



POLL MUST BE SOURCED:

McClatchy-Marist Poll*

**Views on Same-Sex Marriage:
Supporters Look to Feds, Opponents More to States**

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

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Contact: Lee M. Miringoff
Barbara L. Carvalho
Mary E. Griffith
Marist College
845.575.5050

This McClatchy-Marist Poll Reports:

A majority of Americans favor legalizing same-sex marriage, but there is little consensus about whether the decision should be made on the federal or state level. Supporters of legalizing same-sex marriage think the issue should be decided for the entire country by a federal law. Half of those who oppose it believe it should be determined by the states.

And, while Americans' position on legalizing same sex marriage is a driving factor in the debate, political party affiliation matters, too. Democrats are more likely to turn to the federal level, and Republicans look more to the states. Independents are closer to the Democrats on whether to seek federal or state action.

Support for same-sex marriage has grown significantly over the past decade. And, there has been a sea change in attitudes among Americans toward people who are gay over the past thirty years. Sexual orientation has become less of a societal taboo. More than seven in ten Americans personally know someone who is gay. And, for more than half of adults nationally, say their circle of friends, family, and colleagues now includes more people who are gay than a decade ago.

Most people believe it would make no difference to their vote if their party nominated someone who was gay. And, although about one in three parents would still be upset to learn their child was gay, there has been a major shift in attitudes and acceptance since the mid-1980s.

*All references to the survey must be sourced as "McClatchy-Marist Poll"

“You would be hard pressed to find an issue that’s had a bigger shift in public opinion over the last several decades than this one,” says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion.

Poll Points

- 51% of registered voters think the **decision to legalize same-sex marriage** should be made by federal law, 44% believe it is a state’s issue, and 6% are unsure.
- Support for a federal law to resolve the debate over same-sex marriage is being propelled by Americans who believe it should be legalized. Although a notable proportion of opponents are also looking to the federal government to settle the issue, 50% of Americans who oppose legalizing same-sex marriage believe it is a state matter.
- A partisan divide exists. 64% of Democrats and 52% of Independent voters favor a federal mandate. In contrast, 59% of Republicans want the issue to be decided at the state level.

Majority Supports Same-Sex Marriage

- When it comes to **support for legalizing same-sex marriage**, 54% of Americans either strongly favor or favor doing so. According to trend data from the Pew Research Center, support for gay marriage has been on an upswing, reaching a plurality of support among Americans in 2011 and majority support just last year in 2013.
- Attitudes about legalizing gay marriage fall along party lines with more than six in ten Democrats, 62%, favoring the action. A similar proportion of Republicans, 63%, are against it. Age also matters. 65% of Americans under 45 years of age support legalization of same-sex marriage compared with 44% of their older counterparts who share this view.
- More than one in ten Americans, 12%, has **changed their opinion on legalizing same-sex marriage**, favoring it now while opposing it previously. Only 1% now opposes allowing same-sex couples to marry when they once favored legalization.

Sea Change

- 71% of Americans **know someone who is gay**, and 52% of adults nationally say the **number of gay and lesbian people they know has grown** over the past ten years. This is especially true for younger Americans. When the Pew Research Center asked a similar question in 1999, only 39% of Americans said they had a friend, colleague, or family member who was gay.
- More than eight in ten adults, 83%, say **knowledge that a congressional candidate is gay or lesbian** would make no difference in how they vote. 14% would be less likely to cast their ballot for a gay or lesbian candidate. The *Los Angeles Times Poll* asked this question of Americans in 1985. At that time, 49% said

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- a candidate's sexual orientation would not make any difference in deciding their vote, and 47% reported they were less likely to cast their ballot if a candidate was gay.
- 62% of Americans would not be upset **if their child were gay**, including 48% who would not be upset at all and 14% who describe their reaction as not very upset. 35% of adults nationally would be upset if their child came out to them. This includes 13% of residents who would be very upset and 22% who would be somewhat upset. Age matters. 21% of Americans under 30 would be upset if their child shared this with them compared with about one-third of adults between 30 and 59 years of age and nearly half, 48%, of Americans 60 or older.
 - But, attitudes are significantly different than they were in 1985. In a *Los Angeles Times Poll*, conducted nearly thirty years ago, 89% of Americans said they would be troubled if their child was gay. In that earlier poll, 64% of Americans characterized their reaction as very upset and 25% were somewhat upset. Five percent said they would not be very upset, and only 4%, then, said they would not be upset at all.

