

Schoen Cooperman Research  
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—MICHIGAN  
March 2020

<b>Screening Questions</b>
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- {Age}

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

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	26%
No	74%

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<b>Survey Questions</b>
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**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	15%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	4%
No, I definitely have not heard about the Holocaust	1%

**IF NO, SKIP TO Q7**

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

Adolf Hitler	75%
The Nazis	61%
Germany	38%
Jews	14%
World War I	13%
The Great Depression	9%
The United States	4%
Israel	3%
Palestine	1%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	1%
Other	4%
Not sure	5%

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

The Jewish people	90%
Homosexuals	37%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	37%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	32%
Resistance Workers	21%
Non-Jewish Poles	21%
Jehovah's Witnesses	17%
Communists	16%
Rescuers	14%
Other	7%
Not sure	8%

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

Germany	74%
Poland	38%
Europe (Generally)	27%
Austria	24%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	15%
France	13%
Hungary	12%
Former Soviet Union	12%
Ukraine	11%
Romania	11%
Belgium	10%
The Netherlands (Holland)	8%
Denmark	7%
Italy	7%
Former Yugoslavia	6%
Estonia	6%
Lithuania	5%
Greece	5%
The United States	3%
Latvia	3%
North Africa	3%
Australia	3%
China	3%
All of the above	2%
Other	1%
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	50%
Dachau	8%
Bergen-Belsen	3%
Belzec	3%
Buchenwald	2%
Warsaw ghetto	2%
Treblinka	1%
Other incorrect response	13%
Don't know/None	32%

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

The Civil War	4%
World War I	17%
World War II	67%
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	93%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	7%
Very familiar	68%
Familiar	25%
Not very familiar	6%
Not at all familiar	1%
Not sure	--

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	83%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	13%
Very familiar	54%
Familiar	29%
Not very familiar	9%
Not at all familiar	4%
Not sure	4%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	45%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	46%
Very familiar	19%
Familiar	26%
Not very familiar	23%
Not at all familiar	23%
Not sure	9%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	30%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	60%
Very familiar	18%
Familiar	12%
Not very familiar	25%
Not at all familiar	35%
Not sure	10%

**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	1%
Not sure	6%

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

25,000	4%
100,000	4%
1 million	9%
2 million	15%
6 million	41%
20 million	10%
Not sure	17%

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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	40%
Shooting	39%
Gassing	18%
Slave labor camps	15%
Starvation	7%
Death camps	7%
Ghettos	4%
Medical experiments	2%
Other	17%
Not sure	14%

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

Concentration camp	57%
Death/extermination camp	14%
Forced labor camp	2%
Other	14%
Not sure	22%

**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	6%
Not sure	5%

**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	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	3%
Not sure	10%

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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)

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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	53%
TOTAL NO	42%
Yes, often	8%
Yes, occasionally	19%
Yes, but only once or twice	26%
No	42%
Not sure	5%

**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	17%
TOTAL DISAGREE	57%
Strongly agree	7%
Agree	10%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	25%
Disagree	28%
Strongly disagree	29%
Not sure	1%

**16.** Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	62%
TOTAL DISAGREE	15%
Strongly agree	26%
Agree	36%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	20%
Disagree	8%
Strongly disagree	7%
Not sure	3%

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

TOTAL AGREE	68%
TOTAL DISAGREE	4%
Strongly agree	32%
Agree	36%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	24%
Disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	--
Not sure	4%

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

TOTAL AGREE	82%
TOTAL DISAGREE	4%
Strongly agree	56%
Agree	26%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	14%
Disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	--
Not sure	--

**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	68%
At home	7%
Television	5%
Books	5%
Social Media	3%
Museums	3%
Other	2%
Online, not on social media	--
From a friend	--
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	--
Movies	--
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	21%
A film adaptation of the Diary of Anne Frank	12%
All the Light We Cannot See	12%
Social Media	9%
Schindler’s List	9%
Life is Beautiful	3%
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	3%
Night (book)	3%
The Pianist	3%
Other	17%
Not sure	8%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	56%
High school	40%
Elementary school	26%
All of the above	8%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	7%
Not sure	6%

**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	60%
Social studies/Government/Civics	19%
English/Language arts	8%
School trip to a museum	4%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	2%
Special assembly	1%
Not sure	6%

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

Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	31%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	46%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	6%
Not sure	17%

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

Schools/teachers	65%
The government	10%
Parents	3%
Religious institutions	2%
The private sector	1%
Non-profit organizations	1%
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	68%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	54%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	44%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	34%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	11%
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, but someone I know has visited	32%
I have not visited a Holocaust museum and do not know anyone who has visited one	29%
I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	27%
Not sure	12%

**27. Do you personally know or know of a survivor of the Holocaust?**

I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	5%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	9%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	19%
I do not know or know of a survivor of the Holocaust	60%
Not sure	7%

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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	28%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	18%
No	39%
Not sure	6%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	14%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	68%
Strongly acceptable	3%
Somewhat acceptable	11%
Somewhat unacceptable	14%
Strongly unacceptable	54%
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	70%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	10%
Not sure	20%

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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	45%
Female	55%
Other	--

**32. {Race}**

White or Caucasian	70%
Hispanic or Latino	5%
Black or African American	15%
Native American or American Indian	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5%
Other	4%

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

Conservative	23%
Moderate	27%
Liberal	31%
Progressive	7%
Other	3%
Not sure	9%

**34. What is your religion?**

Protestant	22%
Evangelical	3%
Catholic	23%
Jewish	1%
Muslim	1%
Atheist/Agnostic	9%
Other [specify]	12%
None/Not affiliated	20%
Not sure	9%

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

Some high school or less	4%
High school graduate	26%
Some college	26%
College graduate	24%
Some graduate school	4%
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	16%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	19%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	17%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	13%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	20%
More than \$100,000	12%
Not sure	3%