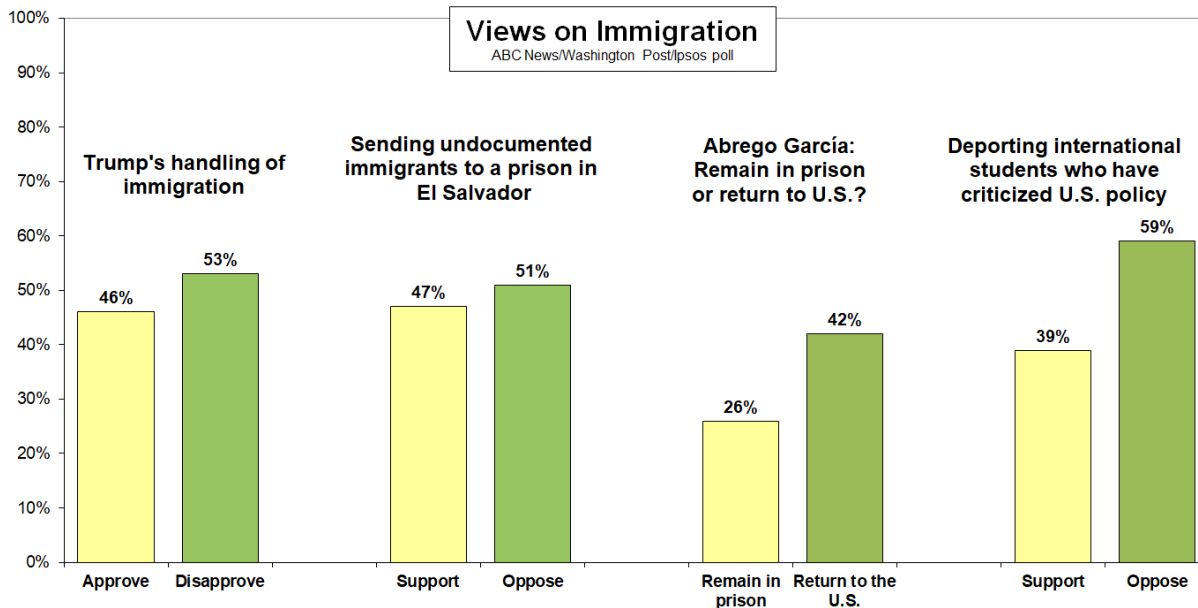# More Say Bring Back Abrego Garcia; Views are Mixed on Other Deportation Issues

Americans hold mixed views on Donald Trump's immigration policies, dividing on sending undocumented immigrants accused of gang membership to an El Salvador prison without a court hearing while mainly opposing deporting international students who criticize U.S. policy in the Middle East.

In the case of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, who was deported to El Salvador despite a court order prohibiting it, more say he should be returned to the United States than remain imprisoned in El Salvador, 42-26 percent. There's room for movement; three in 10 in this ABC News/Washington Post/Ipsos poll don't know enough about the case to say.

Overall, 46 percent approve of the way Trump is handling immigration, while 53 percent disapprove. On one hand that's a 4-point drop in approval from a Washington Post/Ipsos poll in February; on the other, it's Trump's best rating across seven issues tested in this survey, produced for ABC by Langer Research Associates with fieldwork by Ipsos.

Views on Immigration
ABC News/Washington Post/Ipsos poll

Trump's handling of immigration: Approve 46%, Disapprove 53%
Sending undocumented immigrants to a prison in El Salvador: Support 47%, Oppose 51%
Abrego García: Remain in prison or return to U.S.?: Remain in prison 26%, Return to the U.S. 42%
Deporting international students who have criticized U.S. policy: Support 39%, Oppose 59%

There's about an even division, moreover, on Trump's efforts to deport undocumented immigrants in general. Forty-eight percent say he's "going too far" in this regard, while 50 percent say he's either handling it about right (34 percent) or not going far enough (16 percent).

There's also a close split on deportation of suspected gang members to an El Salvador prison without a court hearing: Forty-seven support this action, with 51 percent opposed.

That result underscores animosity toward undocumented immigrants, as seen in contrast to views on deporting international students who have criticized U.S. policy in the Middle East: In this case, support for deportation drops to 39 percent, with 59 percent opposed.

