

Schoen Cooperman Research  
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—CONNECTICUT  
March 2020

**Screening Questions**

- {Age}

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

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	27%
No	73%

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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	76%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	15%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	4%
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	74%
The Nazis	64%
Germany	38%
Jews	15%
World War I	11%
The United States	9%
The Great Depression	5%
Palestine	4%
Israel	3%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	2%
Other	1%
Not sure	4%

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

The Jewish people	92%
Homosexuals	39%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	38%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	27%
Resistance Workers	18%
Non-Jewish Poles	18%
Jehovah's Witnesses	12%
Rescuers	12%
Communists	12%
Other	5%
Not sure	4%

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

Germany	76%
Poland	42%
Europe (Generally)	24%
Austria	23%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	16%
Hungary	15%
France	14%
Former Soviet Union	9%
Belgium	9%
Ukraine	9%
The Netherlands (Holland)	7%
Denmark	7%
Italy	6%
Former Yugoslavia	5%
Lithuania	5%
Romania	5%
Latvia	4%
Estonia	4%
Greece	4%
The United States	4%
Australia	2%
North Africa	1%
All of the above	4%
Other	--
Not sure	10%

**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	51%
Dachau	5%
Bergen-Belsen	3%
Treblinka	3%
Warsaw ghetto	3%
Belzec	1%
Sobibor	1%
Buchenwald	2%
Chelmno	1%
Other incorrect response	10%
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	8%
World War I	11%
World War II	70%
The Vietnam War	3%
Not sure	8%

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	93%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	6%
Very familiar	68%
Familiar	25%
Not very familiar	3%
Not at all familiar	3%
Not sure	1%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	84%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	13%
Very familiar	52%
Familiar	32%
Not very familiar	8%
Not at all familiar	5%
Not sure	3%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	36%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	53%
Very familiar	14%
Familiar	22%
Not very familiar	24%
Not at all familiar	29%
Not sure	11%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	25%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	64%
Very familiar	15%
Familiar	10%
Not very familiar	25%
Not at all familiar	39%
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	92%
Other	1%
Not sure	7%

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

25,000	5%
100,000	5%
1 million	7%
2 million	12%
6 million	38%
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	32%
Shooting	32%
Gassing	23%
Slave labor camps	12%
Death camps	6%
Ghettos	6%
Starvation	5%
Medical experiments	3%
Other	23%
Not sure	15%

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

Concentration camp	51%
Death/extermination camp	13%
Forced labor camp	2%
Other	9%
Not sure	28%

**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	89%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	4%
Not sure	7%

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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	81%
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	9%
The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	1%
Not sure	9%

**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	47%
TOTAL NO	47%
Yes, often	6%
Yes, occasionally	18%
Yes, but only once or twice	23%
No	47%
Not sure	6%

**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	12%
TOTAL DISAGREE	61%
Strongly agree	6%
Agree	6%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	20%
Disagree	29%
Strongly disagree	32%
Not sure	7%

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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	21%
Strongly agree	18%
Agree	33%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	21%
Disagree	11%
Strongly disagree	10%
Not sure	7%

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

TOTAL AGREE	62%
TOTAL DISAGREE	3%
Strongly agree	32%
Agree	30%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	26%
Disagree	1%
Strongly disagree	2%
Not sure	9%

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

TOTAL AGREE	78%
TOTAL DISAGREE	2%
Strongly agree	49%
Agree	29%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	14%
Disagree	2%
Strongly disagree	--
Not sure	6%



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**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	69%
At home	8%
Television	6%
Books	3%
Social Media	2%
Online, not on social media	1%
Museums	1%
Other	1%
Movies	--
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	--
From a friend	--
Not sure	9%

**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	23%
Social Media	13%
The Pianist	13%
Life is Beautiful	9%
A film adaptation of the Diary of Anne Frank	4%
Night (book)	4%
Number the Stars	4%
Shoah (film)	4%
The Zookeeper's Wife	4%
Other	4%
Not sure	18%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	48%
High school	38%
Elementary school	27%
All of the above	10%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	5%

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**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	53%
Social studies/Government/Civics	22%
English/Language arts	8%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	2%
School trip to a museum	1%
Special assembly	1%
Other	5%
Not sure	8%

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

Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	27%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	53%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	3%
Not sure	17%

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

Schools/teachers	59%
The government	9%
Parents	8%
It is no one’s responsibility	6%
The private sector	3%
Religious institutions	2%
Non-profit organizations	--
Not sure	13%

**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	59%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	54%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	41%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	37%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	14%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	9%
Other	1%
None	7%

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**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	37%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	26%
I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	24%
Not sure	13%

**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	56%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	23%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	9%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	6%
Not sure	6%

**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	30%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	19%
No	39%
Not sure	3%

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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	8%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	75%
Strongly acceptable	3%
Somewhat acceptable	5%
Somewhat unacceptable	16%
Strongly unacceptable	59%
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	67%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	9%
Not sure	24%

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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	44%
Female	55%
Other	1%

**32. {Race}**

White or Caucasian	67%
Hispanic or Latino	16%
Black or African American	10%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4%
Other	3%

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

Conservative	20%
Moderate	24%
Liberal	24%
Progressive	10%
Other	7%
Not sure	15%

**34. What is your religion?**

Protestant	20%
Evangelical	3%
Catholic	23%
Jewish	4%
Muslim	--
Atheist/Agnostic	6%
Other [specify]	13%
None/Not affiliated	26%
Not sure	5%

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

Some high school or less	1%
High school graduate	30%
Some college	24%
College graduate	27%
Some graduate school	2%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	15%
Technical school	1%

**36. What is your annual household income?**

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	22%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	15%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	16%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	10%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	14%
More than \$100,000	19%
Not sure	4%