



Public Trust Report¹

January 2026

The Institute for Liberty and Responsibility

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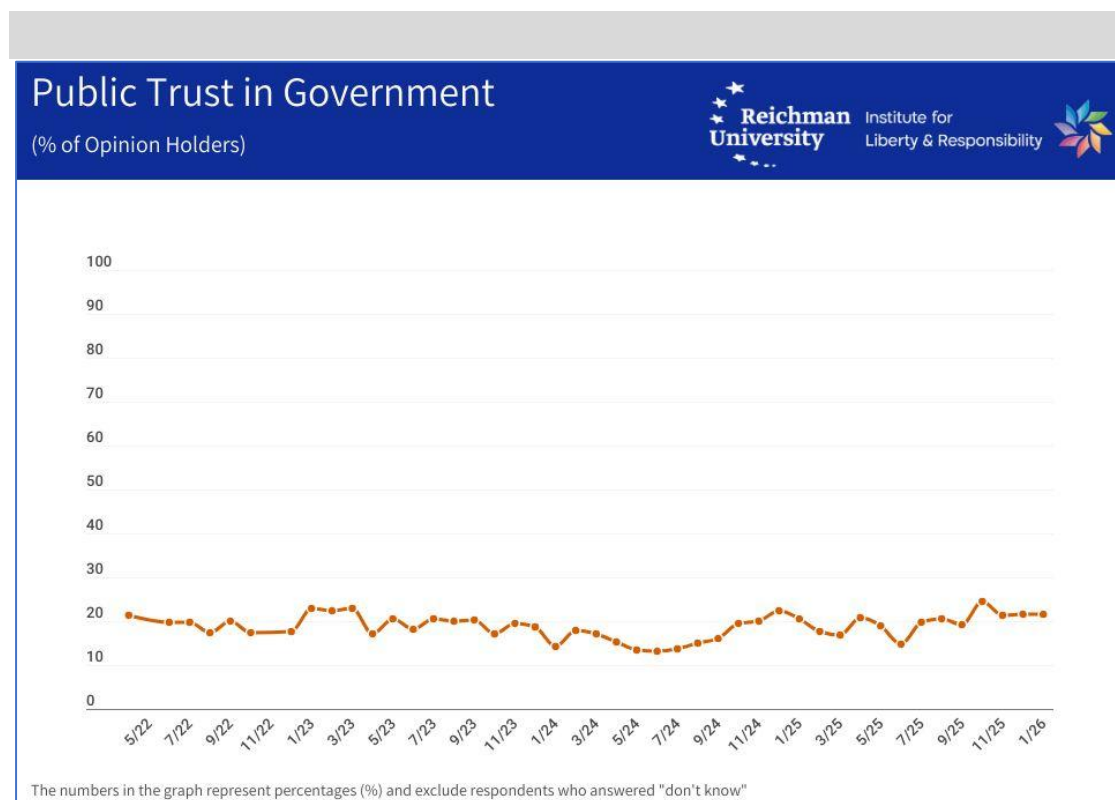
¹The Institute for Liberty and Responsibility is committed to developing robust metrics for assessing Israeli democracy's performance and gauging public confidence in its institutions. Through regular surveys of demographically representative samples across all sectors of Israeli society, the Institute collects data on public trust in various government bodies and overall satisfaction with governmental performance. Since April 2022, these measurements have been conducted monthly, with results presented through several regularly updated indices that track shifting patterns of public trust over time.

Public Trust in Government Institutions

Israeli public trust in government institutions in January 2026 presents a mixed picture, with significant improvement in trust in the Supreme Court (**43%**) alongside a continued downward trend in trust in the President (**31%**). The executive and legislative branches remain stable at low levels - trust in the government stands at **21%** and in the Knesset at **16%**. The Knesset continues to be the institution with the lowest trust among government institutions, with only about one in six Israelis expressing trust in the legislative body.

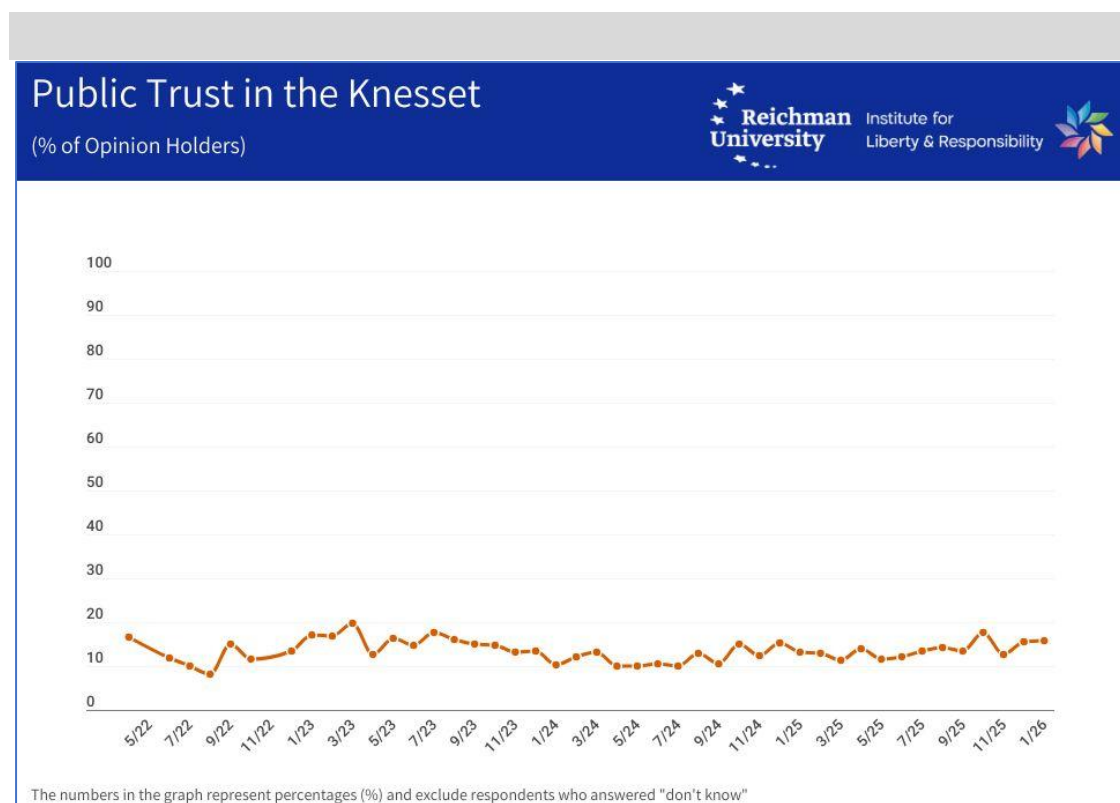
Public Trust in the Government:

Public trust in the government in January 2026 stands at **21%**. Trust remained stable in the fourth quarter of 2025 (November-December) and the beginning of 2026, following a temporary spike recorded in October (24%). Trust is generally low, with only about one-fifth of the public expressing trust in the current government.



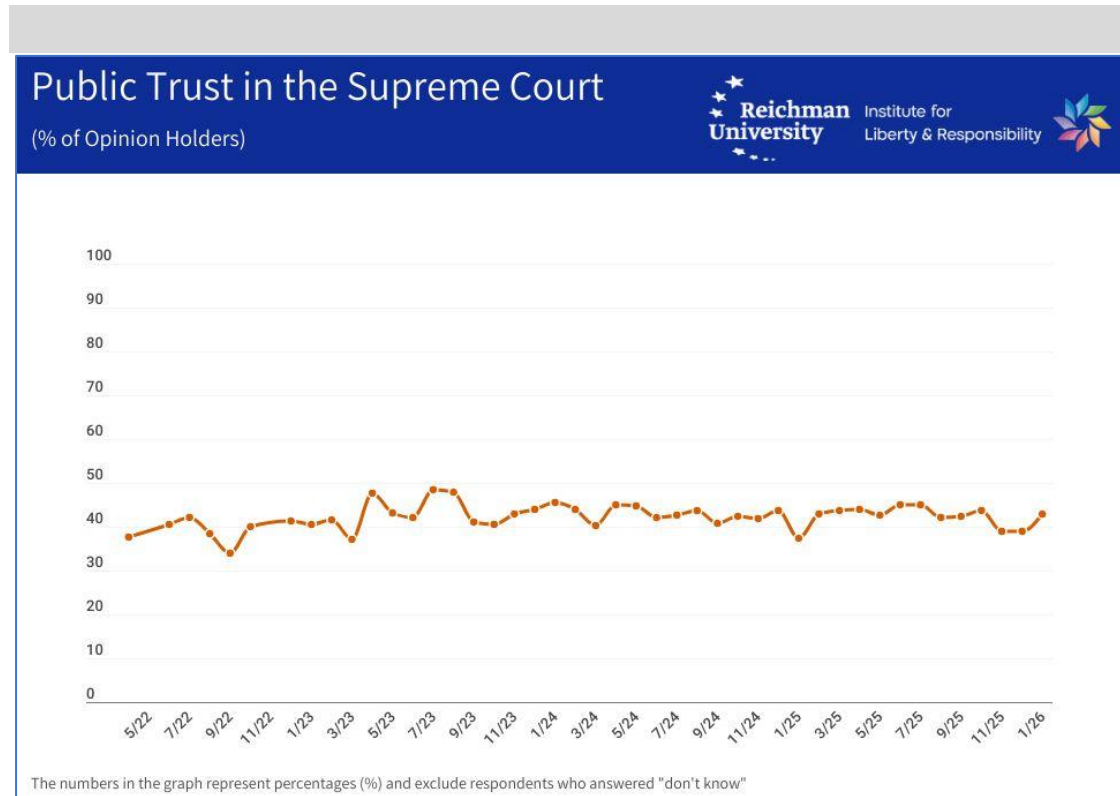
Public Trust in the Knesset

Public trust in the Knesset in January 2026 stands at **16%**. After particularly low trust in November (13%), the Knesset recorded a slight improvement to 15%-16% in December-January. The Knesset continues to be the institution with the lowest trust among government institutions, with only about one in six Israelis expressing trust in the legislative body.



