

20 October 2023

For:

The Middle East Forum

Subject: Results of a sample of attitudes regarding the Iron Swords War among the general Israeli population

Dear Sir/Madam

Analysis of the results of a survey of attitudes toward the Iron Swords War, conducted among the general population in Israel. The research and analysis were carried out using innovative sample methods developed by Direct Polls Ltd., utilizing an innovative digital system to collect data. Analyses were conducted using the stratification method and accepted statistical methods.

Please feel free to contact us at any time.

Here are a few highlights:

Date of survey execution: October 17, 2023.

Size of the sample: 1,086 adults (aged 18 and older) representing the general population of Israel.

Statistical error: 4.0% +/- 95%.

Director of research: Direct Polls Ltd., via Shlomo Filber.

A mandatory disclaimer must accompany all publications of research results to external parties >>>

The sample was conducted by Shlomo Filber and Zuriel Sharon through Direct Polls Ltd., for the Middle East Forum on October 17, 2023. A digital system and panel were used to survey 1,086 sampled adults (18+) in a representative sample of the Israeli population. A statistical sampling error of 4.0% with a 95% probability was calculated.

Results of research >>>
1. In the context of the war called "Swords of Iron," what should be Israel's primary objective?

	Secure the unconditional release of captives held by Hamas	Disarm Hamas completely	Eliminate Hamas	Weaken Hamas' fighting spirit	Don't know/Prefer not to answer	Total
The entire sample	15%	13%	70%	1%	1%	100%
Secular	18%	16%	64%	1%	1%	100%
Traditionalist	14%	11%	74%	0%	0%	100%
Traditionalist (observe Shabbat)	9%	12%	78%	1%	0%	100%
National Religious	4%	9%	85%	2%	0%	100%
orthodox	6%	0%	87%	3%	3%	100%
Other	29%	9%	47%	3%	12%	100%
The southern region	13%	9%	77%	0%	1%	100%
Sharon area - Netanya and Hadera	20%	16%	62%	2%	0%	100%
Haifa area and the north	15%	13%	68%	2%	2%	100%
Judea and Samaria region	12%	6%	76%	6%	0%	100%
Jerusalem area	6%	10%	81%	2%	1%	100%
Central region and Tel Aviv	16%	15%	68%	0%	1%	100%
Rightist	5%	5%	88%	1%	1%	100%
Right-center	9%	12%	78%	1%	1%	100%
centrist	19%	17%	62%	2%	1%	100%
Left-center	27%	22%	49%	1%	1%	100%
Leftist	44%	22%	31%	0%	3%	100%
Likud	8%	8%	82%	0%	1%	100%
HaMaḥane HaMamlakhti	11%	18%	70%	1%	1%	100%
Mifleget HaAvoda	44%	21%	35%	0%	0%	100%
Religious Zionist & Otzma Yehudit	3%	6%	89%	2%	0%	100%
Yesh Atid	25%	15%	59%	1%	1%	100%
Yisrael Beiteinu	3%	25%	69%	3%	0%	100%
Meretz	28%	35%	35%	3%	0%	100%
Shas	8%	8%	85%	0%	0%	100%
Arab political party	33%	4%	54%	2%	8%	100%
Other party	2%	12%	80%	5%	0%	100%
I didn't vote	12%	16%	68%	0%	4%	100%

2. Which of the following do you agree more with?

	Don't know/Prefer not to answer	The government should initiate a ground operation in Gaza to eradicate Hamas and its attack capabilities	The government should avoid a ground operation and find some other way to deal with Hamas	Total
The entire sample	7%	68%	25%	100%
Secular	9%	64%	27%	100%
Traditionalist	5%	74%	21%	100%
Traditionalist (observe Shabbat)	3%	73%	24%	100%
National Religious	4%	78%	18%	100%
orthodox	10%	65%	26%	100%
Other	12%	44%	44%	100%
The southern region	6%	69%	25%	100%
Sharon area - Netanya and Hadera	8%	62%	30%	100%
Haifa area and the north	8%	67%	25%	100%
Judea and Samaria region	6%	71%	24%	100%
Jerusalem area	4%	72%	24%	100%
Central region and Tel Aviv	7%	69%	24%	100%
Rightist	4%	77%	19%	100%
Right-center	4%	78%	17%	100%
centrist	8%	63%	29%	100%
Left-center	13%	55%	33%	100%
Leftist	15%	34%	51%	100%
Likud	5%	79%	16%	100%
HaMaḥane HaMamlakhti	4%	72%	23%	100%
Mifleget HaAvoda	15%	41%	44%	100%
Religious Zionist & Otzma Yehudit	2%	75%	23%	100%
Yesh Atid	10%	59%	31%	100%
Yisrael Beiteinu	9%	84%	6%	100%
Meretz	10%	45%	45%	100%
Shas	4%	65%	31%	100%
Arab political party	12%	52%	37%	100%
Other party	5%	76%	20%	100%
I didn't vote	20%	44%	36%	100%

3. If Saudi Arabia demands significant concessions to the Palestinian Authority by Israel as the price for formal ties, should Israel agree to these?

