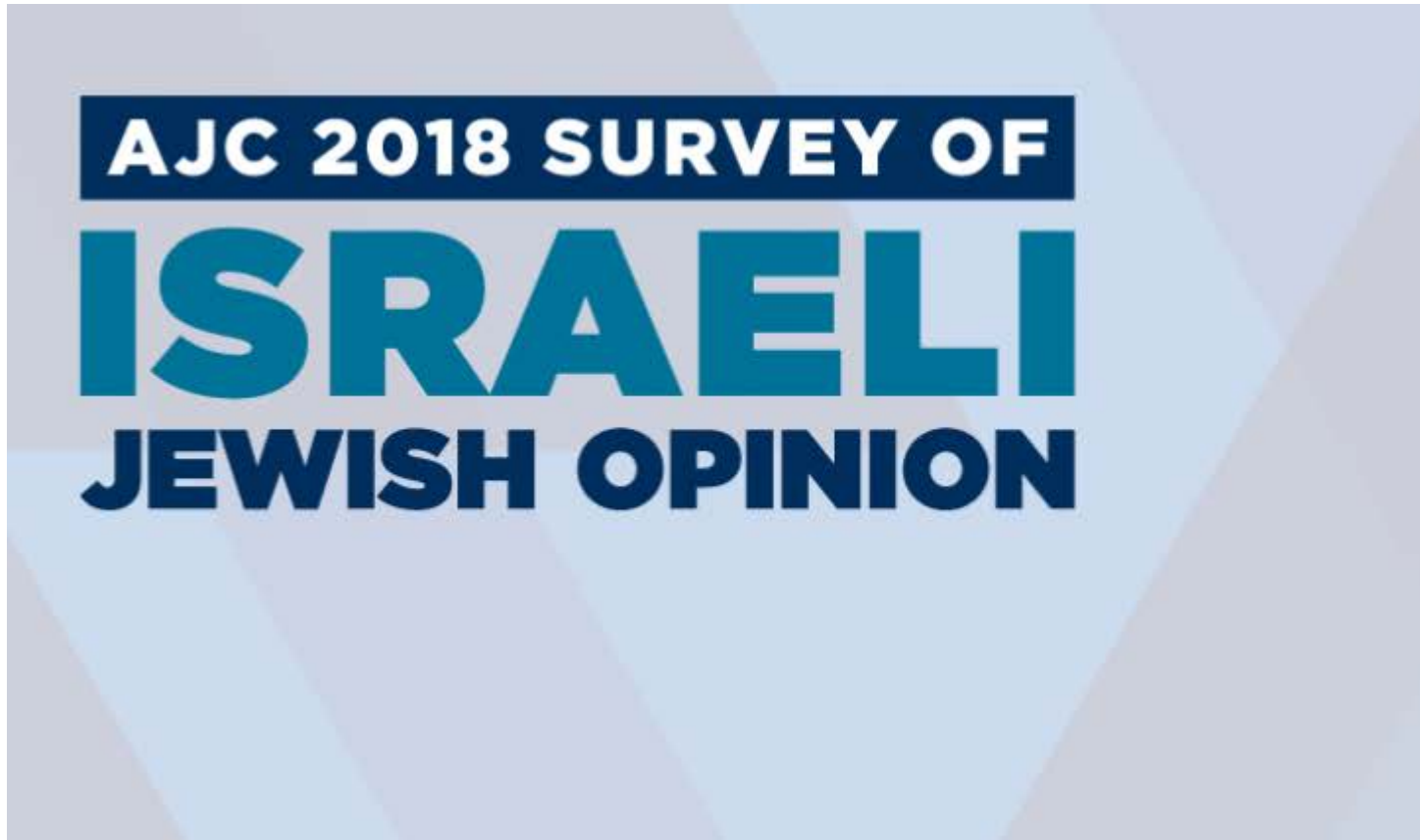


# AJC 2018 Survey of Israeli Jewish Opinion



June 10, 2018

AJC's 2018 Survey of Israeli Jewish Opinion, conducted by Geocartography, is based on telephone interviews carried out in May with a national sample of 1,000 Jews over age 18. The margin of error is plus or minus 3.1%.

