



Union of Concerned Scientists

A Survey of Registered Voters in CO, GA, MI, and PA

June 19, 2023

1. To begin, are you registered to vote at your current household?

	Total
Yes, registered	100%

Over the last several years, the US food and farming system has been hit with a number of shocks—the pandemic and supply chain problems, the war in Ukraine, unpredictable weather, and inflation. These have created the potential for food system problems. Based on what you know about these issues, how big of a threat are the following in your state?

		Very significant threat	Somewhat significant threat	Not that significant of a threat	Not sure
2. Crop failures from extreme weather	CO	33%	40%	19%	8%
	GA	35%	37%	18%	9%
	MI	35%	40%	19%	7%
	PA	31%	42%	20%	7%
3. Low-income Americans having trouble accessing food assistance programs	CO	40%	34%	20%	6%
	GA	42%	37%	13%	8%
	MI	41%	35%	17%	7%
	PA	43%	36%	14%	7%
4. Risk of illness and injury to essential food and farm industry workers	CO	17%	42%	27%	14%
	GA	27%	37%	23%	14%
	MI	20%	43%	26%	11%
	PA	23%	37%	27%	13%
5. High food prices for consumers	CO	65%	29%	4%	2%
	GA	70%	21%	6%	3%
	MI	65%	29%	3%	2%
	PA	69%	25%	5%	2%
6. Water pollution caused by agricultural runoff	CO	23%	40%	23%	15%
	GA	31%	32%	24%	13%
	MI	29%	39%	19%	12%
	PA	22%	40%	28%	10%
7. Corporate consolidation squeezing our small and midsize farmers and food business	CO	40%	39%	9%	11%
	GA	40%	36%	12%	13%
	MI	39%	40%	11%	10%
	PA	36%	40%	13%	10%

500 interviews per state among voters in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Georgia, and Colorado were conducted June 6-19, 2023, via online survey. The results were weighted to ensure proportional response in each state. The Bayesian confidence interval for 500 interviews is 5.0, which is roughly equivalent to a margin of error of ± 4.4 percent at the 95% confidence level.

For questions, please email: info@rabaresearch.com or call (917) 685-4819.



8. As you may have heard, Congress is starting to write this year's Food and Farm Bill which is the primary federal law for the American agriculture system. This bill focuses on nutrition programs, as well as programs for the agriculture industry such as research, risk management programs, and conservation programs. Before it was mentioned here, how much have you heard about this bill?

	CO	GA	MI	PA
A lot	5%	9%	5%	6%
Some	22%	23%	25%	23%
Not much	32%	35%	31%	35%
Nothing at all	42%	33%	39%	35%

9. Also in the news recently is the deal that Congress and President Biden reached to increase the debt ceiling. Part of this deal changed some of the policies around nutrition programs such as SNAP and TANF. Some of the changes to these programs will affect who can and cannot access these programs.

In general, how much time and attention should Congress focus on making sure as many people as possible have enough to eat, and how much of their focus should be on making sure that as many people as possible who receive food assistance are working or looking for work?

	CO	GA	MI	PA
All of their focus should be on making sure people have enough to eat	15%	19%	16%	16%
More of their focus should be on making sure people have enough to eat	27%	22%	24%	25%
50/50 split between the two	33%	35%	29%	29%
More of their focus should be on making sure people receiving food assistance are working	13%	12%	20%	15%
All of their focus should be on making sure people receiving food assistance are working	8%	9%	7%	10%
Not sure	5%	4%	4%	4%

Historically, the Food and Farm Bill has funded various kinds of subsidies for agriculture, which some have said should be changed or updated. Based on what you know about this issue, would you support or oppose the following kinds of programs and investments?

		Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure
	CO	48%	36%	6%	2%	7%
10. More and better workplace protections for essential workers in the farming and food industries.	GA	46%	37%	6%	3%	8%
	MI	47%	40%	4%	1%	7%
	PA	47%	40%	4%	2%	6%
11. Programs that help farmers proactively adapt and protect their land and crops against losses from flooding and drought rather than waiting and paying for losses after the fact.	CO	49%	36%	6%	3%	7%
	GA	51%	33%	8%	2%	6%
	MI	51%	39%	4%	1%	5%
	PA	49%	39%	6%	1%	5%
	CO	55%	32%	6%	1%	6%
12. Programs that help farmers protect water quality and keep more carbon and nutrients in their soil.	GA	55%	31%	5%	2%	6%
	MI	55%	33%	4%	1%	7%
	PA	52%	36%	4%	2%	6%
	CO	47%	39%	5%	2%	7%
13. Increasing investments that help small and midsize farmers compete with large corporate agribusiness	GA	51%	32%	6%	3%	8%
	MI	50%	36%	7%	1%	7%
	PA	49%	40%	5%	1%	5%
	CO	49%	32%	6%	4%	8%
14. Helping all kinds of people succeed in farming, including people of color, women, young people, and others who are underrepresented in the industry	GA	55%	28%	7%	3%	7%
	MI	49%	35%	5%	2%	9%
	PA	52%	31%	8%	3%	6%
15. Shifting investments to prioritize nutrition, such as making fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods more affordable, instead of subsidizing commodity crops like corn and soy that make junk food cheap.	CO	49%	34%	6%	3%	8%
	GA	53%	31%	7%	3%	6%
	MI	46%	35%	8%	3%	8%
	PA	47%	37%	8%	3%	5%



16. If a candidate for public office proposed ways to help small, midsize, and more diverse farmers and their communities succeed in agriculture, would you be more or less likely to support that candidate?

	CO	GA	MI	PA
Much more likely	28%	32%	31%	31%
Somewhat more likely	47%	42%	43%	46%
Would make no difference	16%	16%	17%	15%
Somewhat less likely	3%	3%	2%	2%
Much less likely	1%	2%	2%	2%
Not sure	4%	5%	6%	4%

17. If a candidate for public office proposed ways to help farmers adapt to extreme weather and be part of the solution to climate change, would you be more or less likely to support that candidate?

	CO	GA	MI	PA
Much more likely	28%	32%	30%	30%
Somewhat more likely	41%	34%	35%	40%
Would make no difference	19%	22%	22%	17%
Somewhat less likely	5%	4%	4%	5%
Much less likely	2%	4%	4%	2%
Not sure	4%	5%	5%	5%

18. In general, do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Shifting farm policies and investments to help diversify farming, support small and midsize farms, and make farmers more resilient to future challenges will help everyone in our country by revitalizing rural economies and ensuring a reliable, healthy food supply in every community.

	CO	GA	MI	PA
Strongly agree	43%	44%	43%	42%
Somewhat agree	43%	40%	43%	45%
Somewhat disagree	6%	5%	6%	6%
Strongly disagree	1%	2%	1%	1%
Not sure	7%	9%	8%	7%



And finally, a few demographic questions that are for statistical purposes only.

19. Which of the following best describes the area that you live in?

	CO	GA	MI	PA
Urban	28%	19%	21%	23%
Suburban	51%	56%	55%	51%
Rural	21%	25%	24%	26%

20. [IF RURAL] Do you or a household member farm?

	CO	GA	MI	PA
Yes	10%	12%	15%	9%
No	89%	87%	85%	90%
Not sure	1%	1%	0%	0%

21. How do you identify yourself?

	CO	GA	MI	PA
Male	48%	46%	49%	48%
Female	51%	53%	51%	52%
Other	1%	1%	1%	0%

22. What is your age?

	CO	GA	MI	PA
Under 45	48%	47%	42%	40%
45-64	30%	32%	33%	33%
65+	22%	21%	25%	27%

23. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, or something else?

	CO	GA	MI	PA
Republican	29%	29%	32%	40%
Democrat	31%	46%	50%	47%
Something else	39%	25%	18%	13%