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: McClatchy-Marist National Poll of 1,035 Adults

This survey of 1,035 adults was conducted August 4th through August 7th, 2014 by The Marist Poll sponsored in partnership with the McClatchy News Service. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in the continental United States were interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Landline telephone numbers were randomly selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation from ASDE Survey Sampler, Inc. 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 from Survey Sampling International. The two samples were then combined and balanced to reflect the 2010 Census results for age, gender, income, race, and region. Respondents in the household were selected by asking for the youngest male. Results are statistically significant within ± 3.0 percentage points. There are 806 registered voters. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 3.5 percentage points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

Nature of the Sample

		National Adults	National Registered Voters	
		Col %	Col %	
National Adults		100%		
National Registered Voters		78%	100%	
Party Identification	Democrat	n/a	28%	
	Republican	n/a	25%	
	Independent	n/a	45%	
	Other	n/a	2%	
Party Identification	Strong Democrats	n/a	17%	
	Not strong Democrats	n/a	11%	
	Democratic leaning independents	n/a	14%	
	Just Independents	n/a	12%	
	Republican leaning independents	n/a	18%	
	Not strong Republicans	n/a	10%	
	Strong Republicans	n/a	15%	
	Other	n/a	2%	
	Political Ideology	Very liberal	n/a	6%
		Liberal	n/a	16%
Moderate		n/a	36%	
Conservative		n/a	30%	
Very conservative		n/a	11%	
Tea Party Supporters		n/a	26%	
Republicans	Support Tea Party	n/a	40%	
	Do Not Support Tea Party	n/a	60%	
Gender	Men	50%	48%	
	Women	50%	52%	
Age	Under 45	43%	36%	
	45 or older	57%	64%	
Age	18 to 29	21%	14%	
	30 to 44	21%	22%	
	45 to 59	30%	32%	
	60 or older	27%	32%	
Race	White	66%	71%	
	African American	13%	12%	
	Latino	14%	11%	
	Other	7%	6%	
Region	Northeast	18%	18%	
	Midwest	22%	21%	
	South	37%	37%	
	West	23%	23%	
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	50%	46%	
	\$50,000 or more	50%	54%	
Education	Not college graduate	59%	54%	
	College graduate	41%	46%	
Marital Status	Married	50%	55%	
	Not married	50%	45%	
Interview Type	Landline	56%	61%	
	Cell phone	44%	39%	

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted August 4th through August 7th, 2014, n=1035 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. National Registered Voters: n=806 MOE +/- 3.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

