



ACCOUNTABILITY IN  
COLORADO  
ELECTIONS



SEE → CHANGE

# BECAUSE DATA TRANSCENDS AGENDAS...

BECAUSE DATA CAN BRING SIDES TOGETHER.

BECAUSE DATA CAN ILLUMINATE ANSWERS  
IN AN OBJECTIVE WAY. ACE 





We have made available to the public the mountains of data we collect each election cycle in the groundbreaking ACE – Accountability in Colorado Elections. Election officials, journalists, academics, and election enthusiasts can translate these diverse data sets into actionable insights, transforming hard data into positive change.

And just maybe start a movement toward a new era of election transparency.

# DATA VISUALIZED. PEOPLE ACTIVATED.

As the first state in the U.S. to display comprehensive registration and election data in a single centralized online location, the Colorado Department of State creates the closest thing to true transparency between the government and its citizens. But transparency is much more meaningful with simple ways to understand the data.

That's where ACE's interactive maps come in.

# ELECTIONS DATA SETS FOR A VARIETY OF NEEDS

ACE compiles Colorado state and county election activities, historical data, and demographics into six unique interactive maps on a single, publicly-available, user-friendly platform.

- 1 VOTER REGISTRATION STATISTICS
- 2 VOTER REGISTRATION BY COUNTY, CONGRESSIONAL, SENATE AND HOUSE DISTRICTS
- 3 VOTER TURNOUT BY PARTY AFFILIATION
- 4 ELECTION COST STATISTICS
- 5 VOTE METHODS & BALLOT STATISTICS
- 6 LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES



ACCOUNTABILITY IN  
COLORADO  
ELECTIONS

## See → Change

The groundbreaking ACE provides public access to mountains of Colorado election data.

### Interactive maps

- Voter registrations statistics
- Voter registration by districts
- Voter turnout by party affiliation
- Election cost statistics
- Vote method and ballot statistics
- Legal requirements + activities

## Data visualized. People activated.

We have made available to the public the mountains of data we collect each election cycle in the groundbreaking ACE—Accountability in Colorado Elections. Election officials, journalists, academics, and election enthusiasts can translate these diverse data sets into actionable insights, transforming hard data into positive change. And just maybe start a movement toward a new era of election transparency.

We've provided helpful user guides on each map page to

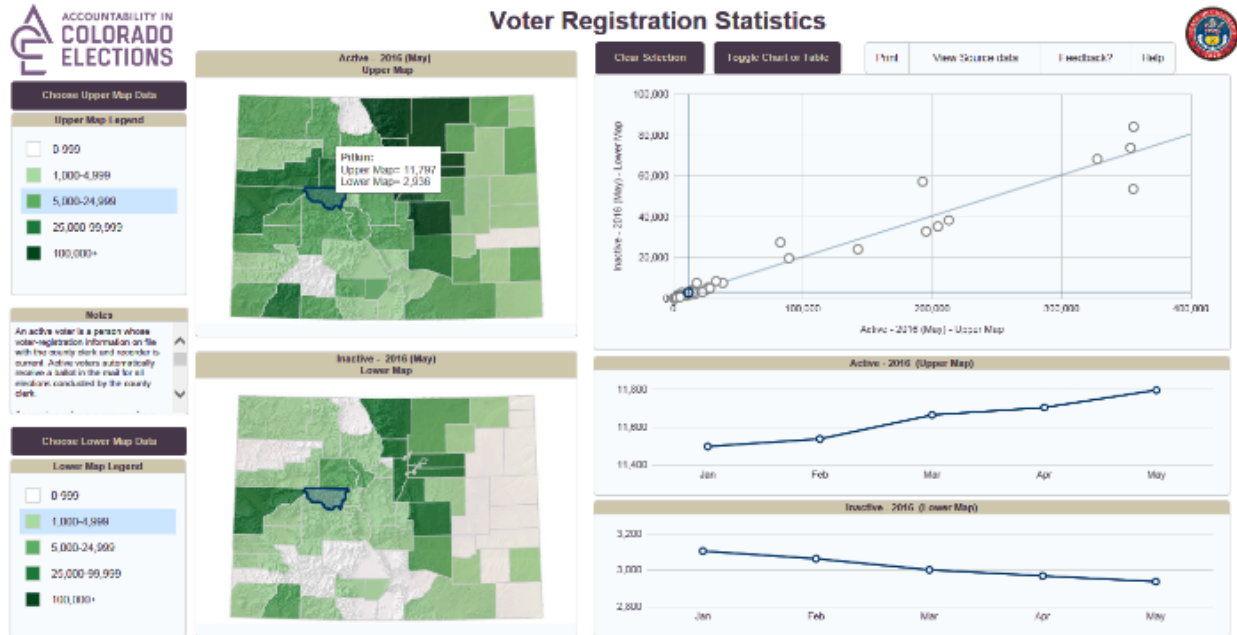
### Elections data sets for a variety of needs.

The ACE data sets can be used for a variety of purposes. Want to know broad statewide trends? Want to understand the differences in county election behavior? Want to track the elections activities of a specific county? ACE can answer each of these questions for the most sophisticated election administrator, as well as those simply interested in how Colorado elections work. Finally, Colorado has the tool to understand its elections – and in doing so, make them better.

### Visualization for action

That's where ACE's interactive maps come in. ACE visualizes the data in several interactive maps. These give meaning to the numbers that spreadsheets and pie charts can't. We know that data is only effective when it engages the user. So ACE visualizes the data in several interactive maps. These give meaning to the numbers that spreadsheets and pie charts can't.

