



Key Survey Findings

December 2025



Summary

- **Representation:** A majority of Israelis do not feel that members of the party they voted for reflect their views.
- **Commission of Inquiry:** A majority of Israelis support the establishment of a State Commission of inquiry, to be appointed by the Supreme Court, to investigate the events of October 7.
- **Responsibility for October 7:** Approximately half of Israelis believe that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu bears significant responsibility for the events of October 7.
- **Media:** Only 1 of 6 Israelis believe that media reporting is reliable.
- **Trust in Political Institutions:** In December, most state institutions maintained stability in public trust. Public trust in President Herzog has been gradually declining since October 7, 2023 reaching now a new low of 35%.

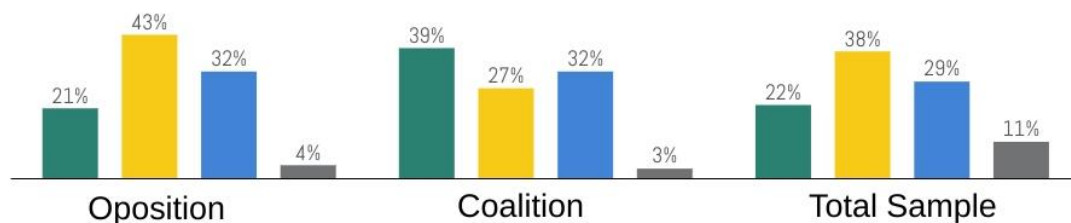
The data are based on a survey conducted between December 8–10 by iPanel among 1513 respondents (1259 Jews and 254 Arabs). The data are presented with voting weights.

Most Israelis do not feel that the members of the party they voted for reflect their views. Only about one-fifth of Israelis feel that the Members of Knesset for whom they voted promote policies that align with their perspectives. Naturally, voters of the governing coalition report a higher sense of representation than voters of opposition parties; nevertheless, only 2 out of 5 coalition voters feel that they are represented to a great extent by the Members of Knesset they elected.

To what extent do you feel that the members of the party you voted for reflect your views in the policies they promote in the current Knesset?


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■ To a great extent
 ■ to a small extent
 ■ To some extent
 ■ Do not Know

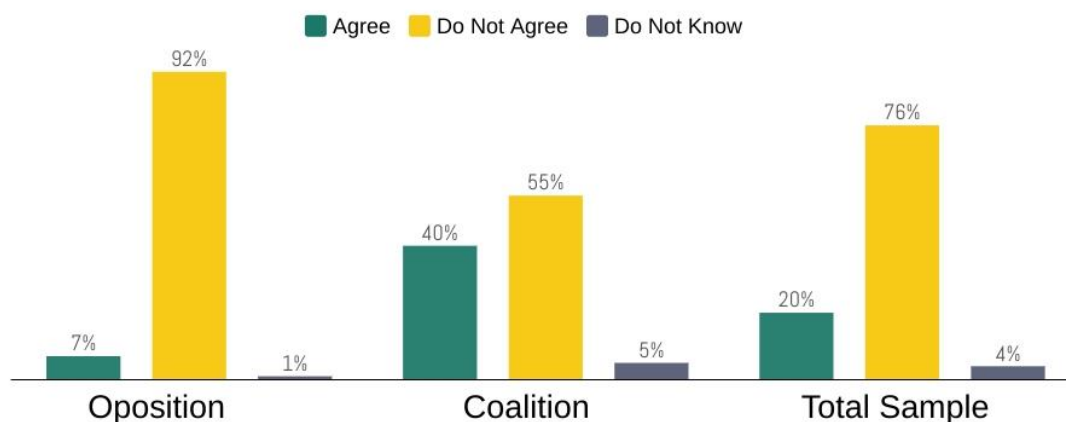


The survey was conducted on behalf of the Institute for Liberty and Responsibility between December 8 and 10, 2025, by iPanel, among 1,513 respondents (1,259 Jews and 254 Arabs)



Only one-fifth of Israelis agree with the statement that the government is attentive to the public's concerns. Even among coalition voters, 55% believe that the government is not attentive to the public's concerns.

