

# **Americans' Views of Trump, Trade and Foreign Policy**

**Canadian Global Affairs Institute**

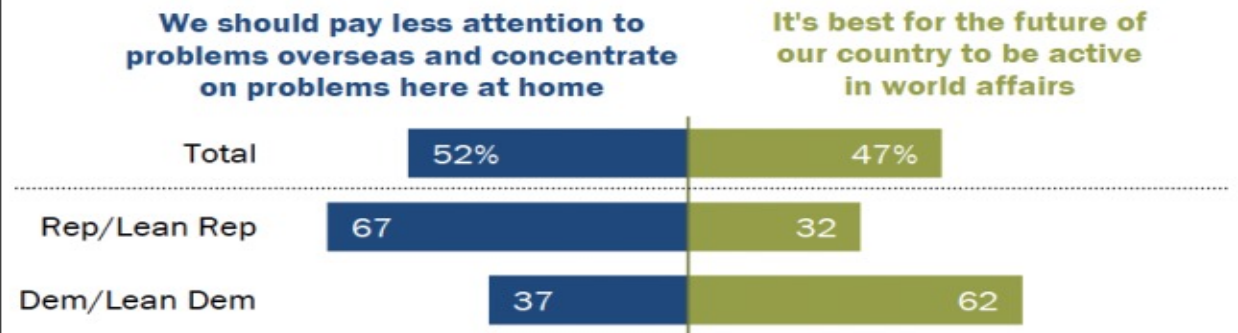
**October 1, 2025**

# **How Americans See Engagement With the World**

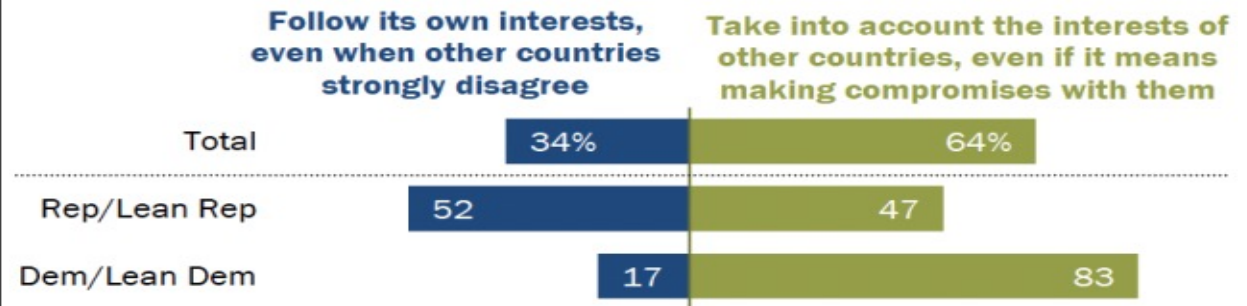
Half the American Public Favors Paying Less Attention to Problems Overseas, Including Two-Thirds of Republicans

## Views on international engagement and cooperation

*% who say ...*



*% who say that when dealing with major international issues, the U.S. should ...*



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 24-30, 2025.

"Majorities of Americans Support Several – But Not All – Types of Foreign Aid"

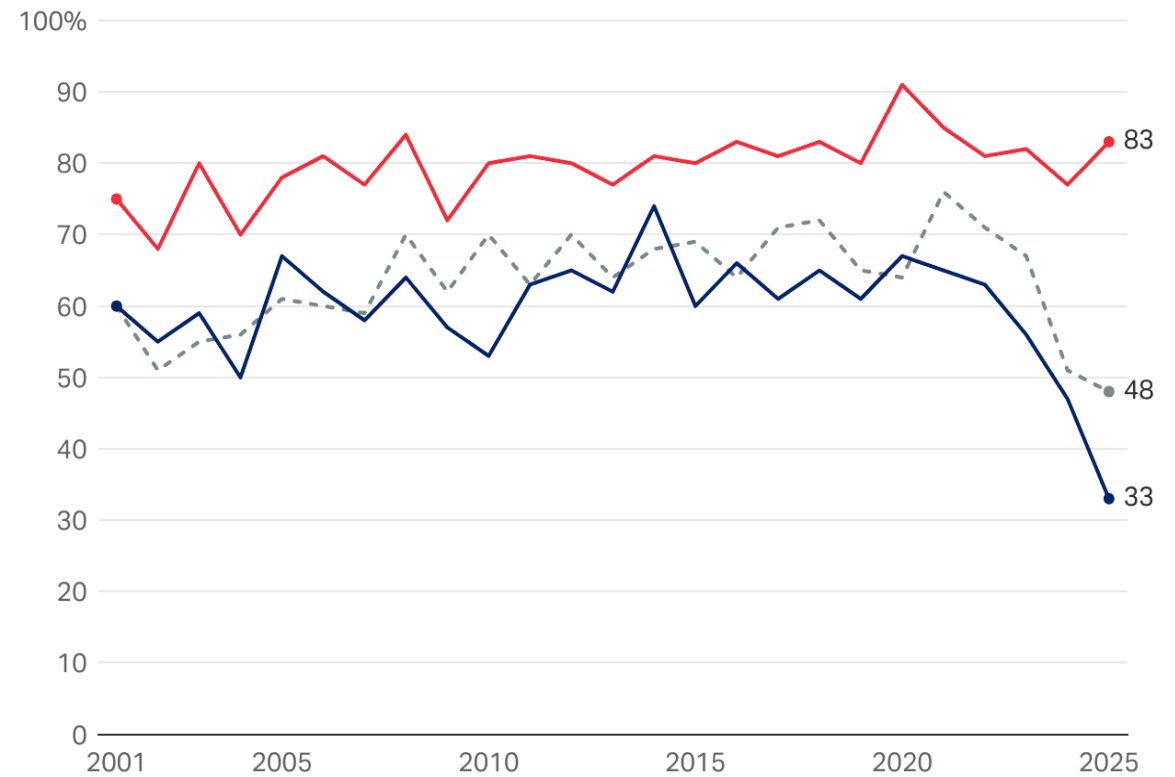
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The Gaza War Has Dramatically Undermined Democrats' Support for Israel, While Republican Support Remains Strong

Recent Trend in Americans' Favorable Ratings of Israel, by Party

% Very/Mostly favorable opinions of Israel

— Republicans - - Independents — Democrats



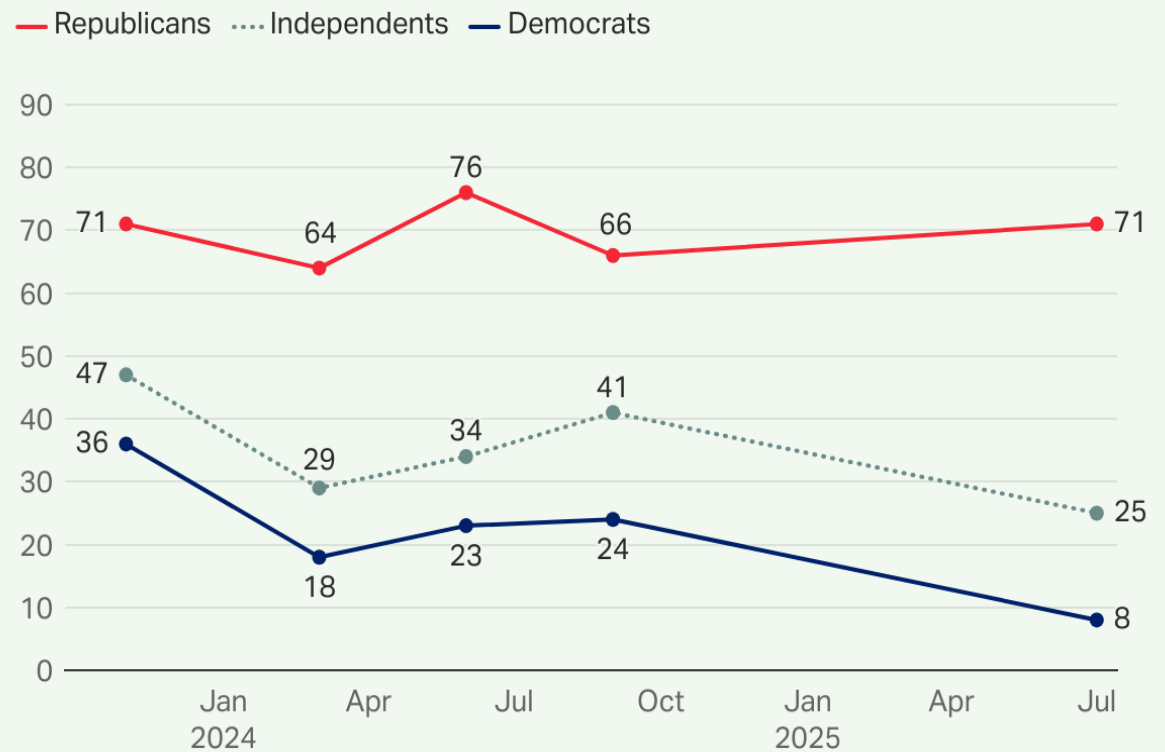
GALLUP

Decline in Support for Israel is Driven by Disapproval of Israel's Military Action in Gaza

