

Frequently Asked Questions about the Jewish Vote

The Jewish Democratic Council of America (JDCA) has compiled the following answers to many of the most frequently asked questions about the Jewish vote based on recent publicly available non-partisan polling and analysis. A non-partisan poll conducted in February 2020 by the non-partisan Jewish Electorate Institute (JEI) provided valuable insight into the political preferences and priorities of the Jewish electorate. Using this and other public information, JDCA has compiled the following answers to many of the most frequently asked questions about the Jewish vote.¹

PREPARE FOR 2020 WITH THE FACTS

9/10
of Jewish voters
identify as
pro-Israel

90%
of Jewish voters
are voting on
healthcare

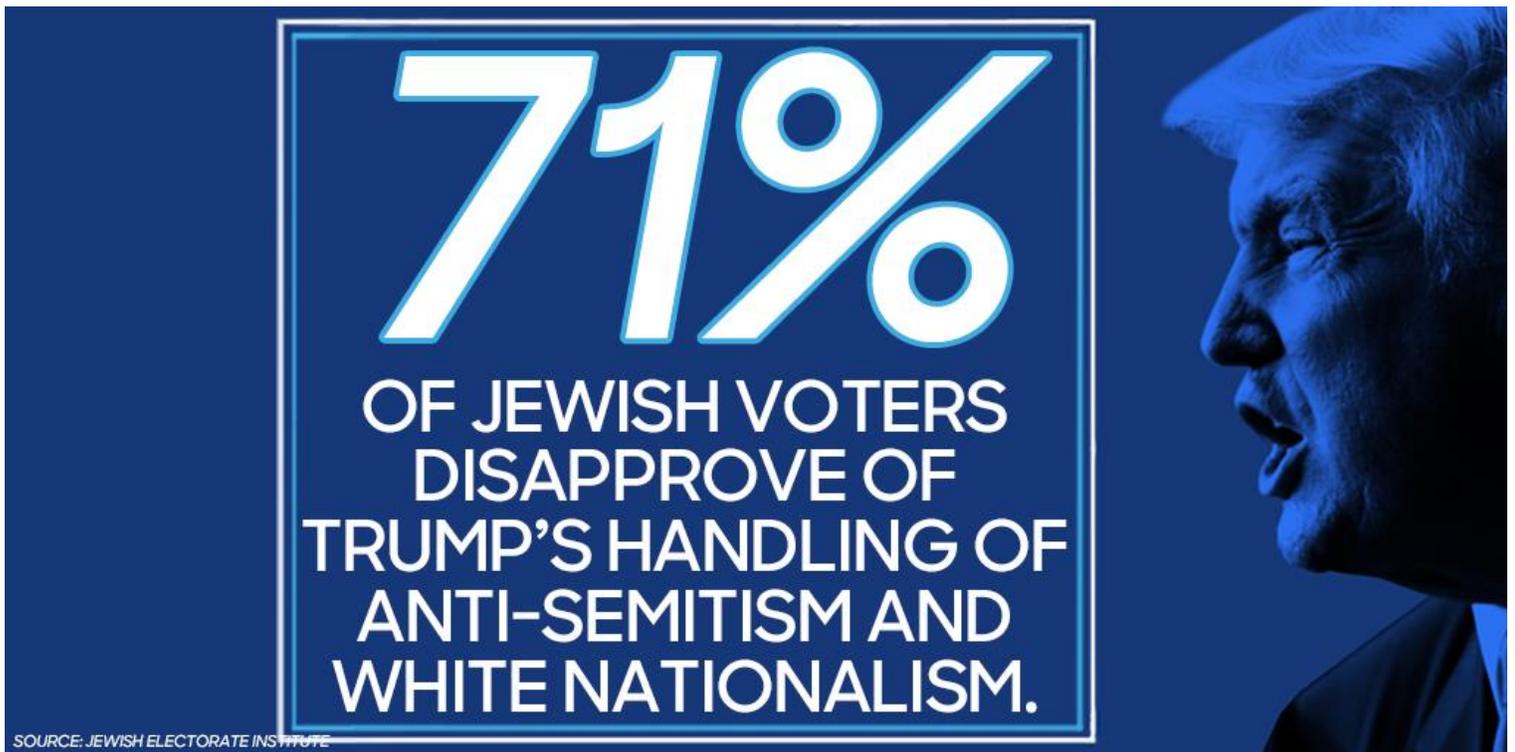
8/10
of Jewish voters
voted for Dems
in 2018



