

# THE MARTTILA COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

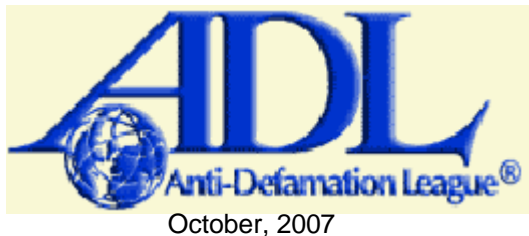


## AMERICAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS ISRAEL, THE PALESTINIANS AND PROSPECTS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

**AN ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE SURVEY**

**2000 INTERVIEWS COMPLETED OCTOBER 19, 2007**

**Two demographically representative split samples of 1000 interviews**

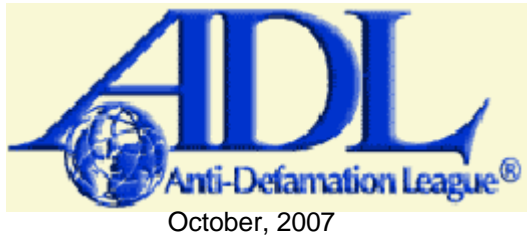


# METHODOLOGY

On behalf of the Anti-Defamation League, Marttila Communications conducted a national telephone survey on October 6 through October 19, 2007 of 2,000 adults who identified themselves as registered voters. For those questions that were answered by all 2,000 respondents, the survey has a margin of error of +/- 2.19 percent.

For many questions, the survey used the technique of “split sampling,” a process in which the 2,000-person sample was split into two demographically representative national samples of 1,000 respondents each. The margin of error for questions answered by 1,000 respondents is +/- 3.09 percent. For a limited number of questions, the 1,000 person samples were also split into two representative samples of 500 respondents each. The margin of error for these questions is +/- 4.38 percent.

The purpose for split sampling in the survey was to maximize the number of questions that could be asked, to test different hypotheses about an issue and to test the impact of different question wording.



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Israel is held in high regard by the American people when compared to other countries around the world, and is seen to be a strong, loyal ally of the U.S.**

**When they think about the Middle East conflict, Americans remain much more sympathetic to Israel than the Palestinians.**

**Even though most Americans believe the U.S. is more likely to be targeted for terrorist attacks because of our support for Israel, a clear majority of these people think we should continue to support Israel in spite of this risk.**

**Americans believe the prospects for peace in the Middle East have worsened since 2005, but they give Israel much greater credit than the Palestinians for working for peace in the region.**

**Americans continue to believe that Israeli is very serious about wanting to reach a peace agreement with the Palestinians.**

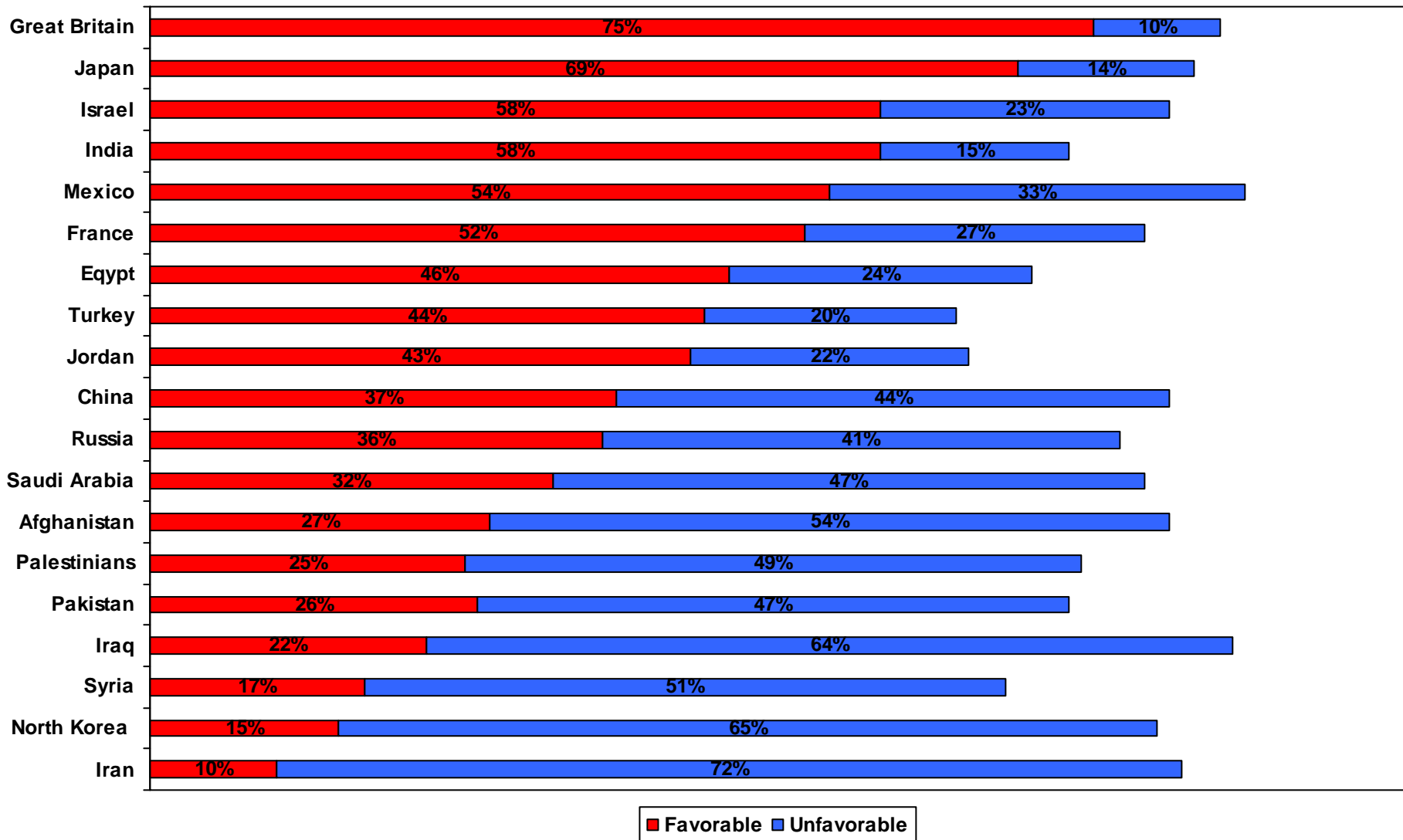
**Americans continue to believe that the Israelis and the Palestinians will have to solve their own problems; they believe violence must end before the creation of a Palestinian state; and they believe the moderate Arab nations should be doing more to solve the Middle East conflict.**

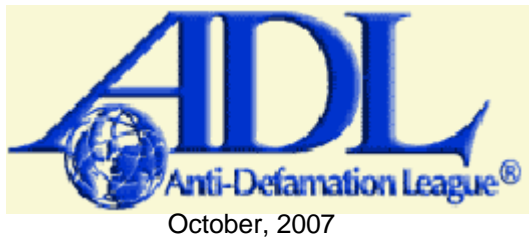
**A growing number of Americans believe the U.S. may have to work more closely with moderate Arab nations in the future -- even if it means weakening our relationship with Israel.**



