
FOR RELEASE: FEBRUARY 28, 2022

**63% OF AMERICANS CONCERNED RUSSIA MAY USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY NATIONAL POLL FINDS;
7 OUT OF 10 SAY U.S. TROOPS SHOULD GET INVOLVED IF RUSSIA INVADES A
NATO COUNTRY**

In a survey that began after Russia's invasion of Ukraine and concluded Sunday evening, a majority of Americans are voicing concern about Russia's nuclear weapons. In the wake of Russian President Vladimir Putin referencing dire consequences facing any country that tries to counter the invasion, Americans say 63 – 32 percent that they are concerned that Russia may use nuclear weapons if NATO, which includes the United States, tries to interfere with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, according to a Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pea-ack) University national poll of adults released today.

Most of the survey was conducted before Putin announced Sunday that he was ordering Russian nuclear forces to be put on high alert.

Americans think 66 – 20 percent that Putin has intentions to invade other countries beyond Ukraine.

If Russia invades a NATO country, Americans say 70 – 21 percent that American troops should get involved.

Support has increased for President Biden's decision to deploy thousands of troops to Eastern Europe to support U.S. allies in NATO. Americans now support the decision 70 – 21 percent. In a February 16, 2022 Quinnipiac University Poll, they supported it 54 – 36 percent.

“American support for defending NATO countries surrounding Ukraine grows dramatically, but Americans cast a wary eye on the possible consequences. By more than three to one, they see Russia expanding its attack, and register deep concern over the darkest possible scenario, a nuclear attack on NATO and/or the United States,” said Quinnipiac University Polling Analyst Tim Malloy.

BIDEN

Americans give President Biden a negative 37 – 52 percent job approval rating with 11 percent not offering an opinion. That's compared to a negative 35 – 55 percent job approval rating in Quinnipiac University's February 16, 2022 poll.

In today's poll, registered voters give Biden a negative 38 – 52 percent job approval rating with 10 percent not offering an opinion. In February, registered voters gave Biden a negative 37 – 56 percent job approval rating.

Thirty-nine percent of Americans approve of Biden’s handling of the response to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, while 47 percent disapprove, and 14 percent did not offer an opinion. Among registered voters, 40 percent approve, while 47 percent disapprove, and 13 percent did not offer an opinion.

U.S. ACTIONS: RUSSIA, UKRAINE

A majority of Americans (57 percent) think the steps that the Biden administration has taken to punish Russia for the invasion of Ukraine are not tough enough, while 29 percent say they are about right, and 3 percent say they are too tough.

Democrats are split with 44 percent saying the steps are not tough enough, and 47 percent saying they are about right, with 2 percent saying they are too tough. On the other hand, 80 percent of Republicans and 56 percent of independents say the steps are not tough enough.

A plurality of Americans (45 percent) think the United States is doing too little to help Ukraine, 37 percent think the U.S. is doing about the right amount, and 7 percent think the U.S. is doing too much to help Ukraine.

PUTIN

More than 8 in 10 Americans (81 percent) have an unfavorable opinion of Vladimir Putin, 4 percent have a favorable opinion, and 12 percent haven’t heard enough about him.

Roughly half of Americans (49 percent) think Putin is mentally unstable, while 31 percent think he’s mentally stable, and 20 percent did not offer an opinion.

Americans say 86 – 6 percent that Russia is not justified in making the claim that Ukraine should be reclaimed by Russia and no longer be a sovereign territory.

“By a large majority, Vladimir Putin is deeply disliked, his justification for attacking Ukraine is rejected and nearly half of Americans consider him mentally unstable,” added Malloy.

SUPREME COURT PICK

Days after President Biden nominated Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court, Americans say 48 – 22 percent that the U.S. Senate should confirm her to the Supreme Court, with 29 percent not offering an opinion.

1,364 U.S. adults nationwide were surveyed from February 25th – 27th with a margin of error of +/- 2.7 percentage points.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Doug Schwartz, Ph.D. since 1994, conducts independent, non-partisan national and state polls on politics and issues. Surveys adhere to industry best practices and are based on random samples of adults using random digit dialing with live interviewers calling landlines and cell phones.

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1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president?

ADULTS.....

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL	DEG
							Yes	No
Approve	37%	6%	74%	32%	32%	42%	55%	24%
Disapprove	52	92	13	53	57	47	41	67
DK/NA	11	2	12	15	11	10	4	9

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Approve	28%	44%	37%	42%	27%	42%	35%	50%	37%
Disapprove	50	49	57	54	65	51	57	30	44
DK/NA	22	7	6	4	8	7	7	20	19

Mltry
Hshld

Approve	29%
Disapprove	64
DK/NA	7

1a. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president?
COMBINED WITH: (If approve/disapprove q1) Do you strongly or somewhat approve/disapprove?

