research, including people on behalf of the Office for Human Research Protections. The information from this research may be reported to the public but only in aggregate form. published for scientific purposes. Your identity will not be given out nor will your individual survey responses.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding your participation in this research, you should ask the investigator before signing this form. If you should have questions or concerns during or after your participation, please contact A. Edward Sokhey at Anand.Sokhey@Colorado.edu.

This research has been reviewed and approved by an IRB. You may talk to them at (303) 735-3702 or irbadmin@colorado.edu if:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research subject.
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.

By checking this box, I acknowledge that I have read about the study, or it was read to me. I know the possible risks and benefits. I know that being in this study is voluntary. I choose to be in this study. I know that I can withdraw at any time. Checking this box documents your permission to take part in this research.

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 8, 2022. 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: gubernatorial_choice}

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

If the election for Governor of Colorado were held today, would you vote for:

<1> Jared Polis, Democrat

<2> Heidi Ganahl, Republican

<3> Some other candidate _____(text box)

[question #6] {single choice: senate_choice}

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

If the election for U.S. Senate were held today, would you vote for:

<1> Michael Bennet, Democrat

<2> Joe O'Dea, Republican

<3> Some other candidate _____(text box)

[question #7] {single choice: sos_choice}

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

If the election for Colorado Secretary of State were held today, would you vote for:

- <1> Jena Griswold, Democrat
- <2> Pam Anderson, Republican
- <3> Some other candidate _____(text box)

[question #8] {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 Republican candidate
- <2> the Democratic candidate
- <3> Some other candidate _____(text box)

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

- Q9: app_biden
- Q10: app_polis
- Q11: app_hickenlooper
- Q12: app_bennet
- Q13: app_boebert

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

[q9] President Joe Biden

[q10] Governor Jared Polis
[q11] Senator John Hickenlooper
[q12] Senator Michael Bennet
[q13] Rep. Lauren Boebert

<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

Q14: app_congress

Q15: app_sc

Q16: app_state

Q17: app_police

Q18: app_county

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

[q14] United States Congress

[q15] The US Supreme Court

[q16] Colorado State Legislature

[q17] Your local police department

[q18] The county officials where you live

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

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:

Q19: elec_1

Q20: elec_2

Q21: elec_3

Q22: elec_4

Q23: elec_5

Q24: elec_6

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

[q19] Elections across the country will be conducted fairly and accurately

[q20] Elections in Colorado will be conducted fairly and accurately

[q21] Across the US, all citizens who want to vote in the elections will be able to

[q22] In Colorado, all citizens who want to vote in the elections will be able to

[q23] Elections in Colorado today reflect the will of Coloradans

[q24] 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:

Q25: process_1

Q26: process_2
Q27: process_3
Q28: process_4
Q29: process_5

How much do you agree with each of the following statements **about the 2020 presidential election?**

[q25] Biden legitimately won enough votes to be elected President

[q26] The election showed that we need to make changes to voting laws across states

[q27] The election showed that we need to make changes to voting laws in Colorado

[q28] I am confident that the votes were accurately counted in Colorado

[q29] I am confident that the votes were accurately counted throughout the US

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

[question #30] {single choice: age_limit}

#programmer: please randomly assign respondents to the v1 and v2 of Q30 with a .5 probability.

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

Q30_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> somewhat agree
- <4> somewhat disagree
- <5> disagree
- <6> strongly disagree

Q30_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> somewhat agree
- <4> somewhat disagree
- <5> disagree
- <6> strongly disagree

#programmer: Please randomize order of block Q31-Q35 and block Q36-Q41.

Block Q31-Q35

#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:

- Q31: mail_1
- Q32: mail_2
- Q33: mail_3
- Q34: mail_4
- Q35: mail_5

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

[q31] When I talk to people during election season, I tend to know who has already returned their ballot.

[q32] After I return my ballot, I generally mention that I've done so to other people.

[q33] If I know someone has already returned their ballot, it changes the way I talk to them about the election.

[q34] If I know someone has already returned their ballot, their perspective holds more weight with me.

[q35] 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 Q36-Q41

#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:

- Q36: mailp_1
- Q37: mailp_2
- Q38: mailp_3
- Q39: mailp_4
- Q40: mailp_5
- Q41: mailp_6

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

[q36] I worry about my ballot being kept private.

[q37] I worry about my ballot getting lost.

[q38] I worry about making mistakes – like using the wrong type of pen – that will invalidate my ballot.

