

Shot Clock in Colorado Basketball?

Survey Conducted in Spring 2023

As it continues to explore the possibility of integrating a shot clock into the sport, the CHSAA basketball committee commissioned a survey of member schools to gauge interest and get feedback around the topic. As of June 26, 2023, a total of 328 athletic directors and district athletic directors have responded.

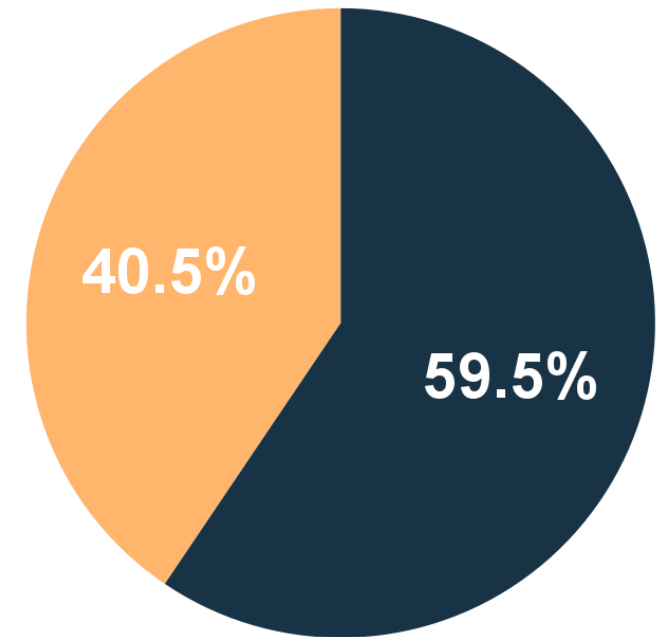
The CHSAA office has reached out to the membership multiple times to complete this survey, including communication targeting schools that had not yet responded. Each response has been examined. No school has more than one response included.

Respondents

Type	Number
Member Schools	323
District Athletic Directors	5
Metro	184
Rural	139
<i>Total Responses</i>	328
<i>Total Schools with Basketball (2022-23)</i>	351

