



## February 4, 2020

To: Interested Parties

**Fr:** Jeff Liszt and Samantha Gilbert | ALG Research Re: Recent Polling among American Jewish Voters

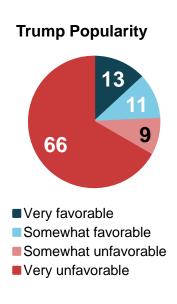
Polling among American Jewish voters suggests that Jewish voters continue to be a core Democratic voting bloc and are strongly motivated to turn out in the 2020 elections, largely due to their desire to defeat Donald Trump, despite Republican attempts to divide Jewish voters and drive them out of the Democratic Party. While Trump has tried to use Israel as a wedge issue with American Jews, the issues they care most about in this election are healthcare, gun safety, and seniors issues. The US-Israel relationship ranks much lower in their election priorities.

There's also a strong belief among Jewish voters that antisemitism is a major – and growing – problem in America. Jewish voters feel less safe today than they did four years ago, and a majority believe Trump holds antisemitic views himself. In addition to the issues mentioned above, Jewish voters are motivated to take a stand against antisemitism and white nationalism.

## **Key Findings**

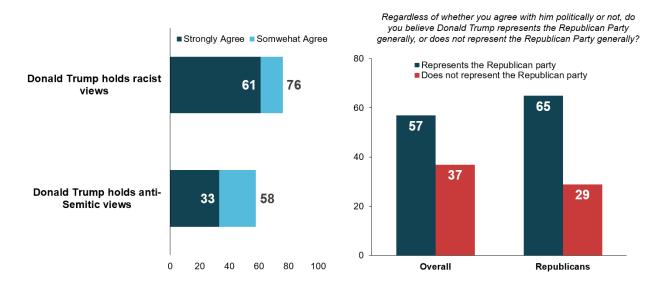
- ➤ Jewish voters remain an overwhelmingly Democratic universe. Nearly two-thirds of Jewish voters self-identify as Democrats (64% Democrat / 25% Republican / 10% Independent). They prefer to vote for a generic Democratic candidate for Congress / US Senate by a 44-point margin (65% Democrat / 21% Republican / 14% persuadable).
- ➤ Dislike of Donald Trump is motivating Jewish voters.

  Three-quarters hold unfavorable opinions of the President (24% favorable / 75% unfavorable). There's real intensity to this dislike, as two-thirds (66%) are *very unfavorable* towards Trump. In an open-ended question about what matters most about next year's elections, the most common response is <u>defeating Donald Trump</u>.

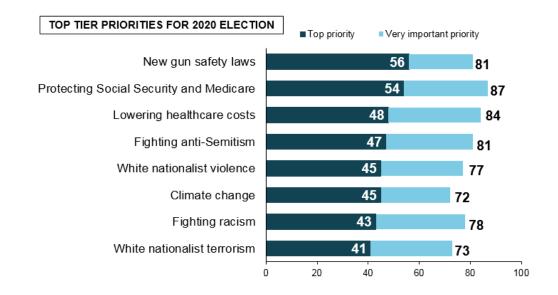


The following findings are based on the results of an online survey conducted by Anzalone Liszt Grove Research from September 10-16, 2019 among N=811 Jewish likely November 2020 voters in the United States. Data was weighted to be representative of the American Jewish voting population.

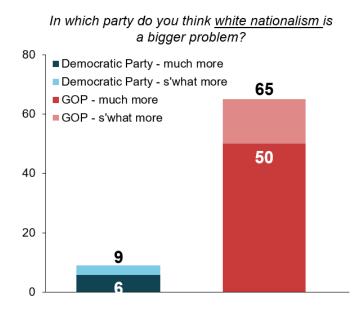
➤ Jewish voters believe Trump holds racist and antisemitic views. A majority of Jewish voters believe Trump holds antisemitic views (58% agree). More than three-quarters also believe Trump holds racist views (76% agree), including both white Jews (76%) and Jews of color (79%). The President is seen as generally representative of the Republican Party (57% does represent / 37% does not represent), including among two-thirds of Jewish Republicans. This could pose a problem for down-ballot Republicans because Jewish voters believe Trump generally represents the GOP.



➤ **Kitchen-table issues are what matter most to Jewish voters**, especially new gun safety laws (56% top priority), protecting Social Security and Medicare (54% top priority), and lowering healthcare costs (48% top priority). Furthermore, the most convincing reason to vote in the 2020 elections is that "critical issues like healthcare, income inequality, and gun safety are on the ballot this year." In comparison, less than one-quarter (24%) rank the US relationship with Israel a top priority for the election.

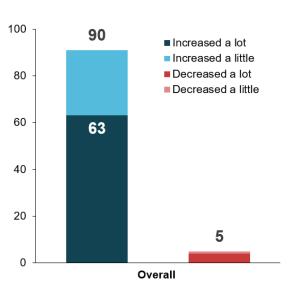


- Addressing antisemitism and white nationalism are also considered top priorities. More than 40% of Jewish voters believe fighting antisemitism (47%) and white nationalist violence (45%) are top priorities to consider in the next presidential election.
- Antisemitism is seen as a major and growing problem in America, resulting in Jewish voters feeling less safe. Two-thirds (67%) view antisemitism as a "major problem" in America today, and another fifth (21%) believe it is a minor problem (88% major problem + minor problem).
- Antisemitism is considered to be a bigger problem in the Republican Party rather than the Democratic Party. Nearly half of Jewish voters consider antisemitism to be a bigger problem in the GOP compared to one-quarter who consider it to be a bigger problem in the Democratic Party (44% Republican Party / 26% Democratic Party).
- By a greater than 6:1 margin, white nationalism is clearly viewed as a bigger problem in the Republican Party than the Democratic Party. Nearly two-thirds of Jewish voters believe white nationalism is a bigger problem in the Republican Party compared to less than 10% who think it's a greater issue in the Democratic Party (65% Republican Party / 9% Democratic Party).
- Jewish surrogates in the Trump administration are viewed unfavorably. The President's son-inlaw Jared Kushner is viewed unfavorably by a nearly 3:1 ratio



(22% favorable / 64% unfavorable). While a majority of Jewish voters (54%) are unfamiliar with Stephen Miller, he is viewed net-unfavorably at a greater than 5:1 ratio among those who can rate him (7% favorable / 39% unfavorable).

- ➤ Jewish voters feel less safe today than they did before Trump was elected. Nearly three-quarters of Jewish voters (73%) feel less safe in America today than they did four years ago. Nine-in-ten Jewish voters believe antisemitism has increased in the last four years, including 63% who say it has increased a lot.
- ➤ Enthusiasm about next year's elections is already at a fever pitch, and the uptick in antisemitism has contributed to political activism. Seventy-nine percent of Jewish voters believe this year's elections are "much more important than usual," and more than 90% of every Jewish subgroup believes the 2020 elections are at least somewhat more



In the last 4 years, do you think incidents of anti-Semitism in America have increased a lot, increased a little, decreased a little, or decreased a lot?

important than usual. Among the 90% of voters who believe antisemitism has increased in the past four years, a plurality (46%), including a majority of Jewish Democrats, say it has spurred them to get involved in political activism.

