

THE NCSTM
The National Citizen SurveyTM

Cañon City, CO

Comparisons by Geographic Subgroups

2017



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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 City 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 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 all respondents 558 is generally no greater than plus or minus four percentage points around any given percent. The margin of error for subgroups is less precise. For subgroups of approximately 100 respondents, the margin of error is plus or minus 10 percentage points. Four Council Districts were tracked for comparison and the number of completed surveys for each are in the figure below.

Figure 1: Geographic Areas

City Council District	Number of Completed Surveys
District 1	124
District 2	152
District 3	149
District 4	133
Overall	558

Overall, residents of different geographic areas within Cañon City had shared perspectives across most items on the survey. Among the few differences observed, residents of District 1 sometimes gave lower ratings than those who lived elsewhere.

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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	55%	61%	62%	58%	59%
Overall image or reputation of Cañon City	31%	38%	41%	33%	36%
Cañon City as a place to live	59%	71%	71%	64%	66%
Your neighborhood as a place to live	72%	64%	72%	66%	68%
Cañon City as a place to raise children	65%	54%	58%	59%	59%
Cañon City as a place to retire	58%	65%	71%	62%	64%
Overall appearance of Cañon City	48%	53%	59%	46%	52%

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	59%	64%	67%	63%	63%
In your neighborhood during the day	82%	89%	88%	86%	86%
In Cañon City's downtown/commercial area during the day	83%	85%	85%	79%	83%

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	61%	65%	69%	58%	63%
Traffic flow on major streets	32%	25%	28%	35%	30%
Ease of public parking	48%	40%	43%	44%	44%
Ease of travel by car in Cañon City	52%	55%	55%	45%	52%
Ease of travel by bicycle in Cañon City	48%	48%	36%	32%	41%
Ease of walking in Cañon City	57%	60%	59%	52%	57%
Availability of paths and walking trails	70%	76%	68%	64%	70%

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	64%	72%	82%	77%	74%
Air quality	87%	93%	82%	88%	88%
Cleanliness of Cañon City	52%	61%	59%	59%	58%

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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)	42%	46%	47%	41%	44%
Public places where people want to spend time	47%	57%	52%	53%	52%
Variety of housing options	21%	25%	36%	24%	27%
Availability of affordable quality housing	24%	26%	29%	26%	26%
Overall quality of new development in Cañon City	18%	33%	29%	17%	25%

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	12%	30%	27%	23%	23%
Cañon City as a place to work	15%	36%	36%	29%	29%
Cañon City as a place to visit	65%	70%	67%	67%	67%
Employment opportunities	11%	14%	15%	11%	13%
Shopping opportunities	15%	18%	26%	23%	20%
Cost of living in Cañon City	33%	35%	37%	36%	35%
Overall quality of business and service establishments in Cañon City	32%	42%	40%	35%	37%
Vibrant downtown/commercial area	22%	34%	28%	19%	26%

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	44%	49%	45%	43%	46%
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	66%	70%	65%	66%	67%
Recreational opportunities	57%	64%	69%	69%	65%
Availability of affordable quality food	48%	55%	55%	50%	52%
Availability of affordable quality health care	33%	38%	38%	38%	37%
Availability of preventive health services	31%	37%	43%	37%	37%
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	20%	27%	27%	22%	24%

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	31%	36%	39%	38%	36%
Availability of affordable quality child care/preschool	38%	30%	37%	49%	38%

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Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good, very/somewhat safe)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
K-12 education	49%	45%	51%	43%	47%
Adult educational opportunities	36%	31%	34%	39%	35%
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	40%	42%	53%	49%	46%
Opportunities to participate in religious or spiritual events and activities	65%	74%	81%	83%	76%

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	45%	49%	53%	50%	49%
Opportunities to volunteer	63%	60%	57%	62%	61%
Opportunities to participate in community matters	55%	45%	45%	47%	48%
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	32%	37%	35%	34%	35%
Neighborliness of residents in Cañon City	44%	44%	50%	44%	45%

