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# POLL: New Hampshire voters trust voting machines, support greater voter access

To better understand New Hampshire voters' views on election processes and administration, The Saint Anselm College Survey Center conducted a statewide survey of general election voters on behalf of Secure Democracy Foundation. Our findings, summarized below, show broad consensus around election security, administration, and accessibility.

## Election Security & Administration

### New Hampshire voters trust voting machines over hand counts

The poll found that **72% of New Hampshire voters support using secure tabulation equipment** to achieve accurate election results more quickly than a hand count. Secure tabulation equipment is supported by a majority of Republicans (55%), undeclared voters (69%), Democrats (92%), and voters older than 65 (78%).

Not only do New Hampshire voters support the use of secure tabulation equipment – they also see potential harm in requiring ballots to be counted by hand instead. **60% of New Hampshire voters believe that mandating hand counts could open the door for human error or corruption**, including 66% of Democrats, 53% Republicans, and 59% of undeclared voters.

### New Hampshire voters strongly support post-election audits to confirm results

According to the poll, **84% of New Hampshire voters support requiring election officials to conduct post-election audits to confirm that votes were tabulated accurately**. Support for post-election audits spans all party affiliations – including 77% of Democrats, 91% of Republicans, and 84% of undeclared voters.

## New Hampshire voters strongly support voter list maintenance through ERIC

According to the poll, **three in four voters believe New Hampshire should join the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC)** – a nonpartisan multi-state program designed to help states keep their voter rolls up-to-date. Significant support for ERIC spans all party affiliations (Republican: 63%, undeclared: 74%, Democrat: 87%), age groups, and regions of the state.

## New Hampshire voters support measures to speed up reporting of election results

The poll found that **61% of New Hampshire voters support allowing local election officials to open, verify, and process absentee ballots before Election Day** in order to get faster results. Forty states currently have such a process in place – including Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.

## Voter Access

### New Hampshire voters want opportunities to vote before Election Day

New Hampshire is one of three states that does not allow eligible voters to vote early, in-person, before Election Day. The poll found that **61% of New Hampshire voters believe the state should offer in-person early voting**. Notably, support for early voting spans all age groups and the four major regions of the state – including the North Country & Lakes (68%), Monadnock & Dartmouth (64%), the Merrimack Valley (59%), and the Seacoast & border (60%).

### New Hampshire voters want opportunities to fix minor mistakes on their ballot

Thirty-two states – including Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island – allow voters to fix minor mistakes, such as a missing signature, on their absentee ballot envelope. New Hampshire does not currently provide such an option. According to the poll, **73% of New Hampshire voters believe election officials should be able to contact voters and provide them the opportunity to correct minor mistakes on their ballot**. Support for this policy spans all party affiliations (Republican: 57%, undeclared: 71%, Democrat: 90%), age groups, and regions of the state.

### New Hampshire voters support electronic ballot return for overseas military voters & their spouses

The poll found **eight in 10 New Hampshire voters believe active duty military personnel stationed overseas should be able to cast their ballot electronically**. The poll additionally shows that **73% of New Hampshire voters believe the option should be available for military spouses and dependents** living overseas, as well. Support for both policies spans all party affiliations, age groups, and regions of the state.

### Methodology

These results are from a Saint Anselm College Survey Center poll based on online surveys of 2,304 New Hampshire likely voters. Surveys were conducted between November 8-9, 2023, from cell phone users randomly drawn from a sample of registered voters reflecting the demographic and partisan characteristics of the voting population. The survey has an overall margin of sampling error of +/- 2.0% with a confidence interval of 95%. The margin of sampling error for both the Democratic and Republican breakouts is 3.0%. The data are weighted for age, gender, geography, and education based on a voter demographic model derived from historical voting patterns, but are not weighted by party registration or party identification. This [survey](#) was commissioned by Secure Democracy Foundation.

### About Secure Democracy Foundation

Secure Democracy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that produces research and analysis focused on voting and elections. We work to educate the public on how our election systems are secure and trustworthy.