## 1. How important is being Jewish in your life?

Most important 47%

Very important 34%

Somewhat important 9%

Not too important 4%

Not at all important 4%

No opinion 2%

**2. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: “Living in Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew.”**

Agree strongly 46%

Agree somewhat 36%

Disagree somewhat 10%

Disagree strongly 4%

No opinion 2%

**3. Do you consider being Jewish mostly a matter of religion, or more a matter of ethnicity and culture?**

Mostly a matter of religion 19%

Mostly a matter of ethnicity or culture 40%

Both equally 37%

No opinion 4%

**4. Looking ahead five years, do you think that the ties between American and Israeli Jews will be...**

Stronger than today 30%

Weaker than today 19%

About the same as today 40%

No opinion 11%

**5. Using the metaphor of a family, do you consider American Jews as your...**

Siblings 28%

First Cousins 10%

Extended family 40%

Not part of my family 22%

**6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling U.S.-Israel relations?**

Approve strongly	37%
Approve somewhat	40%
Disapprove somewhat	5%
Disapprove strongly	5%
No opinion	13%

**Do you think it appropriate for American Jews to attempt to influence Israeli  
7. policy on such issues as national security and peace negotiations with the  
Palestinians?**

Appropriate	25%
Not appropriate	68%
No opinion	7%

**8. In the current situation, do you favor or oppose a two-state solution through  
the establishment of a demilitarized Palestinian state on the West Bank?**

Favor strongly	15%
Favor somewhat	29%

Oppose somewhat 15%

Oppose strongly 33%

No opinion 8%

**Looking ahead five years, do you think that the chances for peaceful  
9. coexistence between Israel and a Palestinian state will improve, decline, or  
stay the same?**

Improve 13%

Decline 42%

Stay the same 37%

No opinion 7%

**10. As part of a peace agreement with the Palestinians, should Israel be willing  
to dismantle all, some, or none of the Jewish settlements in the West Bank?**

Israel should be  
willing to dismantle  
all the settlements 4%

Israel should be  
willing to dismantle  
some of the settlements 35%

Israel should not be  
willing to dismantle  
any of the settlements 54%

No opinion 7%

**11. Israel today is both Jewish-religious and Democratic. In your opinion, should the current balance between Democratic and Jewish-religious elements be retained, or should one be strengthened at the expense of the other?**

The current  
balance should be  
retained 36%

The democratic  
element should be  
strengthened 39%

The Jewish-  
religious element  
should be  
strengthened 19%

No opinion 5%

**12. Do you think the fact that Orthodox Judaism is the only denomination recognized by Israel as an official form of Judaism, and that Reform Judaism is not recognized:**

Strengthens ties between Israeli and American  
Jews 14%

Weakens ties between Israeli and American  
Jews 40%

Has no effect on ties between Israeli and American Jews	29%
No opinion	16%

**13. Which of the following statements about non-Orthodox forms of Judaism, the Conservative and the Reform, is closest to your view?**

Their simultaneous existence strengthens Jewish life in the Diaspora, but they are irrelevant to Israel	30%
Their parallel growth in Israel could improve the quality of Jewish life there	26%
Both forms of Judaism are destined to disappear	17%
None of the above	8%
No opinion	20%

**14. Currently, Jewish weddings, divorces, and conversions to Judaism in Israel are recognized only if Orthodox rabbis officiate. Should Conservative and Reform rabbis also be permitted to officiate?**

Yes	49%
No	45%
No opinion	6%

**Currently, Israeli law does not allow for civil [secular] marriage and divorce. Should the law be changed, and civil marriage and divorce allowed?**

Yes 55%

No 40%

No opinion 5%

**Currently, prayer services at the Western Wall in Jerusalem are conducted according to Orthodox tradition, with men and women being separated. Do you support or oppose the existence of a square adjacent to the Western Wall that would serve for mixed prayers, without separation between men and women?**

Support 42%

Oppose 48%

No opinion 10%

**Do you support or oppose the recent U.S. decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and to relocate the U.S. embassy there?**

Support 85%

Oppose 7%

No opinion 8%

### 18. How do you define yourself religiously?

Haredi [Ultra-Orthodox] 10%

Modern Orthodox  
[Religious Zionist] 11%

Conservative [Masorti] 0% [less than 1%]

Religious-traditional 17%

Not that religious-traditional 21%

Reform 1%

Reconstructionist 0% [less than 1%]

Secular 37%

Other 2%

**19. Do you have family in the United States to whom you feel close?**

Yes 46%

No 54%

**20. Do you think that a thriving Diaspora is or isn't vital for the long-term future of the Jewish people?**

Vital 78%

Not vital 15%

No opinion 7%

**21. Do you think that a thriving State of Israel is or isn't vital for the long-term future of the Jewish people?**

Vital 87%

Not vital 6%

No opinion 7%