





The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

TRUMP RECEIVES WORSE MARKS WITH AAPI ADULTS THAN GENERAL PUBLIC ON KEY ISSUES

Most AAPI adults cite the importance of the economy, jobs, and inflation, and few approve of how Trump is handling them. AAPI support for the administration's immigration enforcement tactics is low.

As the Trump administration intensifies its enforcement of policies targeting illegal immigration, a new AAPI Data/AP-NORC Poll shows growing disapproval among AAPI adults of its approach. More AAPI adults disapprove of President Trump's handling of immigration than



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six months ago (71% vs. 58%), and two-thirds say Trump's deportation policies have gone too far.

Six Things You Should Know About the AAPI Data/AP-NORC Poll Among Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander adults in the U.S.:

- 1. More disapprove of Trump's handling of immigration now than six months ago (71% vs. 58%).
- 2. They are more likely than the general public to say Trump has gone too far when it comes to deporting immigrants living in the U.S. illegally (67% vs. 49%).
- 3. Most say the economy (92%), inflation (89%), and jobs (79%) are extremely or very important issues to them personally, but only about a quarter approve of Trump's handling of each.
- 4. A majority hold a favorable view of capitalism (57%), and about half feel the same about the progressive movement (51%) and liberalism (47%). Forty-four percent feel favorably about socialism, and few about conservatism (35%), and the MAGA movement (26%).
- 5. Despite feeling more favorably towards capitalism than socialism, 75% say the government should be responsible for ensuring affordable housing, and more say the government can better handle lowering the cost and increasing the supply of affordable housing than the private sector.
- 6. They are more likely than the general public to sympathize with Palestinians over Israelis (39% vs. 16%).

Most AAPI adults say immigration is extremely or very important to them personally (63%), but few are in favor of current policies surrounding the issue. Only about 2 in 10 support targeting neighborhoods with higher immigrant populations, deploying the military or National Guard to carry out arrests and deportations, detaining immigrants at their workplaces, or allowing agents to cover their faces during arrests. Roughly 6 in 10 oppose these tactics.

And while about half of AAPI adults favor deporting immigrants living in the United States illegally who have been charged with misdemeanors, fewer favor deporting all immigrants living in the United States illegally (35%), those who express views that the federal government does not agree with (30%), or those who have lived in the U.S. for more than a decade (24%).

AAPI adults who were born outside the United States tend to be older and less likely to lean Democratic than those who were born in the United States. They are more likely to approve of Trump's handling of crime (43% vs. 24%) and immigration (33% vs. 22%) and are more likely to favor deporting all immigrants who are in the country illegally (39% vs. 28%) and those who have been charged with a misdemeanor (56% vs 41%).

AAPI adults are more likely than the general public to say Trump has gone too far when it comes to deporting immigrants living in the U.S. illegally (67% vs. 49%).

Trump Approval on Key Issues

AAPI adults largely disapprove of how Trump is handling a range of issues. Compared with the general public, more AAPI adults disapprove of how he is handling trade with other countries (75% vs. 63%), the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (75% vs. 60%), foreign policy (74% vs. 59%), immigration (71% vs. 56%), the economy (74% vs. 62%), and crime (63% vs. 53%).

And while few AAPI adults approve of how Trump is handling them, most say these key issues are important to them personally, particularly issues related to the economy. Ninety-two percent say the economy is extremely or very important, 89% say the same about inflation, and 79% about jobs. A majority also say crime (73%), trade negotiations (68%), immigration (63%), and foreign policy (59%) are important.

Political and Economic Ideologies and Policy Positions

AAPI adults are more favorable toward left-leaning political ideologies. A majority of AAPI adults hold a favorable view of capitalism (57%) and about half feel the same about the progressive movement (51%) and liberalism (47%). Forty-four percent feel favorably about socialism, 35% about conservatism, and just 26% have positive views about the Make America Great Again (MAGA) movement.

Following these ideological positions, many AAPI adults support government policies that address market-based issues such as prescription drug prices and housing costs. Most AAPI adults support the capping of prescription drug prices by the federal government (85%), providing free daycare to children (71%), and requiring the inclusion of affordable units in new housing (70%). About half favor the government forgiving student loan debt for low-income borrowers (53%).

And most AAPI adults see affordable housing as a government issue rather than something to leave to the private sector. Seventy-five percent of AAPI adults say the government should be responsible for ensuring affordable housing. More trust the government rather than the private sector to do a

better job of lowering housing costs (61% vs. 39%) and increasing the supply of affordable housing (55% vs. 44%).

