

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—WISCONSIN
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

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

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	15%
No	85%

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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	82%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	12%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	1%
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	82%
The Nazis	71%
Germany	41%
World War I	15%
The Great Depression	8%
Jews	6%
The United States	2%
Israel	--
Palestine	--
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	--
Other	5%
Not sure	6%

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

The Jewish people	93%
Homosexuals	49%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	45%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	36%
Non-Jewish Poles	28%
Resistance Workers	25%
Jehovah's Witnesses	15%
Communists	15%
Rescuers	15%
Other	7%
Not sure	5%

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

Germany	84%
Poland	48%
Europe (Generally)	34%
Austria	30%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	20%
France	17%
Belgium	17%
Hungary	15%
The Netherlands (Holland)	14%
Romania	12%
Former Soviet Union	11%
Denmark	11%
Ukraine	10%
Italy	10%
Former Yugoslavia	8%
Lithuania	9%
Latvia	8%
Estonia	5%
The United States	3%
Greece	3%
North Africa	2%
China	1%
Australia	1%
All of the above	4%
Other	2%
Not sure	6%

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	66%
Dachau	11%
Bergen-Belsen	4%
Warsaw ghetto	4%
Buchenwald	3%
Treblinka	2%
Belzec	1%
Chelmno	--
Other incorrect response	6%
Don't know/None	26%

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

The Civil War	--
World War I	12%
World War II	79%
The Vietnam War	2%
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	92%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	5%
Very familiar	60%
Familiar	32%
Not very familiar	5%
Not at all familiar	--
Not sure	3%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	86%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	12%
Very familiar	50%
Familiar	36%
Not very familiar	8%
Not at all familiar	4%
Not sure	2%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	37%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	52%
Very familiar	15%
Familiar	22%
Not very familiar	33%
Not at all familiar	19%
Not sure	11%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	21%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	62%
Very familiar	10%
Familiar	11%
Not very familiar	27%
Not at all familiar	35%
Not sure	17%

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	1%
100,000	5%
1 Million	8%
2 Million	9%
6 Million	53%
20 Million	10%
Not sure	14%

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	46%
Shooting	32%
Gassing	22%
Slave labor camps	15%
Death camps	7%
Ghettos	6%
Starvation	5%
Medical experiments	4%
Other	18%
Not sure	14%

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

Concentration camp	68%
Death/extermination camp	15%
Forced labor camp	3%
Other	4%
Not sure	17%

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	92%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	3%
Not sure	5%

13. Which of the following statements comes closest to your views about the Holocaust in Europe during World War Two? ²

The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	--
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	9%
The Holocaust happened, and the number of Jews who died in it have been fairly described	81%
Not sure	10%

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	46%
TOTAL NO	45%
Yes, often	4%
Yes, occasionally	19%
Yes, but only once or twice	23%
No	45%
Not sure	9%

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	8%
TOTAL DISAGREE	62%
Strongly agree	3%
Agree	5%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	28%
Disagree	35%
Strongly disagree	27%
Not sure	2%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	63%
TOTAL DISAGREE	19%
Strongly agree	26%
Agree	37%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	15%
Disagree	12%
Strongly disagree	7%
Not sure	3%

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	70%
TOTAL DISAGREE	3%
Strongly agree	33%
Agree	37%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	22%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	--
Not sure	5%

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

TOTAL AGREE	85%
TOTAL DISAGREE	3%
Strongly agree	52%
Agree	33%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	8%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	--
Not sure	4%

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	77%
At home	6%
Television	4%
Social Media	3%
Books	1%
Museums	1%
Movies	--
Online, not on social media	--
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	--
From a friend	--
Other	--
Not sure	8%

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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	15%
Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl	10%
Life is Beautiful	5%
A film adaptation of the Diary of Anne Frank	5%
Schindler’s List	--
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	--
Night (book)	--
Number the Stars	--
The Pianist	--
Shoah (film)	--
Jojo Rabbit	--
All the Light We Cannot See	--
The Zookeeper’s Wife	--
Other	29%
Not sure	36%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	59%
High school	33%
Elementary school	28%
All of the above	9%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	3%
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	49%
Social studies/Government/Civics	33%
English/Language arts	5%
Special assembly	2%
School trip to a museum	2%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	1%
Other	--
Not sure	8%

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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	50%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	4%
Not sure	16%

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

Schools/teachers	67%
The government	9%
Parents	5%
It is no one's responsibility	5%
The private sector	2%
Non-profit organizations	1%
Religious institutions	--
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	68%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	58%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	48%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	42%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	18%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	6%
Other	1%
None	5%

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	21%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	23%
I have not visited a Holocaust museum and do not know anyone who has visited one	41%
Not sure	15%

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

I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	4%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	5%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	18%
I do not know or know of a survivor of the Holocaust	65%
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	8%
Yes—on social media	30%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	15%
No	38%
Not sure	9%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	6%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	71%
Strongly acceptable	2%
Somewhat acceptable	4%
Somewhat unacceptable	16%
Strongly unacceptable	55%
Not sure	23%

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

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	66%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	10%
Not sure	24%

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	48%
Other	1%

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	82%
Hispanic or Latino	6%
Black or African American	7%
Native American or American Indian	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3%
Other	1%

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

Conservative	23%
Moderate	31%
Liberal	22%
Progressive	7%
Other	4%
Not sure	13%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	18%
Evangelical	4%
Catholic	23%
Jewish	--
Muslim	--
Atheist/Agnostic	10%
Other [specify]	14%
None/Not affiliated	25%
Not sure	6%

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

Some high school or less	5%
High school graduate	21%
Some college	28%
College graduate	33%
Some graduate school	3%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	9%
Technical school	1%

36. What is your annual household income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	15%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	22%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	19%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	17%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	11%
More than \$100,000	14%
Not sure	2%