



It's us, not you...

Differing perspectives on U.S.-Mexico relations on the eve of the Mexican presidential election

Washington, DC, June 15, 2018 — Public opinion surveys conducted in the United States and Mexico show that people on either side of our border have vastly different positions on the relations between our two countries.

On trade, Mexicans overwhelmingly support NAFTA while Americans narrowly support the trade deal. On building a wall, Mexicans clearly reject the idea while many Americans – particularly Republicans – support building a wall along our southern border. In fact, many Americans are pro-walls generally with 47% of American Republicans in favor of building a wall along the entire U.S.-Canadian border.

People in the two countries also differ on America’s responsibility for current events in Mexico. Most Americans feel that we are at least somewhat responsible for tensions between our governments and illegal immigration. However, most Americans do not believe that the U.S. is responsible for corruption or cartel violence in Mexico. Interestingly, a minority of Mexicans hold the U.S. responsible for illegal immigration into the U.S. but a majority feel that we are responsible for the epidemic of violence in Mexico.

1. Do you support or oppose the following policies?
 - a. Total support

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
The (U.S. / Mexico) being in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with Canada and (Mexico / the U.S.)	73%	54%	49%	67%	51%
Building a wall or fence along the entire U.S. – Mexican border	8%	45%	81%	19%	41%
Building a wall or fence along the entire (U.S. – Canadian border / Mexican Guatemalan)	12%	27%	47%	11%	28%
Separating children from families caught crossing into this country illegally	6%	24%	44%	10%	19%

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b. Building a wall or fence along the entire U.S. – Mexican border

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Strongly support	3%	29%	55%	10%	26%
Moderately support	5	16	26	8	15
Moderately oppose	15	13	9	14	15
Strongly oppose	74	37	8	63	41
Don't know	3	5	2	4	4
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>81%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>41%</i>
<i>Oppose (Net)</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>55</i>

c. Building a wall or fence along the entire (US) U.S. – Canadian border (Mexico) / Mexico-Guatemala

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Strongly support	4%	14%	24%	6%	15%
Moderately support	8	14	23	5	13
Moderately oppose	15	18	26	11	17
Strongly oppose	70	48	22	72	50
Don't know	4	7	5	6	5
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>47%</i>	<i>11%</i>	<i>28%</i>
<i>Oppose (Net)</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>67</i>

d. Separating children from families caught crossing into this country illegally

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Strongly support	3%	10%	17%	5%	6%
Moderately support	3	14	27	5	14
Moderately oppose	8	15	23	9	15
Strongly oppose	85	54	25	79	58
Don't know	3	6	8	2	7
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>19%</i>
<i>Oppose (Net)</i>	<i>93</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>74</i>

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e. The (U.S. / Mexico) being in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with Canada and Mexico (the U.S.)

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Strongly support	44	23%	12%	39%	21%
Moderately support	29	31	38	28	30
Moderately oppose	11	14	21	9	17
Strongly oppose	11	9	13	6	10
Don't know	7	23	16	19	22
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>73%</i>	<i>54%</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>51%</i>
<i>Oppose (Net)</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>27</i>

2. Do you think that the U.S. (Mexico) has benefitted from NAFTA, been hurt by NAFTA, or has NAFTA not made much of a difference either way?

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
U.S. (Mexico) has benefitted from NAFTA	36%	26%	15%	41%	24%
U.S. (Mexico) has been hurt by NAFTA	21	20	36	9	23
NAFTA has not made much of a difference either way	36	13	14	13	16
Don't know	8	41	36	37	38

3. How much responsibility, if any at all, does the United States have for each of the following?

a. Total Responsible

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Tension between the U.S. and Mexican governments	59%	71%	60%	84%	72%
Illegal immigration into the U.S.	46	65	68	69	61
Cartel violence in Mexico	53	28	23	35	28
Corruption in Mexico	40	23	14	32	21

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b. Cartel violence in Mexico

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very responsible	28%	7%	6%	9%	5%
Somewhat responsible	25	21	17	27	24
Not very responsible	17	26	27	31	26
Not at all responsible	25	34	44	26	34
Don't know	5	11	6	8	11
<i>Responsible (Net)</i>	53%	28%	23%	35%	28%
<i>Not Responsible (Net)</i>	42	60	71	57	61

c. Illegal immigration into the U.S.

