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**COLORADO GOV RACE TIED,  
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;  
ECONOMY IS GOOD AND GETTING BETTER, VOTERS SAY**

Despite stronger voter optimism about Colorado's economy than found in many states, the race for governor is tied, with 43 percent for Democratic incumbent John Hickenlooper and 44 percent for former U.S. Rep. Bob Beauprez, the Republican challenger, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Voters give Gov. Hickenlooper a split job approval rating, with 48 percent approving and 46 percent disapproving, compared to a 52 – 39 percent approval rating in an April 23 survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University.

Hickenlooper does not deserve reelection, voters say 48 – 42 percent, down from a positive 47 – 43 percent support in April.

The gender gap is wide today as men back Beauprez 48 – 37 percent, while women back Hickenlooper 48 – 40 percent. Hickenlooper leads 90 – 4 percent among Democrats, while Beauprez takes Republicans 86 – 7 percent. Independent voters are divided with 41 percent for Beauprez and 40 percent for Hickenlooper.

In another split, 43 percent of voters have a favorable opinion of the governor, with 42 percent unfavorable, down from 51 – 37 percent favorable in April. Beauprez gets a 31 – 25 percent favorability rating, with 43 percent who don't know enough about him to form an opinion, compared to 52 percent who didn't know enough about him in April.

"Coloradans seem generally optimistic about the future and confident in the state's economy. But that is certainly not enough to open the way for a smooth ride to reelection for Gov. John Hickenlooper," said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University poll.

"Is former U.S. Rep. Bob Beauprez enjoying a bounce after his Republican primary win or is he a real challenge to the Democratic incumbent?"

**-more-**

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Only 28 percent of Colorado voters have read or heard anything about Beauprez's 2010 comments about people who don't pay federal income tax. Of that group, 52 percent agree with Beauprez and 40 percent disagree.

Lack of effort is the main reason a person is poor, 44 percent of voters say, while 41 percent cite circumstances beyond a person's control. Poor people have it easy because they can get government benefits without doing anything in return, 52 percent of voters say, while 37 percent say poor people have it hard because government benefits don't go far enough to help them live decently.

Colorado voters give Hickenlooper good grades for character:

- Voters say 54 – 37 percent that he is honest and trustworthy, compared to 40 – 26 percent for Beauprez;
- Hickenlooper cares about their needs and problems, voters say 51 – 41 percent, compared to 41 – 29 percent for Beauprez;
- The governor has strong leadership qualities, voters say 56 – 38 percent, compared to 43 – 25 percent for Beauprez.

### **The Colorado Economy**

In an open-ended question, allowing for any answer, 20 percent of Colorado voters say the economy/jobs is the most important issue in deciding their vote for governor, with 9 percent listing gun issues and 6 percent listing education or education funding.

A total of 64 percent of voters say the state's economy is "excellent" or "good," while 35 percent say "not so good" or "poor." The state's economy is getting better, 49 percent of voters say, while 12 percent say it's getting worse and 38 percent say it's the same.

Colorado's economy is better than it was four years ago, 58 percent of voters say, while 17 percent say it's worse and 23 percent say it's about the same. Looking at their own and their family's finances, 30 percent of voters say they are better off than they were four years ago, with 25 percent saying worse off and 44 percent saying about the same.

On these economic questions, Colorado voters are more positive than voters in most other states surveyed by Quinnipiac University. Only Iowa scored higher rating the economy.

From July 10 – 14, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,147 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.9 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

**For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).**

1. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were John Hickenlooper the Democrat and Bob Beauprez the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Hickenlooper	43%	7%	90%	40%	37%	48%	45%	42%	46%	39%
Beauprez	44	86	4	41	48	40	36	42	45	51
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	2	2	2	3	2	5	3	3	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	-	1	4	3	2	4	3	2	1
DK/NA	8	5	4	13	8	8	9	10	5	9

TREND: If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were John Hickenlooper the Democrat and Bob Beauprez the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Jul 16 2014	Apr 23 2014
Hickenlooper	43	48
Beauprez	44	39
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	3	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	2
DK/NA	8	10

2. Is your opinion of John Hickenlooper favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Favorable	43%	17%	80%	41%	36%	50%	43%	43%	47%	40%
Unfavorable	42	71	8	42	48	37	32	43	43	48
Hvn't hrd enough	12	10	11	14	14	11	25	12	8	9
REFUSED	2	2	1	3	2	2	-	2	1	4

TREND: Is your opinion of John Hickenlooper favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Jul 16 2014	Apr 23 2014	Feb 05 2014	Nov 19 2013	Aug 23 2013	Jun 13 2013
Favorable	43	51	47	46	49	45
Unfavorable	42	37	37	43	42	42
Hvn't hrd enough	12	10	13	9	7	11
REFUSED	2	2	3	1	2	1

