

## 2018 BOULDER COUNTY ISSUES SURVEY

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. First, I want to assure you that we're not selling anything, or asking for money. I'm with Drake Research, a public opinion research company here in Boulder, Colorado. We are conducting an interesting survey with registered voters about local issues in your community, and we would like to include your opinions. Your telephone number was selected purely at random.

### SCREENER

- A. First, I would like to confirm that you are at least 18 years old, and registered to vote in Boulder County? *[n=605]*
- |            |      |
|------------|------|
| Yes.....   | 100% |
| No .....   | --   |
| DK/NS..... | --   |
- B. *[Ask only if R says "No" or "DK/NS" in Screener A; else go to Screener C]* Is there someone in this household I can speak to who is at least 18 years old and is registered to vote in Boulder County? *[n=605]*
- |            |                          |
|------------|--------------------------|
| Yes.....   | 100% ⇒ <b>Start over</b> |
| No.....    | -- ⇒ <b>Terminate</b>    |
| DK/NS..... | -- ⇒ <b>Terminate</b>    |
- C. Party Registration *[From Sample ]:*
- |                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Democrat.....     | 48% |
| Republican.....   | 16% |
| Unaffiliated..... | 34% |
| Other.....        | 2%  |
- D. And did you vote in the 2016 election for President between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, or did you not vote. *[n=605]*
- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Voted .....        | 100%                  |
| Did not vote ..... | --                    |
| DK/NS.....         | -- ⇒ <b>Terminate</b> |
- E. *[Ask only if R says "Did not vote" in Screener D; else go to Screener F]* Did you not vote because you were too young to vote in 2016, or was it for some other reason?
- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Too young.....         | 100% ⇒ <b>Continue</b> |
| Some other reason..... | -- ⇒ <b>Terminate</b>  |
| DK/NS.....             | -- ⇒ <b>Terminate</b>  |
- F. In November of this year, there will be elections for U.S. Congress, Governor and a variety of state and county wide offices and ballot issues. On a scale of zero to ten, with zero meaning NOT AT ALL likely and ten meaning EXTREMELY likely, please tell me how likely you are to vote in this Fall's election? You can use any number between zero and ten. *[Terminate if R does NOT say 5-10] [n=605]*
- |           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| 0-4.....  | --  |
| 5-8.....  | 18% |
| 9-10..... | 82% |



## SCREENER

G. Is the telephone number we called you on a cell phone, or is it a traditional home phone line, often called a landline? [n=605]

Cell phone ..... 62%  
 Landline ..... 37%  
 Other ..... 1%  
 DK/NS ..... -- ← *Terminate*

H. [Ask if R says "Cell phone" in Screener G; else go to Screener I] Are you currently driving or doing something else that makes it unsafe to talk?

Yes ..... 100% ⇒ *Thank; Set time to call back*  
 No ..... -- ⇒ *Continue*  
 DK/NS ..... -- ⇒ *Terminate*

I. In which Boulder County City do you live? If you live in an unincorporated area of Boulder County, like Gunbarrel or other unincorporated areas, just say so? [n=605]

Allenspark ..... \*  
 City of Boulder ..... 33%  
 Eldorado Springs ..... --  
 Erie ..... 3%  
 Gunbarrel ..... 3%  
 Hygiene ..... \*  
 Jamestown ..... \*  
 Lafayette ..... 9%  
 Longmont ..... 26%  
 Louisville ..... 7%  
 Lyons ..... 1%  
 Nederland ..... 1%  
 Niwot ..... 1%  
 Pinecliffe ..... --  
 Superior ..... 4%  
 Ward ..... \*  
 Other Unincorporated area of Boulder County ..... 9%  
 Other City: [Specify: \_\_\_\_\_] ..... 3%  
 DK/NS/Refused ..... -- ⇒ *Terminate*

J. Sex [Do Not Ask] [n=605]

Male ..... 53%  
 Female ..... 47%

\*An asterisk, wherever it appears, means that the result for that response rounds to less than 1%.

