



February 27, 2018

BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR MARIJUANA LEGISLATION; MAJORITIES FAVOR KEEPING CURRENT ALCOHOL & TOBACCO AGES

By: Andrew E. Smith, Ph.D.
Zachary S. Azem, M.A.
Sean P. McKinley, M.A.

andrew.smith@unh.edu
603-862-2226
cola.unh.edu/survey-center

DURHAM, NH – A majority of Granite Staters favor a proposed law that would legalize possession of a small amount of marijuana and allow adults to grow up to six plants in their home but would not legalize or tax the sale of marijuana. Majorities would like to keep the minimum age to purchase alcohol and tobacco unchanged in New Hampshire.

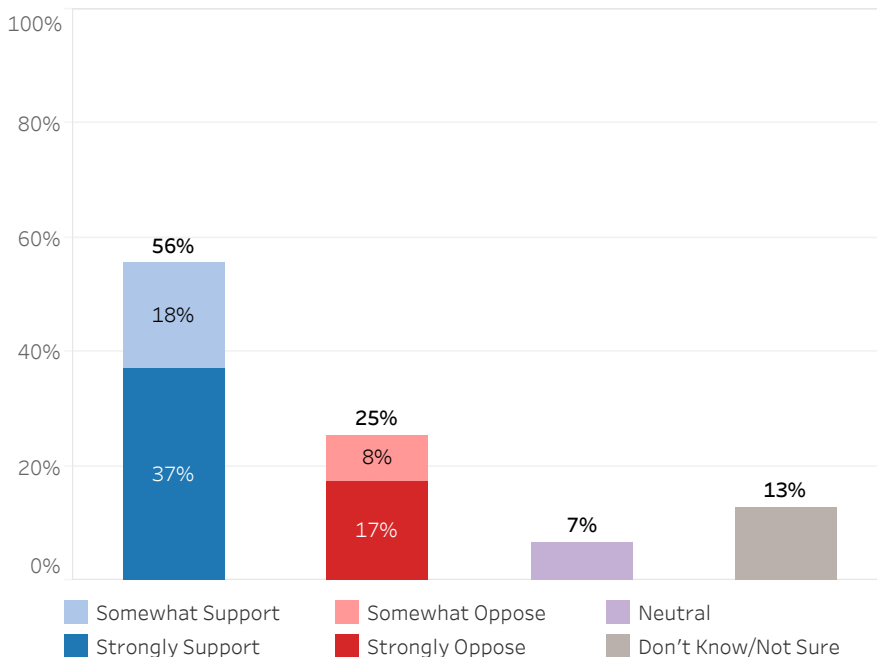
These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll***, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred and sixty-six (566) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by landline and cellular telephone between February 10 and February 21, 2018. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.1 percent.

Marijuana Legalization Legislation

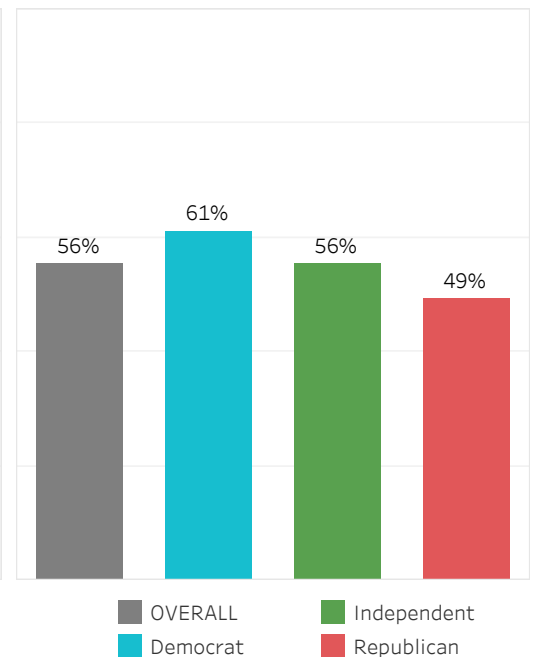
The New Hampshire legislature is considering a bill that would make it legal to possess up to three-quarters of an ounce of marijuana and allow adults to grow up to six marijuana plants in their home, but would not legalize or tax the sale of marijuana. More than half of New Hampshire residents (56%) say they would strongly (37%) or somewhat (18%) support this legislation, 25% would strongly (17%) or somewhat (8%) oppose it, 7% are neutral, and 13% don't know or are unsure. Support for this legislation is bipartisan: 61% of Democrats, 56% of Independents, and 49% of Republicans support the law.

