

Schoen Cooperman Research  
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—ALABAMA  
March 2020

**Screening Questions**

- {Age}

Under 18 [TERMINATE]	--
18-24	26%
25-29	24%
30-34	23%
35-39	27%
40+ [TERMINATE]	--

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	21%
No	79%

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<b>Survey Questions</b>
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**Intro:** Thank you for your participation in this survey. The next questions in the survey are going to ask you about a particular historical topic that you may or may not know much about – the Holocaust. All answers and responses are confidential, so please be as honest and open as you can.

1. Have you ever seen or heard the word Holocaust before?

Yes, I have definitely heard about the Holocaust	75%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	13%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	6%
No, I definitely have not heard about the Holocaust	6%

**IF NO, SKIP TO Q7**

2. Who or what do you think caused the Holocaust? **[OPEN ENDED AND MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED]**

Adolf Hitler	72%
The Nazis	60%
Germany	41%
World War I	13%
Jews	9%
The Great Depression	8%
The United States	4%
Israel	3%
Palestine	3%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	1%
Other	3%
Not sure	2%

3. Who were victims during the Holocaust? **[SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

The Jewish people	91%
Homosexuals	28%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	22%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	17%
Resistance Workers	12%
Communists	11%
Non-Jewish Poles	9%
Rescuers	9%
Jehovah's Witnesses	8%
Other	5%
Not sure	5%

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 March 2020

**4. In which country or countries listed below did the Holocaust take place? [SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

Germany	70%
Poland	31%
Europe (Generally)	20%
Austria	19%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	15%
Romania	11%
France	10%
Hungary	10%
Former Soviet Union	10%
Belgium	7%
Former Yugoslavia	7%
The Netherlands (Holland)	6%
Ukraine	6%
Lithuania	6%
The United States	6%
Denmark	4%
Italy	3%
Latvia	3%
Greece	3%
North Africa	3%
China	3%
Australia	2%
Estonia	1%
All of the above	3%
Other	1%
Not sure	12%

**5. During the Holocaust, Jews and many others were sent to concentration camps, death camps, and ghettos. Can you name any concentration camps, death camps, or ghettos you have heard of? [OPEN-ENDED AND MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED]**

Auschwitz	43%
Dachau	5%
Bergen-Belsen	3%
Belzec	3%
Other incorrect response	19%
Not sure/None	31%

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6. With which of the wars listed below is the Holocaust associated with?

The Civil War	4%
World War I	19%
World War II	61%
The Vietnam War	4%
Not sure	12%

7. You will now see the names of some historical figures who are associated with a particular point in history. For each, please indicate whether or not you are familiar with him or her.

- Adolf Hitler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	85%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	11%
Very familiar	54%
Familiar	31%
Not very familiar	8%
Not at all familiar	3%
Not sure	4%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	76%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	16%
Very familiar	43%
Familiar	33%
Not very familiar	10%
Not at all familiar	6%
Not sure	8%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	31%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	56%
Very familiar	16%
Familiar	15%
Not very familiar	29%
Not at all familiar	27%
Not sure	13%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	24%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	60%
Very familiar	11%
Familiar	13%
Not very familiar	25%
Not at all familiar	35%
Not sure	16%

**INTRO:** The term Holocaust refers to the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of the Jewish people by the Nazi regime and its collaborators during World War II. You will now see some questions about the Holocaust.

