### Health Care in Nevada and Colorado? Findings From Two Pre-Election Surveys

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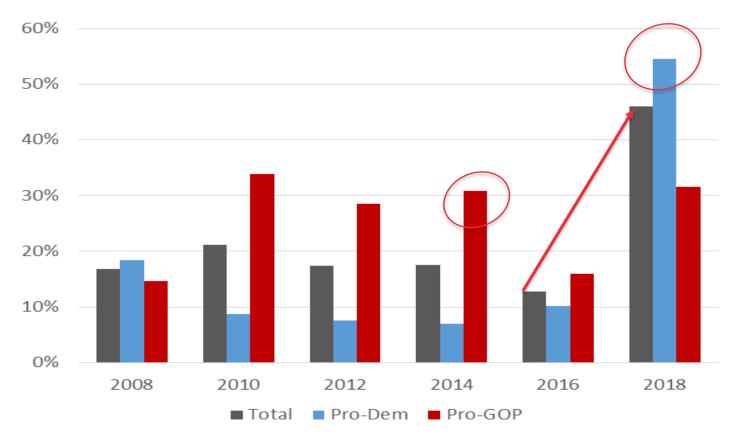


#### Why Colorado and Nevada?

- 1. Conducted pre-election surveys in Colorado and Nevada from September-October 2018
- 2. Did not expect health care to be a big issue, but it was
  - Context: Salience from advertisements and potential policy decisions at play
  - Motivation: Show where health care ranked for voters before and after the election
- 3. Though "swing states," both have been trending toward the left
  - Context: Increasing subpopulation of Hispanics, rising number of women in the legislature, etc.
  - Motivation: Highlight where voters stood on specific issues to determine whether their views were following this shift



# Percent Of Advertisements Referencing Health Care (September – October)



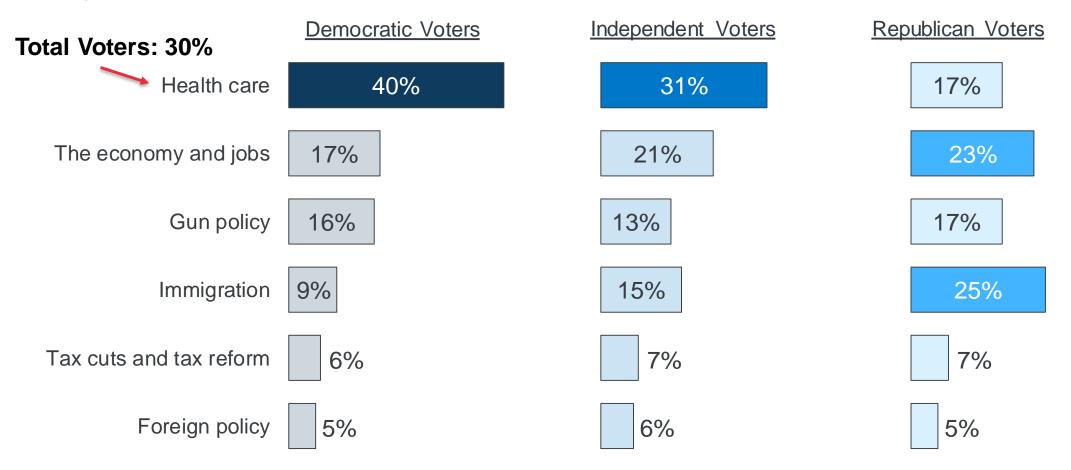
Numbers include ads aired on broadcast television for U.S. House and U.S. Senate races from September 18 – October 15 for each year. CITE SOURCE OF DATA AS: Wesleyan Media Project analysis of Kantar Media/CMAG data; 2008 data come from the Wisconsin Advertising Project.





