



PED Suspensions Warranted, Say Nearly Seven in Ten

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

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This Marist Poll Reports:

Major League Baseball is in full swing, but has last season's player suspensions for using performance-enhancing drugs rubbed fans the wrong way? 68% of baseball fans nationally think the MLB has taken the right steps. In fact, one in five -- 20% -- believes the league hasn't gone far enough. Only 8% say their actions have gone too far. Four percent are unsure.

More Fans Expected to Head to the Ballpark

While half of baseball fans -- 50% -- say they did not attend any MLB games last year and don't plan to do so this season either, there has been an increase in the proportion of fans who think they will go to more games this year. Nearly one in five -- 19% -- expects to go to more baseball games this season. 27% say they will attend about the same amount of games they did last year, and only 4% plan to go to fewer.

When Marist last reported this question in March 2013, 54% of fans said they wouldn't be making a trip to the stadium. 13% reported they would be attending more games than in the past year while 28% said they would be attending about the same number of baseball games. Six percent, at that time, believed they would be making fewer outings to the ballpark.

Key points:

- Fans younger than 45 are the key. 32% of fans in this age group think they will be attending more baseball games this season. This is up from 19% last year. Among those 45 or older, 12% expect to make more trips to the stadium this year compared with 9% previously.
- While fans who earn \$50,000 or more annually -- 22% -- are slightly more likely than those who make less -- 17% -- to increase their ballgame attendance, there has been a bump in the proportion of fans in both income groups who expect to do so.

Last year, 15% of fans who earn \$50,000 or more said they would be going to more games. 12% who made less said the same.

Although nearly half of fans -- 49% -- do not think the cost of a ticket to a major league game is a good value for the money, 41% believe it is a good bang for their buck. 10% are unsure. These findings suggest more fans find value in going to a game this season than last spring. At that time, 52% of fans said the price of a ticket was not a good value. 37% thought it was, and 11% were unsure.

How many Americans are baseball fans? 45% of residents follow professional baseball a great deal -- 9%, a good amount -- 8%, or a little -- 28%. However, a majority -- 55% -- does not watch baseball at all.

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: Marist National Poll of 1,212 Adults

This survey of 1,212 adults was conducted April 7th through April 10th, 2014 by The Marist Poll. 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 ± 2.8 percentage points. There are 546 baseball fans. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 4.2 percentage points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

Nature of the Sample

		National Adults	Baseball Fans
		Col %	Col %
National Adults		100%	
Baseball Fans		45%	100%
Gender	Men	49%	54%
	Women	51%	46%
Age	Under 45	45%	38%
	45 or older	55%	62%
Age	18 to 29	23%	18%
	30 to 44	22%	20%
	45 to 59	29%	31%
	60 or older	27%	31%
Race	White	67%	70%
	African American	11%	10%
	Latino	14%	15%
	Other	7%	5%
Region	Northeast	18%	21%
	Midwest	22%	23%
	South	37%	33%
	West	23%	23%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	50%	43%
	\$50,000 or more	50%	57%
Education	Not college graduate	63%	60%
	College graduate	37%	40%
Interview Type	Landline	59%	63%
	Cell phone	41%	37%

Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted April 7th through April 10th, 2014, n=1212 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points. National Baseball Fans: n=546 MOE +/- 4.2 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Marist Poll National Baseball Tables

		Baseball Fans			
		In light of player suspensions for performance-enhancing drug use last season, do you think major league baseball has gone too far, has not gone far enough, or has taken the right steps?			
		Gone too far	Not gone far enough	Taken the right steps	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Baseball Fans		8%	20%	68%	4%
Gender	Men	6%	24%	66%	4%
	Women	10%	16%	69%	5%
Age	Under 45	8%	16%	72%	5%
	45 or older	7%	23%	66%	4%
Age	18 to 29	13%	13%	68%	6%
	30 to 44	3%	18%	75%	4%
	45 to 59	7%	19%	72%	2%
	60 or older	8%	26%	60%	6%
Race	White	8%	20%	67%	5%
	Non-white	7%	18%	73%	2%
Region	Northeast	7%	23%	68%	3%
	Midwest	7%	14%	75%	4%
	South	8%	21%	67%	4%
	West	10%	21%	63%	6%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	8%	18%	69%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	8%	20%	69%	3%
Education	Not college graduate	8%	19%	68%	5%
	College graduate	8%	19%	69%	4%
Interview Type	Landline	6%	24%	65%	4%
	Cell phone	11%	13%	72%	4%