ADULTS.....

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL	DEG
							Yes	No
Approve strongly	19%	4%	42%	13%	12%	24%	30%	12%
Approve smwht	19	2	33	20	19	18	25	12
Disapprove smwht	8	5	5	13	10	6	5	8
Disapprove strongly	43	88	7	40	46	40	36	59
DK/NA	11	2	14	15	12	11	5	9

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Approve strongly	5%	18%	21%	32%	10%	25%	18%	24%	21%
Approve smwht	23	25	16	10	17	16	17	26	15
Disapprove smwht	19	5	4	5	10	4	7	9	12
Disapprove strongly	31	44	53	48	54	47	50	21	30
DK/NA	23	8	6	5	8	7	8	20	22

Mltry
Hshld

Approve strongly	15%
Approve smwht	14
Disapprove smwht	5
Disapprove strongly	58
DK/NA	7

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling the response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine?

ADULTS.....							WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Approve	39%	11%	70%	39%	37%	42%	53%	28%
Disapprove	47	81	17	45	51	43	37	59
DK/NA	14	8	13	16	13	15	9	13

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Approve	37%	37%	41%	43%	32%	42%	37%	50%	43%
Disapprove	43	47	52	46	57	46	51	28	40
DK/NA	20	15	7	11	11	13	12	22	17

Mltry	
Hshld	
Approve	30%
Disapprove	58
DK/NA	12

3. As you may know, President Biden approved the deployment of thousands of troops to Eastern Europe to support U.S. allies in NATO, such as Poland and Romania. Do you support or oppose that decision?

ADULTS.....							WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Support	70%	64%	85%	70%	73%	68%	82%	67%
Oppose	21	27	11	22	20	22	13	23
DK/NA	9	9	4	7	7	10	5	10

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Support	68%	72%	68%	76%	76%	69%	72%	70%	72%
Oppose	18	23	24	18	17	22	20	20	17
DK/NA	14	5	8	6	7	8	8	10	11

Mltry	
Hshld	
Support	73%
Oppose	21
DK/NA	7

4. Is your opinion of Vladimir Putin favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	ADULTS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Favorable	4%	6%	1%	4%	6%	3%	1%	6%
Unfavorable	81	79	91	80	79	83	95	79
Hvn't hrd enough	12	13	7	12	13	12	3	13
REFUSED	2	1	-	3	3	2	1	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Favorable	4%	8%	4%	2%	5%	3%	4%	7%	5%
Unfavorable	77	73	83	91	83	86	85	67	79
Hvn't hrd enough	18	17	10	6	9	9	9	26	13
REFUSED	1	2	3	1	2	2	2	-	3

	Mltry Hshld
Favorable	7%
Unfavorable	83
Hvn't hrd enough	9
REFUSED	1

5. Do you think that Russia is justified in making the claim that Ukraine should be reclaimed by Russia and no longer be a sovereign territory, or don't you think that Russia is justified in making this claim?

	ADULTS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Justified	6%	4%	5%	7%	7%	5%	2%	4%
No	86	91	92	83	85	87	94	88
DK/NA	8	5	2	10	8	8	4	8

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Yes/Justified	10%	8%	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	11%	10%
No	81	80	93	92	90	91	90	79	80
DK/NA	8	12	5	5	7	6	6	11	10

	Mltry Hshld
Yes/Justified	9%
No	85
DK/NA	6

6. Do you think Russian President Vladimir Putin is mentally stable or mentally unstable?

ADULTS.....							WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Mentally stable	31%	32%	21%	36%	43%	20%	26%	31%
Mentally unstable	49	54	63	43	39	58	55	51
DK/NA	20	14	16	21	18	21	20	18

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Mentally stable	35%	41%	30%	18%	39%	21%	29%	32%	31%
Mentally unstable	46	39	51	64	43	61	52	47	46
DK/NA	19	21	18	17	18	19	18	21	23

Mltry		
Hshld		
Mentally stable	34%	
Mentally unstable	52	
DK/NA	14	

7. Do you think the steps that the Biden administration has taken to punish Russia for the invasion of Ukraine have been too tough on Russia, not tough enough on Russia, or have they been about right?

