



## **Is Age Really Just a Number?**

\*\*\* Complete Tables for Poll Appended \*\*\*

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### **This Marist Poll Reports:**

The annual tradition continues! Every year at The Marist Poll, the Institute asks Americans whether or not Dr. Lee M. Miringoff's age is young, middle-aged, or old. This year, age 62 is on the block. So, what do Americans think? Nearly six in ten -- 59% -- think 62 is middle-aged. 28% believe the age is old while 13% say it's young.

Have the tides turned for Dr. Miringoff? Well, there's good news and bad news. First, the good news. There has been only a slight decline in the proportion of Americans who believe Miringoff's age is middle-aged. Last year, 63% described 61 as middle-aged. As for the bad news, there has been an increase in the proportion of adults nationally who think Miringoff's age is old. Last year, 22% said Miringoff's, then, age of 61 was old. 15% of residents, at that time, reported age 61 was young.

Like last year, a lot depends on the age of Americans themselves. Among residents 45 and older, 64% think 62 is middle-aged. 19% believe it is young, and 17% say it is old. Looking at those under 45 years old. Half -- 50% -- report 62 is middle-aged. 45% consider the age to be *old* while only 5% say 62 years of age is young.

## How the Survey was Conducted

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### **Nature of the Sample: Marist National Poll of 1,233 Adults**

This survey of 1,233 adults was conducted March 4<sup>th</sup> through March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013. 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 landline sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers. The two samples were then combined and balanced to reflect the 2010 census results for age, gender, income, race, and region. Results are statistically significant within  $\pm 2.8$  percentage points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

### Nature of the Sample

		National Adults
		Col %
National Adults		100%
Gender	Men	49%
	Women	51%
Age	Under 45	40%
	45 or older	60%
Age	18 to 29	18%
	30 to 44	22%
	45 to 59	29%
	60 or older	31%
Race	White	69%
	African American	11%
	Latino	14%
	Other	5%
Region	Northeast	18%
	Midwest	22%
	South	37%
	West	23%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	49%
	\$50,000 or more	51%
Education	Not college graduate	60%
	College graduate	40%
Interview Type	Landline	70%
	Cell Phone	30%

Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted March 4th through March 7th, 2013, N=1233 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points.

		National Adults		
		Do you think that a person who is 62 years old is young, middle-aged, or old?		
		Young	Middle-aged	Old
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		13%	59%	28%
Region	Northeast	18%	59%	23%
	Midwest	11%	65%	24%
	South	12%	56%	32%
	West	13%	57%	29%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	12%	59%	30%
	\$50,000 or more	14%	61%	25%
Education	Not college graduate	13%	56%	31%
	College graduate	14%	63%	23%
Age	Under 45	5%	50%	45%
	45 or older	19%	64%	17%
Age	18 to 29	2%	42%	56%
	30 to 44	7%	57%	36%
	45 to 59	11%	69%	21%
	60 or older	27%	60%	13%
Race	White	15%	61%	24%
	Non-white	10%	53%	37%
Gender	Men	9%	53%	38%
	Women	18%	64%	18%
Interview Type	Landline	16%	60%	24%
	Cell Phone	7%	55%	38%

Marist Poll National Adults: Interviews conducted March 4th through March 7th, 2013, N=1233 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.