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# Wyoming Election Survey 2006

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# Wyoming Election Year Survey: 2006

## Pre-Election Survey Instrument

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

2. All Wyoming communities face certain problems that need to be solved. What do you think is the most pressing problem in your community?

**Community problem categorized:**

1. Economics 2. Education 3. Healthcare 4. Housing  
5. Substance abuse 6. Environmental issues 7. Funding for local government.  
8. Immigration 9. Crime 10. Government officials  
11. Infrastructure 12. Taxes 13. Youth problems 14. Racial issues  
15 Growth-related concerns 20. Other

3. What do you think is the most pressing problem facing Wyoming as a whole?

**Wyoming problem categorized:**

1. Economics 2. Education 3. Healthcare 4. Housing  
5. Substance abuse 6. Environmental issues 7. Funding for local government.  
8. Immigration 9. Crime 10. Government officials  
11. Infrastructure 12. Taxes 13. Youth problems 14. Racial issues  
15 Growth-related concerns 20. Other

Please rate the job the following public officials are doing. Is their performance excellent, good, fair, or poor.

4. President George W. Bush
- (1) Excellent
  - (2) Good
  - (3) Fair
  - (4) Poor

COUNTY

PROBCOM

PROBMST

PROBWYO

PROBMSTWY

BUSHAPP

CHEENAPP

5. Vice President Dick Cheney  
(1) Excellent  
(2) Good  
(3) Fair  
(4) Poor

FREUDAPP

6. Governor Dave Freudenthal  
(1) Excellent  
(2) Good  
(3) Fair  
(4) Poor

THOMAPP

7. U.S. Senator Craig Thomas  
(1) Excellent  
(2) Good  
(3) Fair  
(4) Poor

ENZIAPP

8. U.S. Senator Mike Enzi  
(1) Excellent  
(2) Good  
(3) Fair  
(4) Poor

CUBINAPP

9. U.S. Rep. Barbara Cubin  
(1) Excellent  
(2) Good  
(3) Fair  
(4) Poor

LEGAPP

10. Wyoming Legislators  
(1) Excellent  
(2) Good  
(3) Fair  
(4) Poor

JUDAPP

11. Wyoming Judges  
(1) Excellent  
(2) Good  
(3) Fair  
(4) Poor

REGVOTE

12. Now let's talk about the upcoming general election on November 7th. Are you registered to vote in the General Election?  
(1) Yes  
(2) No

REGPARTY

13. **If YES:** Are you registered as a Republican, Democrat, Independent, or some other party?  
(1) Republican  
(2) Democrat  
(3) Independent or Other

PLANVOTE

14. Do you plan to vote in the November 7th general election?  
(1) Yes  
(2) No

GOVCH

15. This year the candidates for Governor of Wyoming are Democrat Dave Freudenthal and Republican Roy Hunkins. If the election were held today, would you vote for Dave Freudenthal, Roy Hunkins, or another candidate?  
(1) Dave Freudenthal  
(2) Roy Hunkins  
(3) another candidate  
(5) Would not vote (volunteered only)

SENCH

16. The candidates for United States Senator this year are Republican Craig Thomas and Democrat Dale Groustage. If the election was held today, would you vote for Craig Thomas, Dale Groustage, or another candidate?  
(1) Craig Thomas  
(2) Dale Groustage  
(3) another candidate  
(4) Would not vote (volunteered only)

GONCCH

17. What about the Congressional election where Republican Barbara Cubin is running against Democrat Gary Trauner. If the election was held today, would you vote for Barbara Cubin, Gary Trauner, or another candidate?  
(1) Barbara Cubin  
(2) Gary Trauner  
(3) another candidate  
(4) Would not vote (volunteered only)

CAMPAPP

18. Some people don't pay much attention to the political campaigns. How about you, would you say that you have followed this year's campaign for Wyoming governor very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all?
- (1) Very closely
  - (2) Somewhat closely
  - (3) Not too closely
  - (4) Not at all

