

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 650 (337 landline and 313 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 at the 95 percent confidence level

Vermont Adults Population			
	Sampling Error	Sample Size	Population
Adults	3.84%	650	505009
Gender			
Male	5.22%	352	248969
Female	5.67%	298	256040
Party			
Democrat (with leaners)	5.29%	343	279270
Republican (with leaners)	7.36%	177	129787
Independent & Other	9.42%	108	95952
Region			
Chittenden County	8.43%	135	128555
Northern VT	8.33%	138	116765
Central VT	8.02%	149	100759
Southern VT	6.48%	228	158930
Age			
18 - 44 years old	8.05%	148	209444
45 - 64 years old	6.13%	255	190398
65 or older	6.38%	235	102658
Education			
Less than high school graduate	25.29%	15	42777
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	8.22%	142	152483
Some college or associate's degree	7.94%	152	145773
Bachelor's degree or higher	5.33%	337	160749
HH Income			
Less than \$20K	12.86%	58	79994
\$20K - less than \$40K	9.74%	101	95995
\$40K - less than \$60K	10.21%	92	83811
\$60K - less than \$100K	7.71%	161	118194
\$100K or more	8.33%	138	99368

12. The survey was administered by live interviewers in English only via telephone from September 29, 2016 to October 14, 2016.

Appendix B: Survey Instrument

Q: Intro

[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?

- 1 LANDLINE
- 2 CELLPHONE

- 3 CALLBACK
- 4 REFUSAL
- 5 HARD REFUSAL

Q: Driving

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

- 1 YES, ENGAGED IN OTHER ACTIVITY
- 2 NO, NOT DOING ANYTHING TO DISTRACT

- 9 NOT SURE/REFUSED

Q: LiveVT

Do you live in Vermont?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

Q: YoungestMale

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

- 1 SPEAKING
- 2 GETTING PERSON [REPEAT INTRO]
- 3 CALLBACK
- 4 NO MALE IN HOUSEHOLD (PROCEED WITH YOUNGEST FEMALE)

- 9 REFUSED

Q: Info

[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...

Q: Q1

How closely do you follow news about the upcoming presidential election? Would you say...

- 1 Very closely
- 2 Somewhat closely
- 3 Not very much
- 4 Not at all

- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

Q: Q2

How closely do you follow news about the upcoming election for Vermont’s governor? Would you say...

- 1 Very closely
- 2 Somewhat closely
- 3 Not very much
- 4 Not at all

- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

Q: Q3

How familiar are you with the candidates running for Governor in Vermont? Are you ...

- 1 Very familiar
- 2 Somewhat familiar
- 3 Not too familiar
- 4 Not at all familiar

- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

Q: Q4

How familiar are you with the candidates running for Lieutenant Governor in Vermont? Are you ...

- 1 Very familiar
- 2 Somewhat familiar
- 3 Not too familiar
- 4 Not at all familiar

- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

Q: Q5

How familiar are you with the candidates running for Attorney General in Vermont? Are you ...

- 1 Very familiar
- 2 Somewhat familiar
- 3 Not too familiar
- 4 Not at all familiar

- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

Q: Q6

How likely are you to vote, either by absentee ballot or in person, in the general election on November 8, 2016? Would you say ...

- 1 You are very likely
- 2 Somewhat likely
- 3 Not very likely
- 4 Not at all likely

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q7

If the presidential election were held today, would you vote for Donald Trump the Republican, Hillary Clinton the Democrat, Gary Johnson the Libertarian, Jill Stein of the Green Party, or for someone else?

- 1 DONALD TRUMP
- 2 HILLARY CLINTON
- 3 GARY JOHNSON
- 4 JILL STEIN
- 5 BERNIE SANDERS
- 6 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q8

If the election for US Senate were held today, would you vote for Scott Milne the Republican, Patrick Leahy the Democrat, Pete Diamondstone the Liberty Union candidate, Cris Ericson the United States Marijuana candidate, Jerry Trudell the Independent, or for someone else?

- 1 SCOTT MILNE
- 2 PATRICK LEAHY

- 3 PETE DIAMONDSTONE
- 4 CRIS ERICSON
- 5 JERRY TRUDELL
- 6 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q9

If the election for Vermont governor were held today, would you vote for Phil Scott the Republican, Sue Minter the Democrat, Bill "Spaceman" Lee the Liberty Union candidate, or for someone else?

