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Wyoming Election Survey 1974

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1974 Wyoming Election Survey

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<td>(60) Lincoln</td>
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1. Are you registered to vote in the upcoming state elections?
   1. Yes  2. No  8. DK  9. NA

2. 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?

3. 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 this time?
   1. Care a great deal 2. Care somewhat 3. Don’t care too much 8. DK  9. NA

4. 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?
5. In general, would you say that a voter should normally pay a lot, some, a little, or no attention to the arguments of campaigning politicians?


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


7. During an election campaign, politicians often make pledges and promises. Do you usually, occasionally, rarely or never feel that these campaign pledges and promises can be relied upon?


8. Do you think the press, radio and television paid too much attention to the Watergate affair, too little attention or about the right amount?


9. Which of these two statements comes closer to your point of view about Watergate? It’s a very serious matter because it reveals corruption in the new administration; or, it’s just politics—the kind of thing that both parties engage in.


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


11. In your opinion, was Richard Nixon guilty of criminal offenses during his presidency?

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

Now here is something different. People have different ideas about the government in Washington. These ideas don’t refer to Democrats or Republicans in particular but just to the government in general. We want to see how you feel about these ideas. For example:
12. Do you think that 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?


13. How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right—just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time.

   1. Always   2. Most of the time   3. Some of the time   4. None of the time

   8. DK   9. NA

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


15. Which of the following statements best describes how you feel about the honesty 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 are honest   2. Most are honest   3. About half   4. Only a few are honest

   5. None are honest   8. DK   9. NA

16. 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 likely   2. Somewhat likely   3. Not too likely

   4. Not at all likely   8. DK   9. NA

17. If such a case arose how likely is it that you would actually do something about it?

   1. Very likely   2. Somewhat likely   3. Not too likely

   4. Not at all likely   8. DK   9. NA

For the following six statements, I would like you to do two things. First, please tell me how you feel about each of the states: secondly, please rank the four
groups on this care in terms of how much you think each has contributed to the
development of the attitude you have expressed.

18. First would you say the government 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. Run for the benefit of all  2. Run for the benefit of a few big interests
looking out for themselves 3. Depends  8. DK  9. NA

19. Now, how much has each of the groups on the card contributed to your
feelings about this question: I mean, which has contributed most, which next and
so on?

Parent’s rank___

Present family’s rank___

Media rank___

Friends rank___

20. Secondly, do you feel that almost all of the people running government 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?

Parent’s rank___

Present family’s rank___

Media rank___

Friends rank___

21. The third statement is: I don’t think public officials care much about what
people like me think. To you agree or disagree with this statement?


22. And how much has each of the groups on the card contributed to your feelings
about this question?

Parent’s rank___

Present family’s rank___

Media rank___
Friends rank___

23. The fourth statement is: the way people vote is the main thing that decides how things are run in this country. Do you agree or disagree?


24. And how much has each group contributed to your feelings?

Parent’s rank___

Present family’s rank___

Media rank___

Friends rank___

25. Fifthly, do you approve or disapprove of the pardon President gave to Richard Nixon?


26. How much has each group contributed to your feelings on this question?

Parent’s rank___

Present family’s rank___

Media rank___

Friends rank___

27. Finally, if you had to rate our governmental system as a whole, in terms of honest, fairness and justice, what mark would you give the system? Would you say it is excellent, good, fair or poor?


28. Again, how much has each group contributed to your feelings about this question?

Parent’s rank___

Present family’s rank___

Media rank___

Friends rank___
Now we would like to know whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

29. 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

30. People like me don’t have any say about what the government does.
   - 1. Agree  
   - 2. Disagree  
   - 8. DK  
   - 9. NA

31. Sometimes politics and government seem so complicated that a person like me can’t really understand what’s going on.
   - 1. Agree  
   - 2. Disagree  
   - 8. DK  
   - 9. NA

32. Even if profits fall as a consequence, corporations should be prevented from polluting the environment.
   - 1. Agree  
   - 2. Disagree  
   - 8. DK  
   - 9. NA

33. Individuals should be penalized by fines, or even jailed, for polluting.
   - 1. Agree  
   - 2. Disagree  
   - 8. DK  
   - 9. NA

34. We have the right to take the raw materials from the earth that we need to maintain our standard of living.
   - 1. Agree  
   - 2. Disagree  
   - 8. DK  
   - 9. NA

35. Planning for the future means giving up too many freedoms.
   - 1. Agree  
   - 2. Disagree  
   - 8. DK  
   - 9. NA

36. Now, thinking about foreign affairs, what in your opinion is the biggest problem facing the United States in foreign affairs?