Views on Israel-Palestine

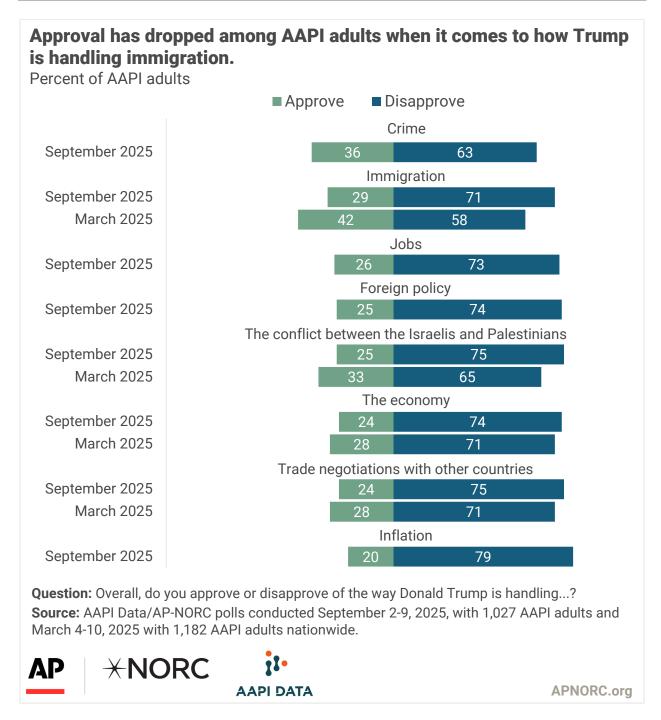
When it comes to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, only 37% say it is an extremely or very important issue to them personally. Still, more sympathize with the Palestinians (39%) rather than with the Israelis (13%), while the rest sympathize with both equally (20%) or neither side (28%). Two-thirds of AAPI adults say Israel's military response in Gaza has gone too far, compared with about half of the general public (66% vs. 49%).

AAPI adults are more likely than the general public to prioritize U.S. humanitarian aid to Palestinians (65% vs. 45%) and U.S. involvement in brokering a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas (64% vs. 51%) according to a <u>September 2025 AP-NORC Poll of U.S. adults</u>. Similar with the public overall, just 18% support prioritizing military aid to Israel. About half (56%) of AAPI adults also say it is extremely or very important for the U.S. to help recover hostages held by Hamas.

FEWER AAPI ADULTS APPROVE OF TRUMP'S HANDLING OF IMMIGRATION THAN AT THE START OF HIS SECOND TERM

As the Trump administration focuses on crime and immigration policy, few AAPI adults approve of how he is handling either issue. Twenty-nine percent approve of how he is handling immigration, down from 42% in a March 2025 poll of AAPI adults. And 36% approve his handling of crime.

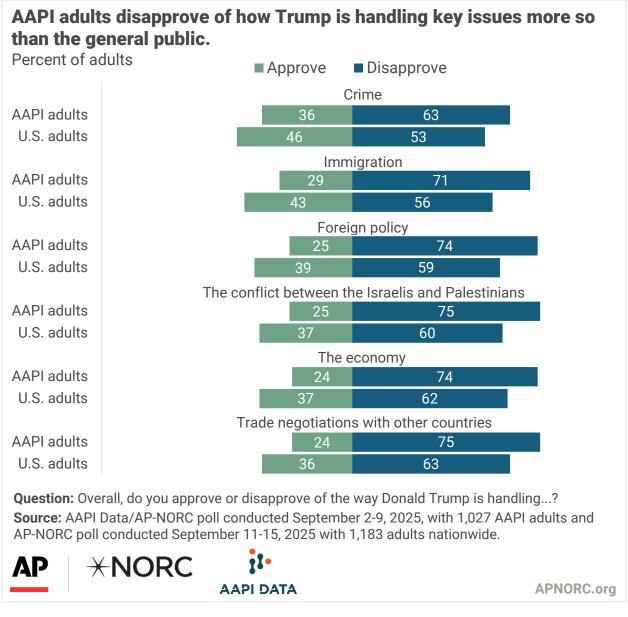
AAPI adults largely disapprove of how Trump is handling other key issues. Only about a quarter approve of his handling of various aspects of the economy and foreign policy, including the conflict between Israel and Palestine, and just 2 in 10 approve of his handling of inflation.



Like the general population, AAPI partisans fall along party lines when evaluating Trump's performance, with Republicans more likely to approve on each issue and Democrats more likely to disapprove. Younger AAPI adults are more likely to disapprove of his handling of immigration than older AAPI adults.

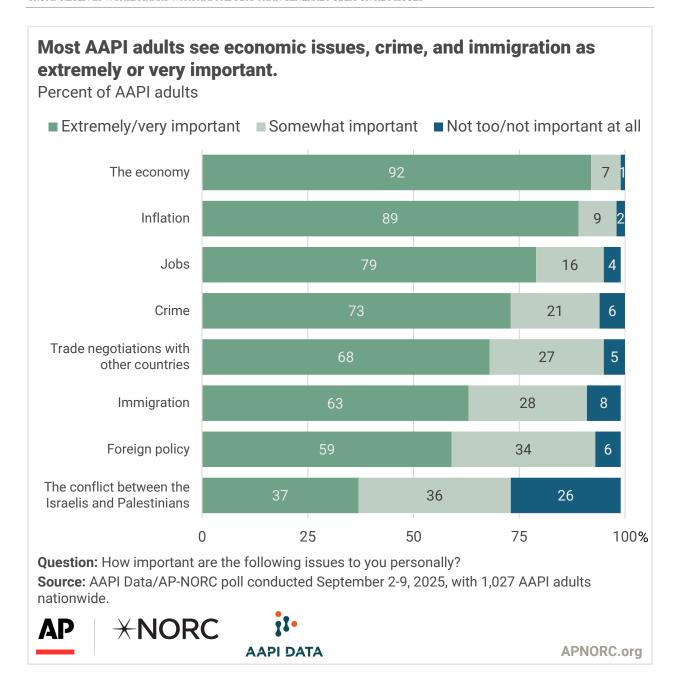
AAPI adults who were born outside the United States are older and less Democratic leaning than those who were born in the United States, and are more approving of Trump's handling of crime (43% vs. 24%) and immigration (33% vs. 22%).

