



COLORADO HEALTH FOUNDATION 2026 PULSE SURVEY
320-1263-WT
N=2240
MARGIN OF SAMPLING ERROR $\pm 3.2\%$ (95% CONFIDENCE LEVEL)
A/B SPLITS

(PHONE ONLY)

Hello, I'm _____ calling from _____, a public opinion research company. We are conducting a survey about different issues facing residents of Colorado. Please be assured that I am not trying to sell you anything or ask for a donation of any kind, and that your participation and responses will be kept confidential. May I please speak to the person over 18 in the household who most recently celebrated a birthday?

(PHONE ONLY)

- A. Before we begin, have I reached you on a cell phone? **(IF ON CELL PHONE, ASK: If you are currently driving or otherwise occupied, please confirm that it is safe for you to take this survey without endangering yourself or others.)**

Yes, on cell and can safely take survey	71%
Yes, on cell and should reschedule	(RESCHEDULE)
No, not on cell	29%
(DON'T READ) Prefer not to say	0%

(ONLINE ONLY)

Thank you for participating in this public opinion survey about different issues facing residents of Colorado. Please be assured that we are not trying to sell you anything or ask for a donation of any kind, and that your participation and responses will be kept confidential.

- A. If you are taking this survey on a mobile device and are currently driving or otherwise occupied, please confirm that it is safe for you to take this survey without endangering yourself or others.

Yes, can safely take survey	100%
I'll come back later	(DIVERT TO LANDING PAGE)

(RESUME ASKING ALL RESPONDENTS)

1. First, do you live in Colorado?

Yes	100%
No	TERMINATE
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	TERMINATE

2. Which county do you live in? **(OPEN-ENDED, THEN CODE/DROP-DOWN ONLINE)**

3. What is your ZIP Code? **(OPEN-ENDED)** _____

The first few questions are to ensure we are hearing from a representative sample of Coloradans.

4. First, in what year were you born? **(RECORD EXACT BIRTH YEAR, AND CATEGORIZE AFTERWARDS. DO NOT SHOW CODES)**

2009 or later	Terminate
2008–2002 (18–24)	10%
2001–1997 (25–29)	11%
1996–1992 (30–34)	11%
1991–1987 (35–39)	9%
1986–1982 (40–44)	9%
1981–1977 (45–49)	8%
1976–1972 (50–54)	7%
1971–1967 (55–59)	7%
1966–1962 (60–64)	7%
1961–1952 (65–74)	13%
1951 or earlier (75+)	8%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Prefer not to say	0%

5. With which racial or ethnic group do you primarily identify yourself:
(PHONE: READ ANSWER OPTIONS IN ORDER)

American Indian or Alaska Native (Specify Tribe)	1%
Asian	3%
Black or African American	3%
Hispanic or Latino	25%
Middle Eastern or North African	0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0%
White	65%
Multiracial	1%
Other (Specify)	0%
Rather Not Say	0%

(ASK Q6 IF NOT CODE 10 IN Q5) (n=2229)

6. And are there any other racial or ethnic groups with which you identify? **(PHONE: READ LIST) (ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES)**

American Indian or Alaska Native (Specify Tribe)	3%
Asian	1%
Black or African American	1%
Hispanic or Latino	2%
Middle Eastern or North African	0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0%
White	8%
Multiracial	2%
Other (Specify)	2%
No, do not identify with any other racial or ethnic groups	77%
Rather not say	5%

(RESUME ASKING ALL RESPONDENTS)

7. What is your gender?

Man	49%
Woman	50%
Non-binary	1%
(IF CODE 1 IN Q6 OR Q7): Two-spirit	0%
I use a different term (SPECIFY)	0%
Don't know	0%
Prefer not to say	0%

8. Do you have health insurance? **(IF YES, ASK: What is your primary health insurance plan?) (READ CODES 1-8)**

Plan through your employer	39%
Plan through spouse's employer	12%
Plan through parents	4%
Plan you purchased yourself	7%
Medicare	18%
Medicaid/Health First Colorado	8%
Military/Veterans' Administration	3%
Indian Health Service	0%
Another plan	2%
No health insurance	6%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	1%

9. Are you the parent or guardian of a child in the following age ranges: **(ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES)**

5 or under	9%
6 to 12	13%
13 to 18	14%
19 or older	31%
No children	47%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	1%

10. And are you the guardian or primary caregiver for someone else in your life that is not a child?

Yes	6%
No	92%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Prefer not to say	2%

11. Next, which of the following best describes your current employment status? **(ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES FOR CODES 1-7)**

Employed full-time	51%
Employed part-time	8%
Self-employed	10%
Gig worker, like food delivery and rideshare driving	1%
Homemaker	4%
Retired	21%
Student	5%
Unemployed	5%
Temporarily laid off or on voluntary leave	1%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	1%

12. First, how likely would you be to recommend Colorado to a friend or family member as a place to live? Please use a scale of 1 to 10, where a 1 means not at all likely and a 10 means very likely.

