

Results of SurveyUSA Election Poll #21915

Geography Surveyed: Colorado

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Given That This Is CO's First-Ever All-U.S.-Mail Election, and Given 2 Close Contests, A Pollster's Best Advice is to 'Hold Your Breath':

SurveyUSA offers here its final research results in the high-profile contests for US Senator and Governor of Colorado. But with 26 separate public opinion polling firms working on the contest, all trying to get these two races right, and no 2 pollsters in agreement, circumspection is in order. In polling conducted exclusively for the Denver Post, SurveyUSA finds:

* For US Senate: Republican challenger Cory

Gardner 46%, Democratic incumbent Mark **Udall 44%**.

* For Governor: incumbent Democrat John **Hickenlooper 46%**, Republican challenger Bob

Beauprez 46%.

The Senate results are unchanged from a SurveyUSA Denver Post Poll 10/13/14, when Gardner also led by 2 points. Then 7% were undecided. Today, 5% are undecided.

2 previous SurveyUSA polls for the Denver Post had nominally better news for Hickenlooper: On 09/11/14, Hickenlooper led by 2. On 10/13/14, Hickenlooper led by 1. Today, tied. And when all the votes are counted on Tuesday? Jump ball.

If Gardner does in fact hold-on and "takes-away" the Senate seat from the Democrats, it will be because his message resonated with middle-aged voters, age 35 to 64. Among those 35 to 49, Gardner leads by 19 points. Among those 50 to 64, Gardner leads by 8 points. Among seniors, the contest is tied, 48% each. A Gardner win means that Gardner did in fact keep independent voters in his column. He leads today among independents by just enough to carry the state, 43% to 36%. A Gardner win means that voters turned out outside of Greater Denver in sufficient numbers to overcome Udall's thin, 5-point lead in Greater Denver. Gardner leads by 12 points everywhere else in CO outside of Greater Denver.

If Udall upsets Gardner and holds the seat, which he may, it will be because younger voters showed up in greater numbers than shown here. Udall leads among voters age 18 to 34 by 33 points. And, a Udall win would mean that women voted in larger numbers than shown here. Udall leads by 6 points among women, which, by itself, is not enough to offset Gardner who leads by 12 among men. A Udall win will mean that Hispanic Coloradans voted more Democratically than shown here. A Udall win means that liberals will account for more than 21% of the electorate, and that Udall will have carried moderates by more than the 15 percentage points shown here. And a Udall win means that lower-income voters will have voted in larger numbers than shown here.

A split decision is possible, and Hickenlooper may be returned to office while Udall is thrown out. Hickenlooper has run 2 or 3 points stronger than Udall in the most recent 2 polls. If Hickenlooper wins, he will have overcome an early-vote advantage that Beauprez has.

Of those respondents who tell SurveyUSA they have returned a ballot: Gardner leads by 3 points, Beauprez leads by 2 points. If Democrats fail to return the still outstanding ballots in the numbers forecast here, Republicans will out-perform these poll results.

* In the election for Attorney General, Republican Cynthia Coffman edges Democrat Don Quick 45% to 38%.

* In the election for Secretary of State, Republican Wayne W Williams edges Democrat Joe Neguse 43% to 39%.

* In the election for Treasurer, incumbent Republican Walker Stapleton edges Democrat Betsy Markey 46% to 41%.

* Down-ballot, low-profile contests are notoriously difficult to forecast.

* If these results hold, and if Beauprez is elected Governor, Republicans will have "run the table" in CO.

* On Amendment 67, which would protect the unborn by defining them to be human beings, "No" leads "Yes" 54% to 32%. Almost certain defeat.

* On Amendment 68, which would allow casino-style gambling at horse-racing tracks, "No" leads "Yes" 2:1. Certain defeat.

* On Proposition 104, which would open to the public bargaining sessions between school boards and teachers unions, "Yes" defeats "No" 61% to 24%.

* On Proposition 105, which would label certain foods as genetically engineered, "No" leads "Yes" 59% to 34%.

Colorado voters react positively to the state's new all-U.S.-mail election law. 65% see the new law as a step in the right direction, 24% see it as a step in the wrong direction. Voter fraud? No consensus. A plurality, 33%, say that voting in person at a precinct will have less fraud than voting by mail. 31% say there will be fraud no matter how you vote. 25% say there will be almost no fraud, regardless of how a ballot is cast. And 8% say that vote-by-US-mail will result in less fraud than voting at the precinct.

