

TO: Interested parties
 FR: Mark Riddle, Future Majority President
 DT: January 5, 2024
 RE: Attitudes toward the Israel-Hamas conflict

The October 7, 2023 Hamas terrorist attack in Israel, and Israel's response, continue to be a heavily-debated topic. In our recent survey, we asked how Americans in Nevada, Pennsylvania, and a selection of New York congressional districts their opinions on the issue.

The data shows that 13% of overall respondents rate it as a top issue in how they choose their leaders in 2024, while the cost of goods like groceries and gas permeates as the top concern, with 58% of voters identifying it from a wide range of issues.

Respondents under age 34 answer similarly, with 14% saying the Israel-Hamas conflict is a top issue. Other prominent issues that drive concerns among under-34 respondents: 60% say the cost of goods like groceries and gas, 61% say the cost of housing, 51% say the cost of healthcare, 44% say abortion and reproductive freedom, and 33% say attacks on democracy and voting rights.

50% of overall respondents say they do not approve of how President Biden is handling the conflict between Israel and the terrorist group Hamas, however, this is driven largely by Republicans (who are generally opposed to Biden on any issue, even if they agree with his action) and Independents (who tend to oppose foreign aid in general, as they are similarly split about aid to Ukraine).

Do you approve or disapprove of Joe Biden's handling of the conflict between Israel and the terrorist group Hamas, including his leadership on securing the recent pause in fighting to get hostages released and deliver humanitarian aid?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Total Approve	38	64	27	16
Total Disapprove	50	24	52	75

There is notable disagreement with the under 49 age brackets on this issue, however. Just 23% of 18-34-year-olds and 31% of 35-49-year-olds approve of the President's handling of the conflict.

Do you approve or disapprove of Joe Biden's handling of the conflict between Israel and the terrorist group Hamas, including his leadership on securing the recent pause in fighting to get hostages released and deliver humanitarian aid?

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Total Approve	38	23	31	42	54
Total Disapprove	50	57	54	49	40

Despite this disagreement, a narrower segment of respondents say it will influence their decision on whether to support President Biden. 24% of respondents say it makes them less likely, while 15% say more likely, and 54% say it makes no difference in their decision. However, 18-34-year-olds respond more negatively than older respondents.

Will Joe Biden's support for Israel make you more or less likely to vote for him for president in 2024?

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Total More Likely	15	8	11	16	22
Total Less Likely	24	37	23	20	17
Total No Difference	54	40	56	58	57

President Biden's handling of the conflict is low, but it is driven by Republicans. Democrats should not permit them to make this a wedge issue. Yes, there is more intensity toward the issue among younger respondents. However, a majority of voters support the U.S. providing aid to Israel to support them from the Hamas terrorist attacks (58%), along with 57% who support providing aid to Ukraine to support them against Russia's invasion and 66% who support providing aid to Mexico to prevent crime and drug traffickers from the U.S.-Mexico border.

President Biden's lag with the under 34 bracket is driven in part by men. 26% approve of his handling of the situation, while 42% support supplying aid to Israel to support them from the Hamas attacks. Similarly, in a matchup with Donald Trump, Biden trails with this cohort by 23-points (54%-31%, with 15% not sure) but maintains a 22-point advantage over Trump with women (48%-26%, with 25% not sure).

Methodology:

Future Majority surveyed respondents statewide in Nevada, Pennsylvania, and in competitive congressional districts in New York (03, 04, 17, 18, 19, 22). The survey of 2,532 voters was conducted by Change Research from December 3-7, 2023.