# Interactive Maps



## Voter registration statistics

### Audience

Legislators; Committees; Special interest groups; State communications officers; Parties, Candidates + staffers; Statisticians; Students; Other states; PEW Trust; Political junkies

### Benefits

This map provides a deep-dive into county constituencies statewide—including detailed data on party affiliation and how registration and affiliation are evolving over time. Includes 2014 and 2015 registration stats by month.

### Map Features

1. Dual-map setup allows comparison of data via multiple parameters: party affiliation, gender, voter activity, pre-registration, cancellation etc.
2. Choose your views: toggle easily between chart and table data formatting
3. Select a specific county (on map or table) to see detailed data, trends, and comparison to other counties
4. View data for a specific month, or use timeline to view data over a year's time

 **View Map**



# Voter Registration Statistics



Clear Selection

Toggle Chart or Table

Print

View Source data

Feedback?

Help

Choose Upper Map Data

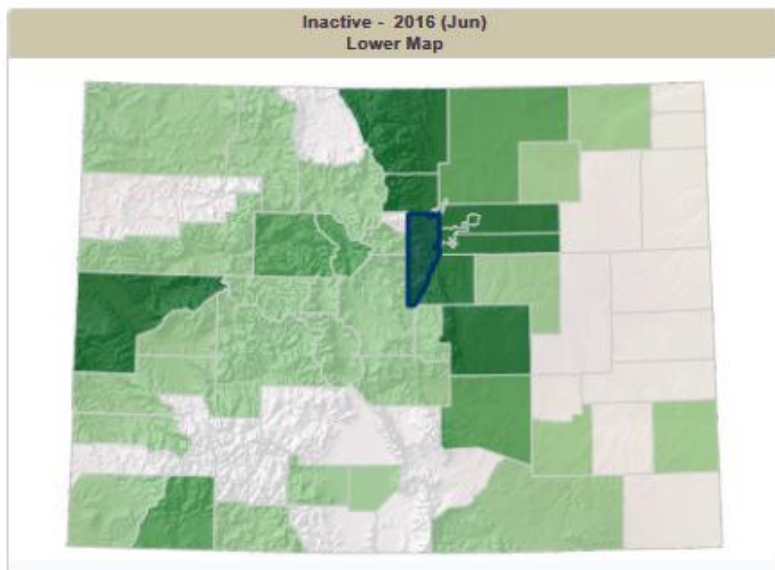
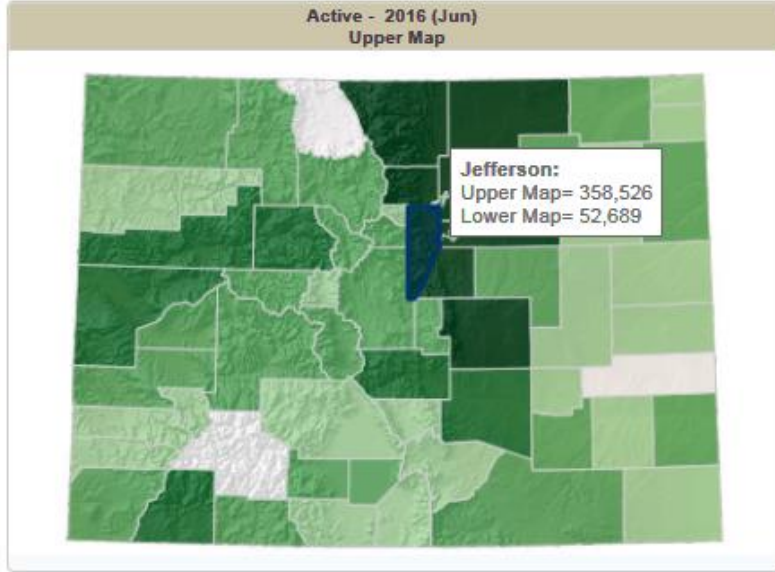


**Notes**

An active voter is a person whose voter registration information on file with the county clerk and recorder is current. Active voters automatically receive a ballot in the mail for all elections conducted by the county clerk.

An inactive voter is a person who is registered to vote, but who has been

Choose Lower Map Data





## Voter registration by districts

### Audience

Parties, Candidates + staffers; Press; State communications officers; Statisticians; Analysts

### Benefits

This map shows political party breakdowns and unaffiliated voters in the context of state congressional, house and senate district borders. This information is of particular interest during census years, after which district lines may be re-drawn to equalize the number of persons in each area who are eligible to be registered.

Data set reflects current eligible voters.

