



## Vermont Water Cooler – Vote Fraud Poll

Updated 3/26/2020

### Quick facts:

**Survey date:** 3/23/2020

**Survey Population:** 16,029

**Sample size:** 374

**Method:** IVR

**Number of questions (nom):** 10

**Number of question (tot):** 12

**Weighted for:** Age & Gender

**Web Version:** No

### **Description of purpose:**

The Vermont Water Cooler voter fraud survey is intended to gather Vermonter's thoughts around the potential for voter fraud in Vermont and the impacts thereof.

### **Methodology:**

The poll was conducted by IVR phone call to landline telephones on **March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020** (see Appendix A for full list of questions). Questions were presented to respondents in a multi-choice format in order to standardize results. Instructions for entering the intended response were included with each question. For example, "Press 1 if you think that...."

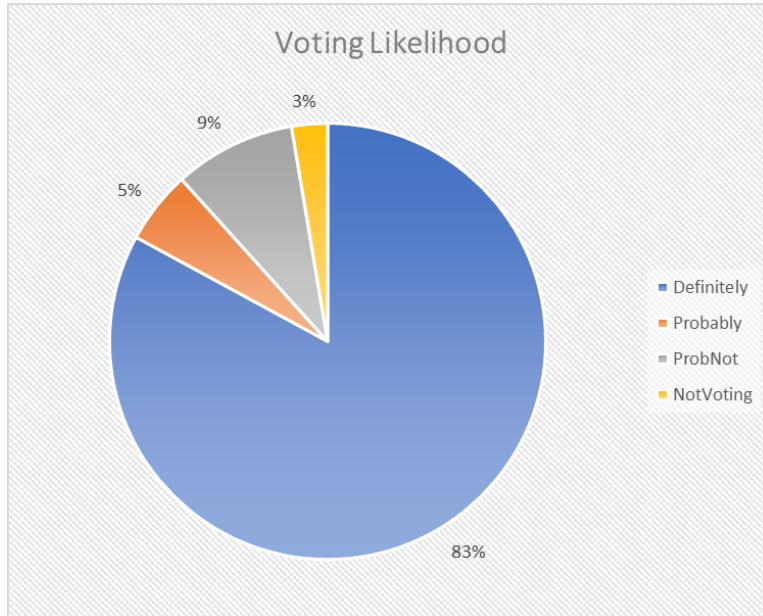
The survey population of **16,029** households was randomly selected from Vermont's registered voter list. The phone list was limited to just 802 area code numbers and deduped so individual households were not called multiple times.

The final number of respondents to the survey totaled **374**. The survey responses were then weighed for age and gender using a raking method to compensate for oversampling in either of these demographics.



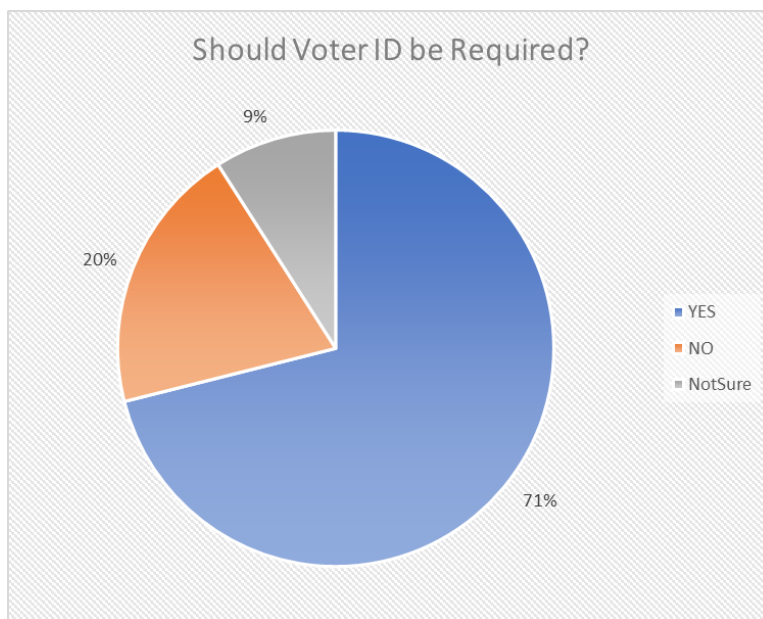
### Survey Results:

**Voting Likelihood** – When asked how likely there were to vote, the response was very strong, with more than 8 out of 10 respondents saying they were definitely voting in November 2020.