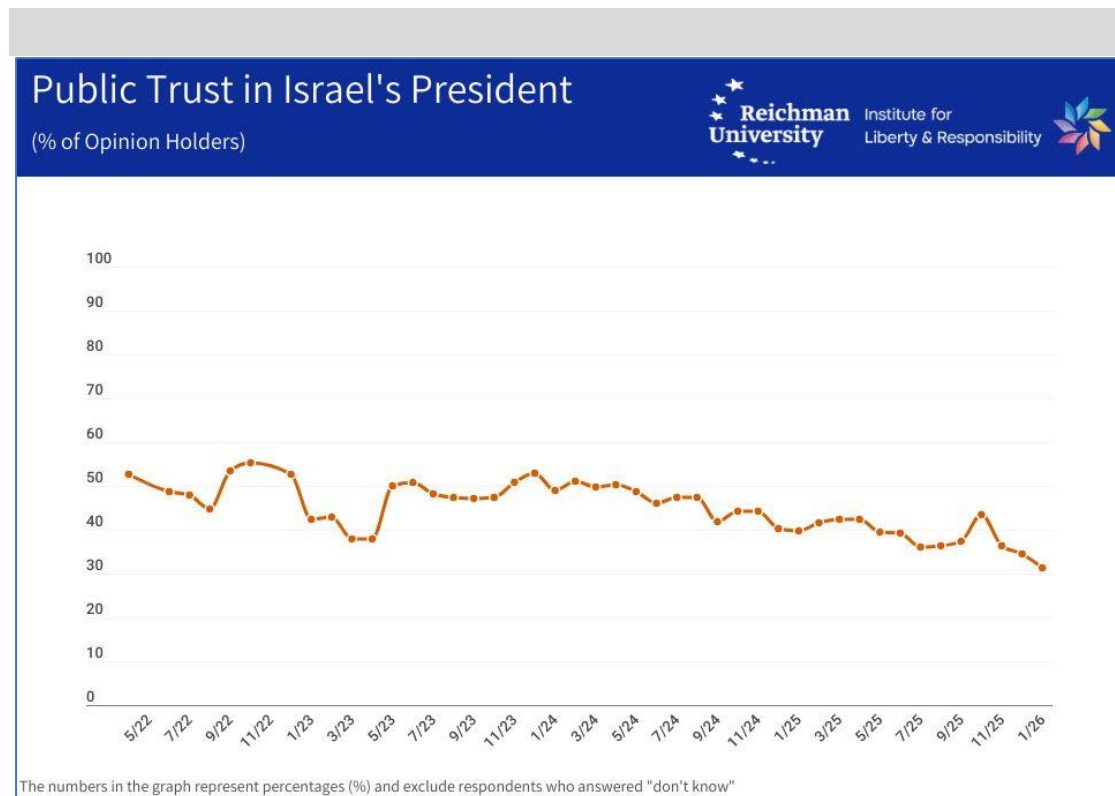
Public Trust in the Supreme Court

Public trust in the Supreme Court in January 2026 stands at **43%**. After a decline in the months of November-December (39%), the Supreme Court returned to levels similar to those measured during the summer and fall (42%-45%). The Supreme Court remains one of the institutions enjoying the highest trust, with the trust of nearly half the public.



Public Trust in the President

Public trust in the President in January 2026 stands at **31%**, an additional decline of about 3 percentage points from December. The President continues the downward trend from 44% in October, through 36% in November and 35% in December, down to 31% in January. This is the lowest trust in the President since the beginning of measurements.

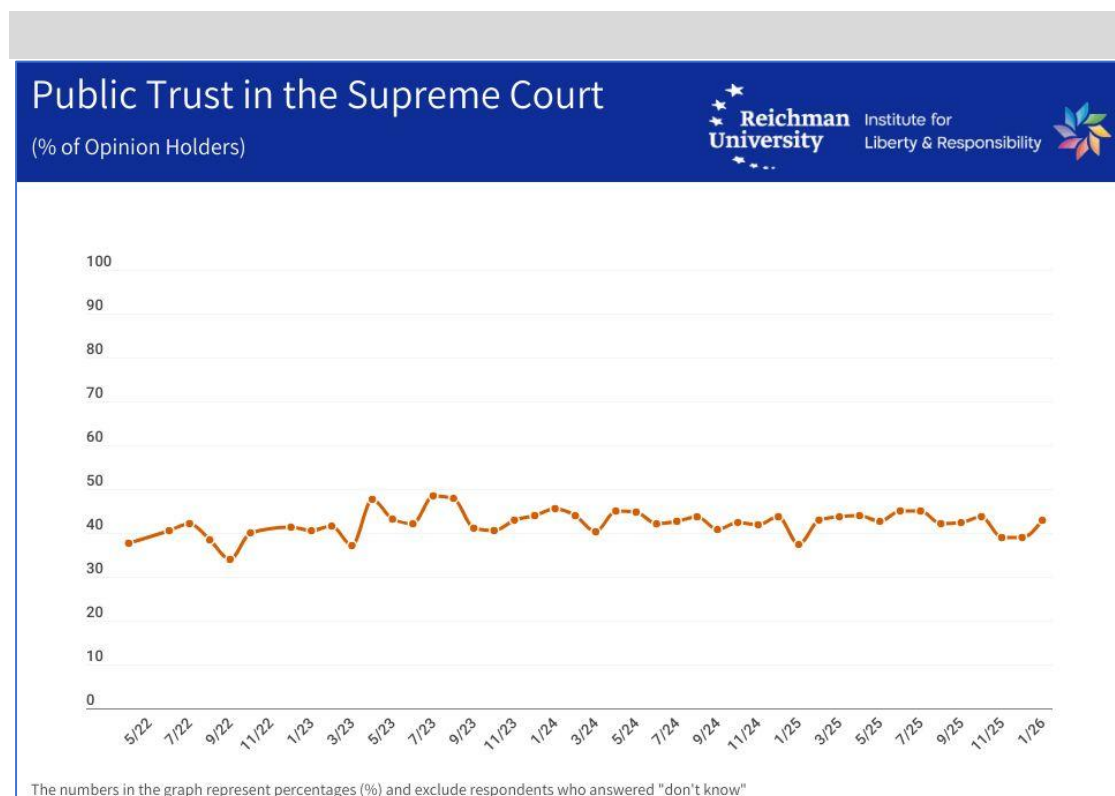


Public Trust in the Judicial System

In January 2026, the Israeli Judicial system recorded significant improvement compared to previous months. The Supreme Court returned to **43%** trust, the Attorney General recorded a notable increase to **41%** (an increase of 7 percentage points from December), and the State Attorney's Office rose to **33%**. The Judicial system continues to enjoy significantly higher trust compared to other government institutions, with a gap of about 22 percentage points between the Supreme Court and the government.

