



# Public Trust Index<sup>1</sup>

2025 January

The Institute for Liberty and Responsibility

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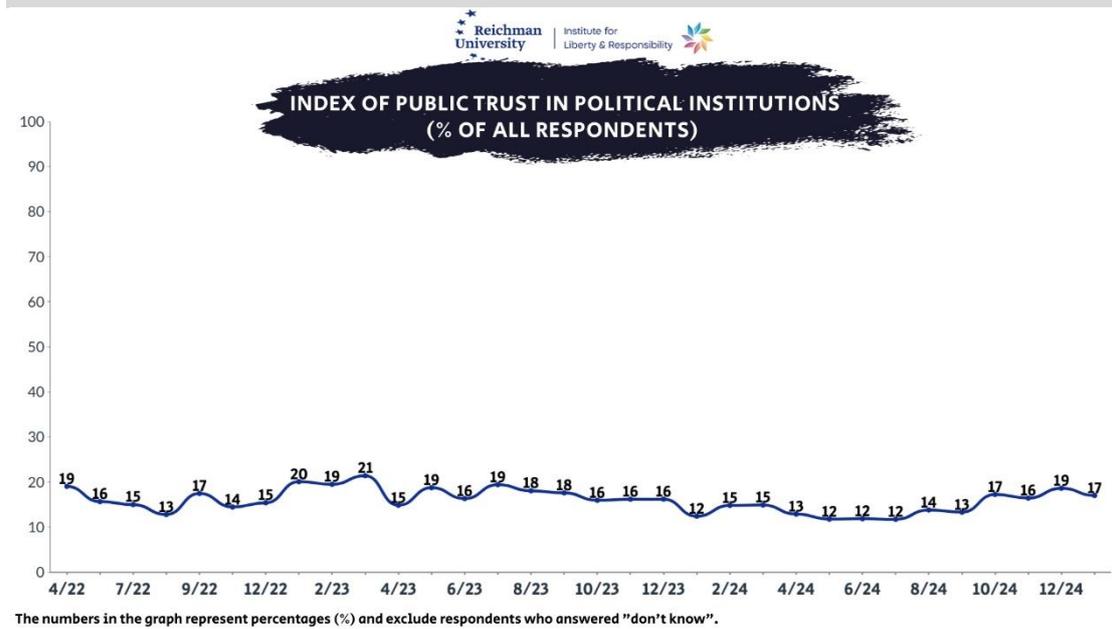
<sup>1</sup> The Institute for Liberty and Responsibility places great importance on developing indices for evaluating the performance of Israeli democracy and public trust in it. To this end, the Institute conducts periodic surveys among representative samples of Israeli society in all its diversity, where the public is asked about their level of trust in various state institutions and various questions regarding public satisfaction with the performance of the government and its members. The Institute began measuring public trust levels in April 2022, and these have been measured monthly since then. Trust levels are presented through several indices that are updated monthly.

## Index of Public Trust in Political Institutions

The Index of Public Trust in Political Institutions in Israel is calculated as a weighted average of the mean trust levels in the government and the Knesset.

The average trust level of the Israeli public in the government and Knesset in January 2025 decreased slightly to **17%**. This may indicate that the upward trend observed in recent months has halted. Public trust in political institutions continues to maintain a low average (less than one-fifth of the public) over time.

**Graph 1**

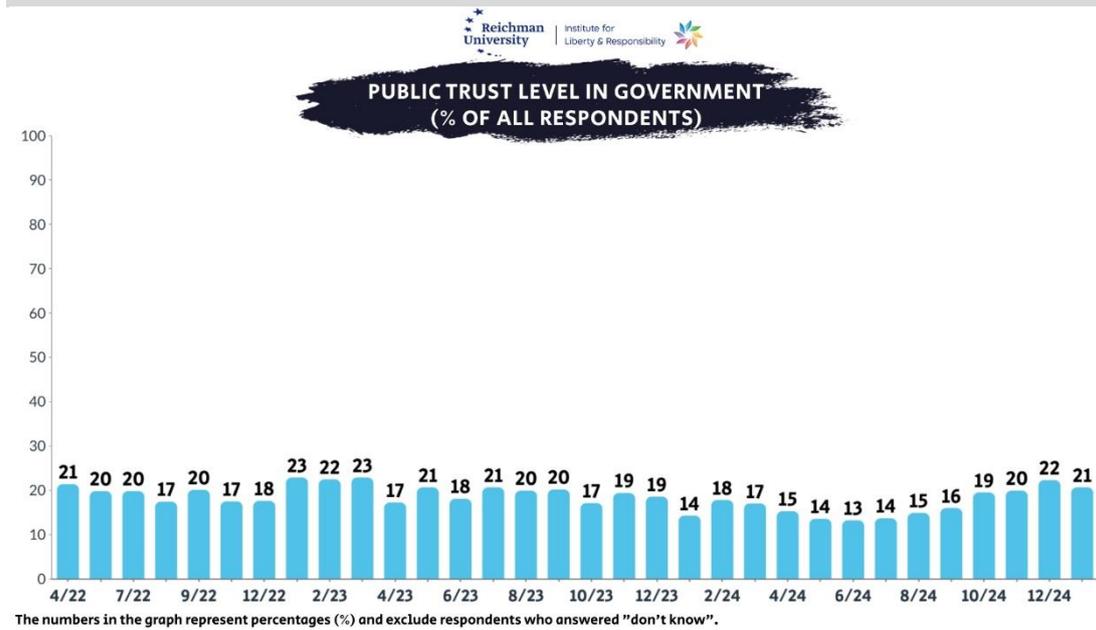


## Index Components:

### Public Trust in Government

The Israeli public's trust in the government in January 2025 stands at **21%**, similar to the trust levels measured in recent months. Only about one-fifth of the Israeli public places trust in the government.

