

THE NCSTM
The National Citizen SurveyTM

Cañon City, CO

Comparisons by Geographic Subgroups

DRAFT
2016



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Summary

The National Citizen Survey™ (The NCS™) is a collaborative effort between National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). The survey and its administration are standardized to assure high quality research methods and directly comparable results across The NCS communities. This report discusses differences in opinion of survey respondents by Council District.

Responses in the following tables show only the proportion of respondents giving a certain answer; for example, the percent of respondents who rated the quality of life as “excellent” or “good,” or the percent of respondents who attended a public meeting more than once a month. ANOVA and chi-square tests of significance were applied to these comparisons of survey questions. A “p-value” of 0.05 or less indicates that there is less than a 5% probability that differences observed between Council District are due to chance; or in other words, a greater than 95% probability that the differences observed are “real.” Where differences were statistically significant, they have been shaded grey.

The margin of error for this report is generally no greater than plus or minus four percentage points around any given percent reported for the entire sample (559 completed surveys). For each Council District, the margin of error rises to approximately plus or minus eleven percentage points since sample sizes were approximately 83 for District 1, 129 for District 2, 185 for District 3 and 162 for District 4. Notable differences between Council Districts included the following:

- In the pillar of Community Characteristics, residents from Council District 1 tended to rate many aspects less positively, ranging from their neighborhoods as places to live to the quality of the overall natural and built environments of Cañon City. District 2 residents were more likely to give positive ratings to Cañon City as a place to visit, while respondents in District 1 were less likely to give positive ratings for the same aspect. Participants from Council District 3 tended to give higher marks to the availability of affordable quality health care and preventive health services when compared with their counterparts in other districts. District 2 residents were more likely to positively rate ease of travel by car, and residents from District 3 were more likely to positively rate ease of travel by bicycle in Cañon City.
- For Governance measures, District 3 participants were more likely to rate services provided by the City of Cañon City as excellent or good. Residents from Council District 1 tended to give lower ratings to a number of government services, including crime prevention, fire prevention and education, snow removal, sidewalk maintenance, garbage collection, drinking water, storm drainage, recreation programs or classes and health services, when compared to their counterparts in other districts.
- Residents in Council District 1 reported lower levels of Participation for volunteering time to a group or activity in the City, as well as reading or watching the local news.
- Survey respondents from District 1 were less likely to rate the overall built environment, as well as health and wellness opportunities in Cañon City, as community focus areas. They were also less likely to report that they felt downtown revitalization/economic development was an essential or very important City investment.

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Table 1: Community Characteristics - General

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
The overall quality of life in Cañon City	56%	66%	71%	66%	66%
Overall image or reputation of Cañon City	32%	38%	46%	38%	39%
Cañon City as a place to live	64%	70%	77%	69%	71%
Your neighborhood as a place to live	60%	80%	74%	79%	74%
Cañon City as a place to raise children	61%	61%	70%	68%	66%
Cañon City as a place to retire	67%	78%	79%	77%	76%
Overall appearance of Cañon City	43%	50%	62%	52%	53%

Table 2: Community Characteristics - Safety

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good, very/somewhat safe)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Overall feeling of safety in Cañon City	67%	82%	78%	77%	76%
In your neighborhood during the day	85%	94%	91%	94%	92%
In Cañon City's downtown/commercial area during the day	73%	90%	86%	88%	85%

Table 3: Community Characteristics - Mobility

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good, very/somewhat safe)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Overall ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit	53%	73%	73%	71%	69%
Traffic flow on major streets	31%	42%	39%	23%	34%
Ease of public parking	27%	50%	43%	36%	40%
Ease of travel by car in Cañon City	44%	64%	52%	50%	53%
Ease of travel by bicycle in Cañon City	20%	26%	38%	21%	27%
Ease of walking in Cañon City	39%	47%	50%	37%	44%
Availability of paths and walking trails	52%	73%	66%	68%	66%
Overall condition of City streets	2%	11%	9%	8%	8%

Table 4: Community Characteristics - Natural Environment

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good, very/somewhat safe)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Quality of overall natural environment in Cañon City	61%	79%	80%	78%	76%
Air quality	81%	91%	88%	81%	86%
Cleanliness of Cañon City	55%	60%	68%	59%	61%