### Support for Israel's Military Action in Gaza, by Party ID

*Do you approve or disapprove of the military action Israel has taken in Gaza?*

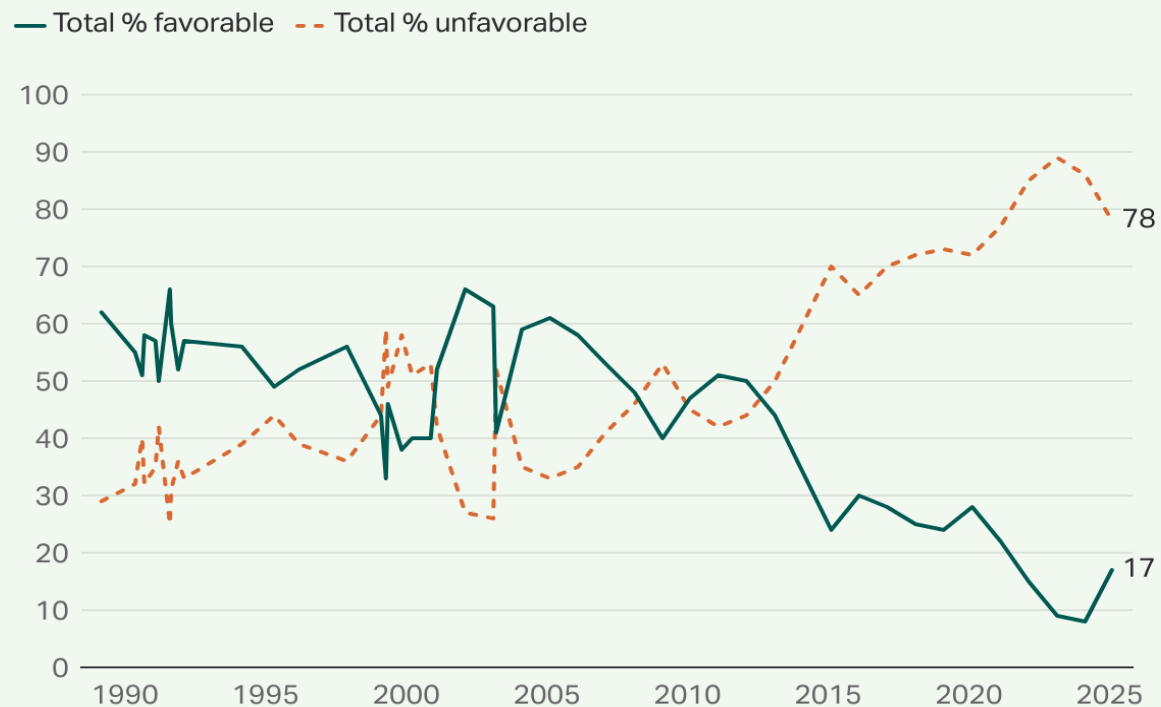
**% Approve**



GALLUP

# Americans' Views of Russia Are Worse Than They Have Been Since the Fall of the Soviet Union

Next, I'd like your overall opinion of some foreign countries. What is your overall opinion of Russia? Is it very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable or very unfavorable?



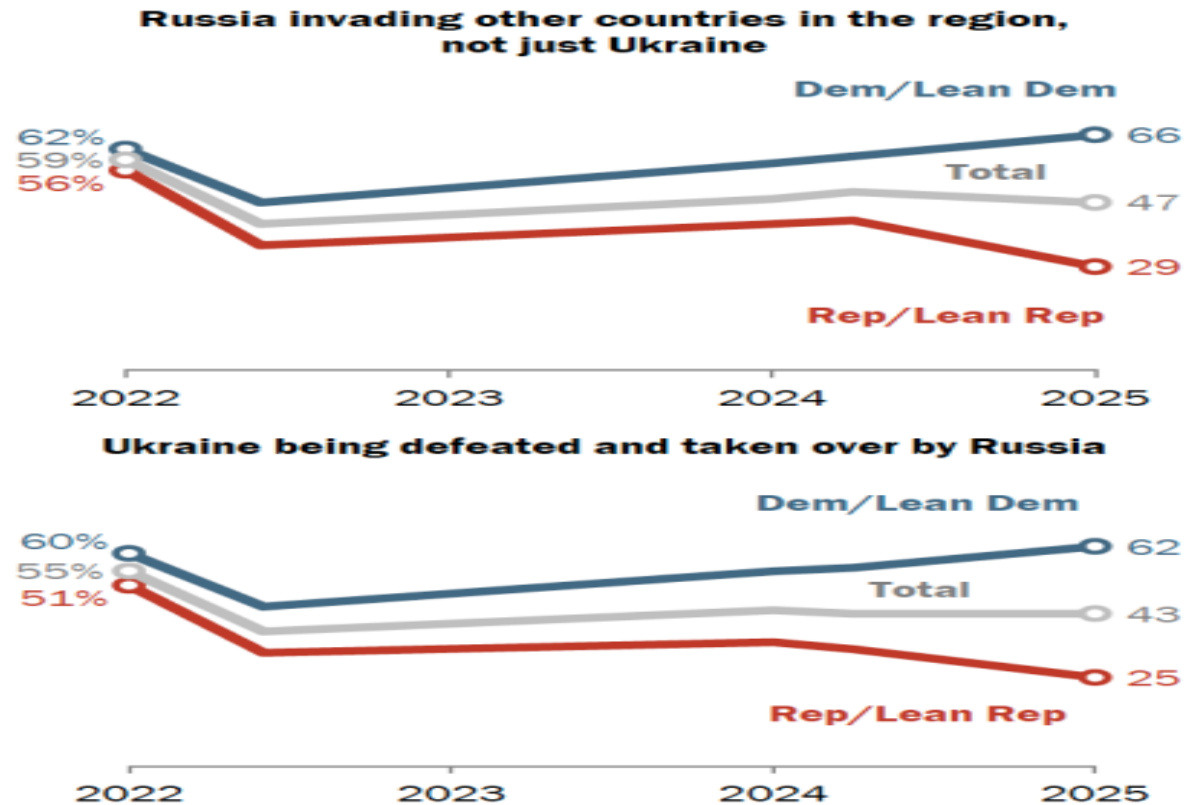
1989-1992 wording: The Soviet Union

GALLUP®

Less Than  
Three-in-Ten  
Republicans  
Worry About  
Russia's Military  
Threats to  
Ukraine or  
Europe

## Democrats are much more concerned than Republicans about various Russia-Ukraine war scenarios

% who are *extremely/very* concerned about the possibility of ...



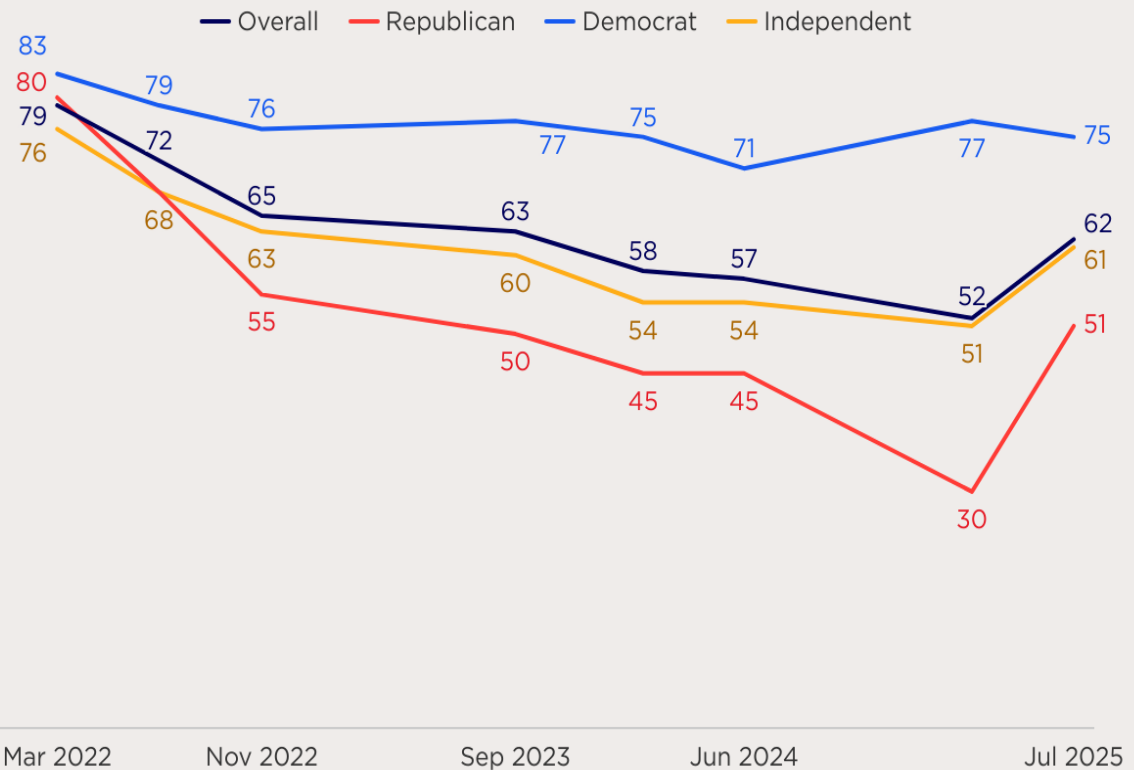
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 24-30, 2025. "Republican Opinion Shifts on Russia-Ukraine War"

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Nevertheless, Six-in-Ten Americans Back Additional Military Aid to Ukraine, And, For the First Time in Two Years, This Includes Half of Republicans

## Support for Sending US Military Aid to Ukraine

In response to the situation involving Russia and Ukraine, would you support or oppose the United States: **Sending additional arms and military supplies to the Ukrainian government (% support)**



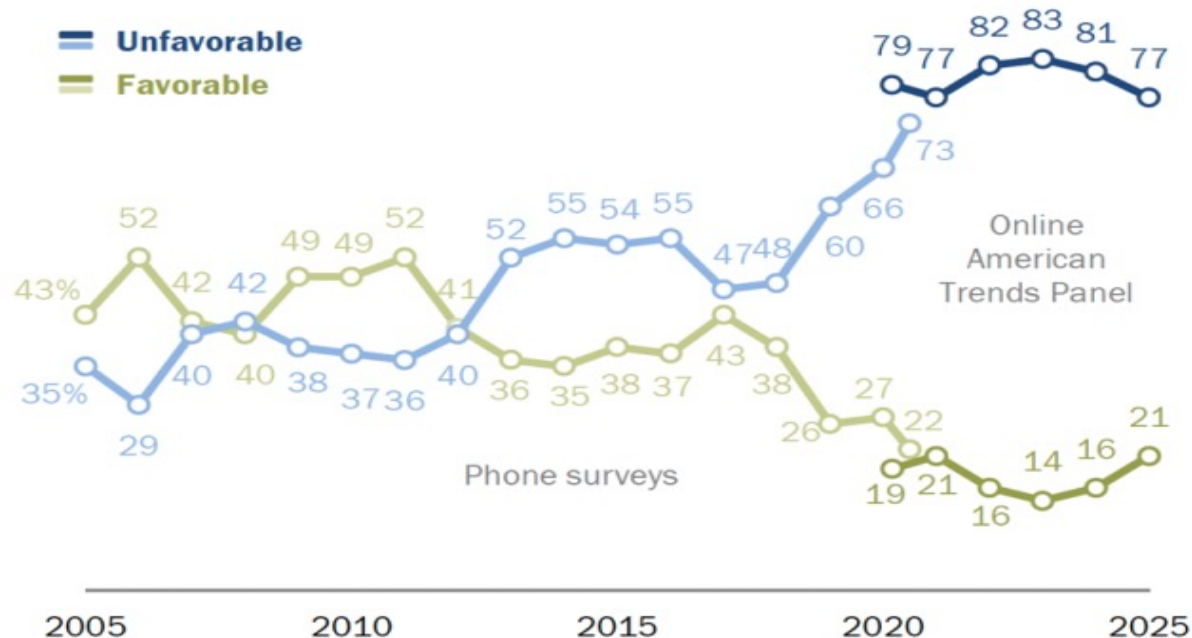
July 18-30, 2025 | n=1,066  
CHICAGO COUNCIL SURVEYS



Three-in-Four  
Americans Have  
a Negative View  
of China, Even  
More Negative  
Than Views  
After  
Tiananmen

## American views of China warm slightly for first time since 2017

% of U.S. adults who have a(n) \_\_\_ opinion of China



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 24-30, 2025.

