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TWO IN THREE NH RESIDENTS SUPPORT LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA FOR RECREATIONAL USE

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DURHAM, NH – More than two-thirds of Granite Staters support legalizing marijuana for recreational use. Support has increased dramatically since 2013 and bi-partisan majorities now favor the policy. An even larger majority would approve of marijuana being sold at licensed outlets and taxed at levels similar to alcohol or tobacco.

These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll***, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Six hundred four (604) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed in English by landline and cellular telephone between February 18 and February 26, 2019. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.0 percent.

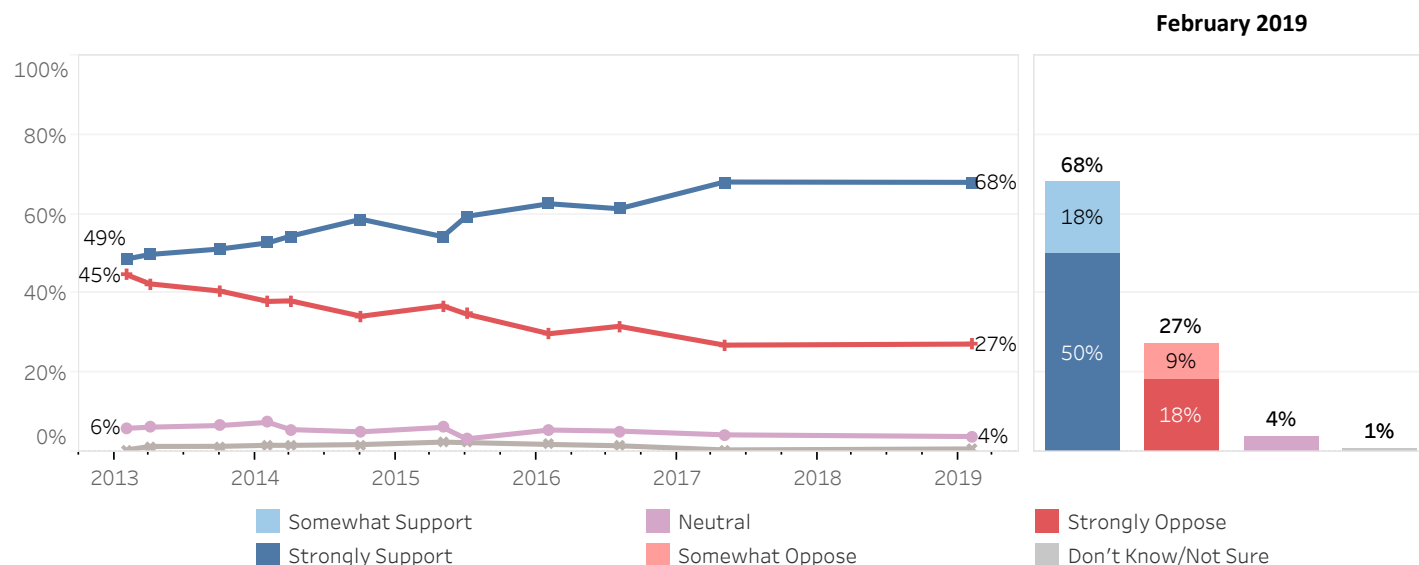
Legalization of Marijuana for Recreational Use

The issue of legalizing marijuana in New Hampshire has been subject to debate for years. Marijuana was legalized for medical use in 2013 and possession of small amounts of marijuana was decriminalized in 2017. In recent years, all of New Hampshire's neighbors - Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Canada - have legalized marijuana for recreational purposes. The increased support for legalizing marijuana across the country has led to proposed legislation for legalization in New Hampshire.

More than two-thirds of Granite Staters (68%) strongly support (50%) or somewhat support (18%) legalizing the possession of small amounts of marijuana for personal recreational use. Only 27% oppose legalizing marijuana for personal use, 4% are neutral, and 1% don't know or are unsure. This represents a remarkable change since early 2013, when 49% of Granite Staters supported the legalization of marijuana and 45% opposed it.

