

Arab Americans: An Identity Survey

Submitted to:

The Arab American Institute

Submitted by:

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I. Executive Summary

Overview

Findings

II. Narrative Analysis

1. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement: U.S. policy currently demonstrates respect toward the Islamic faith?

Table 1: U.S. Policy Respectful of Islam

	Overall	Dem	Rep	Ind	18-29	65+	U.S. Born	Not U.S. Born	Cath	Pro	Muslim
Strongly Agree	26	19	49	18	13	28	27	24	31	32	14
Somewhat Agree	18	22	14	15	18	15	17	22	16	25	16
Agree	44	41	63	33	31	43	44	46	47	57	30
Somewhat Disagree	22	22	13	29	41	13	24	19	21	10	38
Strongly Disagree	27	30	20	28	26	28	25	31	23	25	30
Disagree	49	52	33	57	67	41	49	50	44	35	68
Not Sure	7	7	5	10	2	16	8	4	10	9	2

2. Would you say you are more proud, less proud, or have the same amount of pride in being an Arab American as you did ten years ago?

Table 2: Pride in Arab American Heritage vs. 10 Years Ago

	Overall	Dem	Rep	Ind	18-29	65+	U.S. Born	Not U.S. Born	Cath	Pro	Muslim
More Pride	26	26	22	32	47	31	26	29	26	18	42
Less Pride	17	21	15	14	11	13	17	21	17	17	20
Same Pride	51	50	60	45	36	48	52	45	51	59	33
Not Sure	6	3	3	10	6	8	6	6	6	5	5

3. Have you personally experienced discrimination in the past because of your ethnicity?

Table 3: Experience with Discrimination

	Overall	Dem	Rep	Ind	18-29	65+	U.S. Born	Not U.S. Born	Cath	Pro	Muslim
Yes	42	45	33	47	76	31	42	41	29	45	58
No	58	55	67	52	23	69	58	58	71	54	42

4. How worried are you about the long-term effects of discrimination against Arab Americans?

Table 4: Concern Over Long-Term Discrimination Effects

	Overall	Dem	Rep	Ind	18-29	65+	U.S. Born	Not U.S. Born	Cath	Pro	Muslim
Very Worried	20	10	13	25	14	22	17	26	17	13	26
Somewhat Worried	37	44	32	33	34	34	38	36	34	37	38
Not Worried	43	36	54	43	49	44	45	35	49	49	33
Not Sure	1	<1	--	<1	4	<1	<1	3	<1	1	2

5. How worried are you about being singled out by airport security?

Table 5: Concern Over Airport Security Screening

	Overall	Dem	Rep	Ind	18-29	65+	U.S. Born	Not U.S. Born	Cath	Pro	Muslim
Very Worried	13	13	9	15	19	14	13	19	7	15	24
Somewhat Worried	20	21	13	21	34	12	19	21	12	22	28
Not Worried	67	66	77	64	45	75	69	59	81	63	46
Not Sure	<1	--	1	<1	3	--	--	1	--	--	1

6. How important is your ethnic heritage in defining you as a person – very important, somewhat important, or not important?

Table 6: Importance of Ethnic Heritage in Identity

	Overall	Dem	Rep	Ind	18-29	65+	U.S. Born	Not U.S. Born	Cath	Pro	Muslim
Very Important	52	55	50	49	56	56	49	68	57	47	66
Somewhat Important	30	30	28	33	21	24	34	18	29	35	18
Not Important	17	14	22	17	21	19	17	11	13	17	13
Not Sure	1	1	1	2	2	2	<1	4	1	<1	3

III. Methodology and Sample Characteristics

Methodology:

Survey Methodology Arab Americans 05/22/07 thru 05/26/07

This is a telephone survey of Arab Americans nationwide conducted by Zogby International. The target sample is 501 interviews with approximately 38 questions asked. Samples are randomly drawn over national Congressional Districts using Zogby International's list of Arab surnames. Zogby International surveys employ sampling strategies in which selection probabilities are proportional to population size within area codes and exchanges. Up to six calls are made to reach a sampled phone number. Cooperation rates are calculated using one of AAPOR's approved methodologies¹ and are comparable to other professional public-opinion surveys conducted using similar sampling strategies.² Weighting by country of origin, religion, born in US, age and gender is used to adjust for non-response. The margin of error is +/- 4.5 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

Zogby International's sampling and weighting procedures also have been validated through its political polling: more than 95% of the firm's polls have come within 1% of actual election-day outcomes.

¹ See COOP4 (p.38) in *Standard Definitions: Final Dispositions of Case Codes and Outcome Rates of Surveys*. The American Association for Public Opinion Research, (2000).

² *Cooperation Tracking Study: April 2003 Update*, Jane M. Sheppard and Shelly Haas. The Council for Marketing & Opinion Research (CMOR). Cincinnati, Ohio (2003).

Sample Characteristics

Sample Characteristics	Frequency	Valid Percent*
Sample Size	501	--
East	186	37
South	107	21
Central/Great Lakes	140	28
West	68	14
Did not answer region	--	--
Very Likely to Vote	442	93
Somewhat Likely to Vote	25	5
Democrat	180	40
Republican	120	26
Independent	131	28
18-29	66	14
30-49	162	33
50-64	140	29
65+	122	25
18-24	47	10
25-34	48	10
35-54	202	41
55-69	106	22
70+	88	18
Did not respond age	11	--
Large City	219	44
Small City	100	20
Suburbs	154	31
Rural	24	5
Did not respond location	4	--

* Numbers have been rounded to the nearest percent and might not total 100.

Sample Characteristics	Frequency	Valid Percent*
Progressive	42	9
Liberal	103	21
Moderate	199	41
Conservative	102	21
Very Conservative	24	5
Libertarian	12	3
Did not respond ideology	20	--
Catholic	173	35
Protestant	76	15
Jewish	--	--
Muslim	119	24
Eastern Orthodox	62	13
Other/None	64	13
Did not respond Religion	7	--
Born Again	30	6
Not Born Again	47	9
Did not respond Born Again	--	--
Children <17	159	32
No Children <17	342	68
Did not respond Children <17	--	--
Married	296	59
Single	134	27
Divorced/Widowed/Single	63	13
Civil Union	8	2
Did not respond status	--	--
< \$25,000	50	12
\$25-35K	47	11
\$35-50K	45	11
\$50-75K	59	14
\$75-100K	84	20
\$100K+	140	33
Did not respond Income	77	--
Male	251	50
Female	250	50
Did not respond Gender	--	--

***Numbers have been rounded to the nearest percent and might not total 100**

Sample Characteristics	Frequency	Valid Percent*
Less than High School	4	1
High School Graduate	69	14
Some College	124	25
College	304	61
Did Not Respond Education	--	--
Attend Religious Service > Weekly	57	11
Attend Weekly	150	30
Attend 1-2 Times per Month	78	16
Attend on holidays only	73	15
Attend rarely	93	19
Never Attend	46	9
Did not respond Religious Attendance	5	--
Shi'a	29	26**
Sunni	59	52
Other	24	22
Did not respond Sect	--	--
Lebanon	281	56
Syria	70	14
Egypt	55	11
Palestine	50	10
Jordan	20	4
Iraq	10	2
Other Arab	15	3
Born in U.S.	376	75
Born Overseas	125	25
English at Home	380	76
Other Language at Home	28	6
Evenly Divided	93	19

*** Numbers have been rounded to the nearest percent and might not total 100**

****Represents Percentage Among Those Responding Muslim**