Overall, AAPI adults disapprove of how Trump is handling issues even more so than the general public.



And while few AAPI adults approve of how Trump is handling them, most say these key issues are important to them personally. Issues related to the economy are particularly important to AAPI adults, though a majority also say crime, immigration, and foreign policy are important. Only four in 10 consider the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians important. A quarter say that issue is not important to them.

These findings are similar to recent findings among the general population.



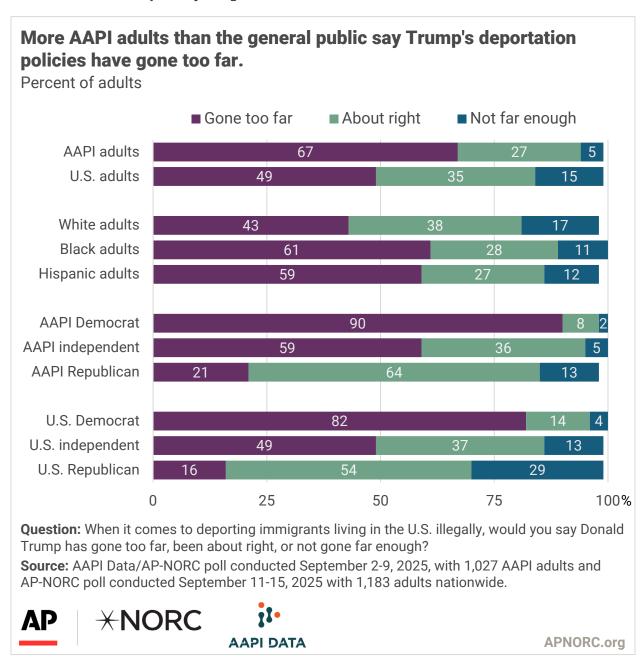
MOST AAPI ADULTS SAY TRUMP'S DEPORTATION TACTICS HAVE GONE TOO FAR AND MOST OPPOSE CURRENT POLICIES

While most AAPI adults say immigration is extremely or very important to them personally, few favor Trump's current policies. A majority of AAPI adults say Trump has gone too far when it comes to deporting immigrants living in the U.S. illegally. A quarter say his deportation policies have been about right, while almost no one says he should go further.

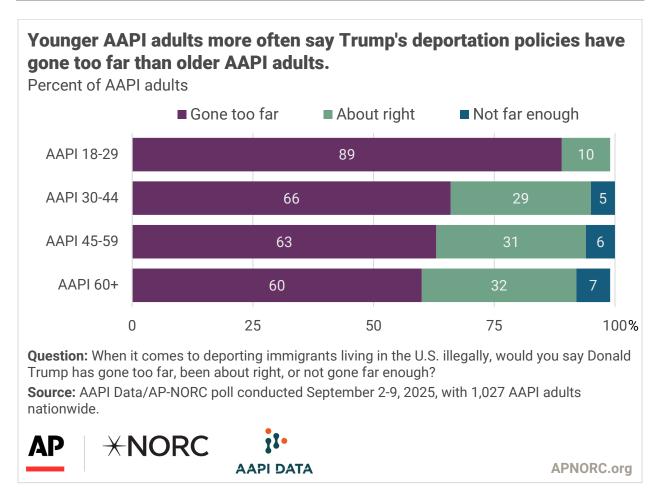
And while support falls largely along party lines, more AAPI Democrats say Trump has gone too far than Republicans who feel his policies have been about right.

The general public is more divided about Trump's deportation policies than AAPI adults, with half saying Trump has gone too far and a third saying he's been about right, according to the September

<u>2025 AP-NORC Poll of U.S. adults</u>. AAPI adults, Hispanic adults, and Black adults are all more likely than white adults to say Trump has gone too far.



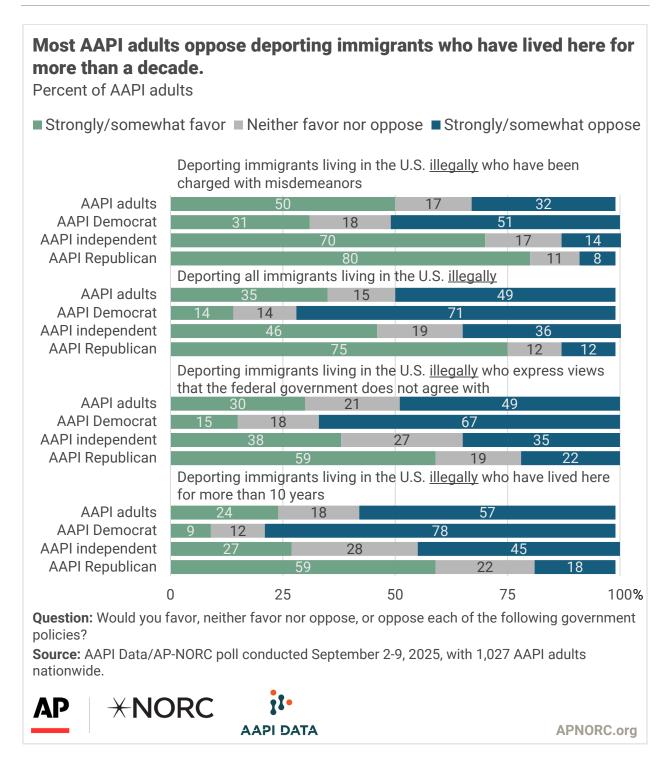
AAPI adults under 30 are also more likely than older AAPI adults to say Trump has gone too far, although most agree his policies have gone too far regardless of age.



