



Methodology

Marquette Law School Poll

February 18-21, 2016

The Marquette Law School Poll was conducted February 18-21, 2016. A total of 802 registered voters were interviewed by a combination of landline and cell phone using random digit dialing (RDD). Interviews were completed with 398 (50%) landline respondents and 404 (50%) cell phone respondents. The data collection was managed by LHK Partners, Inc. with telephone interviews conducted by SHC Universal.

The geographic coverage of the sample was the 72 counties of the state of Wisconsin.

The sample size is 802. The margin of error, including design effects due to post-stratification is ± 4.5 percentage points for the full sample. For the Republican presidential primary the sample size is 297 with a margin of error, including design effect, of ± 7.5 percentage points. The Democratic primary sample size is 343 with a margin of error, including design effect of ± 6.9 percentage points.

Post-Stratification

Post-stratification, or weighting, compensates for patterns of non-response that shift sample characteristics from known population values. In telephone surveys it is common for potential respondents who are younger and have fewer years of formal education to exhibit higher rates of non-response resulting in these groups being under-represented in the sample. To compensate for these non-response effects the sample is weighted to bring sample demographic characteristics into line with the population values. In this sample the registered voter population values of age groups, education levels, geographic region of the state, marital status and sex were determined using the 2004-2014 releases of the Current Population Survey (CPS) and data on registered voters supplied by the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board (GAB).

A raking algorithm was used to simultaneously balance the weights so that the sample distribution closely approximates the known population distributions for age, education, geographic region, marital status, and sex. The population, raw sample size, unweighted and weighted percentages, as well as population parameters from the CPS and GAB are shown in the table below.

Comparison of final weighted data to CPS and GAB parameters

Group	Raw N	Wisconsin		Parameter
		Unweighted	Weighted	
Gender				
Male	383	48	48	48
Female	419	52	52	52
Gender and Marital Status				
Married Male	235	29	31	31
Married Female	221	28	30	30
Unmarried Male	148	18	17	17
Unmarried Female	198	25	22	22
Age				
18-29	74	9	16	16
30-39	55	7	16	16
40-49	102	13	19	19
50-59	157	20	21	21
60-69	219	27	13	13
70+	191	24	15	15
Age NA	4	0	0	
Education				
Less than high school	23	3	6	6
High school	162	20	32	32
Some college	145	18	19	19
Associates degree	101	13	13	13
College Graduate	216	27	21	21
Post-Graduate	152	19	9	9
Education NA	3	0	0	
Region				
City of Milwaukee	99	12	9	9
Rest of Milwaukee DMA	228	28	31	31
Madison DMA	159	20	18	18
Green Bay-Appleton DMA	136	17	19	19
Rest of Wisconsin	180	22	23	23

AAPOR Transparency Initiative Information

The Marquette Law School Poll follows the guidelines for disclosure of the American Association for Public Opinion Research Transparency Initiative. For more information on the initiative see: <http://www.aapor.org/AAPORKentico/transparency.aspx>

1. The poll is sponsored by Marquette Law School.
2. The Marquette Law School Poll, under the direction of Prof. Charles Franklin, designed the survey instrument and sampling design. The data collection was administered by LHK Partners, Inc. with telephone interviews conducted by SHC Universal.
3. Funding for this study was provided by the Marquette Law School Alumni Annual Fund. Their support is gratefully acknowledged.
4. The full survey instrument is available online at <https://law.marquette.edu/poll/results-data/>
5. The population surveyed consists of registered voters in the 72 counties of Wisconsin. Registration is determined by self-report. Those who are not registered but who say they will register by election day and included as registered voters.
6. The sample frame is a dual frame landline and cell telephone sample using a random digit dialing design. Sampling was stratified by region of the state to provide approximately proportional sample sizes for each region.
7. The sample was supplied by Marketing Systems Group (MSG).
8. The dual-frame random digit dial design was used to ensure that both cell phone and landlines and listed and unlisted numbers would be included in the sample. Registered voters, age 18 and over, in the landline sample were selected using the “most recent birthday” method. Respondents were also screened to ensure they were current residents of the 72 counties of Wisconsin included in the sampling frame. Interviews in the cell phone sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone if they were registered voter, age 18 or over, and lived in one of the 72 Wisconsin counties.
9. The sample is a probability design using a random digit dialed (RDD) dual-frame design of cell phone and landline numbers.
10. See 8 and 9 above.
11. The sample was designed to be representative of the state of Wisconsin. The sample size is 802. The margin of error, including design effects due to post-stratification is ± 4.5 percentage points for the full sample. For the Republican presidential primary the sample size is 297 with a margin of error, including design effect, of ± 7.5 percentage points. The Democratic primary sample size is 343 with a margin of error, including design effect of ± 6.9 percentage points.

In this sample the population values of age groups, education levels, geographic region and sex were determined using the 2012-2014 data from the Current Population Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau in Wisconsin and from data on registered voters reported by the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board.

A raking algorithm was used to simultaneously balance the weights so that the sample distribution closely approximates the known population distributions for age, education, geographic region, and sex.

The design effect, $deff$, for a sample of size n and with each case having a weight, w_i , is calculated as:

$$deff = \frac{n \sum_{i=1}^n w_i^2}{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n w_i \right)^2}$$

Incorporating the design effect, the 95% confidence interval around a percentage is:

$$\hat{p} \pm \left(\sqrt{deff} \times 1.96 \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})}{n - 1}} \right)$$

where \hat{p} is the sample estimate and n is unweighted number of cases.

The design effects due to post-stratification for the sample is 1.72. That effect is included in the calculated margin of error reported above.

12. The design effect has been incorporated in the calculation of all reported margins of error.
13. Results reported reflect the full sample within Wisconsin, with the margins of error corresponding to those reported above in item 11. When subsamples are reported the appropriate margin of error is also reported, as in item 11 above.
14. The survey was administered in English by telephone (landline and cell) using live interviewers. The data were collected February 18-21, 2016.
15. Full results, including the complete instrument, topline results and crosstabs as well as this methodological report are available online at <https://law.marquette.edu/poll/results-data/>
For further information contact the survey director, Prof. Charles Franklin at Charles.franklin@marquette.edu

Sample Disposition and Response Rate Report

The table below presents the disposition of all sampled numbers that were ever dialed as part of this survey. The response rate is computed according to the AAPOR standard definition 3. In this survey the response rate was 8.8%.

Sample Disposition and Response Rate

Disposition	Description
802	I=Completes
1997	R=Refusals and breakoffs
27	NC=Non-contact
123	O=Other
6496	OF=Out of sampling frame/business/not working
18104	UH=Unknown household (No answer, answering machine)
1477	UO=Unknown Other
0.31	AAPOR's $e=(I+R+NC+O)/(I+R+NC+O+OF)$
8.8	AAPOR $RR3=I/(I+R+NC+O+(e*(UH+UO)))*100$