



## Search Results for Google

 [Print this Release](#)

August 24, 2007 01:40 PM Eastern Daylight Time

### **Election Technology Council: Recent Polling Confirms Voter Confidence Remains Steady**

HOUSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Polling Data released yesterday by the Field Research Corporation shows that voters remain confident with the accuracy of the voting process.

Approximately 82% of California respondents in the new poll express confidence in the accuracy of the vote counting process. Given the recent actions by the California Secretary of State to decertify electronic voting systems based on findings from a review process with questionable methodology that did not take into account the many security procedures and processes employed by California's election officials, it is striking that the overwhelming majority of respondents remain confident in the voting process.

The latest polling data are a reflection of a steady confidence level of voters over the past few years. In 2004, a CNN poll registered voter confidence at a level of 89%<sup>1</sup>. In 2006, the Pew Research Institute revealed a confidence level of 87%<sup>2</sup>. In 2006, the Collins Center for Public Policy issued survey data for the State of Florida reflecting an overall confidence level of 85% from 2002 through 2006<sup>3</sup>.

Also this week, researchers from the University of New Mexico, Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project and University of Utah released polling data from the November 2006 election in Colorado and New Mexico suggesting a voter confidence level of 86 and 82% respectively<sup>4</sup>.

All of these findings reveal a steady trend of voter confidence in the vote tabulation and counting process. Michelle Shafer, Chairperson of the Election Technology Council, had this to say regarding this trend, "There is clear evidence now that voters are comfortable with the voting systems currently deployed whether they are paper-based voting systems or electronic voting systems. The industry certainly understands the perceptions that continue to persist, but it is clearly evident that the data continues to point to these concerns as being from a vocal minority and not an issue plaguing America as some would suggest. We must continue to move forward and work together – election officials, election technology providers, the academic community, voting reform advocates and voters – to improve voter confidence through pollworker training, voter education, enhanced election procedures, the continuous evolution of voting technology and constructive dialogue."

David Beirne, Executive Director for the Election Technology Council, had this to say, "Despite continuing attempts to drive fear into voters regarding electronic voting systems, voters understand that new technologies are a part of their daily lives. To discount the many benefits of electronic voting systems – accessibility, accuracy, security, redundancy in data storage, durability, auditability, multilingual capacity, etc. – is an insult to the public as they understand that improvements can be made without jeopardizing forward progress. It is a laudable goal to pursue a higher level of voter confidence, and our industry is, has been and always will be committed to this endeavor."

A copy of this report by the Field Research Corporation can be downloaded at <http://www.field.com/fieldpollonline/subscribers/RIs2240.pdf>.

**About the Election Technology Council ([www.electiontech.org](http://www.electiontech.org))**

The Election Technology Council (ETC) consists of companies that offer voting system technology hardware products, software and services to support the electoral process. The ETC represents manufacturers of the voting equipment used by over 90% of the population in the United States. These companies have organized as an industry trade association to work together to address common issues facing the industry. Membership in the ETC is open to any company in the election systems marketplace. Current members of the Election Technology Council include Advanced Voting Systems, Election Systems & Software, Hart InterCivic, Premier Election Solutions and Sequoia Voting Systems.

1 <http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2004/pages/results/states/CA/P/00/epolls.0.html>

2 <http://people-press.org/reports/display.php3?ReportID=291>

3 [http://www.collinscenter.org/usr\\_doc/2006\\_Vot\\_Sat\\_Doc.pdf](http://www.collinscenter.org/usr_doc/2006_Vot_Sat_Doc.pdf)

4 <http://vote2006.unm.edu/NMsummary.htm>

#### Contacts

*Election Technology Council,  
Houston  
David Beirne, Executive  
Director, 713-896-9292  
Cell: 281-772-4548  
[dbeirne@electiontech.org](mailto:dbeirne@electiontech.org)*

Sharing 



[Digg](#)



[del.icio.us](#)



[Newsvine](#)



[Reddit](#)

 [Print this Release](#)