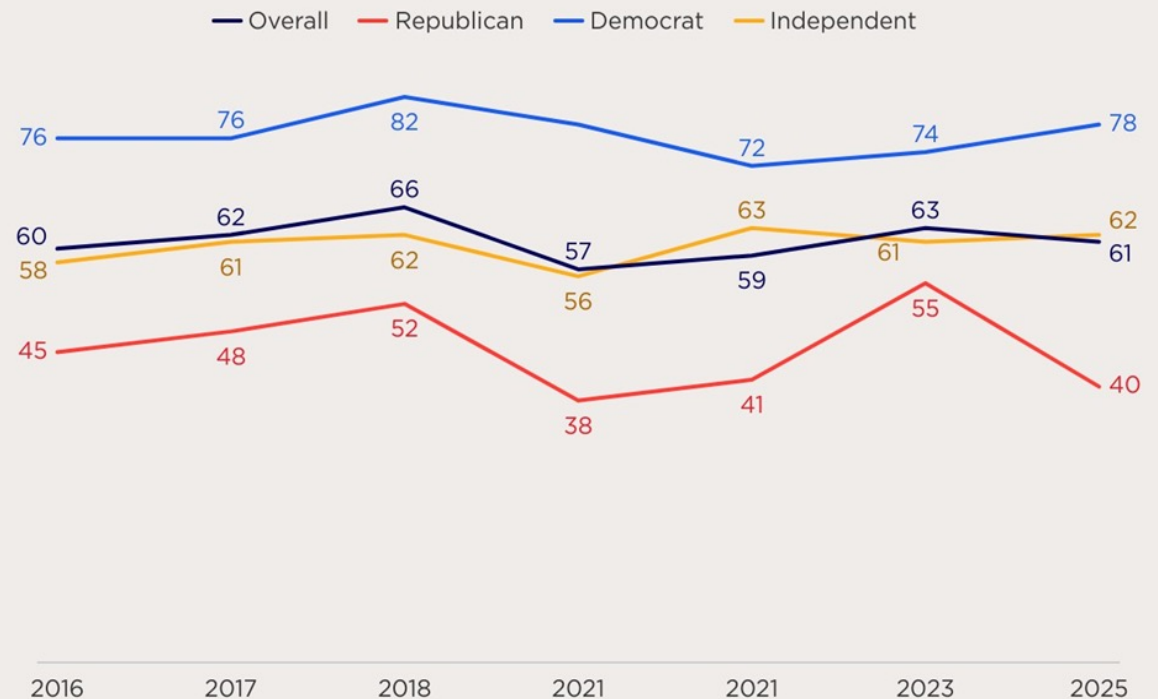
"Negative Views of China Have Softened Slightly Among Americans"

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Six-in-Ten  
Americans Back  
a Nuclear Deal  
With Iran:  
Nearly Eight-in-  
Ten Democrats  
But Only Four-  
in-Ten  
Republicans

## US Participation in Nuclear Agreement with Iran

Based on what you know, do you think the US should or should not participate in the following international agreements? **The agreement that lifts some international economic sanctions against Iran in exchange for strict limits on its nuclear program for at least the next decade** (% should participate)



April 18-20, 2025 | n=1,019  
CHICAGO COUNCIL ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS-IPSOS



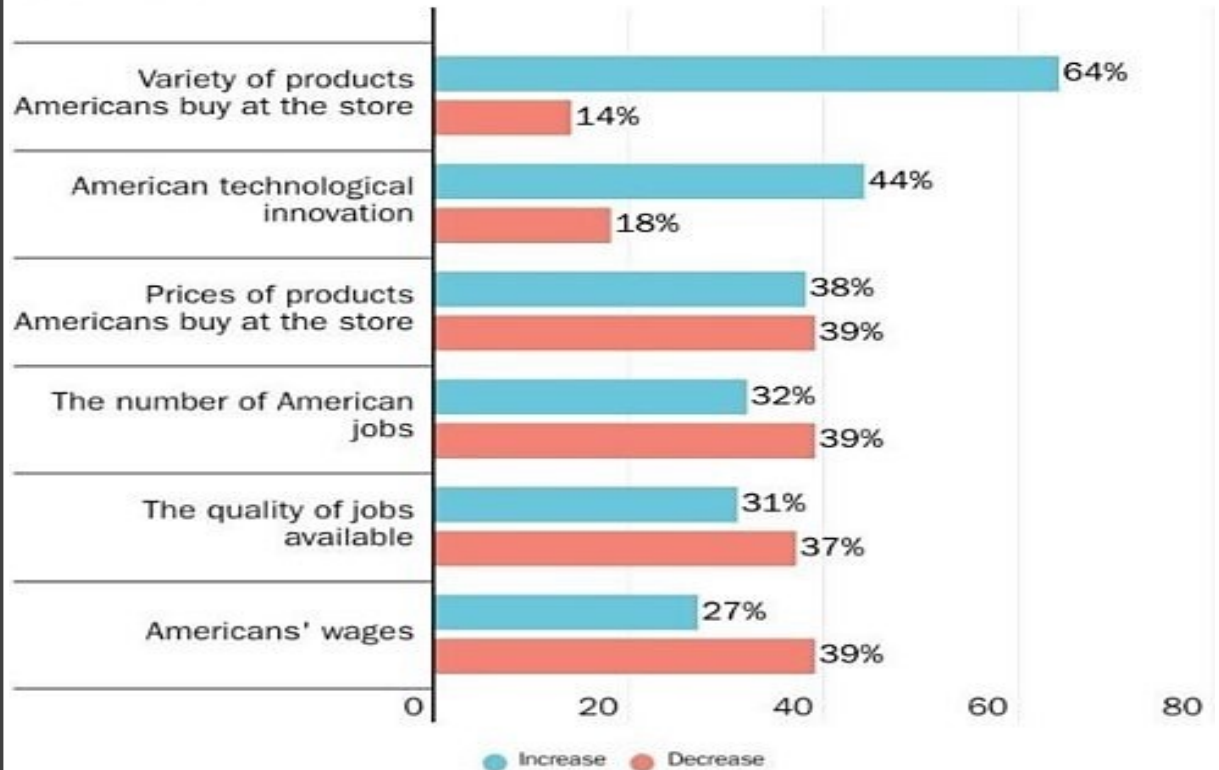
# **Americans' Views on Trade**

Americans Believe Trade Has Boosted Consumer Choice and Innovation, But That It Has Also Destroyed Jobs and Lowered Wages

Figure 2

### Most Say Global Trade Has Increased the Variety of Products Americans Can Buy

Do you think free trade agreements with other countries generally increase or decrease...



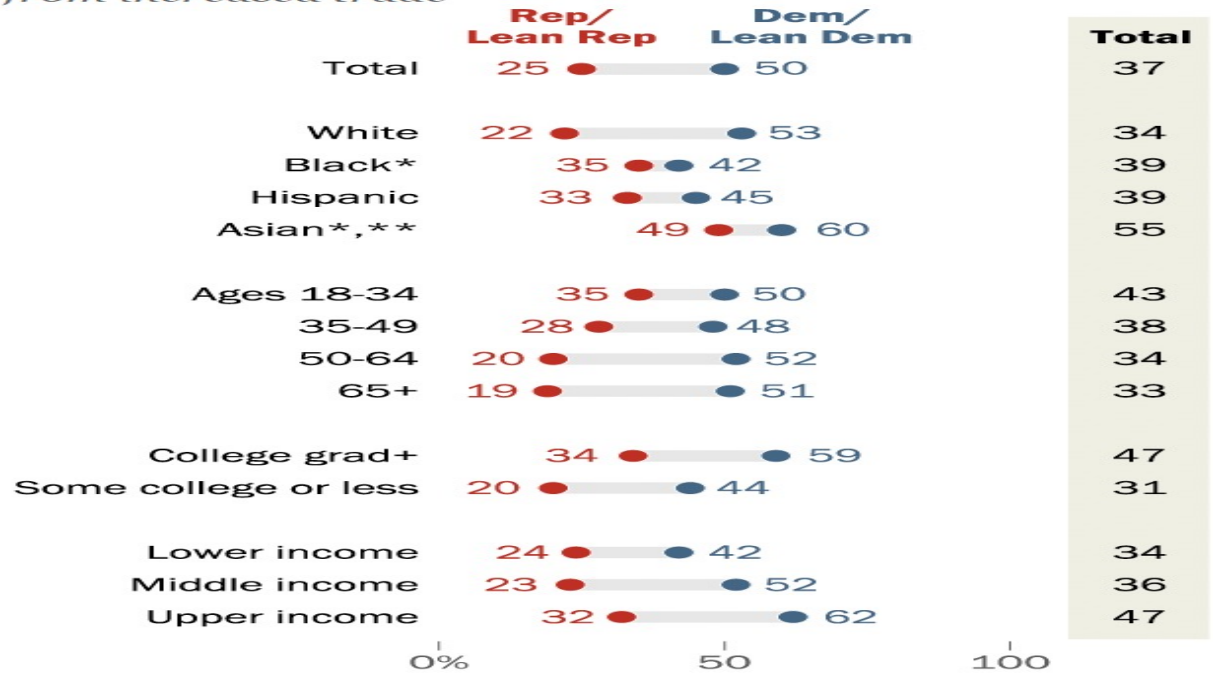
Source: Cato Institute 2024 Globalization and Trade National Survey

Note: Share saying "no difference" not shown

Upper Income People, College Grads, Whites Are Most Likely to Say the U.S. Gains More Than It Loses From Trade, Only a Quarter of Republicans Agree

**In both parties, those with bachelor's degrees more likely to say U.S. benefits from increased trade with other nations**

*% who say the U.S. has gained more than it has lost from increased trade*



\* Several subgroups have relatively small sample sizes for this question. There are 169 Black Republicans, for an effective sample size of 71 (margin of error +/- 11.6 percentage points at 95% confidence). There are 219 Asian Republicans, for an effective sample size of 96 (margin of error +/- 10.0 points).