		National Adults				
		Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally?				
		Strongly favor	Favor	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		27%	27%	19%	19%	9%
National Registered Voters		26%	25%	21%	20%	8%
Party Identification^	Democrat	38%	24%	19%	14%	6%
	Republican	11%	16%	30%	33%	10%
	Independent	27%	30%	16%	18%	9%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	44%	26%	10%	15%	5%
	Soft Democrats	36%	25%	23%	9%	6%
	Just Independents	24%	23%	19%	23%	12%
	Soft Republicans	18%	28%	20%	23%	11%
	Strong Republicans	6%	16%	30%	38%	10%
Tea Party Supporters		11%	20%	30%	32%	7%
Republicans	Support Tea Party	4%	20%	31%	36%	9%
	Do Not Support Tea Party	21%	26%	18%	23%	12%
Political Ideology^	Very liberal-Liberal	56%	25%	6%	8%	4%
	Moderate	25%	33%	20%	14%	8%
	Conservative-Very conservative	9%	18%	30%	32%	11%
Know Someone Gay	Yes	33%	28%	16%	15%	8%
	No	12%	24%	29%	28%	8%
Past 10 Years Know Someone Gay	More	29%	29%	18%	16%	8%
	Fewer	10%	21%	31%	29%	9%
	About the same	28%	28%	17%	20%	7%
Region	Northeast	37%	31%	11%	13%	8%
	Midwest	28%	21%	20%	21%	10%
	South	17%	27%	25%	21%	10%
	West	33%	28%	15%	18%	7%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	24%	27%	20%	20%	9%
	\$50,000 or more	28%	28%	18%	18%	7%
Education	Not college graduate	23%	26%	20%	20%	11%
	College graduate	33%	28%	19%	16%	5%
Race	White	26%	26%	21%	19%	9%
	African American	20%	33%	19%	24%	4%
	Latino	32%	26%	14%	16%	11%
Age	18 to 29	42%	33%	10%	8%	7%
	30 to 44	30%	25%	16%	22%	6%
	45 to 59	23%	26%	18%	22%	10%
	60 or older	15%	24%	30%	20%	11%
Age	Under 45	36%	29%	13%	15%	6%
	45 or older	19%	25%	24%	21%	10%
Gender	Men	21%	29%	20%	20%	10%
	Women	32%	24%	19%	17%	8%
Marital Status	Married	22%	25%	23%	21%	9%
	Not married	31%	29%	16%	15%	8%
Interview Type	Landline	23%	25%	23%	20%	8%
	Cell phone	31%	28%	15%	17%	9%

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^National Registered Voters: n=806 MOE +/- 3.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

Pew Research Center Trend					
Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally?					
	Strongly favor	Favor	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults					
February 12-26, 2014	24%	30%	20%	19%	7%
May 1-5, 2013 ²	21%	30%	22%	19%	8%
Mar 13-17, 2013	22%	27%	21%	22%	8%
Oct 24-28, 2012	22%	27%	21%	19%	11%
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	23%	25%	20%	24%	8%
Jun 7-17, 2012	23%	25%	21%	23%	9%
Apr 4-15, 2012	22%	25%	21%	22%	11%
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011		46%		44%	9%
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	20%	25%	21%	25%	9%
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	16%	27%	22%	26%	10%
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	17%	24%	24%	24%	10%
Aug 11-17, 2009	14%	25%	22%	31%	8%
Mid-April, 2009	14%	21%	23%	31%	11%
August, 2008	13%	26%	22%	30%	9%
June, 2008	15%	25%	21%	31%	8%
Late May, 2008	15%	23%	20%	29%	13%
November, 2007	12%	24%	25%	29%	10%
August, 2007	13%	23%	24%	31%	9%
Early January, 2007	13%	24%	22%	33%	8%
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	10%	20%	31%	26%	13%
July, 2006	12%	23%	25%	31%	9%
June, 2006	13%	20%	23%	32%	12%
March, 2006	10%	29%	23%	28%	10%
July, 2005	13%	23%	22%	31%	11%
December, 2004	14%	18%	23%	38%	7%
August, 2004	8%	21%	25%	35%	11%
July, 2004	10%	22%	23%	33%	12%
Mid-March, 2004	10%	22%	24%	35%	9%
Early February, 2004	9%	21%	21%	42%	7%
November, 2003	10%	20%	21%	41%	8%
October, 2003	9%	21%	25%	33%	12%
Mid-July, 2003	10%	28%	23%	30%	9%
March, 2001	8%	27%	23%	34%	8%
June, 1996	6%	21%	24%	41%	8%

²In May 1-5, 2013, Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012, Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011, July 21-Aug 5, 2010, Aug 11-17, 2009, August 2008, August 2007, Early January 2007, Early November 2006, March 2006, July 2005, December 2004, Early February 2004, November 2003, Mid-July 2003, March 2001 and June 1996 the question was asked as part of a list of items. In Jun 7-17, 2012, Apr 4-15, 2012, August 2009, April 2009, May 2008 and June 2008, the question read “allowing gay and lesbian couples;” all other instances read “allowing gays and lesbians.”