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Table 5: Community Characteristics - Built Environment

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good, very/somewhat safe)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Overall "built environment" of Cañon City (including overall design, buildings and parks)	33%	46%	52%	48%	46%
Public places where people want to spend time	36%	55%	57%	52%	51%
Variety of housing options	16%	28%	35%	25%	27%
Availability of affordable quality housing	19%	29%	30%	21%	25%
Overall quality of new development in Cañon City	24%	25%	24%	21%	23%

Table 6: Community Characteristics - Economy

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good, very/somewhat safe)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Overall economic health of Cañon City	16%	18%	30%	28%	24%
Cañon City as a place to work	27%	36%	37%	38%	35%
Cañon City as a place to visit	57%	80%	69%	68%	69%
Employment opportunities	13%	10%	11%	11%	11%
Shopping opportunities	23%	16%	15%	12%	16%
Cost of living in Cañon City	34%	40%	49%	41%	42%
Overall quality of business and service establishments in Cañon City	25%	39%	41%	33%	35%
Vibrant downtown/commercial area	24%	27%	20%	24%	23%

Table 7: Community Characteristics - Recreation and Wellness

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good, very/somewhat safe)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Health and wellness opportunities in Cañon City	32%	46%	49%	55%	47%
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	46%	62%	64%	69%	62%
Recreational opportunities	43%	64%	64%	58%	59%
Availability of affordable quality food	47%	47%	58%	55%	53%
Availability of affordable quality health care	37%	29%	47%	30%	36%
Availability of preventive health services	35%	36%	47%	32%	38%
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	27%	30%	31%	32%	30%

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Table 8: Community Characteristics - Education and Enrichment

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good, very/somewhat safe)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Overall opportunities for education and enrichment	29%	36%	40%	46%	39%
Availability of affordable quality child care/preschool	28%	39%	41%	37%	36%
K-12 education	53%	50%	61%	46%	53%
Adult educational opportunities	30%	39%	39%	38%	37%
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	41%	52%	49%	44%	47%
Opportunities to participate in religious or spiritual events and activities	63%	84%	79%	81%	78%

Table 9: Community Characteristics - Community Engagement

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good, very/somewhat safe)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	38%	50%	52%	44%	46%
Opportunities to volunteer	55%	73%	65%	66%	65%
Opportunities to participate in community matters	46%	55%	55%	49%	52%
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	20%	30%	34%	36%	31%
Neighborliness of residents in Cañon City	33%	35%	50%	47%	43%

Table 10: Governance - General

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
The City of Cañon City	39%	45%	65%	45%	50%
The value of services for the taxes paid to Cañon City	36%	28%	41%	26%	33%
The overall direction that Cañon City is taking	27%	28%	37%	24%	29%
The job Cañon City government does at welcoming citizen involvement	25%	35%	35%	23%	30%
Overall confidence in Cañon City government	26%	27%	31%	19%	26%
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	33%	28%	33%	21%	29%
Being honest	39%	42%	42%	28%	38%
Treating all residents fairly	29%	38%	40%	25%	34%
Overall customer service by Cañon City employees (police, receptionists, planners, etc.)	46%	62%	64%	57%	58%
The Federal Government	32%	25%	34%	31%	31%

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Table 11: Governance - Safety

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Police services	61%	69%	77%	72%	71%
Fire services	83%	89%	88%	93%	89%
Ambulance or emergency medical services	76%	84%	80%	86%	82%
Crime prevention	33%	58%	60%	54%	53%
Fire prevention and education	53%	68%	73%	73%	68%
Animal control	40%	47%	48%	48%	47%
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations)	34%	45%	36%	44%	40%

Table 12: Governance - Mobility

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Traffic enforcement	39%	46%	57%	48%	49%
Street repair	2%	8%	7%	11%	7%
Street cleaning	32%	35%	32%	29%	32%
Street lighting	37%	39%	38%	37%	38%
Snow removal	23%	43%	43%	41%	39%
Sidewalk maintenance	7%	18%	27%	19%	19%
Traffic signal timing	19%	17%	23%	22%	21%