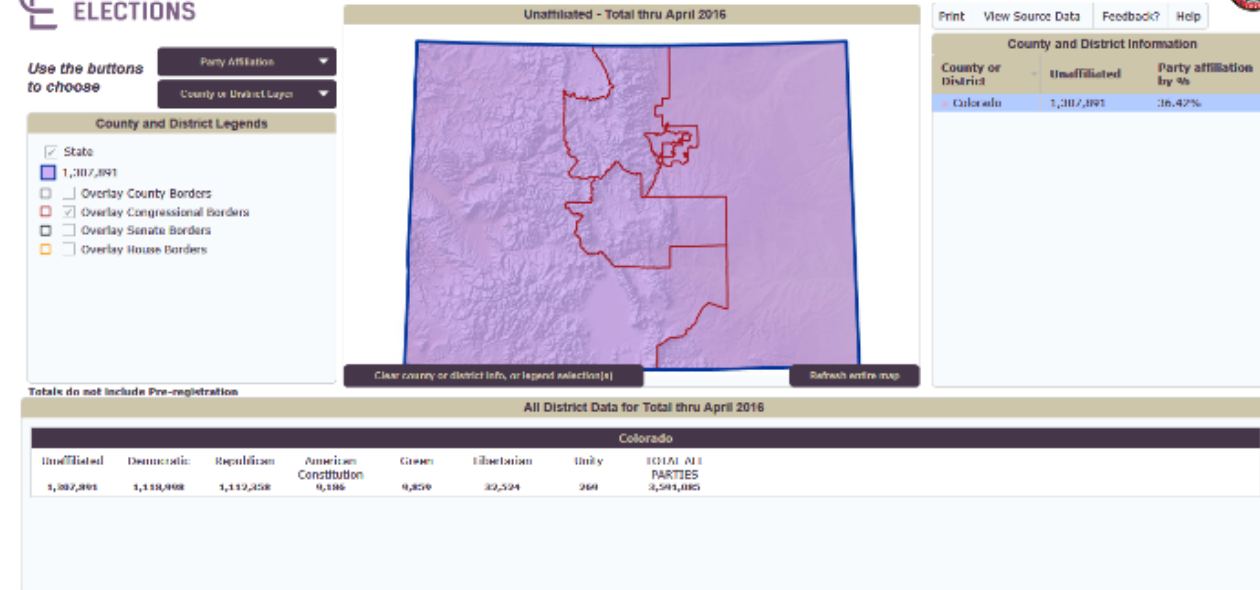
### Map Features

1. Select a party affiliation to view detailed registration data in map and table format
2. Tick boxes to overlay county, congressional, senate and house borders
3. Select a county or district layer to view detailed registration data by a specific district or county



**View Map**

### Voter Registration - Congressional & Legislative Districts and Counties



Use the buttons  
to choose

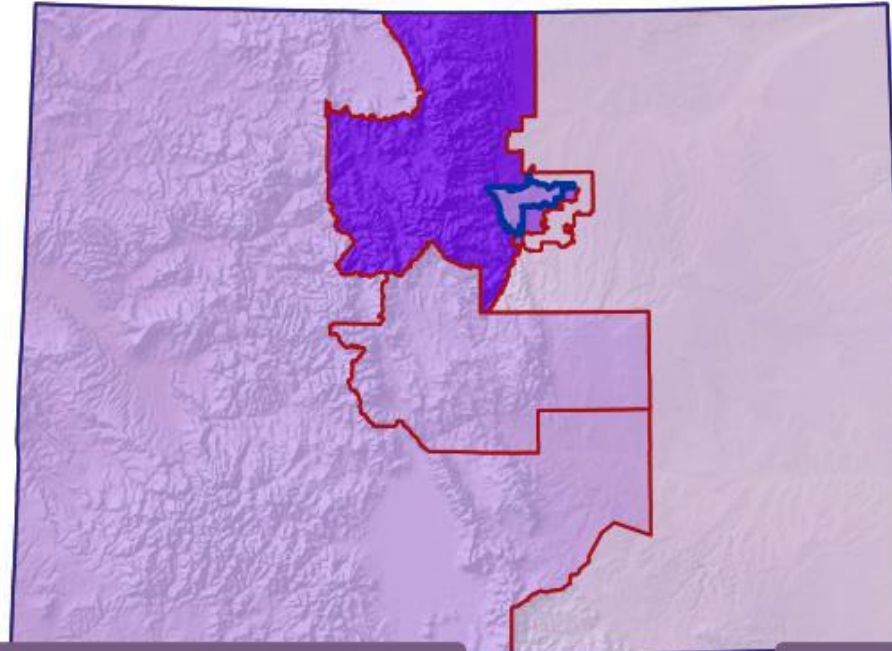
Party Affiliation ▼  
County or District Layer ▼

### County and District Legends

- Congressional Districts
- 0-171,999
- 172,000-174,999
- 175,000-179,999
- 180,000-199,999
- 200,000+
- Overlay County Borders
- Overlay Congressional Borders
- Overlay Senate Borders
- Overlay House Borders

Totals do not include Pre-registration

### Unaffiliated - Total thru June 2016



Clear county or district info, or legend selection(s)

Refresh entire map

Print View Source Data Feedback? Help

### County and District Information

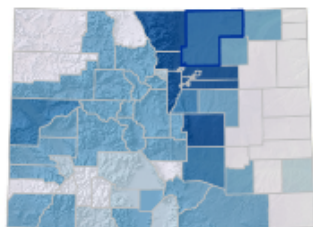
County or District	Unaffiliated	Party affiliation by %
CD01	185,316	34.83%
CD02	228,683	37.91%
CD03	174,996	34.04%
CD04	170,813	33.88%
CD05	174,846	35.12%
CD06	170,741	34.64%
CD07	178,941	37.11%

### All District Data for Total thru June 2016

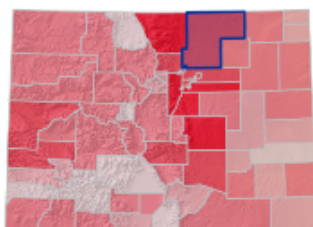
CD07							
Unaffiliated	Democratic	Republican	American Constitution	Green	Libertarian	Unity	TOTAL ALL PARTIES
178,941	167,532	128,661	1,240	1,169	4,549	47	482,139

### 2015 Colorado Coordinated Election Voter Turnout by County and Party Affiliation

Turnout by Party Affiliation through 11/20/15 - Final Results - Democratic Upper Map

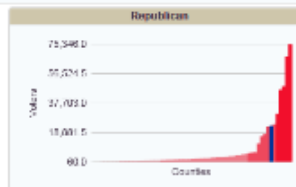
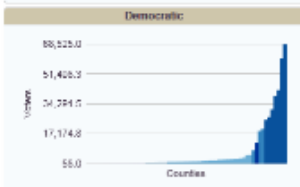