# Pre-Election Results: Health Care Topped Issues For Democratic And Independent Voters; Lower For Republicans

Percent who said each of the following was the "most important" issue in making their decision about who to vote for Congress this year:





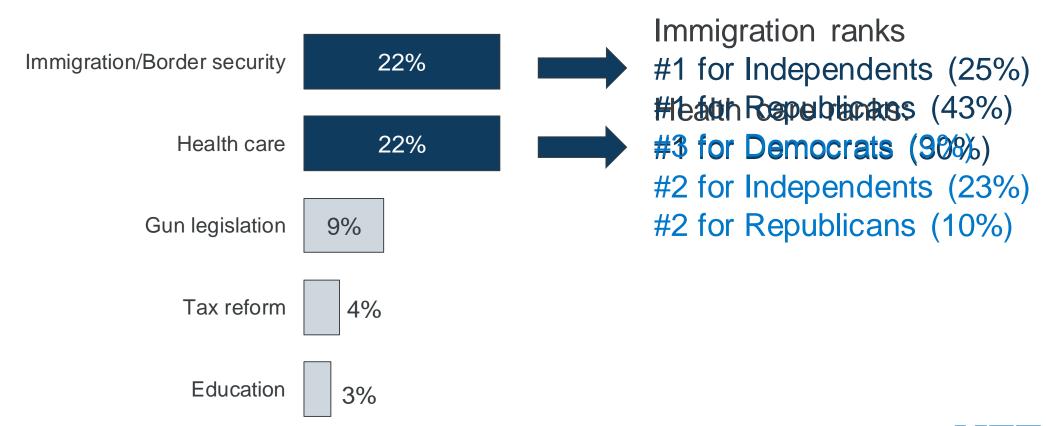
## Exit Polling Results: Health Care More Of A Priority For Democratic Voters

- 1. 41% of voters said health care was the most important issue facing the country (CNN)
  - 75% of Democrats, 23% of Republicans
- 2. Larger share of Democratic voters in battleground districts said health care was the top issue in their vote (32%) compared to 8% of Republican voters and 21% of independent voters (Washington Post)



# Post-Election Results: What Voters Want Congress To Act on Moving Forward Into 2019

REGISTERED VOTERS: Thinking about next year, which issue would you most like the next Congress to act on in 2019? (open-end)





#### How Did This Narrative Play Out For Voters?

- 1. KFF/Colorado Health Foundation Survey (August 15-September 19)
  - N = 1,803 (1585 voters)
  - Included RBS and re-contact components
  - M.O.S.E. = ±3 percentage points
- 2. Nevada oversample (September 19-October 2)
  - N = 599 (513 voters)
  - Included call backs
  - M.O.S.E. =  $\pm 5$  percentage points



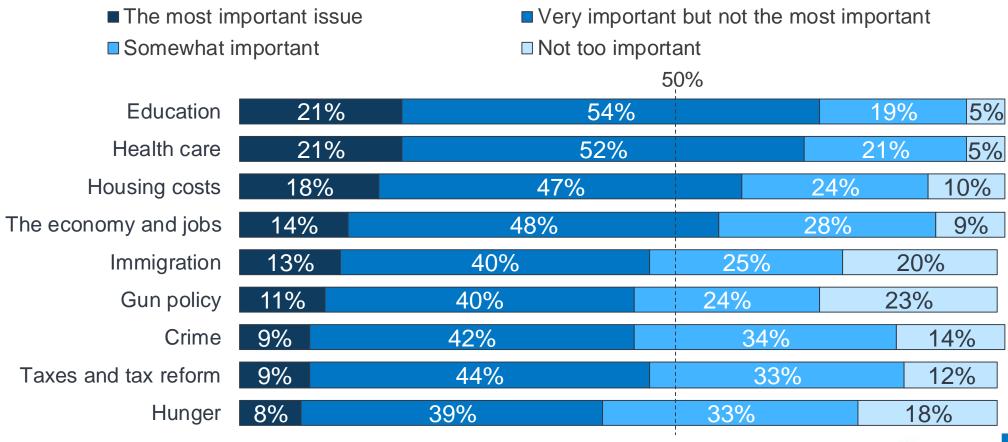
#### What Was At Stake For Colorado?

- 1. Swing state, but moving toward the left
- 2. Gubernatorial candidates: Jared Polis (Democrat) and Walker Stapleton (Republican)
- 3. Potential for a Democratic trifecta
- 4. Important health care issues at play
  - Single-payer and universal coverage



# Colorado Voters' Top Campaign Issues In Gubernatorial Election Include Education, Health Care, And Housing Costs

<u>COLORADO VOTERS</u>: How important do you think it is for the candidates for Governor to talk about each of the following?

