

The Seventh Annual

Mind of Colorado

Survey of Public Opinion

2001

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Introduction and Overview

This is the seventh Annual Report of *The Mind of Colorado* project. In 1994 when this project was launched by the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado at Denver, we said it was intended “to provide the state’s citizens and its community, business, and political leaders with an annual diagnosis of the health of the body politic.” Our intent in 2001 remains the same.

In order that we may track how opinions change over time, this year's survey includes many of the same questions asked in prior years regarding confidence in institutions, levels of political and civic involvement, and ratings of the quality of life. Throughout the report, results from this year’s survey are analyzed and whenever possible they are contrasted with those of prior years.

As has been done in other years, there are new items that relate to current issues or concerns. For example, this year's survey addresses important public policy issues including priorities for Colorado State government funding and how the Colorado Legislature should address growth and its impacts.

This survey is based on a randomly drawn, representative sample of registered voters. Seven hundred fifty-two (752) phone surveys were completed February 19 through March 28, 2001. The sampling error for a survey of this size is +/- 3.65%. Methodology is fully explained in Appendix A. The full survey text and frequencies are reported in Appendix B.

Colorado's Mood in 2001

General Satisfaction

Coloradans feel good about themselves, their state, many of its institutions and its economy. Two out of three respondents (66%) said our state is generally going in the right direction and 21% said it is going in the wrong direction. This is unchanged from last year.

Men are more likely than women to think that things are on the right track: compare 80% with 73%. Republicans (84%) and Unaffiliateds (79%) are more likely to think that things in the state are generally going in the right direction than Democrats (65%).

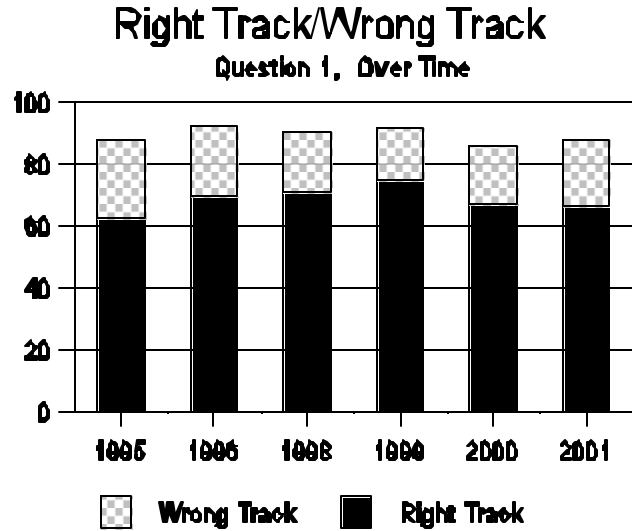


Figure 1

Economic Climate

Coloradans report that the economy in the state is in good shape. More than three-quarters (76%) rate economic conditions as either excellent (18%) or good (59%). This assessment of economic conditions is considerably less positive than last year's, when fully 85% rated economic conditions as excellent or good and nearly twice as many respondents rated economic conditions as excellent (34%).

Nationally there is a lot more pessimism about

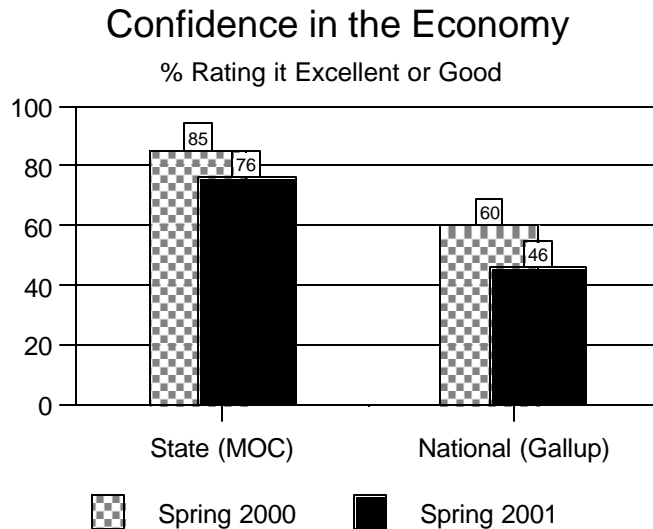


Figure 2

the economy than there is in Colorado. The Gallup Organization's survey, in the field in early March 2001, found that only 3% of those polled nationally rated the country's economy as excellent and 43% rated it as good. Furthermore, their poll registered a drop of 14 percentage points over the course of a year.¹

Within Colorado, there are clear differences in the assessment of economic climate depending on place of residence. Residents living along the Front Range are much more likely than those living in the rest of the state to describe the economy as excellent, and less likely to say it is only fair or poor. Twenty-four percent (24%) of Denver residents, 22% of other metro area residents, and 18% of persons living along the rest of the Front Range, compared to only 8% of persons living elsewhere in the state, said that the state's economy is excellent.

Rating of Economic Conditions

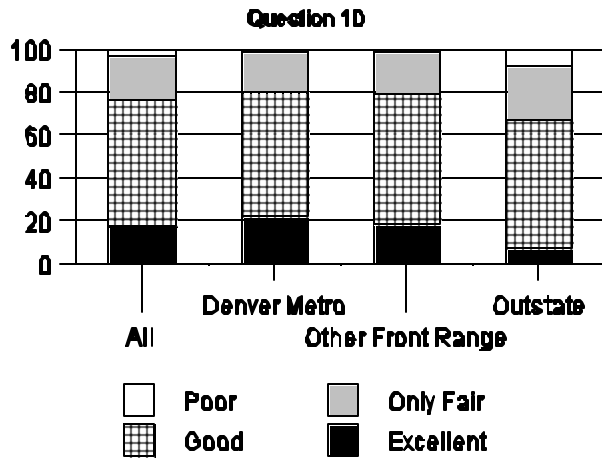


Figure 3

Consistent with their view that things in the state are on the right track, more men (22%) than women (15%) rate economic conditions in Colorado as excellent. Republicans (23%) and Democrats (17%) are more likely to say that economic conditions in Colorado are excellent than Unaffiliateds (11%).

Another sign that Coloradans are more cautiously optimistic about the state's economy is that they are equally likely (32%) to believe that the state's economy will get weaker over the course of the year as they are to believe that it will get stronger. Only 6% expect that the state's economy will get a lot stronger during

Expectation of Economy

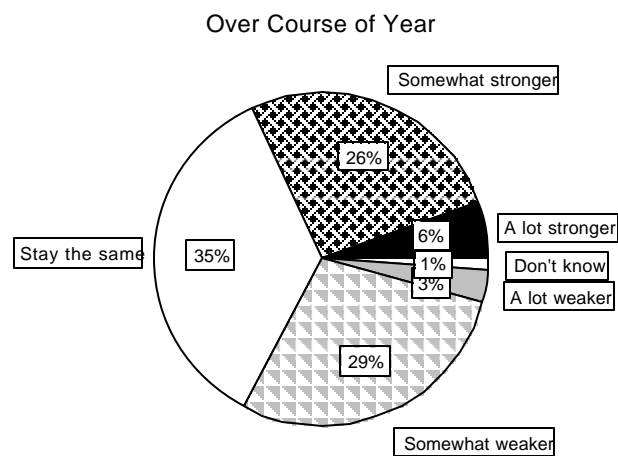


Figure 4

¹See Gallup Poll Trends - Rating the Economy, <http://www.gallup.com/poll/trends/ptrateecon.asp>.

the year. Thirty-five percent (35%) think it will stay the same.

Republicans (41%) are much more likely than either Unaffiliateds (29%) or Democrats (25%) to think that the state's economy will get stronger over the course of the year.

Most respondents are optimistic about their personal financial future. Fifty-six percent (56%) expect that their family will be financially better off next year than they are now. Eighteen percent (18%) think they will be financially worse off. This latter group is substantially larger than it was last year. In 2000, only 7% expected their family to be financially worse off.

Family Financial Forecast

Question 12, Over Time

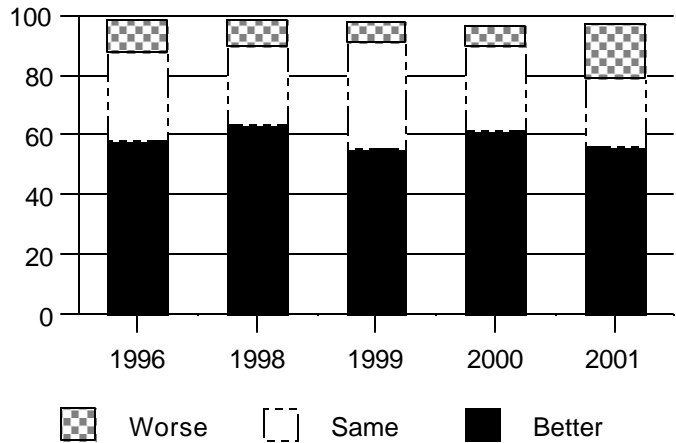


Figure 5

As their confidence in the economy suggests, Republicans (64%) are more likely than Unaffiliateds (56%) or Democrats (51%) to expect that their family will be financially better off next year than they are now. As age increases, respondents are less likely to anticipate gains and they are more likely to believe they will be financially worse off. Fully 71% of persons age 18 to 34, compared to only 36% of seniors age 65 and older, think their family will be financially better off next year. Twenty-seven percent (27%) of seniors, compared to only 11% of those in the youngest age group, think their family will be financially worse off.

Quality of Life

Coloradans continue to perceive that the quality of life available to them in the state is high. On a ten point scale where 0 means terrible and 10 means excellent, the average score is 7.9, the same as in 2000. Nineteen percent (19%) of respondents give the state

Quality of Life Rating

0 to 10 rating scale where 10 is excellent

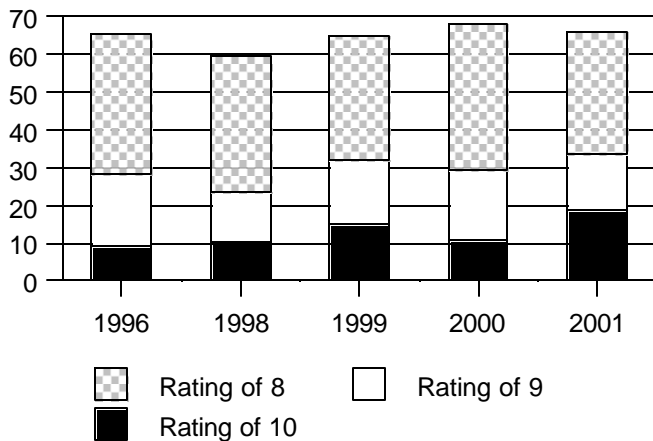


Figure 6

a perfect ten; 15% give it a score of nine; and 32%, an eight. (See Figure 6.)