Turnout by Party Affiliation through 11/20/15 - Final Results - Republican Lower Map



County Name	Democratic (Upper Map)	% of eligible Democratic party that voted	Republican (Lower Map)	% of eligible Republican party that voted
Adams	240	47%	921	52%
Archuleta	2,384	47%	1,128	43%
Chaffee	610	41%	1,022	49%
Chelan	10,648	41%	11,217	45%
Crow	188	44%	1,531	54%
Delta	887	37%	1,505	48%
Douglas	2,582	49%	2,674	51%
Gunnison	681	36%	436	47%
Huerfano	87	40%	80	36%
Jefferson	1,298	51%	504	50%
Kit Carson	144	50%	343	57%
La Plata	2,295	31%	1,810	33%
Larimer	1,218	41%	2,224	47%
Lincoln	161	53%	1,267	57%
Weld	11,797	31%	23,020	38%
Yuma	467	52%	1,772	65%

TOTALS:  
 American Constitution: 2,108  
 Democratic: 413,292  
 Green: 2,790  
 Libertarian: 8,150  
 Republican: 480,991  
 Unaffiliated: 346,759  
 Unity: 30  
**GRAND TOTAL: 1,254,170**



## Voter turnout by party affiliation

### Audience

Parties, Candidates + staffers; Public; Press; Statisticians; Analysts; Districts

### Benefits

This map complements and augments election night reporting with a comprehensive display of ballots accepted, by year and according to party affiliation. It highlights voter participation by county, illuminating areas in which counties might take additional action to encourage voter turnout. Includes 2014 General Election, 2015 Coordinated Election, and 2016 Primary Election.

### Map Features

1. Dual-map setup allows comparison of multiple party affiliations
2. Choose your views: toggle easily between chart and table data formatting
3. 2016 Primary Election
4. County turnout comparisons may be viewed in number or bar chart format

 **View Map: 2014 General Election**

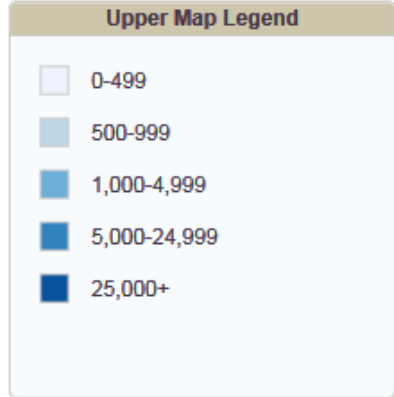
 **View Map: 2015 Coordinated Election**

 **View Map: 2016 Primary Election**

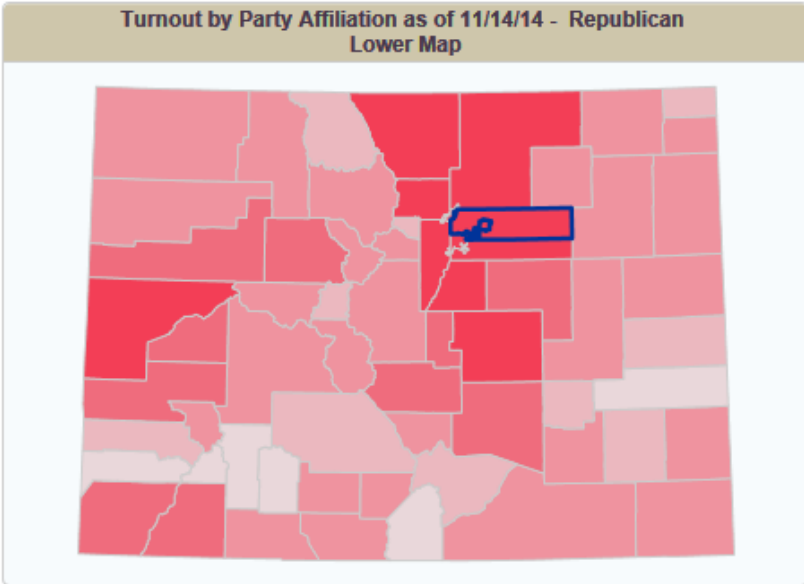
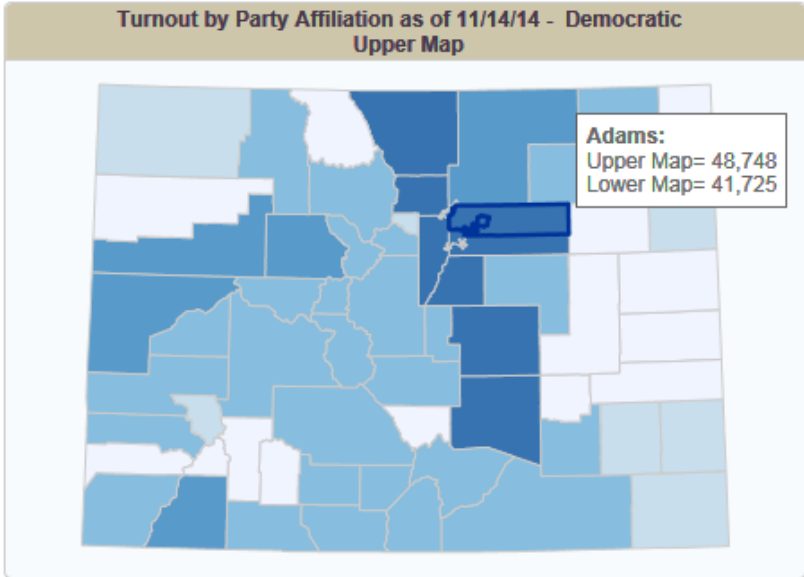
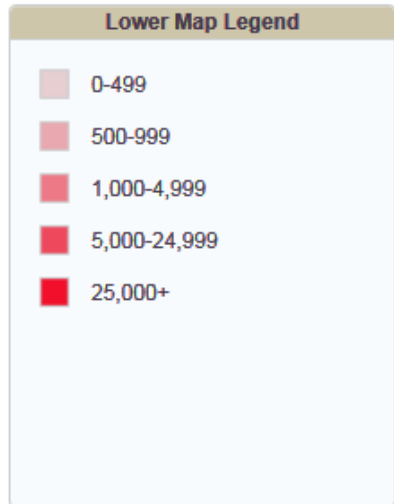
# 2014 Colorado General Election Voter Turnout by County and Party Affiliation



