

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—Tennessee
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

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

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	19%
No	81%

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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	77%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	12%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	4%
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	74%
The Nazis	63%
Germany	36%
Jews	16%
World War I	13%
The Great Depression	10%
The United States	4%
Israel	2%
Palestine	1%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	1%
Other	1%
Not sure	5%

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

The Jewish people	90%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	32%
Homosexuals	29%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	22%
Non-Jewish Poles	16%
Resistance Workers	15%
Jehovah's Witnesses	12%
Rescuers	11%
Communists	10%
Other	2%
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	28%
Europe (Generally)	26%
Austria	24%
France	11%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	11%
Hungary	10%
Belgium	10%
Denmark	9%
The Netherlands (Holland)	7%
Former Soviet Union	7%
Ukraine	7%
Former Yugoslavia	6%
Italy	6%
Romania	6%
Lithuania	5%
Latvia	3%
The United States	3%
Estonia	3%
Australia	1%
North Africa	1%
All of the above	4%
Not sure	9%

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	5%
Bergen-Belsen	3%
Belzec	2%
Treblinka	2%
Chelmno	1%
Buchenwald	1%
Warsaw ghetto	1%
Other incorrect response	12%
Don't know/None	40%

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

The Civil War	6%
World War I	24%
World War II	57%
The Vietnam War	2%
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	86%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	11%
Very familiar	63%
Familiar	23%
Not very familiar	8%
Not at all familiar	3%
Not sure	3%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	79%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	16%
Very familiar	53%
Familiar	26%
Not very familiar	12%
Not at all familiar	4%
Not sure	5%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	35%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	55%
Very familiar	10%
Familiar	25%
Not very familiar	25%
Not at all familiar	30%
Not sure	10%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	22%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	65%
Very familiar	9%
Familiar	13%
Not very familiar	27%
Not at all familiar	38%
Not sure	13%

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	90%
Other	2%
Not sure	8%

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

25,000	3%
100,000	5%
1 million	9%
2 million	11%
6 million	34%
20 million	11%
Not sure	27%

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	33%
Shooting	32%
Gassing	14%
Slave labor camps	9%
Death camps	8%
Starvation	3%
Ghettos	3%
Medical experiments	1%
Other	19%
Not sure	23%

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

Concentration camp	47%
Death/extermination camp	12%
Forced labor camp	3%
Other	8%
Not sure	36%

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	86%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	4%
Not sure	10%

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	10%
The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	3%
Not sure	13%

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	45%
TOTAL NO	43%
Yes, often	7%
Yes, occasionally	17%
Yes, but only once or twice	21%
No	43%
Not sure	12%

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	59%
Strongly agree	6%
Agree	10%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	24%
Disagree	28%
Strongly disagree	31%
Not sure	1%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	58%
TOTAL DISAGREE	15%
Strongly agree	29%
Agree	29%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	22%
Disagree	9%
Strongly disagree	6%
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	64%
TOTAL DISAGREE	6%
Strongly agree	30%
Agree	34%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	23%
Disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	2%
Not sure	7%

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

TOTAL AGREE	78%
TOTAL DISAGREE	4%
Strongly agree	49%
Agree	29%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	13%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	1%
Not sure	5%

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	71%
At home	5%
Television	4%
Books	2%
Movies	2%
Social Media	2%
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	1%
From a friend	2%
Other	2%
Online, not on social media	--
Museums	--
Not sure	9%

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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	19%
Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl	17%
Schindler’s List	13%
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	8%
A film adaptation of the Diary of Anne Frank	8%
Night (book)	4%
Number the Stars	4%
The Pianist	4%
Other	17%
Not sure	6%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	48%
High school	32%
Elementary school	30%
All of the above	7%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	5%
Not sure	9%

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	51%
Social studies/Government/Civics	30%
English/Language arts	4%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	1%
School trip to a museum	1%
Special assembly	--
Other	--
Not sure	13%

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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	30%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	43%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	4%
Not sure	23%

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

Schools/teachers	57%
The government	14%
Parents	3%
Non-profit organizations	3%
Religious institutions	2%
The private sector	1%
It is no one’s responsibility	5%
Not sure	15%

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	63%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	51%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	45%
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	7%
Other	1%
None	15%

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	42%
I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	20%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	18%
Not sure	20%

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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	61%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	15%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	7%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	3%
Not sure	14%

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	13%
Yes—on social media	28%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	16%
No	32%
Not sure	11%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	12%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	66%
Strongly acceptable	7%
Somewhat acceptable	5%
Somewhat unacceptable	10%
Strongly unacceptable	56%
Not sure	22%

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

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	60%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	7%
Not sure	33%

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	47%
Other	2%

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	68%
Hispanic or Latino	4%
Black or African American	23%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4%
Other	1%

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

Conservative	25%
Moderate	22%
Liberal	19%
Progressive	9%
Other	5%
Not sure	20%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	24%
Evangelical	10%
Catholic	12%
Jewish	1%
Muslim	--
Atheist/Agnostic	5%
Other [specify]	28%
None/Not affiliated	18%
Not sure	2%

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

Some high school or less	6%
High school graduate	35%
Some college	24%
College graduate	20%
Some graduate school	1%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	11%
Technical school	3%

36. What is your annual household income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	24%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	23%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	18%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	10%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	9%
More than \$100,000	13%
Not sure	3%