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PRESS RELEASE

The Israeli Voice Index – February 2021

Only 29% of Israelis think the upcoming elections will finally resolve who is the next Prime Minister

55% of Jewish Israelis do not believe Israel's security is a central consideration of the Biden administration - 68% think that Iran is an existential threat to Israel but are divided on whether or not to attack Iran without US agreement

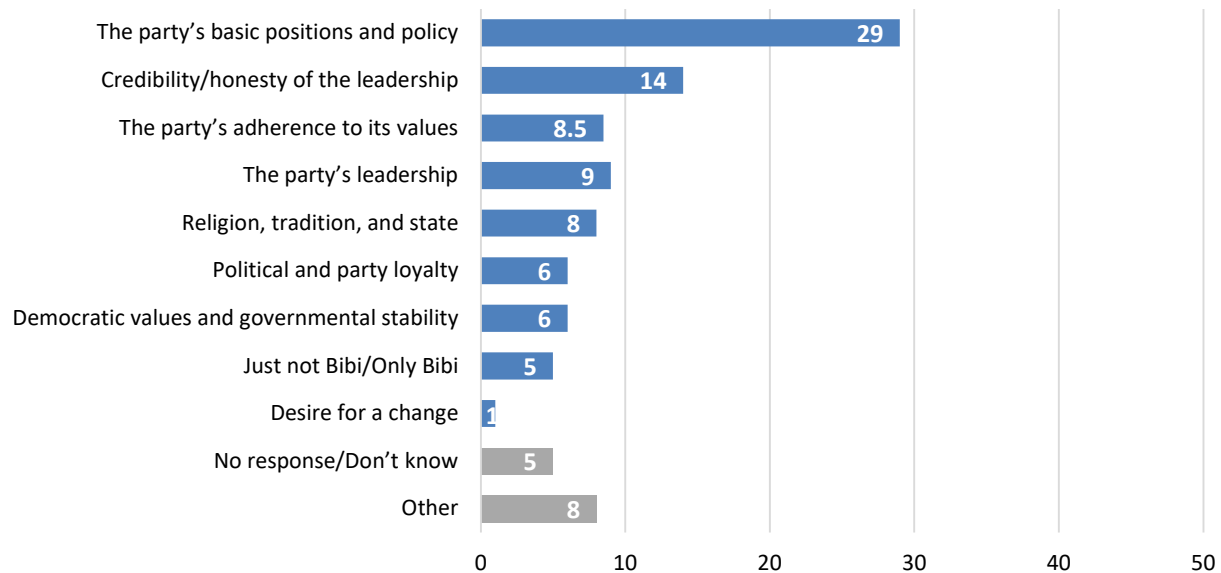
March, 2021 – The Israeli Voice Index for February 2021 published today (Tuesday) by the Viterbi Family Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research at the Israel Democracy Institute, reveals that ???

The Israeli Voice Index is a monthly survey conducted by the Viterbi Family Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research.

Main Findings

Yes Bibi – No Bibi - 29% of Israelis think that the party's positions (primarily on socioeconomic issues) are the main reason to vote for one party and not another. In second place is the perception of the party's honesty and integrity (14%). The "Just not Bibi/Only Bibi" reason came in much lower in the ranking. Moreover, there was great similarity in this ranking among the three political camps (Jews).

The factors behind voting for a certain party (% , entire sample, encoding of the responses to an open question)



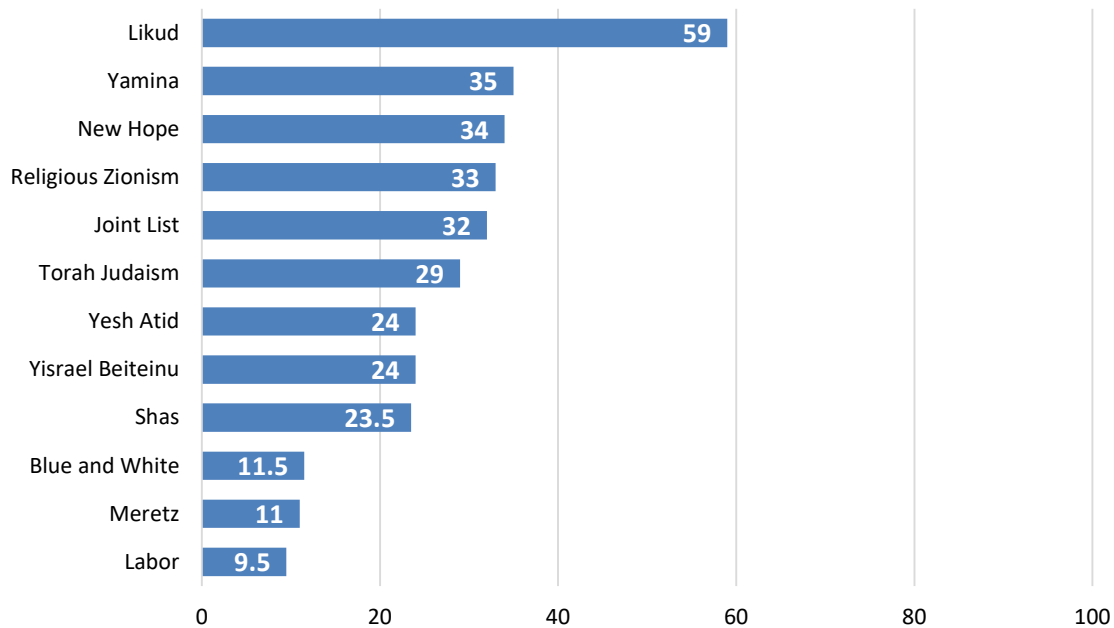
This does not mean, of course, that the “Netanyahu factor” is unimportant to the voters for the parties at the bottom of the table, but apparently it is not the main factor when they decide whom to vote for.

