



65 Stands Strong as “Middle-Aged”

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

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This Marist Poll Reports:

Forget the contests for the Democratic and Republican presidential nominations. The biggest question facing the Marist Institute for Public Opinion *this* year is whether Americans consider the age of the Institute’s director, Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, to be old!

As Dr. Miringoff turns 65, he remains unscathed! A majority of Americans, 55%, say 65 is middle-aged. 34% consider it old, and more than one in ten, 11%, thinks age 65 is young. Similar proportions of U.S. residents thought 64 to be old last year.

Not surprisingly, perceptions differ based on age. Americans 45 years old and older, 63%, are more likely than younger residents to consider 65 to be middle-aged. Those under 45 divide. 49% think 65 years of age is old while 47% say it is middle-aged. This is driven by Americans under 30, among whom 60% call 65 “old.”

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: Marist Poll of 1,297 National Adults

This survey of 1,297 adults was conducted March 29th through March 31st, 2016 by The Marist Poll. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in the contiguous United States were contacted on landline or mobile numbers and interviewed in English 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. Respondents in the household were randomly selected by first asking for the youngest male. This landline sample was combined with respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers from Survey Sampling International. Assistance was provided by Luce Research for data collection. After the interviews were completed, the two samples were combined and balanced to reflect the 2013 American Community Survey 1-year estimates for age, gender, income, race, and region. Results are statistically significant within ± 2.7 percentage points. The error margin was not adjusted for sample weights and increases for cross-tabulations.

Nature of the Sample

		National Adults
		Col %
National Adults		100%
Gender	Men	49%
	Women	51%
Age	Under 45	47%
	45 or older	53%
Age	18 to 29	22%
	30 to 44	26%
	45 to 59	27%
	60 or older	26%
Race	White	62%
	African American	11%
	Latino	14%
	Other	12%
Region	Northeast	18%
	Midwest	22%
	South	37%
	West	23%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	48%
	\$50,000 or more	52%
Education	Not college graduate	61%
	College graduate	39%
Interview Type	Landline	42%
	Cell phone	58%

Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted March 29th through March 31st, 2016, n=1297 MOE +/- 2.7 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

		National Adults		
		Do you think someone who is 65 is young, middle-aged, or old?		
		Young	Middle-aged	Old
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		11%	55%	34%
Region	Northeast	12%	57%	31%
	Midwest	11%	54%	34%
	South	10%	55%	35%
	West	10%	55%	35%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	11%	56%	33%
	\$50,000 or more	8%	58%	34%
Education	Not college graduate	11%	54%	35%
	College graduate	10%	58%	32%
Age	Under 45	4%	47%	49%
	45 or older	17%	63%	21%
Age	18 to 29	2%	37%	60%
	30 to 44	6%	56%	39%
	45 to 59	8%	68%	25%
	60 or older	26%	58%	16%
Race	White	12%	58%	30%
	African American	8%	62%	30%
	Latino	7%	43%	50%
Gender	Men	9%	48%	43%
	Women	12%	62%	25%
Interview Type	Landline	17%	61%	22%
	Cell phone	6%	51%	42%

Marist Poll National Adults: Interviews conducted March 29th through March 31st, 2016, n=1297 MOE +/- 2.7 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.