**8. Who was the leader of Nazi Germany during the Holocaust? [OPEN ENDED]**

Adolf Hitler	86%
Other	3%
Not sure	11%

**9. Approximately** how many Jews were killed during the Holocaust?<sup>1</sup> Please select from the following list:

25,000	3%
100,000	5%
1 million	8%
2 million	14%
6 million	37%
20 million	12%
Not sure	21%

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<sup>1</sup> UCL Study <https://www.holocausteducation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/What-do-students-know-and-understand-about-the-Holocaust1.pdf>

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**10. Okay, and how was the Holocaust carried out? [OPEN ENDED AND MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED]**

Concentration camps	23%
Gassing	17%
Death camps	7%
Slave labor camps	5%
Starvation	5%
Medical experiments	4%
Shooting	3%
Ghettos	2%
Other	27%
Not sure	30%

**11. From what you know or have heard, what was Auschwitz? [OPEN ENDED AND MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED]**

Concentration camp	44%
Death/extermination camp	14%
Forced labor camp	2%
Other	9%
Not sure	35%

**INTRO:** Thank you for your answers so far. You will now be asked some questions regarding your opinion about the Holocaust. After each, please select the answer choice that best represents what you think.

**12. Some believe that the Holocaust did not happen. Do you believe the Holocaust happened?**

Yes, I believe the Holocaust happened	84%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	6%
Not sure	10%

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**13. Which of the following statements comes closest to your views about the Holocaust in Europe during World War Two? <sup>2</sup>**

The Holocaust happened, and the number of Jews who died in it have been fairly described	74%
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	12%
The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	2%
Not sure	12%

**INTRO:** We will now be asking you about Holocaust denial and distortion. Holocaust denial is defined as a claim that the Holocaust did not take place. Distortion of the Holocaust intentionally excuses or minimizes the Holocaust’s impact, such as the number of victims; blames the Jews for the Holocaust, or portrays the Holocaust as a positive event.

**14. Have you seen Holocaust denial or distortion on social media or elsewhere online?**

TOTAL YES	45%
TOTAL NO	46%
Yes, often	8%
Yes, occasionally	16%
Yes, but only once or twice	21%
No	46%
Not sure	9%

**INTRO:** Switching gears slightly, you will now see a list of statements that have been made about the Holocaust. For each, please tell me if you agree or disagree:

**15. People still talk too much about the Holocaust.<sup>3</sup>**

TOTAL AGREE	14%
TOTAL DISAGREE	53%
Strongly agree	7%
Agree	7%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	21%
Disagree	27%
Strongly disagree	26%
Not sure	12%

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<sup>2</sup> ADL Global 100 [https://global100.adl.org/static/ADL\\_GLOBAL\\_100\\_SURVEY\\_QUESTIONNAIRE.pdf](https://global100.adl.org/static/ADL_GLOBAL_100_SURVEY_QUESTIONNAIRE.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Adapted from ADL Global 100 [https://global100.adl.org/static/ADL\\_GLOBAL\\_100\\_SURVEY\\_QUESTIONNAIRE.pdf](https://global100.adl.org/static/ADL_GLOBAL_100_SURVEY_QUESTIONNAIRE.pdf)

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**16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.**

TOTAL AGREE	51%
TOTAL DISAGREE	17%
Strongly agree	20%
Agree	31%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	26%
Disagree	10%
Strongly disagree	7%
Not sure	6%

**17. Holocaust education should be compulsory in school.**

TOTAL AGREE	65%
TOTAL DISAGREE	7%
Strongly agree	34%
Agree	31%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	21%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	4%
Not sure	7%

**18. It is important to continue teaching people about the Holocaust, in part, so it doesn't happen again.**

TOTAL AGREE	76%
TOTAL DISAGREE	5%
Strongly agree	48%
Agree	28%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	14%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	2%
Not sure	5%

**Intro:** You will now be asked some questions about how you learned about the Holocaust as well as questions on Holocaust education in the United States today.



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**19. Where did you first hear about the Holocaust?**

At school	71%
At home	7%
Books	3%
Movies	2%
Television	1%
Social Media	1%
Online, not on social media	1%
From a friend	1%
Museums	1%
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	--
Other	--
Not sure	11%

**20. [IF book/television program/movie/site] Okay, in which book/television program/movie/site did you first learn about the Holocaust? [OPEN ENDED]**

Social Media	18%
Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl	12%
A film adaptation of the Diary of Anne Frank	12%
Number the Stars	12%
The Pianist	12%
Life is Beautiful	6%
Shoah (film)	6%
Other	22%
Not sure	--

**21. At what level of school did you learn about the Holocaust? [SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

Middle school/Junior high school	53%
High school	37%
Elementary school	27%
All of the above	9%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	4%
Not sure	8%

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 March 2020

**22. [If ANY CHOICE BESIDES “Did not learn about the Holocaust in school”]**

Okay, and in which class or classes did you learn about the Holocaust at school?

