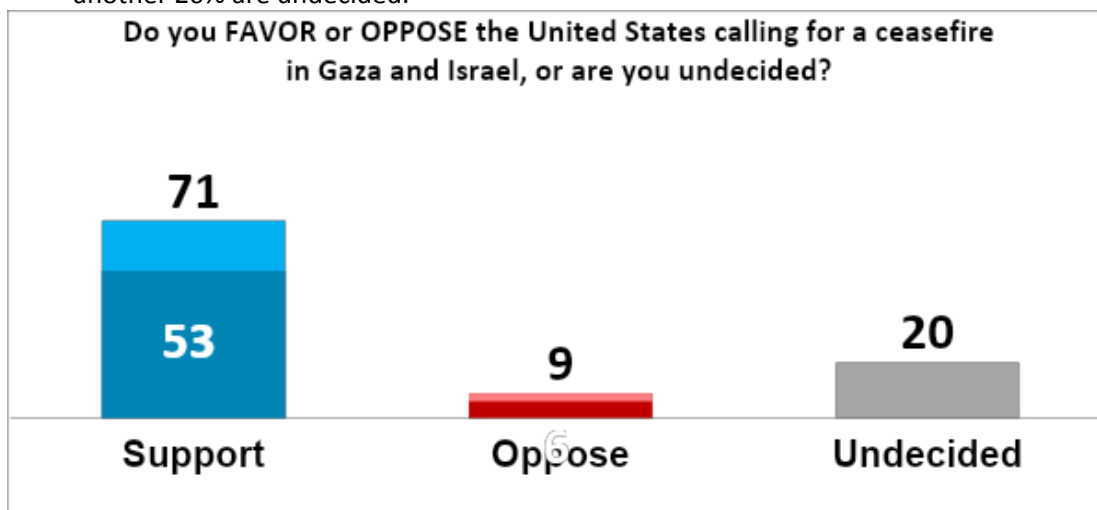


To: Interested Parties
 From: Daniel Gotoff and Sandra Markowitz, *Lake Research Partners*
 RE: New Poll of Michigan Democrats Reveals Overwhelming Support for Ceasefire
 Date: November 6th, 2023

A recently conducted statewide survey of 513 Michigan Democrats finds more than 7-in-10 voters support a ceasefire in Gaza and Israel, including majorities who feel that way strongly.¹ The poll also shows Democratic voters in this swing state are opposed to Israel launching a ground invasion into Gaza, and that while voters start out split on the U.S. sending \$14 billion in weapons and other military aid to Israel, they shift to majority opposed once they understand that the U.S. has no control over whether those weapons are used to kill civilians in Gaza. Moreover, these attitudes are far more pronounced—and intense—among younger Democrats, as well as Arab and Muslim Democrats, two critical constituencies of the President’s 2020 base that were oversampled for this study. While these voters express genuine dissatisfaction with Democrats and the President today, they nevertheless indicate an openness to supporting Biden should he call for a ceasefire—or, alternatively, turn further against him should he send more weapons and other military aid to Israel.

- **Fully 71% of Michigan Democrats support a ceasefire in Gaza and Israel, including a 53% majority who feel that way strongly.** Just 9% of voters oppose a ceasefire and another 20% are undecided.



- **Support for a ceasefire is the majority position among Michigan Democrats across the board, regardless of age, gender, race, and region, though some groups stand out for their disproportionate support.** Among younger voters, for example, support for a ceasefire climbs to 75% (including 69% strong). And

¹ Lake Research Partners designed and administered this survey using text-to-online methodology. The survey reached 513 registered, likely voters in the state of Michigan with partisan scores of 70 or higher, including oversamples of 83 Democratic voters under 30 and 80 Arab and Muslim Democratic voters. The survey was conducted October 30th through November 2nd, 2023. The margin of error is +/-4.9% and larger for subgroups.

among Arab and Muslim voters, support for a ceasefire is nearly unanimous, with 92% in support, almost all of that intense (90% strong).

