

Schoen Consulting  
Azrieli Foundation Holocaust Poll  
September 2018

**Screening Questions**

- What is the primary language or languages spoken at home?

English	72%
French	18%
English and French	4%
English and other	2%
French and other	1%
Other	3%

- **[IF "ENGLISH & FRENCH" OR OTHER]** In what language would you like to complete this survey?

English	81%
French	19%

- {Age}

Under 18 <b>[TERMINATE]</b>	--
18-24 <b>[CODE: MILLENNIAL]</b>	9%
25-34 <b>[CODE: MILLENNIAL]</b>	17%
35-49	24%
50-64	29%
65 or older	21%

- Are you currently enrolled in College/ University?

Yes <b>[CODE: UNIVERSITY STUDENT]</b>	14%
No	86%

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**General Awareness - Open Ended 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. These questions don't have right or wrong answers, so please be as honest and open as you can.

1. Have you ever seen or heard the word Holocaust before?

**IF NO, SKIP TO Q11**

Yes, I have definitely heard about the Holocaust	85%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	9%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	3%
No, I definitely have not heard about the Holocaust	3%

2. In your own words, what does the term Holocaust refer to? **OPEN ENDED\* WITH PRECODES (MULTIPLE ANSWERS ACCEPTED)**

Extermination of the Jews/Jewish people	64%
World War II	32%
The Nazis	24%
Genocide generally	19%
Adolf Hitler	15%
Other	8%
Not sure	4%

3. Who or what do you think caused the Holocaust? **OPEN ENDED WITH PRECODES (MULTIPLE ANSWERS ACCEPTED)**

Adolf Hitler	48%
The Nazis	19%
Germany	12%
Jews	3%
World War I	3%
Other	18%
Not sure	8%

4. Who were victims during the Holocaust? **SELECT ALL THAT APPLY**

The Jewish People	96%
The disabled / People with disabilities	40%
Homosexuals	40%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	35%
Resistance workers	28%

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Non-Jewish Poles	22%
Communists	21%
Jehovah's Witnesses	20%
Rescuers	15%
Other	8%
Not sure	3%

5. In which country or countries did the Holocaust take place? **SELECT ALL THAT APPLY**

Germany	81%
Poland	43%
Europe	36%
Austria	28%
France	28%
Hungary	24%
The Netherlands (Holland)	23%
Belgium	19%
Ukraine	16%
Former Yugoslavia	15%
Latvia	14%
Estonia	13%
Denmark	12%
Lithuania	12%
Former Soviet Union	11%
North Africa	4%
Canada	--
The United States	--
Australia	--
South Africa	--
All of the above	3%
Other	2%
Not sure	4%

6. From what you know or have heard, what was Auschwitz? **OPEN ENDED WITH PRECODES [MULTIPLE RESPONSES ACCEPTED]**

Concentration camp	53%
Death/extermination camp	32%
Forced labor camp	3%
Other incorrect response	12%
Not sure	12%

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7. Okay, and have you ever heard of “The Final Solution” before?

Yes, I have definitely heard of the Final Solution	31%
Yes, I think I’ve heard of the Final Solution	8%
I have heard of it generally but not sure what it means	10%
No, I don’t think I have heard of it before	22%
No, I definitely have not heard of it before	20%
I’m not sure if I’ve heard of it or not	9%

8. **[IF HEARD OF THE FINAL SOLUTION]** And what is/was “the Final Solution”? **SELECT ALL THAT APPLY**

Nazi Germany’s plan to murder all Jews	83%
Genocide generally	25%
The Holocaust	20%
Albert Einstein’s Theory on Relativity	1%
Other	1%
Not sure	7%

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

World War II	78%
World War I	8%
The Civil War	2%
The Vietnam War	1%
Other	--
Not sure	11%

10. **IF Q9=WW II** And from what you know or have heard, did the Holocaust begin before World War II?

Yes	47%
No	23%
Not sure	30%

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**Familiarity with Key Holocaust Figures**

**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.

I am now going to ask you some questions about the Holocaust.