Respondents aged 18 to 49, *Boston Globe* readers, those with a high school education or less, those who never attend religious services, and self-described liberals are more likely than others to support the legislation, while conservative talk radio listeners, those aged 65 and older, and those who attend religious services once a week or more often are less likely to support the legislation.

Opinion on Marijuana Legislation



Support Legislation - By Party ID



* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the Granite State Poll*, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center.

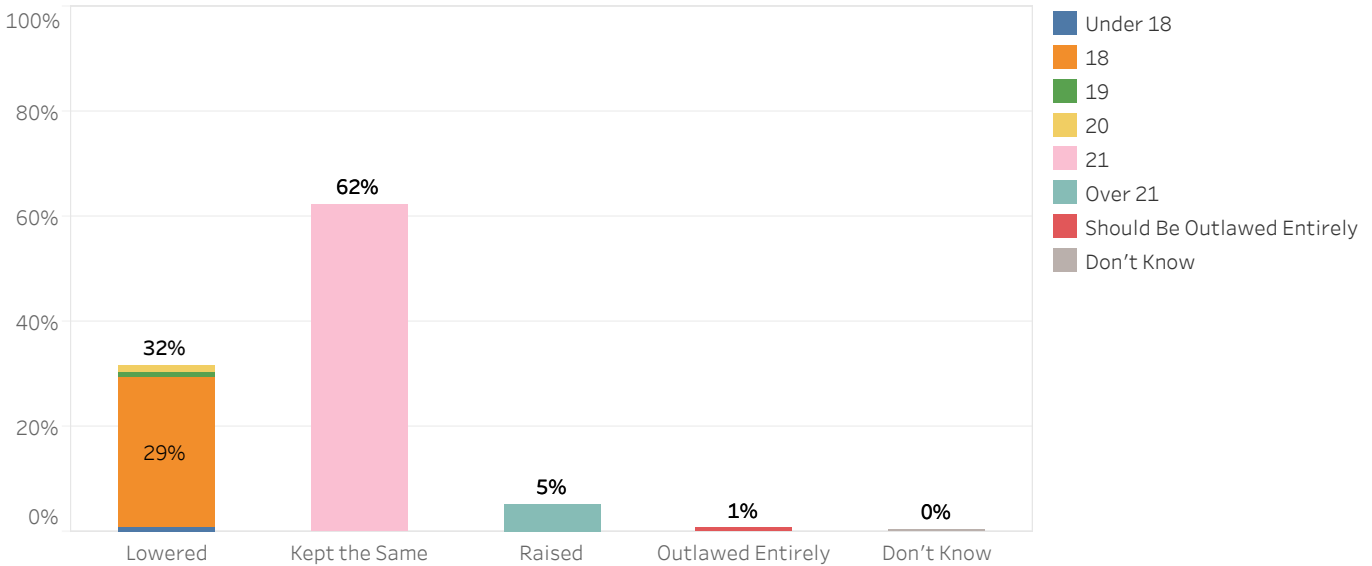
Minimum Age to Purchase Alcohol and Tobacco

The state legislature is also considering changing the minimum age to purchase alcohol in New Hampshire. A bill to raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco in New Hampshire was recently tabled by the State Senate.

One-third of Granite Staters (32%) believe the minimum age for a person to purchase alcohol should be lowered from the current legal age of twenty-one: 1% each say it should be lowered to 20 or 19 years old, 29% say it should be lowered to 18 years old, and 1% say it should be under 18. More than half of New Hampshire residents (62%) say they drinking age should remain at 21 years old, 5% say it should be raised to an age over 21, 1% say alcohol should be outlawed entirely, and less than 1% don't know or are unsure.

Those who did not vote in 2016 are more likely than others to say the minimum age to purchase alcohol should be lowered.