Despite their view that the economic climate is less positive than last year, respondents believe that quality of life in Colorado is improving. People in the state are more likely to think that quality of life is getting better than to think it is getting worse: 39% think it's getting better and 28% think that it is getting worse. Thirty-three (33%) of respondents report no change. Last year, respondents were more pessimistic, with 36% thinking quality of life is getting better and 39% that it is getting worse. (See Figure 7.)

Persons in the youngest age group rate quality of life lower on average than do persons age 35 and over. Younger persons are somewhat more optimistic than older ones, however, about the trend in quality of life. Republicans (8.2) and Democrats (7.9) rate quality of life higher on average than do unaffiliated voters (7.4). There are no significant differences by region or gender in assessment of quality of life in Colorado.

Respondents also were asked to rate quality of life with respect to specific factors. These questions replicated those asked in 1996. The pattern was very similar to 1996, with Coloradans being considerably more critical than they were in assessing the overall quality of life. One factor scored a 4, four factors scored a 5, three factors scored a six, and two factors scored a seven. Only one factor on the entire list -- recreational opportunities -- received a higher rating (8.3) than the 7.9 score accorded to overall quality of life.²

It is also interesting to note that this year's ratings of the specific factors are lower than in 1996 with one exception -- the rating of safety from crime.

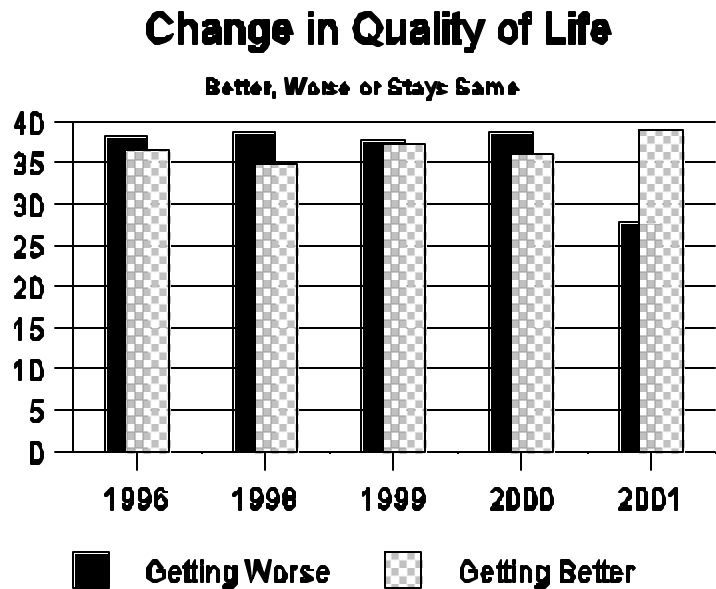


Figure 7

Similar to 1996, Coloradans were most critical regarding the availability of affordable housing, giving it

² In 1996, overall quality of life in Colorado also received a 7.9 rating.

an average rating of 4.6. This score is lower than the 5.4 rating for affordable housing in 1996. Other factors receiving a score of 6 or lower are transportation (5.1), public education (5.8), treatment of the disadvantaged (5.8) and access to health care (5.9).

Consistent with 1996, Coloradans were most positive regarding the recreational opportunities available within the state, giving this factor the highest score – an 8.3. Respondents also were relatively positive about the state as a place to raise children (7.6). Economic opportunities received a score of 7.1, and environmental quality had a rating of 6.9.

Men (6.1) give access to health care a higher rating than women (5.7), while women rate the sense of community (6.6) more highly than men (6.3). Persons age 18 to 34 (5.6) give the most positive evaluation of the transportation system, while those age 50-64 (4.8) give the least positive one.

Reflecting their differing economic and social contexts, persons living in different regions of Colorado have different perceptions of some specific aspects of quality of life. Persons living outside the Front Range (6.4) rate quality of life in terms of economic opportunities substantially lower than do those living along the Front Range (7.2-7.4 depending on which area). On the other hand, persons living out-state are much more positive about the treatment of the disadvantaged and the sense of community than

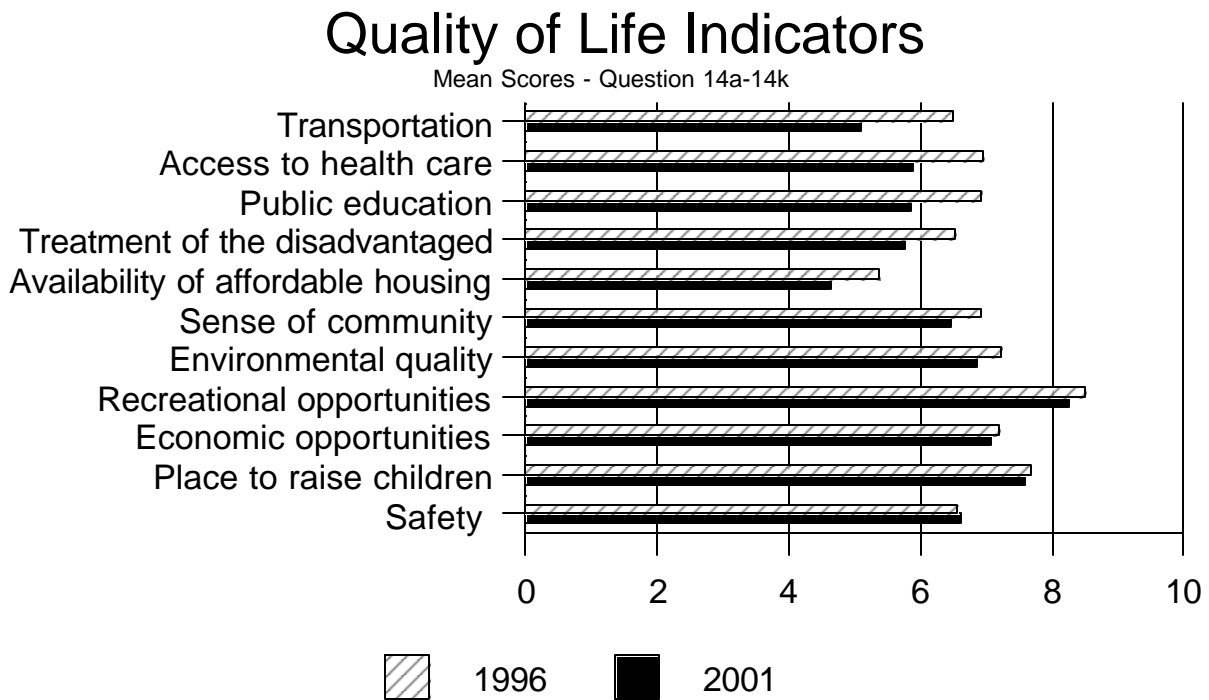


Figure 8

persons living along the Front Range, particularly in Denver. Out-state and other non-metro area respondents give higher ratings to availability of affordable housing, environmental quality and Colorado as a place to raise children than do those living in Denver or the rest of the metro area.

For seven factors, there were significant differences in quality of life ratings based on political affiliation. In each instance, Republicans rated quality of life higher than either Democrats or Unaffiliateds. Republicans gave higher ratings to each of the following: economic opportunities, environmental quality, availability of affordable housing, access to health care, treatment of the disadvantaged, sense of community and Colorado as a place to raise children.

Confidence and Trust

In a real sense, the heart of *The Mind of Colorado* is the confidence indexing it provides for key institutions in the Centennial State. Following the work of George Gallup for the National Civic League, institutions are rated by respondents on a five-point scale. For each institution, respondents indicated whether they had highest confidence, quite a lot, some, very little or no confidence. The results are analyzed by aggregating the percentage of respondents selecting the top two confidence categories to create a confidence index.

For many years, there was a national trend of declining confidence in most of society's institutions. Our first survey in 1994 indicated that Coloradans, like citizens nationally, were very distrustful. Since then, we have witnessed increasing levels of confidence both nationally and in the state. In 2001, confidence ratings generally have stabilized at these higher levels. Still, not many institutions enjoy high levels of trust from a majority of respondents.

Confidence in Institutions

The average of the confidence scores across all of the institutions examined in the survey is 35, indicating that 35% of respondents give ratings that suggest high levels of trust. This is consistent with the 35% confidence index for 2000, and considerably higher than the average confidence score of 24% recorded in the 1995 *Mind of Colorado* survey.

For nine of the institutions examined, this year's confidence score is greater than last year's score. Six institutions have lower confidence ratings in 2001 than in 2000. Table 1 summarizes the results of

seven years' worth of Mind of Colorado polling on confidence in institutions. Figure 9 shows Coloradans' current assessment of their confidence in key institutions.