¹ Data from [the Jewish Electorate Institute](#), [Morning Consult](#), [Pew](#), and [Gallup](#).

1) How do Jewish voters view President Trump?

- **71 percent of Jewish voters disapprove of President Trump's handling of anti-Semitism and white nationalism;**
- 68 percent of Jewish voters disapprove of Trump as president;
- 56 percent of Jewish voters believe that President Trump is partially responsible for recent targeted attacks on synagogues;
- 45 percent of Jewish voters are most concerned about President Trump's emboldening of far-right extremists and white nationalists when it comes to security concerns; and
- 68 percent of Jewish voters in the U.S. feel less safe than they did two years ago due to the rise of anti-Semitism.



2) How do Jewish voters view President Trump's policies?

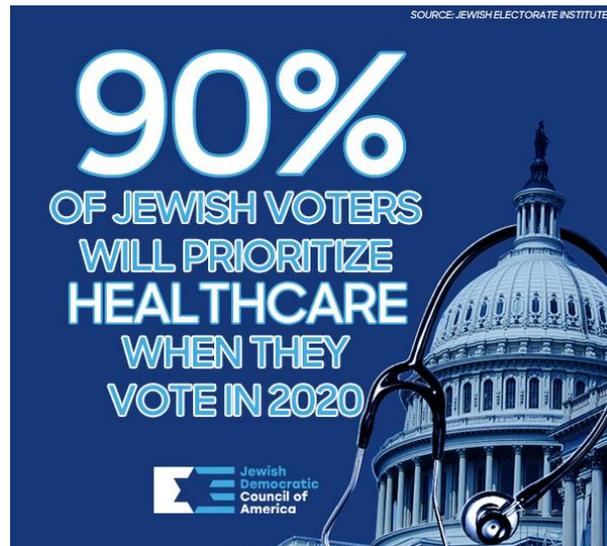
Jewish voters disapprove of the president's handling of:

- **Anti-Semitism (71 percent);**
- Gun safety (68 percent);
- Healthcare (63 percent);
- Taxes (61 percent); and
- Reproductive rights (61 percent).

3) Which policy priorities are driving the Jewish vote?

When asked which are the most important issues when deciding which candidate to support, Jewish voters overwhelmingly prioritize domestic policy issues:

- **Making quality healthcare available to every American (90 percent);**
- Protecting Medicare and social security (88 percent);
- Improving the economy and creating jobs (87 percent);
- Combatting anti-Semitism (86 percent);
- Enacting gun safety laws (85 percent); and
- Combatting the rising effects of climate change (74 percent).

