



POLL MUST BE SOURCED:

McClatchy-Marist Poll*

Voting Discrimination is a Problem, Says Majority

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

For Immediate Release: Friday, July 26, 2013

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

This McClatchy-Marist Poll Reports:

In light of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn a key part of the Voting Rights Act, should Congress act to provide federal oversight to areas where voters' rights may be jeopardized? A majority of adults nationally -- 53% -- think discrimination in voting still exists and should be addressed by Congress. 37%, though, believe such discrimination is a thing of the past and does not require action. 11% are unsure. Similar proportions of registered voters share these views.

"Americans want Congress to pick up where the Supreme Court left off," says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion. "But, like so many other issues today, there is a strong partisan divide."

By party:

- More than three in four Democrats -- 76% -- say Congress needs to act and address discrimination in voting.
- Nearly half of independent voters -- 48% -- believe Congress needs to take on the issue.
- Almost six in ten Republicans -- 58% -- report discrimination in voting is outdated and does not require action by Congress.

Should the Voting Rights Act be a priority for President Barack Obama and Congress? 54% of Americans say they should act, if not immediately, then within the next couple of years. This includes 28% who think the Voting Rights Act should be an immediate priority and 26% who believe the issue should be a priority over the next couple of years. 25% do not think

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

voting rights should be a priority at all, and 20% are unsure. Similar proportions of registered voters nationally agree.

Getting Specific: Changes to Election Laws

Which proposed election law changes do Americans support? Among adults nationally:

- Most -- 83% -- think changing election laws to require voters to show identification before voting is a good thing. 13% believe it is a bad thing, and 4% are unsure. A similar proportion of registered voters share this view.
- Nearly seven in ten U.S. residents -- 68% -- support changing legislation to allow early voting in elections before Election Day. 29% oppose this proposal, and 3% are unsure. Here, too, the opinions of registered voters are in line with those of the overall population.
- About six in ten adults nationally -- 60% -- think allowing voters to cast their ballot on the Sunday before Election Day is a good thing. 28% believe it is a bad thing, and 11% are unsure. Similar proportions of registered voters share these opinions.
- A majority of Americans -- 57% -- favor same day registration so people can register to vote on Election Day. 40% are against this measure, and 4% are unsure. Among registered voters nationally, 52% believe this proposed change is a good thing. 45% think it is a bad thing, and 3% are unsure.

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: McClatchy-Marist National Poll of 1,204 Adults

This survey of 1,204 adults was conducted July 15th through July 18th, 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 ± 2.8 percentage points. There are 980 registered voters. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 3.1 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		81%	100%	
Party Identification	Democrat	n/a	34%	
	Republican	n/a	25%	
	Independent	n/a	37%	
	Other	n/a	4%	
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	n/a	22%	
	Not strong Democrats	n/a	13%	
	Democratic leaning independents	n/a	11%	
	Just Independents	n/a	13%	
	Republican leaning independents	n/a	13%	
	Not strong Republicans	n/a	12%	
	Strong Republicans	n/a	13%	
	Other	n/a	4%	
	Political Ideology	Very conservative	n/a	10%
		Conservative	n/a	29%
Moderate		n/a	36%	
Liberal		n/a	19%	
Very liberal		n/a	6%	
Gender	Men	49%	47%	
	Women	51%	53%	
Age	Under 45	45%	39%	
	45 or older	55%	61%	
Age	18 to 29	22%	16%	
	30 to 44	23%	22%	
	45 to 59	27%	29%	
	60 or older	28%	32%	
Race	White	67%	70%	
	African American	11%	11%	
	Latino	14%	13%	
	Other	7%	5%	
Region	Northeast	18%	17%	
	Midwest	22%	24%	
	South	37%	38%	
	West	23%	22%	
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	49%	46%	
	\$50,000 or more	51%	54%	
Education	Not college graduate	60%	57%	
	College graduate	40%	43%	
Interview Type	Landline	64%	67%	
	Cell Phone	36%	33%	

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted July 15th through July 18th, 2013, n=1204 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points. National Registered Voters: n=980 MOE +/- 3.1 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.

