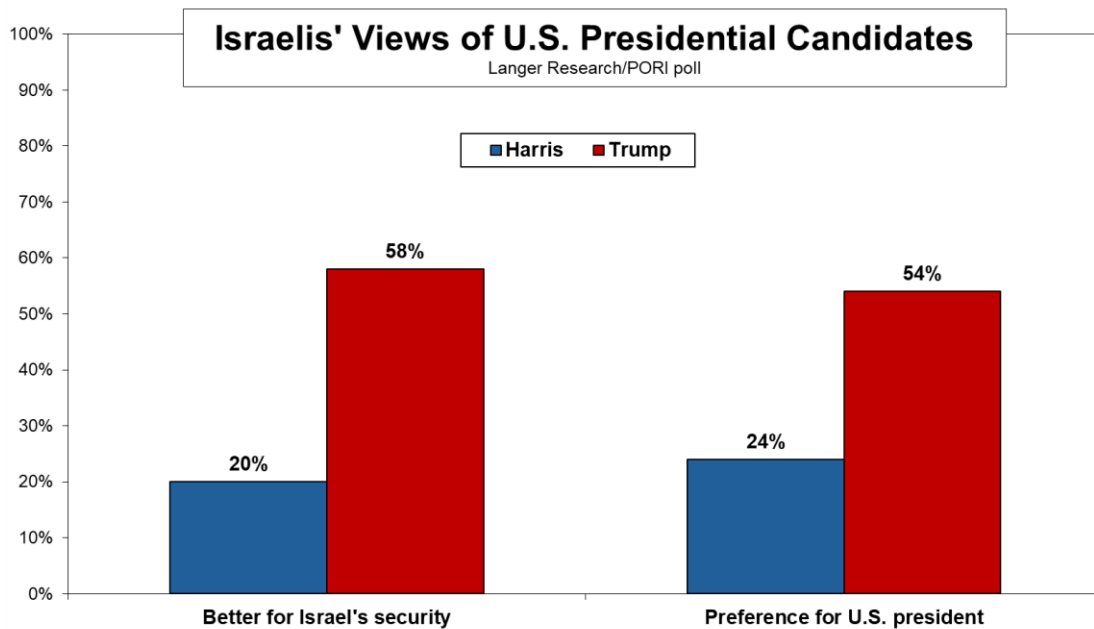


## **Israelis Broadly Favor Trump Over Harris on Security and in Vote Preference Alike**

Israelis broadly pick Donald Trump over Kamala Harris as better for Israel’s security and in turn favor Trump for the U.S. presidency, albeit with sharp political divisions, a national survey by [Langer Research Associates](#) and PORI ([Public Opinion Research Israel](#)) finds.

Fifty-eight percent of Israelis in the survey, conducted in September, said Trump would be better for Israel’s security, vs. 20 percent for Harris. If they had a vote in the U.S. election, Israelis said they’d pick Trump over Harris by a similar 54-24 percent, with the rest taking a pass.



To a large degree, these attitudes follow the fault lines in Israeli politics. Among people who would support parties in the ruling coalition led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu if an election in Israel were today, 88 percent picked Trump as better for Israel’s security and 84 percent preferred him for the U.S. presidency – results that may reflect tensions between Netanyahu’s government and the Biden administration.

Supporters of Israeli opposition parties, by contrast, split closely, 39-37 percent, Harris-Trump, in preference for the presidency. That said, even opposition party supporters picked Trump over Harris as better for Israel’s security, albeit by a comparatively close 41-32 percent.

While much attention now is on the conflict with Hezbollah and Iran, another question finds majority Israeli rejection of the suggestion that Israel is doing too little to avoid civilian casualties in the war in Gaza. To the contrary, “considering the challenges of conducting battles in populated areas,” 54 percent said Israel is doing too much to avoid such casualties. Twenty-eight percent said it’s doing the right amount; 14 percent, too little.

The three questions in this study were included in a random-sample, face-to-face survey of 1,012 Israelis, with fieldwork by PORI, Sept. 8-22, 2024, before the bulk of Israel’s campaign against Hezbollah and Iran’s subsequent missile attack this week. (Eighty-two percent of interviews were completed before Sept. 17, when thousands of Hezbollah pagers exploded.)

*The U.S. election*

In addition to the political gaps in attitudes toward the U.S. presidential candidates, ethnic and religious differences are sharp. Sixty-four percent of Jews picked Trump over Harris as better for Israel’s security, while Arabs, who account for about 17 percent of Israel’s adult citizen population, divided essentially evenly, 27-24 percent; 36 percent saw no difference between the two. In vote preference, Jews went for Trump by 58-23 percent, while Arabs split 28-26 percent; the rest said they wouldn’t participate or didn’t express a preference.

Gaps also are present within the Jewish population. The shares picking Trump as better on security ranged from 53 percent of secular Jews to 88 percent of Orthodox Jews. Patterns are similar in preference for the presidency: Secular Jews favored Trump by 11 points, 46-35 percent, widening to 65-17 percent among traditional Jews and 69-3 percent among ultra-Orthodox Jews, and peaking for Trump at 85-4 percent among Orthodox Jews.

