

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 with support from the VPR Journalism Fund.
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 general election contest, 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; if there was no male in the household, interviewers requested the youngest female.
9. The sample was drawn using probability methods.
10. The total number of completed interviews is 637 (308 landline and 328 cell phone). The margin-of-error is (+/-) 3.9 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, household income, 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 | 3.88% | 637 | 505009 |
| Gender | | | |
| Male | 5.19% | 356 | 248969 |
| Female | 5.84% | 281 | 256040 |
| Party | | | |
| Democrat | 7.28% | 181 | 145443 |
| Republican | 10.09% | 94 | 68176 |
| Independent | 6.17% | 252 | 224729 |
| Region | | | |
| Chittenden County | 8.59% | 130 | 128555 |
| Northern VT | 9.01% | 118 | 116765 |
| Central VT | 8.10% | 146 | 100759 |
| Southern VT | 6.50% | 227 | 158930 |
| Age | | | |
| 18 - 44 years old | 7.53% | 169 | 209444 |
| 45 - 64 years old | 6.18% | 251 | 190398 |
| 65 or older | 6.64% | 217 | 102658 |
| Education | | | |
| Less than high school graduate | 20.88% | 22 | 42777 |
| High school graduate (includes equivalency) | 7.46% | 172 | 152483 |
| Some college or associate's degree | 8.76% | 125 | 145773 |
| Bachelor's degree or higher | 5.50% | 316 | 160749 |

12. The survey was administered by live interviewers in English only via telephone from July 11, 2016 to July 23, 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

Do you live in Vermont?

- Yes, lives in Vermont
- No, does not live in Vermont → "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...

"What do you think is the most important problem facing the state of Vermont today?" [USE PRE-CODED LIST IF APPLICABLE OR RECORD RESPONSE VERBATIM]

- 1 THE ECONOMY GENERALLY / JOBS / COST OF LIVING
- 2 PROPERTY TAXES
- 3 OVERALL COSTS OF EDUCATION / SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION
- 4 HEALTH CARE
- 5 WAGES / LEAVE / WORKPLACE ISSUES
- 6 IMMUNIZATIONS
- 7 DRUGS/OPIATE ADDICTION
- 8 MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION
- 9 TROUBLED POLITICS/ LEADERSHIP
- 10 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / CLIMATE CHANGE / RENEWABLE ENERGY
- 11 DRINKING WATER ISSUES / CONTAMINATION
- 12 OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)

How closely to you follow news about the upcoming elections?

Very closely
Somewhat closely
Not very much
Not at all
DK / REFUSED

How likely are you to vote in the general election on November 8, 2016? Would you say ...

You are very likely
Somewhat likely
Not very likely
Not at all likely
DK
REFUSED

Have you already voted, through early voting or absentee voting, in the state-wide primary which is being held on August 9, 2016?

YES
NO
DK / REFUSED

How likely are you to vote in the state-wide primary being held on August 9, 2016? Would you say ...

You are very likely
Somewhat likely
Not very likely
Not at all likely
DK
REFUSED

If the presidential election were held today, and the candidates were Hillary Clinton, the Democrat, Donald Trump, the Republican, and Gary Johnson, the Libertarian, for whom would you vote, Clinton, Trump, Johnson, or for someone else?

Hillary Clinton
Donald Trump
Gary Johnson
Jill Stein
Someone else

Whom did you support in the 2016 presidential primaries? [ASK AS OPEN-ENDED; USE THE PRE-CODED RESPONSES.]

CLINTON
SANDERS
TRUMP
KASICH
RUBIO
CRUZ
BUSH
CARSON
CHRISTIE
SOMEBODY ELSE
DON'T REMEMBER
DID NOT VOTE / DID NOT SUPPORT ANYONE
REFUSED

If the U.S. Senate election were held today, and the candidates were Patrick Leahy, the Democrat, and Scott Milne, the Republican, for whom would you vote?

Patrick Leahy
Scott Milne
Other
DK
REFUSED

Switching to Vermont state government ...

I am going to read a list of potential candidates for governor or lieutenant governor in Vermont in 2016. For each name I read, please tell me if you have ever heard of this individual or not. [ROTATE ORDER OF LIST]

- Phil Scott (R)
- Bruce Lisman (R)
- Sue Minter (D)
- Matt Dunne (D)
- Peter Galbraith (D)
- H. Brooke Paige (D)

- Bill Lee (I)
- Randy Brock (R)
- Kesha Ram (D)
- Shap Smith (D)
- David Zuckerman (D/P)
- Louis Meyers (I)
- Cris Ericson

YES, I HAVE HEARD OF HIM/HER
 NO, I HAVE NOT HEARD OF HIM/HER
 DON'T KNOW
 REFUSED

Now for each name I read, please tell me if your opinion of that individual is favorable or unfavorable.