1. Generally speaking, would you say things in Boulder County are going in the right direction, or do you feel things here have pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track in the past few years? [n=605]

	<b>4/18</b> [n=605]	<b>6/17</b> [n=605]	<b>6/16</b> [n=605]	<b>12/15</b> [n=605]	<b>3/14</b> [n=603]	<b>5/12</b> [n=605]	<b>4/10</b> [n=603]	<b>7/09</b> [n=600]	<b>12/06</b> [n=500]	<b>6/99</b> [n=603]	<b>4/95</b> [n=507]	<b>6/94</b> [n=300]
Right direction.....	<b>58%</b>	56%	56%	61%	60%	62%	59%	58%	70%	59%	53%	50%
Wrong track .....	26%	27%	26%	22%	26%	23%	27%	26%	16%	29%	37%	38%
No opinion/DK/NS...	16%	17%	13%	17%	14%	15%	14%	16%	14%	12%	10%	12%



Next I am going to read you several ballot proposals that that could be on this November's election ballot. When I read you each one, assume that particular ballot proposal will be the only one that appears on this November's ballot. The first is/Next: *[Randomize Q2, Q3, Q4, Q5 and Q6, but randomize Q2 & Q3 together as a pair, and Q4 & Q5 together as a pair]*

2. *[Ask Sample A]* A ballot proposal to increase the State of Colorado Sales Tax by *[Sample C read: "point zero five percent"/Sample D read: point one percent"* for the next 20 years. If passed, this ballot proposal would add *[Sample C read: "five"/Sample D read: "ten"]* cents on a one hundred dollar purchase anywhere in Colorado. The money raised by this sales tax increase will be used to pay for improvements to interstates and state highways, including improvements to I-25 and I-70, as well as highway 119, known as the Diagonal, between Boulder and Longmont, and highway 7, also known as Arapahoe Rd, between Erie, Lafayette and Boulder, as well as provide some funding for transit service between the various communities throughout Boulder County. The majority of these funds could only be used for improvements to state highways, and would be administered by the Colorado Department of Transportation, with a portion allocated to local governments for local transportation purposes. If the election were held today, would you vote in favor or against this proposal?

	<u>.05%</u> <i>[n=147]</i>	<u>.10%</u> <i>[n=155]</i>	<u>Total</u> <i>[n=302]</i>
Vote in favor.....	73%	66%	69%
Vote against.....	20%	28%	24%
Undecided at this time/Not sure .....	5%	6%	6%
Refused.....	2%	--	1%

- 2a. *[Ask only if R says "Vote in favor" in Q2; else go to Q2b]* And would you definitely vote in favor of this sales tax increase, or would you only probably vote for it?

	<u>.05%</u> <i>[n=108]</i>	<u>.10%</u> <i>[n=102]</i>	<u>Total</u> <i>[n=210]</i>
Definitely vote for it.....	59%	64%	61%
Probably vote for it.....	40%	33%	37%
DK/NS.....	1%	3%	2%

- 2b. *[Ask only if R says "Vote against" in Q2; else go to Q2c]* And would you definitely vote against this sales tax increase, or would you only probably vote against it?

	<u>.05%</u> <i>[n=29]</i>	<u>.10%</u> <i>[n=43]</i>	<u>Total</u> <i>[n=72]</i>
Definitely against it.....	52%	69%	62%
Probably against it.....	48%	31%	38%
DK/NS.....	--	--	--

- 2c. *[Ask only if R says "Undecided/not sure" in Q2; else go to Q3]* And even though you are undecided about this sales tax increase, which way are you leaning? Are you leaning towards voting in favor or against it?