- 1 PHIL SCOTT
- 2 SUE MINTER
- 3 BILL "SPACEMAN" LEE
- 4 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q10

If the Vermont Lieutenant Governor's election were held today, would you vote for Randy Brock the Republican, David Zuckerman the Democrat/Progressive, Boots Wardinski the Liberty Union candidate, or for someone else?

- 1 RANDY BROCK
- 2 DAVID ZUCKERMAN
- 3 BOOTS WARDINSKI
- 4 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q11

If the election for Vermont's Attorney General were held today, would you vote for Deborah Bucknam the Republican, TJ Donovan the Democrat, Rosemarie Jackowski the Liberty Union candidate, or for someone else?

- 1 DEBORAH BUCKNAM
- 2 TJ DONOVAN
- 3 ROSEMARI JACKOWSKI
- 4 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q12

[Gubernatorial Issues Block Begins]

Now I'm going to mention a few issues. For each one, please tell me who among the candidates for Vermont Governor you trust most to handle that issue. [WE NEED TO RANDOMIZE THE QUESTIONS IN THIS BLOCK AND ROTATE THE ORDER OF THE CANDIDATES MENTIONED.]

Q: Q12_1

Who do you trust more to handle the economy and jobs?

- 1 Phil Scott
- 2 Sue Minter
- 3 Bill "Spaceman" Lee
- 4 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q12_2

Who do you trust more to handle the Vermont Health care exchange?

- 1 Phil Scott
- 2 Sue Minter
- 3 Bill "Spaceman" Lee
- 4 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q12_3

Who do you trust more to handle the environment and clean energy issues?

- 1 Phil Scott

- 2 Sue Minter
- 3 Bill "Spaceman" Lee
- 4 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q12_4

Who do you trust more to handle the taxes and the budget?

- 1 Phil Scott
- 2 Sue Minter
- 3 Bill "Spaceman" Lee
- 4 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q12_5

Who do you trust more to handle K through 12 education?

- 1 Phil Scott
- 2 Sue Minter
- 3 Bill "Spaceman" Lee
- 4 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q12_6

Who do you trust more to handle the cost of living in Vermont?

- 1 Phil Scott
- 2 Sue Minter
- 3 Bill "Spaceman" Lee
- 4 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE

9 REFUSED

Q: Q12_7

Who do you trust more to handle the battle against opiate addiction in the state?

- 1 Phil Scott
- 2 Sue Minter
- 3 Bill "Spaceman" Lee
- 4 OTHER

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

[Gubernatorial Issues Block Ends]

Trust in Media

Q: Q13

In general, how much trust and confidence do you have in the mass media--such as newspapers, TV and radio--to report news about the upcoming election fully, accurately, and fairly--a great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
- 2 A FAIR AMOUNT
- 3 NOT VERY MUCH
- 4 NONE AT ALL

- 8 NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- 9 REFUSED

Trust in Institutions

Q: Q14

How much do you trust the Vermont state legislature to serve the interests of Vermonters? Do you trust the legislature completely, somewhat, very little, or not at all?

- 1 TRUST COMPLETELY
- 2 TRUST SOMEWHAT
- 3 TRUST VERY LITTLE

- 4 DO NOT TRUST AT ALL
- 8 NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q15

How much do you trust your town government to serve the interests of your town? Do you trust your town government completely, somewhat, very little, or not at all?

- 1 TRUST COMPLETELY
- 2 TRUST SOMEWHAT
- 3 TRUST VERY LITTLE
- 4 DO NOT TRUST AT ALL
- 8 NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q16

The Vermont Public Service Board supervises the rates, quality of service, and overall financial management of Vermont's public utilities. How much do you trust the Vermont Public Service Board to serve the interests of Vermonters? Do you trust them completely, somewhat, very little, or not at all?

- 1 TRUST COMPLETELY
- 2 TRUST SOMEWHAT
- 3 TRUST VERY LITTLE
- 4 DO NOT TRUST AT ALL
- 8 NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q17

How much do you trust the Vermont utility companies to serve the interests of Vermonters? Do you trust the Vermont utility companies completely, somewhat, very little, or not at all?