Table 1: CONFIDENCE IN INSTITUTIONS OVER TIME								
	1994*	1995	1996	1998	1999	2000	2001	Change in last year
A. Religious Institutions	39	49.5	51.9	49.6	45.9	54.2	51.1	-
B. Local Government	23	24.1	27.6	30.3	31.0	33.2	38.2	+
C. Charities/Volunteer Organizations	34	43.8	55.3	54.2	55.0	58.8	57.8	=
D. Public Schools	22	31.3	31.7	36.0	36.9	39.3	37.1	-
E. Political Parties	9	9.3	7.8	9.0	9.7	10.2	10.9	=
F. Broadcast Media (TV & Radio)	n/a	16.6	17.8	24.9	20.3	22.3	23.7	+
G. Print Media (newspaper/magazines)	n/a	18.8	22.8	30.3	27.3	33.1	26.3	-
H. The Colorado State Legislature	n/a	2.0	19.7	24.4	27.2	23.3	28.1	+
I. State Government Agencies	23	16.0	16.0	24.2	21.8	20.3	23.7	+
J. The U.S. Congress	n/a	12.5	15.1	17.4	12.0	15.3	20.2	+
K. Federal Government Agencies	12	12.1	12.5	16.9	13.5	14.2	17.4	+
L. Local Law Enforcement**	52	48.5	58.2	60.5	51.0	51.4	58.4	+
M. The Legal System, including Courts	n/a	2.9	16.7	26.7	22.4	33.5	26.7	-
N. The Election System	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	35.8	n/a
O. Businesses in Colorado	n/a	34.9	63.6	63.2	65.1	65.0	61.4	-
P. Organized Labor	n/a	13.5	18.2	20.6	24.1	23.4	22.3	=
Q. Colleges & Universities	n/a	53.5	55.6	65.2	66.8	72.5	66.4	-
R. The Governor's Office	n/a	n/a	33.6	29.5	33.9	32.5	36.6	+
S. The Military	n/a	41.6	39.9	51.1	51.0	54.4	56.5	+
T. Environmental Protection Groups	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	35.4	34.2	=
U. Health Insurance Organizations	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	10.3	11.0	=
*Uses valid percentages which do not include the number of people who responded "Don't Know."								
** Results shown for 1999 and earlier are based on a slightly different question that was included in a confidence assessment of various professions.								

C The greatest increases in confidence were realized by local law enforcement (up seven percentage points) and by government. Local government, the Colorado State Legislature and the U.S. Congress each had gains of almost five percentage points, and the Governor's office had a four percentage point increase over last year. Confidence in the Colorado State Legislature had dropped four percentage points last year; this year's gain brings confidence in this institution to a high of 28.1, greater than the previous high of 27.2 in 1999.

Confidence in Institutions

Question 2

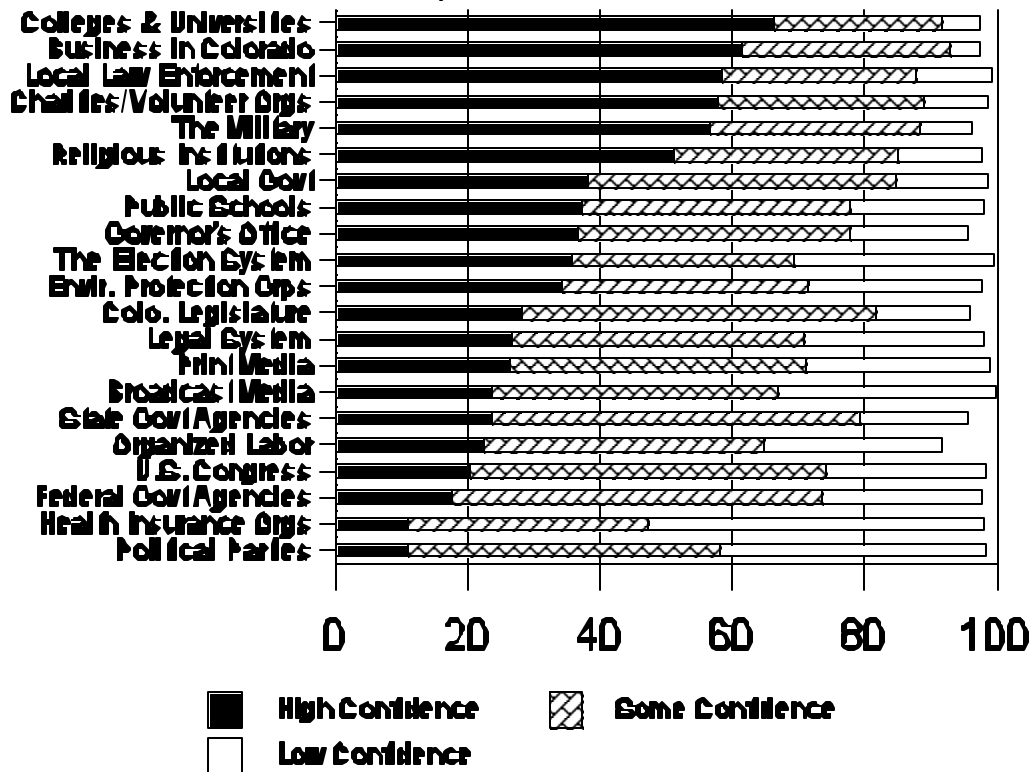


Figure 9

C The biggest losses in confidence were registered for the print media and the legal system including the courts, each of which dropped almost seven percentage points. Confidence in the print media returned to slightly below the 1999 level, after gaining six percentage points in 2000 and reaching a high of 33.1. Colleges and universities also had a loss in confidence in 2001, dropping six percentage points from a high of 72.5 in 2000 to 66.4 in 2001.³

Institutions with Highest Confidence: Six institutions have the confidence of more than half of those surveyed. For the fourth year in a row, the public has the most confidence in colleges and universities.

³The drop in confidence in higher education may, in part, be due to survey methodology. To test the hypothesis that high confidence ratings for universities resulted from identifying the survey as belonging to the university, we completed 215 surveys without the identification. While the differences in confidence levels were not statistically significant, 70% of the group who knew the survey was being done by the university reported confidence compared to 63% of the group who didn't know of the university's sponsorship.

Although the rating is down from last year, 66% report either highest or quite a lot of confidence in institutions of higher education. Colorado businesses rank second; their confidence rating is 61%, down from 65% in 1999 and 2000. Local law enforcement ranks third, with a confidence index of 58%; this score is seven percentage points higher than last year.

Charities and volunteer organizations rank fourth, with the confidence of 58% of those surveyed. The military (57%) also enjoys the confidence of at least half of those surveyed; the current confidence score is up two points from last year. Religious institutions enjoy the confidence of 51% of respondents. This is a lower proportion than last year but higher than the several prior years.

Institutions with Lowest Confidence: Political parties have registered the lowest confidence ratings of all the tracked institutions since 1996. The pattern continues in 2001. Political parties have the confidence of only 11% of respondents. Health insurance organizations also do not fare well. They too have the confidence of just 11% of respondents. Furthermore, fully 52% express little or no confidence. This is the highest no confidence vote of any institution.

Governmental institutions tend not to fare very well in the confidence ratings. In general, governmental institutions at the local level do better than those at the state level, and those at the state level do better than those at the federal level.

C At the local level, public schools have the confidence of 37% and local governments of 38%.

C At the state level, the Governor's office gets a higher confidence rating (37%) than the state Legislature (28%) or state agencies (24%).

C Federal government scores are the lowest of the three levels. The U.S. Congress and Federal Government agencies have confidence levels of 20% and 17%, respectively.

On a more positive note, government entities tended to realize an increase in confidence over the course of the year. With just two exceptions (the courts and public schools), confidence ratings for governments are higher in 2001 than last year.

Differences in Confidence: Men and women differ in their confidence in several institutions. Women have more confidence in charities/volunteer organizations, environmental protection groups, and organized labor,

while men have more confidence in the Colorado State Legislature, the Governor's office and the military. These differences apparently reflect the fact that men have a more conservative political orientation than women.⁴

There are significant differences in confidence based on political affiliation for 14 of the 21 institutions. More often, Republicans indicate a higher level of confidence, especially with respect to government entities. Republicans have higher levels of confidence than Democrats and Independent voters in the following: political parties, Colorado State Legislature, U. S. Congress, local law enforcement, the legal system and the courts, the election system, businesses in Colorado, the Governor's office and the military. Perhaps not surprisingly given the outcome in the last presidential election, Republicans have nearly twice as much confidence in the election system (50%) as either Democrats (28%) or Unaffiliateds (26%). Fifty-six percent (56%) of Republicans, compared to 30% of Unaffiliateds and only 19% of Democrats, have confidence in the Governor's office. Democrats have higher confidence than Republicans or Unaffiliateds in broadcast and print media, organized labor, colleges and universities and environmental protection groups. They have twice as much confidence in organized labor and in environmental protection groups as Republicans. Those lacking a party affiliation have less confidence than either Republicans or Democrats in several institutions: political parties, local law enforcement, the legal system and the courts, the election system and colleges and universities.

There are a number of differences by age in level of confidence in institutions. While no clear pattern emerges, generally older persons have less confidence in institutions than younger ones. Persons age 50 and over have less confidence than younger persons in charities/volunteer organizations, and they are more likely to have low confidence in political parties. Seniors age 65 and over are more likely than others to say they have low confidence in the print media and state government agencies. Seniors (24%) also have the least confidence in environmental protection groups; persons age 18 to 34 (41%) have the most. Seniors have the least confidence in colleges and universities (56%), while persons age 50 to 64 have the most (74%). Persons age 50 to 64 also have the most confidence in the military and the Governor's office.

Persons living out-state have the most confidence in state government agencies (28%), while those living along the Front Range but outside the metro area have the least confidence (18%).

⁴*The Mind of Colorado 2000* asked respondents to describe their political orientation. Men were significantly more likely than women to say they were strongly or moderately conservative, while women were significantly more likely than men to say they were strongly or moderately liberal.

Public Officials' Performance

In addition to general questions regarding confidence, *The Mind of Colorado* seeks the views of registered voters on the job performance of some of our elected officials. Governor Bill Owens receives the highest approval rating of the elected officials whose performance was assessed in this year's survey. Forty-two percent (42%) give him either a four or a five on a five point scale, compared to 37% in 2000. Twenty-two percent (22%) indicate dissatisfaction with his performance.

Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell has a 39% approval rating, up from 32% last year. Senator Allard's performance is viewed somewhat less favorably than Campbell's. Thirty-three percent (33%) rate Allard's performance as a four or a five, up from 27% in 2000. Allard's approval rating is lower in part because more people have no opinion (17% vs. 7% for Campbell and 3% for Owens).

Looking across the Congressional delegation, 37% of respondents give a positive job performance rating to their representative, an increase of 6 percentage points from the 31%

rating in 2000. The numbers responding from each Congressional district are not very large, so we are less confident that these results accurately reflect district voters' opinions. Scott McInnis and Mark Udall enjoy the highest performance approval ratings: 42% and 41%, respectively. The approval ratings for the other representatives are: 36% for Tom Tancredo, 35% for Bob Schaffer, 34% for Joel Heffley and 31% for Diana DeGette.