Propriety of the Elections - About a third of the interviewees expressed distrust that there would be a match between the actual voting and the official results to be announced. In the Arab public the distrust in the election outcomes is much higher than in the Jewish public (43% vs. 29%).

On the Way to a Fifth Round of Elections? – 29% of Israelis think the upcoming elections will yield a clear outcome on who will be the next prime minister. Only a minority in each of the three camps (Jews) believes such an outcome is attainable: on the left 15% see it on the horizon, in the center 23%, and on the right 36%.

A segmentation by voting intentions for the different parties reveals that only among those intending to vote Likud is there a majority of optimists who see very high or moderately high chances that the elections will produce a clear outcome on who will be the next prime minister.

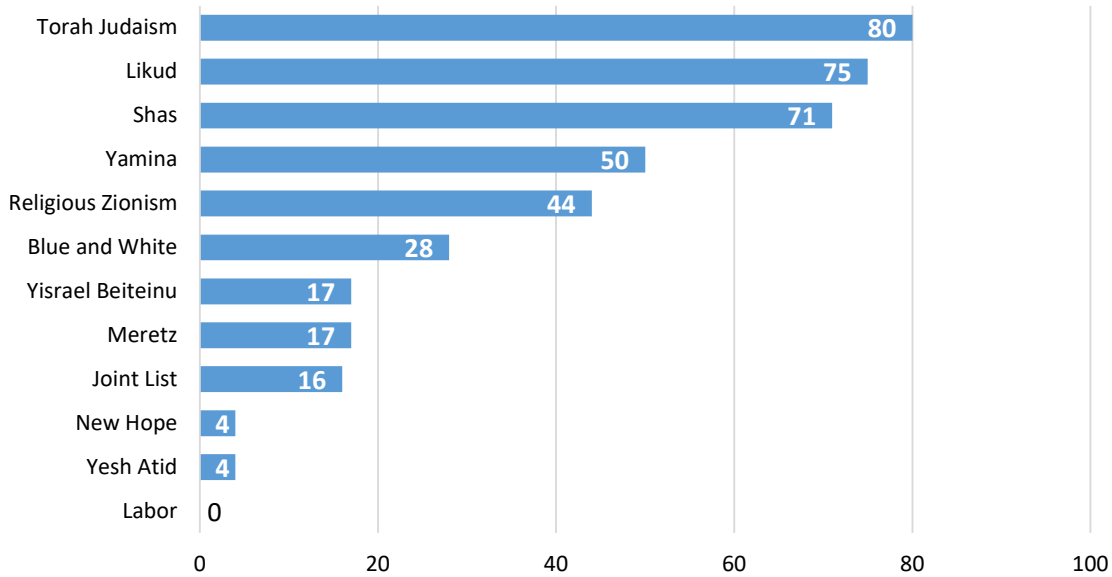
Very high/moderately high chances that the upcoming elections will yield a clear outcome on who will be the next prime minister (% , entire sample, by voting intentions in the elections)



Benjamin Netanyahu's Legal Proceedings - 59% of Israelis opposes putting a halt to the trial if Benjamin Netanyahu wins the elections and succeeds to form a government, but about a 32% agree that it is what should be done.

As expected, voting intentions are related to a large extent to positions on the issue of continuing the trial: those who want to see Netanyahu as the next prime minister favor halting the trial if he heads the next government, and those who do not – oppose it.