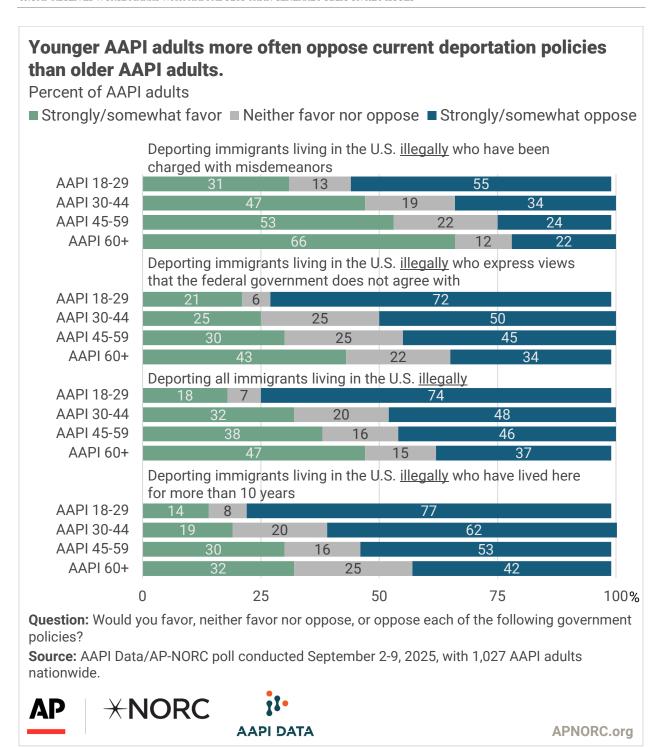
Most AAPI adults have mixed views about deporting for various reasons immigrants who have entered the country illegally, favoring some policies more than others. Half support deporting immigrants who have entered the country illegally who have been charged with misdemeanors, and 35% support deporting all immigrants who have entered the country illegally. Fewer support deporting those who express views that the federal government does not agree with, or those who have been here for a decade or longer.

AAPI adults have nuanced views. Only 19% percent of AAPI adults favor all four deportation policies and just 27% oppose each of them.

AAPI Democrats are more likely than Republicans to oppose each policy.



AAPI adults under 30 are more likely than older AAPI adults to oppose each policy.

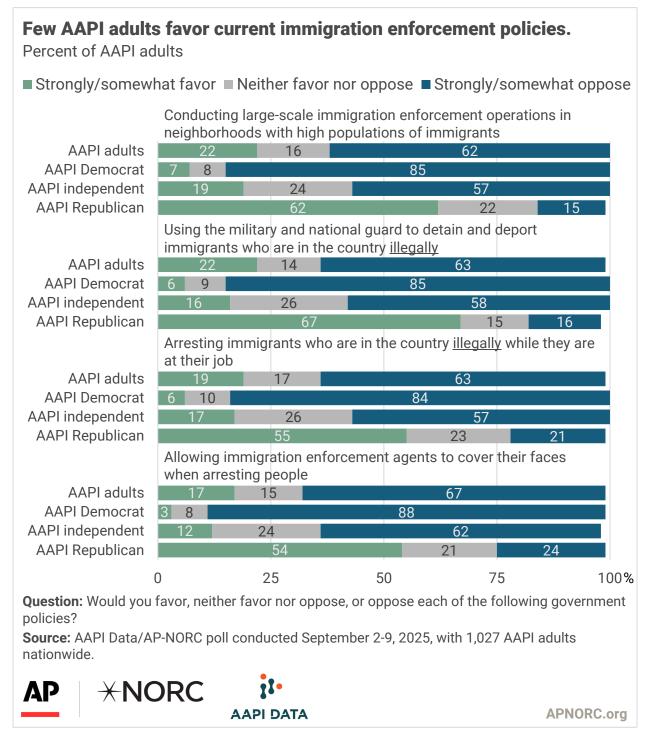


AAPI adults who were born outside the United States are older and less Democratic leaning than those who were born in the United States. Compared to those who were born in the United States, they are more in favor of deporting all immigrants who are in the country illegally (39% vs. 28%) and those who have been charged with a misdemeanor (56% vs. 41%).

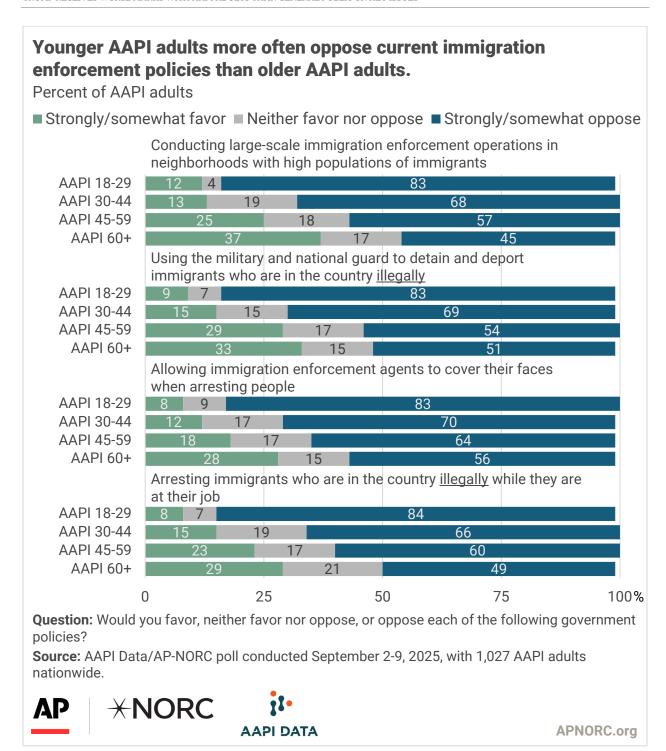
Few AAPI adults favor arresting immigrants who entered the country illegally while they are at their job, using the military and national guard to detain and deport immigrants who entered the country, allowing immigration enforcement agents to cover their faces during arrests, or conducting large-scale immigration enforcement operations in neighborhoods with high populations of immigrants.

