
YES, IT'S ONLY BEEN 14 DAYS

In his first two weeks in office, President Trump has signed [18 executive orders](#) and presidential memos, actions that include facilitating an eventual repeal of the Affordable Care Act, reinstating the global gag rule that bans U.S. foreign aid from going to any NGO that so much as discusses abortion with its patients, reviving the Dakota Access and Keystone XL oil pipelines, directing the construction of a wall along the Mexican border, restructuring the National Security Council, and temporarily banning all refugees and restricting immigration from seven predominantly Muslim countries.

Americans are divided on the ban

A [HuffPost/YouGov poll](#) from this week found 48% of Americans approve of the executive order "banning travel for people from seven Muslim-majority countries - Iran, Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Libya, Yemen and Somalia - for 90 days, and suspending the admission of refugees for 120 days" while 44% disapprove. Opposition to the ban was highest among Democrats (73% disapprove), those under 30 (63%), and Hispanic adults (59%).

Meanwhile, a [Reuters/Ipsos poll](#) conducted this week found Americans slightly less opposed to the "Executive Order that President Trump signed blocking refugees and banning people from seven Muslim majority countries from entering the U.S.," with 48% agreeing with it and 41% disagreeing with it. Support for the ban divides sharply along partisan lines, with 70% of Democrats disagreeing with it (including 53% who strongly disagree) and 82% of Republicans agreeing with it (including 51% who strongly agree). Independents are divided, with 44% agreeing and 36% disagreeing.

However, a [Gallup poll](#) also conducted this week found stronger opposition to the ban than either the Ipsos or YouGov polls. Asked about Trump "ordering a temporary ban on entry into the U.S. for most people from seven predominantly Muslim countries," 55% of Americans said they disapproved of that action (42% approve). Meanwhile, 58% disapprove of "indefinitely suspending the United States' Syrian refugee program" (36% approve). A [CBS news poll](#) also found stronger opposition, with 51% of Americans disapproving of both the ban on travelers from 7 countries and the refugee ban (45% agree on both).

The difference in numbers between the Ipsos/YouGov polls (both online) and the Gallup/CBS polls (telephone surveys) underscore the difficulty in gauging public support for a topic like this that can be sensitive to word changes and differences in methodology. As the [Huffington Post points out](#), there's not necessarily a "correct" way to word this question, but many small decisions can make a difference in how the policy is perceived. We saw this during the 2016 campaign, where support for the Muslim ban would vary depending on whether it was classified as temporary or not. It also varied whether or not Trump's name was associated with it. Similarly, online or automated phone polls found higher support for the ban, possibly due to voters' hesitation to admit their true views when speaking to another person.

Digging deeper, there is opposition to several key aspects of the ban

Even beyond issues of methodology and wording, gauging public opinion on the ban is more complicated than a simple agree/disagree question - and other questions asked within the polls released this week demonstrate that.

For one, the [Reuters poll](#) finds that a majority of adults disagree with one of the key parts of Trump's executive order - prioritizing certain refugees over others. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of adults disagree with the notion that "the United States should welcome Christian refugees, but not Muslim ones" and 56% disagree that "the United States should welcome refugees from certain conflicts, but not others."

What's more, [Americans are dubious](#) about the Trump administration's assertion of the ban's connection to safety and the prevention of terrorism. Less than a third of adults (31%) say the travel ban makes them feel more safe (26% less safe / 33% no change). Americans are also divided over whether the ban is a "good example" (38%) or "bad example" (41%) of how best to confront terrorism.

And despite the Trump administration insisting that the executive order was "not a ban on Muslims," Americans don't agree. A majority of adults in the [YouGov poll](#) say the travel ban is "intended to target Muslims" (52%) with only 29% saying that they don't think that is the intention.

We've been here before

Trump signed his immigration ban on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, a poignant reminder that American skepticism of refugees dates back decades. In November 1938, two weeks after Kristallnacht, [Gallup asked Americans](#), "Should we allow a larger number of Jewish exiles from Germany to come to the United States to live?" and 72% of Americans said "no." Two months later, as it became even clearer that events in Europe were deteriorating, 67% of Americans [continued to oppose](#) the government permitting 10,000 refugee children from Germany to be brought into the country.