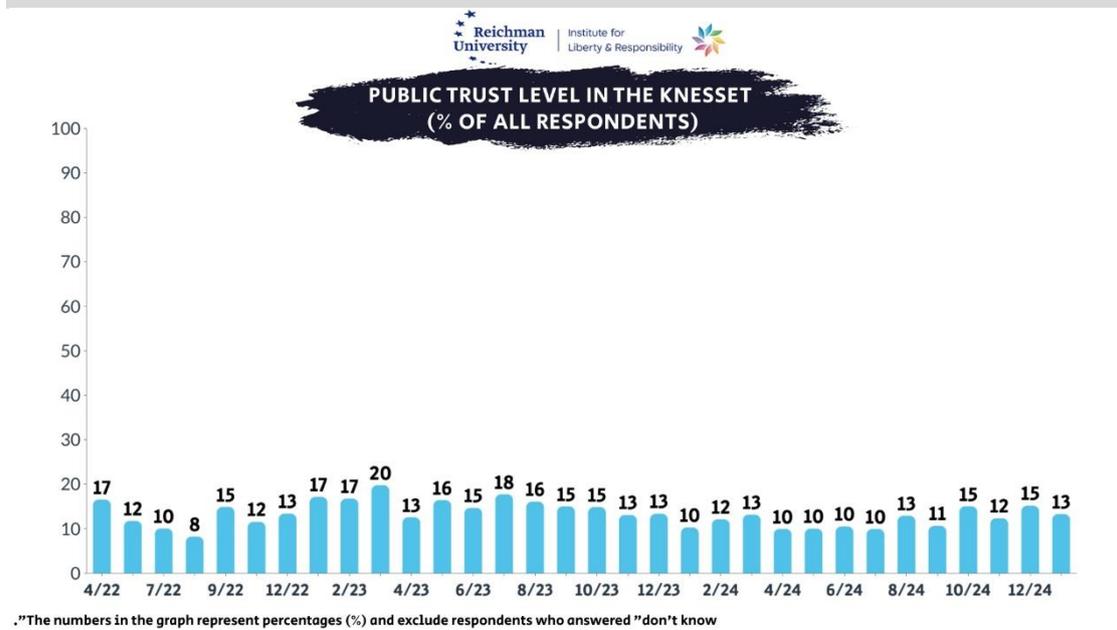
**Graph 1.1**



## Public Trust in the Knesset

The public's trust in the legislative body measured in January 2025 is **13%**, showing a slight decrease from the previous month. Trust in the Knesset consistently remains the lowest among trust levels in government authorities.

**Graph 1.2**

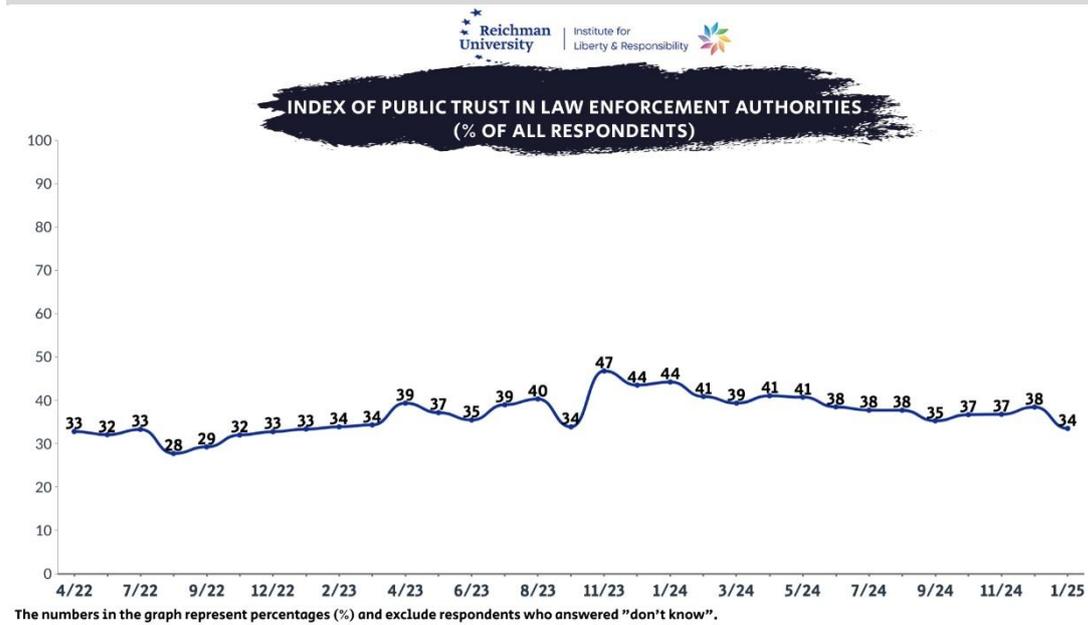


## Index of Public Trust in Law Enforcement Authorities

The Index of Public Trust in Law Enforcement Authorities includes the average trust levels in the police, the Supreme Court, and the Attorney General.