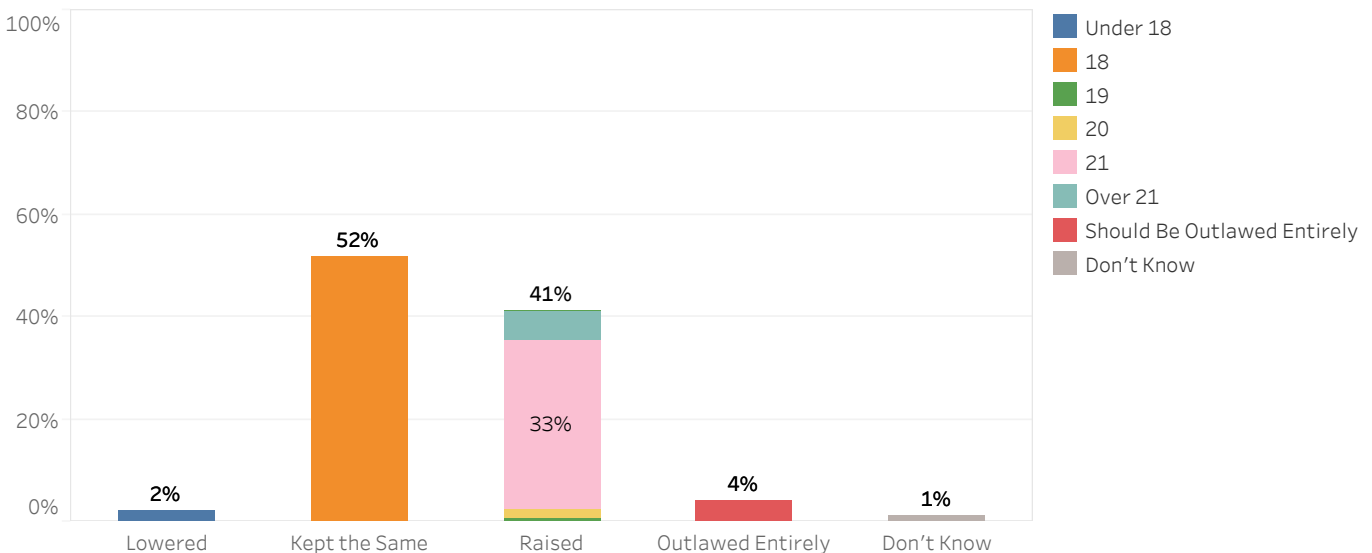
Alcohol Age



A majority of Granite Staters (52%) believe the age to purchase tobacco should remain at 18 years old, 41% percent believe the tobacco age should be raised. One-third say the age to purchase tobacco should be 21 years old, 6% say it should be over 21, and 2% say it should be 19 or 20 years old. Four percent say tobacco should be outlawed entirely and 1% don't know or are unsure.

Respondents age 65 and older and those who attend religious services once or twice a month are more likely than others to favor raising the minimum age to purchase tobacco, while those aged 18 to 34 and Connecticut Valley residents are more likely than others to favor keeping the minimum age for tobacco at 18 years old.

Tobacco Age



Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the latest Granite State Poll, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred and sixty-six (566) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed in English by landline and cellular telephone between February 10 and February 21, 2018. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.1 percent. These MSE's have not been adjusted for design effect. The design effect for the survey is 1.2%.

The random sample used in the Granite State Poll was purchased from Marketing Systems Group (MSG), Horsham, PA. MSG screens each selected telephone number to eliminate non-working numbers, disconnected numbers, and business numbers to improve the efficiency of the sample, reducing the amount of time interviewers spend calling non-usable numbers. When a landline number is reached, the interviewer randomly selects a member of the household by asking to speak with the adult currently living in the household who has had the most recent birthday. This selection process ensures that every adult (18 years of age or older) in the household has an equal chance of being included in the survey.

The data have been weighted to adjust for numbers of adults and telephone lines within households. Additionally, data were weighted by respondent sex, age, education, and region of the state to targets from the most recent American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. In addition to potential sampling error, all surveys have other potential sources of non-sampling error including question order effects, question wording effects, and non-response. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100%. The number of respondents in each demographic below may not equal the number reported in cross-tabulation tables as some respondents choose not to answer some questions.

For more information about the methodology used in the Granite State Poll, contact Dr. Andrew Smith at (603) 862-2226 or by email at andrew.smith@unh.edu.