Given how short a time President Bush and Vice President Cheney have been in office, it seemed premature to ask Coloradans how they rated their job performance. *The Mind of Colorado* focused instead on expectations. Respondents were asked: "How good a job do you expect our new President and Vice President to do in 2001?" Performance was rated on the same 5-point scale, where 1 is poor and 5 is excellent. Coloradans hold high expectations of the new President and Vice President. Nearly half (47%) expect performance to rate a 4 or a 5. On the other hand, 27% expect to be dissatisfied with their performance.

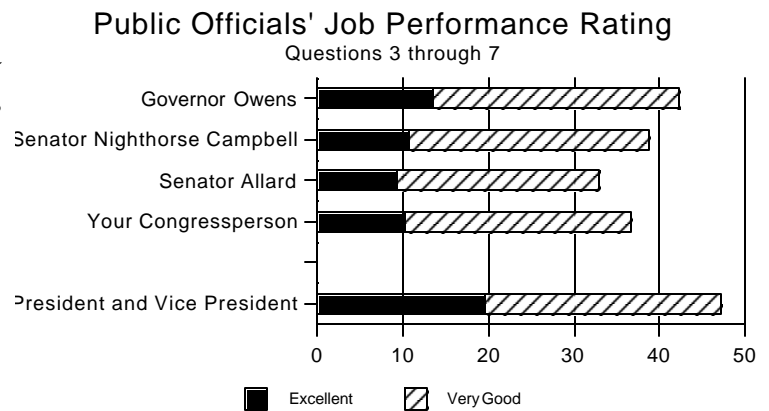


Figure 10

Since most of the elected officials being evaluated this year are Republicans, it is not surprising that Republicans give substantially higher job performance ratings than either Democrats or Unaffiliated voters. They are more than twice as likely to rate our Governor's and Senators' performance as a 4 or 5 than Democrats. Fully 73% of Republicans, compared to 38% of Unaffiliateds and 23% of Democrats, expect the new President and Vice President to do an excellent job (rating of 4 or 5).

Persons residing outside the Front Range are least likely to say that Governor Owens did an excellent job (37%), but they are also least likely to say that he did a poor job (17%). The greatest proportion of out-state residents -- 41% -- rated his performance as neither poor nor excellent. Denver residents, on the other hand, appear to be both more positive and more negative. They are most likely to say that Governor Owens did an excellent job (45%) and that he did a poor job (33%). Persons living along the Front Range but outside the metro area (46%) give Senator Campbell the most positive rating, while Denver residents (32%) give him the least positive rating.

Seniors age 65 and over are most likely to say that Senator Campbell did an excellent job (42%), and also that he did a poor job (36%). As age increases, respondents are more likely to say that Senator Allard did an excellent job; 27% of persons in the youngest age group compared to 41% of seniors say he did an excellent job.

Given their more conservative political orientation, it is not surprising that men are considerably more likely than women to rate the job performance of Senators Campbell and Allard as a four or a five.

Political and Civic Involvement

Political Involvement

Levels of political involvement remained stable despite it being an election year when an upturn would have been expected. One-third of respondents said that they had contributed money or volunteered time to a candidate, party group, political action committee or other organization that supported candidates or ballot issues during the past year.⁵ This is very similar to the level reported in last year's *Mind of Colorado*. Given that a Presidential election took place in 2000, levels of political participation are quite low. In 1996, the last presidential election year, *The Mind of Colorado* determined that 39% contributed money or volunteered time.

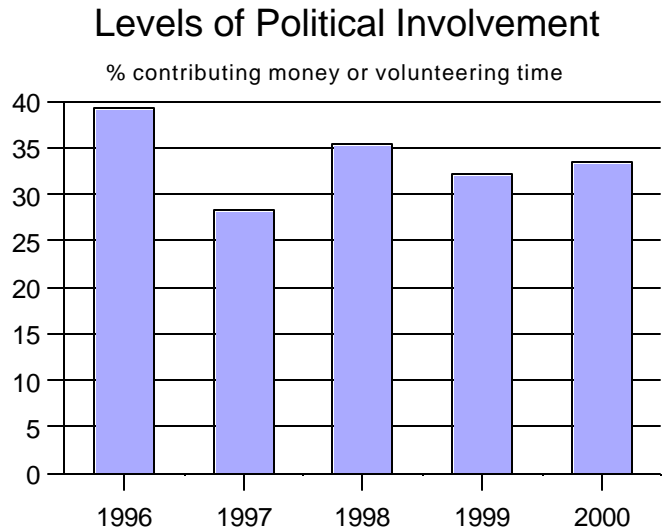


Figure 11

Specifically during 2000, 27% contributed money and 21% volunteered time. Most of those who volunteered their time also gave money. See Figure 12.

Types of Political Involvement

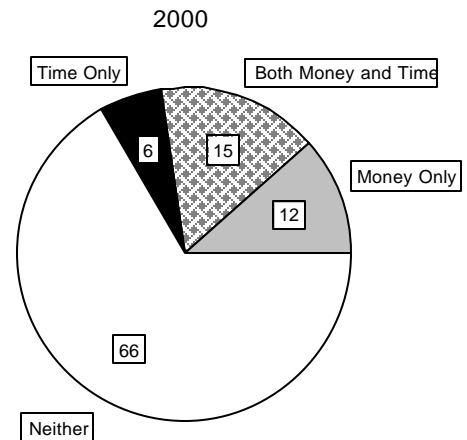


Figure 12

There are equivalent levels of involvement among Democrats (38%) and Republicans (39%). Those without a party affiliation were much less involved: only 21% gave money or volunteered time. The youngest respondents -- those between the ages of 18 and 34 -- were least politically involved. Fully 76% of persons in this age group, compared to 62%

⁵In Figures 11 and 13, responses refer to participation during the prior year, so for example results from *Mind of Colorado 2001* reflect behavior in the year 2000.

to 65% of older respondents, neither contributed money nor volunteered time.

Civic Involvement

Civic involvement is higher than political involvement. Civic involvement -- that is, the giving of time or money to organizations, charities or causes not related to politics or elections -- is also measured in *The Mind of Colorado*. Fully 73% of Coloradans say they are involved in some way in non-profit organizations, charities or causes. This is little changed from last year.

According to this year's survey, almost two-thirds (64%) contributed money in 2000, the same proportion as the prior year. This figure is down 10 percentage points since 1998.

Fifty-four percent (54%) volunteered time to an organization, charity or cause other than a political campaign. This is an increase over the 51% who volunteered the prior year, but represents a 7 percentage point decline from 1998, when 61% said they had volunteered time.

There are no differences in levels of civic involvement based on region, gender or political party. Respondents who are between the ages of 35 and 64 are more likely to report civic involvement (77%) than those who are younger (66%) or older (68%).

Civic Involvement Statewide

% contributing money or volunteering time

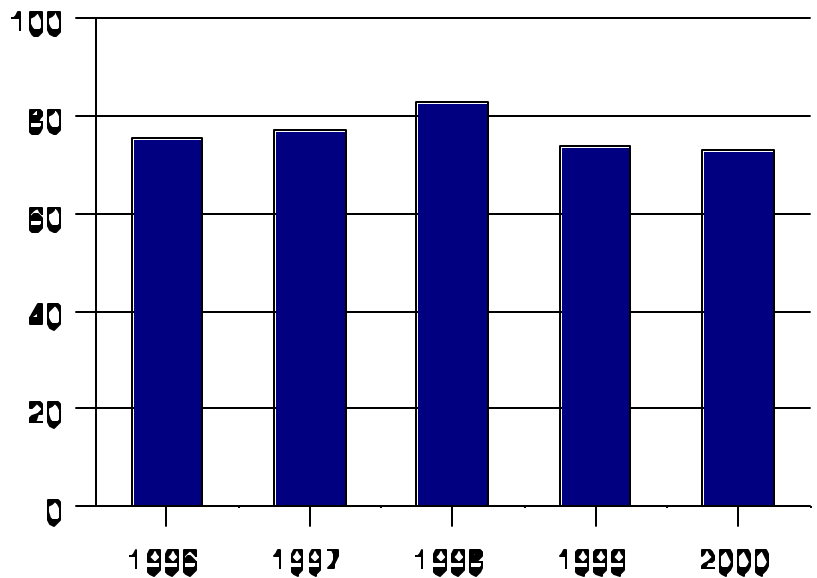


Figure 13

Types of Civic Involvement

2000

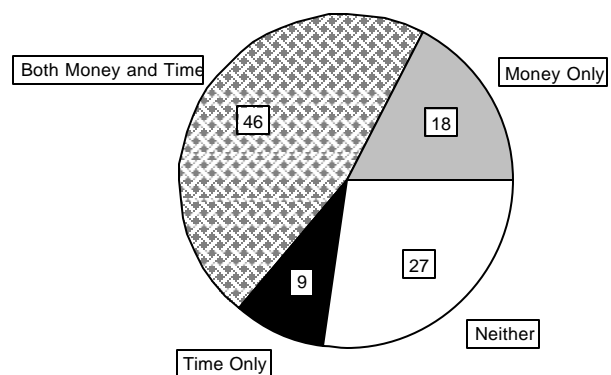


Figure 14

Views on Public Policy

Every year *The Mind of Colorado* survey includes questions on key public policy issues. This year's survey addresses state budget priorities, privacy issues, and growth management.

Expenditure Priorities

The Legislature, working with the Governor's office, develops a new budget for the state annually. This document, and even more importantly, the changes that are made to it each year, provide an important indication of the state's priorities. In this year's survey, respondents were urged "to think about Colorado's state government and what its priorities should be," and then were asked "when budget decisions are made, would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose spending more public funds" on each of several functions, "even if it means raising taxes." They were also given the opportunity to prioritize a tax cut. Figure 15 depicts the spending items and the proportion who responded that they would strongly support or somewhat support spending increases.

