

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hickenlooper Dominates as Tancredo Surges and Maes Fades

Raleigh, N.C. – When PPP last took a look at the Colorado gubernatorial race, just before Dan Maes’ come-from-behind win over Scott McInnis in the Republican primary, Maes looked dead in the water as Democrat John Hickenlooper took a majority or nearly a majority of the vote whether third-party candidate and former GOP congressman Tom Tancredo remained in the race or not. Since then, Maes has faded even further as Tancredo has stolen many of his supporters and moved into second place. But the overall story remains the same: Hickenlooper is headed for a huge win in what could be the Democrats’ biggest triumph on an otherwise dreary night.

In August’s survey of registered voters, Hickenlooper got 48% of the vote to Maes’ 23% and Tancredo’s 22%. Now, despite PPP moving to a likely voter model with an electorate that has swung toward Republicans by two to four points, Hickenlooper still has 47% to Tancredo’s 33% and Maes’ 13%. As two months ago, 7% remain undecided.

Hickenlooper holds at 84% of the Democratic vote and maintains a similar 50-35-9 lead among independents over Tancredo and Maes. But Maes’ party support has been halved, as a quarter of the GOP has swung from him to Tancredo, who now leads among Maes’ own party members, 56-24. Hickenlooper also gets 11% of Republicans, with Tancredo and Maes earning only 8% and 4% of Democrats, respectively.

Maes’ personal favorability numbers have taken a dive, from an already bad 23-38 before the primary to 12-58 now, a swing of 31 points on the margin. Even Republicans dislike him, 19-52, versus 44-32 in August, a 45-point negative shift. Tancredo has seen a sizeable increase in favor, from 27-50 to 35-45. Hickenlooper, naturally, is still the best liked of the three, at 51-37.

“This race looks like it’s going to end up being closer than might have been expected a month ago when Maes and Tancredo had roughly the same level of support,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “The good news for Hickenlooper is that his support is steady, but he needs to sway a few more folks to get over 50%.”

PPP surveyed 834 likely Colorado voters from September 30th to October 2nd. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.4%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



Colorado Survey Results

Q1 The candidates for Governor are Democrat John Hickenlooper, Republican Dan Maes, and American Constitution Party candidate Tom Tancredo. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

John Hickenlooper 47%
Dan Maes 13%
Tom Tancredo 33%
Undecided..... 7%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John Hickenlooper?

Favorable..... 51%
Unfavorable 37%
Not sure 12%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Dan Maes?

Favorable..... 12%
Unfavorable 58%
Not sure 29%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tom Tancredo?

Favorable..... 35%
Unfavorable 45%
Not sure 21%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Bill Ritter's job performance?

Approve 38%
Disapprove..... 49%
Not sure..... 14%

Q6 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 48%
Barack Obama..... 48%
Someone else/Don't remember 4%

Q7 If you are a liberal, press 1. If a moderate, press 2. If a conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 23%
Moderate..... 42%
Conservative..... 36%

Q8 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 50%
Man..... 50%

Q9 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If an independent or some other party, press 3.

Democrat..... 36%
Republican..... 37%
Independent/Other..... 27%

Q10 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 13%
White 76%
African-American 5%
Other..... 6%

