



Montana Survey

A Survey of Montana Voters

January 19, 2026

1. Whether or not you are planning to vote, when it comes to politics, do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, or something else?

	Total
Democrat	27%
Republican	40%
Something else	33%

2. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Montana's U.S. Senator Steve Daines?

	Total
Very favorable	12%
Somewhat favorable	28%
Somewhat unfavorable	19%
Very unfavorable	16%
Not familiar	25%

3. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Montana's U.S. Senator Tim Sheehy?

	Total
Very favorable	14%
Somewhat favorable	25%
Somewhat unfavorable	20%
Very unfavorable	25%
Not familiar	16%



4. How important are America's public lands such as national parks, forests, monuments, and wildlife refuges, to Montana and your community?

	Total
Very important	82%
Somewhat important	15%
Somewhat unimportant	1%
Very unimportant	2%

5. When you think about national public lands in Montana, do you think that having public lands:

	Total
Helps our economy	86%
Hurts our economy	3%
Has little impact on our economy	11%

6. Last summer, politicians in Washington D.C. proposed a law to sell off nearly 3 million acres of national public land in Western states. Which statement best reflects your view on America's public lands:

	Total
Our public lands should be protected and kept in public hands	84%
Our public land should be sold or transferred to states or private interests	6%
Don't know/unsure	10%



7. Former New Mexico Congressman Steve Pearce has recently been selected to run the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Washington, DC. The BLM oversees 245 million acres of America’s public lands. Your U.S. Senators will soon vote for or against confirming his nomination.

Here is some background on BLM Director nominee Steve Pearce:

- In Congress, he supported selling off national public lands, saying “Over 90% of this land is located in the western states, and most of it we do not even need.”
- Pearce sponsored legislation to allow public lands to be sold off to private interests and opposed efforts to stop the sale of public lands.
- Pearce said that we must “reverse this trend of public ownership of lands” and has criticized former President Teddy Roosevelt for his “big ideas of big forests and big national parks.”

Do you agree or disagree with Steve Pearce’s views on public lands?

	Total
Strongly agree with	4%
Somewhat agree with	10%
Somewhat disagree with	14%
Strongly disagree with	61%
Not sure	11%

8. Former Congressman Steve Pearce owns and operates a business that provides services to oil and gas companies. If confirmed as Director of the BLM, he would oversee oil and gas activities on public lands, while his wife would assume day-to-day control of the company. In your opinion, does this seem appropriate?

	Total
Yes, this is appropriate	20%
No, this is inappropriate	80%

9. If confirmed, Pearce could dramatically change how Montanans use and enjoy BLM land. Cattle grazing leases could be terminated, access to places Montanans hunt and fish could be closed off, and lands transferred to the state may be sold off. Does this concern you?

	Total
Yes	90%
No	10%



10. Do you support or oppose former Congressman Steve Pearce being appointed Director of the Bureau of Land Management?

	Total
Strongly support	2%
Somewhat support	8%
Somewhat oppose	16%
Strongly oppose	59%
Not sure	14%

11. If you knew that Montana’s U.S. Senators voted against Steve Pearce as director of the Bureau of Land Management, would you have a more favorable or less favorable opinion of them?

	Total
Much more favorable	19%
More Favorable	43%
Less Favorable	9%
Much less favorable	7%
Not sure	22%

12. For statistical purposes only, what is your race?

	Total
African American	1%
White	85%
Hispanic	2%
Asian	1%
Native American	9%
Other / Prefer not to say	2%

13. Are you a woman, a man, or prefer not to say.

	Total
Woman	51%
Man	49%
Prefer not to say	0%

14. Are you a hunter or angler?.

	Total
Yes	48%
No	52%



15. What is your highest level of schooling?

	Total
High school or less	34%
Some college	30%
College graduate	27%
Attended graduate school	10%

16. Finally, please enter the YEAR in which you were born.

	Total
18-40	31%
41-60	30%
61 or older	39%