Granite State Poll, Winter 2018 Demographics

		N	%
Sex of Respondent	Female	289	51%
	Male	277	49%
Age of Respondent	18 to 34	146	27%
	35 to 49	124	23%
	50 to 64	171	31%
	65 and older	105	19%
Level of Education	High school or less	168	30%
	Technical school/Some college	214	38%
	College graduate	110	20%
	Postgraduate work	70	12%
Region of State	Central / Lakes	92	16%
	Connecticut Valley	70	12%
	Manchester Area	106	19%
	Mass Border	137	24%
	North Country	62	11%
	Seacoast	100	18%
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	131	23%
	Reg. Undeclared/Not Reg.	300	54%
	Reg. Republican	129	23%
Party ID	Democrat	223	41%
	Independent	129	23%
	Republican	199	36%

POT1: The New Hampshire legislature is considering a bill that would make it legal for adults to possess up to three-quarters of an ounce of marijuana and allow adults to grow up to six marijuana plants in their home, but would not legalize or tax the sale of marijuana. Would you support or oppose this legislation or don't you know enough about this to say?

		<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Somewhat Support</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Somewhat Oppose</u>	<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Don't Know/Not Sure</u>	<u>N</u>
STATEWIDE	Feb 2018	37%	18%	7%	8%	17%	13%	566
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	42%	23%	5%	7%	8%	15%	131
	Reg. Undeclared/Not Reg.	39%	17%	7%	7%	18%	13%	300
	Reg. Republican	27%	18%	8%	10%	26%	10%	129
Party ID	Democrat	41%	20%	4%	8%	12%	15%	223
	Independent	35%	20%	8%	8%	14%	14%	129
	Republican	34%	15%	7%	8%	26%	9%	199
Political Ideology	Liberal	42%	24%	4%	10%	8%	12%	123
	Moderate	33%	21%	6%	8%	16%	17%	241
	Conservative	37%	13%	8%	7%	27%	8%	164
Media	Listen to Conserv. Radio	29%	14%	6%	18%	26%	7%	78
	Listen to NHPR	32%	23%	9%	10%	12%	14%	148
	Read Boston Globe	39%	30%	2%	7%	14%	8%	63
	Read Local Newspapers	30%	19%	6%	12%	17%	17%	171
	Read Union Leader	33%	15%	9%	8%	23%	12%	98
	Watch WMUR	38%	14%	7%	9%	19%	13%	299
Age of Respondent	18 to 34	48%	23%	6%	5%	8%	10%	146
	35 to 49	42%	24%	4%	4%	15%	10%	124
	50 to 64	42%	12%	7%	13%	15%	11%	171
	65 and older	15%	16%	8%	8%	35%	19%	105
Sex of Respondent	Female	34%	20%	5%	9%	17%	15%	289
	Male	41%	17%	8%	6%	18%	10%	277
Level of Education	High school or less	49%	17%	7%	4%	13%	9%	168
	Technical school/Some college	33%	19%	6%	11%	20%	12%	214
	College graduate	33%	18%	6%	9%	18%	16%	110
	Postgraduate work	29%	21%	9%	7%	18%	17%	70
Frequency Attend Relig. Service	Never	47%	20%	6%	7%	9%	12%	240
	Few times a year	32%	19%	8%	8%	20%	13%	167
	Once-twice a month	34%	19%	5%	9%	20%	13%	45
	Once a week or more	28%	14%	4%	11%	31%	12%	106
2016 Presidential Election Vote	Donald Trump	36%	16%	7%	7%	25%	9%	206
	Hillary Clinton	37%	20%	5%	11%	12%	16%	212
	Did Not Vote	51%	12%	8%	6%	11%	12%	78
	Other	32%	30%	7%	6%	17%	9%	51
Region of State	Central / Lakes	42%	16%	4%	9%	17%	11%	92
	Connecticut Valley	38%	25%	9%	5%	4%	19%	70
	Manchester Area	32%	19%	4%	7%	25%	14%	106
	Mass Border	41%	16%	10%	3%	16%	15%	137
	North Country	30%	18%	8%	10%	23%	10%	62
	Seacoast	37%	20%	4%	15%	17%	7%	100

DRINKAGE: As you may know, the legislature is considering changes to the minimum age to purchase alcohol and tobacco. What do you believe should be the minimum age for a person to be able to purchase alcohol in New Hampshire?