The public appears extraordinarily receptive to increases in the state budget at the present time. Large majorities either strongly or somewhat support spending increases on each of the items tested. For all the expenditure items except one (prisons and courts), 80% or more favor increased spending. This seeming willingness to support government programs is likely related to the public's positive mood, and their increased confidence in government and the performance of elected officials. It may also result from an understanding that expenditure increases are possible without raising taxes given the pattern of surplus accrual over recent years.

There is not much variation among the expenditure items based on the overall level of support. There is greater variation in the proportion who indicate that they strongly support a spending increase (as indicated by the solid portion of the bar in the graph in Figure 15). The proportion indicating strong support ranges from a high of 59% (for K-12 education) to a low of 16% for prisons and courts. Programs focusing on children including K-12 education, early childhood education and child care and child protection services have the biggest base of supporters who feel strongly about spending increases.

Each expenditure item is discussed in turn, with attention paid to both overall levels of support and the smaller proportion who say they feel strongly about their desire to increase expenditures. We also determine whether the pattern observed for the population holds for various subgroups based on party affiliation, region, gender,

Government Spending Priorities

Question 16

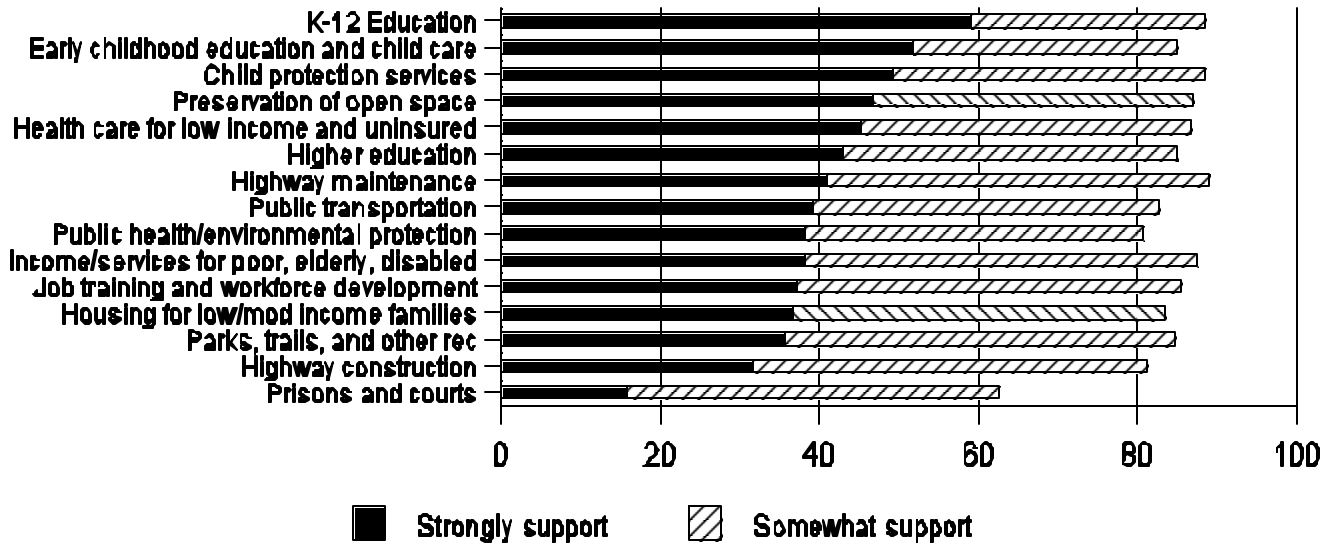


Figure 15

and age. We report differences that are statistically significant – that is, those that cannot reasonably be attributed to the fact that responses are based on a sample rather than the entire population. While differences are described, few are very large. The more important finding is that support for increasing state expenditures is quite high among men and women of all ages, party affiliations, and areas of the state.

Education and Other Child-Oriented Programs

- C **Public Education:** Kindergarten through twelfth grade ranks highest in terms of strong supporters, with 59% saying they strongly support an increase in state spending even if it means higher taxes. An additional 29% say they somewhat support an expenditure increase. Support for greater spending on this function is higher among Democrats than Republicans (92% vs. 85%). The preferences of those without a party affiliation more closely align with the Democrats on this issue, with 91% favoring a spending increase. Differences based on age, region and gender were not statistically significant.
- C **Early Childhood Education and Child Care:** Fifty-two percent (52%) strongly support and 33% somewhat support increased state spending for early childhood care and education. Democrats (91%) and Unaffiliateds (89%) were more likely than Republicans (79%) to favor additional spending for this purpose. Differences based on age, region and gender were not statistically significant.
- C **Child Protection Services:** Forty-nine percent (49%) strongly support and 39% somewhat support spending increases for child protection services including foster care and adoption. This is a higher

priority for Democrats and Unaffiliateds and for women. Differences based on age and region were not significant.

- C **Higher Education:** Forty-three percent (43%) strongly support and 42% somewhat support spending increases for the state's colleges and universities. Support is somewhat higher among Democrats and among women. Differences based on age and region were not significant.

Transportation

- C **Highway Maintenance:** This item had the highest overall level of support (89%) among all the items tested but ranked seventh in terms of the proportion indicating strong support (41%). Support is about equally strong among respondents regardless of party affiliation, gender, region, or age.
- C **Highway Construction:** Thirty-two percent (32%) strongly support and an additional 50% somewhat support additional spending for this purpose. While a lot of people support increased spending on road construction, support is lower for this item than most others tested. Republicans (85%) and those without party affiliation (84%) are more likely to favor spending increases than Democrats (74%). Older respondents expressed higher levels of support than younger respondents. Differences based on region or gender were not statistically significant.
- C **Public Transportation:** This item ranks below highway maintenance but above highway construction in its level of support. Thirty-nine percent (39%) strongly support and 44% somewhat support state budget increases for this purpose. Somewhat surprisingly, differences based on party are statistically insignificant, making it one of only five expenditure items where this was the case. Differences based on age and gender are also insignificant. There are regional differences, however. Support is highest in Denver (94%) and lowest outside the metro area (80%) elsewhere along the Front Range as well as out-state.

Natural Resources

- C **Preservation of Open Space:** This is a spending priority for the public; it ranks fourth based on levels of strong support (47%) and is tied for fifth based on overall support (87%). While all groups indicate strong support, there are some statistically significant differences based on party, gender and region. Support is lower among Republicans (81%) than either Democrats (91%) or Unaffiliateds (92%). Women are more supportive than men: 89% vs. 84%. Differences in support based on age were not significant.
- C **Parks, Trails and Other Recreation:** Eighty-five percent (85%) indicate support for higher spending. This item ranks ninth based on overall support, but since fewer of its supporters are strongly committed, it is positioned further down in Figure 15 which arrays the functions based on the

proportion of respondents who indicate strong levels of support. Subgroup differences are much like those reported above for open space preservation. Support is lower among Republicans (81%) than Democrats (88%) or Unaffiliateds (89%). It is lower among men (81%) than women (89%). Support levels range from 80% among out-state respondents to a high of 94% of Denver-based respondents.

- C **Public Health and Environmental Protection:** This item ranks relatively low overall (14th out of 15 expenditure items), even though a strong majority supports an expenditure increase (81%). More of its support comes from those who feel strongly on the subject, however, so the item is positioned relatively higher in Figure 15. There are significant differences based on party, region, and gender. Support is lower among Republicans (71%) than Democrats (87%) or Unaffiliateds (88%). Denver residents are most likely to support additional expenditures on public health and environmental protection (with 86% citing support) and those living out-state least likely (74% citing support). More women (84%) than men (77%) support higher spending. Differences based on age are not statistically significant.

Other Expenditure items

- C **Health Care:** Eighty-seven percent (87%) support increased expenditures on health care for the low income or uninsured. For 45% their level of support is strong. It is the fifth ranked priority whether the focus is on strong support or overall support. Women (90%) are more likely to support higher spending than are men (83%). Levels of support are similar among all the other subgroups analyzed.
- C **Income Support and Services for the Poor, Elderly and Disabled:** With 87% wanting additional expenditures, this item ranks fourth in levels of overall support. Relatively fewer express strong support, however, so its position is lower (tenth) in Figure 15. Women are more supportive than men: compare 91% vs. 84%. Differences based on party affiliation, age and region are statistically insignificant.
- C **Job Training and Workforce Development:** In total, 86% support expenditure increases for this purpose, 37% strongly. Support is highest among Unaffiliateds (92%), followed by Democrats (86%) and Republicans (82%). Differences based on age, gender, and region are not significant.
- C **Housing for Low and Moderate Income Families:** Eighty-four percent (84%) express support for higher spending on housing programs. Women are more supportive (88%) than men (78%). Other differences by subgroup are not significant.
- C **Prisons and Courts:** This item ranks lowest among the 15 expenditure areas tested, based on levels of overall support (63%) or levels of strong support (16%). Republicans (69%) are more likely to favor expenditure increases than Democrats (55%) or Unaffiliateds (63%). Support steadily

increases with age from a low of 54% among those under 34 to 70% among those over 65. Differences by gender and region are not statistically significant.

Tax Cuts

The other side of the budget ledger is taxes. Over the last several years, the state's strong economy has resulted in significant revenue growth. At the same time, expenditure increases are constrained by various constitutional and statutory limitations.

Tax cuts are a major priority for just 14% of Coloradans. They are a moderate priority for an additional 30%. Most Coloradans appear to be more interested in expanding government expenditure programs than in cutting taxes.

Whether or not tax cuts should be viewed as a priority is clearly a matter of partisan debate. Only among Republicans does a slim majority (54%) emerge that feels tax cuts are a major or moderate priority. Only 35% of Democrats and 40% of Unaffiliateds see tax cuts as a priority. Differences based on gender, age and region are statistically insignificant.