	<u>.05%</u> <i>[n=8]</i>	<u>.10%</u> <i>[n=10]</i>	<u>Total</u> <i>[n=18]</i>
Leaning towards voting in favor.....	21%	38%	30%
Leaning towards voting against .....	13%	34%	25%
DK/NS.....	66%	28%	45%



**Summary: Q2/2a/2b/2c**

	<u>.05%</u> [n=147]	<u>.10%</u> [n=155]	<u>Total</u> [n=302]
Definitely vote in favor.....	43%	42%	42%
Probably vote in favor.....	30%	24%	27% <sup>1</sup>
Leaning towards supporting.....	1%	2%	2%
Undecided/DK/NS.....	4%	2%	3%
Leaning towards opposing.....	1%	2%	1%
Probably against it.....	9%	9%	9% <sup>2</sup>
Definitely against it.....	10%	19%	15%
Refused.....	2%	--	1%

3. **[Ask Sample B]** A ballot proposal to increase the Boulder County Sales Tax by **[Sample E read: “point zero five percent”/Sample F read: “point one percent”** for the next 20 years. If passed, this ballot proposal would add **[Sample E read: “five”/Sample F read: “ten”** cents on a one hundred dollar purchase made in Boulder County. The money raised by this sales and use tax would be used to improve the county transportation system, including repaving and improving the county road system, as well as contributing to state highway improvements in Boulder County, including on highway 119, known as the Diagonal, between Boulder and Longmont, and highway 7, also known as Arapahoe Rd, between Erie, Lafayette and Boulder, and providing some funding for transit service and bicycle connections between the various communities throughout Boulder County. These funds would be used primarily for the county roads, transit and bikeways, and would be administered by Boulder County. If the election were held today, would you vote in favor or against this proposal?

	<u>.05%</u> [n=152]	<u>.10%</u> [n=151]	<u>Total</u> [n=303]
Vote in favor.....	70%	66%	68%
Vote against.....	23%	27%	25%
Undecided at this time/Not sure.....	5%	6%	6%
Refused.....	2%	1%	1%

- 3a. **[Ask only if R says “Vote in favor” in Q3; else go to Q3b]** And would you definitely vote in favor of this sales tax increase, or would you only probably vote for it?

	<u>.05%</u> [n=106]	<u>.10%</u> [n=101]	<u>Total</u> [n=207]
Definitely vote for it.....	65%	59%	62%
Probably vote for it.....	35%	40%	38%
DK/NS.....	--	1%	*

<sup>1</sup> “DK/NS” responses in Q2a are included in the “Probably vote in favor” category.

<sup>2</sup> “DK/NS” responses in Q2b are included in the “Probably against” category.



3b. *[Ask only if R says "Vote against" in Q3; else go to Q3c]* And would you definitely vote against this sales tax increase, or would you only probably vote against it?

	<u>.05%</u> <i>[n=35]</i>	<u>.10%</u> <i>[n=41]</i>	<u>Total</u> <i>[n=76]</i>
Definitely against it.....	63%	62%	62%
Probably against it.....	37%	38%	38%
DK/NS.....	--	--	--

3c. *[Ask only if R says "Undecided/not sure" in Q3; else go to Q4]* And even though you are undecided about this sales tax increase, which way are you leaning? Are you leaning towards voting in favor or against it?

	<u>.05%</u> <i>[n=8]</i>	<u>.10%</u> <i>[n=9]</i>	<u>Total</u> <i>[n=17]</i>
Leaning towards voting in favor.....	31%	43%	37%
Leaning towards voting against.....	13%	21%	18%
DK/NS.....	55%	36%	45%

<u>Summary: Q3/3a/3b/3c</u>			
	<u>.05%</u> <i>[n=152]</i>	<u>.10%</u> <i>[n=151]</i>	<u>Total</u> <i>[n=303]</i>
Definitely vote in favor.....	45%	39%	42%
Probably vote in favor.....	25%	27%	26% <sup>3</sup>
Leaning towards supporting.....	2%	3%	2%
Undecided/DK/NS.....	3%	2%	3%
Leaning towards opposing.....	1%	1%	1%
Probably against it.....	8%	10%	9% <sup>4</sup>
Definitely against it.....	14%	17%	16%
Refused.....	2%	1%	1%

4. For the past few years Boulder County has been working on a plan to modernize the thirty year old Boulder County Jail, including undertaking necessary maintenance and improvements to the facility, to more safely house the current inmate population; which includes an increasing number of female inmates and an overall population who have greater mental and physical health issues.

