

# 1976 Wyoming Election Survey

COUNTY

Let's begin. What county do you live in?

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| (1) Albany      | (13) Natrona    |
| (2) Big Horn    | (14) Niobrara   |
| (3) Campbell    | (15) Park       |
| (4) Carbon      | (16) Platte     |
| (5) Converse    | (17) Sheridan   |
| (6) Crook       | (18) Sublette   |
| (7) Fremont     | (19) Sweetwater |
| (8) Goshen      | (20) Teton      |
| (9) Hot Springs | (21) Uinta      |
| (10) Johnson    | (22) Washakie   |
| (11) Laramie    | (23) Weston     |
| (12) Lincoln    |                 |

REGVOTE

1. Are you registered to vote in the upcoming state elections?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

(If registered, ask) Are you registered as a Republican, Democrat or an Independent?

1. Republican 2. Democrat 3. Independent 8. DK 9. NA

REGPARTY

PRESEXP

2. Who do you think will be elected President in November; Jimmy Carter or Gerald For, or some other candidate?

1. Carter 2. For 3. Another candidate 8. DK 9. NA

PRESCL

3. Do you think the presidential election will be a close race or not?

1. Close 2. Not close 8. DK 9. NA

SENEXP

4. How about Wyoming's Senatorial election. Who do you think will be elected in that race---Gale McGee or Malcolm Wallop?

1. McGee 2. Wallop 8. DK 9. NA

SENCL

5. Do you think the Senatorial race between McGee and Wallop will be a close race or not?

1. Close 2. Not close 8. DK 9. NA

6. Thinking back to the 1972 Presidential election, do you remember for sure whether you voted in that election?

1. Yes, voted 2. No, didn't vote 8. DK 9. NA

(If voted, ask) Did you vote for George McGovern or Richard Nixon?

1. McGovern 2. Nixon 8. DK 9. NA

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Gerald Ford is handling his job as President?

1. Approve 2. Disapprove 8. DK 9. NA

8. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ed Herschler is handling his job as Governor of Wyoming?

1. Approve 2. Disapprove 8. DK 9. NA

9. Now to something different. When you were growing up, did your parents think of themselves as Democrats, Republican, Independent or were they divided on party affiliation?

1. Democrat 2. Republican 3. Independent 8. DK 9. NA

10. Today, generally speaking do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or what?

(If D or R) Would you call yourself a strong (D or R) or not a very strong (D or R)?

(If Independent) Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democratic party?

1. Strong Republican 2. Weak Republican 3. Lean Republican

4. Independent 5. Lean Democrat 6. Weak Democrat

7. Strong Democrat 8. DK 9. NA

I want to read you four statements which related to politics and government in general. Will you please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each?

11. I don't think public officials care much what people like me think.

1. Agree 2. Disagree 8. DK 9. NA

12. Voting is the only way that people like me can have any say about the way the government runs things.

1. Agree 2. Disagree 8. DK 9. NA

13. People like me don't have any say about what the government does.

1. Agree 2. Disagree 8. DK 9. NA

14. Sometimes politics and government seem so complicated that a person can't really understand what's going on.

1. Agree 2. Disagree 8. DK 9. NA

15. How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right?

1. Just about always 2. Most of the time 3. Some of the time

4. None of the time 8. DK 9. NA

16. Would you say the government in Washington is pretty much run by a few big interests looking out for themselves or that it is run for the benefit of all the people?

1. Few big interests 2. Benefit of all 3. Undecided or depends. 8. DK 9. NA

17. Do you think the people in the government waste a lot of money we pay in taxes, waste some of it, or don't waste very much of it?

1. Waste a lot 2. Waste some 3. Don't waste much 8. DK 9. NA

18. Do you feel that almost all of the people running the government in Washington are smart people who usually know what they are doing, or do you think that quite a few of them don't seem to know what they are doing?

1. Usually know 2. Few don't seem to know 8. DK 9. NA

19. Do you think that quite a few of the people running the government in Washington are a little crooked, not very many are crooked, or do you think hardly any of them are crooked?

1. Quite a few are crooked 2. Not very many are crooked. 3. Hardly any  
8. DK 9. NA

In Wyoming, there are basically six taxes which can be used to pay for various public services provided by state and local governments, such things as schools, streets and highways, fire and police protection, water and sewer services, parks and recreation, welfare programs, health facilities among others?

Suppose that additional money were needed to pay for such services. Which of the following taxes would you favor increasing and which would you oppose?