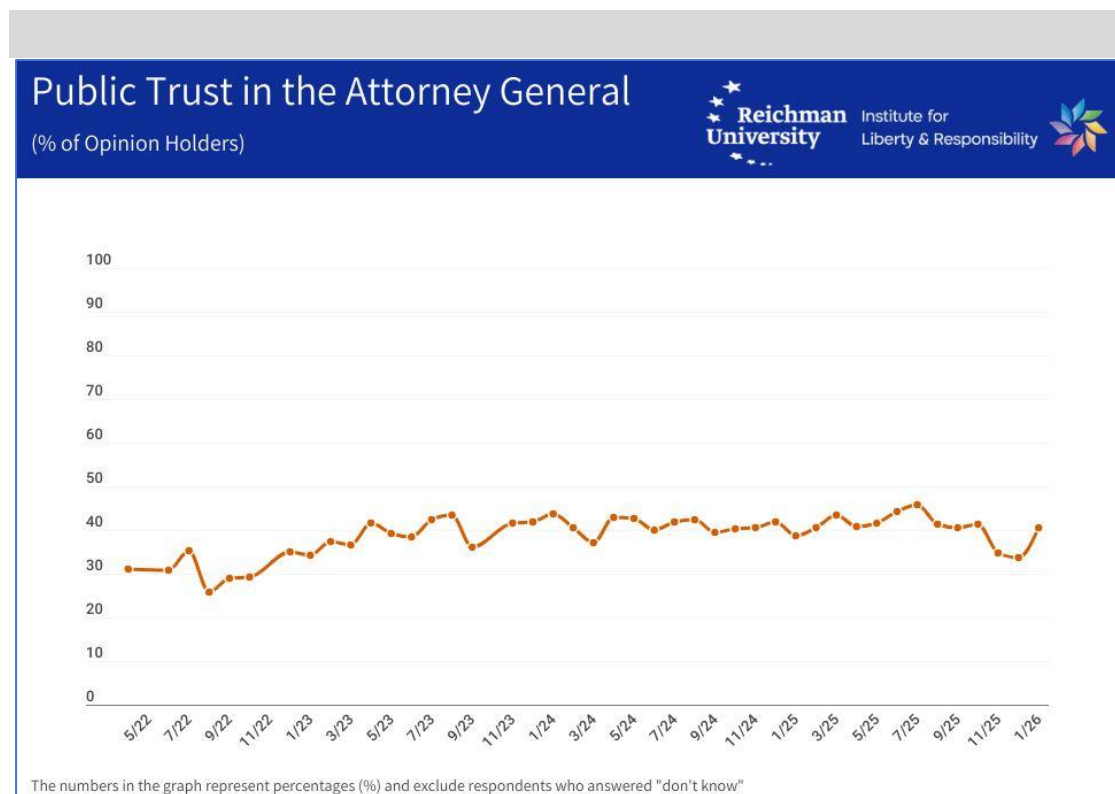
Public Trust in the Supreme Court

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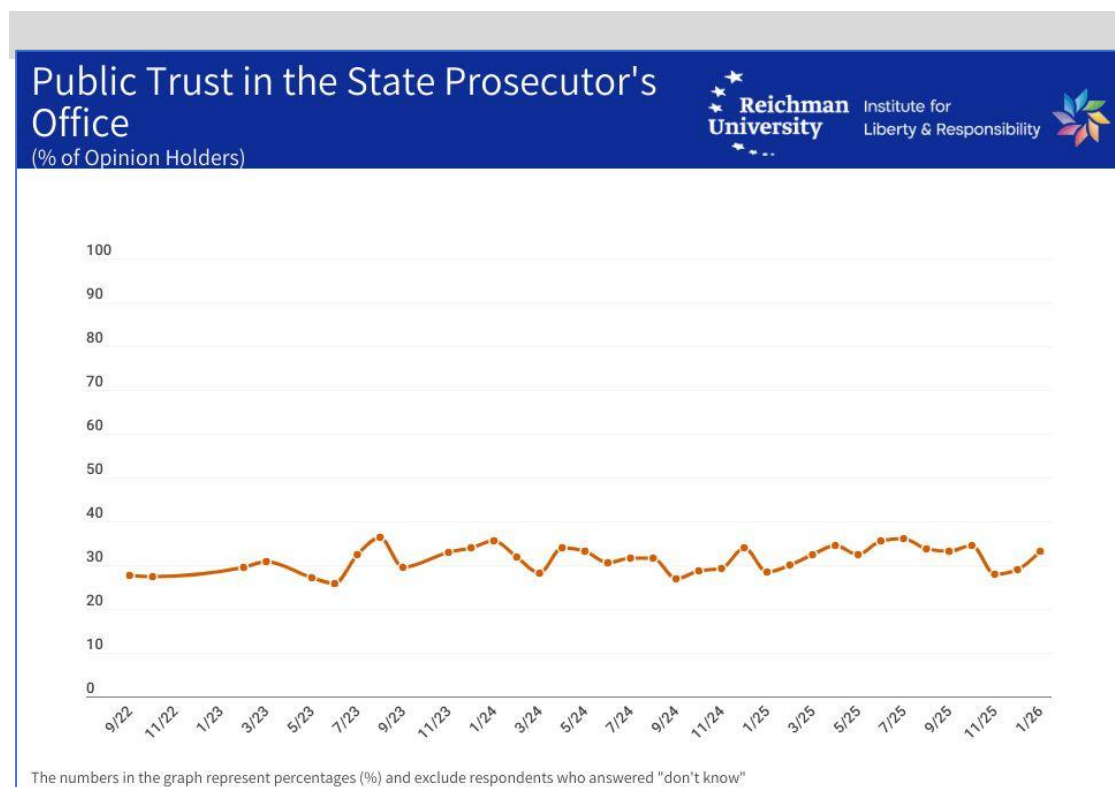
Public Trust in the Attorney General

In January 2026, a trust level of **41%** was measured for the Attorney General, a notable increase of 7 percentage points from December. After a sharp downward trend in the fourth quarter of 2025 (from 46% in July to 34% in November-December), the Attorney General records a significant recovery and continues to enjoy trust at a level similar to the Supreme Court.



Public Trust in the State Attorney's Office

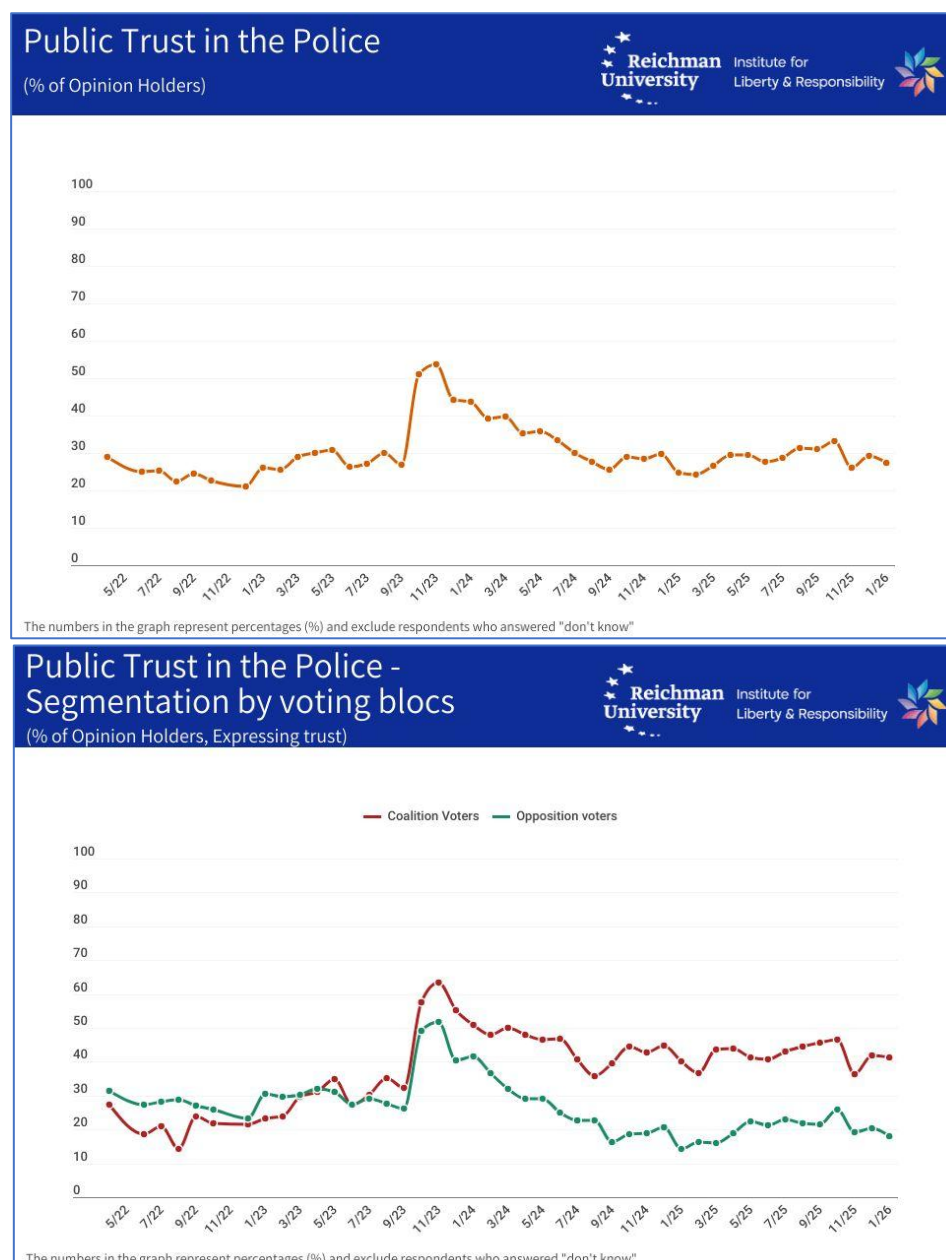
In January 2026, a trust level of **33%** was measured for the State Attorney's Office, an increase of 4 percentage points from December. The State Attorney's Office continues to enjoy lower trust compared to other Judicial system institutions, but still significantly higher than executive and legislative branch institutions.



Trust in Security Forces

Public Trust in the Police

Public trust in the police in January 2026 stands at **27%**. Following a slight increase in the third quarter of 2025 (August-October: 31%-33%), trust in the police returned to levels similar to those measured previously. Gaps between coalition supporters (41%) and opposition supporters (18%) remain significant and consistent, with a gap of about 23 percentage points - a gap indicating politicization of a body that should be professional and independent. The political gaps reflect the ongoing challenges facing the police in rebuilding public trust.



Public Trust in the IDF

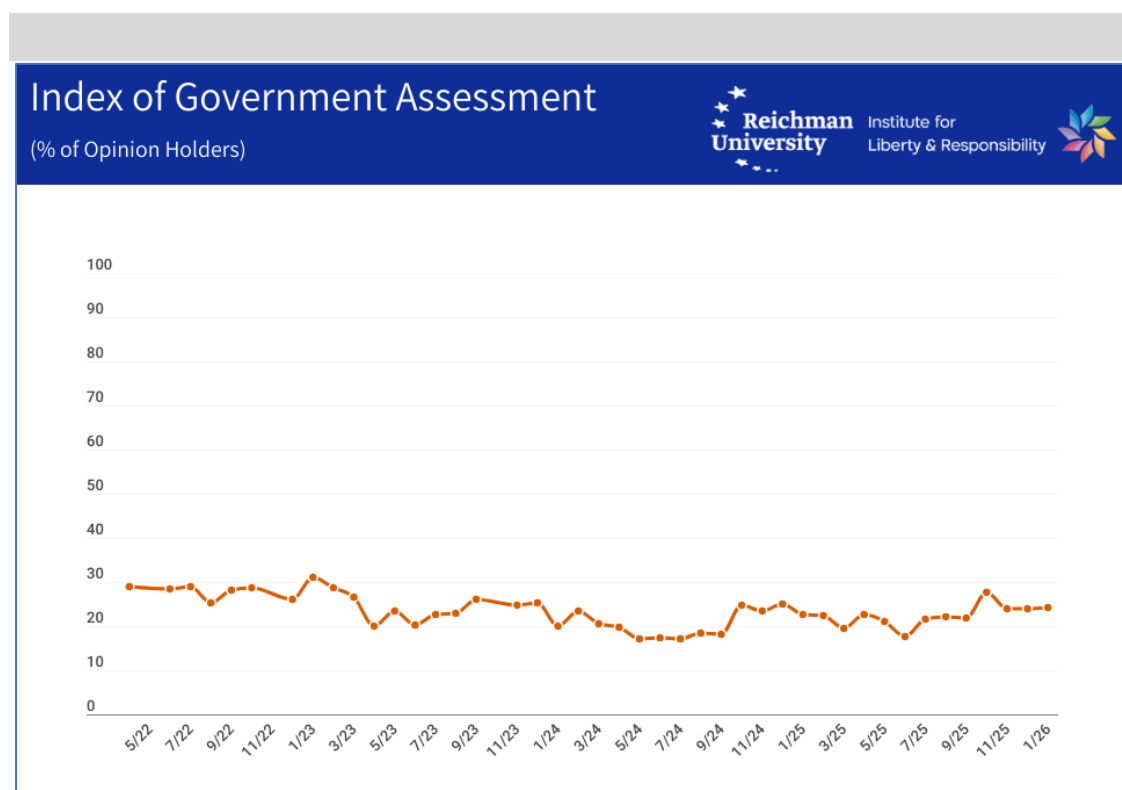
Data from January 2026 continues to indicate that the IDF continues to enjoy the highest public trust in the country, with a trust level of **75%**. After a spike in October to 78% and a decline in the fourth quarter of 2025 (71%-73%), trust in the IDF stabilized in January at levels similar to those measured before October. The IDF continues to maintain its status as the institution receiving the highest trust among the Israeli public, with about three-quarters of the public expressing trust in it.



Index of Government Assessment

The Government Assessment Index is a weighted measure of several components that provide a complex picture of how the public views the government -- the trust it has in it, satisfaction with its overall performance and its handling of the problems they perceive as most important to the country, and the assessment of the extent to which the government is responsive to their desires.