Before just now, had you read or heard anything about the need to make improvements to the Boulder County jail in order to better deal with the current inmate population? *[n=605]*

Yes, had read/heard about it.....	23%
No, had not read/heard about it.....	76%
DK/NS.....	1%

<sup>3</sup> "DK/NS" responses in Q3a are included in the "Probably vote in favor" category.

<sup>4</sup> "DK/NS" responses in Q3b are included in the "Probably against" category.



5. Now suppose there were a proposal on this November's ballot, which would increase the Boulder County Offender Management Sales Tax by point one eight five percent (.185%) for five years, beginning in two thousand twenty (2020) at which point it will expire in the year two thousand twenty-five. Revenue from this new tax will be used to fund the following: making improvements to the Boulder County jail to more safely house inmates with mental and physical health issues; increasing space for inmates participating in alternative sentencing programs like work-release; adding space to properly process inmates in and out of the facility; and adding needed administrative space. The new point one eight five percent (.185%) sales tax will replace the current Flood Sales Tax of the same value, that expires in 2020, so that the county sales tax will remain exactly the same as it is today, until the new tax expires in 2025, when it will go down. If the election were held today, would you vote in favor of increasing the Offender Management Sales Tax or would you vote against it? [n=605]

Vote in favor.....	65%
Vote against.....	23%
Undecided at this time/Not sure .....	11%
Refused.....	1%

- 5a. **[Ask only if R says "Vote in favor" in Q5; else go to Q5b]** And would you definitely vote in favor of this sales tax, or would you only probably vote for it? [n=396]

Definitely vote for it.....	51%
Probably vote for it.....	47%
DK/NS.....	2%

- 5b. **[Ask only if R says "Vote against" in Q5; else go to Q5c]** And would you definitely vote against this sales tax, or would you only probably vote against it? [n=139]

Definitely against it.....	58%
Probably against it.....	42%
DK/NS.....	--

- 5c. **[Ask only if R says "Undecided/not sure" in Q5; else go to Q6]** And even though you are undecided about this sales tax, which way are you leaning? Are you leaning towards voting in favor or against it? [n=66]

Leaning towards voting in favor.....	39%
Leaning towards voting against .....	25%
DK/NS.....	36%

**Summary: Q5/5a/5b/5c [n=605]**

Definitely vote in favor.....	33%
Probably vote in favor .....	32% <sup>5</sup>
Leaning towards supporting .....	4%
Undecided/DK/NS.....	4%
Leaning towards opposing.....	3%
Probably against it .....	10% <sup>6</sup>
Definitely against it.....	13%
Refused.....	1%

<sup>5</sup> "DK/NS" responses in Q5a are included in the "Probably vote in favor" category.

<sup>6</sup> "DK/NS" responses in Q5b are included in the "Probably against" category.



6. A ballot proposal to increase the maximum number of terms the Boulder County Commissioners can serve in office from the current maximum of two, four-year terms, to a new maximum of three, four-year terms, which will then match the maximum number of terms the Boulder County District Attorney, Treasurer, Assessor, Coroner, Surveyor and Clerk and Recorder are allowed to serve. If approved by voters, this change [Ask ½ Sample: “would”/ Ask ½ Sample: “would not”] apply to current office holders. If the election were held today, would you vote in favor of or against this ballot proposal to extend the term limits for the office of Boulder County Commissioner?

