

Calculations

Margin of Error $d = t \cdot \sqrt{p \cdot q / n}$ t is 1.96 for sample size >120, used conservative p and q of .5, n= sample size of 176
 $d = 1.96 \cdot \sqrt{.5 \cdot .5 / 176}$
d= 0.07387028
d= 7.39%

To achieve a Margin of Error of 5% a sample size of 385 would have been required:

$n = t^2 \cdot p \cdot q / d^2$ Same as above but assuming d=.05 and solving for n
 $n = 1.96^2 \cdot .5 \cdot .5 / .05^2$
n=385 (384.16 rounded up) 2.19 times our response rate or surveys sent number to achieve this level of error

Response Rate
Requests mailed = 1005 (501 water bill, 504 RecTrac)
Requests returned/rejected = water bill (2 RTS [return to sender], 1 deceased) 3 + RecTrac (41 RTS, 4 duplicates from water bill) 45 = 48
Potential requests = 501+504-3-45 = 957
Responses received 176
Response rate 0.18390805
18.39%

Typical external survey response rates are 10-15% according to www.surveymonkey.com so we received above average response rate