	Don't know/Prefer not to answer	No	Yes	Total
The entire sample	7%	72%	21%	100%
Secular	8%	63%	29%	100%
Traditionalist	8%	80%	13%	100%
Traditionalist (observe Shabbat)	1%	89%	10%	100%
National Religious	5%	89%	6%	100%
orthodox	6%	90%	3%	100%
Other	6%	47%	47%	100%
The southern region	7%	81%	12%	100%
Sharon area - Netanya and Hadera	8%	64%	27%	100%
Haifa area and the north	6%	70%	24%	100%
Judea and Samaria region	3%	85%	12%	100%
Jerusalem area	6%	81%	13%	100%
Central region and Tel Aviv	7%	69%	24%	100%
Rightist	6%	90%	4%	100%
Right-center	7%	79%	14%	100%
centrist	7%	61%	33%	100%
Left-center	8%	50%	42%	100%
Leftist	9%	47%	44%	100%
Likud	7%	85%	8%	100%
HaMaḥane HaMamlakhti	5%	69%	26%	100%
Mifleget HaAvoda	21%	32%	47%	100%
Religious Zionist & Otzma Yehudit	4%	95%	1%	100%
Yesh Atid	7%	61%	32%	100%
Yisrael Beiteinu	3%	72%	25%	100%
Meretz	8%	28%	65%	100%
Shas	15%	85%	0%	100%
Arab political party	6%	62%	33%	100%
Other party	2%	88%	10%	100%
I didn't vote	8%	72%	20%	100%

4. Which statement resonates more with your viewpoint?

	Don't know/Prefer not to answer	Israel must consider the perspectives of allies, particularly the United States, on security matters	Israel must ignore external demands and make its own security decisions	Total
The entire sample	3%	43%	55%	100%
Secular	3%	55%	42%	100%
Traditionalist	0%	34%	66%	100%
Traditionalist (observe Shabbat)	2%	28%	70%	100%
National Religious	7%	18%	75%	100%
orthodox	6%	23%	71%	100%
Other	3%	56%	41%	100%
The southern region	4%	34%	62%	100%
Sharon area - Netanya and Hadera	3%	52%	45%	100%
Haifa area and the north	4%	46%	50%	100%
Judea and Samaria region	12%	26%	62%	100%
Jerusalem area	1%	31%	69%	100%
Central region and Tel Aviv	1%	46%	53%	100%
Rightist	4%	15%	81%	100%
Right-center	1%	38%	61%	100%
centrist	3%	59%	38%	100%
Left-center	3%	67%	30%	100%
Leftist	4%	76%	19%	100%
Likud	2%	23%	75%	100%
HaMaḥane HaMamlakhti	2%	58%	40%	100%
Mifleget HaAvoda	6%	85%	9%	100%
Religious Zionist & Otzma Yehudit	7%	9%	84%	100%
Yesh Atid	2%	62%	35%	100%
Yisrael Beiteinu	3%	41%	56%	100%
Meretz	0%	75%	25%	100%
Shas	0%	19%	81%	100%
Arab political party	6%	46%	48%	100%
Other party	0%	37%	63%	100%
I didn't vote	4%	40%	56%	100%

