



**Marist College Institute for Public Opinion**  
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# **McClatchy-Marist Poll National Survey April 20, 2011**

## How the Survey was Conducted

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### **Nature of the Sample: National Poll of 1,274 Adults**

This survey of 1,274 adults was conducted on April 10<sup>th</sup> through April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in the continental United States were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region was represented in proportion to its population. To increase coverage, this land-line sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers. The two samples were then combined. Results are statistically significant within  $\pm 3.0$  percentage points. There are 559 drivers. Results for this subset are statistically significant within  $\pm 4.5$  percentage points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

## Nature of the Sample: Adults

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Nature of the Sample - National Adults		
		National Adults
		Col %
National Adults		100%
Registered Voters		80%
Region	Northeast	19%
	Midwest	22%
	South	37%
	West	22%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	51%
	\$50,000 or more	49%
Race	White	67%
	African American	10%
	Latino	11%
	Other	11%
Race	White	67%
	Non-white	33%
Age	Under 45	40%
	45 or older	60%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	20%
	Gen X (31-46)	24%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	37%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	19%
Gender	Men	49%
	Women	51%
Interview Type	Landline	74%
	Cell Phone	26%

Marist Poll National Adults: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1274 MOE +/- 3%.  
Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

# **Section 1: Foreign Policy & Libya**

## President Obama's Handling of Foreign Policy

*Asked of Registered Voters:*

**Question Wording:** Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling foreign policy?

		Registered Voters		
		Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling foreign policy?		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		46%	48%	6%
Party ID	Democrat	72%	22%	6%
	Republican	16%	79%	5%
	Independent	46%	48%	6%
Tea Party Supporters		21%	75%	4%
Political Ideology	Liberal	66%	26%	8%
	Moderate	54%	42%	5%
	Conservative	28%	66%	6%
Region	Northeast	46%	44%	9%
	Midwest	48%	48%	5%
	South	45%	50%	5%
	West	48%	46%	6%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	45%	47%	8%
	\$50,000 or more	47%	49%	4%
Education	Not college graduate	42%	50%	7%
	College graduate	52%	44%	4%
Age	Under 45	56%	40%	4%
	45 or older	42%	52%	6%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	56%	36%	8%
	Gen X (31-46)	52%	46%	2%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	45%	50%	5%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	38%	53%	8%
Race	White	40%	54%	6%
	Non-white	62%	32%	7%
Gender	Men	48%	47%	5%
	Women	45%	48%	7%
Interview Type	Landline	45%	49%	7%
	Cell Phone	52%	43%	5%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1084 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

## President Obama's Handling of Foreign Policy (Over time)

*Asked of Registered Voters:*

**Question Wording:** Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling foreign policy?

	Registered Voters		
	Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling foreign policy?		
	Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %
April 2011	46%	48%	6%
November 2010	44%	47%	9%
June 2009	54%	32%	14%
April 2009	55%	24%	21%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters

## President Obama's Handling of the Situation in Libya

*Asked of Registered Voters:*

**Question Wording:** Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling the situation in Libya?

		Registered Voters		
		Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling the situation in Libya?		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		44%	46%	10%
Party ID	Democrat	63%	28%	9%
	Republican	26%	66%	8%
	Independent	42%	48%	10%
Tea Party Supporters		32%	62%	6%
Political Ideology	Liberal	59%	33%	8%
	Moderate	52%	40%	8%
	Conservative	30%	60%	10%
Region	Northeast	42%	49%	9%
	Midwest	43%	49%	8%
	South	46%	45%	9%
	West	44%	44%	12%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	43%	46%	10%
	\$50,000 or more	47%	45%	8%
Education	Not college graduate	39%	50%	10%
	College graduate	51%	40%	9%
Age	Under 45	53%	38%	9%
	45 or older	40%	50%	10%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	52%	38%	10%
	Gen X (31-46)	52%	38%	10%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	42%	52%	6%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	37%	49%	14%
Race	White	39%	50%	11%
	Non-white	56%	37%	7%
Gender	Men	46%	47%	7%
	Women	43%	46%	12%
Interview Type	Landline	42%	48%	10%
	Cell Phone	54%	40%	7%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1084 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

## Understand U.S. Involvement in Libya

*Asked of National Adults:*

**Question Wording:** Do you have a clear idea about what the U.S. is trying to do in Libya, or not?

		National Adults		
		Do you have a clear idea about what the U.S. is trying to do in Libya, or not?		
		Yes	No	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		42%	57%	1%
Registered Voters		46%	52%	2%
Party ID	Democrat	50%	46%	3%
	Republican	48%	50%	1%
	Independent	42%	58%	<1%
Tea Party Supporters		46%	53%	1%
Political Ideology	Liberal	62%	36%	2%
	Moderate	46%	51%	2%
	Conservative	42%	57%	1%
Region	Northeast	44%	52%	5%
	Midwest	34%	64%	1%
	South	40%	59%	1%
	West	51%	49%	<1%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	30%	68%	2%
	\$50,000 or more	54%	46%	1%
Education	Not college graduate	36%	62%	2%
	College graduate	51%	48%	1%
Age	Under 45	36%	62%	2%
	45 or older	45%	53%	1%
Race	White	41%	57%	1%
	Non-white	41%	57%	2%
Gender	Men	45%	54%	2%
	Women	39%	60%	1%
Interview Type	Landline	44%	54%	2%
	Cell Phone	35%	65%	<1%

Marist Poll National Adults Split Sample: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=645 MOE +/- 4%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.