The average trust level of the Israeli public in law enforcement authorities measured in January 2025 is **34%**, representing a significant decrease from the previous month. Only about one-third of citizens express trust in law enforcement authorities.

**Graph 2**

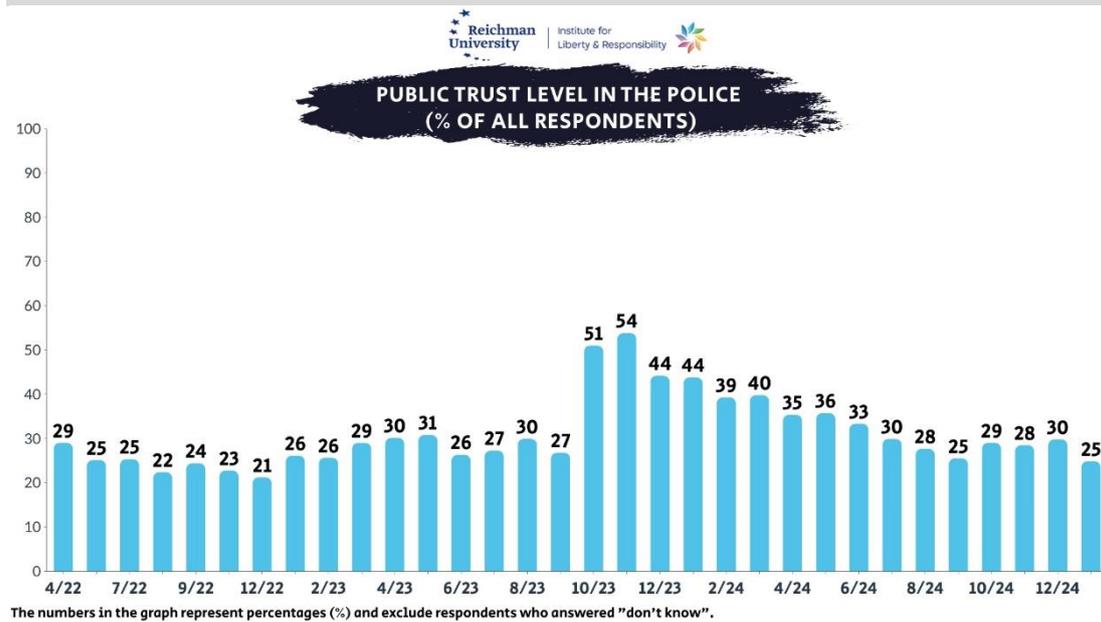


## Index Components:

### Public Trust in the Police

Trust in the police stands at **25%** as of January 2025, continuing a downward trend from the previous three months. While public confidence in the police had surged following the outbreak of war on November 7th, this increase proved temporary. Trust levels have since declined steadily, eventually returning to their pre-war baseline.

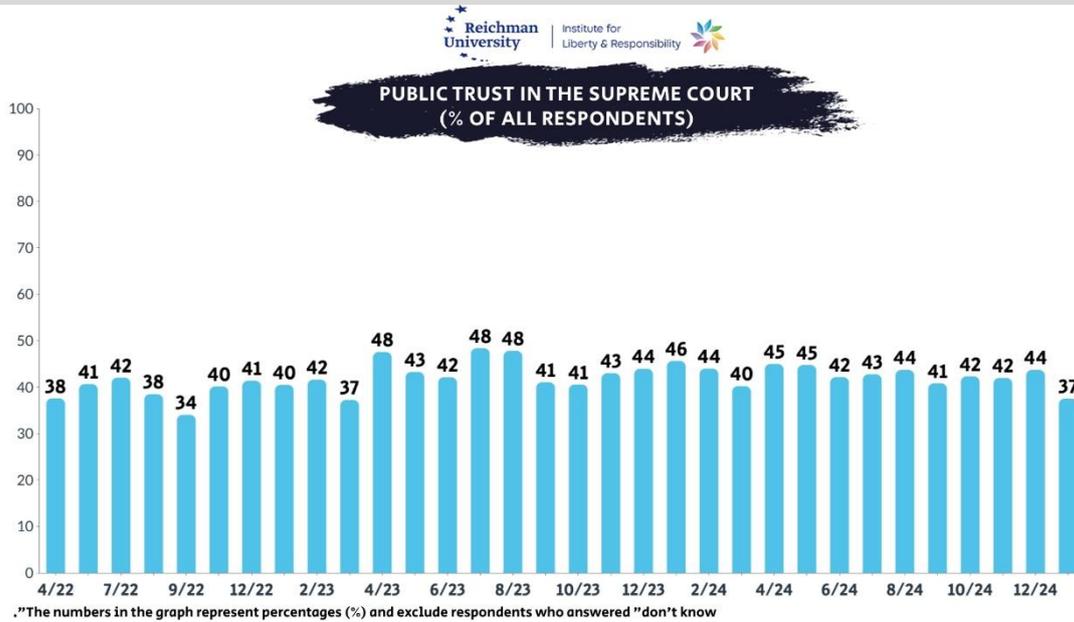
**Graph 2.1**



## Public Trust in the Supreme Court

In January 2025, there was a seven-percentage-point decrease in the Israeli public's trust in the Supreme Court, reaching **37%**. This is a low figure compared to the average of previous months.