*Total Responses: 374*  
*Margin of Error: +/- 3.4%*  
*\*90% Confidence Interval*

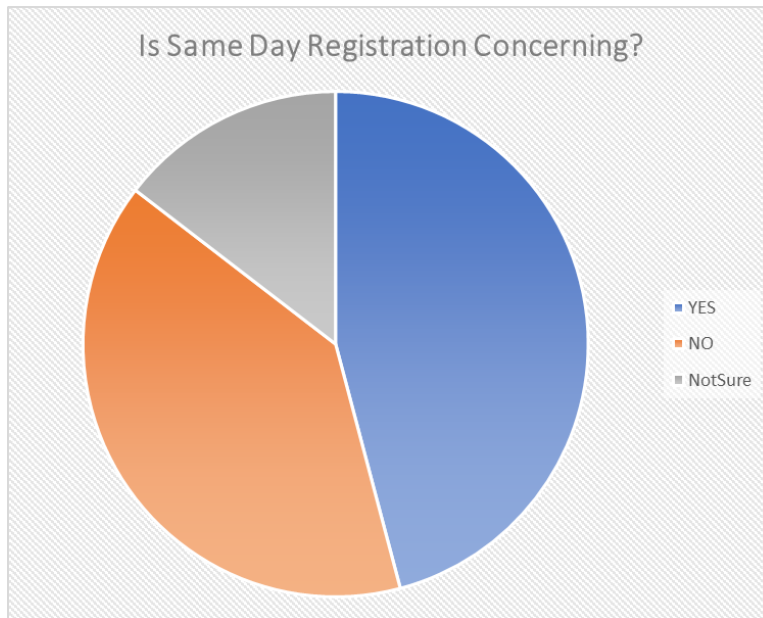
**Voter ID** – When asked if some form of ID should be presented in order to vote, nearly three-quarters thought it should; 3.5 times as many those that did not. Only one out of five respondents thought ID should not be required to vote.



*Total Responses: 331*  
*Margin of Error: +/- 5.0%*  
*\*90% Confidence Interval*

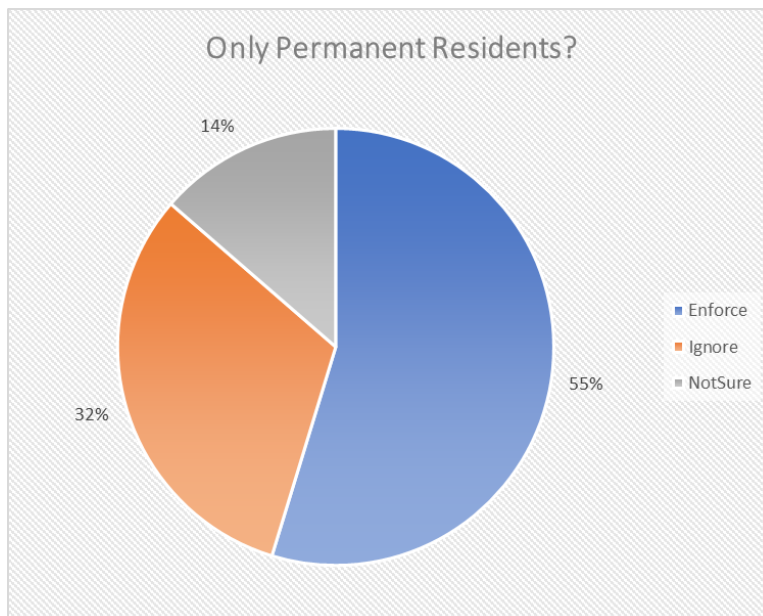


**Same Day Registration** – Perhaps the least decisive result was when respondents were asked about same day voter registration and whether the practice concerned them. 46% found the practice concerning while 40% did not. 15% were not sure.



*Total Responses: 308*  
*Margin of Error: +/- 6.9%*  
*\*90% Confidence Interval*

