## Pew Research Center

# Sharp Rise in the Share of Americans Saying Jews Face Discrimination 

Discrimination seen as widespread against Muslims, other groups

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## Sharp Rise in the Share of Americans Saying Jews Face Discrimination

## Discrimination seen as widespread against Muslims, other groups

The public sees widespread discrimination against several racial, ethnic and religious groups in the U.S. And while most of these views are little changed over the last several years, the share of Americans saying Jews face discrimination in the U.S. has increased substantially since late 2016.

Today, $64 \%$ of Americans say Jews face at least some discrimination - a 20-percentage-point increase from 2016; the share saying Jews face "a lot" of discrimination has nearly doubled, from $13 \%$ to $24 \%$. Democrats remain more likely than Republicans to say there is discrimination against Jews, but the shift in these views is evident in both parties.

The survey by Pew Research Center, conducted March 20-25 among 1,503 adults, also finds majorities continue to say there is a lot or some discrimination against Muslims, blacks, Hispanics,

## Majorities say several groups in the U.S. - including Muslims, blacks, Hispanics, gays, women and Jews - face at least some discrimination

\% who say there is $\qquad$ of discrimination against each group in our society


Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 20-25, 2019.
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gays and lesbians, and women. Muslims, in particular, are seen as facing more discrimination than other groups in society; $82 \%$ say Muslims face some discrimination, with $56 \%$ saying they encounter a lot of discrimination - highest among nine groups included in the survey.

While overall views about discrimination against most groups in U.S. society are little changed since 2016, already wide partisan divides in many of these views have grown wider. For example, in December 2016, $57 \%$ of Democrats and Democratic leaners, compared with $20 \%$ of Republicans and Republican leaners said that blacks faced a lot of discrimination - a 37-percentage-point gap. That has increased to 50 percentage points in the current survey: $69 \%$ of Democrats now say blacks face a lot of discrimination, compared with $19 \%$ of Republicans.

Majorities in both partisan groups say there is at least some discrimination against many groups, including Muslims, blacks, gays and lesbians, and Hispanics. But the share of Democrats who say each of these groups face discrimination is significantly higher than the share of Republicans who say the same. For instance, $92 \%$ of Democrats, compared with $69 \%$ of Republicans, say Muslims face at least some discrimination.

In contrast, Republicans are about twice as likely as Democrats to say that evangelical Christians ( $70 \%$ vs. $32 \%$ ), whites ( $58 \%$ vs. $25 \%$ ) and men ( $48 \%$ vs. $27 \%$ ) are subject to at least some discrimination.

## Growing partisan differences in views of discrimination

Partisan differences in views of how much discrimination several groups experience have widened in recent years.

Democrats have consistently been more likely than Republicans to say most groups face a lot of discrimination. Since 2016, however, the share of Democrats who say blacks face a lot of discrimination has increased, while Republicans' views are little changed.

Since 2013, when a similarly-worded question asked about discrimination against African Americans, the change is even more striking. Six years ago, just 28\% of Democrats said African Americans faced a lot of discrimination; today, more than twice as many Democrats say blacks face a lot of discrimination. (Over this period, an increasing share of Democrats also say that racial discrimination is the main reason some blacks cannot get ahead.)

Since 2016, there also have been sizable increases in the shares of Democrats who perceive a lot of discrimination against Hispanics (14 percentage points) and women (11 points).

Republicans' views of discrimination are little changed in recent years, with a few exceptions. Somewhat fewer Republicans now see a lot of discrimination against gays and lesbians than did so six years ago ( $22 \%$ now, $30 \%$ then). As

## Widening partisan gaps in perceptions of discrimination against many groups

$\%$ who say there is a lot of discrimination against each group in our society


Notes: In 2009, 2013, question asked about "African Americans" and "Hispanic Americans"; in 2013, question asked about "Muslim Americans."
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 20-25, 2019.
PEW RESEARCH CENTER result, the partisan gap in these views has grown from 16 percentage points in 2013, when $46 \%$ of

Democrats and 30\% of Republicans perceived a lot of discrimination, to 35 points today (57\% of Democrats, 22\% of Republicans),

There also is a wider partisan divide in views of whether evangelical Christians face a lot of discrimination. Currently, just 8\% of Democrats say this, little changed from December 2016. By comparison, 30\% of Republicans hold this view, up from 21\% in 2016.

The partisan gap in views about discrimination against whites is little changed from 2016; Republicans remain more likely than Democrats to say there is a lot of discrimination against whites ( $21 \%$ vs. $6 \%$ ).

Among members of both parties, the shares saying there is a lot of discrimination against Jews has roughly doubled since 2016 - from $15 \%$ to $28 \%$ among Democrats and from $9 \%$ to $20 \%$ among Republicans.

Overall, whites are less likely than blacks to say that blacks face at least some discrimination (77\% vs. $91 \%$ ). Among whites, there is a wide partisan gap in views of discrimination against blacks ( $91 \%$ of white Democrats and Democratic leaners say there is at least some discrimination against blacks in our society, compared with $66 \%$ of white Republicans).