20. Increased local property tax.

1. Favor 2. Oppose 8. DK 9. NA

21. Use of the 1% local sales tax.

1. Favor 2. Oppose 8. DK 9. NA

22. Increased state sales tax.

1. Favor 2. Oppose 8. DK 9. NA

23. Increased mineral severance tax.

1. Favor 2. Oppose 8. DK 9. NA

24. Use of state property tax.

1. Favor 2. Oppose 8. DK 9. NA

25. Use of a state income tax.

1. Favor 2. Oppose 8. DK 9. NA

(If respondent favors more than one ask) Of those you favor, which one should be increased first?

1. Local property 2. 1% Local sales tax 3. State sales tax 4. Severance tax  
5. State property tax 6. State income tax 7. Favor no tax increases  
8. DK 9. NA

In November, Wyoming residents will vote on a constitutional amendment which, if passed, would enable local governments—cities, counties and school districts—to borrow more money than currently allowed to finance local public services.

26. Have you heard of this proposed amendment before?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

27. Do you favor or oppose the amendment, or don't you have enough information to say?

1. Favor 2. Oppose 3. Undecided 4. Not enough information 8. DK 9. NA

28. Considering all the public services provided to you by state and local government programs, and considering all the taxes you pay, do you think state and local taxes in Wyoming are generally reasonable or do you think they are too high?

1. Reasonable 2. Too high 8. DK 9. NA

(If too high, ask) Have you written or talked to any public officials in the last year about your taxes being too high?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

29. Could the quality of public services be improved in this community if additional funds were available?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

(If yes, ask) Would you favor attempts to improve public services in the community if state funds were made available?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

Would you favor attempts to improve public services in the community if an increase in local taxes were required?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

30. Now, a final question about taxes. One legislator has suggested that the state of Wyoming is approaching a unique situation in that tax revenue is probably going to exceed present expenditures. Therefore, this additional money could be used to improve state and local programs and services, could be invested to earn interest, or it could be used to lower taxes. Which do you prefer?

1. Improve services 2. Invest 3. Lower taxes 8. DK 9. NA

31. Do you favor or oppose collective bargaining and compulsory arbitration for city, county and state employees in Wyoming?

1. Favor 2. Oppose 3. Undecided 8. DK 9. NA

32. What about school teachers? Do you favor or oppose collective bargaining and compulsory arbitration for public school teachers, community college instructors and university professors?

1. Favor 2. Oppose 3. Undecided 8. DK 9. NA

Now we'd like to ask some general questions about domestic and foreign politics. Please try to give an answer to each question, but if you don't know the answers, don't worry.

33. Every Wyoming county is represented in Cheyenne by one or more representatives and senators. Can you recall the name of any of these persons from your county?

34. Do you happen to recall the name of the member of President Ford's cabinet who recently resigned under pressure?

1. Correct 2. Incorrect 8. DK 9. NA

35. Do you remember how many Justices there on the United States Supreme Court?

1. Correct 2. Incorrect 8. DK 9. NA

36. Do you remember what country Anwar Sadat is the leader of?

1. Correct 2. Incorrect 8. DK 9. NA

37. Can you recall how many years United States Senators are elected for?

1. Correct 2. Incorrect 8. DK 9. NA

38. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was recently involved in an attempt to settle and international conflict. In what area of the world was this conflict taking place?

1. Correct 2. Incorrect 8. DK 9. NA

41. We are interested in how well people are getting along financially these days. During the past two or three years, has your financial situation been getting better, getting worse or has it stayed the same?

1. Better 2. Worse 3. Same 8. DK 9. NA

42. We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatism. Here is a seven-point scale in which the political views that people might hold are arranged from extremely liberal to extremely conservatives. Where would you place yourself on this scale politically?

1. Extremely liberal 2. Liberal 3. Slightly liberal 4. Moderate  
5. Slightly conservative 6. Conservative 7. Extremely conservative  
8. DK 9. NA

43. There's also talk these days about different social classes. If you were asked to use one of these four names—upper, middle, working, lower---to describe your social class, which one would you use?

1. Upper 2. Middle 3. Working 4. Lower 8. DK 9. NA

I want to read you a number of statements about public issues which face the people of Wyoming. Will you tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with each statement or whether you are undecided. If you have never heard of the issue, or if you don't have enough information to say one way or another, we want to know that too.

