1-1-1972

Wyoming Election Survey 1972

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Statewide Wyoming Election Survey--1972

Codebook

1. In talking to people about the election, we find that a lot of people aren’t able to vote because they aren’t registered, or they are sick or they just don’t have time. How about you, do you intend to vote this time?

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

2. Have you given any money or bought tickets or anything, to help the campaign for one of the parties or candidates?

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

3. Have you gone to any political meetings, rallies, dinners, or things like that?

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

4. Have you done any other work for one of the parties or candidates?

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

5. Have you talked to any people to try to show them why they should vote for one of the parties or candidates?

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

6. We would like to know how strongly you feel about the importance of voting in this election. Would you say you care a great deal whether or not you vote, care somewhat, or don’t care too much?

1. Care a great deal 2. Care somewhat

3. Don’t care too much 8. DK 9. NA

7. Generally speaking, would you say that you personally care a great deal which party wins the presidential election this fall, or that you don’t care very much which party wins?

1. Care a good deal 2. Don’t care very much

8. DK 9. NA
8. Some people don’t pay much attention to the political campaigns. How about you? Would you say that you have been very much interested, somewhat interested or not much interested in following the political campaigns so far this year?

   1. Very much interested   2. Somewhat interested   
   3. Not much interested   8. DK   9. NA

9. We’re interested in this interview in finding out how much attention people are paying to the media coverage of the election campaign this year. Take newspapers, for instance, have you read about the campaign in any newspapers?

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

9a. (If respondent answers yes to the previous question) How often have you read newspaper accounts about this election—regularly, often, from time to time, or just about once in a while?

   1. Regularly   2. Often   3. From time to time   
   4. Just once in a while   8. DK   9. NA

9b. (If yes to question 9) What newspapers have you read most often? Four responses.

10. How about magazines? Have you read about the campaign in any magazines?


10a. (If respondent answers yes to previous question) How many magazine articles about the campaign have you read—a good many, several or just a few?

   1. A good many   2. Several   3. Just a few

   8. DK   9. NA

10b. Which magazines have you read most often? Four responses.
11. How about television? Have you paid attention to any political broadcasts on behalf of a political candidate or party on television this year?

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

11a. (If respondent answers yes to previous question) How many programs of this variety would you say you have watched? jA good many, several or just a few?

1. A good many  2. Several  3. Just a few

8. DK  9. NA

11b. (If yes) Here is a list of statements that different people have given when asked why they watch political broadcasts on television. Please look at each of them and then indicate to me which of these reasons has applied to you when you watch paid political broadcasts and announcements.

1. To use as ammunition in arguments with others.

2. To judge what political leaders are like.

3. To see what some party or candidate would do if it got into power.

4. To help make up my mind when to vote in an election.

5. To remind me of the party’s position on issues.

6. To judge who is likely to win an election.

7. to keep up with the main issues of the day.

8. to enjoy all the excitement of an election race.

9. Because I have no other choice—I have to watch them.

12. Some people say that it is pretty easy to get a true picture of what a politician is like from his appearances 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. It depends  3. Difficult

8. DK  9. NA
13. In general, would you say that a voter should normally pay a lot, some, little, or no attention to the arguments of campaigning politicians?

1. A lot  2. Some  3. A little  4. None

8. DK  9. NA

14. During an election campaign, politicians often make pledges and promises. Do you ever feel that they cannot be relied on to be kept?

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

14a. (If yes) do you feel that way usually, occasionally, or rarely?

1. Usually  2. Occasionally  3. Rarely

8. DK  9. NA

15. And thinking now of the attacks which politicians make on opposing party and its policies, do you find that you usually object, occasionally object, or rarely object to these attacks?

1. Usually  2. Occasionally  3. Rarely

8. DK  9. NA

16. Are you registered to vote?

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

17. Will you vote an absentee ballot?

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

18. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat an Independent or what?