Cutting Taxes as a Priority

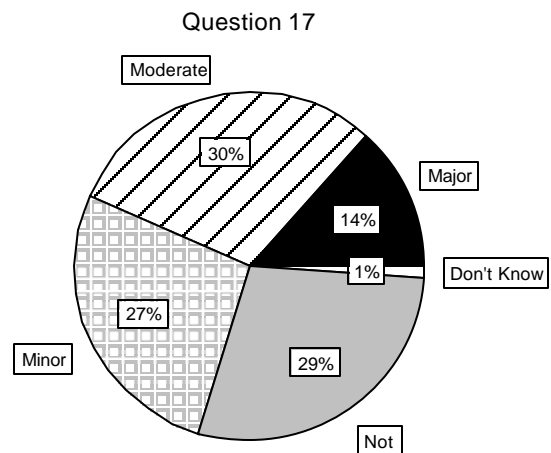


Figure 16

Privacy

Advances in computer and telecommunications technology have made it easier to store, combine and communicate large amounts of information easily and quickly. While this allows tremendous advances in efficiency and convenience, it also is a power with the potential to be misused. Private information, obtained for one purpose, may be sold or shared with others. For example, medical information could be obtained by potential employers and used as a factor in hiring or firing decisions. Information on purchasing patterns can be sold and then used as the basis for targeted advertising. Financial information provided on-line such as credit card numbers could potentially be stolen if adequate security is not provided by e-commerce vendors.

This year's *Mind of Colorado* asked respondents how much of a concern it was to them personally that private information may be shared without their permission. Two-thirds said it was a major concern and 22% said it was a moderate concern. They were then asked how much of a priority it is for "the state to take action to restrict the unauthorized sharing of information, recognizing that regulations may add to the cost of the goods or services that they use." About half (51%) responded it was a major priority and an additional 31% said it was a moderate priority.

Restrict Unauthorized Information Sharing?

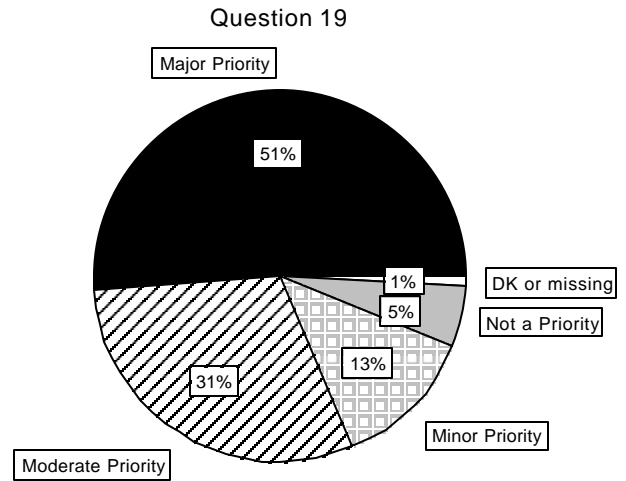


Figure 17

State action restricting the unauthorized sharing of information is a higher priority for women than for men. Eighty-five percent (85%) of women vs. 77% of men say action is a major or moderate priority. Differences based on party, region and age are not statistically significant.

Growth Management

Repeated surveys by our program and others indicate that Coloradans are concerned about the rate at which the state is growing and its impacts on the quality of life. Past surveys indicate that the state's residents see the benefits of growth as well as its costs. Generally speaking, Coloradans have expressed a preference for managing growth rather than reducing it. Despite strong public support for state action, in 2000 the Legislature was unable to agree on a strategy. Disturbed by the Legislature's inability to act, supporters of growth management developed a proposal and collected the necessary signatures to place it on the ballot. While voters turned the measure down, it was fairly clear to all that some kind of action was desirable. Hence the Legislature is considering several proposals this session. To help inform the Legislature's deliberation, *The Mind of Colorado* sought the public's views on some of the key issues. Several of the

Possible Local Plan Requirements

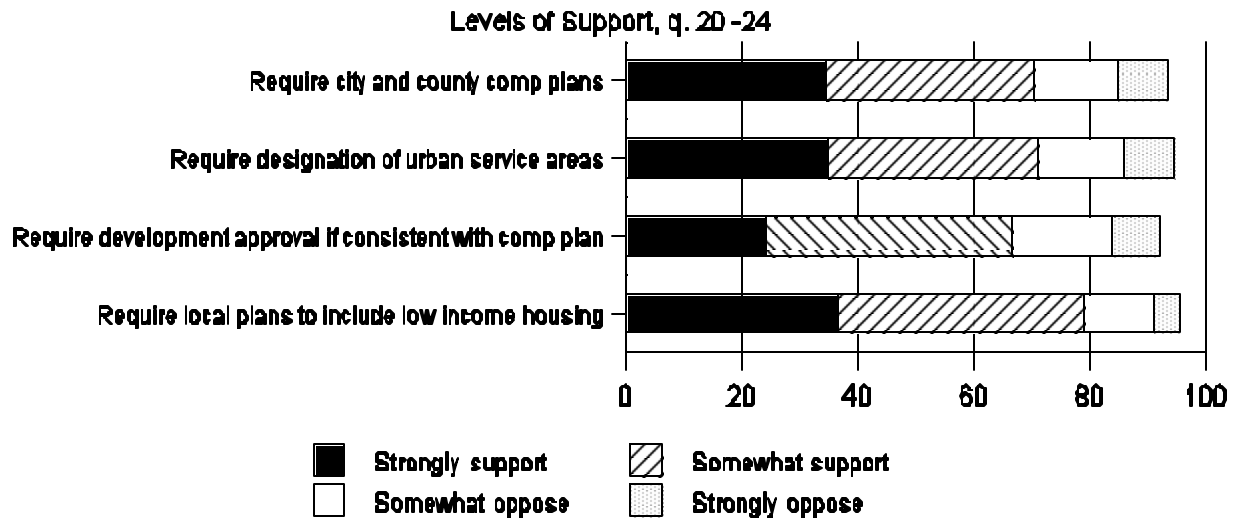


Figure 18

items match or closely parallel those used in a survey we did last year, so it's possible to measure how opinions have changed.⁶ Also, all items were cross-tabulated by party affiliation, age, gender, and region.

Local Plan Requirements:

C Require planning: Seventy percent (70%) either strongly support (35%) or somewhat support (36%) the Legislature requiring cities and counties to prepare comprehensive or master land use plans after public involvement. While this is a strong majority, it is down by ten points from last year when a similar question was asked about mandating planning. This is probably due to the politicization of the issue that occurred during last November's hard-fought campaign. Differences by subgroup are statistically insignificant except when respondents are categorized by party affiliation. Republicans are less likely to support mandating cities and counties to plan, but even among this group almost two thirds (65%) support the proposal. In contrast, 76% of Democrats and 74% of those not affiliated with a party support a planning requirement.

C Designate urban service areas: Growth management strategies being considered by the Legislature require "cities and counties to designate urban service areas where development will be allowed and infrastructure such as roads and sewers will be provided, and to limit development

⁶See Norwest Public Opinion Research Program, *Growth Management Options*, (Prepared for the Gates Foundation), February 2000.

outside of those areas.” Seven out of ten respondents say they either strongly support (35%) or somewhat support (36%) this concept. This level of support is the same as was identified in last year’s growth survey. There is majority support in all subgroups analyzed but there are some statistically significant differences in levels of support. Women (75%) are more supportive than men (68%). Democrats (77%) and Unaffiliateds (80%) are more supportive than Republicans (61%).

C Approve developments that are consistent with plans: Plans are more meaningful documents if they make it clear what can be built where as well as what can’t. A requirement that “cities and counties approve developments that are fully consistent with their comprehensive plan and development regulations, even if some in the community object” is supported by two-thirds of respondents. Support is a bit softer, however, than on the earlier items, with 24% indicating strong support and 42% saying they somewhat support the idea. Levels of support are similar across the subgroups analyzed. The only statistically significant differences are based on party affiliation. Republicans are more skeptical. Sixty-one percent (61%) of respondents affiliated with the Republican party support the concept, compared to 73% of Democrats and 69% of those without a party affiliation.

C Address the need for housing: This item has the highest level of support of all the growth management concepts tested. Fully 79% of respondents say they strongly support (37%) or somewhat support (43%) the Legislature requiring “local comprehensive plans to include strategies for increasing the supply of low and moderate cost housing.” A number of differences emerge in the subgroup analysis. Consistent with their views on state budget priorities, women feel more strongly than men with 83% voicing support for the comp plan requirement regarding housing compared to 74% of men. There are also differences by region. The lowest level of support was found among the residents of areas outside the Front Range. Among this group, 75% support the state requiring local plans to address housing affordability. This compares with 87% support in Denver, 78% in the metro area suburbs and 81% elsewhere along the Front Range. Party also makes a difference. Republicans are less supportive of the requirement, but even so seven out of ten with this party affiliation like the idea. Support rises to the 87% level among Democrats and to 84% among Unaffiliateds.

A Role for Regional Planning: One of the major points of difference among legislative proposals is in the role envisioned for regional plans. Should all planning be the prerogative of local governments or is it better to take a regional approach? If regional plans are developed, should they have teeth?

Possible Regional Plan Requirements

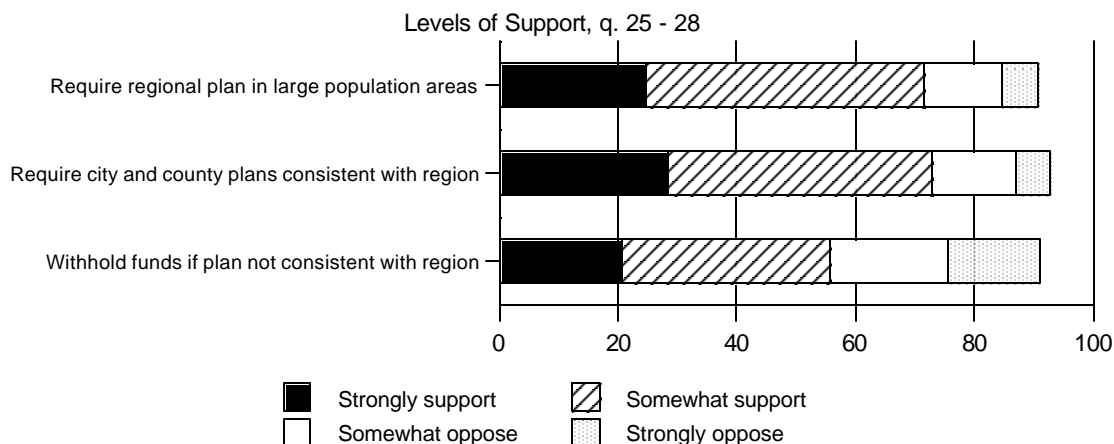


Figure 19

- C Require regional plans:** *The Mind of Colorado* sought respondents' views on whether the state should "require a regional comprehensive plan to be developed in areas with relatively large populations and encourage regional plans elsewhere in the state." Seven in ten respondents said they support the idea. Those who somewhat support the idea (47%) far outnumber those who feel strongly (25%), however. There are no differences in levels of support for regional planning based on gender or region. There are differences based on party affiliation, with Republicans being less supportive (64%) than Democrats (79%) or Unaffiliateds (75%).
- C Local plans should be consistent with regional plans:** Almost three-quarters of respondents (73%) want the state "to require that all city and county plans be consistent with their region's plan, if one exists." The level of support appears to have remained constant over the year. Last year's survey, which used somewhat different wording, found that 72% favor state legislation "giving regional governments the power to review city and county comprehensive plans and to require these plans to be reworked if they are inconsistent with regional plans." As has been the case with all of the growth management items, differences based on party affiliation are significant. Two-thirds of Republicans (66%) support the idea, compared to 78% of Democrats and Unaffiliateds.
- C Penalize inconsistency:** A consistency requirement doesn't mean much if it is not accompanied by some system for penalizing local governments who fail to align their plans with those of their regions. *The Mind of Colorado* asked respondents if they would support the Legislature withholding "some transportation and other funds from local governments that refuse to make their plans consistent with the region's plan." Twenty-one percent (21%) strongly support and 35% somewhat support the