3. Is your opinion of Bob Beauprez favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Favorable	31%	60%	6%	25%	32%	29%	13%	25%	38%	43%
Unfavorable	25	9	47	21	23	26	15	24	31	25
Hvn't hrd enough	43	30	45	52	43	43	71	49	29	29
REFUSED	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	4

TREND: Is your opinion of Bob Beauprez favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Jul 16 2014	Apr 23 2014
Favorable	31	27
Unfavorable	25	20
Hvn't hrd enough	43	52
REFUSED	2	2

16. Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Hickenlooper is handling his job as Governor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	48%	24%	87%	43%	40%	56%	51%	50%	50%	41%
Disapprove	46	72	9	48	53	39	35	45	47	52
DK/NA	6	4	4	8	7	5	14	5	4	7

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Hickenlooper is handling his job as Governor?

	Jul 16 2014	Apr 23 2014	Feb 05 2014	Nov 19 2013	Aug 23 2013	Jun 13 2013
Approve	48	52	52	48	48	47
Disapprove	46	39	39	46	44	43
DK/NA	6	9	10	7	8	10

17. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	36%	17%	65%	32%	34%	37%	43%	38%	34%	29%
Disapprove	49	66	22	55	55	44	35	50	53	55
DK/NA	15	17	13	13	10	19	22	12	13	16

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job?

	Jul 16 2014	Apr 23 2014	Feb 05 2014	Nov 19 2013	Aug 23 2013	Jun 13 2013
Approve	36	34	41	36	37	36
Disapprove	49	51	47	51	50	49
DK/NA	15	15	12	13	13	16

21. Do you feel that John Hickenlooper deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Deserves	42%	16%	81%	37%	37%	47%	40%	40%	47%	40%
No/Does not	48	78	12	48	52	44	38	49	50	53
DK/NA	10	5	7	14	11	8	21	11	4	7

TREND: Do you feel that John Hickenlooper deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	Jul 16 2014	Apr 23 2014	Feb 05 2014	Nov 19 2013	Aug 23 2013	Jun 13 2013
Yes/Deserves	42	47	45	42	45	45
No/Does not	48	43	45	49	48	44
DK/NA	10	10	9	9	7	11

23. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Colorado today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Very satisfied	12%	5%	27%	8%	13%	12%	20%	12%	9%	13%
Smwht satisfied	41	22	59	43	37	44	45	42	42	32
Smwht dissatisfied	25	38	9	26	26	24	26	25	23	29
Very dissatisfied	21	35	4	23	24	19	9	21	26	25
DK/NA	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

TREND: In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Colorado today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Jul 16 2014	Apr 23 2014	Feb 05 2014	Nov 19 2013	Aug 23 2013	Jun 13 2013
Very satisfied	12	10	11	9	11	10
Smwht satisfied	41	44	46	44	43	44
Smwht dissatisfied	25	26	23	26	23	26
Very dissatisfied	21	20	20	20	23	20
DK/NA	-	-	1	1	1	-

24. What is the most important issue to you in deciding how to vote for Governor this year?

	Tot
Economy Total	20%
Economy (General)	12
Jobs/Unemployment	7
Economy (Other Specific)	1
Budget Total	3%
Budget (General)	2
Government spending	1
Taxes	2
Education Total	6%
Education (General)	5
Funding/Spending education	1
Environment	4
Hydro-fracking	3
Gas/Oil/Energy Issues	3
Gun Issues/Policy/Control	9
Immigration Issues	4
Healthcare	3
Marijuana	3
Women's Issues	2
Gay marriage/Gay Issues	2
Social Issues	1
Crime	1
Abortion	1
Personal freedom/liberty	1
Roads/Traffic/Infrastructure	1
Party/Political Philosophy	3
Honesty/Trustworthiness	3
Caring about people	1
Strong/Capable leader	1
Replace Governor	1
Other	11
DK/NA	11

25. Would you say that Bob Beauprez - is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	40%	67%	19%	35%	41%	39%	30%	33%	44%	52%
No	26	12	39	27	26	25	23	31	25	19
DK/NA	35	21	42	39	33	36	47	35	31	28

26. Would you say that Bob Beauprez - cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	41%	69%	17%	38%	43%	39%	41%	35%	43%	48%
No	29	10	54	26	27	31	14	32	35	28
DK/NA	30	21	29	36	30	30	45	33	21	24

27. Would you say that Bob Beauprez - has strong leadership qualities or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	43%	66%	22%	41%	45%	42%	42%	38%	47%	47%
No	25	14	45	20	25	26	12	28	28	27
DK/NA	32	20	33	39	30	33	47	33	24	26