ECON

19. Regardless of which candidate for Wyoming governor you support, please tell me if you think Dave Freudenthal or Roy Hunkins would better handle each of the following issues. How about the Wyoming economy?
- (1) Freudenthal
  - (2) Roy Hunkins
  - (3) Same (volunteered)

WHOTAX

20. Taxes:
- (1) Freudenthal
  - (2) Roy Hunkins
  - (3) Same (volunteered)

BUDSUR

21. The state's budget surplus:
- (1) Freudenthal
  - (2) Roy Hunkins
  - (3) Same (volunteered)

ED

22. Education:
- (1) Freudenthal
  - (2) Roy Hunkins
  - (3) Same (volunteered)

ENVIRON

23. The environment:
- (1) Freudenthal
  - (2) Roy Hunkins
  - (3) Same (volunteered)

WOLVES

24. Wolves near Yellowstone National Park:
- (1) Freudenthal
  - (2) Roy Hunkins
  - (3) Same (volunteered)

HLTHCARE

25. Health care:
- (1) Freudenthal
  - (2) Roy Hunkins
  - (3) Same (volunteered)

<u>IMMIG</u>	26 Immigration: (1) Freudenthal (2) Roy Hunkins (3) Same (volunteered)
<u>GOVTRUST</u>	27 Changing subjects now we would like to know how you feel about the following ideas concerning government in Washington and Cheyenne. How much of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington to do what is right. Would you say just about always, most of the time, some of the time, or none of the time? (1) Just about always (2) Most of the time (3) Some of the time (4) None of the time
<u>WYOTRUST</u>	28. Now for state government. How much of the time do you think you can trust the state government in Cheyenne to do what is right. Would you say just about always, most of the time, some of the time, or none of the time? (1) Just about always (2) Most of the time (3) Some of the time (4) None of the time
<u>IRAQWOR</u>	29. Our next questions concern the war in Iraq. All in all, do you think the war with Iraq was worth fighting or not? (1) Yes, worth fighting (2) No, not worth fighting
<u>IRAQGO</u>	30. How would you say things are going for the U.S. in Iraq now that the major fighting has ended—very well, moderately well, moderately badly, or very badly? (1) Very well (2) Moderately well (3) Moderately badly (4) Very badly
<u>IRAQALQ</u>	31. Do you think Iraq did or did not provide direct support to the Al Qaeda terrorist group? (1) Did provide support (2) Did not provide support
<u>IRAQWMD</u>	32. Do you think Iraq did have weapons of mass destruction that may not be found or do you think Iraq did not have any weapons of mass destruction? (1) Did have weapons of mass destruction (2) Did not have weapons of mass destruction

SAFE

33. Compared to a year ago, do you think the country today is safer from terrorism or less safe from terrorism?
- (1) Safer
  - (2) Less safe
  - (3) No difference (volunteered)

CONTCOND

34. Next we turn to some economic issues. First, thinking about the country as a whole. Would you say that over the past year the nation's economy has gotten better, stayed the same or gotten worse?
- (1) Gotten better
  - (2) Gotten worse
  - (3) Stayed the same

FINWYO

35. What about Wyoming? Would you say that over the past year Wyoming's economy has gotten better, stayed the same or gotten worse?
- (1) Gotten better
  - (2) Gotten worse
  - (3) Stayed the same

WYOIMP

36. Do you think the economy of Wyoming will improve within the next couple of years, within the next five years, within the next ten years, or may never improve?
- (1) Next couple of years
  - (2) Next five years
  - (3) Next ten years
  - (4) May never improve

TAX

37. 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) Generally reasonable
  - (2) Too high

BUSHEC

38. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Bush is handling the nation's economy?
- (1) Approve
  - (2) Disapprove

FREUDEC

39. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Freudenthal is handling the state's economy?
- (1) Approve
  - (2) Disapprove