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Tables

		National Adults		
		The Supreme Court recently changed the Voting Rights Act. Do you think discrimination in voting is:		
		Is mostly a thing of the past and does not need further action by Congress	Remains a problem and should be addressed by Congress	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		37%	53%	11%
National Registered Voters		38%	54%	9%
Party Identification^	Democrat	18%	76%	6%
	Republican	58%	32%	10%
	Independent	44%	48%	8%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	13%	82%	5%
	Soft Democrats	28%	65%	6%
	Just Independents	48%	42%	10%
	Soft Republicans	55%	37%	8%
Political Ideology^	Strong Republicans	60%	29%	11%
	Very liberal-Liberal	17%	77%	5%
	Moderate	40%	52%	8%
Region	Conservative-Very conservative	49%	41%	10%
	Northeast	35%	57%	9%
	Midwest	32%	56%	12%
Household Income	South	42%	48%	10%
	West	32%	55%	13%
	Less than \$50,000	32%	56%	12%
Education	\$50,000 or more	43%	50%	7%
	Not college graduate	36%	54%	11%
Race	College graduate	38%	52%	10%
	White	44%	46%	10%
	African American	14%	81%	4%
Age	Latino	23%	65%	13%
	18 to 29	32%	57%	11%
	30 to 44	36%	51%	13%
	45 to 59	43%	47%	10%
Age	60 or older	34%	57%	9%
	Under 45	34%	54%	12%
Gender	45 or older	39%	52%	10%
	Men	40%	51%	9%
Interview Type	Women	33%	54%	13%
	Landline	37%	53%	10%
	Cell Phone	35%	53%	12%

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted July 15th through July 18th, 2013, n=1204 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points.

^National Registered Voters: n=980 MOE +/- 3.1 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.

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Tables

		National Adults			
		Should the Voting Rights Act be an immediate priority for President Obama and Congress, be a priority but over the next couple of years, or should it not be a priority?			
		Priority over the next		Not a priority	Unsure
		Immediate priority	couple of years	Not a priority	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		28%	26%	25%	20%
National Registered Voters		28%	26%	26%	20%
Party Identification [^]	Democrat	44%	26%	17%	13%
	Republican	17%	31%	29%	23%
	Independent	22%	25%	30%	23%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	54%	24%	13%	10%
	Soft Democrats	27%	30%	22%	21%
	Just Independents	23%	23%	30%	24%
	Soft Republicans	16%	28%	33%	22%
Political Ideology [^]	Strong Republicans	19%	27%	33%	21%
	Very liberal-Liberal	44%	29%	15%	12%
	Moderate	25%	31%	21%	23%
Region	Conservative-Very conservative	20%	22%	37%	21%
	Northeast	33%	27%	19%	21%
Household Income	Midwest	26%	26%	29%	19%
	South	25%	25%	29%	21%
	West	32%	28%	19%	21%
	Less than \$50,000	32%	26%	23%	20%
Education	\$50,000 or more	27%	30%	28%	15%
	Not college graduate	30%	24%	24%	23%
Race	College graduate	26%	31%	28%	16%
	White	22%	27%	28%	23%
	African American	52%	17%	19%	12%
Age	Latino	34%	25%	25%	16%
	18 to 29	37%	31%	14%	18%
	30 to 44	25%	30%	23%	21%
	45 to 59	22%	24%	34%	20%
Age	60 or older	29%	22%	27%	21%
	Under 45	31%	31%	19%	19%
Gender	45 or older	26%	23%	30%	21%
	Men	26%	23%	32%	18%
Interview Type	Women	30%	29%	19%	23%
	Landline	26%	26%	26%	21%
	Cell Phone	31%	26%	23%	19%

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted July 15th through July 18th, 2013, n=1204 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points.

[^]National Registered Voters: n=980 MOE +/- 3.1 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.

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Tables

		National Adults		
		Do you think it is a good thing or a bad thing if election laws were changed to do each of the following: Require voters to show identification in order to vote?		
		Good thing	Bad thing	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		83%	13%	4%
National Registered Voters		84%	13%	3%
Party Identification [^]	Democrat	72%	25%	3%
	Republican	99%	1%	0%
	Independent	87%	9%	5%
Political Ideology [^]	Very liberal-Liberal	65%	33%	2%
	Moderate	86%	9%	5%
	Conservative-Very conservative	94%	3%	3%
Region	Northeast	81%	19%	0%
	Midwest	84%	11%	5%
	South	88%	8%	4%
	West	74%	20%	6%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	84%	12%	3%
	\$50,000 or more	82%	16%	2%
Education	Not college graduate	85%	11%	4%
	College graduate	81%	17%	3%
Race	White	82%	15%	3%
	Non-white	83%	12%	6%
Age	18 to 29	77%	15%	7%
	30 to 44	79%	16%	6%
	45 to 59	93%	6%	1%
	60 or older	81%	17%	2%
Age	Under 45	78%	16%	6%
	45 or older	87%	12%	2%
Gender	Men	82%	14%	4%
	Women	83%	13%	4%
Interview Type	Landline	82%	14%	4%
	Cell Phone	84%	12%	4%

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults Split Sample. Interviews conducted July 15th through July 18th, 2013, n=598

MOE +/- 4.0 percentage points.

