

Appendix A: American Association for Public Opinion Research Transparency Initiative Details

1. This project was sponsored by Vermont Public Radio (VPR), Colchester, VT. VPR suggested the topics and the overall study goals, while the Castleton Polling Institute developed the questionnaire.
2. Castleton Polling Institute (Rutland, Vermont) conducted the study on behalf of the sponsor.
3. The project was funded by Vermont Public Radio.
4. The questionnaire was fielded via telephone using live interviewers employed and trained by Castleton Polling Institute. The Institute employed CATI software for data gathering and sample management. Please see **Appendix B** for the questionnaire.
5. The population under study was Vermont residents age 18 and above. For estimates of the Vermont presidential primary contests, the Castleton Polling Institute used a likely voter model to estimate the voting population.
6. A dual frame landline and cell phone random digit dialing design was used; the sampling procedures for both frames are described below. All number, regardless of sample frame, were dialed manually; no auto dialing is employed.

Cell-Phone sample

For cell sample the numbers are generated from list of existing dedicated cell phone exchanges, the geographical information available for each number is limited to the area code (which places it in a State), the rate center name (which is the city/town where that phone exchange switching station resides), and billing address zip code where available. All cell phone calls were screened to be sure that the respondent lives in Vermont and that the respondent was 18 years of age or older. The sample was acquired from Survey Sampling International, Shelton, Connecticut.

Landline sample

The landline sample was acquired from ASDE Survey Sampler using random digit dialing techniques based on known exchanges and live 1000-blocs within the 802 area code. Respondents within households were selected by asking first for the youngest male adult in the household. If the youngest male was not available, the interviewer would make an attempt to find the best time to reach the target individual. If there was no male in the household, the interviewer would request to speak to the youngest female.

7. The cell phone sample was purchased from Survey Sampling International (Shelton, Connecticut), and the landline sample was purchased from ASDE Survey Sampler (Gatineau, Quebec, Canada) employing the procedures described above.

8. For the cell phone sample, interviewers selected whomever answered the phone, assuming a one-to-one relationship between phone number and individuals. Anyone who did not live in the prescribed geographic area (the state of Vermont) was screened out as ineligible. For the landline sample, interviewers requested to speak with the youngest member of the household who is at least 18 years of age.
9. The sample was drawn using probability methods.
10. The total number of completed interviews is ___ (___ landline and ___ cell phone). The margin-of-error is (+/-) 3.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for data representing the entire sample. Data were weighted by utilizing a raking method to reflect census figures for gender, age, and geographic distribution (county-level population) across the state. The weights are based on the U.S. Census American Community Survey 5-year estimates from 2014 for the state of Vermont. Neither sampling errors nor statistical tests were adjusted to account for sample design effects due to weighting. An average design effect from the dual-frame sample for this study was not calculated.
11. The sample size and margin-of-error for reported subsets of the data are in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Sampling Error

Sampling Error at the 95% Confidence Level

Vermont Adults Population			
	Sampling Error	Sample Size	Population
Adults	3.27%	895	505009
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Gender	Sampling Error	Sample Size	Population
Male	4.53%	467	248969
Female	4.73%	428	256040
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Party	Sampling Error	Sample Size	Population
Democrat	6.09%	258	145443
Republican	9.01%	118	68176
Independent	4.53%	467	224729
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Region	Sampling Error	Sample Size	Population
Chittenden County	6.78%	208	128555
Northern VT	7.23%	183	116765
Central VT	6.38%	235	100759
Southern VT	6.00%	266	158930
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Age	Sampling Error	Sample Size	Population
18 - 44 years old	6.22%	248	209444
45 - 64 years old	5.00%	382	190398
65 or older	6.13%	254	102658

Education	Sampling Error	Sample Size	Population
Less than high school graduate	17.31%	32	42777
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	6.90%	201	152483
Some college or associate's degree	6.79%	208	145773
Bachelor's degree or higher	4.60%	452	160749

12. The survey was administered by live interviewers in English only via telephone during the period of February 3, 2017 to February 17, 2016.

Appendix B: Survey Instrument

[INTRO]: Hi, my name is _____ and I'm calling from Castleton University. I am not selling anything. We are working with Vermont Public Radio on a study concerning the future of our state, and we'd really appreciate your help.

To ensure our study is scientific, have we reached you on a landline or cell phone?

- Landline
- Cell phone
- REFUSED → "Thank you" and terminate

[If calling cell phone]: Do you live in Vermont?