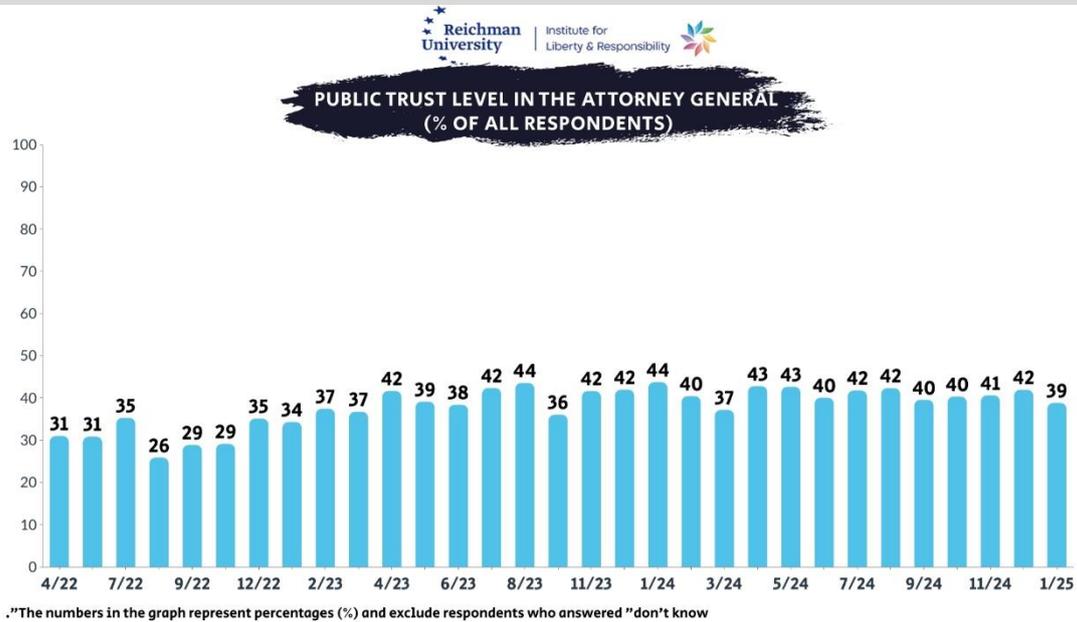
**Graph 2.2**



## Public Trust in the Attorney General

Public trust in the Attorney General dipped slightly to **39%** in January 2025, though this figure remains consistent with trust levels observed throughout the past year.

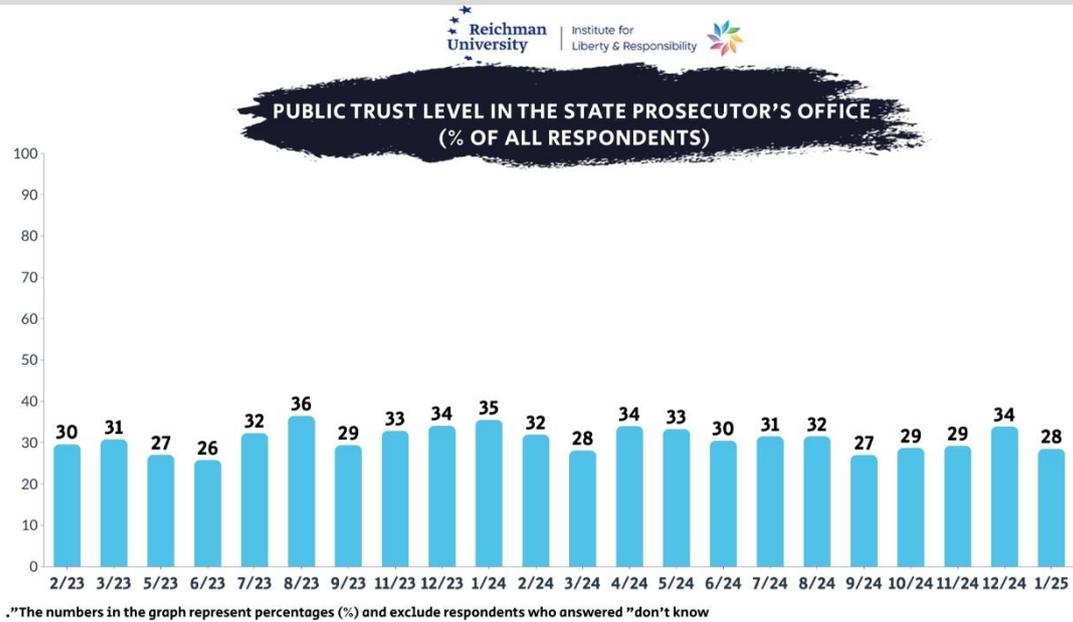
**Graph 2.3**



## Public Trust in the State Prosecutor's Office

In January 2025, trust in the State Prosecutor's Office stood at **28%**, returning to levels seen in the months before December.

