

# THE CIVIC HEALTH AND INSTITUTIONS PROJECT



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## THE CIVIC HEALTH AND INSTITUTIONS PROJECT: A 50-STATE SURVEY REPORT #107: JEWISH AMERICAN VIEWS ON THE 2024 ELECTION (PART I)

USA, October 2024

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# THE CIVIC HEALTH AND INSTITUTIONS PROJECT

Report of October 16, 2024, v.1

***The Civic Health and Institutions Project***  
**and**  
***The COVID States Project***

***A joint initiative of:***

Northeastern University,  
Harvard University,  
Rutgers University,  
University of Rochester

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## *The Civic Health and Institutions Project*

### *The COVID States Project*

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#### **Note on methods:**

Between August 30, 2024 and October 8, 2024, we collected a total of 27,993 responses from individuals age 18 and older across all 50 states plus the District of Columbia. The surveys were conducted by PureSpectrum via an online, nonprobability sample. Extensive data quality checks were employed. The sample included 907 Jewish respondents and 27,026 non-Jewish respondents. Jewish respondents answered all questions. For some questions, all non-Jewish respondents were asked. For other questions, only a smaller, randomly selected subsample of the non-Jewish participants were asked. Non-responses were excluded from the calculation of reported percentages. The non-Jewish sample was weighted to reflect the US population with regard to gender, race, age, region, urbanicity, and education. The Jewish sample was weighted to the US national Jewish population on gender, race, age, region, and whether the respondent was a religious or non-religious Jew, based on reports by the Pew Research Center and American Jewish Population Project. More information on methodology is available at [www.chip50.org/survey-methodology](http://www.chip50.org/survey-methodology).

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Or visit us at [www.chip50.org](http://www.chip50.org) or [www.covidstates.org](http://www.covidstates.org).

# **Jewish American Views on the 2024 Election (Part I)**

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## **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- American Jews are much more likely to indicate that they will vote for Vice President Kamala Harris than for former President Donald Trump, preferring her by a margin of 2:1 (60% for Harris, and 30% for Trump.)
- On Israel-Gaza issues, 27% of Jews and 28% of non-Jews said Trump would definitely handle the situation better, while 36% of Jewish respondents said Harris would handle the situation better, compared to 25% of non-Jews in the survey.
- American Jews in the survey saw Trump as strongly pro-Israeli, more so than non-Jews did. A majority of non-Jews (56%) believed Harris offers equal support to both Israelis and Palestinians, compared to 42% of Jews who believe Harris is even-handed.

## **Introduction**

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The combustible mix of widening war in the Middle East following the Oct. 7, 2023 attacks by Hamas on Israeli border towns and subsequent U.S. domestic protests has created a marked period of uncertainty for American Jews. This survey report explores the views and preferences of a national sample of American Jews on a variety of cultural and political issues.

Building on CHIP50's February 2024 report, ["How Do Americans Feel about Israel, Palestine, Jews, and Muslims?"](#), the current report, based on a national survey fielded in August 30 to October 8, 2024, compares the responses of American Jews (n=907) to non-Jews among the full national sample of all U.S. persons (N=27,933).

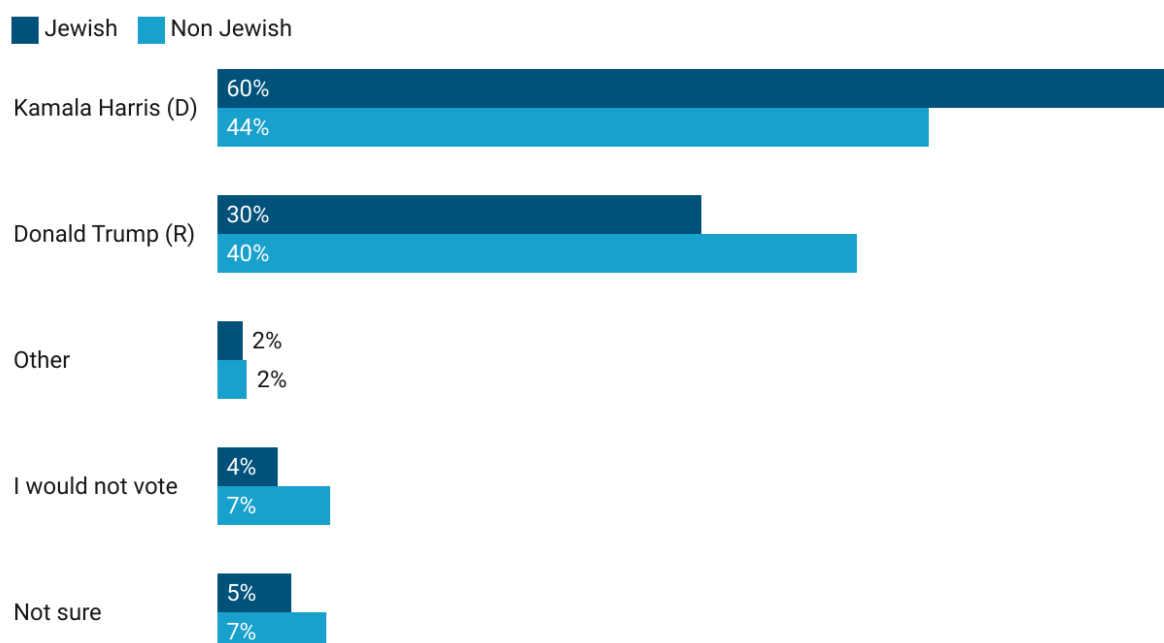
This method allows for a deeper look at the distinctive concerns of persons of Jewish faith and descent, relative to the wider pool of non-Jewish American respondents.

