

# Colorado Political Climate Survey

January 2018



**Carey E. Stapleton**  
Graduate Fellow

**E. Scott Adler**  
Director

**Anand E. Sokhey**  
Associate Director



American Politics Research Lab  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

## About the Study:

### American Politics Research Lab

The American Politics Research Lab (APRL) is housed in the Department of Political Science at the University of Colorado Boulder. APRL is a non-partisan academic unit that supports basic research, educational activities, and public engagement on issues related to American politics. Lab faculty, student fellows, and affiliates pursue scholarly activities over a broad range of topics, utilizing a wide variety of research methodologies and analysis. Current lab projects include research on political behavior, state and local politics, and political agendas and recurring legislation in the U.S. Congress. The Lab is also home to the annual Colorado Political Climate survey. APRL hosts a seminar series that includes talks by lab associates as well as distinguished scholars doing work related to the study of American politics.

### Colorado Political Climate Survey

In November 2017, the American Politics Research Lab (APRL) conducted the second annual Colorado Political Climate (CPC) survey. The CPC is a survey of the political and policy attitudes of Coloradans. The study is designed to gauge the public's political and partisan leanings, their opinions on a number of key issues facing the state, their attitudes toward major statewide and national political figures, and the outlook for the coming 2018 election season.

### Methodology

The sample is representative of the Colorado population. It consists of 800 individual responses and has an overall margin of error of +/- 3.5%. The margin of error for subgroups is larger due to smaller sample sizes.

The survey instrument was developed by APRL in the fall of 2017; it was administered online to a panel of Coloradans by the company YouGov between November 9-15, 2017. To generalize to the state of Colorado, YouGov employed a matching weighting procedure – 950 panelists initially completed the online survey. These 950 individuals were then weighted to match Colorado on demographic characteristics, leaving a slightly smaller sample of 800 (weighted) responses for analysis. We use YouGov's weights for all analysis. The average time it took a respondent to complete the survey was 10 minutes, 11 seconds.

In the sections that follow, we report some basic analysis, comparing responses to questions repeated across 2016 and 2017. Please note that some caution is warranted in making comparisons between the 2016 and 2017 studies due to differences in sampling/survey methodology. More information on the 2016 study can be found [here](#).

**Acknowledgements:** We would like to acknowledge the undergraduate students in the Survey Design and Analysis class at the University of Colorado Boulder who provided valuable assistance in the development and execution of this survey. We also wish to thank the CU Boulder College of Arts and Sciences, Undergraduate Education Development Program for its financial support.

American Politics Research Lab  
Department of Political Science  
University of Colorado Boulder  
382 Ketchum Hall, UCB 333  
Boulder, CO 80309  
<https://www.colorado.edu/lab/aprl/>

## Table of Contents

<b>Summary: Partisan Politics as Usual</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Colorado Political Landscape</b>	<b>4</b>
1. <i>General Impressions and National Political Figures</i>	4
2. <i>Colorado Political Figures</i>	5
3. <i>Approval of State Government and Trust in Government</i>	6
4. <i>Policy Issues</i>	6
5. <i>Elections</i>	9
<b>Appendix: Responses to Individual Survey Questions by Year</b>	<b>11</b>
<i>Partisan Identification</i>	11
<i>Statewide Elected Official Approval Ratings</i>	11
<i>Political Institutions Approval Ratings</i>	15
<i>Trust in Government</i>	17
<i>Most Important Problem</i>	19
<i>State of Economy</i>	22
<i>Individual Policy Questions</i>	23
<i>General Political Questions</i>	31
<i>Election Questions</i>	32

## Summary: Partisan Politics as Usual

At the end of 2017 we saw a Colorado largely in-line with national opinion, and with familiar narratives concerning division and partisanship. Residents of the Centennial State firmly disapprove of Trump, overwhelmingly dislike Congress, and give a sizable edge to Democrats in a generic congressional election ballot as we look to November 2018.

At the same time, whether examining state-specific or national matters, on everything from approval of elected officials to opinions on marijuana policy and climate change, we see substantial differences between Democrats and Republicans. A notable exception is belief in the integrity of elections, where a majority of Democrats and Republicans both report confidence that votes are counted fairly.

## Colorado Political Landscape

### 1. General Impressions and National Political Figures

In both years of the survey, the number of Coloradans identifying as Democrats outpaced the number identifying as Republicans (Table A1). While it remains to be seen whether Colorado is truly shifting from “purple” to “blue” in the longer term, our numbers from the past two years would seem to be consistent with such a trend.

Approval of the U.S. Congress by Coloradans is quite low and reflects similar national sentiment (Table A11). Only 14% of respondents approved of the job performance of Congress, and this is down from what was already a low approval rating for the U.S. Congress among Coloradans in 2016. We see few differences by partisanship when it comes to disapproval of the legislative body on Capitol Hill (Table A12).