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	48%	47%	56%	49%	50%
The value of services for the taxes paid to Cañon City	21%	35%	37%	26%	30%
The overall direction that Cañon City is taking	25%	38%	30%	28%	31%
The job Cañon City government does at welcoming citizen involvement	23%	30%	36%	35%	31%
Overall confidence in Cañon City government	27%	28%	28%	24%	27%
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	18%	30%	26%	27%	26%
Being honest	22%	33%	35%	24%	29%
Treating all residents fairly	20%	30%	34%	37%	30%
Overall customer service by Cañon City employees (police, receptionists, planners, etc.)	45%	51%	70%	51%	54%
The Federal Government	34%	38%	38%	28%	35%

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	63%	60%	70%	56%	62%
Fire services	90%	90%	95%	90%	91%
Ambulance or emergency medical services	75%	83%	87%	86%	83%

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Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Crime prevention	44%	47%	49%	42%	46%
Fire prevention and education	68%	70%	74%	69%	70%
Animal control	40%	45%	53%	48%	46%
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations)	31%	42%	41%	36%	37%

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	43%	52%	49%	53%	50%
Street repair	7%	14%	11%	9%	10%
Street cleaning	25%	37%	30%	28%	30%
Street lighting	36%	44%	35%	37%	39%
Snow removal	30%	43%	37%	42%	38%
Sidewalk maintenance	19%	24%	18%	18%	20%
Traffic signal timing	19%	23%	18%	17%	19%

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	69%	74%	87%	82%	78%
Recycling	48%	49%	49%	55%	50%
Yard waste pick-up	19%	36%	45%	46%	37%
Drinking water	57%	65%	79%	59%	65%
Preservation of natural areas such as open space, farmlands and greenbelts	47%	59%	49%	54%	53%
Cañon City open space	47%	52%	49%	58%	51%

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	19%	30%	27%	20%	24%
Sewer services	72%	65%	75%	72%	71%
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	57%	61%	63%	60%	60%
Utility billing	48%	57%	67%	65%	59%

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Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent/good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Land use, planning and zoning	17%	32%	26%	21%	25%
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.)	17%	20%	15%	20%	18%
Cable television	38%	31%	40%	31%	35%

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	8%	29%	24%	19%	20%

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	74%	82%	72%	87%	79%
Recreation programs or classes	50%	57%	54%	65%	57%
Recreation centers or facilities	32%	41%	45%	48%	41%
Health services	36%	44%	39%	34%	39%

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	65%	76%	76%	76%	73%
City-sponsored special events	43%	57%	52%	58%	53%

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	43%	56%	50%	43%	48%

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	35%	37%	48%	42%	40%
Recommend living in Cañon City to someone who asks	67%	67%	67%	76%	69%
Remain in Cañon City for the next five years	83%	82%	81%	80%	81%
Contacted the City of Cañon City (in-person, phone, email or web) for help or information	45%	43%	41%	39%	42%

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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	70%	80%	74%	85%	77%
Did NOT report a crime	60%	69%	58%	71%	65%
Stocked supplies in preparation for an emergency	31%	36%	35%	37%	35%

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%	62%	57%	54%	55%
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	41%	38%	37%	36%	38%

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	69%	67%	58%	68%	66%
Made efforts to make your home more energy efficient	71%	71%	74%	71%	72%
Made efforts to conserve water	75%	79%	85%	83%	80%

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	76%	70%	68%	72%	71%
Did NOT observe a code violation	20%	31%	30%	31%	28%

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	97%	94%	98%	98%	96%
Economy will have positive impact on income	26%	24%	20%	21%	23%
Work in Cañon City	42%	56%	40%	47%	47%

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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	64%	62%	63%	57%	61%
Visited a neighborhood park or City park	92%	95%	91%	87%	91%
Eat at least 5 portions of fruits and vegetables a day	87%	76%	73%	75%	78%
Participate in moderate or vigorous physical activity	79%	88%	83%	81%	83%
Reported being in "very good" or "excellent" health	51%	51%	52%	47%	50%

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	61%	60%	54%	59%	59%
Participated in religious or spiritual activities in Cañon City	52%	46%	52%	44%	48%
Attended a City-sponsored event	68%	69%	61%	55%	64%

