

**2021 American Jewish Committee Annual Survey
Final Topline Results for U.S. Jewish Adults
May 20, 2021**

This study was conducted for The American Jewish Committee via telephone by SSRS, an independent research company. Interviews were conducted from March 25-May 9, 2021 among a nationally representative sample of 1,000 respondents aged 18 or older of Jewish religion or background. The margin of error for total respondents is +/-4.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. More information about SSRS can be obtained by visiting www.ssrs.com

**Notes: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.
An asterisk indicates less than 1%*

Q1. How important is being Jewish in your life? Would you say...

	IMPORTANT			NOT IMPORTANT			Don't know/ Refused
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
05/20/21	79	41	38	21	17	4	*
10/04/20	79	39	41	21	16	5	*
10/06/19	79	40	38	21	16	5	--
05/08/19	76	41	35	24	17	7	*
05/10/18	77	40	37	22	17	6	1
08/28/17	80	47	33	19	12	7	*
08/28/16	79	44	35	21	11	10	*

Q2. The next series of questions are about formal Jewish education you may have received at any time from Kindergarten through 12th grade.
READ EACH TIME: Did you attend....(INSERT AND READ ITEM).
(READ FIRST TIME, THEN IF NEEDED: ..at any time from Kindergarten through 12th grade?)

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
a. Jewish day school	30	69	1
b. Hebrew school through bar or bat mitzvah	51	49	*
c. Hebrew school through some or all of high school	29	70	*

Q3. How important, if at all, is being connected with Israel to your Jewish identity? Would you say very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

	05/20/21	10/04/20
Very important	29	29
Somewhat important	31	30
Not too important	21	24
Not at all important	19	17
(VOL.) No connection to Israel	*	*
Don't know/Refused	--	*

READ TO ALL: Now thinking about **formal** Jewish education you received about Israel during Kindergarten through 12th grade, including school, synagogue, summer camp, or youth group.

Q4. Would you describe that education about Israel as: (READ)

	05/20/21
Very strong	17
Somewhat strong	20
Medium	21
Somewhat weak	12
Very weak	10
Non-existent or None	18
Don't know/Refused	2

Asked of those who received some education about Israel (n=815)

Q5. Which of the following are places you received Jewish education about Israel. (First/Next)...(INSERT ITEM). READ FOR FIRST ITEM. THEN AS NEEDED: Did you receive education about Israel there?

	Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
a. At Synagogue	70	30	*
b. In a Jewish Day School	22	77	1
c. In a Hebrew School	52	48	*
d. In a Summer camp	33	67	*
e. In a Youth group	37	62	1

Summary Results based on those who have attended each type of school

	Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
Item B asked of those who attended Jewish Day School (n=247)			
b. In a Jewish Day School	66	33	1
Item C asked of those who attended Hebrew School (n=559)			
c. In a Hebrew School	83	17	1

Asked of those who received some education about Israel (n=815)

Q6. What would you say were the goals of the formal education you received about Israel? (First/Next), (INSERT ITEM). (READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN AS NEEDED: Was this a goal, or not?)

	Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
a. To make you a better Israel advocate	49	49	2
b. To foster feelings of attachment to Israel	70	28	2
c. To foster greater literacy about Israel	69	29	2

Q7. When you were growing up did you {also} learn about Israel from family members?

	05/20/21
Yes	72
No	28
Don't know/Refused	*

Asked of those who learned about Israel from family (n=699)

Q8. How would you describe your family’s attitude toward Israel? (READ)

	05/20/21
Strongly pro-Israel	48
Moderately pro-Israel	33
Neutral	13
Moderately anti-Israel	4
Strongly anti-Israel	2
Don't know/Refused	1

Asked of those with some college experience (n=918)

Q9. Now thinking about since high school, in which of the following ways have you learned more about Israel?

(First/Next)...(INSERT ITEM). (READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN AS NECESSARY:
Have you learned about Israel in this way?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
a. Course in college or graduate school	29	71	*
b. Gap year or studying abroad in Israel before or during college	13	87	*
c. Attended events at your college, such as Hillel	31	68	*
d. Other events or trips during college (specify)	22	77	*

READ TO ALL: Now we have a few questions about topics you may have learned about in school or from other sources. We are interested in what people know off the top of their head, and not everyone will know all of the answers.

Q10. As far as you know, what year was the modern-day state of Israel founded? (READ)

	05/20/21
1903	*
1917	2
1948** ¹	84
1967	10
Don't know/Refused	4

Q11. Who was Israel's first prime minister? (READ IF NECESSARY)

	05/20/21
Theodor Herzl	9
Golda Meir	20
David Ben Gurion**	49
Yitzhak Rabin	8
Don't know/Refused	15

Q12. During what war did Israel obtain the Golan Heights and the Sinai Peninsula? (READ IF NECESSARY)

	05/20/21
Six Day War**	65
War of Independence	6
Yom Kippur War	20
Don't know/Refused	10

Q13. What percentage of the world's Jews live in Israel? (READ IF NECESSARY)

	05/20/21
Less than one-third	47
One-third to less than two-thirds**	39
Or two-thirds or more	11
Don't know/Refused	4

¹ Double asterisks “**” indicate each correct answer.