		<u>Under 18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
STATEWIDE	Feb 2018	1%	29%	1%	1%
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	1%	25%	3%	2%
	Reg. Undeclared/Not Reg.	1%	30%	0%	1%
	Reg. Republican	1%	27%	1%	1%
Party ID	Democrat	1%	27%	2%	1%
	Independent	2%	33%	0%	0%
	Republican	1%	30%	0%	2%
Political Ideology	Liberal	1%	31%	2%	1%
	Moderate	1%	26%	1%	1%
	Conservative	1%	33%	0%	0%
Media	Listen to Conserv. Radio	1%	36%	0%	
	Listen to NHPR	1%	29%	2%	2%
	Read Boston Globe		28%	4%	4%
	Read Local Newspapers	1%	23%	1%	1%
	Read Union Leader	1%	20%	3%	3%
	Watch WMUR	0%	24%	1%	2%
Age of Respondent	18 to 34		37%		2%
	35 to 49	3%	24%		
	50 to 64	0%	30%	2%	1%
	65 and older	1%	19%	1%	1%
Sex of Respondent	Female	0%	24%	1%	1%
	Male	1%	34%	0%	1%
Level of Education	High school or less	2%	28%		2%
	Technical school/Some college		30%	1%	0%
	College graduate	0%	26%	2%	2%
	Postgraduate work	1%	32%	1%	2%
Frequency Attend Relig. Service	Never	1%	28%		2%
	Few times a year	0%	32%	2%	2%
	Once-twice a month		14%	1%	1%
	Once a week or more	1%	31%	1%	0%
2016 Presidential Election Vote	Donald Trump	1%	30%	0%	0%
	Hillary Clinton	0%	23%	2%	2%
	Did Not Vote	4%	38%		3%
	Other		32%	1%	1%
Region of State	Central / Lakes		23%		2%
	Connecticut Valley		33%		
	Manchester Area	1%	25%	1%	1%
	Mass Border		30%	1%	0%
	North Country	4%	32%	4%	1%
	Seacoast	1%	31%	0%	3%

DRINKAGE: As you may know, the legislature is considering changes to the minimum age to purchase alcohol and tobacco. What do you believe should be the minimum age for a person to be able to purchase alcohol in New Hampshire?

		<u>21</u>	<u>Over 21</u>	<u>Should Be Outlawed Entirely</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>N</u>
STATEWIDE	Feb 2018	62%	5%	1%	0%	565
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	65%	4%	0%	1%	131
	Reg. Undeclared/Not Reg.	61%	5%	1%	0%	300
	Reg. Republican	63%	7%			128
Party ID	Democrat	65%	4%	0%	1%	223
	Independent	58%	4%	1%	0%	127
	Republican	60%	6%	1%		199
Political Ideology	Liberal	59%	5%		1%	123
	Moderate	66%	4%	2%	0%	241
	Conservative	59%	7%			163
Media	Listen to Conserv. Radio	57%	3%	2%		78
	Listen to NHPR	62%	2%	1%	1%	148
	Read Boston Globe	59%	4%	2%		63
	Read Local Newspapers	65%	7%	1%	1%	171
	Read Union Leader	66%	5%	1%	0%	98
	Watch WMUR	67%	6%		1%	298
Age of Respondent	18 to 34	57%	4%			146
	35 to 49	66%	6%	1%		124
	50 to 64	58%	5%	1%	1%	170
	65 and older	71%	5%		0%	105
Sex of Respondent	Female	66%	5%	1%	1%	289
	Male	58%	5%		0%	276
Level of Education	High school or less	59%	7%	1%	0%	167
	Technical school/Some college	64%	5%			214
	College graduate	64%	4%	1%	0%	110
	Postgraduate work	59%	4%	0%	1%	70
Frequency Attend Relig. Service	Never	64%	5%		0%	240
	Few times a year	57%	5%	1%	0%	167
	Once-twice a month	79%	6%			43
	Once a week or more	59%	6%	1%	1%	106
2016 Presidential Election Vote	Donald Trump	62%	5%	1%	0%	205
	Hillary Clinton	69%	4%		1%	212
	Did Not Vote	44%	11%			78
	Other	61%	3%	3%		51
Region of State	Central / Lakes	70%	5%	0%		91
	Connecticut Valley	63%	1%	2%	1%	70
	Manchester Area	69%	3%			106
	Mass Border	59%	7%	2%	1%	137
	North Country	48%	11%			62
	Seacoast	60%	4%		0%	100

TOBAGE: As you many know, the legislature is considering changes to the minimum age to purchase alcohol and tobacco. What do you believe should be the minimum age for a person to be able to purchase tobacco in New Hampshire?