[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE WITH "VERY" OR "SOMEWHAT"; LIMIT LIST TO THOSE WHO R HAVE HEARD OF;
 ROTATE LIST]

- Phil Scott (R)
- Bruce Lisman (R)
- Sue Minter (D)
- Matt Dunne (D)
- Peter Galbraith (D)
- H. Brooke Paige (D)
- Bill Lee (I)
- Randy Brock (R)
- Kesha Ram (D)
- Shap Smith (D)
- David Zuckerman (D/P)
- Louis Meyers (I)
- Cris Ericson

VERY FAVORABLE
 SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE
 SOMEWHAT UNFAVORABLE
 VERY UNFAVORABLE
 NO OPINION/NEUTRAL
 REFUSED

Do you expect your household's financial situation to improve, get worse, or remain the same over the next year?

IMPROVE
REMAIN THE SAME
GET WORSE
NOT SURE
REFUSED

If you were to meet with an unfortunate health, auto, or home crisis that led to an unexpected cost to you of \$3000, how confident are you that you could recover from the loss without a major change in your financial circumstances? [READ FIRST FOUR RESPONSES.]

Very confidence
Somewhat confident
Not too confident
Not confident at all
NOT SURE
REFUSED

How would you rate the state of Vermont for the following ...

Job opportunities ... would you say job opportunities in Vermont are excellent, good, just fair, or poor?

EXCELLENT
GOOD
JUST FAIR
POOR
NOT SURE / NO OPINION
REFUSED

Wages ... would you say wages in Vermont are excellent, good, just fair, or poor?

EXCELLENT
GOOD
JUST FAIR
POOR
NOT SURE / NO OPINION
REFUSED

The quality of housing ... would you say the quality of housing in Vermont is excellent, good, just fair, or poor?

EXCELLENT
GOOD
JUST FAIR
POOR
NOT SURE / NO OPINION
REFUSED

Would you say that housing in Vermont is generally very affordable, somewhat affordable, or not affordable?

VERY AFFORDABLE
SOMEWHAT AFFORDABLE
NOT AFFORDABLE
NOT SURE / NO OPINION
REFUSED

Diversity in VT

In general, do you think that your community is welcoming or not to people who come from other places within the United States? (IF NECESSARY: “we are not talking about refugees or people coming from other nations.”)

WELCOMING TO OTHERS
NOT WELCOMING
IT DEPENDS
NOT SURE
REFUSED

Thinking about racial and ethnic diversity, would you consider your community to be a place that is welcoming to diversity or not?

WELCOMING
NOT WELCOMING
IT DEPENDS
NOT SURE
REFUSED

Opiate Addiction

Would you characterize the issue of opiate addiction in Vermont as a major problem, a minor problem, or no problem at all?

MAJOR PROBLEM
MINOR PROBLEM
NO PROBLEM AT ALL
NOT SURE
REFUSED

Have you or someone you know been personally affected by opiate addiction?

YES
NO
NOT SURE

REFUSED

[IF "YES"] **Do you personally know someone who has struggled with opiate addiction?**

YES

NO

NOT SURE

REFUSED

[IF "YES"] **Would this person be ...**

(a) A casual acquaintance or someone at work

(b) A close friend or member of your extended family, or

(c) A member of your immediate family

OTHER (specify)

NOT SURE

REFUSED

Refugee Resettlement

Overall, do you think that refugee settlement in Vermont would likely have a positive or a negative impact on Vermont communities?

POSITIVE IMPACT

NEGATIVE IMPACT

NEITHER POSITIVE NOR NEGATIVE

BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE

IT DEPENDS

DK / REFUSED

[If negative or both] **What sort of negative impact do you expect from resettling refugees in Vermont communities?** [ASK OPEN-ENDED, USE PRE-CODED LIST WHERE POSSIBLE.]

THEY TAKE AWAY FINANCIAL RESOURCES FROM VETERANS, HOMELESS, AND OTHER DOMESTIC AID PROGRAMS

HEALTH REASONS – THEY BRING DISEASES

SAFETY – THEY ARE DANGEROUS (CITING ISIS, TERRORISM, NATIONAL SECURITY)

RELIGIOUS / THEY ARE MUSLIM (WITHOUT REFERENCE TO TERRORISM)

CULTURAL – THEY DO NOT ASSIMILATE/INTEGRATE WELL

POLITICAL – THEY VOTE AS A BLOC / CONCERN ABOUT SHARIA LAW

OVER TAX LOCAL RESOURCES (i.e. SCHOOLS) – WE CAN'T AFFORD THEM

DEMOCRATIC PROCESS – THE DECISION TO ADMIT THE REFUGEES WAS HANDLED

DEMOCRATICALLY

OTHER ("SPECIFY") [COLLECT VERBATIM]