Total Number of Correct responses to Q10-Q13

	05/20/21
No Correct Responses	6
1 Correct	16
2 Correct	31
3 Correct	31
All 4 Correct	16

Q14. Have you ever visited Israel?
(IF YES, ASK: Was that once, more than once but less than 5 times, or at least 5 times?)

	No	-----YES-----				Don't know/Refused
		NET	Once	2- 4 times	At least five times	
05/20/21	55	45	24	13	8	--
05/08/19	59	41	16	15	10	--

Asked of those who have not visited Israel (n=496)

Q15a. What would you say is the main reason, you have not visited Israel...? (READ)

	05/20/21
Lack of interest	24
Lack of opportunity	25
Lack of funds	27
Or another reason (specify)	14
(VOL.) Concerns about safety or security ²	9
Don't know/Refused	1

² The "(VOL) Concerns about safety of security" was a created code based on responses provided in the "Or another reason" answer category.

Asked of those who have visited Israel (n=504)

Q15b. Would you say your {visit/visits} to Israel...? (READ)

	05/20/21
Strengthened your connection to Israel	73
Weakened your connection to Israel	6
Or {did it have/have they had} no impact on your connection to Israel	20
Don't know/Refused	1

Q16. Using the metaphor of a family, do you consider Israeli Jews your...? (READ LIST. ENTER ONLY ONE)

	Siblings	First cousins	Extended family	Not part of my family	Don't know/Refused
05/20/21	11	15	46	28	1
05/08/19	13	15	43	28	1
05/10/18	12	15	39	31	2

Q17. Which of the following relatives or friends, if any, currently live in Israel?

	Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
a. Immediate family members, such as a parent in-laws, child, sibling, or grandparent	12	88	*
b. Members of your extended family	45	55	*
c. Close friends	33	67	*
d. More distant family or friends	58	40	2

Q18. How would you describe your fluency with Hebrew? Would you say you...? (READ)

	05/20/21
Completely fluent or native language	2
Strong, but not native language	5
Minimally fluent	15
Can read phonetically, but understand little of what you're reading	36
Cannot read or speak Hebrew	42
Don't know/Refused	*

READ TO ALL: On another topic...

Q19. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Joe Biden is doing as president?

	05/20/21	10/04/20 ³
Approve	70	22
Disapprove	26	77
Don't know/Refused	4	*

Q20. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Biden is handling...? (INSERT. READ ITEM) ("Is that strongly or somewhat?")

	Approve		Disapprove		Don't know/ Refused
	Strongly	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strongly	
a. the Economy					
05/20/21	46	25	8	19	3
b. the Iranian nuclear issue					
05/20/21	22	33	9	23	13
8/28/17 ⁴	11	15	26	42	6
c. U.S.-Israel relations					
05/20/21	19	39	11	16	15
05/08/19	22	14	14	45	4
05/10/18	21	13	16	41	8
08/28/17	18	22	23	31	5
d. Immigration					
05/20/21	17	37	15	27	4
08/28/17	17	6	11	65	1
e. Race relations					
05/20/21	39	29	11	17	4
08/28/17	11	9	8	69	1
f. the COVID-19 pandemic					
05/20/21	64	15	8	11	2
g. the threat of Antisemitism					
05/20/21	24	40	11	12	13
10/09/19	11	13	11	62	5

³ Trend result reported in this question were asked about President Trump.

⁴ Trend results reported in this question (08/28/17, 05/10/18, 05/08/19 and 10/09/19) were asked about President Trump.

Q21. How would you characterize the U.S.-Israel relationship today? (READ)

	05/20/21	10/04/20
Very strong	20	33
Fairly strong	56	53
Fairly weak	16	9
Very weak	4	3
Don't know/Refused	4	2

Q22. Compared to one year ago, do you feel (more) optimistic about peace between Israel and individual Arab countries, (less) optimistic, or has there NOT been much change in how you feel?

	05/20/21
More optimistic	33
Less optimistic	20
Hasn't been much change	46
Don't know/Refused	1

Q23. Compared to one year ago, do you feel (more) optimistic about peace between Israel and the Palestinians, (less) optimistic, or has there NOT been much change in how you feel?

	05/20/21	10/7/20
More optimistic	14	16
Less optimistic	25	28
Hasn't been much change	60	55
Don't know/Refused	1	1

Q24. In the presidential election of 2020, whom did you vote for?
(READ LIST. ENTER ONE ONLY)

	05/20/21
Joe Biden	68
Donald Trump	21
Another candidate	4
Didn't vote	5
Don't know/Refused	1

Q25. In politics today, do you consider yourself...

