



Survey of Parliamentary Aides
By the Israel Democracy Institute's Guttman Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research

This survey was conducted between March 14 and April 1, 2017. The survey was first sent to the aides of 91 Knesset members, who are not ministers or deputy ministers, but whom do have their own parliamentary aides. Aides responded either via email or later via WhatsApp. A total of 40 aides answered the survey. The maximum sampling error is 11.66% ±, with a confidence level of 95%.

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

- 1. Overall, most members of Knesset (MKs) work hard and fulfill their duties.**

	Respondents	Percent
Don't agree at all	0	0
Somewhat disagree	9	22.5
Agree to a certain extent	24	60.0
Strongly agree	7	17.5
Don't know	0	0
Total	40	100.0

- 2. In order for the Knesset to fulfill its function, the number of members should be raised from 120 to 150.**

	Respondents	Percent
Don't agree at all	16	40.0
Somewhat disagree	3	7.5
Agree to a certain extent	8	20.0
Strongly agree	11	27.5
Don't know	2	5.0
Total	40	100.0

- 3. Most MKs arrive to parliamentary committee meetings prepared, participating in discussions after having read the requisite materials.**

	Respondents	Percent
Don't agree at all	9	22.5
Somewhat disagree	28	70.0
Agree to a certain extent	3	7.5
Strongly agree	0	0

Don't know	0	0
Total	40	100.0

4. The Knesset successfully oversees the government.

	Respondents	Percent
Don't agree at all	22	55.0
Somewhat disagree	16	40.0
Agree to a certain extent	2	5.0
Strongly agree	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	40	100.0

5. How many hours on average do staffers (including MKs) dedicate to the drafting of a bill?

	Respondents	Percent
Less than 5 hours	4	10.0
Between 5 to 10 hours	11	27.5
Between 10 to 15 hours	11	27.5
Over 15 hours	12	30.0
Don't know	2	5.0
Total	40	100.0

6. In your opinion, does the media cover the Knesset's work and daily operations in a fair and balanced manner, or is the coverage unfair, only focusing on exceptional stories and gossip?

	Respondents	Percent
The coverage is very fair	0	0
The coverage is quite fair	2	5.0
The coverage is not so fair	19	47.5
The coverage is not fair at all	18	45.0
Don't know	1	2.5
Total	40	100.0

Please estimate the amount of time that the MK you work with dedicates to each of the following activities:

7. Preparation for and participation in Knesset plenary meetings

	Respondents	Percent
Not enough time	9	22.5
Too much time	2	5.0
Appropriate amount of time	29	72.5
The coverage is not fair at all	0	0

Don't know	0	0
Total	40	100.0

8. Preparation and participation in committee meetings

	Respondents	Percent
Not enough time	8	20.0
Too much time	2	5.0
Appropriate amount of time	30	75.0
The coverage is not fair at all	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	40	100.0

9. Meetings related to professional parliamentary matters

	Respondents	Percent
Not enough time	12	30.0
Too much time	2	5.0
Appropriate amount of time	26	65.0
The coverage is not fair at all	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	40	100.0

10. Party-related activities

	Respondents	Percent
Not enough time	12	30.0
Too much time	5	12.5
Appropriate amount of time	23	57.5
The coverage is not fair at all	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	40	100.0

11. Public duties unrelated to party matters

	Respondents	Percent
Not enough time	10	25.0
Too much time	3	7.5
Appropriate amount of time	27	67.5
The coverage is not fair at all	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	40	100.0

12. Media related activities

	Respondents	Percent
Not enough time	14	35.0
Too much time	4	10.0
Appropriate amount of time	22	55.0
The coverage is not fair at all	0	0
Don't know	0	0

Total	40	100.0
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At present, how effective are the following mechanisms for monitoring the activities of MKs and members of government in your opinion?

13. Various queries

	Respondents	Percent
Not efficient at all	6	15.0
Somewhat inefficient	14	35.0
Quite efficient	15	37.5
Very efficient	4	10.0
Don't know	1	2.5
Total	40	100.0

14. Questions hour

	Respondents	Percent
Not efficient at all	4	10.0
Somewhat inefficient	10	25.0
Quite efficient	19	47.5
Very efficient	5	12.5
Don't know	1	2.5
Total	40	100.0

15. Committee discussions regarding oversight of government

	Respondents	Percent
Not efficient at all	3	7.5
Somewhat inefficient	11	27.5
Quite efficient	19	47.5
Very efficient	6	15.0
Don't know	1	2.5
Total	40	100.0

16. Studies conducted by the Knesset Research and Information Center

	Respondents	Percent
Not efficient at all	2	5.0
Somewhat inefficient	11	27.5
Quite efficient	17	42.5
Very efficient	9	22.5
Don't know	1	2.5
Total	40	100.0

17. Budgetary discussions

	Respondents	Percent
Not efficient at all	16	40.0
Somewhat inefficient	11	27.5

Quite efficient	13	32.5
Very efficient	0	0
Don't know	0	0
Total	40	100.0

18. In total, how many various queries did the MK with whom you work submit during the current session?

	Respondents	Percent
1-5	12	30.0
5-10	9	22.5
Over 10	18	45.0
Don't know	1	2.5
Total	40	100.0

19. In your estimation, how many of the queries that the Knesset member you work with submitted were answered in a timely manner, according to official procedure?

	Respondents	Percent
All	0	0
Most	1	2.5
Half	5	12.5
Less than half	23	57.5
None	7	17.5
Don't know	4	10.0
Total	40	100.0

20. In your estimation, is the size of MKs' personal staff sufficient enough for them to fulfill their duties?

	Respondents	Percent
Sufficient	20	50.0
Too large	0	0
Too small	20	50.0
Don't know	0	0
Total	40	100.0

21. Is the MK with whom you work a member of the government coalition or opposition?

	Respondents	Percent
From a coalition party	12	30.0
From an opposition party	28	70.0
Total	40	100.0

22. What is your seniority level as a parliamentary aide?

	Respondents	Percent
A few months	5	12.5
A year	15	37.5
Two years	10	25.0
Three years	1	2.5
Four years	3	7.5
Five years and over	6	15.0
Total	40	100.0

23. Do you work with a female or male MK?

	Respondents	Percent
A female MK	16	40.0
A male MK	24	60.0
Total	40	100.0

24. On how many standing or special committees does your MK sit?

	Respondents	Percent
0	1	2.5
1	5	12.5
2	21	52.5
3	4	10.0
4	2	5.0
5	4	10.0
6	2	5.0
7	1	2.5
8	1	2.5
Total	40	100.0