

# MARISTPOLL

## Marist College Institute for Public Opinion

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### **Majority Still Consider 66 to be Middle-Aged**

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#### **This Marist Poll reports:**

The annual tradition, going back three decades, of asking whether or not the age of our director, Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, is considered young, middle-aged, or old lives on! This year, Dr. Miringoff faces “66,” and 58% of Americans say *that* age is middle-aged. One in ten, 10%, think it is young, and one-third, 33%, believe it is old. These proportions are almost identical to those reported last year when Miringoff turned 65.

Younger respondents are more likely to consider 66 to be old. Americans under 45 years of age, 47%, are more than twice as likely as their older counterparts, 20%, to report 66 is old. People under 30 years old, 56%, think 66 is old. In sharp contrast, those over 70, 26%, think 66 is young.

## How the Survey was Conducted

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### **Nature of the Sample: Marist Poll of 1,062 National Adults**

This survey of 1,062 adults was conducted March 22<sup>nd</sup> through March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 by The Marist Poll. 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. Mobile telephone numbers were randomly selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation from Survey Sampling International. 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 from ASDE Survey Sampler, Inc. 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 2013 American Community Survey 1-year estimates for age, gender, income, race, and region. Results are statistically significant within  $\pm 3.0$  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%
Gender	Men	49%
	Women	51%
Age	Under 45	47%
	45 or older	53%
Age	18 to 29	22%
	30 to 44	25%
	45 to 59	27%
	60 or older	26%
Race	White	62%
	African American	11%
	Latino	14%
	Other	12%
Region	Northeast	18%
	Midwest	21%
	South	37%
	West	24%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	48%
	\$50,000 or more	52%
Education	Not college graduate	58%
	College graduate	42%
Interview Type	Landline	33%
	Cell phone	67%

Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted March 22nd through March 27th, 2017, n=1062 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Marist Poll National Tables

		National Adults		
		Do you think someone who is 66 is young, middle-aged, or old?		
		Young	Middle-aged	Old
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		10%	58%	33%
Region	Northeast	8%	60%	32%
	Midwest	8%	59%	33%
	South	12%	54%	34%
	West	9%	60%	31%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	11%	56%	32%
	\$50,000 or more	7%	60%	34%
Education	Not college graduate	11%	57%	32%
	College graduate	8%	58%	34%
Age	Under 45	3%	50%	47%
	45 or older	15%	64%	20%
Age	18 to 29	5%	39%	56%
	30 to 44	2%	60%	39%
	45 to 59	11%	65%	24%
	60 or older	20%	64%	16%
Age	Under 70	7%	57%	36%
	70 or older	26%	60%	14%
Race	White	10%	61%	30%
	African American	5%	60%	35%
	Latino	6%	53%	42%
Gender	Men	8%	51%	41%
	Women	11%	64%	25%
Interview Type	Landline	16%	62%	22%
	Cell phone	6%	56%	38%

Marist Poll National Adults: Interviews conducted March 22nd through March 27th, 2017, n=1062 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Marist Poll National Tables

National Adults

Do you think someone who is <age> years old is young, middle-aged, or old?

**Young Middle-aged Old**

	AGE	Row %	Row %	Row %
May 2017	66	10%	58%	33%
May 2016	65	11%	55%	34%
May 2015	64	12%	57%	31%
May 2014	63	13%	60%	27%
May 2013	62	13%	59%	28%
May 2012	61	15%	63%	22%
May 2011	60	13%	63%	23%
May 2010	59	15%	72%	13%
May 2009	58	18%	72%	10%
May 2008	57	15%	77%	8%
May 2007	56	27%	68%	6%
May 2006	55	28%	67%	5%
May 2005	54	26%	69%	5%
May 2004	53	23%	71%	6%
May 2003	52	28%	67%	5%
May 2002	51	21%	73%	6%
May 2001	50	27%	67%	6%
May 2000	49	32%	66%	3%
May 1999	48	33%	65%	3%
May 1998	47	35%	63%	2%
May 1997	46	36%	63%	1%
May 1996	45	38%	60%	2%

Marist Poll National Adults