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Other	Don't know/ Refused
05/20/21	13	51	22	13	1
10/04/20	14	53	25	8	*
10/06/19	14	53	23	9	*
05/08/19	18	49	20	12	--
05/10/18	16	51	24	9	--
08/28/17	15	57	20	8	*
08/28/16	18	51	26	2	1

(READ TO ALL)

We just have a few final questions for classification purposes.

D2. Do you identify as...(READ)?

	05/20/21
Orthodox	10
Conservative	13
Reform	25
Reconstructionist	3
Secular	16
Or do you NOT identify with a specific denomination	31
Don't know/Refused	2

D3. What is your current marital status? Are you...?

	Unmarried	Married to a born Jew	Married to a convert to Judaism	Married to a non-Jew	Don't know/Refused
05/20/21	48	25	4	22	1
10/04/20	47	25	3	25	*
10/06/19	46	25	4	23	1
05/08/19	45	31	3	20	1
05/10/18	48	29	3	19	1
08/28/17	47	32	3	17	*
08/28/16	49	32	3	15	1

S8. What is your gender? Are you...?

	Male	Female	Other/non-binary/transgender	Don't know/Refused
05/20/21	55	44	1	1
10/04/20	56	43	1	*
10/06/19	54	46	*	--
05/08/19	52	48	NA ⁵	NA
05/10/18	50	50	NA	NA
08/28/17	51	49	NA	NA
08/28/16	51	49	NA	NA

Z-7/Z-7a AGE COMBO TABLE

	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Refused
05/20/21	23	30	22	25	*
10/04/20	23	33	21	23	*
10/06/19	23	29	22	25	*
05/08/19	22	28	24	26	*
05/10/18	18	26	26	30	*
08/28/17	19	28	23	30	--
08/28/16	15	20	29	36	1

⁵ 08/16 through 05/19 – gender was only asked if needed.

Z-8. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

	05/20/21	10/04/20	10/06/19	05/08/19	05/10/18
High school graduate or less	21	22	23	22	21
Some college NET	21	19	20	19	20
Some college, no degree	13	13	13	13	14
Two-year associate degree from a college or university	8	6	7	5	6
College or more NET	59	59	56	60	59
Four-year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree	28	25	24	26	28
Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree	2	2	2	3	2
Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical or law degree	29	32	30	31	29
Don't know/Refused	*	--	*	*	*

Z-9. Is your total annual household income from all sources, and before taxes...? Just stop me when I get to the right category...

	05/20/21	10/04/20	10/06/19	05/08/19	05/10/18
Less than \$50,000 NET	25	24	28	30	29
Less than \$15,000	5	5	8	9	6
\$15,000 but less than \$25,000	6	6	6	6	6
\$25,000 but less than \$30,000	3	3	4	4	5
\$30,000 but less than \$40,000	6	4	5	4	4
\$40,000 but less than \$50,000	5	5	5	7	7
\$50,000 but less than \$100,000 NET	28	29	28	24	26
\$50,000 but less than \$75,000	16	15	14	12	13
\$75,000 but less than \$100,000	12	14	14	12	12
\$100,000 and over	40	43	37	39	37
Don't know/Refused	8	5	6	8	8

Z-10. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent?

	Yes	No	Don't know Refused
05/20/21	8	91	1
10/04/20	7	93	*
10/06/19	8	91	1
05/08/19	6	93	1
05/10/18	7	93	*
08/28/17	6	94	--
08/28/16	7	92	1

Z-11. Do you consider yourself white, black or African American, Asian, Native American, Pacific Islander, mixed race or some other race? (ENTER ONE ONLY)

	White	Black or African American	Asian/ Chinese/ Japanese	Native American/ Indian/ Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	Mixed	Other	Refused
05/20/21	86	4	*	*	--	6	2	2
10/04/20	90	2	1	*	--	4	2	1
10/06/19	88	3	*	*	--	8	1	1
05/08/19	89	3	1	*	--	4	2	2
05/10/18	90	2	--	*	*	5	1	2
08/28/17	93	3	*	*	--	3	*	1
08/28/16	92	3	*	*	*	2	1	1

Z-10/Z-11 Combo Table

	White (non-Hispanic)	Black (non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	Other Race	Refused
05/20/21	80	4	8	7	2
10/04/20	85	2	7	6	1
10/06/19	84	2	8	5	1
05/08/19	84	3	6	5	2
05/10/18	86	2	7	4	1
08/28/17	89	3	6	2	1
08/28/16	87	2	7	2	1

Z-11b. Are you registered to vote at your present address, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refused
05/20/21	94	6	*
10/04/20	94	6	*
10/06/19	92	7	1
05/08/19	92	7	*

CLOSE. Those are all the questions we have. We greatly appreciate your participation in this study. Thank you and have a nice (day/night).