idea of backing up a consistency requirement with penalties. Last year’s survey registered somewhat higher support (64%) when the question included the concepts of *rewards* as well as penalties. There are differences in support based on region as well as party. Metro area respondents (the only group that would actually be affected if the strongest regional planning proposal were to be passed) are more supportive than respondents living elsewhere in the state. The proportion indicating support is 65% in Denver, 60% in metro area suburbs, 50% elsewhere along the Front Range and 49% out-state. Differences based on party are also significant: compare 48% support among Republicans with 58% among Unaffiliateds and 64% among Democrats.

Support for More Compact Development: Respondents were asked which of the following they would prefer to see – “lower density development with fewer buildings per acre that spreads out over a lot of land” or “higher density development with more buildings per acre that leaves a greater amount of land in open space.” Respondents chose the latter course -- compact development -- by a two to one margin: 61% vs. 30%.

Low vs. High Density Development

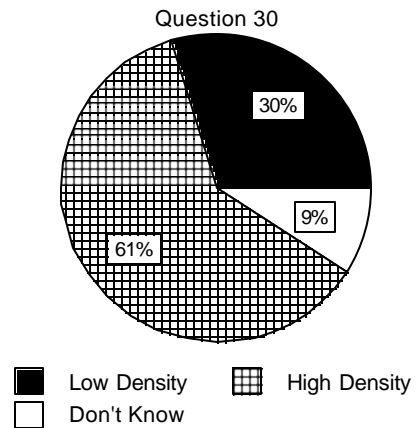


Figure 20

Consider Revenue Sharing: The last growth management strategy considered in this year’s *Mind of Colorado* is revenue sharing. Respondents were told “Currently local governments compete for shopping centers so that they can get the sales taxes they collect. Neighboring jurisdictions often provide services needed by the commercial developments and house the people who shop and work in them but they receive none of the sales taxes.” They were asked: “In your view, should all sales taxes be kept by the jurisdiction where they are collected or should some sales tax money be shared with other local area jurisdictions?” A majority (58%) indicated they thought sales taxes should be shared. Thirty-four percent (34%) favored the status quo and the remainder was undecided.

Revenue Sharing

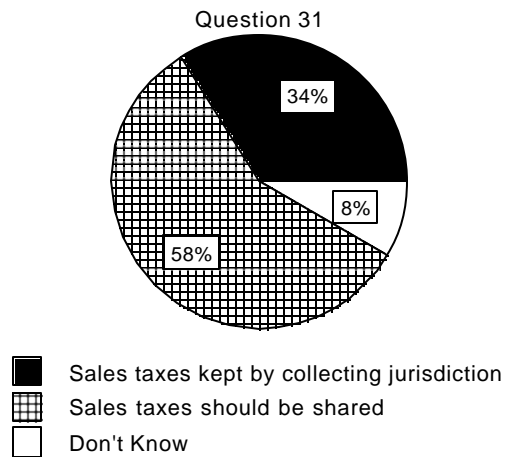


Figure 21

Summary and Conclusion

The mood of Coloradans remains positive despite the emergence of mild concerns about the state's economy. About one-third expect a weakening of the state's economy and 18 out of 100 expect a worsening of their own household's financial position during the year. Nevertheless, more than three-quarters continue to rate the state's economy as excellent or good, which is a much higher percentage than is true nationally.

Coloradans remain pleased with the quality of life available in the state. In a marked departure from prior years' polling, the proportion who are optimistic about the direction of change (39%) far exceeds the proportion who are pessimistic (28%). Two aspects related to quality of life, however, are of particular concern: lack of affordable housing and transportation.

Trust and confidence in the dominant institutions of society remain stable at the higher levels achieved over the last couple of years. While the trends are in the direction of greater confidence, improvements are still warranted. Only six of twenty-one institutions tested have the confidence of more than half the people: colleges and universities; business, local law enforcement, charities and volunteer organizations, the military; and religious organizations. Civic institutions continue to be rated more highly than government institutions. Most of the government institutions, however, realized gains in confidence over the past year. Also, the performance ratings of Colorado's elected officials are on the rise.

Perhaps because of this rise in confidence, an overwhelming majority favor increases in most state government spending programs, even if it were to mean a rise in taxes. Programs affecting children have the highest proportion of strong supporters. At the same time, relatively few Coloradans see cutting taxes as a priority for the state.

Strong majorities also support most of the concepts being considered by the Legislature to better manage growth. There is support for mandatory local planning; the designation of urban service areas; inclusion of strategies to address affordable housing; and a presumption of buildability if projects are in accord with the plan. There is also majority support for requiring: the development of regional plans in major population areas, that local plans must be consistent with regional plans and failures to achieve consistency result in penalties. The public also supports more compact development patterns and revenue sharing.

Appendix A: Research Methodology

The Wells Fargo Public Opinion Research Program of the Graduate School of Public Affairs, University of Colorado at Denver, using the Secretary of State's Voter Registration Files as a data base, conducted a random survey of registered Colorado voters between February 19 and March 28, 2001. Registered voters provide an excellent sampling population for public opinion surveys because this group generally is more informed and interested in public issues. In total, 752 telephone interviews were completed, lasting an average of 14.7 minutes each.

Telephone interviews are used rather than mail surveys since they typically provide a quicker "turnaround" and a higher response rate than mail surveys. In addition, telephone interviews are a more effective technique for getting valid and reliable responses to complicated questions.

Telephone interviews were completed by University of Colorado at Denver staff and by VCR, a firm specializing in survey research. Interviewers were thoroughly trained in interviewing techniques and supervised throughout the surveying.

The telephone interviewers made every effort to maximize the proportion of completed calls. Calls were made during the day, on weekday evenings and on weekends in order to ensure that employed persons and persons with different schedules were reached. Interviewers made numerous attempts to contact each person on the list. This approach maximized the response rate and reduced the possibility of bias in the results.

We completed 752 interviews from a total list of 2293 names with valid phone numbers, for a completed response rate of 33%. Thirty percent refused to participate, and 37% could not be reached despite numerous attempts. Everyone was called a minimum of eight times on at least six different days. The margin of error for a survey of 750 is +/- 3.65%.

Appendix B: Survey Instrument with Frequencies

Hello, my name is (first name) and I am calling from the University of Colorado at Denver. You have been selected to participate in our seventh annual Mind of Colorado survey on public confidence, civic involvement and public policy choices. Your responses will be kept confidential. Could you take a few minutes and assist in this survey?

1. Do you think things in our state are generally going in the right direction or are they off on the wrong track?

Right Track	Wrong Track	Don't Know + Missing
66.2%	21.0%	12.8%

2. I will now read you a list of Institutions. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one -- Do you have highest confidence, quite a lot, some, very little or no confidence.

ROTATE LIST INSTITUTIONS:	Highest 1	Quite a lot 2	Some 3	Very Little 4	None 5	DK + M 9
A. Religious Institutions	15.3%	35.8%	34.0%	10.1%	2.4%	2.4%
B. Local Government	4.7%	33.5%	46.5%	11.4%	2.5%	1.3%
C. Charities/Volunteer Organizations	14.1%	43.8%	30.9%	7.4%	2.3%	1.6%
D. Public Schools	7.4%	29.7%	40.7%	15.3%	4.8%	2.1%
E. Political Parties	2.0%	8.9%	47.3%	29.0%	11.0%	1.7%
F. Broadcast Media (TV & Radio)	5.6%	18.1%	43.1%	24.5%	8.4%	.4%
G. Print Media (newspaper/magazines)	4.5%	21.8%	44.8%	21.3%	6.6%	.9%
H. The Colorado State Legislature	3.7%	24.3%	53.6%	11.0%	3.2%	4.1%
I. State Government Agencies	1.9%	21.8%	55.7%	13.0%	3.2%	4.4%
J. The U.S. Congress	3.2%	17.0%	53.9%	19.4%	4.8%	1.7%
K. Federal Government Agencies	2.0%	15.4%	56.0%	19.5%	4.7%	2.4%
L. Local Law Enforcement, such as police	14.2%	44.1%	29.4%	8.9%	2.5%	.8%
M. The Legal System, including Courts	4.1%	22.6%	44.1%	21.5%	5.6%	2.0%
N. The Election System	7.3%	28.5%	33.4%	22.3%	8.1%	.4%
O. Businesses in Colorado	12.1%	49.3%	31.5%	3.7%	.9%	2.4%
P. Organized Labor	3.6%	18.8%	42.2%	19.4%	7.8%	8.2%
Q. Colleges & Universities	15.4%	50.9%	25.5%	4.5%	1.1%	2.5%
R. The Governor's Office	9.3%	27.3%	41.1%	12.9%	4.9%	4.5%
S. The Military	17.3%	39.2%	31.8%	5.9%	1.9%	4.0%
T. Environmental Protection Groups	6.9%	27.3%	37.1%	18.6%	7.8%	2.3%
U. Health Insurance Organizations	1.6%	9.4%	36.3%	35.5%	15.2%	2.0%