October, 2007

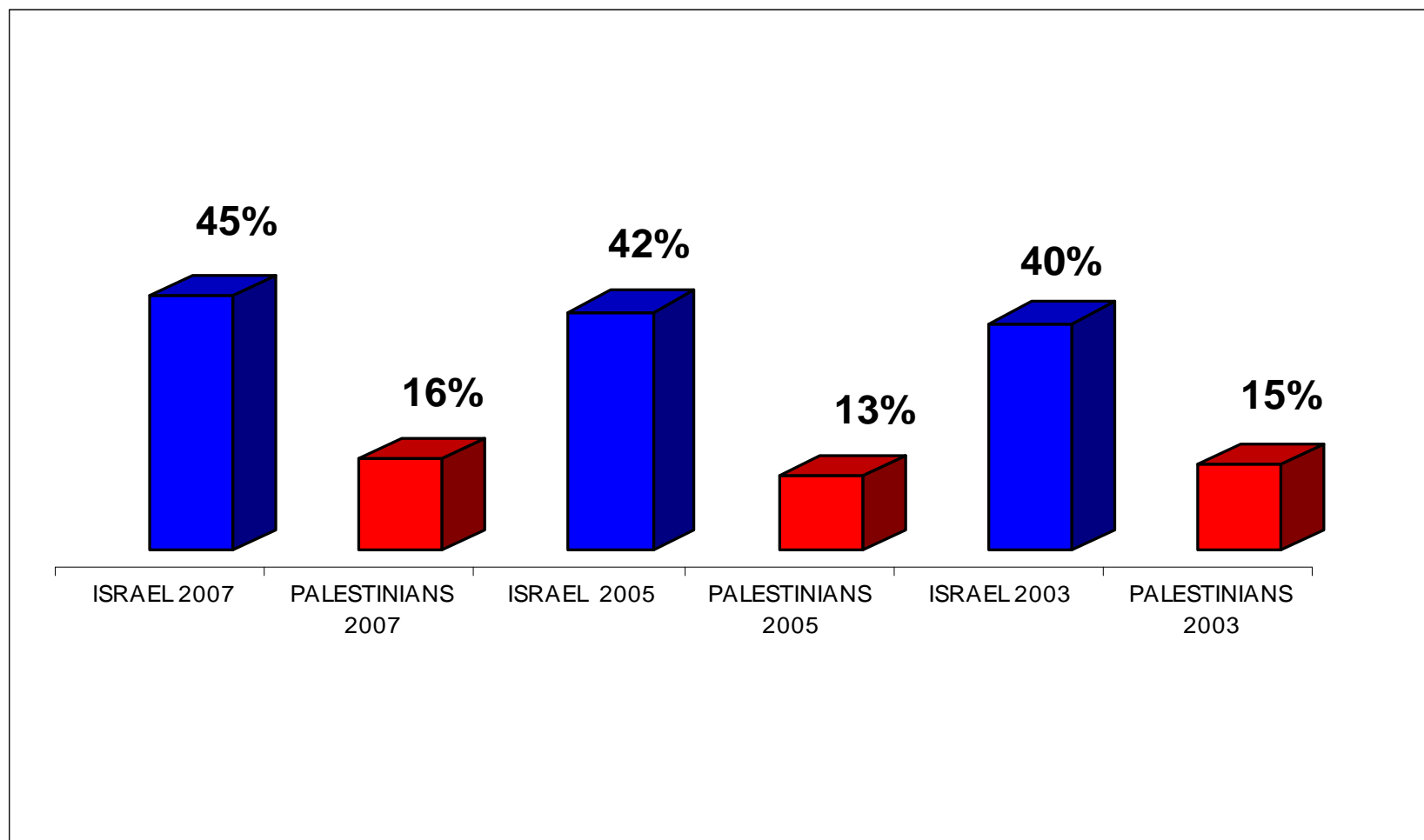
# American reaction to countries around the world: Israel is held in high regard by the American people.





When they think about the conflict in the Middle East, Americans continue to sympathize more with Israel than with the Palestinians.

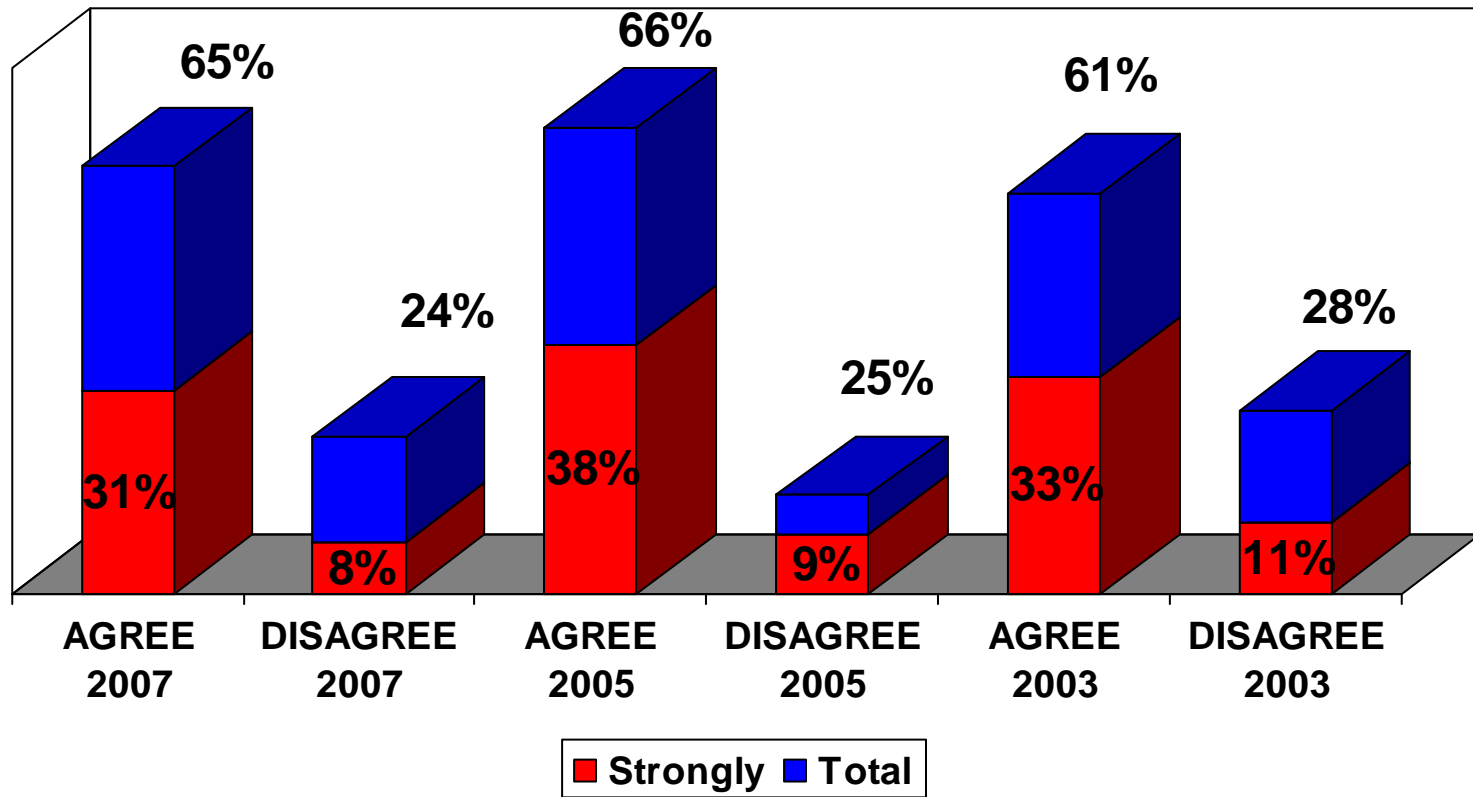
In the dispute between Israel and the Palestinians, which side do you sympathize with more?