- Yes, lives in Vermont
- No, does not live in Vermont → "Thank you" and terminate
- Not sure / Refused → "Thank you" and terminate

[If calling cell phone]: Are you currently driving a car or doing any activity that requires your full attention?

- Yes, engaged in other activity → "Can I call back at a later time?"
- No, not doing anything to distract
- Not sure / Refused → "Can I call back at a later time?"

[IF LANDLINE] May I please speak to the youngest adult male in the household who is at least 18 years of age?

- SPEAKING
- GETTING PERSON [REPEAT INTRO]
- CALLBACK [GET NAME]
- NO MALE IN HOUSEHOLD [PROCEED WITH YOUNGEST FEMALE]
- REFUSED

[IF LANDLINE, Once target respondent is on the phone] Thank you very much for helping us with this important study. Your telephone number was randomly selected from among all households in Vermont. This call may be monitored for quality assurance.

Participation is voluntary. If you decide to participate, you may decline to answer any question or end the interview at any time.

[IF ASKED:] "This survey will take 10 minutes to complete."

Intro: Let's begin...

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?
 - Approve

- Disapprove
- NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- REFUSED

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Peter Shumlin is handling his job as Governor of Vermont?

- Approve
- Disapprove
- NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- REFUSED

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Patrick Leahy is handling his job as one of Vermont's U.S. Senators?

- Approve
- Disapprove
- NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- REFUSED

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Peter Welch is handling his job representing Vermont in the U.S. House of Representatives?

- Approve
- Disapprove
- NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- REFUSED

5. How closely have you followed news about the 2016 presidential election?

- Very Closely
- Somewhat Closely
- Not too closely
- Not at all
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

6. How likely are you to vote in the Vermont Presidential Primary election that will take place on March 1st, Town Meeting Day? Would you say that you are ...

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Not too likely
- Not likely at all
- NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- REFUSED

7. [IF "VERY" OR "SOMEWHAT" LIKELY TO VOTE IN THE PRIMARY]Are you likely to choose the ballot for the Democratic Primary or for the Republican Primary?

- Democratic
- Republican

- OTHER / PROGRESSIVE
- NOT SURE
- REFUSED

8. [IF VOTING IN THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY] if THE Republican primary for president were being held today, which one of the following candidates would you favor ... [RANDOMIZE CANDIDATE NAMES ORDER]

- Jeb Bush
- Chris Christie
- Rand Paul
- Marco Rubio
- John Kasich
- Mike Huckabee
- Ted Cruz
- Ben Carson
- Donald Trump
- Carly Fiorina
- Rick Santorum
- Or for someone else
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

9. [IF VOTING IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY] If the Democratic primary for president were being held today, which one of the following candidates would you favor ... [ROTATE CANDIDATE NAMES ORDER]

- Hillary Clinton
- Bernie Sanders
- Martin O'Malley
- Or for someone else
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

10. [IF "VERY" OR "SOMEWHAT" LIKELY TO VOTE IN THE PRIMARY] Is your mind made up about who you will vote for in the presidential primary, or is it possible you might change your mind?

- MIND MADE UP
- MIGHT CHANGE MIND
- NOT SURE / REFUSED

11. Looking ahead one year, do you expect your personal financial situation to get much better, get somewhat better, stay about the same, get somewhat worse, or get much worse?

- Get much better
- Get somewhat better
- Stay about the same
- Get somewhat worse

- Get much worse
- NOT SURE / NO OPINION
- REFUSED

12. How closely have you followed news about the 2016 Vermont governor's race?

- Very Closely
- Somewhat Closely
- Not too closely
- Not at all
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

13. Of the two candidates running for the Democratic nomination for governor, which do you prefer? [ROTATE CANDIDATE NAMES]

- Sue Minter
- Matt Dunne
- SOMEONE ELSE (SPECIFY):
- NEITHER
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

14. Of the two candidates running for the Republican nomination for governor, which do you prefer? [ROTATE CANDIDATE NAMES]

- Phil Scott
- Bruce Lisman
- SOMEONE ELSE (SPECIFY):
- NEITHER
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

15. Do you know who you hope to see elected as Vermont's governor in November 2016??

- Yes
- No
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

16. [IF R HAS A CANDIDATE S/HE FAVORS IN 2016] Who do you hope to see elected Vermont's governor in November 2016? [RANDOMIZE CANDIDATE NAMES]

- Sue Minter
- Matt Dunne
- Phil Scott
- Bruce Lisman
- SOMEONE ELSE (SPECIFY):
- NEITHER
- NOT SURE / DK

- REFUSED

[ISSUES]

17. What do you think should be done to address healthcare in Vermont? Should we ... [ROTATE THREE OPTIONS]

- Improve and continue with the Vermont Health Connect, the state health care system
- Move toward a Single Payer system like Medicare for all
- Discard the Vermont State Exchange (Vermont Health Connect) and adopt the Federal Exchange
- Or something else (specify):
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

18. Should Doctor Dynasaur—the low-cost or free health care coverage for children under 19 and pregnant women who qualify—be expanded to include everyone under age 27?