Do you agree that the government is attentive to the public's concerns?

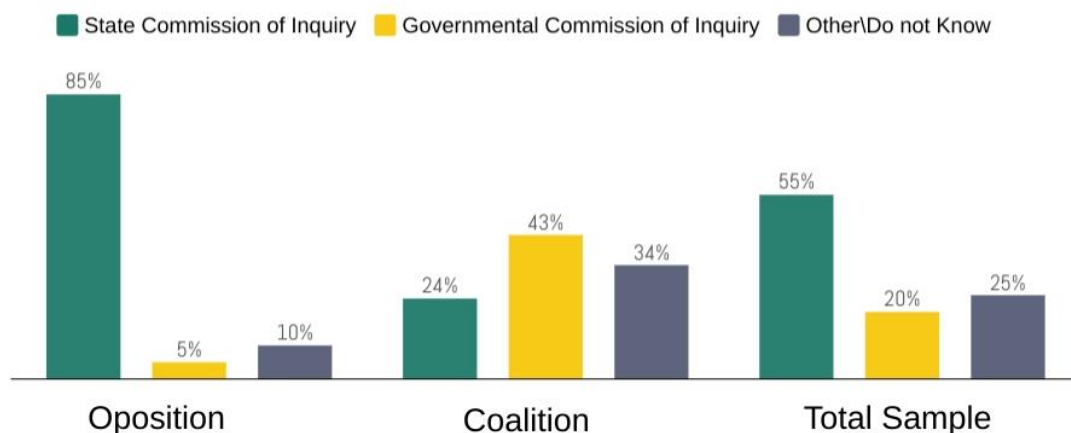


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Most Israelis support the establishment of a State Commission of inquiry appointed by the Supreme Court to investigate the events of October 7. Among coalition voters, there is a small plurality in support for a Government Commission of inquiry (appointed by the government).

Which of the following options do you prefer to examine the events leading up to October 7?

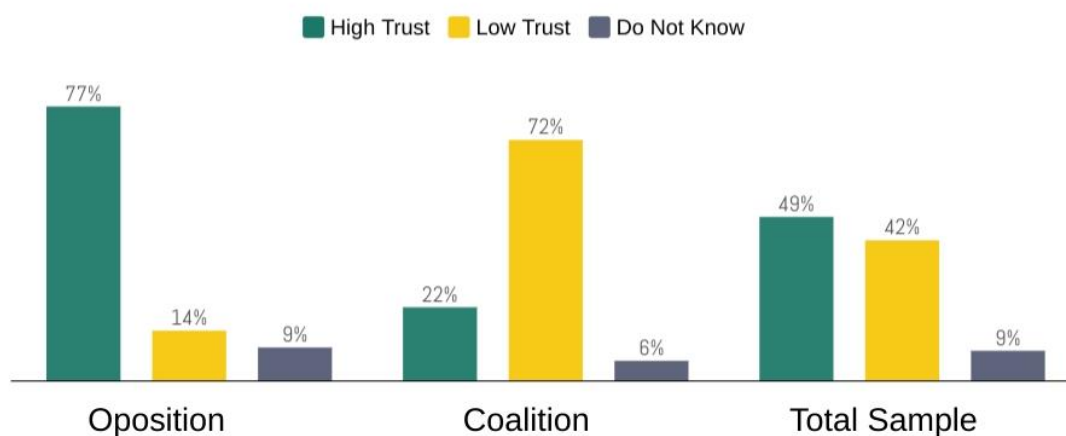


The survey was conducted on behalf of the Institute for Liberty and Responsibility between December 8 and 10, 2025, by iPanel, among 1,513 respondents (1,259 Jews and 254 Arabs). A state commission of inquiry appointed by the Supreme Court, and a governmental commission of inquiry appointed by the government.



Approximately half of the public reports that it would place a high level of trust in a State Commission of inquiry if one were established. A clear majority among opposition voters reports that it would place high trust in such a commission, whereas a clear majority among coalition voters reports that it would place little trust in it.