[If positive or both] **What sort of positive impact do you expect from resettling refugees in Vermont communities?**

THEY ARE SKILLED WORKERS

THEY WILL START BUSINESSES
INCREASING CULTURAL DIVERSITY IS GOOD FOR COMMUNITY / MAKES VERMONT
COMMUNITIES BETTER PLACES TO LIVE
BROADEN THE TAX BASE
HUMANITARIAN ISSUE / IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO
BRINGING IN REFUGEES WILL HELP IN U.S. BATTLE AGAINST TERRORISM
OTHER ("SPECIFY") [COLLECT VERBATIM]

[IF "IT DEPENDS"] **Please explain why you say it depends?** [ASK OPEN-ENDED &
RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE.]

Would you support or oppose an effort to resettle refugees in your community?

SUPPORT
OPPOSE
IT DEPENDS
NOT SURE
REFUSED

Minimum Wage

In general, do you favor or oppose raising the minimum wage in Vermont to \$15 per hour?

FAVOR
OPPOSE
IT DEPENDS
NOT SURE
REFUSED

Regardless of the effect on personal finances of low income Vermonters, do you think that raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour generally will have a positive impact, a negative impact, or no impact on the state's economy?

POSITIVE IMPACT
NEGATIVE IMPACT
NIETHER POSITIVE NOR NEGATIVE
BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE
IT DEPENDS
DK / REFUSED

Ethics Commission (support for)

Some have argued that as a small state, Vermont does not have the problems of other states, and therefore an independent ethics commission is not necessary and would only be a bother. Others have argued that Vermont needs an independent oversight body to address concerns about the ethical behavior of public officials. With whom do you most agree?

- 1 Vermont needs an independent state ethics commission
- 2 Vermont does not need an independent state ethics commission

3 IT DEPENDS (HAS AN OPINION THAT DOES NOT FALL NEATLY INTO ONE CAMP)
8 NOT SURE/NO OPINION
9 REFUSED

Water quality / concern

Do you get the water at your home from a private well or from town water?

WELL WATER
TOWN WATER
NOT SURE / REFUSED

Are you concerned with the quality of the water coming into your home from {your well/the town water supply}? [IF CONCERNED, PROBE "VERY CONCERNED OR SOMEWHAT CONCERNED?"]

VERY CONCERNED
SOMEWHAT CONCERNED
NOT CONCERNED
NOT SURE
REFUSED

Do you think education beyond high school is necessary, a good idea but not necessary, or neither necessary nor a good idea for most of Vermont's young adults?

NECESSARY
GOOD IDEA, NOT NECESSARY
NEITHER NECESSARY NOR GOOD IDEA
NOT SURE
REFUSED

Do you think education beyond high school is affordable to most Vermonters?

YES
NO
NOT SURE
REFUSED

Process of legalizing marijuana (non-binding referendum)

Whether or not you support the legalization of marijuana, what do you think is the best process for making the decision: through the legislative lawmaking process as in Vermont, or through a ballot referendum, as it was passed in Colorado and Oregon?

LEGISLATIVE PROCESS
REFERENDUM
NOT SURE
REFUSED

Do you favor or oppose holding a non-binding ballot referendum in Vermont to gauge Vermonters' support for or opposition to legalization of marijuana for recreational use?

FAVOR NON-BINDING REFERENDUM
OPPOSE NON-BINDING REFERENDUM
NOT SURE
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 or another member of your household own your own home, pay rent, or have another arrangement?

- Own home
- Pay rent
- Another arrangement (specify):
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED

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
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED
-

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

- Republican
- Democrat
- Independent
- OTHER (please specify:)
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED

[IF PARTY = INDEPENDENT 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
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED

Are you 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
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED

[FOR CELL PHONE ONLY] Do you use a landline phone at home on which you can be reached?

- Yes
- No
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED

[FOR LANDLINE PHONE ONLY] Do you have also use a cell phone for personal use on which you can be reached?

- Yes
- No
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED

[FOR LANDLINE PHONE ONLY] How many adults (18 years or older) live in your household? [Enter whole numbers only; if R lives alone, enter 1.]

If you added together all the yearly income, before taxes, of all the members of your household for last year (2014) would that total be less than \$40K, or \$40K or more?

- Less than \$40K
- \$40K or more
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED

[IF LESS THAN \$40K] Would that be \$20K or less or more than \$20K but less than \$40K?

- Less than \$20K
- \$20K to 40K
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED

[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
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED

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