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	37%	35%	31%	22%	31%
Contacted Cañon City elected officials (in-person, phone, email or web) to express your opinion	25%	26%	24%	14%	22%
Volunteered your time to some group/activity in Cañon City	45%	41%	46%	37%	42%
Participated in a club	34%	33%	30%	27%	31%
Talked to or visited with your immediate neighbors	91%	91%	94%	90%	92%
Done a favor for a neighbor	89%	78%	88%	82%	84%
Attended a local public meeting	19%	22%	22%	22%	21%
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting	16%	15%	25%	21%	19%
Read or watch local news (via television, paper, computer, etc.)	86%	79%	81%	86%	83%
Vote in local elections	93%	86%	87%	88%	88%

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	82%	92%	87%	80%	86%
Overall ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit	65%	81%	80%	82%	77%
Quality of overall natural environment in Cañon City	75%	80%	71%	75%	76%
Overall "built environment" of Cañon City (including overall design, buildings and parks)	71%	73%	64%	68%	69%

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Percent rating positively (e.g., essential/very important)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Health and wellness opportunities in Cañon City	78%	80%	83%	74%	79%
Overall opportunities for education and enrichment	79%	78%	80%	79%	79%
Overall economic health of Cañon City	89%	86%	92%	90%	89%
Sense of community	74%	72%	75%	70%	73%

Table 29: Custom Addition to Question 5

Percent rating positively (e.g., excellent or good)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Overall condition of City streets	6%	13%	10%	6%	9%

Table 30: Level of Support for Tax Increases for Facilities and Programs

To what extent would you support or oppose using a tax increase to finance improvements to the following facilities and programs: (Percent rating positively, e.g. strongly or somewhat support)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Constructing a new Recreation/Aquatic Community Fitness Center with public and private partners	64%	75%	67%	66%	68%
Rehabilitating and repairing the existing Rec. District pool	76%	61%	73%	61%	68%
Rehabilitating and repairing the existing St. Scholastica gymnasium and pool	79%	74%	74%	71%	74%

Table 31: Level of Support for City Actions

Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose the City taking the following actions: (Percent rating positively, e.g. strongly or somewhat support)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Developing a multi-field sports complex to host local and regional athletic competitions	70%	77%	68%	71%	72%
Increasing the number of trails at the Royal Gorge Park	77%	83%	68%	72%	75%
Creating an RV/camping area at the Royal Gorge Park	60%	72%	63%	57%	63%
Creating RV/camping areas in other Mountain Parks (e.g., Temple Canyon Park, Red Canyon Park)	65%	66%	59%	56%	62%
Creating non-motorized camping areas in City Parks (e.g., Veterans Park)	33%	35%	36%	30%	34%
Extending the Arkansas River Trail to Florence	88%	81%	77%	79%	81%
Enhancing the physical and economic connection between the Arkansas River Corridor and Downtown	79%	79%	72%	78%	77%
Creating additional public and private recreational, restaurant, and retail development along the Arkansas River Corridor	81%	78%	68%	76%	76%
Creating elevated and landscaped medians on US-50 from 1st Ave. to 9th Ave. to enhance pedestrian safety and improve aesthetics	60%	64%	55%	58%	60%
Prohibiting smoking in public parks during music and festival events	59%	70%	70%	62%	66%
Continuing the physical revitalization of the City through new signage and code standards and enforcement	80%	80%	76%	72%	77%

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Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose the City taking the following actions: (Percent rating positively, e.g. strongly or somewhat support)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Acquiring the 200 acre Abbey property for future recreational and commercial development	62%	59%	64%	59%	61%

Table 32: Level of Support for Stormwater Utility Rate Increase

(Percent rating positively, e.g. strongly or somewhat support)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a stormwater utility rate increase that would be used to fund improvements to the City's stormwater infrastructure:	51%	55%	56%	59%	55%

Table 33: Level of Support for Reduction of Deer Population

(Percent rating positively, e.g. strongly or somewhat support)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose the reduction of deer population in Cañon City in partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife Deer Management and Harvesting Guidelines:	53%	56%	66%	63%	59%

Table 34: Level of Support for City Lodging Tax Increase

(Percent rating positively, e.g. strongly or somewhat support)	City Council District				Overall
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	
Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a city lodging tax increase from 2% to 5% for only city hotel, motel and lodging accommodations, to be used exclusively for promoting and marketing tourism and special events in the Cañon City and Royal Gorge Region:	73%	54%	65%	61%	63%