



## [New Gallup Poll Finds That a Majority of Americans Now Oppose Israel's Actions in Gaza](#)

An insightful new March Gallup poll has found that a majority of Americans now oppose Israel's War on Gaza by a solid margin. When participants in the survey were asked whether they approve or disapprove of the military actions that Israel has taken in Gaza, the recent results showed that 55% disapprove, 36% approve, and 9% have no opinion. The findings represent a notable shift in public opinion from the November 2023 poll, in which 50% of respondents approved, 45% disapproved, and 4% had no opinion. The Gallup poll also revealed interesting results along partisan lines. Republicans who disapprove of Israel's military actions increased from 23% in November 2023 to 30% in March 2024. Even more notably, there has been a dramatic shift in Independent and Democrat opinions on Israeli military action. Back in November, 63% of Democrats and 48% of Independents disapproved of Israeli military action, whereas March results show that a whopping 75% of Democrats and 60% of Independents now do. The data demonstrates that as the war has dragged on and further evidence has emerged regarding Israel's human rights violations and war crimes in Gaza, public support for Israel has been declining. The humanitarian toll of the conflict has resulted in over 32,000 Palestinians being killed – many of them children – and the entire Gaza Strip on the brink of famine. Compellingly, the new Gallup poll findings can be backed up by a Pew Research Center survey conducted in March, which found that more Americans support providing humanitarian aid to Gaza than they do sending military support to Israel.

As represented in the Gallup poll, U.S. policy regarding the War on Gaza could have a significant impact on the upcoming 2024 election cycle. Gallup has noted that the conflict isn't ranked highly when Americans are asked to name the most pressing issues facing the United States; however, candidates are at risk of losing key voting blocs – especially among Arab-Americans and young voters who have expressed that they are planning on protesting what is taking place in Gaza by not voting in November. This poses a threat to President Biden's 2024 re-election chances in particular, as he might lose voters in key swing states such as Michigan, where a substantial 13% of Democrats voted "uncommitted" in a protest vote over his position on Gaza. It appears that President Biden's overall job approval rating hasn't been largely affected by his stance on Gaza though, with it increasing from 37% in the November survey to 40% now – although Gallup did point out that this was perhaps lifted by Americans' greater confidence in the U.S. economy.

The new Gallup poll results come as Israel prepares to expand its military campaign into the city of Rafah, where some 1.5 million displaced Palestinians are taking shelter. The plan to invade the border city has been heavily criticized by human rights groups and U.S. elected officials alike, with both warning that a military assault there would exacerbate the already dire humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Relations between the United States and Israel have begun to fray as a result of differences in the approach to Gaza. Recently, public comments between U.S. President Joe Biden and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have exposed a growing rift between the two leaders, as well as underlying U.S. frustrations with the lack of Israeli cooperation. Multiple U.S. lawmakers including Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer have also expressed their discontent with the Israeli leadership, calling for new elections and emphasizing the need for a humanitarian solution to the crisis in Gaza. In this way, we can see how representatives serve as foreign policy leaders, often making public statements in an attempt to drive public opinion. Likewise, as public opinion continues to shift, more elected officials may begin to speak out against Israel's military actions to represent their constituents – a cornerstone of representative democracy.

A recent sign of the widening divide between the United States and Israel was the passing of the UN Security Council ceasefire resolution, in which the U.S. abstained instead of vetoing the resolution, effectively letting it go through against the wishes of Israel. In response, Netanyahu initially cancelled a delegation to the U.S. that was intended to discuss the potential military assault on Rafah, but he later reversed his decision and will send two Israeli officials to discuss the matter. Multiple fault lines could result in further U.S.-Israel divisions, and the harmful prospective invasion of Rafah seems to be an especially delicate issue that may serve to severely sour relations.