

American Attitudes on Mexico: Survey Results

n=1000 U.S. adults

Conducted online via YouGov panel, MOE $\pm 3.1\%$

Fielded June 3-7, 2016

1. Would you say things in the United States today are:

Generally headed in the right direction	22%
Off on the wrong track	64
Not sure	14

2. Which of the following would you say is the most important problem facing this country today? [Randomize]

Economy and jobs	35%
Terrorism	15
Immigration	12
The federal deficit	10
Education	6
Border security	5
Taxes	3
Gas prices	2
Other	11

The rest of this survey will focus on your views about other countries in the world.

3. Given what you know about the following countries, what is your opinion of each – is it very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable? [Randomize]

	Very unfavorable	Mostly unfavorable	Neither	Mostly favorable	Very favorable
a. Mexico	16	29	33	17	5
b. Canada	1	4	20	42	33
c. Brazil	6	20	50	20	4
d. Colombia	12	28	46	12	2
e. Greece	5	15	49	26	5
f. United Kingdom	3	5	27	42	24
g. Saudi Arabia	30	30	33	6	2
h. China	19	32	35	12	2
i. El Salvador	14	22	56	8	1
j. Russia	24	32	36	7	2
k. Cuba	18	25	39	16	2

4. Again, thinking about those same countries, based on what you know, would you describe each of their economies as modern, developing or not developed?
 [Randomize]

	Modern	Developing	Not developed
a. Mexico	16	53	31
b. Canada	83	13	4
c. Brazil	31	52	17
d. Colombia	11	59	30
e. Greece	41	41	18
f. United Kingdom	81	15	4
g. Saudi Arabia	34	40	26
h. China	53	39	8
i. El Salvador	6	46	48
j. Russia	42	46	12
k. Cuba	9	48	43

5. Finally, thinking about those same countries one last time, how safe or unsafe would you feel about traveling to each one on vacation or for business? [Randomize]

	Very unsafe	Somewhat unsafe	Neither	Somewhat safe	Very safe
a. Mexico	31	34	17	15	3
b. Canada	2	3	11	24	60
c. Brazil	17	32	26	20	4
d. Colombia	33	34	21	10	3
e. Greece	7	16	29	35	13
f. United Kingdom	4	8	15	32	41
g. Saudi Arabia	41	28	18	10	3
h. China	13	25	25	28	9
i. El Salvador	34	32	25	8	2
j. Russia	25	30	24	16	5
k. Cuba	23	25	23	22	6

6. You indicated your overall view of Mexico is [pipe Q3a answer]. Please briefly explain why you feel this way about Mexico. **[OPEN ENDED]**

Drugs/Cartels/Crime/Violence/Unsafe	36%
Don't know/Not familiar enough	16
Corruption	12
Other	10
Depends on where you go/Some places safe	7
Good people/Developing/Trying hard/Like it	7
Illegal immigration/Border crossings	6
Negative general comment	5
Poverty/Poor	4
Been there/Know people from there	4
Good place to visit/Things to see/Safe places	4
Positive general comment	3
Ally/Friend/Neighbor	1
Dirty/Pollution	1
Anti-American	1

*Numbers sum to more than 100% because people mention multiple factors

7. Now, thinking about Mexico, what are three words that come to mind?

	<u>1st Mention</u>	<u>2nd Mention</u>	<u>3rd Mention</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Drugs	14%	11%	6%	31%
Dirty	5%	1%	1%	7%
Poor	5%	3%	5%	13%
Corruption	4%	4%	4%	12%
Food	3%	2%	1%	6%
Hot	3%	2%	2%	7%
Illegals	3%	2%	2%	7%
Tacos	3%	2%	0%	5%
Beaches	2%	2%	1%	5%
Beautiful	2%	0%	1%	3%
Cartels	4%	3%	2%	9%
Crime	2%	2%	3%	7%

*Numbers sum to more than 100% because people offer up to three words.