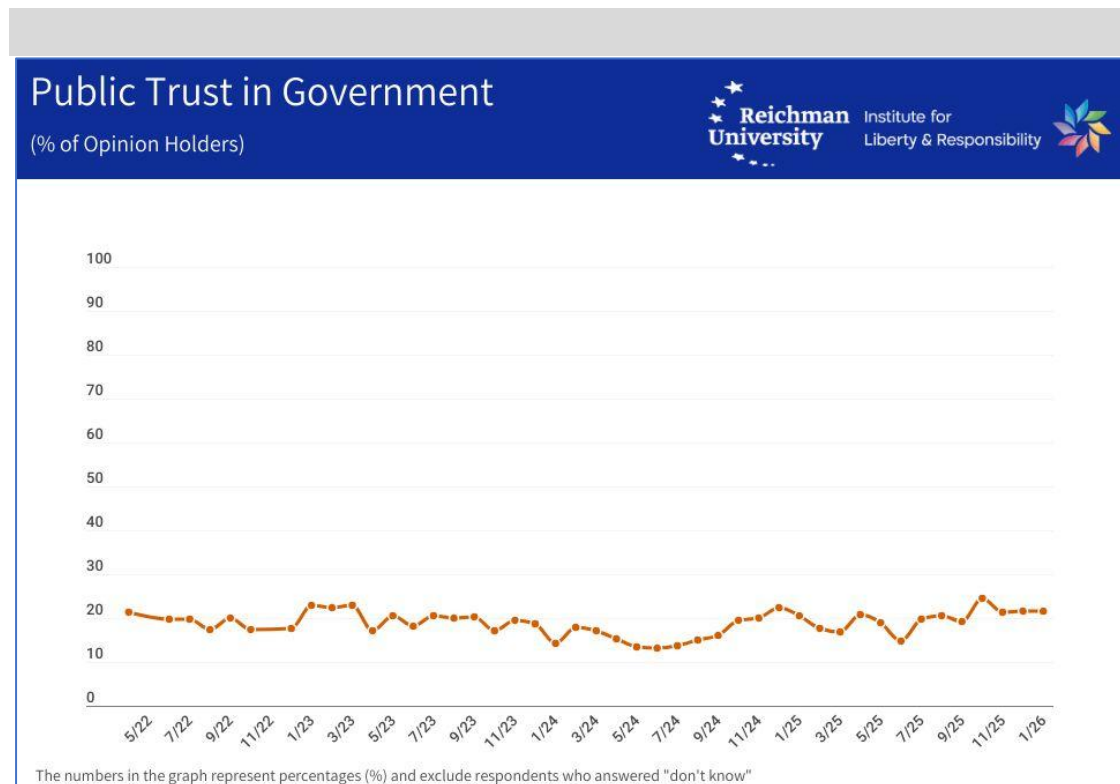
Except for the temporary spike in October (29%), the index returned to stability at a low level during the fourth quarter of 2025 and the beginning of 2026, standing at **24** in January. 21% of the public expresses trust in the government, satisfaction with the government's overall performance stands at 27%, 25% of Israelis are satisfied with how the government handles the problems they perceive as most important to the country, and 21% of citizens believe the government is responsive to their desires. The weighted index -- a score of 24 out of 100 -- reflects the ongoing trust crisis between the public and the government, with consistently low assessment.



Index Components:

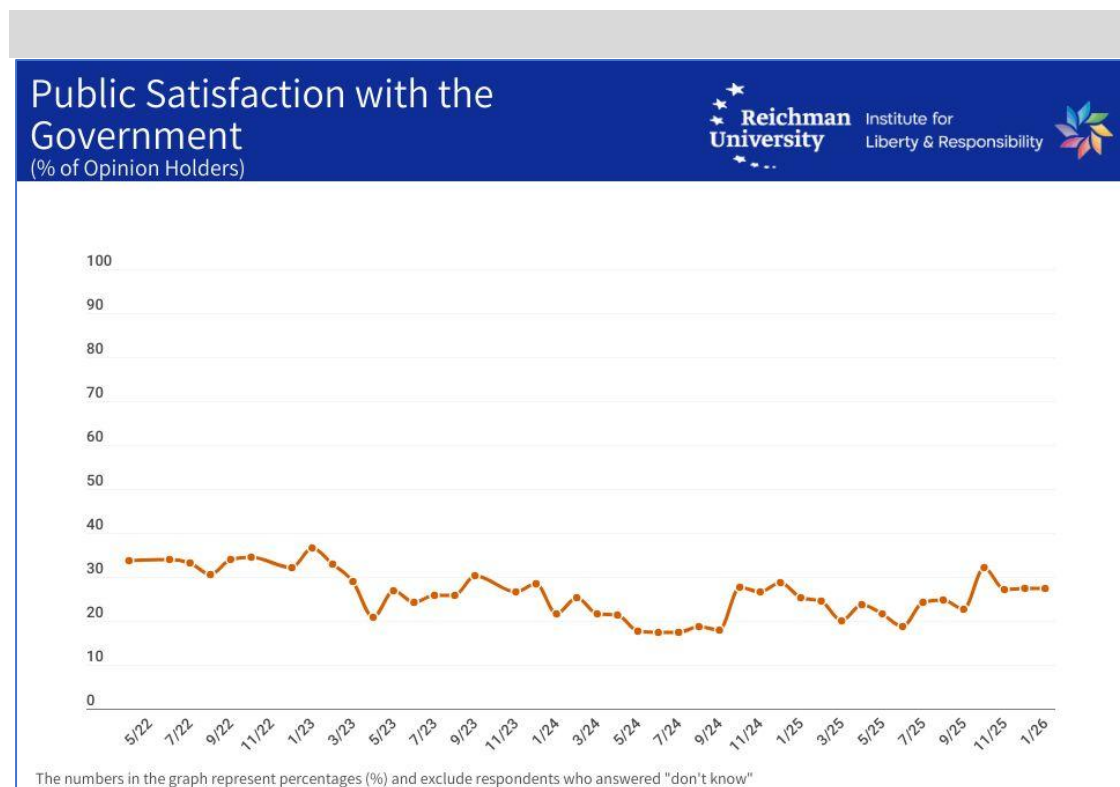
Public Trust in the Government

Public trust in the government in January 2026 stands at **21%**. Trust remained stable in the fourth quarter of 2025 (November-December) and the beginning of 2026, following a temporary spike recorded in October (24%). Trust is generally low, with only about one-fifth of the public expressing trust in the current government.



Public Satisfaction with the Government

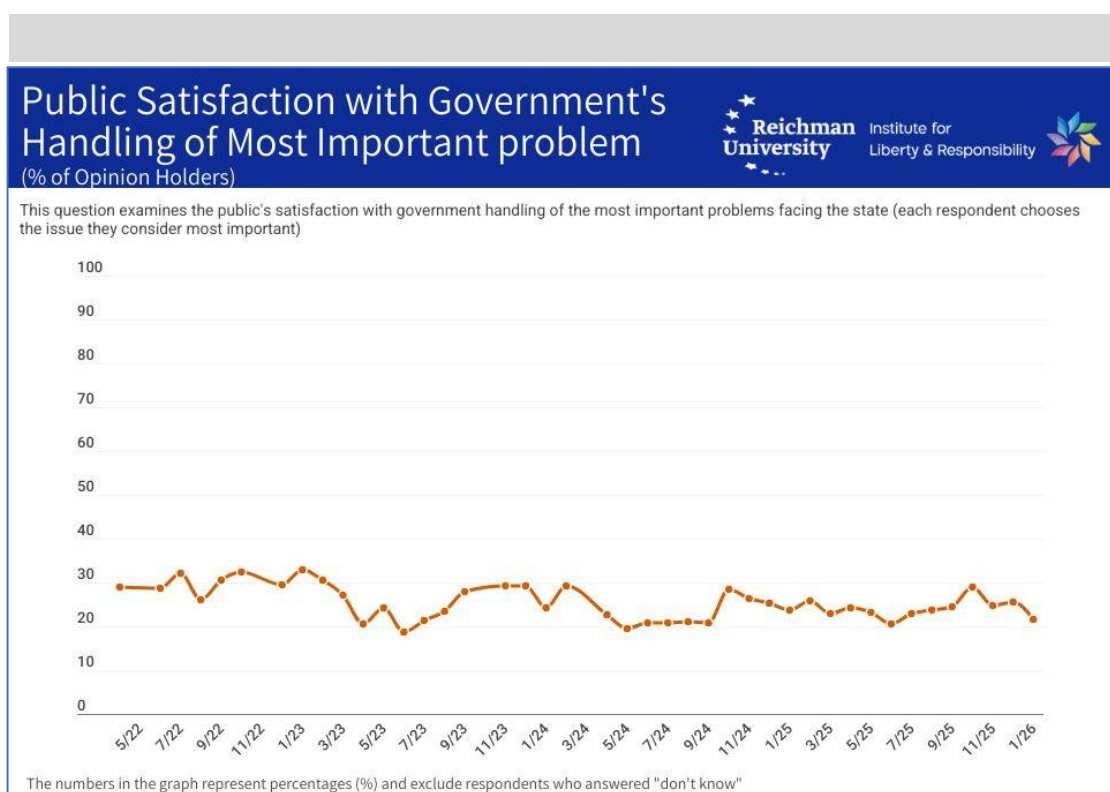
Public satisfaction with the government in January 2026 stands at **27%**. After volatility in the second and third quarters of 2025 (19%-24%) and a spike in October to 32%, satisfaction stabilized in the months of November-January at 27% - a higher level than measured before October. Satisfaction with the government's overall performance is generally low, with only about a quarter of the public satisfied with its performance.



