

Donald Trump's Approval Rating Implodes On His Strongest Issue

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President [Donald Trump's approval rating](#) on [immigration](#) has declined, according to a new [poll](#).

According to polling by NBC News Decision Desk, 40 percent of people approve of Trump's handling of immigration and border security while 60 percent disapprove. In April 2025, 49 percent approved of his policies on this issue while 51 percent disapproved. His net approval rating on the issue has decreased from -2 to -20, a drop of -18.

Newsweek reached out to the White House by email for comment.



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Why It Matters

Trump has made immigration a priority during his second term. He vowed to [crack down on border security](#), carry out mass deportations and end federal benefits for people [entering the country](#) illegally.

But recent events have put an unwanted spotlight on the activities of immigration agents in the U.S. On January 24, Alex Pretti, an intensive care nurse and U.S. citizen, [was shot dead by a federal immigration](#) agent in Minneapolis during an enforcement operation. It was the second fatal shooting by a federal immigration officer in the city that month, following the January 7 death of Renee Nicole Good, [who was shot by an Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\) agent during another enforcement action](#). There has been a huge public backlash to both deaths.

What To Know

The polling of 21,995 adults was conducted between January 27 and February 6. The poll's margin of error is plus or minus 2.4 percentage points. The pollsters said independents drove the decline.

It follows [polling](#) from Reuters and Ipsos which showed that 39 percent approve of the job Trump is doing on immigration and 53 percent disapprove. The mark dipped from their previous survey that showed the president at 41 percent approval. That poll surveyed 1,139 U.S. adults across the country from January 23 to January 25 and had a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percent.

Overall, [Trump's](#) disapproval rating reached a new high this week, according to analysis from [polling](#) aggregator the Silver Bulletin.

But Trump's approval [rating returned to the 50](#) percent mark in the latest InsiderAdvantage national [survey](#), its highest level in weeks.

What People Are Saying

Marc Trussler, a senior elections analyst for NBC News' Decision Desk: "In these elections that are won on the margins, particularly in the swing states, independents are a really critical group. To see them shift so heavily on one of the president's key priorities is really telling."

White House spokesperson Kush Desai previously told *Newsweek*: "Nearly 80 million Americans gave President Trump a resounding Election Day mandate to end Joe Biden's economic disaster and immigration crisis. The Trump administration remains laser-focused on continuing to cool inflation, accelerate economic growth, secure our border, and mass deport criminal illegal aliens."

What Happens Next

Trump's approval rating on specific policy areas, as well as more generally, is likely to fluctuate as his presidency continues.

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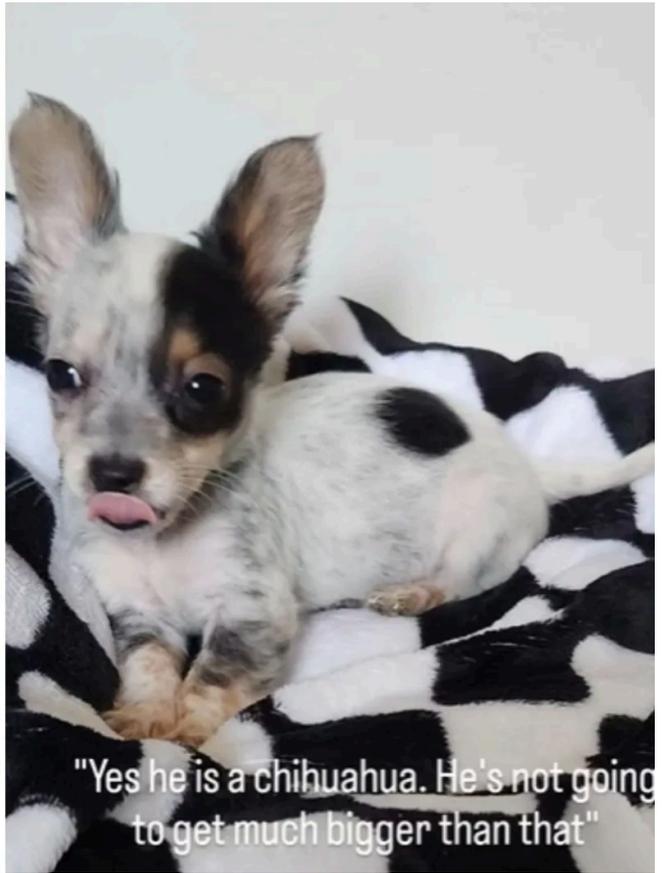
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