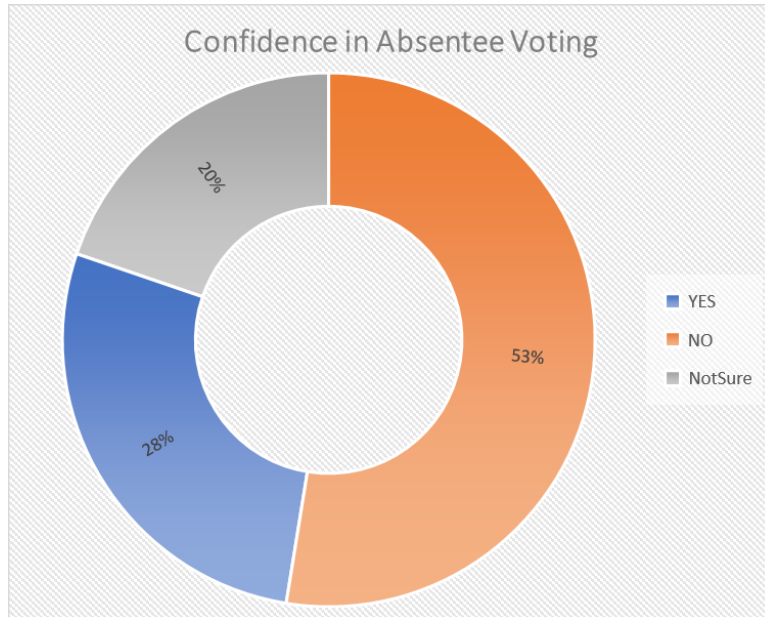
**Permanent Residents** – Just over half of respondents thought that college students from out of state should demonstrate an intention to become a permanent resident in order to vote in Vermont elections. A third of respondents thought it was fine to ignore such requirements.



*Total Responses: 294*  
*Margin of Error: +/- 6.6%*  
*\*90% Confidence Interval*

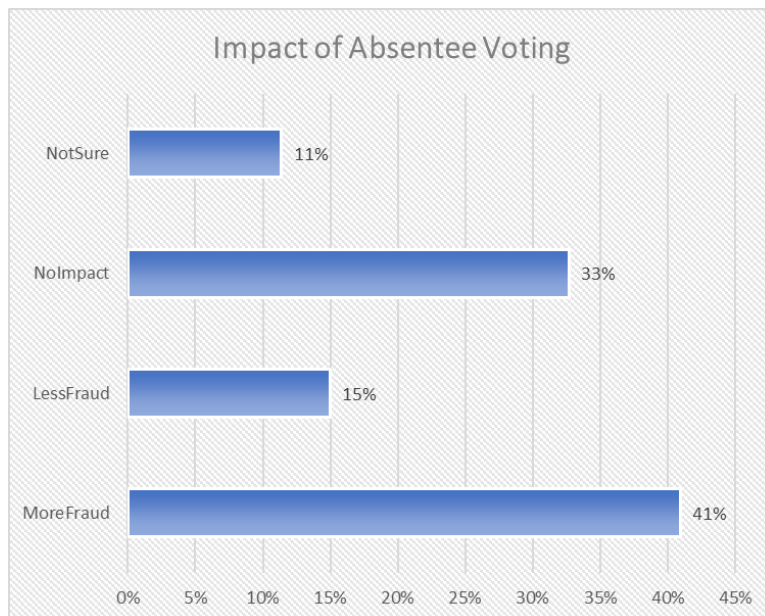


**Absentee Ballots** – When asked about voting officials ability to verify the identity of persons filling out absentee ballots, over half did not think they could. Less than 3 out of 10 thought they could and 1 out of 5 weren't sure.



*Total Responses: 282*  
*Margin of Error: +/- 8.2%*  
*\*90% Confidence Interval*

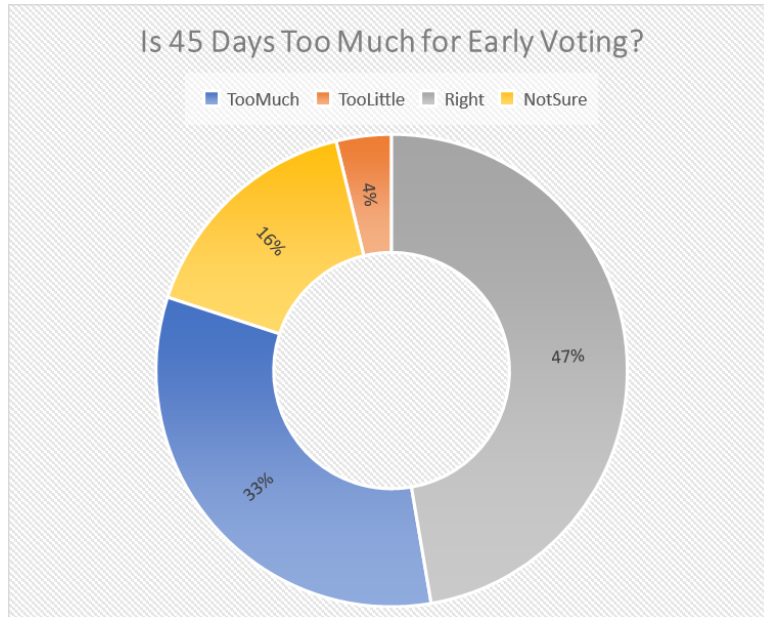
**Absentee Impact** – Two out of five respondents thought that more widespread utilization of absentee voting increases the likelihood of voter fraud. One third thought there would be no impact, while a quarter either weren't sure or thought it would decrease the likelihood of fraud.