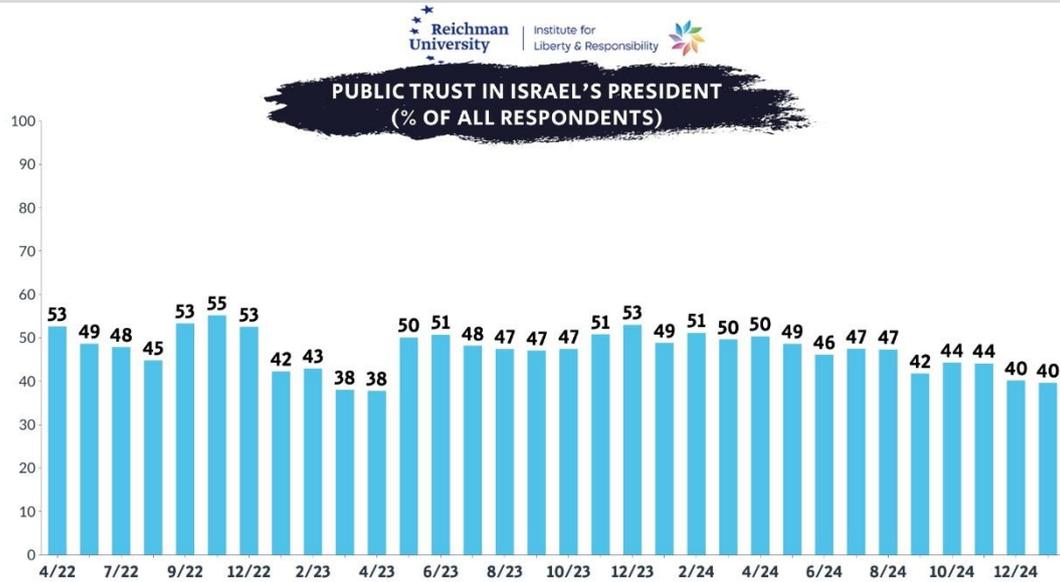
**Graph 2.4**



## Public Trust in the President of Israel

The Israeli public's trust in the President measured in January 2025 is **40%**, identical to the previous month. In the last five months, presidential trust has been below our average since the beginning of measurements.

**Graph 3.4**



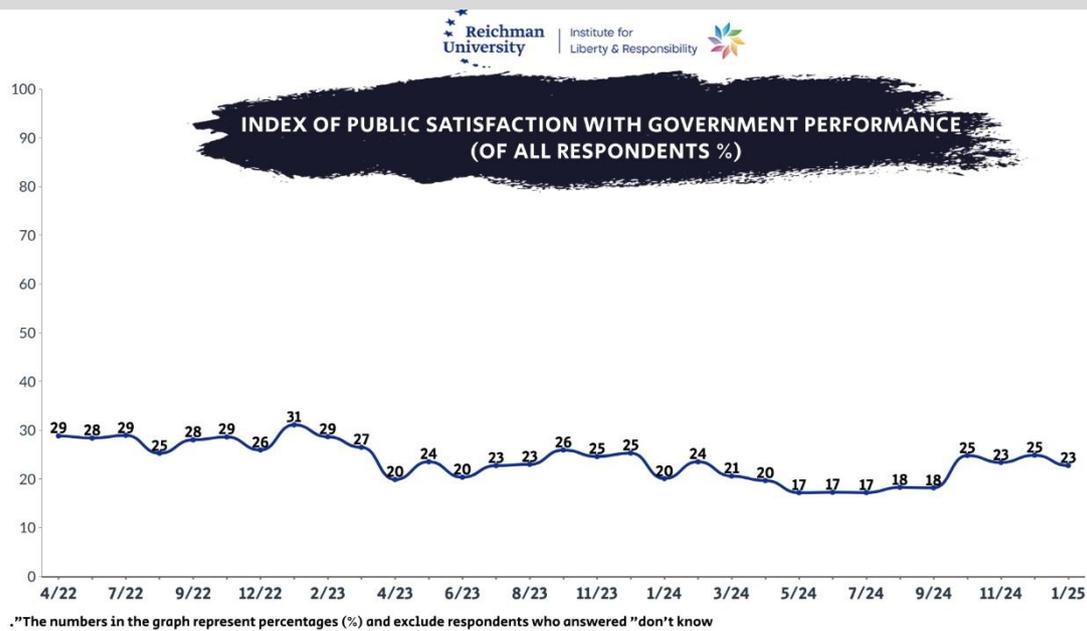
."The numbers in the graph represent percentages (%) and exclude respondents who answered "don't know"

## Index of Public Satisfaction with Government Performance

The Index of Public Satisfaction with Government Performance is a weighted average of public trust in the government, public satisfaction with the government, public trust in the government's ability to handle the most important issue for the public (each person according to their priority), and the assessment of how responsive the government is to the public. The index expresses the extent to which the public views the government as functioning for the public good.

The index indicates a very low public rating of the government. Only about a quarter of the public is satisfied with the government and its performance. The increase observed in October has halted, and the average satisfaction of the Israeli public with the government in January 2025 has stabilized at **23%**, a figure within the average range since the beginning of our measurements.

