



For more information or interviews:

Danae Marx, Director of International Communications

+972-52-4334557 | danaem@idi.org.il

ELECTIONS SURVEY - PRESS RELEASE

**Exclusive Elections survey by the Guttman Center at the Israel Democracy Institute:
66.5% of the Jewish public thinks that Israel is too lenient in dealing with the Gaza clashes; only
38.5% of the Israeli public believes that Prime Minister Netanyahu didn't profit from the
submarine deal; 27.5% do not do not trust the integrity of the Knesset elections**

March 31, 2019 – A special election survey by the Guttman Center at **the Israel Democracy Institute** reveals that: 66.5% of the Jewish public thinks that Israel is too lenient in dealing with the clashes on the Gaza border. Only 38.5 of the Israeli public (45% of Jews and 9% of Arabs) believe Prime Minister Netanyahu's statement that he "didn't get a shekel from the submarine deal". 52% of the Israeli public trusts election surveys and 27.5% does not trust the integrity of the Knesset elections (25% of Jews, 39% of Arabs)

Main Findings:

A year of Gaza border protests: The majority of the Jewish public (66.5%) and a minority of the Arabs (8%) believe that Israel is acting too moderately in confrontations with the Palestinians along the border with Gaza, while 3.5% of Jews and 48% of the Arab public claim that Israel's response is too harsh. Only 4% of Jews and 14% of Arabs think that Israel's response to events on the border of the fence is appropriate.

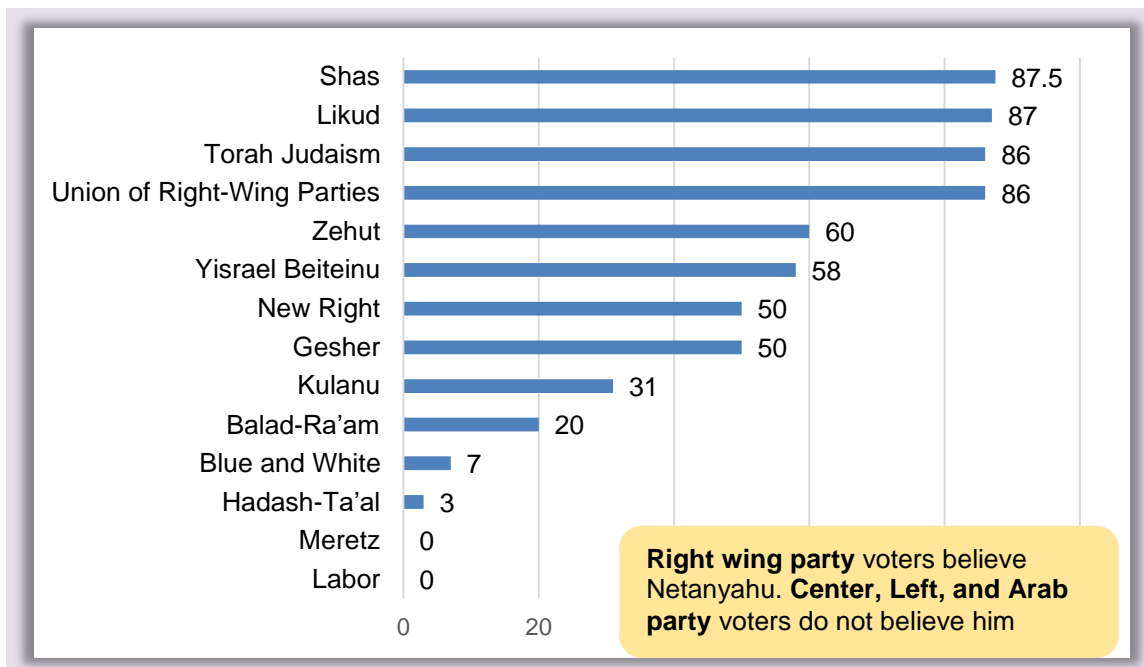
Knesset Election Integrity: 65.5% of the Israeli public believes that the election results will accurately reflect the public's vote. Nevertheless, more than a quarter (27.5%) does not trust the integrity of the Knesset elections.

Among those who indicated their distrust, they were presented with five influencing factors that could harm the integrity of the elections. 54% expressed concern that duplicate or forged ballots could skew the results, and 52% are concerned about foreign intervention in the electoral process. In addition, 44% said

they were worried that counting of the votes by local ballot-box committees would be biased, 30% reported being worried that the Central Elections Committee's calculation of the final results, would be biased, causing them to question the election integrity, and 34.5% percent noted that voters were threatened by activists of specific parties

