



[Biden Slips in the Polls with Millennial and Gen-Z Voters](#)

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Young voters in the United States have historically leaned left, voting for more liberal candidates. This trend continued during the 2020 election with 65% of those aged 18-29 voting for President Joe Biden, according to NBC. However, as the war in the Middle East rages on, Biden has maintained his unwavering support for Israel. As a result, young voters have increasingly begun to resent the President for his lack of condemnation of Israel's relentless attacks on Gaza as well as America's increased military aid to the country.

A recent poll from CNN found that approximately two-thirds of voters aged 18-34 disapproved of how Joe Biden has been handling his job as president. That same poll found that those voters believe Biden is "part of the problem" when speaking on the issues the nation currently faces. This discontent extends to the Democratic party, with half of young voters believing that Democratic lawmakers in Congress are also part of the problem. A recent national NBC News Poll also shows Biden trails Trump in the 18-34 age group 42% to 46%, respectively. The decline is significant given that Biden won the young vote by more than 20 points in the last election; and he even led the young vote as recently as September of this year.

When the first attacks occurred in October, the American public spoke out in immediate support of Israel. Yet as the indiscriminate attacks continue, the disparity between the Israelis and Palestinians has become clear. Public opinion is slowly shifting against the actions of the Israeli government, especially among young voters. In a recent NBC News Poll, 70% of voters aged 18-34 disapproved of Biden's handling of the war in Gaza. Democratic pollster Jeff Horwitt of Hart Research Associates commented: "It's stunning... the impact the Israel-Hamas war is having on Biden." He went further saying Joe Biden is at a "uniquely low point in his presidency...due to how Americans are viewing his foreign policy actions." This marks a unique trend in public opinion, as Americans are rarely so significantly swayed by how the government approaches international affairs.

Biden and Harris heavily relied on Millennial and Gen Z voters to win the 2020 elections. The tactics they used to attract them worked, resulting in the largest turnout of young voters in the country's history. They will likely employ this same strategy to prepare for 2024, presumably facing off against former President Trump once again. Despite the political field being full of Republican candidates, Donald Trump still leads polls. According to polls from FiveThirtyEight, Trump is leading his party by upwards of 60%, followed by Ron DeSantis at 13%, a gap of almost 50 points.

Before the war in Gaza began, young voters were already growing dissatisfied with Biden. A poll from The New York Times released on August 1 of this year found that over half of voters aged 18-29 disapproved of how Biden was handling things as President. Even in May 2022, his approval rating among Gen Z and Millennials was under 40%. These numbers are a steep drop from the 59% approval from Gen Z in January 2021 at the time of the President's inauguration.

Despite the obvious and overwhelming dissatisfaction with Biden, Democrats have not looked for, or even suggested the possibility of, an alternative nominee. There are currently three other potential nominees, none of whom seem viable in comparison to Biden. Although Vice President Kamala Harris is Biden's running mate for 2024, many Democrats are calling for Biden to replace her. FiveThirtyEight reports that Harris's approval rating is even lower than Biden's at 39.5%. Some believe that such a move would be too risky. Black voters helped bring the pair to victory in 2020; and replacing Harris may alienate a large demographic that Biden and Harris will once again need to rely on in 2024.

Still, with the election a year away, an unpredictable foreign relations landscape, and future verdicts in Trump's trials, the opinion polls are subject to change. It is worth noting, however, that the demographic who supported Biden the most in his first campaign is now beginning to look for alternatives; and party leaders may be forced to listen.