

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: NPR/PBS NewsHour/Marist Poll with the Center for Sports Communication at Marist College of 1,065 National Adults

This survey of 1,065 adults was conducted December 1st through December 6th, 2020 by The Marist Poll sponsored in partnership with NPR, PBS NewsHour, and the Center for Sports Communication at Marist College. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in the United States were contacted on landline or mobile numbers and interviewed by telephone using live interviewers. Survey questions were available in English or Spanish. Mobile telephone numbers were randomly selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation from Dynata. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region was represented in proportion to its population. Mobile phones are treated as individual devices. After validation of age, personal ownership, and non-business-use of the mobile phone, interviews are typically conducted with the person answering the phone. To increase coverage, this mobile sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of landline phone numbers. Within each landline household, a single respondent is selected through a random selection process to increase the representativeness of traditionally under-covered survey populations. The samples were then combined and balanced to reflect the 2017 American Community Survey 1-year estimates for age, gender, income, race, and region. Assistance was provided by Luce Research for data collection. Results are statistically significant within ± 3.7 percentage points. There are 603 sports fans. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 4.9 percentage points. Tables include results for subgroups to only display crosstabs with an acceptable sampling error. It should be noted that although you may not see results listed for a certain group, it does not mean interviews were not completed with those individuals. It simply means the sample size is too small to report. The error margin was adjusted for sample weights and increases for cross-tabulations.

Nature of the Sample

		National Adults	Sports Fans
		Column %	Column %
National Adults		100%	
Sports Fans		59%	100%
Gender	Men	49%	54%
	Women	51%	46%
Age	Under 45	45%	42%
	45 or older	55%	58%
Age	18 to 29	20%	17%
	30 to 44	25%	26%
	45 to 59	25%	27%
	60 or older	29%	31%
Generation	Gen Z/Millennials (18-39)	38%	33%
	Gen X (40-55)	24%	27%
	Baby Boomers (56-74)	28%	29%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 74)	11%	11%
Race/Ethnicity	White	61%	62%
	Black	12%	13%
	Latino	15%	15%
	Other	13%	10%
Region	Northeast	18%	19%
	Midwest	21%	20%
	South	38%	39%
	West	23%	22%
National Registered Voters		86%	89%
Party Identification	Democrat	36%	34%
	Republican	28%	29%
	Independent	34%	34%
	Other	2%	2%
Interview Type	Landline	40%	41%
	Cell phone	60%	59%

NPR/PBS NewsHour/Marist Poll with the Center for Sports Communication at Marist College National Adults. Interviews conducted December 1st through December 6th, 2020, n=1065 MOE +/- 3.7 percentage points. National Sports Fans: n=603 MOE +/- 4.9 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

How to Read Banners

'Banners' are a simple way to display tabular data. The following provides an explanation of how to read the banners.

1. Thinking of the entire table as a grid of cells, each cell contains a number. This number gives the *percentage* of respondents in a column in each cell.
2. Columns read vertically down the page.
3. The column headings present the people, or subgroup, each column represents. They are each noted with a letter.
4. The remaining rows present the column percentages for each valid response category to a question.
5. The banners include notations for statistical significance testing between columns. Each column is labeled with letters. If a capital letter is below a percent, it notes that this percent is statistically different at the 95% confidence level from the percent of the lettered column. If a lowercase letter is below a percent, it notes this percent is statistically different at the 90% confidence level from the percent of the lettered column. For example, in the table below, the 41% in column C is statistically different from the 32% in column D at a 95% confidence level. Men are statistically more likely than women to think people should be participating in indoor team sports, such as basketball.
6. Please note totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

		Gender			
		National Adults (A)	Sports Fans (B)	Men (C)	Women (D)
Thinking about coronavirus, do you think people should or should not be participating in indoor team sports, such as basketball?	Should	36%	40%	41% D	32%
	Should not	58%	56%	53%	64% C
	Vol: Unsure	5%	4%	6%	5%

National Adults: n=1,065; MoE +/- 3.7 percentage points

National Sports Fans: n=603; MoE +/- 4.9 percentage points

Weight Variable = WTFACOR, Confidence Level = 95%(Upper Case),90%(Lower Case)