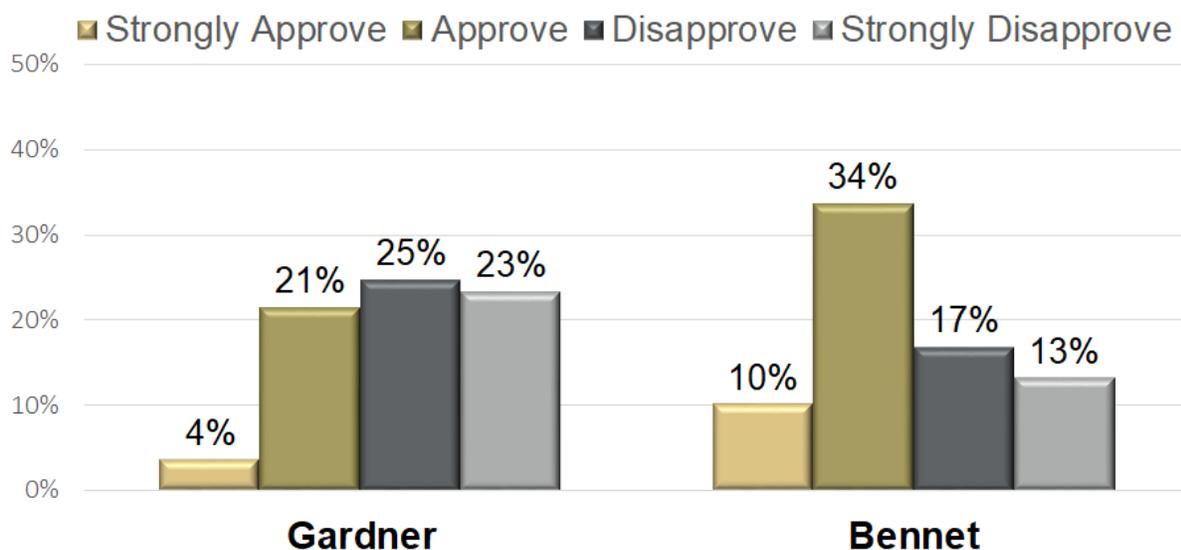
There was a much more dramatic shift in Coloradans’ assessment of presidential job performance (Table A2). Whereas a majority (57%) of state residents either approved or strongly approved of Obama’s job performance in 2016, that number dropped to 34% approval for Trump in our 2017 study. Those strongly disapproving nearly doubled from 26% to 51%. As we might expect, large differences emerge if we break this out by partisanship – almost every Democrat disapproved of Trump’s job performance (95%), while a strong majority of Colorado Republicans approved of Trump’s first year in office (79%; Table A3). There is some suggestion of a gender gap in support for Trump, with more men expressing approval or strong approval than women (38% vs. 32%; Table A4).

Despite 2016’s narratives concerning voting fraud and election tampering, a clear majority (59%) of Coloradans feel their votes are counted fairly always or most of the time, and there is no discernable difference in this opinion between Democrats and Republicans (Table A9). Interestingly, those Coloradans most approving of Trump’s presidential performance are also very confident that their votes are counted correctly (Table A10).

## 2. Colorado Political Figures

Governor John Hickenlooper saw a small dip in his job approval from 2016, but a majority of Coloradans (53%) still approve or strongly approve of his work in office (Table A5). Senator Michael Bennet also saw a drop in his job performance rating from 2016, with less than a majority of his constituents (44%) approving of his work for them (Figure 1; tables A6 & A7).

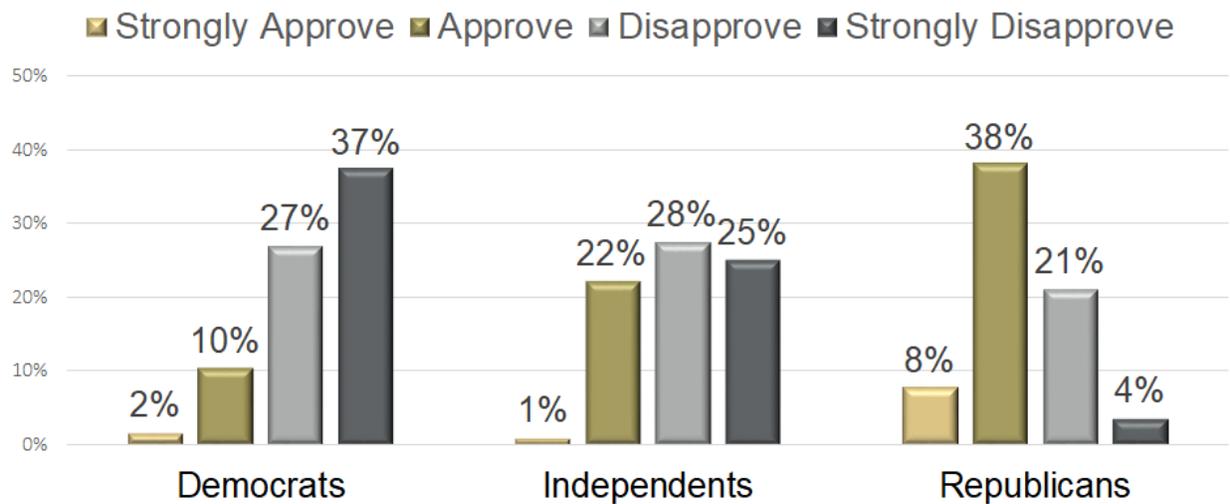
**Figure 1: Approval of United State Senators from Colorado**



**Source: 2017 Colorado Political Climate Survey** % “Not Sure” Not Displayed

Senator Cory Gardner, however, saw the biggest change in job approval among statewide elected officials. Only a quarter of Coloradans approve of his job performance in 2017, a sizable drop from his 43% approval rating in 2016. Not only is Gardner’s overall approval ratings very low among Democrats (12%) -- as we might expect -- but he scores quite poorly among Independents (23%) and even lacks majority approval among Republicans (46%; Figures 1 and 2; Table A8).

