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PRESS RELEASE

The Israeli Voice Index – August 2019

Two Weeks to Election Day: IDI Poll Reveals

Jewish Israelis are in Favor of a Unity Government

48% Jewish Israelis Would Support Annexation of Area C

September 3, 2019 – The August 2019 **Israeli Voice Index**, a monthly survey conducted by the Guttman Center at the Israel Democracy Institute, found that Jewish Israelis show a strong preference for a unity government while Arab Israelis prefer a center-left wing government led by Gantz; 48% of Jewish Israelis support annexing Area C, providing it would be sanctioned by the Trump administration; Over the past five months there has been a steady decline in the public's optimism about the future of Israel's democracy and security. [Full Column](#)

Main Findings

Unity Government –Among Jewish Israelis, out of all the possible outcomes, most favor a unity government, with 39% citing this as their first choice, in second place 32% favoring a right-wing government led by Netanyahu, and 15% who are in favor of a Gantz led center-left government.

Arab Israelis' first preference is a center-left government with Gantz at the helm (38%); 17% - a unity government and a whopping 42% are either undecided or are not in favor of any of the above.

Liberman's claims that he will only join a unity government after the elections, are met with disbelief by 54% of the general public.

Interest in the September elections – 39% of the total sample are following the September elections to a lesser extent than they followed those held in April. 36% reported that they have followed both election

campaigns to the same extent, while only 17% replied that they are following the upcoming elections to a greater extent than in the previous campaign.

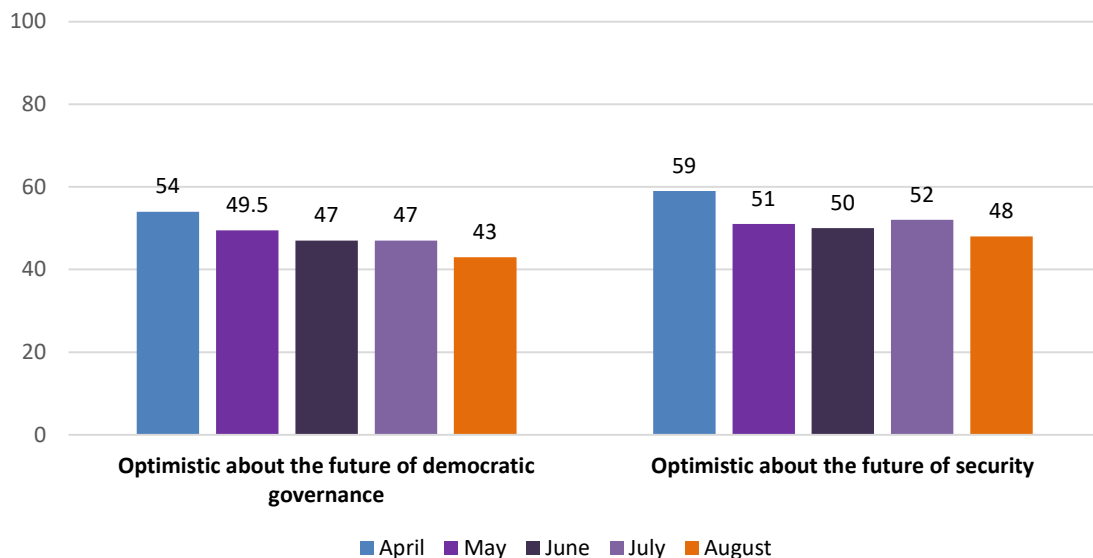
Annexation of Area C – Against the backdrop of rumors, as the elections draw closer, that President Donald Trump will give Prime Minister Netanyahu the green light for annexation of Area C –

48% of Jewish Israelis and 11% of Arab Israelis voiced support for such a plan, This, compared to 28% of Jewish Israelis and 56% of Arab Israelis who oppose this idea. Almost a quarter Jewish Israelis and one third of Arab Israelis remain undecided on this matter.

Two State Solution – In the case of possible annexation of Area C –Jewish Israelis are divided on whether or not a Palestinian state should be established in the rest of the territories. 40% would oppose this, while 37% would support it. Among Arab Israelis - 51% of Arab Israelis support this idea – while 20% oppose it.

National mood – The survey reveals a decline over the past five months in the public’s optimism about the future of Israel’s democracy (45% of Jewish Israelis and 30% of Arab Israelis) and security (50% of Jewish Israelis and 35% of Arab Israelis), presumably as a result of the growing tension in the north and the continued tension in the south.

Figure 1: “How do you feel about the state of democratic governance in Israel / the state of Israel’s security in the foreseeable future?” (Total sample, %)



The Israeli Voice Index is a project of the Guttman Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research of the Israel Democracy Institute. In the survey, which was conducted on the internet and by telephone (to supplement groups that are not sufficiently represented on the network) from August 25 to August 29, 608 men and women were interviewed in Hebrew and 161 in Arabic, constituting a representative national sample of the entire adult population of Israel aged 18 and older. The maximum sampling error for the entire sample was $\pm 3.7\%$ at a confidence level of 95%. The fieldwork was conducted by the Rafi Smith Institute under the direction of Rafi Smith. For the full data file see: <https://dataisrael.idi.org.il>