		National Adults (A)	Sports Fans (B)	Gender		Region				Age		Generation				Race/Ethnicity		National Registered Voters (Q)	Party Identification^		
				Men (C)	Women (D)	Northeast (E)	Midwest (F)	South (G)	West (H)	Under 45 (I)	45 or older (J)	Gen Z/ Millennials (18-39) (K)	Gen X (40-55) (L)	Baby Boomers (56-74) (M)	Silent-Greatest (Over 74) (N)	White (O)	Non-white (P)		Democrat (R)	Republican (S)	Independent (T)
Thinking about coronavirus, do you think people should or should not be participating in indoor team sports, such as basketball?	Should	36%	40%	41% D	32%	31%	39% eH	42% EH	29%	38%	35%	39% MN	43% MN	29%	27%	37%	34%	36%	19%	61% RT	32% R
	Should not	58%	56%	53% C	64% C	65% fG	57%	53% G	64%	58%	59%	57%	52%	65% kL	62% I	57%	61%	59%	77% ST	33%	63% S
	Vol: Unsure	5%	4%	6%	5%	4%	4%	5%	7%	4%	6% i	3%	5%	6%	11% KLm	6%	4%	5%	4%	6%	4%
How concerned are you that the playing of indoor team sports will spread coronavirus in your local community: Very concerned, concerned, not very concerned, or not concerned at all?	Very concerned/ Concerned	54%	56%	46% C	62% C	57%	49%	54%	58% F	50%	58% I	48%	53%	61% KI	60% K	50%	63% O	54%	73% ST	30%	55% S
	Not very concerned/Not concerned at all	44%	43%	53% D	36%	41%	50% Eh	44%	41%	49% J	40%	51% MN	45% m	37%	36%	49% P	36%	44%	25%	68% RT	44% R
	Vol: Unsure	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2% I	1%	2%	2%	4% K	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%
How concerned are you that the playing of indoor team sports will spread coronavirus in your local community: Very concerned, concerned, not very concerned, or not concerned at all?	Very concerned	21%	23%	20%	21%	20%	18%	22%	21%	15%	25% I	12%	20% K	33% KLN	21% K	16%	29% O	21%	34% ST	9%	18% S
	Concerned	34%	33%	26% C	41% C	36%	31%	32%	37%	35%	32%	36% m	33%	29%	39% m	34%	34%	34%	39% S	21%	37% S
	Not very concerned	26%	25%	27%	25%	28% H	32% H	26% h	19%	29% J	23%	31% M	25%	22%	24%	29% P	20%	27%	18%	38% RT	28% R
	Not concerned at all	18%	18%	25% D	11%	12%	19% e	18% e	22% E	20%	17%	21% mn	20% n	15%	12%	19%	16%	18%	7%	30% RT	16% R
	Vol: Unsure	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2% I	1%	2%	2%	4% K	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Do you think government officials should or should not be able to place restrictions on playing indoor team sports because of coronavirus?	Should	58%	58%	54% C	62% C	66% Gh	59%	55%	58%	60%	58%	60% I	53%	64% LN	53%	56%	64% O	58%	83% ST	28%	61% S
	Should not	38%	39%	42% D	34%	30%	39% e	41% E	39% e	39%	37%	38%	44% M	33%	36%	40% P	33%	38%	14%	67% RT	36% R
	Vol: Unsure	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	2%	4%	3%	1%	5% I	2%	3%	3%	11% KLM	4%	2%	3%	2%	5%	3%
Do you think fans attending games for indoor team sports should be allowed, should be allowed but only with restrictions, or should not be allowed because of coronavirus?	Should be allowed	19%	18%	23% D	15%	13%	18%	21% E	20% e	21% j	17%	21% N	23% MN	16% N	7%	18%	19%	18%	6%	33% RT	17% R
	Should be allowed, but only with restrictions	34%	36%	32%	36%	30%	37% h	38% eH	29%	31%	37% I	28%	38% K	36% K	42% K	39% P	26%	35%	31%	40% R	36%
	Should not be allowed	46%	46%	44%	48%	57% FG	45%	39%	50% G	48%	44%	52% L	37%	46% L	45%	42% O	54% O	46%	63% ST	26%	46% S
	Vol: Unsure	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	2% I	0%	1%	2% K	6% KLM	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

