



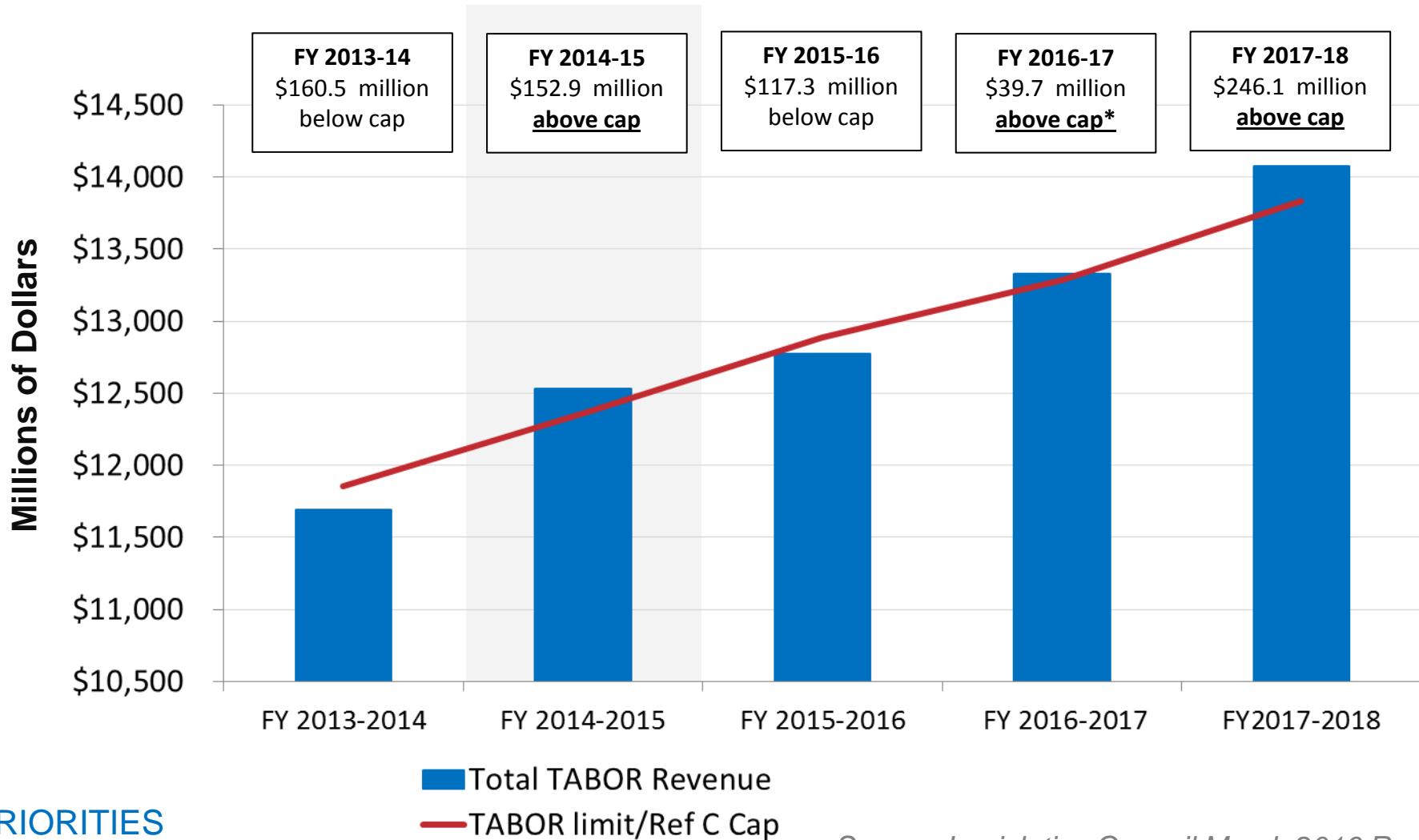
COLORADO PRIORITIES

# Our current fiscal challenge

# Why we are here

- In 1992, Colorado passed TABOR (Taxpayer's Bill of Rights)
- TABOR caps the amount governments can increase their budget each year by the sum of inflation plus growth – anything above that must be refunded to taxpayers, unless taxpayers allow governments to retain this revenue
- Colorado currently cannot retain all of the revenue it collects. This year Coloradans saw an individual rebate of \$13 – \$41
- Under TABOR, governments can ask voters for permission to retain this revenue – this is what we're doing