All Responses

- Yes
- No

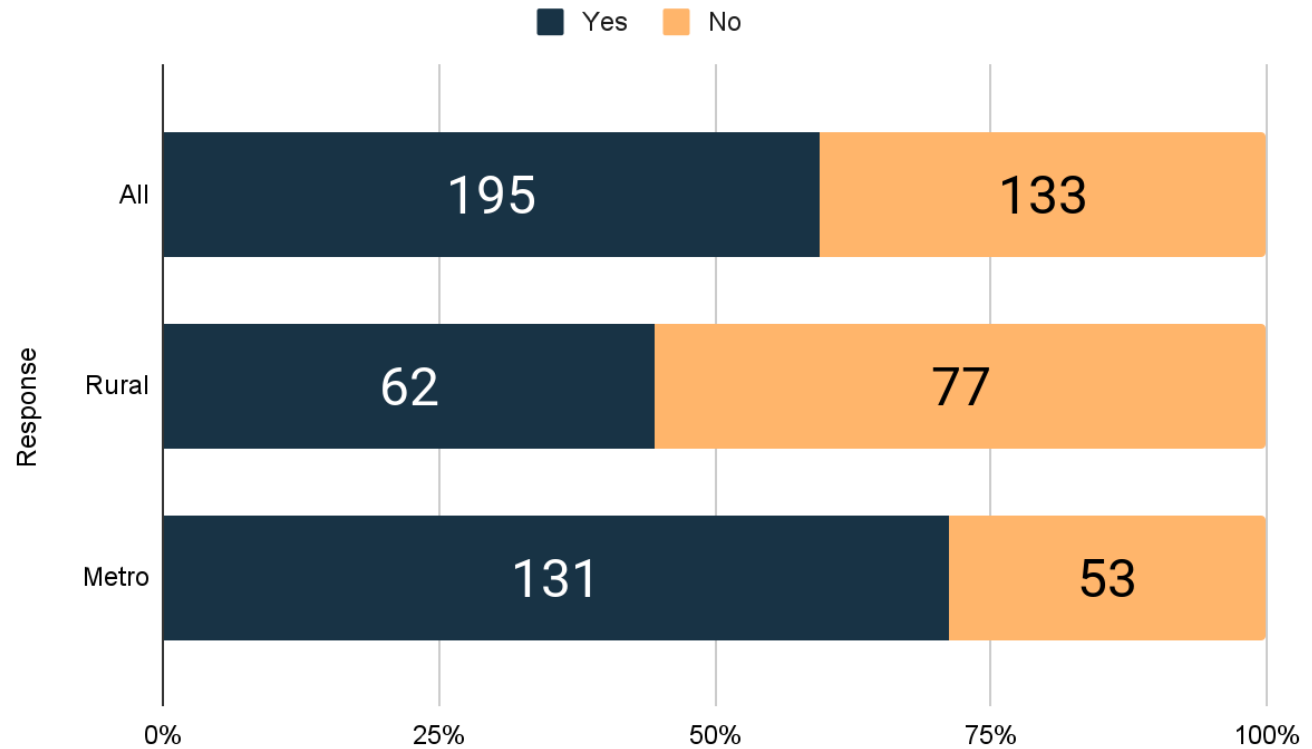


Detailed Breakdown

Metro vs. Rural

School type as defined by CDE setting

Type	Yes	No
All	195	133
%	59.45%	40.55%
Rural	62	77
%	44.60%	55.40%
Metro	131	53
%	71.20%	28.80%