		National Adults (A)	Sports Fans (B)	Gender		Region				Age		Generation				Race/Ethnicity		National Registered Voters (Q)	Party Identification^		
				Men (C)	Women (D)	Northeast (E)	Midwest (F)	South (G)	West (H)	Under 45 (I)	45 or older (J)	Gen Z/ Millennials (18-39) (K)	Gen X (40-55) (L)	Baby Boomers (56-74) (M)	Silent-Greatest (Over 74) (N)	White (O)	Non-white (P)		Democrat (R)	Republican (S)	Independent (T)
Do you think student-athletes participating in indoor team sports should be allowed, should be allowed but only with restrictions, or should not be allowed because of coronavirus?	Should be allowed	26%	25%	32% D	21%	21%	28% e	28% e	24%	28%	24%	28% mN	32% MN	22% n	13%	28% P	22%	25%	12%	44% RT	22% R
	Should be allowed, but only with restrictions	42%	44%	38% C	46% C	39%	45%	43%	39%	42%	42%	42%	41%	41%	49%	43%	40%	43%	43%	37%	49% S
	Should not be allowed	30%	30%	28% c	33% c	38% FG	26%	27%	34% fG	29%	31%	29%	25%	36% kL	31%	27%	35% O	30%	43% ST	18%	28% S
	Vol: Unsure	2%	1%	2%	1%	2% f	0%	2% F	2% f	0%	3% I	1%	2%	1%	7% KLM	1%	3% o	2%	2%	1%	1%
Do you think student-athletes traveling to play against other schools or teams should be allowed, should be allowed but only with restrictions, or should not be allowed because of coronavirus?	Should be allowed	25%	24%	31% D	20%	21%	25%	30% EH	21%	28% j	23%	27% MN	32% MN	20%	16%	26%	23%	25%	14%	41% RT	21% R
	Should be allowed, but only with restrictions	36%	41%	33% c	39% c	32%	42% Eg	34%	37%	35%	37%	35%	37%	36%	41%	39% P	31%	37%	33%	37%	42% R
	Should not be allowed	37%	35%	33% C	41% C	46% FG	32%	34%	40% f	36%	38%	38% L	29%	42% L	39% I	33%	44% O	36%	52% ST	20%	36% S
	Vol: Unsure	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1% I	2% I	1%	1%	2%	5% KIm	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%
Do you think student-athletes participating in college football games should be allowed, should be allowed but only with restrictions, or should not be allowed because of coronavirus?	Should be allowed	30%	28%	36% D	24%	28%	30%	32%	26%	32%	28%	32% mN	36% MN	26%	19%	31%	28%	29%	15%	49% RT	25% R
	Should be allowed, but only with restrictions	39%	42%	37%	41%	36%	42%	39%	39%	39%	39%	38%	40%	39%	43%	41%	36%	40%	43% S	33%	46% S
	Should not be allowed	31%	31%	27% C	34% C	36% fg	27%	28%	35% fg	30%	32%	30%	24%	35% L	38% L	28%	36% O	31%	42% ST	19%	29% S
	Vol: Unsure																				
Do you think fans attending the Super Bowl should be allowed, should be allowed but only with restrictions, or should not be allowed?	Should be allowed	19%	16%	22% D	16%	16%	17%	23% eH	16%	21%	17%	21% N	23% MN	16% n	9%	17%	21%	18%	6%	33% RT	17% R
	Should be allowed, but only with restrictions	29%	34%	30%	29%	22%	33% E	32% E	27%	25%	34% I	23%	33% K	34% K	36% K	35% P	21%	30%	24%	38% R	32% R
	Should not be allowed	49%	49%	45% C	53% C	61% FGh	48%	42%	52% G	53% J	46%	55% Lm	42%	48%	50%	46%	55% O	49%	68% ST	27%	49% S
	Vol: Unsure	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	2%	2%	0% I	2% I	0%	1%	1%	4% KIm	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%