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**Americans bring very positive views to a consideration of the U.S.-Israeli relationship.**

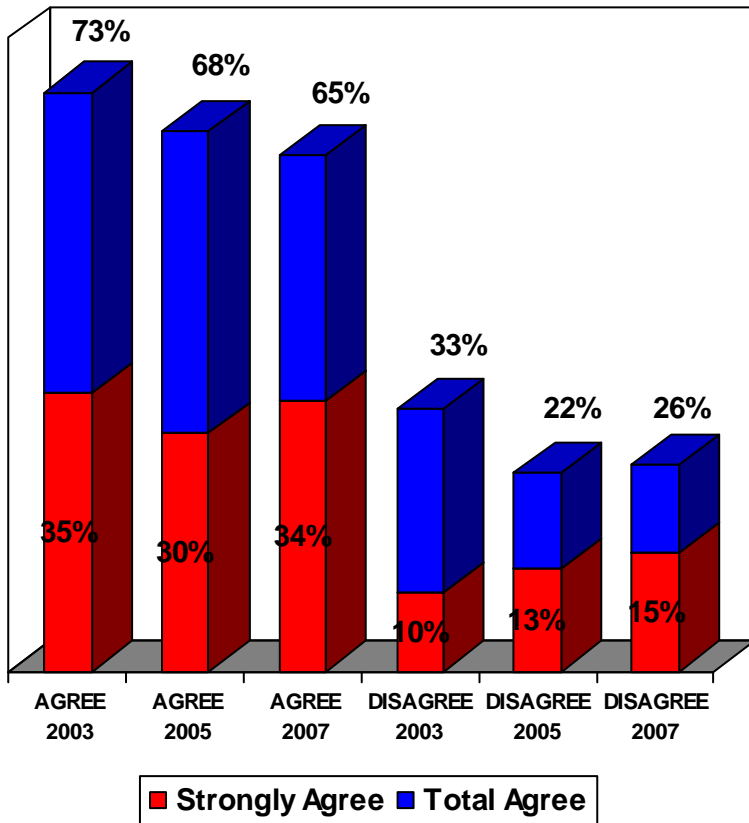


**Israel can be counted on as a strong, loyal U.S. ally**

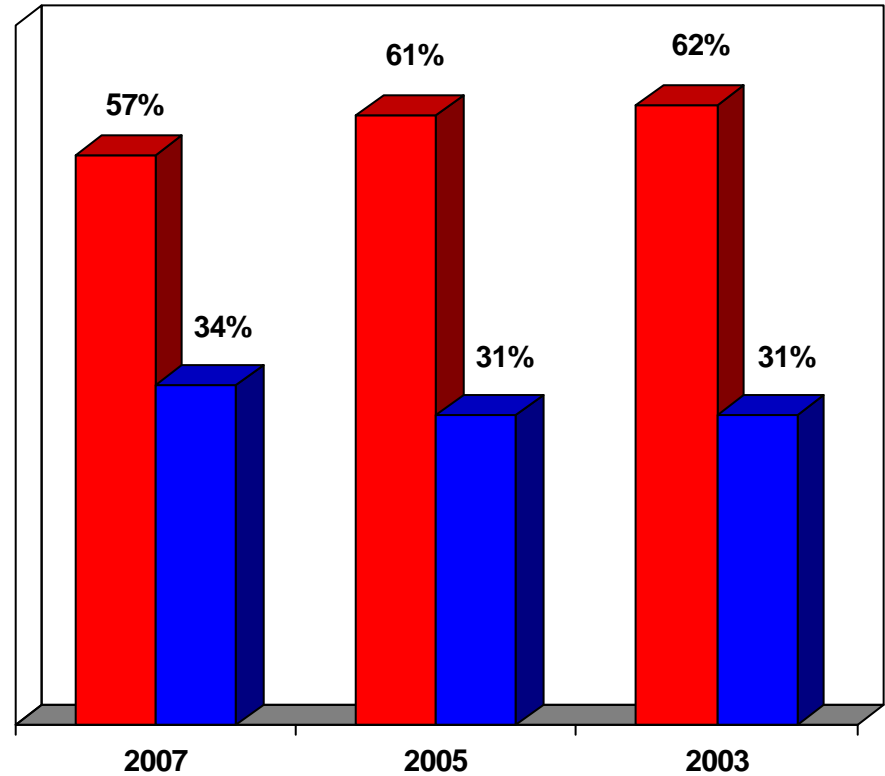


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Most Americans continue to believe the U.S. is more likely to be targeted for terrorist attacks because of our support for Israel. However, a clear majority of those people who consider this to be true believe we should continue to support Israel in spite of this risk.

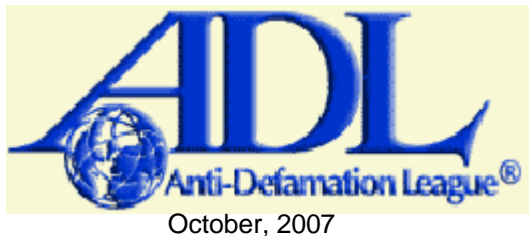


**ASKED TO THOSE WHO AGREE: In your opinion, should the US ...**



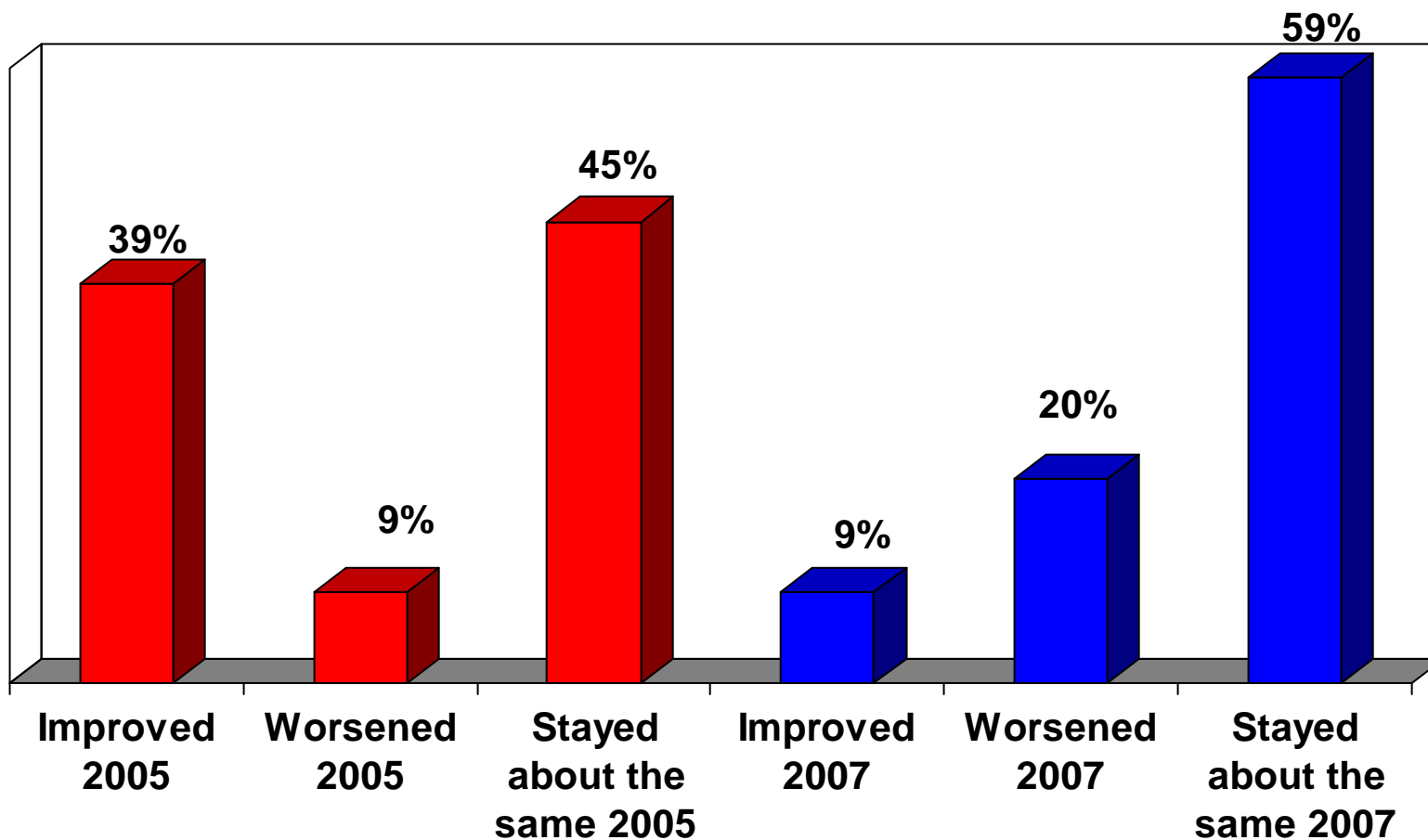
- Continue to support Israel even if it means there will be a greater risk of terrorist attacks against America.
- Pull back from its support of Israel to minimize the risk of a terrorist attack in this country