44. The burden of local taxes is shared fairly by both richer and poorer Wyoming residents.

1. Strongly agree 2. Agree 3. Undecided 4. Disagree 5. Strongly disagree  
8. DK 9. NA

45. Even if public services have to be cut back, state and local taxes in Wyoming must be reduced.

46. A number of unnecessary programs and services are provided by state and local governments in Wyoming.

47. State air and water quality standards in Wyoming should be very high and strictly enforced.

48. Diverting water from the Green River Basin to the Power River Basin for mining and industrial purposes is good water management.

49. Strip mine areas should be reclaimed so that the land has equal or greater value than before it was mined.

50. Nuclear power plants to generate electric power should not be built in Wyoming because of their potential danger.

51. The development of additional coal slurry pipelines using Wyoming water is wise policy for the state to follow.

52. State officials should adopt policies to encourage the mining of coal as rapidly as possible.

53. The construction of coal-fired power plants in Wyoming which generate electricity for other states should be restricted.

54. Wyoming's coal should be shipped out of state rather than burned here and electric power shipped out.

55. Land use planning in Wyoming, even with local control, will allow unnecessary interference in the private use of land.

56. Agricultural uses of water should be given preference over mining and industrial uses in Wyoming.

We're interested in finding out how much attention people pay to news coverage of politics and public affairs.

57. Take newspapers for example. How often do you read newspaper articles about public affairs and politics.

1. Almost daily
3. Two or three times a week
3. Three or four times a month
4. A few times a year
5. Or don't you read about public affairs and politics
8. DK
9. NA

58. What about the political campaign in Wyoming this fall? How often have you read articles about the candidates and the campaign in the newspaper?

1. Often
2. Sometimes
3. Seldom
4. Never
8. DK
9. NA

59. How about radio? How often do you listen to programs about public affairs and politics on the radio? Would you say:



1. Almost daily
3. Two or three times a week
3. Three or four times a month
4. A few times a year
5. Or don't you read about public affairs and politics
8. DK
9. NA

60. What about the political campaign in Wyoming this fall? How often have you heard interviews with the candidates or general discussions of the campaign on the radio?

1. Often
2. Sometimes
3. Seldom
4. Never
8. DK
9. NA

61. How about television? About how often do you watch programs about public affairs and politics on television/

1. Almost daily
3. Two or three times a week
3. Three or four times a month
4. A few times a year
5. Or don't you read about public affairs and politics
8. DK
9. NA

62. What about the political campaign in Wyoming this fall? How often have you watched either interviews and candidates or general discussions of the campaign on TV?

1. Often
2. Sometimes
3. Seldom
4. Never
8. DK
9. NA

63. In general, where do you get most of your information about politics. Does it come from television, radio, magazines, newspapers, discussions with friends or some other sources?

1. Television
2. Radio
3. Magazines
4. Newspapers
5. Friends
6. Other
8. DK
9. NA

64. Concerning the Carter-Ford debate on September 23<sup>rd</sup> dealing with domestic issues, did you watch it on TV or listen to it on the radio?

1. Watched on TV
2. Radio
3. Didn't watch or listen
8. DK
9. NA

(If watched or listened) In your view, who won this debate?

1. Ford
2. Carter
3. Neither
8. DK
9. NA

65. How about the second Presidential debate on October 6<sup>th</sup>, dealing with foreign and defense policy> did you watch it on TV or listen to it on the radio?

1. TV 2. Radio 3. Didn't watch or listen 8. DK 9. NA

(If watched or listened) In your view who won this debate?

1. Ford 2. Carter 3. Neither 8. DK 9. NA

66. Finally, what about the third Presidential debate on October 22, dealing with general issues? Did you watch it on TV or listen to it on the radio?

1. TV 2. Radio 3. Didn't watch or listen 8. DK 9. NA

(If watched or listened) Who do you think won this debate?

1. Ford 2. Carter 3. Neither 8. DK 9. NA

69. Some people say that it is pretty easy to get a true idea of what a politician is like from his appearance on television. But others say that it is difficult to judge a politician by his television appearances. What do you think? Is it usually easy or difficult?

1. Easy 2. Difficult 3. Depends 8. DK 9. NA

70. About how much difference would you say the debates made in your decision to vote for Mr. Carter or Mr. Ford in November?

1. Great deal of difference 2. Some difference 3. Little difference

4. No difference at all 8. DK 9. NA

71. What is your age?

72. What is your religious preference? Is it Protestant, Catholic, Mormon, or some other religion, or do you have no preference?

