Political Polling in Colorado: Wave 1
Research undertaken for Reuters

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted August 20-22, 2010 on behalf of Reuters. Interviews were conducted by telephone with live interviewers. For the survey, a representative, randomly selected sample of exactly 601 adults aged 18 and older across Colorado who are registered voters was interviewed by Ipsos. With a sample of this size, results are considered accurate within 4.0 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire population of registered voters in Colorado been polled. Likely voters (reported on for ballot questions only) are defined as individuals currently registered to vote, who voted in the 2008 Presidential election, are a 7-10 on a 10-point likelihood to vote scale, and are interested in following news about the campaign 'a great deal' or 'quite a bit.' Individuals who did not vote in the 2008 Presidential election qualify as likely voters if they are registered to vote, are an 8-10 on a 10-point likelihood to vote scale, and are interested in following news about the campaign 'a great deal' or 'quite a bit.' Out of our sample of 600 registered voters, 453 are likely voters. With a sample of this size, results are considered accurate within ±4.6 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population in the U.S. been polled.

All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error. These data were weighted to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the actual Colorado registered voter population according to U.S. Census figures. Respondents had the option to be interviewed in English or Spanish. Figures filtered on Democrats, Republicans, and Independents are based on registered voters and not likely voters. Figures marked by an asterisk (*) indicate a percentage value of greater than zero but less than one half of a per cent. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. Please note that throughout this document, figures based on Independent voters are indicative only due to very small sample size (52).

PARTY AFFILIATION / IDEOLOGY

1. Are you currently registered to vote, or not?

	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Yes	100	100	100	100
No	0	0	0	0

2. Sometimes things come up and people are not able to vote. In the 2008 election for President, did you happen to vote?

Yes	89
No	11
Don't know / Refused	*

3. Why not? *BASE = All who did not vote at 2008 Presidential Election (25)*

Too young to vote at the time	35
Not registered, too busy, something came up	28
Health reasons	12
Did not approve of candidates	10
Did not vote / did not want to	5
Did not live in state/district at the time	3
Other	8

4. On November 2nd, midterm elections will be held. Colorado voters will elect a Senator, Members of Congress, Governor, and other state-level positions. Using a 1-to-10 scale, where 10 means you are completely certain you will vote and 1 means you are completely certain you will NOT vote, how likely are you to vote in the upcoming elections? You can use any number between 1 and 10, to indicate how strongly you feel about your likelihood to vote.

	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
1 – Completely certain will NOT vote	6	5	3	17
2	1	2	1	0
3	0	1	0	0
4	1	2	0	0
5	4	4	3	11
6	1	2	*	0
7	3	5	1	1
8	12	15	10	5
9	5	5	5	1
10 – Completely certain WILL vote	68	59	76	64
Don't know / Refused	1	1	1	1

5. How much interest do you have in following news about the campaigns for the midterm elections in Colorado?

	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
A great deal	30	27	34	19
Quite a bit	31	33	30	29
Only some	23	23	22	23
Very little	10	11	8	15
No interest at all	6	7	5	7
Not sure / Refused	1	*	*	7
TOTAL: Great deal/Quite a bit	**61**	**60**	**64**	**48**
TOTAL: None/Very little	**16**	**17**	**13**	**22**

6. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?
    IF "DEMOCRAT" TO Q6, Q7 ASKED. IF "REPUBLICAN" TO Q6, Q8 ASKED. IF "INDEPENDENT" or "NONE OF THESE" TO Q6, Q9 ASKED. RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)
7. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Democratic Party?
8. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Republican Party?
9. Do your beliefs tend to lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

	Likely voters	Registered voters
Strongly Democrat	20	20
Moderately Democrat	10	10
Lean Democrat	10	14
Strongly Republican	25	20
Moderately Republican	10	10
Lean Republican	14	12
Independent (No lean)	8	9
DK / Ref	4	4
Total Democrats	**40**	**44**
Total Republicans	**48**	**43**
Total Independents	**8**	**9**

10. Generally speaking, would you say things in Colorado are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track? ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE. IF UNSURE, ENCOURAGE BEST GUESS.

	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Right direction	42	64	24	35
Wrong track	50	26	71	53
Not sure / Refused	8	10	5	12

11. What do you think are the biggest problems facing Colorado now?
    OPEN-ENDED: DO NOT READ OUT. INTERVIEWERS: CODE INTO CATEGORIES BELOW UNLESS RESPONSE ABSOLUTELY DOES NOT FIT. PLEASE CONSIDER THESE 'BROAD' DEFINITIONS AND TRY TO CODE RESPONSES INTO PRECODES BELOW.

