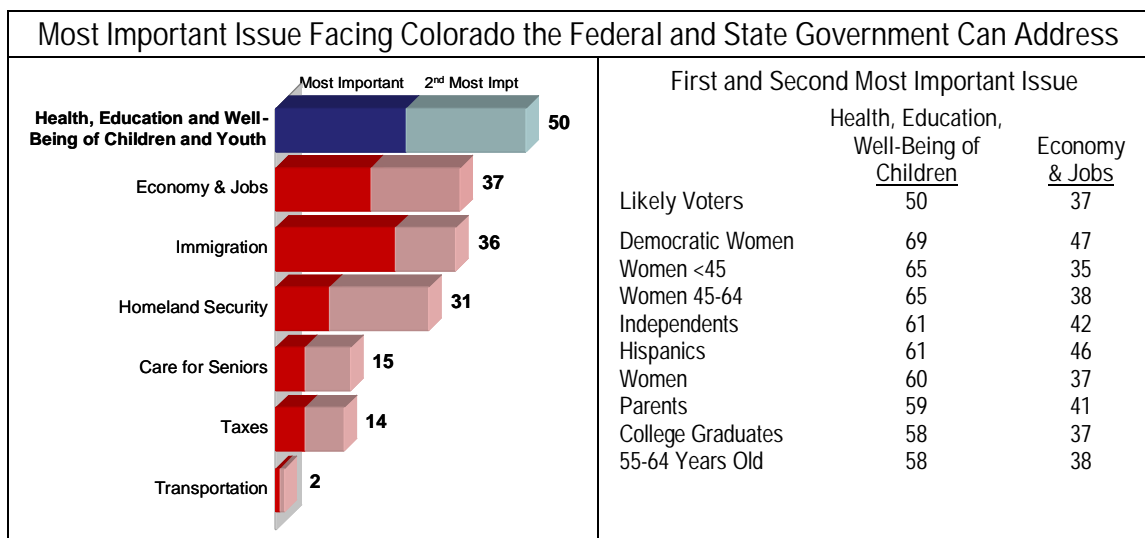


Colorado Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Colorado Medical Society

Colorado Health Care Survey Results

To determine public opinion on health care and children's issues in Colorado, the Colorado Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Colorado Medical Society commissioned Mason-Dixon Polling and Research to conduct a statewide telephone survey. Five hundred registered voters were selected at random, representing a cross-section of the public who say they are likely to vote in the 2006 general election. Conducted from September 17th to September 19th, 2006, the survey has a margin of error of ± 4.4 percent. Key findings from the survey include:

- Ø **Few voters believe that the conditions for children in Colorado have improved over the past 5 years, and voters will have their minds focused on children when voting this year.** Only 16% of voters say conditions for children and youth have gotten better in the last 5 years. A greater number (25%) say they have gotten worse and 44% say things have stayed the same. When going into the voting booth or filling out absentee ballots, children's issues will play an important role for voters. Overall 90% of voters say they will be important to them when they vote, including a sizable majority (60%) who say that children's issues will be very important in their voting decisions.
- Ø **Voters choose improving the health, education, and safety of children as the most important issue facing Colorado that the federal and state government can act on, followed by the economy and jobs, immigration, homeland security, care for seniors, taxes, and transportation issues.** When given a choice of issues, 50% of all voters choose improving the health, education, and well-being of children as either the most, or second most, important issue facing Colorado. Groups rating children's issues the highest include younger and middle-aged women, Hispanic, mothers and fathers, and Independent voters.



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- ∅ **On the issue of health care and children, voters take the problem of uninsured children very seriously: 73% believe that *every child in Colorado* should be covered by a government-supported health care program if their parents are unable to afford it.** According to the U.S. Census, 161,000 Colorado children and youth did not have health insurance coverage at any point in 2005. 87% of voters say this is a serious problem to address.
- ∅ **There is strong support among all voters for a proposal to deal with the problem of uninsured children where all parents would be required to insure their children and the government would subsidize some or all of the cost of the families most in need.** When presented with a description of the proposal, 62 percent of voters support passage of it while just 32 percent oppose it. Solid majorities of men and women, young and old, parents and non-parents, all partisan and ideological groups, and people of all income brackets support covering every child with the sole exception of registered Republican men.

% Who Support Insuring Every Child					
(Question Wording) "I'd like your opinion of the following proposal to deal with the problem of uninsured children – all parents would be required to insure their child and the government would subsidize some or all of the cost of the families most in need? After hearing this, is this something you favor or oppose?"					
	Total Favor	Total Oppose		Total Favor	Total Oppose
All Voters	62	32	Liberals	83	14
			Moderates	66	27
Men	56	37	Conservatives	47	45
Women	66	27			
			<\$35K	67	27
18-44	54	38	\$35-\$50K	69	28
45-54	69	26	\$50-\$75K	65	34
55-64	71	26	\$75-\$100K	66	31
65+	53	35	\$100K+	56	30
Democrat Men	77	19	White	58	34
Democrat Women	81	17	Hispanic	81	16
Independent Men	72	28			
Independent Women	51	40	Parent	59	34
Republican Men	35	53	Grandparent	58	32
Republican Women	57	33	Neither	68	29

- ∅ **A very strong majority, 65% of voters, indicated that they would support a Gubernatorial candidate who supported expanding health care coverage for children, even if it meant raising some taxes.** (Still need some expanded analysis on this).
- ∅ **When assessing health care as a whole, voters are generally satisfied with their care but not with the price.** While two-thirds of voters (68%) are satisfied with the quality of health care in Colorado, an equal number (67%) are dissatisfied with the total cost. When asked to assess some proposals on health care next year, more than four-fifths of voters

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think it should be a top priority or very important for government to work to lower the cost of health care (57% top priority, 88% important), guarantee health insurance to every child (47% top priority, 80% important), and increase the number of Coloradans covered by health insurance (43% top priority, 82% important). **Voters agree that immigrant children are not responsible for their living conditions and deserve some degree of preventive health care.** Three-fifths (61%) concur with this statement while just 36% disagree. Majorities of Democrats (77%), Independents (54%), and Republicans (50%) all agree with the need to address preventive health care for immigrant children.

About the Colorado Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Insert info

About the Colorado Medical Society

Insert info

About Mason-Dixon Polling and Research

Mason-Dixon Polling and Research, Inc., is an independent polling firm that conducts voter surveys for news media, lobbyists, interest groups, trade associations, and political action committees. Mason-Dixon is the nation's most active state polling organization, conducting copyrighted public opinion polls for news media organizations in all 50 states. These media clients include over 250 local television affiliates and over 100 daily newspapers. Since 1983, Mason-Dixon has conducted surveys in every state in the country, on almost every public issue, and has tracked every major election and referendum. During this time, Mason-Dixon has earned the reputation as one of the most credible and accurate independent polling firms in the nation.