

## POLL: SWING STATE PRO-PALESTINE VOTERS PERSUADABLE WITH ACTION ON GAZA

*A new poll shows that strongly pro-Palestine voters in seven swing states continue to weigh the war in Gaza on their votes in November, and several policy changes make them much more likely to vote for a VP Harris.*

### Press Release

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October 31, 2024 — **New polling across seven swing states shows that strongly pro-Palestine voters are persuadable to vote Democrat provided serious policy and rhetoric change. The poll also suggests that President Biden’s continued support for genocide and Israeli warfare in the Middle East is dragging down Democratic support up and down the ballot.** The poll was conducted by YouGov, a top-rated polling firm and Underpin, a political strategy, research and communications firm based in Wisconsin, sampling strongly pro-Palestine voters in swing states who may represent the margin of victory in exceedingly close battleground state elections.

“This poll is a clear call to action for Democrats to end the genocide, especially because it captures the views of many more than the over 48,000 who cast ‘uninstructed’ protest votes in the Wisconsin primary—and uncommitted voters across swing states,” said Heba Mohammad, Listen to Wisconsin spokesperson.

**Among strongly pro-Palestine voters polled, upwards of 60% are “*much more likely to vote for Vice President Harris,*” if she supports:**

- **Ensuring a total and unconditional ceasefire in Gaza.**
- **Enacting an arms embargo on Israel to stop U.S. weapons from being used in Israel’s warfare, and enforcing U.S. law on foreign assistance in cases of gross human rights violations or war crimes.**
- **Condemning Israel’s genocide of the Palestinians.**

Read the full [survey topline here](#). The poll included respondents from Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Georgia, South Carolina, Arizona, Michigan, and Nevada, while oversampling for respondents in Pennsylvania. Results are weighted to be representative, and the margin of error across the sample is +/- 3.82 percentage points. Sub-samples such as of young voters, women voters, per-state results, etc. have higher margins of error which are noted accordingly. All

respondents are referred to as “strongly pro-Palestine voters,” having passed at least one of two screening questions. If respondents passed the second screener, “strongly agreeing” to statements like “Israel is an apartheid state / committing genocide against the Palestinians,” we refer to them as “Palestine Die-Hards.”

The results complement existing studies that suggest policy change, including a permanent ceasefire and commitment to an arms embargo, can persuade voters to support a Democratic ticket. Other polling shows a majority of voters nationwide support ending the supply of U.S. weapons for Israel’s war: over 60% of voters nationwide and 77% of Democrats. A [Cato poll](#) in swing states in September also found majority support for ending weapons to Israel. Recent polling also suggests young voters are particularly influenced by this issue: 8% of [Gen-Z](#) voters rank ending Israel’s violence in Gaza as their top voting issue. **This survey provides a more in-depth look at those voters who are strongly pro-Palestinian across swing states.**

#### **Additional topline results include:**

- Over a quarter of respondents say Biden’s handling of the war in Gaza makes them less likely to vote for all Democrats in November, over a third say “it depends on the candidate.” Among non-Harris voters, almost 70% are less likely to vote for all Democrats on this basis.
- Almost 70% of non-Harris voters list Palestine among their top voting issues and strongly disapprove of her position on Gaza and Lebanon. The next most common voting issues of these respondents were climate change (39%) and inflation (41%).
  - Over half of non-Harris voters polled are White and between the ages of 18-44.
- Almost half of strongly pro-Palestine voters in swing states hold VP Harris somewhat or very much responsible for the White House’s policies regarding Israel and Gaza. Among Palestine Die-hards, 64% hold her accountable. These statistics suggest there is room for Harris to distance herself from Biden’s legacy.
- When exposed to a list of Trump or Project 2025 policy threats including ones specific to pro-Palestine advocacy, 89% of these voters had heard of most or all of the listed policies. Over 70% are very worried Trump would make good on these threats if elected.
- When it comes to a second Trump term, top concerns for these voters are similar to other left-leaning voters: reproductive rights, cuts to social security and medicare, tax-cuts for the rich but not the working class, and democracy and the rule of law.
- Several policies and rhetoric changes related to Israel’s genocide in Gaza, including an arms embargo on Israel and permanent ceasefire, would ensure over 60% of these voters are “much more likely to vote for VP Harris.” Among those who currently say they are not going to vote for Harris, 63% say an arms embargo would make them much more likely to vote for her.

Among those who listed these policy demands as “most impactful” for a vote for Harris, over 60% say these changes also make them much more likely to vote for Harris:

- Ensuring critique of Israel or pro-Palestinian advocacy is not criminalized in U.S. law, agencies, institutions, or universities; upholding critique of Israel as free speech.
- Promising to uphold international law, including rulings of the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court, and the designation of Israeli settlements on occupied Palestinian land as illegal land theft and annexation.
- Opposing and lifting anti-boycott laws that prevent people, companies or government from boycotting, divesting from, or avoiding the purchase of Israeli products or financial assets.
- Condemning mass sexual violence and torture committed against Palestinian prisoners and detainees.
- Condemning anti-Palestinian racism explicitly, anti-Muslim racism, and anti-Arab racism and hate crimes.

Notably, supporting a one or two-state solution are among the most inconsequential policy approaches for these voters. Additional findings include:

- Roughly 40% of these voters say they are less likely to vote for a presidential candidate if they disagree with the candidates' foreign policy views, even if they agree on other issues. The same question in a September Cato [survey](#) found at least half of all voters in swing states agree that foreign policy differences alone make them less likely to support a candidate.
- 72% of these voters support campaigns to pledge they “cannot vote for candidates that support genocide, no matter who they are running against” and calling on VP Harris to do everything in her power to enact a ceasefire or commit to an arms embargo if elected. The description provided of such “pledge” campaigns draws from those in [Wisconsin](#), [Georgia](#), and [Pennsylvania](#).

It is difficult to assess the exact proportion of swing state electorates represented within this poll or sample, but other polling suggests that strongly pro-Palestine voters in swing states may represent [up to](#) 13% of the population, and up to 2% are Palestine “Die-Hards” for whom the genocide in Gaza their top voting issue. Less than a percentage point of the overall electorate in three or four states will determine this Presidential election. These results show policy change in Gaza can be consequential for a subset of Democratic and Independent voters, and consequential for Vice President Harris’s election in particular.

The study was commissioned by Movement Voter PAC and informed by the needs and ongoing campaigns of grassroots advocacy groups in Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Georgia as well as nationwide pro-Palestine advocacy and related policy demands. In addition to Listen to Wisconsin, campaigns and organizations include No Ceasefire No Vote PA, No Peace No Peach Georgia, and the Wisconsin Muslim Civic Alliance. Read the full methodology [here](#). Cross-tabs are available upon request.