

## Pew Research Center Survey Finds That the United States' Image Internationally Has Plummeted

A new survey released by the Pew Research Center indicates that the image of the United States has fallen dramatically across the globe in recent years. In data collected across thirteen countries, America's favorability rating and confidence in the American leader are at an all-time low. In particular, four years of Trump administration policies and the country's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic have contributed to the United States' image declining. According to the Pew Research survey, six of America's allies have record low favorability ratings for the United States. Pew Research's data from these countries, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Japan, Canada, and Australia, indicates that the United States' favorability in their eyes has been declining since 2016, with a sharp plummet recently due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, when the survey is expanded to include additional questions, confidence in President Trump is at an all-time low for American presidents.

In nearly every country surveyed by Pew Research, the United States was viewed unfavorably. Most notably, staunch allies such as Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom all had negative views on the United States, with favorability ratings of 35%, 26%, and 41% respectively. An average of the thirteen countries surveyed indicated 64% of people viewed the United States unfavorably. The lone exception to this was South Korea, where 59% of people have a positive view of America. Other countries in the Asia-Pacific region, such as Japan, also hold more favorable views toward the United States than their counterparts in Western Europe. One potential reason for this is the strong stance the United States has taken recently against the Chinese regime, which respondents in South Korea and Japan view extremely unfavorably.

Traditionally, favorability views on the United States in data collected by Pew trends in tandem with overall confidence in the American president. Currently, Pew's data indicates people around the world have little to no confidence in President Trump. Among the thirteen countries surveyed, 83% of people said they had no confidence in President Trump. Additionally, when compared to confidence in past American leaders, the confidence level in Trump is at an all-time low for an American president. A glaring reason for this is the president's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the same thirteen country sample size, an average of 84% of people responded that the United States had dealt with the pandemic poorly. Even South Korea, which generally views America favorably, believes the country has done a poor job handling the virus, with an overwhelming 93% of respondents saying the United States had handled COVID-19 badly.

Unsurprisingly, the view toward America differs based on the respondents' political leanings. People in Western Europe who have favorable views toward right-wing populist parties are far more likely to have a positive view of both President Trump and the United States. In Spain in particular, there is a 30-point deviation on favorability toward the U.S. based on whether the person believed in the political right or left. Additionally, and following a current trend in the United States domestically, Caucasians with less education are more likely to have confidence in President Trump and view the U.S. favorably. Furthermore, there is a large gender gap in how the United States is viewed. On average, men are much likelier to view America favorably compared to women. Perhaps most striking of the data collected by Pew Research is the view on President Trump compared to other world leaders. When compared to Angela Merkel, Emmanuel Macron, Xi Jinping, Vladimir Putin, and Boris Johnson, President Trump has both the lowest favorability rating, and the least confidence among the world's citizenry to do the right thing in international affairs.