37. How much attention do you pay to foreign affairs? Would you say you paid a great deal of attention, some attention or not very much attention.
   - 1. Great deal  
   - 2. Some  
   - 3. Not very much  
   - 8. DK  
   - 9. NA

38. We’re interested in finding out how much attention people pay to media coverage of politics and public affairs. Take newspapers, for instance. How often do you read newspaper articles about public affairs and politics—almost daily, two or three times a week, three or four times a month or a few times a year?
1. Almost daily  2. 2-3 times a week  3. 3-4 times a month
4. A few times a year  5. Don’s read about public affairs
8. DK  9. NA

39. With specific reference to the political campaign in Wyoming this fall, how often have you read articles about the candidates and the campaign in the newspaper?


39a. Which newspaper do you read most often?

40. How about radio? How often do you listen to programs about public affairs and politics, and the news on radio?

1. Almost daily  2. 2-3 times a week  3. 3-4 times a month
4. A few times a year  5. Don’s read about public affairs
8. DK  9. NA

41. With specific reference to 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?


42. Which radio stations do you listen to most often?

43. How about television? About how often do you watch programs about public affairs, politics and news on television?

1. Almost daily  2. 2-3 times a week  3. 3-4 times a month
4. A few times a year  5. Don’s read about public affairs
8. DK  9. NA

44. (For those answering 1-4 above, ask) Do you generally watch these programs in their entirety or do you generally watch only parts of them?

1. Entire program  2. Parts of the program

45. (For those answering 1-4, ask) I would now like to read you two statements which describe the way some people react to programs about public affairs,
politics, and news on television. For each one, would you please tell me whether it always, sometimes, seldom or never describes your reaction to such programs?

Programs about public affairs, politics, and news on television provide me with new information.


Programs about public affairs, politics and news on television result in my changing my mind about the topic under discussion.


46. (For those answering 1-4 in question #43) do you generally discuss the information and views you get from television programs examining public affairs, politics and the news with other people?

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

47. (For those answering yes to question #46, ask) How often would you say such discussions take place?


48. (For those answering yes to question #46, ask) who takes part in these discussions?

6. Other 8. DK 9. NA

49. (For those answering yes to question #46, ask) How often would you say these discussion result in your changing your mind about the topic under discussion?


50. On average, how long do you watch television daily?

51. 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 source?

6. Other 8. DK 9. NA
52. With specific reference to this political campaign in Wyoming this fall, how often have you watched either interviews with the candidates or general discussion of the campaign on television?


53. Which television channel(s) do you watch most often?

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

If Republican or Democrat: Would you call yourself a strong or a never very strong Democrat or Republican?

If Independent, do you think of yourself as closer to the Republicans or the Democratic party?

   Strong Republican  2. Weak Republican  3. Lean Republican


55. What do you personally consider to be the most positive aspects of the quality of life in Wyoming and in this community? In other words, what do you like about living here? THREE POSSIBLE RESPONSES

55a. What do you personally consider to be the most negative aspects of the quality of life in Wyoming and in this community? In other words, what do you dislike about living here? THREE POSSIBLE RESPONSES

56. Now I want to ask you about the quality of water, sewage, and garbage services in your community.

   a. Do you have access to a public water supply?

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

      (If Yes) Are you satisfied with the water available to you?