Q11 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 14%
30 to 45..... 28%
46 to 65..... 37%
Older than 65..... 21%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hickenlooper/Maes/Tancredo				
John Hickenlooper	47%	10%	87%	21%
Dan Maes	13%	23%	2%	15%
Tom Tancredo	33%	58%	7%	45%
Undecided	7%	9%	3%	19%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Hickenlooper Favorability				
Favorable	51%	19%	85%	19%
Unfavorable	37%	63%	8%	63%
Not sure	12%	17%	7%	18%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Maes Favorability				
Favorable	12%	19%	6%	10%
Unfavorable	58%	52%	65%	50%
Not sure	29%	29%	29%	40%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Tancredo Favorability				
Favorable	35%	58%	10%	38%
Unfavorable	45%	21%	70%	24%
Not sure	21%	21%	19%	38%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Ritter Approval				
Approve	38%	10%	67%	11%
Disapprove	49%	80%	15%	69%
Not sure	14%	10%	17%	20%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Hickenlooper/Maes/ Tancredo				
John Hickenlooper	47%	88%	59%	8%
Dan Maes	13%	4%	12%	19%
Tom Tancredo	33%	6%	24%	62%
Undecided	7%	2%	6%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Hickenlooper Favorability				
Favorable	51%	82%	64%	15%
Unfavorable	37%	12%	23%	68%
Not sure	12%	6%	12%	17%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Maes Favorability				
Favorable	12%	7%	12%	17%
Unfavorable	58%	69%	55%	56%
Not sure	29%	25%	33%	27%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Tancredo Favorability				
Favorable	35%	7%	29%	58%
Unfavorable	45%	75%	49%	20%
Not sure	21%	17%	22%	22%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Ritter Approval				
Approve	38%	71%	45%	8%
Disapprove	49%	14%	39%	82%
Not sure	14%	16%	16%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hickenlooper/Maes/-Tancredo			
John Hickenlooper	47%	54%	41%
Dan Maes	13%	12%	13%
Tom Tancredo	33%	26%	41%
Undecided	7%	8%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Hickenlooper Favorability			
Favorable	51%	57%	44%
Unfavorable	37%	30%	44%
Not sure	12%	12%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Maes Favorability			
Favorable	12%	11%	13%
Unfavorable	58%	54%	62%
Not sure	29%	34%	24%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tancredo Favorability			
Favorable	35%	28%	41%
Unfavorable	45%	47%	42%
Not sure	21%	25%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Ritter Approval			
Approve	38%	42%	33%
Disapprove	49%	43%	54%
Not sure	14%	15%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hickenlooper/Maes/ Tancredo				
John Hickenlooper	47%	84%	11%	50%
Dan Maes	13%	4%	24%	9%
Tom Tancredo	33%	8%	56%	35%
Undecided	7%	5%	9%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Hickenlooper Favorability				
Favorable	51%	80%	18%	56%
Unfavorable	37%	12%	67%	29%
Not sure	12%	8%	15%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Maes Favorability				
Favorable	12%	8%	19%	8%
Unfavorable	58%	65%	52%	58%
Not sure	29%	26%	29%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tancredo Favorability				
Favorable	35%	11%	55%	38%
Unfavorable	45%	69%	23%	42%
Not sure	21%	21%	22%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Ritter Approval				
Approve	38%	68%	8%	37%
Disapprove	49%	18%	81%	44%
Not sure	14%	13%	11%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Hickenlooper/Maes/Tancredo					
John Hickenlooper	47%	47%	47%	53%	50%
Dan Maes	13%	10%	14%	6%	11%
Tom Tancredo	33%	36%	33%	30%	32%
Undecided	7%	8%	6%	11%	7%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Hickenlooper Favorability					
Favorable	51%	51%	51%	51%	46%
Unfavorable	37%	36%	37%	37%	39%
Not sure	12%	13%	12%	12%	15%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Maes Favorability					
Favorable	12%	15%	12%	19%	9%
Unfavorable	58%	53%	60%	52%	60%
Not sure	29%	32%	29%	29%	31%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Tancredo Favorability					
Favorable	35%	41%	34%	30%	31%
Unfavorable	45%	40%	46%	37%	45%
Not sure	21%	18%	20%	33%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Ritter Approval					
Approve	38%	36%	37%	31%	54%
Disapprove	49%	48%	50%	43%	40%
Not sure	14%	16%	13%	26%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hickenlooper/Maes/Tancredo					
John Hickenlooper	47%	53%	53%	44%	41%
Dan Maes	13%	12%	12%	13%	14%
Tom Tancredo	33%	26%	26%	39%	37%
Undecided	7%	9%	8%	4%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Hickenlooper Favorability					
Favorable	51%	55%	57%	48%	44%
Unfavorable	37%	29%	34%	40%	41%
Not sure	12%	16%	9%	12%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Maes Favorability					
Favorable	12%	10%	11%	13%	15%
Unfavorable	58%	50%	54%	66%	57%
Not sure	29%	40%	35%	21%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tancredo Favorability					
Favorable	35%	23%	33%	38%	37%
Unfavorable	45%	40%	45%	46%	45%
Not sure	21%	37%	22%	16%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Ritter Approval					
Approve	38%	41%	45%	34%	31%
Disapprove	49%	36%	42%	56%	52%
Not sure	14%	22%	13%	10%	17%