11. First, when you think about the Holocaust who is the person or people who FIRST come to mind for you? **OPEN ENDED WITH PRECODES [MULTIPLE RESPONSES ACCEPTED]**

Adolf hitler	58%
Jews	27%
The Nazis	7%
Germans	4%
Heinrich Himmler	2%
Anne Frank	2%
Adolf Eichmann	1%
Oskar Schindler	1%
Joseph Goebbels	1%
Other	5%
Not sure	7%

**INTRO:** I will now read you 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.

12. Adolf Hitler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	94%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	5%
Very familiar	56%
Familiar	38%
Not very familiar	3%
Not at all familiar	2%
Not sure	1%

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13. Joseph Goebbels

TOTAL FAMILIAR	43%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	54%
Very familiar	14%
Familiar	29%
Not very familiar	18%
Not at all familiar	36%
Not sure	3%

14. Heinrich Himmler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	50%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	45%
Very familiar	18%
Familiar	32%
Not very familiar	22%
Not at all familiar	23%
Not sure	5%

15. Adolf Eichmann

TOTAL FAMILIAR	37%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	58%
Very familiar	9%
Familiar	28%
Not very familiar	28%
Not at all familiar	30%
Not sure	5%

16. Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	76%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	24%
Very familiar	38%
Familiar	38%
Not very familiar	14%
Not at all familiar	10%
Not sure	--

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17. Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	55%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	42%
Very familiar	18%
Familiar	37%
Not very familiar	21%
Not at all familiar	21%
Not sure	3%

18. Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	23%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	71%
Very familiar	7%
Familiar	16%
Not very familiar	29%
Not at all familiar	42%
Not sure	6%

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**The Final Solution & Crimes Against the Jewish People**

**INTRO:** As I previously mentioned, the term Holocaust refers to the plan by Nazi Germany to persecute and murder all Jews throughout Europe.

I will now ask you some more questions about the Holocaust.

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

25,000	1%
100,000	5%
1 million	8%
2 million	9%
6 million	46%
20 million	7%
Not sure	24%

20. Okay and how was the Holocaust carried out? **SELECT ALL THAT APPLY**

Concentration Camps	27%
Death Camps	22%
Gassing	18%
Starvation	13%
Shooting	12%
Slave labor camps	12%
Medical experiments	11%
Death marches	8%
Mobile killing squads	5%
Ghettos	3%
All of the above	57%
Other	--
Not sure	8%

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21. 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-END] [MULTIPLE RESPONSES ACCEPTED]**

Auschwitz	45%
Dachau	10%
Bergen-Belsen	3%
Warsaw ghetto	3%
Treblinka	2%
Belzec	1%
Chelmno	1%
Majdanek	--
Sobibór	--
Krakow ghetto	--
Jasenovac	--
Other incorrect response	6%
Not sure	43%

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**Knowledge of Holocaust Facts**

**INTRO:** Now I am going to ask you some more questions about the Holocaust, life under the Nazis and their collaborators.

22. In which country did the Nazis first come to power? **OPEN ENDED WITH PRECODES**

Germany	88%
Other	6%
Not sure	6%

23. Who was the leader of Nazi Germany? **OPEN ENDED WITH PRECODES**

Adolf Hitler	93%
Other	2%
Not sure	5%

24. **[IF Q23= ADOLF HITLER]** From what you know, how did Hitler come to power?

Hitler was appointed through a democratic process	51%
Hitler took power by force	32%
Not sure	17%

25. Thinking about the Nazis, did the Nazis persecute just the Jewish people or were other groups persecuted as well?

Only Jews were persecuted by the Nazis	27%
Other groups were persecuted as well	60%
Not sure	13%

26. During the Holocaust, the Jewish people were forced to wear symbols/badges on their clothing to identify and isolate them. Do you know of any symbols, and if so, can you list some? **OPEN END WITH PRECODES [MULTIPLE RESPONSES ACCEPTED]**

Star of David	29%
Stars (generally)	9%
Yellow stars	9%
Triangles	5%
Arm bands	2%
None	6%
Other	18%
Don't know/Refused	25%

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27. From what you know, were there groups other than Jews who were required to wear symbols/badges during the Holocaust?