- **Michigan Democrats start out closely divided on whether the U.S. should send \$14 billion in weapons and other military aid to Israel** (46% favor, 40% oppose, 15% undecided), **but move toward majority opposition once they hear that “the U.S. has no control over whether the Israeli military uses those weapons on innocent civilians in Gaza”** (31% favor, 51% oppose, 18% undecided). Even before hearing that proviso, there is more intensity among opponents of the weapons package than supporters (15% strongly favor vs. 26% strongly oppose).
 - **Younger voters and Arab and Muslim voters start out solidly opposed to sending the weapons package to Israel** (73% oppose and 92% oppose, respectively) and only grow more vehement in their opposition upon hearing that the U.S. cannot control whether that aid is used to kill innocent civilians (78% oppose and 96% oppose, respectively). Even voters over the age of 50, who start out more supportive, shift to net opposition after hearing the stipulation.
- **Nearly half of Michigan Democrats (49%) oppose Israel’s ground invasion into Gaza, compared to less than 3-in-10 who support it (28%), with another 23% undecided.**
 - **Among younger voters and Arab and Muslim voters, opposition to a ground war is fierce.** More than three-quarters of voters under 30 oppose Israel’s ground invasion (80% oppose, including 64% strongly), as do more than 9-in-10 Arab and Muslim voters (92% oppose, including 87% strongly).
- Given these above findings, it is not surprising that **young voters and Arab and Muslim voters report strong dissatisfaction with the President’s job performance handling the Israel-Palestine conflict** (73% and 93% say “just fair” or “poor”, respectively). Moreover, these voters are using the most critical response option available to assess the President on these matters (56% “poor” among young voters and 90% “poor” among Arab and Muslim voters).
- **The data paint a concerning picture for Democrats and the President, especially among younger Democrats and Arab and Muslim Democrats—two groups that were central to the President’s win in Michigan in 2020.**
 - **President Biden’s “hard re-elect” is under fifty among younger Democrats (41%) and stands at just 9% among Arab and Muslim Democrats. Indeed, 65% of Arab and Muslim Democrats now say they think they will vote to replace Biden.**
 - In a 2024 presidential trial heat, among younger Democrats, just 61% are voting for Biden today (including just 36% who consider themselves strong supporters). Cornel West is running at 8%, RFK Jr. at 7%, 6% for “another 3rd party candidate”, and Trump at 5%. For comparison’s sake, 2020 exit polls in Michigan showed

Biden having won 61% of all voters under 30—easily his best-performing age cohort—and 97% of all Democrats.²

- **Among Arab and Muslim Democrats, Biden (16%) now trails RFK Jr. (24%), followed “another 3rd party candidate” at 12%, Trump at 11%, and West at 9%.** While exit polls from 2020 do not include breakouts of the vote among Arab and/ or Muslim voters, official election results show Biden having won 83% of the vote in the state’s precincts with the highest concentrations of Arab Americans. And in Hamtramck, the only Muslim-majority city in the country, Biden won with approximately 86% of the vote.³
 - The potential for further slippage is apparent, as **nearly half of younger Democrats (43%) say they would be willing to vote for a 3rd party candidate if Biden and Trump are both running and a staggering 74% of Arab and Muslim Democrats say the same.**
- Finally, the poll suggests these trends could start to turn around for the President should he call for a ceasefire—or become further exacerbated should he send billions more in weapons and other military aid to Israel.
 - Among younger Democrats, 46% say they would be more likely to vote for Biden if he were to call for a ceasefire. **Similarly, among Arab and Muslim Democrats, 62% would be more likely to vote for Biden if he were to call for a ceasefire.**
 - However, if Biden were to send \$14 billion in weapons and other military aid to Israel, his political situation could further deteriorate. **A 57% majority of younger Democrats, along with a whopping 82% of Arab and Muslim Democrats, say they would be less likely to vote for Biden if he were to send the weapons and aid package to Israel.**

* * * * *

² <https://www.cnn.com/election/2020/exit-polls/president/michigan>

³ <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/how-arabs-and-muslims-helped-biden-win-michigan-and-white-house>