

NEW YORK (Reuter) - Nearly half of all Americans think the government is hiding proof of UFOs from the public, according to a poll released by Newsweek magazine Sunday.

The poll found that while 48 percent of those interviewed believed that the Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) people report seeing are real, 51 percent thought there was a natural scientific explanation for them.

Only 12 percent said they had seen objects they thought were UFOs. But 49 percent thought the government was hiding information on the subject. Only 20 percent believed UFOs were alien ships or alien life forms.

The poll found that belief in the paranormal decreased slightly with age. Forty-three percent of 18-29 year-olds considered themselves believers compared with 39 percent of 30-49 year-olds and 35 percent of 50-64 year-olds. Of those over 65 years old, 37 percent were believers.

The survey had a margin of error of plus or minus four for the total sample of 769 adults.

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