Economy / jobs *(includes: national economy, Colorado's economy, lack of jobs, wrong jobs, not enough work, etc)*	57
Education	15
Government / politics / politicians *(includes: named politicians, corrupt government, legislature, parties, national government, etc)*	13
Budget / Deficit	13
Immigration	10
Taxes *(includes: too much tax, tax increases, disproportionate tax, etc)*	9
Healthcare *(includes: national and also within Colorado)*	6
Energy *(includes: oil issues/concerns, lack of energy, gas prices, price of power, etc)*	4
Environment/Pollution *(includes: global warming, damage to natural environment, littering, exhaust from cars, etc)*	3
Crime	2
Transportation *(includes: lack of public transportation, traffic, car/truck problems, etc)*	1
Housing *(includes: cost of housing, foreclosures, property insurance rates etc)*	1
Water (includes: price of water, not enough water, water usage, etc)	1
Corrupt police	1
Political apathy / ignorance	1
Other	4
Don't know / Refused	8

I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections this fall…

12. …if the election for US Senator were held today, would you vote for Republican candidate Ken Buck or Democratic candidate Michael Bennet [REVERSE NAMES]? ASK Q13 IF 'DK/ REFUSED' AT Q12

13. *Lean question (NOTE: NOT PUBLISHED HERE BECAUSE IPSOS DOES NOT ALLOCATE LEANERS AT THIS STAGE IN THE ELECTORAL CYCLE)*

	Likely voters	Registered voters	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Ken Buck (Republican)	49	44	11	86	17
Michael Bennet (Democrat)	40	40	79	5	27
Candidate from another political party (VOL)	1	1	1	0	3
DK/Ref/Unsure (VOL)	10	15	10	9	54

14. …if the election for Governor of Colorado were today, would you vote for Republican candidate Dan Maes, Democratic candidate John Hickenlooper, or American Constitution candidate Tom Tancredo [REVERSE NAMES]? ASK Q15 IF 'DON'T KNOW / REFUSED' AT Q14

15. *Lean question (NOTE: NOT PUBLISHED HERE BECAUSE IPSOS DOES NOT ALLOCATE LEANERS AT THIS STAGE IN THE ELECTORAL CYCLE)*

	Likely voters	Registered voters	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Dan Maes (Republican)	33	27	4	54	8
John Hickenlooper (Democrat)	41	42	77	11	30
Tom Tancredo (American Constitution)	16	19	12	24	25
Candidate from another political party (VOL)	*	1	0	1	3
DK/Ref/Unsure (VOL)	9	12	7	11	35

16. And if American Constitution Candidate Tom Tancredo were to drop out of the race, would you vote for Republican candidate Dan Maes or Democratic candidate John Hickenlooper [REVERSE NAMES]? ASK Q17 IF 'DON'T KNOW / REFUSED' AT Q16

17. *Lean question (NOTE: NOT PUBLISHED HERE BECAUSE IPSOS DOES NOT ALLOCATE LEANERS AT THIS STAGE IN THE ELECTORAL CYCLE)*

	Likely voters	Registered voters	Democrats (RV)	Republicans (RV)	Independents (RV)
Dan Maes (Republican)	45	38	8	74	17
John Hickenlooper (Democrat)	45	48	85	14	29
Candidate from another political party (VOL)	1	1	*	1	7
DK/Ref/Unsure (VOL)	9	13	7	11	47

18. Overall, do you approve, disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way Bill Ritter is handling his job as Governor of Colorado? IF APPROVE/DISAPPROVE, ASK Q19. IF MIXED/DK/REF, ASK Q20
19. Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)?
20. If you had to choose, do you lean more towards approve or disapprove?

	Registered voters	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Strongly approve	10	19	2	7
Somewhat approve	18	29	10	7
Lean approve	19	24	13	20
Still have mixed feelings	3	2	2	9
Lean disapprove	22	18	22	34
Somewhat disapprove	6	3	10	3
Strongly disapprove	23	5	41	20
Not sure	1	1	2	0
TOTAL: Approve	46	72	24	34
TOTAL: Disapprove	50	25	72	57

21. Immigration is an ongoing issue in the United States. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about people residing illegally in the United States? READ OUT. RANDOMIZE ORDER.

	Agree	Disagree	DK/REF
All people residing illegally in the United States should be detained and sent back to their home country, with no exceptions	40	58	2
People residing illegally in the United States who are arrested for other crimes should be sent back to their home country, but the rest left alone.	62	33	5
All people residing illegally in the United States should be allowed an opportunity to become US citizens now that they are here	49	48	3
A person residing illegally in the United States with a clean record should be able to pay a fine, their taxes, and then have the opportunity to become US citizens.	64	34	2