



## AAIPP Bulletin

March 2026

### **The Trump Presidency**

According to RealClearPolitics average of polls conducted March 2 – 20, 2026, President Trump's [job approval rating](#) stands at 41.6% approve to 56% disapprove. The spread of -14.4% is widest since the beginning of Trump's second term.

A majority of Asian American voters disapprove of President Trump's job performance, a finding shown in three of the polls, [Emerson College Polling](#), [Quantus Insights](#), and the [Trafalgar Group](#). However, it is worth noting that quite a significant share of Asian American voters indicate approval, as high as 46% in the Trafalgar Group poll and 30% in the Emerson poll.

On [the economy](#) and [inflation](#), the approve-disapprove spread is -18.8% (39% approve to 57.8% disapprove) and -25.4% (35.9% to 61.3%) respectively. [Results](#) from a recent POLITICO Poll show that the economy and the cost of living remain top of mind for voters among Trump's 2024 coalition — with many saying it's worse than it's ever been and that the government could be doing more to help. The percentage of voters who count affordability as a major issue is roughly the same since November. 64 percent of Trump 2024 voters say the federal government should do more to address affordability than it currently does but is choosing not to.

The concern over affordability cuts across Trump's coalition. 71 percent of non-MAGA Trump voters say the federal government should do more to address affordability, and 61 percent of MAGA Trump voters say the same.

On [the war in Iran](#), voters are divided. The RCP average reflects 40.8% approve to 49.1% disapprove of "Operation Epic Fury" - the current U.S. military action against Iran. With respect to the views of Asian American voters, [the POLITICO poll](#) shows an even split (39% support to 39% oppose), with 20% indicating neither support nor oppose. Similarly, the split is close to even (46% approve to 50% disapprove) in the Trafalgar Group poll. The Emerson poll shows a slim majority (53.5%) of Asian American voters opposing the military action, while 30% supporting and 16% unsure.

<b>President Trump's Job Approval by Race &amp; Ethnicity - March 2026</b>							
		<b>U.S. Voters</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>Asian/PI</b>	<b>Other</b>
<i>Do you approve or disapprove of the job Donald J. Trump is doing as President of the United States?</i>							
<b>Emerson</b>							
	Approve	41.9%	45.5%	21.6%	39.1%	44.7%	<b>52.2%</b>
	Disapprove	<b>51.4%</b>	49.1%	<b>69.0%</b>	47.0%	<b>55.3%</b>	42.9%
	Neutral / No opinion	6.7%	5.4%	9.4%	13.9%	0.0%	4.9%
<b>Quantus Insights</b>							
	Approve	45.2%	48.5%	26.0%	41.4%	27.3%	47.3%
	Disapprove	<b>53.8%</b>	<b>51.4%</b>	<b>68.2%</b>	<b>56.1%</b>	<b>72.7%</b>	<b>52.8%</b>
	Not sure	0.0%	0.0%	5.8%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Trafalgar Group</b>							
	Approve	49.5%	<b>55.4%</b>	26.7%	48.5%	46.0%	46.5%
	Disapprove	48.0%	43.2%	<b>65.4%</b>	48.5%	<b>54.4%</b>	<b>53.5%</b>
	No opinion	2.4%	1.4%	7.8%	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Do you support/approve or oppose/disapprove of the U.S. Military Action Against Iran?</i>							
<b>POLITICO</b>							
	Support	43.0%	47.0%	34.0%	40.0%	39.0%	
	Neither	18.0%	16.0%	24.0%	22.0%	20.0%	
	Oppose	33.0%	32.0%	36.0%	32.0%	39.0%	
	Don't know	5.0%	5.0%	6.0%	6.0%	3.0%	
<b>Emerson</b>							
	Support	39.9%	44.1%	23.4%	32.8%	30.1%	<b>55.4%</b>
	Oppose	46.9%	46.0%	<b>50.2%</b>	48.9%	<b>53.5%</b>	34.8%
	Unsure	13.3%	9.9%	26.4%	18.3%	16.4%	9.7%
<b>Quantus Insights</b>							
	Approve	45.7%	48.1%	24.6%	44.4%	27.1%	48.2%
	Disapprove	<b>50.1%</b>	47.9%	<b>65.2%</b>	<b>52.9%</b>	<b>72.9%</b>	<b>51.8%</b>
	Not sure	4.2%	4.0%	10.2%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Trafalgar Group</b>							
	Approve	<b>53.9%</b>	<b>57.3%</b>	36.2%	<b>55.1%</b>	46.2%	<b>53.4%</b>
	Disapprove	40.6%	37.1%	<b>56.9%</b>	38.8%	<b>50.3%</b>	46.6%
	No opinion	5.6%	5.6%	6.9%	6.1%	3.4%	0.0%

Sources: The POLITICO Poll with Public First survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13 - 18, 2026; Emerson College Polling March 2026 National Poll of likely voters conducted March 16 - 17, 2026; Quantus Insights survey of likely voters conducted March 2 - 3, 2026; The Trafalgar Group Presidential Approval & Nationwide Issues Survey of likely general election voters conducted March 1 - 3, 2026.