\*\* Estimates for Asian adults are representative of English speakers only.

Note: White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanic adults are of any race. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2022 earnings.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14, 2024.

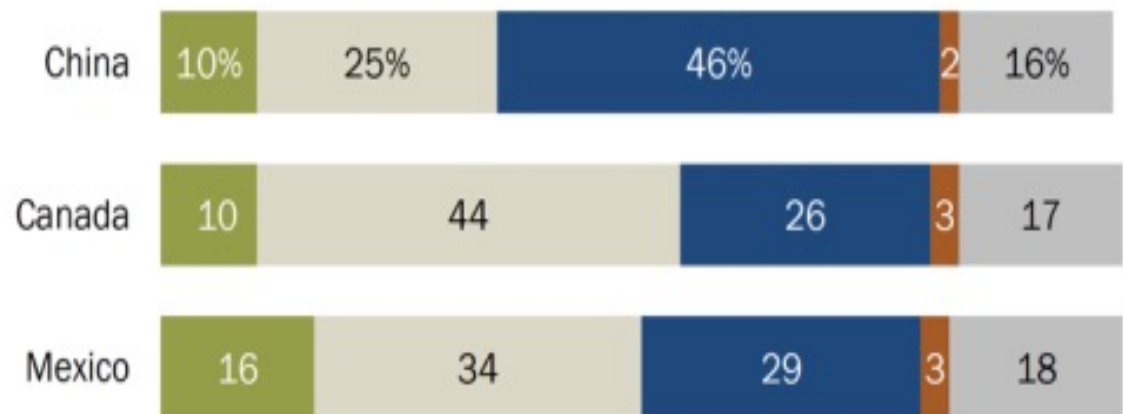
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One-in-Four  
Americans Say  
Canada Benefits  
More From  
Bilateral Trade  
Than Does the  
U.S.

## Who benefits more from trade – the U.S. or its top trading partners? Americans express mixed views

*% who say that when it comes to trade between the U.S. and the following countries, \_\_\_ benefits more*

■ The U.S. ■ Both countries equally ■ The other country ■ Neither ■ Not sure



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 24-30, 2025.

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Goldman Sachs:  
U.S. Businesses  
Have Eaten Two-  
Thirds of the  
Costs of Tariffs,  
That Means Less  
Investment, Less  
Pay for Workers,  
Less Return for  
Investors

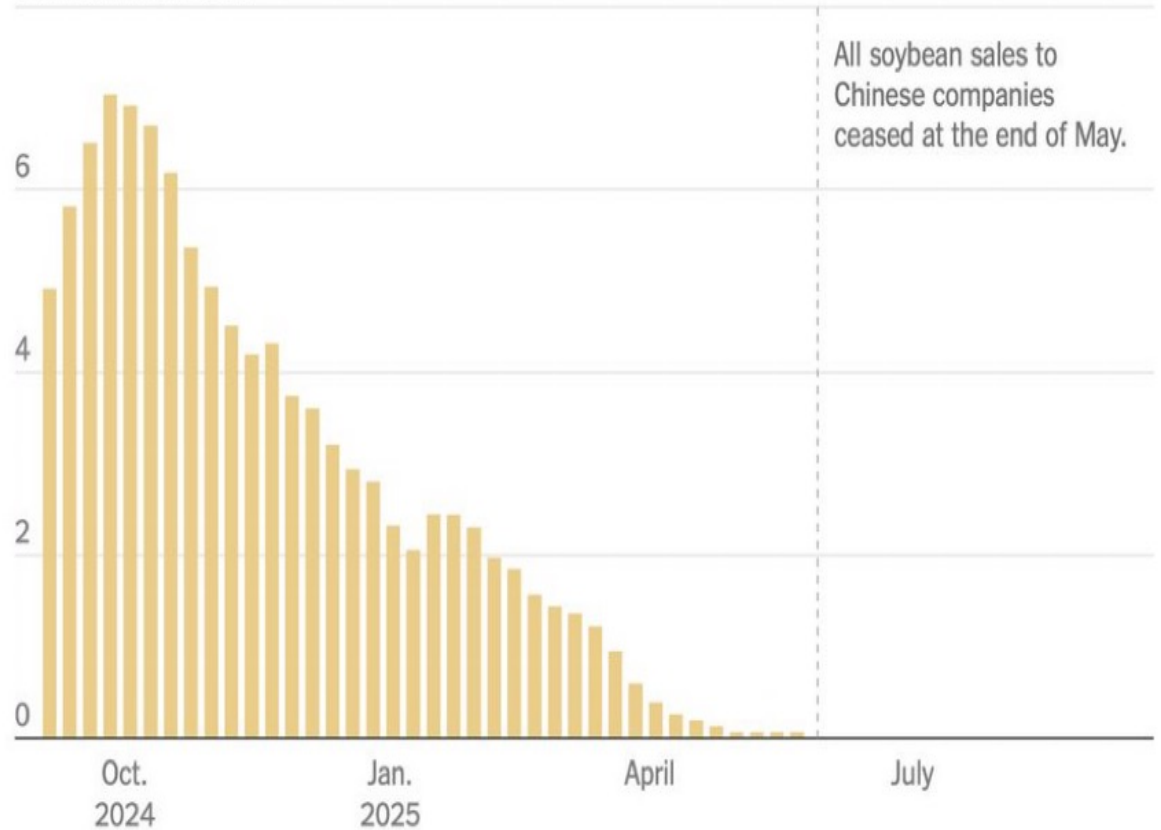
Division of Tariff Costs as of June



# Soybean Farmers Have Paid a Huge Price for the Trade War With China

## U.S. soybean sales to China

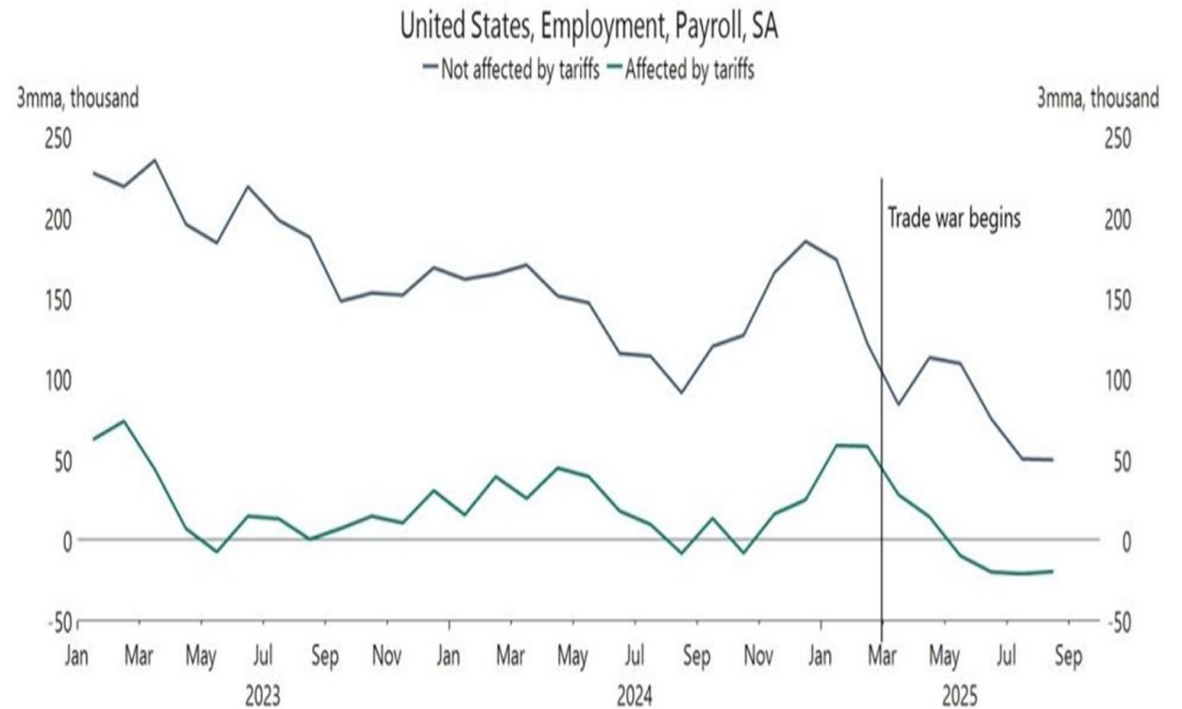
8 million metric tons



Source: United States Department of Agriculture • By Jacqueline Gu

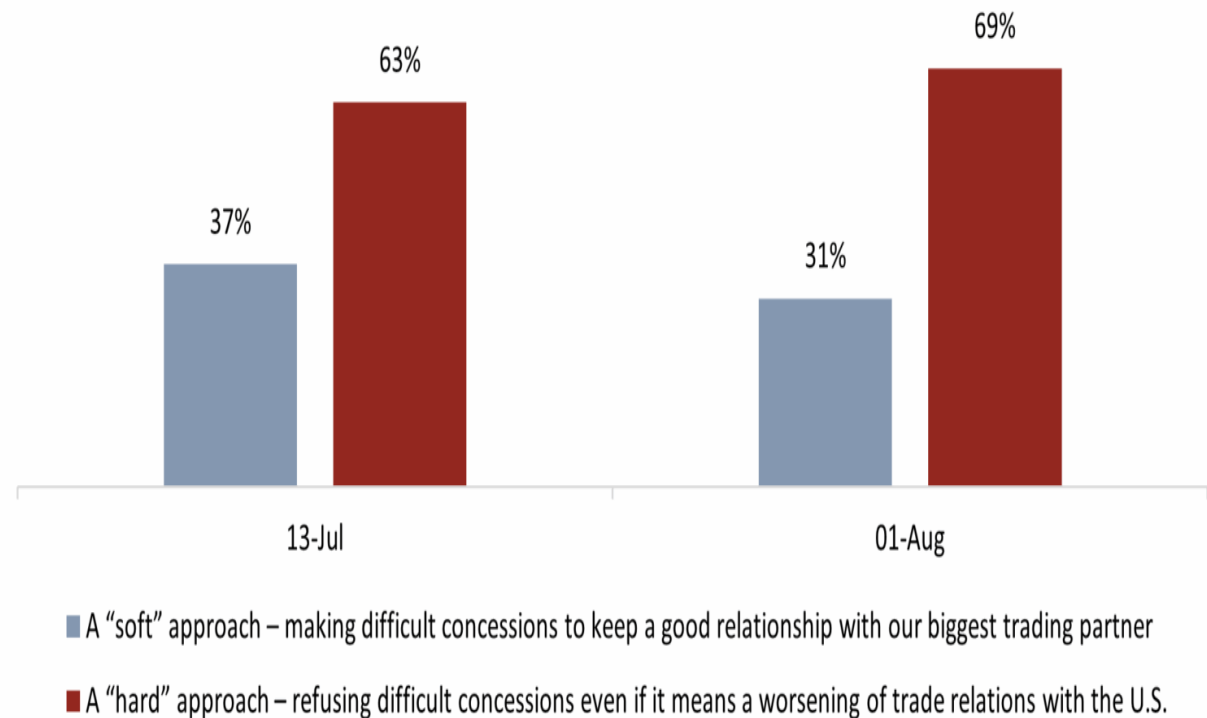
# And Jobs Have Been Lost in Tariff-Impacted Sectors