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very responsible	21%	26%	32%	24%	26%
Somewhat responsible	25	38	36	45	36
Not very responsible	23	14	14	14	15
Not at all responsible	26	12	14	11	16
Don't know	5	10	5	6	8
<i>Responsible (Net)</i>	46%	65%	68%	69%	61%
<i>Not Responsible (Net)</i>	49	26	27	25	30

d. Tension between the U.S. and Mexican governments

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very responsible	34%	31%	14%	49%	27%
Somewhat responsible	25	40	47	35	45
Not very responsible	21	15	24	8	13
Not at all responsible	15	6	10	3	7
Don't know	5	9	6	5	8
<i>Responsible (Net)</i>	59%	71%	60%	84%	72%
<i>Not Responsible (Net)</i>	36	21	34	11	20

e. Corruption in Mexico

	Mexico	United States	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very responsible	19%	6%	5%	9%	2%
Somewhat responsible	21	16	9	23	19
Not very responsible	22	29	33	30	30
Not at all responsible	32	37	47	30	38
Don't know	4	11	6	9	11
<i>Responsible (Net)</i>	40%	23%	14%	32%	21%
<i>Not Responsible (Net)</i>	54	66	80	60	68

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About the Study

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted June 26-28, 2018. For the survey, a sample of 1,005 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii were interviewed online in English. The sample includes 325 Democrats, 339 Republicans, and 215 Independents. A parallel study was conducted in Mexico at the same time and included a sample of 843 Mexican adults.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos's online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2016 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Post-hoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online nonprobability sampling polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=1,005, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=5.0).

The poll also has a credibility interval plus or minus 6.2 percentage points for Democrats, 6.1 percentage points for Republicans, 7.6 percentage points for Independents, and 3.8 percentage points for the Mexican sample.

For more information about conducting research intended for public release or Ipsos' online polling methodology, please visit our [Public Opinion Polling and Communication](#) page where you can download our brochure, see our public release protocol, or contact us.

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About Ipsos Public Affairs

Ipsos Public Affairs is a non-partisan, objective, survey-based research practice made up of seasoned professionals. We conduct strategic research initiatives for a diverse number of American and international organizations, based not only on public opinion research, but elite stakeholder, corporate, and media opinion research.

Ipsos has media partnerships with the most prestigious news organizations around the world. Through our media partnerships, Ipsos Public Affairs is a leading source of intelligent information for businesses and professionals in the U.S., Canada, the UK, and internationally. Ipsos Public Affairs is a member of the Ipsos Group, a leading global survey-based market research company. We provide boutique-style customer service and work closely with our clients, while also undertaking global research.

About Ipsos

Ipsos is an independent market research company controlled and managed by research professionals. Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos has grown into a worldwide research group with a strong presence in all key markets. Ipsos ranks fourth in the global research industry.

With offices in 88 countries, Ipsos delivers insightful expertise across five research specializations: brand, advertising and media; customer loyalty; marketing; public affairs research; and survey management.

Ipsos researchers assess market potential and interpret market trends. They develop and build brands. They help clients build long-term relationships with their customers. They test advertising and study audience responses to various media and they measure public opinion around the globe.

Ipsos has been listed on the Paris Stock Exchange since 1999 and generated global revenues of €1,782.7 million in 2016.

GAME CHANGERS

« Game Changers » is the Ipsos signature.

At Ipsos we are passionately curious about people, markets, brands and society.

We make our changing world easier and faster to navigate and inspire clients to make smarter decisions.

We deliver with security, speed, simplicity and substance. We are Game Changers.

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