*Total Responses: 268*  
*Margin of Error: +/- 7.9%*  
*\*90% Confidence Interval*

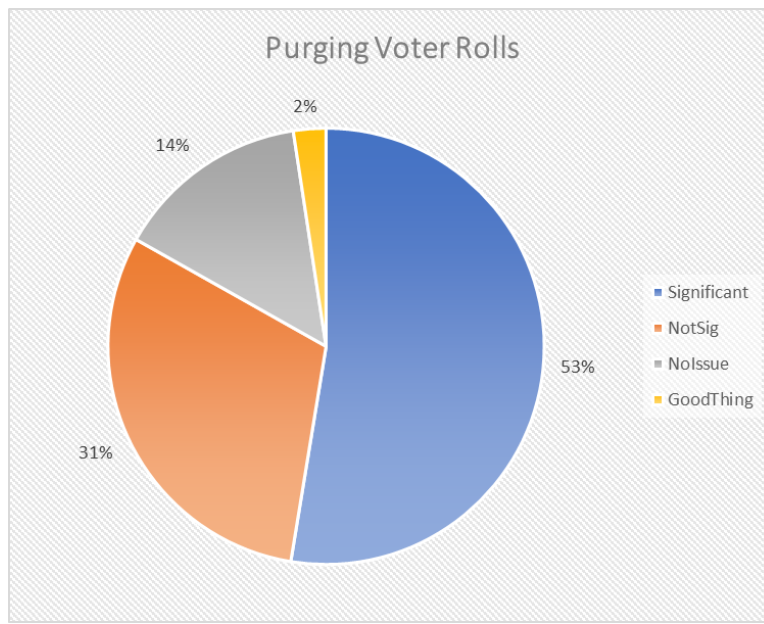


**45 Day Early Voting** – With Vermont’s early voting period starting 45 prior to the election, a third of respondents though this was too long of a period. Four out of five thought it was either about right or weren’t sure.



*Total Responses: 260*  
*Margin of Error: +/- 8.3%*  
*\*90% Confidence Interval*

**Purging Voter Rolls** – When asked how big of a problem not purging voter checklists in a timely fashion when a voter dies or moves away is, just over half thought it was a significant problem. Meanwhile, 45% either thought it was not an issue or at least not a significant one.

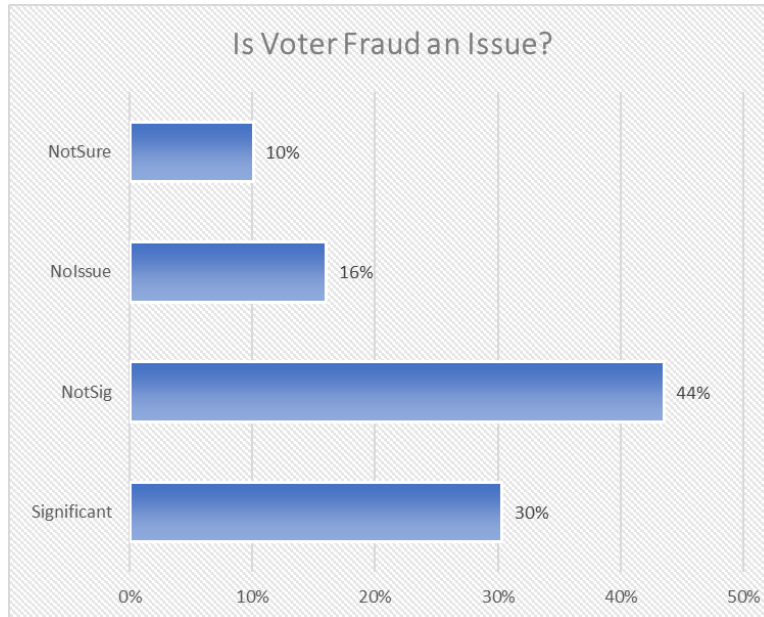


*Total Responses: 254*  
*Margin of Error: +/- 7.3%*  
*\*90% Confidence Interval*