**Figure 2: Approval of Senator Gardner by Political Identification**



**Source: 2017 Colorado Political Climate Survey.** % “Not Sure” Not Displayed

### 3. Approval of State Government and Trust in Government

Approval of the job performance by the state legislature has fallen somewhat from 2016 (Table A14). Whereas a slim majority (51%) of Coloradans previously approved or strongly approved of the work of state lawmakers, that approval has dropped to 43%. Approval of the state legislature is far greater among Democrats (60%) than it is among Republicans (27%; Table A15).

As gauged by whether people trust government to do what is right “most of the time” or “always,” trust in local and state government saw little change across years (Table A17). Mirroring patterns found elsewhere, Coloradans express the least trust towards the federal government and the most trust towards local government, with support for state government sitting in-between (Table A16). A plurality in 2017 report trusting the state government “most of the time.” Interestingly, trust in the federal government seems to have diminished sizably since 2016. Those who said they trust the federal government always or most of the time dropped from 1-in-4 to 1-in-10.

### 4. Policy Issues

For the second year, Coloradans in 2017 viewed the economy and health care as the most important issues facing the nation, though in a switch from 2016 a quarter saw health care as most important (Table A20). Rounding out the top four named issues are national defense and immigration. Respondents in more rural areas of Colorado named crime an important national issue at higher rates than did suburban and urban respondents (Table A21).

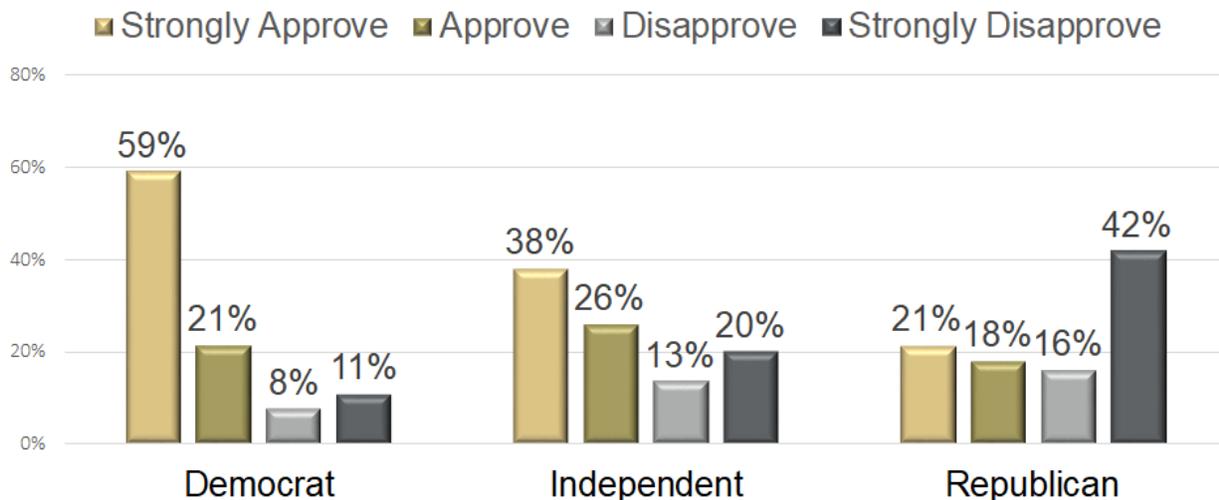
When asked about the most important issue facing the state of Colorado, crime gets added to the mix of familiar issues by respondents (Table A22). Health care, while still a top issue, does not have the same prominence at the state level as it does when respondents report on national priorities. Looking at responses by location, rural residents see health care as far and away the most important issue facing the state, while in a switch, Coloradans in urban areas see crime as the greatest concern for the state (Table A23).

We also asked Coloradans their specific opinions on a wide array of state and national issues. Here’s what they said:

### Marijuana

The recent announcement by the Justice Department regarding its approach to state marijuana laws puts Colorado’s legalization of recreational pot front and center in coming elections. Notably, for the second year in a row two-thirds of Coloradans favor the current approach to legal marijuana (Table A26). Democrats heavily favor the current pot law, with a notable increase in Democrats who strongly favor the statute (Figure 3; Table A27). Opinion among Republicans remains largely unchanged from 2016.

