



## 2022 Accuracy Report Methodology

### Calculation of Number of Polls

Many of our surveys ask about more than one election and we frequently run more than one survey for a given race during an election cycle. The number of polls quoted throughout this document refer to the total number of horse race questions asked. For example, the 33 congressional poll number for the last 45 days indicates that we asked a total of 33 congressional horse race questions across all of our conducted surveys although some surveys asked about more than one horse race and we polled the same race multiple times.

### Poll Timing

When measuring when a poll was completed for this document, we used the dates that the final set of crosstabs were generated. For example, we would classify a survey that was fielded from November 3 to 6th, 2022 and had final crosstabs created on November 7 as being completed 1 day before the election.

### Calculation of Error Metric

For this analysis, we used 538's [measure](#) of accuracy and calculated our deviation from the final margin of the top two candidates. While giving respondents an option to say that they are undecided in their candidate choice is vital when conducting a survey, when it comes to election day, only the votes of those that vote for one of the candidates are recorded. As such, when calculating the margin in our poll results, we standardize our prediction to include only those respondents who chose a candidate. A hypothetical example of how this works is given below.

	Final election result	Poll results	Standardized Poll Results
Candidate A	51.1	49.8	51.4
Candidate B	46.9	43.8	45.2
Candidate C	2.0	3.3	3.4
Undecided		3.1	
<b>Margin</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.2</b>

For the final calculation of error, we use the standardized results that exclude undecided voters. Since the final margin between candidate A and B was 4.2 percentage points and the margin in the normalized poll results was 6.2 percentage points, we would record an absolute error of 2.0 percentage points for this poll.