

# Americans' Support for Withdrawing from Afghanistan Reaches All-Time High

By [Global Research](#)

Global Research, June 22, 2011

[Xinhua News Agency](#) 22 June 2011

Theme: [US NATO War Agenda](#)

In-depth Report: [AFGHANISTAN](#)

WASHINGTON — A record number of Americans favor withdrawing U.S. forces from Afghanistan as soon as possible, according to a new poll by the Pew Research Center.

The result comes one day ahead of President Barack Obama's speech on a plan to draw down military forces from Afghanistan. Anti-war liberals, joined by some cost-sensitive Republicans, have recently pushed harder for a more rapid withdrawal as public support of the war has been subsiding since the killing of al-Qaida mastermind Osama bin Laden.

Fifty-six percent of Americans say U.S. troops should be brought home as soon as possible, while 39 percent favor keeping troops in Afghanistan until the situation has stabilized, the survey showed.

This is the first time a majority of Americans support a quick withdrawal. The proportion has increased by eight points since last month, immediately after the killing of bin Laden.

The poll also showed 56 percent of Americans say it is unlikely that Afghanistan will be able to maintain a stable government after the U.S. military leaves.

There are approximately 100,000 U.S. forces in Afghanistan, including a so-called "surge" of 30,000 troops Obama ordered to the country in late 2009. The president planned to begin withdrawing troops in July, with the goal of handing lead security responsibility to Afghan forces by the end of 2014.

The original source of this article is [Xinhua News Agency](#)

Copyright © [Global Research](#), [Xinhua News Agency](#), 2011

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Global Research](#)

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long as the source and copyright are

acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)  
[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)