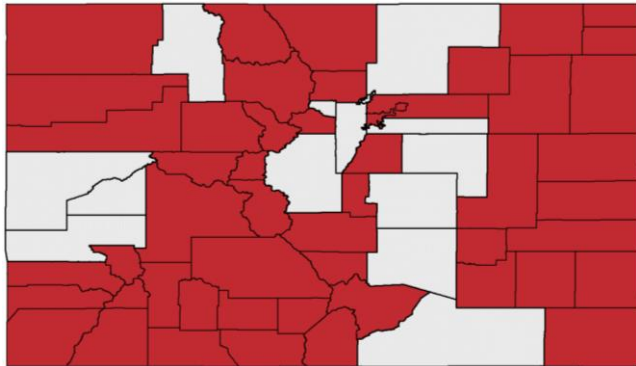
# Excess Revenue Returned



# Most local governments have passed similar measures

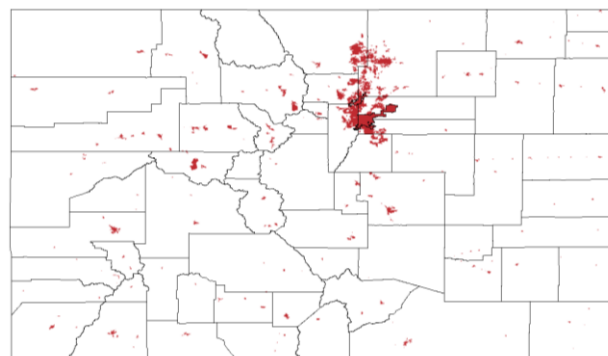
Counties

50 of 64  
Counties