- Yes
- No
- NOT SURE / NO OPINION
- REFUSED

19. Do you support or oppose passing a law in Vermont to legalize and regulate marijuana for recreational use?

- SUPPORT LEGALIZATION
- OPPOSE LEGALIZATION
- NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- REFUSED

20. [IF SUPPORT LEGALIZATION]How strongly do you support the legalization of marijuana for recreational use in Vermont?

- Very strongly
- Somewhat strongly
- Not too strongly
- Not at all strongly
- NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- REFUSED

21. [IF OPPOSE LEGALIZATION]How strongly do you oppose the legalization of marijuana for recreational use in Vermont?

- Very strongly
- Somewhat strongly
- Not too strongly
- Not at all strongly
- NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- REFUSED

22. Do you approve or disapprove of plans to develop underground power lines to bring electricity from Canada through Vermont?

- Approve
- Disapprove
- NOT SURE / NO OPINION
- REFUSED

INTRO2: "Next we want to gather your opinions about the renewable energy development in Vermont."

23. How closely do you follow news about how solar fields and wind turbine locations are determined?

- Very closely
- Closely
- Not very closely
- Not at all
- DON'T KNOW / UNSURE
- REFUSED

24. Would you support the development of a large solar array in your community?

- Yes
- No
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

25. Would you support the development of large wind-power turbines in your community?

- Yes
- No
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

26. In your opinion, who should have the final word on the location of renewable energy projects:

[ROTATE LIST OPTIONS]

- Energy developers
- Property owners
- The state's public service board
- Local governments
- Residents of the community where the location exists
- OTHER (SPECIFY):
- NOT SURE / NO OPINION
- REFUSED

27. Currently, the Vermont Public Service Board has the final say over the location of renewable energy projects. Do you support, oppose, or have no opinion about the current method Vermont uses to approve the location of renewable energy sites?

- Support

- Oppose
- No Opinion
- REFUSED

28. [If oppose:] Why do you oppose the current method? [READ AS OPEN-ENDED QUESTION; SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]

- FAVOR MORE INFLUENCE BY ENERGY DEVELOPERS
- FAVOR LESS INFLUENCE BY ENERGY DEVELOPERS
- FAVOR MORE INFLUENCE BY PROPERTY OWNERS
- FAVOR LESS INFLUENCE BY PROPERTY OWNERS
- FAVOR MORE INFLUENCE BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
- FAVOR LESS INFLUENCE BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
- FAVOR MORE INFLUENCE BY THE COMMUNITY
- FAVOR LESS INFLUENCE BY THE COMMUNITY
- FAVOR MORE INFLUENCE BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD
- FAVOR LESS INFLUENCE BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD
- FAVOR SOME OTHER REASON: [SPECIFY]

29. Would you favor or oppose investing state tax revenue into developing more rail service throughout Vermont?

- Favor
- Oppose
- IT DEPENDS
- NOT SURE / NO OPINION
- REFUSED

30. In your opinion, is Vermont state government doing all it can do to address climate change, is it doing too much, or is it not doing enough?

- Doing all it can do
- Doing too much
- Not doing enough
- NOT SURE / NO OPINION
- REFUSED

31. Last year, the Vermont legislature passed and Governor Shumlin signed Act 46, a law designed to lead to school consolidation and cap school spending. How familiar are you with Act 46?

Are you...

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not at all familiar
- NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- REFUSED

32. [IF FAMILIAR WITH ACT46, BEGIN WITH: Despite what you know or think about Act 46,] do you generally support or oppose the state's efforts to encourage consolidation of Vermont school districts?

- Support state's efforts
- Oppose state's efforts
- IT DEPENDS
- NOT SURE / NO OPINION
- REFUSED

33. Do you support or oppose limiting where someone is allowed to carry a firearm?

- Support
- Oppose
- IT DEPENDS
- NOT SURE / NO OPINION
- REFUSED

34. Do you support or oppose requiring a waiting period on gun sales, meaning that the purchaser would have to wait a number of days from the time they purchase a gun until they are allowed to take it home?