[q39] I find it helpful to be able to look up information while filling out my ballot.

[q40] I find it helpful to be able to talk to other people while filling out my ballot.

[q41] I usually fill out all parts of my ballot at the same time.

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

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

Block 7: Propositions & Amendments

#programmer: Please randomize the order of questions #44-46

Names

Q44: prop_gg
Q45: prop_125
Q46: prop_ff

[question #44] {single choice: prop_gg}

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

Proposition GG would require that future ballot initiatives concerning individual income tax rates include a table in their descriptions; this table would summarize potential changes to individual income tax rates as a result of the adoption of a measure.

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 #45] {single choice: prop_125}

Proposition 125 would allow stores licensed to sell beer to also sell wine.

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 #46] {single choice: prop_ff}

#programmer: please randomly assign respondents to v1 and v2 of Q46 with a .5 probability.

#programming notes: for Q46_v1 and Q46_v2, please reverse answer options 1 and 2, but anchor 3 (not sure)

Q46_v1

Proposition FF would create a program to provide free, healthy meals for students in Colorado public schools; this would be paid for by increasing the amount of taxable income for individuals making \$300,000 or more.

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

- <1> favor the proposition
- <2> oppose the proposition
- <3> not sure

Q46_v2

Proposition FF would increase the amount of taxable income for individuals making \$300,000 or more; this would create a program to provide free, healthy meals to students in Colorado public schools.

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

- <1> favor the proposition
- <2> oppose the proposition
- <3> not sure

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:

- Q47: trust_fed
- Q48: trust_colorado
- Q49: trust_localgov
- Q50: trust_police

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

- [q47] the Federal Government (1)
- [q48] Colorado State Government (2)
- [q49] Your Local Government (3)
- [q50] 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:

Q51: econ_us

Q52: econ_colorado

Q53: econ_local

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

[q51] The United States

[q52] Colorado

[q53] Your local community

<1> Excellent

<2> Good

<3> Average

<4> Fair

<5> Poor

Block 9: MIP

[question #54] {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 #55] {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>

Block 10: Gender Attitudes

Block Q56-Q60

#programmer: Please ask these questions as a grid. Please randomize the order of the rows. Please reverse order of response options 1-5.

Names:

Q56: gen_att_1

Q57: gen_att_2

Q58: gen_att_3

Q59: gen_att_4

Q60: gen_att_5

Please tell us how much you agree with the following statements?

[q56] It bothers me when a man does something that I consider 'feminine.'

[q57] A man should always be tough and never back down in the face of trouble.

[q58] A man should always refuse to get into a fight, even if there seems to be no way to avoid it.

[q59] Men of high power and status are more appealing than men of low power and status.

[q60] A man's behavior should be guided by reason and rationality, rather than emotion.

<1> Strongly Agree

<2> Agree

<3> Neither Agree nor Disagree

<4> Disagree

<5> Strongly Disagree

Block 11: Policies & Issues

[question #61] {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 62-71

Names

Q62: marijuana

Q63: olympics

Q64: cost_living

Q65: tabor

Q66: blacklivesmatter

Q67: guns

Q68: climate

Q69: race

Q70: abortion_sc

Q71: drug_site

Q72: covid

[question #62] {single choice: marijuana}

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

The ability for individuals 21 years of age and older to buy marijuana for recreational use is currently legal under Colorado law. How much do you favor or oppose the law that made recreational marijuana legal in Colorado?

<1> Strongly Favor

<2> Slightly Favor

<3> Slightly Oppose

<4> Strongly Oppose

<5> Not Sure

[question #63] {single choice: olympics}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options 1-6, but anchor 7 (Not Sure)

Do you favor or oppose Denver entering a bid to host the 2034 Winter Olympics?

<1> Strongly Favor

<2> Favor

<3> Somewhat Favor

<4> Somewhat Oppose

- <5> Oppose
- <6> Strongly Oppose
- <7> Don't Know

[question #64] {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

[question #65] {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> Not Sure

[question #66] {single choice: blacklivesmatter}

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

Do you favor or oppose the movement known as “Black Lives Matter”?

- <1> Strongly Favor
- <2> Slightly Favor
- <3> Slightly Oppose
- <4> Strongly Oppose
- <5> Not Sure

[question #67] {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> Not Sure

[question #68] {single choice: climate}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options

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

[question #69] {single choice: race}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options

How would you describe the current state of race relations in the United States?