**AGREE/DISAGREE: The U.S. is more likely to be targeted for terrorist attack because of our support for Israel**



**Americans believe the prospect for peace between the Israelis and Palestinians have worsened since 2005.**

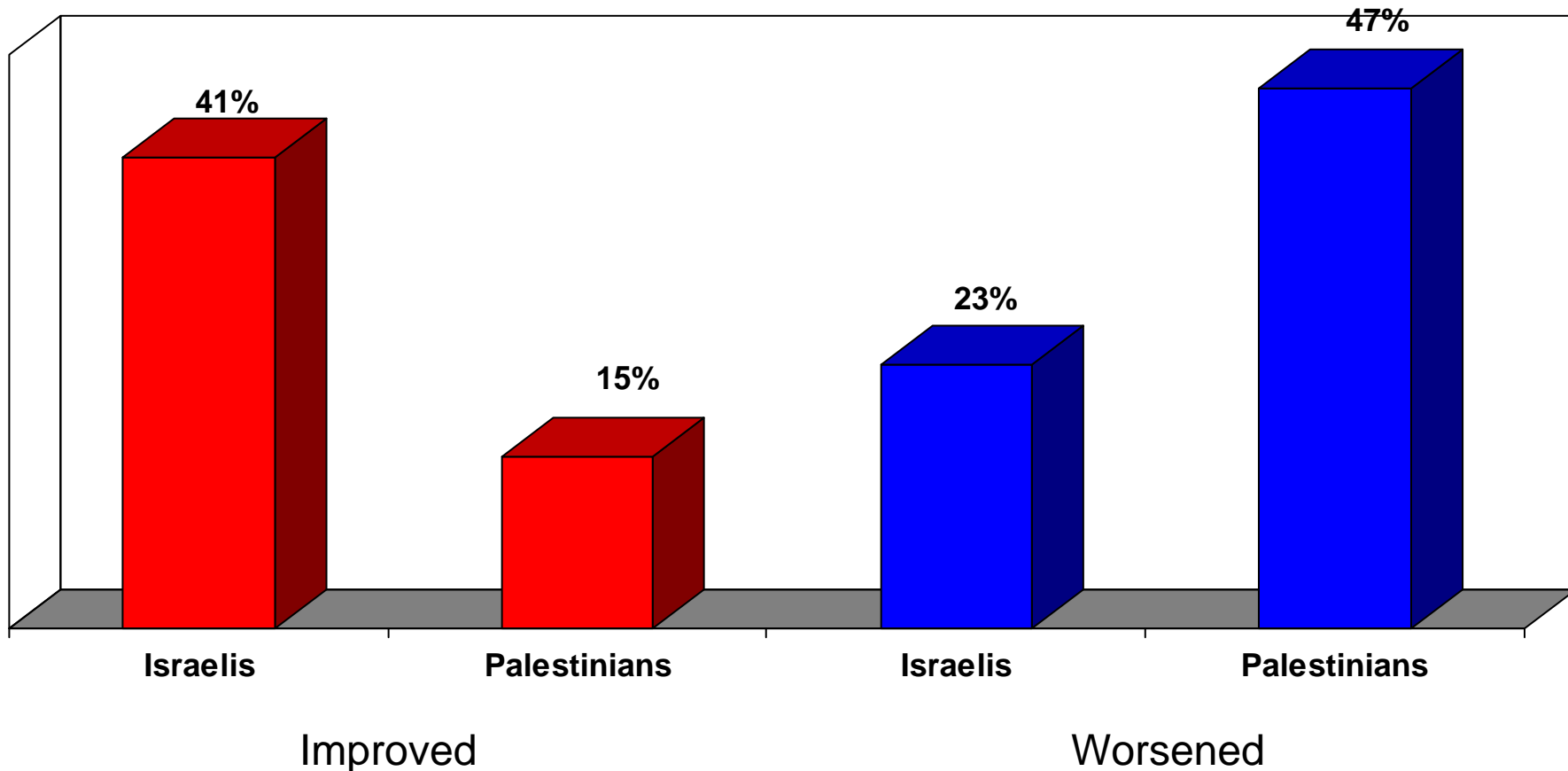
**Do you think the prospects for peace have improved, worsened or stayed the same?**





Among those who believe conditions for peace have worsened since 2005, most Americans blame the Palestinians. Among those who believe conditions for peace have improved, most credit the Israelis.

Who do you think is more responsible for the improvement / worsening in prospect for peace: The Israelis or the Palestinians?