About half, 49%, of AAPI adults oppose all of these policies and just 9% favor all.

AAPI Democrats are more likely than AAPI Republicans to oppose these policies.



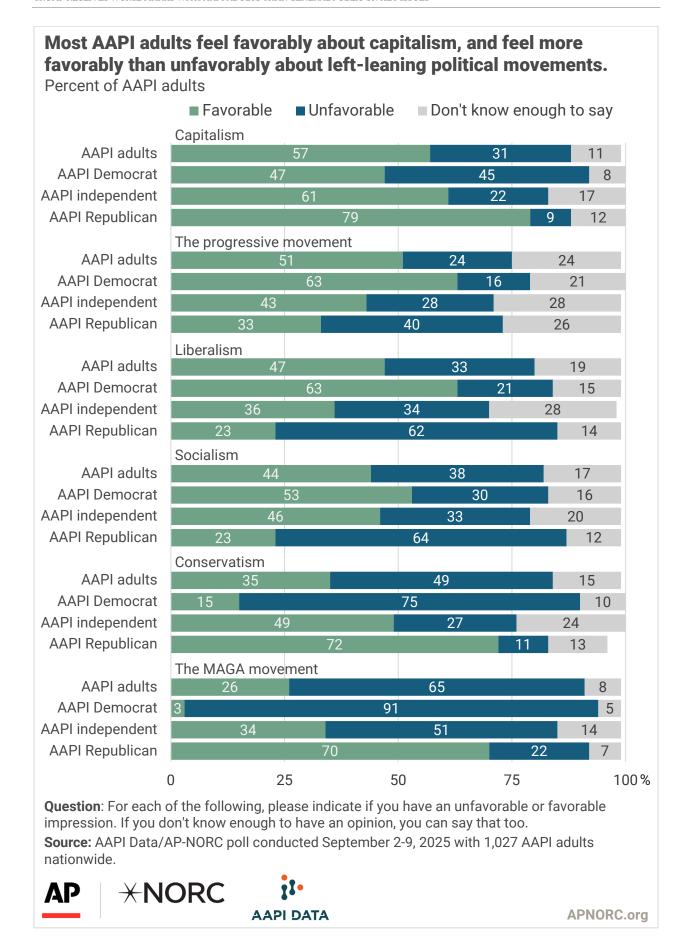
Younger AAPI adults are again more likely to oppose each immigration enforcement policy than older AAPI adults.



AAPI ADULTS ARE MORE FAVORABLE THAN UNFAVORABLE TO LEFT LEANING POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES AND CAPITALISM

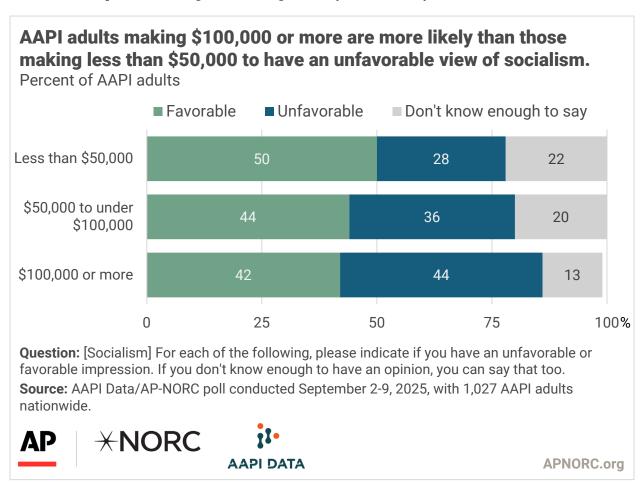
Six in 10 AAPI adults have favorable views of capitalism, and about half are favorable towards the progressive movement or liberalism, while 4 in 10 feel the same regarding socialism. About a third, have favorable views of conservatism and just a quarter are favorable towards the MAGA (Make America Great Again Movement).

Views are heavily influenced by partisanship, with Democrats more likely to have favorable views of the progressive movement, socialism, and liberalism and Republicans more likely to have favorable opinions of capitalism, conservatism, and the MAGA movement.



AAPI adults making \$100,000 or more are more likely than those making less than \$50,000 to have an unfavorable view of socialism (44% vs. 28%). Lower income adults are divided between having a favorable opinion and not knowing enough to say either way.

