



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)**

**QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312**

## **Ritter leads potential opponents for 2010 gubernatorial race**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – A new survey from Public Policy Polling finds that Democratic Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter would beat possible Republican candidates Tom Tancredo and Bob Beauprez.

Ritter led Beauprez, the former Congressman, 46% to 40%. The governor held a 52-38% advantage over Tancredo, also a former Congressman.

Ritter's approval rating, split at 47/40 according to this survey, has decreased a little bit since December 2008, when nearly half of respondents approved of his job performance and only 36% disapproved.

This negative change may be a result of declining approval among Hispanics in light of Ritter's decision to replace Ken Salazar with Michael Bennet. 48% of Hispanics reported disapproving of Ritter, with 44% percent saying they approved. Before the appointment, Ritter held a 54/30 approval rating among Hispanics.

"Bill Ritter would probably be re-elected if the election was now," said Dean Debnam, president of Public Policy Polling. "But, he's certainly not unbeatable, and it could be a competitive race next year with the right Republican candidate."

Though 45% of respondents had an unfavorable view of Beauprez, and only 31% found him favorable, Ritter only led Beauprez 46/40 in the hypothetical matchup.

Yesterday, PPP released numbers looking at Michael Bennet and the 2010 picture for U.S. Senate.

PPP surveyed 959 Colorado voters between January 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.16%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at [www.publicpolicypolling.com](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com).

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

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## Colorado Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Bill Ritter's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* ..... 47%  
*Disapprove*..... 40%  
*Not Sure*..... 14%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of former Republican Congressman Bob Beauprez? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Favorable*..... 31%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 45%  
*Not Sure*..... 24%

**Q3** If the candidates for Governor in 2010 were Republican Bob Beauprez and Democrat Bill Ritter, who would you vote for? If Bob Beauprez, press 1. If Bill Ritter, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Bob Beauprez* ..... 40%  
*Bill Ritter* ..... 46%  
*Undecided*..... 13%

**Q4** If the candidates for Governor in 2010 were Democrat Bill Ritter and Republican Tom Tancredo, who would you vote for? If Bill Ritter, press 1. If Tom Tancredo, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Bill Ritter* ..... 52%  
*Tom Tancredo* ..... 38%  
*Undecided*..... 11%

**Q5** I am going to name 7 issues. Which of these is most important to you? The War in Iraq, education, the economy and jobs, taxes, moral or family values, health care, or immigration. If the War in Iraq is most important, press 1. If education, press 2. If the economy and jobs, press 3. If taxes, press 4. If moral and family values, press 5. If health care, press 6. If immigration, press 7. If some other issue is most important, press 8.

*War in Iraq* ..... 11%  
*Education*..... 7%  
*Economy and Jobs* ..... 52%  
*Taxes*..... 7%  
*Moral and family values* ..... 10%  
*Health care* ..... 5%  
*Immigration*..... 6%  
*Other*..... 2%

**Q6** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 50%  
*Man*..... 50%

**Q7** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

*Democrat*..... 39%  
*Republican*..... 40%  
*Independent/Other*..... 21%

**Q8** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If you are Hispanic, press 3. If other, press 4.

*White* ..... 79%  
*African-American* ..... 5%  
*Hispanic*..... 12%  
*Other*..... 4%





**Q9** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

18 to 29..... 16%  
30 to 45..... 26%  
46 to 65..... 41%  
Older than 65..... 17%

**Q10**

Denver Metro Area ..... 58%  
Rest of State ..... 42%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Ritter Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	47%	55%	39%
<b>Disapprove</b>	40%	31%	49%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	15%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Beauprez Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	26%	36%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	45%	47%	43%
<b>Not Sure</b>	24%	28%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Beauprez/Ritter</b>			
<b>Bob Beauprez</b>	40%	33%	48%
<b>Bill Ritter</b>	46%	52%	41%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	15%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Ritter/Tancredo</b>			
<b>Bill Ritter</b>	52%	57%	47%
<b>Tom Tancredo</b>	38%	30%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	13%	8%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Ritter Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	47%	78%	13%	51%
<b>Disapprove</b>	40%	11%	73%	31%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	11%	14%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Beauprez Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	7%	56%	28%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	45%	72%	21%	39%
<b>Not Sure</b>	24%	22%	22%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Beauprez/Ritter</b>				
<b>Bob Beauprez</b>	40%	13%	72%	31%
<b>Bill Ritter</b>	46%	80%	14%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	7%	14%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Ritter/Tancredo</b>				
<b>Bill Ritter</b>	52%	86%	19%	50%
<b>Tom Tancredo</b>	38%	8%	70%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	6%	11%	18%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race			
		White	African-American	Hispanic	Other
<b>Ritter Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	47%	47%	32%	44%	59%
<b>Disapprove</b>	40%	38%	51%	48%	27%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	14%	17%	8%	15%