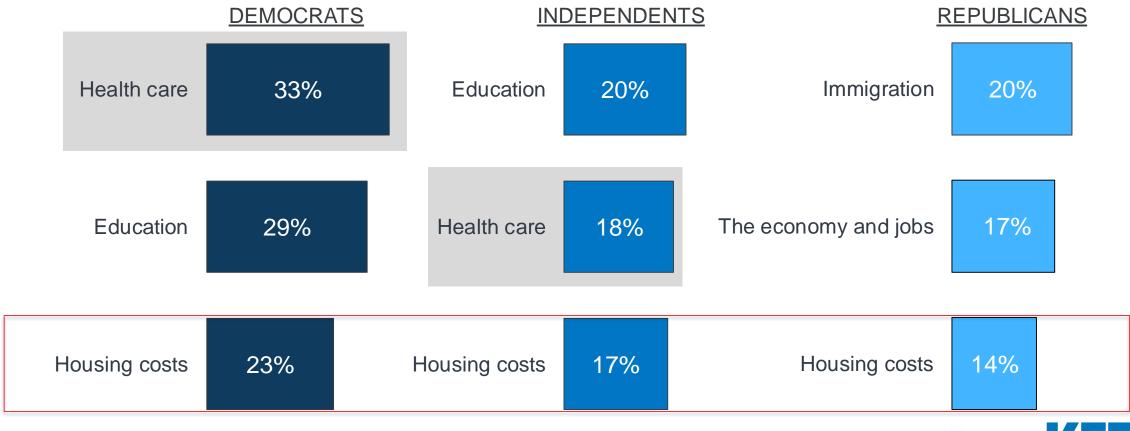






# Top Issues For Democratic Voters Included Health Care, Education; For Republicans, Immigration, And The Economy

<u>COLORADO VOTERS:</u> Percent who said each of the following was the "most important issue" for the candidates for Governor to talk about:





### Lowering Amount People Pay For Health Care Was Top Health Care Issue Across Partisanship

<u>COLORADO VOTERS:</u> Percent who said each of the following was the "most important" health issue for the Colorado state government to work on:

RANK	<u>DEMOCRATS</u>	<u>INDEPENDENTS</u>	<u>REPUBLICANS</u>
1	Lowering the amount individuals pay for health care (32%)	Lowering the amount individuals pay for health care (27%)	Lowering the amount individuals pay for health care (16%)
2	Passing a universal health insurance plan (32%)	Making housing more affordable (21%)	Making housing more affordable (10%)
3	Making housing more affordable (27%)	Passing a universal health insurance plan (17%)	Funding for mental health programs (8%)





SOURCE: KFF/Colorado Health Foundation Survey (August 15-September 19, 2018)

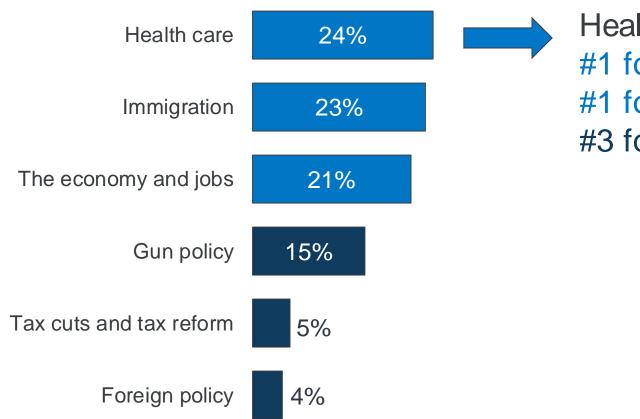
#### What Was At Stake For Nevada

- 1. Gubernatorial Candidates: Steve Sisolak (Democrat) and Adam Laxalt (Republican)
- 2. Senate Candidates: Jacky Rosen (Democrat) and Dean Heller (Incumbent Republican)
- 3. Divided government heading into the midterms
- 4. Could become the first state with a women-majority state Assembly
- 5. Salience of health care
  - Relevant issue of repeal and replace with Dean Heller



# Health Care Ranked Among The Top Issues For Nevada Voters Heading Into The Elections

<u>NEVADA VOTERS:</u> Percent who said each of the following was the "most important" issue in making their decision about who to vote for Congress this year:



Health care ranks:

#1 for Democrats (37%)