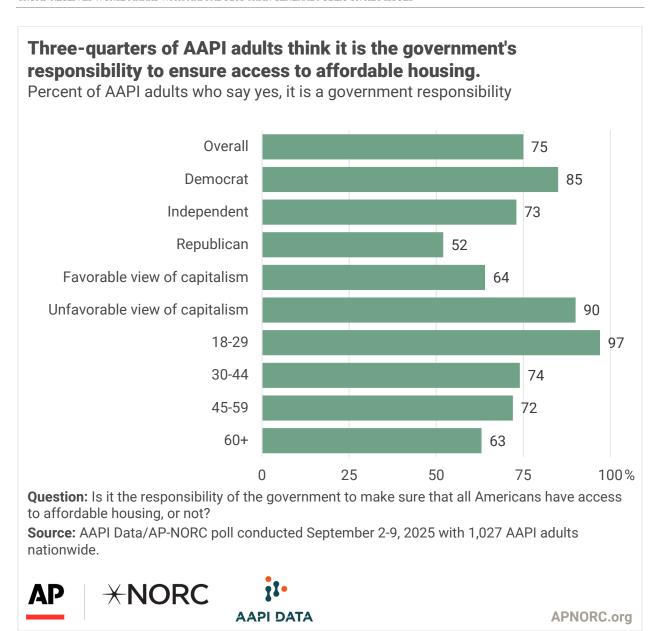
Views on other political ideologies are not significantly influenced by income level.



Following these ideological positions, many AAPI adults support government policies that address market-based issues. Three-quarters of AAPI adults believe the government is responsible for making sure all Americans have access to affordable housing, including a majority of Democrats and independents and half of Republicans.

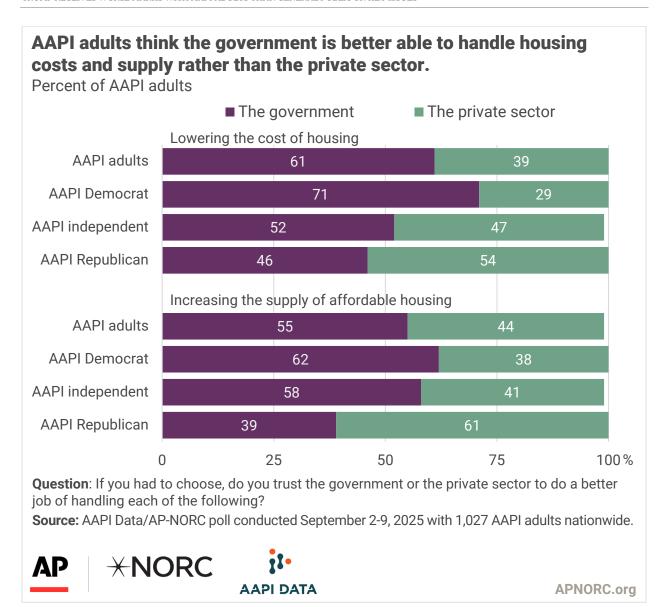
Both AAPI adults who have an unfavorable and favorable view of capitalism think access to affordable housing is the government's responsibility.

And although AAPI adults age 18-29 are in near-universal agreement, a majority of all age groups agree it is a government responsibility.



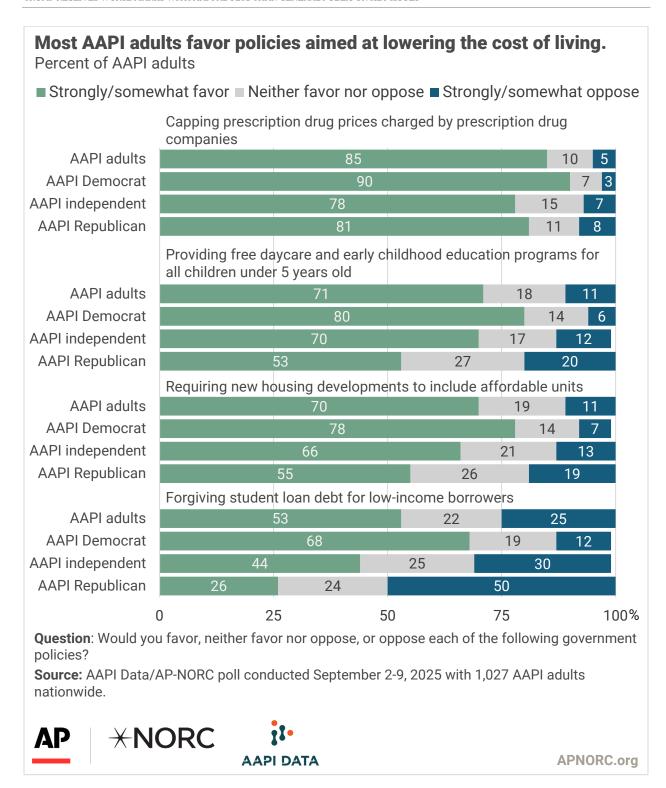
About 6 in 10 AAPI adults say the government can do a better job handling lowering the cost of housing and increasing the supply of affordable housing than the private sector. Views are largely driven by partisanship, with Democrats more likely to say both affordability and supply would be better handled by the government and Republicans more likely to say the private sector can better handle these issues

Those who have a favorable view of capitalism are also more likely than those with an unfavorable view to think the private sector is better able to handle lowering the cost of housing (48% vs. 24%), as are those age 30 and older compared with younger adults (42% vs. 25%).



