

TENSION IN KOREA

War Likely Between North and South Korea, Americans Say

Only a third of respondents would support an American military mission to topple the North Korean government.

[NEW YORK – Jun. 3, 2010] – Most people in the United States think escalating tensions between North and South Korea could result in a war within the next year, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

The Government of South Korea has accused North Korea of using a torpedo to sink a ship in March, killing 46 South Korean sailors. North Korea has denied the allegations, and claims that South Korea manipulated the results of its own investigation.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,004 American adults, 16 per cent of respondents say it is “very likely” that a war will break out between the two Koreas in the next year, and 43 per cent think this possibility is “moderately likely”.

About 28,000 American troops are currently stationed in South Korea. In the event of a war, almost half of respondents (47%) would approve of the American soldiers helping the South Korean military. Conversely, 37 per cent of Americans would oppose such involvement.

Almost half of respondents (47%) are opposed to

KEY FINDINGS

- **59% think a war between South Korea and North Korea is “very likely” or “moderately likely” in the next year**
- **47% support American soldiers currently stationed in South Korea helping the local army in an eventual war with North Korea**
- **47% would oppose a U.S. mission to invade North Korea**
- **67% see North Korea as a U.S. enemy**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

From May 29 to May 30, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,004 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States.

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the U.S. government authorizing a military invasion of North Korea with the aim of removing the North Korean government. One third (35%) would approve of such a mission.

Friends and Foes

While 46 per cent of Americans see South Korea as a friend or an ally of the U.S., two thirds (67%) of respondents think North Korea is an enemy.

An important proportion of Americans also see Iran (69%), Pakistan (39%), Libya (37%), Saudi Arabia (27%), and Venezuela (26%) as enemies of their country.

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Below is a list of countries. For each one, please say whether you think they currently are an ally, a friend, neutral, or an enemy of the United States.

	An ally	A friend	Neutral	An enemy	Not sure
United Kingdom	51%	25%	13%	1%	11%
Canada	45%	33%	13%	1%	9%
Japan	25%	28%	24%	6%	17%
Germany	23%	32%	26%	3%	16%
South Korea	23%	23%	23%	14%	17%
France	22%	31%	29%	4%	14%
Italy	20%	39%	25%	2%	15%
Mexico	12%	34%	28%	14%	12%
India	8%	29%	39%	5%	18%
Brazil	7%	30%	37%	5%	20%
Saudi Arabia	7%	18%	29%	27%	20%
Egypt	6%	24%	38%	7%	24%
Russia	6%	20%	38%	18%	18%
China	5%	20%	36%	22%	18%
Pakistan	4%	11%	25%	39%	20%
Venezuela	3%	15%	31%	26%	25%
Libya	2%	5%	27%	37%	28%
North Korea	2%	3%	11%	67%	17%
Iran	2%	2%	11%	69%	16%

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As you may know, the Government of South Korea has accused North Korea of using a torpedo to sink a ship in March. North Korea has denied the allegations, and claims that South Korea manipulated the results of its own investigation. Thinking about this, how likely do you think it is that a war will break out between South Korea and North Korea in the next year?

	Region					Party ID		
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Very likely	16%	8%	22%	16%	16%	16%	18%	13%
Moderately likely	43%	46%	44%	43%	42%	46%	41%	48%
Not too likely	24%	24%	22%	23%	25%	22%	27%	27%
Not likely at all	4%	5%	5%	3%	2%	4%	3%	4%
Not sure	13%	17%	8%	14%	15%	12%	12%	9%
Likely – Net	59%	54%	66%	60%	57%	62%	58%	60%
Not likely – Net	27%	29%	27%	27%	28%	26%	30%	31%

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Tension in Korea

The U.S. has about 28,000 troops stationed in South Korea. If a war breaks out between North Korea and South Korea, would you support or oppose American soldiers providing assistance to South Korea?

	Region					Party ID		
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly support	19%	17%	19%	17%	24%	16%	27%	21%
Moderately support	28%	23%	35%	29%	24%	24%	31%	35%
Moderately oppose	17%	21%	17%	14%	19%	20%	14%	14%
Strongly oppose	20%	20%	18%	23%	17%	22%	19%	19%
Not sure	16%	19%	12%	17%	15%	18%	9%	11%
Support – Net	47%	41%	53%	46%	48%	40%	58%	56%
Oppose – Net	37%	41%	35%	37%	37%	42%	33%	34%

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If a war breaks out between North Korea and South Korea, would you support or oppose the U.S. Government authorizing a military invasion of North Korea with the aim of removing the North Korean government?

	Region					Party ID		
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly support	15%	11%	13%	16%	17%	12%	22%	15%
Moderately support	20%	18%	23%	20%	19%	18%	27%	22%
Moderately oppose	21%	23%	26%	19%	15%	19%	17%	24%
Strongly oppose	27%	30%	23%	27%	27%	31%	22%	24%
Not sure	18%	18%	15%	18%	22%	20%	12%	15%
Support – Net	35%	30%	36%	36%	36%	30%	48%	37%
Oppose – Net	47%	53%	49%	46%	42%	50%	40%	48%

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Angus Reid Public Opinion is a practice of Vision Critical—a global research and technology company specializing in custom online panels, private communities, and innovative online methods. Vision Critical is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Strategies team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995

Vision Critical is now one of the largest market research enterprises in the world. In addition to its five offices in Canada—located in Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Toronto, and Montreal—the firm also has offices in San Francisco, Chicago, New York, London, Paris and Sydney. Its team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research, and currently serves over 200 international clients.

Angus Reid Public Opinion polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum (www.angusreidforum.com), Springboard America (www.springboardamerica.com) and Springboard UK (www.springboarduk.com) online panels, which are carefully recruited to ensure representation across all demographic and psychographic segments of these populations. Panel members pass through rigorous screening and a double opt-in process ensuring highly motivated and responsive members. These premier online survey platforms present respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses. Each survey is actively sampled and weighted to model that characteristics of the universe required and employs the latest in quality control techniques to ensure data validity.

Angus Reid, the only public opinion firm to exclusively use online methods to follow the views of the electorate during the 2008 federal campaign, offered the most accurate prediction of the results of Canada's 40th election.

<http://bit.ly/4zxf1S>

Since 2006, Angus Reid has covered eight provincial elections in Canada—more than any other pollster in the country—and the results have accurately predicted the outcome of each of these democratic processes.

More information on the way Angus Reid conducts public opinion research can be found at <http://bit.ly/3z0u1l>

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**For more information, please contact
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:
<http://www.visioncritical.com/category/global-opinions-and-trends>**

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