		National Adults				
		Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally? [Was there ever a time when you described yourself as opposed/in favor of same-sex marriage?]				
		Oppose same-sex				
		Favor same-sex marriage, never opposed	Favor same-sex marriage, but opposed in the past	marriage, but favored in the past	Oppose same-sex marriage, never favored	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		41%	12%	1%	36%	9%
National Registered Voters		38%	12%	2%	39%	9%
Party Identification^	Democrat	50%	12%	1%	30%	6%
	Republican	21%	6%	1%	62%	10%
	Independent	40%	17%	3%	30%	10%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	56%	14%	1%	25%	5%
	Soft Democrats	48%	13%	2%	29%	8%
	Just Independents	38%	8%	5%	36%	12%
	Soft Republicans	30%	16%	2%	41%	11%
	Strong Republicans	14%	8%	1%	67%	10%
Tea Party Supporters		20%	11%	0%	61%	7%
Republicans	Support Tea Party	12%	12%	0%	66%	10%
	Do Not Support Tea Party	33%	15%	2%	39%	12%
Political Ideology^	Very liberal-Liberal	70%	11%	1%	13%	5%
	Moderate	43%	15%	2%	31%	9%
	Conservative-Very conservative	17%	10%	1%	61%	11%
Know Someone Gay	Yes	47%	14%	1%	29%	9%
	No	27%	9%	1%	55%	8%
Past 10 Years Know Someone Gay	More	43%	15%	2%	32%	9%
	Fewer	23%	8%	4%	55%	10%
	About the same	46%	9%	1%	37%	7%
Region	Northeast	56%	12%	3%	21%	8%
	Midwest	41%	8%	2%	39%	10%
	South	30%	14%	1%	45%	10%
	West	46%	13%	1%	32%	8%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	40%	11%	2%	38%	9%
	\$50,000 or more	42%	14%	2%	34%	8%
Education	Not college graduate	37%	12%	1%	39%	11%
	College graduate	48%	12%	2%	32%	6%
Race	White	41%	11%	1%	38%	9%
	African American	40%	14%	4%	38%	5%
	Latino	44%	15%	1%	29%	11%
Age	18 to 29	60%	15%	1%	16%	8%
	30 to 44	47%	9%	1%	37%	6%
	45 to 59	38%	11%	3%	37%	10%
	60 or older	26%	13%	1%	49%	12%
Age	Under 45	53%	12%	1%	27%	7%
	45 or older	32%	12%	2%	43%	11%
Gender	Men	36%	14%	1%	38%	10%
	Women	46%	11%	1%	34%	8%
Marital Status	Married	34%	12%	2%	43%	9%
	Not married	49%	12%	1%	30%	9%
Interview Type	Landline	36%	12%	1%	41%	9%
	Cell phone	47%	12%	2%	29%	10%

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*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