Support has increased since 2013 among all partisan groups - 23 percentage points among self-identified Independents, 21 points among Republicans, and 16 points among Democrats. Support for marijuana legalization has also increased among Granite Staters of all ages, although somewhat less among older residents. Support for legalization since 2013 increased 35 points among 18 to 34 year olds, 24 points among 35 to 49 year olds, 9 points among 50 to 64 year olds, and 11 points among those 65 and older.

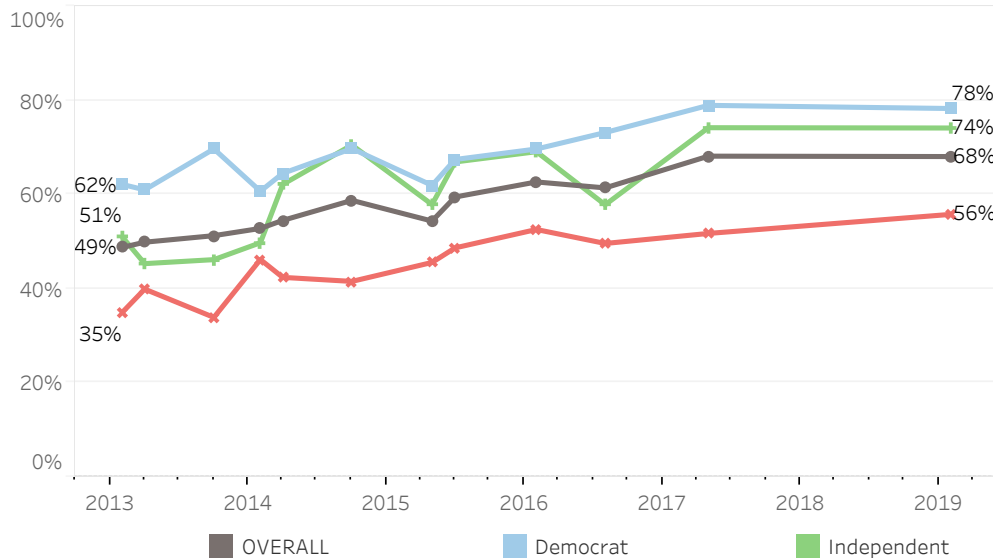
Legalization for Recreational Use



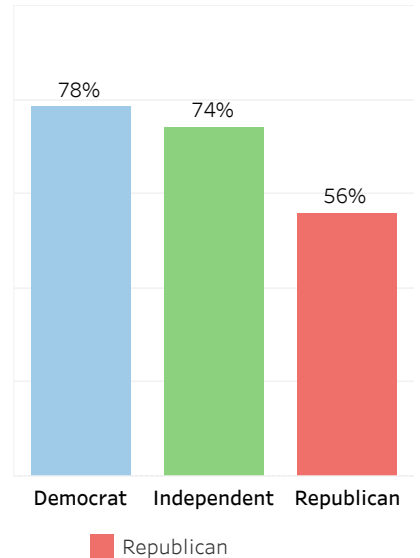
* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the Granite State Poll*, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center.

More than three-quarters of Democrats (78%) currently support legalizing marijuana for personal use, 74% of Independents support legalization, and just over half of Republicans (56%) support it. Self-described liberals, those under the age of 50, and those who did not vote in the 2016 election are most likely to support legalization of marijuana for recreational use. Those who attend religious services once a week or more often, those aged 65 and older, conservative talk radio listeners, self-described conservatives, and those who voted for Donald Trump in 2016 are least likely to support legalization for recreational use.