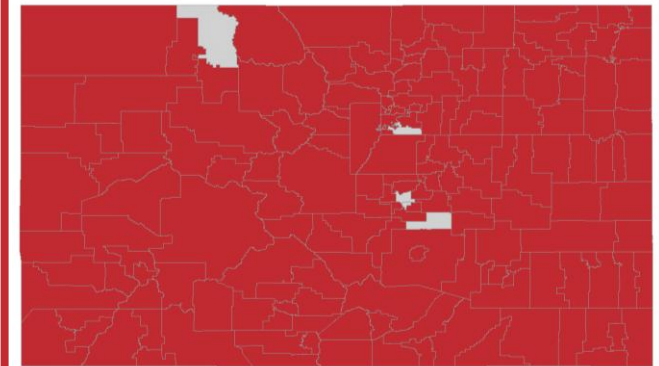
Municipalities

223 of 271  
Cities or Towns



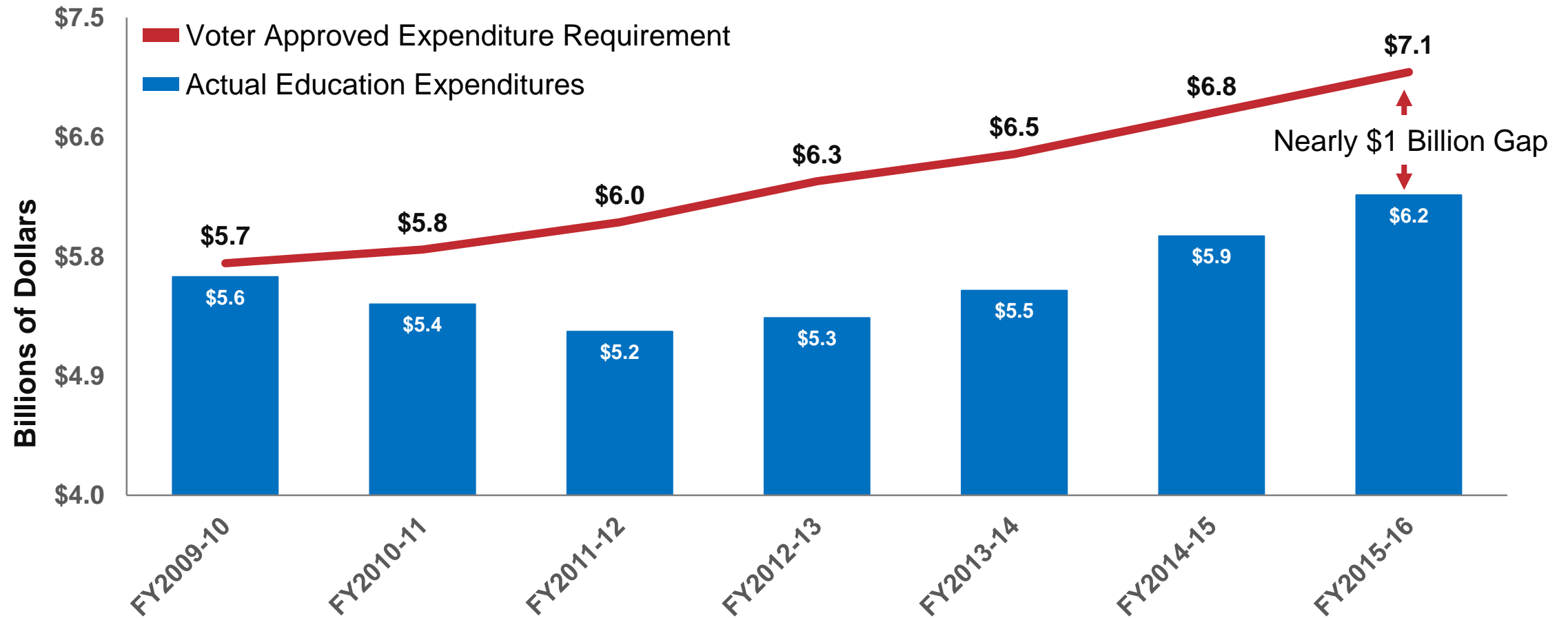
School Districts

173 of 178  
School Districts

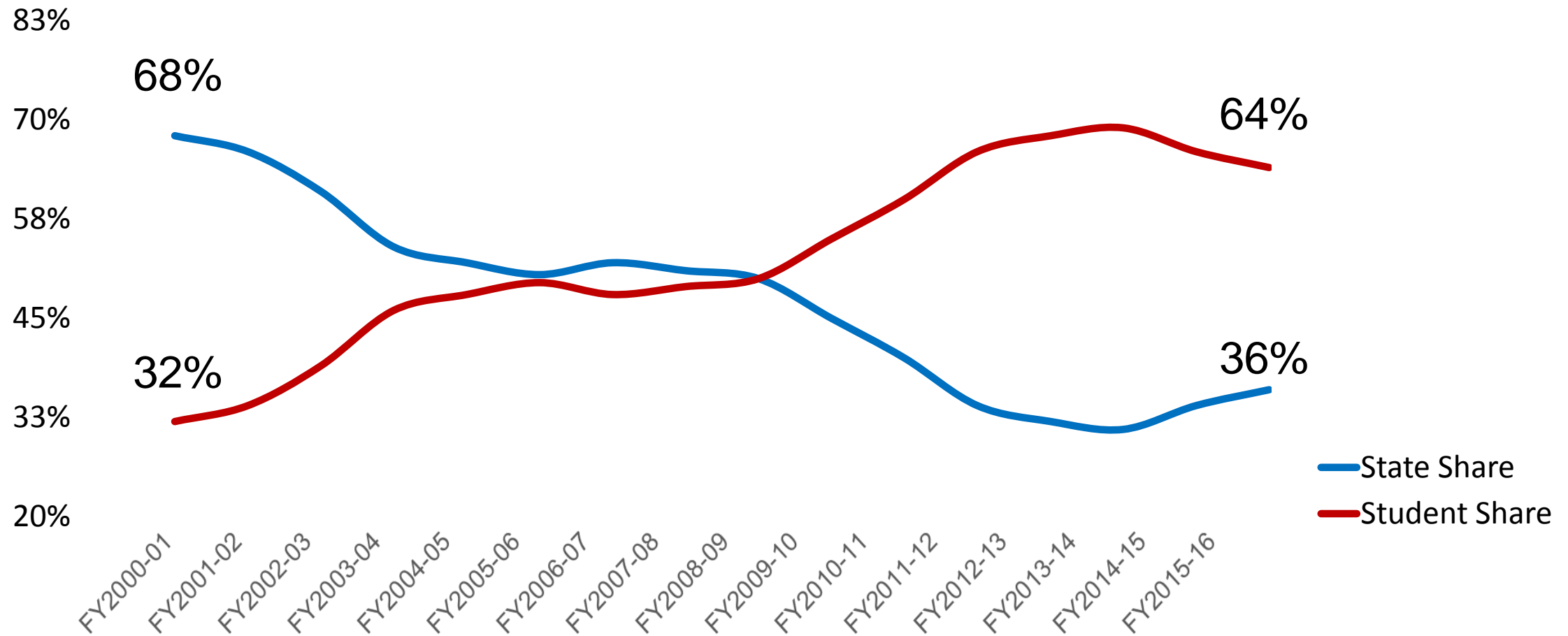


Meanwhile ...