Level of trust in a state commission of inquiry if one is established

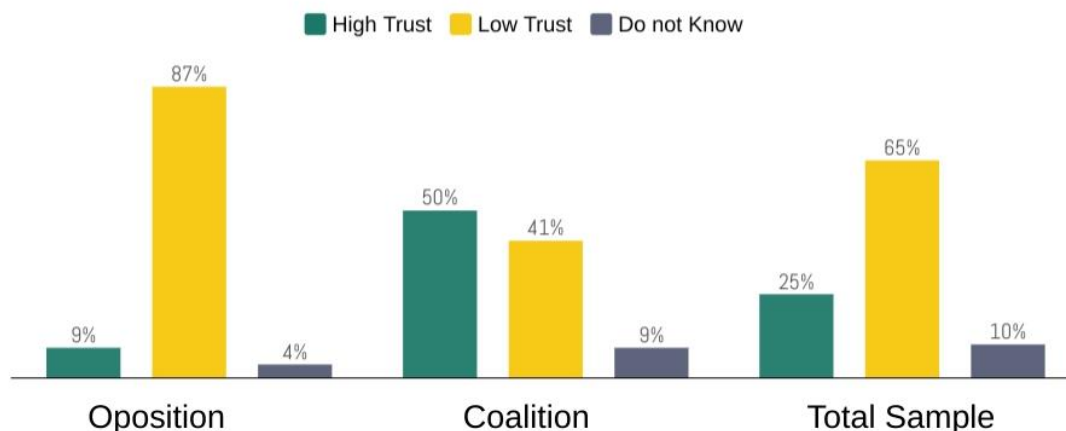


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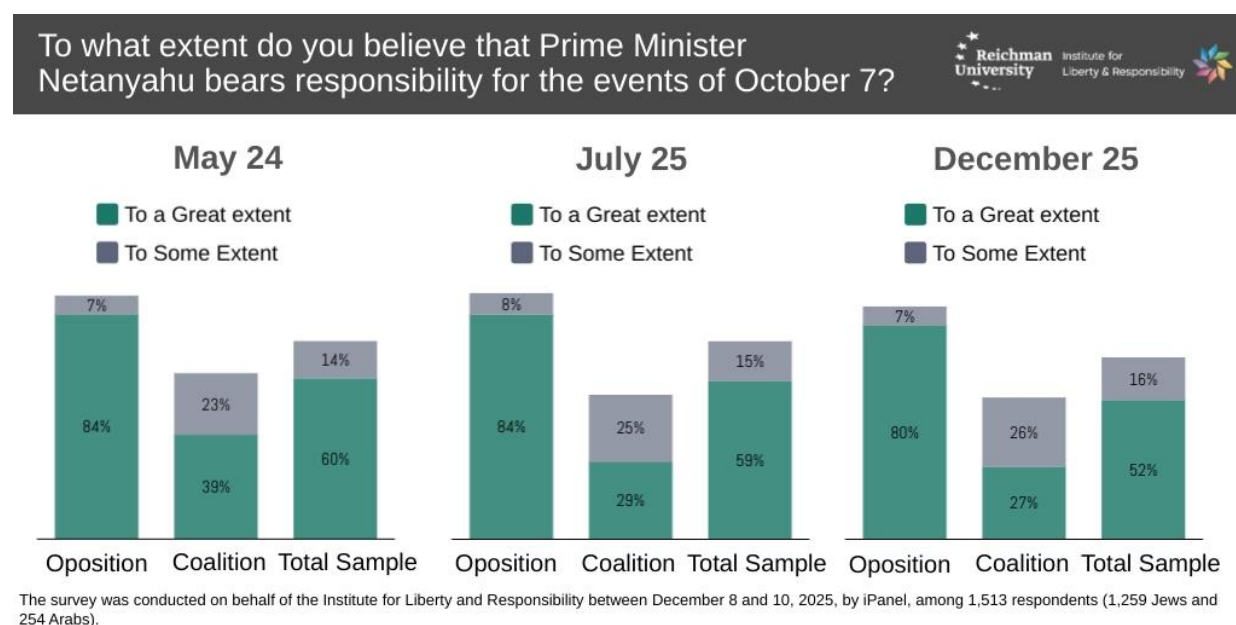
Only one-quarter of Israelis, and approximately half of coalition voters, report that they would place a high level of trust in a Government Commission of inquiry if one were established. Among opposition voters, only a very small minority reports that they would place trust in such a commission.