Support Legalization for Recreational Use - By Party ID



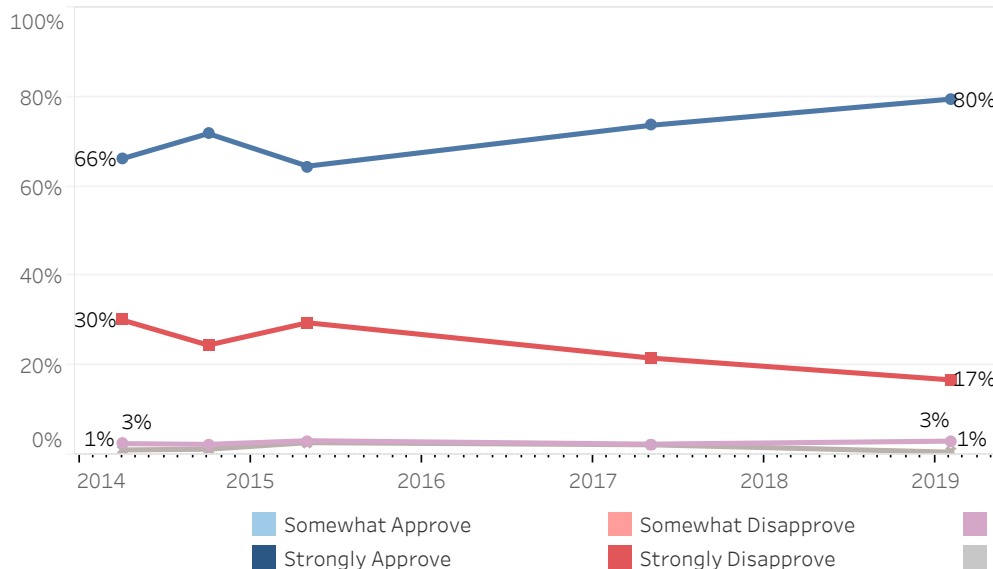
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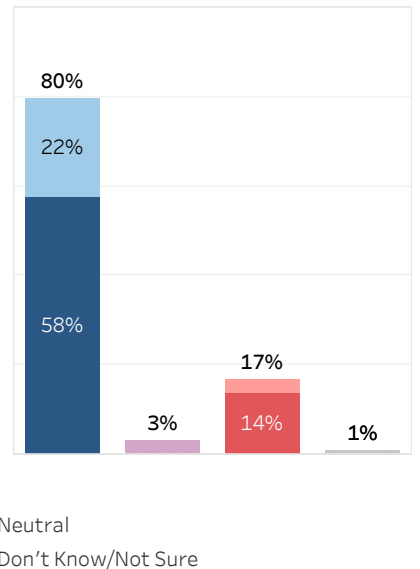
Sale/Tax of Legal Marijuana at Licensed Retail Outlets

A larger majority of Granite Staters would approve of marijuana being sold at licensed outlets and taxed at levels similar to alcohol or tobacco. Four in five New Hampshire residents (80%) say they would strongly (58%) or somewhat (22%) approve of marijuana being sold at licensed retail outlets, 17% would strongly (14%) or somewhat (3%) disapprove, 3% are neutral, and 1% don't know or are unsure. Approval of selling marijuana at licensed retail outlets with taxes similar to alcohol and tobacco has increased 24 percentage points since 2014.