Cell-phone respondents and home-phone respondents were included in this research:

SurveyUSA interviewed 700 state of Colorado adults 10/xx/14 through 10/29/14. Of the adults, 648 were registered to vote. Of the registered voters, 618 were determined by SurveyUSA to have already returned a ballot in this first-ever all-U.S.-mail election, or to be likely to do so before the deadline. Counting begins on 11/04/14. This research was conducted using blended sample, mixed mode. Respondents reachable on a home-telephone (71% of likely voters) were interviewed on their home telephone in the recorded voice of a professional announcer. Respondents not reachable on a home telephone (29% of likely voters) were shown a survey on their smartphone, tablet, or other electronic device.

1	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = \pm 4%

[In the election for Governor of Colorado, how do you vote? \(candidate names rotated\)](#)

- 46% Bob Beauprez (R)
- 46% John Hickenlooper (D)
- 2% Matthew Hess (L)
- 1% Harry Hempy (G)
- 1% Mike Dunafon (Unaffil)
- 4% Not Certain

2	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = \pm 4%

[In the election for the United States Senate, how do you vote? \(candidate names rotated\) Republican Cory Gardner? Democrat Mark Udall? Libertarian Gaylon Kent? Or unaffiliated candidate Steve Shogan?](#)

- 46% Cory Gardner (R)
- 44% Mark Udall (D)
- 2% Gaylon Kent (L)
- 3% Steve Shogan (Unaffil)
- 5% Not Certain

3	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = \pm 4%

[In the election for Colorado Attorney General, how do you vote? \(candidate names rotated\) Republican Cynthia Coffman? Democrat Don Quick? Or Libertarian David K. Williams?](#)

- 45% Cynthia Coffman (R)
- 38% Don Quick (D)
- 6% David K. Williams (L)
- 11% Not Certain

4	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = \pm 4%

[In the election for Colorado Secretary of State, how do you vote? \(candidate names rotated\) Republican Wayne W. Williams? Democrat Joe Neguse? Or Libertarian Dave Schambach?](#)

- 43% Wayne W. Williams (R)
- 39% Joe Neguse (D)
- 7% Dave Schambach (L)

11% Not Certain

5	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = $\pm 4\%$

[In the election for Colorado Treasurer, how do you vote? \(candidate names rotated\) Republican Walker Stapleton? Democrat Betsy Markey? Or Libertarian David Jurist?](#)

46% Walker Stapleton (R)

41% Betsy Markey (D)

5% David Jurist (L)

8% Not Certain

6	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = $\pm 4\%$

[Also on the November ballot are several constitutional amendments and ballot measures. Amendment 67 is an amendment to the Colorado constitution protecting pregnant women and unborn children by defining "person" and "child" in the Colorado criminal code and the Colorado wrongful death act to include unborn human beings. On Amendment 67, do you vote Yes? Do you vote No? Or, Are you not certain how you vote on Amendment 67?](#)

32% Vote Yes

54% Vote No

14% Not Certain

7	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = $\pm 3.9\%$

[Amendment 68 would allow casino-style gambling at horse racing tracks to raise money for public education. On Amendment 68, do you vote Yes? Do you vote No? Or, Are you not certain how you vote on Amendment 68?](#)

32% Vote Yes

63% Vote No

5% Not Certain

8	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = \pm 3.9%

[Proposition 104 would require collective bargaining meetings between education boards and teachers' unions to be open to the public. On Proposition 104, do you vote Yes? Do you vote No? Or, Are you not certain how you vote on Proposition 104?](#)

61% Vote Yes
 24% Vote No
 15% Not Certain

9	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = \pm 4%

[Proposition 105 would require some foods that contain genetically modified ingredients to be labeled. On Proposition 105, do you vote Yes? Do you vote No? Or, Are you not certain how you vote on Proposition 105?](#)

34% Vote Yes
 59% Vote No
 8% Not Certain

10	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = \pm 3.8%

[Is Colorado's new election law, where every registered voter is automatically mailed a ballot, a step in the right direction? Or a step in the wrong direction?](#)

65% Right Direction
 24% Wrong Direction
 11% Not Sure

11	Asked of 618 likely & actual voters
	Margin of Sampling Error for this question = ± 4%

[Which statement best describes how you feel about Election fraud? Voting in person has less fraud than voting by mail? Voting by mail has less fraud than voting in person? There will be almost no fraud regardless of how votes are cast? Or There will be a problem with fraud regardless of how votes are cast?](#)

- 33% Voting In Person Has Less Fraud
- 8% Voting By Mail Has Less Fraud
- 25% Almost No Fraud Regardless
- 31% Problem With Fraud Regardless
- 3% Not Sure

<u>x</u>	Complete Interactive Crosstabs
<u>i</u>	Statement of Methodology
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