Yes	45%
No	14%
Not sure	41%

28. From what you know, did some local populations in Nazi-occupied Europe collaborate in helping the Nazis, or did they not participate?

*Collaboration can include the roundup and deportation of Jews to killing centers, actively participating in the murder of Jews, or committing other atrocities against Jewish citizens within their own national borders.*

All local populations collaborated	5%
Most local populations collaborated	20%
Some local populations collaborated	51%
Local populations did not collaborate at all	3%
Not sure	21%

29. From what you know, did citizens of Nazi-occupied European countries resist the Nazi occupation during World War II?

*By "resist" we mean non-violent resistance, armed resistance, helping people go into hiding, forgery of documents and publishing anti-Nazi publications.*

Yes, most citizens resisted	18%
Yes, some citizens resisted	55%
No, there was not active resistance	6%
Not sure	21%

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30. From what you know, when did Canada learn about Nazi Germany's plan to murder the Jewish people of Europe?

Please select year from list below:

1933	7%
1934	3%
1935	7%
1936	3%
1937	5%
1938	4%
1939	15%
1940	13%
1941	10%
1942	11%
1943	7%
1944	5%
1945	10%

31. Did the Allied Forces have a plan to rescue the Jewish people once they learned about the Holocaust?

Yes	33%
No	23%
Not sure	44%

32. What kind of immigration policy did Canada have for Jewish refugees fleeing Europe during the Holocaust?.

Canada had an open immigration policy for any Jewish refugee	32%
Canada only allowed in war orphans/unaccompanied minors	12%
Canada had closed borders/ a "None is too many" immigration policy	19%
Not sure	37%

33. Have you heard of the MS St Louis?

Yes	13%
No	70%
Not sure	17%

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34. As you may have heard, the MS St Louis was a German ship carrying 900 Jewish refugees from Germany during the Holocaust that was denied entry into many countries. From which of the following countries was the MS St. Louis denied entry?  
**SELECT ALL THAT APPLY [MULTIPLE RESPONSES ACCEPTED]**

Canada	27%
The United States	25%
Cuba	13%
The UK	13%
France	12%
Belgium	10%
The Netherlands	9%
Not sure	56%

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**Holocaust Denial**

**INTRO:** Thank you for your answers so far. I will now ask you some questions about your opinion about the Holocaust.

35. Some believe that the Holocaust did not happen. Do you believe the Holocaust happened?

Yes, I believe the Holocaust happened	93%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	2%
Not sure	5%

36. Which of the following statements comes closest to your views about the Holocaust in Europe during World War Two? **PLEASE SELECT ONE**

The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	1%
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	7%
The Holocaust happened, and the number of Jews who died in it have been fairly described	83%
Not sure	9%

37. Please indicate whether or not you are familiar with the following individuals.

- Ernst Zundel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	20%
TOTAL UNFAMILIAR	68%

Very familiar	3%
Somewhat familiar	17%
Somewhat unfamiliar	17%
Very unfamiliar	51%
Not sure	12%

- James Keegstra

TOTAL FAMILIAR	11%
TOTAL UNFAMILIAR	78%

Very familiar	3%
Somewhat familiar	8%
Somewhat unfamiliar	14%
Very unfamiliar	64%
Not sure	11%

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**Perceptions/Misperceptions**

**INTRO:** Switching gears slightly, I will now read you a list of statements that have been made about Jews and the Holocaust. **For each, please tell me if you agree or disagree:**

38. Some non-Jews, or “righteous gentiles,” risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust.

TOTAL AGREE	85%
TOTAL DISAGREE	2%
Strongly Agree	49%
Agree	36%
Neutral	9%
Disagree	1%
Strongly Disagree	1%
Not sure	4%

39. Fewer people seem to care about the Holocaust today than they used to.

TOTAL AGREE	57%
TOTAL DISAGREE	16%
Strongly Agree	14%
Agree	43%
Neutral	23%
Disagree	14%
Strongly Disagree	2%
Not sure	4%

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

TOTAL AGREE	85%
TOTAL DISAGREE	1%
Strongly Agree	58%
Agree	27%
Neutral	10%
Disagree	1%
Strongly Disagree	--
Not sure	4%

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41. The Holocaust could happen again.