Choose Upper Map Party Affiliation



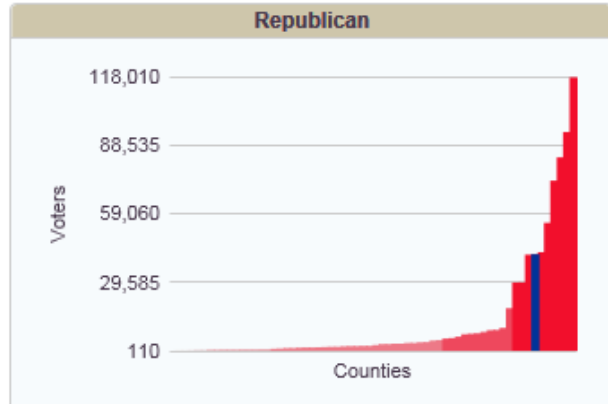
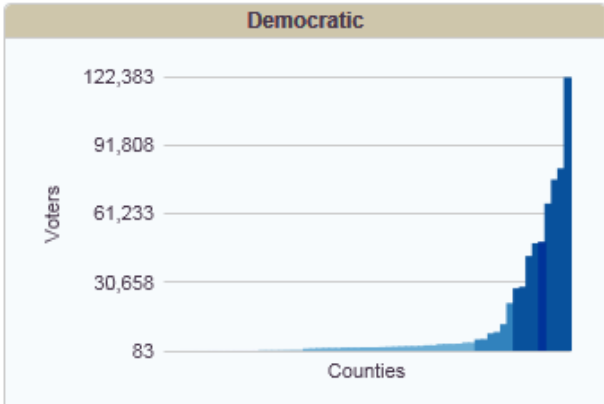
Choose Lower Map Party Affiliation



Clear Selection Toggle Chart or Table Print Download Source Data Feedback? Help

County Name	Democratic (Upper Map)	% of eligible Democratic party that voted	Republican (Lower Map)	% of eligible Republican party that voted
Adams	48,748	53%	41,725	63%
Alamosa	2,137	61%	1,894	72%
Arapahoe	76,704	59%	83,463	72%
Archuleta	1,300	58%	3,006	65%
Baca	575	76%	1,000	76%
Bent	578	61%	735	76%
Boulder	65,977	65%	29,537	64%
Broomfield	8,521	68%	9,951	72%
Chaffee	2,562	74%	3,810	76%
Cheyenne	133	75%	747	81%
Clear Creek	1,583	69%	1,588	69%
Conejos	1,823	66%	1,419	72%
Costilla	1,101	61%	237	59%
Crowley	338	64%	802	80%
Custer	358	70%	1,743	81%

TOTALS:  
 American Constitution: 4,393      Democratic: 669,671      Green: 5,598      Libertarian: 16,646  
 Republican: 779,744      Unaffiliated: 613,529      Unity: 65  
 GRAND TOTAL: 2,089,646



## Election cost statistics

### Audience

Press, Public, Special interest groups, Legislators, Counties

### Benefits

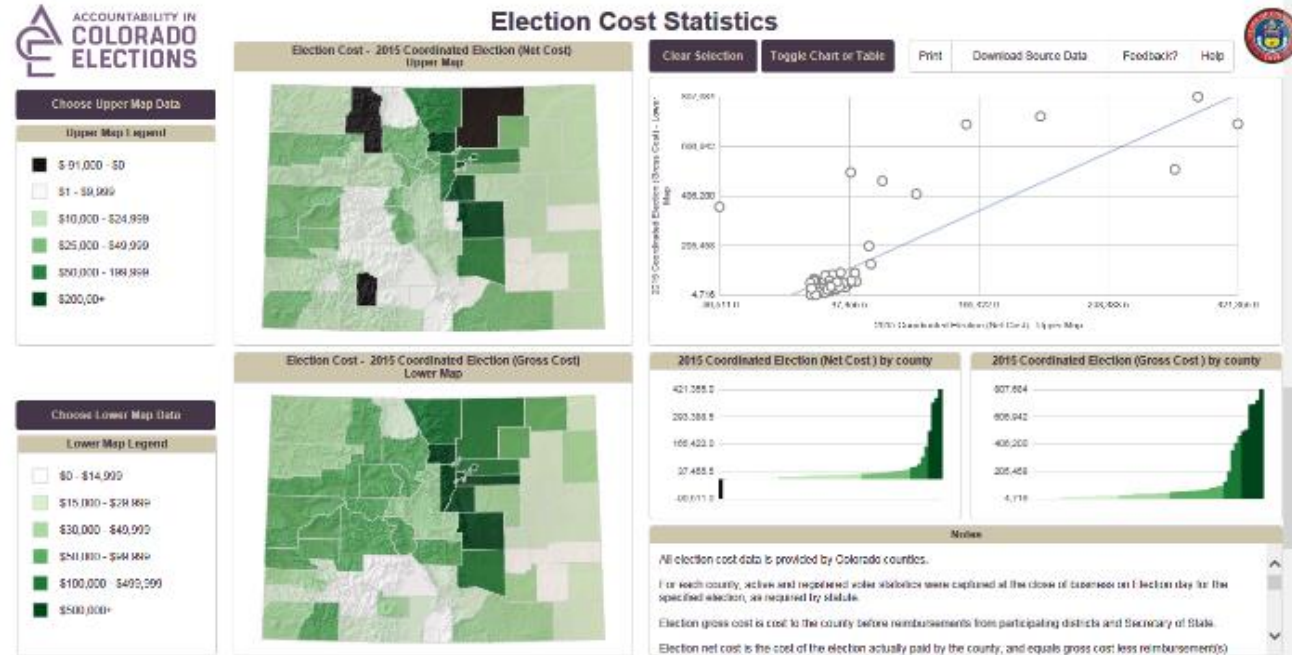
This map displays gross and net election costs for each county, illuminating the cost-per-voter disparity between counties of varying size. This kind of data can help to motivate counties to enforce their billing procedures—and legislators to seek additional reimbursement for their counties. Data set includes the 2013 Coordinated, the 2014 General, and 2015 Coordinated elections.