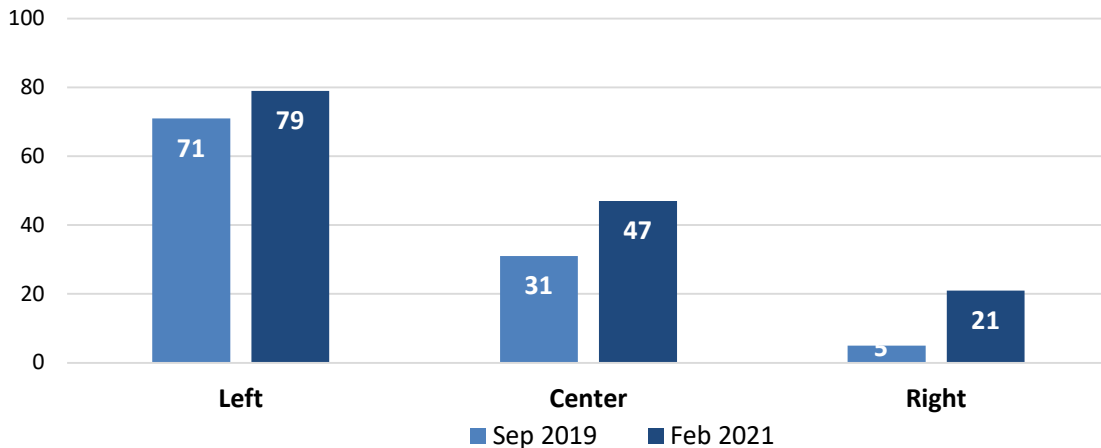
Agree that if Likud headed by Benjamin Netanyahu wins the elections and succeeds to form a government, it will be a sign that a large part of the public wants him as prime minister, and therefore the legal proceedings against him should be stopped at least until the end of his tenure (% , entire sample, by voting intentions in the elections)



Having an Arab Party in a Coalition - In the Jewish public a small majority opposes having an Arab party in a coalition, including the appointment of Arab ministers (53%), compared to great support in the Arab public (74%). The opposition in the Jewish public is concentrated in the right-wing parties.

A comparison over time suggests that Netanyahu’s unprecedented courting of the Arab public and leadership may have positively changed positions toward the possibility of a Jewish-Arab partnership. For example, in a survey conducted in September 2019, immediately after the elections, less than a fifth of the Jewish public supported this possibility compared to more than a third who support it at present, with most of the change in positions on this issue occurring among the right and the center.

Support having Arab parties in the government, including the appointment of ministers (% , Jews, by political camp)



The Biden Administration and Israel's Security – 55% of Jewish Israelis do not believe Israel's security is a central consideration in the emerging foreign policy of the incoming administration (up from 50% immediately after the US elections) compared to only 29% of the Arab public. This increase is interesting because the new administration still has not taken any steps regarding the Middle East. A more interesting finding is that there are almost no gaps in this assessment between the three political camps (Jews).

Iran is an Existential Threat– 68% of Jewish Israelis regards Iran as an existential threat to Israel, only a 18.5% of the Arab public perceives it as such.

Among the Jews there are considerable gaps in assessment of the Iranian danger between the three political camps on the left 41% see it as large (categories 4+5), in the center 53%, and on the right a hefty majority of 64% views it as a large threat.

An Israeli Military Attack on Iran - the Jewish public is divided on this question (45% in favor of an attack even without American agreement compared to 46% who are against such a move), while among the Arabs a large majority opposes such a step on Israel's part (65.5%).

A segmentation of the responses by political camp (Jews) shows that on the left (69%) and in the center (55%) oppose an Israeli military move against Iran without American agreement, compared to a majority on the right (54%) that favors it.

Providing Anti-Coronavirus Vaccinations to the Palestinian Authority - The Jewish public, is divided on this question (45% in favor and 47% against) and the gaps between the political camps (Jews) on this question are very large: on the left the majority supports Israeli consent to the PA's request to provide them with vaccinations against the virus (71%). In the center a majority also supports it, but a smaller one (55%), while on the right less than a third (31%) favor responding positively to the PA's request. In the Arab public there is almost a complete consensus (80%) that Israel should respond positively to the PA's request for vaccinations against the coronavirus.

The Israeli Voice Index for February 2021 was prepared by the Viterbi Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research of the Israel Democracy Institute. In the survey, which was conducted on the internet and by telephone (supplements of groups that are not sufficiently represented on the network) from March 1 to March 3, 2021, 605 men and women were interviewed in Hebrew and 150 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 3.64±% at a confidence level of 95%. The fieldwork was done by the Midgam Institute. For the full data file see: <https://dataisrael.idi.org.il>