

The [Washington Post](#) has published some data on the attitudes of Jews in the USA to the conflict in Gaza, as well as more broadly on Israel, Netanyahu, Hamas and more besides.

The polling was undertaken last month. The sample consisted of around 800 people, which is usually sufficient to achieve statistical significance.

Three findings stand out. First, there is this:

Most American Jews say Israel has committed war crimes against Palestinians; about 4 in 10 say Israel has committed genocide

Q: Do you think Israel has committed ...



Note: The question on genocide began with "The United Nations defines genocide as 'acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group.'"

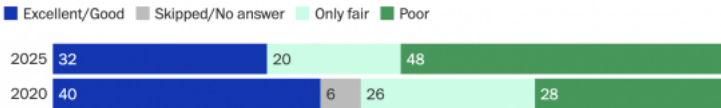
Source: Sept. 2-9, 2025, Washington Post poll of 815 Jewish Americans with a margin of sampling error of +/- 4.7 percentage points. EMILY GUSKIN / THE WASHINGTON POST

I think we can fairly say that the idea that all Jews support the actions of Israel in Gaza is blown asunder as a consequence. They very clearly do not. It cannot, then, be antisemitic to criticise the actions of the Israeli government in Gaza.

This is reinforced by this finding:

American Jews are much more critical of Benjamin Netanyahu's leadership than in 2020

Q: Overall, how would you rate Benjamin Netanyahu's leadership of Israel?



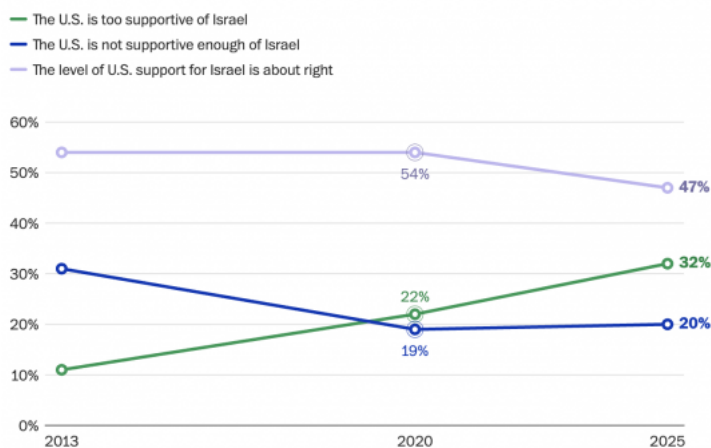
Source: Sept. 2-9, 2025, Washington Post poll of 815 Jewish Americans with a margin of sampling error of +/- 4.7 percentage points. Nov. 19, 2019, to June 3, 2020, Pew Research Center poll of 4,718 Jewish Americans with a margin of error of 3 points. EMILY GUSKIN / THE WASHINGTON POST

Netanyahu is not only failing to take US Jews with him, but many of them are clearly blaming him for what is happening. Doing so, they are differentiating Israel and its politicians, as I have long argued we should.

Third, this is telling:

**Share of American Jews saying the U.S. is too supportive of Israel increases from 2020 and 2013**

Q: Which of the following statements come closest to your overall view of U.S. support for Israel?



Note: Skipped/No answer not shown.

Source: Sept. 2-9, 2025, Washington Post poll of 815 Jewish Americans with a margin of sampling error of +/- 4.7 percentage points. 2013 and 2020 Pew Research Center polls. EMILY GUSKIN / THE WASHINGTON POST

Support for the US (and so, UK) position in Israel is declining significantly. The assumption that there is anything like Jewish unanimity on these issues is false.

There is other data, but I think there is a limit on how much I can share. What is, however, clear is that this community is still very angry with Hamas and sees no role for it in the future of Palestine. It is important that I acknowledge this, but I have never supported Hamas; I support the rights of Palestinians, including the right to decide.

The conclusions, however, are, I think, threefold.

First, the idea that all Jews support Israel in its current actions is just wrong.

Second, the claim that to criticise Israel is, therefore, antisemitic is also wrong.

Third, those who make these claims appear to be antisemites to me: they are associating the actions of Netanyahu with Jews as a whole, and that is entirely unjustified, meaning that they are the ones prejudicing Jewish people as a consequence by misrepresenting the position of many of them in a way wholly unjustified by the facts that the Washington Post discovered.

Nothing justifies antisemitism. Let me be clear about that. But nothing justifies false claims of antisemitism either. Jews are as capable of criticising Netanyahu and his

government as anyone else. It really is time politicians in the US and UK stopped equating Jews as a whole with a government pursuing genocide. It is antisemitic to do so. Instead, let's accept that Jews are of diverse political opinion, just as everyone else. Doing so would help advance understanding considerably and reduce tension because then we could have a proper debate without the unnecessary nuance some are inappropriately bringing to it.

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