## President Obama Clear Idea About U.S. Involvement in Libya

*Asked of National Adults:*

**Question Wording:** Do you think President Obama has a clear idea about what he wants the U.S. to do in Libya, or not?

		National Adults		
		Do you think President Obama has a clear idea about what he wants the U.S. to do in Libya, or not?		
		Yes	No	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		46%	47%	7%
Registered Voters		47%	48%	6%
Party ID	Democrat	69%	24%	6%
	Republican	27%	69%	4%
	Independent	43%	53%	4%
Tea Party Supporters		28%	68%	4%
Political Ideology	Liberal	66%	29%	5%
	Moderate	57%	38%	5%
	Conservative	31%	64%	5%
Region	Northeast	46%	49%	5%
	Midwest	45%	51%	5%
	South	46%	47%	7%
	West	47%	42%	10%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	43%	47%	10%
	\$50,000 or more	48%	47%	5%
Education	Not college graduate	44%	50%	6%
	College graduate	50%	43%	7%
Age	Under 45	49%	43%	8%
	45 or older	44%	51%	5%
Race	White	44%	50%	6%
	Non-white	51%	40%	9%
Gender	Men	47%	48%	4%
	Women	45%	46%	9%
Interview Type	Landline	45%	50%	6%
	Cell Phone	49%	41%	10%

Marist Poll National Adults Split Sample: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=645 MOE +/- 4%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

## **Section 2: Gasoline Prices**

## Change in Driving Habits Due to High Gasoline Prices

*Asked of National Drivers:*

**Question Wording:** Have you changed your driving habits because of the high gas prices?

		National Drivers		
		Have you changed your driving habits because of the high gas prices?		
		Yes	No	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Drivers		55%	45%	<1%
Registered Voters		53%	47%	<1%
Party ID	Democrat	54%	46%	<1%
	Republican	55%	45%	1%
	Independent	50%	50%	<1%
Tea Party Supporters		67%	33%	1%
Political Ideology	Liberal	46%	54%	<1%
	Moderate	50%	50%	<1%
	Conservative	59%	41%	<1%
Region	Northeast	48%	52%	<1%
	Midwest	61%	39%	<1%
	South	53%	47%	<1%
	West	57%	43%	<1%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	65%	35%	<1%
	\$50,000 or more	44%	56%	<1%
Education	Not college graduate	64%	36%	<1%
	College graduate	41%	59%	<1%
Age	Under 45	49%	51%	<1%
	45 or older	59%	41%	<1%
Race	White	55%	45%	<1%
	Non-white	53%	47%	<1%
Gender	Men	54%	46%	<1%
	Women	55%	45%	<1%
Interview Type	Landline	54%	46%	<1%
	Cell Phone	57%	43%	<1%

Marist Poll National Drivers Split Sample: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=559 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

## Blame for High Gasoline Prices

*Asked of National Adults:*

**Question Wording:** What do you think is most to blame for the high cost of gas today:

		National Adults					
		What do you think is most to blame for the high cost of gas today:					
		President Obama and the Democrats	U.S. oil companies	The turmoil in the Middle East	State and local taxes	The Republicans in Congress	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		11%	34%	36%	3%	7%	10%
National Drivers		11%	33%	36%	3%	6%	10%
Registered Voters		10%	38%	33%	3%	7%	9%
Party ID	Democrat	3%	44%	34%	3%	13%	5%
	Republican	22%	24%	37%	2%	<1%	14%
	Independent	10%	39%	33%	4%	7%	8%
Tea Party Supporters		22%	27%	38%	2%	4%	8%
Political Ideology	Liberal	3%	49%	30%	1%	9%	8%
	Moderate	6%	39%	40%	2%	5%	7%
	Conservative	20%	29%	30%	5%	6%	10%
Region	Northeast	9%	29%	38%	5%	9%	11%
	Midwest	15%	31%	34%	2%	8%	10%
	South	11%	36%	34%	3%	3%	13%
	West	8%	36%	38%	4%	9%	4%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	10%	34%	34%	4%	8%	11%
	\$50,000 or more	11%	38%	36%	4%	5%	6%
Education	Not college graduate	12%	33%	35%	4%	7%	9%
	College graduate	9%	36%	37%	3%	5%	10%
Age	Under 45	6%	35%	45%	2%	6%	5%
	45 or older	14%	33%	30%	4%	6%	13%
Race	White	14%	33%	36%	3%	3%	10%
	Non-white	4%	36%	35%	4%	12%	9%
Gender	Men	10%	36%	33%	3%	8%	9%
	Women	11%	32%	38%	3%	5%	10%
Interview Type	Landline	13%	36%	31%	3%	6%	12%
	Cell Phone	5%	29%	49%	4%	8%	4%

Marist Poll National Adults Split Sample: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=629 MOE +/- 4%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.