



To: Interested Parties
 From: Chris Keating, *Keating Research*
 Curtis Hubbard, *OnSight Public Affairs*
 Jake Martin, *Martin Campaigns*
 Date: July 2, 2019
 Re: **Keating–OnSight–Martin (KOM) Colorado Poll™ indicates Gardner is vulnerable**

Keating Research, OnSight Public Affairs and Martin Campaigns have teamed up on the **Keating–OnSight–Martin (KOM) Colorado Poll™** which provides informative, accurate results using live-interviewer telephone surveys and was Colorado’s most accurate in the 2018 Colorado Gubernatorial race and in the 2016 Colorado Presidential. The new **Keating–OnSight–Martin (KOM) Colorado Poll™** conducted June 24-27, 2019, is the most recent installment in our effort to track voter attitudes toward President Trump and Colorado’s key issues.

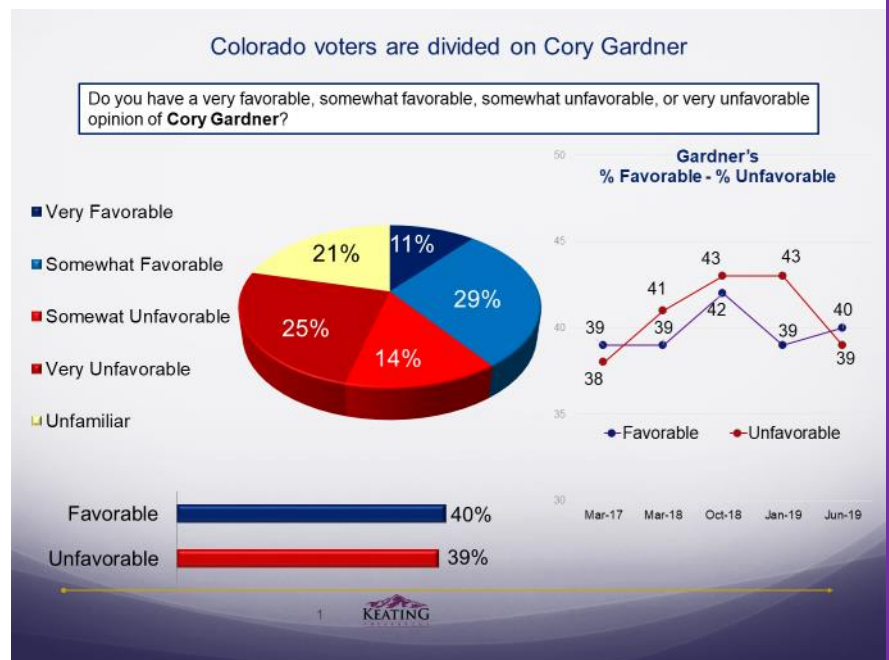
Voters are more favorable toward Trump than Gardner — but both have steep hills to climb.

Colorado voters are divided on Cory Gardner with 40% viewing him favorably and 39% holding an unfavorable view of Colorado’s junior Senator, ranked as one of the most vulnerable incumbents next year [by Cook Political report](#). During the two and a half years that Donald Trump has been president, Gardner has averaged a 40% favorable to 41% unfavorable rating. Gardner’s 40% favorable rating is 3 points less than Trump’s 43% favorable rating among likely voters. The main reason Gardner fares more poorly than Trump is that only 60% of Republicans hold a favorable view of him, compared to Trump’s 90% favorability among those same Republicans.

A majority (51%) of Colorado voters in this poll say they are *very unfavorable* toward Trump, which makes it nearly impossible for him to win Colorado in 2020 — and Gardner’s endorsement of the President’s re-election earlier in this year has the potential to drag them both down in the 2020 election.

Gardner faces an uphill battle.

Overall, Gardner faces an uphill battle in his campaign to retain the seat in the U.S. Senate he narrowly won in 2014. Currently, Gardner has one voter who holds a *very favorable* view of him for every two voters who are *very unfavorable*: very favorable (11%) to very unfavorable (25%).



With voter intensity on the Gardner's negative side, voters will be looking closely at the Democratic candidate in the 2020 election.

Gardner won in 2014 by less than 2 points (48.2% Gardner – 46.3% Udall) in a year in which Republican's had at 5-point advantage in voter turnout. *In 2020, we predict that Democrats will have at least a 1.5-point advantage in voter turnout.* In fact, Democrats (96% say they will definitely vote) are more interested in voting in 2020 than are Republicans (92% say they will definitely vote), which is the same dynamic that we saw in the lead up to the 2018 midterms in which a wave of Democrat voters propelled Democrats to wins in every statewide race.

Colorado is heading in the right direction.

A majority of voters say that Colorado is heading in the right direction (55% right direction – 37% wrong direction). These positive feelings about Colorado are particularly intense with Democrats (87% right direction to 6% wrong direction), which is the highest percent saying right direction that we have seen among Democrats over the past 10 years. Colorado voters are optimistic about the state in part because they like Governor Jared Polis with 50% holding favorable views toward him compared to 35% unfavorable.

Two-thirds of Colorado voters say abortion should remain legal.

Colorado is facing the possibility of another anti-abortion question on the ballot next year. When voters are asked about their personal opinion on abortion, a two-thirds majority (68%) say abortion should be *legal*, compared to 28% who say it should be *illegal*. Democrats (90% legal) and Unaffiliateds (71% legal) strongly support abortion remaining legal, while a majority 53% of Republicans say it should be illegal.

A majority of Coloradans want abortion to remain legal across all key voter groups including:

- Women (72% legal) and Men (64% legal);
- Younger age 18-49 (72% legal) and Older age 50+ (63% legal);
- Suburban Arapahoe / Jefferson / Douglas / Adams, Larimer and Weld Counties (72% legal).

Colorado has voted down anti-abortion ballot question three times in the past 11 years and if the new anti-abortion question makes the 2020 ballot it is likely to fail as well:

- 2008 (73% voted no);
- 2010 (71% voted no);
- 2014 (65% voted no).

Keating Research is recognized by Democrats and Republicans alike as providing extremely accurate polling in Colorado. This polling data is based on 500 live-interviewer telephone surveys conducted June 24-27, 2019 among "active" voters statewide in Colorado: conducted on cell-phone and on a land line. For this sample of 500 interviews the worst case margin of error at the 95% level is plus or minus 4.4%.