8. In the past month or so, have you seen, read, or heard anything recently about Mexico?

Yes	44%
No	56

(IF "YES" SELECTED IN 8, then ask Q9-Q10, IF NOT SKIP TO NEXT SECTION)

9. And has what you've seen, read, or heard recently about Mexico given you a more favorable impression of Mexico or a less favorable impression of Mexico?

More favorable	9%
Less favorable	51
Had made no difference	40

10. In your own words, please describe what you've seen, read, or heard.

Drug problems/Cartels/Drug violence	28%
Donald Trump/Trump Comments/Reaction	14
Murder/Crime/Safety Concerns	15
Illegal immigration/Border crossings	14
Corruption	6
Border Wall	6
El Chapo	5
Tourism	3
Economy	2

*Numbers sum to more than 100% because people mention multiple things.

Views on Mexico

11. Do you think the U.S. relationship with Mexico has gotten stronger, has gotten weaker or has been mostly unchanged during the past four years?

Stronger	8%
Weaker	28
Mostly unchanged	42
Don't know	22

12. And which is closer to your view of Mexico's current relationship with the United States?

Mexico is a good neighbor and partner for the U.S.	22%
Mexico is a source of problems for the U.S.	54
Don't know enough	24

13. As you may know, Mexico is a major trade partner of the U.S. What kind of overall impact – if any – do you think this relationship has had on the American economy?

Very positive	10%
Somewhat positive	25
Somewhat negative	20
Very negative	17
Little to no impact	9
Don't know	19

14. In recent years, the relationship between the U.S. and Mexican governments has largely focused on security issues such as border control and drug trafficking. Thinking about the future of the U.S.-Mexico relationship, which of the following views is closer to your own?

It's important to maintain focus on security issues	70%
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OR

There needs to be more emphasis on economic, trade and energy issues	30
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15. In 1994 the United States entered the North America Free Trade Agreement, or NAFTA, which eliminated trade barriers for goods and services between Mexico, Canada and the U.S., and promoted competition and investment in the region. Do you think the United States should continue to be a partner in NAFTA or do you think it should withdraw from NAFTA?

Continue participation	30%
Withdraw	32
Don't know enough to say	37

[ROTATE Q16 AND Q17]

16. Do you support or oppose building a wall along the U.S.-MEXICO border?

Strongly support	34%
Somewhat support	17
Somewhat oppose	10
Strongly oppose	30
Don't know	10

17. Do you support or oppose building a wall along the U.S.-CANADA border?

Strongly support	9%
Somewhat support	12
Somewhat oppose	18
Strongly oppose	48
Don't know	13

18. Some have suggested that MEXICO would pay the U.S. for the cost of building a wall along the southern border. How likely or unlikely do you think it is that Mexico would pay for the wall?

Very likely	7%
Somewhat likely	9
Somewhat unlikely	11
Very unlikely	62
Don't know	11

19. How likely or unlikely do you think it is that CANADA would pay for the cost of building a wall along the northern border?

Very likely	3%
Somewhat likely	7
Somewhat unlikely	13
Very unlikely	64
Don't know	13

20. Do you think the number of Mexican immigrants coming to the United States illegally has increased, decreased or stayed about the same in the last five years?

Increased	56%
Decreased	18
Stayed about the same	26

[ROTATE Q21-Q23]

21. If Hillary Clinton is elected president, do you think the U.S. relationship with Mexico will get better, get worse, or remain about the same as it is today?

Better	17%
Worse	23
About the same as today	41
Don't know	19

22. If Bernie Sanders is elected president, do you think the U.S. relationship with Mexico will get better, get worse, or remain about the same as it is today?

Better	21%
Worse	19
About the same as today	37
Don't know	23

23. If Donald Trump is elected president, do you think the U.S. relationship with Mexico will get better, get worse, or remain about the same as it is today?

