

Methodology

The analysis in this post is based on telephone interviews conducted Jan. 8 to 13, 2020 among a national sample of 1,504 adults ages 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (301 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone and 1,203 were interviewed on a cellphone, including 839 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers under the direction of Abt Associates. A combination of landline and cellphone random-digit-dial samples was used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International LLC. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cellphone sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. The weighting procedure corrected for the different sampling rates. See [this page](#) for detailed information about our survey methodology.

The combined landline and cellphone sample is weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity, and region to parameters from the Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey one-year estimates and population density to parameters from the decennial census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status (landline only, cellphone only, or both landline and cellphone), based on extrapolations from the 2018 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landlines and cellphones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost in the weighting procedures.

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus ...
All U.S. adults	1,504	3.0 percentage points
Catholic	270	7.0 percentage points
White evangelical Protestant	270	7.0 percentage points
White Protestant, not evangelical	208	8.0 percentage points
Unaffiliated	406	5.7 percentage points
<i>Among Catholics</i>		
Republican/lean Republican	132	10 percentage points
Democrat/lean Democratic	112	10.8 percentage points
Attend Mass weekly or more	100	11.5 percentage points
Attend Mass less Often	168	8.8 percentage points

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Pew Research Center undertakes all polling activity, including calls to mobile telephone numbers, in compliance with the Telephone Consumer Protection Act and other applicable laws.

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