**Survey Methodology**

New Bridge Strategy and FM3 Research surveyed 500 registered voters throughout Montana on behalf of The Pew Charitable Trusts. They conducted live computer-assisted telephone interviews in English from November 17-22, 2020. Sixty-nine percent of interviews were completed on cellphones and 31 percent on landlines. The margin of error is plus or minus 4.38 percentage points at the 95 percent level of confidence. The sampling error is dependent on sample size, so the margin of error is higher for subgroups. The margin of error has not been adjusted for design effects.

The sample for this survey was drawn from registered voter files provided by a private list vendor who specializes in providing Registration Based Sample. The records are multi-sourced from state voter files and updated at least monthly. Registered voter records were selected randomly from the file for inclusion in the study. Interviewers asked for the voter on file. If that individual was not available, interviewers were allowed to ask for another adult in the household who is registered to vote at that address (on landline) or in that state (on cellphone). In all cases, interviewers confirmed the respondent was registered to vote in order to participate. Each number in the sample was called four times before being retired. The response rate for this study was 1.7% (using [AAPOR’s RR3](https://www.aapor.org/AAPOR_Main/media/publications/Standard-Definitions20169theditionfinal.pd); see Table 1).

Table 1 Response Rate and Dispositions

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Interview (Category 1)** |  |
| Complete | 500 |
| Partial | 24 |
| **Eligible, non-interview (Category 2)** |  |
| Refusal | 2060 |
| Household-level refusal | 559 |
| Break off/ Implicit refusal | 116 |
| Respondent never available | 434 |
| Language problem | 35 |
| Location/Activity not allowing interview | 91 |
| **Unknown eligibility, non-interview (Category 3)** |  |
| Always busy | 468 |
| No answer | 30061 |
| Answering machine-don't know if household | 13376 |
| Call blocking | 261 |
| No screener completed | 3140 |
| **Not eligible (Category 4)** |  |
| Fax/data line | 25 |
| Non-working number | 29 |
| Disconnected number | 2844 |
| Nonresidence | 160 |
| No eligible respondent | 30 |
| Quota filled | 292 |
| **Total sample used** | 54505 |
| I=Complete Interviews | 500 |
| P=Partial Interviews | 24 |
| R=Refusal and break off | 2735 |
| NC=Non Contact | 434 |
| O=Other | 126 |
| e=The estimated proportion of cases of unknown eligibility that are eligible (Category 1+Category 2) /(Category 1+Category 2+Category 4) | 0.530 |
| UH=Unknown Household | 44166 |
| UO=Unknown other | 3140 |
| **Response Rate 3:** I/((I+P)+(R+NC+O)+e(UH+UO)) | 0.017 |

Quotas were applied for gender and age based on universe counts in tables 4b and 4c from the [U.S. Census Report on Voting and Election in November 2018](https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/voting-and-registration/p20-583.html) to help ensure that the sample was representative of registered voters. Region quotas were based on actual voter registration statistics provided by the Montana Secretary of State (<https://sosmt.gov/elections/>).

The sample was weighted by party identification using the average of two modeled party scores applied to the voter file by two private vendors. Unweighted self-reported educational attainment data was consistent with average modeled educational attainment based on these same two vendors.

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