Table 13: Governance - Natural Environment

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Garbage collection	66%	85%	84%	86%	82%
Recycling	42%	53%	51%	51%	50%
Yard waste pick-up	29%	38%	45%	42%	40%
Drinking water	56%	67%	71%	71%	68%
Preservation of natural areas such as open space, farmlands and greenbelts	44%	52%	54%	48%	50%
Cañon City open space	33%	51%	53%	46%	47%

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Table 14: Governance - Built Environment

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Storm drainage	13%	28%	34%	36%	29%
Sewer services	63%	76%	74%	75%	73%
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	59%	60%	68%	67%	64%
Utility billing	53%	54%	62%	62%	59%
Land use, planning and zoning	17%	25%	27%	29%	25%
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.)	20%	18%	14%	18%	17%
Cable television	30%	37%	37%	22%	31%

Table 15: Governance - Economy

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Economic development	17%	11%	22%	17%	17%

Table 16: Governance - Recreation and Wellness

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
City parks	69%	77%	83%	78%	78%
Recreation programs or classes	37%	52%	56%	59%	52%
Recreation centers or facilities	26%	36%	49%	48%	41%
Health services	29%	41%	51%	41%	42%

Table 17: Governance - Education and Enrichment

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Public library services	61%	71%	70%	66%	68%
City-sponsored special events	45%	54%	58%	49%	52%

Table 18: Governance - Community Engagement

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Public information services	30%	39%	48%	45%	42%

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Table 19: Participation General

Percent rating positively (e.g., always/sometimes, more than once a month, yes)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Sense of community	30%	43%	50%	36%	41%
Recommend living in Cañon City to someone who asks	65%	73%	82%	84%	77%
Remain in Cañon City for the next five years	70%	84%	82%	89%	82%
Contacted the City of Cañon City (in-person, phone, email or web) for help or information	25%	50%	40%	33%	38%

Table 20: Participation - Safety

Percent rating positively (e.g., always/sometimes, more than once a month, yes)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Was NOT the victim of a crime	87%	91%	85%	84%	86%
Did NOT report a crime	61%	76%	70%	65%	68%
Stocked supplies in preparation for an emergency	29%	38%	36%	32%	34%

Table 21: Participation - Mobility

Percent rating positively (e.g., always/sometimes, more than once a month, yes)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Walked or biked instead of driving	46%	59%	57%	65%	58%
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	35%	42%	34%	39%	37%

Table 22: Participation - Natural Environment

Percent rating positively (e.g., always/sometimes, more than once a month, yes)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Recycle at home	63%	73%	68%	67%	68%
Made efforts to make your home more energy efficient	72%	80%	80%	81%	79%
Made efforts to conserve water	76%	86%	84%	83%	83%

Table 23: Participation - Built Environment

Percent rating positively (e.g., always/sometimes, more than once a month, yes)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
NOT under housing cost stress	70%	72%	71%	74%	72%
Did NOT observe a code violation	22%	29%	28%	24%	26%

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Table 24: Participation - Economy

Percent rating positively (e.g., always/sometimes, more than once a month, yes)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Purchase goods or services from a business located in Cañon City	95%	99%	93%	97%	96%
Economy will have positive impact on income	21%	20%	15%	21%	19%
Work in Cañon City	54%	53%	43%	54%	50%

Table 25: Participation - Recreation and Wellness

Percent rating positively (e.g., always/sometimes, more than once a month, yes)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Used Cañon City recreation centers or their services	56%	60%	55%	65%	59%
Visited a neighborhood park or City park	83%	96%	93%	91%	91%
Eat at least 5 portions of fruits and vegetables a day	82%	75%	74%	83%	78%
Participate in moderate or vigorous physical activity	73%	82%	72%	84%	78%
Reported being in "very good" or "excellent" health	48%	63%	55%	56%	56%

Table 26: Participation - Education and Enrichment

Percent rating positively (e.g., always/sometimes, more than once a month, yes)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Used Cañon City public libraries or their services	57%	61%	50%	52%	54%
Participated in religious or spiritual activities in Cañon City	46%	58%	56%	52%	53%
Attended a City-sponsored event	54%	76%	66%	63%	65%

