

PRRI/The Atlantic 2016 Post-election White Working Class Survey
Total = 1,162 (540 Landline, 622 Cell phone)
November 9 – 20, 2016

Thinking about the presidential election this year...

Q.1 A lot of people have been telling us they didn't get a chance to vote in this election or they chose not to vote. How about you... did things come up that kept you from voting, did you CHOOSE not to vote, OR did you happen to vote?

74	Yes, voted
6	No, didn't get a chance to vote
14	No, chose not to vote
6	Not eligible to vote (VOL.)
*	Attempted to vote but could not (VOL.)
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

IF ELIGIBLE BUT DID NOT VOTE (Q1=2,3,5), ASK [N=148]:

Q.2 What was the most important reason you did not vote this year? Was it because you... **[RANDOMIZE]**

36	Didn't like the candidates
11	Believe the election system is rigged
23	Didn't have enough time
21	Weren't registered to vote
2	Believe your vote doesn't count/won't make a difference (VOL.)
7	Other [SPECIFY—VOL.]
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

IF VOTED OR ATTEMPTED TO VOTE (Q1=1,5) ASK [N=972]:

Q.3 Did you have any problems or difficulties voting this year?

Nov. 2016	Nov. 2014 ¹	
3	12	Yes
97	87	No
0	*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	Total

¹ Question was asked of all Americans in 2014.

NO QUESTION 4**IF VOTED (Q1=1), ASK [N=969]:**

Q.5 Most people cast their votes on Election Day, but many were able to vote before Election Day. What about you? Did you vote ON Election Day or BEFORE Election Day?

<u>Nov.</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Nov.</u> <u>2014</u>	<u>Nov.</u> <u>2012</u>	<u>Nov.</u> <u>2010</u>	
63	65	64	70	On Election Day
37	35	36	30	Before Election Day
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	100	Total

IF VOTED (Q1=1), ASK [N=969]:

Q.6 Did you happen to vote for [INSERT; RANDOMIZE], [INSERT], or some other candidate?

[INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT SAYS "some other candidate" ASK TO SPECIFY]

45	Hillary Clinton, the Democrat
41	Donald Trump, the Republican
2	Gary Johnson (VOL.)
*	Jill Stein (VOL.)
1	Evan McMullin (VOL.)
7	Other candidate
0	Did not vote (VOL.)
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

IF MARRIED OR LIVING WITH PARTNER (MARITAL=2,3), ASK [N=652]:

Thinking of your spouse or partner...

Q.7 Did your spouse or partner vote for **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**, **[INSERT]**, some other candidate or were they not able to vote?

[INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT SAYS “some other candidate” ASK TO SPECIFY]

28	Hillary Clinton, the Democrat
33	Donald Trump, the Republican
*	Gary Johnson (VOL.)
*	Jill Stein (VOL.)
1	Evan McMullin (VOL.)
5	Other candidate
21	Did not vote
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.8 Which of the following best describes how you feel about the outcome of this election? **[READ & RANDOMIZE]**

<u>Nov.</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Nov.</u> <u>2014</u>	<u>Nov.</u> <u>2012</u>	<u>Nov.</u> <u>2010</u>	
23	34	31	41	Satisfied
19	10	22	9	Excited
19	23	20	21	Disappointed
26	20	23	18	Worried
5	2	2	3	Angry
2	4	-	-	Don't care/Makes no difference (VOL.)
4	2	1	2	Other [SPECIFY—VOL.]
<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	100	Total

Q.9 Do you think Donald Trump's position on immigration and immigrants helped or hurt him in the 2016 election, or do you think it did not make a difference in the election?

48	Helped him
13	Hurt him
32	Made no difference
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.10 What is the MOST serious problem with our current election system? **[READ; RANDOMIZE]**

24	Wealthy individuals and corporations have too much influence
33	The media is biased against certain candidates
16	Too few people vote in elections
7	Laws that make it difficult for some people to vote
6	Widespread voter fraud
4	Electoral College (VOL.)
5	Other [SPECIFY—VOL.]
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.11 Which of the following statements comes closest to your own view – even if neither is exactly right? **[ROTATE OPTIONS]**

63	This election shows just how divided our country has become
32	Elections always make the country seem more divided than it really is
3	Neither/Both equally (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

PROGRAMMING INSTRUCTIONS: ROTATE Q12 AND Q13

Thinking about the two political parties...

Q.12 Do you feel that the policies of the Democratic Party generally move the country in the right direction, are somewhat misguided but not dangerous, or are they so misguided they pose a serious threat to the country?

29	Right direction
35	Misguided but not dangerous
29	Pose a serious threat
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

And...

Q.13 Do you feel that the policies of the Republican Party generally move the country in the right direction, are somewhat misguided but not dangerous, or are they so misguided they pose a serious threat to the country?

28	Right direction
37	Misguided but not dangerous
30	Pose a serious threat
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

On a different topic...