Sale/Tax at Licensed Retail Outlets



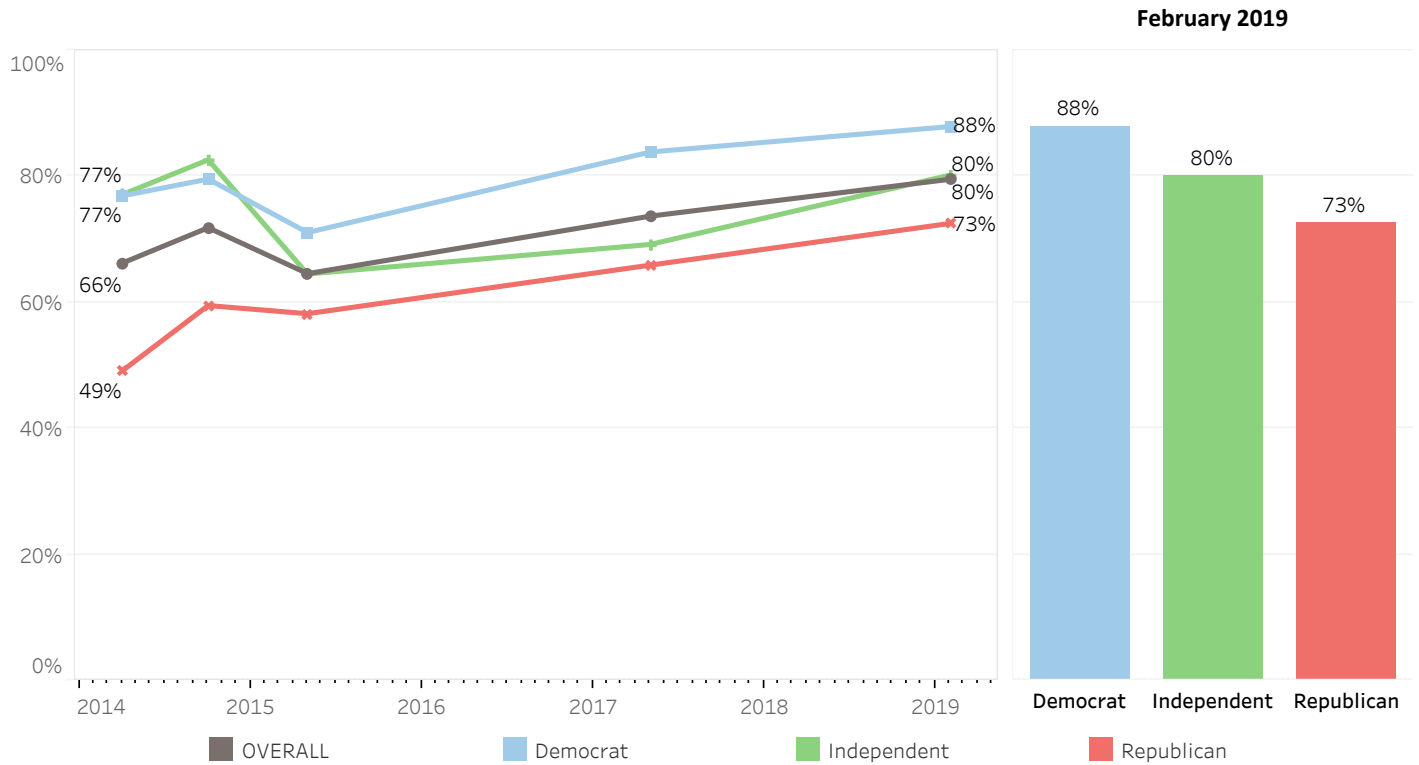
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Eighty-eight percent of Democrats approve of recreational marijuana being sold at licensed retail outlets and taxed at levels similar to alcohol or tobacco; 80% of Independents approve and nearly three-quarters of Republicans (73%) approve.

Self-described liberals, those who did not vote in the 2016 election, and those aged 18 to 34 are most likely to say they would approve of recreational marijuana being sold at licensed retail outlets and taxed at levels similar to alcohol or tobacco. Conservative talk radio listeners, those who attend religious services once a week or more often, those aged 65 and older, and self-described conservatives are least likely to approve.

Support Sale/Tax at Licensed Retail Outlets - By Party ID



Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the latest Granite State Poll, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Six hundred four (604) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed in English by landline and cellular telephone between February 18 and February 26, 2019. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.0 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 Scientific Telephone Samples (STS), Rancho Santo Margarita, CA. STS 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 2019 Demographics

