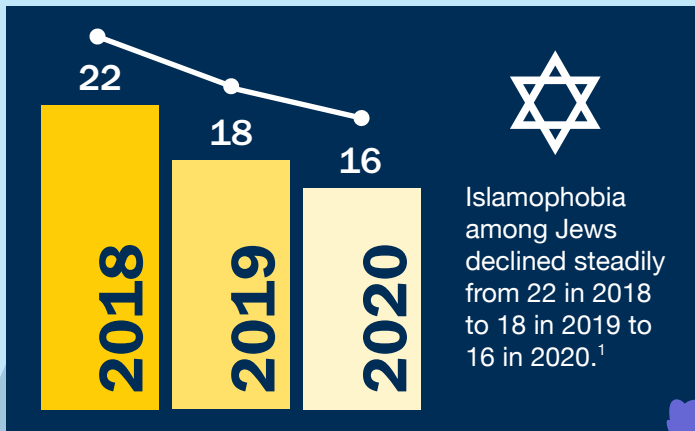


# Jewish Opinions of Muslims are Steadily Improving

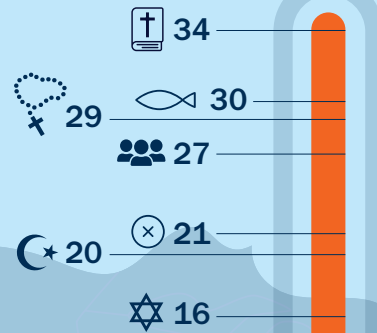


## AMERICAN MUSLIM POLL

WHILE LEVELS OF ISLAMOPHOBIA AMONG THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE REMAINED RELATIVELY STABLE, JEWISH OPINIONS OF MUSLIMS HAVE STEADILY IMPROVED BETWEEN 2018 AND 2020



In 2019, Jewish Americans were the most likely group surveyed to **know a Muslim personally**, a factor associated with lower levels of Islamophobia (76% of Jews vs. 61% of Catholics, 44% of Protestants, 35% of white Evangelicals, 57% of the non-affiliated, and 53% of the general public).



After a slight uptick in Islamophobia between 2018 (24) and 2019 (28), the general public scored 27 in 2020, on par with previous years.

In 2020, Muslims, Jews, and the non-affiliated had lower scores on the Islamophobia Index (20, 16, and 21, respectively), compared with Catholics, Protestants, white Evangelicals (29, 30, and 34, respectively), and the general public (27).



### POLITICS, NOT RELIGION, PREDICTS ISLAMOPHOBIA IN THE GENERAL PUBLIC. THE FOLLOWING FACTORS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH HIGHER SCORES ON THE ISLAMOPHOBIA INDEX AMONG THE GENERAL PUBLIC:<sup>2</sup>



Identifying as a Republican and/or holding political ideology other than very liberal



Having experienced any religious discrimination



Lower socioeconomic status (annual income less than \$30,000 and holding less than a college education)

### ISLAMOPHOBIA IS BAD FOR ALL AMERICANS, DEMOCRACY, AND SECURITY. HIGHER SCORES ON ISPU'S ISLAMOPHOBIA INDEX ARE ASSOCIATED WITH:



A greater acceptance of the military targeting of civilians



Greater acceptance of authoritarian attitudes, such as limiting freedom of the press and suspending checks and balances



A greater acceptance of individual targeting of civilians



Greater support for discriminatory policies, such as the Muslim Ban or surveillance of mosques



<sup>1</sup> ISPU's Islamophobia Index is a measure of the level of public endorsement of five negative stereotypes associated with Muslims in America, on a 1-100 additive scale.

<sup>2</sup> We tested a battery of variables to determine which were linked to higher or lower scores on the Islamophobia Index using linear regression models.

Between 2016 and 2020, the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU) has tracked American Muslim attitudes and experiences through the American Muslim Poll. This poll surveys Muslims and Jews as well as Catholics, Protestants, white Evangelicals, and those that consider themselves non-affiliated among the general public and provides insights and analysis into the attitudes and policy preferences of these groups. When ISPU began conducting this poll in 2016, we knew it was critical that the survey not just poll Americans who are Muslim, but Americans of other faiths and no faith as well. This allows readers to understand American Muslims' perspective within the context of their nation's faith landscape, not as an isolated specimen. Over the last half-decade, these studies have served both to educate the wider society on their Muslim neighbors and to inform Muslims themselves about their strengths and struggles. This infographic includes data from the past five years of American Muslim Poll reports, all available online at [www.ispu.org/poll](http://www.ispu.org/poll).

## METHODOLOGY FOR AMERICAN MUSLIM POLL 2020

ISPU created the questionnaire for this study and commissioned Social Science Research Solutions (SSRS) to conduct a nationally representative survey of self-identified Muslims and Jews and a nationally representative survey of the general American public. Researchers examined the views of self-identified Protestants (parsing out white Evangelicals), Catholics, and the non-affiliated. White Evangelicals are routinely studied in religion survey research as a separate subgroup due to their unique social and political characteristics. In our analysis, we make comparisons among age and racial groups. For race comparisons among the Muslim sample, we do not include Hispanic Americans or Native Americans in the racial comparisons due to small sample sizes. In the general public, we exclude Asian Americans in racial comparisons due to small sample size. A total of 2,167 interviews were conducted. ISPU owns all data and intellectual property related to this study.

SSRS interviewed 801 Muslim respondents, 351 Jewish respondents, and 1,015 general population adult respondents, yielding a total of 2,167 respondents surveyed. The interviews were completed by phone and on the web. Among Muslim respondents, 360 interviews were completed over the phone, and 441 were completed via web panel. All 351 interviews with Jewish respondents were completed by phone. A total of 933 interviews were completed with general population adults via the SSRS probability panel and 82 by phone with non-Internet respondents. Non-Internet respondents are respondents who do not use the Internet and do not have access to the Internet. In total, 468 interviews were completed via cell phones, 325 via landline phones, and 1,374 via web survey.

Survey data were weighted to: 1) adjust for the fact that not all survey respondents were selected with the same probability, and 2) account for non-response across known demographic parameters for the Jewish and Muslim adult populations. Weighting procedures accounted for key demographic variables including age, race, gender, region, education, marital status, number of adults in the household, voter registration, phone usage, and political party identification. The survey has a margin of error at a 95% confidence level of Muslims  $\pm 4.8\%$  and Jews  $\pm 7.2\%$ . The study was weighted to provide nationally representative and projectable estimates of the adult population 18 years of age and older. The weighting process takes into account the disproportionate probabilities of household and respondent selection due to the number of separate telephone landlines and cell phones answered by respondents and their households, as well as the probability associated with the random selection of an individual household member. The survey has a margin of error at a 95% confidence level of the general population  $\pm 3.7\%$ . All statistically significant findings in this report are based on a 95% confidence interval.

For more details on polling methodology for the American Muslim Poll 2020 or previous years, visit [www.ispu.org/poll](http://www.ispu.org/poll).