		National Adults		
		Do you think the laws on whether same-sex marriage is legal or not should be decided by each state or should it be decided for the entire country by a federal law?		
		Decided by each state	Decided for the entire country by federal law	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		43%	50%	7%
National Registered Voters		44%	51%	6%
Party Identification^	Democrat	32%	64%	4%
	Republican	59%	36%	5%
	Independent	41%	52%	7%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	24%	71%	4%
	Soft Democrats	32%	63%	5%
	Just Independents	38%	46%	16%
	Soft Republicans	54%	43%	3%
Tea Party Supporters	Strong Republicans	63%	30%	6%
	Support Tea Party	62%	32%	6%
Republicans	Do Not Support Tea Party	71%	25%	4%
		49%	47%	4%
Political Ideology^	Very liberal-Liberal	21%	76%	2%
	Moderate	41%	52%	7%
	Conservative-Very conservative	59%	35%	6%
Know Someone Gay	Yes	43%	51%	6%
	No	42%	50%	8%
Past 10 Years Know Someone Gay	More	42%	54%	4%
	Fewer	46%	47%	6%
	About the same	45%	48%	7%
Same-Sex Marriage	Strongly favor-Favor	37%	59%	4%
	Oppose-Strongly oppose	50%	42%	8%
Region	Northeast	37%	57%	7%
	Midwest	37%	55%	8%
	South	47%	46%	8%
	West	47%	49%	5%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	43%	51%	6%
	\$50,000 or more	43%	52%	5%
Education	Not college graduate	43%	49%	9%
	College graduate	43%	53%	4%
Race	White	45%	47%	8%
	African American	37%	62%	2%
	Latino	34%	61%	6%
Age	18 to 29	47%	47%	6%
	30 to 44	37%	57%	6%
	45 to 59	42%	51%	7%
	60 or older	42%	49%	9%
Age	Under 45	42%	52%	6%
	45 or older	42%	50%	8%
Gender	Men	42%	52%	7%
	Women	44%	49%	7%
Marital Status	Married	45%	50%	6%
	Not married	41%	51%	8%
Interview Type	Landline	41%	52%	7%
	Cell phone	45%	48%	6%

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*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

National Adults

If your party nominated a well-qualified person for Congress, and you heard he or she was gay or lesbian, would that make you more likely to vote for that candidate, less likely, or wouldn't it make any difference one way or the other?

		More likely	Less likely	No difference	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		2%	14%	83%	1%
National Registered Voters		2%	16%	82%	1%
Party Identification^	Democrat	3%	13%	84%	0%
	Republican	1%	30%	67%	2%
	Independent	2%	9%	89%	0%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	4%	11%	86%	0%
	Soft Democrats	2%	10%	88%	0%
	Just Independents	0%	10%	90%	0%
	Soft Republicans	2%	16%	81%	0%
	Strong Republicans	0%	33%	64%	3%
Tea Party Supporters		1%	23%	75%	1%
Republicans	Support Tea Party	0%	26%	72%	2%
	Do Not Support Tea Party	3%	19%	78%	1%
Political Ideology^	Very liberal-Liberal	3%	6%	91%	0%
	Moderate	1%	10%	89%	1%
	Conservative-Very conservative	1%	26%	72%	1%
Know Someone Gay	Yes	2%	9%	88%	1%
	No	2%	29%	68%	1%
Past 10 Years Know Someone Gay	More	2%	14%	84%	0%
	Fewer	2%	26%	72%	0%
	About the same	2%	12%	85%	1%
Region	Northeast	3%	9%	87%	1%
	Midwest	1%	16%	81%	2%
	South	1%	19%	79%	0%
	West	4%	9%	86%	0%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	3%	20%	77%	0%
	\$50,000 or more	1%	9%	90%	0%
Education	Not college graduate	2%	16%	81%	1%
	College graduate	1%	11%	87%	1%
Race	White	2%	15%	82%	1%
	African American	2%	13%	85%	0%
	Latino	2%	13%	85%	0%
Age	18 to 29	1%	7%	91%	1%
	30 to 44	2%	16%	81%	0%
	45 to 59	3%	10%	85%	1%
	60 or older	2%	22%	75%	1%
Age	Under 45	2%	12%	86%	0%
	45 or older	2%	16%	80%	1%
Gender	Men	1%	15%	83%	1%
	Women	3%	14%	83%	1%
Marital Status	Married	1%	13%	85%	1%
	Not married	2%	16%	82%	0%
Interview Type	Landline	1%	16%	82%	1%
	Cell phone	3%	12%	83%	1%

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^National Registered Voters: n=806 MOE +/- 3.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

Los Angeles Times Poll [December, 1985]**

If your party nominated a well-qualified person for Congress, and you heard he or she was gay or lesbian, would that make you more likely to vote for that candidate, less likely, or wouldn't it make any difference one way or the other?