Another aspect of the Trump presidency is reflected by what federal workers have experienced working in the federal government. A [recent survey](#) of federal workers conducted late last year by the nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service has captured the impact of the administration’s actions on government performance. The survey finds that morale has sharply eroded across agencies, and employees are blaming political leadership for what they called “chaos and fear” that is undermining agencies’ ability to deliver services. Government wide, only 32 percent of the federal workforce is

satisfied with and engaged in their jobs. The numbers are particularly stark at certain larger agencies: Only 20 percent of the Department of Health and Human Services staff is satisfied; along with 22.5 percent of the Treasury Department and 8.1 percent of the few employees remaining at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

## **Immigration**

The Washington Post analysis of U.S. State Department data released in early March shows that [legal immigration is falling from most countries](#). The United States issued about a quarter million fewer visas in the first eight months of 2025 compared with the same period in 2024. These visas are generally issued for students, workers, and family members of citizens and legal residents. The 11 percent drop doesn't include tourist visas, which also fell during the same period.

India and China bore the brunt of the visa declines by about 84,000 compared with the same period in 2024, which largely reflect a drop-off in international students and workers from those countries. Visas for Afghan and Cuban nationals dropped sharply, reflecting the Trump administration's travel ban since last June. Visas also fell by more than 10,000 for citizens of the Philippines and Vietnam.

A majority of voters disapprove of the Trump administration's handling of immigration issues by 52.8% to 44.7%, according to [RealClearPolitics average as of March 20, 2026](#). A recent [Washington Post-ABC News-Ipsos poll](#) finds that a growing majority of Americans have soured on President Trump's immigration policies, with 58 percent saying he has gone too far deporting undocumented immigrants, a rise of eight points since last fall. A slightly higher number, 62 percent, oppose the aggressive tactics of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). 75 percent of Asian Americans say the same about deportations, up from 50 percent in the fall.

The poll also underscores the extent to which large numbers of Americans are living in fear of the deportation dragnet. One in 3 people say they worry that a family member or close friend could be detained by federal immigration officers. 54 percent of Hispanics, 49 percent of Asian Americans, and 44 percent of Black Americans say the same.

Another [recent poll by AAPI Data/AP-NORC conducted in early February](#) shares similar findings. Seventy-three percent of AAPI adults have unfavorable views of ICE, compared with 60% of the general population. Among both AAPI adults and the general population, about 9 in 10 Democrats view ICE unfavorably, while 61% of AAPI Republicans and 71% of Republicans overall hold favorable views.

Most AAPI adults agree Trump has gone too far when it comes to deporting immigrants living in the U.S. illegally (67%) or putting new restrictions on who can enter the country legally (63%).

## **Recent Releases**

[AAPI adults see benefits of immigration, most oppose current enforcement practices](#)

AAPI Data/AP-NORC (March 23, 2026)

Conducted February 2 – 9, 2026, this survey finds that AAPI adults see both benefits and risks to immigration. A majority say legal immigration provides benefits such as American companies gaining the expertise of skilled workers, enriching American culture and values, contributing to economic growth, and filling jobs that Americans don't want. 73% of AAPI adults have unfavorable views of ICE, compared to 60% of the general population.

### [Federal Public Service in Peril: A Report Card on the Trump Administration's Management of Our Government](#)

Partnership for Public Service (March 19, 2026)

A new [Public Service Viewpoint Survey](#) reveals that the Trump administration's management of the federal workforce over the past year has left employees disengaged, demoralized and less effective at serving the public. Only 7.5% of employees agreed that political leaders generate high levels of motivation in the workforce, and only 22.5% were confident that they could report a suspected violation of a law, rule or regulation without experiencing retribution.

### [Frequently Requested Statistics on Immigrants and Immigration in the United States](#)

Migration Policy Institute (March 12, 2026)

This article offers information about immigrant residents in the United States as well as temporary visitors and the U.S.-born children of immigrants. Drawing from the most authoritative and current data available, this article offers an overview of present and past U.S. immigration trends, sociodemographic information about who is immigrating, and the channels through which they arrive. It also provides data on the government's immigration enforcement actions and visa processing.

### [Fifteen-year trends in depression symptoms by sex, race, and financial stress among U.S. College Students](#)

Journal of Affective Disorders (March 5, 2026)

This study aimed to analyze item-level trends in PHQ-9 depression symptoms among U.S. college students across 450 institutions from 2007 to 2022, with a focus on differences by sex assigned at birth, race, ethnicity, and financial stress. Results of analysis reveal that [depression symptoms have steadily increased over the past 15 years](#), particularly among women, minorities and students experiencing financial stress.

### [Beyond the Labels: AAPI Women on Abortion Care, Dignity, and Criminalization](#)

National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (February 23, 2026)

This is a national, multilingual Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) abortion study, with qualitative and quantitative findings about how AAPI women across more than 25 ethnicities are thinking about and engaging with abortion rights. Developed with Lake Research Partners and Sprout Insight, this study represents a snapshot of abortion perspectives during the summer and fall of 2025 among AAPI women. These findings reflect the attitudes and knowledge of abortion, barriers that members of the AAPI community face, and the messages that resonate.

#### **ABOUT AAIPP**

The Asian American Institute for Public Policy (AAIPP) is a national, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advancing equality and full participation for Asian Americans. It works to amplify Asian American voice and thought leadership to address community concerns and to contribute pragmatic solutions to vital social, economic, and political issues in America. Through an inclusive perspective and a politically balanced approach, AAIPP seeks to promote reasoned dialogue and informed policy discourse that is guided by empirical research and critical analysis. [www.aaipp.org](http://www.aaipp.org)  
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