# ... education funding falls behind



# ... higher ed costs shift to students





... transportation needs outpace capacity

## Since 1991 ...

Colorado's population

**+56%**

Vehicle Miles Traveled on Colorado Roads

**+69%**

CDOT's Budget

**+31%**

# ... transportation needs outpace capacity



**\$2 billion** a year in costs to motorists from driving on roads in need of repair

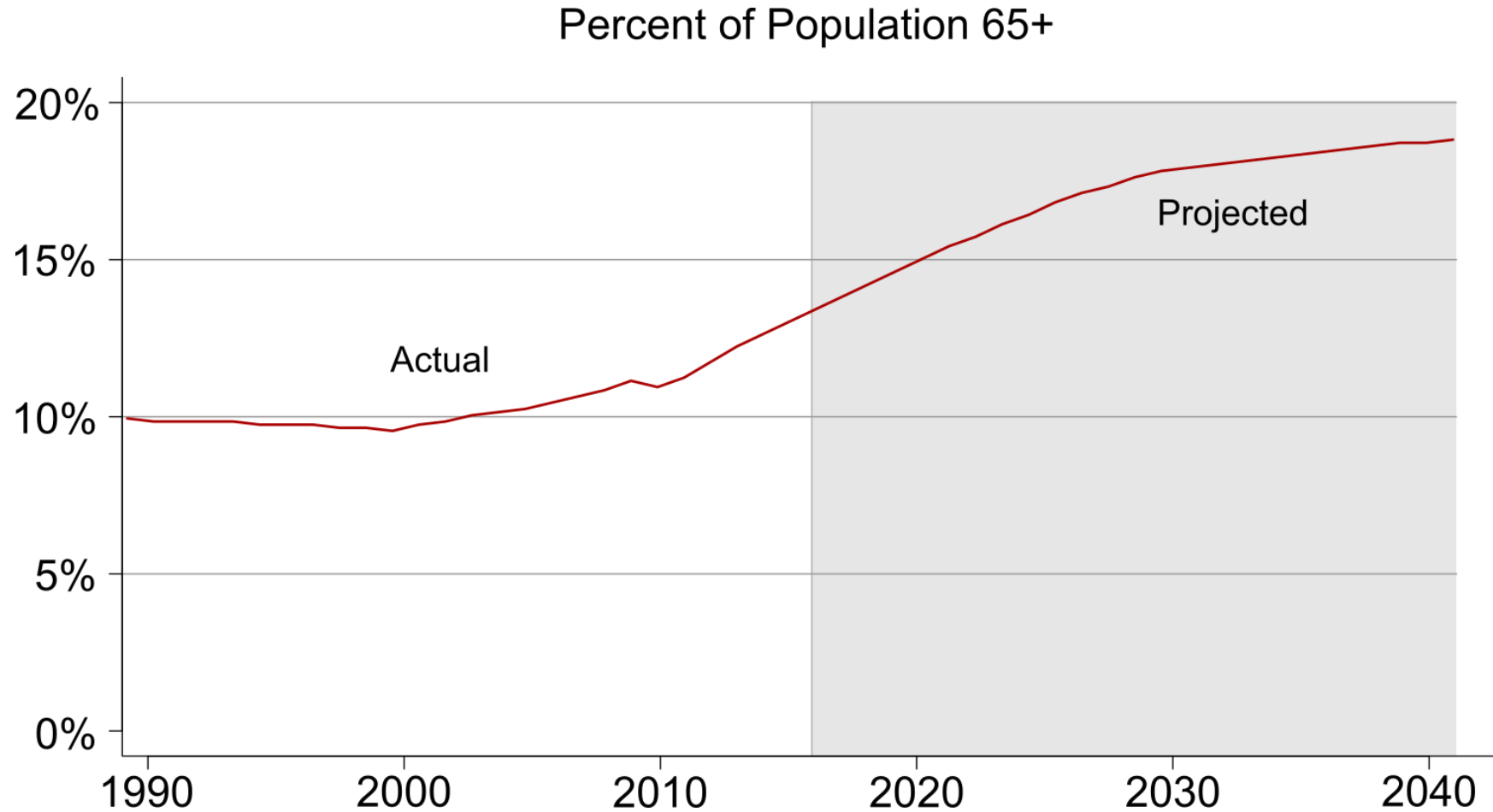


