



# CRITICAL ISSUES POLL

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## **The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, the Russia-Ukraine War, and Other Domestic and Foreign Policy Issues**

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### **Survey Methodology**

University of Maryland (UMD) engaged SSRS to conduct the July-August Critical Issues Poll via the SSRS Opinion Panel among U.S. adults age 18 and older. Data collection was conducted from July 29 – August 7, 2025, among a sample of 1,514 respondents, including an oversample of young adults, ages 18-34. Overall, the sample included n=605 ages 18-34 and n=909 ages 35 and older.

The survey was conducted via web in English and data were weighted to represent the residential adult population of the United States as well as the residential adult population of the United States under the age of 35. Therefore, two weights were provided: Weight\_GP, which is the general population age 18+ weight (which includes the 18-34-year-old oversample weighted back into proportion) and Weight\_1834, which is the 18–34-year-old weight. The margin of sampling error for the entire sample using Weight\_GP is  $\pm 2.9$  and the margin of sampling error for those ages 18-34 using Weight\_1834 is  $\pm 4.9$  percentage points.

Note: Percentages may not always add to one hundred due to rounding.

Q7. Do you believe that defending human rights globally should be a goal of American foreign policy?

	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	All respondents
Yes	70%	91%	78%	79%
No	21%	5%	14%	13%
I don't know	10%	4%	9%	8%

Q7A. In your opinion what is the best way for the U.S. to defend human rights globally? (Among those who said that defending human rights globally should be a goal of American foreign policy)

	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	All respondents
By setting a good example	24%	20%	28%	25%
By using incentives such as foreign aid	11%	15%	9%	11%
By working through international organizations such as the United Nations	32%	52%	42%	42%
By using economic boycotts if necessary	11%	7%	10%	9%
By using more coercive means including military force if necessary	14%	3%	6%	7%
Other	2%	1%	1%	2%
I don't know	7%	2%	5%	5%

Q24. How would you describe the Trump administration's policy toward the Israeli-Palestinian issue?

	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	All respondents
Too pro-Israeli	15%	63%	45%	40%
Too pro-Palestinian	3%	3%	3%	3%
About right	57%	8%	23%	27%

Don't know	26%	26%	29%	30%
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Q25. How would you define Israel's military actions in Gaza in recent months?

	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	All respondents
Genocide	6%	36%	21%	22%
Major war crimes akin to genocide	8%	31%	21%	19%
Major war crimes but not akin to genocide	7%	8%	6%	7%
Unjustified actions but not major war crimes	10%	4%	10%	8%
Justified actions under the right to self-defense	46%	7%	18%	22%
I don't know	23%	14%	24%	23%

Q26B. Which of the following is closer to your view about the impact of US military, economic, and diplomatic support for Israel on Israeli actions in Gaza?

	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	All respondents
It strongly enables them	21%	50%	36%	34%
It somewhat enables them	36%	22%	27%	27%
It only marginally impacts them	15%	7%	9%	10%
It doesn't impact them	3%	1%	1%	2%
I don't know	25%	21%	26%	26%

Q30. In your opinion, which of the following is closest to your view about American policy toward the Middle Eastern region?

	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	All respondents
It mostly advances American interests	34%	36%	32%	33%

It mostly advances interests of Arab states	8%	4%	6%	6%
It mostly advances interests of Israel	19%	31%	29%	25%
Other	6%	4%	4%	6%
I don't know	33%	25%	30%	31%

Q31. Thinking about the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinians, are your sympathies more with the Israelis or with the Palestinians?

	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	All respondents
More with the Israelis	46%	6%	19%	22%
More with the Palestinians	7%	49%	28%	28%
Both equally	24%	25%	30%	26%
Neither	13%	7%	11%	12%
I don't know	10%	13%	11%	13%

Q36. How long should the U.S. stay the course in supporting Ukraine?

	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	All respondents
1-2 years	21%	8%	17%	15%
2-5 years	7%	8%	4%	6%
5-10 years	1%	2%	1%	1%
As long as it takes	36%	74%	55%	54%
Immediately stop support	35%	10%	24%	23%

Q38. In the Russia-Ukraine war, how would you describe your sympathies?

	Republicans	Democrats	Independents	All respondents
More with Russia	3%	0%	2%	2%
More with Ukraine	55%	83%	64%	64%
Both equally	13%	4%	12%	9%
Neither	23%	7%	14%	16%
I don't know	7%	6%	8%	9%