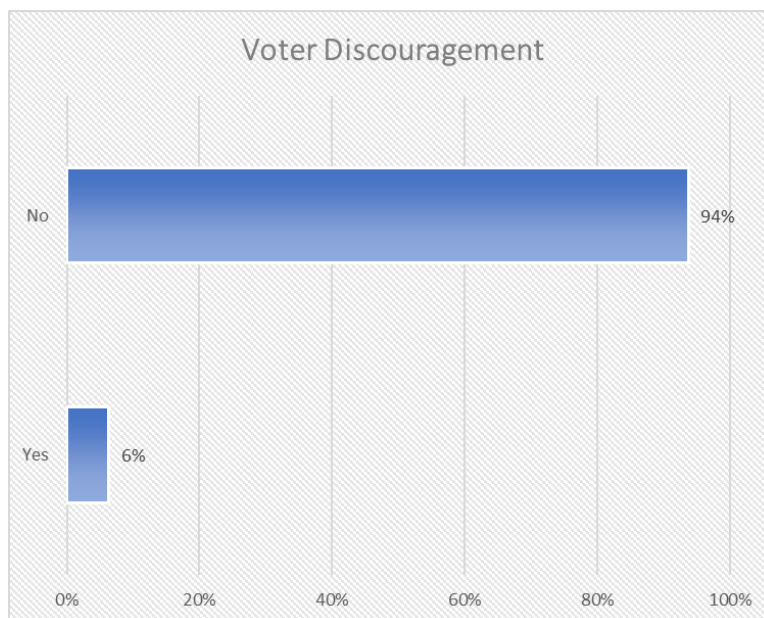


**Occurrence of Fraud** – Overall, three out of five respondents did not think voter fraud is a significant issue in Vermont. Meanwhile, 30% did think it was a significant issue in the state.



Total Responses: 252  
Margin of Error: +/- 10.4%  
\*90% Confidence Interval

**Voter Discouragement** – When asked if the prospect of voter fraud would discourage them from voting, nearly all respondents replied that it does not.



Total Responses: 250  
Margin of Error: +/- 10.4%  
\*90% Confidence Interval



## **Appendix A**

Survey questions and allowed responses.

- 1. Are you planning to vote in the November 2020 elections?**
  - A. **Press 1** if you are definitely voting.
  - B. **Press 2** if you are probably voting.
  - C. **Press 3** if you are probably not voting.
  - D. **Press 4** if you are not planning to vote.
  
- 2. Do you think citizens should be required to present some form of ID verifying that they are who they say they are and live in the voting district where they say they live in order to vote?**
  - A. **Press 1** for yes.
  - B. **Press 2** for No.
  - C. **Press 3** if you are not sure.
  
- 3. Vermont recently legalized “same day” voter registration, meaning someone is no longer a required to register to vote in advance, thus giving election officials time to validate a voter’s qualifications. Does this concern you?**
  - A. **Press 1** for yes.
  - B. **Press 2** for no.
  - C. **Press 3** if you are not sure.
  
- 4. Should a college student from out of state who chooses to vote in Vermont elections be required to demonstrate an intention to become a permanent Vermont resident in order to do so, such as getting a Vermont driver’s license, as state law implies?**
  - A. **Press 1** if you think the state should start enforcing this law.
  - B. **Press 2** if you think the state should continue to ignore this law.
  - C. **Press 3** if you are not sure.
  
- 5. Do you think Town Clerks and other election officials have the capability to verify if an absentee ballot has actually been filled out by the voter of account, as opposed to a spouse, caregiver, campaign operative, etc.?**
  - A. **Press 1** if you think election officials can reliably determine if an absentee ballot was filled out by someone other than the identified voter.
  - B. **Press 2** if you think election officials really have no way of verifying who actually filled out an absentee ballot.
  - C. **Press 3** if you are not sure.
  
- 6. Over one third of all Vermont votes cast in the last election were by absentee ballot. What do you think the impact of more widespread use of absentee ballots, as opposed to voting in person at a polling place in the presence of election officials will be?**
  - A. **Press 1** if you think it increases the likelihood that fraudulent ballots will be submitted and counted.
  - B. **Press 2** if you think it decreases the likelihood of fraudulent ballots will be submitted and counted.



- C. **Press 3** if you think it doesn't impact levels of fraudulent ballots submitted and counted.
- D. **Press 4** if you are not sure.