A similar pattern is seen for Hispanics. Whites overall are less likely to say that Hispanics face discrimination ( $73 \%$ of whites say this, compared with $86 \%$ of Hispanics). However, 90\% of white Democrats say that Hispanics face at least some discrimination compared with $59 \%$ of white Republicans.

When asked about discrimination against whites, whites are more likely than blacks or Hispanics to say that there is at least some discrimination against whites

White Republicans and Democrats far apart in views of discrimination against racial and ethnic groups
$\%$ who say there is $\qquad$ (of) discrimination against each group in our society

Among whites ...

Note: Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 20-25, 2019.
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in the U.S. ( $44 \%$ of whites say this compared to $29 \%$ of
blacks and $33 \%$ of Hispanics). Yet while $60 \%$ of white Republicans say society discriminates against whites, only $24 \%$ of white Democrats share this view.

While majorities of both men and women say there is at least some discrimination against women, this view is more widely held among women ( $76 \%$ ) than it is among men ( $62 \%$ ). Both men and women are substantially less likely to see discrimination against men. Men are slightly more likely than women to say there is a lot or some discrimination against men ( $43 \%$ of men, $36 \%$ of women).

Within partisan groups there are no gender gaps in views about discrimination against men: About half of Republican men (51\%) and a similar share of GOP women (44\%) say that there is at least some discrimination against men. Both Democratic men (29\%) and Democratic women (26\%) are much less likely say this.

In views of discrimination against women, fairly comparable shares of Republican women (58\%) and men (47\%) say women face at least some discrimination.
Democrats - both women (86\%) and men (81\%) - are far more likely than Republicans

## Democratic women most likely to see 'a lot' of discrimination against women

$\%$ who say there is ___ (of) discrimination against each group in our society


Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 20-25, 2019.
PEW RESEARCH CENTER to see discrimination against women. However, a greater share of Democratic women (51\%) than Democratic men (35\%) say women face "a lot" of discrimination in our society.

## Acknowledgements

This report is a collaborative effort based on the input and analysis of the following individuals:

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## Methodology

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted March 20-25, 2019 among a national sample of 1,503 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (300 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,203 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 792 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers under the direction of Abt Associates. A combination of landline and cell phone random-digit-dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International, LLC. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. The weighting procedure corrected for the different sampling rates. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see http://www.pewresearch.org/methodology/u-s-survey-research/.

The combined landline and cell phone sample is weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity, and region to parameters from the 2017 Census Bureau's American Community Survey one-year estimates and population density to parameters from the decennial census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status (landline only, cell phone only, or both landline and cell phone), based on extrapolations from the 2018 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the $95 \%$ level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

| Survey conducted March 20-25, 2019 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Unweighted |
| sample size |
| 1,503 |$\quad$|  |
| :---: |
| Group |
| Total sample |
| Half form |
|  |
| Rep/Lean Rep minus ... |
| Rep/Lean Rep half form |
| Dem/Lean Dem |
| Dem/Lean Dem half form |

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Pew Research Center undertakes all polling activity, including calls to mobile telephone numbers, in compliance with the Telephone Consumer Protection Act and other applicable laws.

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## PEW RESEARCH CENTER MARCH 2019 POLITICAL SURVEY FINAL TOPLINE MARCH 20-25, 2019 <br> $\mathrm{N}=1,503$

QUESTIONS 1-2, 10, 14, 20, 25, 33-34, 44, 47-50a-d, 54-57 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED
NO QUESTIONS 3-9, 11-13, 15-18, 21-24, 26-32, 35-43, 45-46, 51-53, 59

## QUESTIONS 19, 50e-f, 58, 60 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

## ASK ALL:

On a different subject...
Q. 61 Please tell me how much discrimination there is against each of these groups in our society today. How about...[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]? Would you say there is a lot of discrimination, some, only a little, or none at all? And how much discrimination is there against [INSERT NEXT ITEM], [IF NECESSARY: a lot, some, only a little, or none at all]?