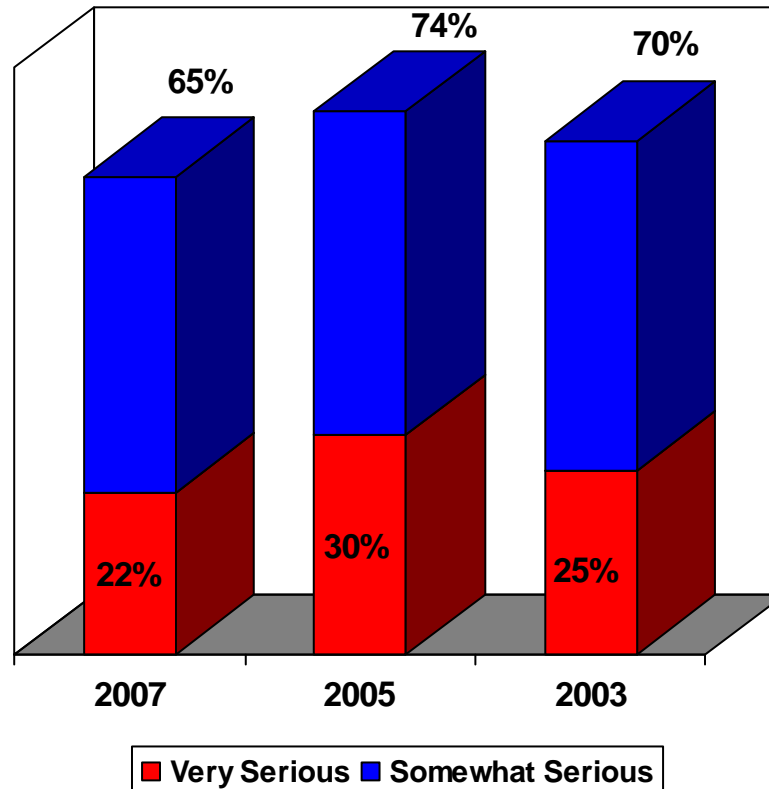




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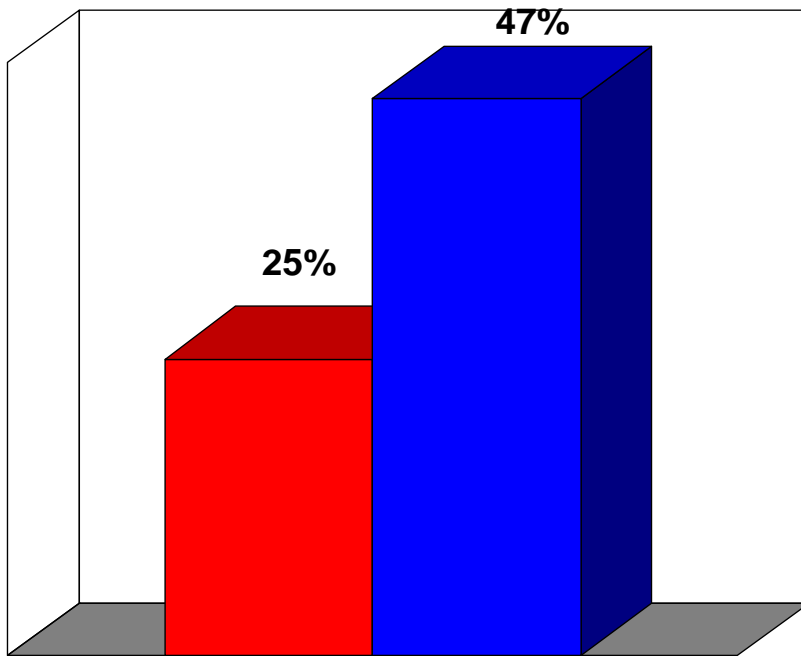
**Americans continue to believe that Israel is very serious about wanting to reach a peace agreement with the Palestinians.**

**In your opinion, how serious are the leaders of Israel about wanting to reach a peace agreement with the Palestinians -- very serious, somewhat serious, not very serious, or not at all serious.**

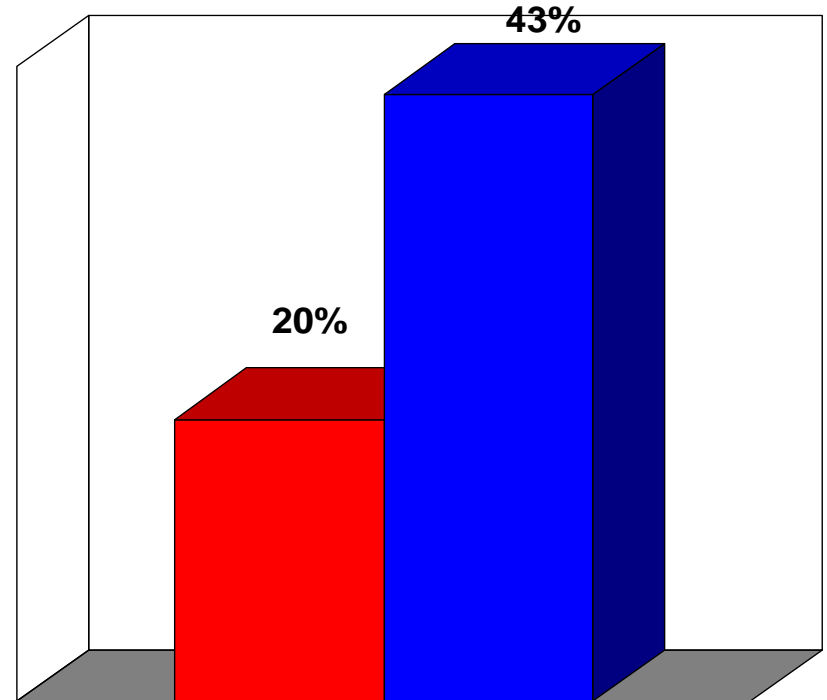




**Americans believe the Palestinian leaders are to blame for a lack of progress towards peace and for the economic difficulties of the Palestinian people.**



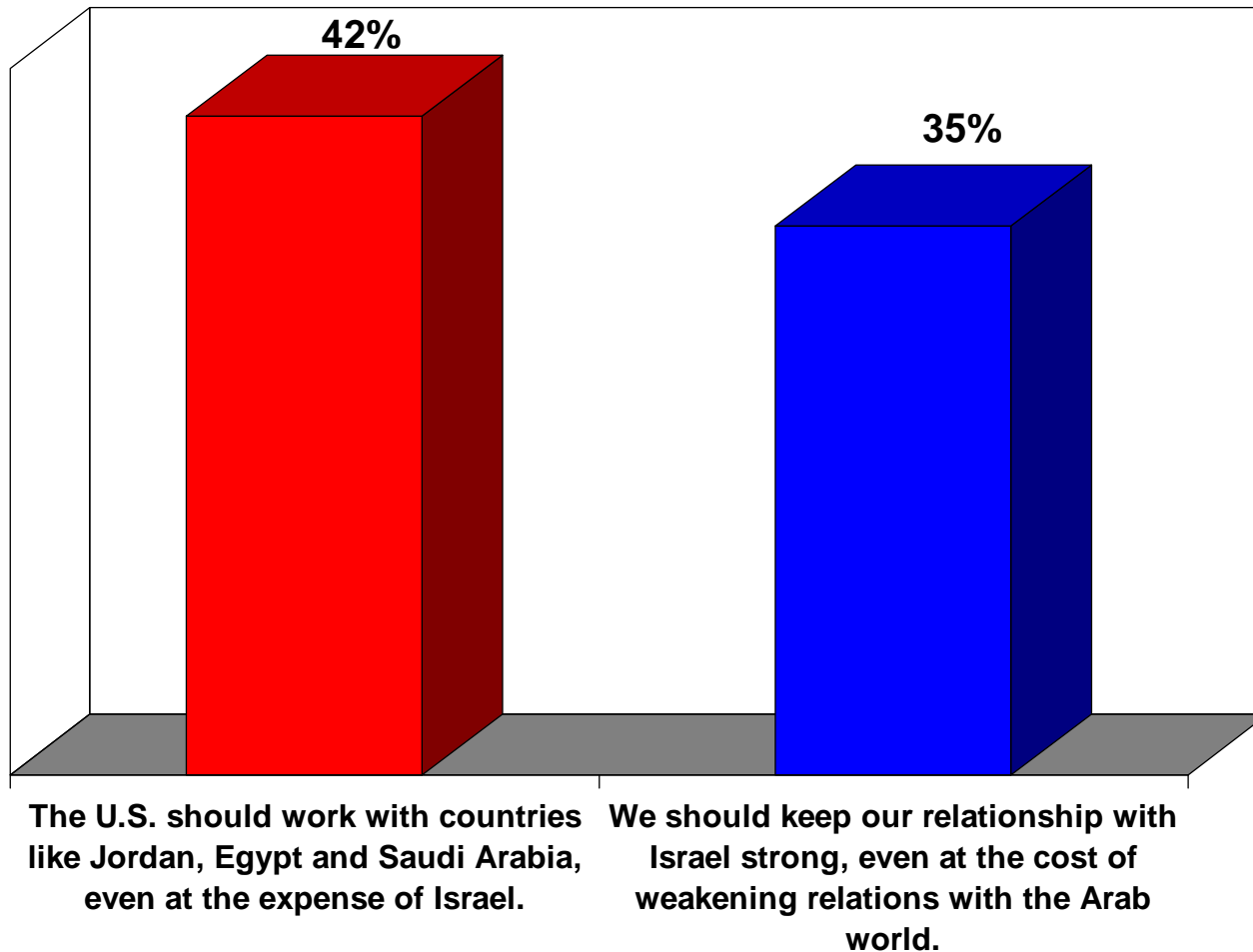
- The difficulties of the Palestinian people are primarily the fault of Israel and its leaders who have kept the Palestinian people under their military rule for more than thirty years.
- The difficulties of the Palestinian people are primarily the fault of a Palestinian leadership that has repeatedly failed to seize real opportunities for peace with Israel.



- The Israelis are mainly responsible for the lack of any progress towards a peace agreement over the past few years.
- The Palestinians are mainly responsible for the lack of any progress towards a peace agreement over the past few years.