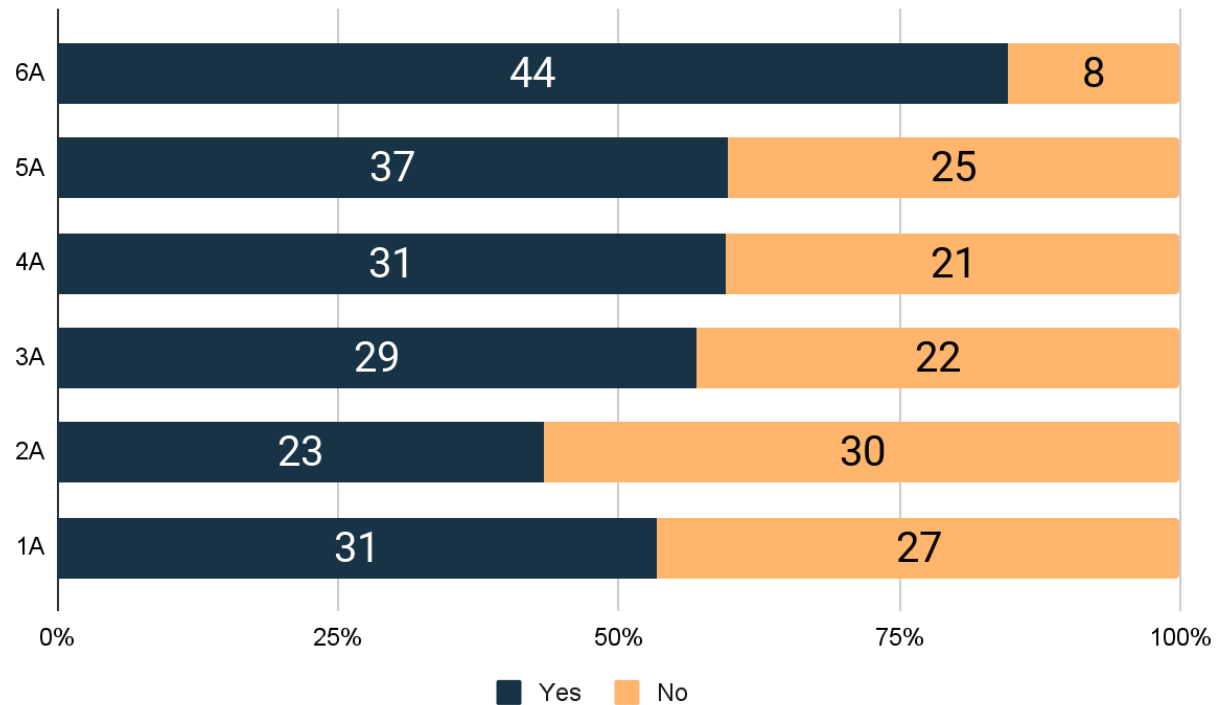
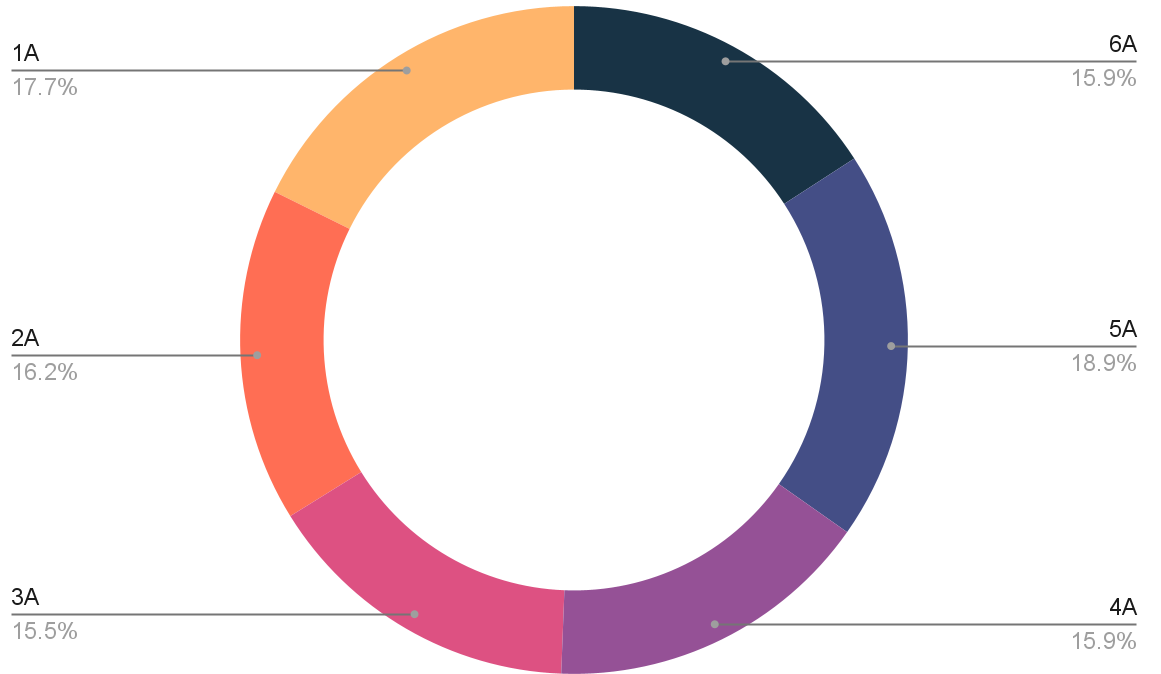
Schools from Metro and Rural settings viewed this issue very differently.

Metro schools were overwhelmingly in favor of the addition of a shot clock, with 71.2% in favor. By contrast, schools from a Rural setting were against the idea, 55.4% to 44.6%.

Classification

Type	Yes	No
All	195	133
%	59.45%	40.55%
6A	44	8
%	84.62%	15.38%
5A	37	25
%	59.68%	40.32%
4A	31	21
%	59.62%	40.38%
3A	29	22
%	56.86%	43.14%
2A	23	30
%	43.40%	56.60%
1A	31	27
%	53.45%	46.55%

All classifications were in favor of making the change, with the exception of 2A, which saw 56.6% vote against.





