



CRITICAL ISSUES POLL

With Nielsen Scarborough

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American Attitudes toward Middle East Policy

Survey Methodology

The survey was carried out August 18-28, 2020 online from a nationally representative sample of Nielsen Scarborough's probability-based panel, originally recruited by mail and telephone using a random sample of adults provided by Survey Sampling International. The poll was conducted among a national poll of 3,932 respondents, with a margin of error of +/- 1.56%. Overall, the sample was adjusted to reflect population estimates (Scarborough USA+/Gallup) for Americans. The survey variables balanced through weighting were: age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, level of education, census regional division, and political party affiliation.

In addition to the national sample, we also divided the respondents into two groups, one for the first six days before the Republican Convention and spanning the Democratic Convention (August 18-23, 2020), and the second for the last five days spanning the Republican Convention and the day after (August 24-28, 2020). Each group was independently adjusted by the same demographic variables to reflect population estimates. The margin of error for the first group is +/- 2.09% (2,208 respondents) and the margin of error for the second group is +/- 2.36% (1,724 respondents).

Valuable assistance was provided by Scott Willoth, Tisha Jett, Lauren Morris, and January Lee from Nielsen Scarborough. Brittany Kyser was particularly helpful.

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

Middle East Policy

Now we would like to ask you specifically about American foreign policy toward the Middle East.

Q88. In general, what role do you want the United States to play in mediating the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? Should the United States: **[RANDOMIZE]**

| | Rep | Dem | Ind | Total |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1. Lean toward Israel | 52% | 10% | 12% | 29% |
| 2. Lean toward the Palestinians | 1 | 13 | 8 | 7 |
| 3. Lean toward neither side [FIXED] | 45 | 74 | 76 | 62 |
| Refused | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 |

Q88A. Compared to your view on this issue, how would you describe the positions of your elected congressional representatives on it? **[KEEP OPTIONS 1 +2 IN SAME ORDER AS Q88]**

| | Rep | Dem | Ind | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1. Leaning more toward Israel | 29% | 34% | 21% | 30% |
| 2. Leaning more toward the Palestinians | 11 | 4 | 4 | 7 |
| 3. Matching my position [FIXED] | 13 | 10 | 9 | 11 |
| 4. Don't know [FIXED] | 46 | 49 | 63 | 49 |
| Refused | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 |

Q88A. Compared to your view on this issue, how would you describe the positions of your elected congressional representatives on it? **[KEEP OPTIONS 1 +2 IN SAME ORDER AS Q88] [EXCLUDING "Don't know"]**

| | Rep | Dem | Ind | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1. Leaning more toward Israel | 53% | 67% | 56% | 60% |
| 2. Leaning more toward the Palestinians | 19 | 8 | 10 | 13 |
| 3. Matching my position | 24 | 20 | 25 | 22 |
| Refused | 4 | 5 | 10 | 5 |

Q88B. Assessing the Trump administration’s diplomacy toward the Israeli-Palestinian conflict so far, what best describes it? **[SHOW IN SAME ORDER AS Q88]**

| | Rep | Dem | Ind | Total |
|--|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. Leaning toward Israel | 65% | 66% | 42% | 63% |
| 2. Leaning toward the Palestinians | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| 3. Learning toward neither side [FIXED] | 30 | 24 | 46 | 29 |
| Refused | 4 | 5 | 10 | 5 |

Q89. Which of the following statements is closer to your view if a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestinian conflict is not an option? **[RANDOMIZE]**

| | Rep | Dem | Ind | Total |
|--|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. I favor the Jewishness of Israel more than its democracy. I support the continuation of Israel’s Jewish majority in the government even if it means that Palestinians will not have citizenship and full rights. | 37% | 12% | 16% | 23% |
| 2. I favor Israel’s democracy more than its Jewishness. I support a single democratic state in which Arabs and Jews are equal even if that means Israel would no longer be a politically Jewish state. | 51 | 78 | 62 | 65 |
| Refused | 11 | 10 | 22 | 12 |