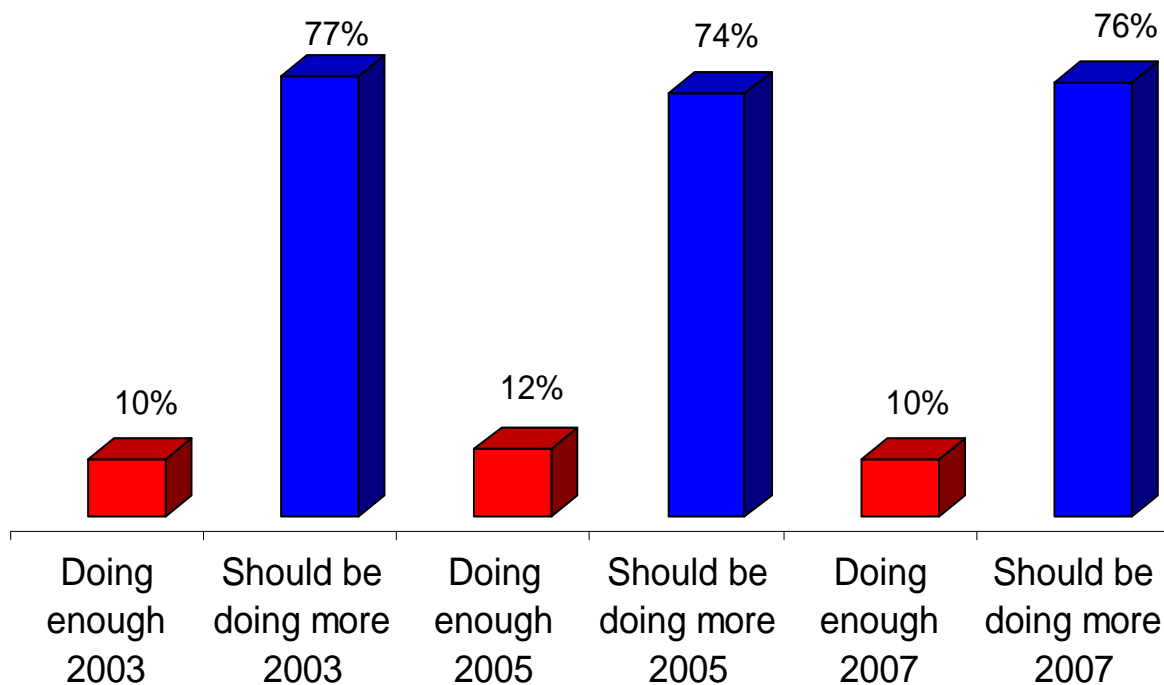
**The complexity of American opinion is revealed in responses to questions about the role of moderate Arab countries.**

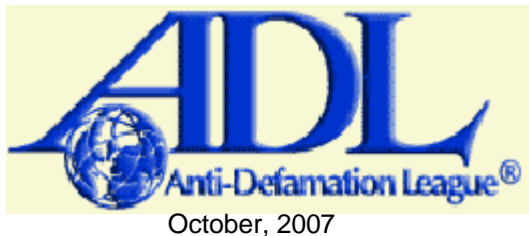




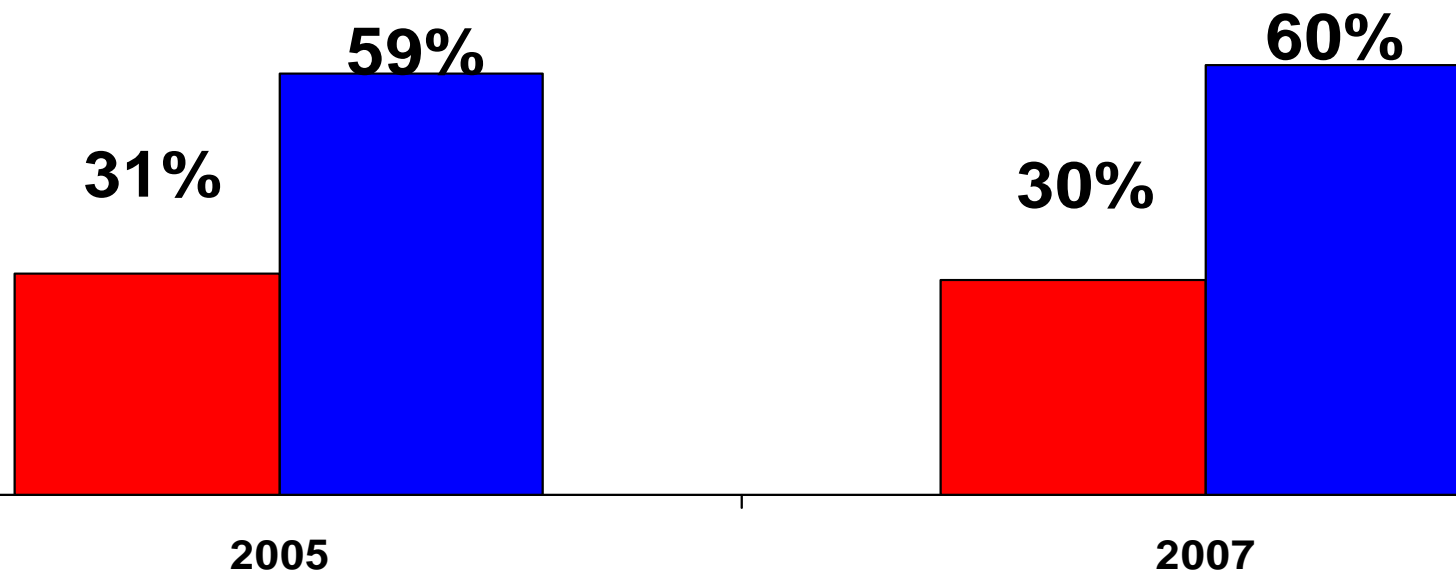
**Americans believe the moderate Arab countries should be doing more to bring an end to the Israeli – Palestinian conflict.**

**Do you believe the leaders of the moderate Arab countries like Jordan and Egypt are doing enough to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict – or should they be doing more?**





**Americans continue to believe that it is up to the Palestinians and the Israelis to solve their own problems rather than depending on US involvement.**

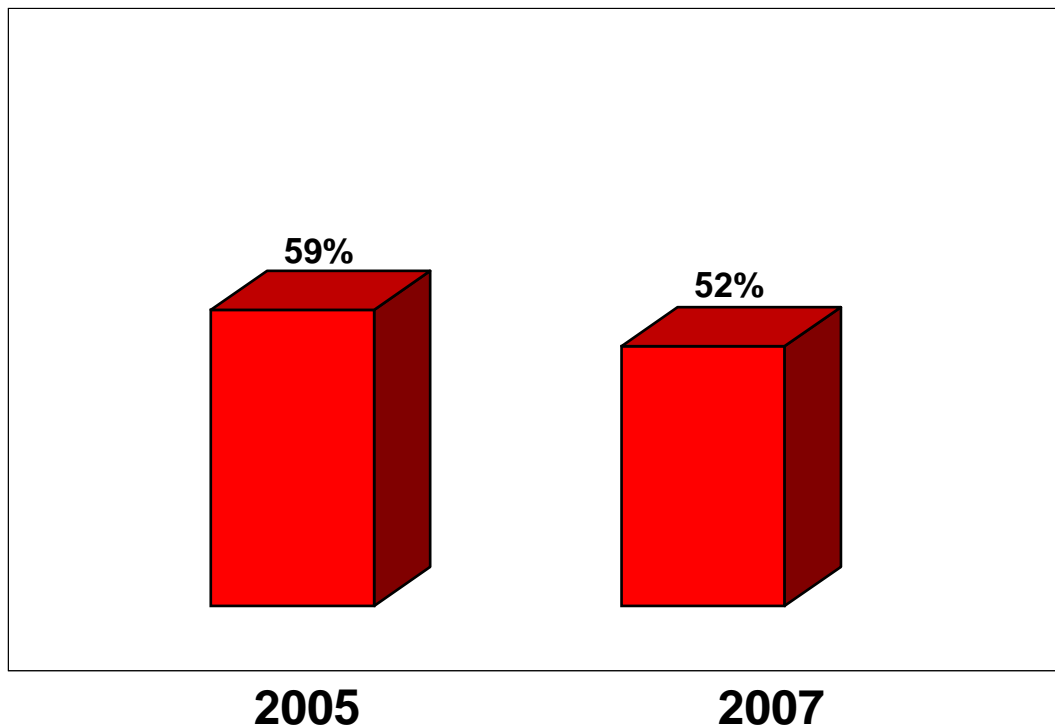


- Peace between the Israelis and the Palestinians will never take place without the continuing leadership and involvement of the U.S. government.**
- It is up to the Palestinians and the Israelis to solve their own problems: any lasting peace agreement between them must be reached with minimal involvement from the U.S.**