Public Satisfaction Level with the Government's Handling of the Most Important Problem

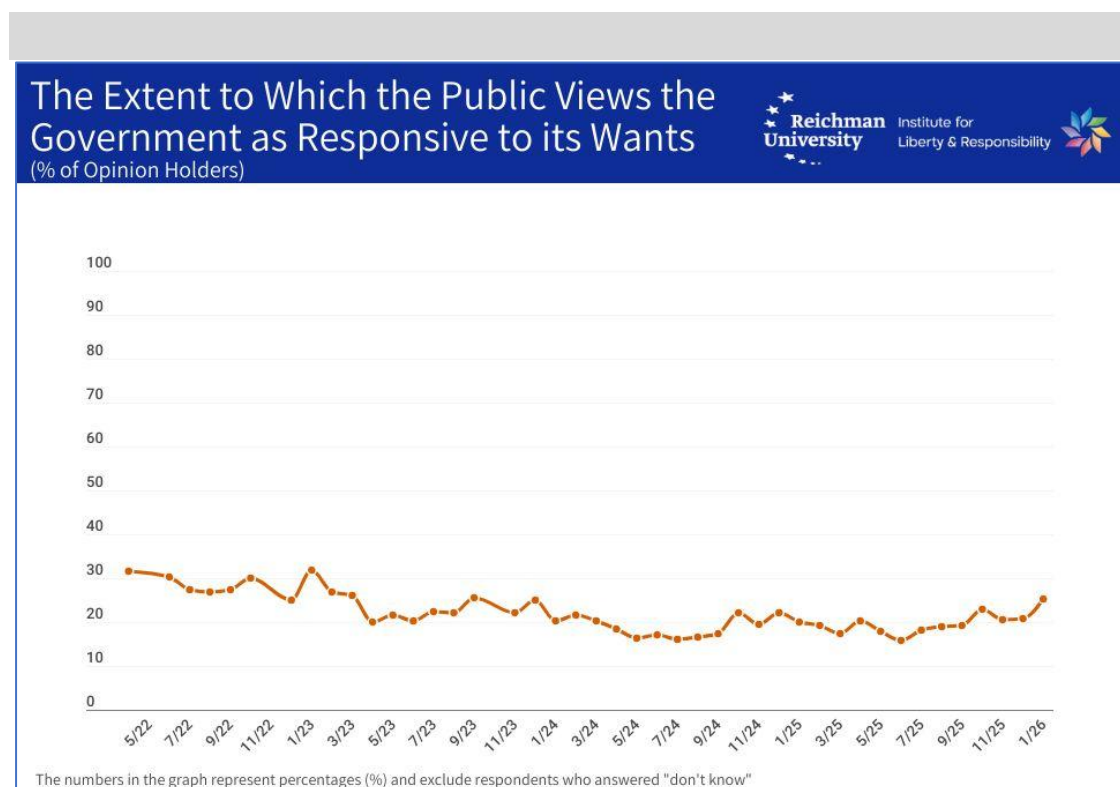
This question examines public satisfaction with the government's handling of the most important problems facing the country (each respondent chooses the problem they consider to be the most important).

Public satisfaction with how the government handles the most important problem in January 2026 stands at **25%**. Satisfaction remained stable throughout the fourth quarter of 2025 and the beginning of 2026 (25%-26%), following the temporary increase recorded in October (29%). Satisfaction with the government's handling of the most important problem is generally low, with only about a quarter of the public feeling satisfied.



The Extent to Which the Public Views the Government as Responsive to its Wants

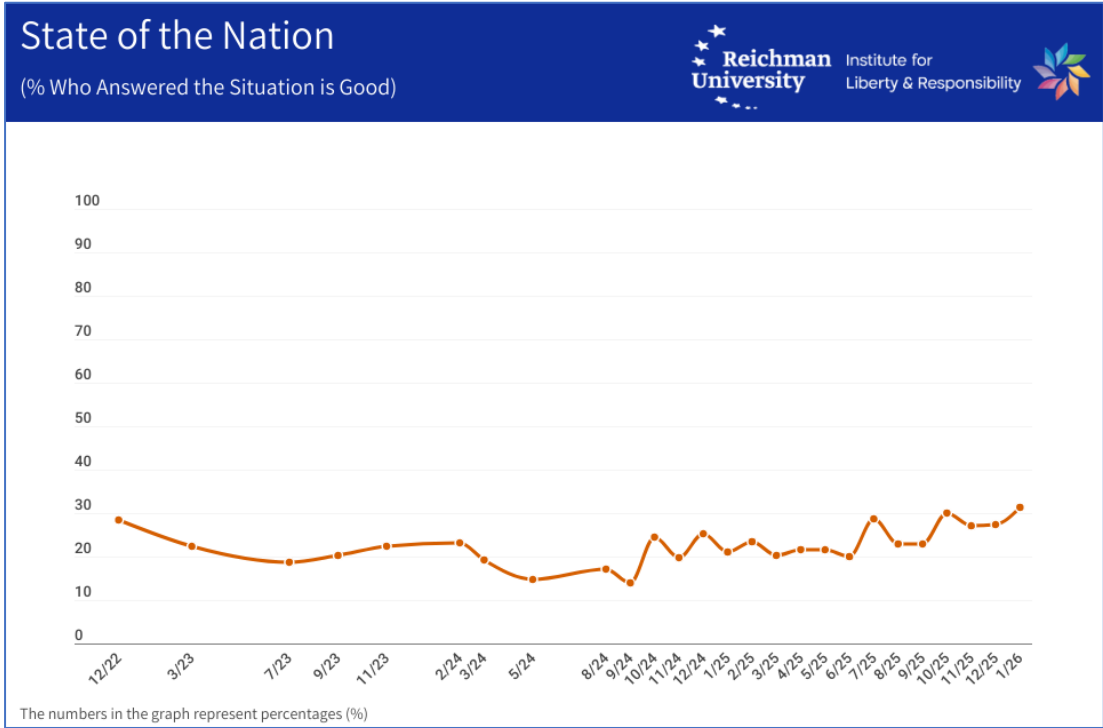
Public assessment that the government is responsive to their wants in January 2026 stood at **21%**. After volatility in the second and third quarters of 2025 (16%-19%) and a slight spike in October to 23%, stabilization occurred in the months of November-January (21%). Public assessment of the extent to which the government is responsive to their desires is generally low, with only about one-fifth of the Israeli public believing the government is responsive to them.



State of the Nation and National Pride

State of the Nation

Data from January 2026 shows relative stability in assessment of the nation's state. **31%** of the public rate the situation as good - the highest figure since the beginning of the Institute's measurement series. Following the spike in October to 30% as a result of the return of the hostages and the return to lower values during summer 2025, the level stabilized again at around 30%.



National Pride

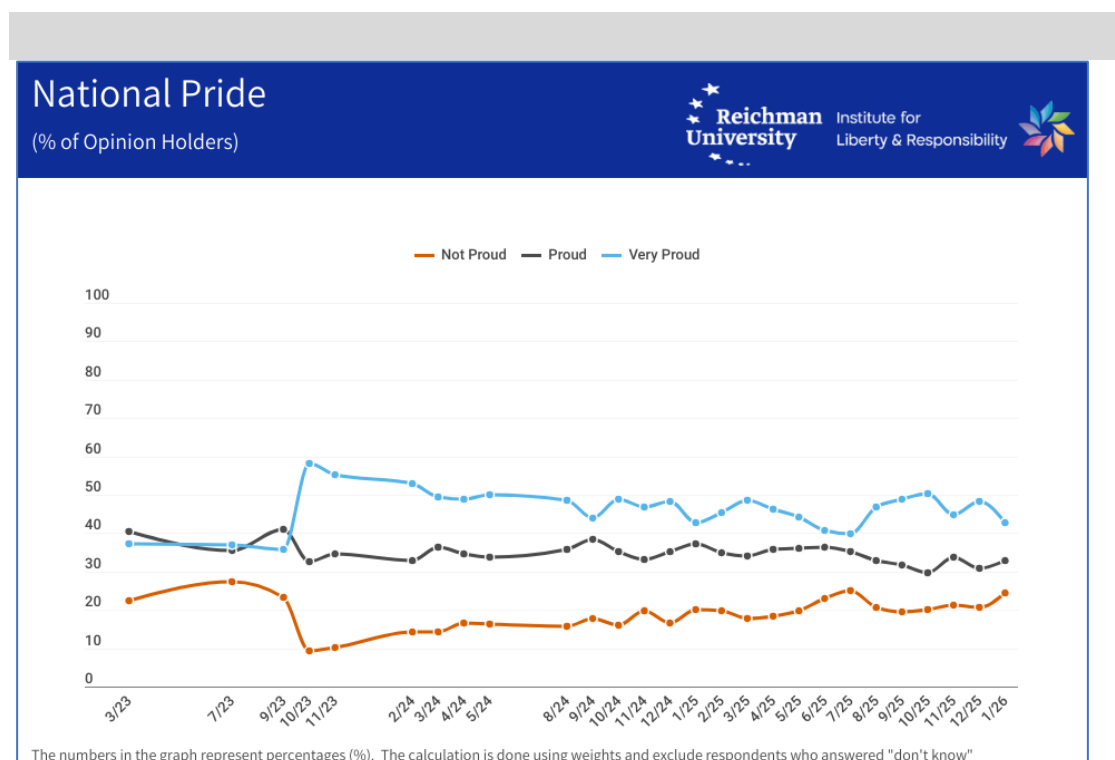
Data from January 2026 shows that **75%** of the public express pride in the country (43% very proud, 33% proud), while **25%** are not proud. A decline is evident among respondents expressing high pride.

In examination over time, the data indicates a gradual decline in the share expressing high pride since the outbreak of war - from 58% in October 2023 to 43% in January 2026. Simultaneously, there has been an increase in the share of those not proud - from 9% in October 2023 to 25% in January 2026.

Compared to the pre-war period (March-September 2023), when only about 37% expressed high pride and about 23%-27% did not express pride, the war led to a significant jump in national pride, with the most significant decline being among those expressing high pride.

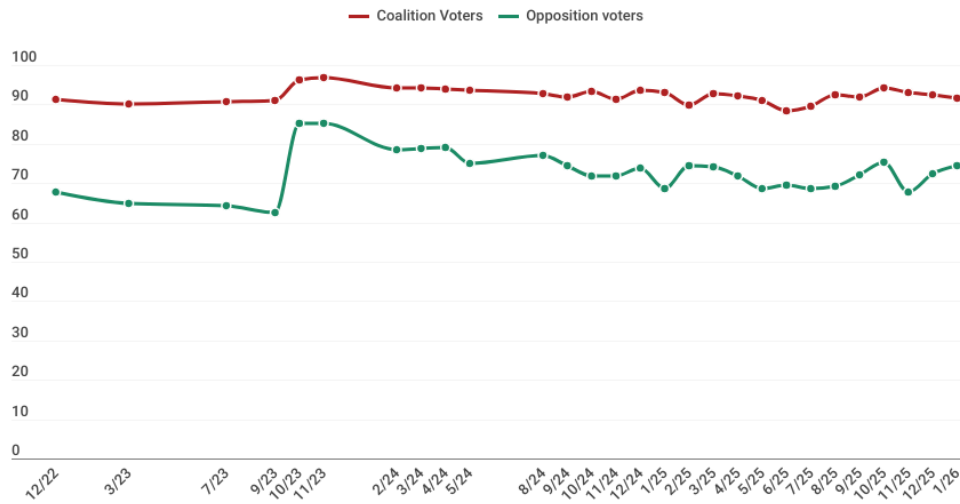
In the fourth quarter of 2025 and the beginning of 2026, a gradual return trend is evident to levels similar to those measured before the war.