**31% of Colorado's** major urban highways are congested

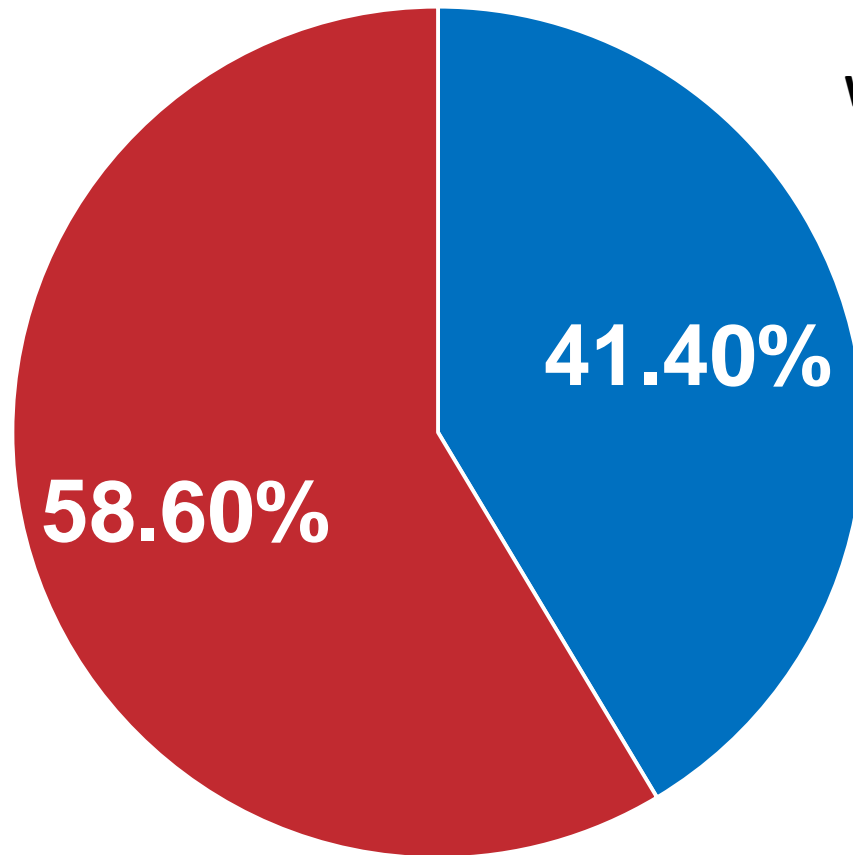


**17% of Colorado's bridges** are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete

# ... Coloradans get older



# ... and mental health needs go unmet



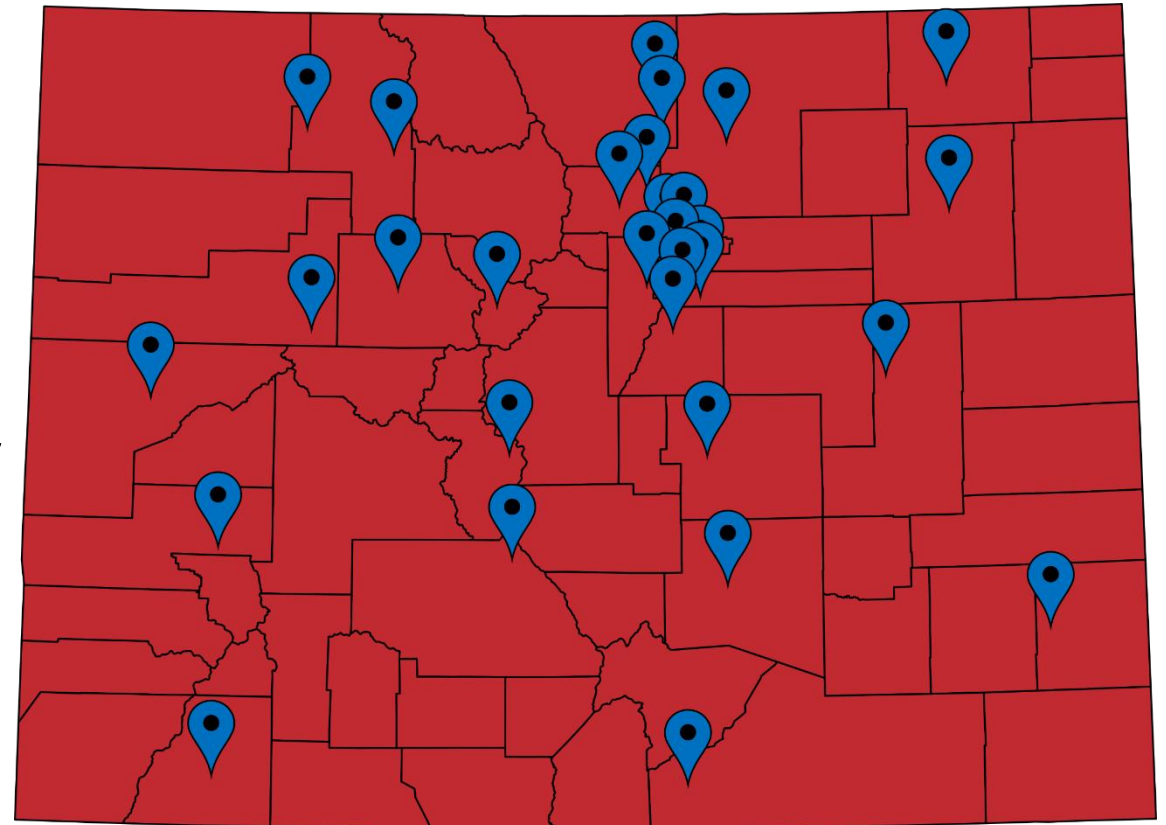
**Adults with Any Mental Illness (AMI)  
Who Have Received Treatment from 2010 to 2014**