ILLIMM

40. There has been a great deal of debate recently about immigration as an issue. Which comes closer to your point of view: illegal immigrants in the long-run become productive citizens and pay their fair share of taxes, or illegal immigrants cost the taxpayers too much by using government services like public education and medical services?
1. illegal immigrants in the long-run become productive citizens and pay their fair share of taxes
  2. illegal immigrants cost the taxpayers too much by using government services like public education and medical services

IMMJOBS

41. Which comes closer to your view: illegal immigrants mostly take jobs that American workers want, or illegal immigrants mostly take low-paying jobs Americans don't want?
- (1) illegal immigrants mostly take jobs that American workers want
  - (2) illegal immigrants mostly take low-paying jobs Americans don't want

IMMPOL

42. Which comes closest to your view about what government policy should be toward illegal immigrants currently residing in the United States? Should the government deport all illegal immigrants back to their home country, allow illegal immigrants to remain in the United States in order to work, but only for a limited amount of time, or allow illegal immigrants to remain in the United States and become U.S. citizens, but only if they meet certain requirements over a period of time?
- (1) deport all illegal immigrants back to their home country
  - (2) allow illegal immigrants to remain in the United States in order to work, but only for a limited amount of time
  - (3) allow illegal immigrants to remain in the United States and become U.S. citizens

GUN

43. Now I would like to read you several statements. Please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree. The country would be better off if we had good gun control laws.
- (1) Strongly agree
  - (2) Agree
  - (3) Disagree
  - (4) Strongly disagree

GAYMAR

44. Homosexual couples should be allowed to get married.
- (1) Strongly agree
  - (2) Agree
  - (3) Disagree
  - (4) Strongly disagree

GAYCON

45. I favor an amendment to the United States Constitution that would define marriage as a union between a man and a woman.
- (1) Strongly agree
  - (2) Agree
  - (3) Disagree
  - (4) Strongly disagree

MURDER

46. Persons convicted of first degree murder should receive the death penalty.
- (1) Strongly agree
  - (2) Agree
  - (3) Disagree
  - (4) Strongly disagree

PRAYER

47. I favor an amendment to the United States Constitution that would permit organized prayers in public schools.
- (1) Strongly agree
  - (2) Agree
  - (3) Disagree
  - (4) Strongly disagree

TERROR

48. The United States should use military force to stop terrorism in the world.
- (1) Strongly agree
  - (2) Agree
  - (3) Disagree
  - (4) Strongly disagree

AFFIRM

49. As you know, some affirmative action programs are designed to give preferential treatment to women and racial minorities in such areas as getting jobs and promotions, obtaining contracts, and being admitted to schools. Do you generally approve or disapprove of such affirmative action programs?
- (1) Approve
  - (2) Disapprove

ABORT

50. There has been some discussion about abortion during recent years. Which one of these opinions best agrees with your view?
- (1) By law abortion should never be permitted
  - (2) The law should permit abortion only in case of rape, incest or when the woman's life is in danger
  - (3) The law should permit abortion for reasons other than rape, incest or danger to the woman's life, but only after the need for the abortion has been clearly established
  - (4) By law, a woman should always be able to obtain an abortion as a matter of personal choice

GRADE

51. Now three questions on our educational system. Students are given grades A, B, C, D and F for the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools in your community were graded in the same way. What grade would you give your local public schools?
- (1) A
  - (2) B
  - (3) C
  - (4) D
  - (5) F

COMPCOL

52. What about the state's community colleges? What grade would you give to them?
- (1) A
  - (2) B
  - (3) C
  - (4) D
  - (5) F

UW

53. And finally, what about the University of Wyoming? What grade would you give the University for the quality of its work?
- (1) A
  - (2) B
  - (3) C
  - (4) D
  - (5) F

SALESTX

54. Earlier this year, a law was passed in Wyoming removing the sales tax on food purchased for home consumption. Do you approve or disapprove of this change?
- (1) Approve
  - (2) Disapprove