		<u>Under 18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
STATEWIDE	Feb 2018	2%	52%	1%	2%
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	1%	48%	2%	3%
	Reg. Undeclared/Not Reg.	2%	56%	0%	1%
	Reg. Republican	4%	45%	0%	1%
Party ID	Democrat	0%	52%	1%	2%
	Independent	4%	52%	0%	2%
	Republican	3%	53%	0%	2%
Political Ideology	Liberal	1%	46%	1%	1%
	Moderate	2%	54%	1%	2%
	Conservative	3%	51%	0%	1%
Media	Listen to Conserv. Radio	6%	49%	0%	3%
	Listen to NHPR	2%	45%	2%	2%
	Read Boston Globe	1%	53%		
	Read Local Newspapers	2%	51%	0%	2%
	Read Union Leader	4%	44%	1%	
	Watch WMUR	1%	48%	1%	2%
Age of Respondent	18 to 34	1%	63%		2%
	35 to 49	3%	57%	1%	2%
	50 to 64	2%	50%	1%	2%
	65 and older	2%	33%	1%	
Sex of Respondent	Female	1%	50%	1%	2%
	Male	3%	54%	0%	1%
Level of Education	High school or less	4%	57%		
	Technical school/Some college	2%	48%		2%
	College graduate	1%	50%	3%	3%
	Postgraduate work	1%	55%		3%
Frequency Attend Relig. Service	Never	1%	57%	1%	0%
	Few times a year	1%	52%	1%	4%
	Once-twice a month	8%	33%	1%	3%
	Once a week or more	3%	49%	0%	2%
2016 Presidential Election Vote	Donald Trump	3%	51%	0%	3%
	Hillary Clinton	0%	50%	1%	2%
	Did Not Vote	3%	59%		
	Other	2%	47%	1%	
Region of State	Central / Lakes		52%		1%
	Connecticut Valley	1%	63%		1%
	Manchester Area	4%	48%	1%	1%
	Mass Border	2%	52%		1%
	North Country	4%	51%	2%	1%
	Seacoast	2%	48%	0%	5%

TOBAGE: As you many know, the legislature is considering changes to the minimum age to purchase alcohol and tobacco. What do you believe should be the minimum age for a person to be able to purchase tobacco in New Hampshire?

		<u>21</u>	<u>Over 21</u>	<u>Should Be Outlawed Entirely</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>N</u>
STATEWIDE	Feb 2018	33%	6%	4%	1%	566
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	29%	12%	5%	1%	131
	Reg. Undeclared/Not Reg.	33%	3%	4%	1%	300
	Reg. Republican	39%	7%	2%	3%	129
Party ID	Democrat	32%	7%	6%	1%	223
	Independent	32%	6%	3%	1%	129
	Republican	34%	5%	2%	2%	199
Political Ideology	Liberal	34%	10%	7%	1%	123
	Moderate	31%	5%	4%	0%	241
	Conservative	36%	5%	2%	2%	164
Media	Listen to Conserv. Radio	34%	4%	1%	2%	78
	Listen to NHPR	32%	11%	3%	2%	148
	Read Boston Globe	26%	13%	7%		63
	Read Local Newspapers	30%	11%	4%	1%	171
	Read Union Leader	37%	9%	3%	1%	98
	Watch WMUR	37%	6%	4%	1%	299
Age of Respondent	18 to 34	25%	5%	3%	1%	146
	35 to 49	26%	5%	4%	2%	124
	50 to 64	35%	5%	4%	1%	171
	65 and older	50%	8%	5%	1%	105
Sex of Respondent	Female	36%	7%	2%	1%	289
	Male	30%	4%	6%	1%	277
Level of Education	High school or less	32%	3%	3%	2%	168
	Technical school/Some college	34%	10%	5%		214
	College graduate	36%	2%	5%	1%	110
	Postgraduate work	29%	6%	4%	1%	70
Frequency Attend Relig. Service	Never	27%	8%	6%	0%	240
	Few times a year	35%	4%	4%	0%	167
	Once-twice a month	51%	1%	3%		45
	Once a week or more	34%	6%	1%	4%	106
2016 Presidential Election Vote	Donald Trump	35%	4%	2%	1%	206
	Hillary Clinton	36%	6%	4%	0%	212
	Did Not Vote	24%	8%	4%	1%	78
	Other	33%	5%	10%	2%	51
Region of State	Central / Lakes	38%	5%	2%	1%	92
	Connecticut Valley	25%	5%	5%	1%	70
	Manchester Area	33%	6%	7%	1%	106
	Mass Border	32%	8%	4%	2%	137
	North Country	33%	5%	3%		62
	Seacoast	35%	5%	2%	2%	100