- Received Mental Health Treatment or Counseling
- Did Not Receive Mental Health Treatment or Counseling

# Path to the Ballot

# Building on citizen-led policy development

- 30 community meetings across the state
- More than 8,000 participants online and in-person
- Results used to conduct further research and create **independent** campaign

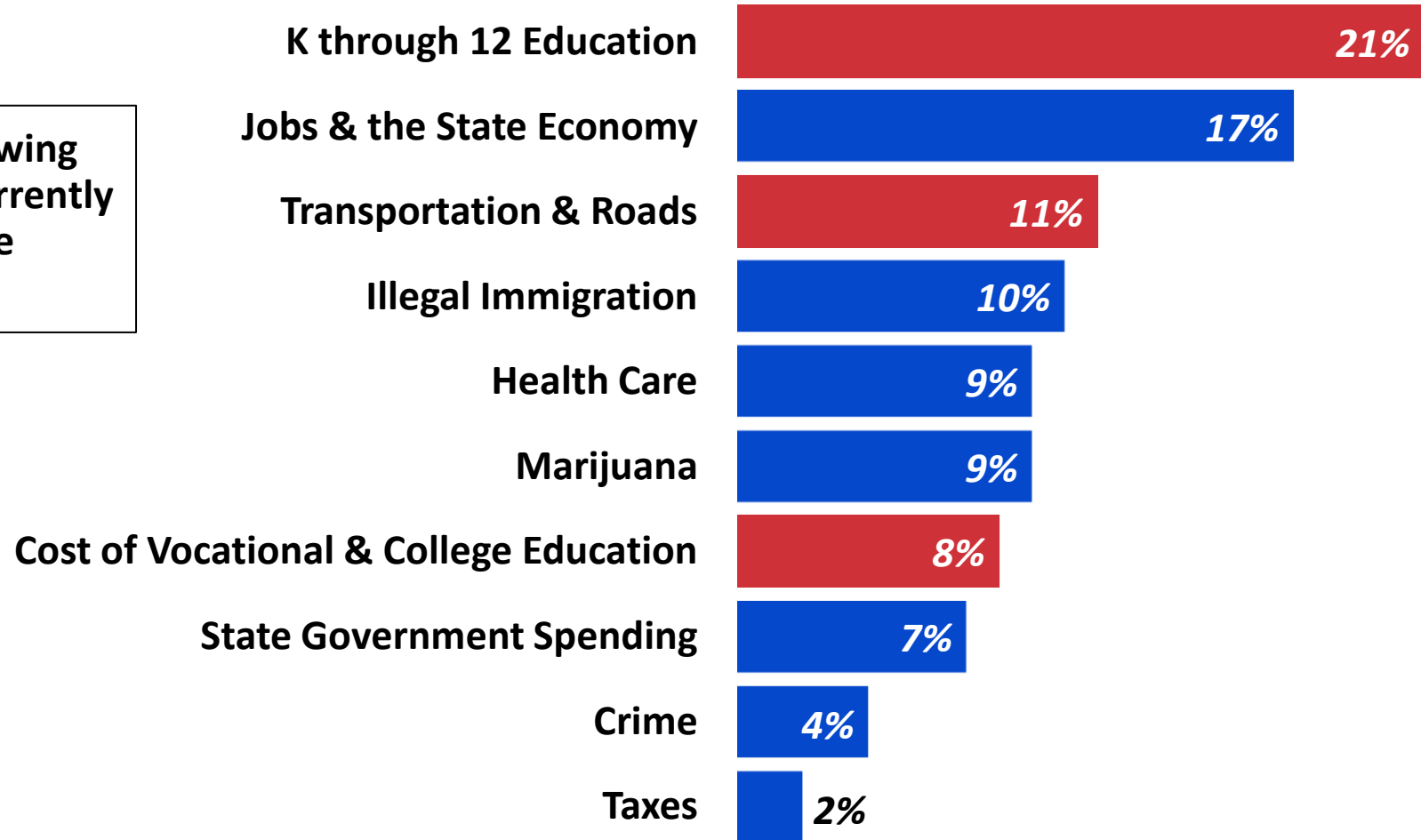


# Extensive research conducted

Description	Date
Poll: 800 sample	December 7-10
Poll: 1200 sample	January 12-18
Poll: 800 sample	February 4-8
Focus Groups: Independent Men	March 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Focus Groups: Republican Women	March 3 <sup>rd</sup>

# This proposal address the right priorities for Colorado voters

“Which ONE of the following issues do you think is currently the most important issue facing the state?”