### Map Features

1. Dual-map setup allows comparison of multiple counties' election costs
2. Choose your views: toggle easily between chart and table data formatting
3. Select a specific county (on map or table) to see detailed data for that area
4. County cost comparisons may be viewed in number or bar chart format



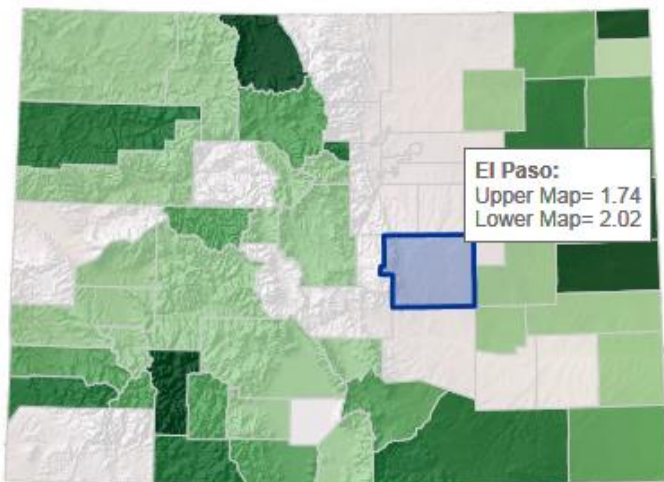
[View Map](#)



# Election Cost Statistics



Election Cost - 2013 Coordinated Election (Gross cost per active voter)  
Upper Map



Clear Selection Toggle Chart or Table

Print Download Source Data Feedback? Help

Choose Upper Map Data

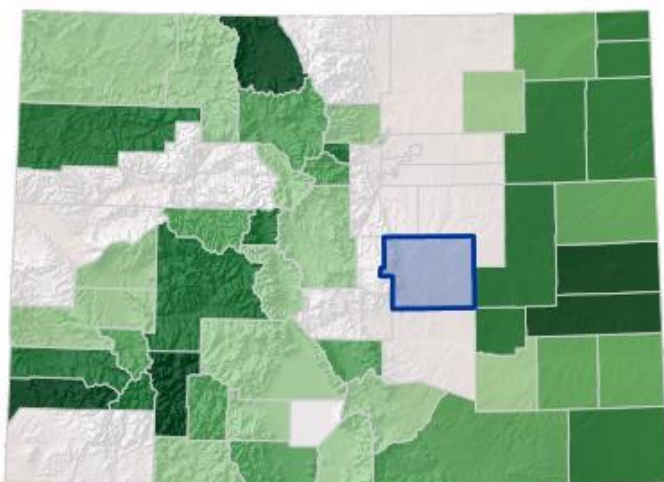


Choose Lower Map Data



County	2013 Coordinated Election (Gross cost per active voter) Upper Map	# of active voters	# of registered voters	2015 Coordinated Election (Gross cost per active voter) Lower Map	# of active voters	# of registered voters
El Paso	1.74	363,020		2.02	345,609	
Elbert	2.76	16,515		2.84	16,419	
Fremont	2.37	25,005		2.71	24,953	
Garfield	3.28	29,203		2.99	29,130	
Gilpin	11.87	4,150		10.91	4,278	
Grand	7.52	9,867		6.35	9,616	
Gunnison	3.95	10,221		7.07	9,884	
Hinsdale	13.57	682		22.01	664	
Huerfano	7.72	4,299		4.51	4,183	
Jackson	13.68	1,034		17.92	1,001	

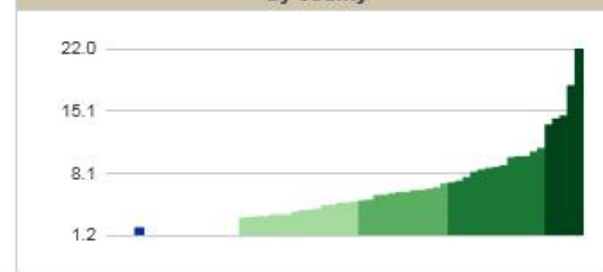
Election Cost - 2015 Coordinated Election (Gross cost per active voter)  
Lower Map



2013 Coordinated Election (Gross cost per active voter) by county



2015 Coordinated Election (Gross cost per active voter) by county



**Notes**

All election cost data is provided by Colorado counties.

For each county, active and registered voter statistics were captured at the close of business on Election day for the specified election, as required by statute.

Election gross cost is cost to the county before reimbursements from participating districts and Secretary of State.