Reasoning

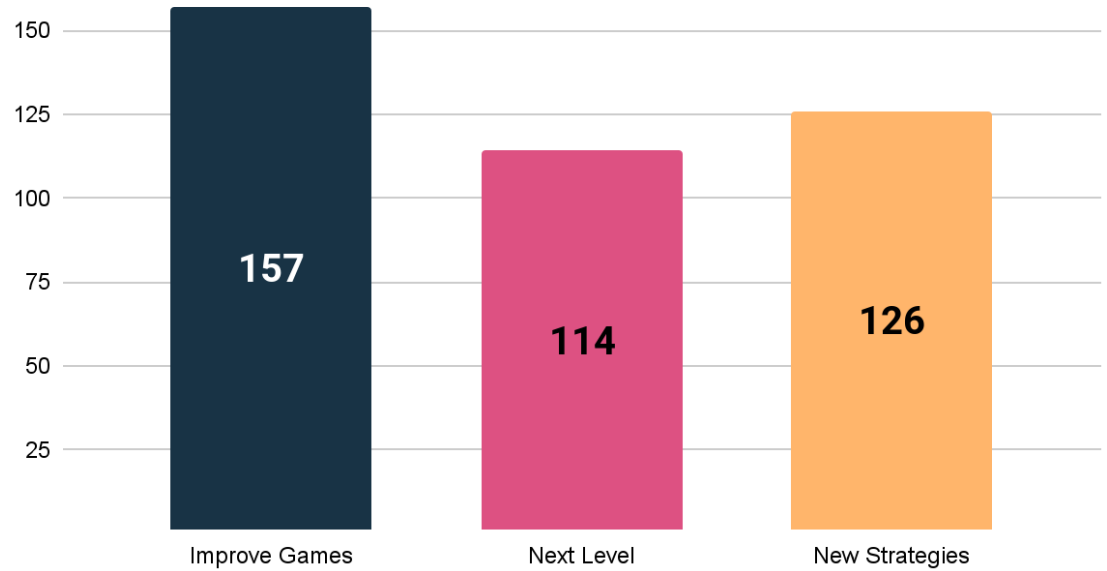
Respondents allowed to select multiple reasons

In Favor

Most who responded in favor of the shot clock believed that it would improve the game.

- "It will allow coaches to use new and different strategies" was the second-most popular response.
- "It will prepare student-athletes for playing at the next level" was third.