[^]National Registered Voters: n=494 MOE +/- 4.4 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Tables

		National Adults		
		Do you think it is a good thing or a bad thing if election laws were changed to do each of the following: Allow early voting in elections before Election Day?		
		Good thing	Bad thing	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		68%	29%	3%
National Registered Voters		67%	30%	3%
Party Identification^	Democrat	75%	21%	4%
	Republican	62%	37%	1%
	Independent	65%	32%	3%
Political Ideology^	Very liberal-Liberal	74%	25%	1%
	Moderate	75%	22%	3%
	Conservative-Very conservative	58%	39%	3%
Region	Northeast	64%	34%	3%
	Midwest	64%	33%	4%
	South	69%	27%	3%
	West	74%	23%	3%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	65%	33%	3%
	\$50,000 or more	74%	25%	1%
Education	Not college graduate	67%	30%	3%
	College graduate	70%	26%	3%
Race	White	65%	31%	3%
	Non-white	74%	24%	2%
Age	18 to 29	68%	30%	2%
	30 to 44	73%	24%	3%
	45 to 59	68%	30%	2%
	60 or older	65%	30%	5%
Age	Under 45	70%	27%	3%
	45 or older	66%	30%	3%
Gender	Men	68%	29%	3%
	Women	68%	29%	3%
Interview Type	Landline	66%	30%	4%
	Cell Phone	72%	26%	2%

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults Split Sample. Interviews conducted July 15th through July 18th, 2013, n=607
 MOE +/- 4.0 percentage points.

^National Registered Voters: n=486 MOE +/- 4.4 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Tables

		National Adults		
		Do you think it is a good thing or a bad thing if election laws were changed to do each of the following: Allow voters to vote on the Sunday before the election?		
		Good thing	Bad thing	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		60%	28%	11%
National Registered Voters		59%	31%	10%
Party Identification [^]	Democrat	71%	20%	9%
	Republican	53%	40%	7%
	Independent	60%	33%	8%
Political Ideology [^]	Very liberal-Liberal	74%	19%	7%
	Moderate	63%	27%	9%
	Conservative-Very conservative	47%	44%	9%
Region	Northeast	61%	29%	10%
	Midwest	52%	34%	15%
	South	66%	25%	10%
	West	60%	29%	12%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	59%	28%	13%
	\$50,000 or more	64%	28%	8%
Education	Not college graduate	61%	28%	12%
	College graduate	60%	31%	9%
Race	White	60%	29%	12%
	Non-white	64%	26%	10%
Age	18 to 29	71%	17%	13%
	30 to 44	72%	21%	8%
	45 to 59	57%	31%	12%
	60 or older	50%	38%	12%
Age	Under 45	71%	19%	10%
	45 or older	53%	35%	12%
Gender	Men	59%	31%	10%
	Women	62%	26%	12%
Interview Type	Landline	56%	32%	12%
	Cell Phone	69%	22%	9%

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults Split Sample. Interviews conducted July 15th through July 18th, 2013, n=598
 MOE +/- 4.0 percentage points.

[^]National Registered Voters: n=494 MOE +/- 4.4 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Tables

		National Adults		
		Do you think it is a good thing or a bad thing if election laws were changed to do each of the following: Have same day registration so people can register to vote on Election Day?		
		Good thing	Bad thing	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		57%	40%	4%
National Registered Voters		52%	45%	3%
Party Identification [^]	Democrat	62%	34%	4%
	Republican	39%	59%	2%
	Independent	53%	46%	1%
Political Ideology [^]	Very liberal-Liberal	69%	28%	3%
	Moderate	55%	42%	3%
	Conservative-Very conservative	40%	58%	2%
Region	Northeast	62%	37%	1%
	Midwest	57%	39%	3%
	South	54%	42%	4%
	West	55%	40%	5%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	58%	38%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	53%	45%	2%
Education	Not college graduate	56%	40%	4%
	College graduate	58%	39%	3%
Race	White	53%	45%	3%
	Non-white	66%	30%	4%
Age	18 to 29	77%	22%	1%
	30 to 44	55%	39%	6%
	45 to 59	56%	43%	2%
	60 or older	43%	53%	4%
Age	Under 45	66%	31%	3%
	45 or older	49%	48%	3%
Gender	Men	56%	40%	3%
	Women	57%	39%	4%
Interview Type	Landline	51%	45%	5%
	Cell Phone	67%	32%	2%

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults Split Sample. Interviews conducted July 15th through July 18th, 2013, n=607
 MOE +/- 4.0 percentage points.

[^]National Registered Voters: n=486 MOE +/- 4.4 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.