Table 27: Participation - Community Engagement

Percent rating positively (e.g., always/sometimes, more than once a month, yes)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Campaigned or advocated for an issue, cause or candidate	26%	31%	24%	25%	26%
Contacted Cañon City elected officials (in-person, phone, email or web) to express your opinion	15%	23%	15%	17%	17%
Volunteered your time to some group/activity in Cañon City	35%	52%	51%	52%	49%
Participated in a club	24%	38%	27%	36%	31%
Talked to or visited with your immediate neighbors	87%	97%	90%	96%	93%
Done a favor for a neighbor	71%	88%	82%	90%	84%
Attended a local public meeting	14%	31%	16%	24%	21%
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting	13%	19%	19%	27%	20%
Read or watch local news (via television, paper, computer, etc.)	73%	96%	83%	89%	86%
Vote in local elections	82%	92%	80%	87%	85%

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Table 28: Community Focus Areas

Percent rating positively (e.g., essential/very important)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Overall feeling of safety in Cañon City	86%	84%	86%	86%	86%
Overall ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit	67%	71%	73%	74%	72%
Quality of overall natural environment in Cañon City	68%	83%	68%	70%	72%
Overall "built environment" of Cañon City (including overall design, buildings and parks)	49%	78%	63%	66%	64%
Health and wellness opportunities in Cañon City	65%	85%	80%	78%	78%
Overall opportunities for education and enrichment	83%	82%	78%	72%	78%
Overall economic health of Cañon City	82%	88%	90%	85%	87%
Sense of community	75%	90%	81%	79%	81%

Table 29: City Investments

Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is that the City invest in each of the following in the next 12 months.	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Public safety	83%	82%	84%	80%	82%
Road improvements	95%	91%	87%	92%	91%
Parks and recreation improvements	45%	61%	57%	51%	54%
Future trail developments (bike/hiking trails)	33%	57%	52%	42%	47%
Downtown revitalization/economic development	42%	69%	59%	57%	58%
Overall aesthetics (signage, building design, facades)	36%	61%	48%	45%	48%
River corridor improvements	44%	66%	52%	52%	54%
Stormwater improvements	65%	63%	64%	56%	62%

Table 30: Support for Recreation/Aquatic Community Center

Please indicate the extent to which you support or oppose the City taking the following actions regarding a Recreation/Aquatic Community Center.	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Funding construction of a new Recreation/Aquatic Community Center with public and private partners and no tax increase	86%	88%	87%	86%	87%
Funding the rehabilitation and repairs of the existing Rec District pool with no tax increase	80%	79%	83%	83%	82%
Funding the rehabilitation and winter cover of the existing Rec District pool to allow year-round use with no tax increase	82%	76%	77%	75%	77%
Funding the rehabilitation and repair of the existing Rec District pool with a tax increase	53%	44%	51%	43%	48%

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Table 31: Sales Tax Increase

	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
The City is proposing to increase the sales tax by 1% for 10 years to generate \$3.5 million annually to fund only street improvements and repairs, with such expenditures subject to an annual independent audit for public review. Please indicate the extent to which you support or oppose this proposal.	79%	73%	81%	65%	74%

Table 32: Support for Recreation Improvements

	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Please indicate the extent to which you support or oppose the City taking the following actions.					
Funding the construction of a new fountain/splash pad at Centennial Park with public and private partners and no tax increase	70%	80%	74%	73%	74%
Funding the enhancement of existing playground equipment at Centennial Park with no tax increase	74%	82%	84%	82%	81%
Funding rehabilitation and repairs of the pond at Centennial Park with no tax increase	74%	83%	84%	77%	80%
Funding the construction of a new fountain/splash pad at Macon Plaza with public and private partners and no tax increase	52%	65%	65%	59%	61%

Table 33: Marijuana in Industrial Zones

	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
The City is attempting to reduce cultivation of marijuana in residential homes and areas. Please indicate the extent to which you support or oppose the adoption of zoning and special review conditions to permit the cultivation, but not the sale, of marijuana in industrial zones in the city.	51%	51%	51%	51%	51%

Table 34: Marijuana in Commercial Zones

	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Please indicate the extent to which you support or oppose the adoption of zoning and special review conditions to permit the cultivation, but not the sale, of marijuana in commercial zones in the city.	41%	44%	47%	44%	44%