In Favor

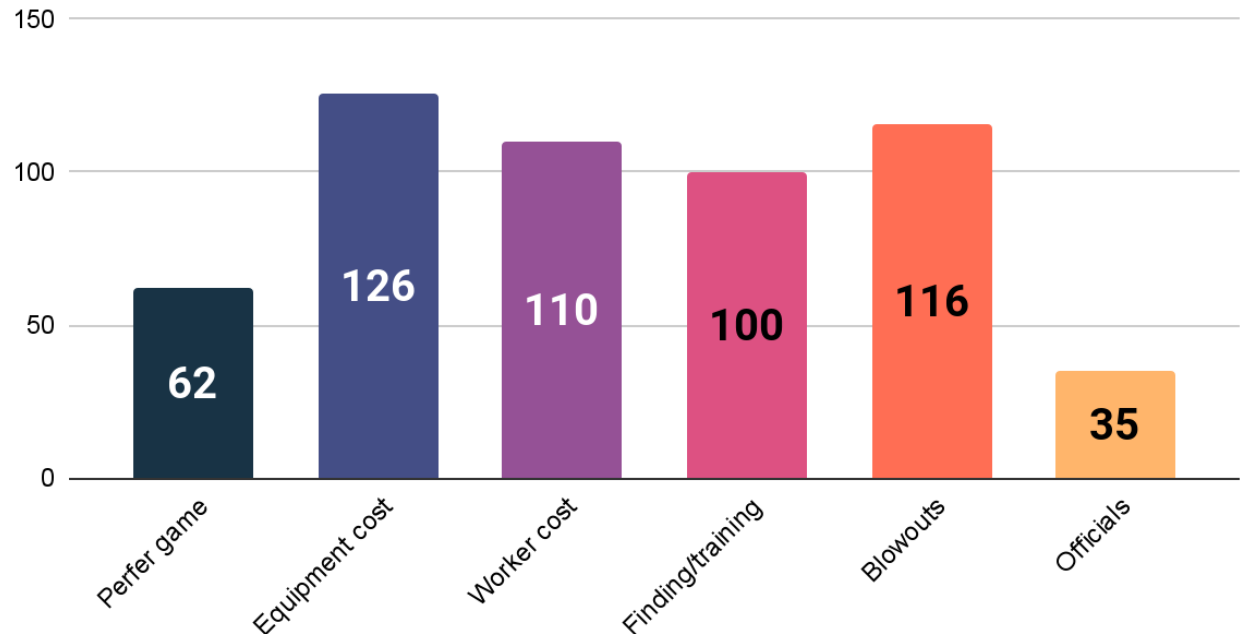


Opposed

In ranked order of most common reasons respondents opposed implementation:

1. "The cost of the equipment will be too expensive"
2. "I have concerns about sportsmanship, and large score differentials"
3. "The cost of a worker to run the shot clock will be too expensive"
4. "It will be too difficult to find and train a worker or volunteer to run the shot clock"
5. "I prefer the game of basketball without a shot clock"
6. "This would put more responsibility on officials"