Job growth negative in tariff-impacted sectors



Few Countries  
Have Stood Up to  
Trump, But the  
Canadian Public,  
By More Than  
Two-to-One Want  
Ottawa to Stand  
Firm

Based on whatever you may have seen or heard about negotiations so far,  
which of these overall approaches would you say Canada should take to  
negotiations going forward?



# **Views of Trump and His Policies**

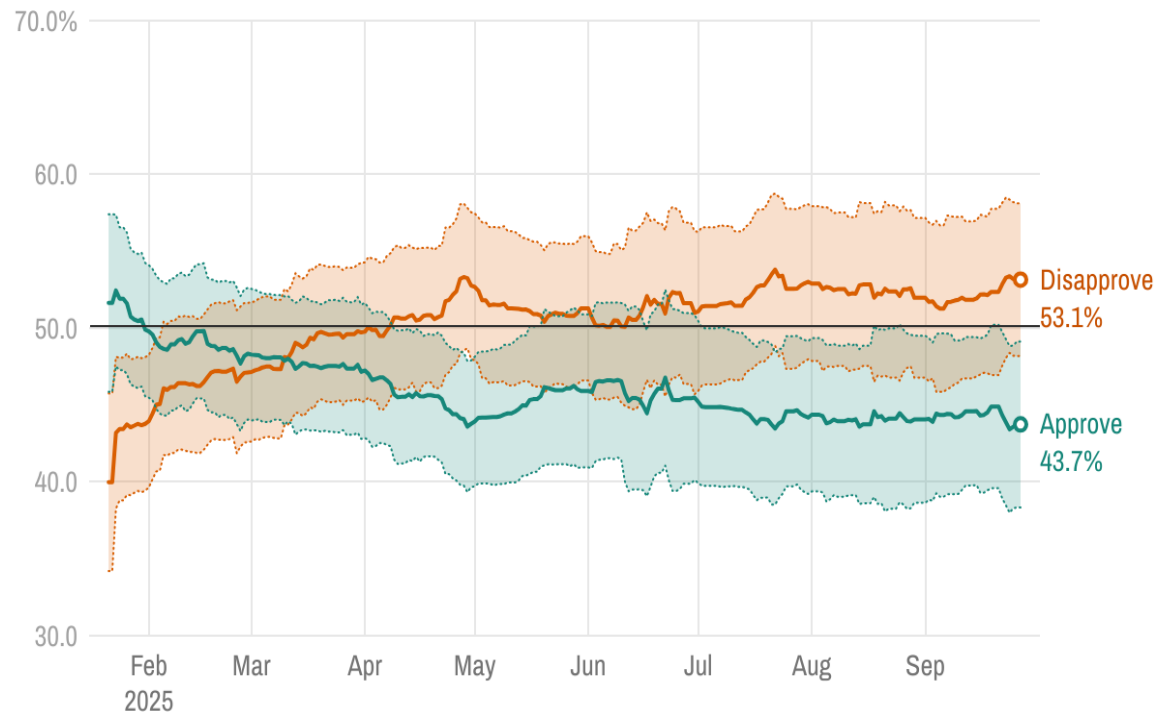
Across a Range  
of Polls Trump's  
Overall Approval  
Has Slid  
Downward Since  
the Inauguration

## Do Americans approve or disapprove of Donald Trump?

An updating polling average of Donald Trump's approval rating and disapproval rating in his second term, accounting for each poll's quality, recency, sample size, and partisan lean

Approval/disapproval

Net approval



Note: 90% of polls are projected to fall within the shaded regions.

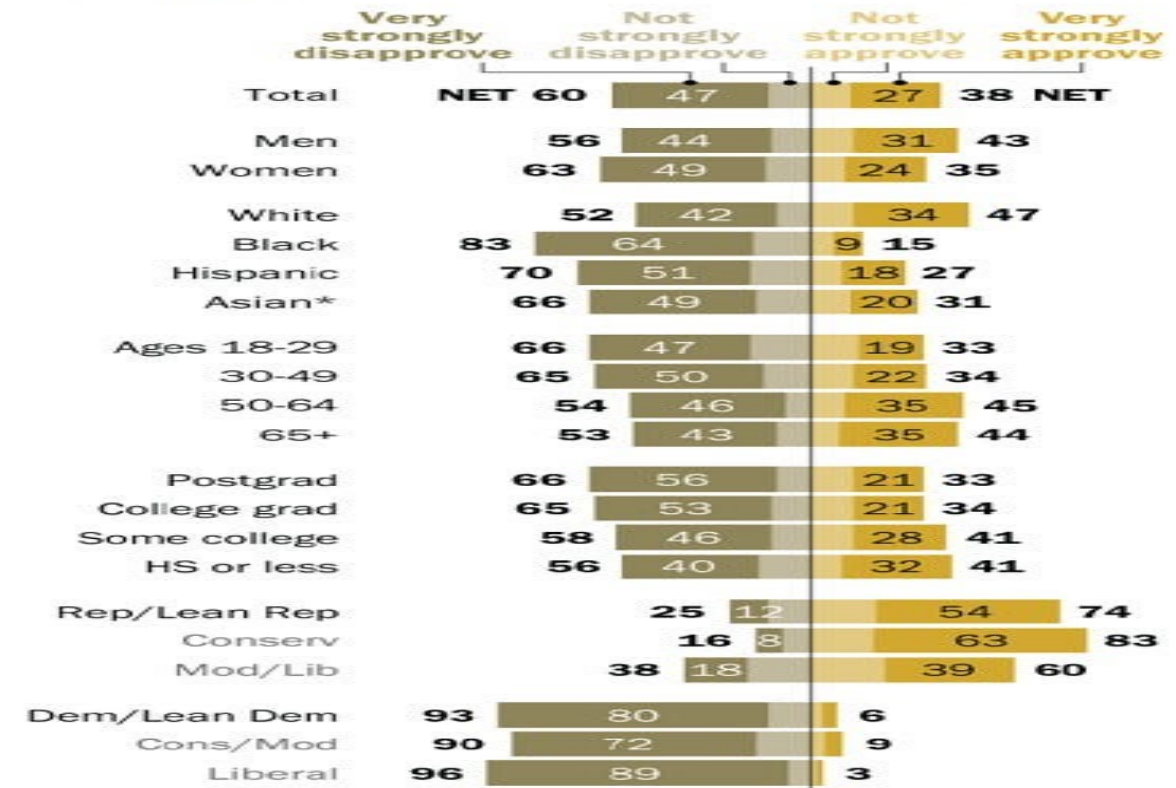
Updated September 27, 2025 at 10:03 AM

**SILVER  
BULLETIN**

Minorities, the Young and Post Grads Are the Most Critical of Trump

**Views of Trump's job performance remain more negative than positive among most demographic groups**

% who \_\_\_\_\_ of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president



\* Estimates for Asian adults are representative of English speakers only.

Note: White, Black and Asian adults include those who report only being one race and are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 4-10, 2025.

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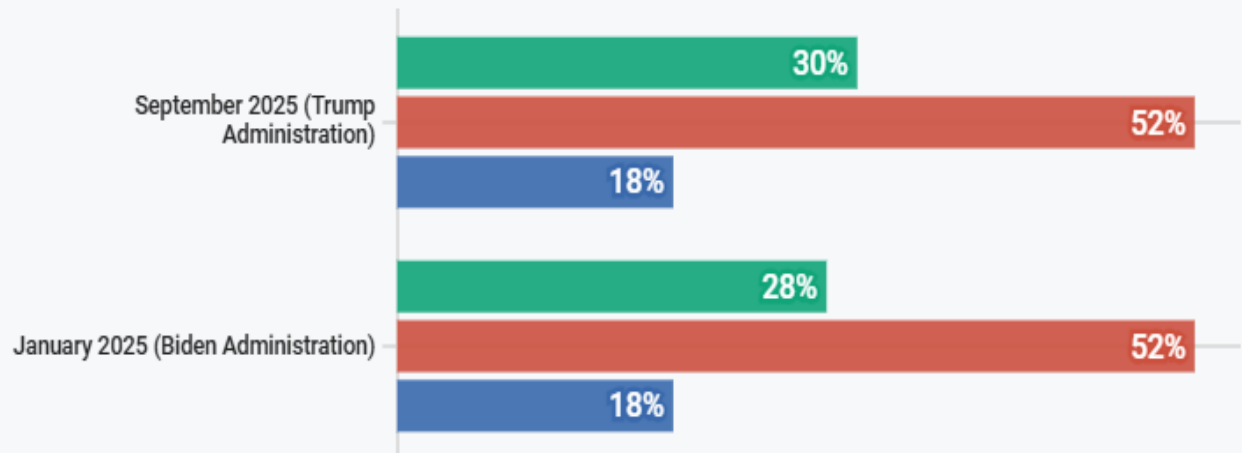
The Public is as  
Critical of Trump's  
Handling of the  
Economy as It Was  
of Biden's  
Economic  
Performance at  
the End of His  
Term

## FOX NEWS POLL

### OVER HALF OF VOTERS SAY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE THE ECONOMY WORSE

Do you think the Trump administration has made the economy better or worse, or has it not made much difference either way?