TOTAL AGREE	45%
TOTAL DISAGREE	23%
Strongly Agree	18%
Agree	27%
Neutral	25%
Disagree	16%
Strongly Disagree	7%
Not sure	7%

42. The Holocaust is unique and different than any other act of genocide that has occurred in the 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> century.

TOTAL AGREE	57%
TOTAL DISAGREE	17%
Strongly Agree	30%
Agree	27%
Neutral	22%
Disagree	13%
Strongly Disagree	4%
Not sure	4%

43. Holocaust education should be compulsory in school.

TOTAL AGREE	72%
TOTAL DISAGREE	12%
Strongly Agree	33%
Agree	39%
Neutral	16%
Disagree	7%
Strongly Disagree	5%
Not sure	--

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44. People still talk too much about what happened during the Holocaust.

TOTAL AGREE	9%
TOTAL DISAGREE	62%
Strongly Agree	3%
Agree	6%
Neutral	25%
Disagree	27%
Strongly Disagree	35%
Not sure	4%

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<b>Holocaust Education</b>
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**Introduction:** I will now ask you some questions about how you learned about the Holocaust as well as some questions about Holocaust education in Canada today.

45. Where did you first hear about the Holocaust?

At school	40%
At home	15%
Television	13%
Books	7%
Movies	5%
Internet/online	3%
From a friend	2%
At a house of worship	1%
Museums	--
Other	2%
Not sure	12%

46. If respondents answer [Books], [Television] or [Movies], which? [OPEN ENDED]

Schindler's List	7%
Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl	5%
Number the Stars	--
The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas	1%
The Pianist	1%
Life is Beautiful	1%
Holocaust (film)	1%
Other	51%
Not sure	11%

47. And from what you can remember, how old were you when you first heard about the Holocaust?

Under 5	4%
5-10	28%
11-17 years	45%
18-22 years	5%
23+	5%
I never heard about the Holocaust before this survey	2%
Not sure	11%

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48. Do you think that all students should learn about the Holocaust while at school?

Yes	82%
No	7%
Not sure	11%

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

**SELECT ALL THAT APPLY**

Schools/teachers	77%
Parents	48%
The government	32%
Religious institutions	21%
Non-profit organizations	13%
The private sector	10%
It is no one's responsibility	9%
Not sure	6%

50. Do you think that schools spend enough time teaching students about the Holocaust?

Schools spend too much time teaching about the Holocaust	4%
Schools spend enough time teaching about the Holocaust	25%
Schools should spend more time teaching about the Holocaust	44%
Not sure	27%

51. Do you think that the lessons taught in schools about the Holocaust are historically accurate?

Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	24%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	43%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	2%
Not sure	31%

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52. Have you personally or has anyone you know visited a Holocaust museum?

I have personally visited a Holocaust museum	11%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	18%
I have not visited a Holocaust museum and do not know anyone who has visited one	62%
Not sure	9%

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

I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust/knew a survivor who has passed away	10%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but do not know him/her personally	21%
I do not know or know of a survivor of the Holocaust	62%
Not sure	7%

54. How do Canadians and others commemorate or remember the Holocaust? **MULTIPLE RESPONSES ACCEPTED**

Watching Films and Documentaries	48%
Reading Books and Literature or Internet sites	40%
Listening to Holocaust survivor testimonies	38%
Visiting Monuments	33%
Attending Holocaust Remembrance Day/national holiday ceremonies	32%
Visiting Holocaust or Jewish Museums	31%
Observing Moments of silence	26%
Lighting memorial candles	13%
Listening to sad music	3%
Other	4%
Do not commemorate	20%

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**Antisemitism & Neo-Nazism**

**Intro:** We're almost finished. I am now going to ask you some questions about **antisemitism** in Canada.

55. Have you heard of antisemitism?

Yes, I have definitely heard about antisemitism	55%
Yes, I think I've heard about the antisemitism	9%
I have heard the term generally but not sure what it means	14%
No, I don't think I have heard the word before	7%
No, I definitely have not heard the word before	8%
I'm not sure if I've heard the word or not	7%