1. Strong Republican  2. Weak Republican

3. Learning Republican  4. Independent

5. Leaning Democrat  6. Weak Democrat

7. Strong Democrat  8. Other  9. NA
21. In general, how do you think the Wyoming legislature has performed in recent years. Have the legislators done an excellent job, a good job, a fair job or a poor job?

1. Excellent job  
2. Good job  
3. Fair job  
4. Poor job  
5. DK  
6. NA

22. Would you say that the quality of the legislature has improved, stayed about the same or declined in recent years?

1. Improved  
2. Stayed same  
3. Declined  
4. DK  
5. NA

23. Which of the following statements best describes how you feel about the honest of Wyoming legislators? Would you say that all legislators are honest; most are honest; about half are honest; only a few are honest; or none are honest?

1. All  
2. Most  
3. About half  
4. Few  
5. None  
6. DK  
7. NA

24. Suppose a law were being considered by the state legislature that you considered to be very unjust or harmful. If you made an effort to change this regulation, how likely is it that you would succeed? Very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not likely at all?

1. Very  
2. Somewhat  
3. Not too  
4. Not likely at all  
5. DK  
6. NA

25. If such a case arose, how likely is it that you would actually do something about it? Very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not likely at all?

1. Very  
2. Somewhat  
3. Not too  
4. Not likely at all  
5. DK  
6. NA

26. The state legislature does not represent the citizens of Wyoming very well. Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree?

1. Strongly agree  
2. Agree  
3. Disagree  
4. Strongly disagree  
5. DK  
6. NA
27. The state legislature is controlled by a small handful of men.

   4. Strongly disagree  8. DK  9. NA

28. Most of the things the state legislature does are in the interests of the general public rather than in the interest of special groups.

   4. Strongly disagree  8. DK  9. NA

29. Wyoming has an outstanding legislature.

   4. Strongly disagree  8. DK  9. NA

30. Over the next ten years, would you like to see Wyoming’s population grow a lot, grow a little, stay about the same, reduce a little or reduce a lot?

   1. Grow a lot  2. Grow a little  3. Stay the same
   4. Reduce a little  5. Reduce a lot  8. DK  9. NA

31. What is your feeling concerning the proposed amendment to the Wyoming Constitution which would, among other things, provide the state court judges be appointed by the Governor from recommendations made by special nominating boards, rather than be popularly elected as they are at present. Do you strongly oppose, or oppose the amendment; are you uncertain about what you think about the amendment; or do you favor or strongly favor the amendment?

   1. Strongly oppose  2. Oppose  3. Uncertain
   4. Favor the amendment  5. Strongly favor
   8. DK  9. NA
32. The Wyoming Legislature meets for a 40 day session every two years. Some persons say 40 days is not nearly long enough for the legislature to deal with all the problems confronting modern day Wyoming. Other say Wyoming is a small state which does not have the problems of larger industrial states and that longer and more frequent sessions would simply be an added government expense. Do you favor the present procedure of 40 day sessions every two years or would you like to see the legislature meet more often?

1. Favor present  2. Meet more often  8. DK  9. NA

33. Now we’d like to ask you some general questions about politics and government. Please try to give an answer to each but if you don’t know the answer, don worry. This is not a test. Every county is represented in Cheyenne by one or more Representatives or Senators. Can you recall the name of any persons from this county?

34. Who is the Governor of Wyoming?

0. Incorrect  1. Correct  9. NA

35. How many justices are there on the United States Supreme Court?

0. Incorrect  1. Correct  9. NA

36. How many years are the U.S. Senators elected for?

0. Incorrect  1. Correct  9. NA

37. Alexi Kosygin is a political leader of what country?

0. Incorrect  1. Correct  9. NA

38. Who is the Secretary of Defense?

0. Incorrect  1. Correct  9. NA

39. Nguyen Van Thieu is the leader of what country?

0. Incorrect  1. Correct  9. NA

40. Do you happen to know which party presently has the most representatives in Congress?

0. Incorrect  1. Correct  9. NA
41. How many years are U.S. Representatives elected for?
   0. Incorrect   1. Correct   9. NA

Now, we would like to know whether you agree or disagree with each of the following items.