**Graph 3**

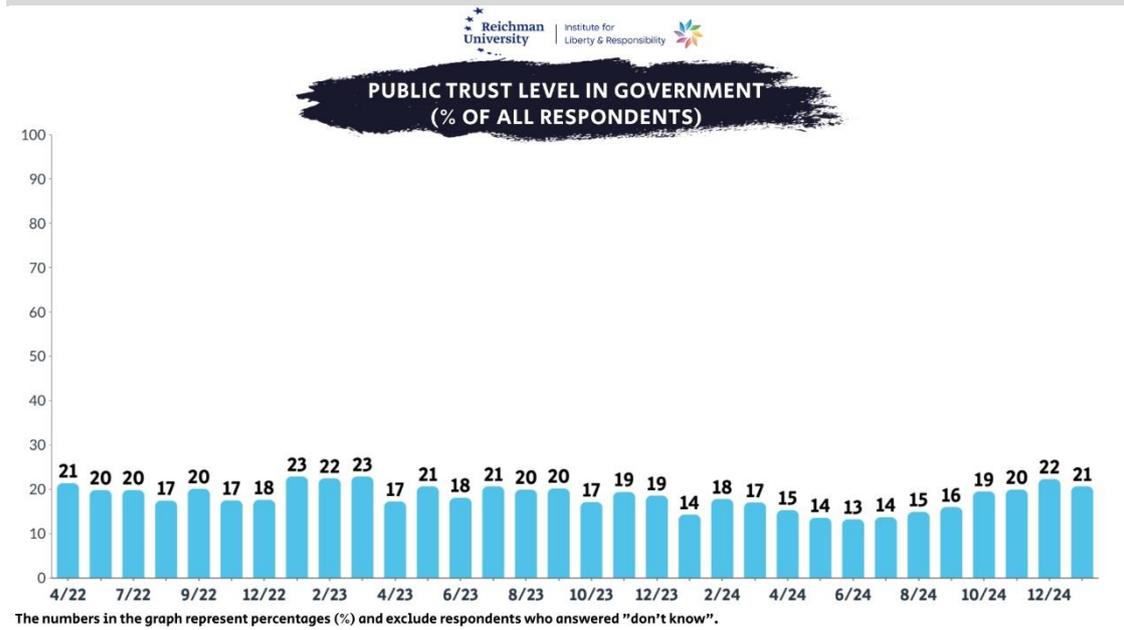


## Index Components:

### Public Trust in Government

The Israeli public's trust in the government in January 2025 stands at **21%**, similar to the trust levels measured in recent months. Only about one-fifth of the Israeli public places trust in the government

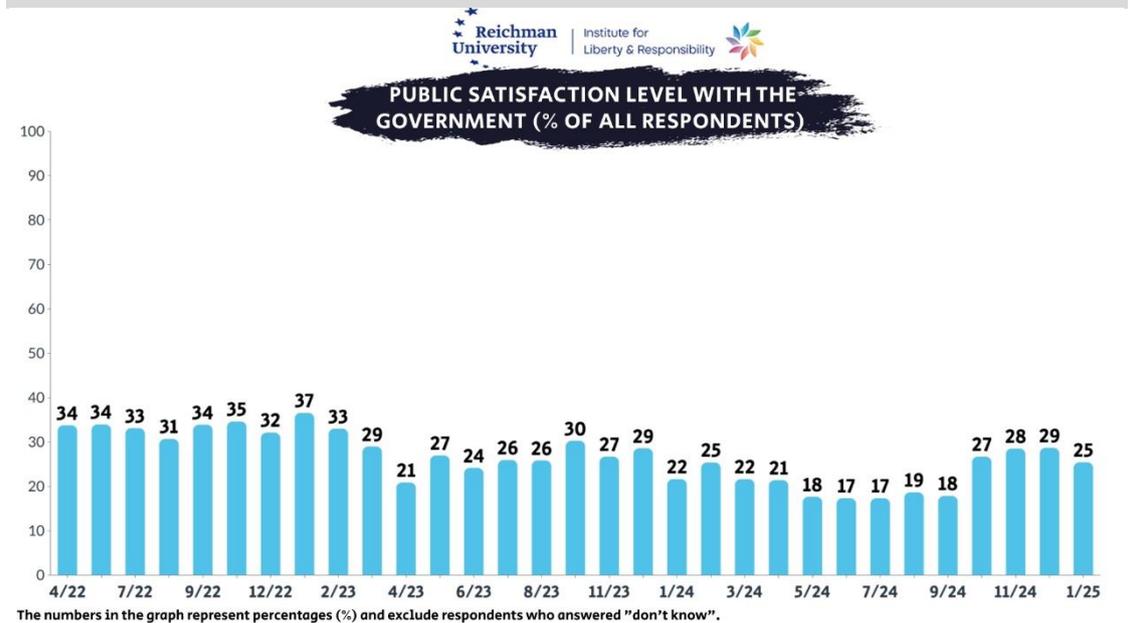
**Graph 1.1**



## Public Satisfaction with Government

The level of satisfaction with the government measured in January 2025 is **25%**, showing a decrease from satisfaction levels observed in the previous three months. Only a quarter of citizens are satisfied with government performance.