MEAN: 6.2	
1 (Not at all likely)	14%
2	3%
3	6%
4	5%
5	10%
6	7%
7	14%
8	14%
9	6%
10 (Very likely)	20%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Prefer not to say	2%

13. **(T)** And in a few words of your own, what is the most important issue facing Colorado right now? **(OPEN-ENDED, RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE, CODE AFTERWARDS)**

Government/Politics	28%
Cost of living/Inflation	25%
Housing affordability	12%
Climate change/Environment	7%
Taxes	7%
Water	7%
Economy/Jobs	6%
Immigration/Crisis at the border/Border security/Deportations	6%
Healthcare/Health insurance/Health	4%
Homelessness	4%
Overpopulation/Growth/Overdevelopment	4%
Public safety/Crime	4%
Roads/Infrastructure	3%
Alcohol/Drug use/Opioid crisis	2%
Education	2%
Social justice/Racism	2%
Wildfires	2%
Other	2%
Immigration/Need for reform/Path to citizenship/Better treatment	1%
Policing practices	1%
Traffic/Congestion	1%
Don't know/Unsure	1%
N/A/Refused/No comment	1%
None/Nothing	0%

14. Next, please consider the following issues that some people suggest are problems facing Colorado. For each one, please indicate whether you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not too serious a problem for residents of Colorado. **(RANDOMIZE)**

(ONLINE: SHOW ALL ANSWER OPTIONS)

	SS	Ext Serious Problem	Very Serious Problem	Smwt Serious Problem	Not Too Serious Problem	Don't Know	Ext/Very Serious
a. (T) Jobs and the economy	A	31%	34%	26%	8%	1%	65%
b. (T) Climate change	A	37%	18%	11%	33%	1%	56%
c. (T) Police violence and misconduct	A	12%	16%	19%	45%	8%	28%
d. (T) The cost of healthcare	A	55%	28%	12%	5%	1%	82%
e. (T) Crime, in general	A	22%	21%	37%	17%	3%	43%
f. (T) Restrictions on reproductive rights	A	20%	12%	18%	40%	10%	32%
g. (T) Drug overdoses	A	25%	29%	28%	8%	9%	54%
h. (T) Homelessness	A	36%	39%	20%	4%	1%	76%

	SS	Ext Serious Problem	Very Serious Problem	Smwt Serious Problem	Not Too Serious Problem	Don't Know	Ext/Very Serious
i. (T) Hunger	A	15%	26%	31%	21%	7%	41%
j. (T) Illegal immigration	A	34%	11%	12%	39%	3%	46%
k. (T) Mistreatment of immigrants	B	28%	18%	15%	35%	4%	46%
l. (T) The cost of housing	B	56%	29%	12%	3%	0%	85%
m. (T) Wildfires or other natural disasters	B	35%	31%	25%	8%	1%	66%
n. (T) Drug and alcohol abuse	B	22%	24%	33%	18%	3%	46%
o. (T) Mental health	B	30%	28%	32%	9%	2%	57%
p. (T) Racial bias and discrimination	B	15%	18%	24%	39%	3%	34%
q. (T) Gun violence	B	18%	22%	27%	31%	2%	40%
r. (T) The rising cost of living	B	58%	26%	13%	2%	0%	85%
s. (T) Crime, in your neighborhood	B	8%	12%	23%	57%	2%	19%
t. (T) The cost of childcare	A	35%	23%	19%	6%	17%	58%
u. Violence and misconduct from federal immigration officials	B	34%	18%	13%	33%	3%	51%

15. Next, here are some potential goals of Colorado state government. Which of these is most important to you personally?

(RANDOMIZE, SKIP TO NEXT QUESTION IF DK)

(IF ANSWER FIRST QUESTION, ASK: Which is second most important?)