ADULTS.....							WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Too tough	3%	2%	2%	2%	4%	3%	-	5%
Not tough enough	57	80	44	56	58	55	57	61
About right	29	11	47	28	27	30	35	23
DK/NA	11	7	6	13	11	12	7	11

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Too tough	6%	4%	2%	1%	4%	3%	4%	6%	3%
Not tough enough	42	57	64	69	62	58	60	42	53
About right	37	27	27	24	24	30	27	41	30
DK/NA	15	12	7	5	10	9	10	11	14

Mltry		
Hshld		
Too tough	2%	
Not tough enough	66	
About right	23	
DK/NA	9	

8. Do you think the United States is doing too much, too little, or about the right amount to help Ukraine?

	ADULTS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Too much	7%	6%	2%	8%	8%	6%	3%	8%
Too little	45	61	38	45	47	44	49	48
About right	37	23	53	38	38	37	42	34
DK/NA	11	11	7	10	8	13	6	10

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Too much	7%	10%	6%	2%	6%	6%	6%	10%	6%
Too little	37	47	52	48	50	47	48	28	40
About right	48	31	33	39	37	37	37	43	46
DK/NA	9	11	8	11	7	10	9	19	9

Mltry
Hshld

Too much	6%
Too little	50
About right	33
DK/NA	11

9. If Russia invades a NATO country, do you think American troops should get involved, or don't you think so?

	ADULTS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Should	70%	69%	76%	72%	76%	65%	76%	68%
No	21	25	16	21	18	24	17	23
DK/NA	9	7	8	7	6	11	7	9

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Yes/Should	73%	71%	72%	68%	77%	66%	71%	60%	73%
No	19	22	20	21	16	24	20	28	19
DK/NA	8	6	8	11	7	10	8	11	7

Mltry
Hshld

Yes/Should	80%
No	16
DK/NA	4

10. Do you think Vladimir Putin has intentions to invade other countries beyond Ukraine, or not?

ADULTS.....							WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Yes/Has intentions	66%	73%	72%	61%	61%	71%	66%	64%
No	20	16	15	25	26	14	19	21
DK/NA	14	11	14	14	12	16	15	15

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Yes/Has intentions	65%	64%	68%	73%	58%	71%	65%	63%	76%
No	23	24	19	13	28	13	20	25	18
DK/NA	12	12	13	14	14	16	15	12	6

Mltry Hshld	
Yes/Has intentions	67%
No	17
DK/NA	16

11. Vladimir Putin made reference to the dire consequences facing any country that tries to counter the invasion of Ukraine. Are you concerned that Russia may use nuclear weapons if NATO, which includes the United States, tries to interfere with the invasion, or not?

ADULTS.....							WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Yes/Concerned	63%	65%	74%	57%	54%	71%	64%	62%
No	32	31	23	39	42	23	31	33
DK/NA	5	4	3	4	4	6	5	5

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Yes/Concerned	63%	66%	62%	66%	52%	71%	63%	72%	65%
No	33	30	35	28	44	23	32	25	30
DK/NA	4	5	2	6	4	6	5	3	5

Mltry Hshld	
Yes/Concerned	59%
No	36
DK/NA	5

12. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? U.S. politicians should refrain from criticism of U.S. policies during a foreign policy crisis that has sent American troops abroad.

	ADULTS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Agree	45%	40%	57%	43%	45%	46%	40%	42%
Disagree	45	50	37	48	48	43	52	47
DK/NA	9	10	6	9	8	11	7	11

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Agree	41%	44%	50%	51%	38%	44%	41%	54%	54%
Disagree	54	48	43	36	53	45	49	36	38
DK/NA	5	8	8	13	9	10	10	10	7

	Mltry Hshld
Agree	48%
Disagree	42
DK/NA	10

13. Are you concerned a long conflict in Ukraine will hurt you and your family financially, or not?

	ADULTS.....						WHITE.....	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Concerned	59%	68%	53%	61%	59%	60%	53%	55%
No	36	31	42	34	37	35	43	40
DK/NA	4	1	5	4	4	5	3	5

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes/Concerned	54%	62%	63%	62%	54%	56%	55%	78%	61%
No	43	36	35	32	42	40	41	18	37
DK/NA	3	2	3	6	4	5	4	4	2

	Mltry Hshld
Yes/Concerned	58%
No	37
DK/NA	6

14. As you may know, President Biden has nominated Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court. Do you think the U.S. Senate should confirm Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court, or not?

ADULTS.....

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....	
							4 YR COLL DEG	Yes
Yes/Should	48%	23%	78%	48%	47%	50%	63%	35%
No	22	47	4	19	22	22	16	33
DK/NA	29	30	18	33	31	28	21	32

AGE IN YRS..... WHITE.....

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Yes/Should	45%	50%	49%	51%	40%	49%	45%	71%	49%
No	14	23	27	27	29	25	27	7	13
DK/NA	41	27	24	21	32	26	28	22	38