Level of trust in a governmental commission of inquiry if one is established



The survey was conducted on behalf of the Institute for Liberty and Responsibility between December 8 and 10, 2025, by iPanel, among 1,513 respondents (1,259 Jews and 254 Arabs). A governmental commission of inquiry appointed by the government.

Approximately half of Israelis believe that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu bears a high degree of responsibility for the events of October 7. We observe a steady decline in the extent that the public attributes to Netanyahu since the outbreak of the war. The most significant change is observed among coalition voters: whereas in May 2024, 39% of coalition voters believed that Netanyahu bore a high degree of responsibility for the events of October 7, by December 2025 this share had declined to only 27%. A modest change (a decrease of 4 percentage points) was also recorded among opposition voters.



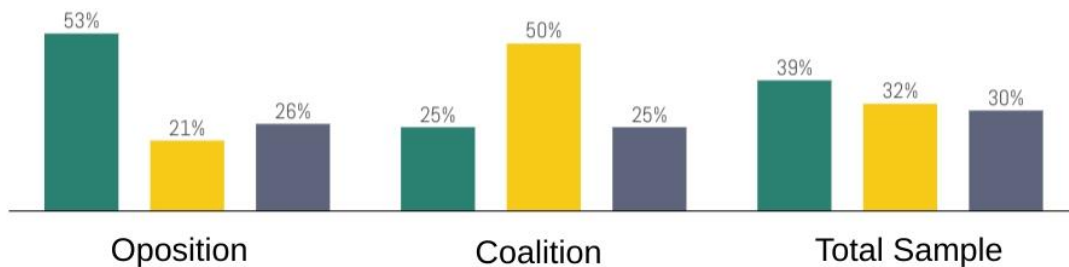


Two out of five Israelis believe that there is a real risk that journalists in Israel could be murdered because of their work. Voters of opposition parties perceive this risk as higher than voters of coalition parties.

Do you agree that there is a real risk that a journalist in Israel could be murdered as a result of their journalistic work?



Agree Don't Agree Don't Know / Neutral



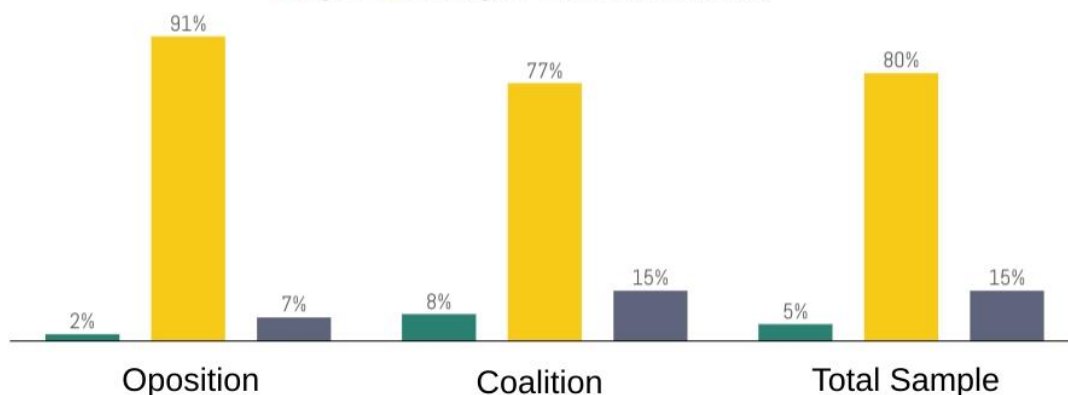
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Majority of Israelis, across both political camps, believe that it is not legitimate to send a threatening message to a journalist, even if the purpose is to prevent the publication of defamatory statements.

Do you agree that it is sometimes legitimate to send a threatening message to a journalist in order to prevent the publication of defamatory statements?