When weighting all respondents expressing pride (very proud + proud), the data continues to indicate consistent gaps in pride levels between coalition and opposition voters. Coalition voters express high levels of pride (92%) compared to opposition voters (74%), a gap of about 18 percentage points. In addition, sharp gaps are evident between Jews (87%) and Arabs (33%) in the sense of national pride - a gap of about 54 percentage points.



National Pride

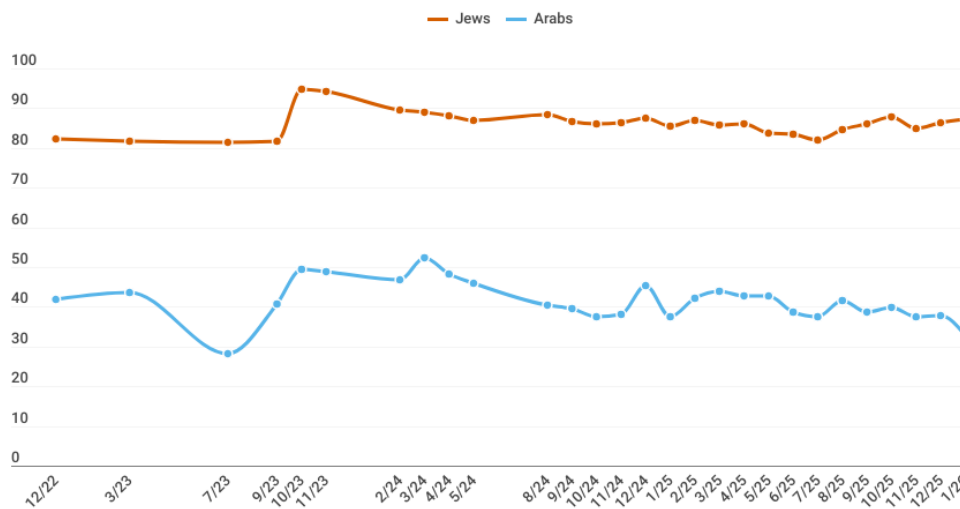
(Segmentation by coalition and opposition voters)



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

National Pride

(Segmentation by Jews and Arabs)



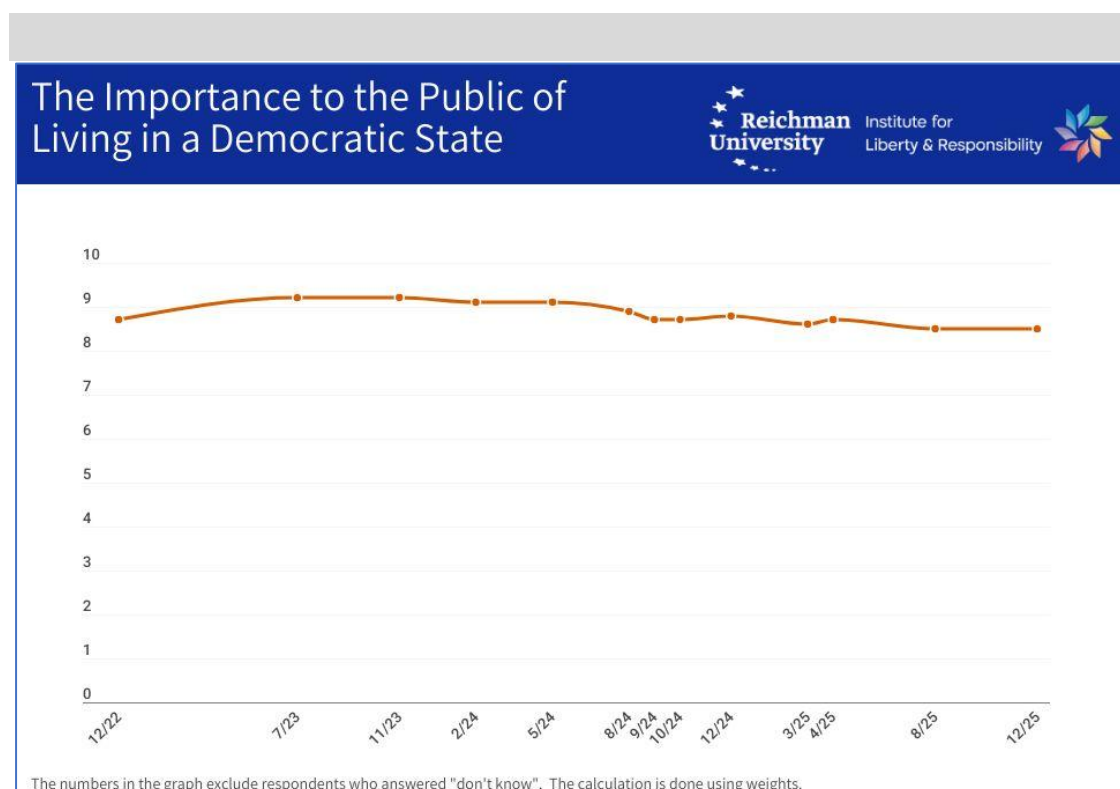
The numbers in the graph represent percentages (%). The calculation is done using weights and exclude respondents who answered "don't know"

State of Democracy

In the fourth quarter of 2025, the Israeli public continues to attribute high importance to democracy but expresses low satisfaction with its functioning. While the importance the public attributes to living in a democratic state remains stable at a high level (average of 8.5-8.8), the assessment of Israel as a democratic state stands at a moderate level (6.0-6.3), and satisfaction with the functioning of Israeli democracy remains low (4.9-5.1). The gap between the high importance the public attributes to democracy and the low satisfaction with its functioning reflects a sense of disappointment from the actualization of democratic values in practice.

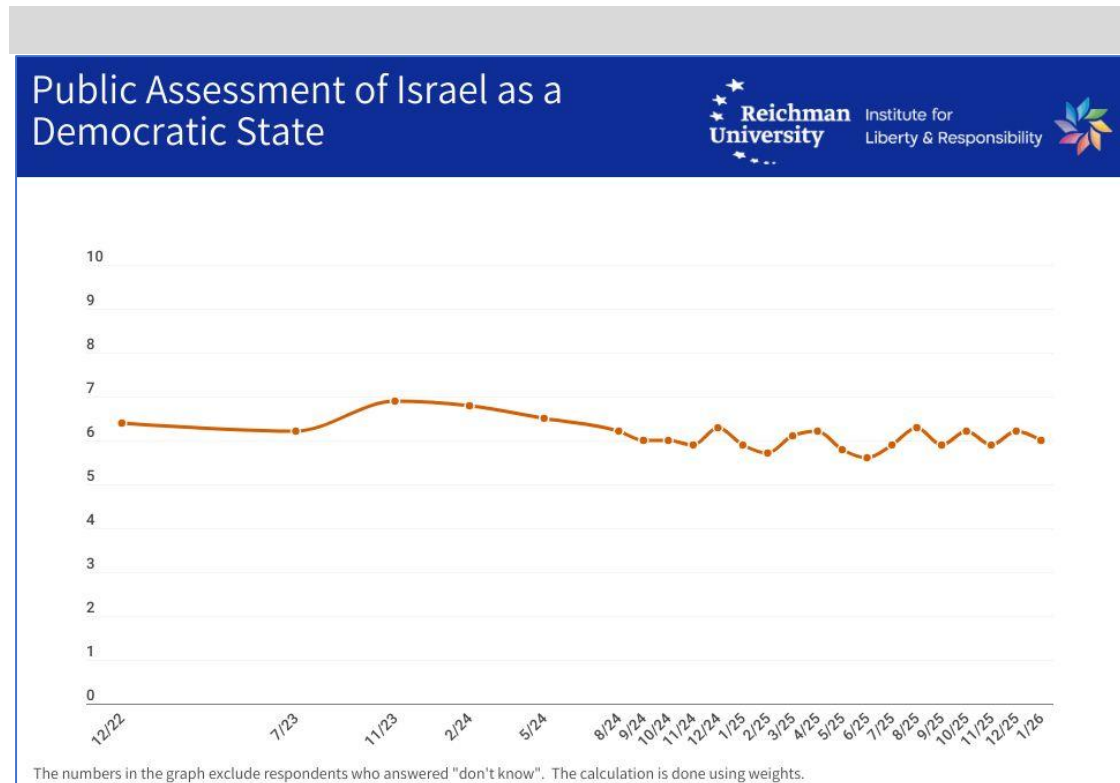
The Importance to the Public of Living in a Democratic State

Data from the fourth quarter of 2025 shows that the Israeli public continues to attribute high importance to living in a democratic state, with an average of 8.5-8.8 (on a scale of 0-10). The level of importance remains stable at a high level throughout the entire period measured (8.5-9.2), reflecting a broad consensus in Israeli society regarding the value of democracy.



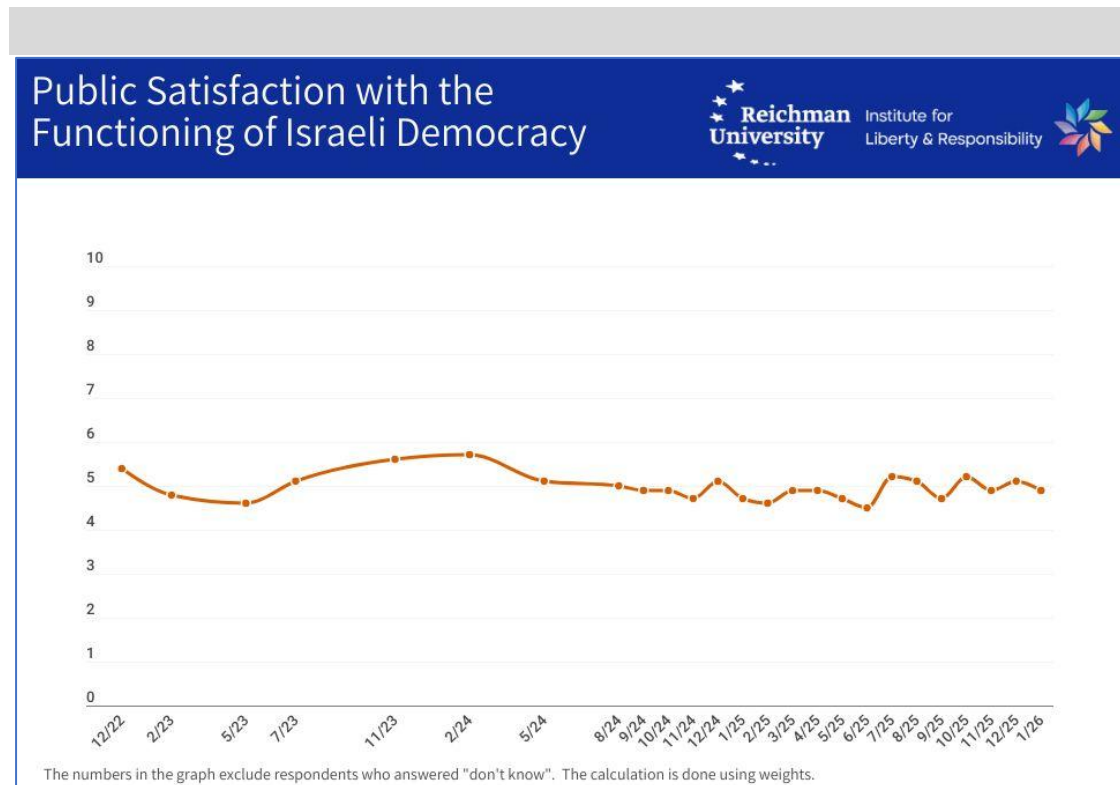
Public Assessment of Israel as a Democratic State

In the fourth quarter of 2025, the Israeli public assesses Israel as a democratic state with an average of 5.9-6.3 (on a scale of 0-10). The assessment level remains stable around 6.0 throughout the past year, after a decline from the 6.8-6.9 levels measured at the end of 2023 and beginning of 2024. The assessment reflects a moderate perception of the level of democracy in Israel.



