

Most people with criminal records are eligible to vote in Colorado. Unfortunately, this is not widely known. According to a survey commissioned by the Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition, there is significant public confusion surrounding the voting rights of individuals currently involved in the justice system.

### Who Can Vote?

Colorado residents who are U.S. citizens and 18 years of age or older are eligible to vote if:

- they have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor and have completed their sentence;
- they are currently on probation for a felony or misdemeanor conviction; or
- they are currently in jail serving a sentence for a misdemeanor conviction or awaiting trial for any offense.

They are NOT eligible to vote if they are currently serving a sentence for a felony conviction—either in prison or on parole—but they will become eligible again after completing their sentence.

### Key Areas of Public Confusion

The following findings are based on a survey of 600 Colorado voters conducted by Public Policy Polling from August 24-26, 2018. The margin of error is plus or minus four percentage points.



Only a small majority of Coloradans (57%) know that individuals who have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor are eligible to vote once they have completed their sentence. That number drops to just over one-third (36%) among Colorado voters who identify as neither white nor Hispanic/Latino.



Fewer than half of Coloradans (43%) know that individuals who are currently on probation for a felony or misdemeanor conviction are eligible to vote.



Four out of 10 Coloradans (43%) do NOT know that individuals currently in jail for misdemeanor convictions are allowed to vote from jail. Only 41% of Coloradans know that individuals in jail awaiting trial are also eligible.



*Between 70 million and 100 million people in the United States have some type of criminal record. That's one out of every three Americans.*

Source: The Sentencing Project, "Americans With Criminal Records"



*There are approximately 77,000 adults on probation in Colorado.*

Source: Colorado Judicial Branch, "Annual Statistical Report: Fiscal Year 2018"



*There are thousands of people in Colorado jails who are eligible to vote.*

Source: CCJRC estimate based on most recent jail population statistics

**Know your rights!**

Find out if you can vote at:

**VotingWithConviction.org**