Agree Don't Agree Don't Know / Neutral

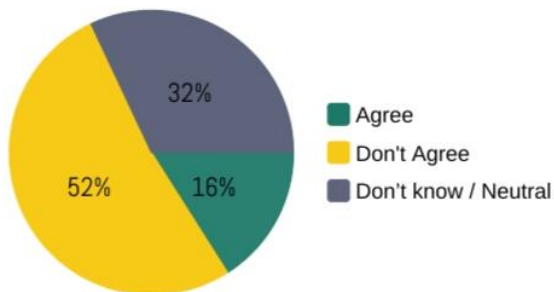


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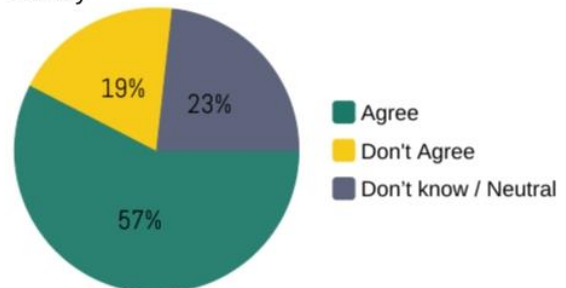
The Israeli public exhibits a critical stance toward the media and freedom of the press. Only 1 of 6 Israelis believes that media reporting is reliable and reflects reality, and a majority of the public believes that the media contributes to social polarization.

To what extent do you agree with the following statements:

Media reporting is reliable and reflects reality



The media contributes to polarization in Israeli society



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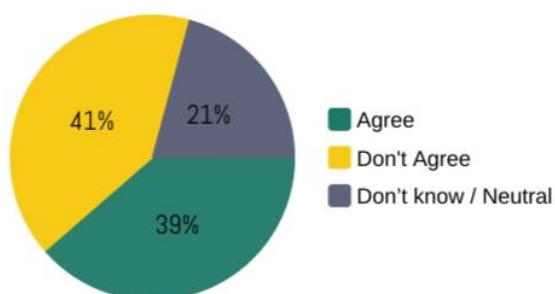


A substantial share of Israelis believes that the media enjoys excessive freedom, that it is overly critical of the government, and that it should not defame the state. Approximately half of Israelis believe that the media should exercise greater restraint in its criticism of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

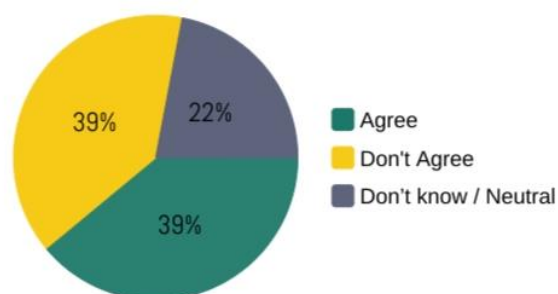
To what extent do you agree with the following statements:



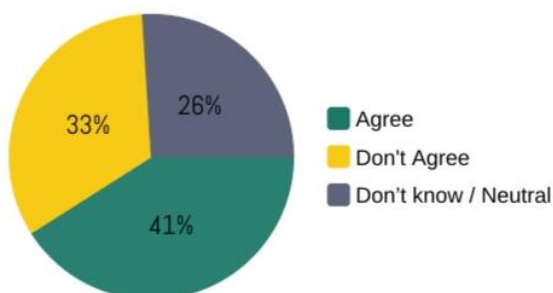
In Israel, the press has too much freedom



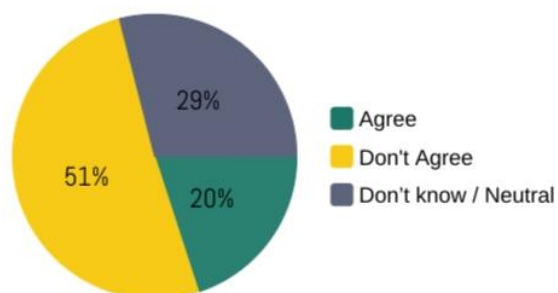
The media is overly critical of the government