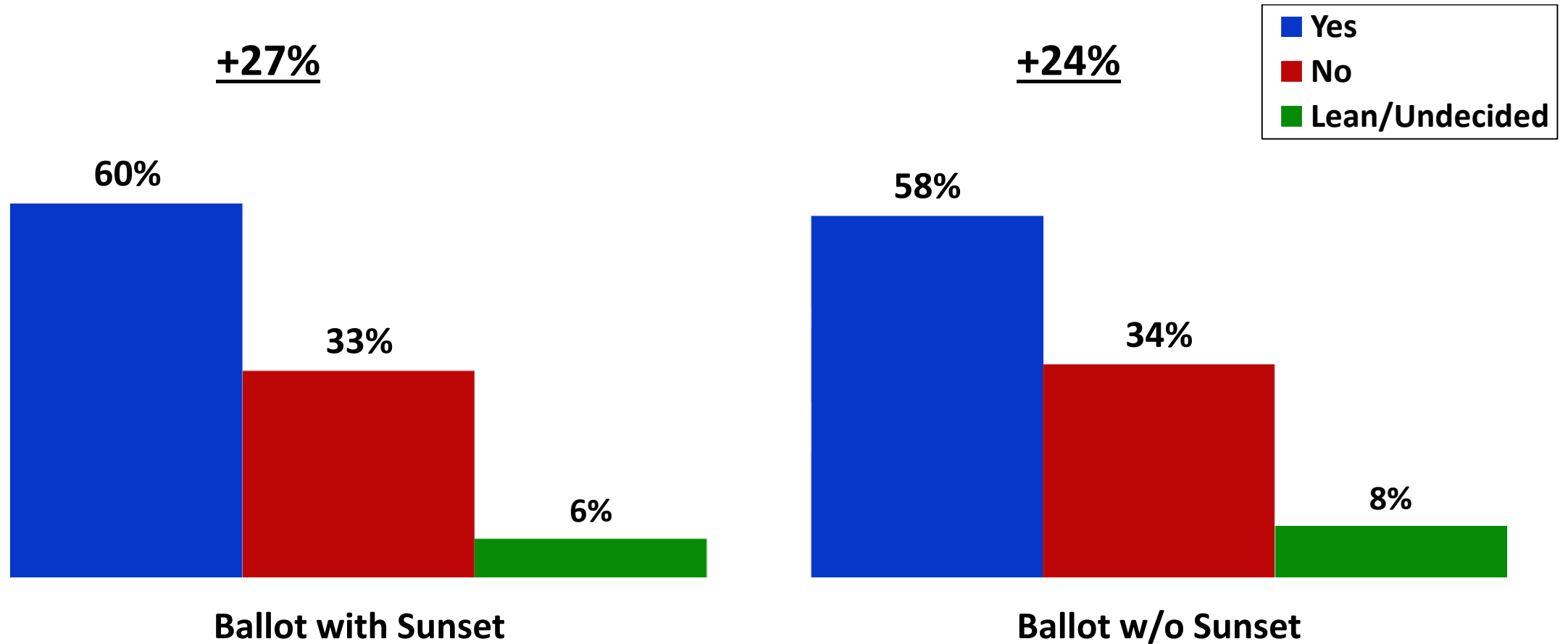




# Ballot Language Tested

Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning state revenues, and in connection therewith, authorizing the state to keep and spend revenues in excess of the constitutional limitation on fiscal year spending and prior voter approved revenue changes **(½ sample: for the next ten fiscal years)** beginning in fiscal year 2016-17 as follows: not less than 35 percent of such revenues shall be spent on education, including pre-school through twelfth grade education, vocational education, and higher education, not less than 35 percent of such revenues shall be spent on transportation projects, and amounts not spent on education and transportation may be spent on mental health services and long-term senior care; and requiring that the general assembly shall annually report to the public on how such excess revenues have been used?