**Figure 3: Support for Colorado’s Recreational Marijuana Law by Partisanship**



**Source: 2017 Colorado Political Climate Survey.** “Not Sure” % Not Displayed

### Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR)

On TABOR, support among Coloradans outpaces opposition (45% to 26%; Table A28). Supporters are down about 8% from 2016, though in both years a substantial portion of the public expresses uncertainty about a position (nearly 30% of respondents in 2017). Despite its notoriety, TABOR would appear to remain a “hard” issue for which many are hesitant to offer an opinion.

### Health Care

Half of Coloradans support a single payer health care system, which is slightly below the national average (Table A29).<sup>1</sup> Not surprisingly, this gets far more support among Democrats than Republicans (Table A30).

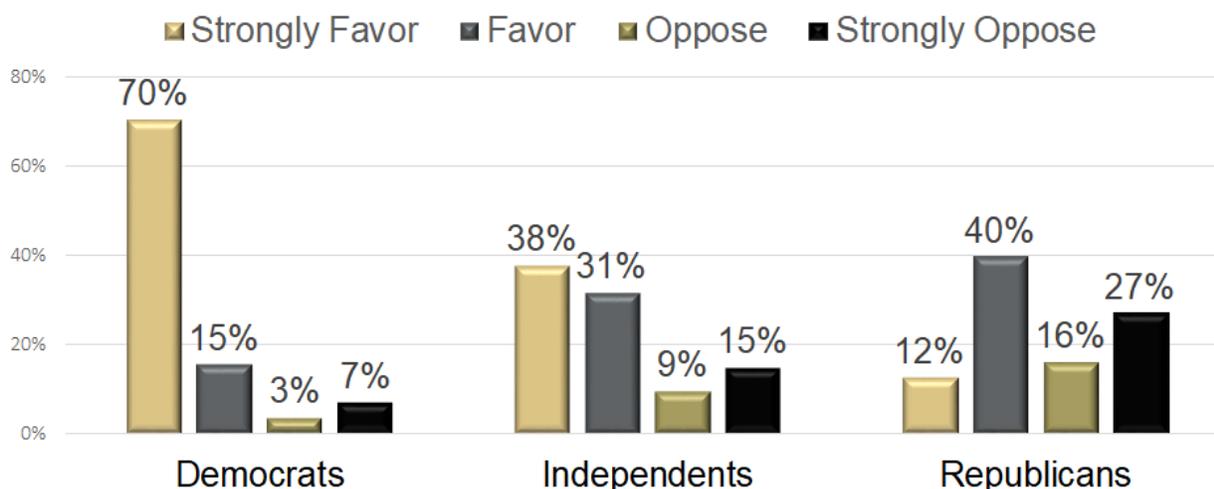
### Gun Control

Over 60% of Coloradans favor increased federal gun control measures, which is nearly identical to the national average (Table A31).<sup>2</sup> As we might expect, there is much higher support for stepped-up regulation among Democrats than Republicans (Table A32).

### Immigration

Overall, just under three-quarters of Coloradans (71%) favor allowing “Dreamers” to stay in the country (Table A33). Broken out by partisanship (Figure 4; Table A34), the issue gets sizable support from Democrats and independents. Moreover, even a majority of Republicans (52%) express support for a DACA-type policy, which coincides with the overall popularity of the program.

**Figure 4: Support for Dreamers by Partisanship**



**Source: 2017 Colorado Political Climate Survey.** “Not Sure” % Not Displayed

### Climate Change

Half of Coloradans reported being concerned or very concerned about climate change – a percentage that is comparable to 2016 (Table A35). As we might expect, the numbers break out quite a bit differently by partisanship, with most Democrats

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.pollingreport.com/health.htm>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.pollingreport.com/guns.htm>

expressing concern (72%), but only a minority of Republicans (20%) reporting the same (Table A36).

### Race Relations

Three-quarters of Coloradans see race relations being somewhat or really bad (Table A37). Interestingly, the percentage of whites that think its bad (74%) is nearly identical and maybe even higher than the same percentage of minorities (72%; Table A38).