SMOKE

55. As you may know, some Wyoming cities have adopted ordinances that ban smoking in all public buildings, such government offices, stores, bars and restaurants. Thinking about your own community, do you think smoking should be banned in all public buildings?
- (1) Yes, smoking should be banned in public buildings
  - (2) No, smoking should not be banned in public buildings

IDEOLOGY

56. Again to another subject. We hear a lot of talk these days about "liberals" and "conservatives". Would you say your views are extremely liberal, liberal, slightly liberal, moderate–middle of the road, slightly conservative, conservative, or extremely conservative.
- (1) Extremely liberal
  - (2) Liberal
  - (3) Slightly liberal
  - (4) Moderate
  - (5) Slightly conservative
  - (6) Conservative
  - (7) Extremely conservative

PI1

57. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or what?
- (1) Republican
  - (2) Democrat
  - (3) Independent
  - (4) Other

PI2

58. **If Republican [Q57=1]:** Would you consider yourself a strong or not so strong Republican?
- (1) Strong
  - (2) Not so strong

PI3

59. **If Democrat [Q57=2]:** Would you consider yourself a strong or not so strong Democrat?
- (1) Strong
  - (2) Not so strong

PI4

60. **If Independent [Q57=3]:** Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democrat Party
- (1) Closer to Republican Party
  - (2) Closer to Democratic Party
  - (3) Neither

PARTYID

**Party identification**

1. Strong Democrat
2. Weak Democrat
3. Lean Democrat
4. Independent
5. Lean Republican
6. Weak Republican
7. Strong Republican

MOSTINFO

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

- (1) Television
- (2) Radio
- (3) Newspapers
- (4) Magazines
- (5) Internet
- (6) Friends
- (7) Other sources

RELIGION

62. Are you a member of a church or religious group?

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

DENOM

63. **If YES:** Of what denomination?

ATTEND

64. How often do you go to church? Would you say:

- (1) Every week
- (2) Almost every week
- (3) Once or twice a month
- (4) A few times a year
- (5) Never

Now for the last set of questions, we would like to have some background information.

BTHYEAR

65. In what year were you born?

AGE

EDUC

66. What was the last year or grade you completed in school?

- (1) Grade school
- (2) Some high school
- (3) High school graduate
- (4) Some college
- (5) Bachelor's degree
- (6) Graduate or professional degree

RACE

67. Of which of the following groups do you consider yourself a member?
- (1) White or Caucasian
  - (2) African American
  - (3) Native American
  - (4) Hispanic
  - (5) Oriental.

MARRIED

68. What is your marital status?
- (1) Married
  - (2) Single
  - (3) Separated or divorced
  - (4) Widowed

CHILD18

69. Do you have children under age 18 who are living with you?
- (1) Yes
  - (2) No

OCCU

70. What is your principal occupation?

OCCUSP

71. **If Married (Q68=1):** What is your spouse's principal occupation?

INCOME

72. Finally, the very last question. Would you tell me what your total family income was in 2005. (Include spouse's income if married)
- (1) Under \$10,000
  - (2) \$10,000-\$20,000
  - (3) \$20,000-\$30,000
  - (4) \$30,000-\$40,000
  - (5) \$40,000-\$50,000
  - (6) \$50,000-\$60,000
  - (7) \$60,000-\$70,000
  - (8) Over \$70,000

SEX

73. Gender of respondent (recorded by interviewer).
- (1) Male
  - (2) Female

## Post-Election Survey Instrument

WASINT

1. Do you recall being interviewed during the two weeks prior to the November 7th General Election?

(1) Yes  
(2) No [interview terminated]

DIDVOTE

2. In talking with people about the election, we find that a lot of people were not able to vote because they were sick, or they didn't have time, or because they were not registered. How about you? Did you vote in the November 7th election?