		N	%
Sex of Respondent	Female	307	51%
	Male	297	49%
Age of Respondent	18 to 34	156	27%
	35 to 49	136	23%
	50 to 64	172	30%
	65 and older	115	20%
Level of Education	High school or less	175	30%
	Technical school/Some college	225	38%
	College graduate	112	19%
	Postgraduate work	79	13%
Region of State	Central / Lakes	107	18%
	Connecticut Valley	85	14%
	Manchester Area	106	18%
	Mass Border	147	24%
	North Country	54	9%
	Seacoast	105	17%
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	139	23%
	Registered Undeclared/Not Reg.	309	51%
	Reg. Republican	153	25%
Party ID	Democrat	233	40%
	Independent	113	19%
	Republican	238	41%
Congressional District	First Congressional District	311	52%
	Second Congressional District	293	48%

Legalization of Marijuana for Recreational Use

On another topic, do you support or oppose legalizing the possession of small amounts of marijuana for personal recreational use in New Hampshire similar to what other states have done?

	<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>
February 2013	31%	17%	6%	8%	37%	1%	580
April 2013	32%	18%	6%	7%	35%	1%	506
October 2013	36%	15%	7%	11%	30%	1%	602
February 2014	35%	18%	8%	14%	24%	2%	566
April 2014	39%	16%	6%	9%	29%	2%	510
October 2014	34%	25%	5%	10%	25%	2%	536
May 2015	37%	17%	6%	9%	27%	3%	566
July 2015	45%	15%	3%	11%	24%	2%	529
February 2016	41%	21%	6%	11%	19%	2%	686
August 2016	39%	22%	5%	10%	22%	2%	528
May 2017	49%	19%	4%	8%	19%	1%	517
February 2019	50%	18%	4%	9%	18%	1%	603

Support Sale/Tax of Legal Marijuana at Licensed Retail Outlets

If small amounts of marijuana were legalized for personal use in New Hampshire, would you approve or disapprove of marijuana being sold at licensed retail outlets and taxed at levels similar to alcohol or tobacco?

	<u>Strongly Approve</u>	<u>Somewhat Approve</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Somewhat Disapprove</u>	<u>Strongly Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know/Not Sure</u>	<u>N</u>
April 2014	50%	17%	3%	6%	24%	1%	508
October 2014	48%	24%	2%	5%	19%	1%	540
May 2015	46%	18%	3%	7%	22%	3%	564
May 2017	53%	21%	2%	4%	17%	2%	518
February 2019	58%	22%	3%	3%	14%	1%	604

Legalization of Marijuana for Recreational Use

		<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		50%	18%	4%	9%	18%	1%	603
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	52%	26%	3%	5%	12%	1%	139
	Registered Undeclared/Not Reg.	58%	16%	4%	9%	13%		308
	Reg. Republican	33%	16%	4%	12%	34%	2%	153
Party ID	Democrat	56%	22%	5%	7%	10%	1%	233
	Independent	60%	14%	5%	8%	12%	1%	113
	Republican	41%	15%	3%	10%	30%	1%	237
Ideology	Liberal	66%	21%	3%	5%	3%	1%	126
	Moderate	55%	16%	6%	9%	14%	0%	250
	Conservative	33%	18%	2%	11%	36%	1%	184
Media Usage	Listen to Conserv. Radio	29%	19%	5%	10%	36%		61
	Listen to NHPR	61%	16%	4%	3%	16%	1%	143
	Read Local Newspapers	46%	21%	5%	15%	12%		69
	Read Union Leader	40%	22%	5%	7%	26%	0%	117
	Watch WMUR	45%	19%	5%	7%	23%	1%	293
Age of Respondent	18 to 34	72%	9%	3%	9%	6%	1%	156
	35 to 49	61%	20%	3%	5%	11%	0%	136
	50 to 64	38%	21%	5%	9%	26%	1%	172
	65 and older	28%	21%	5%	12%	33%	1%	114
Sex of Respondent	Female	49%	17%	4%	11%	18%	1%	307
	Male	52%	19%	3%	6%	19%	1%	295
Level of Education	High school or less	59%	15%	1%	6%	18%	1%	175
	Technical school/Some college	50%	13%	4%	11%	22%		224
	College graduate	50%	25%	4%	7%	13%	1%	112
	Postgraduate work	34%	29%	9%	10%	18%	1%	79
Frequency Attending Relig. Services	Once a week or more	30%	12%	4%	13%	41%		111
	Once or twice a month	42%	32%	4%	6%	13%	2%	35
	Few times a year	46%	22%	4%	8%	18%	2%	154
	Never	62%	16%	4%	7%	11%	0%	279
2016 Presidential Vote	Donald Trump	40%	18%	3%	9%	31%	1%	205
	Hillary Clinton	53%	21%	7%	8%	10%	1%	194
	Voted for Other	58%	22%	1%	3%	16%		65
	Did Not Vote	71%	11%	3%	10%	6%		96
Gun Owner in Household	Gun Owner	52%	15%	4%	9%	19%	1%	266
	Not Gun Owner	51%	20%	4%	8%	16%	1%	305
Region of State	Central / Lakes	49%	20%	2%	6%	23%		107
	Connecticut Valley	56%	21%	2%	9%	12%		85
	Manchester Area	50%	10%	8%	10%	20%	1%	105
	Mass Border	46%	20%	6%	9%	19%	1%	147
	North Country	50%	15%	3%	7%	22%	3%	54
	Seacoast	52%	20%	0%	12%	15%	1%	105
Congressional District	First Congressional District	48%	17%	4%	11%	19%	2%	310
	Second Congressional District	52%	19%	4%	6%	18%		293