<1> Really Good

<2> Somewhat Good

<3> Somewhat Bad

<4> Really Bad

[question #70] {single choice: abortion_sc}

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

How much do you approve of the Supreme Court's 2022 decision to overturn Roe v. Wade?

<1> Strongly Approve

<2> Approve

<3> Disapprove

<4> Strongly Disapprove

<5> Not Sure

[question #71] {single choice: drug_site}

#programmer: please randomly assign respondents to the v1 and v2 of Q71 with a .5 probability.

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options 1-6; keep 7 fixed.

Q71_v1

Would you support government-funded drug programs, such as safe injection sites, where individuals can use illegal substances under the supervision of medical professionals?

<1> strongly support

<2> support

<3> weakly support

<4> weakly oppose

<5> oppose

<6> strongly oppose

<7> not sure

Q71_v2

Would you support privately-funded drug programs, such as safe injection sites, where individuals can use illegal substances under the supervision of medical professionals?

<1> strongly support

<2> support

<3> weakly support

<4> weakly oppose

<5> oppose

<6> strongly oppose

<7> not sure

[question #72] {single choice: covid}

#programming notes: please reverse order of response options

How concerned are you personally about COVID-19?

<1> Very Concerned

- <2> Concerned
- <3> Somewhat Concerned
- <4> Not Very Concerned
- <5> Not at all Concerned

Block 12: Vignettes

[question #73] {text: intro_vignettes}

Please read the following news story. We will then ask you a couple of questions about what you read.

[question #74] {text: vignettes}

#programmer: please randomly assign respondents to the v1 and v2 of Q74 with a .5 probability. Please record time spent on this page (latency).

Q74_v1

Infidelity Scandal Puts Boebert in Hot Water

“A former Capitol Hill lobbyist has made allegations of an extra-marital affair with Republican Rep. Lauren Boebert (Colorado) -- this has left the Representative embroiled in crisis. It is alleged that Boebert and the lobbyist began a relationship shortly after being introduced to each other at the start of the Congressional session in January 2021.

A current staffer for Boebert told the AP that she was “surprised” by the allegations, and noted that she didn’t think Boebert was capable of such behavior. Political commentator Pat Hart remarked that, “Such behavior from politicians does not shock me anymore these days.”

In a Wednesday press conference, party leaders noted that they had been “made aware of the allegations against Boebert,” and are calling for an internal investigation into the scandal to “determine any potential wrongdoing.”

Boebert’s office has not provided any comment.”

Q74_v2

Boebert Apologizes for “Distraction” of Infidelity Scandal

“Rep. Lauren Boebert (Colorado) again apologized today after allegations of a relationship with a former Capitol Hill lobbyist surfaced, leaving the Representative embroiled in crisis. It is alleged that Boebert and the lobbyist began a relationship shortly after being introduced to each other at the start of the Congressional session in January 2021.

A current staffer for Boebert told the AP that she was “surprised” by the allegations, and noted that she didn’t think Boebert was capable of such behavior. Political commentator Pat Hart remarked that, “Such behavior from politicians does not shock me anymore these days.”

In a Wednesday press conference, party leaders noted that they had been “made aware of the allegations against Boebert,” and are calling for an internal investigation into the scandal to “determine any potential wrongdoing.”

Boebert also offered an apology earlier this week, saying then she was “truly sorry for the distraction.”

Block Q75-Q79

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

Names:

Q75: vig_f1

Q76: vig_f2

Q77: vig_f3

Q78: vig_f4

Q79: vig_f5

Please tell us how much you agree with the following statements?

[q75] This politician should not be punished for their actions.

[q76] This politician is a moral person.

[q77] This politician is a leader.
[q78] This politician is trustworthy.
[q79] This news story is important.

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

[question #80] {single choice: manip_chcek}

#programming notes: please randomize the order of the response options

The story you just read was about which of the following:

- <a> a financial scandal involving Lauren Boebert
- an infidelity scandal involving Lauren Boebert
- <c> a financial scandal involving Jared Polis
- <d> an infidelity scandal involving Jared Polis

[end of questions]

#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 2022 midterm elections. A portion of it was also designed to understand how Coloradans react to scandals, and what kinds of characteristics influence those reactions. Please know that the story you read about Representative Lauren Boebert was completely fictitious, created by the researcher. This was a necessary experimental manipulation.

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

[end of survey]