PARTISANS – Partisanship is a strong factor. About nine in 10 Republicans approve of Trump's handling of immigration, vs. one in 10 Democrats; it's 45 percent among independents. Trump also wins approval on immigration from 93 percent of his 2024 voters, compared with 8 percent of those who voted for Kamala Harris. The difference is that he falls well short among 2024 nonvoters, who disapprove of Trump on immigration by 59-40 percent.

In another broad partisan gap, 85 percent of Democrats think Trump is "going too far" with deportations. Sixty percent of Republicans instead think he's handling this about right – and 27 percent say he's not going not far enough. Independents again fall in between.

Views on Immigration by Partisanship *ABC News/Washington Post/Ipsos poll*			
	Republicans	**Democrats**	**Independents**
Approve of Trump on immigration	88%	9%	45%
Trump "going too far" on deportations	11	85	48
Support deportations to El Salvador	82	15	47
Support deporting international students	70	11	38
Support returning Abrego Garcia to the U.S.	14	74	41

Republicans' attitudes are not monolithic. Eighty-two percent support sending suspected gang members to a prison in El Salvador without a court hearing. Fewer, but still 70 percent, support deporting international college students who are critical of U.S. Mideast policy. Fewer still, 53 percent, say Abrego Garcia should remain in El Salvador, though just 14 percent favor his return, with the rest unsure.

Hispanic people disapprove of Trump's handling of immigration overall, by 67-32 percent. Men divide about evenly, while women disapprove by 58-41 percent. Approval on the issue ranges from 65 percent of people in rural areas to 45 percent in the suburbs and 36 percent in cities, with sizable rural and suburban gender gaps. And there's a gap by age; 59 percent of those younger than 40 disapprove of Trump on immigration, vs. 48 percent of those age 50 and older.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post/Ipsos poll was conducted online via the probability-based Ipsos KnowledgePanel® April 18-22, 2025, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 2,464 adults. Partisan divisions are 30-30-29 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents.

Results have a margin of sampling error of 2 percentage points, including the design effect. Error margins are larger for subgroups. Sampling error is not the only source of differences in polls.

The survey was produced for ABC News by [Langer Research Associates](), with sampling and data collection by Ipsos. See details on ABC News survey methodology [here]().

Analysis by Gary Langer and Steven Sparks.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com. Join our [mailing list]() to get updates on all new poll releases. Media contacts: [Van Scott]() (212-456-7243) or [Brooks Lancaster]().

Full results follow.

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Q1-3a, 3c-4a, 4c-20b, 20e-27, 29-37 held for release.

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Trump is handling each of the following?

b. Immigration
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	-------- Approve --------			------- Disapprove ------		
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	Skip
4/22/25	46	NA	NA	53	NA	NA	1
2/18/25*	50	NA	NA	48	NA	NA	3
7/1/19**	40	NA	NA	57	NA	NA	2
4/25/19	39	29	10	57	11	46	4
9/21/17	35	24	11	62	11	51	3

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*Washington Post/Ipsos
**July 2019 and previous in CATI mode. "Skip" was "no opinion."


4. In each of these areas, do you think Trump is going too far, is not going far
enough, or is handling it about right?
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	Going too far	Not going far enough	Handling it about right	Skip
b. Deporting undocumented immigrants	48	16	34	1

```
("Going too far" and "not going far enough" were randomized)


20. Do you support or oppose each of the following?
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	Support	Oppose	Skip
c. Sending undocumented immigrants who are suspected of being members of a criminal group to a prison in El Salvador without a court hearing	47	51	2
d. Deporting international students who have criticized U.S. policy in the Middle East	39	59	2

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28. There's been a dispute regarding an undocumented immigrant named Kilmar Abrego
García, who was recently deported from Maryland to a prison in El Salvador despite a
2019 court order that was supposed to prevent his deportation to that country. Do you
think Abrego García should be returned to the United States or should remain in prison
in El Salvador?
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	Remain in prison	Returned to the U.S.	Don't know enough to say	Skip
4/22/25	26	42	31	1

```
("Remain in prison" and "returned to the U.S." were randomized)


*** END ***
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