- Support
- Oppose
- IT DEPENDS
- NOT SURE / NO OPINION
- REFUSED

35. Do you support or oppose requiring background checks for all gun purchases, including private sales and sales at gun shows?

- Support
- Oppose
- IT DEPENDS
- NOT SURE / NO OPINION
- REFUSED

[DEMOGRAPHICS]

Lastly, I would like to ask a few questions about you merely for the purposes of classification and to be sure our sample accurately reflects the population as a whole.

[Record Gender]

Do you own your own home?

- Yes
- No
- DK/Refused (vol.)

How many years have you lived in Vermont? [Enter whole numbers only; if less than one year, enter 1]

In what year were you born? [Enter the last two digits].

What is the highest grade of school or year in college you have completed?

- Less than H.S
- H.S. diploma
- Some college
- College degree
- Some post graduate work
- Post-graduate degree
- DK / Refused (vol.)

Do you, or does anyone in your household, own a gun, rifle or pistol? [IF YES] Is that you or someone else in your household?

- YES, RESPONDENT OWNS GUN
- YES, SOMEONE IN HH OTHER THAN RESPONDENT OWNS GUN
- NO, NO ONE IN HH OWNS A GUN
- NOT SURE
- REFUSED

[If R is gun owner] What is the main reason you own a gun? [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES] [ASK AS IF OPEN-ENDED; DO NOT PROBE]

- PROTECTION
- HUNTING
- TARGET SHOOTING/ SPORT SHOOTING/ SKEET GIFT OR INHERITED IT
- 2nd AMENDMENT, CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT
- WORK-RELATED (LAW ENFORCEMENT, MILITARY, SECURITY, ETC.)
- COLLECTOR / HOBBY
- OTHER
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

[If R is not owner, but there is a gun in HH] What is the main reason someone in your household owns a gun? [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES] [ASK AS IF OPEN-ENDED; DO NOT PROBE]

- PROTECTION
- HUNTING
- TARGET SHOOTING/ SPORT SHOOTING/ SKEET GIFT OR INHERITED IT
- 2nd AMENDMENT, CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT
- WORK-RELATED (LAW ENFORCEMENT, MILITARY, SECURITY, ETC.)
- COLLECTOR / HOBBY
- OTHER
- NOT SURE / DK
- REFUSED

In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, a Progressive, an Independent, or something else?

- Republican
- Democrat

- Progressive
- Independent
- Other (please specify) (vol.)
- DK / Refused (vol.)

[If party = Independent, Progressive or Other] **As of today, do you lean more to the Democratic Party or to the Republican Party?**

- Lean Democrat
- Lean Republican
- Lean toward neither party
- OTHER (VOL.)
- DK / REFUSED (VOL.)

Are you currently registered to vote in Vermont?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- REFUSED

In what county do you live?

- Addison
- Bennington
- Caledonia
- Chittenden
- Essex
- Franklin
- Grand Isle
- Lamoille
- Orange
- Orleans
- Rutland
- Washington
- Windham
- Windsor
- Not sure / No answer

[Cell Phone ONLY]

Is your cell phone your primary phone number, on which you make and receive the majority of calls?

- Yes
- No
- DK/Refused

Do you also have a landline at your residence on which you can be reached?

- Yes
- No
- DK/Refused

[End Cell Phone only questions]

[For landline only]

Is this landline phone your primary phone number, on which you make and receive the majority of calls?

- Yes
- No
- DK/Refused

Do you also have a cell phone on which you regularly make and receive calls?

- Yes
- No
- DK/Refused

[End landline only questions]

If you added together all the yearly income, before taxes, of all the members of your household for last year (2015) would that total be less than \$40K, or \$40K or more?

- Less than \$40K (Go to Q44a)
- \$40K or more (Go to Q44b)
- DK / Refused (Go to Q45)

[If Less than \$40K] Would that be \$20K or less or more than \$20K but less than \$40K?

- Less than \$20K
- \$20K to 40K
- DK / Refused (vol.)

[If 40K or more] Would that be \$40K but less than \$60K, \$60K but less than \$80K, \$80K but less than \$100K, or \$100K or more?

- \$40K but less than \$60K
- \$60K but less than \$80K
- \$80K but less than \$100K
- \$100K or more
- DK / Refused (vol.)

Finally, would you be willing to be interviewed by a reporter to discuss your reactions to some of the topics we've been talking about?

- Yes
- “No / DK / REFUSED (DO NOT PROBE)”

[IF YES] Could I have just your first name in case a reporter wants to call you?” _____

That concludes our survey. Thank you very much for your time.