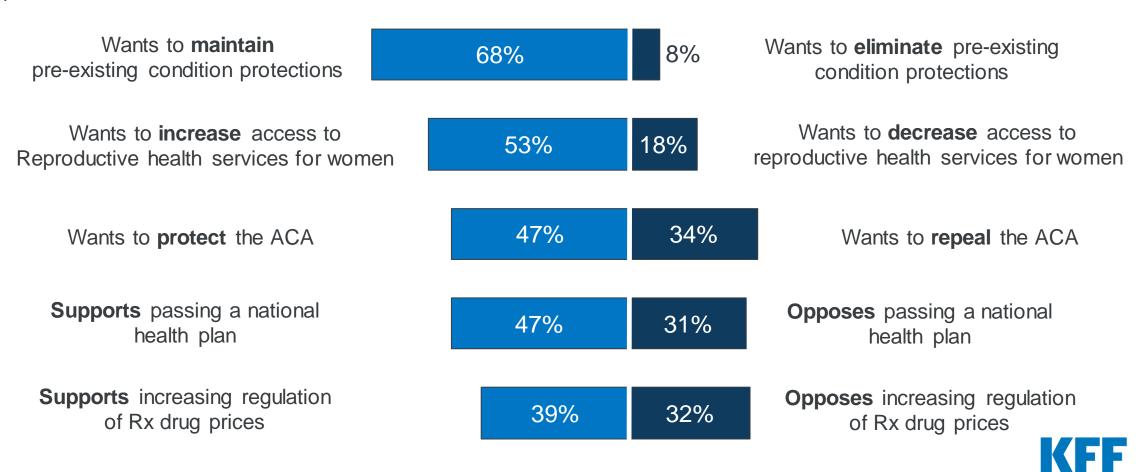
#1 for Independents (22%)

#3 for Republicans (14%)



# Nevada Voters Would Vote For Candidates Who Supported Pre-Existing Protections, Access To Reproductive Services

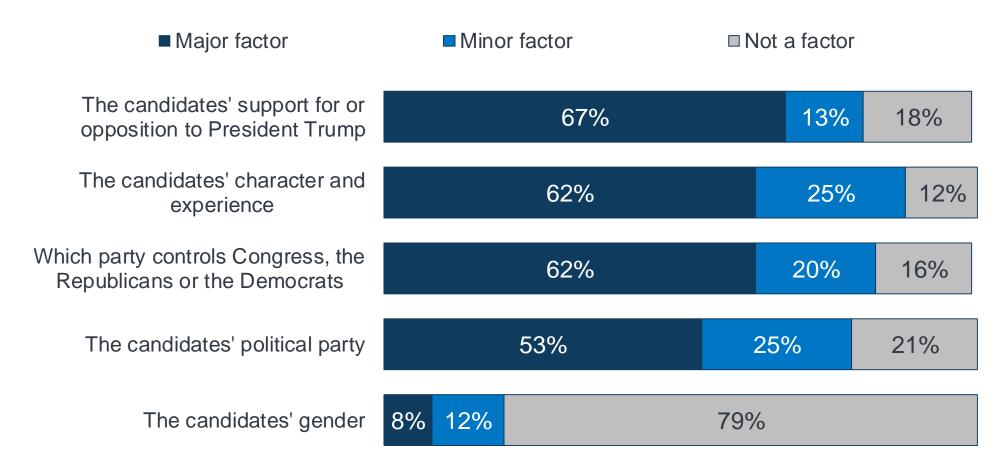
<u>NEVADA VOTERS</u>: Percent who said they were more likely to vote for candidates who held the following positions on health care issues:



SOURCE: KFF Election Tracking Poll (conducted September 19-October 2, 2018)

#### More Than Just An Election About Health Care (And Issues)

<u>NEVADA VOTERS:</u> Percent who say each of the following is a "major factor," "minor factor," or "not a factor" in their decision about who to vote for Congress:





#### In Conclusion

- 1. Health care was a major issue for voters heading into the elections nationally, in Nevada, and in Colorado (although it was much more important for Democrats)
- 2. Other issues were at play including housing costs and immigration
- 3. There were some health care issues that cut across party lines
- 4. Wasn't just a "health care election"



#### What Does It Mean Moving Forward?

# 2020 ELECTION



Filling the need for trusted information on national health issues.



