

Methodology:

This survey was sponsored and funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts. It was conducted by Public Opinion Strategies from April 26 through April 30, 2017.

The analysis in this memorandum is based on 500 telephone interviews among a sample of registered voters in Connecticut and an oversample in Fairfield County. The margin of sampling error for weighted estimates based on the full sample is plus or minus 4.38 percentage points and is plus or minus 6.93 percentage points for the N=200 Fairfield County oversample at a confidence interval of 95 percent, not including the design effect. Sampling error is larger for population subgroups. Sample sizes and sampling errors for subgroups are available upon request. In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Statewide, 250 respondents were interviewed on landline telephones, and 250 were interviewed on cellphones. The random sample originated from active voters on the state registered voter file. The survey was conducted using the CATI method, and all interviews were conducted in English.

The state registered voter sample file identified respondents within each household. Those who were contacted based on the known household but who were not on the sample file were screened in as respondents based on voter registration and phone type. Roughly 1 in 5 active registered voters in Connecticut is not matched with a telephone number.

The respondents were selected using probability methods and based on a county sample frame. We set quotas by gender and region (for large townships and counties) and sampling ranges for age, ethnicity, and education. Modest weighting on the core N=500 sample was done by party and ethnicity based on previous survey results and actual voter registration. The N=200 Fairfield oversample was modestly weighted for party, ethnicity, and gender.

Twenty pretest interviews were conducted before the field period. The live pretest of the survey instrument and survey administration procedures was conducted April 24, 2017. Public Opinion Strategies provided a summary of pretest findings, which included feedback from the interviewers. The final draft of the questionnaire was revised on the basis of the pretest.