<b>Trump vs. Harris in Israeli Attitudes</b>				
<i>Langer Research/PORI poll</i>				
	<b>Better for Israel’s security</b>		<b>Support for president</b>	
	<b>Trump</b>	<b>Harris</b>	<b>Trump</b>	<b>Harris</b>
<b>All</b>	58%	20%	54%	24%
<b>Support coalition parties</b>	88	4	84	6
<b>Support opposition parties</b>	41	32	37	39
<b>Jews</b>	64	19	58	23
<b>Arabs</b>	27	24	28	26
<b>Orthodox Jews</b>	88	3	85	4
<b>Ultra-Orthodox Jews</b>	79	3	69	3
<b>Traditional Jews</b>	69	14	65	17
<b>Secular Jews</b>	53	28	46	35
<b>Age 18-34</b>	65	16	58	19
<b>Age 65+</b>	52	26	48	30

U.S. election preferences among Israeli Jews overall are sharply different from those of Jews in the United States. In ABC News/Ipsos polling, combining late August and mid-September surveys for an adequate sample size, U.S. Jews favored Harris over Trump by 63-33 percent.

Another difference is by age. In the United States, Harris does best with younger adults. In Israel, it's Trump who does best in this group, with 65 percent of those younger than 35 picking Trump on security and 58 percent supporting him for president. These drop to 52 percent and 48 percent for Trump, respectively, among Israelis age 65 and older.

Trump also prevails among Israelis in strength of sentiment. Thirty percent overall said they'd "surely" support Trump for president, vs. 10 percent who say this about Harris; and 37 percent said Trump would be "much" better for Israel's security, compared with 12 percent for Harris.

*Civilian casualties in Gaza*

There also are ethnic, religious and political gaps in views of efforts to avoid civilian casualties in Gaza, given the challenges of urban combat. Strikingly, while just 7 percent of Jews said Israel is doing too little to avoid such casualties, that rises to 50 percent of Israeli Arabs.

Among Jews, about eight in 10 of those who are Orthodox or ultra-Orthodox said Israel is doing too much to avoid civilian casualties. This falls to 63 percent of traditional Jews and 47 percent of secular Jews.

Politically, among those who favor coalition parties, 76 percent said Israel is doing too much to avoid civilian casualties. This declines to 41 percent of opposition party supporters, with 21 percent saying Israel is doing too little; 34 percent, about the right amount.

<b>Israel's efforts to avoid civilian casualties in Gaza</b>			
<i>Langer Research/PORI poll</i>			
	<b>Too little</b>	<b>Too much</b>	<b>About right</b>
<b>All</b>	14%	54%	28%
<b>Support coalition parties</b>	4	76	19
<b>Support opposition parties</b>	21	41	34
<b>Jews</b>	7	59	31
<b>Arabs</b>	50	26	17
<b>Orthodox Jews</b>	3	81	16
<b>Ultra-Orthodox Jews</b>	5	79	15
<b>Traditional Jews</b>	5	63	31
<b>Secular Jews</b>	9	47	39

*About this survey*

This survey is a joint project of Langer Research Associates, a New York-based firm that specializes in the design, management and analysis of public opinion research domestically and

internationally; and PORI (Public Opinion Research Israel), a leading Israeli public opinion research firm founded in 1966. The study's questions were asked as a part of PORI's September face-to-face omnibus survey.

The survey was conducted in Hebrew and Arabic among 1,012 respondents across Israel via area probability sampling. One hundred primary sampling units were randomly selected, with households selected via random walk and respondents selected via the last-birthday method. Up to three revisits were made at each selected household. In quality control, 20 percent of each interviewer's work was re-checked randomly by phone.

Data were weighted for probability of selection and calibrated to census data for sex by age and region. Results have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 points for the full sample, including a design effect due to weighting of 1.05. As in any survey, error margins are larger for subgroups. Sampling error is not the only source of differences in polls.

Questions and topline results follow:

1. Imagine you could vote in the U.S. presidential election and the election were today. For whom would you vote - (Kamala Harris) or (Donald Trump)?

	9/22/24
Harris NET	24%
Would surely vote for Kamala Harris	10
Would probably vote for Kamala Harris	14
Trump NET	54
Would probably vote for Donald Trump	24
Would surely vote for Donald Trump	30
Would not vote (vol.)	15
Don't know/refused	8

2. Regardless of whom you would vote for, which candidate do you think would be better for Israel's security - (Kamala Harris) or (Donald Trump)?

	9/22/24
Harris NET	20%
Harris would be much better than Trump	12
Harris would be somewhat better than Trump	8
Trump NET	58
Trump would be somewhat better than Harris	22
Trump would be much better than Harris	37
No difference	16
Don't know/refused	6

3. In your opinion, considering the challenge of conducting battles in populated areas, is Israel making too little effort, too much effort, or the right amount of effort, to avoid casualties in the civilian population in Gaza?

	9/22/24
Too little effort	14%
Too much effort	54
Right amount of effort	28
Don't know/refused	4

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