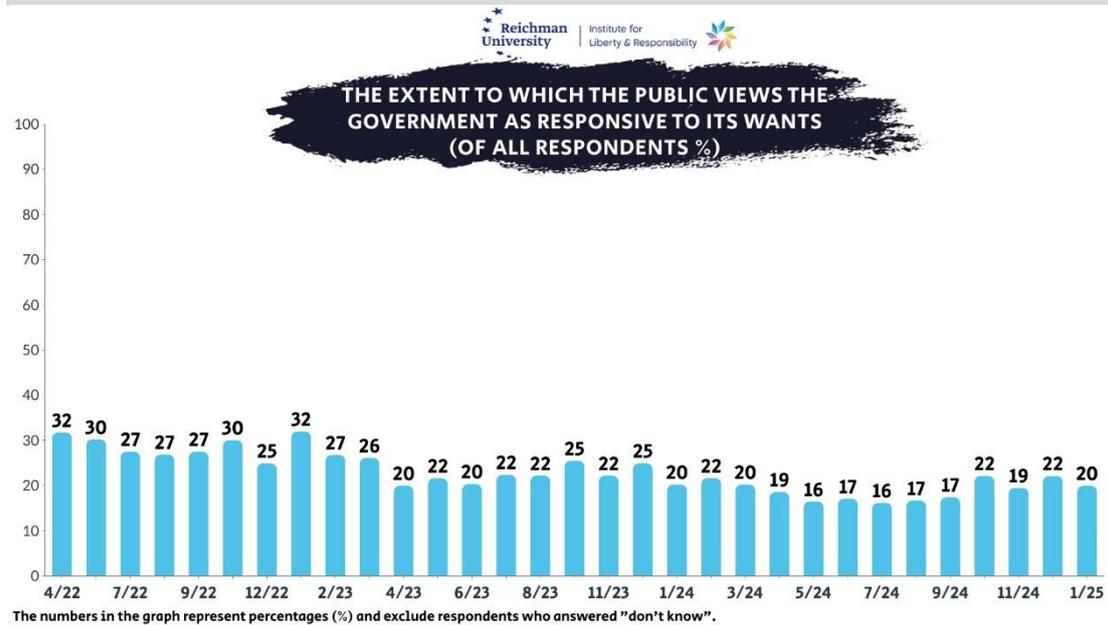
**Graph 3.1**



## Public Perception of Government Responsiveness

In January 2025, **20%** of citizens assessed that the government is responsive to public will. This represents a slight decrease from the previous month. Only about one-fifth of Israelis view the government as responsive to their needs.

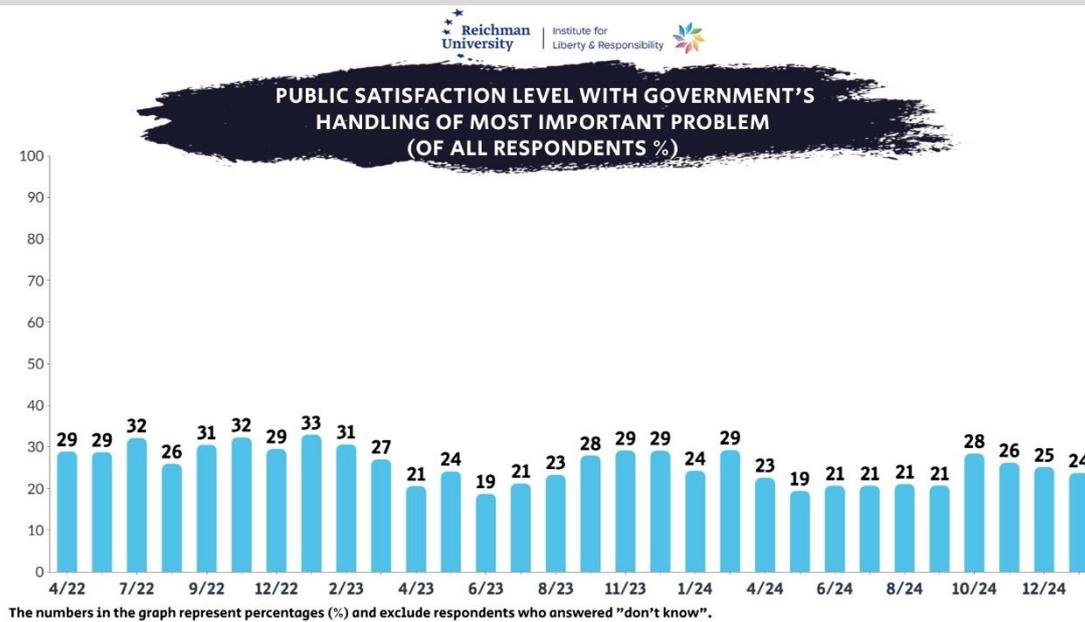
**Graph 3.2**



## Satisfaction with Government Handling of Most Important Issue

This question examines the public's satisfaction with government handling of the most important problems facing the state (each respondent chooses the issue they consider most important). The data shows that in January 2025, **24%** of the Israeli public is satisfied with how the government handles the important problems facing the state. Only a quarter of Israeli citizens feel satisfied with the government's handling of important issues.

**Graph 3.3**



## Methodology

The Institute for Liberty and Responsibility team at the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy at Reichman University prepared the survey questions and subsequently analyzed the data.

The surveys conducted in April, September and December 2022, and March and September 2023, were conducted by Geocartography company. The remaining surveys were conducted by ipanel. Both companies conduct online surveys in Israel.

