

## Israeli Voice Index –March 2023



**THE ISRAEL  
DEMOCRACY  
INSTITUTE**

[en.idi.org.il](http://en.idi.org.il)

### 1. How do you feel about the state of democratic governance in Israel in the foreseeable future?

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
Very optimistic	15.3	2.4	13.0
Moderately optimistic	21.1	8.6	18.9
Moderately pessimistic	24.7	30.3	25.7
Very pessimistic	30.1	51.3	33.8
Don't know	8.8	7.4	8.6
Total	100	100	100

### 2. And how do you feel about Israel's security situation in the foreseeable future?

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
Very optimistic	9.6	4.5	8.7
Moderately optimistic	24.4	7.0	21.3
Moderately pessimistic	33.7	31.1	33.3
Very pessimistic	24.1	44.0	27.6
Don't know	8.2	13.4	9.1
Total	100	100	100

### 3. Do you agree or disagree that the system of democratic rule in Israel is in grave danger?

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
Strongly agree	34.5	46.5	36.6
Somewhat agree	18.5	27.3	20.0
Somewhat disagree	15.2	10.3	14.4
Strongly disagree	25.2	8.3	22.2
Don't know	6.6	7.6	6.8
Total	100	100	100

### 4. Have you participated in one or more of the protest activities against the reform to the justice system (demonstrations, signing petitions, etc.)?

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
Yes	23.0	10.6	20.8
No	77.0	89.4	79.2
Total	100	100	100

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**5. In your opinion, to what extent have the public protests succeeded in influencing the legislative changes being advanced by the government?**

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
Not at all	16.5	16.8	16.6
To a fairly small extent	39.6	36.8	39.1
To a fairly large extent	20.4	20.8	20.5
To a very large extent	10.6	13.6	11.1
Don't know	12.9	12.0	12.7
Total	100	100	100

**6. Have you personally experienced severe differences of opinion with people close to you in your family or at work regarding the legislative changes being advanced by the government and the protests against it?**

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
Yes	39.4	17.2	35.5
No	60.6	82.8	64.5
Total	100	100	100

**7. In your opinion, should the Israeli government take into consideration the view of the US administration regarding the legislative changes it is pursuing, or should it not?**

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
Certain it should take it into consideration	20.8	42.9	24.7
Think it should take it into consideration	23.6	18.0	22.6
Think it should not take it into consideration	21.0	7.7	18.7
Certain it should not take it into consideration	20.9	5.7	18.2
Don't know	13.7	25.7	15.8
Total	100	100	100

**8. It has been suggested recently that Israel is on the brink of a civil war due to deep political differences between sections of society. In your opinion, what is the likelihood of a civil war breaking out in Israel in the near future, which includes violence between the different sides?**

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
Very high likelihood	9.8	20.8	11.7
Fairly high likelihood	29.8	24.6	28.8

Fairly low likelihood	29.0	20.9	27.6
Very low likelihood	21.9	25.3	22.5
Don't know	9.5	8.4	9.4
Total	100	100	100

**9. In your opinion, on a scale from 1 = very poor to 5 = excellent, what grade would you give the police for its functioning at public protests in recent months?**

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
1 = Very poor	18.7	25.9	20.0
2	10.3	10.2	10.3
3	27.0	19.6	25.7
4	25.5	14.5	23.6
5 = Excellent	9.4	11.4	9.7
Don't know	9.1	18.4	10.7
Total	100	100	100

**10. Do you support or oppose holding protests abroad against the legislative changes being advanced by the government?**

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
Strongly support	24.7	32.5	26.1
Somewhat support	13.2	22.2	14.8
Somewhat oppose	15.6	14.3	15.3
Strongly oppose	33.8	7.2	29.1
Don't know	12.7	23.8	14.7
Total	100	100	100

**11. In a recent speech given in France, Finance Minister Smotrich said that “there is no such thing as a Palestinian people.” Do you agree or disagree with this statement?**