The following are key highlights from the survey. A full data table of relevant findings is available in the Appendix. This is Part I of a two-part report.

## Comparative Views on the Presidential Election

Consistent with other polling and research indicating a [much greater likelihood of Democratic party affiliation](#), American Jews in our survey expressed stronger electoral support for Vice President Kamala Harris than for former president Donald Trump, preferring her by a margin of about 2:1 in the election (60% for Harris, and 30% for Trump.) That pattern stands in contrast to the preferences of non-Jews in the sample, who favored Harris over Trump by only 4 percentage points (44% to 40%).

### If the 2024 U.S. presidential election were held today, which candidate would you vote for?



National Sample, N = 27,933, 08/30/2024-10/08/2024

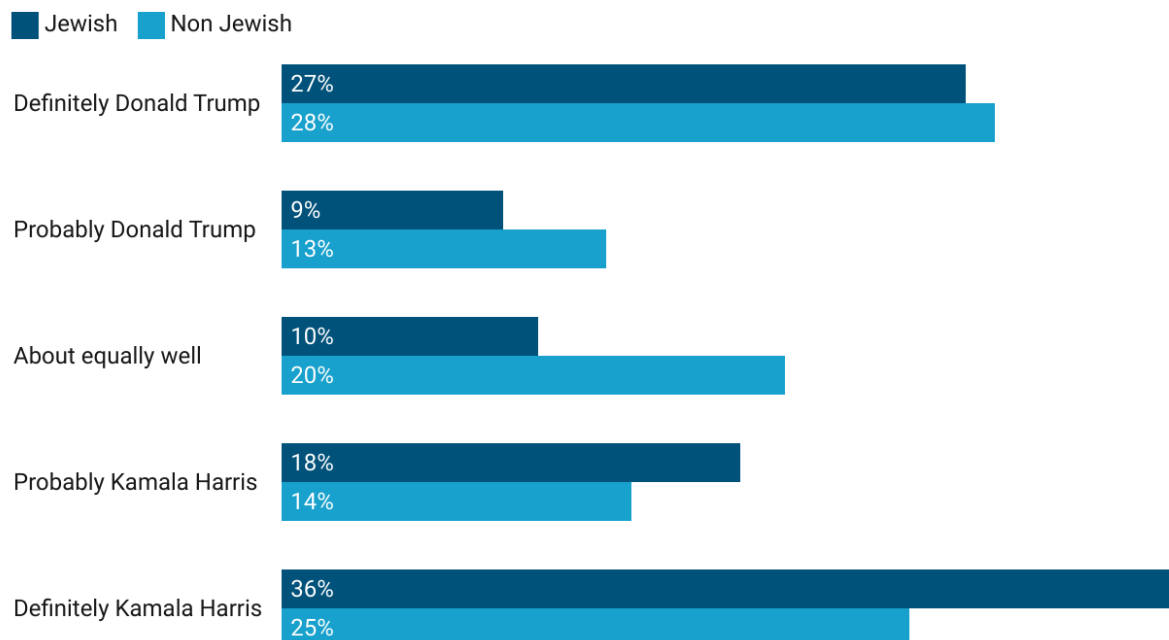
**Figure 1.**

## Leadership in Israel-Hamas Conflict

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We asked respondents to indicate which U.S. presidential candidate would better handle the fighting between Israel and Hamas, which has now continued for more than a year, since the Oct. 7, 2023, attacks. Nearly identical percentages of Jews (27%) and non-Jews (28%) in the survey said Trump would definitely handle the situation better, while 36% of Jewish respondents said Harris would handle the situation better, compared to 25% of non-Jews.

