

MARIST POLL™

Actually, It's Like *Whatever*, Again

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This Marist Poll Reports:

For the twelfth consecutive year, Americans consider *whatever* (47%) to be the most annoying word or phrase used in conversation. *Whatever* outpaces *like* (19%) by more than two-to-one followed by *in my opinion* with 13%. In this era of virtual meetings, *you're on mute* receives 9%. Another 9% select *actually*.

Whatever (34%) also topped last year's list of annoying words and phrases which included *no offense, but* (20%), *dude* (16%), *literally* (14%), and *please wait, I'll be right with you* (9%).

Those age 45 or older (53%) are more likely to loathe *whatever* than those under the age of 45 (39%).

National consensus exists on the dislike of the word. Regardless of region of residence, *whatever* is thought to be the most annoying word or phrase around: 54% in the Northeast, 51% in the West, 45% in the South, and 40% in the Midwest. Women (52%) are more likely than men (42%) to abhor *whatever*.