28. Would you say that John Hickenlooper - is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	54%	34%	83%	50%	49%	59%	54%	54%	56%	53%
No	37	58	12	39	41	34	31	39	38	36
DK/NA	8	8	6	11	10	7	15	7	6	11

TREND: Would you say that John Hickenlooper is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Jul 16 2014	Feb 05 2014	Aug 23 2013
Yes	54	59	56
No	37	31	35
DK/NA	8	10	9

29. Would you say that John Hickenlooper - cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	51%	30%	83%	48%	47%	56%	52%	50%	53%	50%
No	41	65	12	43	46	37	25	45	44	44
DK/NA	7	6	5	9	8	7	22	4	3	6

TREND: Would you say that John Hickenlooper cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Jul 16 2014	Feb 05 2014	Aug 23 2013
Yes	51	54	50
No	41	39	44
DK/NA	7	7	6

30. Would you say that John Hickenlooper - has strong leadership qualities or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	56%	38%	82%	54%	51%	61%	65%	55%	58%	49%
No	38	58	12	39	42	34	20	41	38	46
DK/NA	6	4	6	7	7	5	15	5	4	5

TREND: Would you say that John Hickenlooper has strong leadership qualities or not?

	Jul 16 2014	Feb 05 2014	Aug 23 2013
Yes	56	60	57
No	38	34	38
DK/NA	6	6	6

31. Would you describe the state of Colorado's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Excellent	6%	3%	10%	5%	6%	6%	5%	7%	5%	6%
Good	58	48	71	56	62	54	71	63	52	48
Not so good	27	39	14	28	25	30	22	24	31	32
Poor	8	8	4	10	7	9	1	6	10	12
DK/NA	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2

TREND: Would you describe the state of Colorado's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Jul 16 2014	Apr 24 2014	Jun 13 2013
Excellent	6	4	2
Good	58	56	52
Not so good	27	30	33
Poor	8	9	11
DK/NA	1	1	1



32a. (If economy excellent/good q31) How much credit do you give Governor Hickenlooper for the state of Colorado's economy; a lot, some, not much, or none at all?

Economy Excellent/Good Q31

A lot	18%
Some	54
Not much	20
None at all	6
DK/NA	2

32b. (If economy not so good/poor q31) How much blame do you give Governor Hickenlooper for the state of Colorado's economy; a lot, some, not much, or none at all?

Economy Not so good/Poor Q31

A lot	26%
Some	51
Not much	15
None at all	8
DK/NA	1

33. Do you think Colorado's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Better	49%	32%	73%	47%	49%	49%	57%	51%	49%	42%
Worse	12	18	5	10	9	15	14	10	13	13
The same	38	50	21	42	42	35	29	39	37	44
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	2

TREND: Do you think Colorado's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	Jul 16 2014	Apr 24 2014	Jun 13 2013
Better	49	45	47
Worse	12	13	11
The same	38	40	42
DK/NA	1	2	1

34. Compared with four years ago, do you think Colorado's economy is better today, worse today, or about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Better	58%	45%	78%	56%	58%	58%	60%	65%	56%	46%
Worse	17	25	7	17	16	18	14	14	19	21
About the same	23	28	12	25	24	21	22	18	24	29
DK/NA	3	3	2	3	2	3	4	3	1	3

35. Compared with four years ago, are you and your family financially better off today, worse off today, or about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Better off	30%	19%	45%	29%	35%	26%	35%	42%	25%	14%
Worse off	25	30	14	28	22	28	24	23	26	26
About the same	44	49	39	42	43	45	38	34	48	59
DK/NA	1	2	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	1

36. Have you heard or read anything about Bob Beauprez's comments in 2010 about people who don't pay federal income tax?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	28%	29%	29%	26%	30%	27%	12%	22%	38%	37%
No	69	69	68	72	69	69	85	75	60	58
DK/NA	3	2	3	3	1	4	3	2	2	5

37. (If heard or read q36) In general, do you agree or disagree with Beauprez's comments?

Heard/Read Q36

Agree	52%
Disagree	40
DK/NA	8

57. In your opinion, which is generally more often to blame if a person is poor, lack of effort on his or her own part or circumstances beyond his or her control?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Lack of effort	44%	64%	25%	41%	52%	36%	46%	48%	42%	37%
Beyond control	41	26	61	40	35	47	44	40	40	45
DK/NA	15	10	15	19	14	16	10	12	18	18

58. Please tell me which statement comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right:

Poor people today have it easy because they can get government benefits without doing anything in return.

Poor people today have it hard because government benefits don't go far enough to help them live decently.

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Easy	52%	82%	23%	49%	58%	46%	51%	53%	49%	55%
Hard	37	11	64	39	32	42	40	37	39	34
DK/NA	11	7	12	12	10	12	9	11	12	11