### Which presidential candidate do you think would better handle the following issues? The Israel-Hamas conflict



National Sample, N = 27,933, 08/30/2024-10/08/2024

**Figure 2.**

## Ideal Support for Israelis and Palestinians

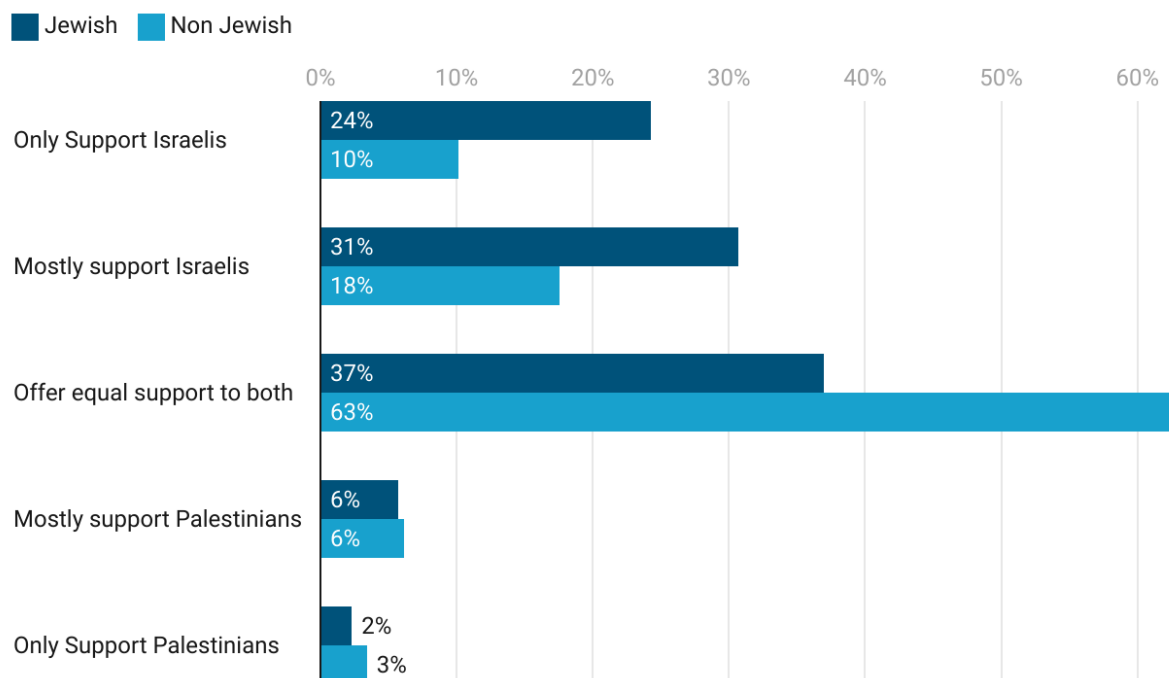
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When asked about the ideal policy stance that the United States should have, a majority (63%) of non-Jews and a plurality of Jews (37%) chose the option "offer equal support to both." However, Jewish respondents tilted far more substantially toward support of Israel than non-Jewish respondents.

A majority of Jewish respondents indicated that the United States should “only support Israelis” or “mostly support Israelis” (55% combined), compared to 28% of non-Jews who favored Israeli support.

Notably, support for favoring Palestinians mostly or exclusively was not a popular choice, and support for those positions by Jews and non-Jews alike did not, combined, even rise above single-digit percentages (8% among Jews, 9% among non-Jews.)

### Which point on the scale below best reflects what you think U.S. (general) support for Israelis and Palestinians should be?