Opposed

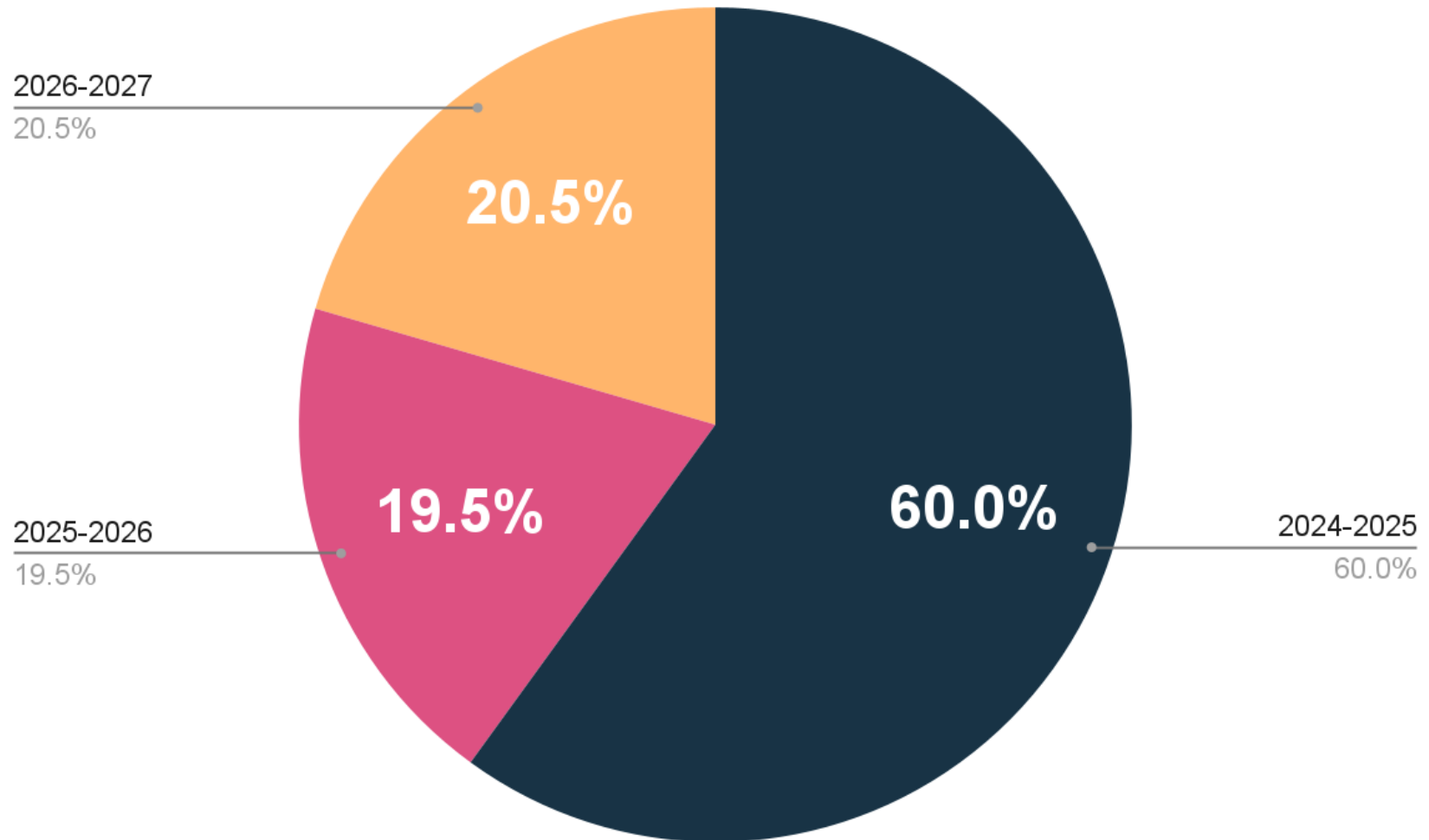




Potential Start Year

Those who responded "Yes" on the survey were asked which year they believed a shot clock should be implemented.

The most popular response was 2024-25 (60%). A start year of 2026-27 (20.5%) narrowly edged 2025-26 (19.5%).





NFHS State Association Adoption Guidelines

In accordance with Rule 2-14, each state association may adopt a procedure by which it implements a **35-second** shot clock effective with the 2022-23 season.

Shot Clock Displays

1. A shot clock is one of two official visible timepieces – one at each end of the court
2. Shot clocks should be **recessed and mounted on the backboard supports behind each backboard.**
3. An alternate-timing device or procedure shall be available when a visible shot clock malfunctions.
4. LED lights located around the shot clock may be used, but the lights shall only be activated for a shot clock violation.
5. Nothing shall be attached to the shot clock mounting mechanisms that affects the visibility of the shot clock.