- 1 TRUST COMPLETELY
- 2 TRUST SOMEWHAT
- 3 TRUST VERY LITTLE
- 4 DO NOT TRUST AT ALL
- 8 NOT SURE/NO OPINION
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q18

If you had to pick one issue that you'd most like to see the VT legislature focus on next session, what would that issue be? [ASK OPENENDED; CODE TO CATEGORIES BELOW]

- 1 TAX STRUCTURE
- 2 EDUCATION K-12
- 3 COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY/FUNDING
- 4 MARIJUANA
- 5 OPIATE ADDICTION/DRUG PROBLEM
- 6 REFUGEES
- 7 INFRASTRUCTURE - ROADS, BRIDGES, BUILDINGS, TECHNOLOGY, ET CETERA
- 8 ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY

- 10 OTHER (SPECIFY)

- 88 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 REFUSED

Q: Q19

Do you support or oppose requiring universal background checks for all gun purchases, regardless if sold in a store, gun show, or private sale?

- 1 SUPPORT
- 2 OPPOSE

- 8 NOT SURE/IT DEPENDS
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q21

Who should have the final say on where wind power generators are placed: land owners, local community members near proposed wind power generators, the state's Public Service Board, or utility companies?

- 1 LANDOWNERS
- 2 COMMUNITY MEMBERS
- 3 PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD
- 4 UTILITY COMPANIES

- 8 NOT SURE/IT DEPENDS
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q22

When relocating refugees in the United States, should local communities be permitted to ban refugee resettlement in their communities?

- 1 YES, THEY SHOULD
- 2 NO, THEY SHOULD NOT

- 8 NOT SURE/IT DEPENDS
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q23

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

- 1 SUPPORT
- 2 OPPOSE
- 3 IT DEPENDS

- 8 NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q24

Did you vote in the Vermont Presidential Primaries last Town Meeting Day (2016)?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

- 8 DON'T REMEMBER
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q24_1

[If yes] **Whom did you support?**

- 1 Sanders
- 2 Clinton
- 3 Trump
- 4 Other

- 8 DON'T REMEMBER
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q25

Did you vote in the Vermont State Primaries selecting the Democratic or Republican candidates for governor this past August 2016?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

- 8 DON'T REMEMBER
- 9 REFUSED

Q: Q25_1

[If yes] **Whom did you support for Governor?**

- 1 SUE MINTER
- 2 MATT DUNNE
- 3 PETER GALBRAITH
- 4 PHIL SCOTT
- 5 BRUCE LISMAN
- 6 OTHER

- 8 DON'T REMEMBER/NOT SURE
- 9 REFUSED

Demographics

Q: Gender

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]

- 1 MALE
- 2 FEMALE

Q: OwnHome

Do you or another member of your household own your own home, pay rent, or have another arrangement?

- 1 OWN HOME
- 2 PAY RENT
- 3 OTHER ARRANGEMENT (SPECIFY)

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

Q: YearsVT

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

DON'T KNOW = 888

REFUSED = 999

Q: YrBorn

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

DON'T KNOW = 888

REFUSED = 999

Q: Education

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

1 Less than High School

2 High School Diploma

3 Some college

4 College degree

5 Some post-graduate work

6 Post-graduate degree

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Q: Party

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

1 REPUBLICAN

2 DEMOCRAT

3 INDEPENDENT

4 OTHER (SPECIFY)

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Q: IndLean

[IF PARTY = INDEPENDENT OR OTHER] **As of today, do you lean more to the Democratic Party or to the Republican Party?**

1 LEAN DEMOCRAT

2 LEAN REPUBLICAN

3 LEAN TOWARD NEITHER PARTY

4 OTHER (SPECIFY)

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Q: RegVote

Are you registered to vote in Vermont?

1 YES

2 NO

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Q: County

In what county do you live?

1 ADDISON

2 BENNINGTON

3 CALEDONIA

4 CHITTENDEN

5 ESSEX

6 FRANKLIN

7 GRAND ISLE

8 LAMOILLE

9 ORANGE

10 ORLEANS

11 RUTLAND

12 WASHINGTON

13 WINDHAM

14 WINDSOR

88 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

Q: CellOnly

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

1 YES

2 NO

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Q: LLOnly

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

1 YES

2 NO

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Q: Adults

[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.]

Q: Income1

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?

1 LESS THAN \$40,000

2 \$40,000 OR MORE

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Q: Income2

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

1 LESS THAN \$20,000

2 \$20,000 to \$40,000

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Q: Income3

[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?

1 \$40,000 but less than \$60,000

2 \$60,000 but less than \$80,000

3 \$80,000 but less than \$100,000

4 \$100,000 or more

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Q: Followup

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?

1 YES

2 NO

Q: Contact

[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.