**7. Vermont allows early voting to begin 45 days before election day. Do you think this is:**

- A. **Press 1** for too much time.
- B. **Press 2** for too little time.
- C. **Press 3** for the right amount of time.
- D. **Press 4** if you are not sure.

**8. How big a problem is it that voters who have moved away or died remain on the voter checklist for years and are not removed in a timely fashion.**

- A. **Press 1** for a very big problem.
- B. **Press 2** for a minor problem.
- C. **Press 3** for not a problem at all.
- D. **Press 4** if you think it's a good thing.

**9. Do you think vote fraud occurs in Vermont?**

- A. **Press 1** if you think it does to a significant degree.
- B. **Press 2** if you think it does, but not to a significant degree.
- C. **Press 3** if you think it doesn't occur at all.
- D. **Press 4** if you are not sure.

**10. Does the possibility of vote fraud discourage you from voting?**

- A. **Press 1** if it DOES discourage you from voting.
- B. **Press 2** if it DOES NOT discourage you from voting.





## Appendix B – Results Tables

<b>Unweighted Results</b>					
Question	Resposne	Count	%	Responses	MOE 90%
<b>Voting Likelihood</b>	Definitely	315	84%	<b>374</b>	<b>0.034</b>
	Probably	21	6%		
	ProbNot	29	8%		
	NotVoting	9	2%		
<b>ID</b>	YES	228	69%	<b>331</b>	<b>0.050</b>
	NO	71	21%		
	NotSure	32	10%		
<b>Same Day</b>	YES	141	46%	<b>308</b>	<b>0.069</b>
	NO	121	39%		
	NotSure	46	15%		
<b>College Students</b>	Enforce	154	52%	<b>294</b>	<b>0.066</b>
	Ignore	97	33%		
	NotSure	43	15%		
<b>Absentee Ballots</b>	YES	83	29%	<b>282</b>	<b>0.082</b>
	NO	145	51%		
	NotSure	54	19%		
<b>Absentee Voting</b>	MoreFraud	101	38%	<b>268</b>	<b>0.079</b>
	LessFraud	43	16%		
	NoImpact	90	34%		
	NotSure	34	13%		
<b>Early Voting</b>	TooMuch	88	34%	<b>260</b>	<b>0.083</b>
	TooLittle	11	4%		
	Right	121	47%		
	NotSure	40	15%		
<b>Voter Checklist</b>	Significant	127	50%	<b>254</b>	<b>0.073</b>
	NotSig	83	33%		
	NoIssue	36	14%		
	GoodThing	8	3%		
<b>Fraud Occurance</b>	Significant	66	26%	<b>252</b>	<b>0.104</b>
	NotSig	107	42%		
	NoIssue	46	18%		
	NotSure	33	13%		
<b>Voter Discourageme</b>	Yes	12	5%	<b>250</b>	<b>0.104</b>
	No	238	95%		
<b>Age Group</b>	1830	5	2%	<b>246</b>	
	3145	20	8%		
	4660	65	26%		
	6175	99	40%		
	76plus	57	23%		
<b>Gender</b>	Male	88	36%	<b>245</b>	
	Female	147	60%		
	Other	10	4%		

<b>Weighted Results</b>			
Question	Response	Percentage	Total
<b>Voting Likelihood</b>	Definitely	83%	<b>702.703</b>
	Probably	5%	
	ProbNot	9%	
	NotVoting	3%	
<b>ID</b>	YES	71%	<b>616.703</b>
	NO	20%	
	NotSure	9%	
<b>Same Day</b>	YES	46%	<b>570.703</b>
	NO	40%	
	NotSure	15%	
<b>College Students</b>	Enforce	55%	<b>542.703</b>
	Ignore	32%	
	NotSure	14%	
<b>Absentee Ballots</b>	YES	28%	<b>518.703</b>
	NO	53%	
	NotSure	20%	
	MoreFraud	41%	
<b>Absentee Voting</b>	LessFraud	15%	<b>490.703</b>
	NoImpact	33%	
	NotSure	11%	
	TooMuch	33%	
<b>Early Voting</b>	TooLittle	4%	<b>474.703</b>
	Right	47%	
	NotSure	16%	
	Significant	53%	
<b>Voter Checklist</b>	NotSig	31%	<b>462.703</b>
	NoIssue	14%	
	GoodThing	2%	
	Significant	30%	
<b>Fraud Occurance</b>	NotSig	44%	<b>458.703</b>
	NoIssue	16%	
	NotSure	10%	
	Yes	6%	
<b>Voter Discouragement</b>	No	94%	<b>454.703</b>