5. Which do you see as key mistakes leading to the catastrophic failure on Oct. 7? (more than one answer permitted)

	Don't know/ Prefer not to answer	A military that relies too much on defensive measures	Poor intelligence capabilities	Misconduct by the political echelon	The wrong "concept" about Hamas	Total
The entire sample	2%	27%	29%	49%	29%	100%
Secular	1%	22%	24%	63%	25%	100%
Traditionalist	1%	25%	34%	44%	32%	100%
Traditionalist (observe Shabbat)	5%	25%	38%	26%	34%	100%
National Religious orthodox	3%	57%	33%	18%	43%	100%
Other	10%	45%	19%	19%	39%	100%
The southern region	9%	21%	24%	56%	18%	100%
Sharon area - Netanya and Hadera	1%	32%	29%	44%	30%	100%
Haifa area and the north	3%	20%	27%	60%	23%	100%
Judea and Samaria region	3%	20%	25%	52%	30%	100%
Jerusalem area	0%	71%	18%	29%	38%	100%
Central region and Tel Aviv	4%	41%	31%	31%	34%	100%
Rightist	1%	24%	31%	53%	29%	100%
Right-center	3%	42%	41%	16%	38%	100%
centrist	2%	24%	30%	44%	33%	100%
Left-center	1%	16%	21%	73%	21%	100%
Leftist	1%	22%	20%	74%	26%	100%
Likud	4%	18%	9%	84%	16%	100%
HaMaḥane HaMamlakhti	2%	32%	44%	19%	39%	100%
Mifleget HaAvoda	1%	19%	22%	71%	18%	100%
Religious Zionist & Otzma Yehudit	0%	24%	15%	82%	21%	100%
Yesh Atid	1%	58%	30%	17%	42%	100%
Yisrael Beiteinu	0%	13%	19%	80%	25%	100%
Meretz	0%	25%	19%	59%	28%	100%
Shas	3%	30%	10%	85%	10%	100%
Arab political party	15%	31%	38%	15%	35%	100%
Other party	6%	21%	21%	56%	25%	100%
I didn't vote	2%	41%	37%	20%	41%	100%
I didn't vote	12%	12%	32%	48%	20%	100%

6. What priority do you give to the lives of Israeli captives held by Hamas?

	Don't know/ Prefer not to answer	Their lives are sacred, so avoid provocative steps, engage in prisoner swaps	Their lives cannot take precedence over the war effort, so do what need to be done	Total
The entire sample	12%	33%	55%	100%
Secular	12%	38%	50%	100%
Traditionalist	11%	33%	56%	100%
Traditionalist (observe Shabbat)	16%	26%	58%	100%
National Religious	13%	14%	74%	100%
orthodox	16%	16%	68%	100%
Other	15%	53%	32%	100%
The southern region	12%	27%	61%	100%
Sharon area - Netanya and Hadera	8%	37%	55%	100%
Haifa area and the north	14%	39%	47%	100%
Judea and Samaria region	15%	12%	74%	100%
Jerusalem area	15%	27%	58%	100%
Central region and Tel Aviv	12%	34%	53%	100%
Rightist	13%	18%	70%	100%
Right-center	14%	24%	62%	100%
centrist	12%	41%	47%	100%
Left-center	13%	53%	33%	100%
Leftist	4%	68%	28%	100%
Likud	11%	23%	66%	100%
HaMaḥane HaMamlakhti	11%	37%	52%	100%
Mifleget HaAvoda	15%	56%	29%	100%
Religious Zionist & Otzma Yehudit	14%	15%	71%	100%
Yesh Atid	12%	47%	41%	100%
Yisrael Beiteinu	22%	13%	66%	100%
Meretz	8%	70%	23%	100%
Shas	19%	19%	62%	100%
Arab political party	13%	42%	44%	100%
Other party	15%	10%	76%	100%
I didn't vote	20%	36%	44%	100%

7. In your opinion, following the war, is it necessary to implement mandatory IDF conscription for all Israeli citizens, including the ultra-Orthodox sector and Arab society?

	There is no need to implement mandatory recruitment for everyone	We need to focus on expanding mandatory recruitment in the ultra-Orthodox sector	We must focus on mandatory recruitment in Arab society	Conscription must be enforced for everyone, including the ultra-Orthodox sector and Arab society	All citizens must be required to perform national or military service	Total
The entire sample	14%	17%	1%	17%	51%	100%
Secular	7%	18%	0%	21%	53%	100%
Traditionalist	13%	16%	1%	16%	54%	100%
Traditionalist (observe Shabbat)	19%	15%	0%	12%	54%	100%
National Religious	25%	18%	3%	7%	48%	100%
orthodox	74%	0%	3%	3%	19%	100%
Other	35%	12%	0%	15%	38%	100%
The southern region	14%	18%	1%	15%	52%	100%
Sharon area - Netanya and Hadera	12%	14%	1%	18%	55%	100%
Haifa area and the north	10%	16%	0%	19%	54%	100%
Judea and Samaria region	24%	29%	3%	9%	35%	100%
Jerusalem area	31%	16%	2%	10%	41%	100%
Central region and Tel Aviv	12%	16%	0%	18%	53%	100%
Rightist	26%	18%	1%	9%	45%	100%
Right-center	14%	13%	0%	17%	55%	100%
centrist	5%	20%	1%	19%	56%	100%
Left-center	6%	17%	0%	24%	53%	100%
Leftist	15%	7%	0%	31%	47%	100%
Likud	20%	16%	1%	11%	52%	100%
HaMaḥane HaMamlakhti	7%	19%	1%	22%	52%	100%
Mifleget HaAvoda	6%	15%	0%	15%	65%	100%
Religious Zionist & Otzma Yehudit	31%	18%	1%	9%	42%	100%
Yesh Atid	2%	19%	0%	24%	56%	100%
Yisrael Beiteinu	6%	13%	3%	25%	53%	100%
Meretz	10%	8%	0%	30%	53%	100%
Shas	62%	0%	8%	4%	27%	100%
Arab political party	17%	13%	0%	23%	46%	100%
Other party	20%	20%	2%	2%	56%	100%
I didn't vote	24%	16%	0%	20%	40%	100%