	More likely	Less likely	No difference	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults	*%	47%	49%	3%

**Methodology: Conducted by *Los Angeles Times* December 5-December 12, 1985, and based on telephone interviews with a national adult sample of 2,308.

[USLAT.101.R69]

Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut.

		National Adults				
		If you had a child who told you he or she was gay or lesbian, would you be very upset, somewhat upset, not very upset, or not upset at all?				
		Very upset	Upset	Not very upset	Not upset at all	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		13%	22%	14%	48%	3%
National Registered Voters		14%	23%	16%	45%	3%
Party Identification^	Democrat	12%	16%	16%	54%	3%
	Republican	23%	37%	13%	25%	3%
	Independent	9%	22%	17%	50%	3%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	11%	12%	20%	54%	3%
	Soft Democrats	9%	19%	17%	53%	2%
	Just Independents	12%	23%	12%	50%	3%
	Soft Republicans	13%	29%	17%	39%	3%
	Strong Republicans	25%	36%	9%	27%	3%
Tea Party Supporters		19%	30%	13%	33%	5%
Republicans	Support Tea Party	19%	34%	12%	30%	5%
	Do Not Support Tea Party	15%	30%	16%	38%	1%
Political Ideology^	Very liberal-Liberal	4%	10%	15%	67%	3%
	Moderate	8%	25%	19%	45%	2%
	Conservative-Very conservative	23%	31%	13%	30%	3%
Know Someone Gay	Yes	9%	19%	16%	54%	2%
	No	25%	27%	8%	35%	4%
Past 10 Years Know Someone Gay	More	11%	22%	16%	49%	2%
	Fewer	19%	29%	10%	37%	4%
	About the same	12%	21%	12%	52%	3%
Region	Northeast	9%	18%	14%	58%	0%
	Midwest	12%	20%	13%	49%	5%
	South	18%	25%	12%	42%	3%
	West	10%	20%	17%	50%	3%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	14%	22%	11%	49%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	12%	22%	16%	48%	2%
Education	Not college graduate	15%	20%	11%	49%	4%
	College graduate	9%	24%	18%	47%	2%
Race	White	14%	24%	14%	45%	3%
	African American	12%	19%	14%	53%	2%
	Latino	12%	16%	10%	56%	5%
Age	18 to 29	3%	18%	9%	68%	2%
	30 to 44	14%	20%	11%	52%	4%
	45 to 59	13%	20%	19%	45%	4%
	60 or older	20%	28%	14%	36%	3%
Age	Under 45	9%	19%	10%	60%	3%
	45 or older	16%	24%	16%	41%	3%
Gender	Men	13%	23%	11%	49%	4%
	Women	13%	20%	17%	48%	2%
Marital Status	Married	16%	25%	15%	40%	3%
	Not married	10%	19%	13%	56%	3%
Interview Type	Landline	15%	25%	15%	43%	2%
	Cell phone	11%	17%	12%	56%	4%

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted August 4th through August 7th, 2014, n=1035 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points.

^National Registered Voters: n=806 MOE +/- 3.5 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

Los Angeles Times Poll [December, 1985]**

If you had a child who told you he or she was gay or lesbian, would you be very upset, somewhat upset, not very upset, or not upset at all?

	Very upset	Somewhat Upset	Not very upset	Not upset at all	Not sure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults	64%	25%	5%	4%	2%

**Methodology: Conducted by *Los Angeles Times* December 5-December 12, 1985, and based on telephone interviews with a national adult sample of 2,308. [USLAT.101.R89]
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut.

