Public Opinion Polls

Instructions: Read the polling data below and answer the questions that follow.

Poll 1: Colin Kaepernick—2016

Poll Question:
“Colin Kaepernick said, ‘I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color...’ Do you approve or disapprove of Colin Kaepernick’s decision to protest racism by remaining seated during the playing of the national anthem?”

(Poll conducted by YouGov, August 31-September 1, 2016)

Responses:

Breakdown of Responses:

Source: https://today.yougov.com/topics/lifestyle/articles-reports/2016/09/06/significant-racial-divide-kaepernick-protest
Poll 2: NBA Walkout—2020

Poll Question:
“Yesterday, the Milwaukee Bucks and five other basketball teams decided to not play their scheduled NBA playoff games in protest of police shooting Jacob Blake, a Black man from Wisconsin, earlier this week. Do you support or oppose this decision?”

(Poll conducted by YouGov, August 27-28, 2020)

Responses:

Breakdown of Responses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly support</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat support</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat oppose</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly oppose</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: https://today.yougov.com/topics/sport/articles-reports/2020/08/28/americans-support-milwaukee-bucks-stike
Poll 3: Athletes’ Expression of Views—2018

Poll Question:
“Do you think professional athletes should use their fame as a platform to make comments about social issues?”

(Poll conducted by Seton Hall, February 19-21, 2018)

Responses:

Source: https://www.shu.edu/sports-poll/upload/2-18-Olympics-2.pdf

Poll 4: Athletes’ Expression of Views—2020

Poll Question:
“In your opinion, should professional athletes use their platform to express their views on national issues, or should they NOT do this?”

(Poll conducted by the Washington Post, September 1-6, 2020)

Responses:

Source: https://www.washingtonpost.com/context/sept-1-6-2020-washington-post-poll/1861c4c7-704e-4da9-9f49-3749b6d99b29/?itid=lk_inline_manual_2
Questions:
1. Analyze the survey results from Poll 1 and Poll 2. Fill in the blanks below.
   a. In 2016, _____ percent of the U.S. population supported Colin Kaepernick's protest against racism.
   b. In 2020, _____ percent of the U.S. population supported NBA athletes’ protest against the police killing of Jacob Blake.

2. Analyze the survey results from Poll 3 and Poll 4. Fill in the blanks below.
   a. From 2018 to 2020, the percentage of the U.S. population that supports athletes’ expression of their views on national issues increased from _____ percent to _____ percent.
   b. From 2018 to 2020, the percentage of the U.S. population that opposes athletes’ expression of their views on national issues decreased from _____ percent to _____ percent.

3. Is there anything in the public opinion data that you found to be interesting, important, or surprising? Explain your reactions or observations.