On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is "poor" and 5 is "excellent," how do you rate the job performance of:	1 Poor	2	3	4	5 Excellent	DK + M
3. Governor Bill Owens	8.6%	13.4%	32.3%	28.9%	13.4%	3.3%
4. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell	12.2%	14.6%	27.5%	28.1%	10.6%	6.9%
5. Senator Wayne Allard	8.0%	13.7%	28.3%	23.7%	9.2%	17.2%
6. Your representative in Congress	5.9%	11.0%	31.5%	26.6%	10.1%	14.9%

7. How good a job do you expect our new President and Vice President to do in 2001?

Poor					Excellent	
1	2	3	4	5		DK + M
11.0%	16.2%	23.8%	27.5%	19.7%		1.7%

8. During the past year, did you or any member of your household contribute money, volunteer time, or do both to help an individual candidate, party group, political action committee or any other organization that supported candidates or ballot issues? Did you (READ RESPONSES):

1	Contribute money	12.1%	4	or didn't you do either	66.0%
2	Volunteer time	6.0%	9	Don't Know + Missing	.7%
3	Do Both	15.3%			

9. Not counting any campaign contributions, during the past year did you or any members of your household contribute money, volunteer time or do both to help any organization, charity or cause? Did you (READ RESPONSES) :

1	Contribute money	18.8%	4	Didn't you do either	26.6%
2	Volunteer time	8.5%	9	Don't Know + Missing	.5%
3	Do Both or	45.6%			

10. How would you rate economic conditions in the State today: excellent, good, only fair or poor?

Excellent	Good	Only Fair	Poor	DK + M
17.7%	58.5%	20.2%	2.9%	.7%

11. Do you expect the state's economy to get a lot stronger, get somewhat stronger, stay the same, get somewhat weaker, or get a lot weaker over the course of the year?

1	A lot Stronger	6.4%	4	Somewhat weaker	28.5%
2	Somewhat Stronger	25.7%	5	A lot weaker	3.1%
3	Stay the same	35.2%	9	Don't Know + Missing	1.2%

12. At this time next year, do you expect that your family will be financially better off than it is now or will it be worse off?

1	Better	56.0%	3	Same	23.3%
2	Worse	17.8%	9	Don't Know + Missing	2.9%

13. Please rate the quality of life for you in Colorado. Use a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 means "terrible" and 10 means "excellent."													
Terrible											Excellent		
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	DK/M	Mean	
.1%	.3%	.4%	1.7%	1.6%	4.9%	6.1%	16.4%	32.2%	15.0%	18.9%	2.4%	7.89	

14. On a scale of zero to ten where 0 means terrible and 10 means excellent, please rate Colorado's quality of life in terms of each of the following

ROTATE LIST	Terrible											Excellent		DK/M	Mean
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
a. Economic Opportunities	.3	.5	1.5	2.0	3.7	11.4	11.6	23.0	25.3	10.9	8.4	1.5	7.06		
b. Recreational opportunities	.4	.3	.7	.5	2.3	4.4	5.7	12.4	20.2	21.0	31.0	1.2	8.26		
c. Environmental quality	.5	1.3	1.3	2.4	3.6	11.8	14.6	20.7	27.4	9.7	5.7	.8	6.87		
d. Safety from crime	.5	.7	1.7	3.6	4.7	14.1	14.5	24.2	24.6	6.6	3.9	.9	6.62		
e. Availability of affordable housing	4.0	4.3	6.6	12.0	15.8	23.5	12.9	11.6	3.7	1.1	1.9	2.7	4.63		
f. Access to health care	1.5	2.0	4.0	6.0	9.8	20.1	12.8	17.0	16.6	4.9	3.6	1.7	5.87		
g. Transportation	2.3	3.3	8.0	9.2	10.0	23.9	12.9	15.6	7.8	1.9	2.0	3.2	5.08		
h. Public education	1.1	2.7	2.9	6.4	8.4	19.5	18.1	17.3	13.3	5.5	2.7	2.3	5.84		
i. Treatment of the disadvantaged	.9	1.9	3.5	6.3	6.9	20.5	17.3	14.6	12.8	3.7	2.1	9.6	5.76		
j. Sense of community	.4	1.5	1.7	4.8	5.1	14.6	15.8	22.2	18.2	7.4	4.9	3.3	6.46		
k. As a place to raise children	.3	.8	.7	1.7	2.5	7.3	8.4	17.8	28.7	14.8	16.0	1.1	7.59		

15. Overall, would you say that the quality of life here in Colorado is getting: **(READ RESPONSES)**

1	Much Better	6.0%	4	Getting somewhat worse	24.7%
2	Somewhat Better	33.0%	5	Getting much worse	3.2%
3	Staying the same	32.8%	9	Don't Know + Missing	.3

16. Next I want you to think about Colorado's state government and what its priorities should be. When budget decisions are made, would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose spending more public funds on the following, even if it means raising taxes?

(ROTATE LIST)	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK
a. K-12 Education	59.2%	29.3%	6.6%	3.9%	1.1%
b. Higher Education	43.0%	41.9%	9.0%	3.9%	2.3%
c. Early childhood education and child care	51.9%	33.2%	8.4%	3.9%	2.7%
d. Highway maintenance	41.0%	48.1%	7.2%	1.5%	2.3%
e. Highway construction	31.6%	49.5%	13.2%	3.7%	2.0%
f. Public transportation	39.2%	43.6%	8.5%	3.6%	5.1%
g. Health care for the low income or uninsured	45.3%	41.5%	8.0%	3.1%	2.1%
h. Prisons and courts	15.8%	46.9%	21.9%	10.4%	4.9%
i. Public Health and Environmental Protection	38.3%	42.3%	12.5%	4.8%	2.1%
j. Preservation of open space	46.7%	40.2%	8.4%	3.1%	1.7%
k. Parks, trails and other recreation	35.6%	49.1%	8.9%	3.6%	2.8%
l. Job training and workforce development	37.2%	48.3%	8.9%	2.7%	2.9%
m. Income support and services for the poor, elderly and disabled	38.2%	49.2%	7.8%	2.7%	2.1%
n. Child protection services including foster care and adoption	49.2%	39.2%	6.3%	2.4%	2.9%
o. Housing for Low and moderate income families.	36.7%	46.8%	10.0%	4.4%	2.1%

17. How much of a priority is it for you personally that the state cut taxes? Is this a **(READ RESPONSES)**

1	Major priority	13.8%
2	Moderate priority	30.2%
3	Minor priority or	26.5%
4	Is it not a priority	28.5%
9	Don't Know + Missing	1.1%

18. Given advances in computer and telecommunication technologies, how much of a concern is it to you personally that private information may be being shared without your permission? Is this a major concern, moderate concern, minor concern or not a concern for you?

1	Major concern	65.8%
2	Moderate concern	21.8%
3	Minor concern (or)	8.2%
4	Not a concern	3.7%
9	Don't Know + Missing	.4%

19. How much of a priority is it for you that the state take action to restrict the unauthorized sharing of information, recognizing that regulations may add to the cost of the goods or services that you use. Is it a major priority, moderate priority, minor priority or not a priority?

1	Major priority	51.1%
2	Moderate priority	30.5%
3	Minor priority	12.6%
4	Not a priority	5.1%
9	Don't Know + Missing	.8%

The Legislature is considering several strategies to address growth and its impacts. For each of the following proposals, tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose its adoption by the Legislature.

Should Colorado	Strongly Support	Some-what Support	Some-what Oppose	Strongly Oppose	DK + M
20. Require cities and counties to prepare comprehensive or master land use plans after public involvement.	34.6%	35.8%	14.4%	8.8%	6.5%
21. Require cities and counties to designate urban service areas where development will be allowed and infrastructure such as roads and sewers will be provided, and to limit development outside of those areas.	34.8%	36.4%	14.8%	8.5%	5.5%
23. Require cities and counties to approve developments that are fully consistent with their comprehensive plan and development regulations, even if some in the community object.	24.3%	42.4%	17.0%	8.5%	7.7%
24. Require that local comprehensive plans include strategies for increasing the supply of low and moderate cost housing	36.6%	42.6%	11.8%	4.7%	4.4%
25. Require a regional comprehensive plan to be developed in areas with relatively large populations and encourage regional plans elsewhere in the state.	24.7%	46.7%	13.3%	5.9%	9.4%
27. Require that all city and county plans be consistent with their region's plan, if one exists.	28.3%	44.5%	14.2%	5.7%	7.2%
28. Withhold some transportation and other funds from local governments that refuse to make their plans consistent with their region's plan.	20.6%	35.0%	20.1%	15.2%	9.2%

30. In general which of the following would you prefer to see

1	Low density development with fewer buildings per acre that spreads out over a lot of land or	29.9%
2	Higher density development with more buildings per acre that leaves a greater amount of land in open space?	61.0%
9	Missing	9.0%

31. Another growth strategy being considered is revenue sharing. Currently local governments compete for shopping centers so that they can get the sales taxes they collect. Neighboring jurisdictions often provide services needed by the commercial developments and house the people who shop and work in them but they receive none of the sales taxes. In your view should all sales taxes be kept by the jurisdiction where they are collected or should some sales tax money be shared with other local area jurisdictions?

1	Sales taxes should be kept by jurisdiction where they are collected	34.0%
2	Sales taxes should be shared	57.8%
9	Don't Know	8.1%

That completes our survey. Thank you for your help and have a good evening.

COMPLETE NOW from sample sheet

Gender:

1- Male	44.4%
2- Female	55.5%

Congressional District:

1	12.1%
2	14.1%
3	22.9%
4	19.9%
5	14.9%
6	15.8%

Party Affiliation:

R	39.8%
D	32.6%
U	27.1%

Region:

Denver	10.9%
Other Metro	40.7%
Other Front Range	25.1%
Rest of State	23.3%

Age:

18-34	19.7%
35-49	35.1%
50-64	26.9%
65+	18.1%

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