8. Who, in your opinion, should rule Gaza after the overthrow of the Hamas regime?

	Don't know/ Prefer not to answer	Arab countries	Israel	The Palestinian National Authority	New leadership inside Gaza	Total
The entire sample	10%	19%	24%	22%	24%	100%
Secular	10%	20%	16%	30%	25%	100%
Traditionalist	9%	20%	26%	20%	26%	100%
Traditionalist (observe Shabbat)	12%	24%	35%	10%	19%	100%
National Religious	10%	10%	55%	4%	22%	100%
orthodox	10%	23%	39%	3%	26%	100%
Other	26%	6%	21%	18%	29%	100%
The southern region	7%	22%	26%	15%	29%	100%
Sharon area - Netanya and Hadera	8%	14%	20%	27%	30%	100%
Haifa area and the north	14%	23%	23%	23%	18%	100%
Judea and Samaria region	6%	9%	65%	9%	12%	100%
Jerusalem area	11%	19%	33%	15%	21%	100%
Central region and Tel Aviv	11%	18%	21%	25%	25%	100%
Rightist	9%	16%	49%	5%	21%	100%
Right-center	10%	23%	22%	22%	23%	100%
centrist	9%	21%	10%	28%	31%	100%
Left-center	13%	19%	10%	37%	20%	100%
Leftist	16%	9%	4%	44%	26%	100%
Likud	10%	17%	40%	12%	21%	100%
HaMaḥane HaMamlakhti	10%	22%	11%	29%	28%	100%
Mifleget HaAvoda	24%	9%	0%	47%	21%	100%
Religious Zionist & Otzma Yehudit	8%	19%	55%	3%	15%	100%
Yesh Atid	8%	22%	8%	33%	28%	100%
Yisrael Beiteinu	6%	25%	16%	28%	25%	100%
Meretz	10%	15%	5%	53%	18%	100%
Shas	8%	19%	46%	12%	15%	100%
Arab political party	15%	15%	19%	15%	35%	100%
Other party	12%	17%	34%	5%	32%	100%
I didn't vote	24%	12%	24%	12%	28%	100%

Demographics >>>

9. Religious definition

	The entire sample
Secular	50%
Traditionalist	24%
Traditionalist (observe Shabbat)	10%
National Religious	9%
orthodox	3%
Other	3%
Total	100%

10. National elections

	The entire sample
Likud	28%
HaMaḥane HaMamlakhti	17%
Mifleget HaAvoda	3%
Religious Zionist & Otzma Yehudit	9%
Yesh Atid	22%
Yisrael Beiteinu	3%
Meretz	4%
Shas	2%
Arab political party	5%
Other party	4%
I didn't vote	2%
Total	100%

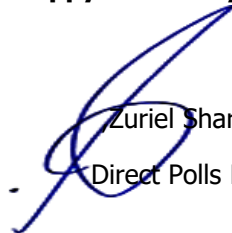
11. Living area

	The entire sample
The southern region	15%
Sharon area - Netanya and Hadera	12%
Haifa area and the north	20%
Judea and Samaria region	3%
Jerusalem area	10%
Central region and Tel Aviv	40%
Total	100%

12. Political perspective

	The entire sample
Rightist	31%
Right-center	24%
centrist	25%
Left-center	13%
Leftist	6%
Total	100%

We will be happy to assist you with any further information.


Zuriel Sharon
Direct Polls Ltd.