Q.14 Which do you think is the best way to promote economic growth in the U.S.?

[READ; ROTATE STATEMENTS]

<u>Nov.</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Aug.</u> <u>2014</u>	<u>June</u> <u>2013</u>	
38	43	41	Lower taxes on individuals and businesses and pay for those tax cuts by cutting spending on some government services and programs
56	51	54	Spend more on education and the nation's infrastructure, and raise taxes on wealthy individuals and businesses to pay for that spending
3	3	3	Neither/Both equally (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	Total

Q.15 Now, as I read some statements on a few different topics, please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree or completely disagree with each one. (First/Next) **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**.

a. The federal government has far too much influence in our daily lives

37	Completely agree
30	Mostly agree
23	Mostly disagree
9	Completely disagree
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Things have changed so much that I often feel like a stranger in my own country

<u>Nov.</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>2016</u>	
19	17	Completely agree
27	24	Mostly agree
29	30	Mostly disagree
24	27	Completely disagree
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	Total

c. Efforts to increase diversity almost always comes at the expense of whites

12	Completely agree
22	Mostly agree
31	Mostly disagree
30	Completely disagree
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Society as a whole has become too soft and feminine

<u>Nov.</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>April</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Oct.</u> <u>2011</u>	
22	20	16	15	Completely agree
22	22	26	23	Mostly agree
24	30	29	33	Mostly disagree
30	23	24	26	Completely disagree
<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	100	Total

e. This election was our last chance to stop America's decline

19	Completely agree
22	Mostly agree
28	Mostly disagree
29	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

f. Immigrants today think of themselves as Americans just as much as immigrants from earlier eras did

<u>Nov.</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Feb.</u> <u>2013</u>	
23	19	Completely agree
37	40	Mostly agree
22	23	Mostly disagree
11	13	Completely disagree
<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	Total

Q.16 Thinking about some of the problems facing communities in the U.S. today, please say whether any of the following are problems in your own community. First... **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]** Would you say this is a major problem, a minor problem or not a problem in your community?

a. Alcoholism and alcohol abuse

32	Major problem
51	Minor problem
16	Not a problem
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Drug abuse and addiction

51	Major problem
35	Minor problem
13	Not a problem
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. Hunger and poverty

33	Major problem
43	Minor problem
23	Not a problem
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.17 Looking ahead, do you think the quality of life in your local community will likely get better, get worse or stay about the same?

28	Get better
18	Get worse
51	Stay about the same
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Survey Methodology

The survey was designed and conducted by PRRI in partnership with The Atlantic. The survey was made possible by generous grants from Open Society Foundations and the Ford Foundation. Results of the survey were based on 1,162 callback telephone interviews with respondents from the pre-election White Working Class Survey that was fielded September 22 through October 9, 2016 among a national random sample of 3,043 adults 18 years of age or older in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii. Within households, respondents were identified using initials or first name that was provided during the pre-election interview. For respondents who refused to provide a name, gender and age were used to identify the correct respondent in the household. For the post-election survey, telephone interviews were conducted in both Spanish and English between November 9 and November 20, 2016, by professional interviewers under the supervision of SSRS.

The weighting is accomplished in two separate stages. The first stage of weighting corrects for different probabilities of selection associated with the number of adults in each household and each respondent's telephone usage patterns.² In the second stage, sample demographics are balanced to match target population parameters for gender, age, education, race and Hispanic ethnicity, region (U.S. Census definitions), population density and telephone usage. The population density parameter was derived from Census 2010 data. The telephone usage parameter came from an analysis of the July-December 2015 National Health Interview Survey. All other weighting parameters are derived from an analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's May 2016 Current Population Survey.

The sample weighting is accomplished using an iterative proportional fitting (IFP) process that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables. Weights were trimmed to prevent individual interviews from having too much influence on the final results. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target populations.

The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.6 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. The survey included a subsample of 969 voters. The margin of error for the subsample of voters is +/- 3.9 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. The design effect for the survey is 1.6. In addition to sampling error, surveys may also be subject to error or bias due to question wording, context and order effects.

² Telephone usage refers to whether respondents have only a landline telephone, only a cell phone, or both types.

Appendix

Table 1. Demographic, Political, and Religious Subgroup Sample Sizes

(All figures are unweighted)

	General <u>Public</u>
Total Sample	1162
Male	583
Female	579
Democrat	369
Independent	414
Republican	315
2016 voter	969
Clinton voter	432
Trump voter	422
White, non-Hispanic	830
Black, non-Hispanic	116
Hispanic	110
White working class	369
White college educated	346
Age 18-29	132
30-49	266
50-64	340
65+	422
White evangelical Protestant	227
White mainline Protestant	168
Non-white Protestant	154
Catholic	250
<i>White Catholic</i>	<i>180</i>
Religiously unaffiliated	211