

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—MARYLAND
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

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

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	28%
No	72%

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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	78%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	14%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	1%
No, I definitely have not heard about the Holocaust	7%

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	63%
Germany	38%
World War I	15%
Jews	13%
The United States	7%
The Great Depression	5%
Israel	1%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	1%
Palestine	--
Other	3%
Not sure	6%

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

The Jewish people	92%
Homosexuals	35%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	33%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	25%
Non-Jewish Poles	19%
Jehovah's Witnesses	17%
Resistance Workers	16%
Communists	15%
Rescuers	12%
Other	6%
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	71%
Poland	33%
Europe (Generally)	28%
Austria	21%
Hungary	12%
France	12%
Belgium	12%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	9%
Denmark	9%
Italy	8%
Romania	7%
Former Soviet Union	6%
Ukraine	6%
The Netherlands (Holland)	5%
The United States	5%
Former Yugoslavia	4%
Lithuania	4%
Greece	3%
Latvia	2%
Estonia	1%
China	1%
All of the above	4%
Other	--
Not sure	7%

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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	2%
Belzec	2%
Sobibor	2%
Chelmno	1%
Treblinka	1%
Buchenwald	1%
Warsaw ghetto	1%
Other incorrect response	17%
Don't know/None	38%

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

The Civil War	5%
World War I	25%
World War II	61%
The Vietnam War	1%
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	92%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	2%
Very familiar	64%
Familiar	28%
Not very familiar	--
Not at all familiar	2%
Not sure	6%

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- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	83%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	11%
Very familiar	44%
Familiar	39%
Not very familiar	8%
Not at all familiar	3%
Not sure	6%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	32%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	51%
Very familiar	12%
Familiar	20%
Not very familiar	26%
Not at all familiar	25%
Not sure	17%

- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	37%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	47%
Very familiar	12%
Familiar	25%
Not very familiar	20%
Not at all familiar	27%
Not sure	16%

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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	91%
Other	2%
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	3%
1 million	9%
2 million	11%
6 million	36%
20 million	13%
Not sure	24%

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

Concentration camps	32%
Shooting	33%
Gassing	12%
Slave labor camps	8%
Death camps	6%
Ghettos	5%
Starvation	2%
Medical experiments	2%
Other	20%
Not sure	21%

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

Concentration camp	41%
Death/extermination camp	12%
Forced labor camp	3%
Other	19%
Not sure	30%

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	87%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	2%
Not sure	11%

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	72%
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	4%
Not sure	15%

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	36%
Yes, often	9%
Yes, occasionally	22%
Yes, but only once or twice	19%
No	36%
Not sure	14%

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	21%
TOTAL DISAGREE	52%
Strongly agree	13%
Agree	8%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	19%
Disagree	28%
Strongly disagree	24%
Not sure	8%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	56%
TOTAL DISAGREE	18%
Strongly agree	21%
Agree	35%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	17%
Disagree	11%
Strongly disagree	7%
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	63%
TOTAL DISAGREE	6%
Strongly agree	31%
Agree	32%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	23%
Disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	1%
Not sure	8%

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

TOTAL AGREE	75%
TOTAL DISAGREE	5%
Strongly agree	48%
Agree	27%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	13%
Disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	1%
Not sure	7%

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	63%
At home	12%
Television	6%
Books	5%
Online, not on social media	2%
Social Media	1%
Movies	--
From a friend	--
Museums	--
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	--
Other	--
Not sure	11%

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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	17%
Schindler’s List	13%
Social Media	10%
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	8%
Night (book)	8%
Number the Stars	7%
All the Light We Cannot See	7%
The Zookeeper’s Wife	3%
Other	20%
Not sure	7%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	49%
High school	35%
Elementary school	32%
All of the above	8%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	8%
Not sure	7%

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	55%
Social studies/Government/Civics	22%
English/Language arts	7%
School trip to a museum	2%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	2%
Special assembly	--
Other	1%
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	29%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	47%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	5%

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Not sure 19%

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

Schools/teachers	49%
The government	15%
Parents	8%
Religious institutions	5%
The private sector	--
Non-profit organizations	5%
It is no one's responsibility	5%
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	58%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	50%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	43%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	34%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	12%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	9%
Other	1%
None	10%

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	45%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	22%
I have not visited a Holocaust museum and do not know anyone who has visited one	21%
Not sure	12%

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	55%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	21%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	10%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	6%

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Not sure 8%

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	12%
Yes—on social media	28%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	14%
No	36%
Not sure	10%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	15%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	67%
Strongly acceptable	7%
Somewhat acceptable	8%
Somewhat unacceptable	15%
Strongly unacceptable	52%
Not sure	18%

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

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	62%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	12%
Not sure	26%

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	53%
Female	45%
Other	2%

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	57%
Hispanic or Latino	6%
Black or African American	29%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5%
Other	3%

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

Conservative	21%
Moderate	25%
Liberal	23%
Progressive	8%
Other	7%
Not sure	16%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	18%
Evangelical	2%
Catholic	19%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	1%
Atheist/Agnostic	4%
Other [specify]	16%
None/Not affiliated	27%
Not sure	10%

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

Some high school or less	4%
High school graduate	25%
Some college	20%
College graduate	26%
Some graduate school	6%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	17%
Technical school	2%

36. What is your annual household income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	16%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	16%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	15%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	13%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	18%
More than \$100,000	20%
Not sure	2%