Financial Impacts

As quoted by BSN (corporate partner) for Daktronics

Shot Clock Equipment

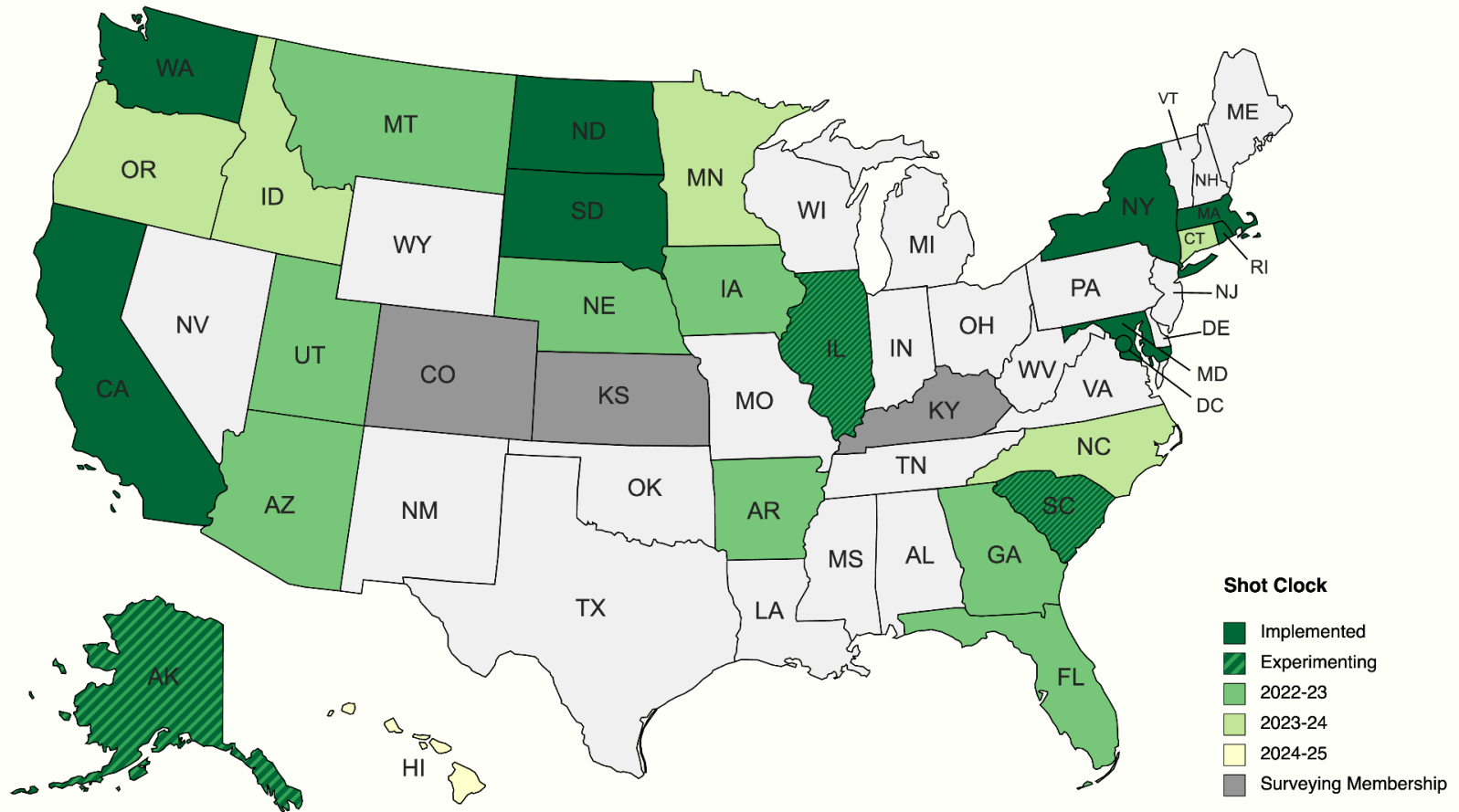
Shot clock system will cost between \$2,000-\$6,000 per pair (per gym) depending on what the current system is in the gym(s)

Game & Table Officials

A shot clock operator will be located at the scorer's and timer's table. It is recommended that the timer and shot clock operator be seated next to each other.

Shot Clock Implementation Nationally

Per NFHS: By 2024-25, 26 states will have implemented a shot clock.





Open-Ended Responses

Respondents could add comments or additional feedback, if they wanted to.

Common themes

- 1. Cost:** Many respondents express concerns about the financial burden of installing and maintaining shot clocks, especially for smaller schools with limited budgets. The cost of purchasing the equipment, training personnel, and hiring additional workers is seen as a significant challenge.
- 2. Availability of workers:** Finding reliable and competent individuals to operate the shot clock is a common concern. Many schools already struggle to find volunteers or workers for various game positions, and adding another role adds to the difficulty.
- 3. Impact on weaker teams:** Some respondents believe that implementing a shot clock would disadvantage weaker teams by not allowing them enough time to keep the game close or use strategic tactics to compete against stronger opponents.
- 4. Game improvement and flow:** Several respondents support the shot clock, stating that it would improve the quality of the game, increase competitiveness, and enhance the experience for both players and fans. They believe that it would keep the game moving and eliminate the ability for teams to hold the ball for long periods.
- 5. Alignment with national standards:** Some respondents argue that Colorado should adopt a shot clock to align with other states and national standards, seeing it as a necessary change for the sport.

Outliers

- A couple of respondents mention the need for flexibility in implementation timelines, taking into account the limited resources and longer lead time required for certain school districts.

Summary

The responses reflect a range of opinions regarding the implementation of a shot clock in Colorado high school basketball. Concerns about cost, availability of workers, and the potential disadvantage for weaker teams are prevalent. However, there are also proponents who believe that the shot clock would improve the game, increase competitiveness, and align Colorado with national standards. The financial implications and logistical challenges, especially for smaller schools, appear to be the main factors driving opposition to the shot clock. The decision on whether to implement a shot clock in Colorado will require careful consideration of these various perspectives and the specific circumstances of each school.