1. Protestant 2. Catholic 3. Mormon 4. Other 5. No preference

8. DK 9. NA

73. How many years of formal school did you complete?

74. Are you the chief wage earner in your family?

1. Yes 2. No 3. About equal 8. DK 9. NA

(If chief wage earner, ask) What is your main occupation?

(If not chief wage earner, ask) What is the occupation of the chief wage earner?

75. Do you belong to a labor union?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

76. Were you born in Wyoming?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

77. How many years have you lived in the state?

78. How many years have you lived in this community?

79. Here is a list of income groups which seem to apply to most people in the United States. Would you please indicate into which group your total family income falls.

1. Under \$3,000 2. \$3,000-\$5,999 3. \$6,000 to \$8,999 4. \$9,000-\$11,999

5. \$12,000-\$14,999 6. \$15,000-\$17,999 7. \$18,000-\$20,999

8. \$21,000-\$23,999 9. \$24,000-\$26,999 10. \$27,000 and over

99. DK/NA

80. Gender

1. Male 2. Female 8. DK 9. NA

Using the terms included in the following scales, we want you to describe Gale McGee and Malcolm Wallop, candidates for the U.S. Senate, as well as Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, Candidates for the Nation's Presidency.

HONEST \_\_\_3\_\_\_: \_\_\_2\_\_\_: \_\_\_1\_\_\_: \_\_\_0\_\_\_: \_\_\_-1\_\_\_: \_\_\_-2\_\_\_: \_\_\_-3\_\_\_ Dishonest

Extremely Quite Slightly No opinion Slightly Quite Extremely

Honest--Dishonest

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

Weak-Strong

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

Intelligent-Unintelligent

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

Unpleasant-Pleasant

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

Good-Bad

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

Incapable-Capable

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

This section is similar to the last one on the candidates. However, this time we want you to indicate your position on a number of issues as well as give us your ideas about whether the candidates for the Senate and the Presidency stand on these issues.

The first 25 items should be judged in terms of how good or bad you feel the position stated is in your view. For example, The University of Wyoming football team.

Place a check in the section of the scale which most closely approximates your own views. For example: The University of Wyoming football teams.

Good \_\_\_3\_\_\_: \_\_\_2\_\_\_: \_\_\_1\_\_\_: \_\_\_0\_\_\_: \_\_\_-1\_\_\_: \_\_\_-2\_\_\_: \_\_\_-3\_\_\_ Bad

Extremely Quite Slightly No opinion Slightly Quite Extremely

1. Fighting inflation by cutting national governmental spending.
2. A guarantee by the national government of a job for every American wishing to work.
3. The establishment by the national government of a compulsory medical insurance program.

4. Amnesty for Vietnam draft evaders.
5. An amendment to the U.S. Constitution which would prohibit abortion.
6. The use of wage and price controls to stabilize the economy.
7. The breakup of the major oil companies.
8. The establishment of a guaranteed annual income for all Americans.
9. Cutting defense expenditures.
10. The reduction of tensions—détente—between the United States and the Soviet Union.
11. The way in which Secretary of State Kissinger has conducted American foreign policy.
12. The continued large scale sale of arms by the United States to foreign nations.
13. Major reorganization of the departments of the Federal government.
14. Redistribution of the Federal tax burden from lower and middle income groups to upper income groups.
15. The Federal bureaucracy.
16. Seniority in the U.S. Senate for Wyoming Senators.
17. The operation of the U.S. Postal system.
18. A vigorous governmental effort to protect the Wyoming environment.
19. The retention of the provision in the national law permitting states to enact right-to-work laws.
20. Giving Wyoming agriculture preference over Wyoming industry in the use of water.
21. Wyoming oil, gas and coal industries.
22. Wyoming agriculture.
23. Wyoming labor unions.
24. Being a Democrat.
25. Being a Republican.

For these next items, place an X on the scale in the position you believe to be the most accurate. For example, the University of Wyoming football team.