      1. Public water not available  2. Satisfied  3. Dissatisfied

      8. DK  9. NA
b. Do you have garbage collection services?
   1. Yes  2. No  8. DK  9. NA
   (if Yes) Are you satisfied with this service?
   1. Yes  2. No  8. DK  9. NA

c. Do you have a public sewage system?
   1. Yes  2. No  8. DK  9. NA
   (if yes) Are you satisfied with this system?
   1. Yes  2. No  8. DK  9. NA

57. I also want to ask you about the quality of some other services in your community. Would you please indicate whether you are generally satisfied or generally dissatisfied with the following services?

a. Medical facilities

b. Public schools

c. Police protection

d. Fire protection

e. Street and road repair

f. Recreational facilities

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

59. Who is the Governor of Wyoming?
   1. Correct   2. Incorrect  9. NA

60. How many years are United States Senators elected for?
   1. Correct   2. Incorrect  9. NA

61. Alexi Kosygin is a political leader of what country?
   1. Correct   2. Incorrect  9. NA

62. Who is the Secretary of Defense?
   1. Correct   2. Incorrect  9. NA

63. Do you happen to know which party presently as the most representatives in Congress?
   1. Correct   2. Incorrect  9. NA

64. As you probably know, the two major candidates for Congress this year are Teno Roncalio and Thomas Stroock. Is there anything you can think of that would make you want to vote either for or against Mr. Stroock or Mr. Roncalio?

   Like about Teno Roncalio—three possible responses.
   Dislike about Teno Roncalio—three possible responses

   Like about Tom Stroock—three possible responses

   Dislike about Tom Stroock—three possible responses
65. Running for Governor this time are Ed Herschler and Dick Jones. Is there anything you can think of that would make you want to vote for or against Jones or Herschler?

Like about Ed Herschler—three possible responses

Dislike about Ed Herschler—three possible responses

Like about Dick Jones—three possible responses

Dislike about Dick Jones—three possible responses
66. What is your age?

67. What is your religious preference?


68. 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 describe your social class, which one would you belong in?


69. How many years of schooling did you complete?

   1. Less than high school.  2. High school  3. Some college
   4. BA/BS  5. Grad degree  8. DK  9. NA

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

Data incorrect

71. (If respondent is the chief wage earner, ask) What is your main occupation?

72. (If respondent is not the chief wage earner in your family, ask) What is the occupation of the chief wage earner in your family?

73. Here is a list of income groups which seem to apply to most people in the United States. Would you please indicate in 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

74. Do you belong to a labor union?

   1. Yes  2. No  8. DK  9. NA
75. Do you own a television set?
   1. Yes   2. No   8. DK  9. NA

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

77 (If respondent has lived in community less than five year, ask) How many times has your family moved in the last five years?

(If family has moved, ask) How many of these moves have been from one Wyoming community to another?

78. Were you born in Wyoming?
   1. Yes   2. No   8. DK 9. NA

79. (If respondent was not born in Wyoming, ask) How many years have you lived in Wyoming?

Where did you live before moving to Wyoming?

If respondent was born in Wyoming, Ask: Have you always lived in Wyoming or have you lived in other states too?

80. Do you plan on remaining in Wyoming permanently or not?

Reasons for leaving—two possible responses

81. Finally, have you ever been interviewed for a public opinion before?
   1. Yes   2. No   8. DK 9. NA

(If respondent was interviewed, ask) When was this?

82. Sex of respondent.
   1. Male  2. Female  9. NA
Pre-Election items

HONEST

HONESTY

Ed Herschler
Dick Jones
Teno Roncalio
Tom Stroock

FRIENDLINESS

Ed Herschler
Dick Jones
Teno Roncalio
Tom Stroock

CONCERN FOR THE COMMON MAN

Ed Herschler
Dick Jones
Teno Roncalio
Tom Stroock

GOOD OR BAD PAST RECORD IN GOVERNMENT

Ed Herschler
Dick Jones
Teno Roncalio
Tom Stroock
### KNOWLEDGE ABOUT WYOMING PROBLEMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HERKNW</th>
<th>Ed Herschler</th>
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<tr>
<td>JONESKNW</td>
<td>Dick Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RONKNW</td>
<td>Teno Roncalio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STKREC</td>
<td>Tom Stroock</td>
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### INDEPENDENCE OF SPECIAL INTERESTS