Better	16%
Worse	63
About the same as today	9
Don't know	12

24. Below is a list of statements about Mexico. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each statement. [Randomize]

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	No opinion
a. Mexico has a large, growing middle class	14	22	23	6	36
b. Mexico is a good place to do business	17	22	25	10	26
c. Mexico is winning the fight against the drug cartels and traffickers	48	22	9	4	17
d. Mexico is a strong democracy	20	28	18	5	29
e. Mexico has a rich cultural heritage	4	6	29	47	13
f. Mexico is a dangerous and unstable country	6	16	31	34	13
g. The Mexican government is corrupt	3	6	26	46	19
h. Products made in Mexico are safer than products made in China	7	15	26	11	41

Other questions and demographics

We're almost done. Now we just have a few basic questions for statistical purposes.

25. Which best describes your travel to Mexico?

I've been there once	17%
I've been there a few times	20
I've been there many times	5
I travel there frequently	1
I've never been there	55

26. How likely are you to travel to Mexico for business or vacation in the next year?

Very likely	5%
Somewhat likely	10
Somewhat unlikely	13
Very unlikely	71

27. Do you have any friends, family or colleagues in the U.S. that were born in Mexico?

Yes	38%
No	62

28. How would you describe the area in which you live?

Urban	26%
Suburban	44
Small Town	14
Rural	17

29. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	71%
No	23
Don't know	6

30. Finally, if the presidential election were being held today, for whom would you vote?

(Among registered voters. N=707, MOE +/- 3.69%)

Donald Trump, the Republican	36%
Hillary Clinton, the Democrat	37
Other	15
Not sure	9
Not planning to vote	3

31. And how would you vote if the presidential candidates were...?

(Among registered voters. N=707, MOE +/- 3.69%)

Donald Trump, the Republican	37%
Bernie Sanders, the Democrat	47
Other	7
Not sure	6
Not planning to vote	3

32. And how would you vote if the presidential candidates were...?

(Among registered voters. N=707, MOE +/- 3.69%)

Donald Trump, the Republican	35%
Hillary Clinton, the Democrat	38
Gary Johnson, the Libertarian	9
Other	8
Not sure	9
Not planning to vote	2

YouGov panel standard profiled values

1. In what year were you born? [AGE COLLAPSED]

18-29	21%
30-44	25
45-64	36
65 and up	18

2. Are you male or female?

Male	49%
Female	51

3. Generally speaking, would you say that you usually think of yourself as a...

Democrat	36%
Republican	23
Independent	32
Not Sure	8

Strong Democrat	21%
Weak Democrat	14
Lean Democrat	9
Independent	20
Lean Republican	8
Weak Republican	12
Strong Republican	12
Not Sure	4

4. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	67%
Black or African-American	12
Hispanic or Latino	14
Asian or Asian-American	2
Native American	1
Middle Eastern	0
Mixed Race	3
Other	1

5. What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

Did not graduate from high school	13%
High school degree	29
Some college/2-year college degree [Collapsed]	32
4-year college degree	17
Postgraduate degree (MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, etc.)	9

6. What is your marital status?

Married, living with spouse	50%
Divorced	2
Separated	9
Widowed	6
Single, never married	29
Domestic Partnership	5

7. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

Full-time working	33%
Part-time working	12
Temporarily laid off	2
Unemployed	10
Retired	20
Permanently disabled	7
Taking care of home or family	10
Student	5
Other	2

8. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

Yes	28%
No	72

9. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?

More than once a week	6%
Once a week	18
Once or twice a month	8
A few times a year	13
Seldom	23
Never	30
Don't know	4

10. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	23%
Catholic	25
Mormon	1
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	0
Jewish	2
Muslim	1
Buddhist	1
Agnostic/Atheist	9
Nothing in particular	23
Something else	14

11. In general, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	20
Moderate	33
Conservative	28
Very conservative	4
Not sure	10

12. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income? [Collapsed]

Less than \$10K	8%
\$10K-\$30K	22
\$30K-\$50K	19
\$50K-\$100K	25
More than \$100K	11
Prefer not to say	16