(ONLINE: SHOW ALL ANSWER OPTIONS)

	1 st	2 nd
Providing transparency to the public in how state government operates	9%	17%
Making Colorado a safe and welcoming place for everyone who lives here	10%	15%
Responding to the economic concerns of people in Colorado	25%	25%
Supporting the health and well-being of people in Colorado	21%	21%
Ensuring taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly and effectively	34%	21%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	1%	2%

16. Next, here is the same list of potential goals of the Colorado state government. For each one, please indicate if you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the job Colorado state government is doing. **(RANDOMIZE)**

	Very Satisfied	Smwt Satisfied	Smwt Dissat	Very Dissat	No Opin/Don't Know	Total Satisfied	Total Dissat
a. Providing transparency to the public in how state government operates	5%	23%	25%	38%	9%	28%	62%
b. Making Colorado a safe and welcoming place for everyone who lives here	8%	41%	20%	24%	7%	48%	44%
c. Responding to the economic concerns of Coloradans	1%	21%	29%	43%	6%	22%	72%
d. Supporting the health and well-being of Coloradans	4%	34%	30%	27%	6%	37%	56%
e. Ensuring taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly and effectively	3%	25%	23%	45%	5%	27%	68%

The next questions are about your personal circumstances. As a reminder, this survey is confidential.

17. **(T)** First, which of the following best describes your financial situation: **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM AND BOTTOM TO TOP)**

Living comfortably with increasing savings	25%
Living comfortably but not increasing savings	35%
Just getting by financially	29%
Really struggling financially	9%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	2%

18. **(T)** Would you say you are **(ROTATE)** [] better off, or [] worse off financially than you were a year ago, or is your financial situation about the same?

(IF BETTER/WORSE, ASK: Is that much BETTER OFF/WORSE OFF or just somewhat?)

TOTAL BETTER	24%
Much better	6%
Somewhat better	18%
About the same	38%
TOTAL WORSE	37%
Somewhat worse	26%
Much worse	11%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	1%

(RANDOMIZE Q19-Q21)

19. **(T*)** Thinking ahead over the next year, how worried are you that you might lose your home or move because you can't afford the monthly rent or mortgage: **(PHONE: READ LIST)**

TOTAL WORRIED	32%
Very worried	13%
Somewhat worried	19%
TOTAL NOT WORRIED	67%
Not too worried	27%
Not at all worried	40%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	1%

20. **(T)** Thinking ahead over the next year, how worried are you that you or someone else in your household will be without health insurance coverage? **(PHONE: READ LIST)**

TOTAL WORRIED	42%
Very worried	21%
Somewhat worried	21%
TOTAL NOT WORRIED	56%
Not too worried	23%
Not at all worried	33%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	2%

21. **(T)** Thinking ahead over the next year, how worried are you that you might not always be able to afford enough food to feed yourself and your family: **(PHONE: READ LIST)**

TOTAL WORRIED	31%
Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	19%
TOTAL NOT WORRIED	67%
Not too worried	28%
Not at all worried	39%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	1%

22. In the last 12 months, have you experienced any of the following? **(RANDOMIZE)**

	SS	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
a. (T) Skipped meals because you couldn't afford food		17%	82%	1%
b. (T) Postponed medical care		37%	61%	2%
c. (T) Postponed dental care		38%	61%	1%
d. (T) Postponed mental health care		29%	68%	3%
e. (T) Had work hours cut back or wages reduced		22%	76%	2%
f. (T) Been laid off		9%	89%	1%
g. Skipped or made a late payment on a loan		19%	79%	1%
h. Cut back spending on recreation and entertainment	A	73%	26%	1%
i. Skipped or made a late payment on a utility bill, such as gas, water, electricity or phone bill		22%	77%	1%
j. Cut back on donating to nonprofits and charitable organizations	B	55%	42%	4%

23. **(T)** Are you worried about whether you will be able to afford to live in Colorado in the future?

(IF YES, ASK: Are you very worried or just somewhat?)

VERY/SOMEWHAT WORRIED	76%
Very worried	33%
Somewhat worried	43%
Not worried	22%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	2%

(ROTATE Q24-Q28/Q29-Q31)

The next questions are about health.

