



CRITICAL ISSUES POLL

With Nielsen Scarborough

Shibley Telhami, Director
Stella Rouse, Associate Director

American Views of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Survey Methodology

The survey was carried out September 12 - October 9, 2018 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. The national sample was 2,352. Overall, the sample was adjusted to reflect population estimates (Scarborough USA+/Gallup) for adults 18 years of age or older. The survey variables balanced through weighting were: age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, level of education, census regional division, and political party affiliation. The margin of error is 2.02%

Note: These questions were fielded as part of a larger poll on foreign and domestic issues. Participants in this study were provided by Nielsen from Nielsen's sample of respondents.

ALL RESPONDENTS

Middle East Policy

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

Q55. How much influence do you believe the Israeli government has on American politics and policies? **[RANDOMIZE]**

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. Too little influence	9%	8%	11%	9%
2. Too much influence	19	55	42	38
3. About the right level of influence [FIXED]	69	31	42	48
Refused	4	6	5	5

[Age] Q55. How much influence do you believe the Israeli government has on American politics and policies? **[RANDOMIZE]**

	18-34	35+
1. Too little influence	10%	8%
2. Too much influence	44	36
3. About the right level of influence [FIXED]	42	51
Refused	4	5

Q56a. In general, what role do you want the Trump administration to play in mediating the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? Should the Trump administration **[RANDOMIZE]**:

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. Lean toward Israel	57%	7%	18%	30%
2. Lean toward the Palestinians	3	8	3	5
3. Lean toward neither side [FIXED]	36	82	74	62
Refused	4	3	5	4

[Age] Q56a. In general, what role do you want the Trump administration to play in mediating the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? Should the Trump administration **[RANDOMIZE]**:

	18-34	35+
1. Lean toward Israel	19%	34%
2. Lean toward the Palestinians	9	4
3. Lean toward neither side [FIXED]	67	59
Refused	5	3

Q57. As you may know, the United States has been acting as a mediator between the Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority, with the aim of reaching an agreement in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Whether or not these efforts succeed, there is a question about what kind of future for Israel and the Palestinians the U.S. should be supporting over the long term, and many analysts feel that time is running out for some options. Here are four possible approaches that are frequently discussed. Please select the one you think the U.S. should support. **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS]**

	Rep	Dem	Ind	Total
1. A two-state solution: Israel and a Palestinian state side by side. The Palestinian state would be established on the territories that Israel has occupied since 1967.	24%	48%	31%	36%
2. A one-state solution: A single democratic state in which both Jews and Arabs are full and equal citizens, covering all of what is now Israel and the Palestinian Territories.	33	36	38	35
3. Annexation without equal citizenship: Israel would annex the Palestinian territories, but keep a majority-Jewish state in the expanded territories by restricting citizenship rights of Palestinians.	14	3	4	8
4. Maintain the occupation of both the territories Israel has captured in 1967 and the Palestinians inhabiting them indefinitely.	18	5	13	11
Refused	11	8	14	10

[Age] Q57. As you may know, the United States has been acting as a mediator between the Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority, with the aim of reaching an agreement in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Whether or not these efforts succeed, there is a question about what kind of future for Israel and the Palestinians the U.S. should be supporting over the long term, and many analysts feel that time is running out for some options. Here are four possible approaches that are frequently discussed. Please select the one you think the U.S. should support. **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS]**

	18-34	35+
1. A two-state solution: Israel and a Palestinian state side by side. The Palestinian state	33%	37%

would be established on the territories that Israel has occupied since 1967.

2. A one-state solution: A single democratic state in which both Jews and Arabs are full and equal citizens, covering all of what is now Israel and the Palestinian Territories.	42	32
3. Annexation without equal citizenship: Israel would annex the Palestinian territories, but keep a majority-Jewish state in the expanded territories by restricting citizenship rights of Palestinians.	7	8
4. Maintain the occupation of both the territories Israel has captured in 1967 and the Palestinians inhabiting them indefinitely.	10	12
Refused	9	11

Q58. Which of the following statements is closer to your view if a two-state solution 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.	42%	12%	21%	26%
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.	48	78	62	64
Refused	10	11	17	11

[Age] Q58. Which of the following statements is closer to your view if a two-state solution is not an option? [RANDOMIZE]

	18-34	35+
1. I favor the Jewishness of Israel more than its democracy. I support the continuation of Israel's Jewish majority in the government	25%	26%

even if it means that Palestinians will not have citizenship and full rights.

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.	66	63
Refused	9	12

TRENDLINE QUESTION ON ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS 2014-2018: One of the issues of tension between the United States and Israel has been its construction of Israeli settlements in the territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 war. These settlements are considered illegal by most of the international community and have been opposed by every U.S. administration, both Republican and Democratic. The Israeli government has continued to build settlements arguing that they have the right to do so, or that these are not obstacles to peace. How do you believe the U.S. should react to new settlements? **[RANDOMLY REVERSE]**

ALL AMERICANS

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1. Do nothing	27%	27%	24%	25%	28%
2. Limit U.S. opposition to words, but take no other action	34	31	28	28	26
3. Impose some economic sanctions, either through the United Nations or unilaterally	28	27	33	32	28
4. Take more serious action	11	10	13	12	12
Refused	2	5	2	4	6

REPUBLICANS

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1. Do nothing	34%	30%	34%	36%	38%
2. Limit U.S. opposition to words, but take no other action	33	38	34	31	30
3. Impose some economic sanctions, either through the United Nations or unilaterally	24	20	22	21	17
4. Take more serious action	8	6	9	8	9
Refused	2	5	2	3	7

DEMOCRATS

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1. Do nothing	14%	16%	13%	13%	17%
2. Limit U.S. opposition to words, but take no other action	37	30	24	25	22
3. Impose some economic sanctions, either through the United Nations or unilaterally	34	37	42	43	41
4. Take more serious action	13	12	18	15	15
Refused	1	5	2	4	6

INDEPENDENTS

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1. Do nothing	39%	51%	34%	30%	33%
2. Limit U.S. opposition to words, but take no other action	28	13	20	25	27
3. Impose some economic sanctions, either through the United Nations or unilaterally	21	18	35	25	22
4. Take more serious action	10	13	7	12	11
Refused	2	6	5	7	8