Support Sale/Tax of Legal Marijuana at Licensed Retail Outlets

		<u>Strongly Approve</u>	<u>Somewhat Approve</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Somewhat Disapprove</u>	<u>Strongly Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know/Not Sure</u>	<u>N</u>
STATEWIDE		58%	22%	3%	3%	14%	1%	604
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	57%	28%	3%	4%	8%	0%	139
	Registered Undeclared/Not Reg.	65%	19%	2%	3%	10%	1%	309
	Reg. Republican	45%	21%	5%	3%	25%	1%	153
Party ID	Democrat	64%	24%	3%	3%	6%	0%	232
	Independent	64%	16%	2%	4%	13%	1%	113
	Republican	51%	22%	3%	3%	21%	0%	238
Ideology	Liberal	66%	27%	4%	1%	2%		126
	Moderate	66%	17%	3%	2%	11%	1%	250
	Conservative	44%	23%	2%	5%	25%	0%	185
Media Usage	Listen to Conserv. Radio	39%	19%	2%	11%	28%	1%	62
	Listen to NHPR	67%	21%	0%	3%	8%	1%	143
	Read Local Newspapers	66%	16%	6%	7%	4%	1%	69
	Read Union Leader	53%	19%	4%	4%	20%	1%	117
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Frequency Attending Relig. Services	Once a week or more	37%	22%	6%	5%	29%	1%	110
	Once or twice a month	57%	31%		2%	10%		36
	Few times a year	57%	22%		3%	17%	0%	154
	Never	68%	20%	3%	2%	6%		279
2016 Presidential Vote	Donald Trump	51%	21%	3%	4%	20%	1%	206
	Hillary Clinton	61%	25%	5%	3%	5%	0%	194
	Voted for Other	65%	17%		2%	16%		65
	Did Not Vote	71%	21%	1%		7%		96
Gun Owner in Household	Gun Owner	59%	22%	3%	3%	13%	0%	266
	Not Gun Owner	59%	22%	3%	3%	13%	1%	306
Region of State	Central / Lakes	54%	23%	4%	3%	14%	0%	107
	Connecticut Valley	69%	17%	4%	1%	7%	2%	85
	Manchester Area	56%	19%	7%	4%	13%	0%	106
	Mass Border	51%	28%	1%	2%	18%		147
	North Country	60%	17%	3%	6%	13%	1%	54
	Seacoast	61%	21%		4%	13%	1%	105
Congressional District	First Congressional District	56%	23%	3%	4%	13%	1%	311
	Second Congressional District	60%	21%	3%	2%	14%	0%	293