Probable \_\_\_3\_\_\_: \_\_\_2\_\_\_: \_\_\_1\_\_\_: \_\_\_0\_\_\_: \_\_\_-1\_\_\_: \_\_\_-2\_\_\_: \_\_\_-3\_\_\_ Improbable

Extremely Quite Slightly No opinion Slightly Quite Extremely

26. Favors a guarantee by the national government of a job for every American wishing work.

Ford

Carter

27. Favors the establishment by the national government of a compulsory medical insurance program.

Ford

Carter

28. Favors amnesty for Vietnam draft evaders.

Ford

Carter

29. Favors an amendment to the U.S. Constitution which would prohibit abortion.

Ford

Carter

30. Favors the use of wage and price controls to stabilize the economy.

Ford

Carter

31. Favors the establishment of a guaranteed annual income for all Americans.

Ford

Carter

32. Supports the way in which American Secretary of State Kissinger has conducted American foreign policy.

Ford

Carter

33. Favors the continued large scale sale of arms by the United States to foreign nations.

Ford

Carter

34. Favors major reorganization of the departments of the Federal government.

Ford

Carter

35. Favors a redistribution of the Federal tax burden from lower and middle income groups to upper income groups.

Ford

Carter

36. Favors fighting inflation by cutting national governmental spending.

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

37. Favors cutting defense expenditures.

Ford

Carter

Wallop



McGee

38. Favors the reduction of tensions—détente—between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

39. Supports the Federal bureaucracy.

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

40. Is a Democrat.

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

41. Is a Republican.

Ford

Carter

Wallop

McGee

42. Favors the breakup of the major oil companies.

Wallop

McGee

43. Has seniority in the U.S. Senate.

Wallop

McGee

44. Is responsible for the operation of the U.S. Postal system.

Wallop

McGee

45. Favors a vigorous governmental effort to protect the Wyoming environment.

Wallop

McGee

46. Favors the retention of the provision in national law permitting states to enact right-to-work laws.

Wallop

McGee

47. Favors giving Wyoming agriculture preference over industry in the use of water.

Wallop

McGee

48. Supports Wyoming labor unions.

Wallop

McGee

49. Supports the Wyoming oil, gas and coal industry.

Wallop

McGee

50. Supports Wyoming agriculture.

Wallop

McGee

51. My best friends will vote for Carter.

52. My best friends will vote for Ford.

53. My best friends will vote for McGee.

54. My best friends will vote for Wallop.

55. I will vote for Carter.

56. I will vote for Ford.

57. I will vote for McGee.

58. I will vote for Wallop.

59. I will vote for Roncalio.

60. I will vote for Hart.

61. I will not vote.

## Post Statewide Election Survey

Were you interviewed?

1. In talking with people about the election, we find that a lot of people weren't able to vote because they weren't registered or they were sick, or they just didn't have time?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

2. (If voted, ask) In the presidential race, did you vote for Jimmy Carter or Gerald Ford?

1. Carter 2. Ford 3. Other 8. DK 9. NA

3. In Wyoming's senatorial race, did you vote for Gale McGee or Malcolm Wallop?

1. McGee 2. Wallop 3. Other 8. DK 9. NA

4. In the race for Wyoming's congressional seat, did you vote for Larry Hart or Teno Roncalio?

1. Roncalio 2. Hart 8. DK 9. NA

5. (In counties with optional 1% sales tax was on the ballot) Do you recall how you voted on the issue? Did you vote for the one cent increase in the sales tax, did you vote against it, or don't you recall how you voted?

1. For 2. Against 8. DK 9. NA

As you recall, one constitutional amendment on the ballot proposed an increase in the amount of money that local governments—cities, counties or school districts—could borrow to finance public services.

6. Do you recall how you voted on this amendment? Did you vote for an increase in the amount which could be borrowed, did you vote against it, or did you not vote either way on this question or don't you remember how you voted?

1. For 2. Against 3. Abstained 8. DK 9. NA

7. How much information did you have about this proposed amendment before you voted—information on the presumed need and possible effects of the amendment on you? Would you say you had a:

1. Great deal of information 2. Some information 3. Not very much  
4. Or no information at all. 8. DK 9. NA

8. We are attempting to find out how much people in Wyoming participated in politics during the past political campaign. For instance, did you buy any tickets or give money to help the campaign for one of the parties or candidates?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

9. Did you go to any political meetings rallies, dinners or things like that?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

10. Did you do any other work for one of the parties or candidates?

1. Yes 2. No 8. DK 9. NA

Finally, we would like to know whether you agree or disagree with each of these four statements.

12. A good citizen will vote even if he or she does not agree politically with the candidates running for office.

1. Agree 2. Disagree 8. DK 9. NA

13. A good citizen will vote even if the candidate favored by the person does not have a chance to win.

1. Agree 2. Disagree 8. DK 9. NA

14. A good citizen will vote even if all candidates are the same politically.

1. Agree 2. Disagree 8. DK 9. NA