■ Better ■ Worse ■ No Difference



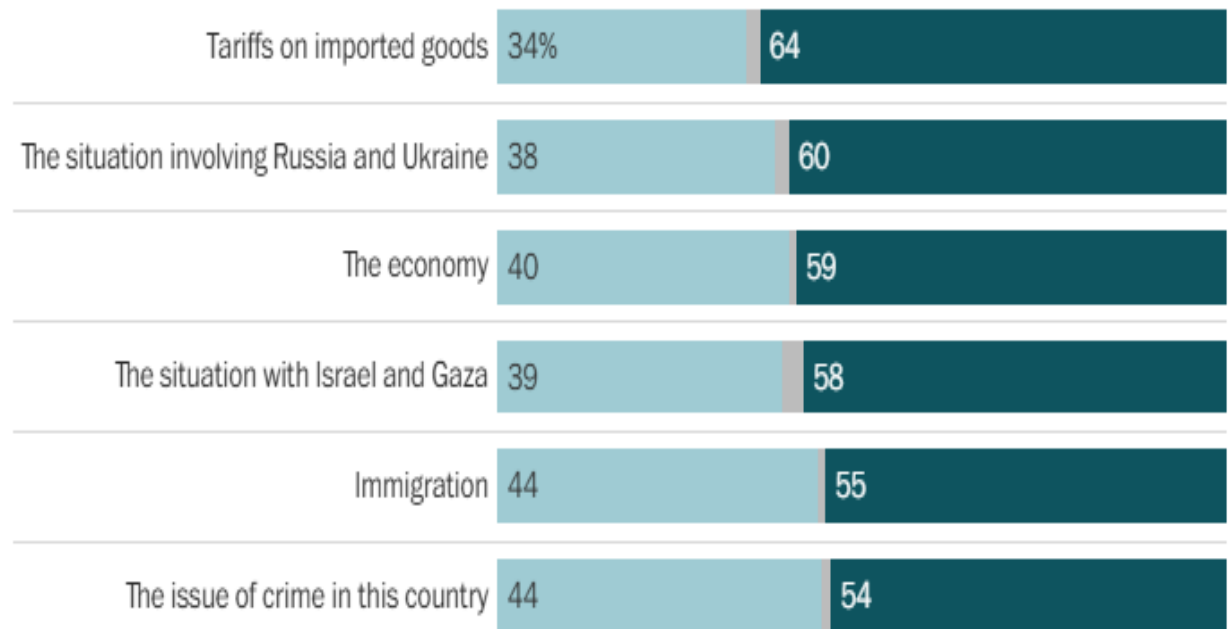
Source: Fox News Poll •  
Conducted: September 6-9, 2025  
Registered Voters +/- 3%

# And Majorities Are Now Critical of Trump's Handling of All Major Issues

## Majorities of Americans disapprove on how Trump is handling six issues

Q: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Trump is handling each of the following?

■ Approve ■ Skipped ■ Disapprove



Note: Totals may not equal 100% because of rounding.

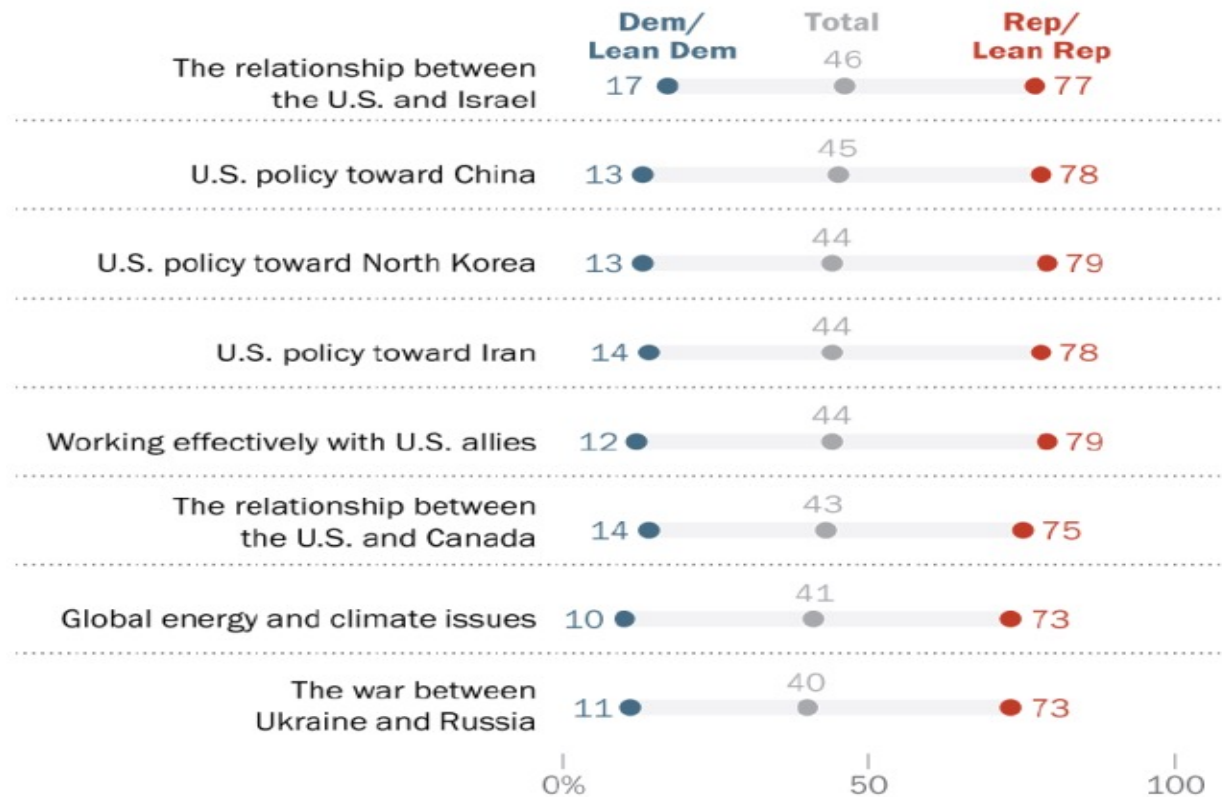
Source: Sept. 11-15, 2025, Washington Post-Ipsos poll of 2,513 U.S. adults with an error margin of +/- 2 percentage points.

EMILY GUSKIN / THE WASHINGTON POST

On Foreign Policy Issues, Less Than Half the Public Has Confidence in Trump's Decisions, But the Partisan Divide is 60 Points or More in Every Case

## Wide partisan gaps in confidence in Trump on key foreign policy issues

% who are *very/somewhat confident* that Donald Trump can make wise decisions when it comes to ...



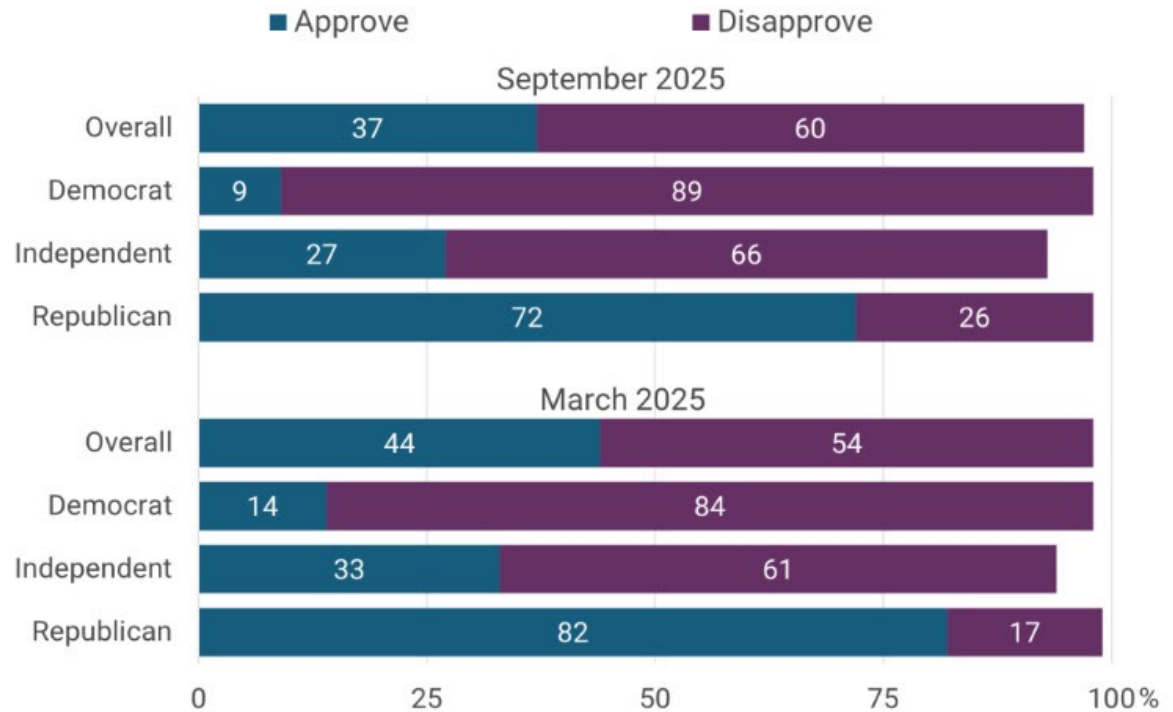
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 4-10, 2025.

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Nine-in-Ten Democrats, and Two-Thirds of Independents Disapprove of Trump's Handling of the Gaza War, Seven-in-Ten Republicans Approve

**Around 4 in 10 approve of Trump's handling of the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians.**

Percent of adults



**Question:** Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling...?

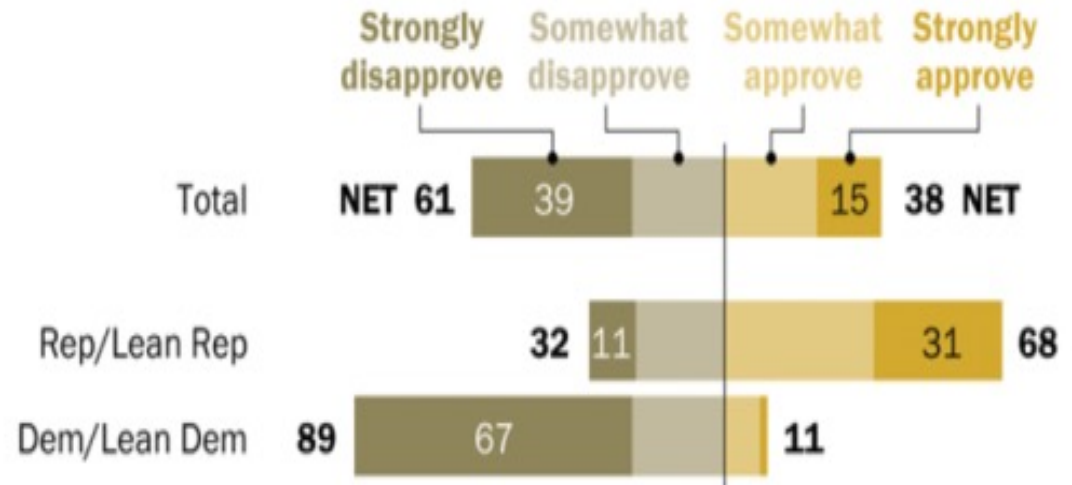
**Source:** AP-NORC poll conducted September 11-15, 2025, with 1,183 adults age 18 and older nationwide. AP-NORC poll conducted March 20-24, 2025, with 1,229 adults age 18 and older nationwide.