In fact, a look back through Gallup's polling finds that Americans have been [continuously reluctant](#) to open our doors in the face of specific international crises. For example, that's true of Jewish refugees before, during and after World War II, of Hungarian refugees fleeing communism, and of Vietnamese refugees in the aftermath of the Vietnam War.

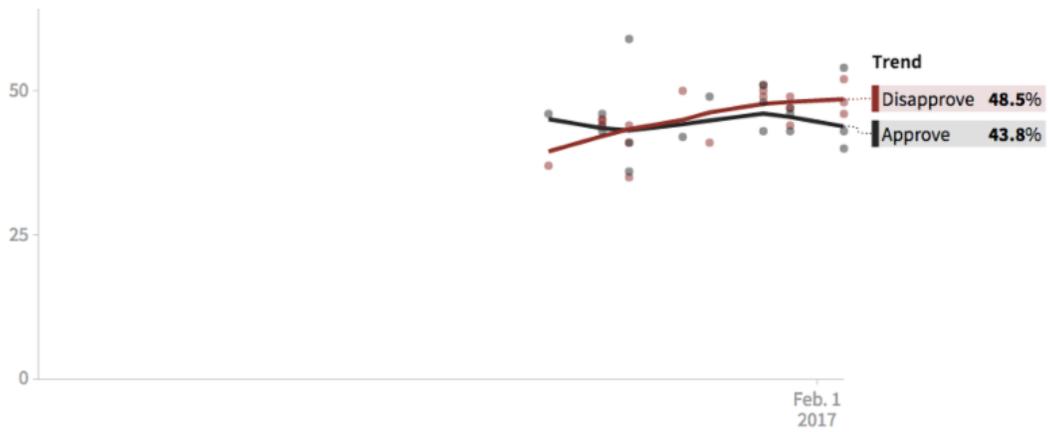
Gallup Questions About Refugees Over Time

Date	Country from which refugees are fleeing	% Favor/Support	% Oppose/Do not support
1939	Germany (children)	26	67
1939	Germany (children, mostly Jewish)	31	61
1940	England and France (children)	41	46
1946	Europe (including Jewish -- relocated based on size and population of each nation)	40	50
1946	Europe (including Jewish -- President Truman asking Congress to allow more)	16	72
1946	Europe (including Jewish -- relocated based on size and population of each nation)	38	48
1947	Europe (10,000)	24	57
1957	Hungary (allowed to stay permanently)	41	44
1958	Hungary (160,000)	33	55
1979	Vietnam (Indochinese or "boat people")	32	57
1979	Vietnam (Indochinese or "boat people" -- would you like to see them in your community)	47	40
1979	Vietnam (Indochinese or "boat people" -- would they be welcomed in your community)	57	30
1980	All (should U.S. halt all immigration until national unemployment is below 5%)	26 (allow immigration)	66 (halt immigration)
1999	Kosovo	66	30
1999	Kosovo (open your home)	39	57

GALLUP

Trump's approval rating is dropping as Democratic voters vow to get more involved

President Trump started his term with the lowest approval rating in modern American history, and the only president to begin with an approval rating below 50 percent, according to [Gallup's historical data](#). In the past week, Trump's [approval rating](#) has dropped a net 10 points further, from 44% approve / 40% disapprove (net +5) on Jan. 22 to 44% approve / 49% disapprove (net -5) on Feb. 2, according to the Huffington Post's polling aggregate.