24. First, is it easy or difficult to find or obtain care for your or your family's physical health in your community? **(IF EASY/DIFFICULT, ASK: Is it very EASY/DIFFICULT or just somewhat?)**

TOTAL EASY	68%
Very easy	27%
Somewhat easy	41%
TOTAL DIFFICULT	31%
Somewhat difficult	23%
Very difficult	8%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Prefer not to say	2%

25. Next, here are some different elements of health care services. For each one, please indicate whether you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied with it. **(RANDOMIZE)**

	SS	Very Satisfied	Smwt Satisfied	Smwt Dissat	Very Dissat	Don't Know	Total Satisfied	Total Dissat
a. How far you have to travel to see a healthcare provider		42%	35%	14%	7%	3%	77%	20%
b. The attitude of healthcare providers and other medical staff toward you and your family		42%	32%	14%	9%	3%	74%	23%
c. The quality of care you receive		37%	38%	15%	8%	2%	75%	23%
d. The amount of time you have to wait to see a healthcare provider when you seek an appointment	A	18%	32%	28%	19%	3%	50%	47%
e. The ability to see a healthcare provider whenever needed	B	33%	31%	18%	16%	2%	64%	34%
f. The out-of-pocket cost of health care, such as co-pays and deductibles		13%	22%	24%	36%	4%	36%	60%

26. Compared to last year, has the cost of healthcare for your family **(ROTATE: [] increased, [] decreased)** or stayed the same?

Increased	65%
Stayed the same	26%
Decreased	2%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	7%

27. **(T)** In the last year, have you experienced mental health strain such as anxiety, depression, loneliness, or stress?

Yes	59%
No	39%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	3%

(ASK Q28 IF CODE 1 IN Q27) (n=1316)

28. **(T)** And which of the following contributes the most to your mental health strain: **(RANDOMIZE OPTIONS, AND ALLOW ONE RESPONSE)**

Financial issues	25%
Loan payments and debt	10%
Political issues	28%
Workplace issues	7%
Family or relationship issues	14%
Experiencing unfair treatment from others because of some aspect of your identity	2%
Something else (SPECIFY)	13%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	2%

**(RESUME ASKING ALL RESPONDENTS)
(ROTATE Q24-Q28/Q29-Q31)**

The next questions are about housing.

29. **(T)** Which best describes your living situation?

Own your apartment/home	69%
Rent your apartment/home	19%
Living with family and friends	10%
Living in a residential facility that provides meals or care	0%
Currently unhoused	1%
Other (Specify)	1%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	0%

30. In order to pay your rent or your mortgage in the last year, have you had to do any of the following: **(RANDOMIZE)**

(SS RENTERS = ASK ONLY IF RENTERS, CODE 2 IN Q29)

	SS	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
a. (T) Cut back on or go without other needs, like food or health care		28%	70%	2%
b. (T) Work multiple jobs, or more than you wanted to		28%	70%	2%
c. (T) Stay in housing that was not right for you because you felt like you could not afford a new place		22%	76%	2%
d. (T) Fall behind on other bills or payments		21%	78%	1%
e. (T) Take on high-interest debt like credit card balances or payday loans		24%	75%	1%
f. (T) Sell property or important assets, like a car, that you would have liked to keep		16%	83%	1%
g. (T) Avoid asking your landlord to address problems because you were afraid of having your rent increased or being evicted	Renters	34%	65%	1%

31. Next, here are some factors that different people say may have contributed to there not being enough housing that is affordable for people who live and work in your community. Please indicate whether you think each is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of people increasingly being unable to afford housing. **(RANDOMIZE)**

(ONLINE: SHOW ALL ANSWER OPTIONS)

	Major Cause	Minor Cause	Not a Cause	Don't Know	Major/Minor Cause
a. Wages not keeping up with rising prices for housing	76%	18%	5%	1%	94%
b. Not enough housing is being built in my community	25%	29%	38%	8%	54%
c. Landlords are raising rents too much	50%	27%	11%	12%	77%
d. Large private investors buying up homes and apartments to make a profit	69%	16%	6%	9%	85%

	Major Cause	Minor Cause	Not a Cause	Don't Know	Major/Minor Cause
e. Government regulations that make building housing more expensive	46%	26%	12%	17%	71%

You are almost done with the survey and the final questions are for classification purposes only. As a reminder, this survey is entirely confidential and for research purposes.

32. Some people are registered to vote in Colorado, but many others, for a variety of reasons, are not. Are you currently registered to vote in Colorado?

