

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—NEW YORK
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

Under 18 [TERMINATE]	--
18-24	25%
25-29	26%
30-34	25%
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	74%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	17%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	2%
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	62%
The Nazis	59%
Germany	37%
Jews	19%
World War I	15%
The United States	14%
The Great Depression	11%
Israel	7%
Palestine	5%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	4%
Other	1%
Not sure	4%

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

The Jewish people	83%
Homosexuals	27%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	25%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	17%
Non-Jewish Poles	17%
Resistance Workers	16%
Jehovah's Witnesses	15%
Communists	15%
Rescuers	12%
Other	5%
Not sure	6%

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

Germany	63%
Europe (Generally)	27%
Poland	22%
Austria	16%
France	12%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	12%
Belgium	9%
The Netherlands (Holland)	9%
Former Soviet Union	8%
Ukraine	8%
The United States	8%
Hungary	7%
Former Yugoslavia	7%
Italy	7%
Denmark	6%
Romania	6%
North Africa	5%
Greece	5%
China	5%
Estonia	4%
Australia	4%
Lithuania	3%
Latvia	2%
All of the above	3%
Other	2%
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	35%
Dachau	7%
Bergen-Belsen	5%
Belzec	2%
Warsaw ghetto	2%
Chelmno	1%
Lodz Ghetto	1%
Buchenwald	1%
Mauthausen	1%
Other incorrect response	30%
Don't know/None	28%

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

The Civil War	9%
World War I	16%
World War II	64%
The Vietnam War	4%
Not sure	7%

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	91%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	7%
Very familiar	66%
Familiar	25%
Not very familiar	6%
Not at all familiar	1%
Not sure	2%

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- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	71%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	23%
Very familiar	42%
Familiar	29%
Not very familiar	18%
Not at all familiar	5%
Not sure	6%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	41%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	52%
Very familiar	16%
Familiar	25%
Not very familiar	30%
Not at all familiar	22%
Not sure	7%

- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	40%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	51%
Very familiar	18%
Familiar	22%
Not very familiar	29%
Not at all familiar	22%
Not sure	9%

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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	78%
Other	9%
Not sure	13%

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

25,000	2%
100,000	8%
1 million	11%
2 million	10%
6 million	40%
20 million	13%
Not sure	16%

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

Shooting	28%
Concentration camps	25%
Gassing	13%
Slave labor camps	6%
Death camps	5%
Ghettos	2%
Starvation	1%
Medical experiments	1%
Other	29%
Not sure	20%

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	49%
Death/extermination camp	13%
Forced labor camp	3%
Other	19%
Not sure	24%

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	90%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	6%
Not sure	4%

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	66%
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	21%
The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	7%
Not sure	6%

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.

² ADL Global 100 https://global100.adl.org/static/ADL_GLOBAL_100_SURVEY_QUESTIONNAIRE.pdf

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14. Have you seen Holocaust denial or distortion on social media or elsewhere online?

TOTAL YES	57%
TOTAL NO	37%
Yes, often	14%
Yes, occasionally	23%
Yes, but only once or twice	20%
No	37%
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.³

TOTAL AGREE	38%
TOTAL DISAGREE	40%
Strongly agree	21%
Agree	17%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	18%
Disagree	21%
Strongly disagree	19%
Not sure	4%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	58%
TOTAL DISAGREE	18%
Strongly agree	22%
Agree	36%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	19%
Disagree	9%
Strongly disagree	9%
Not sure	5%

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	8%
Strongly agree	32%
Agree	33%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	21%
Disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	3%
Not sure	6%

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

TOTAL AGREE	79%
TOTAL DISAGREE	4%
Strongly agree	49%
Agree	30%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	14%
Disagree	2%
Strongly disagree	2%
Not sure	3%

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	52%
At home	10%
Books	8%
Television	6%
Social Media	6%
Movies	5%
Online, not on social media	3%
From a friend	2%
Museums	1%
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	--
Other	--
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]**

Social Media	16%
Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl	14%
Schindler’s List	7%
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	6%
Night (book)	6%
Shoah (film)	6%
Life is Beautiful	4%
A film adaptation of the Diary of Anne Frank	4%
Jojo Rabbit	4%
All the Light We Cannot See	2%
The Zookeeper’s Wife	2%
Number the Stars	--
The Pianist	--
Other	23%
Not sure	6%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	45%
High school	41%
Elementary school	22%
All of the above	5%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	5%
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	48%
Social studies/Government/Civics	26%
English/Language arts	9%
School trip to a museum	6%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	4%
Special assembly	--
Other	2%
Not sure	5%

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

Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	36%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	47%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	5%
Not sure	12%

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

Schools/teachers	51%
The government	12%
Parents	8%
Religious institutions	5%
The private sector	5%
It is no one's responsibility	4%
Non-profit organizations	4%
Not sure	11%

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	49%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	43%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	31%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	17%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	16%
Other	--
None	3%

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	35%
I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	32%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	27%
Not sure	6%

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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 personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	14%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	13%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	13%
Not sure	5%

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	18%
Yes—on social media	35%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	14%
No	29%
Not sure	4%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	28%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	63%
Strongly acceptable	13%
Somewhat acceptable	15%
Somewhat unacceptable	17%
Strongly unacceptable	46%
Not sure	9%

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

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	65%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	21%
Not sure	14%

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	51%
Female	49%
Other	--

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	56%
Hispanic or Latino	17%
Black or African American	18%
Native American or American Indian	--
Asian/Pacific Islander	8%
Other	1%

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

Conservative	17%
Moderate	32%
Liberal	32%
Progressive	5%
Other	4%
Not sure	10%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	23%
Evangelical	1%
Catholic	39%
Jewish	4%
Muslim	1%
Atheist/Agnostic	3%
Other [specify]	6%
None/Not affiliated	21%
Not sure	2%

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

Some high school or less	3%
High school graduate	22%
Some college	17%
College graduate	32%
Some graduate school	4%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	21%
Technical school	1%

36. What is your annual household income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	12%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	17%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	15%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	16%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	13%
More than \$100,000	25%
Not sure	2%