Public Satisfaction with the Functioning of Israeli Democracy

Public satisfaction with the functioning of Israeli democracy in the fourth quarter of 2025 stands at 4.7-5.1 (on a scale of 0-10). The satisfaction level remains low and stable in the range of 4.6-5.2 throughout the past year, reflecting significant dissatisfaction with how Israeli democracy functions.



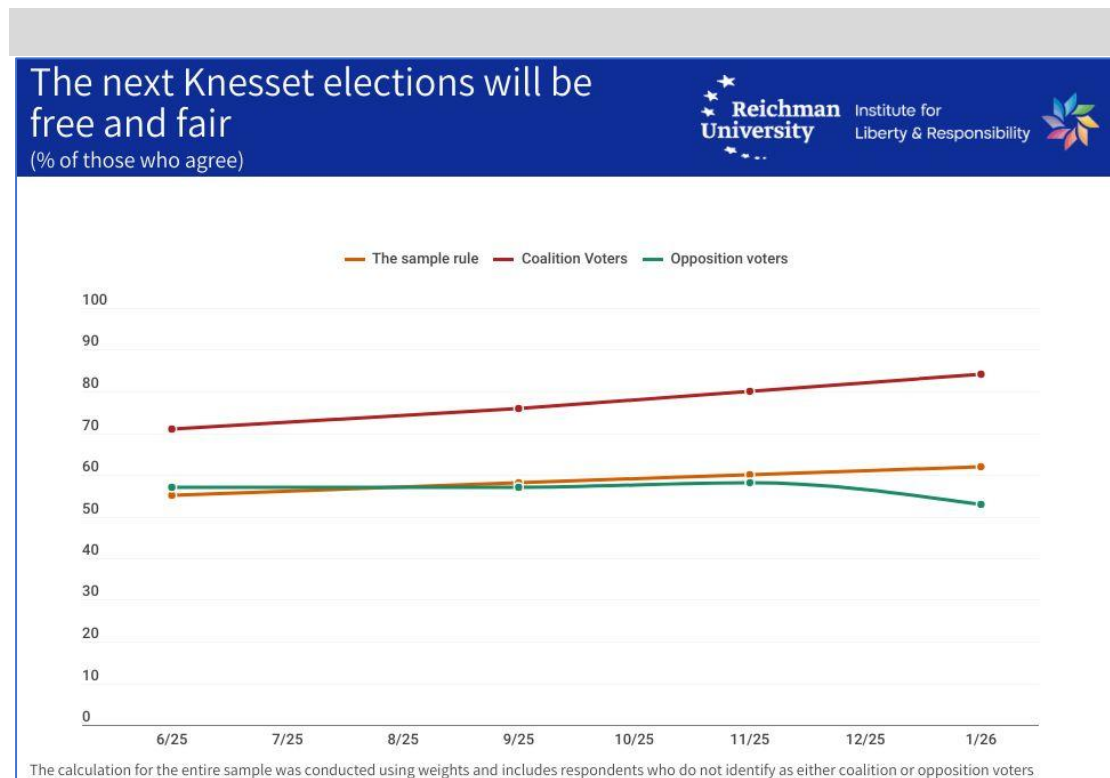
Electoral Integrity

Data from January 2026 shows that 62% of the public believe the next Knesset elections will be free and fair, a sustained increase from 55% in June 2025, with the improvement stemming primarily from coalition voters (84%, compared to 71% in June), while opposition voters recorded a decline (53%, compared to 57% in June). Simultaneously, 49% of the public believe that actors associated with the government will attempt to manipulate the election results, while 35% believe that actors associated with the opposition will attempt to do so. Concern about foreign interference stands at 42%.

The gaps between coalition and opposition voters are particularly pronounced: 84% of coalition voters believe the elections will be free and fair, compared to only 53% of opposition voters - a gap of 31 percentage points that is widening. Regarding concerns about manipulation, 71% of opposition voters are concerned about manipulation attempts by government actors (compared to 26% of coalition voters), while 50% of coalition voters are concerned about manipulation attempts by opposition actors (compared to 21% of opposition voters). The significant political gaps reflect deep polarization in the perception of fairness of democratic processes.

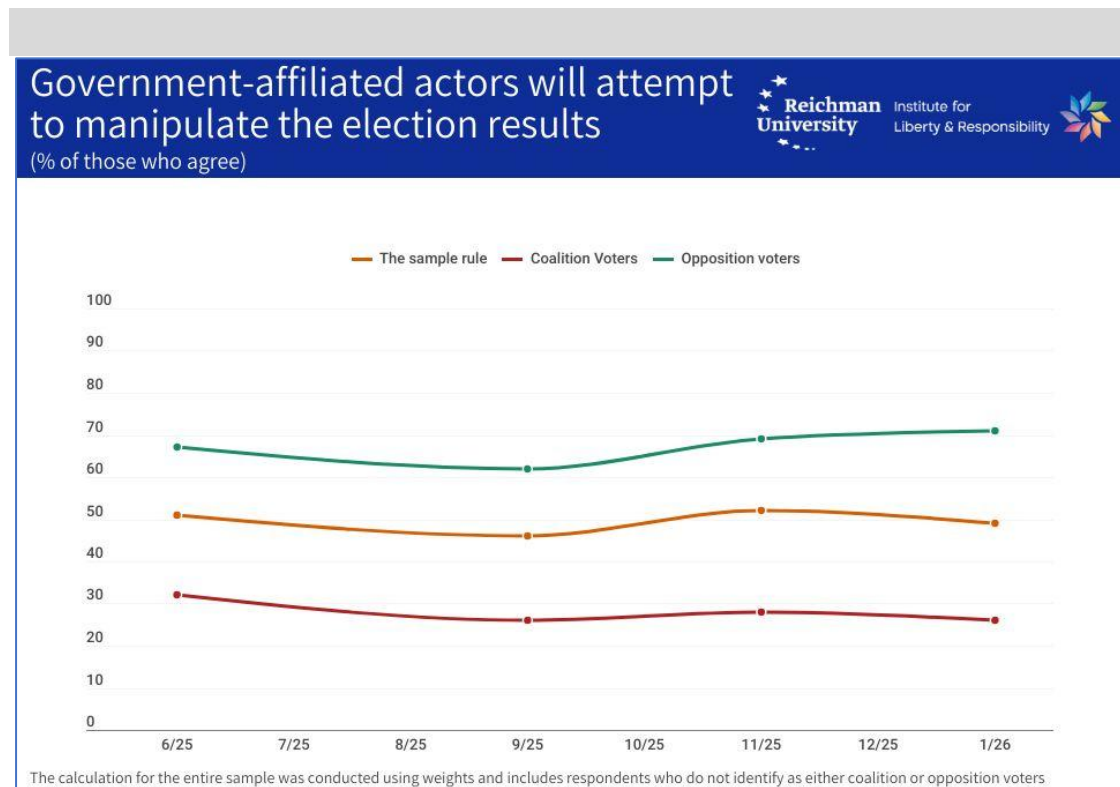
The Next Knesset Elections Will Be Free and Fair

Data from January 2026 shows that 62% of the public believe the next Knesset elections will be free and fair, a sustained increase from 55% in June 2025. The improvement stems primarily from coalition voters - 84% of them believe in the fairness of the elections (compared to 71% in June), while opposition voters recorded a decline to 53% (compared to 57% in June). The gap between the two groups reached 31 percentage points and is widening.



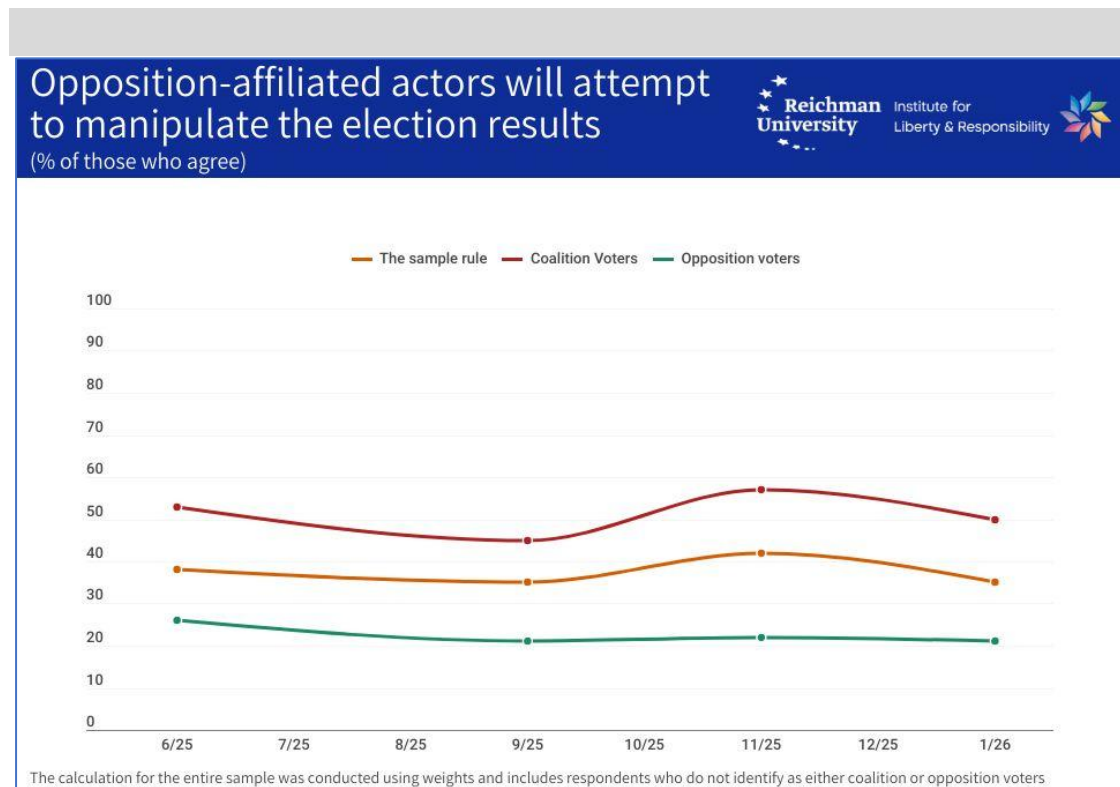
Actors Associated with the Government Will Try to Skew the Election Results

49% of the public believe that actors associated with the government will attempt to manipulate the election results. Concern about government manipulation varies dramatically according to political affiliation - 71% of opposition voters are concerned about manipulation attempts by government actors, compared to only 26% of coalition voters. This gap of 45 percentage points reflects the deep lack of trust between the political sides.



