Your task for this discussion is as follows:

1. Visit the website [pollingreport.com](http://www.pollingreport.com/) or any other public opinion polling site and find a poll that interests you personally or professionally.
2. Give the topic of the poll, the sample size, and margin of error.
3. Explain what the margin of error means for this poll, based on the formula for the margin of error.
4. Describe at least one confidence interval of the poll by providing its endpoints and interpret what it means in this example.

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NBC News and the Wall Street Journal held a poll between April 28-May 1, 2019 conducted by Hart Research Associates (D) and Public Opinion Strategies (R) on federal government priorities (Polling Report, Inc., 2020). The poll sample size was 900 adults and the margin of error was ± 3.3.

The poll asked: "Let me list some issues that have been proposed for the federal government to address. Please tell me which ONE OR TWO of these items you think should be the top priority for the federal government: Health care. Immigration and border security. Job creation and economic growth. National security and terrorism. Climate change. The deficit and government spending. Guns. Trade agreements with other countries." If only one choice: "And, which of these issues do you think should be the second highest priority for the federal government to address (Polling Report, Inc., 2020)?"

The margin of error as described by the following formula indicates how much we can expect the sample to vary from the population.

*margin of error = z \**

For a 95% confidence interval, the z-value is 1.96, *n* is the sample size of 900, and the sample proportion is 0.42 for “Health care” as the highest first and second priority (Polling Report, Inc., 2020).

The confidence interval for this proportion is calculated as such, with the significance level, *α*, at 0.05, the sample proportion of successes, at 0.42*,* and the sample proportion of failures,at 0.58 (Holmes et al., 2018):

*\**

The resulting confidence interval is (0.3875, 0.4530) meaning we estimate with 95% confidence that 38.75% to 45.30% of adults nationwide believe that health care should be the first or second highest priority for the federal government to address.

References

Holmes, A., Illowsky, B., & Dean, S. (2018). *Introductory Business Statistics* (1st ed.). OpenStax.

Polling Report, Inc. (2020). *Problems and Priorities*. PollingReport.com. Retrieved November 5, 2020, from <https://www.pollingreport.com/prioriti.htm>