	-----2011-----			-----2018-----		
	<u>Would</u> [n=197]	<u>W'Not</u> [n=214]	<u>Total</u> [n=411]	<u>Would</u> [n=304]	<u>W'Not</u> [n=301]	<u>Total</u> [n=605]
Vote in favor.....	34%	41%	38%	34%	36%	35%
Vote against.....	59%	53%	56%	50%	52%	51%
Undecided at this time/Not sure ..	7%	5%	6%	15%	11%	13%
Refused.....	--	1%	*	1%	1%	1%

7. On a different topic, in general, what do you consider to be the single most important issue facing Boulder County today? [Multiple response OK] [Do not read list] [n=605]

Nothing in particular .....	5%
Lack of Affordable Housing/High costs of housing .....	25%
Growth in Boulder County, too much .....	11%
Education/ Public School Issues .....	9%
Traffic congestion/Hard to get around .....	9%
Homeless Issues.....	8%
Fracking, opposed to .....	5%
Climate issues-Not enough being done.....	4%
Taxes Too High .....	4%
Subdivision Roads .....	3%
Infrastructure/Roads .....	3%
Planning/Land Use/Building.....	3%
Controlling illegal immigration .....	2%
Concern about what's happening with Washington/federal gov't .....	2%
Second Amendment/Gun Control.....	2%
Government Financial Issues.....	2%
Legalization of Marijuana/Drugs .....	2%
Law Enforcement Issues/Crime Rate .....	2%
Against deportations of immigrants/splitting families/children .....	1%
Climate issues-Too much emphasis .....	1%
Growth in Boulder County, too little .....	1%
Fracking, in favor of.....	1%
Concerns about the Economy/Jobs .....	1%
Oil and Gas Development Issues.....	1%
Transportation Issues/General.....	1%
Mental Health Services .....	1%
Open Space Issues.....	1%
Cost of Living/Expensive .....	1%
Overall Regulation/Too Much Government Control .....	1%
Healthcare (General).....	1%
Environmental Issues (General) .....	1%
Energy Issues (Not Fracking) .....	1%
Income Inequality.....	1%
Need more Wildfire Mitigation.....	*
Genetically Modified Crops (GMO's), against .....	*
Donald Trump .....	*
Transportation – Need more Alternatives to Cars .....	*
Water/Dam Issues .....	*
Need New County Commissioners .....	*
Other.....	6%
DK/NS .....	9%



8. Finally, thinking about just the taxes you pay to Boulder County today, would you say that the taxes you pay to the Boulder County government are way too high, high but acceptable, about right, or lower than you would expect for the services that the County government provides? [n=605]

	<b>5/18</b> [n=605]	<b>6/17</b> [n=605]	<b>6/16</b> [n=605]	<b>12/15</b> [n=605]	<b>3/14</b> [n=603]	<b>5/12</b> [n=605]	<b>8/11</b> [n=411]	<b>5/10</b> [n=603]	<b>7/09</b> [n=600]	<b>6/08</b>	<b>7/07</b>	<b>5/06</b>	<b>6/04</b>	<b>4/95</b> [n=507]
Way too high.....	19%	22%	21%	20%	20%	18%	15%	20%	21%	23%	24%	22%	22%	16%
High but acceptable.....	38%	39%	38%	40%	36%	41%	39%	34%	40%	37%	28%	35%	31%	34%
About right.....	32%	29%	30%	29%	38%	32%	42%	35%	32%	32%	41%	36%	40%	41%
Lower than expected.....	4%	3%	6%	3%	3%	6%	4%	6%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	5%
No opinion/DK/NS.....	7%	7%	5%	8%	3%	3%	--	5%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	5%

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

- D1. Now talking some more about you, some people are always following what's going on in politics and public affairs. Others just aren't that interested. Do you follow what's going on politically and in government all of the time, most of the time, some of the time or almost never? [n=605]

All of the time.....	30%
Most of the time.....	37%
Some of the time.....	26%
Almost never.....	5%
Refused.....	--
DK/NS.....	2%

- D2. Do you own or rent your home? [n=605]

Own.....	64%
Rent.....	31%
DK/NS/Refused.....	5%

- D2a. [Ask if R says "Own" in D2; else go to D3] Thinking about just your property taxes, would you say that your local property taxes are way too high, high but acceptable, about right, or lower than you would expect to pay?