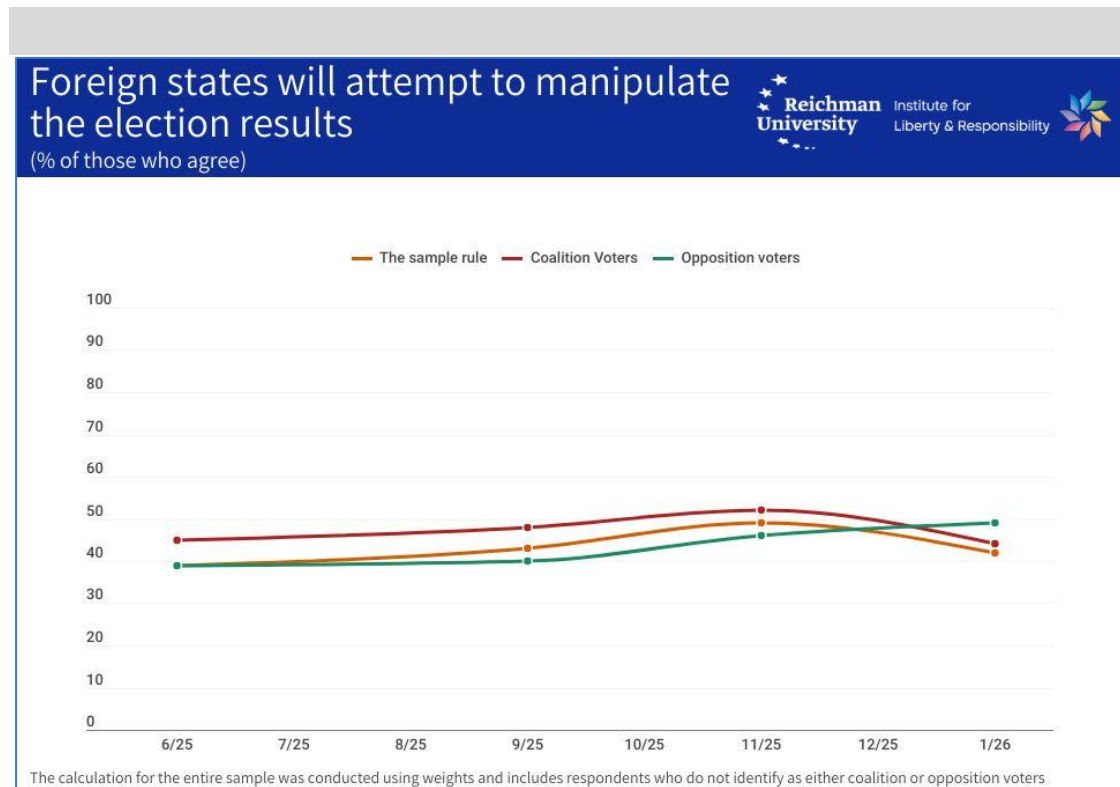
Actors Associated with the Opposition Will Try to Skew the Election Results

35% of the public believe that actors associated with the opposition will attempt to manipulate the election results. Here too the political gaps are prominent - 50% of coalition voters are concerned about manipulation attempts by opposition actors, compared to only 21% of opposition voters. Among the general public, concern about manipulation by opposition actors is lower than concern about government manipulation.



Foreign Countries Will Try to Skew the Election Results

42% of the public are concerned that foreign countries will attempt to manipulate the election results. Concern about foreign interference is relatively similar between coalition voters (44%) and opposition voters (49%), constituting the only issue among the four issues examined where political gaps are relatively small.



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.

	Survey Date (Days)		Number of Respondents	Jewish Respondents	Arab Respondents	Sampling Error
1	April (10-14)	2022	1,559	1,275	284	2.50%
2	June (11-14)	2022	807	657	150	3.50%
3	July (12-16)	2022	822	665	157	3.40%
4	August (7-13)	2022	810	652	158	3.40%
5	September (22/9-2/10)	2022	1,671	1,417	254	2.40%
6	October (24-27)	2022	1,507	1,206	301	2.50%
7	December (7-11)	2022	807	655	152	3.50%
8	January (16-22)	2023	1,461	1,205	256	2.60%
9	February (9-14)	2023	1,512	1,204	308	2.50%
10	March (19-22)	2023	1,558	1,257	301	2.50%
11	April (18-20)	2023	816	656	160	3.40%
12	May (9-11)	2023	813	657	156	3.40%
13	June (11-14)	2023	811	655	156	3.40%
14	July (12-16)	2023	813	661	152	3.40%
15	August (8-13)	2023	805	652	153	3.50%
16	September (3-6)	2023	1,562	1,227	335	2.50%
17	October (17-19)	2023	807	657	150	3.50%
18	November (13-16)	2023	803	651	152	3.50%
19	December (17-19)	2023	807	657	150	3.50%
20	January (14-17)	2024	805	652	153	3.50%

21	February (11-13)	2024	803	649	154	3.50%
22	March (3-6)	2024	1526	1266	260	2.50%
23	April (1-3)	2024	804	651	153	3.50%
24	May (5-7)	2024	810	657	153	3.40%
25	June (16-20)	2024	815	657	158	3.40%
26	July (14-18)	2024	807	655	152	3.50%
27	August (14-19)	2024	1512	1260	252	2.50%
28	September (8-11)	2024	1501	1251	250	2.50%
29	October (13-15)	2024	803	653	150	3.50%
30	November (11-14)	2024	807	657	150	3.50%
31	December (15-19)	2024	1465	1200	265	2.60%
32	January (5-8)	2025	811	655	156	3.40%
33	February (9-12)	2025	811	659	152	3.40%
34	March (9-12)	2025	1507	1257	250	2.50%
35	April (21-27)	2025	1490	1254	237	2.50%
36	May (12-15)	2025	803	658	145	3.50%
37	June (8-11)	2025	803	650	153	3.50%
38	July (14-15)	2025	800	648	152	3.50%
39	August (10-14)	2025	1505	1259	246	2.50%
40	September 7- (11)	2025	1511	1260	251	2.50%
41	October 16- (19)	2025	1208	1007	201	2.80%
42	November (9-11)	2025	806	654	152	3.5%
43	December (8-11)	2025	1513	1259	154	2.5%
44	January (11-13)	2026	810	658	152	3.4%

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.

Public Trust in Government Institutions

Format of the questions asked: "To what extent do you have trust in each of the following institutions?", where respondents were required to answer regarding the Knesset, the Government, the Supreme Court, and the President.

Response options for the questions: 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.

Public Trust in the Judicial System

Format of the questions asked: "To what extent do you have trust in each of the following institutions?", where respondents were required to answer regarding the Israel Police, the Supreme Court, the Attorney General, and the State Attorney's Office.

Response options for the questions: 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.

Trust in Security Forces

Format of the questions asked: "To what extent do you have trust in each of the following institutions?", where respondents were required to answer regarding the Police and the Israel Defense Forces (IDF*).

Response options for the questions: 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.

**Until December 2025, trust in the IDF was calculated using vote-based weighting. Beginning in December 2025, the methodology was updated, and trust in the IDF has since been calculated without applying vote-based weights*

Index of Government Assessment

The Index of Government Assessment of the Institute for Liberty and Responsibility represents an average of the public's level of trust in the government, satisfaction with the government, assessment of how responsive it is to the public, and the public's level of satisfaction with the government's handling of important problems facing the country. As part of constructing the index, internal reliability tests (Cronbach's alpha) were performed to examine the connection between these questions: $\alpha = 0.74-0.86$.

Format of the questions asked:

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 addressing the most important problem facing the country today? From 0 (low) to 10 (high).

- Each respondent was asked to indicate the most important problem in their opinion that the country is facing, and then was asked about their assessment of the government's score in addressing 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.

State of the Nation

Format of the question asked: "What do you think is the general state of Israel?" Response options: Very good; Good; So-so; Not good; Bad; Don't know

Format of the question asked: "Are you proud or not proud to be Israeli?"

Response options: Not proud at all; Not proud; Proud; Very proud; Don't know.

The data are calculated using vote-based weights

Assessment of Democracy

Format of the question asked: "To what extent is it important for you to live in a country with a democratic system of government?"

Response options: Rating on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means "not important at all" and 10 means "very important" ["Don't know" option provided].

Format of the question asked: "To what extent do you think Israel is a democratic country?"

Response options: Rating on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means "not democratic at all" and 10 means "very democratic" ["Don't know" option provided].

Format of the question asked: "Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Israeli democracy functions?"

Response options: Rating on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means "very dissatisfied" and 10 means "very satisfied" ["Don't know" option provided].

The data are calculated using vote-based weights

Electoral Integrity

Format of the question asked: To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding the next Knesset elections in Israel?

- a. The next Knesset elections will be free and fair
- b. Actors associated with the government will attempt to skew the election results
- c. Actors associated with the opposition will attempt to skew the election results
- d. Foreign countries will attempt to skew the election results

Response options for the four questions: Strongly agree; Agree; Disagree; Strongly disagree;
Don't know

The data are calculated using vote-based weights



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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