# No difference between measure with sunset and without







# Key findings from Research

1. Voters are optimistic about the future of Colorado
2. Most voters do not know about or understand TABOR
3. We must get our message out first
4. Our measure has diverse support

This proposal

# Three Ballot Titles set

	10-year Sunset	Revenues Allocated
#116		
#117		
#118		

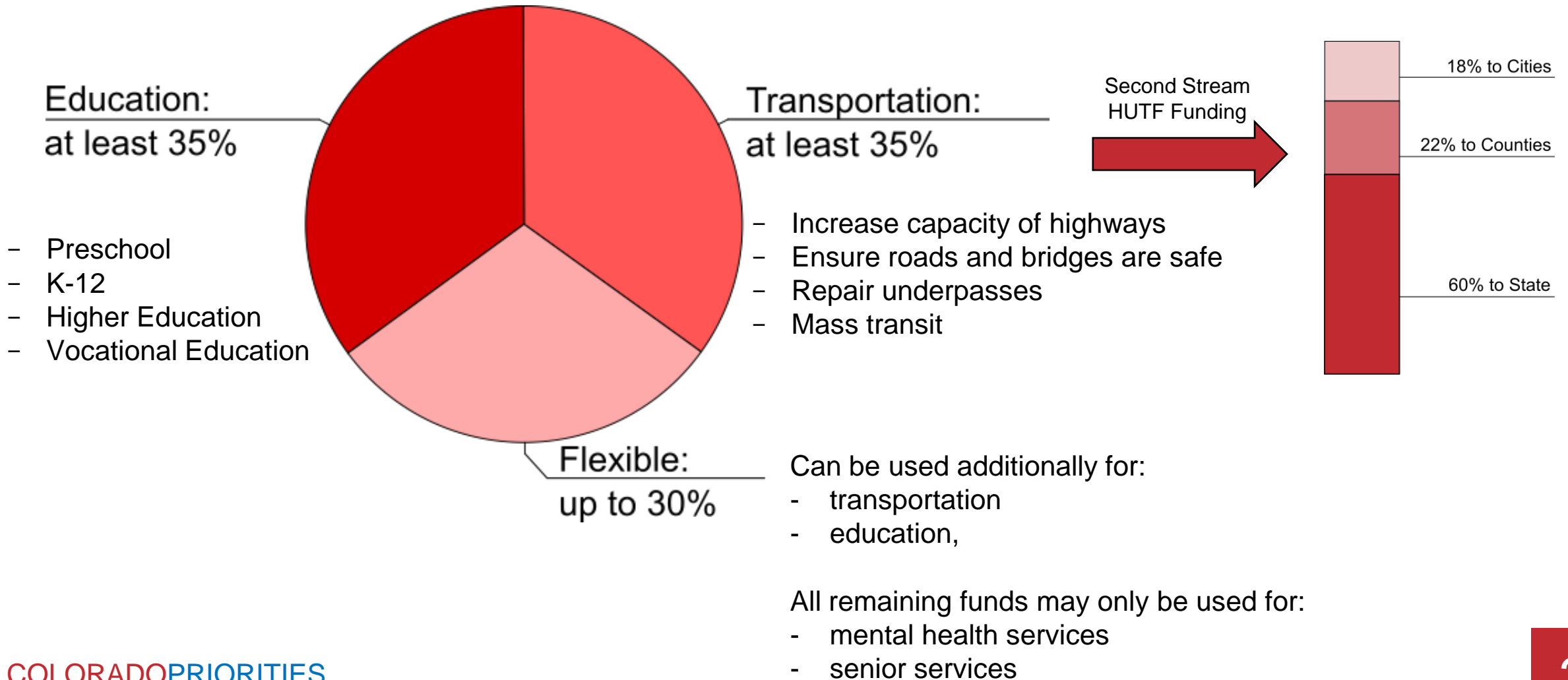
# Ballot Title for Initiative #117

A change to the Colorado Revised Statutes authorizing the state to retain and spend state revenues that exceed the constitutional limitation on state fiscal year spending, and, in connection therewith, authorizing the state to retain and spend all such revenues collected during the **ten fiscal years** from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2026; authorizing the state to annually retain and spend such revenues for any subsequent fiscal year in an amount equal to the highest amount collected in any single fiscal year during the ten-year period adjusted for increases in state population and inflation; allocating **at least 35%** of any revenues retained **to fund education** and **at least 35% to fund transportation projects**; and allowing the state to use any remaining revenues for the same purposes or to **fund mental health services and senior services**.

# What does this measure do?

Raises Taxes?	NO
Amends the constitution?	NO
Changes any existing formulas?	NO
Follows TABOR?	YES
Defines spending allocations?	YES

# This proposal puts dollars where they're needed most





QUESTIONS?



COLORADO PRIORITIES