	<b>5/18</b> [n=386]	<b>6/17</b> [n=377]	<b>6/16</b> [n=458]
Way too high.....	32%	34%	24%
High but acceptable.....	35%	35%	40%
About right.....	25%	25%	30%
Lower than what one would expect.....	5%	4%	3%
No opinion/DK/NS.....	3%	2%	3%

- D3. How many people, including yourself, live in your household? [n=605]

1.....	16%
2.....	37%
3.....	18%
4 or more.....	27%
Refused.....	2%

- D3a. [Ask if R says "2 or more" in D3; else go to D4] How many of those living in your home are under the age of 18? [n=511]

0.....	62%
1.....	15%
2.....	14%
3 or more.....	6%
Refused.....	3%



- D4. Are you a full or part-time college student? *[n=605]*
- |             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Yes.....    | 17% |
| No.....     | 79% |
| DK/NS ..... | 4%  |
- D5. Now, I have just a few more questions for statistical purposes only. May I ask how old you are? *[n=605]*
- |                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| 18-34 .....      | 30% |
| 35-44 .....      | 16% |
| 45-54 .....      | 13% |
| 55-64 .....      | 19% |
| 65 or older..... | 16% |
| Refused.....     | 6%  |
- D6. And which of the following income groups includes your family's total annual income from all sources in 2018? ***[Read list except refused and DK/NS]*** *[n=605]*
- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| Up to \$20,000 .....                     | 3%                       |
| \$20,000, but less than \$30,000 .....   | 6%                       |
| \$30,000, but less than \$40,000 .....   | 6%                       |
| \$40,000, but less than \$50,000 .....   | 6%                       |
| \$50,000, but less than \$60,000 .....   | 6%                       |
| \$60,000, but less than \$75,000 .....   | 8%                       |
| \$75,000, but less than \$100,000 .....  | 12%                      |
| \$100,000, but less than \$150,000 ..... | 17%                      |
| \$150,000 or over .....                  | 17%                      |
| Refused.....                             | 14% ← <i>Do not read</i> |
| DK/NS.....                               | 5% ← <i>Do not read</i>  |
- D7. Finally, so we can ensure that all groups are statistically represented, would you please tell me what racial or ethnic group or groups you consider yourself to be a member of? ***[Single Response only]*** *[n=605]*
- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| White/Caucasian.....                             | 78% |
| Black/African-American .....                     | 1%  |
| Hispanic/Latino.....                             | 8%  |
| Oriental/Asian-American/Asian/Pac. islander..... | 2%  |
| American Indian/Native American.....             | 1%  |
| Multi-Ethnic/Mixed race.....                     | 2%  |
| Other.....                                       | 7%  |

**Thank you for taking our survey, your answers  
have been extremely helpful.**



## Methodology

2018 Boulder County June Issues Survey was conducted on behalf of Boulder County by Drake Research & Strategy, Inc., a public opinion research firm in Boulder, Colorado. The results of this survey are based upon 605 telephone interviews conducted among active voters residing in Boulder County. Drake Research purchased a sample of telephone numbers, and a supplemental list of cell phone numbers, of active County registered voters, which was then randomly sampled. Quotas were established to obtain appropriate representation for gender, geography, political party and for age. Results of the survey are also balanced by age and ethnicity to more appropriately represent the actual distribution. Interviews were conducted from April 24<sup>th</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018. A random sample of 605 has a worst-case 95% confidence interval of plus or minus 4.0% about any one reported percentage.