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<tr>
<td>JONESIND</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RONIND</td>
<td>Teno Roncalio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STKIND</td>
<td>Tom Stroock</td>
</tr>
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</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extremely</th>
<th>Quite</th>
<th>Slightly</th>
<th>No opinion</th>
<th>Slightly Quite</th>
<th>Extremely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. The coal slurry pipeline.
2. An increase in the state’s mineral severance tax on the mineral industry.
4. A four-year state supported college in Casper.
5. Requiring mining companies to restore strip mined land to its original condition.
6. Protecting mining companies to receive permission from the land’s surface owner before strip mining can take place.
7. Protecting Wyoming water from use by industry and other states.
8. Fighting inflation by cutting federal expenditures.
9. Encouraging industrial development in Wyoming to provide jobs.

10. Providing state funds for cities and countries impacted by large scale population growth.

11. Providing federal funds for cities and counties impacted by large scale population growth.


13. Being a Democrat.


15. Wyoming labor unions.


17. Wyoming oil and coal industry.

18. Amnesty for draft evaders.

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

Probable__3__:_2__:_1__:_0__:_-1__:_-2__:_-3__Improbable

   Extremely    Quite    Slightly    No opinion    Slightly    Quite    Extremely

Favors the coal slurry pipeline.

Herschler

Jones

Roncalio

Stroock

Favors a gradual planned development of Wyoming.

Herschler

Jones

Roncalio

Stroock
Favors requiring mining companies to restore strip mined land to its original condition.

Herschler
Jones
Roncalio
Stroock

Favors requiring mining companies to receive permission from the land’s surface owner before strip mining can take place.

Herschler
Jones
Roncalio
Stroock.

Favors protecting Wyoming water from use by industry and other states.

Herschler
Jones
Roncalio
Stroock

Is a Republican.

Herschler
Jones
Roncalio
Stroock
Is a Democrat.
Herschler
Jones
Roncalio
Stroock
Favors Wyoming labor unions.
Herschler
Jones
Roncalio
Stroock
Favors Wyoming agriculture.
Herschler
Jones
Roncalio
Stroock
Favors the Wyoming oil and coal industry.
Herschler
Jones
Roncalio
Stroock
Favors an increase in the state’s mineral severance tax on the mining industry.
Herschler
Jones
Favors a four-year state supported college in Casper.
Herschler
Jones

Favors encouraging industrial development in Wyoming to provide jobs.
Herschler
Jones

Favors providing state funds for cities and countries impacted by large population.
Herschler
Jones

Favors amnesty for draft evaders.
Roncalio
Stroock

Favors fighting inflation by cutting federal expenditures.
Roncalio
Stroock

Favors a rollback in the price of crude oil and propane.
Roncalio
Stroock

Favors providing federal funds for cities and counties impacted by large scale population growth.
Roncalio
Stroock

Friends will vote for Roncalio
Friends will vote for Stroock
Friends will vote for Herschler
Friends will vote for Jones
I will vote for Roncalio.
I will vote for Stroock
I will vote for Jones
I will vote for Herschler.
I will vote
Post-Election Survey

1. Do you recall being interviewed?
   1. Yes  2. No  8. DK  9. NA

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

3. In the contest for Governor did you vote for Mr. Herschler or Mr. Jones?

4. In the contest for Congress did you vote for Mr. Roncalio or Mr. Stroock?

5. 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

6. Did you go to any political meetings rallies, dinners or things like that?
   1. Yes  2. No  8. DK  9. NA

7. Did you do any other work for one of the parties or candidates?
   1. Yes  2. No  8. DK  9. NA

8. Did you talk 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

Finally, we would like to know whether you agree or disagree with each of these four statements.
8. It isn’t so important to vote when you know your party doesn’t have a chance to win. Do you agree or disagree?


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


10. So many people vote in the national elections that it doesn’t matter much to me whether I vote or not.


11. If a person doesn’t care how an election comes out he shouldn’t vote in it.