Six-in-Ten  
Americans  
Disapprove of  
Trump's Tariff  
Policies, But  
There is a Strong  
Partisan Divide  
on Tariffs

## Roughly 6 in 10 Americans disapprove of Trump administration's tariff policies

*% who \_\_\_ of the Trump administration substantially increasing tariffs on goods imported from most countries that trade with the U.S.*



Note: No answer responses are not shown.

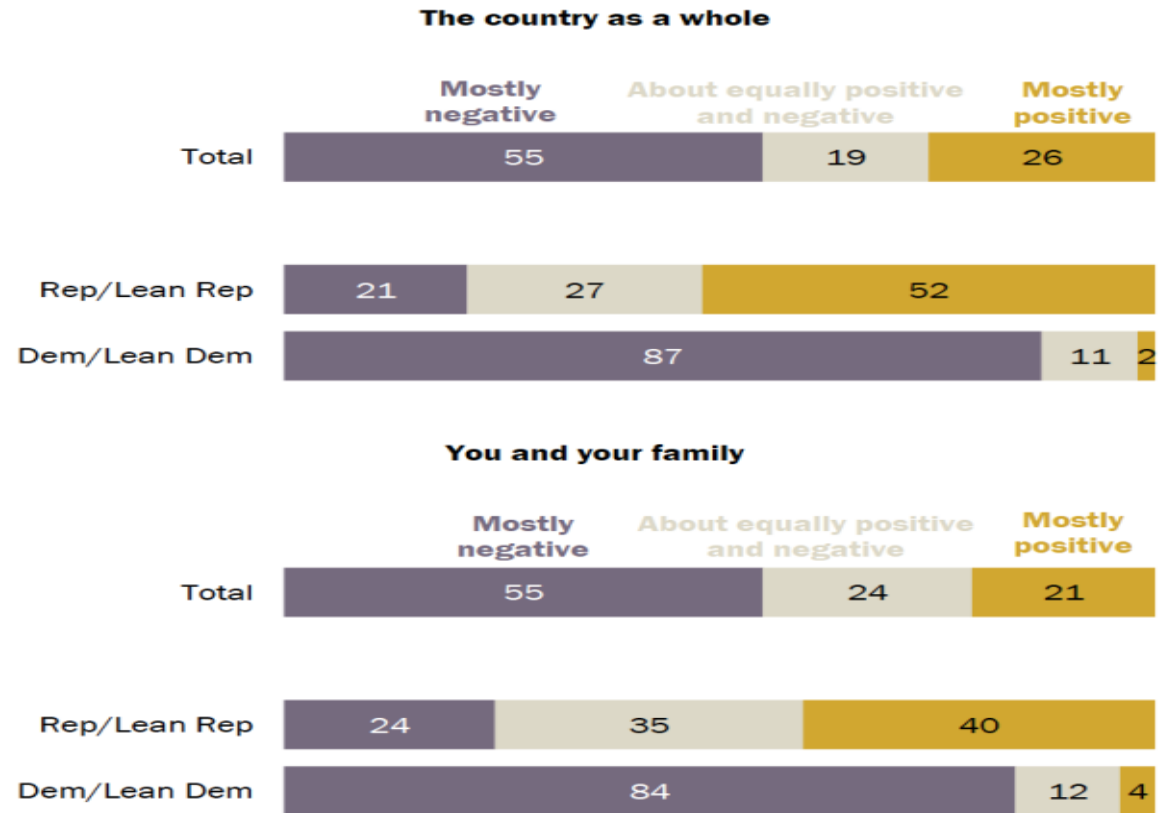
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 4-10, 2025.

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Eight-in-Ten Democrats Say Tariffs Will Hurt the Country and Their Families, Half of Republicans Expect the Tariffs to Help the Country

**Majorities of Americans say Trump’s tariff policies will have mostly negative effects in the long run**

*% who say that the overall effect of the Trump administration’s tariff policies on \_\_\_\_ over the coming years will be ...*



Note: No answer responses are not shown.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 4-10, 2025.

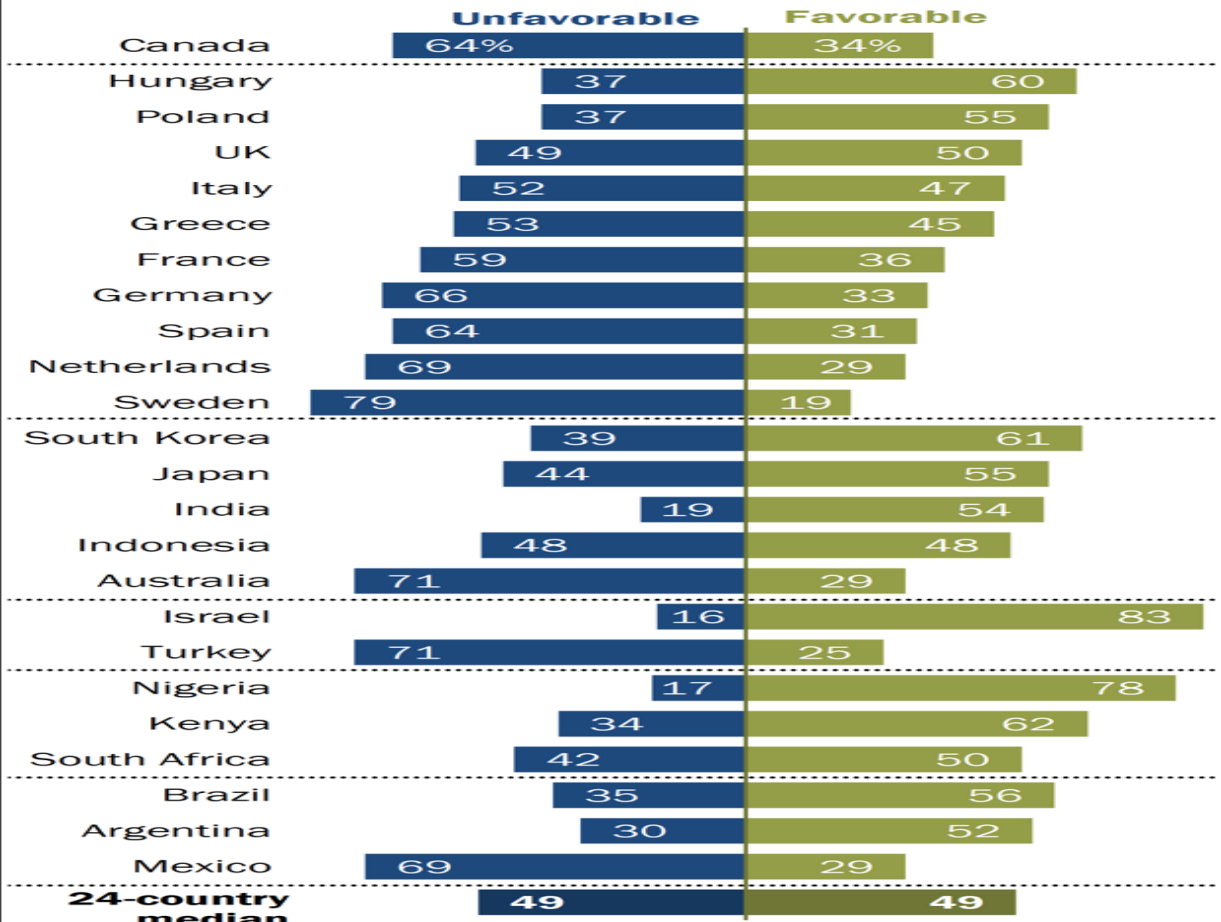
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# **The Impact of Trump and His Policies on the U.S. Standing in the World**

Global Publics Are Divided in Their Views of the U.S., But Even Before the Trump Tariffs U.S. Favorability Had Declined in 16 of 24 Nations Surveyed

### Divided views of the U.S.

% who have a(n) — opinion of the United States



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Spring 2025 Global Attitudes Survey.