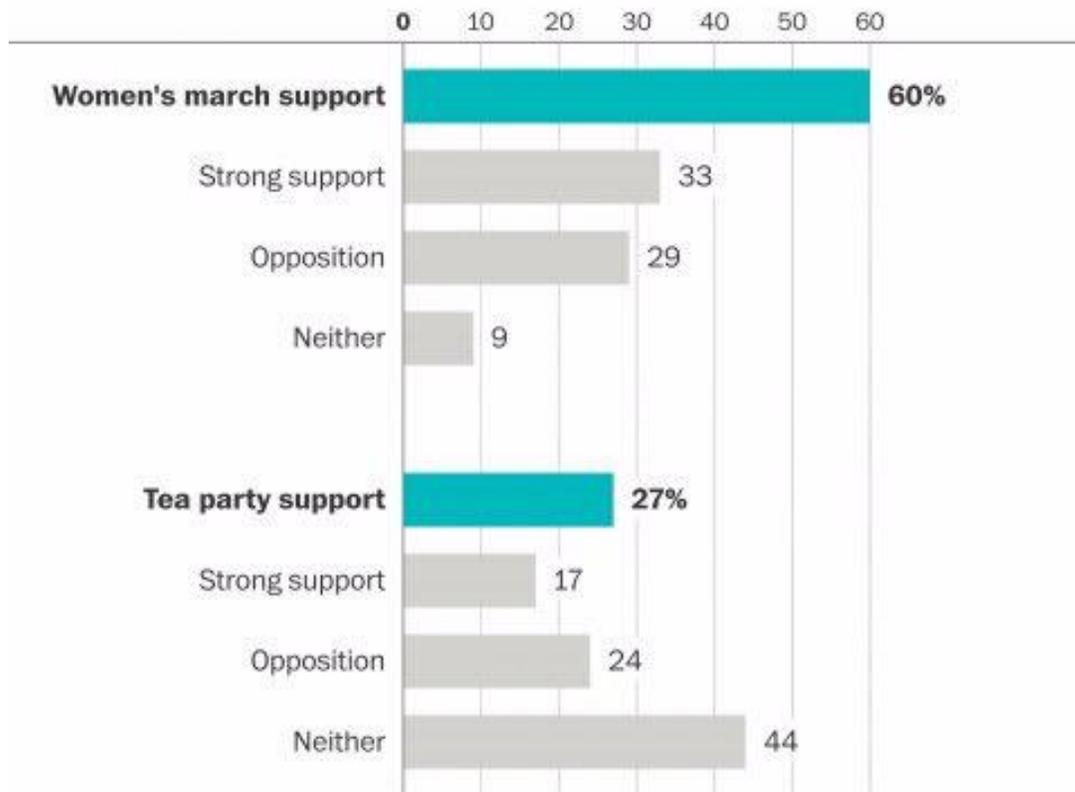


Trump's approval rating (HuffPost Pollster Aggregate at 2pm EST 2/3/2017)

Meanwhile, Americans have taken to the streets several times since Trump's inauguration. The day after he was sworn in, an [estimated](#) 4 million people turned out for women's marches across the country. And they have a lot of support. A [Washington Post poll](#) from last week found 6 in 10 Americans (60%) support the women's marches. That means [support for the protests](#) Inauguration Weekend more than doubles support for the Tea Party movement in 2010.

Support for women's marches today exceeds tea party movement in early 2010

Percent who support and strongly support women's marches today and the tea party movement in April 2010 (Among U.S. adults)



Support for Women's March (2017) vs. Tea Party Movement (2010) [Washington Post]

The [Washington Post poll](#) also found that Democrats (35%) were more likely to say they were planning on getting "more involved than usual in political causes" this year than Republicans (21%). Liberal Democrats (49%), Democrats under the age of 50

(43%) and Democratic women (40%) were some of the most likely to say they will get more involved.

Other News from the Polling and Political World

- [Watch Trump AG nominee Jeff Sessions grill Sally Yates](#) on opposing the president during her confirmation hearing in 2015
- There was a [19 percent increase in IUD](#) prescriptions and procedures after Trump's election
- Check out the [words Donald Trump said for the first time](#) in any U.S. inaugural address
- The [Washington Post asked Trump voters](#) what they thought about his inauguration crowd size
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- A majority of Americans are [rooting for the Patriots to lose](#) the Super Bowl

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