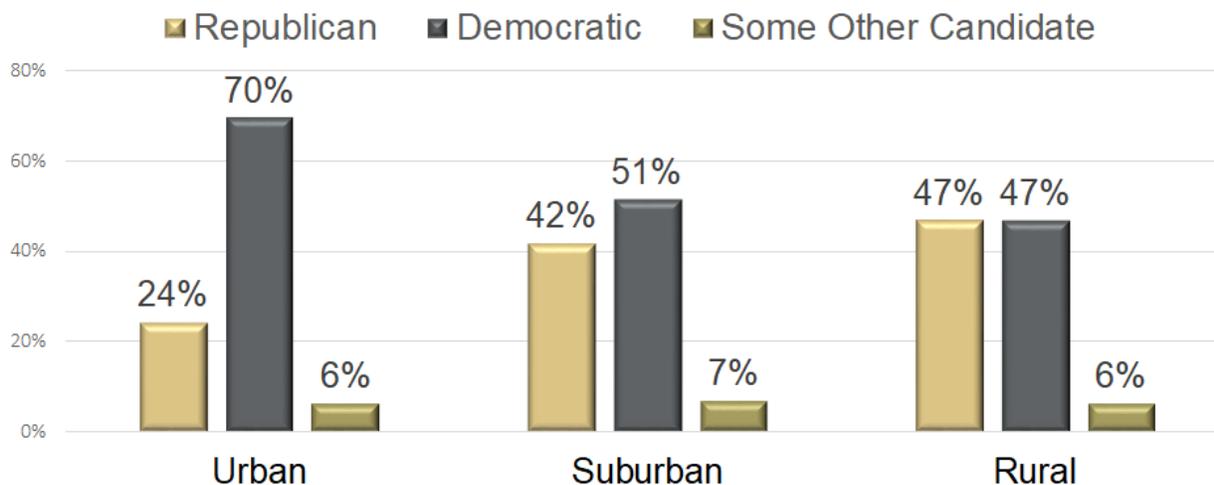
### Corporate Tax Incentives

A majority of respondents (56%) express support for tax incentives to entice large companies like Amazon to locate their business in Colorado (Table A39).

## 5. Elections

Looking toward the 2018 midterm elections, our survey corresponds with other polls in providing Democrats with reason for optimism.

**Figure 5: Generic Congressional Ballot Party Support by Area of Colorado**



**Source: 2017 Colorado Political Climate Survey**

Using the “generic” congressional ballot, Coloradans are more likely to support a Democrat than a Republican by nearly twenty percentage points, and that gap has widened considerably since 2016 (Table A45). The 56% support for Democrats in Colorado is also slightly higher than the national average of about 48%.<sup>3</sup> While it is not unexpected that there is a wide gulf between Trump supporters and detractors on this question, the depth of that division has grown since 2016. Not surprisingly, Democrats

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.pollingreport.com/2018.htm>

fare better in urban and suburban areas of the state, while as of now it's dead-even between the two parties on the generic ballot in rural sections of Colorado (Figure 5; Table A46).

It is still very early, possibly too early, to tell how the gubernatorial primaries will shake out. "Undecided" is clearly the leading candidate, registering majorities in both parties (Table 1). Beyond that, the only candidates receiving even double-digit support are the two with the greatest name recognition in the state: Rep. Jared Polis (24% among those saying they would vote in the Democratic primary), and Former Rep. Tom Tancredo (25% among Republicans).

**Table 1: Gubernatorial Primary Results by Party**

Democratic Primary		Republican Primary	
Undecided	58%	Undecided	54%
Jared Polis	24%	Tom Tancredo	25%
Cary Kennedy	6%	Walker Stapleton	8%
Donna Lynne	4%	Cynthia Coffman	6%
Mike Johnston	4%	George Brauchler	4%
Noel Ginsburg	2%	Lew Gaiter	1%
		Doug Robinson	1%
		Victor Mitchell	1%
		Greg Lopez	0%
		Steve Barlock	0%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>Observations</b>	<b>250</b>

# Appendix: Responses to Individual Survey Questions by Year

## Partisan Identification

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

<b>Table A1: Partisanship by Year</b>		
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Democrat	42%	47%
Independent	28%	20%
Republican	30%	33%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>790</b>

## Statewide Elected Official Approval Ratings

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

<b>Table A2: Presidential Approval Ratings by Year</b>		
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Approve	28%	15%
Approve	29%	19%
Disapprove	13%	12%
Strongly Disapprove	26%	51%
Not Sure	4%	2%
Approval Combined	57%	35%
Disapproval Combined	39%	63%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>797</b>

**Table A3: President Trump Approval Ratings by Partisanship**

	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Republican</b>
Strongly Approve	1%	11%	40%
Approve	3%	24%	39%
Disapprove	11%	12%	14%
Strongly Disapprove	84%	48%	4%
Not Sure	2%	4%	3%
Approval Combined	4%	35%	79%
Disapproval Combined	95%	60%	18%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>262</b>

**Table A4: President Trump Approval Ratings by Gender**

	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Strongly Approve	18%	13%
Approve	20%	19%
Disapprove	10%	13%
Strongly Disapprove	50%	51%
Not Sure	1%	4%
Approval Combined	38%	32%
Disapproval Combined	60%	64%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>406</b>

**Table A5: Colorado Gubernatorial Approval Ratings by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Approve	15%	16%
Approve	42%	37%
Disapprove	16%	17%
Strongly Disapprove	10%	15%
Not Sure	16%	16%
Approval Combined	57%	53%
Disapproval Combined	26%	31%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>798</b>

**Table A6: Senator Bennet Approval Ratings by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Approve	12%	10%
Approve	41%	34%
Disapprove	12%	17%
Strongly Disapprove	10%	13%
Not Sure	26%	26%
Approval Combined	53%	44%
Disapproval Combined	21%	30%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>799</b>

**Table A7: Senator Gardner Approval Ratings by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Approve	7%	4%
Approve	35%	21%
Disapprove	16%	25%
Strongly Disapprove	8%	23%
Not Sure	33%	27%
Approval Combined	43%	25%
Disapproval Combined	24%	48%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>796</b>

