

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—ALASKA
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

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

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	29%
No	71%

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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	73%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	16%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	6%
No, I definitely have not heard about the Holocaust	5%

IF NO, SKIP TO Q7

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

Adolf Hitler	68%
The Nazis	61%
Germany	32%
World War I	11%
Jews	8%
The Great Depression	6%
The United States	6%
Israel	3%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	2%
Palestine	--
Other	6%
Not sure	9%

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

The Jewish people	85%
Homosexuals	33%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	29%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	23%
Resistance Workers	19%
Rescuers	14%
Jehovah's Witnesses	13%
Non-Jewish Poles	12%
Communists	7%
Other	8%
Not sure	7%

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

Germany	64%
Poland	29%
Europe (Generally)	20%
Austria	20%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	12%
France	12%
Hungary	11%
Belgium	9%
Ukraine	9%
Former Soviet Union	8%
The Netherlands (Holland)	8%
Romania	8%
Denmark	7%
Italy	6%
Former Yugoslavia	5%
Lithuania	4%
Estonia	4%
Latvia	3%
Greece	1%
The United States	1%
North Africa	--
Australia	--
China	--
All of the above	5%
Other	3%
Not sure	16%

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	44%
Dachau	7%
Bergen-Belsen	3%
Buchenwald	2%
Belzec	--
Treblinka	--
Warsaw ghetto	--
Chelmno	--
Other incorrect response	12%
Don't know/None	42%

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

The Civil War	3%
World War I	18%
World War II	55%
The Vietnam War	2%
Not sure	22%

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	55%
Familiar	35%
Not very familiar	7%
Not at all familiar	--
Not sure	3%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	79%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	15%
Very familiar	38%
Familiar	41%
Not very familiar	9%
Not at all familiar	6%
Not sure	6%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	29%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	53%
Very familiar	11%
Familiar	18%
Not very familiar	30%
Not at all familiar	23%
Not sure	18%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	25%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	59%
Very familiar	9%
Familiar	16%
Not very familiar	27%
Not at all familiar	32%
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	88%
Other	7%
Not sure	5%

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	7%
2 million	13%
6 million	36%
20 million	11%
Not sure	25%

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	31%
Shooting	26%
Gassing	14%
Death camps	12%
Slave labor camps	10%
Starvation	6%
Medical experiments	3%
Ghettos	3%
Other	23%
Not sure	19%

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

Concentration camp	45%
Death/extermination camp	10%
Forced labor camp	1%
Other	18%
Not sure	26%

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	7%
Not sure	9%

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	74%
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	13%
The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	3%
Not sure	10%

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	44%
TOTAL NO	49%
Yes, often	6%
Yes, occasionally	15%
Yes, but only once or twice	23%
No	49%
Not sure	7%

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	16%
TOTAL DISAGREE	52%
Strongly agree	7%
Agree	9%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	26%
Disagree	30%
Strongly disagree	22%
Not sure	6%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	51%
TOTAL DISAGREE	18%
Strongly agree	20%
Agree	31%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	22%
Disagree	12%
Strongly disagree	6%
Not sure	9%

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	60%
TOTAL DISAGREE	7%
Strongly agree	26%
Agree	34%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	21%
Disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	2%
Not sure	12%

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

TOTAL AGREE	73%
TOTAL DISAGREE	5%
Strongly agree	44%
Agree	29%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	16%
Disagree	--
Strongly disagree	5%
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	60%
At home	11%
Books	6%
Television	4%
Movies	4%
Online, not on social media	3%
From a friend	3%
Social Media	2%
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	2%
Museums	--
Other	2%
Not sure	3%

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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	20%
Social Media	15%
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	12%
All the Light We Cannot See	9%
Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl	8%
Shoah (film)	6%
Number the Stars	3%
The Pianist	3%
Other	11%
Not sure	13%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	47%
High school	36%
Elementary school	27%
All of the above	6%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	8%
Not sure	5%

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	56%
Social studies/Government/Civics	18%
English/Language arts	8%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	4%
School trip to a museum	4%
Special assembly	2%
Other	1%
Not sure	7%

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

Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	20%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	57%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	5%
Not sure	18%

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

Schools/teachers	57%
The government	12%
Parents	5%
Non-profit organizations	2%
Religious institutions	1%
The private sector	1%
It is no one's responsibility	6%
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	55%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	52%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	43%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	37%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	10%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	9%
Other	2%
None	7%

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	36%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	27%
I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	19%
Not sure	18%

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	59%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	18%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	8%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	6%
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	14%
Yes—on social media	29%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	16%
No	31%
Not sure	10%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	16%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	64%
Strongly acceptable	5%
Somewhat acceptable	11%
Somewhat unacceptable	14%
Strongly unacceptable	50%
Not sure	20%

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

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	59%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	11%
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	43%
Female	57%
Other	--

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	64%
Hispanic or Latino	2%
Black or African American	4%
Native American or American Indian	14%
Asian/Pacific Islander	9%
Other	7%

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

Conservative	19%
Moderate	22%
Liberal	13%
Progressive	13%
Other	6%
Not sure	27%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	18%
Evangelical	--
Catholic	17%
Jewish	--
Muslim	--
Atheist/Agnostic	10%
Other [specify]	22%
None/Not affiliated	28%
Not sure	5%

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

Some high school or less	6%
High school graduate	34%
Some college	27%
College graduate	18%
Some graduate school	5%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	7%
Technical school	3%

36. What is your annual household income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	19%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	23%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	16%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	11%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	10%
More than \$100,000	9%
Not sure	12%