

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—Montana
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

Under 18 [TERMINATE]	--
18-24	25%
25-29	25%
30-34	22%
35-39	28%
40+ [TERMINATE]	--

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	21%
No	79%

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Survey Questions

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	81%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	9%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	4%
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	81%
The Nazis	72%
Germany	37%
Jews	16%
World War I	10%
The Great Depression	6%
The United States	4%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	2%
Israel	--
Palestine	--
Other	1%
Not sure	3%

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

The Jewish people	97%
Homosexuals	40%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	38%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	31%
Resistance Workers	24%
Jehovah's Witnesses	19%
Non-Jewish Poles	19%
Rescuers	11%
Communists	9%
Other	4%
Not sure	2%

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

Germany	70%
Poland	40%
Europe (Generally)	33%
Austria	25%
France	17%
Belgium	17%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	13%
Hungary	11%
Former Soviet Union	11%
Denmark	9%
The Netherlands (Holland)	8%
Former Yugoslavia	7%
Ukraine	7%
Italy	7%
Romania	7%
Lithuania	6%
Estonia	3%
Latvia	3%
Greece	3%
The United States	1%
North Africa	1%
China	1%
Australia	1%
All of the above	4%
Other	--
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	55%
Dachau	5%
Bergen-Belsen	4%
Treblinka	3%
Buchenwald	3%
Belzec	1%
Chelmno	1%
Warsaw ghetto	1%
Other incorrect response	5%
Don't know/None	36%

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

The Civil War	2%
World War I	17%
World War II	69%
The Vietnam War	1%
Not sure	11%

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	90%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	7%
Very familiar	64%
Familiar	26%
Not very familiar	4%
Not at all familiar	3%
Not sure	3%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	76%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	19%
Very familiar	50%
Familiar	26%
Not very familiar	13%
Not at all familiar	6%
Not sure	5%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	37%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	51%
Very familiar	15%
Familiar	22%
Not very familiar	26%
Not at all familiar	25%
Not sure	12%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	27%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	60%
Very familiar	14%
Familiar	13%
Not very familiar	23%
Not at all familiar	37%
Not sure	13%

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	94%
Other	3%
Not sure	3%

9. Approximately how many Jews were killed during the Holocaust?¹ Please select from the following list:

25,000	4%
100,000	2%
1 million	5%
2 million	14%
6 million	40%
20 million	13%
Not sure	22%

¹ 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	37%
Shooting	26%
Gassing	17%
Slave labor camps	11%
Death camps	10%
Ghettos	8%
Starvation	4%
Medical experiments	--
Other	17%
Not sure	19%

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

Concentration camp	59%
Death/extermination camp	14%
Forced labor camp	1%
Other	4%
Not sure	27%

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	93%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	3%
Not sure	4%

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

The Holocaust happened, and the number of Jews who died in it have been fairly described	79%
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	8%
The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	1%
Not sure	12%

² Adapted from ADL Global 100 https://global100.adl.org/static/ADL_GLOBAL_100_SURVEY_QUESTIONNAIRE.pdf

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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	49%
TOTAL NO	42%
Yes, often	4%
Yes, occasionally	22%
Yes, but only once or twice	23%
No	42%
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.³

TOTAL AGREE	8%
TOTAL DISAGREE	66%
Strongly agree	4%
Agree	4%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	20%
Disagree	36%
Strongly disagree	30%
Not sure	6%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	65%
TOTAL DISAGREE	14%
Strongly agree	24%
Agree	41%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	18%
Disagree	9%
Strongly disagree	5%
Not sure	3%

³ Adapted from ADL Global 100 https://global100.adl.org/static/ADL_GLOBAL_100_SURVEY_QUESTIONNAIRE.pdf

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17. Holocaust education should be compulsory in school.

TOTAL AGREE	64%
TOTAL DISAGREE	8%
Strongly agree	36%
Agree	28%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	23%
Disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	4%
Not sure	5%

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

TOTAL AGREE	77%
TOTAL DISAGREE	4%
Strongly agree	49%
Agree	28%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	14%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	1%
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.

19. Where did you first hear about the Holocaust?

At school	66%
At home	11%
Television	5%
Books	4%
Movies	4%
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	1%
Other	1%
Social Media	--
Online, not on social media	--
Museums	--
From a friend	--
Not sure	8%

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20. [IF book/television program/movie/site] Okay, and through what book/television program/movie/site did you first learn about the Holocaust? [OPEN ENDED]

Schindler’s List	17%
A film adaptation of the Diary of Anne Frank	13%
Jojo Rabbit	13%
Social Media	10%
Night (book)	10%
Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl	7%
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	3%
Number the Stars	3%
Other	4%
Not sure	20%

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

Middle School/Junior high school	51%
Elementary school	32%
High school	26%
All of the above	7%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	5%
Not sure	11%

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	63%
Social studies/Government/Civics	20%
English/Language arts	6%
School trip to a museum	1%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	--
Special assembly	--
Other	--
Not sure	10%

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

Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	51%
Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	22%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	2%
Not sure	25%

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

Schools/teachers	59%
The government	10%
Parents	6%
Religious institutions	3%
Non-profit organizations	1%
The private sector	--
It is no one's responsibility	5%
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	69%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	52%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	40%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	36%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	18%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	6%
Other	1%
None	8%

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

I have not visited a Holocaust museum and do not know anyone who has visited one	42%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	28%
I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	16%
Not sure	14%

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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	57%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	21%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	7%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	4%
Not sure	11%

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—on social media	28%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	17%
Yes—in my community	10%
No	36%
Not sure	9%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	9%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	70%
Strongly acceptable	1%
Somewhat acceptable	8%
Somewhat unacceptable	15%
Strongly unacceptable	55%
Not sure	21%

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

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	63%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	7%
Not sure	30%

⁴ <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	45%
Female	55%
Other	--

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	88%
Hispanic or Latino	5%
Black or African American	1%
Native American or American Indian	5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1%
Other	--

33. In terms of political orientation or ideology do you consider yourself....?

Conservative	21%
Moderate	19%
Liberal	22%
Progressive	7%
Other	10%
Not sure	21%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	11%
Evangelical	6%
Catholic	18%
Jewish	--
Muslim	--
Atheist/Agnostic	6%
Other [specify]	20%
None/Not affiliated	33%
Not sure	6%

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35. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Some high school or less	7%
High school graduate	29%
Some college	25%
College graduate	18%
Some graduate school	5%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	14%
Technical school	2%

36. What is your annual household income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	18%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	25%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	15%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	11%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	12%
More than \$100,000	11%
Not sure	8%