**Table A8: Senator Gardner Approval Ratings by Partisanship**

	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly Approve	2%	1%	8%
Approve	10%	22%	38%
Disapprove	27%	28%	21%
Strongly Disapprove	37%	25%	4%
Not Sure	23%	24%	29%
Approval Combined	12%	23%	46%
Disapproval Combined	64%	53%	25%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>262</b>

**Votes Counted Fairly Question: From your perspective, how often do you think votes are counted fairly during elections?**

**Table A9: How Often are Votes Counted Fairly During Elections by Year**

	2016	2017
Always		12%
Most of the Time		47%
About Half of the Time		16%
Some of the Time		17%
Never		8%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>NOT ASKED</b>	<b>798</b>

**Table A10: Trust that Votes are Counted Fairly by Partisanship**

	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Always	18%	8%	5%
Most of the time	44%	44%	58%
About half the time	14%	13%	17%
Sometimes	12%	27%	18%
Never	12%	8%	3%
Observations	377	143	262

## Political Institutions Approval Ratings

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

**Table A11: US Congress Approval Ratings by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Approve	6%	2%
Approve	20%	12%
Disapprove	34%	39%
Strongly Disapprove	28%	36%
Not Sure	12%	11%
Approval Combined	26%	14%
Disapproval Combined	62%	75%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>794</b>

**Table A12: US Congress Approval Ratings by Partisanship**

	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Republican</b>
Strongly Approve	0%	2%	4%
Approve	13%	7%	14%
Disapprove	36%	36%	45%
Strongly Disapprove	42%	44%	25%
Not Sure	8%	11%	12%
Approval Combined	13%	9%	18%
Disapproval Combined	78%	80%	70%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>261</b>

**Table A13: Supreme Court of the United States Approval Ratings by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Approve	10%	6%
Approve	40%	43%
Disapprove	25%	27%
Strongly Disapprove	10%	6%
Not Sure	15%	18%
Approval Combined	50%	49%
Disapproval Combined	35%	33%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1003</b>	<b>784</b>

**Table A14: Colorado State Legislature Approval Ratings by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Approve	7%	3%
Approve	44%	40%
Disapprove	19%	24%
Strongly Disapprove	6%	7%
Not Sure	23%	26%
Approval Combined	51%	43%
Disapproval Combined	26%	31%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>793</b>

**Table A15: Colorado State Legislature Approval Ratings by Partisanship**

	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Republican</b>
Strongly Approve	4%	2%	2%
Approve	56%	31%	25%
Disapprove	13%	27%	38%
Strongly Disapprove	3%	13%	11%
Not Sure	24%	27%	24%
Approval Combined	60%	33%	27%
Disapproval Combined	16%	40%	49%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>261</b>

## Trust in Government

*Questions: How often do you trust each of the following levels of government to do what is in the public's interest?*

**Table A16: Trust in Federal Government Ratings by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Always	6%	2%
Most of the Time	19%	8%
About Half of the Time	23%	25%
Some of the Time	33%	41%
Never	20%	23%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>790</b>

**Table A17: Trust in Colorado State Government Ratings by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Always	7%	4%
Most of the Time	35%	32%
About Half of the Time	27%	31%
Some of the Time	24%	25%
Never	7%	9%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>791</b>

**Table A18: Trust in Local Government Ratings by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Always	6%	2%
Most of the Time	36%	36%
About Half of the Time	26%	26%
Some of the Time	24%	27%
Never	7%	9%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>793</b>

**Table A19: Trust News Media to Report on President Trump**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Always		9%
Most of the Time		32%
About Half of the Time		12%
Some of the Time		20%
Never		28%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>NOT ASKED</b>	<b>799</b>

## Most Important Problem

**Question: Which of the following do you think is the most important problem facing the United States today?**

**Table A20: United States Most Important Issue**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Healthcare	12%	24%
Economy	24%	13%
National defense	10%	12%
Immigration	11%	10%
Crime	6%	9%
Environment	7%	8%
Civil rights	7%	7%
Social welfare	6%	5%
International affairs	5%	4%
Education	6%	3%
Energy	1%	1%
Community development	1%	1%
Banking/finance	2%	1%
Agriculture	0%	0%
Transportation	0%	0%
Technology	1%	0%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1003</b>	<b>800</b>

**Table A21: United States Most Important Issue by Area of Colorado**

	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Economy	12%	13%	16%
Civil Rights	10%	8%	3%
Healthcare	21%	27%	20%
Agriculture	0%	0%	0%
Education	3%	3%	4%
Environment	8%	9%	4%
Energy	0%	3%	0%
Immigration	11%	10%	13%
Transportation	0%	0%	0%
Crime	6%	8%	16%
Social Welfare	7%	4%	7%
Community Development	1%	0%	0%
Banking/Finance	1%	0%	3%
National Defense	15%	11%	9%
Technology	0%	1%	0%
International Affairs	5%	3%	5%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>134</b>