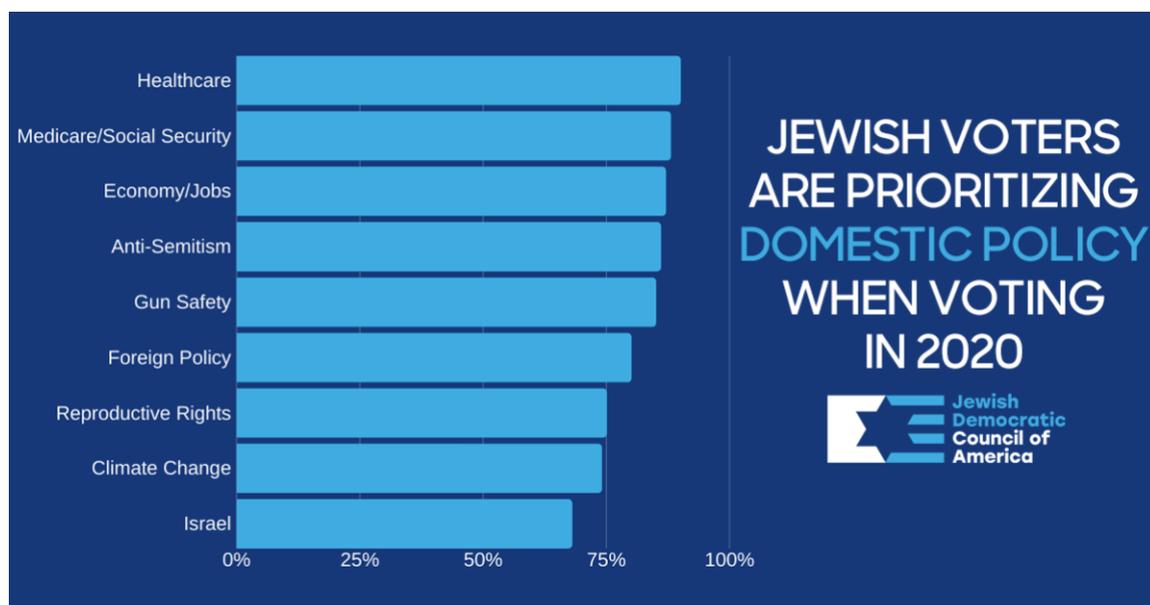


4) Where does Israel rank as a policy priority driving the Jewish vote?

- **91 percent of Jewish voters have favorable views of Israel, but a majority are critical of at least some of the Israeli government's policies.**
- Of the top policy priorities presented in the poll, policy related to Israel ranks the lowest for Jewish voters when deciding which candidate to support.

Jewish voters prioritize domestic policy issues when deciding which candidate to support such as:

- **Making quality healthcare available to every American (90 percent);**
- Protecting Medicare and social security (88 percent);
- Improving the economy and creating jobs (87 percent);
- Combatting anti-Semitism (86 percent);
- Enacting gun safety laws (85 percent); and
- Combatting the rising effects of climate change (74 percent).



5) How do Jewish voters view the rise of anti-Semitism?

- **71 percent of Jewish voters disapprove of Trump's handling of anti-Semitism;**
- 68 percent of Jewish voters believe Jews in the U.S. are less secure than they were two years ago;
- 56 percent of Jewish voters believe President Trump is at least partially responsible for recent targeted attacks on synagogues; and
- 44 percent of Jewish voters believe the best way to improve the security of the Jewish community is to elect candidates who share their values.



6) Has Jewish support for Republicans increased under President Trump?

- **No. The poll is very clear on this fact, despite the repeated false claims of President Trump regarding the Jewish electorate.**
- More than one in four Republican voters express concern about Trump's actions.
- Since JEI's October 2018 poll, the percentage of Jewish voters who identify as Republican remains exactly the same (25 percent).
- Pew exit polls in the past three elections demonstrated that Jewish voters are leaving the GOP.



7) Why have Republicans repeatedly failed to capture a significant share of the Jewish vote?

- Jewish voters prioritize domestic policy issues that relate to Jewish values, such as providing access to affordable health care, protecting Medicare and Social Security, enacting gun safety laws to protect our communities from the epidemic of gun violence, combatting the rise of white supremacy, defending against climate change, and protecting individual rights, including reproductive rights.
- Jewish voters overwhelmingly disapprove of Republicans' handling of domestic policy issues that speak to these values, with a recent emphasis on President Trump's discriminatory and inhumane policies related to immigration.
- American Jews remain staunchly pro-Israel, yet this is not their top voting priority because they know that Democrats strongly support Israel and they are focused on where the parties most significantly differ.
- Jews vote their values, and so long as Republicans support policies that betray such values – as they have repeatedly done under President Trump – the overwhelming majority of Jewish voters will continue to support Democrats.



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