	Base	Race			
		White	African-American	Hispanic	Other
<b>Beauprez Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	30%	30%	34%	32%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	45%	44%	40%	47%	55%
<b>Not Sure</b>	24%	25%	30%	19%	12%

	Base	Race			
		White	African-American	Hispanic	Other
<b>Beauprez/Ritter</b>					
<b>Bob Beauprez</b>	40%	38%	64%	50%	27%
<b>Bill Ritter</b>	46%	48%	32%	36%	56%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	14%	4%	14%	17%

	Base	Race			
		White	African-American	Hispanic	Other
<b>Ritter/Tancredo</b>					
<b>Bill Ritter</b>	52%	52%	47%	53%	53%
<b>Tom Tancredo</b>	38%	38%	49%	35%	27%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	10%	4%	12%	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Ritter Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	47%	64%	44%	44%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	40%	28%	43%	41%	43%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	8%	12%	15%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Beauprez Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	24%	33%	33%	29%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	45%	64%	37%	43%	43%
<b>Not Sure</b>	24%	12%	30%	24%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Beauprez/Ritter</b>					
<b>Bob Beauprez</b>	40%	28%	46%	41%	41%
<b>Bill Ritter</b>	46%	64%	40%	44%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	8%	15%	14%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Ritter/Tancredo</b>					
<b>Bill Ritter</b>	52%	68%	51%	48%	49%
<b>Tom Tancredo</b>	38%	24%	38%	41%	40%
<b>Undecided</b>	11%	8%	11%	11%	11%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Region	
		Denver Metro Area	Rest of State
<b>Ritter Approval</b>			
Approve	47%	52%	40%
Disapprove	40%	36%	45%
Not Sure	14%	12%	16%

	Base	Region	
		Denver Metro Area	Rest of State
<b>Beauprez Favorability</b>			
Favorable	31%	28%	34%
Unfavorable	45%	54%	32%
Not Sure	24%	18%	33%

	Base	Region	
		Denver Metro Area	Rest of State
<b>Beauprez/Ritter</b>			
Bob Beauprez	40%	37%	45%
Bill Ritter	46%	51%	40%
Undecided	13%	12%	15%

	Base	Region	
		Denver Metro Area	Rest of State
<b>Ritter/Tancredo</b>			
Bill Ritter	52%	58%	44%
Tom Tancredo	38%	33%	44%
Undecided	11%	10%	12%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Issues							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and Jobs	Taxes	Moral and family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
<b>Ritter Approval</b>									
<b>Approve</b>	47%	62%	73%	53%	5%	23%	75%	9%	30%
<b>Disapprove</b>	40%	24%	19%	33%	82%	68%	9%	85%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	15%	8%	15%	13%	9%	16%	7%	38%

	Base	Issues							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and Jobs	Taxes	Moral and family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
<b>Beauprez Favorability</b>									
<b>Favorable</b>	31%	14%	5%	27%	68%	61%	20%	44%	22%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	45%	65%	73%	46%	21%	15%	47%	43%	30%
<b>Not Sure</b>	24%	22%	22%	27%	11%	24%	33%	12%	48%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Issues							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and Jobs	Taxes	Moral and family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
<b>Beauprez/Ritter</b>									
Bob Beauprez	40%	26%	25%	34%	86%	73%	9%	69%	19%
Bill Ritter	46%	63%	70%	54%	7%	12%	71%	10%	30%
Undecided	13%	11%	5%	12%	8%	15%	20%	21%	51%

	Base	Issues							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and Jobs	Taxes	Moral and family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
<b>Ritter/Tancredo</b>									
Bill Ritter	52%	74%	79%	60%	7%	15%	75%	12%	30%
Tom Tancredo	38%	19%	16%	29%	91%	72%	9%	81%	19%
Undecided	11%	7%	5%	11%	3%	13%	16%	7%	51%