**Question: Which of the following do you think is the most important problem facing the Colorado today?**

**Table A22: Colorado Most Important Issue**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Crime	8%	14%
Healthcare	12%	14%
Economy	23%	13%
Immigration	7%	12%
Education	11%	10%
Environment	6%	9%
Transportation	5%	7%
Social Welfare	8%	6%
Community Development	6%	5%
Energy	4%	2%
Agriculture	1%	2%
Civil Rights	2%	2%
Public Lands	2%	2%
Banking/Finance	1%	1%
National Defense	1%	1%
Technology	1%	0%
Foreign Trade	1%	0%
International Affairs	1%	0%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1003</b>	<b>790</b>

**Table A23: Colorado Most Important Issue by Area of Colorado**

	Urban	Suburban	Rural
Economy	13%	14%	11%
Civil Rights	3%	2%	1%
Healthcare	8%	14%	21%
Agriculture	0%	2%	4%
Education	11%	11%	10%
Environment	8%	9%	5%
Energy	2%	3%	2%
Immigration	9%	14%	11%
Transportation	7%	9%	4%
Crime	20%	13%	11%
Social Welfare	9%	4%	8%
Community Development	9%	3%	4%
Banking/finance	0%	1%	1%
National Defense	0%	0%	4%
Technology	0%	0%	0%
Public Lands	1%	2%	2%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>134</b>

## State of Economy

**Questions: How would you rate the economic conditions in the [United States/Colorado] as of today?**

**Table A24: State of National Economy by Year**

	2016	2017
Excellent	7%	5%
Good	23%	39%
Average	29%	32%
Fair	21%	14%
Poor	20%	10%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>799</b>

**Table A25: State of Colorado Economy by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Excellent	13%	15%
Good	34%	45%
Average	26%	22%
Fair	17%	11%
Poor	10%	6%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>790</b>

### Individual Policy Questions

***Marijuana Law Question: The ability of 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?***

**Table A26: Support/Opposition to Recreational Marijuana Law by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Favor	40%	43%
Favor	24%	22%
Oppose	11%	10%
Strongly Oppose	22%	21%
Not Sure	4%	3%
Favor Combined	63%	65%
Oppose Combined	33%	31%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>794</b>

**Table A27: Support/Opposition to Recreational Marijuana Law by Partisanship**

	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Republican</b>
Strongly Favor	59%	38%	21%
Favor	21%	26%	18%
Oppose	8%	13%	16%
Strongly Oppose	11%	20%	41%
Not Sure	2%	3%	4%
Approval Combined	80%	64%	39%
Disapproval Combined	19%	33%	57%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>262</b>

***TABOR Question: The Colorado Taxpayer 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 the law of Colorado while others advocate repealing it. How much do you favor or oppose TABOR remaining the law in Colorado?***

**Table A28: Support/Opposition to TABOR by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Favor	22%	20%
Favor	31%	25%
Oppose	12%	14%
Strongly Oppose	10%	12%
Not Sure	25%	30%
Favor Combined	53%	45%
Oppose Combined	22%	26%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>799</b>

**Single Payer Healthcare Question: How much do you favor or oppose a single-payer health care system in which all Americans would get their health insurance from one government plan that is financed by taxes?**

**Table A29: Support/Opposition to Single Payer Healthcare for all Americans by Year**

	2016	2017
Strongly Favor		30%
Favor		20%
Oppose		8%
Strongly Oppose		28%
Not Sure		13%
Favor Combined		50%
Oppose Combined		37%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>NOT ASKED</b>	<b>799</b>

**Table A30: Support/Opposition to Single Payer Healthcare by Partisanship**

	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly Approve	46%	26%	10%
Approve	30%	14%	10%
Disapprove	9%	11%	6%
Strongly Disapprove	5%	30%	62%
Not Sure	10%	20%	13%
Approval Combined	76%	40%	20%
Disapproval Combined	14%	41%	68%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>262</b>

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

**Table A31: Support/Opposition to Making It More Difficult to Purchase a Gun by Year**

	2016	2017
Strongly Favor		42%
Favor		17%
Oppose		12%
Strongly Oppose		25%
Not Sure		5%
Favor Combined		59%
Oppose Combined		37%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>NOT ASKED</b>	<b>800</b>

**Table A32: Support/Opposition to Increased Gun Control by Partisanship**

	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Strongly Approve	65%	29%	16%
Approve	17%	20%	15%
Disapprove	7%	10%	18%
Strongly Disapprove	9%	29%	46%
Not Sure	2%	12%	4%
Approval Combined	82%	49%	31%
Disapproval Combined	16%	39%	64%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>262</b>

***Dreamers Question: How much do you favor or oppose allowing young immigrants who were brought to the United States illegally as children to remain in the country if they meet certain requirements such as getting an education, serving in the military and not having a criminal record?***

**Table A33: Support/Opposition to Allowing Dreamers to Remain in the USA by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Favor		45%
Favor		26%
Oppose		8%
Strongly Oppose		15%
Not Sure		6%
Favor Combined		71%
Oppose Combined		23%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>NOT ASKED</b>	<b>800</b>

