

# The American public opinion on the War in Gaza

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Protest in New York City demands ceasefire

Carilyn Pointer - Since the War in Gaza began in October 2023, the death toll has continued to rise. According to the UN and Palestinian authorities, “more than 32,000 Palestinians in [Gaza](#), including nearly 14,000 children” have been killed. With no resolution in sight, Americans’ perceptions and opinions on the conflict have changed drastically since the conflict first began. This brings up the important question of how the United States government is justifying its political position on the topic, and if Americans are truly represented.

[Geopolitical codes](#) refer to the calculations each country makes to determine for themselves how they will interact and position themselves in the global neighborhood. There are several factors countries must consider when making their geopolitical codes. Namely, who are our enemies and allies, and how do we strengthen those existing relationships to best protect our interests and citizens? Once a country decides how to orient itself, then the next step is for the government to justify its decisions to its own public and the global community. The government successfully justifying its actions is critical to gaining the support of public opinion. Without their support, it becomes much more difficult to carry out their plans and remain in good standing when election years come around. Within the context of the War in Gaza, recent surveys show “evidence of growing American [discontent](#) with Israel.” Which by extension means discontentment with the U.S. government for supplying Israel with weapons and not intervening.

If it is accurate that “55 percent of U.S. adults said they [disapproved](#) of Israel’s military actions,” then shouldn’t the actions of the government that is ruled by the people reflect that? The U.S. has made statements criticizing Israel but continues sending arms. With a presidential election approaching fast, it has yet to be seen if this stance can continue.

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