	Jews	Arabs	General Public
Strongly agree with the statement that there is no such thing as a Palestinian people	29.1	4.3	24.7
Somewhat agree	18.6	2.3	15.8
Somewhat oppose	18.7	12.1	17.5
Strongly oppose the statement that there is no such thing as a Palestinian people	21.5	72.1	30.4
Don't know/Refuse to answer	12.1	9.2	11.6
Total	100	100	100

**(Jewish respondents) What is your opinion about the following cases relating to mandatory military service in the IDF?**

**12. Refusal to be drafted to the IDF due to opposition on principle to military service (pacifism or religious reasons):**

	Jews
Forbidden	59.5
Permissible	25.8
Don't know	14.7
Total	100

**13. Willingness to be drafted, but refusal to serve in the occupied territories:**

	Jews
Forbidden	61.6
Permissible	24.5
Don't know	13.9
Total	100

**14. Refusal to participate in certain activities on grounds of conscience (such as guarding illegal settlements in the territories, or dismantling such settlements):**

	Jews
Forbidden	54.9
Permissible	25.7
Don't know	19.4
Total	100

**(Jewish respondents) In the context of IDF reserve duty, do you think it is permissible or forbidden to pursue each of these courses of action, as part of the protests against the legislation currently being advanced by the government?**

**15. Refusing to show up for routine military training:**

	Jews
Forbidden	64.4
Permissible	24.0
Don't know	11.6
Total	100

**16. Refusing to volunteer for service that is part of the IDF's routine operational activities (e.g., IAF pilots):**

	Jews
Forbidden	59.2
Permissible	28.7
Don't know	12.1
Total	100



**17. Declaring an intention not to show up if mobilized during time of war:**

	Jews
Forbidden	77.5
Permissible	11.2
Don't know	11.3
Total	100

**18. (Jewish respondents) What should be the response of the IDF to a reservist who declares that he will not show up if called to serve?**

	Jews
Immediately dismiss him from reserve service	27.2
Have his commanding officers talk to him and try to persuade him to show up for duty when called	45.7
Accept his position and do nothing	13.4
Don't know	13.7
Total	100

**19. (Jewish respondents) And how should the IDF respond if the reservist does not show up in practice when called to serve?**

	Jews
Take legal steps (disciplinary and criminal) against the reservist	39.6
Immediately dismiss him from reserve service	19.6
Accept his position and do nothing	23.1
Don't know	17.7
Total	100

**20.(Jewish respondents) In your opinion, to what extent can the protest by IDF reservists in recent weeks, on its own, influence or not influence the government and the legislative changes it is advancing?**

	Jews
On its own, cannot have any influence	17.5
Can have a fairly small influence	29.8
Can have a fairly large influence	27.6
On its own, can have a very large influence	11.6
Don't know	13.5
Total	100

**21.(Jewish respondents) In your opinion, what is the likelihood that if the government withdraws or moderates the legislative changes it is advancing, there will be a mass refusal to serve by IDF reservists who support these changes?**

	Jews
Very high likelihood	7.8
Fairly high likelihood	20.1
Fairly low likelihood	27.6
Very low likelihood	25.4
Don't know	19.1
Total	100

**22. (Jewish respondents) What is your opinion about the proposal repeatedly made in recent years to cancel mandatory military service and make the IDF a professional army, in which soldiers will consider their service a choice of occupation and will be compensated accordingly?**

	Jews
Strongly support	17.1
Somewhat support	21.4
Somewhat oppose	18.7
Strongly oppose	23.5
Don't know	19.3
Total	100

*The Israeli Voice Index for March 2023 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 26 to 30 March 2023, 602 men and women*

*were interviewed in Hebrew and 130 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  $.359\pm\%$  at a confidence level of 95%. The fieldwork was done by the dialogue Institute. For the full data file see: <https://dataisrael.idi.org.il>*