**Table A34: Support/Opposition to Allowing Dreamers to Remain in the USA by Partisanship**

	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Republican</b>
Strongly Approve	70%	38%	12%
Approve	15%	31%	40%
Disapprove	3%	9%	16%
Strongly Disapprove	7%	15%	27%
Not Sure	4%	7%	5%
Approval Combined	85%	69%	52%
Disapproval Combined	10%	24%	43%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>262</b>

***Climate Change Question: How concerned are you personally about climate change?***

**Table A35: Personal Concern About Climate Change by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Very Concerned	27%	29%
Concerned	25%	21%
Somewhat Concerned	24%	20%
Not Very Concerned	14%	16%
Not At All Concerned	11%	14%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>800</b>

**Table A36: Personal Concern About Climate Change by Partisanship**

	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Republican</b>
Very Concerned	49%	21%	8%
Concerned	23%	33%	12%
Somewhat Concerned	20%	20%	17%
Not Very Concerned	8%	13%	31%
Not At All Concerned	1%	13%	33%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>262</b>

***Race Relations Question: How would you describe the current state of race relations in the United States?***

**Table A37: Current State of Race Relations in the USA by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Really Good	7%	3%
Somewhat Good	22%	24%
Somewhat Bad	49%	47%
Really Bad	22%	27%
Not Sure	0%	0%
Good Combined	29%	26%
Bad Combined	72%	74%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>799</b>

**Table A38: Current State of Race Relations in the USA by Race**

	<b>Whites</b>	<b>Minorities</b>
Really Good	2%	3%
Somewhat Good	25%	23%
Somewhat Bad	36%	50%
Really Bad	36%	24%
Not Sure	0%	0%
Good Combined	27%	26%
Bad Combined	72%	74%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>586</b>

***Tax Incentive Question: How much do you favor or oppose the state of Colorado providing tax incentives to bring large companies, like Amazon, to the state?***

**Table A39: Support/Opposition to Providing Tax Incentives to Large Companies by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Strongly Favor		18%
Favor		38%
Oppose		20%
Strongly Oppose		12%
Not Sure		11%
Favor Combined		56%
Oppose Combined		33%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>NOT ASKED</b>	<b>793</b>

**North Korea Military Action Question: How much would you favor or oppose the United States taking preemptive military action against North Korea to prevent them from threatening the United States?**

**Table A40: Support/Opposition to Preemptive Military Action against North Korea by Year**

	2016	2017
Strongly Favor		11%
Favor		18%
Oppose		16%
Strongly Oppose		40%
Not Sure		14%
Favor Combined		29%
Oppose Combined		56%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>NOT ASKED</b>	<b>799</b>

**Legal Immigration Question: How do you think the number of immigrants who are legally permitted to come to the United States to live should change?**

**Table A41: How Number of Legal Immigrants Allowed in USA Should Change by Year**

	2016	2017
Increase a Lot	13%	11%
Increase a Little	18%	14%
Keep the Same	35%	40%
Decrease a Little	16%	14%
Decrease a Lot	18%	21%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>796</b>

***Criminal Justice Fairness Question: How confident are you that the criminal justice system treats all people equally regardless of their background?***

**Table A42: How Confident Criminal Justice Systems Treats Everyone the Same by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Very Confident	8%	4%
Confident	13%	10%
Somewhat Confident	23%	20%
Not Very Confident	36%	35%
Not At All Confident	20%	31%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>799</b>

**General Political Questions**

***Political Interest Question: In general, how interested are you in what's going on in government and public affairs?***

**Table A43: How Interested are You in Politics by Year**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Very Interested	40%	49%
Interested	31%	28%
Somewhat Interested	21%	17%
Not Very Interested	5%	4%
Not At All Interested	3%	1%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1004</b>	<b>799</b>

**Political Ideology Question: There is a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. When it comes to politics, do you usually think of yourself as...**

<b>Table A44: Political Ideology by Year</b>		
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Liberal	39%	39%
Moderate	32%	30%
Conservative	29%	31%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1003</b>	<b>799</b>

### Election Questions

**Generic Congressional Election Question: If the 2018 election for the U.S. House of Representatives in your congressional district were held today, would you vote for the...**

<b>Table A45: Generic Congressional Ballot by Year</b>		
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Republican Candidate	40%	37%
Democratic Candidate	51%	56%
Some Other Candidate	8%	6%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>1002</b>	<b>796</b>

<b>Table A46: Generic Congressional Ballot by Urban Area</b>			
	<b>Urban</b>	<b>Suburban</b>	<b>Rural</b>
Republican	24%	42%	47%
Democratic	70%	51%	47%
Some other	6%	7%	6%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>262</b>

**Primary Election Question: As you may know, current Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper will not be running for re-election because he has already served two terms in office and is prohibited by law from running again. Before the general election in November 2018, the Democratic and Republican Parties will hold a primary election to select their candidate for governor. If the gubernatorial primaries were held today, would you vote in the Democratic or Republican primaries, or would you not vote at all?**

**Table A47: What Primary Election Would You Vote In by Year**

	2016	2017
Democratic		45%
Republican		34%
Would Not Vote in Either		21%
<b>Observations</b>	<b>NOT ASKED</b>	<b>797</b>