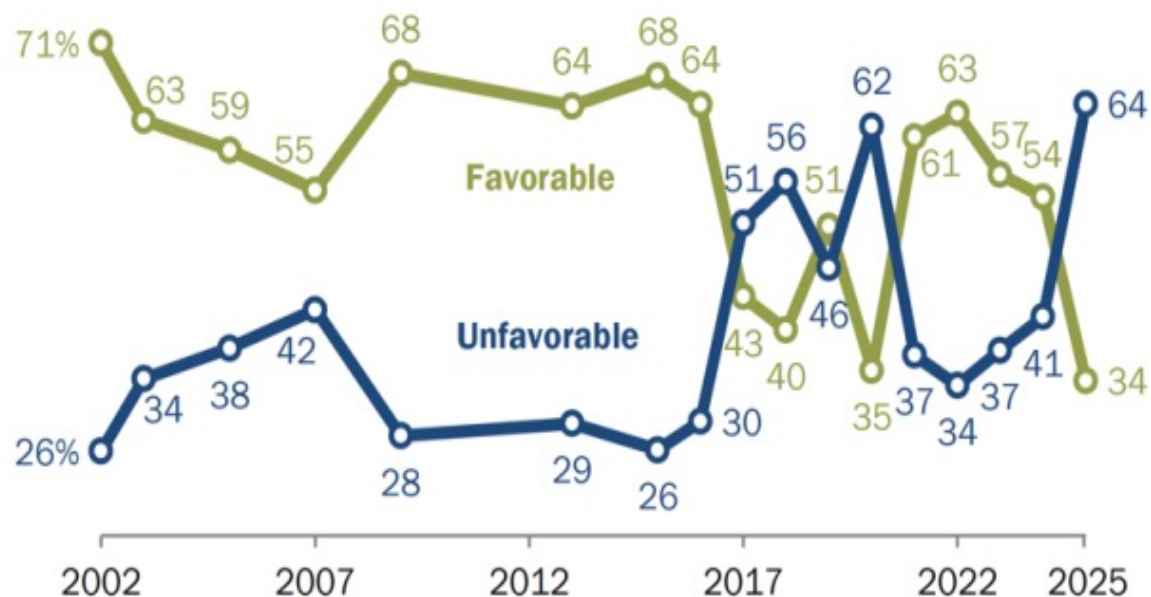
"U.S. Image Declines in Many Nations Amid Low Confidence in Trump"

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Only a Third of the Canadian Public Has a Favorable View of the U.S., The Lowest Level in at Least Two Decades

## Canadian views of the U.S. are among their most negative in more than 20 years of polling

*% of adults in Canada who have a(n) \_\_\_ opinion of the U.S.*



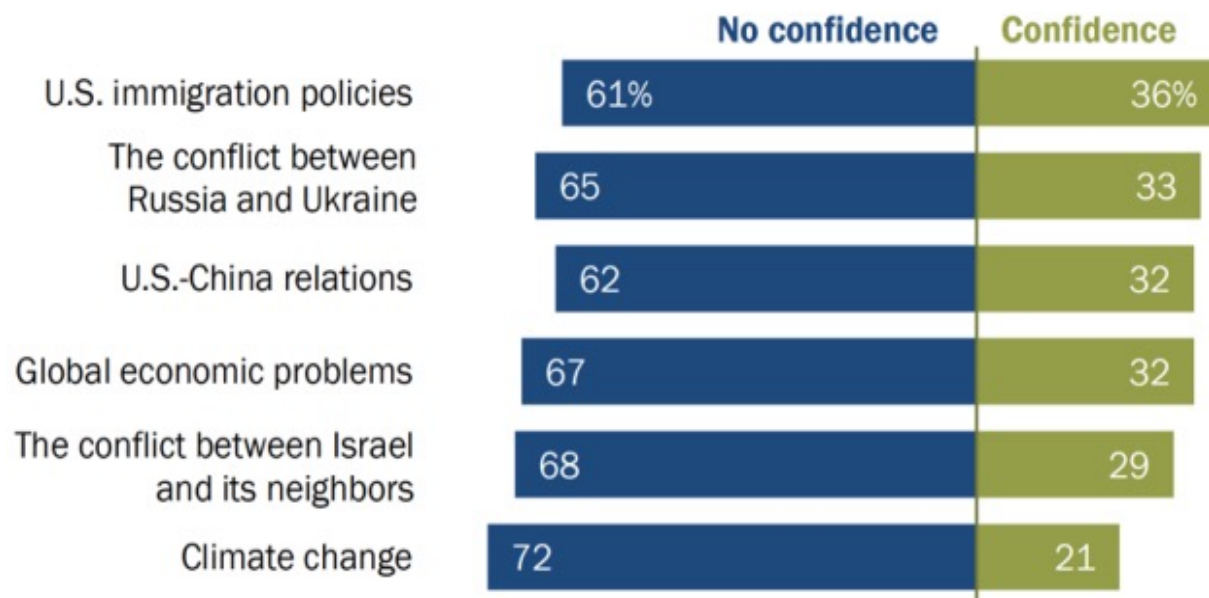
Source: Survey of Canadian adults conducted Feb. 19-April 15, 2025.

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Across a Range  
of International  
Issues Global  
Publics Lack  
Confidence in  
Trump's Ability  
to Handle  
International  
Concerns

## Most across 24 countries lack confidence in Trump to handle international issues

Median % who have \_\_\_ in U.S. President Donald Trump to handle ...



Note: Percentages are medians based on 24 countries.

Source: Spring 2025 Global Attitudes Survey.

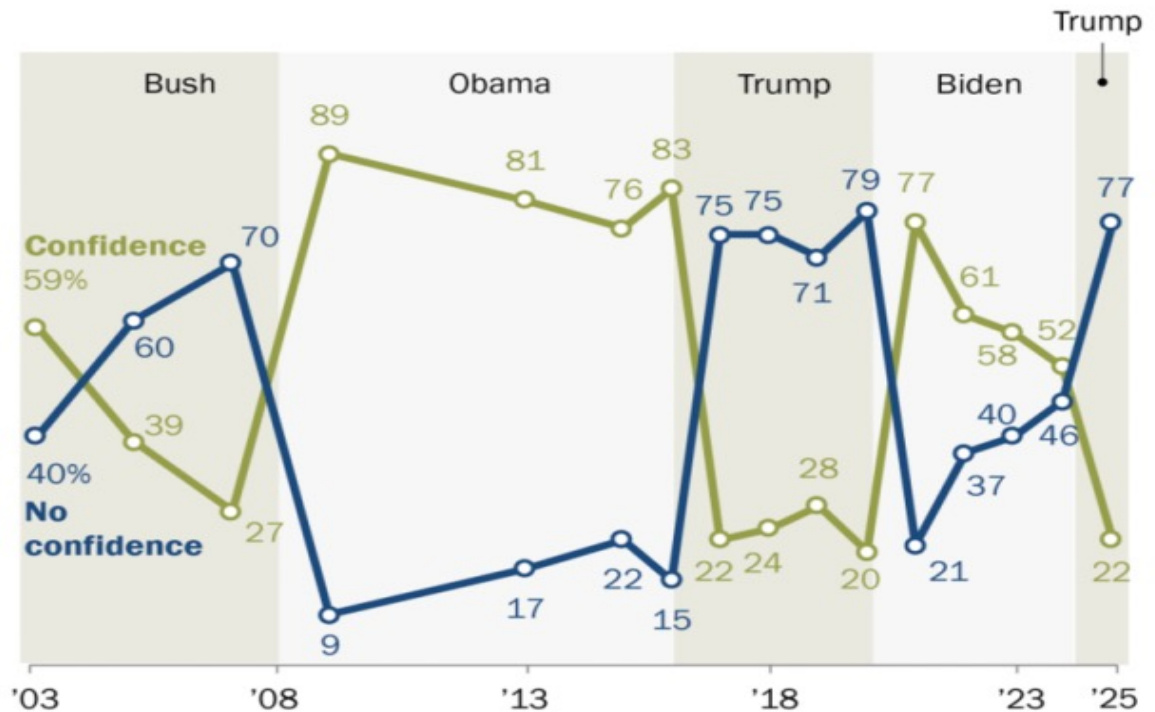
"U.S. Image Declines in Many Nations Amid Low Confidence in Trump"

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Among Canadians,  
For Example,  
Three-in-Four Lack  
Confidence in  
Trump Doing the  
Right Thing  
Regarding World  
Affairs

## Most Canadians lack confidence in Trump

*% of adults in Canada who have \_\_\_ in the U.S. president to do the right thing regarding world affairs*



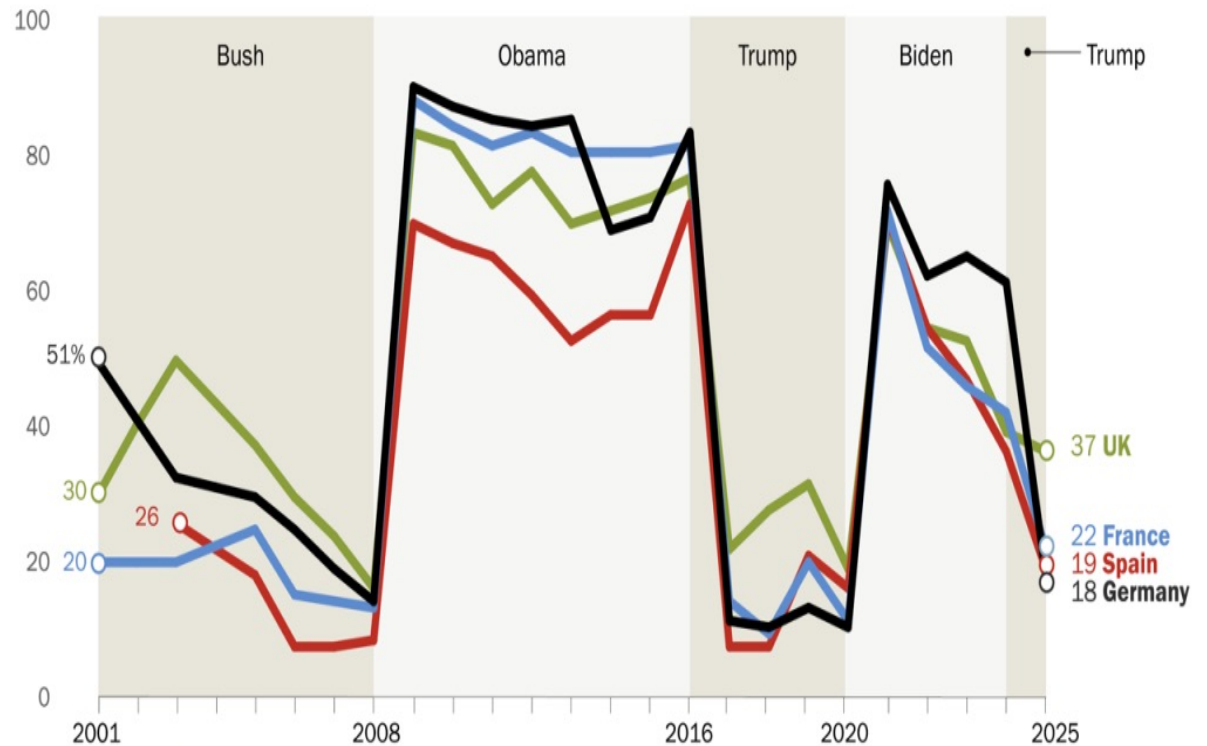
Source: Survey of Canadian adults conducted Feb. 19-April 15, 2025.

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But Canadians  
Are Not Alone:  
European  
Confidence in  
Trump is Quite  
Low and Highly  
Volatile

## Confidence in U.S. presidents in Western Europe

% who have *confidence* in each U.S. president to do the right thing regarding world affairs



Source: Spring 2025 Global Attitudes Survey.

"U.S. Image Declines in Many Nations Amid Low Confidence in Trump"

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