(1) Yes  
(2) No

GOVVOTE

**Q3 – Q9 asked of those responding "Yes" to Q2:**

3. In the race for Governor of Wyoming, did you vote for Democrat Dave Freudenthal or Republican Roy Hunkins?

(1) Dave Freudenthal  
(2) Roy Hunkins  
(3) Another candidate (volunteered)

SENVOTE

4. In the United States Senate race, did you vote for Republican Craig Thomas or Democrat Dale Groustage?

(1) Craig Thomas  
(2) Dale Groustage  
(3) Another candidate (volunteered)

CONGVOTE

5. In the United States House of Representatives race, did you vote for Republican Barbara Cubin or Democrat Gary Trauner?

(1) Barbara Cubin  
(2) Gary Trauner  
(3) Another candidate (volunteered)  
(4) Did not vote for U.S. Representative (volunteered)

GOLDVOTE

6. In the judicial races, Justice Michael Golden of the Wyoming Supreme court stood for retention--that is, people voted on whether or not to keep him in office. Do you recall how you voted on Justice Golden? Did you vote to keep him in office, did you vote against him, did you not vote either way, or don't you recall how you voted?

(1) Yes, to keep Justice Golden  
(2) Against keeping Justice Golden  
(3) Did not vote on Justice Golden's retention

GOLDKNOW

7. Do you know Justice Golden personally, or have you heard or read anything about him?  
(1) Yes, know him personally  
(2) Yes, has heard or read about him  
(3) Neither

BURKEVOT

8. Justice James Burke of the Wyoming Supreme Court also stood for retention this year. Do you recall how you voted on Justice Burke? Did you vote to keep him in office, did you vote against him, did you not vote either way, or don't you recall how you voted?  
(1) Yes, to keep Justice Burke  
(2) Against keeping Justice Burke  
(3) Did not vote on Justice Burke's retention

BURKEKN

9. Do you know Justice Burke personally, or have you heard or read anything about him?  
(1) Yes, know him personally  
(2) Yes, has heard or read about him  
(3) Neither

**Q10-Q21 asked of all respondents.**

PART1

10. Now we want to know how much people participated in political activities in the 2006 political campaign. Did you buy any tickets or give money to help the campaign for one of the parties or candidates?  
(1) Yes  
(2) No

PART2

11. Did you go to any political meetings, rallies, dinners, or things like that?  
(1) Yes  
(2) No

PART3

12. Did you do any other work for one of the parties or candidates?  
(1) Yes  
(2) No

PART4

13. 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

UWRES

14. Our last set of questions concerns the University of Wyoming. In the past few years there has been a discussion about the quality of the University of Wyoming and the size of the University of Wyoming budget. Various statements have been made during this debate and we would like to see what you think of each. Please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree or don't have an opinion on each. Wyoming does not have the resources to pay for a university comparable to the best in the surrounding states such as the University of Colorado, University of Nebraska or the University of Utah.
- (1) Strongly agree
  - (2) Agree
  - (3) Disagree
  - (4) Strongly disagree

UWSPEND

15. Considering what the University of Wyoming contributes to the state, the University is spending its budget wisely.
- (1) Strongly agree
  - (2) Agree
  - (3) Disagree
  - (4) Strongly disagree

UWDEGREE

16. The University should reduce the number of degree programs available to students.
- (1) Strongly agree
  - (2) Agree
  - (3) Disagree
  - (4) Strongly disagree

UWIMP

17. In general, the University has steadily improved during the last several years?
- (1) Strongly agree
  - (2) Agree
  - (3) Disagree
  - (4) Strongly disagree

UWOR

18. The University of Wyoming through various means offers university courses in many locations throughout the state. Have you heard or read anything about these outreach programs?
- (1) Yes
  - (2) No

UWORREC

19. **If YES to Q18:** Can you recall the names of any of these outreach programs?
- (1) Yes
  - (2) No

UWORQU

20. **If YES to Q18:** Would you rate these programs as excellent, good, fair, poor or don't you have enough information to make a judgment?

- (1) Excellent
- (2) Good
- (3) Fair
- (4) Poor

UWCC

21. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement or don't you have enough information to have an opinion. The University of Wyoming and the state's community colleges are working together to provide high quality college education for Wyoming students.

- (1) Agree
- (2) Disagree