56. And in your own words, what does antisemitism mean? **OPEN END WITH PRECODES**

Hostility to Jews	36%
Discrimination against Jews	13%
Prejudice against Jews	10%
Violence against Jews	2%
Other	19%
Not sure	20%

57. From what you have heard, was there antisemitism in Canada at the time of the Holocaust?

There was antisemitism in Canada at the time of the Holocaust	34%
There wasn't antisemitism in Canada	9%
Not sure	57%

58. Okay, and in your opinion, is there antisemitism in Canada today?

Yes, there is antisemitism in Canada today	57%
No, there is not antisemitism in Canada today	13%
Not sure	30%

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59. *Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.*

Given this information, in your opinion, is there antisemitism in Canada today?

Yes, there is antisemitism in Canada today	56%
No, there is not antisemitism in Canada today	16%
Not sure	28%

60. From what you know or have heard, how many, if any, neo-Nazis are there in Canada today?

GREAT DEAL/MANY	17%
FEW/NONE AT ALL	49%
A great deal	3%
Many	14%
A few	44%
None at all	5%
Not sure	34%

61. Okay, and from what you know or have heard, how many, if any, neo-Nazis are there in the United States today?

GREAT DEAL/MANY	47%
FEW/NONE AT ALL	30%
A great deal	15%
Many	32%
A few	27%
None at all	3%
Not sure	23%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	9%
TOTAL UNACCEPTABLE	79%
Strongly acceptable	3%
Somewhat acceptable	6%
Somewhat unacceptable	11%
Strongly unacceptable	68%
Not sure	12%

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63. Do you think that people should be allowed to use Nazi slogans and symbols?

People should be allowed to use Nazi slogans and symbols	8%
They should not be allowed	79%
Not sure	13%

64. Do you think that it is possible that something like the Holocaust could happen in Canada today?

It is possible	27%
It is not possible	49%
Not sure	24%

65. Okay and do you think it is possible that something like the Holocaust could happen in other Western democracies today?

It is possible	48%
It is not possible	20%
Not sure	32%

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**Demographics**

**INTRO:** We're just about finished...

**66. {Gender}**

Man	52%
Woman	48%

**67. {Age}**

18-29	19%
30-39	16%
40-49	16%
50-64	29%
65 or older	20%

**68. Were you born in Canada?**

Yes	77%
No	23%

**69. [Province] In what Province or territory do you live?**

Ontario	37%
Quebec	28%
British Columbia	13%
Alberta	10%
Manitoba	4%
New Brunswick	2%
Nova Scotia	2%
Saskatchewan	2%
Newfoundland and Labrador	1%
Prince Edward Island	1%

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**70. Religion**

Catholic	33%
Protestant (includes Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Evangelical, United and other Christians)	19%
Atheist or Agnostic	14%
Muslim	3%
Eastern Orthodox	2%
Jewish	2%
Hindu	2%
Other	8%
None	15%
Not sure	2%

**71. IF JEWISH, what is your denomination?**

Traditional	5%
Conservative	9%
Just Jewish	82%
Secular	4%

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

Conservative	20%
Moderate	19%
Liberal	31%
Progressive/Socialist	8%
Other	5%
Not sure	17%

**73. [EDUCATION] What is the highest level of education you have completed?**

Some high school or less	5%
High school graduate	28%
CEGEP	12%
Community College	12%
Some university	14%
Bachelors degree	20%
Above bachelor's degree	9%

**74. [MARITAL STATUS] Are you married?**

Yes	43%
No	57%

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75. **[CHILDREN]** How many children do you have living at home?

Zero	67%
1	16%
2	12%
3	4%
4	1%
5 or more	--

76. **[REGION]**

Rural	21%
Urban	49%
Suburban	30%

77. **[INCOME]** You and your family earn....

Less than \$20,000 annually	19%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	25%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	18%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	13%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	12%
More than \$100,000	13%
Not sure	--
Refused/Prefer not to say	--