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**Americans support the creation of a Palestinian state but they believe it must not be established until the Palestinians end the violence and accept Israel's legitimacy.**



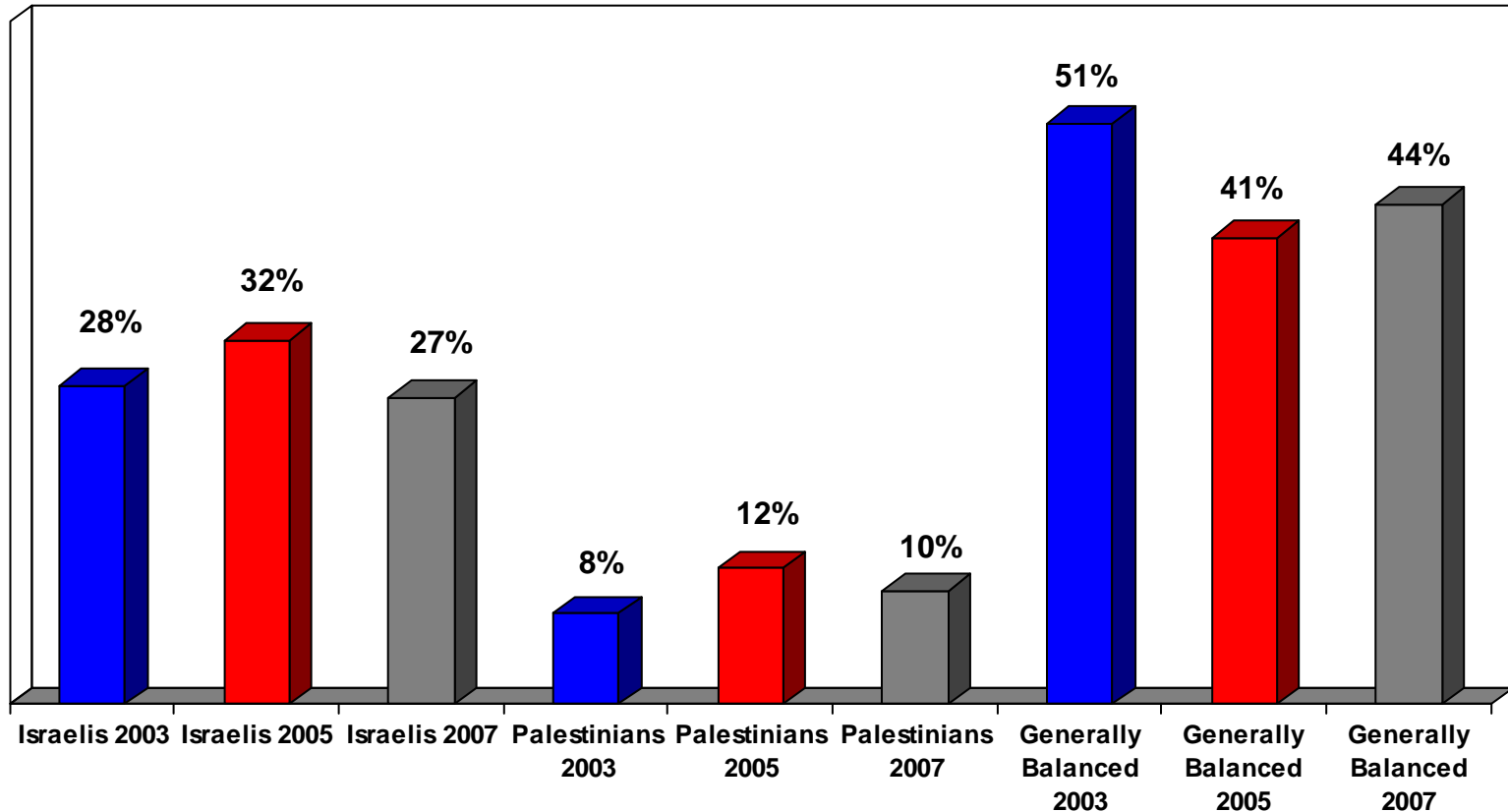
**A Palestinian state should only be established after Palestinians end the terrorist violence and accept Israel's legitimacy.**



October, 2007

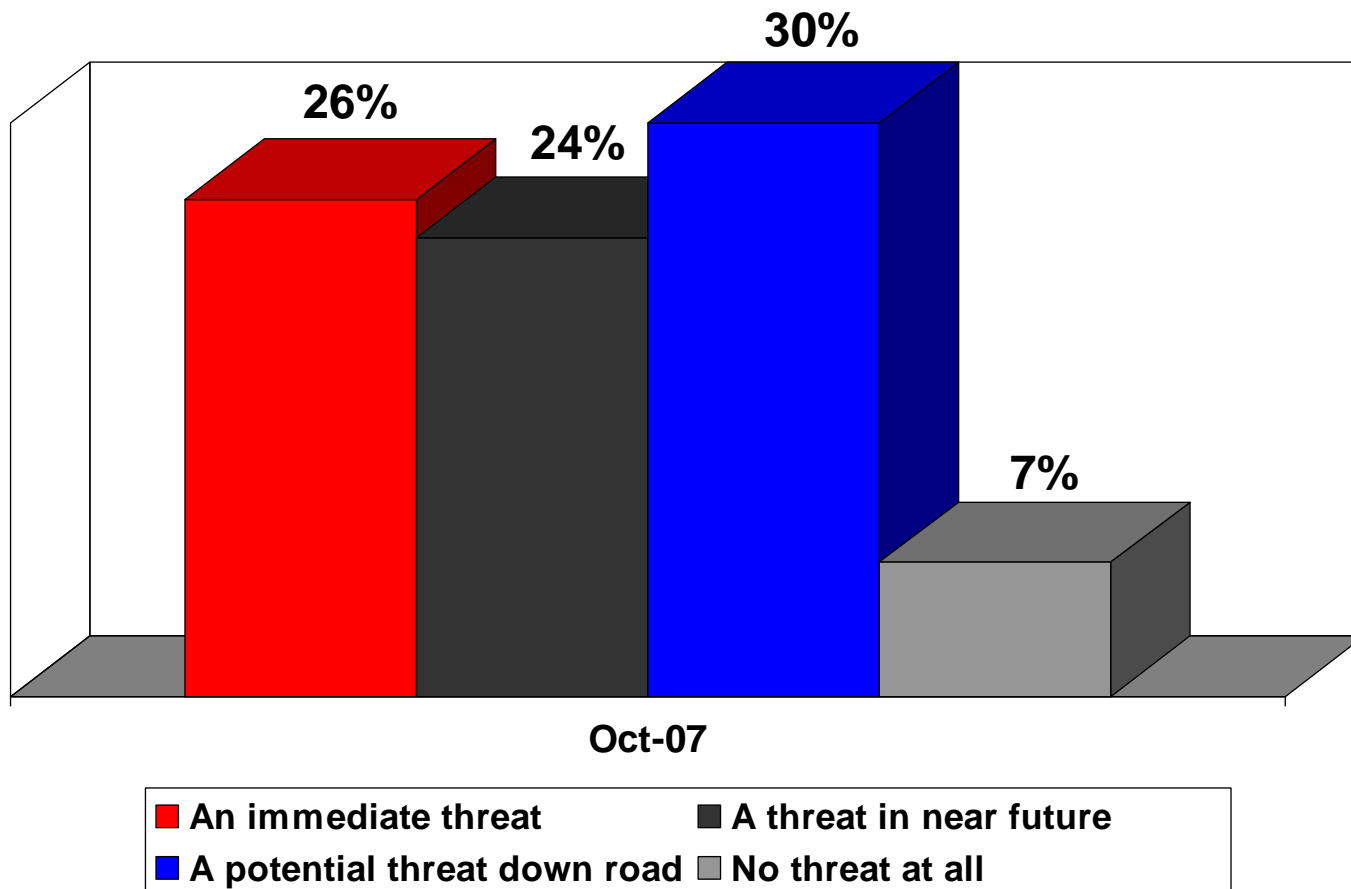
**Most Americans believe news coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is balanced; those who believe the coverage favors one side believe it favors Israel.**