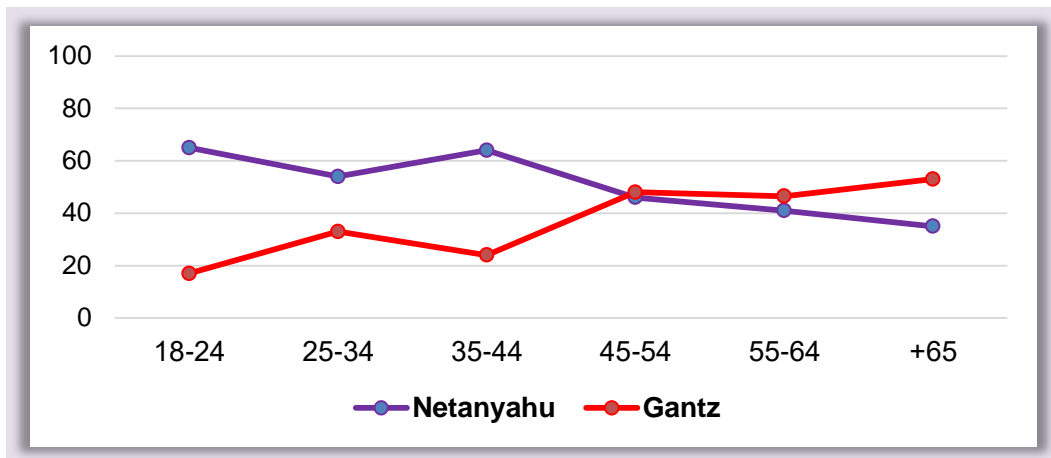
The Final Stretch: 38.5% of the Israeli public believes the Prime Minister's statement that he did not receive money from the submarine deal, compared with 52% who do. Among those in the Jewish public who do not believe the statement (47.5% of the total), 92% belong to the Leftist camp, 91%--to the Center and only 27% --to the Right.

Believe Netanyahu's claim that he did not get money from the submarine deal, by stated voting intention in the 2019 election (%):



Meanwhile, 42.5% of the Israelis favor a government headed by Netanyahu, while 40.5% favor a government headed by former Chief of Staff Benny Gantz, Analysis by age reveals that the preference for Gantz is greater among those age 35 and over, of while preference for Netanyahu among this age is on the decline.

Who would you want to be the next prime minister? (Jews by age, %)

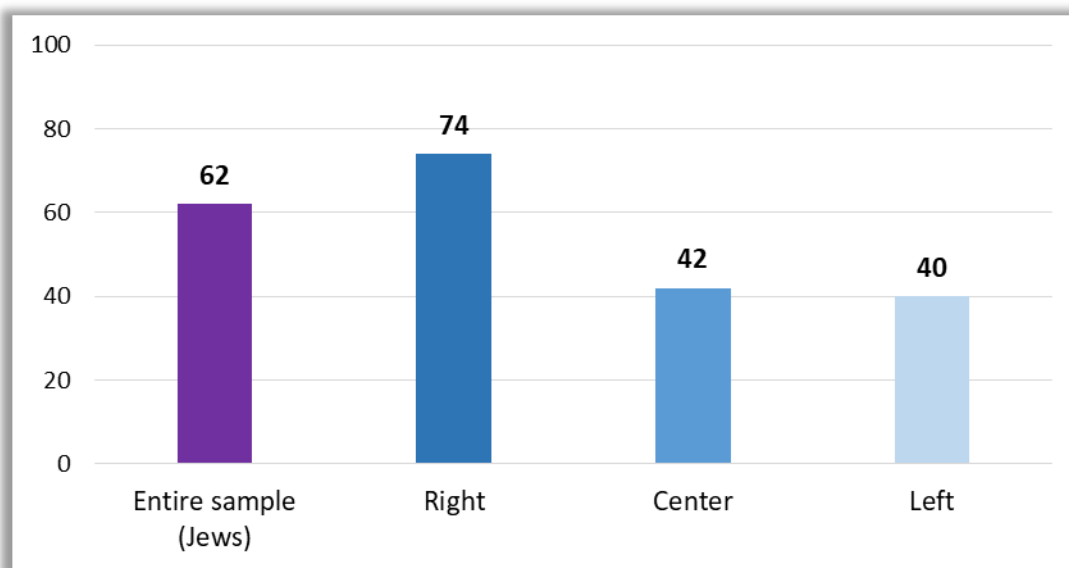


Loyalty at any cost: 83% of *Yisrael Beiteinu's* voters and 80% of United List voters said they would vote for their parties, even if the polls predict they will not pass the election threshold. Additionally Meretz Kulanu, Geshet and the New Right voters report their loyalty to the party under all circumstances-- it 68.5%; 63%; 60%; 60%, respectively. Similar figures were also recorded among Shas voters and the Identity party.

It is interesting to note that half the Israeli public - 51.5% - had no faith in the polls published prior to the elections.

The People are with the Golan: 54% of the Israeli public (62% of Jews, and 20% of Arabs) believe that the United States' recognition of Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights is beneficial to Israel's vital interests, compared with only 12% who view it as harmful. In addition, most Israelis (63%) believe that Netanyahu's standing in the current election campaign will be strengthened by the U.S. recognition.

The U.S. recognition of Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights is in Israel's vital interests (Agree, Jews by political bloc, %)



The survey was conducted by the Guttman Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research at the Israel Democracy Institute. This month's survey was conducted by telephone and via the internet by the Midgam Consulting and Research Institute on March 24-25, 2019. The survey included 603 respondents, who constitute a representative national sample of Israel's adult population aged 18 and over. The maximum measurement error for the entire sample is $\pm 4.1\%$, at a confidence level of 95%.

For the full data file see: www.dataisrael.idi.org.il