(IF YES, ASK: With which political party are you registered?)

Registered as a Democrat	24%
Registered as a Republican	21%
Registered as Unaffiliated	43%
Registered with another party	2%
Not registered to vote	3%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Prefer not to say	7%

(ASK ONLY IF CODES 1-4 IN Q32) (n=2029)

33. Thinking back to the 2024 Presidential election, for whom did you vote: **(ROTATE)** [] Democrat Kamala Harris, or [] Republican Donald Trump?

(PHONE - IF REFUSED: I want to assure you that this survey is being conducted for research purposes only. Your vote is confidential, and we do not share individual responses with anyone.)

Democrat Kamala Harris	52%
Republican Donald Trump	38%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Other	3%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Did not vote	4%
Prefer not to say	1%

(RESUME ASKING ALL RESPONDENTS)

34. How would you describe your political perspective?

(PHONE: READ ANSWER OPTIONS RANDOMIZING TOP-TO-BOTTOM AND BOTTOM-TO-TOP)

Very liberal	19%
Somewhat liberal	17%
Moderate	27%
Somewhat conservative	20%
Very conservative	12%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Prefer not to say	6%

35. What was the last level of school you completed?

(PHONE: READ ANSWER OPTIONS IN ORDER)

Less than high school	5%
High school graduate	22%
Vocational or technical school	4%
Some college, but no degree	13%
Associate degree	6%
Four-year college degree	29%
Graduate school	17%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Prefer not to say	4%

36. I don't need to know the exact amount, but I'm going to read you some categories for household income. Would you please stop me when I have read the category indicating the total combined income for all the people in your household before taxes in 2025?

Less than \$20,000	4%
\$20,000 to less than \$30,000	3%
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	3%
\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	5%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	12%
\$75,000 to less than \$90,000	7%
\$90,000 to less than \$100,000	3%
\$100,000 to less than \$150,000	19%
More than \$150,000	35%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Prefer not to say	9%

X. How many adults currently live in your household, including yourself? **(ENTER NUMBER, CODE 99 FOR REFUSED)**

1	17%
2	57%
3	15%
4	7%
5+	3%

37. Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation? **(PHONE: READ LIST)**

Heterosexual / Straight	85%
Gay/Lesbian	4%
Bisexual or Pansexual	3%
Queer	1%
Questioning	0%
Asexual	1%
Other	1%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Prefer not to say	5%

38. And do you identify as transgender?

Yes	1%
No	97%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	1%

39. Do you speak a language other than English at home?

Yes	17%
No	82%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	0%

(ASK Q40 IF CODE 1 – YES – IN Q39)

40. Which languages other than English do you speak at home? **(OPEN-ENDED, RECORD THEN CODE)**

(RESUME ASKING ALL RESPONDENTS)

41. Do you live with a disability? **(IF YES, ASK: Do you live with one or more of the following disabilities?) (ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES)**

Sight disability	6%
Hearing disability	6%
Speech disability	2%
Learning disability	3%
Mobility disability	10%
Other disability that affects daily life	12%
No disability	65%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Prefer not to say	4%

42. Were you born in the US or in another country?

Born in US	87%
Another country	13%
(DON'T READ ON PHONE) Don't know	0%

(ASK Q43 IF CODE 2 – ANOTHER COUNTRY – IN Q42)

43. Which country were you born in? **(OPEN-ENDED, RECORD THEN CODE)**

(THANK AND TERMINATE INTERVIEW)

SAMPLE VARIABLES

DATA COLLECTION MODE/CONTACT METHOD	
Telephone	47%
Online/Email	1%
Online/Text	49%
Online/Postcard	2%
Online/Convenience Sample	0%
A/B SPLIT SAMPLES	
A	49%
B	51%
COUNTY	
Adams	11%
Arapahoe	11%
Boulder	6%
Denver	13%
Douglas	5%
El Paso	12%
Jefferson	10%
Larimer	7%
Pueblo	4%
Weld	5%
Morgan	1%
All other	16%
MEDIA MARKET	
Denver	77%
Colorado Springs-Pueblo	18%
Other	5%
REGION	
Eastern Plains	3%
Colorado Springs	15%
Morgan	1%
Larimer Weld	12%
Denver Metro	56%
Western Slope	13%
LANGUAGE OF INTERVIEW	
English	93%
Spanish	7%