In addition to supporting the government's involvement in the housing market, AAPI adults broadly support government policies in capping drug prices, providing free daycare and early education programs, and requiring affordable units in new housing developments. The vast majority of AAPI Republicans favor capping prescription drug prices, while about half support free childcare programs and affordable housing developments. Most Democrats support each policy.

Support is less broad for forgiving student loan debt for low-income borrowers, with about half of AAPI adults in favor overall. However, 81% of those age 18–29 support such a policy compared with just 47% of older adults.



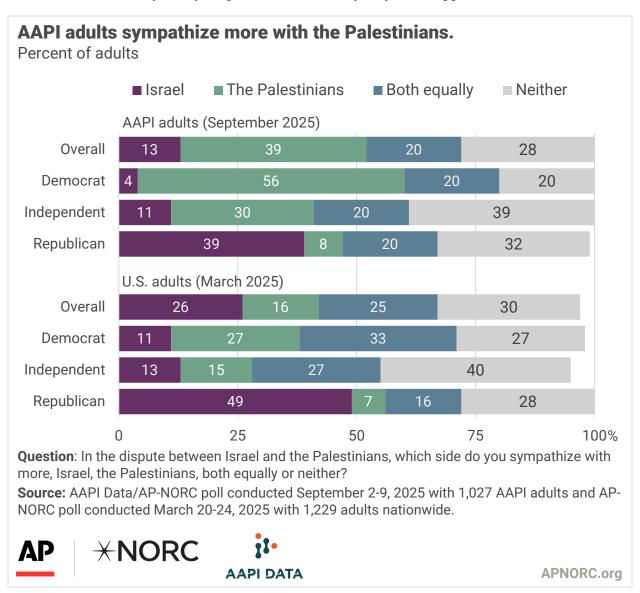
And majorities of those with both favorable and unfavorable views of capitalism support providing free childcare, mandating affordable housing units in new developments, and capping prescription drug prices. There is a wider divide when it comes to forgiving low-income borrowers' student loan debt, with 73% of those with an unfavorable view of capitalism in support compared with 43% of those with a favorable view.

AAPI ADULTS EXPRESS MORE SYMPATHY FOR PALESTINIANS AND SAY ISREAL'S MILITARY RESPONSE HAS GONE TOO FAR

Following two years of conflict between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip that has left <u>thousands</u> <u>dead</u>, more AAPI adults sympathize with the Palestinians than the Israelis (39% vs. 13%). About half sympathize equally with both sides, or with neither.

Among both AAPI adults and adults overall based on a <u>March 2025 AP-NORC Poll</u>, Democrats are more likely to express support for Palestinians and Republicans are more likely to sympathize with Israel. However, a higher share of AAPI Democrats sympathizes with the Palestinians compared with Democrats overall (56% vs. 27%).

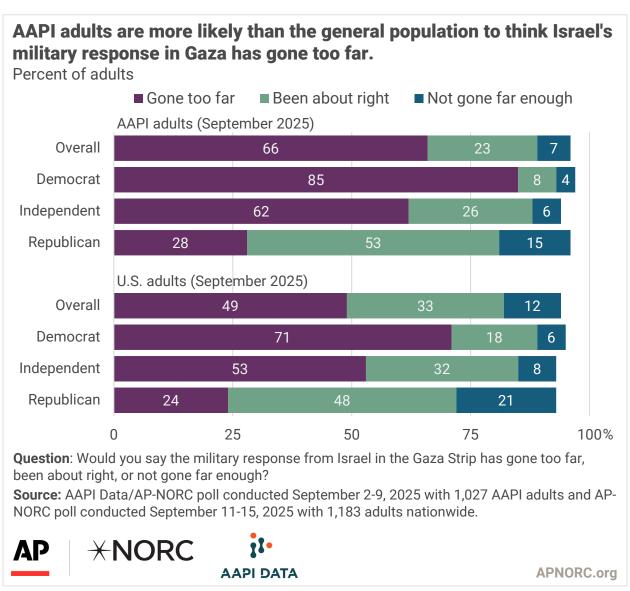
AAPI adults under 30 are particularly sympathetic to the Palestinians, with 67% saying they sympathize most with them more compared with 33% of other AAPI adults. In contrast, those age 30 and older are more likely than younger AAPI adults to say they don't support either side (31% vs. 10%).



AAPI adults are also more likely than the general public to believe that Israel's military response in the Gaza Strip has gone too far. Sixty-six percent of AAPI adults think this is the case, compared with 49%

of U.S. adults, according to a September 2025 AP-NORC Poll. Among AAPI adults, only about a quarter think the response has been about right and just 1 in 10 say it has not gone far enough.

Partisan differences persist within each group, with Democrats more likely to think Israel has gone too far and Republicans more likely to say its response has been about right. However, few among either Democrats or Republicans think it has not gone far enough.