Election net cost is the cost of the election actually paid by the county, and equals gross cost less reimbursement(s)

## Vote Methods and Ballot Statistics



Print Download Source Data Feedback? Help

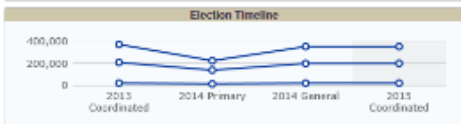
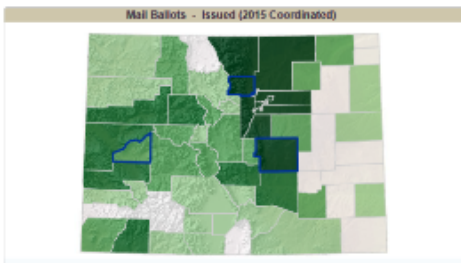
Choose a Data Source Clear Selection

**Legend**

- 0-2,999
- 3,000-9,999
- 10,000-19,999
- 20,000-99,999
- 100,000+

**Statewide Mail Ballots Issued (2015 Coordinated) Statistics**

County	Issued (2015 Coordinated)	% of eligible voters
Arapahoe	196,100	80%
Broomfield	38,371	87%
Chaffee	11,075	88%
Cheyenne	1,294	94%
Clear Creek	6,507	87%
Comanche	4,771	86%
Costilla	2,431	87%
Crowley	1,794	91%
Custer	3,231	91%
Delta	18,194	88%
Denver	355,716	84%
Dolores	1,418	86%
Douglas	195,180	88%
El Paso	348,215	84%
Ebert	16,532	91%



**Notes**

The issued ballots data includes replacement ballots.

Eligible voters include both active and inactive voters. Mail ballots are issued to active voters only.

The issued ballots data includes all mail ballots and military and overseas ballots. To see only military and overseas ballots transmitted, refer to the military and overseas section.

Provisional ballots are not included in this total. See provisional section for total number received and accepted.

**Selected County Statistics for 2015 Coordinated Mail Ballots**

Boulder				
Mail Ballots				
Issued	Accepted	Rejected	Uncollected	Not returned
198,003	86,313	402	15,102	97,808

Delta				
Mail Ballots				
Issued	Accepted	Rejected	Uncollected	Not returned
18,184	7,333	42	378	9,801

El Paso				
Mail Ballots				
Issued	Accepted	Rejected	Uncollected	Not returned
348,215	144,564	912	80,425	183,204

## Vote methods and ballot statistics

### Audience

Public, Press, Communications directors, County commissioners, Analysts, Statisticians

### Benefits

This map not only shows voter preference for different ballot methods by county, it helps counties illuminate voter participation and encourages comparison to cost-per-voter data. Includes data on the types of ballots issued to eligible and active voters, as well as receipt statistics on each type. Data set includes the 2013 Coordinated, 2014 Primary, 2014 General Election, and 2015 Coordinated Election.

### Map Features

1. Use the map or table to select a county, then select a ballot type
2. County data will appear in numeric form in the right-hand column
3. Use Election Timeline to track counties' ballot behavior over time

 **View Map**

## Legal requirements + other activities

### Audience

Counties, County commissioners, ADA advocacy groups

### Benefits

This map helps counties and their governing bodies measure performance in recommended voting-related activities, as well as compliance with associated legal requirements. Over time, it can help to illuminate need for greater attention to and additional funding/staffing for non-compliant counties. Includes 2013 Coordinated Election, 2014 Primary Election, 2014 General Election, 2015 Coordinated Election, and 2016 Primary Election.

### Map Features

1. Use the map to select county, then use the button or table to select data source
2. Color coding on the map provides detailed data on requirements and deadlines
3. Select a specific county (on map or table) to see detailed data for that area
4. Navigate clicking on a county or by scrolling through data in right-hand column
5. A timeline animation feature shows progression of activities or requirements for each election



## Legal Requirements and Other Activities

Print Download Source Data Feedback? Help



Choose a Data Source
Toggle Map or Table
Clear Map Selection

Accessibility for Voters with Disabilities - 2015 Coordinated Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)



**Legend**

- Full compliance
- Substantial compliance
- Non-compliant
- Not audited

**Notes**

This item shows the results of ADA accessibility audits conducted at the county by the Secretary of State.

ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act

Full compliance: The county satisfied all statutory accessibility criteria.

Substantial compliance: The county satisfied the majority of all statutory accessibility criteria.

Not audited: The Secretary of State conducts accessibility audits of polling locations in some, but not all counties within each election.

**County Legal Requirements and Other Activities**

Data Source	County	Metric	Origin
<b>Accessibility for Voters with Disabilities</b>			
2015 Coordinated Election (Accessibility Plan Deadline)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute
2015 Coordinated Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)	Kit Carson	Full compliance	Statute
2014 General Election (Accessibility Plan Deadline)	Kit Carson	Re-survey not required	Statute
2014 General Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)	Kit Carson	Full compliance	Statute
2014 Primary Election (Accessibility Plan Deadline)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute
2014 Primary Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)	Kit Carson	Not audited	Statute
2013 Coordinated Election (Accessibility Plan Deadline)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute
2013 Coordinated Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)	Kit Carson	Not audited	Statute
<b>Election Related Deadlines</b>			
2015 Coordinated Election (Mail Ballot Plan)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2015 Coordinated Election (Security & Contingency Plan)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2015 Coordinated Election (Mail Ballot Mailing)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2015 Coordinated Election (Election Setup Records)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2014 General Election (Mail Ballot Plan)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2014 General Election (Security & Contingency Plan)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2014 General Election (Mail Ballot Mailing)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2014 General Election (Election Setup Records)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2014 Primary Election (Mail Ballot Plan)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2014 Primary Election (Security & Contingency Plan)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2014 Primary Election (Mail Ballot Mailing)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2014 Primary Election (Election Setup Records)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2013 Coordinated Election (Mail Ballot Plan)	Kit Carson	Deadline met	Statute and Rule

