

Results of Racism and Shared Society Poll among Jewish and Arab Israelis

General

The poll was conducted between September 17 and 23, 2014 by the Panels Research Institute in order to examine positions in Israel towards racism and the concept of a shared society.

The poll was conducted among 594 Israeli citizens (Jews and Arabs according to their relative share of the population).

The poll was conducted via the Internet panel Panel4all.

Maximum sampling error: $\pm 4.1\%$.

Summary of the results:

Mark all groups below against whom you think racism exists today:

	%	N
Immigrants from Ethiopia	76.9%	457
Arabs	68.3%	406
Refugees and work migrants	57.8%	344
Orthodox Jews	45.8%	272
Immigrants from former USSR	35.2%	209
Sephardim	33.6%	200
Other group	6.0%	36
There is no racism against any group in Israel	4.0%	24

As in a poll conducted in March 2014, 80% of the respondents think that there is racism against Ethiopian Jews in Israel and more than two thirds think that there is racism against Arabs in Israel. Only 4% think that there is no racism at all in Israel.

Lately there has been an increase of violent acts against Arabs in Israel. Do you:

	%	N
Strongly condemn these actions	48.7%	289
Quite condemn these actions	20.2%	120
Total condemn these actions	68.9%	409
Do not condemn and do not justify these actions	14.0%	83
Quite justify these actions	4.3%	26
Strongly justify these actions	3.4%	20
Total justify these actions	7.7%	46
I don't think that violent actions against Arabs have increased recently	9.5%	57
Total	100.0%	594

Almost 70% of the respondents condemn the violent actions against Arabs. 8% justify these actions.

Who of the following do you think is responsible for fighting phenomena of hatred and violence based on racism in Israel? (More than one answer is possible.)

	%	N
The media	64.8%	385
The Prime Minister	50.4%	300
The Minister of Education	50.2%	298
The courts	47.9%	285
The mayors	39.1%	232
None of the above	12.3%	73

The main factors mentioned by respondents as responsible for fighting phenomena of hatred and violence based on racism in Israel are the media, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Education.

Do you think that efforts should be made to bring Jews and Arabs in Israel closer together? If so, which are the most effective ways in your opinion to bring Jews and Arabs closer together? (More than one answer is possible.)

	%	N
Educating against racism and for a shared society in schools	55.7%	331
Meaningful encounters between Jewish and Arab students throughout their years at school	48.8%	290
Joint economical projects	41.8%	248
Joint sports, cultural and leisure activities	41.1%	244
The Prime Minister and other senior ministers have to take a clear public stand against racism and for a shared society	38.6%	230
Enhancing the integration of Arabs into the Israeli labor market	36.4%	216
Learning the Arab language in Jewish schools and in parallel learning Hebrew in Arab schools	34.3%	204
Integrating Arab Israeli citizens into military service or civil service	33.9%	202
Signing a peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians	32.7%	195
It is not necessary to make an effort to bring Jews and Arabs in Israel closer together	17.2%	102

Education against racism and for a shared society is perceived as the most effective way to bring Jews and Arabs closer together (56% of the respondents). Another 49% of the respondents indicate that they consider meaningful encounters between Jewish and Arab students throughout their years at school as an effective way to bring Jews and Arabs in Israel closer together.

Do you believe that the Ministry of Education is investing enough in enhancing education for a shared society in Israel?

	%	N
Investing too much	7.4%	44
Investing properly	9.1%	54
Total investing	16.5%	98
Does not invest enough	44.8%	266
Does not invest at all	20.4%	121
Total does not invest	65.2%	387
Don't know	18.4%	109
Total	100.0%	594

Almost two thirds of the respondents think that the Ministry of education does not invest enough in enhancing education for a shared society in Israel.

What would you expect from teachers at schools to do in order to enhance a shared society of Jews and Arabs in Israel?

	%	N
I do not expect teachers to relate to this issue - school classes are places to convey knowledge and nothing else	11.2%	67
I expect teachers to react to concrete racist incidents at school	23.9%	142
I expect the education system to act initiatively and continuously against racism and for a shared society of Jews and Arabs in Israel	57.2%	340
I don't know	7.7%	46
Total	100.0%	594

As in the poll conducted in March 2014, also in the poll at hand the majority of the respondents expect the education system to act initiatively and continuously against racism and for a shared society of Jews and Arabs in Israel.

However, the number of respondents who believe that teachers are not supposed to relate to the issue of racism and shared society has grown significantly in comparison to the previous poll (11% now in comparison to 1% in March).

Characteristics of the sample

Sex

	%	N
Male	49.2%	293
Female	50.8%	302
Total	100.0%	594

Age

	%	N
18-20	5.1%	30
21-30	24.2%	144
31-40	20.8%	124
41-50	16.0%	95
+51	33.9%	202
Total	100.0%	594

Area of living

	%	N
North	16.8%	100
Haifa	13.6%	81
Center	25.4%	151
Tel Aviv	18.1%	108
Jerusalem and south	26.1%	155
Total	100.0%	594

Education

	%	N
High school and less	23.5%	140
College	23.2%	138
Academic	53.3%	317
Total	100.0%	594

Income

	%	N
Below average	39.7%	236
Average	17.2%	102
Above average	32.0%	190
Don't want to say	11.1%	66
Total	100.0%	594