

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—RHODE ISLAND
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

Under 18 [TERMINATE]	--
18-24	30%
25-29	27%
30-34	24%
35-39	19%
40+ [TERMINATE]	--

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	26%
No	74%

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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	80%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	13%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	5%
No, I definitely have not heard about the Holocaust	2%

IF NO, SKIP TO Q7

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

Adolf Hitler	82%
The Nazis	58%
Germany	38%
Jews	11%
World War I	9%
The United States	5%
The Great Depression	3%
Israel	2%
Palestine	1%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	1%
Other	3%
Not sure	4%

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

The Jewish people	92%
Homosexuals	41%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	36%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	28%
Resistance Workers	22%
Non-Jewish Poles	19%
Jehovah's Witnesses	17%
Communists	14%
Rescuers	12%
Other	2%
Not sure	3%

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

Germany	73%
Poland	39%
Austria	24%
Europe (Generally)	24%
France	12%
Hungary	12%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	11%
Former Soviet Union	10%
Romania	10%
The Netherlands (Holland)	9%
Belgium	8%
Ukraine	8%
Italy	8%
Former Yugoslavia	6%
Denmark	6%
Lithuania	6%
Australia	3%
The United States	3%
Estonia	2%
Latvia	2%
Greece	1%
North Africa	--
China	--
All of the above	5%
Other	1%
Not sure	8%

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	53%
Dachau	6%
Bergen-Belsen	3%
Buchenwald	2%
Warsaw ghetto	2%
Belzec	1%
Treblinka	1%
Chelmno	--
Other incorrect response	11%
Don't know/None	34%

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

The Civil War	1%
World War I	18%
World War II	69%
The Vietnam War	--
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	88%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	7%
Very familiar	62%
Familiar	26%
Not very familiar	5%
Not at all familiar	2%
Not sure	5%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	82%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	13%
Very familiar	55%
Familiar	27%
Not very familiar	9%
Not at all familiar	4%
Not sure	5%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	41%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	50%
Very familiar	13%
Familiar	28%
Not very familiar	27%
Not at all familiar	23%
Not sure	9%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	33%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	56%
Very familiar	18%
Familiar	15%
Not very familiar	26%
Not at all familiar	30%
Not sure	11%

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	93%
Other	--
Not sure	7%

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

25,000	4%
100,000	4%
1 million	8%
2 million	15%
6 million	37%
20 million	10%
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	41%
Shooting	30%
Gassing	13%
Death camps	9%
Slave labor camps	8%
Ghettos	7%
Starvation	3%
Medical experiments	--
Other	21%
Not sure	18%

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

Concentration camp	59%
Death/extermination camp	18%
Forced labor camp	4%
Other	13%
Not sure	18%

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	91%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	2%
Not sure	7%

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	7%
The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	3%
Not sure	11%

² 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	50%
TOTAL NO	42%
Yes, often	4%
Yes, occasionally	25%
Yes, but only once or twice	21%
No	42%
Not sure	8%

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	10%
TOTAL DISAGREE	65%
Strongly agree	3%
Agree	7%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	19%
Disagree	33%
Strongly disagree	32%
Not sure	6%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	58%
TOTAL DISAGREE	18%
Strongly agree	23%
Agree	35%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	18%
Disagree	11%
Strongly disagree	7%
Not sure	6%

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	65%
TOTAL DISAGREE	3%
Strongly agree	34%
Agree	31%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	23%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	--
Not sure	9%

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

TOTAL AGREE	80%
TOTAL DISAGREE	3%
Strongly agree	52%
Agree	28%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	11%
Disagree	2%
Strongly disagree	1%
Not sure	6%

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	71%
At home	10%
Movies	5%
Books	2%
Social Media	2%
Online, not on social media	1%
From a friend	1%
Other	1%
Television	--
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	--
Museums	--
Not sure	7%

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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]**

Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl	19%
Social Media	14%
Jojo Rabbit	14%
Life is Beautiful	5%
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	5%
Number the Stars	5%
Other	19%
Not sure	19%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	50%
High school	37%
Elementary school	27%
All of the above	8%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	2%
Not sure	9%

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	52%
Social studies/Government/Civics	27%
English/Language arts	6%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	1%
Special assembly	1%
School trip to a museum	--
Other	2%
Not sure	11%

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

Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	30%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	48%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	4%
Not sure	18%

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

Schools/teachers	65%
The government	9%
Parents	4%
The private sector	4%
Non-profit organizations	3%
Religious institutions	2%
It is no one's responsibility	4%
Not sure	9%

**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	62%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	57%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	48%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	43%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	17%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	9%
Other	--
None	5%

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	34%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	30%
I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	27%
Not sure	9%

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	60%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	23%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	4%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	4%
Not sure	9%

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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	9%
Yes—on social media	33%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	14%
No	38%
Not sure	6%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	7%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	77%
Strongly acceptable	2%
Somewhat acceptable	5%
Somewhat unacceptable	13%
Strongly unacceptable	64%
Not sure	16%

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

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	66%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	11%
Not sure	23%

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	43%
Female	56%
Other	1%

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	79%
Hispanic or Latino	7%
Black or African American	7%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4%
Other	3%

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

Conservative	12%
Moderate	26%
Liberal	25%
Progressive	8%
Other	8%
Not sure	21%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	27%
Evangelical	1%
Catholic	34%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	--
Atheist/Agnostic	10%
Other [specify]	9%
None/Not affiliated	17%
Not sure	--

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

Some high school or less	6%
High school graduate	20%
Some college	22%
College graduate	30%
Some graduate school	3%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	16%
Technical school	3%

36. What is your annual household income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	9%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	21%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	18%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	9%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	21%
More than \$100,000	16%
Not sure	6%