**Timeline Animation: Accessibility for Voters with Disabilities - 2015 Coordinated Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)**

»
◀
▶
Accessibility Plan Deadline
ADA Accessibility Audit



# Legal Requirements and Other Activities

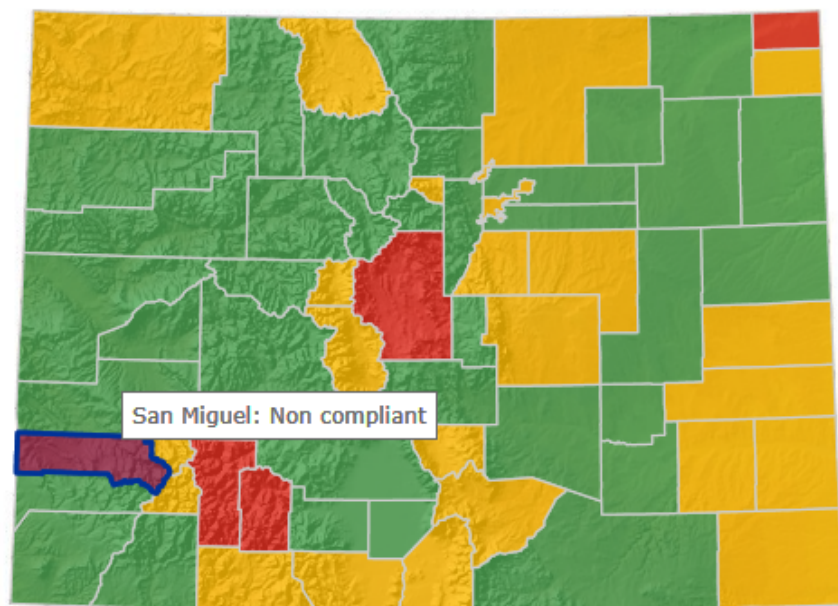


Choose a Data Source

Toggle Map or Table

Clear Map Selection

## Accessibility for Voters with Disabilities - 2014 General Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)



### Legend

- Full compliance
- Substantial compliance
- Non compliant

### Notes

This item shows the results of ADA accessibility audits conducted at the county by the Secretary of State.

ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act

Full compliance: The county satisfied all statutory accessibility criteria.  
Substantial compliance: The county satisfied the majority of all statutory accessibility criteria.

Print

Download Source Data

Feedback?

Help

## County Legal Requirements and Other Activities

Data Source	County	Metric	Origin
<b>Accessibility for Voters with Disabilities</b>			
2015 Coordinated Election (Accessibility Plan Deadline)	San Miguel	Deadline met	Statute
2015 Coordinated Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)	San Miguel	Not audited	Statute
2014 General Election (Accessibility Plan Deadline)	San Miguel	Re-survey not required	Statute
2014 General Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)	San Miguel	Non compliant	Statute
2014 Primary Election (Accessibility Plan Deadline)	San Miguel	Deadline met	Statute
2014 Primary Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)	San Miguel	Not audited	Statute
2013 Coordinated Election (Accessibility Plan Deadline)	San Miguel	Deadline met	Statute
2013 Coordinated Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)	San Miguel	Non compliant	Statute
<b>Election Related Deadlines</b>			
2015 Coordinated Election (Mail Ballot Plan)	San Miguel	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2015 Coordinated Election (Security & Contingency Plan)	San Miguel	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
2015 Coordinated Election (Mail Ballot Mailing)	San Miguel	Deadline met	Statute and Rule
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## Timeline Animation: Accessibility for Voters with Disabilities - 2014 General Election (ADA Accessibility Audit)



Accessibility Plan Deadline

ADA Accessibility Audit

# In Praise of ACE

- *“With ACE, Secretary Williams and the state of Colorado are leading a growing number of states in encouraging the use of data and analytics to improve elections. This movement to evidence-based election administration promises to yield huge benefits for voters in Colorado and nationwide.”*
  - David Becker, Director, Election Initiatives, The Pew Charitable Trusts
- *“This is a big step forward in the world of elections data.”*
  - Mindy Moretti, Election Line Weekly
- *“I’ve been begging for this kind of information for years.”*
  - Shawn Boyd, CBS4 Denver

# In Praise of ACE

- *“Voters hear a lot of lip service about the accountability and integrity of elections. The ACE program puts real, usable data in the hands of Colorado’s voters, and that’s true transparency.”*
  - Stan Martin, Adams County Clerk
- *“ACE has proven to be an additional resource for citizens, campaigns, media and election officials to obtain information, cross county comparisons and transparent data within the state that was otherwise challenging to retrieve.”*
  - Tiffany Parker, **Immediate Past-President – Colorado County Clerks Association** & La Plata County Clerk

# In Praise of ACE

- *“Over a century ago, states started reporting election returns in a centralized, uniform fashion, which was an important step in reassuring the public that election results were determined above-board. Now, the big question is, ‘what are election officials DOING in their jobs?’ Something like ACE helps answer that question.”*
  - Dr. Charles Stewart, Kenan Sahin Distinguished Professor of Political Science, MIT



ACCOUNTABILITY IN COLORADO ELECTIONS IS A PROJECT  
FROM THE COLORADO SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE.

[ACE.COLORADO.GOV](http://ACE.COLORADO.GOV)

[ACECOMMENTS@SOS.STATE.CO.US](mailto:ACECOMMENTS@SOS.STATE.CO.US)