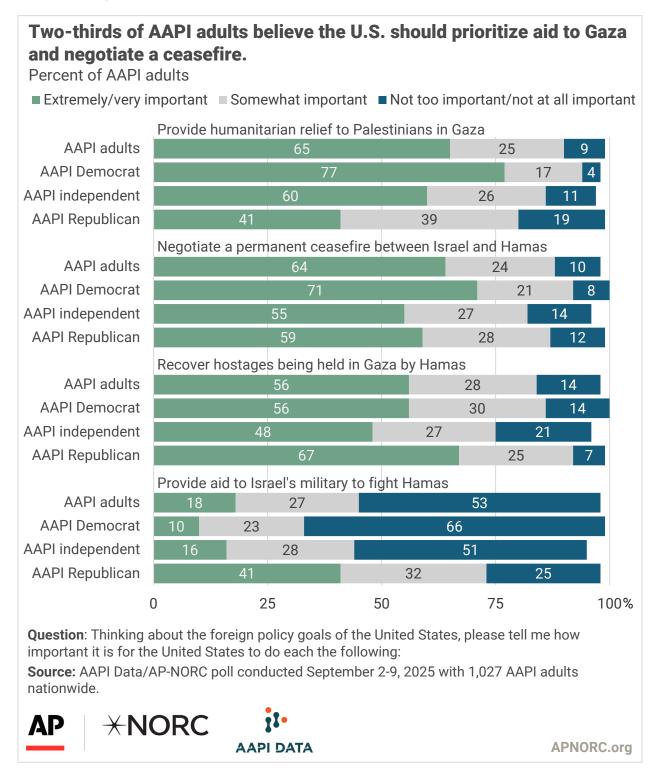


Providing humanitarian relief to Palestinians in Gaza, negotiating a permanent ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, and recovering the hostages held in Gaza by Hamas are the policy priorities among the AAPI community. By contrast, only about a fifth consider providing military aid to Israel a priority.

Compared with the general population, AAPI adults are more likely to think the government should prioritize providing aid to Palestinians (65% vs. 45%) and negotiating a permanent ceasefire (64% vs. 51%), according to findings from a September 2025 AP-NORC Poll.

Among AAPI adults, Democrats are more likely than Republicans to view providing aid to Palestinians as a foreign policy priority for the U.S., while Republicans are more likely to say the same regarding

providing military aid to Israel. Majorities of both Republicans and Democrats agree negotiating a ceasefire is important.



STUDY METHODOLOGY

This survey was conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and AAPI Data with funding from the University of California (UC) Berkeley.

Data were collected using the Amplify AAPI Monthly survey drawing from NORC's Amplify AAPI® Panel designed to be representative of the U.S. Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) household population. The survey was part of a larger study that included questions about other topics not included in this report.

Amplify AAPI is a blend of multiple sample designs. Each stage seeks to provide maximum coverage of the AANHPI population, and all are combined through base-weighting to arrive at a representative overall cross-section of AANHPI in the United States. The first stage included recruitment of approximately 850 active AANHPI panelists from NORC's flagship probability panel, AmeriSpeak. These panelists now serve as members of both the AmeriSpeak and the Amplify AAPI panels. During the initial recruitment phase of the AmeriSpeak panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame or a secondary national address frame, both with over 96% coverage of all U.S. addresses, and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, or field interviewers (face to face).

The second stage began in the spring of 2022, when Amplify AAPI recruited 150 households from a 30,000-sample pool as a pilot to test the sample design's feasibility and participation rates. In 2023, Blue Shield Foundation of California and UC Riverside/AAPI Data sponsored a recruitment effort in California generating 1,150 additional panelists. Finally, the Rockefeller Foundation funded a national recruitment effort, including new recruits and those from the 2022 Pew Asian American Survey, generating 4,700 panelists who are eligible for the monthly survey.

By providing recruiting and interviewing in the languages noted below, Amplify AAPI covers approximately 90 percent of Asian language "linguistically isolated" households, that is, households in which no adult can speak English or Spanish at least "well." Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings population.

Interviews for this survey were conducted between September 2-9, 2025 with Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders 18 years of age or older representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from the Amplify AAPI Panel, and 1,027 completed the survey—1,022 via the web with 5 by telephone. Panel members were invited by email or by phone from a NORC telephone interviewer. In addition to English, the survey was offered in the Chinese dialects of Mandarin and Cantonese, Vietnamese, and Korean, depending on respondent preference. The final stage completion rate is 19.3 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 26.2 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 78.4 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 4.0 percent. Respondents were offered a small monetary incentive (either \$3 or \$10) for completing the survey.

The overall margin of sampling error is +/-5.0 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups. Sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error and there may be other unmeasured error in this or any other survey.

Quality assurance checks were conducted to ensure data quality. In total, 47 interviews were removed for nonresponse to at least 50% of the questions asked of them, for completing the survey in less than one-third the median interview time for the full sample, or for straight-lining all grid questions asked of them. These interviews were excluded from the data file prior to weighting.

Once the sample was selected and fielded, and all the study data were collected and made final, a poststratification process was used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any noncoverage or under and oversampling resulting from the study specific sample design. Poststratification variables included age, gender, census region, race/ethnicity, education, U.S. born, and Asian origin. Weighting variables were obtained from the American Communities Survey (ACS) 5 years data 2019–2023. The weighted data reflect the U.S. Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) household population, including all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Complete questions and results are available at www.apnorc.org. For more information about the study, email info@apnorc.org.

Additional information on the Amplify AAPI Panel methodology is available at: https://amplifyaapi.norc.org/. For more information about the panel, email Amplifyaapi.bd@norc.org/.

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The two organizations have established The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals. Learn more at www.apnorc.org.

ABOUT AAPI DATA

AAPI Data is a leading research and policy organization producing accurate data to shift narratives and drive action toward enduring solutions for Asian American (AA) and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities across the nation. AAPI Data aspires to transform public and private systems to ensure that all AA and NHPI communities are recognized, valued and prioritized. Learn more at aapidata.com.