42. I don’t think public officials care much about what people like me think.

43. The way people vote is the main thing that decides how things are run in this country.

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

45. People like me don’t have any say about what the government does.

46. Sometimes politics and government seems so complicated that a person like me can’t really understand what’s going on.

47. It isn’t so important to vote when you know your party doesn’t have a chance to win.

48. A good many local elections aren’t important enough to bother with.

49. So many other people vote in the national elections that it’s doesn’t matter much to see whether I vote or not.

50. If a person doesn’t care how an election comes out he shouldn’t vote in it.
Here are a few questions about United States policy in the Middle East. Would you please indicate whether you strongly agree, agree, are undecided, disagree or strongly disagree with each statement.

51. The United States should sell arms to Israel in an effort to maintain a reasonable military balance in the Middle East.


52. American troops should be sent to protect Israel if it appears that the Arab states will achieve a military advantage over Israel.


53. The United States should provide economic aid to Israelis in an attempt to permit them to determine their own destiny.


54. If necessary, the United States should provide nuclear weapons to the Israeli government for the latter’s defense.


55. What is your age?

56. What is your religious preference?

4. Other  5. None  8. DK  9. NA

57. How often do you attend church services; every week or more often, from time to time, only on holidays or special occasions, or never?

1. Every week or more often  2. Time to time
3. Only on holidays or special occasions  4. Never
8. DK  9. NA
58. There’s quite a bit of talk these days about different social classes. If you were asked to use one of these four names, upper, middle, working and lower, to describes your social class, which one would you belong in?


   8. DK    9. NA

59. How many years of schooling did you complete?

60. Could you please tell me what kind of work you do?

61. Could you please tell me for which candidate you voted in the last presidential election?

   0. Did not vote   1. Nixon   2. Humphrey

   3. Wallace    8. DK    9. NA

62. 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 you total family income falls?

   1. Under $3,000   2. $3,000-$5,999

   3. $6,000-$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. NA

63. Were you born in the United States?

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

63a. If yes, were both of your parents born in this country?

   1. Yes    2. Father abroad    3. No, mother abroad

   8. DK    9. NA

64. Were you born in Wyoming?

   1. Yes    2. No    8. DK    9. NA
64a. If yes, were both of your parents born in Wyoming?

4. No, both parents out-of-state  8. DK  9. NA

64b. How many years have you lived in Wyoming?

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

66. Do you belong to a labor union?

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

67. County of residence.

Section A—Please check in the section of the scale which most closely approximates your own views.

Good____:____:____:____:____:____:____Bad

Extremely  Quite  Slightly  Neither  Slightly  Quite  Extremely

Tighter governmental control of wages and prices.

Amnesty for draft evaders.

Bussing of students to prevent racial segregation in public schools.

Sharply cutting military expenditures.

Immediate and complete withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam.

An increased effort by the federal government to lower unemployment.

Better American relations with Russia and Red China.

Closing tax loopholes.

Cutting welfare spending.

Continued support of Israel.

Being a Democrat.

Being a Republican.
Tighter gun control legislation.

Continued support for the South Vietnamese government.

Continued all-out bombing of North Vietnam.

A guaranteed annual income for all Americans.

Being consistent in one’s political views.

Being a political radical.

Being a political conservative.

Enactment of stronger anti-pollution laws even if such laws might mean a decrease in American standard of living.

More stringent laws to protect Wyoming’s natural resources.

An all-out effort to bring industry to Wyoming.

Place a check in the section of the scale that you believe to be the most accurate. For example: The Wyoming football team beat Arizona Stat this year.

McGovern favors tighter control of wages and prices.

Probable____:____:____:____:____:____:____Improbable

Exremely   Quite      Slightly      Neither      Slightly      Quite      Extremely

Nixon favors tighter control of wages and prices.

McGovern favors amnesty for draft evaders.