**In general, do you believe the American news coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the Middle East tends to favor the Israelis, the Palestinians, or is it generally balanced?**





**A majority of Americans believe Iran is an immediate or short-term threat to the security of the Middle East.**

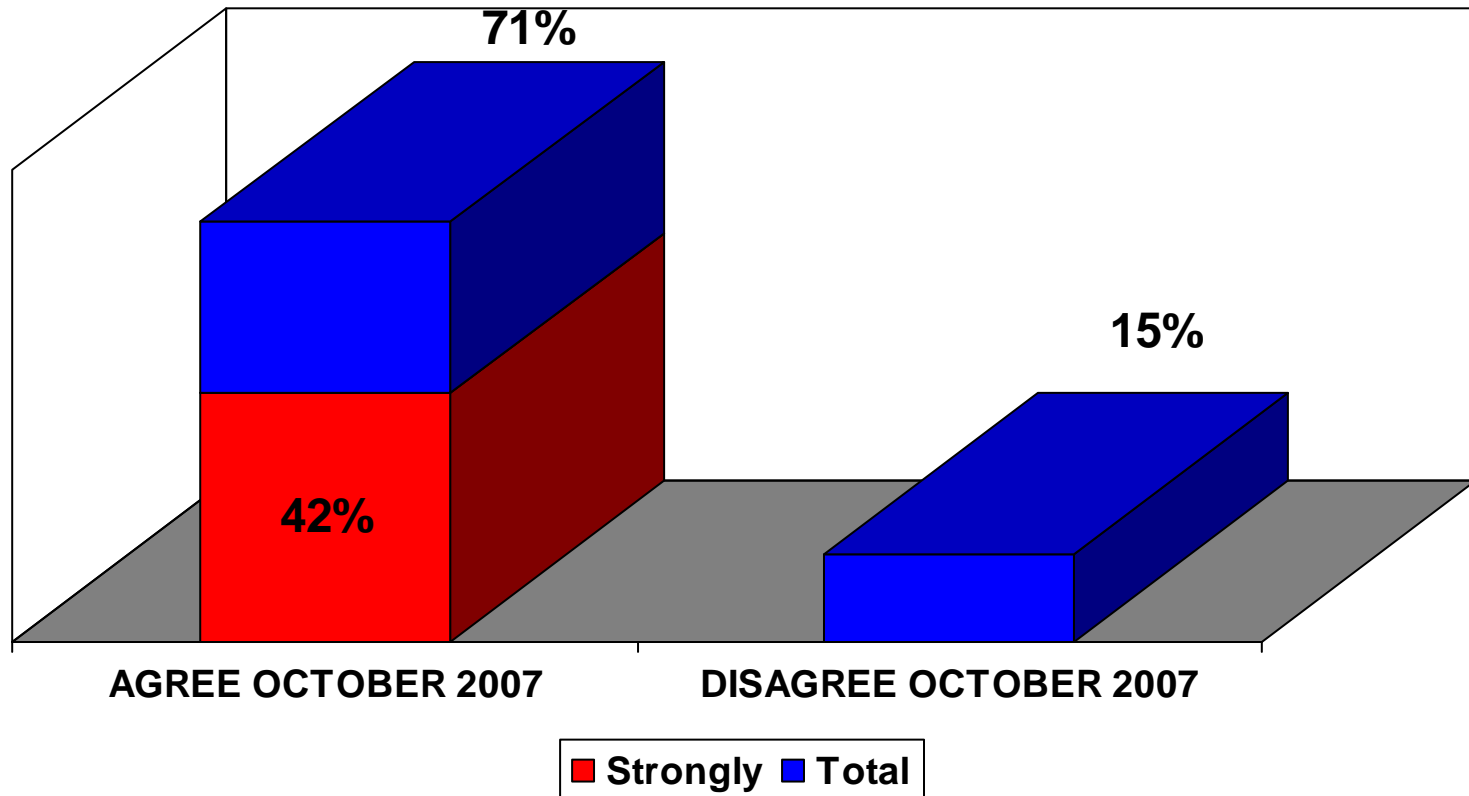




October, 2007

## Americans believe that Iran is developing nuclear weapons.

Do you believe that Iran is developing nuclear weapons?

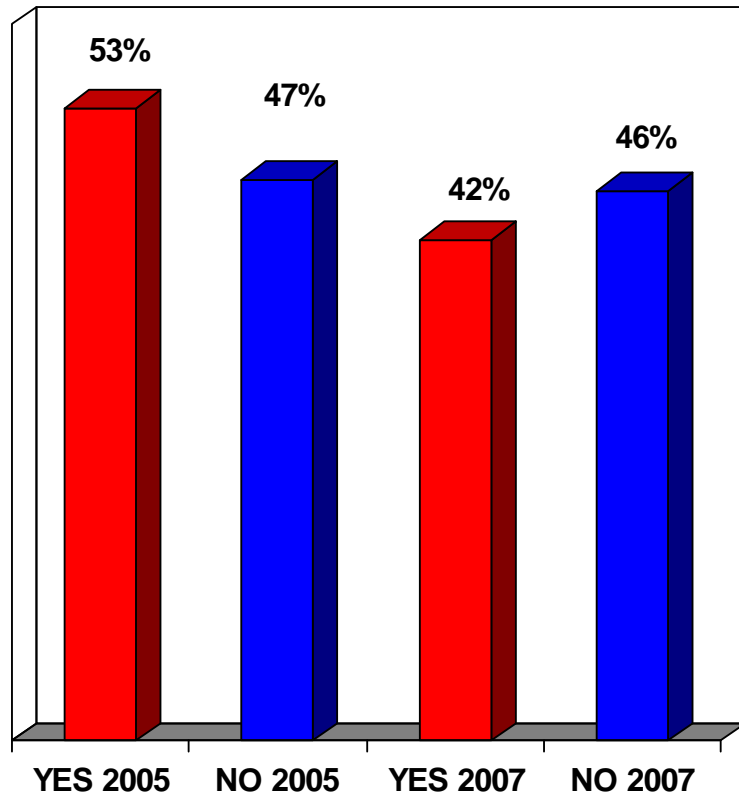




October, 2007

**A plurality of Americans would support military action against Iran by Israel to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons, but a similar plurality would reject military action against Iran by the United States.**

**"Do you think AMERICA should take military action to stop Iran from developing or trying to develop a nuclear weapons program?"**



**Do you think ISRAEL should take military action to stop Iran from developing or trying to develop a nuclear weapons program**