History/European history/World history	58%
Social studies/Government/Civics	21%
English/Language arts	6%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	2%
School trip to a museum	1%
Special assembly	1%
Other	1%
Not sure	10%

**23. In your opinion, are lessons taught in schools about the Holocaust historically accurate?**

Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	33%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	44%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	2%
Not sure	21%

**24. Who do you think should be responsible for providing education about the Holocaust?**

Schools/teachers	59%
The government	9%
Religious institutions	4%
Parents	3%
Non-profit organizations	3%
The private sector	3%
It is no one’s responsibility	3%
Not sure	16%

**25. In your opinion, what are the biggest benefits of teaching the Holocaust in school?  
 [MULTIPLE CHOICES ALLOWED]**

The Holocaust is a historically significant event	64%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	50%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	46%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	37%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	13%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	9%
Other	1%
None	9%

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Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—ALABAMA  
March 2020

**26.** Have you personally or has anyone you know visited a Holocaust museum in the United States?

I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	19%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	21%
I have not visited a Holocaust museum and do not know anyone who has visited one	45%
Not sure	15%

**27.** Do you personally know or know of a survivor of the Holocaust?

I do not know or know of a survivor of the Holocaust	61%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but do not know him/her personally	18%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	7%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	5%
Not sure	9%

**INTRO:** We're almost finished. We are now going to ask some questions about the United States today.

**28.** Have you personally seen Nazi symbols in your community or on the social media platforms you visit or have used in the past 5 years?

*Some common examples of Nazi symbols include: flags with swastikas, pictures idealizing Hitler, flyers with pro-Nazi messages, pictures glorifying Nazi soldiers, "Heil Hitler" symbols such as Nazi-imagery or tattoos with "88" a numerical code for "Heil Hitler."*

Yes—in my community	10%
Yes—on social media	26%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	15%
No	39%
Not sure	10%

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**29.** Do you think that it is acceptable for an individual to hold neo-Nazi views?<sup>4</sup>

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	17%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	66%
Strongly acceptable	7%
Somewhat acceptable	10%
Somewhat unacceptable	11%
Strongly unacceptable	55%
Not sure	17%

**30.** Okay, and in your opinion, is there antisemitism in the United States today?

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	58%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	12%
Not sure	30%

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<sup>4</sup> <http://apps.washingtonpost.com/g/page/politics/washington-post-abc-news-poll-aug-16-20-2017/2235/>

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**Demographics**

**INTRO:** We're just about finished...

**31. {Gender}**

Male	51%
Female	49%
Other	--

**32. {Race}**

White or Caucasian	64%
Hispanic or Latino	6%
Black or African American	28%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1%
Other	1%

**33. [IDEOLOGY]** In terms of political orientation or ideology do you consider yourself....?

Conservative	25%
Moderate	27%
Liberal	21%
Progressive	5%
Other	5%
Not sure	17%

**34. [RELIGION]** What is your religion?

Protestant	24%
Evangelical	8%
Catholic	15%
Jewish	1%
Muslim	--
Atheist/Agnostic	4%
Other [specify]	18%
None/Not affiliated	25%
Not sure	5%

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March 2020

**35. [EDUCATION]** What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Some high school or less	7%
High school graduate	26%
Some college	26%
College graduate	26%
Some graduate school	2%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	10%
Technical school	3%

**36. [INCOME]** What is your household annual income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	26%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	20%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	16%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	8%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	13%
More than \$100,000	10%
Not sure	7%