

FACT SHEET

PUBLIC OPINION ON THE MILITARY CONFLICT IN IRAN

A majority of voters expressed support for the limited strikes in June 2025 since they were targeting nuclear program sites, but 75% of respondents expressed concern about this conflict leading to a larger war in the Middle East.

Did you know?...

- In February 2026, an Associated Press [poll](#) found that 61% of Americans identified Iran as an “enemy” of the United States.
- In April 2026, only 25% of voters [felt](#) it was likely that Iran would honor a promise to not pursue nuclear weapons if it maintained its nuclear program.
- In a March 2026 poll, 45% of [respondents](#) said they would be less likely to support conflict with Iran if oil or gas prices rise.
- In April 2026, only 35% of [Americans](#) were very or somewhat confident in President Trump’s ability to make good policy decisions about Iran.
- In April 2026, 62% of Americans were [reported](#) as feeling President Trump did not have a clear plan for the conflict with Iran.



At the beginning of Iran conflict in 2026, the conflict was broadly opposed by Americans, with the majority of respondents opposed to sending American Troops into Iran and expressed concerns about the U.S. military becoming too involved in Iran.

In March 2026, 75% of [Americans](#) were reported as concerned about the U.S. getting "too involved" in Iran, and 79% were concerned “about terror attacks on the U.S. as a result of the U.S. military action.”

Public Opinion On The Military Conflict In Iran

Executive Summary

Since January 2025, the United States has engaged in two major military engagements with Iran, the first in June 2025 which targeted specific sites associated with Iran's nuclear program. The second engagement began in February 2026, leading to a prolonged period of conflict which has resulted in a tentative ceasefire while long-term peace negotiations proceed.

The majority of Americans see Iran as an "enemy" of the United States and feel that Iran's pursuit of a nuclear weapon poses a threat. A majority of voters expressed support for the limited strikes in June 2025 since they were targeting nuclear program sites, but 75% of respondents expressed concern about this conflict leading to a larger war in the Middle East.

After the Trump Administration began combat operations against Iran in February 2026, voters have expressed concern over the conflict and its direction, with the majority of voters opposing expanded U.S. military involvement in Iran. Additionally, 49% of voters have identified themselves as opposed to the current military operation in Iran.

Based on various polls, Americans have identified several concerns about the Iranian conflict and its direction. These issues include concerns over gas prices rising, concern over the safety of U.S. troops, a perceived lack of clarity on the goals of the Iranian conflict, a lack of support for President Trump's handling of the conflict, and concern over civilian casualties.

As of April 2026, however, a majority of voters are found to approve efforts to secure a ceasefire agreement, and 57% of voters support lifting sanctions on Iran if it follows the ceasefire agreement.

Background

- The United States and Iran have had an acronymous relationship for decades, with [recent](#) disputes over Iran's military nuclear ambitions as a sticking point on improving U.S.-Iranian relations.
- In June 2025, the United States [engaged](#) in a series of strikes on three nuclear sites intended to "destroy or severely degrade Iran's nuclear program."
- In February 2026, the United States [began](#) military operations in Iran with wide-ranging strikes, which led to the death of the Iran's supreme leader among other senior leaders. Additional military strikes have targeted Iran's nuclear program and additional energy and military sites.
- In April 2026, a ceasefire between the United States and Iran [began](#), with various details such as the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz being negotiated as part of a long term truce.

How Americans View Iran

In 2026, a majority of Americans identified Iran as an "enemy" of the United States and felt that Iran's nuclear program was a threat.

- In February 2026, an Associated Press poll found that 61% of Americans [identified](#) Iran as an "enemy" of the United States.

- In this February poll, 79% of Americans were [registered](#) as being between Moderately to Extremely Concerned that the Iran nuclear program posed a direct threat to the United States.
- In April 2026, only 25% of [voters](#) felt it was likely that Iran would honor a promise to not pursue nuclear weapons if it maintained its nuclear program.

Public Opinion On The June 2025 Strikes

In June 2025, a majority of voters supported the limited strikes on Iran, but 46% felt it would cause retaliation and 75% of respondents expressed fear about escalation into a broader conflict. In December 2025, six months after the June 2025 strikes on Iran, approval of the strikes rose to 60%, with a majority of Americans backing economic sanctions and renegotiating the Iranian nuclear deal.