The questionnaires were translated into Arabic, allowing Arab respondents to choose whether to answer in Hebrew or Arabic.

Sampling Error	Arab Respondents	Jewish Respondents	All Respondents	Year	Survey Date	Order
2.5%	284	1,275	1,559	2022	April	1
3.5%	150	657	807	2022	June	2
3.4%	157	665	822	2022	July	3
3.4%	158	652	810	2022	August	4
2.4%	254	1,417	1,671	2022	September	5
2.5%	301	1,206	1,507	2022	October	6
3.5%	152	655	807	2022	December	7
2.6%	256	1,205	1,461	2023	January	8
2.5%	308	1,204	1,512	2023	February	9
2.5%	301	1,257	1,558	2023	March	10
3.4%	160	656	816	2023	April	11
3.4%	156	657	813	2023	May	12
3.4%	156	655	811	2023	June	13
3.4%	152	661	813	2023	July	14
3.5%	153	652	805	2023	August	15
2.5%	335	1,227	1,562	2023	September	16
3.5%	150	657	807	2023	October	17
3.5%	152	651	803	2023	November	18
3.5%	150	657	807	2023	December	19
3.5%	153	652	805	2024	January	20
3.5%	154	649	803	2024	February	21
2.5%	260	1266	1526	2024	March	22
3.5%	153	651	804	2024	April	23
3.4%	153	657	810	2024	May	24

3.4%	158	657	815	2024	June	25
3.5%	152	655	807	2024	July	26
2.5%	252	1260	1512	2024	August	27
2.5%	250	1251	1501	2024	September	28
3.5%	150	653	803	2024	October	29
3.5%	150	657	807	2024	November	30
2.6%	265	1200	1465	2024	December	31
3.4%	152	659	811	2025	January	32

Note: The maximum sampling error for the entire sample is at a 95% confidence level.

The Jewish respondents constitute a representative sample of the adult Jewish population in Israel, stratified by gender, age groups, geographical district, and level of religiosity. Additionally, the Arab respondents constitute a sample that closely represents the adult Arab population in Israel by gender, age groups, geographical district, and level of religiosity, with under-sampling of male respondents, respondents from the southern region, and respondents aged 40 and above within this population.

### **Index of Public Trust in State Authorities**

The Institute for Liberty and Responsibility's Index of Public Trust in State Authorities was calculated as an average of trust levels in four state institutions: government, Knesset, Supreme Court, and President of Israel. As part of the index construction, internal reliability tests (Cronbach's alpha) were conducted to examine the correlation between these questions. These tests reveal that there is a difference among the Israeli public in trust levels given to political institutions – the government and Knesset – versus the two additional institutions – the President and the Supreme Court.

Therefore, starting from July 2023, an index of trust in political authorities was calculated including the average trust levels in the government and Knesset.

The questions were worded as follows: "To what extent do you have trust in each of the following institutions?", where respondents were required to answer regarding the Knesset, government, Supreme Court, and President of Israel. Response options: 1. I have very high trust, 2. I have high trust, 3. I have little trust, 4. I have no trust at all, 5. Don't know. In practice, to create the index we removed the "don't know" responses and calculated an average of respondents who "gave trust" - those who selected one of the first two options - for each institution.

### **Index of Public Trust in Law Enforcement Authorities**

The Institute for Liberty and Responsibility's Index of Public Trust in Law Enforcement Authorities represents an average of trust levels in Israel's law enforcement authorities: Israel Police, Supreme Court, and Attorney General. As part

of the index construction, internal reliability tests (Cronbach's alpha) were conducted to examine the correlation between these questions:  $\alpha=0.68-0.81$

The questions were worded as follows: "To what extent do you have trust in each of the following institutions?", where respondents were required to answer regarding the Israel Police, Supreme Court, and Attorney General. Response options: 1. I have very high trust, 2. I have high trust, 3. I have little trust, 4. I have no trust at all, 5. Don't know. In practice, to create the index we removed the "don't know" responses and calculated an average of respondents who "gave trust" - those who selected one of the first two options - for each institution.

### **Index of Public Satisfaction with Government Performance**

The Institute for Liberty and Responsibility's Index of Public Satisfaction with Government Performance represents an average of public trust in the government, satisfaction with the government, assessment of its responsiveness to the public, and public satisfaction with the government's handling of important problems facing the state. As part of the index construction, internal reliability tests (Cronbach's alpha) were conducted to examine the correlation between these questions:  $\alpha=0.74-0.86$ .

### **Survey questions:**

1. *To what extent do you have trust in the government?* Response options: 1. I have very high trust, 2. I have high trust, 3. I have little trust, 4. I have no trust at all, 5. Don't know.
2. *What is your level of satisfaction with the government's performance?* Response options: 1. Very satisfied, 2. Satisfied, 3. Not satisfied, 4. Very unsatisfied, 5. Don't know.
3. *What score would you give the government in handling the most important problem currently facing the state?* From 0 (low) to 10 (high).
  - Each respondent was asked to indicate what they consider to be the most important problem facing the state, and then was asked about their assessment of the government's handling of this problem.
4. *To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "The government is responsive to public problems"?* Response options: 1. Strongly agree, 2. Agree, 3. Disagree, 4. Strongly disagree, 5. Don't know.