National Sample, N = 27,933, 08/20/2024 - 10/08/2024

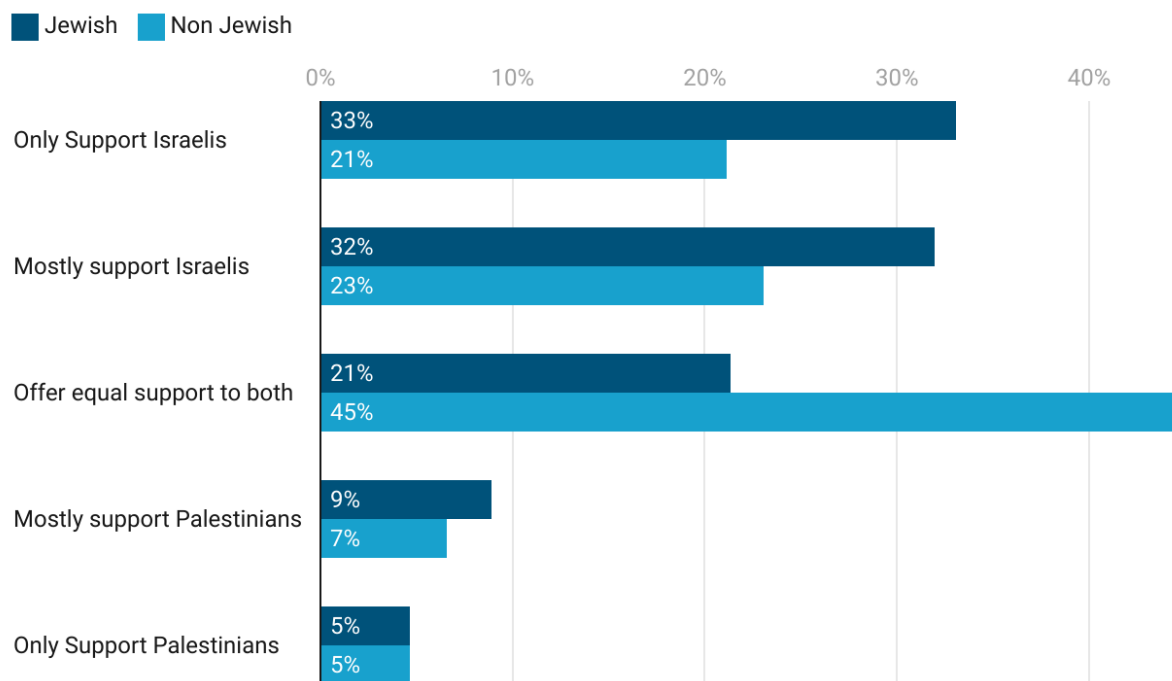
**Figure 3.**

## Trump Support for Israelis over Palestinians

American Jews in the survey saw Trump as strongly pro-Israeli, more so than non-Jews did. When asked about whether Trump supports Israelis or Palestinians more, nearly two-thirds (65%) of Jewish respondents said he “only” or “mostly” Israelis, compared to 44% of non-Jews who held those views.

Indeed, while nearly half (45%) of non-Jews saw Trump as offering equal support to both sides, only about one-fifth (21%) of Jews believed that Trump is even-handed.

### Which point on the scale below best reflects where you think Donald Trump stands when it comes to U.S. (general) support for Israelis and Palestinians?



National Sample, N = 27,933, 08/30/2024-10/08/2024

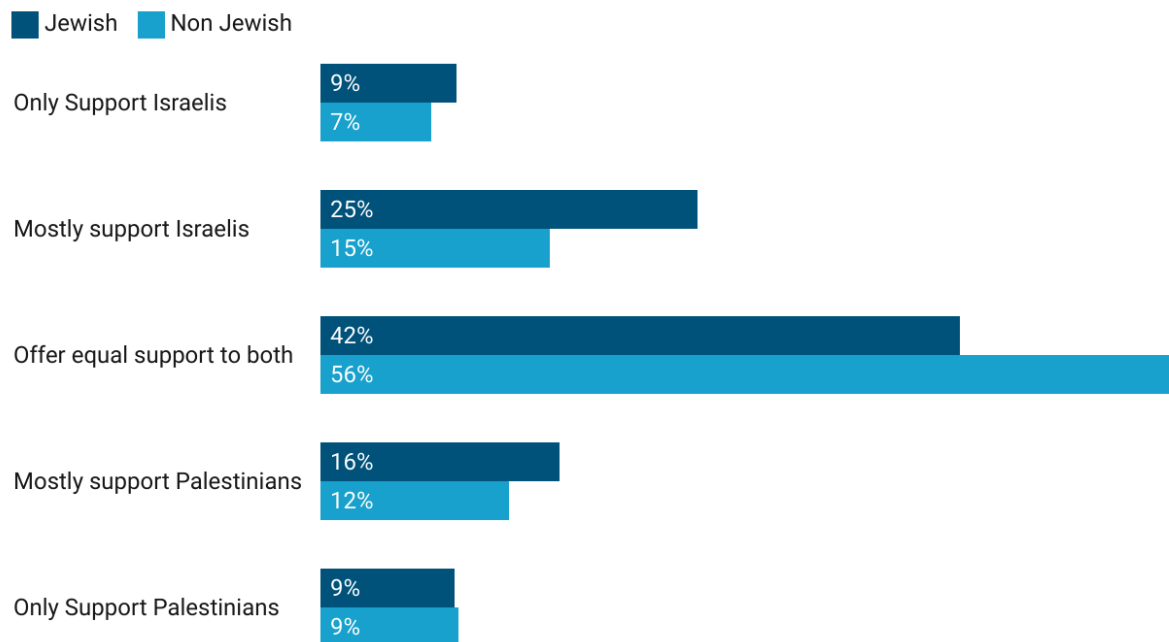
**Figure 4.**

## Harris's Even-Handedness with Israelis, Palestinians

A majority of non-Jews (56%) believed Harris offers equal support to both Israelis and Palestinians, compared to 42% of Jews who believe Harris is even-handed. Still, one-third of Jewish respondents indicated that Harris "only" or "mostly" supports Israelis, with 25% of Jews saying that Harris mostly or only favors Palestinians.



