

## Countries with U.S. troops

To the best of your knowledge, in which of the following countries does the U.S. currently have troops stationed?

---

Canada	13%
Mexico	13%
France	18%
Germany	53%
United Kingdom	30%
Japan	46%
China	6%
Iran	18%
Israel	42%
Saudi Arabia	31%
Syria	30%
None of the above	11%
Unweighted N	1000

## Countries in which U.S. troops were attacked

To the best of your knowledge, in which of the following countries were U.S. troops attacked in the past month?

---

Canada	1%
Mexico	1%
France	1%
Germany	2%
United Kingdom	1%
Japan	2%
China	1%
Iran	10%
Israel	20%
Saudi Arabia	7%
Syria	24%
None of the above	45%
Unweighted N	903

## Official rationale for U.S. presence in Syria

The United States currently has about 900 troops stationed in Syria. U.S. troops have been stationed there since 2015, as part of Operation Inherent Resolve, the military mission to degrade and destroy ISIS in Iraq and Syria. What do you think the official rationale is for U.S. troops remaining in Syria in 2023? Select all that apply.

---

To fight the Islamic State (ISIS)	58%
To prevent Turkey from absorbing more territory in Syria	24%
To counter Russian and Iranian influence in Syria	52%
To deny Bashar al-Assad political leverage and resources to remain in power	24%
Other	8%
Unweighted N	1000

---

## Support/oppose Syria mission

As of October 12, 2023, the Biden Administration has stated the official rationale for U.S. troops remaining in Syria is to ensure the enduring defeat of ISIS and prevent Turkey from absorbing additional territory in northeast Syria. Given the above, to what extent do you support the current U.S. mission in Syria?

---

1 - Strongly oppose	8%
2	8%
3	42%
4	25%
5 - Strongly support	17%
Unweighted N	1000

---

## Reasons for not supporting Syria presence

You indicated you do not support the U.S. mission in Syria. What are the reasons that you do not support a U.S. troop presence in Syria:

---

Lack of coherent mission	32%
Vulnerability of U.S. troops	39%
Fears over direct conflict with Iran/wider regional war	30%
Waste of resources	66%
Lack of legal justification	39%
Other	14%
None of the above	8%
Unweighted N	153

---

## General public—Support/oppose Syria mission

To what extent do you think the U.S. general public supports the current U.S. mission in Syria?

---

1 - Strongly oppose	5%
2	19%
3	49%
4	19%
5 - Strongly support	8%
Unweighted N	999

---

## Support/oppose Syria mission—ISIS in survival mode

ISIS no longer controls any territory in Iraq or Syria. The group's "territorial caliphate" reached its greatest extent in May 2015 and was destroyed by the global coalition to defeat ISIS and ceased to exist by March 2019. As of November 2023, the Department of Defense Inspector General's Quarterly Report concluded that ISIS is, "in survival mode in Iraq and Syria," and that the group's capabilities "continued to decline, and became less sophisticated and complex." Given the above, to what extent do you support the continued U.S. mission in Syria?

---

1 - Strongly oppose	10%
2	15%
3	35%
4	24%
5 - Strongly support	16%
Unweighted N	1000

---

## Support/oppose Syria mission—Counter Iran and Russia

Some experts argue the United States should keep forces in Syria to counter Iran or Russia or to deny the Syrian government of Bashar al-Assad oil revenue. Given the above, to what extent do you support the continued U.S. mission in Syria?

---

1 - Strongly oppose	11%
2	10%
3	38%
4	25%
5 - Strongly support	16%
Unweighted N	1000

---

## Support/oppose Syria mission—5 servicemembers killed

At present, no U.S. service members have been killed during the mission in Syria. Imagine that 5 U.S. service members are killed in an attack while stationed in Syria. To what extent would you support the continued U.S. mission?

---

1 - Strongly oppose	15%
2	17%
3	30%
4	22%
5 - Strongly support	17%
Unweighted N	1000

---

## Support/oppose Syria mission—20 servicemembers killed

At present, no U.S. service members have been killed during the mission in Syria. Imagine that 20 U.S. service members are killed in an attack while stationed in Syria. To what extent would you support the continued U.S. mission?

---

1 - Strongly oppose	20%
2	17%
3	27%
4	19%
5 - Strongly support	17%
Unweighted N	1000

---

## Support/oppose Syria mission—50 servicemembers killed

At present, no U.S. service members have been killed during the mission in Syria. Imagine that 50 U.S. service members are killed in an attack while stationed in Syria. To what extent would you support the continued U.S. mission?

---

1 - Strongly oppose	26%
2	16%
3	24%
4	17%
5 - Strongly support	17%
Unweighted N	1000

---

## Support/oppose Syria mission—Iran-backed Shia militia attacks

Militias tied to Iran have conducted drone, rocket, and mortar attacks on U.S. forces repeatedly over the past several years, despite U.S. counterstrikes, and with increased frequency since Israel's war in Gaza commenced. Given the above, to what extent do you support the continued U.S. mission in Syria?

---

1 - Strongly oppose	13%
2	12%
3	30%
4	26%
5 - Strongly support	19%
Unweighted N	1000

---

## Level of concern for broader conflict

How concerned are you about the possibility that the presence of U.S. troops in Syria could escalate into a broader conflict in the region (e.g., with other regional powers such as Iran)?

---

Very worried	15%
Somewhat worried	41%
Neither	27%
Not very worried	13%
Not at all worried	5%
Unweighted N	1000

---

## U.S. ground forces vs. naval forces

Some experts debate whether the United States should remove ground forces from Syria and replace them with naval platforms. On one hand, ground forces can hold territory, kill or capture terrorists, and assist local allies. On the other hand, naval platforms could conduct strikes against terrorists using aircraft and missiles while being less vulnerable to attack. Imagine you are in charge of the U.S. mission in Syria. Given the differences between ground and naval forces described above, what mix of U.S. forces in Syria would you employ? [Please move the slider to indicate the mix of forces you would choose to deploy (left text: 0% ground forces, 100% naval forces, right text: 100% ground forces, 0% naval forces)]

---

0-10	7%
10-20	2%
20-30	5%
30-40	8%
40-50	12%
50-60	32%
60-70	12%
70-80	12%
80-90	4%
90-100	6%
Unweighted N	771

## Israeli strikes on Hamas opinion

Which of the following best describes your opinion on Israeli strikes on Hamas in the Gaza Strip? Please select the option that best matches your opinion, even if it is not a perfect match. Israel should:

---

Israeli strikes on Hamas opinion	All
Conduct military operations regardless of how many civilians are killed or injured in Gaza	10%
Conduct military operations and use greater caution to limit harm to civilians but accept some civilian casualties when striking legitimate identified military targets	35%
Conduct military operations but avoid targets where civilians are at substantial risks of harm	31%
Cease military operations if there is any risk of harming or killing civilians	23%
Unweighted N	999

---