Journalists should not be allowed to defame the state



The media should be more critical of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF)



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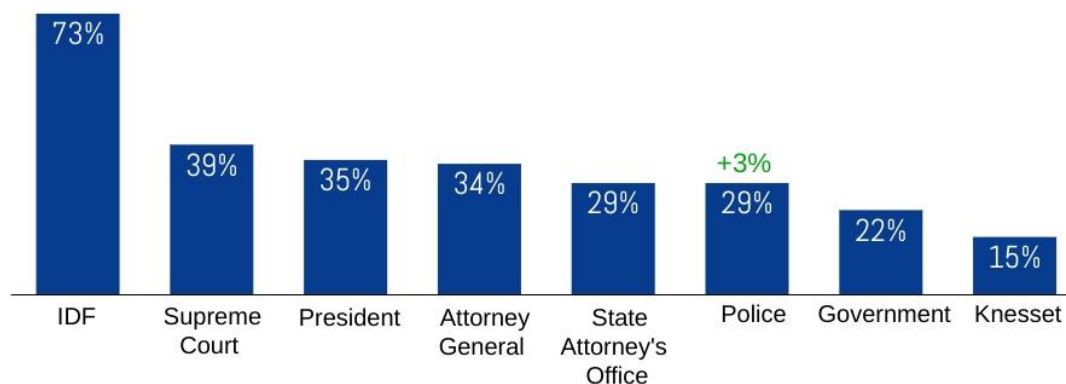


In December, most state institutions maintained stability in public trust compared to the previous month. The government and the Knesset continue to be the institutions with the lowest levels of public trust, at 22% and 15%, respectively.

Public Trust In State Institutions (December 25)



Indicates the change compared to the previous month



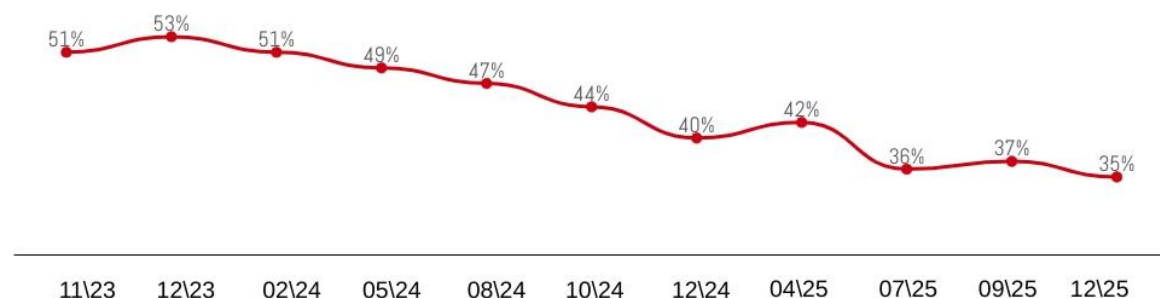


Public trust in the President of the State, Isaac Herzog, has been gradually declining since October 7. In December, only 35% of the public expressed trust in the president. Herzog has the lowest level of public trust of any president since Ezer Weizman (with the exception of Katsav at the end of his term), and his level of trust amounts to only about half of that enjoyed by other presidents, such as President Peres.¹ During his term, President Herzog has continued—and intensified—the erosion of the standing of the presidency as an institution. This low trust may be used by people questioning the meaning and importance of this institution.

Public trust in the President from November 2023 to December 2025



— Public trust in the President over time



For details on the [methodology](#) of the trust surveys, see the Institute's website.

¹ The data on presidents who served prior to the current president are based on surveys conducted by the Israel Democracy Institute, as collected from the Institute's website: <https://dataisrael.idi.org.il>.



The Institute for Liberty & Responsibility

The Institute for Liberty and Responsibility at Reichman University (IDC Herzliya) is a platform for academic research of Israeli politics and democracy. The Institute seeks to advance the values, policies, and institutions vital to the survival of liberal democracy in Israel. It is a place of research and university instruction, but also an active participant in the public discourse on political institutions and political behavior.

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