## Which point on the scale below best reflects where you think Kamala Harris stands when it comes to U.S. (general) support for Israelis and Palestinians?



National Sample, N = 27,933, 08/30/2024-10/08/2024

**Figure 5.**

## Conclusion

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This report finds that Jewish Americans continue to hold more liberal views on election matters, as compared to non-Jews, and their support for Vice President Harris is strong relative to their non-Jewish counterparts. Donald Trump is perceived as more squarely pro-Israel, while Harris is considered by Jewish respondents to be more even-handed. The findings presented here are, of course, a snapshot in time, but they contribute to a complex and evolving picture for Jewish Americans as they navigate and respond to this time of election, war, and evolving cultural dynamics.

## Appendix A: Data Tables

Values in parentheses represent margins of error at the 95 percent confidence level.

Table 1. If the 2024 U.S. presidential election were held today, which candidate would you vote for?

	Jewish Respondents		Non-Jewish Respondents	
	Count	Percent (MOE)	Count	Percent (MOE)
<b>Kamala Harris (D)</b>	542	59.8% (3.2%)	11967	44.4% (0.6%)
<b>Donald Trump (R)</b>	274	30.2% (3%)	10751	39.9% (0.6%)
<b>Other</b>	14	1.6% (0.8%)	511	1.9% (0.2%)
<b>I would not vote</b>	34	3.8% (1.2%)	1906	7.1% (0.3%)
<b>Not sure</b>	42	4.6% (1.4%)	1843	6.8% (0.3%)
<b>Total</b>	907	100%	26979	100%

Table 2. Which presidential candidate do you think would better handle the following issues? The Israel-Hamas conflict

	Jewish Respondents		Non-Jewish Respondents	
	Count	Percent (MOE)	Count	Percent (MOE)
<b>Definitely Donald Trump</b>	209	27.2% (3.2%)	6651	28.3% (0.6%)
<b>Probably Donald Trump</b>	68	8.8% (2%)	3030	12.9% (0.4%)
<b>About equally well</b>	78	10.2% (2.1%)	4686	20% (0.5%)
<b>Probably Kamala Harris</b>	140	18.2% (2.7%)	3259	13.9% (0.4%)
<b>Definitely Kamala Harris</b>	272	35.5% (3.4%)	5841	24.9% (0.6%)
<b>Total</b>	767	100%	23467	100%

Table 3. Which point on the scale below best reflects where you think Donald Trump stands when it comes to U.S. (general) support for Israelis and Palestinian?

	<b>Jewish Respondents</b>		<b>Non-Jewish Respondents</b>	
	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent (MOE)</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent (MOE)</b>
<b>Only Support Israelis</b>	297	33.1% (3.1%)	684	21.1% (1.4%)
<b>Mostly support Israelis</b>	287	32% (3.1%)	748	23.1% (1.5%)
<b>Offer equal support to both</b>	191	21.3% (2.7%)	1442	44.5% (1.7%)
<b>Mostly support Palestinians</b>	80	8.9% (1.9%)	215	6.6% (0.9%)
<b>Only Support Palestinians</b>	42	4.7% (1.4%)	151	4.6% (0.7%)
<b>Total</b>	897	100%	3240	100%

Table 4. Which point on the scale below best reflects where you think Kamala Harris stands when it comes to U.S. (general) support for Israelis and Palestinians?

	<b>Jewish Respondents</b>		<b>Non-Jewish Respondents</b>	
	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent (MOE)</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent (MOE)</b>
<b>Only Support Israelis</b>	80	8.9% (1.9%)	237	7.3% (0.9%)
<b>Mostly support Israelis</b>	223	24.7% (2.8%)	490	15.1% (1.2%)
<b>Offer equal support to both</b>	379	42% (3.2%)	1821	56.1% (1.7%)
<b>Mostly support Palestinians</b>	142	15.7% (2.4%)	403	12.4% (1.1%)
<b>Only Support Palestinians</b>	79	8.8% (1.8%)	292	9% (1%)
<b>Total</b>	903	100%	3244	100%