		National Adults		
		Do you have a friend, colleague, or family member who is gay?		
		Yes	No	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		71%	27%	1%
National Registered Voters		73%	25%	1%
Party Identification^	Democrat	70%	30%	0%
	Republican	63%	35%	2%
	Independent	81%	18%	1%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	67%	33%	0%
	Soft Democrats	77%	22%	0%
	Just Independents	81%	16%	3%
	Soft Republicans	74%	25%	1%
Tea Party Supporters	Strong Republicans	65%	33%	2%
		70%	29%	1%
Republicans	Support Tea Party	68%	31%	1%
	Do Not Support Tea Party	73%	25%	2%
Political Ideology^	Very liberal-Liberal	80%	20%	1%
	Moderate	75%	23%	2%
	Conservative-Very conservative	69%	30%	1%
Region	Northeast	82%	16%	2%
	Midwest	71%	29%	1%
	South	65%	34%	1%
	West	74%	24%	3%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	62%	36%	1%
	\$50,000 or more	82%	17%	1%
Education	Not college graduate	65%	34%	1%
	College graduate	82%	16%	1%
Race	White	70%	28%	2%
	African American	64%	36%	0%
	Latino	84%	16%	0%
Age	18 to 29	76%	23%	1%
	30 to 44	77%	22%	1%
	45 to 59	80%	18%	2%
	60 or older	55%	43%	1%
Age	Under 45	76%	23%	1%
	45 or older	68%	30%	2%
Gender	Men	69%	29%	2%
	Women	74%	25%	1%
Marital Status	Married	73%	25%	2%
	Not married	70%	29%	1%
Interview Type	Landline	69%	30%	1%
	Cell phone	75%	23%	2%

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		National Adults			
		Thinking about your friends, colleagues, and family members, do you personally know more, fewer, or about the same number of people who are gay today than you did ten years ago?			
		More	Fewer	About the same	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		52%	8%	35%	5%
National Registered Voters		53%	7%	36%	4%
Party Identification^	Democrat	52%	7%	37%	4%
	Republican	45%	11%	40%	4%
	Independent	57%	5%	35%	3%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	48%	8%	40%	4%
	Soft Democrats	61%	5%	32%	3%
	Just Independents	48%	7%	40%	5%
	Soft Republicans	54%	6%	38%	2%
	Strong Republicans	46%	12%	37%	5%
Tea Party Supporters		49%	10%	38%	3%
Republicans	Support Tea Party	47%	12%	36%	4%
	Do Not Support Tea Party	53%	5%	39%	3%
Political Ideology^	Very liberal-Liberal	58%	6%	35%	2%
	Moderate	55%	5%	36%	4%
	Conservative-Very conservative	49%	9%	38%	3%
Know Someone Gay	Yes	61%	5%	33%	1%
	No	32%	16%	42%	11%
Region	Northeast	54%	7%	33%	5%
	Midwest	51%	5%	38%	6%
	South	51%	9%	37%	4%
	West	53%	8%	34%	5%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	50%	10%	35%	5%
	\$50,000 or more	57%	5%	36%	2%
Education	Not college graduate	51%	9%	34%	6%
	College graduate	53%	6%	39%	3%
Race	White	49%	8%	38%	5%
	African American	56%	7%	36%	2%
	Latino	60%	8%	27%	5%
Age	18 to 29	63%	6%	26%	4%
	30 to 44	54%	6%	38%	2%
	45 to 59	50%	8%	39%	3%
	60 or older	44%	10%	37%	9%
Age	Under 45	59%	6%	32%	3%
	45 or older	47%	9%	38%	6%
Gender	Men	52%	10%	32%	6%
	Women	52%	6%	39%	3%
Marital Status	Married	50%	6%	39%	4%
	Not married	54%	9%	33%	5%
Interview Type	Landline	49%	9%	38%	4%
	Cell phone	56%	6%	33%	5%

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*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

Pew Research Center for the People & the Press Typology Survey [July, 1999]**

Do you have a friend, colleague, or family member who is gay?

	Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults	39%	60%	1%

**Survey by Pew Research Center for the People & the Press

Methodology: Conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates July 14-September 9, 1999, and based on telephone interviews with a national adult sample of 3,973. [USPSRA.99NOV11.R54D]

Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut.