

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: Exclusive *Point Taken*-Marist Poll of 507 National Adults

This survey of 507 adults was conducted May 12th through May 14th, 2016 by The Marist Poll sponsored and funded in partnership with WGBH's *Point Taken*. 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. 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. Each percentage point represents 3.2 million people including children or 2.4 million adults 18 years of age and older. Results are statistically significant within ± 4.4 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%
National Registered Voters		86%
Party Identification	Democrat	37%
	Republican	27%
	Independent	34%
	Other	1%
Political Ideology	Very liberal	9%
	Liberal	21%
	Moderate	36%
	Conservative	26%
	Very conservative	8%
Gender	Men	49%
	Women	51%
Age	Under 45	47%
	45 or older	53%
Age	18 to 29	25%
	30 to 44	22%
	45 to 59	26%
	60 or older	26%
Generation	Millennials (18-34)	35%
	Gen X (35-50)	21%
	Baby Boomers (51-69)	31%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 69)	13%
Race	White	62%
	African American	11%
	Latino	15%
	Other	11%
Region	Northeast	18%
	Midwest	22%
	South	37%
	West	23%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	49%
	\$50,000 or more	51%
Education	Not college graduate	56%
	College graduate	44%
Interview Type	Landline	41%
	Cell phone	59%

Exclusive Point Taken-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted May 12th through May 14th, 2016, n=507 MOE +/- 4.4 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 table 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 letter is below a percent, it notes that this percent is statistically different from the percent of the lettered column. For example in the table below, the 57% in column H is statistically different from the 42% in column G.
6. Please note totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

[Table AM160511PT](#)

Exclusive Point Taken-Marist Poll
May 2016

From what you have heard or read about the United States' role in the Middle East, do you think the U.S. is doing more harm or doing more good in the region?

	Generation						Party Identification			Political Ideology		
	National Adults	Millennials (18-34)	Gen X (35-50)	Baby Boomers (51-69)	Silent-Greatest (Over 69)	National Registered Voters	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Very liberal-Liberal	Moderate	Conservative-Very conservative
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(K)	(L)
Total Answering	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Doing more harm	49%	56%	42%	52%	*	50%	42%	57%	52%	57%	48%	49%
Doing more good	27%	22%	26%	28%	*	28%	35%	23%	27%	25%	32%	28%
Unsure	25%	22%	33%	20%	*	22%	23%	20%	22%	17%	21%	24%
Chi-Square Significance		<-----11.433----->					<-----6.889----->			<-----3.577----->		
					92%		86%			53%		

Comparison Groups: BCDE/GHI/JKL

T-Test for Means, Z-Test for Percentages

Uppercase letters indicate significance at the 95% level.

Lowercase letters indicate significance at the 90% level.

* Sample size too small for analysis

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Banner 2: Generation, Registered Voters, Party Identification, Political Ideology

[Table AM160511PT](#) [From what you have heard or read about the United States' role in the Middle East, do you think the U.S. is doing more harm or doing more good in the region?](#)

[Table A1160511PT](#) [When it comes to the United States' role in the Middle East, do you think the U.S. should: Increase its military presence, Keep its military presence at current levels, Decrease its military presence, or Completely withdraw its military presence from the Middle East?](#)

[Table A2160511PT](#) [If you had to choose, would you prefer the United States focus its diplomatic and military resources on: The Middle East or Asia?](#)

[Table A3160511PT](#) [Regardless of whether or not you think the U.S. should have a military role in the Middle East, which one of the following do you think is the best reason for staying involved in the region: The United States' commitment to Israel, The importance of the Middle East as a source of oil, or The need to defeat ISIS?](#)

[Table AM160511PT](#)

Exclusive *Point Taken* -Marist Poll
May 2016

From what you have heard or read about the United States' role in the Middle East, do you think the U.S. is doing more harm or doing more good in the region?

	Generation						Party Identification			Political Ideology		
	National Adults	Millennials (18-34)	Gen X (35-50)	Baby Boomers (51-69)	Silent- Greatest (Over 69)	National Registered Voters	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Very liberal- Liberal	Moderate	Conservative- Very conservative
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(K)	(L)
Total Answering	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Doing more harm	49%	56%	42%	52%	*	50%	42%	57%	52%	57%	48%	49%
Doing more good	27%	22%	26%	28%	*	28%	35%	23%	27%	25%	32%	28%
Unsure	25%	22%	33%	20%	*	22%	23%	20%	22%	17%	21%	24%
Chi-Square Significance			d 11	.433 92%			h 6.889 86%				3.577 53%	

Comparison Groups: BCDE/GHI/JKL

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* Sample size too small for analysis

[Table A1160511PT](#)

Exclusive *Point Taken* -Marist Poll
May 2016

When it comes to the United States' role in the Middle East, do you think the U.S. should: Increase its military presence, Keep its military presence at current levels, Decrease its military presence, or Completely withdraw its military presence from the Middle East?

	Generation					National Registered Voters	Party Identification			Political Ideology		
	=====						=====			=====		
	National Adults	Millennials (18-34)	Gen X (35-50)	Baby Boomers (51-69)	Silent- Greatest (Over 69)		Democrat	Republican	Independent	Very liberal- Liberal	Moderate	Conservative- Very conservative
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(K)	(L)	
Total Answering	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Increase its military presence	23%	13%	29%	26%	*	24%	16%	40%	21%	8%	25%	38%
			B	B				GI			J	JK
Keep its military presence at current levels	23%	27%	18%	25%	*	23%	30%	14%	26%	25%	27%	20%
							H		h			
Decrease its military presence	24%	33%	24%	22%	*	26%	27%	19%	31%	38%	26%	15%
		d							h	kL	L	
Completely withdraw its military presence from the Middle East	15%	15%	12%	17%	*	14%	16%	15%	10%	21%	12%	11%
										I		
Unsure	14%	11%	17%	11%	*	12%	11%	12%	13%	8%	10%	15%
Chi-Square Significance	<-----35.713----->						<-----28.384----->		>----->	<-----45.646----->		
	1 00%						100%			100%		

Comparison Groups: BCDE/GHI/JKL

T-Test for Means, Z-Test for Percentages

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* Sample size too small for analysis

[Table A2160511PT](#)

Exclusive *Point Taken* -Marist Poll
May 2016

If you had to choose, would you prefer the United States focus its diplomatic and military resources on: The Middle East or Asia?

	Generation					Party Identification				Political Ideology		
	National Adults	Millennials (18-34)	Gen X (35-50)	Baby Boomers (51-69)	Silent- Greatest (Over 69)	National Registered Voters	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Very liberal- Liberal	Moderate	Conservative- Very conservative
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(K)	(L)
Total Answering	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
The Middle East	53%	49%	52%	57%	*	55%	53%	58%	55%	62%	49%	60%
Asia	24%	29%	30%	23%	*	25%	27%	29%	22%	25%	35%	13%
Unsure	23%	22%	18%	20%	*	21%	20%	13%	24%	13%	17%	27%
Chi-Square												
Significance												

Comparison Groups: BCDE/GHI/JKL

T-Test for Means, Z-Test for Percentages

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* Sample size too small for analysis

[Table A3160511PT](#)

Exclusive *Point Taken* -Marist Poll
May 2016

Regardless of whether or not you think the U.S. should have a military role in the Middle East, which one of the following do you think is the best reason for staying involved in the region: The United States' commitment to Israel, The importance of the Middle East as a source of oil, or The need to defeat ISIS?

	Generation					National Registered Voters	Party Identification			Political Ideology		
	National Adults	Millennials (18-34)	Gen X (35-50)	Baby Boomers (51-69)	Silent- Greatest (Over 69)		Democrat	Republican	Independent	Very liberal- Liberal	Moderate	Conservative- Very conservative
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(K)	(L)
Total Answering	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
The United States' commitment to Israel	18%	17%	17%	19%	*	18%	19%	23%	15%	21%	17%	17%
The importance of the Middle East as a source of oil	9%	12% d	16% D	4%	*	8%	6%	10%	5%	13% L	7%	4%
The need to defeat ISIS	64%	62%	58%	71% c	*	67%	67%	63%	72%	61%	70%	73%
Unsure	9%	10%	9%	5%	*	7%	7%	4%	8%	5%	6%	7%
Chi-Square Significance		<-----1 6.57----- 94%					<-----6.978--- 68%		>----->	<-----9.757--- 86%		>----->

Comparison Groups: BCDE/GHI/JKL

T-Test for Means, Z-Test for Percentages

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