- In a June 2025 poll, 55% of voters said they [supported](#) the limited strikes on Iranian uranium enrichment facilities, but 46% of respondents felt it would cause Iran to retaliate against the United States.
 - 75% of respondents to this poll [expressed](#) concern that the limited conflict could escalate into a larger war.
- In December 2025, new polling found that 60% [approved](#) of the June 2025 airstrikes on Iran's nuclear program.
 - This polling also found that 73% of Americans [backed](#) further economic sanctions on Iran and 66% of Americans supported renegotiating the Iranian nuclear deal.

Public Opinion After the Start of the February 2026 Conflict

At the beginning of Iran conflict in 2026, the conflict was broadly opposed by Americans, with the majority of respondents opposed to sending American Troops into Iran and expressed concerns about the U.S. military becoming too involved in Iran.

- In a March 2026 [poll](#), only 27% of the respondents said they approved of the conflict and strikes on Iran, with 43% disapproving.
- In March 2026, [polling](#) indicated that 62% of Americans oppose sending American troops into Iran, with only 14% in support of American troops in Iran.
- In March 2026, 75% of Americans were [reported](#) as concerned about the U.S. getting "too involved" in Iran, and 79% were concerned "about terror attacks on the U.S. as a result of the U.S. military action."
- In March 2026, 40% of Americans were [reported](#) as saying military action against Iran will make the United States less safe in the long run.

Public Opinion On Military Conflict With Iran

In March 2026, 49% of Americans identified themselves as opposed to the military conflict in Iran, but 48% said they'd be more supportive of continued military action if it was explicitly focused on ending the Iranian nuclear program.

- In a March 2026 poll, only 41% of Americans [polled](#) believe going to war with Iran is "worth the risk" because Iran is "a threat to the U.S., Israel, and allies," with 52% majority disagreeing.
- In March 2026, 49% of Americans [identified](#) as opposed to President Trump's military operation with 67% concerned the U.S. will become bogged down in a prolonged conflict.
- In March 2026, 48% of Americans [say](#) they'd be more supportive of continued military action if it is explicitly framed as ending Iran's nuclear program.

Top Issues Voters Have With Conflict With Iran

According to various polls, Americans are struggling to support the Iranian conflict, with reasons identified including concern over gas prices rising, concern over the safety of U.S. troops, a perceived lack of clarity on the goals of the Iranian conflict, a lack of support for President Trump's handling of the conflict, and concern over civilian casualties

- In a March 2026 poll, 45% of [respondents](#) said they would be less likely to support conflict with Iran if oil or gas prices rise.
- While 55% of Republicans in a March 2026 [poll](#) said they approved of the strikes in Iran, the poll found that 42% of Republicans said they would be less likely to support the Iran campaign if it leads to "U.S. troops in the Middle East being killed or injured."
- In March 2026, 65% of Americans were [polled](#) to say they felt that the Trump Administration had not clearly explained the goals of U.S. military action against Iran.
 - In March 2026, [polling](#) found that 61% of Americans disapproved of President Trump's handling of the Iran conflict, with 45% of Americans saying the military action is not going well.
- In April 2026, only 35% of [Americans](#) were very or somewhat confident in President Trump's ability to make good policy decisions about Iran.
 - In April 2026, 62% of Americans were [reported](#) as feeling President Trump did not have a clear plan for the conflict with Iran.
 - In April 2026, the majority of Americans [disapproved](#) of several of President Trump's social media posts about Iran, with those threatening violence disapproved by 60% of Americans.
- In April 2026, 45% of [Americans](#) said they felt the United States is not doing enough to prevent civilian casualties in Iran.

Opinions About America's Future Posture Toward Iran

As of April 2026, a majority of voters support the ceasefire with Iran and said they would support lifting sanctions on Iran if it followed ceasefire agreements.

- In April 2026, 63% of Americans [approved](#) of the United States ceasefire with Iran while peaceful solutions to the conflict were pursued.

- In April 2026, 57% of American voters [were](#) in favor of lifting sanctions on Iran if it followed the ceasefire agreement.
- In April 2026, a blockade of the Strait of Hormuz was viewed more [positively](#) by voters, with 42% in support of the blockade.