Nixon favors amnesty for draft evaders.

McGovern favors bussing of students to prevent racial segregation in public schools.

Nixon favors bussing for students to prevent racial segregation in public school.

McGovern favors sharply cutting military expenditures.

Nixon favors sharply cutting military expenditures.


McGovern favors an increased effort by the federal government to lower unemployment.
Nixon favors an increased effort by the federal government to lower unemployment.
McGovern favors better American relations with Russia and Red China.
Nixon favors better American relations with Russia and Red China.
McGovern favors closing tax loopholes.
Nixon favors closing tax loopholes.
McGovern favors cutting welfare spending.
Nixon favors cutting welfare spending.
McGovern favors continued support of Israel.
Nixon favors continued support of Israel.
McGovern is a Democrat.
Nixon is a Democrat.
McGovern is a Republican.
Nixon is a Republican.
McGovern favors continued support for the South Vietnamese Government.
Nixon favors continued support for the South Vietnamese Government.
McGovern favors continued all-out bombing of North Vietnam.
Nixon favors continued all-out bombing of North Vietnam.
McGovern is consistent in his political views.
Nixon is consistent in his political views.
McGovern favors a redistribution of income in the United States.
Nixon favors a redistribution of income in the United States.
McGovern is a political radical.
Nixon is a political radical.
McGovern favors enactment of stronger anti-pollution laws even if such laws might mean a decrease in the American standard of living.

Nixon favors enactment of stronger anti-pollution laws even if such laws might mean a decrease in the American standard of living.

McGovern is a political conservative.

Nixon is a political conservative.

Roncalio favors tighter gun control legislation.

Kidd favors tighter gun control legislation.

Roncalio favors continued support of the South Vietnamese Government.

Kidd favors continued support of the South Vietnamese Government.

Roncalio favors continued all-out bombing of North Vietnam.

Kidd favors continued all-out bombing of North Vietnam.

Roncalio is a political radical.

Kidd is a political radical.

Roncalio is a political conservative.

Kidd is a political conservative.

Roncalio favors enactment of stronger anti-pollution laws even if such laws might mean a decrease in the American standard of living.

Kidd favors enactment of stronger anti-pollution laws even if such laws might mean a decrease in the American standard of living.

Roncalio favors more stringent laws to protect Wyoming’s natural resources.

Kidd favors more stringent laws to protect Wyoming natural resources.

Roncalio favors an all-out effort to bring industry to Wyoming.

Kidd favors an all-out effort to bring industry to Wyoming.

Roncalio favors amnesty for draft evaders.

Kidd favors amnesty for draft evaders.
Roncalio favors sharply cutting military expenditures.
Kidd favors sharply cutting military expenditures.
Roncalio favors an increased effort by the federal government to lower unemployment.
Kidd favors an increased effort by the federal government to lower unemployment.
Roncalio favors closing tax loopholes.
Kidd favors closing tax loopholes.
Roncalio favors cutting welfare spending.
Kidd favors cutting welfare spending.
Roncalio is a Democrat.
Kidd is a Democrat.
Roncalio is a Republican.
Kidd is a Republican.
My best friends will vote for McGovern.
My best friends will vote for Nixon.
My best friends will vote for Teno Roncalio.
My best friends will vote for Bill Kidd.
I will vote for McGovern.
I will vote for Nixon.
I will vote for Teno Roncalio
I will vote for Bill Kidd.
I will vote for Cliff Hansen.
I will vote for Mike Vinich.
I will not vote.
Sex.
1. Male   2. Female   9. NA
Post-Election Survey

1. In talking to 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 the time. How about you? Did you vote or did something to keep you from voting?
   1. Yes, voted  2. No, did not vote  8. DK  9. NA

2. In the presidential race did you vote for Mr. McGovern or Mr. Nixon or someone else?

3. In the senatorial race did you vote for Mr. Hansen or Mr. Vinich?

4. In the race for House of Representatives did you vote for Mr. Kidd or Mr. Roncalio?