|  | A lot | Some | Only a little | None at all | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASK ALL: |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. Blacks |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 20-25, 2019 | 46 | 34 | 14 | 5 | 1 |
| Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016 | 41 | 35 | 17 | 6 | 1 |
| TRENDS FOR COMPARISON: |  |  |  |  |  |
| African Americans |  |  |  |  |  |
| May 1-5, 2013 | 22 | 39 | 27 | 9 | 3 |
| Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009 (SDT) | 18 | 51 | 21 | 6 | 3 |
| WaPo/Kaiser/Harvard: April 2001 | 25 | 49 | 16 | 7 | 3 |
| b. Hispanics |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 20-25, 2019 | 39 | 37 | 16 | 6 | 2 |
| Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016 | 32 | 38 | 20 | 8 | 2 |
| TRENDS FOR COMPARISON: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hispanic Americans |  |  |  |  |  |
| May 1-5, 2013 | 25 | 40 | 23 | 8 | 3 |
| Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009 (SDT) | 23 | 47 | 19 | 6 | 5 |
| WaPo/Kaiser/Harvard: April 2001 | 19 | 47 | 23 | 8 | 3 |
| c. Whites |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 20-25, 2019 | 13 | 27 | 29 | 29 | 2 |
| Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016 | 14 | 25 | 28 | 33 | 1 |
| ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=751]: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 20-25, 2019 | 29 | 40 | 19 | 10 | 1 |
| Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016 | 23 | 37 | 24 | 15 | 1 |
| May 1-5, 2013 | 15 | 35 | 32 | 16 | 2 |
| Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009 (SDT) | 13 | 43 | 29 | 12 | 2 |
| WaPo/Kaiser/Harvard: April 2001 | 14 | 46 | 27 | 13 | 1 |
| e.F1 Evangelical Christians |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 20-25, 2019 | 18 | 32 | 23 | 23 | 5 |
| Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016 | 15 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 5 |


| Q. 61 CONTINUED ... | A lot | Some | Only a little | None at all | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASK FORM 2 ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=752$ ]: |  |  |  |  |  |
| f.F2 Muslims |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 20-25, 2019 | 56 | 26 | 9 | 6 | 4 |
| Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016 | 57 | 25 | 10 | 6 | 3 |
| TREND FOR COMPARISON: |  |  |  |  |  |
| May 1-5, 2013 | 45 | 28 | 13 | 6 | 8 |
| g.F2 Jews |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 20-25, 2019 | 24 | 39 | 21 | 11 | 4 |
| Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016 | 13 | 31 | 32 | 19 | 5 |
| h.F2 Gays and lesbians |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 20-25, 2019 | 42 | 33 | 15 | 7 | 4 |
| Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016 | 43 | 33 | 15 | 7 | 2 |
| May 1-5, 2013 | 39 | 33 | 18 | 5 | 4 |
| Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009 (SDT) | 45 | 33 | 12 | 5 | 6 |
| ASK FORM 1 ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=751$ ]: |  |  |  |  |  |
| i.F1 Men |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mar 20-25, 2019 | 11 | 28 | 27 | 32 | 2 |

QUESTIONS 64-65, 70-71, 75-77 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED
NO QUESTIONS 62-63, 72-74

## QUESTIONS 66-69 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

## ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?
ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):
PARTYLN
As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

|  | Republican | Democrat | Independent | $\begin{gathered} \text { (VOL.) } \\ \text { No } \\ \text { preference } \end{gathered}$ | (VOL.) Other party | (VOL.) <br> DK/Ref | Lean Rep | Lean Dem |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mar 20-25, 2019 | 26 | 30 | 37 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 19 |
| Jan 9-14, 2019 | 25 | 31 | 40 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 16 | 18 |
| Sep 18-24, 2018 | 25 | 32 | 37 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 15 | 18 |
| Jun 5-12, 2018 | 25 | 31 | 38 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 15 | 18 |
| Apr 25-May 1, 2018 | 27 | 28 | 38 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 14 | 19 |
| Mar 7-14, 2018 | 26 | 28 | 41 | 3 | * | 1 | 17 | 18 |
| Jan 10-15, 2018 | 26 | 33 | 34 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 12 | 18 |
| Yearly Totals |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2018 | 25.7 | 30.8 | 37.6 | 3.0 | . 8 | 2.0 | 14.7 | 18.3 |
| 2017 | 23.6 | 31.4 | 39.4 | 3.3 | . 6 | 1.7 | 15.8 | 18.7 |
| 2016 | 25.4 | 32.0 | 36.5 | 3.4 | . 5 | 2.2 | 14.6 | 17.0 |
| 2015 | 23.7 | 30.4 | 40.1 | 3.6 | . 4 | 1.8 | 16.4 | 17.3 |
| 2015 | 23.7 | 30.4 | 40.1 | 3.6 | . 4 | 1.8 | 16.4 | 17.3 |
| 2014 | 23.2 | 31.5 | 39.5 | 3.1 | . 7 | 2.0 | 16.2 | 16.5 |
| 2013 | 23.9 | 32.1 | 38.3 | 2.9 | . 5 | 2.2 | 16.0 | 16.0 |
| 2012 | 24.7 | 32.6 | 36.4 | 3.1 | . 5 | 2.7 | 14.4 | 16.1 |
| 2011 | 24.3 | 32.3 | 37.4 | 3.1 | . 4 | 2.5 | 15.7 | 15.6 |
| 2010 | 25.2 | 32.7 | 35.2 | 3.6 | . 4 | 2.8 | 14.5 | 14.1 |
| 2009 | 23.9 | 34.4 | 35.1 | 3.4 | . 4 | 2.8 | 13.1 | 15.7 |

## PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED ...



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[^0]:    (C) Pew Research Center, 2019

[^1]:    Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