Marist Poll National Baseball Fans: Interviews conducted April 7th through April 10th, 2014, n=546 MOE +/- 4.2 percentage points.
 Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Marist Poll National Baseball Tables

		Baseball Fans			
		Do you plan to attend more major league baseball games this season than you did last season, fewer games, or about the same number of games you did last season? If you didn't attend any games last season, please say so.			
		More	Less	About the same	Did not attend any games last season and do not plan to attend this season
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Baseball Fans		19%	4%	27%	50%
Gender	Men	22%	3%	29%	46%
	Women	16%	6%	24%	54%
Age	Under 45	32%	3%	21%	44%
	45 or older	12%	5%	30%	53%
Age	18 to 29	34%	3%	24%	40%
	30 to 44	30%	3%	19%	48%
	45 to 59	17%	6%	34%	43%
	60 or older	7%	5%	25%	63%
Race	White	18%	5%	27%	50%
	Non-white	22%	2%	25%	50%
Region	Northeast	14%	6%	34%	46%
	Midwest	30%	5%	27%	37%
	South	11%	3%	24%	62%
	West	25%	3%	24%	48%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	17%	6%	20%	57%
	\$50,000 or more	22%	2%	31%	45%
Education	Not college graduate	22%	4%	21%	53%
	College graduate	16%	4%	35%	45%
Interview Type	Landline	14%	4%	30%	52%
	Cell phone	29%	4%	22%	45%

Marist Poll National Baseball Fans: Interviews conducted April 7th through April 10th, 2014, n=546 MOE +/- 4.2 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Marist Poll National Baseball Tables

		Baseball Fans		
		Overall, do you think the cost of a ticket for a major league baseball game is a good value for the money, or not?		
		Good value for the		
		money	Not a good value	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Baseball Fans		41%	49%	10%
Gender	Men	44%	48%	7%
	Women	37%	50%	13%
Age	Under 45	56%	40%	5%
	45 or older	31%	56%	13%
Age	18 to 29	66%	28%	6%
	30 to 44	46%	50%	4%
	45 to 59	38%	50%	12%
	60 or older	24%	62%	14%
Race	White	40%	50%	10%
	Non-white	45%	46%	9%
Region	Northeast	26%	66%	8%
	Midwest	43%	47%	10%
	South	43%	45%	12%
	West	48%	43%	9%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	44%	44%	12%
	\$50,000 or more	40%	53%	8%
Education	Not college graduate	43%	49%	8%
	College graduate	39%	49%	12%
Interview Type	Landline	34%	54%	12%
	Cell phone	52%	41%	7%

Marist Poll National Baseball Fans: Interviews conducted April 7th through April 10th, 2014, n=546 MOE +/- 4.2 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Marist Poll National Baseball Tables

		National Adults			
		Do you watch or follow professional baseball a great deal, a good amount, a little, or not at all?			
		A great deal	A good amount	A little	Not at all
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		9%	8%	28%	55%
Gender	Men	11%	10%	28%	50%
	Women	7%	6%	27%	59%
Age	Under 45	7%	8%	23%	62%
	45 or older	11%	8%	32%	49%
Age	18 to 29	7%	7%	21%	65%
	30 to 44	7%	10%	25%	58%
	45 to 59	10%	8%	31%	50%
	60 or older	11%	8%	32%	48%
Race	White	10%	8%	29%	52%
	Non-white	7%	9%	25%	59%
Region	Northeast	14%	12%	29%	45%
	Midwest	9%	8%	30%	53%
	South	6%	7%	27%	60%
	West	11%	8%	27%	55%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	7%	7%	25%	61%
	\$50,000 or more	11%	10%	30%	49%
Education	Not college graduate	9%	8%	26%	57%
	College graduate	9%	9%	32%	50%
Interview Type	Landline	9%	9%	31%	51%
	Cell phone	9%	8%	24%	59%

Marist Poll National Adults: Interviews conducted April 7th through April 10th, 2014, n=1212 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.