AJC 2018 Survey of American Jewish Opinion



June 10, 2018

AJC's 2018 Survey of American Jewish Opinion, conducted by the research company SSRS, is based on telephone interviews carried out April 18-May 10 with a national sample of 1,001 Jews over age 18. The margin of error is plus or minus 3.9%.

1. How important is being Jewish in your life?

Very important 40%

Somewhat important 37%

Not too important 17%

Not at all important 6%

No opinion 1%

2. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Caring about Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew."

Agree strongly 41%

Agree somewhat 29%

Disagree somewhat 19%

Disagree strongly 9%

No opinion 2%

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3.

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

Mostly a matter of religion

Mostly a matter of ethnicity or culture

Both equally

No opinion

24%

24%

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

Stronger than today 20%

Weaker than today 15%

About the same as today 60%

No opinion 5%

5. Using the metaphor of a family, do you consider Israeli Jews as your?		
Siblings	12%	
First Cousins	15%	
Extended family	39%	
Not part of my family	31%	
No opinion	2%	
6. Do you approve Israel relations?	or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling U.S.	
Approve strongly	21%	
Approve somewhat	13%	
Disapprove somewhat	16%	

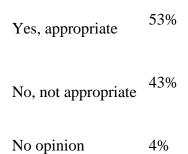
41%

8%

Disapprove strongly

No opinion

	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?



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	31%
Favor somewhat	28%
Oppose somewhat	12%
Oppose strongly	18%
No opinion	10%

8a. 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 15%

Israel should be willing to dismantle some of the settlements 44%

Israel should not be willing to dismantle any of the settlements 35%

No opinion 6%

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

Improve 18%

Decline 22%

Stay the same 56%

No opinion 3%

10. In your opinion, can the State of Israel be both a Jewish state and a democracy, and if not, which should it be?

Yes, it can be both 68%

No, it should be a Jewish state 70%

No, it should be a democracy 20%

No opinion 4%

11. Do you think the fact that Orthodox Judaism is the only denomination recognized by Israel as an official form of Judaism...?

Strengthens ties between Israeli and American
Jews 7%

Weakens ties between Israeli and American
Jews 53%

Has no effect on ties between Israeli and American Jews

No opinion 4%

12. Which of the following statements about non-Orthodox forms of Judaism is closest to your view:

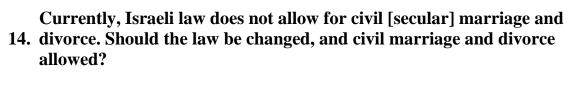
They strengthen Jewish life in the Diaspora but are irrelevant to Israel	10%
Their growth in Israel could improve the quality of Jewish life there	43%
They are destined to disappear	7%
None of the above	37%
No opinion	3%

Currently, Jewish weddings, divorces, and conversions to Judaism in Israel 13. are recognized only if Orthodox rabbis officiate. Should non-Orthodox rabbis also be permitted to officiate?

Yes 80%

No 17%

No opinion 3%



Yes 81%

No 13%

No opinion 5%

Currently, prayer services at the Western Wall in Jerusalem—a site holy to Jews—are conducted according to Orthodox tradition, with men and 15. women separated by a barrier. Do you support or oppose a mixed-gender prayer area adjacent to the Western Wall administered on an equal basis with the services at the Wall itself?

Support 73%

Oppose 21%

No opinion 6%

16. 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 46%

Oppose 47%

No opinion 6%

17. Do you identify as...?

Haredi [Ultra-Orthodox] 6%

Modern Orthodox

[Religious Zionist] 5%

Conservative [Masorti] 14%

Reform 29%

Reconstructionist 3%

Secular 16%

Other 25%

18. Do you have family in Israel to whom you feel close?

Yes 25%

No 74%

19. Do you th Jewish po	nink that a thriving Diaspora is vital for the long-term future of the eople?
Yes	69%
No	17%
No opinion	14%
20. Do you the of the Jev	nink that a thriving State of Israel is vital for the long-term future wish people?
Yes	79%
No	17%
No opinion	3%

21. Where would you place yourself on this scale?

Liberal 37%

Lean Liberal 14%

Moderate, Middle of the Road 25%

Lean Conservative 6%

Conservative 16%

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

Republican 16%

Democrat 51%

Independent 24%

Other 9%

23. In the presidential election of 2016, whom did you vote for?

Hillary Clinton 60%

Donald Trump 19%

Another candidate

6%

Didn't vote

11%

AJC is a non-partisan organization that neither supports nor endorses candidates for elective offices.

24. Is your opinion of the job President Trump is doing favorable or unfavorable?

Favorable 26%

Unfavorable 71%

No opinion 3%

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25. From the standpoint of national security, compared to a year ago, is the United States more secure or less secure?

More secure than a year 27%

ago

Less secure than a year ago 58%

About the same

as a year ago 13%

No opinion 2%

26. Compared to a year ago, is the American economy doing better or worse?

Better than a year ago 50%

Worse than a year ago 29%

About the same

as a year ago 18%

No opinion 3%

27. Compared to a year ago, do you think Americans are more united or more divided over their most important values?

More united than a year ago 10%

More divided than a year ago 82%

About the same as a year ago 5%

No opinion 2%

28. Compared to a year ago, is the status of Jews in the United States more secure or less secure?

More secure than a year

ago 18%

Less secure than a year ago 55%

About the same 24% as a year ago

No opinion 3%

20	Compared to a year ago, is the climate on college campuses less hostile or
49.	more hostile toward pro-Israel students?

Less hostile than a year ago 10%

More hostile than a year ago 53%

About the same

as a year ago 14%

No opinion 22%

30. In your opinion, do Jews in Europe have a future, or should they leave now?

Jews in Europe have a future 75%

Jews in Europe

should leave now 17%

No opinion 8%

31. If the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you vote for the Republican or the Democratic candidate in your district?

Republican	20%
Democrat	67%
Other	3%
Other	9%
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32. Does the involvement of the United States in global affairs make our country more safe or less safe?

More safe	64%
Less safe	29%
No opinion	8%

33. In your opinion, which foreign nation poses the single greatest danger to the United States?

China 10%

Iran 18%

North Korea 17%

Russia 44%

Another country 7%

No opinion 4%

34. In your opinion, should immigration be kept at its present level, increased, or decreased?

Kept at present 34% level

Increased 46%

Decreased 17%

No opinion 3%

Do you support or oppose DACA, a program that allows undocumented immigrants to stay in the United States if they arrived here as children, completed high school or military service, and have not been convicted o serious crime?		
Support 899	,	
Oppose 109	Ó	
	70%	